

**GRAND COMMANDERY  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR**



**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEADQUARTERS OF**

**Richard T. Carnall  
Grand Commander**

**5333 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Countryside, IL 60525**

**August 1, 2023**

**GENERAL ORDER No 1 (Carnall)**

To the Officers and Members of the Grand and Constituent Commanderies of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois:

**ANNUAL CONCLAVE**

A Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois was held in the City of Springfield, Illinois on Thursday, July 27, 2023, A.O. 905.

**GRAND OFFICERS INSTALLED**

Richard T. Carnall, KTCH	Right Eminent Grand Commander
Jamie A. Emery, KTCH	Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander
Sean P. McBride, GWB	Eminent Grand Generalissimo
Donald J. Cowart	Eminent Grand Captain General
Christopher J. Whitney	Eminent Grand Senior Warden
Derrick S. Helfer	Eminent Grand Junior Warden
Gary Sheets	Eminent Grand Prelate
John M. Sansone, REPGC	Eminent Grand Treasurer
Mark A. Keagle, KCT, REPGC	Eminent Grand Recorder
Reno Reguya	Eminent Grand Standard Bearer
Kevin Wheeler	Eminent Grand Sword Bearer
Michael Millette	Eminent Grand Warder
Randy M Zaerr, GWB	Eminent Grand Sentinel
Joseph L. Pieron	Eminent Grand Color Bearer
Thomas R. Osborne	Eminent Grand Organist

**COMMISSIONED AIDE TO THE GRAND COMMANDER**

Stephen T. Adamson, KTCH, GWB, EPC

No. 04

**COMMITTEE APOINTMENTS**

**JURISPRUDENCE**

Charles E. Hileman Jr., KCT, REPGC	Chairman	No. 02
Henry J. DeHeer, KCT, REPDC, REPGC		No. 38
John T. Riedas, KCT, REPGC		No. 53
H. Wayne Hoffman, KCT, REPGC		No. 03
Enrique J. Unanue, REPGC		No. 06

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

William E. Jegen, REPGC	Chairman	No. 01
Enrique J. Unanue, REPGC		No. 06
Max E. Guthrie, KTCH, EPC		No. 38

## INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Joseph W. Lucas, KCT, KTCH, REPGC	Chairman	No. 51
William E. Jegen, REPGC		No. 01
Max E. Guthrie, KTCH, EPC		No. 38
John M. Sansone, REPGC, EGT		Ex-Officio No. 53
Mark A. Keagle, KCT, REPGC, EGR		Ex-Officio No. 66

## ELOISE H. PHILLIPS CHARITY FUND

Sean P. McBride, GWB, EGG	Chairman	No. 16
Don J. Cowart, EGCG		No. 01
Christopher J. Whitney, EGSW		No. 09
John M. Sansone, REPGC, EGT	Treasurer	No. 53
Mark A. Keagle, KCT, REPGC, EGR	Recorder	No. 66

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

Donald J. Cowart, EGCG	Chairman	No. 01
H. Gary Reichert, EPC		No. 51
Stephen T. Adamson, KTCH, GWB, EPC		No. 04

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Jeff L. Estes, GWB, EPC	Chairman	No. 24
Mark A. Keagle, KCT, REPGC, EGR		No. 66
Douglas W. Niewald, EPC		No. 38
William J. Smith, REPGC		No. 64
William J. Farris, REPGC		No. 17

## HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Gary W. Sheets, KTCH, EGP	Chairman	No. 06
Donald J. Cowart, EGCG		No. 01
Charles Hileman, KCT, REPGC		No. 02
William J. Farris, REPGC		No. 17
Douglas W. Niewald, EPC		No. 38

## BYLAWS

Charles Hileman, KCT, REPGC	Chairman	No. 02
Jamie A. Emery, KTCH, VEDGC		No. 08
Sean P. McBride, GWB, EGG		No. 16
Enrique J. Unanue, REPGC		No. 06

## CREDENTIALS

H. Gary Reichert, EPC	Chairman	No. 51
Paul J. Dillow, EPC		No. 24
Verne LaGesse, EPC		No. 47

## MEMBERSHIP

Kevin Wheeler, EPC	Co-Chairman	No. 64
Andrew F. Michyeta, GWB, EPC	Co-Chairman	No. 36
Gregorio Godoy, EPC		No. 53
Nyle G. Waters, KTCH, EPC		No. 47

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Sean P. McBride, GWB, EGG	Chairman	No. 16
Jamie A. Emery, KTCH, VEDGC		No. 08
Stephen T. Adamson, KTCH, EPC		No. 04

## CHARTERS AND DISPENSATION

Jamie A. Emery, KTCH, VEDGC	Chairman	No. 08
Sean P. McBride, GWB, EGG		No. 16
Don J. Cowart, EGCG		No. 01

## RITUAL AND TACTICS

Mark A. Keagle, KCT, REPGC, EGR	Chairman	No. 66
Robert H. Wright, EPC		No. 24
Richard T. Carnall, KTCH, REGC		No. 01
Sean P. McBride, GWB, EGG		No. 16

## WEBMASTER

John M. Sansone, REGC, EGT	Chairman	No. 53
Timothy J. Ward, EPC		No. 01

## TRIENNIAL

Richard T. Carnall, KTCH, REGC	Chairman	No. 01
Mark A. Keagle, KCT, REPGC, EGR		No. 66
Jamie A. Emery, KTCH, VEDGC		No. 08

## PROTOCOL

Charles E. Hileman Jr., KCT, REPGC	Chairman	No. 02
Henry J. DeHeer, KCT, REPDC, REPGC		No. 38
John T. Riedas, KCT, REPGC		No. 53
Jesse L. Johns, KCT, REPGC		No. 66
Russel L. Schlosser, REPGC		No. 36

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR MAGAZINE EDITOR

John T. Riedas, KCT, REPGC		No. 53
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## FISCAL OFFICERS FUND

Jamie A Emery, KTCH, VEDGC	Chairman	No. 08
Sean P. McBride. GWB, EGG		No. 16
Don J. Cowart, EGCG		No. 01
John M. Sansone, REPGC, EGT		No. 53

## TEMPLAR DEAD

Mark A. Keagle, KCT, REPGC, EGR	Chairman	No. 66
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## SESSIONS COMMITTEE

Richard T. Carnall, KTCH, REGC	Chairman	No. 01
Jamie A. Emery, KTCH, VEDGC		No. 08
Sean P. McBride, GWB, EGG		No. 16
Enrique J. Unanue, REPGC		No. 06

## **INSPECTIONS**

An Officer of the Grand Commandery has been assigned to each Inspection Division to conduct an Annual Inspection of the Commanderies in that Division in accordance with Sections 471 and 472 of the Statutes of the Grand Commandery of Illinois. It is a requirement that a report of Inspection from the Inspecting Officer is received at the Office of the Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander within three weeks of the Inspection date. The Inspection will consist of an examination of monthly and permanent records of the Recorder and Treasurer, including special funds of the Commandery. All equipment and paraphernalia and their arrangements as used in the Order of the Temple will be inspected.

It is the responsibility of the Eminent Commander to see that the Ritual and Tactics of the Order are performed in an impressive manner. Each Commandery is required to Open and Close in Full Form as specified in the Illinois Tactics, available from The Grand Recorders Office.

Uniform requirements, as covered in the Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, Chapter XIX, will be followed.

### **RECEPTION OF THE GRAND OFFICER**

The Outline of Open Inspections as described in the official Asylum Tactics of the Grand Commandery is the only proper ceremony for the Reception of Grand Officers at the annual Commandery Inspection. Full credit will be given to a Commandery that organizes and conducts the Reception without regard to who actually fills the officer stations in the ceremony.

### **STARTING TIME FOR INSPECTION**

Starting time for all Inspections will be **10:00 A.M.** unless otherwise determined by the Inspecting Officer. The Full Form Opening will begin promptly at **1:00 P.M.** followed immediately by the Order of the Temple.

### **INSPECTION ASSIGNMENTS**

The Inspection Assignments for The Templar Year 2023 -2024 are as follows:

	<b><u>Inspecting Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Division Commander</u></b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Division	Jamie A. Emery, KTCH, VEDGC	Michael Millette, EGW
2 <sup>nd</sup> Division	Sean P. McBride, GWB, EGG	Timothy J. Ward, EPC
3 <sup>rd</sup> Division	Don J. Cowart, EGCG	Randy M. Zaerr, GWB, EGS
4 <sup>th</sup> Division	Christopher J. Whitney, EGSW	To Be Determined
5 <sup>th</sup> Division	Derrick S. Helfer, EGJW	Joseph L. Pieron, EGCB

The Division Commander will report to the Inspecting Office as his aide and will assist the Inspecting Officer in the discharge of his duties.

### **DIVISIONS**

The Divisions for the Templar Year 2023 – 2024 are as follows:

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Division**

Apollo No. 1, at Naperville	Mizpah No. 53, at Oak Lawn
Joliet No. 4, at Joliet	Evanston No. 58, at Glenview
Calvary No. 25, at Cary	St. Elmo No. 64, at Riverside
St. Bernard No. 35, at Chicago	Silangan No. 93, at Chicago
Bethel No. 36, at Palatine	

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Division**

Galesburg No. 8, at Monmouth	Rock Island No. 18, at Milan
Ottawa No. 10, at Ottawa	Dixon No. 21, at Dixon
Crusader No. 17, at Rockford	Aurora No. 22, at Aurora

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Division

Peoria No. 3 at Peoria  
Blaney No. 5, at Tremont  
Elwood No. 6, at Springfield  
DeMolay No. 24, at Bloomington

St. Aldemar No. 47, at Petersburg  
Macomb No. 56, at Macomb  
Quincy No. 77, at Quincy

### 4<sup>th</sup> Division

Baumanoir No. 9 at Decatur  
Urbana No. 16, at Champaign  
Melita No. 37, at Tuscola  
Mt. Olivet No. 38, at Paxton

Constantine No. 51, at Lincoln  
Clinton No. 66, at Clinton  
Gil W. Barnard No. 74, at Sullivan

### 5<sup>th</sup> Division

Tancred No. 2, at Belleville  
Gorin No. 14, at Bridgeport  
Palestine No. 27, at Paris

St. Omer No.30, at Hillsboro  
Patton No. 69, at Mt. Vernon  
Beauseant No. 86, at Murphysboro

### PUBLIC ASSEMBLY, VISITS AND ESCORTS

Dispensation is hereby granted to all Commanderies to appear in public, in full Templar uniform and in suitable numbers to present a proper appearance within this jurisdiction, for attendance at Divine Services, Funerals, Escort Duties to other Masonic Bodies, Scottish Rite Reunions, and Public Parades. **In all cases, all Sir Knights must be dressed uniformly. In the case of a parade, each Commandery marching as a separate unit must be dressed uniformly.**

### DEBITS AND SUSPENSIONS

#### DEBITS

All requests for debits are to be reviewed by the Eminent Commander. He should appoint a Committee to make a personal contact with the Sir Knight requesting the debit. After being contacted by the Committee, the debit will then be issued providing the Sir Knight is clear on the books of the Commandery. No dues are to be collected after the date of the debit.

#### SUSPENSIONS

Suspensions of members of a Commandery due to being in arrears for dues and/or other indebtedness are to be made in compliance with Sections 460 and 460B of the Statutes of the Grand Commandery of the State of Illinois. At the first Stated Conclave of the Commandery in October the Recorder shall report to the Commandery the names of all Sir Knights subject to suspension. The Commandery has the right to remit the dues of those Sir Knights in arrears when the Sir Knight is judged unable to comply due to illness, infirmity, or financial inability. Those instances of compassion demonstrate pure Templar benevolence. The Eminent Commander will appoint a Committee to make a personal contact with the Sir Knight in question to determine how his membership can be continued. The Recorder will also complete the "Report to the Grand Commandery on Members subject to Suspension" sending copies to the Grand Commander. All proceedings are to be made a part of the minutes of the Stated Conclave in October. If no report is received back from the Headquarters of the Grand Commandery in 30 days, you may proceed with the actions required prior to suspending the Sir Knight from the Commandery. **Note that based on the requirements of Section 460B, a Sir Knight may NOT be suspended for indebtedness to the Commandery prior to the second stated conclave following the "first Stated Conclave in October".** The actions required of the Commandery prior to suspension for an arrearage cannot be completed at the October or next subsequent stated conclave.

#### DISPENSATIONS

Dispensations may be issued upon request as authorized by the Statutes of the Grand Commandery of the State of Illinois. The Eminent Commander shall make such request, over his signature and bearing the Seal of the Commandery. All requests shall specify the date of the action and provide all pertinent information necessary for evaluation. The request must be forwarded to the Grand Commander with an appropriate time interval for his review and reply. After issuance, the original copy of the dispensation will be promptly returned to the Grand Commander with a full report of the action taken. The actions of the Commandery will be regularly recorded in the minutes of the Commandery.

### **FIFTY YEAR PRESENTATIONS**

Every Knight Templar who has been in good standing for a period of fifty years will be recognized with a fifty-year membership card and pin and shall not be required to pay any further dues to his Commandery. It is the responsibility of the Recorder of each Commandery to notify the Grand Recorder who will forward the card and pin to the Commandery for presentation on or about the anniversary date. The Grand Commander will be notified by the Grand Recorder and will make the presentation if circumstances and time permit; otherwise, it is suggested that the presentation be made at a suitable public or Fraternal function.

### **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR**

The Knights Templar Cross of Honor for exceptional and meritorious service to the order was established by Section 237(b) of the Grand Encampment Statutes. This award can be awarded to only one Sir Knight in this jurisdiction and previous nominations shall be resubmitted during the current year. All nominations shall be submitted to the Grand Commander no later than April 1, 2024.

### **G. WILBUR BELL EXCALIBUR AWARD**

This award can be awarded to one Sir Knight in this jurisdiction and previous nominations shall be resubmitted during the current year. All nominations shall be submitted to the Grand Commander no later than April 1, 2024.

### **PAST COMMANDER CROSS & CROWN SERVICE AWARD**

This award sets forth leadership criteria for immediate Past Commanders worthy of such recognition. This award was designed mainly to prompt greater overall efficiency in a Commandery's operation. While the newly elected Commander is the only one qualified to apply for and receive the award, he cannot do so alone. The requirements can only be met through the combined efforts of the entire Commandery. It is the Commander, however, who must provide the leadership and incentives which will stimulate and inspire the Commandery to success. The Commander must have served his Commandery on all three Dais Chairs to receive this award.

To qualify:

1. Hold four meetings with nine members present in uniform.
  - a. Two of the four meeting must be:
    - i. Annual Inspection with installed officers in uniform doing the full form opening, closing and reception of Inspecting Officer.
    - ii. Christmas Libation with members in uniform attending together with family members in the Commandery's asylum.
2. Within 40 miles: create a project that will cloth the naked, feed the hungry, bind up the wounds of the afflicted, or assist widows and orphans. The project should involve Sir Knights and their families.
3. Within 40 miles: make personal contact with all Commandery members and invite them to attend the meetings and dinners.
4. Appoint at least one Commandery Mentor who must attend training at the Schools of Instruction
5. Submit the 2024 annual report to the Grand Recorder on time.
6. At the close of the term, the applicant must submit a second letter to the Inspecting Officer summarizing achievements during his term.
7. A Past Commander Pin and Certificate will be issued to the recipients by the Grand Commandery. The Pin may be displayed only on the Suit Jacket and not worn as part of the uniform.

### **HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE MINISTER PROPOSALS**

The minister's applications must be submitted by September 14, 2023, to the Office of the Grand Recorder. The committee will be selecting the minister prior to November 1, 2023. The goal of the Grand Commandery is to have at least one minister per year participate in this memorable program if the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund has enough money to send a minister.

## **MASONIC YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**

From our Masonic youth organizations of today will come our future leaders of tomorrow. Therefore, it is requested that each constituent Commandery lend its support by attending their meetings, both initiatory and stated and by providing them with financial support according to the ability of the Commandery. Our youth groups are more than willing to support our Commanderies in their activities and should be called upon whenever it is appropriate. We should also give them our support by providing escorts or whatever service they may require.

## **KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE**

The Knight Templar magazine published by the Grand Encampment is mailed to and available electronically to each Sir Knight in the State of Illinois, provided the Recorders of the constituent Commanderies promptly and correctly post information about Knighting's, Suspensions, Affiliation's, Demits, Deaths, and Top Line Signers on the Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS). This system is the only address source for the monthly mailing by the Grand Encampment. The Knight Templar magazine is the primary news source of Templary coverage for the United States of America. The State of Illinois supplement will not be printed in the magazine after the August 2021 issue but will be available online and can be found either on the Grand Encampment website or through a link in the Illinois Grand Commandery website. All Commanderies are encouraged to submit pictures and information about Commandery activities and accomplishments of interest to other Sir Knights in the State. Send this information to the Illinois Editor of the Knight Templar magazine at [john-olvr@att.net](mailto:john-olvr@att.net).

## **TEMPLAR MEMORIALS**

Upon the death of any member of a constituent Commandery in the State of Illinois, the Recorder of the deceased Member's Commandery is requested to send to the Grand Recorders office a notification regarding the deceased member's name, including his address, next of kin's address, his date of birth and any other information pertaining to the Sir Knight. The Grand Recorder will respond with appropriate condolences to the bereaved family. The Recorder must also report the death in his MMS record. The Sir Knights are expected to participate in any Masonic Services if requested by the Family. Remember Knights Templar have a role in the Illinois Masonic funeral service along with a Templar Funeral Service available from the Grand Recorder's Office.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Every Knight Templar knows that the lifeblood of any organization is membership, and it remains the obligation of each and every Sir Knight in the State to promote membership at all times. The Grand Commandery encourages every Knight Templar to go back and work in and support his local lodge. The Chapters of Royal Arch Masons and Councils of Cryptic Masons also need our assistance. You cannot expect someone to join a Commandery of Knights Templar if they know nothing about the organization or do not recognize the Templar members. Recognition that the members of the Commandery are supporting the Lodge, Chapter and Council goes a long way in encouraging a Blue Lodge Mason to continue his search for Masonic Light in the YORK RITE OF FREEMASONRY.

## **DECORUM**

Sir Knights who are witnessing and are not performing ritual and tactics during the conferral of the Orders of Templary will refrain from unnecessary conversations and movement about the Asylum. It is disturbing and distracts from the solemnity and dramatic nature of the Templar experience. There are appropriate times during the conferring of the Orders that conversations and movements can be made without distracting from the work being performed.

## **KYCH JEWEL**

The award of the KYCH JEWEL is a York Rite Honor. The only items that may be worn on the Templar Uniform are ones that have been authorized by the Grand Encampment or Grand Commandery uniform code. Therefore, the KYCH Jewel should NEVER be worn with your Commandery Uniform. (Decision. 1955, William C. Gordon)

## **APPROPRIATE TEMPLAR JEWELS**

Templar Jewels are to be worn from the left shoulder to the left lapel of the standard uniform coat beginning at the left shoulder seam, the Red Cross or Malta Jewel as preferred, honorary jewels ending with the highest jewel of office, present office jewel being designated as highest office. The Malta Jewel must be worn on the uniform coat even if other jewels

are not worn." Jewels will be placed in a single straight line even with the breast pocket and WILL NOT exceed the number that can be placed in the specified area of the uniform coat. The Military Service Ribbon is worn above the line of jewels by those qualified to wear it. Only jewels that fit into the area described are to be worn. No jewels other than Grand Encampment authorized jewels and a name badge are worn on the right side of the uniform. Sir Knights wearing jewels in any other manner will be considered out of uniform.

This Order is to be read IN FULL at the first Stated Conclave following receipt and a record of its reading will be made in the minutes of the Stated Conclave.

*Richard T. Carnall*

Richard T. Carnall  
Grand Commander