



MICHIGAN SUPPLEMENT

JULY 2026

Web Site: www.michigantemplar.org

SK Adam W. Wygant, REGC

“As He Died Let Us Live”



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Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies, Companions and Brothers All!

Welcome to the July 2026 edition of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan update and Knights Templar Magazine Supplement.

Grand Commander Message



Happy 4th of July, Happy 250th Birthday USA, and may God Bless America. It is my hope that you enjoy the celebration of 250 years of this great nation and contemplate how our fraternity will help shine light and life to all who live under the protective folds of the Stars and Stripes and those who seek freedom in the land in which it floats.

June came and went with some great activity. Many Schools of Instruction, Templar Orders, and participation in events occurred. Three new knights were created in the Hugh de Payens No. 47 asylum, the first orders done in that new facility. Well done on orders performed in Reed City, Lexington, Detroit, and elsewhere. I am proud of you for not taking your foot off the gas and coasting into summer. I had the honor of representing

the Grand Commandery at the 200 Year Gala of the Michigan Grand Lodge, and many of us plugged into the Rainbow Girls Annual Assembly this year. It was so fun to see how the Rainbow Girls can alternate from serious when performing important work to not taking themselves seriously at all when at ease. I think there is much to learn from them in this regard, that is to say doing excellent work, but when at ease not taking ourselves too seriously and truly enjoying each other. A highlight was escorting our new Grand Worthy Advisor Chloe through the honor guard and arch of steel to the second half of the honor guard which was the Rainbow Girls holding up their hands, sparkling, and hooting and hollering! It had to have been the most fun and special honor guard I have ever passed through; I was grinning ear to ear when I went through the second half of the honor guard of ladies in white dresses whooping it up to show support for their new leader. I have never seen more pink and sparkles in my life, and I am sure what I saw in Alma at the Doig Chapel there was enough Wonderland décor to rival a Tinkerbell ride at Disneyland. So fun and great to see our Masonic Youth doing it up in big fashion.

Please attend your Grand Conclave at Bay City Michigan in August. The Grand York Rite sessions are a special time of business and fun. The fellowship is rich as we also do our business. The Grand Commandery earnestly solicits the involvement of all sir knights, but expects attendance and participation of each constituent commandery's leadership, dais officers and recorders. Registration information on the Grand York Rite Session, August 20th Fun Night, and 2026 Bark River Tour is located at the end of this supplement. Call me if you have questions!

Michigan Templar Notable Shots



Getting it done in Reed City with Hugh de Payens. 3 new members of the Order and first knighting in the new asylum. It was very special to do the Order of the Temple alongside Right Eminent Past Grand Commander Sir Knight Paul Roggow. Six members of Lansing Commandery No. 25

carpooled in our Grand Sword Bearer's Expedition for a day of fun and travel.

Hugh de Payens Commandery were great hosts for those traveling to assist with the Order of the Temple, providing smiles and all you could eat pizza to fuel the day. Miles of Smiles as you can see from this picture of the Grand Commander and Grand Sentinel.

More smiles at the Rainbow Grand Assembly with Grand Commander and Grand Commandery Sweetheart JoAnne Mayville.



Templars showed up to support the Rainbows and our own SK Steve Atkeson, proud dad of the incoming Grand Worthy Advisor.

One of the best Commander is meeting in Commandery those who have has a great singing Auld was at the Eminent in great spirits Guard line, you blowing as he next couple of



experiences of being Grand being invited to the “Old Guard” Detroit. This subgroup of Detroit No. 1 for past commanders and been members for many years history and traditions (like Lang Syne together). This year Detroit Country Club. Detroit’s Commander SK Dean Barr was as he got pulled into the Old could hear rail road whistles got “encouraged” to lead the years. What a great group.

We Each Have A Calling

Present throughout the Bible is the doctrine of vocation, the truth that God creates everyone uniquely and places unique callings on each individual life. In the final chapter of John’s Gospel, Jesus relates that Peter and John have different yet equally strategic ways their lives are to be used for God’s glory. The doctrine of vocation is about how God does his work in the world through us, his unique human creations. We should not feel pressure to compare ourselves to others, for God has given a unique calling to each one of us that only we can uniquely fulfill. Peter was called to be Peter. John was called to be John. You are called to be you. Together, we press forward as a band of brothers seeking God’s grace as we march.

Sir Knight Darrell Brockway, EC , Pontiac Commandery No. 2

VERY EMINENT DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER’S MESSAGE

Greetings Companions, and Sir Knights,

The month of June started off on a sad note, as we got word of the passing of Past Grand Master Larry Judson. His memorial service will be held on Saturday July 11, at the Owosso Masonic Lodge, 301 Washington Street Owosso, Mi. PGM Larry was an

inspiration to me. He was there for me when I was going through a rough time in my masonic journey, when Larry was the Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge. He supported me, and listened to me as I aired my grievances, we became friends, and he was there as I started the grand line and was proud of me for the way I have grown, and the way I have handled my disability.

On June 25-27 was the Grand Session for Rainbow of Michigan, the REGC Adam Wygant and ten Sir Knights to include the VEDGC, and two REPGC, gave Chloe Atkeson the new Grand Worthy Advisor for Rainbow for girls in Michigan an honor guard with an arch of Steal, as Grand Commander Adam escorted her through. This session was my first, Becky and I took our seven-year-old granddaughter who became a pledge and we stayed for the entire session. It took place in Alma and Mount Pleasant.

In the month of July, the knights of Hugh DePayens commandry along with knights from Howell Commandry are going to participate in the National Cherry Festival Parade in Traverse City on July 11, 2026. These commandries invite you to join them on the date listed, they will gather at the Masonic Lodge on west shore drive in Traverse City at 9am, you will be taken to the start line, the dress is summer uniforms, or ancient regalia.

The Grand Officer will be going to Springfield Illinois for their Grand Session in the month of July. We look forward to going to the home of President Abraham Lincoln, especially in this month when we celebrated 250 years of our Independence, as a veteran, and one who defended our flag.

For the veterans out there always remember this little message from me; I will always place the mission first, I will never accept defeat, I will never quit, I will never leave a fallen comrade behind.

Courteously,

James E.J. DeGuise Rutherford

Deputy Grand Commander





ON THE RADAR

There is less than two months left in the Templar Year before August 22, 2026 and there is much to accomplish:

- **School of Instruction** - If you have not got your school of instruction done or report turned in....**Git er DONE!**
- **Illinois Grand Conclave**, Springfield Illinois. Thursday July 16th, 2026.
- **Michigan DeMolay, August 14 to 16, 2026, Battle Creek, Michigan.** If you are able to come support our Masonic Youth, I know they would love to have us. Saturday evening is the big banquet and installation. Registration is due by July 24th. Please contact me if you are interested in registration information at miktskadam@gmail.com.
- ******Grand Conclave****** August 22nd is the 170th Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan. This is important for all Sir Knights, but participation of dias officers from every commandery is expected. All past commanders should come and receive their Past Commander Association ritual. If you have any questions about grand conclave, please contact the Grand Commander SK Adam Wygant. The registration form for Grand York Rite session in Bay City Michigan August 20-22 has been included at the end of the Supplement. Rooms are running low and the committee needs your registration by July 31. Please get this done Sk's, the committee really appreciates timely registration.
- **Bark River Tour** – September 24-27th. Information at the end of this Supplement.

SIR KNIGHTS THIS SUPPLEMENT IS YOUR PLATFORM TOO, PLEASE SEND THE EDITOR CONTENT, PHOTOS, AND EVENTS TO SHARE WITH OUR GRAND COMMANDERY COMMUNITY. I KNOW SOME OF YOU HAVE INTERESTING CURRENT EVENTS AND TEMPLAR HISTORY TO SHARE. WE HAVE A PROUD HERITAGE SINCE 1850 AND GREAT THINGS HAPPENING TODAY – LETS TALK ABOUT IT.

SEND CONTENT TO THE EDITOR: miktskadam@gmail.com

AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY BARBEQUE

Celebrate 250 Years of the USA!

★ **Thursday, August 20th, 2026 • 7:00 PM** ★

★ **Barbeque Meal: \$40** ★

Great Food ♥ Music ♥ Fun for All Ages!

★ **A Night of Red, White & Blue Fun!** ★

Register with your Joint York Rite Meal Registration Form

**Bring your friends. Bring your appetite.
Bring your patriotic spirit!**

2026 Grand York Rite Session
Guest Meal Reservation Form
August 20th – 22th, 2026

Name _____ Ladies Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-Mail _____

Organization _____ Title _____

Special Dietary requests _____

Please make your meal reservations from the following selections:

Grand Chapter RAM – Thursday, August 20th 2026

6:30 AM	Chapter Breakfast Buffet	No. _____ @ \$20.00= \$ _____
11:30AM	Ladies Welcome Luncheon	No. _____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____
12:00 noon	Companions Luncheon Buffet	No. _____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____
7:00 PM	Informal Banquet Dress: Casual	No. _____ @ \$40.00= \$ _____

Grand Council R&SM – Friday, August 21st 2026

7:00 AM	Companions and Ladies Breakfast Buffet	No. _____ @ \$20.00= \$ _____
12:00 noon	Ladies Luncheon	No. _____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____
12:00 noon	Companions Luncheon Buffet	No. _____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____
7:00 PM	JOINT YORK RITE GRAND BANQUET	
	Honey Lacquered Salmon	No. _____ @ \$50.00= \$ _____
	8 oz. Filet Mignon	No. _____ @ \$50.00= \$ _____
	Grilled Portabella Mushroom	No. _____ @ \$50.00= \$ _____

Recommended Dress for the Joint York Rite Grand Banquet is:
Grand Officers – Tuxedo/White Dinner Jacket with Collars. Ladies: Evening Attire.
General Membership – Business Suits. Ladies – Sunday Best.

Grand Commandery K.T., - Saturday, August 22nd , 2026

7:00 AM	Commandery General Membership Breakfast Buffet	No. _____ @ \$20.00= \$ _____
10:30 AM	Encourage One Another Ladies Brunch	No. _____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____
12:00 noon	Sir Knights Luncheon	No. _____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____
7:00 PM	Round Table Dinner	
	Grilled Chicken Madiera	No. _____ @ \$50.00= \$ _____
	Crusted Whitefish	No. _____ @ \$50.00= \$ _____
	Cheese Ravioli	No. _____ @ \$50.00= \$ _____

Recommended Dress for the Round Table Dinner is:

Grand Commandery Officers: Full Dress Uniform w/o Sword and Chapeau.

Grand Officers of other Bodies: Tuxedos/White Dinner Jackets with Collars, Ladies, Evening Attire

Sir Knights – Full Dress Uniform w/o Sword and Chapeau. Ladies – Sunday Best.

Sub Total \$ _____
Registration Fee (Per Companion) \$ **10.00**
TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:

Michigan Grand York Rite Committee

NOTICE: Meal reservations must be postmarked by July 31, 2026.
All Meal reservations postmarked after July 31, 2026, are
subject to a Late Fee of \$25.00.

Meal reservation cancellations will be honored prior to July 31, 2025.

REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY RESERVATIONS!

Please forward all meal reservations with remittance to:

MICHIGAN GRAND YORK RITE COMMITTEE
c/o Cortland C. Rule
4725 E. Gorman Road
Palmyra, MI 49268

Knights Templar Bark River Tour

September 24th – 27th



Lodging Accommodations

Comfort Inn 617 E. Lakeshore Drive

Manistique, Mi. 49854

(906) 341-6981

Room Rates

Standard Room two queen beds \$109.00 per night

King bed \$109.00 per night

Plus, Taxes (Limited Occupancy, Book Early)

2026 ANNUAL BARK RIVER TOUR & INSPECTION

Thursday, September 24th

Check-In at Comfort Inn Manistique (4:00PM)

6:30PM Dinner Buffet

7:30PM – 11:00PM Hospitality

Friday, September 25th

9:00AM – 12:00PM REGC James Rutherford Officers Meeting

12:00PM – 1:00PM Lunch

1:00PM – 3:00PM VEDGC Michael Hicks Forward Planning Meeting

1:00PM – 3:00PM Ladies Program

6:30PM Indian Lake Golf Course Dinner Buffet

8:00PM – 11:00PM Hospitality

Saturday, September 26th

Bark River Inspection (2 hour drive from Comfort Inn)

Location:

Sunrise Commandery No.34

809 Carpenter Ave. Suite 3

Iron Mountain, MI 49801

9:30AM CST – 10:30AM EST Chamber of Reflection

10:00AM CST – 11:00AM EST Order of the Temple

12:30PM CST – 1:00PM EST Lunch (Cost to be determined)

Dinner on your own

7:00PM – 11:00PM Hospitality

8:00PM Bark River Ceremony

Sunday, September 27th

Check-Out & Drive Home

Bark River Commandery No. 1313

Induction Ceremony

Are you a Member of Bark River Commandery No. 1313?

Sir Knight _____

Lady Knightie Knight _____

Would you like to join the largest Commandery in Michigan?

Sir Knight _____

Lady _____

Kindly send to:

Sir Knight David Heise

Email: djheise@comcast.net

Address:

3746 North Road

Clyde, MI 48049-3918

Or

Sir Knight David Hutton

Email: ddhutton@gmail.com

Address:

18887 Millard Road

Clinton Twp., MI 48036