



# Grand Commandery Knights Templar Oregon



## State News for January, 2023

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*Greetings, Sir Knights*

*And Happy New Year!*

A week after we celebrate the birth of our Savior, we celebrate the birth of the year of the Lord 2023 or the year of the Order 905.

All over the nation, people are preparing their New Year's resolutions. So let us resolve to renew our faith in the Lord, to strengthen our Commanderies and our churches through regular attendance, to give generous support to our Knights Templar Eye Foundation and our Holy Land Pilgrimage Foundation, and to assist our Chapters and Councils in the conferring of their Degrees so that we may confer the Orders of Christian Knighthood upon worthy candidates.



In the past year, 28 knights were created, 25 died, 6 either demitted from their Commanderies or severed plural membership from one of their Commanderies, and 5 were suspended for non-payment of dues.

28 knights created is an astounding number for our jurisdiction in a given year, three above Oregon's average number, but let's be ambitious and resolve to create 35 new Knights Templar by the end of 2023.

We mourn the loss of 25 of our fraters who were called to the service of the Lord in the Asylum above. It is with a heavy heart that I particularly note the passing of our much-beloved Sir Knight Loren Schrock, Eminent District Supervisor of District #2, Past Commander, and Recorder of several Commanderies along the I-5 corridor. We cannot bring back the dead but we can celebrate their lives, preserve their memory, and remember that God promises that in His house are many mansions and though the cup of death is bitter, it is not the end of life.

6 demits and 5 suspensions, eleven additional losses of membership which might have been avoided with a simple phone call. Sir Knights, as you attend your meetings this month, look around and ask yourselves who was not there that normally would have been. Too often we lose touch with those we once called our brothers. If we are not our brother's keeper, and we are not interested to know when they are sick, when they are in distress, or when they need help, then it is little wonder they become disillusioned and quit. Let us resolve to be our brother's keeper. May we never allow our fraters to suffer alone and grieve in silence or to be destitute and homeless.

Sir Knights, this is the time for resolution, revitalization, and resolve. Resolve to follow the Lord's Commandments, resolve to be peaceable citizens of your country and state, resolve to be charitable in your manner and disposition, and resolve to continue to hold to your vows of knighthood and hold support of our great Christian faith.

Courteously submitted,  
Ryan Winters, KCT  
Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Oregon, KT



*"A Masonic Charity"*

