

# Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

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Gary Mason, REGC 2024-2025

## From the Grand Commander

Sir Knight Fred R. Kemp, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander

*The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked the current Grand Commandery Officers to write articles for this supplement. This month we hear from our Deputy Grand Commander, Fred Kemp.*



I have been elected to be your Grand Deputy Commander. This is a great honor for me, and I am incredibly grateful to sir knights that attended our 156<sup>th</sup> Grand Commandery Conclave. I will do my utmost to live up to your trust.

I was asked what drew me to get into the Grand Commandery. I would have to say the I believe in the ideals of the Grand Commandery. It is a Christian based organization, which fell right into my religious ideals. I have been a Knights of Columbus member for 45 years and the Commandery made me feel right at home.

When I first joined the local asylum, I was impressed with the education, and the rituals. The Grand Commandery was even more impressed with the structure and ritual of the Grand Commandery. The charities that we have fill the yearning I have to help people that need help. We should all be proud of what we give and do in the Templars. I am.

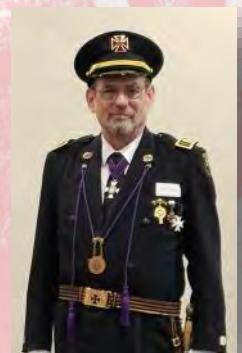
I have enjoyed the reports we have received from sending ministers to the Holy Land. I would recommend everyone to attend the South-Central Conferences. Here we get the reports of what we are doing and how they are benefiting people.

All this is what Jesus has meant for us to do. Love thy neighbor as ourselves. This is what drew me to the Grand Commandery. Thank you for listening to me.

Fred R. Kemp  
Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander  
Grand Commandery of Kansas

## Grand Recorder Receives Honor

The Grand Recorder for the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Kansas, Sir Knight Allan Jackson, was awarded the rank and title of Right Eminent Past Grand Commandery (Honorary). Because Sir Knight Allan has selflessly given of himself to the Grand Commandery, and the Grand York Rite Bodies of Kansas, he was not afforded the opportunity to serve in the Grand Commandery line. Several Sir Knights met and discussed this troubling situation. It was decided to get permission from the Grand Encampment and convene the Grand Commandery in special called session to elect Allan to this honor. He received his regalia, and his patent, and the Grand Commandery session. He was unaware of the honor and was surprised by the honors being afforded him. Congratulations to our Right Eminent Grand Recorder!



## *Another Commissioned Templar Chaplain*



At the 2024 Grand Commandery session, the first two Commissioned Templar Chaplains, Sir Knight Patrick C. Carr and Sir Knight Gary B. Strout, had the honor of commissioning the latest Sir Knight to complete the Grand Encampment Commissioned Templar Chaplain Program.

Sir Knight Andrew Mosley was presented to the east and was commissioned as a Templar Chaplain in a beautiful and moving commissioning ceremony. Congratulations to Sir Knight Mosley on his preferment and the accomplishment of completing the program.

There will be two more commissioning ceremonies upcoming. A Sir Knight from McPherson and one from Manhattan have recently completed the requirements and will receive the commissioning ceremony as well.

## *Memorial Day Services*



The Sir Knights of Kansas continued their service to the communities they serve during the 2024 Memorial Day Services across the state. A large contingency of Sir Knights, including many of the current and past Grand Commandery officers were present at the Junction City Memorial Day event. This has been an annual event which has continued for many, many years.

The Sir Knights of Western Kansas gathered in Russell and Bunker Hill to be present to remember and honor those who have died in the service to this great nation. There were Knight Templar, Knights of Malta, and members of the Scottish Rite Knights of St. Andrew. Sir Knight Tom Krauss led this group and continues to inspire our Sir Knights in Western Kansas and throughout the state.

Several of the Sir Knights gathered in different garb to commemorate and remember the fallen in Eastern Kansas. The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Doug Wilkinson, was accompanied by members of the Grand Lodge of Kansas and the Shrine to lay a wreath at the memorial. Not everyone present was a Sir Knight but we are blessed to have several Sir Knights active in the Grand Lodge and the Shrine.

Thank you to all our masonic family for being active and remembering those who we have lost their lives in the service to our country.

