

Wisconsin Forward

Grand Commandery of Wisconsin

gkctwis.org



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Greetings Sir Knights,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those that may not know me.

My name is Dan Gorecki and I was born and raised here in Milwaukee. Grew up going

to, and graduating, from Milwaukee Public Schools. I spent a year in college at UW-

River Falls before finding out that the area of study was not for me. Eventually I found

my place for a short time in the Public Service area where I was a volunteer

Firefighter/EMT as well as a full-time dispatcher for local 911 centers. I loved being able

to give back to the community in this way. Eventually I moved on and am now in the IT

world and have been for quite a while. My masonic upbringing is one of kind of a

reverse family tradition. My younger brother first got involved with it way before I did.

Then he eventually got me interested in it. After a while, we both got our dad interested

in it. One of the best days I can remember was when my brother was the WM and I was

SD and we raised our dad to become a Master Mason. I started my additional journey

with the Scottish Rite Valley of Milwaukee but I just personally felt it was not a good fit

for me. After that I joined the York Rite and have never looked back. Going through

Chapter and Council was a great way to tie all the Blue Lodge degrees together but

where I really found my passion was in the Commandery. I loved the regimented,

militaristic style that it had. The journeys that one goes through in each order is

profounding. It still to this day has a deep and lasting impression on me. After my Order

of the Temple, I was hooked. I loved to learn the different roles within the Asylum. I love

inspection season, not only because of the Order but we get to participate in the Full

Form Opening. I must admit that my favorite position to be in is the Captain General

during Full Form. Recently as a Grand Commandery Officer, I have been able to go

through and help teach Sir Knights (young and old) the ritual that we have come to love.

And yes, even old dogs learn new tricks. Ritual is always changing so even if you think

you KNOW the part inside and out, come out to one of the Schools of the Knights that

are put on. You would be surprised on what you may pick up that you never knew

changed. For example, did you know that when going on duty as a guard, it is NOT a

pace forward, left turn and then your “patrol”? It is a moving pivot to the left then a

moving pivot about face to go on your patrol. How long have we all been doing that

incorrectly?

I look forward to upcoming inspection season (my favorite time of the Templar year) and

if any Commandery needs additional training/schools, please reach out to the Grand

Commandery. We are here to help you.

Courteously yours,

S.K. Daniel D Gorecki

Grand Captain General

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

of the State of Wisconsin

