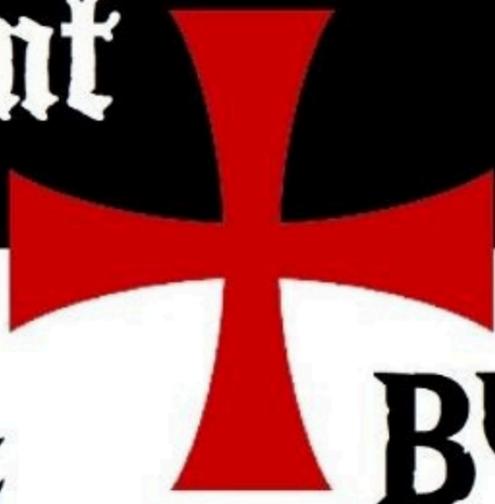


Beauseant



BUCKLER

A publication of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota

JANUARY 2026

NEWS



Sir Knight Donald W. Demars, Past Grand Commander (2016-17), Knight Commander of the Temple, passed away December 18, 2025. Please keep his wife Mary and the rest of Don's family in your thoughts and prayers. Please see the attached General Order 11.

[Obituary](#)

**GENERAL
ORDER 11**

NEWS

A new initiative to encourage healthier lifestyles among Masons. Let's take the first step toward a vibrant, thriving community together. Step up, lace up, and make a difference.

Be part of the 14th Annual Goldy's Run, supporting the M Health Fairview University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital.

Meet fellow Masons at the starting line, run (or walk) with us in the 5k race, and celebrate together at the finish line. Look for the Masonic banner at our meeting point.

Visit Goldysrun.com , Click "Register Now!" and use the sign up code MASONSACTION [Masons In Action - all one word] register- our team name is MN Freemasons.



The ByLaws digital initiative is pushing forward, if you still haven't done so, please submit a copy of your ByLaws (or request help for scanning) to your District Officer.

EDIFICATION

From ancient Babylon to modern-day lodge rooms, the turning of the year has always carried meaning far beyond the flip of a calendar page. In [History and Traditions of a New Year](#), the author traces how cultures across time and continents have marked new beginnings—through feasts, vows, calendars, and resolutions—and gently draws those traditions into our own Masonic lives. Along the way, familiar customs take on deeper significance, reminding us that reflection, renewal, and resolve are timeless human impulses. Join us for a thoughtful journey through history that just might shape how you approach the year ahead.

What if every step of the soul's ascent were laid upon the remains of who you once were? Drawing from an ancient Buddhist parable and read through the light of Christian hope, this meditation reflects on death and rebirth not as distant doctrines, but as realities lived again and again within a single lifetime. As the year turns, it asks us to look honestly at the selves we have outgrown, the graves we have already passed through, and the quiet mercy of rising once more. This is a reflection on repentance, continuity, and resurrection — and on why the Light that dawns beyond the skull-shaped hill still matters now, perhaps more than ever. Read the full reflection on our blog, [Mountain of Skulls](#).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Mn. Ch. № 1, St. Paul Council № 1, & Damascus
Comm. № 1**

**Installation of Officers
St. Paul Masonic Center
Friday, January 9th
Dinner: 6:30pm**

**2026 Grand Lodge One day to Masonry
Festival**

**Minneapolis Scottish Rite
January 17th, 9am
(RSVP required, check Grand View)**

**2026 Royal Arch Masonry Festival
Minneapolis Scottish Rite
February 7th, 8:45am
([RSVP required](#))**

**2026 Cryptic Council Festival
Minneapolis Scottish Rite
February 21st, 10am
([RSVP required](#))**

**2026 Knights Templar Festival
Minneapolis Scottish Rite
March 7th, 7:30am
([RSVP required](#))**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2026 173rd Grand Lodge Communication

The Park Event Center

St. Cloud, MN

April 17-18th

([RSVP required](#), will open closer to event)

([Additional Information](#))

2026 Grand York Rite Session

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn

St. Cloud, MN

June 25-27th

(RSVP required, will open closer to event)

NORTH CENTRAL

Super Excellent Master Degree

Saturday, February 28th, 2026

11:30 - 4:00p

@ Des Moines, IO

[RSVP](#)

96th Annual Grand Encampment Easter
Observance

Hilton Arlington National Landing

Arlington, Virginia

Sunday, April 5, 2026

[Information](#)

[Registration](#)

[Hotel Reservation](#)

73rd Triennial Convocation

Capitol Hilton Hotel

Washington D.C.

Monday, August 31st

[RSVP](#)

(RSVP required, will open closer to event)

STATED MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 6th
No 18 Duluth Commandery
(Election/Installation of
Officers)
@ Masonic Center of Duluth

Thursday, January 8th
Fergus Falls Ch. No 27, Alpha
Council No.6, Palestine Comm.
No 14
@ Cornerstone Lodge No 99

Tuesday, January 13th
No 1 Damascus Commandery
@ St. Paul Masonic Center

Thursday, January 15th
No 31 Ivanhoe Commandery
@ Nicollet Lodge No 54

Monday, January 19th
No 24 Nazarene Commandery
@ North Star Lodge No 23

Monday, January 19th
No 5 Home Commandery
@ Rochester Lodge No 21

Tuesday, January 20th
Keystone Chapter No 20 &
Duluth Council No 6
(Election/Installation of
Officers)
@ Masonic Center of Duluth

Wednesday, January 21st
No 9 Cyrene Commandery
@ Star in the East Lodge No 33

Monday, January 26th
No 2 Zion Commandery
@ Minneapolis Scottish Rite

Monday, December 22th
No 8 Faribault Commandery
@ Corinthian Lodge No 67

Tuesday, February 3rd
No 18 Duluth Commandery
@ Masonic Center of Duluth



Send your events and calendar of meetings to :
mngc.communications@gmail.com

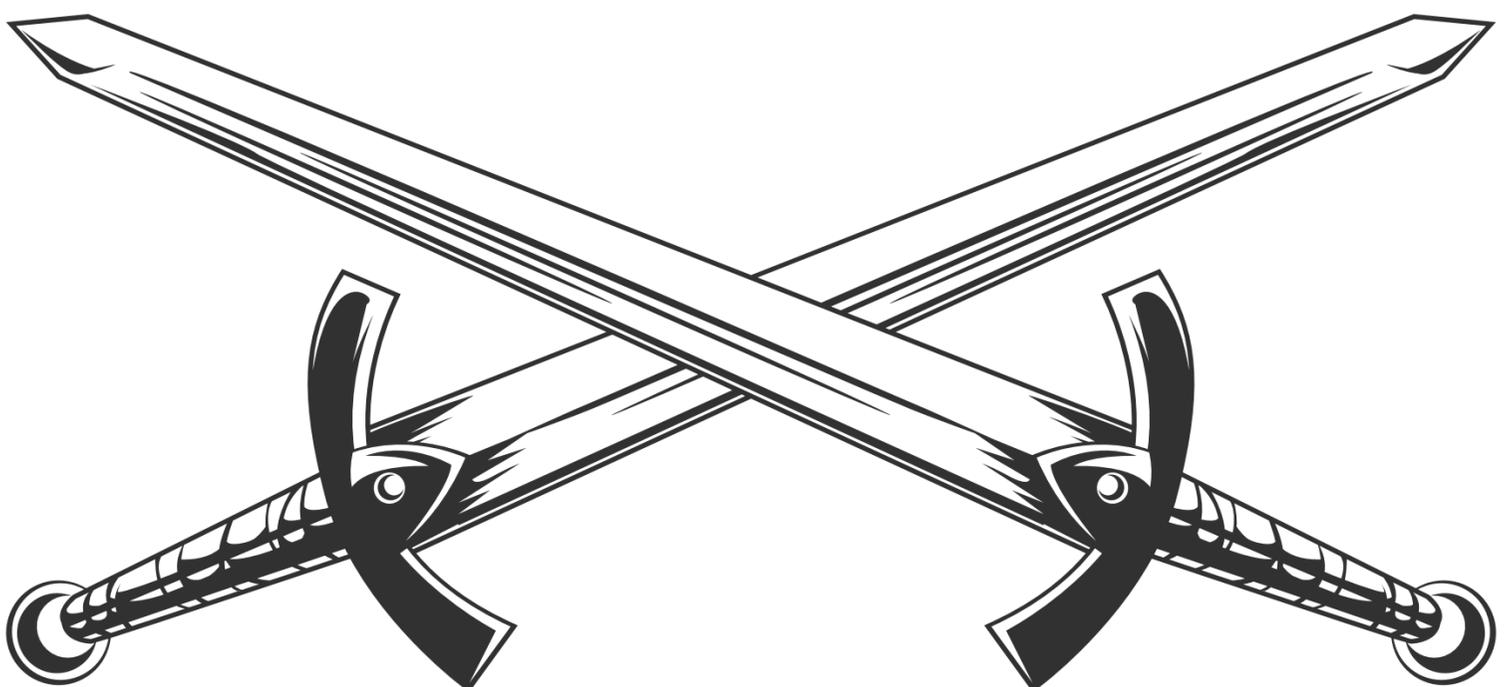
KNIGHT CARRIWITCHET



Knight: Squire, do you know why I always wear my Class A's to January Conclaves?

Squire: For the solemnity, Sir?

Knight: No, because they're warmer than my overcoat!



REPOSITORY

[Sword Manual Lesson #1](#)

[Sword Manual Lesson #2](#)

[Security Reminder for Masonic Lodges](#)

[The Peculiar Stone](#)

[Chinon Parchment](#)

[The Martyrdom of Grand Master
Jacques de Molay](#)

[A Tribute to Benjamin Franklin](#)



ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Grand Encampment Prayer Request](#)

[Grand Commandery of Minnesota](#)

[Educational Blog](#)

FORMS, PETITIONS, & NOMINATIONS



The Knight Crusader of the Cross is an exclusive "chair degree" bestowed upon current or past Eminent Commanders, growing in prestige since its origin in Florida in 1969. Conferred at Grand Commandery meetings, this solemn rite unfolds in an Asylum, where candidates form a cross, receive refreshment, and are dubbed into the order. With symbolic lectures on Masonic Templarism and the Jerusalem Cross, it deepens the Commander's understanding of their sacred duty, preserving the mystique and legacy of Templar Knighthood.

Knight Crusaders of the Cross Petition



Nominations for the Knight Commander of the Temple (KCT) honor are open to any current KCT holder and must be submitted by February 1st each year. The deputy of each Grand Commandery prioritizes nominations based on service to the Order, fraternity, and community. Selected recipients are awarded a neck jewel, lapel pin, and certificate. The investiture ceremony takes place at a suitable event, and nominees are vetted by the College of Honors.

Knight Commander of the Temple Nomination



The Companion of the Temple (CT) award, offered by the Grand Encampment, recognizes individuals for exceptional service to the Order, fraternity, and community, regardless of their Mason or Knight Templar status. A \$100 application fee applies, and the nominee must not request the honor for themselves. The jewel is presented during an annual public ceremony.

Knight Companion of the Temple Nomination

Do you know a fellow Knight that isn't receiving the Beauseant & Buckler, show them this QR code, they can snap a photo and they'll be directed to the sign-up page



or [Click Here](#) to sign up

To submit content or news to the Beauseant & Buckler contact Sir Knight Scott Giannone, Editor at:
mngc.communications@gmail.com



AI (Artificial Intelligence) is used in the creation of images and summations of articles.