

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia



<https://vatemplars.org>

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Sir Knight Dennis M. Haas, KCT
Right Eminent Grand Commander
gc@vatemplars.org

Sir Knight Christopher R. Faraldi
Editor: Virginia Supplement
editor@vatemplars.com

Knightly Greetings Sir Knights!

This month I will provide you with updated information regarding the upcoming **202nd Grand Commandery of Virginia Stated Conclave** scheduled for **May 2 – 4, 2024, at the Madison Hotel and Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801.**

We will start off on Thursday evening, May 2nd at 5:00 pm. with a BBQ Fundraiser. The meal will be prepared and provided by ***So Mote It Beef***, owned and operated by a fellow Sir Knight and they are all about community, charity, fellowship, and BBQ. On the menu is brisket, pulled pork, bbq beans, cole slaw, smoked mac and cheese, and drinks. A cash bar will also provide your libations.

We will have live entertainment by ***Vinyl Headlights, Inc.*** out of VA Beach. The band specializes in a wide variety of popular rock, pop, and dance music that spans the era of 1960's up through the modern day.

You will enjoy a ***Cigar and Bourbon Pairing*** tent on the beautiful lawn of the hotel. We will feature Deluxe and Premium selections along with an addition ***Grand Commander's Special Selection*** featuring specific ***Virginia Distilled Bourbons***.

Our goal is to have 100 attendees and raise \$5,000 raised to benefit the Masonic Home of Virginia – Your Masonic Community. The individual cost of the tickets is still in the working stage but stay tuned as more information will follow. We will accept cash, check, and credit/debit card payments and donations for this fundraiser.

Friday morning, we kick off with the Reception of Distinguished Guests, followed by the Necrology Report and our Religious Service. Friday afternoon we will open our business session which will include a portion of award presentations.

The Grand Commanders Awards Banquet will be on Friday evening and the ticket cost is \$50. We will enjoy live entertainment during the banquet as well. I will have the distinct honor of presenting a few awards for the KTCH, KCT, and Grice. The winners for this year's Lady Laura's Raffle Ticket charity will be announced. Our Grand Recorder will be sending out the Call and related banquet information shortly.

Saturday we will kick off the day with our Drill Team Competition, Knights Preceptors, and Knight of York Court of Honor (KYCH) meetings then break for lunch. The afternoon will include a Knight Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) presentation from University of Virginia (UVA) Starter Grant Awardee followed by a Holy Land Pilgrimage (HLP) presentation from a minister we sponsored in the program. We have moved up our installation of our 2024 elected Grand Officers to 4:00 pm to be followed by a heavy reception and live entertainment, no cost to attend.

All events are open to you and your Lady's' and guests to attend except for our business session on Friday afternoon. We will provide a program for the ladies during this time, more to follow on that.

Sir Knights, we have experienced a remarkable year. We have experienced a movement within the ranks of servant leadership and discovering our path to find our "purpose." Our goal is to have 300 attendees at this years Stated Conclave. I encourage you to register to attend and enjoy the events, you will not want to miss this year's production.

Check out will be on Sunday morning.

Please visit our **website**, vatemplars.org, to stay informed with the latest information about this and other upcoming events, follow us on **social media, Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube**.

Courteously,



S. K. Dennis M. Haas, KCT
Grand Commander, 2023-2024