

AGENDA
GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF OKLAHOMA 129th ANNUAL CONCLAVE
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024 - 9:00 am.

APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES

PRELIMINARY CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF OKLAHOMA RECONVENES

OPENING PRAYER BY SIR KNIGHT STEVEN E. COX, EXCELLENT GRAND PRELATE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEPTION OF VISITORS AND GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL OF GRAND OFFICERS

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE

ROLL CALL AND RECEPTION OF KNIGHT TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

ROLL CALL AND RECEPTION OF PAST GRAND COMMANDERS

ROLL CALL OF CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

MOTION TO APPROVE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 128TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

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ELECTION FOR GRAND COMMANDERY INVESTMENT ADVISORY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

FINAL CREDENTIALS REPORT

MOTION TO ACCEPT S.K. JOHN KING’S ADDRESS AND ALL COMMITTEE REPORTS

APPOINT TELLERS COMMITTEE

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

REMARKS BY THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER-ELECT

REMARKS FROM VISITING DIGNITARIES

COMPLETION OF ANY UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND ADJOURNMENT: RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER.

OPEN INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS OF GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF OKLAHOMA 2024-2025

INSTALLING RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER SIR KNIGHT TIMOTHY P. ISRAEL, R.E.P.G.C.

INSTALLING EMINENT GRAND MARSHAL SIR KNIGHT PAUL T. CURRELL, R.E.P.G.C.

INSTALLING EXCELLENT GRAND PRELATE SIR KNIGHT JAMES R. TAYLOR, JR., R.E.P.G.C.

INSTALLING EMINENT GRAND RECORDER SIR KNIGHT JOHN L. LOGAN, R.E.P.G.C.

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF OKLAHOMA
GRAND OFFICERS FOR THE 2023-2024 CHIVALRIC YEAR**

John E. King [22]	Vicki	Grand Commander
Glen A. Chaney [18]	Patti	Deputy Grand Commander
John T. Turner [38]		Grand Generalissimo
Mark K. McFadden [2]	Donna	Grand Captain General
Steven E. Cox [2]	Susan	Grand Prelate
Kent M. Israel [22]	Dana	Grand Treasurer
Elwood M. "Ike" Issacs [20, 26] H.P.G.C.		Grand Treasurer Emeritus
Jon B. Greene [20]	Renee	Grand Recorder
Gary A. Davis [20] P.G.C.	Nellie	Grand Recorder Emeritus
Trasen S. Akers [3]	Aerial	Grand Senior Warden
Robert W. McLeod [20, 2]	Pam	Grand Junior Warden
Brian M. Ragain [18]		Grand Standard Bearer
Justin M. McGee [8, 14]		Grand Sword Bearer
Jay A. Wall [1]	Johanna	Grand Warder
John E. King, Jr. [6]	Tracy	Grand Sentinel

Protocol

All Knights are addressed as Sir Knight, followed by their name.
 Those who have particular titles are addressed as follows:
 The Grand Commander is addressed with the title of respect as: Right Eminent
 The Deputy Grand Commander is addressed with the title of respect as: Very Eminent
 The Grand Prelate is addressed with the title of respect as: Excellent
 All other Officers are addressed with the title of respect as: Eminent
 Past Grand Commanders are addressed with the title of respect as: Right Eminent

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF OKLAHOMA
AREA ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2023-2024 CHIVALRIC YEAR**

AREA 1	McAlester Commandery No. 6, K.T. Trinity Commandery No. 20 K.T.
Mark K. McFadden John E. King, Jr.	
AREA 2	Muskogee Commandery No. 2, K.T. Calvary Commandery No. 26, K.T.
Robert W. McLeod	
AREA 3	Elk City Commandery No. 22 K.T. St. Aumer Commandery No. 29, K.T.
Brian M. Ragain	
AREA 4	Ardmore Commandery No. 9, K.T. Lawton Commandery No. 18, K.T.
Glen A. Chaney	
AREA 5	Guthrie Commandery No. 1, K.T. Oklahoma Commandery No. 3, K.T.
John T. Turner Justin M. McGee	
AREA 6	Norman Commandery No. 38, K.T. Capitol Hill Commandery No. 53, K.T.
Trasen S. Akers	
AREA 7	St. John Commandery No. 8, K.T. Ben Hur Commandery No. 14, K.T.
Jay A. Wall	

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF OKLAHOMA
2023-2024 STANDING COMMITTEES**

per
ARTICLE IV

CREDENTIALS:

Section 2. (a)

Robert D. Cundiff, Jr. [53] - Chairman
Steven E. Cox [2]
James R. Taylor, Sr. [20]
Jon B. Greene [20] - Ex Officio

TEMPLAR JURISPRUDENCE:

Section 2. (c)

Robert R. Rolseth [20] - Chairman
James R. Taylor [20] - Recorder
All Past Grand Commanders

TRIENNIAL MATTERS:

Section 2. (e)

Mark K. McFadden [2] - Chairman
Glen A. Chaney [18]
John T. Turner [38]

NECROLOGY:

Section 2. (g)

Steven E. Cox [2]

MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION:

Section 2. (h)

2021-24 (RAM) David A. Ray [27]
2022-25 (CM) Johnny D. Allford [3]
2023-26 (K.T.) Timothy P. Israel [22]

MEMBERSHIP:

Section 2. (k)

Mark K. McFadden [2] Chairman
N CENTRAL: Justin M. McGee [14]
N EASTERN: Jim L. Parham [20]
S CENTRAL: Brian M. Ragain [9]
S EASTERN: John E. King, Jr. [6]
N WESTERN: Troy L. Collier [29]
S WESTERN: James Oates III [18]

FINANCE:

Section 2. (b)

Glen A. Chaney [18] - Chairman
John T. Turner [38]
Mark K. McFadden [2]
Trasen S. Akers [3]

WORK AND TACTICS:

Section 2. (d)

Larry D. White [20] - Chairman
Glenn H. Kinsley [29]
John L. Logan [29]
Timothy P. Israel [22]

GENERAL MATTERS:

Section 2. (f)

Timothy P. Israel [22] - Chairman
Robert R. Rolseth [20]
John T. Turner [38]

KNIGHT TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION:

Section 2. (j)

Robert R. Rolseth [20]
All Grand Commandery Officers

YORK RITE COORDINATION:

Section 2. (i)

John E. King [22]
Glen A. Chaney [18]
John T. Turner [38]
Mark K. McFadden [2]

2023-2024 SPECIAL COMMITTEES

per
ARTICLE V

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EDUCATION

FOUNDATION/SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

Section 2. (a)

Timothy P. Israel [22] – Chairman
Jay A. Wall [1]
Dace C. Tom [26]
Robert R. Rolseth [20]
Mark K. McFadden [2]
Jon B. Greene [20] – Secretary/Treasurer

PRINTING:

Section 2. (b)

Jon B. Greene [20] - Chairman
James R. Taylor, Jr. [20]
Robert R. Rolseth [20]

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE:

Section 2. (c)

Mark K. McFadden [2] - Chairman
Robert W. McLeod [20, 2]
John L. Logan [29]

2023-2024 COMMITTEES BY STANDING RESOLUTION

DeMOLAY:

Kenton M. Israel [22, 3] - Chairman
Timothy P. Israel [22]
Michael L. Branson [8]
Jon B. Greene [20]

INVESTMENT ADVISORY BOARD:

(Investment Policies, Pg. 25)
(appointed 3 years)
2021-2024 K.T.: Mathew A. Turner [38]

2023-2024 SPECIAL COMMITTEES

(Not in Constitution Laws and Regulations)

KNIGHT TEMPLAR STATE NEWS:

John E. King [22]

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES:

Jon B. Greene [20] - Chairman
Robert W. McLeod [20, 2]
Jason R. Smith [18]
John R. Christopher [1]

TEMPLE REVIEW

(Fraternal Correspondence):

Robert G. Davis [1]

KNIGHTS of the HOLY LAND:

(Formed April 25, 2015)

John L. Logan [29]

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT:

(Formed April 25, 2015)

John E. King [22]
Glen A. Chaney [18]
John T. Turner [38]
Mark K. McFadden [2]

GRAND MASTER’S FESTIVAL:

(FIELD DAY)

(Formed April 25, 2015)

John T. Turner [38]

REGIONAL DEGREE FESTIVALS:

Chairman - John T. Turner [38]
N CENTRAL: Justin M. McGee [14]
N EASTERN: James R. Taylor, Jr. [20]
S CENTRAL: Brian M. Ragain [9]
S EASTERN: Mark K. McFadden [2]
S WESTERN: Glen A. Chaney [18]
N WESTERN: Troy L. Collier [29]

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE:

(Arkansas – Kansas – Louisiana –
Missouri – Oklahoma – Texas)
Glen A. Chaney [18]

PATRIOTIC AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

(Formed April 23, 2016)

Glen A. Chaney [18]

Roland Morales

John E. King [22]

LONG-RANGE PLANNING:

(Formed April 23, 2016)

John E. King [22] - Chairman

Glen A. Chaney [18]

John T. Turner [38]

Mark K. McFadden [2]

TIME AND PLACE:

Jay A. Wall [1] - Chairman

Brian A. Buswell [3]

Robert W. McLeod [20, 2]

Bradley S. Rickelman [8]

Ivan M. DeTevis [20, 8]

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES:

(Formed April 23, 2016)

Steven E. Cox [2] - Chairman

Justin McGee [14]

Jon B. Greene [20]

APPRECIATION:

Justin McGee [14]

ADDRESS OF THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER – JOHN E. KING

It is indeed my pleasure to welcome all Past and Present Commandery Officers, Members, and our Distinguished Guests to the 129th annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma. Sir Knight Robert M. Loflin, Knight Commander of the Temple, Right Eminent Department Commander, it is an honor to have you here representing the Grand Encampment. You are a great source of knowledge and advisor to the Grand Commanderies of the South Central Region. To my officers and committee members, thank you for your service this year. I asked SK Jay Wall to serve as Time and Place Chairman one more year, and again, he has made this Grand Session outstanding. SK Justin McGee, you worked in and accompanied me to many of the inspections. SK Jon Greene, you kept me on the straight and narrow. You have become the center of the York Rite around which we can all depend on. SK Glen Chaney, thank you for your counsel and advice. SK Mark McFadden, keep up the good work on membership. M.:E.: William J. "Jim" Cloud and M.:I.: Robert G. Davis, it was a pleasure serving with you this year. The Grand Chapter and Grand Council are the gateways to the Grand Commandery Knights Templar. You have done great work in recruiting for the Oklahoma York Rite. I would be remiss in not thanking my Wife of 60 years for putting up with 46 years of Masonry, especially on Birthdays and Anniversaries.

This year, we had eight inspections, five open, receive, and close, and one did not participate. The inspection is not to cause hardship on a Commandery. It is to make sure that the Commandery can live up to the commitment it made when it was constituted. The Grand Commandery does not include the Red Cross or the Malta Orders in its inspection. They can be done in short form. The Order of the Temple cannot be done in short form and is the crowning jewel in Christian Masonry. The order is, in reality, designed to carry one knight through the reason we are Christian Knights. It is not meant for Knights to sit on the perimeter and watch, not participate in or feel the exultation of receiving the order personally directed at only him. This can only be done in the Knights home asylum with the Knights he will be working.

The sources of new Knights are dwindling. We need Knights that will return to the asylum with that feeling of being wanted because he was honored by those around him. Too often new Knights returning from a group knighting are never again seen in the asylum. The Order of the Temple is the responsibility of the Commanderies to give that feeling of being wanted. Our Christian forbears gave their lives for their beliefs. Is it not fitting that we learn and participate in the orders that make up the Christian organization we knowingly and willingly became a part of? In the Blue lodges, there are many Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts who did not get that feeling of belonging or that need exultation and never progressed. I realize my short comings when I could not work the balance between work, family, and Masonry. Work is the foundation of supporting the family. Family is the foundation of our lives, honoring our marriage commitment and raising our children to be successful in their lives. Masonry is to improve our path in this life and help through our work to show men how to live a righteous life. Hence the saying, "We take a good man and make him better."

Men will join organizations, each with his own idea of what he needs to put into that organization and what he wants to take out. I praise those who are trying to make this and other organizations work and not fall by the wayside. We, as Christian Knights, remember the Son of God on the Cross said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." He gave his life for our redemption. What can we give to maintain and grow this Christian Order?

GENERAL ORDERS

- General Order No. 1** – The General Order consists of clarifying the use of ritual books during inspections.
- General Order No. 2** – The General Order consists of Orders to regulate the Annual Inspections during June, July, and August 2023.
- General Order No. 3** – The General Order consists of the Grand Commandery Officer, Committees, and Officers-in-charge of the Templar Year 2023-2024.
- General Order No. 4** – The General Order consists of the Commanderies contributing and supporting the Oklahoma Stillwater Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant.
- General Order No. 5** – The General Order consists of an Order to read the Oklahoma knight Templar News monthly and recorded in the meeting and attached to the minutes.
- General Order No. 6** – The General Order consists of the use of Virtual Conclaves only under extraordinary circumstances, no ritual, at least one being the RE Grand Commander, VE Deputy Grand Commander or the OIC attend and recorded.
- General Order No. 7** – The General Order consist of setting time and place for the 2024 Grand Commandery Conclave and order OICs to visit Commanderies to remind them to attend.

General Order No. 7a – The General Order adds to General Order No. 7 the addition of Work and Tactics after the conclusion of the installations.

DISPENSATIONS

May 23, 2023 In accordance with Article XIX, Section 13, a., I do hereby issue a Special Dispensation to Darren Parks of Miami, Oklahoma, to take his York Rite Degrees in Missouri and be able to join the Missouri York Rite Bodies. On Monday, May 22, 2023, Trinity Commandery No. 20 voted to wave jurisdiction over Brother Darren Parks, a member of Miami Lodge #140. Brother Parks has stated that a York Rite Body in Missouri is much closer to his home than Tulsa. Nothing in the General Laws prevents a Waiver of Jurisdiction.

July 12, 2023 In accordance with Article XIX, Section 14, Paragraph b, subsection 1, to Lawton Commandery No. 18, to allow Lawton Commandery to temporarily move its Charter to Lawton Lodge No. 183 Lawton, OK, for the evening of their Inspection.

August 16, 2023 In accordance with Article XIX, Section 14, Paragraph b, subsection 1, to allow Calvary Commandery No. 26 to temporarily move its Charter to St. John's Commandery No. 8 in Stillwater, OK, on August 19, 2023, for the purpose of Opening, receiving the Grand Commander, and Closing.

October 13, 2023 In accordance with Article XIX, Section 3, to allow Trinity Commandery to hold its annual election of Officers on November 27, 2023

October 15, 2023 In accordance with Article XIX, Section 3, To allow Muskogee Commandery to hold its annual election of Officers on November 28, 2023.

VISITATIONS

April 27 & 28, 2023 Attended and was installed as Grand Commander GCKTO.

May 11, 2023 Attended, introduced, and brought greetings at the Order of Amaranth Grand Court.

June 9, 2023 Attended, introduced, and brought greetings at Job's Daughter's.

June 17, 2023 Attended and was introduced Bartlesville Festival Board.

July 15, 2023 Attended, was introduced, and brought greetings at the DeMolay Conclave, Norman, OK.

July 22, 2023 Attended and was introduced at the Grand Masters York Rite Festival.

August 10, 2023 Performed Arch of Steel for the Grand Master Cornerstone Ceremony Mannford, OK.

August 19, 2023 Attended and was introduced at the Past Commanders Association.

September 1, 2023 Attended Convent General KYCH, Oklahoma City.

September 14, 2023 Attended South Central Regional Conference, Branson, MO.

September 26-28, 2023 I traveled to Rhode Island to attend the Massachusetts – Rhode Island Knight Templar Grand Commandery Session. Held at the Massachusetts York Rite Grand Session. I was introduced at the Grand Chapter and Grand Council Sessions. I was received and introduced at the Knight Templar Grand Session. I enjoyed spending time with our Past Grand Commander, Right Eminent Michael E. (Mike) Hampton.

September 30, 2023 Attended and was introduced at Guthrie Scottish Rite Reunion.

October 7, 2023 Attended and was introduced at Tulsa Scottish Rite Reunion.

October 15, 2023 Attended, introduced, and brought greetings at the Grand Session of the Oklahoma Eastern Star.

October 21, 2023 Attended and was introduced at McAlester Scottish Rite Reunion.

November 8, 2023 Attended institution of Nemesis DeMolay Chapter at Mangum Masonic Lodge No. 61.

November 11, 2023 Performed Arch of Steel for the Grand Master and Present Swords for Grand Line at Grand Lodge Installation.

January 20, 2024 Attended the Sr. Wardens Retreat at the Overholser Mansion, Oklahoma City.

January 28, 2024 Attended DeMolay Winterfest to bring greeting and present the sword to an outstanding DeMolay.

March 23, 2024 Attended and was introduced at Tulsa Scottish Rite Reunion.

March 30, 2024 Attended Muskogee Commandery's Easter Observance.

April 5, 2024 Attended and was introduced at Guthrie Scottish Rite Reunion.

April 13, 2024 Attended and was introduced at the McAlester Scottish Rite Reunion.

April 9, 2024 Attended Stillwater Chapter. I presented the honor sword to Colton Condit

April 17, 2024 Attended multiple Tinker Sojourners No. 43 meetings. I was introduced at all.

INSPECTIONS

June 28, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for Muskogee Commandery No. 2.
July 13, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for Norman Commandery No. 38.
July 26, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for Oklahoma Commandery No. 3.
August 1, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for Lawton Commandery No. 18.
August 10, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for Guthrie Commandery No. 1.
August 22, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for Ben Hur Commandery No. 14.
August 28, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for Trinity Commandery No. 20 with candidates, Knights of Malta
August 30, 2023	Received, and attended inspection for St. Johns Commandery No. 8, Stillwater OK

RECEPTIONS

June 12, 2023	Received by Ardmore Commandery No. 9, Ardmore OK
July 18, 2023	Received at my home Commandery, Elk City Commandery No. 22.
August 16, 2023	Received by Capitol Hill Commandery No. 53 at Midwest City, OK.
August 19, 2023	Received by Calvary Commandery No. 26 at Stillwater, OK.
August 31, 2023	Received By McAlester Commandery No. 6 at McAlester, OK.

COMMANDERIES THAT DID NOT OPEN FOR INSPECTION OR RECEPTION

St. Aumer Commandery #29, Woodward, OK

SOCIAL ORDER OF THE BEAUCEANT

A sad note! We lost the Oklahoma Beauceant because of low membership. They voted to combine with the Kansas Beauceant so that current members could attend meetings. That is a loss we will miss. The ladies who live here will volunteer to help us, but there will probably not be any more joining.

INSPECTIONS

There was one more inspection this year than last year. Last year, schools were implemented to improve their abilities to do the necessary work to open, close, and receive. Work and Tactics demonstrated to the Commandery officers the changes that were being employed in the opening and closing.

This year, I gave the Commanderies the use of books to help them do openings, reception, and closings during inspections to help them show they were trying to get the job done. The Commanderies could use the book in the inspection to also help them do the Order of the Temple that next year having done so they might be able to put it on as it is supposed to be done.

Some of the Commanderies, using new members and the books, were able to work though Opening, Reception, Closing, and even The Order of the Temple. It is my hope that what we have given them will give them the desire and confidence to learn the work and stand inspection with pride.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The only way the York Rite is going to flourish in the future is if we have a source to draw from. Since that source is Blue Lodge Masons, it is a fact that without a large influx of Blue Lodge Masons, we will continue to grow smaller. I recommend that we begin a large campaign to use all of our Rites along with the Grand Lodge to get positive information out to the young men about Masonry and what it can do to help them in life. We need to get ourselves into a position of high regard among the population, that to be a Mason is again the highest standard of being a successful man.

CLOSING REMARKS

Thank you for electing me to the position of Grand Commander. Being retired military of 28 years of service was indeed a fitting position for me. It has been an honor to serve the Grand Commandery of Knight Templars of Oklahoma. Serving the Christian Knights of Oklahoma is the highest and most gratifying position a man can have in Masonry. It is my hope that I served you well. Go forth into the world as our Knights Templars of old and spread Christian help to all. Show the world we are soldiers of the Christ Jesus of Nazareth.

John E. King

Right Eminent Grand Commander 2023-24

REPORT OF THE EMINENT GRAND TREASURER – KENTON M. ISRAEL

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma
 These Accounts are all held at Morgan Stanley
 For the period ending December 31st, 2023

Grand Commandery Investment Account	
General Fund	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2023	\$84,715.97
Deposits	0.00
Withdrawals	-1,800.00
Dividend/Interest Earned	2,618.44
Appreciation	<u>6,863.07</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2023	\$92,397.48

Grand Commandery Investment Account	
Perpetual Membership	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2023	\$250,776.82
Deposits	10,905.00
Withdrawals	-9735.36
Dividend/Interest Earned	7,514.41
Appreciation	<u>9,559.01</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2023	\$269,019.88

Grand Commandery Investment Account	
Holy Land Endowment Fund	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2023	\$104,044.30
Deposits	4,000.00
Withdrawals	0
Dividend/Interest Earned	3,277.53
Appreciation	<u>5,822.06</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2023	\$117,143.89

Grand Commandery Investment Account	
Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2023	\$12,679.83
Deposits	0.00
Withdrawals	-9,067.31
Appreciation	<u>539.33</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2023	\$4,151.85

Grand Commandery Investment Account	
Joint Account-Membership Development	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2023	\$65,836.16
Deposits	0.00
Withdrawals	0.00
Dividend/Interest Earned	2,053.58
Appreciation	<u>5,327.74</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2023	\$73,217.48

Grand Total of Grand Commandery Investments	1/1/2023	12/31/2023		
General Fund	\$84,715.97	\$92,397.48	\$7,681.51	9.07%
Perpetual Membership	\$250,776.82	\$269,019.88	\$18,243.06	7.27%
Holy Land Endowment Fund	\$104,044.30	\$117,143.89	\$13,099.59	12.59%
Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund	\$12,679.83	\$4,151.85	(\$8,527.98)	-67.26%
Joint Account-Membership Development	\$65,836.16	\$73,217.48	\$7,381.32	11.21%
Grand Total of Grand Commandery Investments	\$518,053.08	\$555,930.58		

After a dismal 2022 and a decent yet very volatile spring of 2023, a majority of economists were expecting a full recession in 2023, not just in the U.S., but the World Bank was predicting a global recession in 2023. With these dire warnings, and the recommendation from our Investment Advisors at Morgan Stanley, we went very conservative. These predictions not becoming true and the economy not moving as expected did not allow us to fully take advantage of the run up of the stock market. If we did have a recession, I do believe we would have been sitting well to be protected from a major downturn. We did see growth of about 10% still left us closer to the Down Jones, but not the Nasdaq or S&P 500. With this conservative position, we did not lose as much as the market did last year, and then we didn't gain as much this year, but we didn't have as low of a bottom to recover from.

Perpetual Membership Account Information

- 865 Total Members at 12/31/2023
- 10 New Members in 2023
- 421 Living Members
- 444 Deceased Members

Interest/Dividends earned in 2023: \$7,514.41
 Div/Int distributed to Grand Commandery in 2024 for Div/Int earned in 2023: \$3,663.47
 Div/Int distributed to Local Commanderies in 2024 for Div/Int earned in 2023: \$3,849.88

We added 10 new members to our Perpetual Members list in 2023. In the middle of 2023 after one my meetings with Morgan Stanley, our Perpetual Accounts got moved from a High Income Dividend Yield to a Conservative Growth, which was not my intention. I did not notice the change for a few months, this caused us to receive less Dividends and Interest than in years past. This has been corrected, and with the added growth in value to the positions in held during that time, we expect much larger returns in Div & int in 2024.

Total Perpetual Members Grand Commandery, KT of Oklahoma														
As of 12/31/2023	New Members in 2023	Total Members	Dead	Living	Total Investment	Total Dues	Total Div/Interest Distributed	To Grand Commandery		To Local Commandery		Total to Grand Commandery	Total to Local Commandery	
								Deceased	Living	Deceased	Living			
3/28/2024 14:53		27	14	13	9,015.50	570.00	244.77	36.13	96.11	71.94	40.59	132.24	112.53	
Ardmore, No. 9														
Ben Hur (Ponca City), No. 14		38	13	25	13,714.00	858.67	372.34	29.91	169.65	47.20	125.58	199.56	172.78	
Calvary (Bville), No. 26		38	28	10	12,096.00	706.40	328.41	51.52	87.93	141.32	47.65	139.44	188.96	
Capitol Hill (OKC), No. 53	1	146	81	65	44,837.50	2,835.50	1,202.41	192.15	336.54	458.64	215.08	528.69	673.72	
Elk City, No. 22		59	25	34	17,245.00	1,121.00	468.20	53.19	206.15	108.49	100.37	269.34	208.86	
Guthrie, No. 1		31	12	19	10,485.00	699.00	284.67	30.75	131.20	54.78	67.95	161.94	122.72	
Lawton, No. 18		55	37	18	12,900.00	840.00	780.70	62.67	221.29	155.21	341.53	283.96	496.74	
McAlester, No. 6	1	60	25	35	14,610.00	974.20	384.44	56.61	207.95	61.37	58.52	264.56	119.89	
Muskogee, No. 2	2	86	43	43	32,820.00	1,855.00	838.12	130.83	337.93	232.84	136.52	468.76	369.36	
Norman, No. 38		66	43	23	16,286.78	1,080.74	442.19	71.62	105.28	182.32	82.97	176.90	265.28	
Oklahoma No. 3	1	51	21	30	17,425.00	1,162.00	459.24	43.85	196.19	104.66	114.54	240.04	219.20	
St Aumur (Woodward), No. 29		43	26	17	7,160.00	454.00	194.39	39.90	93.92	39.90	15.63	138.86	56.53	
St Johns (Stillwater), No. 8		46	27	19	11,895.10	792.34	322.95	93.95	127.31	93.95	50.39	178.61	144.35	
Trinity (Tulsa), No. 20	5	119	49	70	47,450.00	3,137.10	1,190.53	94.83	395.74	275.64	424.12	490.57	699.96	
14	10	865	444	421	267,938.88	17,085.95	7,513.35	967.90	2,713.18	2,028.45	1,821.43	3,663.47	3,649.88	
				885			2.80%		3,761.89		3,849.88	1.14%	7,513.35	
As of December 31, 2023														
Percentage used in making calculations:														
Div/Int earned in 2023														
Distributed in 2024														
Retained in Fund														
Interest and Dividends Earned in 2023								\$7,514.41	Pd to Grand Commandery		\$3,663.47			
								\$7,513.35	Pd to Commanderies		\$3,849.88			
								\$1.06					\$7,513.35	

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as Grand Treasurer this year. It has been an honor.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenton M. Israel [22, 3], Grand Treasurer
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma

REPORT OF THE EMINENT GRAND RECORDER – JON B. GREENE

Annual Statistical Report - Start: 1/1/2023 End: 12/31/2023
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar
Grand Commandery of Oklahoma
Stationed at Tulsa, OK

Total Working Commanderies = 14

The following is a recapitulation of membership activity during the specified reporting period.

Total number members on last return =		<u>1,172</u>
Total number KNIGHTED =	<u>69</u>	
Total number AFFILIATED =	<u>5</u>	
Total number REINSTATED =	<u>4</u>	
Total number ADD ADJUSTMENT =	<u>0</u>	
Total Gain (+)	<u>78</u>	
Total number DEMITTED =	<u>5</u>	
Total number SUSPENDED =	<u>33</u>	
Total number DECEASED =	<u>37</u>	
Total number EXPELLED =	<u>0</u>	
Total number DELETE ADJUSTMENT =	<u>0</u>	
Total Loss (-)	<u>75</u>	
Net Gain (Net Loss) =		<u>3</u>
Total number of members (including Dual and Plural)		<u>1,175</u>

RETURNS OF CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

No.	Name	2022 Members End of Year	Knighted	Admitted	Reinstated	ADD Adjustment	Demitted	Suspended	Deceased	Expelled/Withdraw	DELETE Adjusted	Net Gain or (Loss)	2023 Members End of Year	Perpetual Members	Unable to Pay	KTEF Life (Not Perpetual)	No.	Name	Dues	Fees	Grand Commandery Per Capita	Grand Encampment Per Capita	DeMolay	KTEF	Holy Land Pilgrimage	Net Amount	Perpetual Member Per Capita Return	TOTAL
1	Guthrie	74	1	0	0	0	1	3	3	0	0	(6)	68	20	1	11	1	Guthrie	\$37.00	\$75.00	\$705.00	\$432.00	\$117.75	\$37.00	\$136.00	\$1,321.75	\$161.94	\$1,483.69
2	Muskogee	119	13	1	3	0	0	6	7	0	0	4	123	39	0	84	2	Muskogee	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$1,260.00	\$756.00	\$21.00	\$0.00	\$246.00	\$2,283.00	\$468.76	\$2,751.76
3	Oklahoma	114	11	1	0	0	1	1	5	0	0	5	119	31	3	15	3	Oklahoma	\$35.00	\$75.00	\$1,275.00	\$792.00	\$21.25	\$73.00	\$238.00	\$2,399.25	\$240.04	\$2,639.29
6	McAlester	94	7	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	2	96	34	0	40	6	McAlester	\$30.00	\$75.00	\$930.00	\$558.00	\$15.50	\$22.00	\$192.00	\$1,717.50	\$264.56	\$1,982.06
8	St. John's	56	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	(2)	54	19	0	13	8	St. John's	\$36.00	\$75.00	\$525.00	\$315.00	\$8.75	\$22.00	\$108.00	\$978.75	\$178.61	\$1,157.36	
9	Ardmore	56	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	57	13	0	7	9	Ardmore	\$34.00	\$75.00	\$660.00	\$396.00	\$11.00	\$37.00	\$114.00	\$1,218.00	\$132.24	\$1,350.24
14	Ben Hur	50	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	50	26	0	8	14	Ben Hur	\$44.00	\$115.00	\$360.00	\$216.00	\$6.00	\$16.00	\$100.00	\$698.00	\$199.56	\$897.56
18	Lawton	88	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	12	100	19	0	16	17	Lawton	\$30.00	\$75.00	\$1,215.00	\$729.00	\$20.25	\$65.00	\$200.00	\$2,229.25	\$283.96	\$2,513.21
20	Trinity	177	15	0	0	0	1	11	6	0	0	(3)	174	71	7	103	20	Trinity	\$48.00	\$110.00	\$1,440.00	\$927.00	\$24.00	\$0.00	\$348.00	\$2,799.00	\$490.57	\$3,229.57
22	Elk City	82	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	(2)	80	33	0	15	22	Elk City	\$56.00	\$100.00	\$705.00	\$423.00	\$11.75	\$32.00	\$160.00	\$1,331.75	\$259.34	\$1,591.09
26	Calvary	41	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	42	10	0	10	26	Calvary	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$480.00	\$288.00	\$8.00	\$22.00	\$84.00	\$682.00	\$139.44	\$1,021.44
29	St. Aumer	37	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	(5)	32	17	0	7	29	St. Aumer	\$35.00	\$85.00	\$225.00	\$135.00	\$3.75	\$8.00	\$64.00	\$435.75	\$138.86	\$574.61	
38	Norman	83	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	86	19	0	21	38	Norman	\$55.00	\$75.00	\$1,005.00	\$603.00	\$16.75	\$46.00	\$172.00	\$1,842.75	\$176.90	\$2,019.65	
53	Capitol Hill	101	2	0	1	0	0	7	3	0	(7)	94	61	3	7	53	Capitol Hill	\$37.00	\$85.00	\$450.00	\$297.00	\$7.50	\$26.00	\$188.00	\$968.50	\$528.69	\$1,497.19	
	Totals	1172	69	5	4	0	5	33	37	0	0	3	1175	412	14	357		Totals			\$11,235.00	\$6,867.00	\$187.25	\$406.00	\$2,350.00	\$21,045.25	\$3,663.47	\$24,708.72

2023 Grand Commandery Budget Actual VS Budget

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Income			
4000 · ANNUAL RETURNS			
4010 · Oklahoma Per Capita	11,085.00	11,085.00	0.00
4020 · Grand Encampment Assessment	6,831.00	6,831.00	0.00
4030 · KT Eye Foundation Assessment	416.00	416.00	0.00
4050 · DeMolay Donation	184.75	184.75	0.00
Total 4000 · ANNUAL RETURNS	18,516.75	18,516.75	0.00
4100 · INTEREST / INVESTMENT INCOME			
4110 · PEM INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS	5,141.87	4,914.21	227.66
4120 · Interest Income	0.00	3,464.16	-3,464.16
Total 4100 · INTEREST / INVESTMENT INCOME	5,141.87	8,378.37	-3,236.50
4200 · FEES/DONATIONS			
4210 · Order Fees	1,360.00	1,000.00	360.00
4220 · Dispensation Fee	10.00	10.00	0.00
4230 · Reinstatement Fee	20.00	10.00	10.00
Total 4200 · FEES/DONATIONS	1,390.00	1,020.00	370.00
4300 · RESALE			
4310 · Ritual Resale	10.00	240.00	-230.00
Total 4300 · RESALE	10.00	240.00	-230.00
4500 · Holyland Pilgrimage			
4510 · Holy Land Endowment Interest	0.00	6,723.31	-6,723.31
4520 · HLP from Commandery Per Capita	2,344.00	2,344.00	0.00
4530 · HLP Other Donations	8,825.00		
Total 4500 · Holyland Pilgrimage	11,169.00	9,067.31	2,101.69
4600 · MISC INCOME			
4620 · KTEF Donations	0.00	400.00	-400.00
4650 · MISC INCOME - Other	949.32	200.00	749.32
4600 · MISC INCOME - Other	553.20		
Total 4600 · MISC INCOME	1,502.52	600.00	902.52
Total Income	37,730.14	37,822.43	-92.29
Gross Profit	37,730.14	37,822.43	-92.29
Expense			
5000 · STAFF			
5010 · Grand Recorder Salary	6,500.00	6,750.00	-250.00
5020 · Payroll Taxes	555.88	577.32	-21.44
5030 · Grand Treasurer's Expenses	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Total 5000 · STAFF	7,055.88	7,527.32	-471.44
5100 · ASSESSMENTS			
5110 · Per Capita- G.Encampment/KTEF	11,108.00	10,964.00	144.00
5130 · DeMolay Donation	0.00	300.00	-300.00
5150 · Per Capita Refunds	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 5100 · ASSESSMENTS	11,108.00	11,264.00	-156.00

2022 Grand Commandery Budget Actual vs. Budget – Continued.

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
6000 · CONFERENCE / TRAVEL			
6010.22 · R.E.G.C. - Travel - Taylor	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.00
6010.23 · R.E.G.C. - Travel - John King	0.00	1,250.00	-1,250.00
6011 · Grand Recorder's Travel	90.54	200.00	-109.46
6020 · R.E.G.C. Grand Sessions Expense	250.00	250.00	0.00
6030 · Grand Sessions Host Expense	0.00	250.00	-250.00
6040 · Grand Sessions-Headquarters	819.24	1,100.00	-280.76
6050 · Grand Sessions-Awards	0.00	200.00	-200.00
6060 · Past Grand Commander Jewel	126.70	0.00	126.70
6065 · Knight Com of Temple Jewel	200.00	200.00	0.00
6090 · Grand Commandery Retreat	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 6000 · CONFERENCE / TRAVEL	2,736.48	5,000.00	-2,263.52
7000 · OFFICE EXPENSE			
7100 · Rent			
7110 · Muskogee Storage Rent	0.00	33.00	-33.00
7130 · Field Day/Other Rent	200.00	200.00	0.00
Total 7100 · Rent	200.00	233.00	-33.00
7200 · Telecommunications			
7210 · ATT-Phone & Internet	0.00	400.00	-400.00
7220 · Website	0.00	75.00	-75.00
Total 7200 · Telecommunications	0.00	475.00	-475.00
7300 · Office Supplies			
7310 · General Office Supplies	0.00	40.00	-40.00
7320 · INK	0.00	120.00	-120.00
7330 · Computer Software	811.52	290.00	521.52
7340 · Office Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 7300 · Office Supplies	811.52	450.00	361.52
7400 · Printing and Reproduction			
7410 · Pre-Print	0.00	120.00	-120.00
7420 · Proceedings	339.10	150.00	189.10
7430 · Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 7400 · Printing and Reproduction	339.10	270.00	69.10
7500 · Postage and Delivery			
7510 · PO Box Rental	258.67	61.00	197.67
7520 · Stamps	0.00	63.00	-63.00
7530 · Special Mailing Exp	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 7500 · Postage and Delivery	258.67	124.00	134.67
7600 · Insurance			
7610 · Bond Premium	0.00	131.68	-131.68
Total 7600 · Insurance	0.00	131.68	-131.68
7700 · Repairs			
7710 · Computer Repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00
7720 · Equipment Repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 7700 · Repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 7000 · OFFICE EXPENSE	1,609.29	1,683.68	-74.39
8000 · MISC			
8010 · Rituals	565.26		
8020 · KT Regalia	0.00	0.00	0.00
8050 · G.W. Memorial-Dig Proceedings	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00
8070 · Misc - Other	242.61	250.00	-7.39
Total 8000 · MISC	807.87	1,450.00	-642.13
Total Expense	23,317.52	26,925.00	-3,607.48
Net Income	14,412.62	10,897.43	3,515.19

Please see the attached statement of income and expenses for the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma. In addition, the Grand Treasurer's report depicts the investment holdings and performance for the year.

We had a net gain of three Sir Knights as compared to a loss of twenty-six the previous year. We Knighted sixty-nine compared to fifty-nine last year. Suspensions were down, as we had thirty-three in 2023 as compared to forty-one in 2022. Withdrawals were five as compared to nine in 2022. We had thirty-seven deceased Sir Knights in 2023 compared to forty-five in 2022. There were fourteen members reported on the Annual Reports who could not pay their dues compared to twenty last year.

Respectfully submitted:

Jon B. Greene [20]

Grand Recorder

RESOLUTION 1

WHEREAS: The date of the Annual Communications is set by the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandry of Knights Templar of Oklahoma

WHEREAS: This makes it difficult to negotiate the best market rate with hotels or conference facilities.

WHEREAS: Hotels and Conference facilities are becoming more and more expensive to rent for the time, requirements and size of our Annual Communications.

WHEREAS: Multi-year contracts allow the organization to negotiate the best rates for the Annual Communications.

WHEREAS: Expenditures are restricted to the annual financial year for the organization.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Article XIII, Section 1 APPROPRIATIONS OF FUNDS

BE AMMENDED TO ADD SECTION 1.a

The Time & Place Committee may submit to the vote of the Annual Communications a contract for the location of the annual communications binding for up to 3 years, subject to the proviso that in any given year the Time & Place Committee may submit a revised contract to the vote of assembled.

Respectfully Submitted
Bradley S Rickelman [8]

TEMPLAR JURISPRUDENCE

To be given verbally

CREDENTIALS

To be given verbally

FINANCE

The Finance Committee met via Zoom on February 21, 2024, and reviewed the statement of revenue and expenses prepared by the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer for the Grand Commandery Operating Account and found it to be in order and in agreement with the statements provided by the financial institution holding the assets of this account.

The Committee reviewed the investment reports provided by the financial institution holding the assets for the Grand Commandery General Fund, Grand Commandery Perpetual Membership Fund, Joint York Rite Membership Development Fund, and Holy Land Pilgrimage Funds and found them to be in order and in agreement with the information provided by the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Commandery's budget is a fiscal year budget based on the calendar year, while the Grand Commandery Officers' term of office is from the fourth weekend in April to the following April. This will continue to present challenges for incoming and outgoing Grand Officers, as travel expenses incurred by one will continue to be paid by their predecessor. The committee also notes that the travel expenses that are dedicated to the Triennial travel is woefully inadequate, and this burden left to the Officers who are required by statute to travel will continue to hinder the Grand Commandery and its' Officers.

The Committee commends the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer for their diligence in accounting and safeguarding the funds and investments of the Grand Commandery. Also accompanying this report is the proposed budget for the Grand Commandery for 2024.

We recommend its approval by the Grand Commandery.

Glen A. Chaney [18] – Chairman, John T. Turner [38], Mark K. McFadden [2], Trasen S. Akers [3]

	<u>2024</u>
	<u>Budget</u>
Income	
ANNUAL RETURNS	
Oklahoma Per Capita	11,220.00
Grand Encampment Assessment	6,858.00
KT Eye Foundation Assessment	405.00
DeMolay Donation from Annual Returns	187.00
Total · ANNUAL RETURNS	<u>18,670.00</u>
INTEREST / INVESTMENT INCOME	
PEM Investment Dividend/Interest Income	3,663.47
General Fund Dividend/Interest Income	2,618.44
Total · INTEREST / INVESTMENT INCOME	<u>6,281.91</u>
FEES/DONATIONS	
Order Fees	1,000.00
Dispensation Fee	20.00
Reinstatement Fee	10.00
Donations	0.00
Other	0.00
Total · FEES/DONATIONS	<u>1,030.00</u>
RESALE	
Ritual Resale	300.00
Misc. Resale	0.00
Total · RESALE	<u>300.00</u>
MISC INCOME	
KTEF Donations	300.00
Other	200.00
Total · MISC INCOME	<u>500.00</u>
Total Income	<u>26,781.91</u>
Gross Profit	26,781.91
Expense	
STAFF	
Grand Recorder Salary	6,750.00
Payroll Taxes	577.32
Grand Treasurer's Expenses	200.00
Total · STAFF	7,527.32
ASSESSMENTS	
Per Capita- G.Encampment/KTEF	7,263.00
DeMolay Donation	300.00
Total · ASSESSMENTS	7,563.00

CONFERENCE / TRAVEL	
R.E.G.C. - Travel - John King**	1,250.00
R.E.G.C. - Travel - Chaney**	1,250.00
Grand Recorder's Travel	200.00
R.E.G.C. Grand Sessions Expense	250.00
Grand Sessions Host Expense	250.00
Grand Sessions-Headquarters	1,140.00
Grand Sessions-Awards	300.00
Past Grand Commander Jewel	0.00
Knight Com of Temple Jewel	200.00
Triennial	
Triennial (22)	239.00
Triennial (23)	234.00
Triennial (24)	881.25
Total · Triennial	1,354.25
Grand Commandery Retreat	300.00
Total · CONFERENCE / TRAVEL	6,494.25
OFFICE EXPENSE	
Rent	
GM Festival Rent	100.00
Total · Rent	100.00
Telecommunications	
Phone & Internet	200.00
Website	75.00
Total · Telecommunications	275.00
Office Supplies	
General Office Supplies	40.00
INK	120.00
Computer Software	250.00
Office Equipment	0.00
Total · Office Supplies	410.00
Printing and Reproduction	
Pre-Print	75.00
Proceedings	32.65
Total · Printing and Reproduction	107.65
Postage and Delivery	
PO Box Rental	67.00
Stamps	68.00
Total · Postage and Delivery	135.00
Insurance	
Bond Premium	250.00
Total · Insurance	250.00
Repairs	
Equipment Repairs	0.00
Total · Repairs	0.00
Total · OFFICE EXPENSE	1,277.65
MISC	
Rituals	300.00
G.W. Memorial-Dig Proceedings	200.00
Misc - Other	200.00
Total MISC	700.00
Total Expense	23,562.22
Net Income	\$3,219.69

HOLY LAND PILGRAMIGE FUND	Budget 2024
Income	
Holy Land Pilgrimage	
Holy Land Endowment Interest	3,277.53
HLP from Commandery Per Capita	2,348.00
HLP Endowment	3,974.47
Total · Holyland Pilgrimage	<u>9,600.00</u>
Total Income	<u>9,600.00</u>
Gross Profit	
Expense	
HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE	
HLP Minister/OTHER	8,000.00
HLP Transfer to Investment Acct	0.00
Airfare to Newark, NJ	1,600.00
Total HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE	<u>9,600.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>9,600.00</u>
Net Income	<u><u>0.00</u></u>

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	
Income	
Membership Development	
Membership Development Interest	513.00
Membership Development Other	0.00
Total · Membership Development	<u>513.00</u>
Total Income	<u>513.00</u>
Gross Profit	513.00
Expense	
MEMBERSHIP	
Promotional Expense	305.00
DeMolay Sword	208.00
Total · MEMBERSHIP	<u>513.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>513.00</u>
Net Income	<u><u>0.00</u></u>

NOTE: **Any funds budgeted for Grand Commander's Travel - (2024-2025) not disbursed during 2024 will be carried over to the 2025 budget.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY BOARD

The Investment Committee consists of three members, each appointed by the Grand High Priest, Grand Illustrious Master, and Grand Commander, respectively, serving staggered terms. The committee's purpose is to offer advice to the Grand Treasurer, who is responsible for the investments of the Grand York Bodies. The Investment Committee will meet at the request of the Grand Treasurer at places and times convenient to the committee members. The agendas for such meetings typically review the investment results for the nearest period ending and any other matters deemed appropriate by the Grand Treasurer.

The committee believes that the Grand Treasurer's actions are in accordance with the Investment Policy guidelines of the Grand York Rite Bodies.

Respectfully submitted,
 John L. Logan, Chapter 2024-2026 [72, 6], Chairman
 Mathew Turner, Commandery 2021-2024 [38]
 Charles L. Stuckey, Council 2022-2025 [43]

WORK AND TACTICS

To be given verbally

Respectively submitted,

Larry D. White, [20], John L. Logan, [29, 1] PGC, Glenn A. Kinsley, [29] PGC, Timothy P. Israel, [22] PGC

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

With the 55th annual K.T.E.F. campaign that ended May 15, 2023, Oklahoma donated a total of \$24,103, an increase of \$1,349 over last year. The two plaques presented at Grand Sessions, the F.M. "Fritz" Lombard award for the largest total contribution and the Ned D. Prator award for the largest per-capita contributions, are going to two different Commanderies this year.

The winner of the F.M. "Fritz" Lombard plaque goes to:

Trinity No. 20 (Tulsa), with total donations of \$4,173

The winner of the Ned D. Prator plaque goes to:

St. Aumer No. 29 with the largest per-capita donations of \$61.94

The 56 annual campaign does not end until May 15, 2023 please keep those donations coming in.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Rolseth [20]

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR MAGAZINE

The Monthly State News has been published every month of 2023 - 24.

Respectfully submitted,w

John E. King [22]

TRIENNIAL MATTERS

The 69th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America is scheduled to be held on August 19-20, 2024, with headquarters at the Little America Hotel located at 500 South Main Street 84101 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Hotel room rates are set at \$179 a night. Registration fee for the event is \$305.00 and includes two tickets to Sunday's Grand Master Reception, two tickets to the Grand Master's Banquet on Tuesday night, a Triennial badge, and a program book. Registration after June 1st, the price jumps to \$330. For more information, go to www.yorkrite.org and click on Triennial Conclave.

Respectfully submitted:

Mark K. McFadden [2]

GENERAL MATTERS

First, the Good News.

We will have 14 Commanderies. Per the M.M.S. System, we have a net growth of 3. While that is a small number, at least we have growth. Masonic Bodies, on the whole, are struggling with membership.

We Knighted 72 New Knights. We had a total of 7 Affiliations and 5 Reinstatements for a total gain of 84 Sir Knights on the books.

Now, the sad news: We had 42 Deaths, 33 Suspensions, and 6 Demits.

Last year, we had 45 Deaths. In two years, we have lost almost 100 Sir Knights. Those are not just numbers: let us remember our Comrades who have fallen.

It seems only logical that we should be able to reduce at least some of the loss to suspensions and withdrawals. We would urge that the Officers in Charge meet with their Commanderies early in the year and encourage every Commandery to set up an active committee to contact the members who are behind in their dues or who are local and not attending Conclaves.

Consolidations. Fortunately, we experienced no consolidations.

Now to the other items under our venue: Charters and Letters of Dispensation

– no new Charters nor Letters seeking a Charter, and No Appeals or Grievances.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Israel [22] - Chairman, Robert R. Rolseth [20] & John T. Turner [38]

NECROLOGY

During this Annual Grand Conclave, we have gathered to pay tribute to the Sir Knights, who have laid down their swords and have entered into the celestial Asylum above:

Templars' Field

I layeth down my sword and shield
and pray forgiveness from my Lord
for sins I carried since my birth
I wish redemption
though sword was cast into my hand
to cut down those with devilish plans
and shield protected me their ills
bless me Lord in Templar's field
In visions that thou gavest me
I kept my word of charity
and helped the weak and poor go free
from slavish masters
and when the bounty came my way
I proved to give it all away
and now before you naked say
in Templar's field I wish to stay
In Templars' Field I seekest home
where other Knights reduced to bone
lay buried pure but not alone
my only brothers
they too like I sought saviours dove
we carried flags of holy words
and nailed the crucifix to shield
pray bless me Lord in Templars; field.
-By Gerard de Chamey (AKA: Sir Knights Words)

Respectfully Submitted

Steven E. Cox [2] Grand Prelate

MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION

To the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma:

Right Eminent Grand Commander and Sir Knights,

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma is an Oklahoma not-for-profit corporation formed on July 9, 1930, to encourage charity, benevolence, education, and philanthropy. It was created so Oklahoma Freemasonry's institutional giving could be better focused and coordinated. The activities of the Foundation do not replace those of the individual Masons; they merely serve to supplement them.

MANAGEMENT

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of twenty-two members. The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma elects fifteen directors, three each year, for a five-year term. There are also three Directors representing the Scottish Rite, one from each Valley, three Directors representing the York Rite, one from each Grand Body, and one Director from the Order of the Eastern Star. Board members receive no monetary compensation of any kind. The Foundation has full-time staff working in the Edmond office under John L. Logan, Executive Director. The following officers were elected to serve in 2024:

President	Neil A. Stitt
1st VP	Jack L. Painter
2nd VP	Gene McKelvey
Treasurer	Ronald J. Chambers
Secretary	Robert G. Davis
Ass't Sec.	John L. Logan

FINANCIAL

A review of the preliminary financial statements ending December 31, 2023, was presented to the members. The preliminary combined balance sheet reflects total assets of \$101,477,446.33, an increase of \$3,841,357.27 from one year ago. Endowments total \$91,592,482.82, an increase of \$553,122 from one year ago. The General Fund total is \$9885,096.76, an increase of \$3,503,972.08 over the 2022 year-end.

The preliminary combined income statement for 2023 reflects a Total Revenue of \$10,827,701.46, including \$5,215,484.71 of unrealized investment gains. Expenditures for 2023 total \$5,945,799.95, a decrease of \$36,558.94 from the 2022 expenditures of \$5,982,358.89.

LODGE MATCHING FUNDS

2023 PROGRAM REVIEW

The Foundation staff gave an update on the following Masonic Charity Foundation programs:

- MATCHING FUNDS
 - Total Matching Funds Program use as of December 31, 2023, = \$1,408,382.54
 - Community Matching = \$1,287,791.04
 - Promises Matter Matching = \$120,591.50
 - # of Lodges using the program in 2023 = 195
 - # of Lodges using the program in 2022 = 192
 - Matching Funds applications processed = 1,449
 - Applications denied = 64

Matching Funds disbursed since inception = \$37,556,101.88 (x2=\$75,112,202.56)

PROMISES MATTER

- Grants issued to Master Masons or their minor children or widows = 15
- Emergency grants issued = 12
- Average grant amount = \$1,811.10
- The average age of grant recipients = 57
- Total Promises Matter Grants issued during 2022 = \$33,153.15

MASONRY IN ACTION AWARD

The Masonry in Action Award was first presented in 2013 to recognize lodges that impact their communities by utilizing Foundation programs. In 2023, Cache Lodge 391 was recognized as the small lodge Masonry In Action Winner, and Owasso Lodge 545 was recognized as the large lodge Masonry In Action Winner. Both lodges were presented with trophies at the Grand Lodge Session.

Regarding future Masonry In Action Awards, Foundation Staff proposed eliminating the application and scoring based on program data the Foundation already collects and maintains. The board discussed this proposal and approved the change.

PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Foundation works with other organizations to achieve worthwhile goals and make Masonic charity more visible across Oklahoma.

Partners in Prevention is a partnership with Vizavance. Lodges statewide sponsor vision and glaucoma screenings, targeting the young and the elderly. The Foundation granted \$300,000 to support the ongoing costs of the program. Over 140,000 students were screened in the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year. The Foundation has provided over \$5 million to support this important mission, One Goal, One Vision, and One Mission Advancing Children's Education Through Better Vision!

Food Bank support has been an annual program since 2011. In 2022, the Fight Childhood Hunger Campaign resulted in \$69,000 donated to the Regional Food Bank and \$31,000 to the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. The 2022 Masonic Food for Kids campaign ran from August 1 through October 15. This statewide effort combines the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma, the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma, and Griffin Communications (Channel 5 in OKC and Channel 6 in Tulsa). Food Bank is one of three projects with statewide visibility that attempt to enhance the image of the Fraternity while supporting a significant charitable or educational purpose.

Education - Our support for public education was demonstrated in nine statewide programs.

1. **The Oklahoma State Teacher of the Year** program honors teachers who make outstanding contributions to the public education of our youth. The State Teacher of the Year is awarded a check for \$5,000, and each of the eleven finalists receives \$1,000. Each local Teacher of the Year receives a certificate of appreciation.
2. **STUDENT OF TODAY & TEACHER OF TODAY**
 - o Total # of certificates issued for Student of Today = 1,894
 - o Total # of certificates issued for Teacher of Today = 660
 - o Participating schools = 587
 - o 141 of 204 Lodges participated
3. **Oklahoma Alliance for Arts Education** honors the fifty top high school seniors in our state's visual and performing arts. Also, the leading school administrators and board members are honored during a prestigious formal reception at the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. The students are presented medals by the Grand Master and members of the leadership of the Alliance. The next event will be held at the Guthrie Scottish Rite on April 23, 2024.
4. **The Payne Education Center** is a nonprofit organization established in 1984. Since 1996, the Foundation has supported the Payne Education Center's Reading Readiness program, designed to train kindergarten and transitional 1st-grade teachers by providing scholarships for enhanced reading techniques. In 2023, \$115,000 was provided, half allocated for teacher scholarships and the other to support their Digital Phonics Program.
5. **The Youth Scholarship Program** funding is through the Education Endowment. The scholarship program is open to DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow members. This year, sixty scholarships of \$3,000 each were budgeted, and forty-three were awarded: DeMolay 9, Job's Daughters 2, and Rainbow 32.
6. **The Senior Essay Contest** was launched in 1966 in support of education. Writing teaches critical thinking skills. The essay contest is open to all seniors in Oklahoma public schools. The Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma sponsors it as part of its continuing commitment to education. Cash prizes in the Men's and Women's divisions range from \$2,000 for 1st place to \$200 for 10th place. Also, a \$5,000 grant will be made to each of the 1st place winners in high school. For the 2022 – 2023 contests, 529 seniors entered the contest. A total of \$13,700 was awarded to the 20 statewide winners of the contest, and \$5,000 grants to the schools of each of the statewide first-place winners. Certificates for presentation to the local division winners of 62 high schools sponsored by 54 Lodges will be provided to the local Lodge.

Senior Assistance Program- Through an agreement with the Oklahoma Area Agencies on Aging, a Department of Human Services division, \$798,146 was given in November 2022 to assist needy Oklahomans aged 55 and over with services not covered by existing government programs during the calendar year 2023. Since the inception of this program in 2007, the Foundation has donated \$11,660,930 in the name of the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma to enhance the lives of seniors in our communities. These eleven agencies can be accessed by calling 1-800-211-2116 or at www.okdhs.org.

CHARITABLE GRANTS

In addition to partnerships with other charitable organizations or agencies, the Masonic Charity Foundation makes several grants yearly to support Public Education, Public Wellness, and Public Charities. Some highlights of 2023 grantmaking are:

- A \$1,000,000 gift will be disbursed in \$500,000 over two years to the Mercy Women’s Health Center, which is currently finalizing construction. Due to the tremendous growth in the need for women’s healthcare, there is an urgent need to increase the amount of physical space and quality of healing. The new center will offer comprehensive, collaborative care. An essential priority is providing services to the economically disadvantaged.
- Hearts for Hearing provides audiology and speech pathology services in a unique one-stop setting for children with hearing loss. Charitable services for young children ensure they can learn to speak, connect with the world, and become self-sufficient members of their families and communities. A \$200,000 grant from the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma will benefit hearing-loss families. In addition to providing the first set of hearing aids to children ten years of age and under at no cost to families, Hearts for Hearing also offers financial assistance for specialized speech therapy and audiology services.
- The Cavett Kids Foundation helps children with terminal or chronic illnesses thrive by using camp experiences to build character, coping skills, and connection. Camps are provided for kids of every age who may be dealing with heart issues, cancer, or other disorders. Masonic charity’s \$25,000 camp funding in 2023 will provide two of Cavett’s highest-level camp experiences throughout the year.
- The Y.M.C.A. Military Welcome Center at Will Rogers International Airport provides a safe location for military personnel to rest, access mail and telephone services, find refreshments, and prepare for the journey onward. The Masonic Charity Foundation provided \$18,000 to support the operation of this facility in 2023.

SUPPORT OF MASONIC GROUPS

- Each year, the Masonic Charity Foundation supports a charitable or educational cause or project of the Grand Master’s choice. In 2022, a \$12,000 grant for equipment was provided to the Arnett High School Science Department S.T.E.M. program.
- Masonic Charity supports Masonic youth orders! In addition, \$64,449 in Matching Funds will be provided to local DeMolay, Rainbow, and Jobs Daughters in 2022. Scholarships of \$3,000 to youth order members and \$10,000 to each youth order’s state-level trust to support ongoing programming and scholarships.
- The Supreme Assembly, I.O.R.G., also received a \$200,000 donation to renovate the Supreme Assembly building in McAlester.
- Each year, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma contributes to the programming of several national Masonic organizations:
 - Gifts totaling \$1 per Oklahoma member are made by the Masonic Charity Foundation every year to support the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia.
 - An annual gift of \$1,500 is made to the Masonic Information Center, an organization operating under the Masonic Service Association of North America that publicly provides information on Freemasons and responds to Freemasonry’s critics.
 - The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma supports every Masonic Services Association of North America plea for disaster support with a \$1,000 donation.
 - Masonic Charity Foundation also provides annual contributions of \$4,000 to the Masonic Service Association of North America’s Hospital Visitation Program, making Oklahoma’s support of this program competitive nationally.

Foundation Activities

Additional information can also be found at the Foundation’s website, www.mcfok.org. We also try to share positive stories regarding Masonic activities on Facebook.

It has been a great honor to serve as a Masonic Charity Foundation board member, and I thank the members for the opportunity to do this important work.

Respectfully submitted,
Timothy P. Israel, [22])

YORK RITE COORDINATION

The Committee on York Rite Coordination meets during the regularly scheduled Grand York Rite Officers quarterly meetings. The quarterly meetings are used to coordinate the activities of the Grand York Rite. Some items discussed during the meetings include regional and statewide festivals, membership and retention programs, the use of the Grand York Rite website, and any other issues that may need to be discussed. The ability to meet jointly in an organized manner has led to stronger and more effective actions, thereby increasing the York Rite's influence in Oklahoma.

Respectfully submitted,
John E. King [22]

MEMBERSHIP

Greetings Sir Knights, This past year has been a busy one. We were again able to host our regional festivals as well as our annual Grand Masters Festival. It is extremely important for each and every one of us to consider ourselves as a member of the membership committee. It takes effort from each and every one of us to get out and visit our local lodges and tell our brethren about all of the reasons they should be a York Rite Mason. Our future depends on it.

We have got to make an effort to get out and visit our area Lodges, visit with those brethren, and encourage them to continue their masonic journey for further light by experiencing the York Rite.

One thing that was worth noting in reviewing the annual report was seeing the loss of 33 Sir Knights during the time span of 01/01/2023 to 12/31/2023 due to suspension for non-payment of dues. While we still need to continue to work on bringing this number down. I was happy to see it down from 41 last year during the same time.

The question looms as to why these members decided to leave their Commandery. We need to be diligent in following up with these Sir Knights and find out why they are leaving. Only then can we start the process of making any necessary adjustments needed to retain our members and hopefully make membership a better experience for all.

On a positive note during this time we Knighted 69, and had 5 affiliations and 4 reinstatements.

Sadly we also continue to see our numbers decline due to deaths. We lost 37 Sir Knights this past year. May we All keep these Sir Knights and their families in our prayers.

We all must work together to promote the York Rite to those who have not yet experienced it. At the same time, we need to reach out to members we have lost due to suspensions and encourage them to return.

In closing, I would like to thank our Right Eminent Grand Commander John E. King for the privilege of serving as State Membership Chairman during his year and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Sincerely,
Mark McFadden [3] - State Membership Chairman

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Foundation has changed formats and goals over the years. At one time, we made school loans and offered other assistance. Several years ago, we restructured our purposes and how we handle our funds. Our primary function now is in the administration of post-high school education.

The Education Scholarship committee has stopped meeting in person in a "central" location. This is our third time to not meet in person. We individually rank the candidates and then seek to discuss only our top favorite choices of each committeeman. This process seems to work out well. This gives each of us more time to read, review, and rank the candidates.

The Committee members are: Jay Wall, Dace Tom, Mark McFadden, Robert R. Rolseth, and myself Tim Israel. Jon Greene is the Secretary of our committee.

We are in charge of the Education Foundation funds which are currently managed by a Grand Encampment investment team. They forward to us the amount of our interest needed to pay for four (4) \$1,500 scholarships. (

This is our fifth year giving four \$1,500 scholarships – two to female applicants and two to male applicants. There was an issue with the payment for one of our recipients; therefore, we will re-issue that scholarship for her benefit this year. There is not a specifically required criteria for receiving the scholarships. Each member of the committee reviews every application we receive in a timely manner. They look at such things as the academic record, extracurricular activities, vision of need, future plans with a degree, and financial need. There is no Masonic affiliation requirement at all. Each member then ranks the applications and sends those results to the chairman. The chairman consolidates the rankings and sends that information back to the committee. If a committee member wishes to campaign for a particular candidate that may have not made the cut, he is given that opportunity before the whole committee.

We are discussing the option of revising our application for next year to give us some additional criteria to review. This year, we had 22 girls and 12 boys apply. And we went to email to avoid the problem of last year, where the U.S.P.S. failed to deliver all of our applications in a timely manner. (See notes in the last proceedings for more info on that problem)

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Israel [22] – Chairman, Jay A. Wall [1], Dace C. Tom [26], Robert R. Rolseth [20], Mark K. McFadden [2], Jon B. Greene [20] – Secretary/Treasurer

PRINTING

The 2023 proceedings were printed by LuLu Press online printing company this year. The 2023 Proceedings were printed at the cost of \$97.98 including Shipping and Handling, with the Commandery portion being \$32.66. With the passage of Grand Encampment Resolution 2021-04: Constitutional change requiring 75% to pass, Section 52 (d), Allows for the transmittal of electronic proceedings in a digital format to the Grand Secretary of Grand Encampment at the last Grand Encampment Triennial, the need to print a lot of proceedings is no longer necessary. We will still print a copy for each constituent Commandery and others who would like a printed copy. A digital copy has been placed on the Grand York Rite website, www.okyorkrite.org, and a copy will be put on the George Washington Memorial website, <http://gwm.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet>

Respectfully submitted,

Jon B. Greene [20], James R. Taylor, Jr. [20], Robert R. Rolseth [20]

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

The Holy Land Pilgrimage program is a program that is near and dear to my heart. After having the privilege to send two ministers last year, sadly due to the ongoing wars in that region, we were unable to send the ministers chosen for this years trip. One that most surely would have been a life changing journey.

The ministers who were selected for this years trip were Pastor Scott Keneda of Edmond and Pastor Paul Vanderveer of McAlester. Both the Grand Recorder and I have made several attempts to get information from Grand Encampment about the status of the program and how the funds we have already sent to cover the cost of these ministers will be dealt with and how to proceed moving forward. However at this time we have been unable to get any information at this time. Hopefully we can get the answers we are looking for during the Triennial Session in August of 2024.

Sir Knights this program is so very important and speaks to the heart of Templary. Service to others and our community, all in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Right Eminent Grand Commander, John E. King, for the privilege of serving as chairman of this committee.

Sincerely,

Mark K. McFadden (2)

DEMOLAY

It has been an honor to serve on the DeMolay Committee for the Grand Commandery this year. It appeared to be a good year for the DeMolays of Oklahoma, as they have continued to work hard and accomplish many things. We were sent one really great candidate from the Executive Officer of DeMolay for the York Rite Outstanding DeMolay of the Year Award. It is always nice to see more than one candidate, however we were all impressed with the accomplishments of the one candidate we received. Colton Condit from the Stillwater Chapter of DeMolay was selected and awarded the sword at their Winterfest in February. He has worked diligently in his Chapter to help it grow and show great leadership even at the State level. We hope that he and many others will join the York Rite when the time comes and become active with us.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenton M. Israel [3] - Chmn., Michael L. Branson [8], Timothy Israel [22], and Jon B. Greene [20]

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

The Digital Technologies Committee has been hard at work this year, doing our best to keep the information on the website as current as possible. The Grand Recorder has started putting some forms on the site for the constituent Recorders to use. These include the Perpetual applications and applications for membership, both plural and demit. The Grand Recorder has also updated the calendar with all Commandery Conclave dates and times. If you see any errors in the calendar, please email the Grand Secretary as soon as possible for correction.

We want to thank S.K. John King, Right Eminent Grand Commander, for his confidence and for allowing us to serve on this Committee.

Fraternally and Respectfully submitted,

Jon B. Greene [22] Chairman, John R. Christopher [48], Robert W. [Bob] McLeod [2, 22]

TEMPLE REVIEW

The Temple Review Committee of our Grand Bodies originated long ago when the Proceedings of the Grand York Rite Sessions of other States, Provinces, and Countries were routinely published and distributed globally as a courtesy for and reflection of our mutual association. The practice of sharing such printed Proceedings across jurisdictional boundaries no longer exists, and when such requests or activity does occur, it is sent digitally and filed in the office of the Grand Recorder. The infrequent and random distribution of such information no longer requires the utilization of a committee.

Therefore, the Temple Review Committee recommends that this committee be dissolved.

Fraternally,

Robert G. Davis [1], Chairman

KNIGHTS OF THE HOLY LAND

At the 2015 session of this Grand Commandery, a permanent Holy Land Pilgrimage Endowment was established as a separate, segregated account within the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma. The purpose was to create an investment pool of funds whose earnings would be used solely for the benefit of the Oklahoma Holy Land Pilgrimage program.

We urged every Sir Knight to enroll in the Knight of the Holy Land program and help us reach our \$100,000.00 goal. As of December 31st, 2023, our fund balance was \$104,044.30. We did not have any expenditures from the fund in 2023

On behalf of the committee, I thank the forty-five Sir Knights (3.9% of members) whose contribution to this worthy project demonstrated their leadership and dedication to the ideals of Templary. We encourage all Sir Knights to join with those who proudly wear the Knight of the Holy Land jewel on their uniform. I also wish to acknowledge the generous contribution of the Henry Repeating Arms. Henry donated a Masonic edition rifle through its Guns for Great Causes Program, which we were able to raffle twice. The raffles created \$18,713.

Respectfully submitted,

John L. Logan, [29, 1]

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT

Membership Enhancement has become the center of the Masonic Organizations. We have two main major functions that need to be addressed: Recruitment and Retention.

The change in society has put the Masonic Fraternity in drastic decline. We have to find the median that will make our fraternity desirous to join and attend. Our fraternity is based on reverence to a Supreme Being. Churches are failing and closing their doors. The new man is not interested in religion of any kind and has no knowledge of the contents of the Bible. Our meetings have become reading the minutes and how much money we have and want to donate to a cause. Brothers are not coming to these meetings and do not have an interest in maintaining the facilities.

The discussion has been intense, but the ideas that have come forth have not changed the outcome yet. We do not want to change the basic fundamentals and ideals of the fraternity, but we want to find how we can interest and maintain today's man in wanting to belong, attend and enhance their lives with our teachings.

Being the Chairman of a committee with no posted members does not make it a non-committee. The leaders of the Commanderies and the membership are the members. All ideas and suggestions are not only welcome but extremely needed.

Remember, all appendant bodies of the Blue Lodge require Master Masons. Go out there and find these good men who will bring the Blue Lodges up, and we will get members from that. Listen to these men find their needs and see if masonry can fulfill those needs.

Fraternally submitted,
John E. King [22]

GRAND MASTERS FESTIVAL

The Oklahoma York Right Festival in honor of the Oklahoma Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M Grand Master, M.:W.: Glen A Chaney was held on July 22nd, 2023, at Oklahoma City Lodge #36. The festival began promptly at 8:8:00 am and there were a total of fifty-four (54) Master Masons Knighted and welcomed into the valiant and magnanimous Order of the Temple. We congratulate those worthy Knights who have endured the trials and passed through the ceremonies of this Order. The committee wishes to publicly acknowledge and thank the Membership Committee, as well as the Grand Recorder for their diligence and hard work in spreading the word and contacting the candidates who made themselves known across the State. The Committee looks forward to the 2023 year and the upcoming Oklahoma York Rite Festival in honor of the Grand Master of Oklahoma. This event will be held on July 27th, 2024, at Oklahoma City Lodge #36.

Respectfully Submitted,
Co-Chairman – Glen A. Chaney [18], John T. Turner [38]

REGIONAL FESTIVALS

Two regional festivals were held this year, the Northeast regional in Tulsa on 24 February, where 4 new Knights received the Order of the Temple; and the Central region in Oklahoma City on 2 March, where 10 new Knights were created. The committee extends our thanks and appreciate to the various Commanderys and Sir Knights who contributed to making these festivals a success, especially to those of OKC and the surrounding areas who made the Central festival happen despite last minute hurdles they had to overcome.

Fraternally Submitted,
John T. Turner [38] - Chairman

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

The South-Central region is composed of five member states (Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Oklahoma) and one non-member state (Texas). The Companions of this region have been gathering together annually for well over sixty years.

The 2023 South Central Department Conference was held at Chateau on the Lake at Branson, Missouri. It was attended by the RE Grand Commander, VE Deputy Grand Commander, E Grand Captain General, and other Grand Commandery Officers.

At this session of the S.C. Department Conference, many issues and topics were discussed and actions taken by this august body of Sir Knights. The Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, SK David Kussman was in attendance at the conference and the Department Commander, SK Robert M. Loflin attended as well. The opportunity for leadership education was continued with the York Rite Emerging Leader Program and several Oklahoma Sir Knights attended a portion of this program or have completed it.

Plans can now be made to attend the next Annual South Central York Rite Conference in Tulsa on September 19-24, 2024.

The 2024 South Central Department Conference will be held at the Double Tree Hilton in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Grand Encampment York Rite Commandery Session will be on Saturday, September 20th, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,
Glen A. Chaney [18]

PATRIOTIC AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

The Committee for Patriotic and Civic Activities continues to support the Ceremony of Retirement of our National Colors and all U.S. Flags that is conducted in the 2d week of October each year. The committee is always seeking new opportunities to show Patriotism and Civic support. If any Sir Knight has any thoughts, ideas or events that they believe serve this committee's purpose, we encourage all Sir Knights to share them with the Committee for Patriotic and Civic activities. We are seeking to join with DeMolay Chapters across the State to take part in Flag retirement Ceremonies and other honor ceremonies that honor our Country and our National heritage.

Respectfully Submitted,
Glen A. Chaney [18], John E. King [22]

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

This year Our Grand Commandry held an Easter Observance hosted by Muskogee Commandry No. 2. The Grand Prelate put out a monthly devotional. This was an outstanding year. I am proud of all our Sir Knights, and God Bless.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven E. Cox [2] - Chairman

LONG RANGE PLANNING

The Long Range Planning Committee is made up of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery. The committee's discussions have been education, ceremonial excellence, and membership.

The education enhancement is being reviewed to give the Knights a better understanding of the history and understanding of the Orders. The education program needs to be made interesting to those seeking knowledge. It has to create interest in those who are looking at joining and participating in the Order.

The ceremonial and excellence aspects of the order cannot fall by the wayside. We as Knights have to work on performing the Orders not only to educate the Knights but to carry forward the pride of accomplishment in keeping the three Orders ready to perform and give the incoming Knights the full program in understanding the fraternity they paid for.

The membership is being studied to enhance the knowledge and information put forth on Knights Templar to prospective members and members.

The above is being worked into a follow on that will be worked by each of the incoming Grand Commanders and Staff. Your Grand Commandery Officers are committed to the future of Templary. It should be the drive of each Commander and Officers of each and every Commandery.

LOOK AND WORK FORWARD TO VICTORY, FOR WE WILL BE VICTORIOUS.

Fraternally Submitted,
John E. King [22] , Glen A Chaney [18], John T. Turner [38], Mark K. McFadden [2]

TIME AND PLACE

To be given verbally

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Appreciation Committee, I extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all who have contributed to the success of this Templar year.

First and foremost, we acknowledge the grace and guidance bestowed upon us by God Almighty. It is through His strength and wisdom that we have been able to navigate the challenges and triumphs of this year.

To the dedicated members of the Time and Place Committee and the Grand Recorder, we extend our sincerest thanks. Your tireless efforts and meticulous attention to detail in organizing our Annual Sessions have ensured the smooth operation and success of our gatherings.

A special acknowledgment goes to our Right Eminent Grand Commander and the esteemed Grand Officers. Your leadership, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the ideals of our order have been the driving force behind our achievements. Your ability to tackle challenges head-on and your innovative spirit have propelled us forward on our journey. We commend you for your exemplary service and leadership throughout this Templar year.

In closing, we express our gratitude to all who have contributed to the success of this Grand Session. Your fraternity, support, and dedication to the principles of our order are truly commendable.

Fraternally submitted,
Justin M. McGee [14,8] - Chairman

OKLAHOMA PAST COMMANDERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONCLAVE

April 28th, 2023

The Fiftieth Annual Conclave of the Oklahoma Past Commanders Association was held at the Hilton Garden Inn hotel in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on Friday, April 28, 2023. The Conclave was opened at 4:40 p.m. with the following officers in their respective stations:

Knight Commander	John Carter pro tempore
Knight First Lieutenant	Trasen Akers
Knight Second Lieutenant	Mathew Turner
Knight Recorder-Treasurer	Robert R. Rolseth, PKC
Knight Warder	Michael T. Harden
Knight Sentinel	Matthew Harden
Knight Prelate	Timothy P. Israel

There were 32 members and guests present, per the Knight Sentinel's Register.

Knight Commander John Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, followed by Kt. Prelate Tim Israel giving the invocation.

Brad Rickelman, PKC and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma was introduced, as well as Knight Companion James R. Taylor, the R. : E . : Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Oklahoma.

The following guests were recognized: David Kussman, Grand Master of Grand Encampment; Robert Loflin, Department Commander of Grand Encampment; and Robert Schlicter, PGC of Liberty Commandery, Liberty, Missouri.

The passing of the following members was noted: John D. Miller, Jr. PKC 2006; Gary Odendahl, and Robert C. Shady.

The minutes of the April 27th, 2022, Annual Conclave and August 11th, 2022, Special Conclave were approved as presented. The Annual Membership and Financial Report was also approved.

The report of the Audit Committee consisting of Kent Israel (Chairman), Jim Cloud, and John Carter was presented and accepted.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to authorize the Knight Recorder's necessary expenses for the ensuing year.

The O.P.C.A. was asked to assist with assembling Sir Knights to assemble in Caddo on May 18th, and in Owasso on July 30 to assist the Grand Lodge with cornerstone ceremonies. More information to follow.

The following Past Commanders were elected to membership in this Association:

Nominee	Commandery	Year	Nominator
James Rule	Guthrie No. 1	2022	Jim Taylor Jr.
Scott Percifeld	Muskogee No. 2	2022	Mark McFadden
Blaine McKnight	McAlester No. 6	2019	Jim Taylor Jr.
Robert Sprott	St. Johns No. 8	2022	Brad Rickelman
David Sikes	Lawton No. 18	2022	Jim Taylor Jr.
Jim Parham	Trinity No. 20	2022	Jim Taylor Jr.
Jay Hall	Trinity No. 20	2006	Jim Taylor Jr.
John Church	Capitol Hill No. 53	2019	Jim Taylor Jr.

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of officers and the following members were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

Knight Commander	John Carter
Knight First Lieutenant	Trasen Akers
Knight Second Lieutenant	Brian Ragain
Knight Recorder-Treasurer	Robert R. Rolseth, P.K.C.
Knight Warder	Mat Turner
Knight Sentinel	Brian Buswell

The Knight Commander Elect appointed Richard Hargrave to be Knight Prelate.

The new officers were installed by REGC Jim Taylor Jr.

The Knight Recorder announced that the Ceremony of Reception will be held at a Special Conclave, which is set for August 19th, 2023 at St. John Commandery No. 8 in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Kt. Prelate Tim Israel gave the benediction.

The Conclave was closed at 5:10 p.m.

John Carter, Pro Tempore
Knight Commander

Robert R. Rolseth
Knight Recorder

OKLAHOMA PAST COMMANDERS ASSOCIATION SPECIAL CONCLAVE

August 19th, 2023

A Special Conclave of the Oklahoma Past Commanders Association was hosted at St. Johns Commandery No. 8, in Stillwater, Oklahoma on August 19th, 2023. The Conclave was opened at 1:30 p.m. with the following officers present:

Knight Commander	John Carter
Knight First Lieutenant	Trasen Akers
Knight Second Lieutenant	Brian Ragain
Knight Recorder-Treasurer	Robert R. Rolseth, P.K.C.
Knight Warder	Michael T. Harden
Knight Sentinel	Brian Buswell
Knight Prelate	Tim Israel

There were 22 members and 6 candidates present, per the Kt. Sentinel's Register.

Kt. Commander John Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, followed by Kt. Prelate Tim Israel giving the invocation.

The Kt. Recorder reported that the following six candidates had accepted the invitation to become members of the Association and were in waiting for the Ceremony of Reception:

CANDIDATE	COMMANDERY
Blaine McKnight	McAlester No. 6
Robert Sprott	St. Johns No. 8
Ryan Shady	Lawton No. 18
David Sikes	Lawton No. 18
Jay Hall	Trinity No. 20
Jim Parham	Trinity No. 20

The Kt. Recorder reported that the following candidates were elected but were unable to attend:

CANDIDATE	COMMANDERY
James Rule	Guthrie No. 1
Scott Percifield	Muskogee No. 2
Russell Freas	Elk City No. 22
John Church	Capitol Hill No. 53

The Ceremony of Reception was conferred by the following team:

Knight Commander	John Carter
Knight First Lieutenant	Trasen Akers
Knight Second Lieutenant	Brian Ragain
Knight Recorder-Treasurer	Robert R. Rolseth, P.K.C.
Knight Warder	Michael Harden
Knight Sentinel	Brian Buswell
Knight Prelate	Tim Israel
Lecture No. 1	John King
Lecture No. 2	Bob Mcleod
Lecture No. 3	Mickey Megeath
Lecture No. 4	Justin McGee
Lecture No. 5	John Christopher
Lecture No. 6	Matt McGee
Lecture No. 7	Brad Rickelman
Lecture No. 8	Mark McFadden
Lecture No. 9	Brian Buswell

Lecture No. 10
Lecture No. 11
Lecture No. 12

Kent Israel
Donnie Higginbotham
Bob Rolseth

Each of the new members was presented the jewel of the order, a certificate and lifetime membership card, by the Kt. Commander and Lieutenants.

The new members were given the opportunity to speak and all expressed their appreciation of the Ceremony of Reception and that they were proud to be members of the Oklahoma Past Commanders Association.

Knight Commander John Carter presented Jim Cloud his Past Knight Commander Jewel

Sir Knight John King, R.. E.. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma was introduced, and he spoke on the importance of continuing the traditions of inspections and the necessity to perform the Order of the Temple locally vs at a festival.

The benediction was given by Kt. Prelate Tim Israel.

The Special Conclave was closed by Kt. Commander John Carter at 2:30 p.m.

Robert R. Rolseth, P.K.C.
Knight Recorder

OKLAHOMA PAST COMMANDERS ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

April 1st, 2018 – March 31st, 2019

To the Knight Commander, Officers, and Members,

The Kt. Recorder-Treasurer's report for the Fiscal Year April 1st, 2018 through
March 31st, 2019 is as follows:

FINANCIAL

03/31/2022 – Opening Balance

Checking Account #2343701		\$2,821.30
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Receipts:

8/20/2022 – Membership Fees	250.00	
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Interest from Certificate of Deposit #150006	8.30	
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Total Receipts		<u>\$258.30</u>
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Disbursements:

08/20/2022 – Check No. 1006-Oklahoma City Lodge No. 36	50.00	
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Total Disbursements		<u>\$50.00</u>
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03/31/2023 – Ending Balance

Checking Account #2343701		<u>\$3029.60</u>
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03/31/2023 – Ending Balance

Certificate of Deposit #150006		<u>\$3,000.00</u>
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03/31/2023 – Total Financial Assets		\$6,029.60
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Robert R. Rolseth
Knight Recorder-Treasurer

OKLAHOMA PAST COMMANDERS ASSOCIATION PAST KNIGHT COMMANDERS

1973	Ned E. Prater *	2000	Elwood M. Isaacs
1974	G. Stewart Rinehart *	2000	Donald H. Haralson (hon.)
1975	Myrl S. Kirk *	2001	Forrest T. Smith *
1976	Carl R. Burrows *	2002	Jack L. Sterett *
1977	Herbert O. Nelson *	2003	Bobby L. Carter
1978	L.D. Clark *	2004	Jimmie R. Dooley *
1979	J.W. Thomas *	2005	Hollis O. Edgar *
1980	Doctor L. Cooley *	2006	John D. Miller, Jr.
1981	George T. Hayes *	2007	Earl L. Berryman, Jr.*
1982	Eugene Smith *	2008	Ronald L. Carr
1983	Aix B. Harrison*	2009	James E. Smyrl *
1984	Neal D. Leech	2010	Robert D. Cundiff, Jr.
1985	Lester T. Mimms *	2011	E. David Snyder*
1986	William A. Nation	2012	Troy E. Shipman*
1987	Charles E. Williams *	2013	Donnie G. Higginbotham
1988	John J. Petrik	2014	Robert R. Rolseth
1989	Robert N. Skillings (hon.) *	2015	Daniel D. Hanntula
1989	O. Ray Harrington	2016	Stephen P. Guerrero, Jr.
1990	Donald M. Kiser *	2017	Bradley S Rickelman
1991	Chester R. Cowen *	2018	Clyde H. Schoolfield, Jr.
1992	Rex L. Bowen *	2019	Marshall Clayton
1993	Paul A. Fitch *	2020	Marshall Clayton
1994	Larry D. Horton *	2021	Kent Israel
1995	William R. Hudson *	2022	William Cloud
1996	James O. Rust, Jr.		
1997	Paul G. Watkins *		* Deceased
1998	David A. Ray		
1999	William D. Bowie, Jr.		