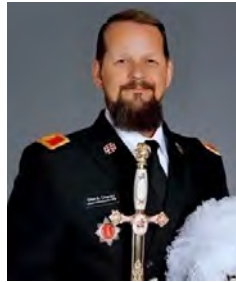


GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for August 2024



Grand Commander SK Glen Allen Chaney REGC

Editor SK John E. King REPGC, Email: jek41@sbcglobal.net Cell: (580) 471-0636



GRAND COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Another great month of Templar Masonry in Oklahoma! July was a fast month that produced a new class of Knights for our Grand Jurisdiction. More than 50 Oklahoma Masons joined us at Norman Lodge on 27 July. They arrived in the early morning hours to take part in the Grand York Rite one-day conferral of our Rite as we honored our Most Worshipful Grand Master, John F. Carter. Thank you to all the Oklahoma York Rite Masons who traveled to the event, participated in the degrees and helped us to give the best impression to these new members. We extend special thanks to Norman Lodge for hosting us this year.

We are so proud to have these brothers as members of the Knights Templar of Oklahoma, but also, as part of the local Chapters, Councils and Commanderies. This is where the York Rite is most effective in both the Knight themselves and in the surrounding lodges and communities. We must not forget that the Knight who joins us today will be our leaders in the future. Teach them about the York Rite.

The Chapter degrees teach us important lessons about completing our own work, receiving our wages, moderation and dedication to the principles of humility. The Council goes on to reinforce lessons that trace back to 1740's and is the culmination of what is styled *ancient craft masonry*. This leads us to the Commandery degrees where we learn about the power of truth and to be vigilant in our duties as knights. The final ceremony, the Order of the Temple, is to impress upon our fellow soldiers in Christ, that we will be victorious in our efforts to combat the attacks against our faith.

In our world today, so much is being considered acceptable that openly offends, or outright attacks Christianity. A few weeks ago, I sat with my Grandson

waiting to see the time-honored tradition of the Olympics. Our excitement was building as we prepared to watch the lighting of the torch. Undoubtedly, it would lead to the display of the absolute best athletes competing against others who have also trained hard, practiced discipline in their lives and prepared for this moment. Then, in the opening ceremony, I was shocked to witness the mocking of the last supper. While they proceeded to depict this scene in the most egregious manner, it became obvious to me that the full attack on Christianity, and faith, is only getting worse.

Sir Knights, keep the faith. We will persevere and win this important battle for the soul of our Nation and the world. Light always wins over Darkness. Faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is needed more today than ever. Let us commit ourselves to extending the message of our Rite to our blue lodge brethren. Find and visit DeMolay Chapters and remind them that their experience as a DeMolay Knight can continue in our Masonic Fraternity, and in the York Rite. Encourage them to consider it as a part of their complete Masonic journey.

Inspections -

We have enjoyed visits to Elk City, Capitol Hill, McAlester, Oklahoma, Lawton and Guthrie Commanderies since my last writing. Our Inspection cycle continues in August. We will visit Muskogee, St. John's and Ben Hur Commanderies. If you belong to any of these constituencies, I look forward to seeing you. If you are not, we would love to see you there. Thank you for the honor of serving as your Grand Commander. I will travel to Utah this month to attend the Grand Encampment Triennial Sessions, and I am truly honored to represent the Oklahoma Sir Knights.

In Service to You,

Glen A Chaney

REGC



GRAND PRELATES MESSAGE

Summer Devotional: Embracing the Light of God's Love

Scripture:

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." - Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

Reflection: Summer is a season of light, warmth, and growth. The long, sun-drenched days invite us to step outside, bask in the beauty of God's creation, and find joy in the vibrant world around us. As we witness the blooming flowers, the

lush green trees, and the brilliant blue skies, we are reminded of the magnificent handiwork of our Creator.

Just as the sun nourishes the earth, helping it to flourish and thrive, so does the love of God nourish our souls. His love is constant and unfailing, illuminating even the darkest corners of our hearts. In this season, let us take time to appreciate the physical and spiritual light that surrounds us, allowing it to guide our paths and uplift our spirits.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we thank You for the beauty and warmth of summer. As we enjoy this season, help us to see Your hand in all of creation. Let the light of the sun remind us of Your ever-present love and grace. May we grow closer to You, finding peace and joy in Your presence. Amen.

Meditation: Sir Knights, take a moment to step outside and find a quiet place in nature. Sit or stand comfortably and close your eyes. Feel the warmth of the sun on your skin and take a few deep breaths, inhaling the fresh summer air. As you breathe, reflect on the ways God has blessed you and brought light into your life. Spend a few minutes in silent gratitude, soaking in the presence of the Creator.

Action: Sir Knights this week, make a conscious effort to spend time in nature, whether it's a walk in the park, a hike in the woods, or simply sitting in your backyard. As you do, look for signs of God's handiwork and take a moment to thank Him for the beauty around you. Consider keeping a journal to jot down your observations and reflections, helping you to stay mindful of God's presence in your daily life.

Respectfully,
Sir Knight Steven Cox
Excellent Grand Prelate



2024 GRAND MASTERS FESTIVAL



ELK CITY RECEPTION No. 22



GUTHRIE INSPECTION No. 1



ARDMORE RECEPTION No. 9



LAWTON INSPECTION No. 18



OKLAHOMA CITY RECEPTION No. 3



MCALESTER RECEPTION No. 9