

Tennessee Knight Templar News

SIR KNIGHT ROY T. SUTTON III, RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TENNESSEE

September A.D. 2026 / A.O. 908

Edited by: Jesse J. Harper, KCT



Dickson Commandery #41 conferred the Order of the Temple on Sir Knight Justin Kleppe.
Photo Courtesy of Past Grand Commander Burks Taylor

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If you are aware of any members who are not currently receiving this monthly newsletter, then please have them send an email to Jesse Harper with their name, email address, and Commandery number: jesssharp@comcast.net

Please be sure to share any photos from your conferrals or events so that they can be publicized.



From the Right Eminent Grand Commander
ROY T. SUTTON III, KTCH
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee



September Message

Sir Knights,

August was a great month for York Rite Masonry in Tennessee. We had another great weekend of Inspections at Chevalier, Nashville, and Baldwin. The Knights did an excellent job conferring the Order of the Temple at each Inspection and I looking forward to the next Inspections in September.

We had a great time at All Mason's Day in the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. It was a success to be able to create 42 new York Rite Masons. Our goal from the beginning was to create a unique opportunity for all individual York Rite bodies across the state to come to one location and work together to bring us all closer and make new members for us all. It was a great opportunity to show how the Grand York Rite Bodies are dedicated to working closer together this year. The day was a success and I was proud to see Knights from different areas working together to confer the best Orders possible for our candidates. Each candidate I talked to expressed how much they enjoyed the day, though tired from an all-day event. I am looking for to seeing these new Knights working in their local Commanderies.

So many Knights deserve thanks for all their hard work to make this day possible. The kitchen staff deserves special recognition for keeping the candidates and members fed for an entire day. The Knights of Murfreesboro No. 10 and Nashville No. 1 deserve a special thanks for donating props and regalia and for working as the stage crew. They are truly what kept the day going so smoothly. Our Grand Recorder Quentin Bolden deserves a special thanks for all the work he did keeping us organized.

I also want to thank the Sir Knights of Tennessee for their support of the new 250th Anniversary Malta Jewels. We will soon be ordering our 3rd batch of 100 jewels because of your generous support. I've seen many Commanderies purchase these for their new members this year and I encourage all Commanderies to do this. Each sold will go to support our Masonic Youth of DeMolay and Rainbow.

I look forward to traveling across the State this month and being with the Sir Knights of Tennessee.

Please keep the upcoming dates in your calendar:

Outdoor Order of the Temple – October 9, 2026 at Katy Branch in Chuckey, TN

The Commanderies of Upper East TN will be conferring the Order of the Temple outside at Katy Branch in Chuckey, TN. There is no address for this location but directions can be found by searching Katy Branch on Google Maps. We will have signs to help guide anyone that would like to join us. The facility does have a shelter with bathrooms and a kitchen on site. Please bring your own chair for the conferral as most will happen in an open field. We will begin the conferral around 7pm (depending on daylight) and due to being in the mountains in October, I suggest bringing an extra coat with you.

KTEF Golf Tournament – October 17, 2026 at Graysburg Golf Course

The Golf Tournament that was originally schedule for May was postponed to October due to weather. If you would like to register a team and support KTEF, please contact Sammy Dennison at Sammy.dennison2013@gmail.com, George Hughes at gchughes30@gmail.com, or Chuck Stanton at cstanton279@gmail.com. Lunch will be provided with the team fee and will be served at Noon and the Tournament will have a shotgun start at 1:30pm. Please reach out to these Knights if you or your Commandery would like to be a hole-sponsor.

September Spotlight of the Constitution, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Tennessee

Section 47.

Each and every officer of a Commandery in Tennessee shall be required to possess a dress uniform prior to his installation. 1977. 33.

September Spotlight of the CONSTITUTION, STATUTES, DISCIPLINARY RULES, STANDING RESOLUTIONS, CEREMONIES, FORMS AND APPROVED DECISIONS OF THE Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America

Section 190(a).

A Knight Templar may be admitted to membership in any Commandery regardless of his residence and may be an elected officer in more than one Commandery at the same time, provided he may not be Commander of more than one Commandery at the same time. (1937, p 355)(1964, p. 18 & 449-452)(1982, p. 156-157 & 268)(2021, p unassigned)

Sir Knights, as always, both myself and your Grand Officers are here for any questions or help you or your Commandery may need. Please reach out to us for any Conferrals happening your local Commanderies so we can help promote them through email and social media.

Roy T. Sutton III, KTCH
Right Eminent Grand Commander
Grand Commandery Knights Templar Of Tennessee



From the Eminent Grand Prelate

Sir Knight Gary W. Coates

Prelates Devotion for September

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you."
Ephesians 4:32

Ephesians 4:32 emphasizes kindness, compassion, and forgiveness as central virtues for Christian living. The verse instructs believers to treat one another with tenderheartedness, showing empathy and care in relationships, and to forgive freely, enacting the forgiveness God has extended through Christ. There are not many things in life more important than forgiveness. As Christians, we understand that we all make mistakes and that we must learn to forgive, as God forgives us. There are many circumstances when we need to ask to be forgiven.

As Christians we are called to act with genuine concern for others, demonstrating patience, understanding, and helpfulness in daily interactions. The verse highlights that forgiveness should be gracious and unconditional, mirroring the way God forgives humanity through Christ. This includes letting go of resentment, not holding past offenses against others, and offering reconciliation even before repentance. The standard for these behaviors is God's forgiveness in Christ, meaning that Christians are to emulate the mercy and grace they have received, making forgiveness and compassion a reflection of God's divine love by applying kindness and compassion in family, work, and community settings, and forgiving others promptly and sincerely; it stops us from avoiding bitterness or grudges. It cultivates a heart aligned with Christ's example, fostering peace and unity within the community of believers. Ephesians 4:32 serves as a guiding principle for ethical and spiritual conduct, encouraging believers to embody Christlike love in all interactions.

As Masons and Sir Knights, one of our greatest virtues is to forgive. Let us all be of one mind and always strive to forgive.

"Turn on your heart light!"

"Let It shine for all the world to see!"

In God's Service,

Gary W. Coates, KTCH

Eminent Grand Prelate

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee

All Masons Day



Illustrious Order of the Red Cross Cast with the Active Candidate



Order of Malta Cast with the Active Candidate



Order of the Temple Cast with the Full All Masons Day Class



Grand Commandery Knights Templar Order Form

Submitted by:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Address:	
City:	

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Amount Due
1	250 th Commemorative Malta Jewel		\$30.00	

Make checks payable to Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee
 and mail to: Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee
 100 7th Ave. North, Suite #3
 Nashville, TN 37203-3726

2026 Grand Commandery Inspection Schedule

Week 5

Friday	09/11/26	Coeur de Lion No. 9	612 16th St. Knoxville, TN	7:00 PM EST
Saturday	09/12/26	Manchester No. 40	1313 Hillsboro Blvd. Manchester, TN	9:00 AM CST
Saturday	09/12/26	Murfreesboro No. 10	1206 SE Broad St. Murfreesboro, TN	3:00 PM CST

Week 6

Friday	09/18/26	Cyprus No. 23	318 Ellis Ave. Maryville, TN	7:00 PM EST
Saturday	09/19/26	Cyrene No. 34	310 2nd Ave. Dayton, TN	9:00 AM EST
Saturday	09/19/26	Lookout No. 14	551 W. 21st St. Chattanooga, TN	3:00 PM EST

Week 7

Thursday	10/01/26	Greeneville No. 43	540 E. Andrew Johnson Hwy Greeneville	7:00 PM EST
Friday	10/02/26	Appalachia No. 45	5400 N. Broadway St. Knoxville, TN	7:00 PM EST
Saturday	10/03/26	Carter No. 37	410 E Doe Ave. Elizabethton, TN	9:00 AM EST
Saturday	10/03/26	Watauga No. 25	304 W. Watauga Ave. Johnson City, TN	3:00 PM EST

Week 8

Saturday	10/10/26	St. Omer No. 19	35 5th St. Bristol, TN	9:00 AM EST
Saturday	10/10/26	Kingsport No. 33	2317 Ft. Henry Dr. Kingsport, TN	3:00 PM EST

RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER ROY T. SUTTON III HOMECOMING
 MEALS SERVED ONE HOUR PRIOR TO THE MEETING

August Inspection Photos



Chevalier Commandery #21



Nashville Commandery #1



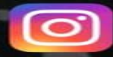
Baldwin Commandery #7



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MISSION

The mission of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee is to provide every Christian Freemason in Tennessee the opportunity and resources to develop, be engaged in, and exemplify a Christian chivalric lifestyle.

THE VISION OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TENNESSEE

The Knights of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee are a group of men who share the Christian faith, exemplary character, a dedication to excellence and the service of others, and a desire to share the chivalric experience with other Christian Freemasons. Our Knights are actively engaged with one another in accomplishing this goal and in maintaining this standard of lifestyle and behavior.

Request for Submissions!

Sir Knights – We need submissions for the Tennessee Knight Templar News. Is your Commandery going to confer any of the orders soon? Did you have some sort of unusual or fun event? Send us an article to share with the other Tennessee Knights and include photos if you have them.

We would also like to have your thoughts and ideas about how we can make Tennessee Templary more fun and exciting. Send us an article!

Please send news and events going on in your Commandery to:
TNKTNewsEditor@gmail.com