



# Grand Commandery Knights Templar South Dakota



March 2024 News

Jake Smith, Editor  
jake3404@yahoo.com



**Bruce A. Crisman**  
Grand Commander

March 2024

It was a cold and snowy day in Rapid City. The temperature was 26 degrees with a light but steady wind. Standing in the que waiting for our turn to jump into the frigid water was enough to make the average goose turn chicken. It was my 69<sup>th</sup> Birthday and the announcer asked, "Surely, your companions would give you a pass on your Birthday?" In my shivering cold state of mind, I did not have the proper response, but only could think I am but a 'chicken (ice) sickle.'

The Grand Commander and 4 of his Grand Commandery Officers participated in the 2024 Special Olympics Polar Plunge. Why did I do it? It was called **Leadership**. Months ago, the 3 leaders of Rapid City York Rite; High Priest Michael Argenziano, Illustrious Master Anthony Conklin and Eminent Commander Daniel Conklin, pledged to jump as a team. Sir Knight Chad Tipton also volunteered. At this point I am not sure how much we raised from our website for Special Olympics, but the larger issue is **Rapid City York**

**Rite and SD Grand Commandery, Knights Templar** are getting exposure with community involvement.

Ash Wednesday is coming this week, which is the start of an important time of the year for Knights Templar. I encourage you to participate in Easter Sunrise Services locally or nationally; Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> and Easter Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>. It is very early this year and there could be a possibility of snow.

I always enjoy celebrating St. Patrick's Day. To me it means the beginning of Spring with the immergence of green grass and trees starting to bud. Since Guinness and beef sticks give me gout I will be celebrating "green" with guacamole and green punch.

I extend a Special Heartfelt Thank You to **Sioux Falls York Rite** for putting together the York Rite Festival. I am excited to attend the Chivalric Orders on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. See you all there.

Fraternally,

*REGC Bruce A. Crisman, KC7*

Grand Commander Knights Templar of South Dakota