

****Grand Commandery of New Mexico – August 2025****



E. Hans Schmidt, REGC

Greetings, Sir Knights

The Land of Enchantment Festival, was recently held in Santa Fe on July 25–26, was a remarkable gathering of Companions and Sir Knights, energized by the Grand York Rite Quarterly meeting on the evening of the 24th. These festivals are more than ceremonial—they're about fellowship, shared labor, and the joy of reunions. The spirit was electric, the work relentless, and the outcome deeply rewarding.

I extend heartfelt thanks to Sir Knight John Keel, who chaired the Festival with strength and grace, guided by Past Grand Commander James Bungard. Sir Knight James Overfelt led with precision as degree director, supported by Harry, Anthony, David, and the props team who kept the event seamless. Adam brought spirit and clarity to the classroom, keeping our candidates inspired and engaged.

We knighted 11 pilgrims—9 from New Mexico, 1 from Mexico, and 1 from Colorado—each a testament to the growing reach and impact of our Commandery. To those who received their degrees: may the fire lit within you guide your journey forward. I ask you to return next year—not just to remember, but to serve. We need you. Let your enthusiasm become stewardship.

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” — Proverbs 27:17

Let us continue to lift one another in fellowship and service, forging a legacy worthy of our calling.