

Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

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May 2025

Frederick (Fred) R. Kemp, REGC 2025-2026

From the Grand Commander

Sir Knight Frederick R. Kemp, Right Eminent Grand Commander

The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked the current Grand Commandery Officers to write articles each month for this supplement. We will start 2025 with the Right Eminent Grand Commander.



I would like to express my appreciation for the honor of being elected as your Grand Commander. As some of y'all may have guessed, I am not a midwestern. I was born and raised in the New Orleans area. I worked for insurance companies as Loss Control person and then as an Underwriter for Commercial insurance. I was transferred from The Woodlands, TX to Chicago in January 1991. I knew I was not in the South anymore, because that stuff on the ground was not sand. Then they transferred me to Kansas in January of 1996.

Between my wife, Linda, and myself we have 8 children, 17 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. They are scattered all over, and reside in Baltimore, MD, Covington, LA, New Orleans, Chicago, Lincoln, NE, and St. Louis. So, I have plenty of places to visit now.

My masonic career has been extremely rewarding. I have had the honor of being the Master of Overland Park lodge, Commander of Ivanhoe Commandery, High Priest of Wyandotte Chapter, and Master of Wyandotte Council. I am a past Sovereign Master of our AMD and Past Excellent Chief for Knight Masons. In the 2024-25 year, I was elected Governor of the Kansas York Rite College. #125. I am a member of Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests; Red Cross of Constantine; Societas Rosicruciana; Yeoman of York; Order of St. Patrick; Royal Order of Scotland; Scarlet Cord; Knights of Columbus; Shrine; Sword of Bunker Hill; Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters; Scottish Rite; Association of Past Commanders; and Ashmole Court #181. I enjoy every minute of it. It is my desire to see Masonry and the York Rite grow and prosper. As for fun, I enjoy visiting my kids, and great grandchildren. My wife and I enjoy traveling and seeing new things in the U.S.

This should be an exciting year for York Rite. We have in May & June some Grand Master Classes and in June Council and Orders will be performed in Newton on July 12. We will be doing the Junction City wreath laying service on Memorial Day again this year. Participation in the Veteran's Day parade in Leavenworth. There is a Grand Templar Feast in Emporia at the Champions Landing on July 26. You will need to make advanced reservations and pick your dinner through the Grand York Rite web site. Looking forward to seeing all of y'all there.

Thank you for your support, and confidence. May God bless you and your families.

Frederick R. Kemp

Right Eminent Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of Kansas, 2025-2026

2025-2026 Grand Commandery Officers

R.: E.: Grand Commander: Frederick R. Kemp, Leavenworth Commandery #1
V.: E.: Deputy Grand Commander: Patrick C. Carr (CTC), Askelon Commandery #6
E.: Grand Generalissimo: Justin D. Crippen (KCT), Mt. Olivet Commandery #12
E.: Grand Captain General: Gary B. Strout (CTC), Leavenworth Commandery #1
E.: Grand Senior Warden: Ivan M. DeTevis, St. Bernard Commandery #10
E.: Grand Junior Warden: Delmus R. Morrow, Askelon Commandery #6
R.: E.: Grand Prelate: H. Wayne Rector, Leavenworth Commandery #1
R.: E.: Grand Treasurer: T. Michael Fegan (KCT), Junction City Commandery #43
R.: E.: Grand Recorder: Allan D. Jackson (KCT), DeMolay Commandery #4
E.: Grand Standard Bearer: Andrew G. Mosley (CTC), Askelon Commandery #6
E.: Grand Sword Bearer: Warren L. Hughes, Esdraelon Commandery #49
E.: Grand Warder: Robert D. Beardsley, Mt. Olivet Commandery #12
E.: Grand Sentinel: Robert B. Haynes (KTCH), Junction City Commandery #43
E.: Grand Audio-Visual: Dennis Reed, DeMolay Commandery #4
E.: Grand Piper: Kelly J. Long, Askelon Commandery #6
E.: Grand Guard: Juanito J. Ernacio, Askelon Commandery #6
E.: Grand Guard: William E. Koonce, Mt. Olivet Commandery #12
E.: Grand Guard: Kenneth Foster, Leavenworth Commandery #1
Grand Commander's Aide-de-camp: Wayne D. Drake (KCT), REPGC
Grand Commander's Aide-de-camp: L. Kent Needham, REPGC
Grand Commander's Aide-de-camp: Wayne H. Rollf, REPGC
Inspector #1: Sir Knight Gary B. Strout (CTC), Leavenworth Commandery #1
Inspector #2: Andrew Mosley (CTC), Askelon Commandery #6
Inspector #3: Ivan M. DeTevis, St. Bernard Commandery #10
Inspector #4: Justin D. Crippen (KCT), Mt. Olivet Commandery #12
Inspector #5: Robert B. Haynes (KTCH), Junction City Commandery #43

