

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF IOWA

JULY 2024



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Editor: S.K. Theodore M. Boomgarden

Sir Knights:

I, with heartfelt humility and humbleness, thank you, the Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Iowa for electing me to this high honor to serve as our Grand Commander this Commandery year.

We are now entering our 161st year and there have been a lot of changes over the history of our Order and we will encounter challenges ahead. Making a difference is in how we meet and embrace those challenges ahead of us. My theme, or motto for this year is: “Moving Forward-Soldiering On”. “Moving” is an action word. Let us take action no matter the challenges ahead to keep moving our Order forward, and to soldier on, to persevere through whatever we may encounter before us.

Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil. (Proverbs 4:25-27)

One thing I am asking of Sir Knights this year concerns mentoring as it is no secret that we have seen declining numbers in our ranks, but we need to ensure that those new Sir Knights that come in, are not left on the sidelines to wonder why they joined. Those we mentor today will hopefully be the leaders of tomorrow. It is our duty as Knights to take someone under your wing and guide them along their path. Did you have a mentor that helped you on your Masonic journey? If so, be that to someone else and pay it forward. We might see some enthusiastic young men come into our order, I know I have, but they will lose that enthusiasm if we do not nurture it. Doing this, I believe will also help with any retention issues.

I look forward to seeing and meeting as many of you as possible throughout this coming year. We have an outstanding slate of officers this year and do not hesitate to reach out to any of us for any type of assistance you may need. We are here to help.

Remember how you started your Masonic journey. Do you remember those words? “WHAT CAME YOU HERE TO DO?” Let us seek to make our Commanderies strong, important, and beneficial to its members. There are many opportunities to be seen in public. Participate in cornerstone ceremonies, parades, scholarships for high school seniors, and fundraising for worthwhile endeavors in your community or for the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. Also, let’s

take time to remember and reach out to those older members who came before us and helped make Templary in Iowa what it is.

Again, I am thankful to you Sir Knights for entrusting me with the care of this, your Grand Commandery. I look forward to a great year ahead.

Your Grand Officers for 2024-2025



Right Eminent Grand Commander:	Sir Knight Keith A. Myhre
Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander:	Sir Knight Jason W. Delzell
Eminent Grand Generalissimo:	Sir Knight Michael D.C. Boomer
Eminent Grand Captain General:	Sir Knight Bryan D. Bever
Eminent Grand Senior Warden:	Sir Knight Scott D. Campbell
Eminent Grand Junior Warden:	Sir Knight W. Wayne Castle
Eminent Grand Prelate:	Theodore M. Boomgarden
Eminent Grand Treasurer:	Sir Knight Nathaniel F. Renner
Eminent Grand Recorder:	Sir Knight Scott A. Schabaker
Eminent Grand Standard Bearer:	Sir Knight Douglas R. Clabaugh
Eminent Grand Sword Bearer:	Sir Knight Anthony L. Oxley
Eminent Grand Warden:	Sir Knight John D. Determan
Eminent Grand 1 st Guard:	Sir Knight Joseph P. Charbonneau
Eminent Grand 2 nd Guard:	Sir Knight Michael H. Johnson
Eminent Grand 3 rd Guard:	Sir Knight Travis J. Stouffer
Eminent Grand Organist:	Sir Knight Antonio B. Collins

News:

Constituent Commandery Recorders will soon be contacted by their assigned “Division Commander” to start the process of “Administrative Inspections” as explained in General Order No. 2, which has now been sent out. Please make arrangements with them and cooperate in any way you can to make their assignments go smoothly.

Reveille Ceremony 160th Annual Grand Conclave June 7, 2024



Upcoming dates to keep in mind:

Saturday, July 27, 2024 - Coralville – Cornerstone Laying Ceremony, Eastridge Elementary School, 2950 Crossing Ridge Drive, Grand Lodge opens at 9:00 A.M. with a practice at 9:15 A.M. at the School, Ceremony starts at 10:00 A.M. G.L.O. Dark Business Suits. Ladies are invited.

August 17-21, 2024 – The 69th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment will be held in Salt Lake City, UT.

September 14, 2024 – Grand York Rite Reception will be held at the Cedar Falls Scottish Rite Consistory. More information and invitations will be sent out later.

October 19, 2024 – Cornerstone Ceremony at the West Union Courthouse. We need Sir Knights to assist in this, as this is something we do in assistance to the Grand Lodge but also gives us good community visibility. Please reach out to me if you can help. This is on a Saturday so many of you should be able to attend.

October 25-26, 2024 – North Central Department Conferences – Sioux Falls, SD

In closing, I and my Lady Jane, wish you and your families an enjoyable and relaxing summer.

SAVE THE DATE – 161st Annual Grand Conclave and Joint Sessions of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Iowa. June 4-7, 2025 Cedar Falls, IA Holiday Inn and Bien Venu

Courteously,

Keith A. Myhre, Grand Commander



<https://layorkrite.org>