Grand Commandery

of

Knights Templar of Maryland

Proceedings

October 29, 2022

Annual Grand Conclave

Dunes Manor Hotel Ocean City, Maryland



**Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland**

**Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland**

**Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Maryland**

Companions & Sir Knights

By order of the:   
Most Excellent Grand High Priest, ME Comp. Robert W. Chase  
Most Illustrious Grand Master, MI Comp. Randolph S. Disney  
Right Eminent Grand Commander, SK John H. Auston

Official Notice is given for:

**The Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland,**

**The Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland, and**

**The Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar**.

**The Grand Chapter** will meet in Grand Convocation **Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 9:00 am**. to conduct all business proper to the Annual Grand Convocation. Agenda to include Finance Presentations, Installation of 2023 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports, as necessary.

The dress is Tuxedo with Red Jacket, Apron & Jewels for Officers, Coat & Tie otherwise. Please wear your Chapter Apron.

Location: Dunes Manor Hotel, Ocean City, MD. In the Verrazano Ballroom.

**The Grand Council** will meet in Grand Assembly on **Friday8 October 23, 2022, at 3:00 pm.** to conduct all business proper to the Annual Grand Assembly. Agenda to include Finance Presentations, Installation of the 2023 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports, as necessary.

The dress is Tuxedo, Apron & Jewels for Officers, Coat & Tie otherwise. Please wear your Council Apron.

Location: Dunes Manor Hotel, Ocean City, MD. In the Verrazano Ballroom.

**The Grand Commandery** will meet in Grand Conclave **Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 1:15 pm.** to conduct all business proper to the Annual Grand Conclave. Agenda to include Presentations, Installation of 2023 Officers, and all other Officer and Committee Reports, as necessary. The dress is Full Templar Uniform, Chapeau & Sword.

Location: Dunes Manor Hotel, Ocean City, MD. In the Verrazano Ballroom.

Fraternally & respectfully,

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ME Comp William C. Eppig  Grand Secretary  Grand Chapter of Maryland | RI Comp. Vernon H. Huebschman  Grand Recorder  Grand Council of Maryland | SK Kris Brown  Grand Recorder  Grand Commandery of  Knights Templars in MD |

**Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maryland**

**Annual Grand Conclave**

**October 29, 2022 - Ocean City , Maryland**

**1:00 p.m.**

1. Opening: Reconvene SK John H. Austin, REGC
2. Welcome SK John H. Austin, REGC
3. Credentials: Initial Report \* SK David Andrukitis, Grand Sentinel
4. Reception of REPGC’s SK John H. Austin, REGC
5. Introduction of dignitaries SK John H. Austin, REGC
6. Proceedings SK Vernon H. Huebschman, Asst. Grand Recorder
7. Grand Commander’s Address SK John H. Austin, REGC
8. Grand Recorder’s Report SK Vernon H. Huebschman, Asst Grand Recorder
9. Grand Treasurer’s Report SK Randall L. Watson, Grand Treasurer
10. Grand Prelates Report SK Charles Beckhardt, Grand Prelate
11. Religious Observance SK Charles Beckhardt, Grand Prelate
12. Holy Land Pilgrimage SK Charles Beckhardt, Grand Prelate
13. Finance & Accounts Committee SK Bradley Andrukitis, VEDGC
14. KT Eye Foundation SK Gary Kennedy Grand Captain General
15. KT Education Foundation SK Arthur Hebbeler, REPGC
16. Youth Relations SK Scott Lapp, Junior Grand Warden
17. Appendant & Concordant SK Randall L. Watson, Grand Treasurer
18. Civic & Patriotic Committee SK Gary Kennedy
19. Correspondence Committee SK Vernon H. Huebschman, Asst Grand Recorder
20. Grand Inspector General’s Report SK Frederick A. Spicer, REPGC
21. Membership Committee SK Bradley Andrukitis, VEDGC
22. KT Instruction/ Ritual Committee SK Frederick A. Spicer, REPGC
23. KT Handbook SK Bradley Andrukitis. VEDGC
24. Knight Training Committee SK Charles Warns II, REPGC
25. Quartermaster’s Report SK John P. Mitchell, Grand Generalissimo
26. Jurisprudence Committee SK John A. Rafine, REPGC
27. Constitution Committee SK Richard P. Naegele, REPGC
28. Doings of Grand Officers SK Spyridon G. Treklas, REPGC
29. Grievance Committee SK Kenneth S. Wyvill Jr., REPGC
30. Masonic Relations Committee SK Richard P. Naegele, REPGC
31. 2022 Sessions Committee SK Bradley Andrukitis, VEDGC
32. 2023 Time & Place Committee SK John H. Austin, REGC
33. GWMNM 2023 Celebration SK John H. Austin, REGC
34. Awards & Recognition SK Arthur G. Hebbeler, REPGC
35. Credentials: Final Report SK David Andrukitis, Grand Sentinel
36. Unfinished Business SK John Austin, REGC
37. New Business SK John Austin, REGC
38. Election of Officers SK John Austin, REGC
39. Installation of Officers SK Clifton Friel REPGC,
40. Comments
41. Calling Off SK John Austin, REGC

The REGC may alter is agenda as he sees fit, and may receive reports to be printed in the Proceedings as he may direct.

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar 2021-2022 Officers

**Right Eminent Grand Commander:** John H. Austin,KCT  
**Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander:** Bradley Andrukitis  
**Eminent Grand Generalissimo:** John P. Mitchell  
**Eminent Grand Captain General:**  Gary Kennedy  
**Eminent Grand Senior Warden:**  Danny Dickerson  
**Eminent Grand Junior Warden:**  Scott Lapp  
**Eminent Grand Prelate:**  Charles Beckhardt  
**Grand Treasurer:** [Randall L. Watson KCT](mailto:beldar1@verizon.net)  
**Grand Recorder:** [Kris D Brown](mailto:grand.recorder.maryland@gmail.com), KTCH

**Assistant Grand Recorder** Vernon H. Huebschman  
**Eminent Grand Standard Bearer:** Michael Youse  
**Eminent Grand Sword Bearer:**  Samuel Lane  
**Grand Warder:**  Scott Wilson

**Grand Sentinel:**  David Lee Andrukitis

**Grand Inspector General :** Fred Spicer,PGC,KTCH

**Adjuntant** : Keith Warner

**Adjutant**: William Hare,Jr

**Adjutant** : Gary Kendal

**Adjutant** : Kevin Drabczyk

**Grand Commandery Committees 2022:**

**S–Finance and Audit**–

Bradley Andrukitis, John Mitchell, Gary Kennedy

**S–Appendant and Concordant**–

Randy Watson, Robert Lumbert, Vernon Huebschman

**Civic and Patriotic**–

Gary Kennedy, Keith Warner, Scott Wilson, Gerry Kendle

**S–Correspondence**–

Kris Brown, Kevin Drabczyk, Bill Hare

**S–Credentials**–

David Andrukitis, George Christoff, Bill Hare,

**S–Doings of Grand Officers**–

Spyridon Treklas, Kris Brown, Mike Youse

**S–Education Foundation**–

Art Hebbeler, Thomas Heimiller, Arthur Tawse, Mike Robbins, Terry Royce, Chris (Doc) Jensen, ex Officio members- John Austin, Bradley Andrukitis, Kris Brown (sec./treas.)

**Eye Foundation**–

Gary Kennedy, Fred Rossmark, Sam Lane,

**Grievance**–

Kenneth Wyvill, John Rafine, Randy Disney,

**Holy Land Pilgrimage**–

Charles Beckhardt, Arthur Hebbeler, William Maish

**Committees 2022 (continued)**

**Jurisprudence**–

John Rafine, Randy Watson, Kenneth Wyvill

**Masonic Relation**s-

Richard Naegele, Randy Watson, Robert Lumbert, Terry Royce

**Membership**–

Bradley Andrukitis, Mike Youse, Sam Lane

**KT Instruction/Ritual**–

Fred Spicer GIG, Dennis Ewing, Scott Wilson,

**Sessions**–

Bradley Andrukitis, Bill Hare, Randy Watson

**Time and Place**–

John Austin\*\*, Robert Chase\*\*, Randy Disney\*\*  
\*\*Or their appointees

**Knight Training**–

Charles Warns, George Christoff, John Mitchell, Scott Wilson, Scott Lapp, Gerry Kendle, Kevin Drabczyk

**Unfinished Business**–

Brad Andrukitis, Kris Brown, Charles Warns,

**Youth Relations**–

Scott Lapp, Roal Davis, Carl Michel, Richard Naegele

**Religious Observance**–

Charles Beckhardt, Arthur Hebbeler, Gary Kennedy, Ray Denmark, William Maisch

**Committees 2022 (continued)**

**Quartermaster/Wardrob**e-

John Mitchell, Spyros Treklas, Keith Warner, Bill Hare

**GWMNM 2023 celebration**–

John Austin, Kenneth Wyvill ,Gerry Kendle, James ( Ron ) Hedges, Kevin Drabczyk

**Awards and Recognition**–

Art Hebbeler, Randy Watson, Kris Brown, Kevin Drabczyk, Brad Andrukitis, Bill Hare

**KT Handbook**–

Bradley Andrukitis, John Mitchell, Gary Kennedy, David Andrukitis, Bryan Remley, Clifton Friel, Vernon Huebschman

**Grand Commander’s Advisory Council**–

Kenneth Wyvill, Fred Spicer, Richard Naegele, Charles Warns, Arthur Hebbeler, Spyros Treklas, Brad Andrukitis, Richard Feeser, Clifton Friel, Terry Royce, Samuel Lane, Dennis Brekhus, Michael Youse

**Events and Hospitality**–

Brad Andrukitis, John Mitchell, Gary Kennedy, Terry Royce, Gerry Kendle, Kevin Drabczyk, John Thomas, George Christoff, Bill Hare, Keith Warner

END

**1 OPENING** SK John H. Austin, REGC

The Grand Prelate, SK Charles Beckhardt offered an Opening Invocation.

*Our most gracious heavenly father, we pause and acknowledge your presences and that of your son. We come to you this afternoon with thankful hearts.*

*As we present and listen to the annual reports presented by the grand line of knights templar, we thank them for their dedication, leadership, service and their safe travels.*

*When we have our business discussion, may they center on what is good for the grand commandery in support of the local commanderies. For we feel there is purpose and meaning in what we do.*

*There are many of our sir knights that are dealing with health issues. One in particular we would like to lift up, is our grand recorder, kris brown. Provide kris with the mental and physical needs so he can begin his path towards healing.*

*When Jesus asked us to feed his sheep, cloth his sheep and care for his sheep as he did, as knights templars, point us in the right direction to make this happen.*

*Remind us to contact those who feel lonely or troubled. As knights templars, provide us with the those comforting words of assurance so we can walk with them through troubled times.*

*As knights templars and your ambassadors, may the light of your son so shine upon us, that the darkness that is trying to surround us from being your ambassador will fade away.*

*We thank you for all of the blessings we have received.*

*And now hear the prayer your son taught us: the lord’s prayer. Amen*

The Standard Guard presented the Flag of the United States of America.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by the Grand Commander.

Grand Commander Austin then declared the Grand Commandery of Knight Templar of Maryland reconvened in Annual Conclave.

**2. WELCOME**  SK John H. Austin, REGC

SK Austin offered his greetings to all present on this Fall afternoon.

**3. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE** SK David Andrukitis, Grand Sentinel

The Assistant Grand Recorder called the Roll of Voting Sir Knight alphabetically, by Commandery, from lowest to highest.

The Interim report of the Credential Committee is that there were present:

Ten (11) Commanderies in good standing

Thirty-five (35) Sir Knights who are qualified to vote

Six Eminent Commanders of the Commanderies represented

Fifteen non-voting Sir Knight

One representative of the Grand Encampment, the Department Commander.

**4. RECEPTION OF PAST GRAND COMMANDERS** SK John H. Austin

The roll of the Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders was called. Those attending were asked to assemble to be greeted by the REGC, SK Austin.

Present were:

1991 SK Clifton R. Friel, KCT

1999 SK Richard P. Naegele, KCT

2006 SK John A. Rafine, KCT

2013 SK Frederick A. Spicer, KCT

2015 SK Randolph S. Disney, KCT

2018 - 2019 SK Spyridon G. Treklas, KCT

2020 – 2021 SK Charles E. Warns II, KCT

The full list of surviving Past Grand Commanders is shown in the Appendix.

5. **RECEPTION OF VISITORS** SK John Austin, REGC

The following Sir Knight presented themselves for introduction and greetings;

SK Romi M. Cupuno, REGC Grand Commandery of Virginia

SK David Laucius, REPGC Grand Commandery of Delaware

SK G. Thomas Taylor, REPGC Grand Commandery of Delaware

SK Mark Irwin, REPGC Grand Commandery of Delaware

SK Randy Mullen, REPGC Grand Commandery of Delaware

SK David Schuler, REPGC Grand Commandery of Vermont

SK Mark Shawley, PC Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

SK Douglas D. Crum, PC Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

SK Richard W. Fesler, Jr PC Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

SK Jean-Paul Dongmo Sr. EC Grand Commandery of Washington DC

And the Representative of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America

SK James Steele, Mid-Atlantic Department Commander,

6**. PROCEEDINGS** SK Vernon Huebschman Asst Gr Rec.

As the Proceedings of the May Semi-annual Grand Conclave have been published on the York Rite Website for the past six months, and no comment received to date, I move that the Proceedings be accepted as published, subject to comment and review submitted to the REGC; seconded by SK John Rafine, REPGC and passed unanimously.

**7. GRAND COMMANDER’S ADDRESS** SK John H. Austin, REGC



SK Bradley Andrukitis accepted the sword of authority as SK Austin began his Address.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Mills, Department Commander Steele, Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders, Honored Guests, Sir Knights all-

Greetings to you all. Thank you all for coming all the way to the ocean only to spend most of your time trapped indoors in heavy clothing rather than out there on the beach in shorts and sunglasses. We have a very busy schedule today with lots of things to go over, with much to celebrate along with some disappointments for this past year, so I’ll get right to it.

The key to this past year continues to be the lasting effects of Covid. My predecessor, Past Grand Commander Warns, lost much of his time in service to the inability to actually be among his officers and Sir Knights in order to carry out his plans. Conclaves could not be held, people were locked down and ceased the work of Masonry and Templary. Nonetheless the Grand Commandery persevered and did many good things including helping food banks, and our members, with programs designed to reach out to Sir Knights and their communities. We held a 150th anniversary program, a special mutual recognition ceremony with our Prince Hall Counterparts and Knighted nearly 50 new Sir Knights in the Order of The Temple with a fabulous ceremony conducted by all Past Grand Commanders.

This past year we got back in the saddle. My travels and those of the Grand Line officers in the past year have been two-fold. To raise the visibility of the Knights Templar in the State of Maryland, and the Masonic lodges of Maryland and to visit all of the Commanderies in the State multiple times to assure our brothers and Sir Knights that there is life in the Knights Templar Conclaves and that the activities that we have long held to be fundamental are continuing.

My message has been, and will continue to be that the Grand Commandery of Maryland is here to help. Each Commandery under our jurisdiction had a visit as soon as possible both before and after I was installed last October as Grand Commander to hear from my lips that we are back up and running and ready to assist in any way the Constituent Commanderies required. Sadly, many of those Conclaves were poorly attended. We must return again and again to give aid and confidence to our Sir Knights. New officers were voted on in Constituent Commanderies in March, and I and my officers conducted several of the installations of the new officers, constantly offering praise, prayers and assistance.

A major glitch in Maryland Templary occurred in the spring of 2022 when 2 of our Grand Line officers suffered personal setbacks. Our Grand Recorder Kris Brown was hospitalized with several maladies. At first we thought this was short term and we would see him back at work following a short recovery, but as time went on and the work of the Grand Commandery was being handled miserably by me, I got word from Vernon Huebschman that he knew there was trouble and he offered his assistance. Vernon has decades of organizational and Masonic secretarial experience, and I knew he would be just the ticket to fill in. Vernon jumped into the chasm created with Kris’s departure and did a marvelous job, with the help of Grand Encampment advice, a bit of assistance from the hospital bed from SK Kris and a wealth of experience in other Masonic arenas to smooth things out for me and the Grand Commandery. We owe him a great deal of credit for his willingness to lend a hand.

While EGR Kris is recovering at last from his ills, he is now residing in a rehabilitation center. He has our continuing prayers for a full recovery. In recent weeks it has become clear that Kris must focus on his own health and the full-time work of the Grand Commandery must move forward. Realizing how critical the work is, Kris has recently tendered his resignation, and with regret, I have accepted it. We will vote later today to fill that vacancy.

The other loss for us is that of our Eminent Grand Generalissimo, John Mitchell. John and his wife have both suffered health problems including ‘Long Haul Covid’ and Cancer. He could not be with us today as his wife Karen has just had surgery and he is minding her during her recovery. He has given up the post of Generalissimo and today we will install a new Sir Knight in his place to carry on the work of the Grand Commandry. We will be sending our thoughts and prayers to John and Karen for their recovery as well. I have asked John to remain as our Quartermaster to continue to build the Uniform and Wardrobe programs he began to introduce under Past Grand Commander Warns. He has agreed and today I announce that he will have some able assistance as we create a new position of Assistant Quartermaster and that role will be filled by Eminent Commander Fred Rossmark.

We have encouraged our Officers of Constituent Commanderies to get out to Blue Lodges and inform the membership of our existence and how to access the York Rite and Knights Templar in particular. We have emphasized the Christian aspects of Templary on every occasion. You will hear later from our Grand Prelate who is doing a wonderful job of promoting the fundamental beliefs of all of you here. This will continue.

Visibility- This past year I logged over 130 visits to masonic meetings and events to represent and promote Templary. The Grand Line has also been on the move. We participated in a couple of Orders to make new Knights. This is always fun.

Continued visiting of commanderies throughout the State is the order of the day for Grand Line officers. We have also participated in Chapter, Council, York Rite College, SOOB and Lodge events to assist and promote Knights Templar.

We had an opportunity with a new program introduced this year at Boumi Shrine to participate and show who we are to a large roomful of Masons and their families. The program is unique in that another Masonic organization is teaching its new members that there are other laudable institutions within Freemasonry, such as Scottish Rite and York Rite that may appeal to them.

Our uniform and wardrobe programs, while faltering a bit continue as we promote the purchase and wearing of uniforms and civilian attire. There are opportunities for you at the Grand Sessions to purchase and order shirts, hats, swords, slings and other items. Purchases go towards the uniform fund which we are using to subsidize the purchase of uniforms and the accouterments that belong on them.

Visibility also includes public events and one of the best is our participation throughout the State (and other States) in Parades. We look good in parades! The Grand Commandery is designing and purchasing a new banner for upcoming parades. With the help of Grand Generalissimo Elect Gary Kennedy this will happen soon. We will be marching in the Baltimore Mayors Parade in December with Grand Master Mills and numerous other Masonic groups. This year we have a special treat with Monumental Crusade Commandery #3 attending with Riders on horseback wearing full Templar medieval fighting garb. We encourage all that can attend to march along with us.

Several other parade opportunities, In State and out of State, will be outlined in a few minutes under civic and Patriotic Committee reports. Any Sir Knight that is available and Ambulatory is encouraged to join us on these adventures.

I had the opportunity last month to rekindle the relationship established by Past Grand Commanders with the State of Pennsylvania Knights Templar. Lady Kandi and I attended the annual Friend to Friend memorial Service in Gettysburg, and I was honored to join REGC Harry Smith in placing a wreath at the memorial. The service is no longer able to be held at the memorial itself, however next year we are all invited to participate at the Pennsylvania Monument on the actual battlefield. I hope many of you will put that on your calendars to attend. Past Grand Commander Mark Mattern was to join us this weekend to represent REGC Smith, but had to cancel as he and his wife are to celebrate the arrival, any moment, of a new Grand Daughter.

Scholarships- Order #3 which required several new levels of participation by Sir Knights in the Community and under new leadership with Art Hebbeler running a new system to evaluate applications has resulted in the highest number of applications that I have ever heard of. This program, once lagging and lethargic has been revitalized. 14 applicants from around the State sent in applications. The Education Foundation report contains details of the results. Art is further refining the program and application with the committee this year. Congrats to the Committee.

Youth- Grand Captain General Elect Scott Lapp will walk you through a new venue that was used for the youth trip this year. I was sorry to miss, but it sounded like fun.

KTEF- SK Gary Kennedy will outline the results of the effort to make Maryland one of the few States in the Nation to have achieved 100% participation in the Life Sponsor Program offered by the Grand Encampment. Spearheaded with the aid of EC Bob Candler of Beauseant Commandery #8, and EC George Christoff of Monumental Crusade Commandery #3, this program is one of the most impactful of all Masonic Charities as it helps people with vision problems across the planet, but most especially for the sight of Children. In traveling the State this year one of the main topics in Commanderies, will be to impress the need of the Commanderies to sustain this new status by continuing to see that all incoming new Knights become Life Sponsors.

One of my favorite things to be able to do is to accompany the Department Commander as he makes presentations of Grants to doctors doing the research at places like the Wilmer Eye institute at Johns Hopkins and at NIH. This year I accompanied Department Commander James Steele for a first-hand look at the great work being done that is supported by your donations. Thank you for the Opportunity SK James.

These are the highlights of the reports you will hear very soon.

6 years ago when the Semi annual conclave held under PGC Art Hebbeler resulted in no Captain General elected to office. I got a call from Art a couple of weeks later. He asked me if I would consider running for the office. I knew that was quite a commitment of time and for years to come, ending up with a very big job. (I had no idea at the time how big!). I told him that I was going away for a couple of weeks, and I wanted to mull it over and run it by my wife Kandi, as I knew it would directly impact her. I use part of my time away from work and responsibility to think and pray on this subject.

Obviously, I accepted and began to learn about the workings and administration of the Grand Commandery. I continue to learn and continue to marvel at the uniqueness of our part of the Masonic journey. Each of my 3 predecessors had a two year term of office. Each had a program that was handed down to me to continue, which I have done to the best of my ability. I have established my own programs which have been slow to take hold but which I can see beginning to flourish. This delay is a part of the situation the whole country is in, and in part in my own hands, the vision I have is ambitious. I am grateful to you all for the 2nd year to advance my ideas, and to continue to travel the State of Maryland and encourage those of you here and those not present, to be the best men we can be. To do the work of goodness and grace that we all aspire to, and to present ourselves as men of God and Men of Truth is what inspires me.

As I begin my 2nd year, it is with a team of men that I have grown close to, some new faces and new positions will be incorporated in the team today. My main teammate is the Very Imminent Deputy Grand Commander Brad Andrukitis, and just as was done for me, and should continue down the line for eternity, some of his ideas will be incorporated into this year’s activities so his program of office will not be a shock or major change. Just as an ocean liner takes longer to perform a turn or change of course than a sailboat, so goes the ship of your Grand Commandery of Knights Templar. The one constant in all of this is our belief in the Supreme Architect of the Universe and the symbology of the uniform of the Soldiers of Christ.

There is plenty going on with Knights Templary in the State of Maryland! Come and join us, BE ACTIVE!

I wish to end my remarks this afternoon with praise to two men present.

SK James Steele who I have come to know only in the past couple of years, and his wife Shirley have been a constant source of help and encouragement to me and my lady Kandi. I have called upon him many times on behalf of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, for personal advice, and for clarity from our governing Body, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA. I thank you Sir for your calm and thoughtful approach to our work and the friendship you have offered me.

Sir Knight and Most Worshipful Grand Master Marlin Mills is soon to be relieved of his constant travels on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Maryland. We could not have a better boss or friend than Marlin. His earnest support for the York Rite and especially for the Commandery and to me personally I am grateful for. Any time we have asked Grand Master Mills a question, the answer is right there. Every time I have asked him to participate in something, he is right there. His happy countenance and friendly manner are always right there. I have been to many Masonic functions this year, invariably- He is right there. Thank you, Grand Master Marlin, for the many courtesies and the friendship you have offered me through the years.

Thank you all, I ask that these remarks be accepted and spread upon the minutes.

John H. Austin REGC

Seconded by SK Charles Warns II, and passed unanimously.

**8. Report of the Assistant Grand Recorder SK Vernon H. Huebschman, EPC**

Right Eminent Grand Commander,

Thank you for your appointment to the position of Assistant Grand Recorder earlier this year. Having this new work has been a challenge and a pleasure. This particular role is one I never aspired to and being here now is a continuing surprise to me. I am deeply in debt to SK Kris Brown for his assistance and training in the practices and procedures of the Grand Commandery of Maryland and the Grand Encampment of North America. SK Kris and I have been friends, Brothers, Companions and Sir Knight from his first days in the York Rite when he first received his Chapter & Council Degrees at Hagerstown MD many years ago. We both enjoyed the German restaurant next door to the Temple almost as much as we did the Ritual Work.

I must also extend my thanks to SK James Steele, our Department Commander, SK John Elkinton – MMS System Administrator, SK Larry Tucker, our Grand Recorder…and Una Cameron – Cardenas CT

As of June 26, 2022 , the Grand Encampment Office was relocated to

**3 Sugar Creek Center Boulevard, Suite 410, Sugar Land, Texas 77478**

The telephone numbers and email addresses remain the same.

I am aware that the York Rite Bodies of Maryland are experiencing a turnover of their administrative officers in all three local York Rite Bodies. This is good news for the refreshing of the talent pool in the offices of Secretary, Recorder and Treasurer which are the bones of all our bodies. This changeover is accompanied by a need for training for those coming into those important offices. The Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, SK Bill Eppig and I are pleased to assist all the new officers as they require help individually. The worst problem a Recorder can have is to not know what he doesn’t know. Being blindsided by as task or responsibility is frustrating and embarrassing. To avoid this as much as possible, SK Eppig and I have discussed holding another School for Secretaries, Recorders & Treasures in 2023. My hope is that this would be an in-person meeting for several hour to go over the typical duties of a Masonic Secretary in any body. And some details that are peculiar to each Grand Body.

For the Recorders of our constituent Commanderies, the most important lessons is to be ever prompt in the posting of membership status for every petition, election to membership, conferral of the Orders, installation of officers, and change of membership status. The GE MMS is a fabulous tool which takes care of an enormous amount of business for us automatically. It generates our Dues Cards, based on the information in place on September 1 of each year. It generates our Annual Reports for the constituent Commanders as of January 1 of each year, and from this the Annual Assessments are easily calculated by the Grand Recorder. We can record a great wealth of member information if we take the time to do so. The more information we input, the more wisdom we can extract from the data.

I am also a local Recorder, and I am learning each month new ways to use this impressive engine of information to make my work easier, efficient, and effective. The trick is to ride the wave of information to be current. Don’t let the work pile up and overwhelm you.

**IRS 990n**

Each Commandery is responsible for filing its IRS 990 each year. There is great cost and inconvenience is failing in this responsibility. The cost is $600 just to refile for non-profit status. This is a huge financial burden on our local bodies in terms of dollars per member to pay for a neglect of duties.

The Grand Commandery’s IRS 990n was filed this year.

**RITUAL BOOKS**

The Ritual Books can be ordered through the Grand Recorder in lots of 10, and they will be delivered directly from the Grand Encampment Offices in Sugarland Texas.

I am a rookie in every sense of the word at this position. I am grateful for the patient leadership of REGC John Austin. The relationship of a secretary and a presiding officer is largely unseen. It is mutually supportive and forms bonds which last a lifetime. We share more than work. Goals and aspirations, frustrations and disbelief, cheers and tears are all part of what happens behind the curtain of administration.

Thank you, Sir Knights for your support and cooperation during my temporary assignment. I hope I have served you to your satisfaction.

Yours in Christ name,

SK Vernon H. Huebschman

I move the adoption of this report and that it be spread upon the proceedings of this Grand Conclave. Seconded by REPGC Naegele and passed unanimously.

**7, REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER** SK Randall L. Watson, Grand Treasurer

This Report covers the period from November 1, 2021 to October 23, 2022 regarding the 2022 income and expenses. Income thus far totals $29,537.86; expenses total $51,507.10, so we’ve drawn $21,969.24 out of the Operating Fund.

As discussed at the Semi-Annual in May, it was not necessary to transfer any of the allowable amounts from the Endowment Fund this year. The cumulative balance of transfers deferred from the years ending March 2017 through March 2022 is $116,542.00.

The balance in the operating account with Morgan Stanley as of September 30, 2021 was $367,051.82; as of September 30, 2022 it is $304,707.45; a decrease of about $62k (17.0%).

The balance in the Endowment Fund with Morgan Stanley as of September 30, 2021 was $812,112.27; as of September 30, 2022 it is $724,036.63; a decrease of about $88k (10.9%).

The balance in the Educational Foundation with Morgan Stanley as of September 30, 2021 was $666,290.63; as of September 30, 2022 it is $605,753.53; a decrease of about $61k (9.1%).

As a reference for our investment performance, following are the US Equity Indexes for the Third Quarter (September 30, 2022) Year-to-Date (all are down more than our investments): S&P 500 -23.87%; Dow Jones Industrial Average -19.72%; NASDAQ 100 -32.35%; S&P MidCap 400 -21.52%; and Russell 2000 -25.10%.

As reported in May, because of the high investment returns in the last quarter of 2021, the above values partially mask the impact of the recent inflationary factors and the Russian invasion of the Ukraine; so the attached chart shows the changes from the December 31, 2021 balances that were reported at the Special Grand Conclave on February 7, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Randall L. Watson, KCT

Grand Treasurer

Attachments:

Asset & Liabilities Cash Statement as of September 30, 2022

2021/2022 Approved Budget & Year-to-Date Expenses

2022/2023 Approved Budget

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Asset & Liabilities Cash Statement as of September 30, 2022 | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| **Assets** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **General Operating Account #633-xxxx34** | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | % of holding | At cost | Market Value 9/30/22 | Unrealized Gain (Loss) | Market Value 12/31/21 | Change |
| Cash & MMFs | 3.60% |  | $10,984.19 |  | ($9,343.72) | $20,327.91 |
| Common & Preferred Stocks | 83.06% | $148,606.19 | $253,094.85 | $104,488.66 | $330,946.30 | ($77,851.45) |
| Exchange-Traded & Closed End Fd | 8.38% | $22,302.60 | $25,533.40 | $3,230.80 | $29,835.00 | ($4,301.60) |
| Corporate Fixed Income | 0.00% |  |  | $0.00 |  | $0.00 |
| Mutual Funds | 4.95% | $12,751.82 | $15,095.01 | $2,343.19 | $19,679.64 | ($4,584.63) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Subtotal General Operating Account** | **100.00%** | **$183,660.61** | **$304,707.45** | **$110,062.65** | **$371,117.22** | **($66,409.77)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | -17.89% |
| **Endowment Fund Account #633-xxxx10** | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | % of holding | At cost | Market Value 9/30/22 | Unrealized Gain (Loss) | Market Value 12/31/21 | Change |
| Cash & MMFs | 1.48% |  | $10,709.07 |  | $16,422.70 | ($5,713.63) |
| Common & Preferred Stocks | 78.11% | $371,135.68 | $565,554.79 | $194,419.11 | $714,975.88 | ($149,421.09) |
| Exchange-Traded & Closed End Fd | 5.92% | $32,969.32 | $42,888.00 | $9,918.68 | $49,036.00 | ($6,148.00) |
| Corporate Fixed Income | 5.23% | $40,207.56 | $37,842.98 | ($2,364.58) | $19,903.80 | $17,939.18 |
| Mutual Funds | 9.26% | $62,619.16 | $67,041.79 | $4,422.63 | $97,532.04 | ($30,490.25) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Subtotal Endowment Fund Account** | **100.00%** | **$506,931.72** | **$724,036.63** | **$206,395.84** | **$897,870.42** | **($173,833.79)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | -19.36% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Market Value 9/30/22 |  | Market Value 12/31/21 | Change |
| **Net Worth as of September 30, 2022** |  |  | **$1,028,744.08** |  | **$1,268,987.64** | **($240,243.56)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | **-18.93%** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Knights Templar Educational Foundation Account #633-xxxx35** | | | |  |  |  |
|  | % of holding | At cost | Market Value 9/30/22 | Unrealized Gain (Loss) | Market Value 12/31/21 | Change |
| Cash & MMFs | 8.71% |  | $52,775.41 |  | $22,541.64 | $30,233.77 |
| Common & Preferred Stocks | 69.44% | $250,442.05 | $420,643.30 | $170,201.25 | $519,907.31 | ($99,264.01) |
| Exchange-Traded & Closed End Fd | 1.22% | $11,519.81 | $7,367.92 | ($4,151.89) | $9,664.20 | ($2,296.28) |
| Corporate Fixed Income | 3.24% | $20,562.60 | $19,646.65 | ($915.95) | $42,194.45 | ($22,547.80) |
| Certificates of Deposit | 0.00% |  |  | $0.00 | $131,616.01 | ($131,616.01) |
| Mutual Funds | 17.39% | $90,363.53 | $105,320.25 | $14,956.72 |  | $105,320.25 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Subtotal Endowment Fund Account** | **100.00%** | **$372,887.99** | **$605,753.53** | **$180,090.13** | **$725,923.61** | **($120,170.08)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | **-16.55%** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2021/2022 Budget & Year-to-Date Expenses - 2022/2023 Approved Budget | | | | | |
| **Income:** | **G.L.** | **Amended 2022 Budget** | **Year to Date 10/23/22** | **Balance** |  | **Approved 2023 Budget** |
| Annual Per Capita ($5 MD) | A-1 | $ 4,750.00 |  | ($4,750.00) |  | $ 4,625.00 |
| Annual Per Capita ($9 GE) | A-2 | $ 8,550.00 |  | ($8,550.00) |  | $ 8,325.00 |
| Uncoded Per Capita | A |  | $15,529.00 | $15,529.00 |  |  |
| Knight Templar Eye Foundation ($1 ea) | B-1 | $ 400.00 |  | ($400.00) |  | $ 200.00 |
| Knight Templar Eye Foundation - Sponsor | B-2 | $ - |  |  |  | $ - |
| Knight Templar Eye Foundation - Misc | B-3 | $ - |  |  |  | $ - |
| Holy Land Pilgrimage Donations | C | $ 4,000.00 |  | ($4,000.00) |  | $ 4,000.00 |
| Reimbursable Items | D | $ 3,000.00 | $3,627.45 | $627.45 |  | $ 2,000.00 |
| Initiation Fees ($50 ea) | E | $ 2,000.00 | $400.00 | ($1,600.00) |  | $ 2,000.00 |
| Miscellaneous | G | $ 500.00 | $500.00 |  |  | $ 500.00 |
| Relief Fund - Little Sisters of the Poor | H | $ - | $1,435.00 | $1,435.00 |  | $ - |
| Youth Groups (Hershey Trip) | J | $ 5,000.00 | $975.00 | ($4,025.00) |  | $ - |
| Annual Conclave Expense | N | $ 4,000.00 | $7,071.41 | $3,071.41 |  | $ 6,500.00 |
| Transfer from operating fund (if needed) | M | $ 43,800.00 | $21,969.24 | ($21,830.76) |  | $ 37,975.00 |
| **Total Income** |  | $ 76,000.00 | $51,507.10 | **($24,492.90)** |  | **$ 66,125.00** |
| **Expenses:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grand Encampment Per Capita | 1 | $ 8,550.00 | $8,842.00 | ($292.00) |  | $ 8,325.00 |
| Knight Templar Eye Foundation | 2 | $ 400.00 |  | $400.00 |  | $ 200.00 |
| Treasurer Honorarium | 3 | $ 4,000.00 | $4,000.00 |  |  | $ 4,000.00 |
| Recorder Honorarium | 4 | $ 6,000.00 | $6,000.00 |  |  | $ 6,000.00 |
| Office Expense | 8 | $ 850.00 | $155.93 | $694.07 |  | $ 850.00 |
| Annual Conclave Expense | 9 | $ 8,000.00 | $1,606.46 | $6,393.54 |  | $ 10,500.00 |
| Annual Session Hospitality | 9A | $ 500.00 |  | $500.00 |  | $ 1,500.00 |
| Equipment Repair | 10 | $ 100.00 |  | $100.00 |  | $ 100.00 |
| Holy Land Pilgrimage | 12 | $ 4,000.00 |  | $4,000.00 |  | $ 4,000.00 |
| Grand Line Travel | 13 | $ 3,000.00 | $1,963.65 | $1,036.35 |  | $ 4,000.00 |
| PGC Jewel | 14 | $ - |  |  |  | $ - |
| GIG Expense | 15 | $ 1,500.00 |  | $1,500.00 |  | $ 1,500.00 |
| Triennial Expense | 16 | $ 800.00 | $924.88 | ($124.88) |  |  |
| PGC Travel | 18 |  |  |  |  | $ 2,000.00 |
| Mid-Atlantic Conference | 19 | $ 2,000.00 | $2,529.10 | ($529.10) |  | $ 2,500.00 |
| Youth Program | 20 | $ 1,200.00 |  | $1,200.00 |  | $ 1,200.00 |
| Youth Groups - Prospect Trip | 20A | $ 8,000.00 | $5,464.50 | $2,535.50 |  | $ 3,000.00 |
| Crusader Program | 22 | $ 1,100.00 |  | $1,100.00 |  | $ 1,100.00 |
| Reimbursable Items | 23 | $ 10,000.00 | $8,402.49 | $1,597.51 |  | $ 2,000.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 24 | $ 10,000.00 | $8,150.00 | $1,850.00 |  | $ 4,000.00 |
| Awards/Incentives | 25 | $ 2,000.00 | $601.67 | $1,398.33 |  | $ 5,000.00 |
| Bond/Insurance | 26 | $ 2,000.00 | $2,104.00 | ($104.00) |  | $ 2,000.00 |
| Web Site | 27 | $ - | $31.16 | ($31.16) |  | $ 350.00 |
| Relief Fund – Little Sisters of the Poor | 29 | $ - |  |  |  |  |
| Semi-Annual Expenses | 30 | $ 1,000.00 | $581.36 | $418.64 |  | $ 1,000.00 |
| GC Meetings | 31 | $ 1,000.00 | $149.90 | $850.10 |  | $ 1,000.00 |
| **Total Expenses** |  | **$ 76,000.00** | **$51,507.10** | **$24,492.90** |  | **$ 66,125.00** |

**10. REPORT OF THE GRAND PRELATE SK Charles Beckhardt, Grand Prelate**

This information is contained in the several sections hereafter.

# 11. GRAND PRELATE: RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES SK Charles Beckhardt 2

December 2, 2021 – Jacques DeMolay Commandery #4, Frederick Md. -Conducted the annual religious Christmas Observance Service and participated in the Christmas Toast. December 11, 2021 – Participated in the Christmas Observance at Palestine Commandery #7, Annapolis, Md. December 19, 2021 – Participated in the York Rite Christmas Observance, Maryland Masonic Homes. Also, conducted the annual religious Christmas Observance for the Baltimore County Commanderies, Maryland #1, Monumental/ Crusade #3 and Beauseant #8. This observance was held at the Grand Lodge, Gothic Room, Cockeysville, Maryland. April 11, 2022 – Conducted the Annual Good Friday Observance for The Baltimore County Commanderies, Maryland #1, Monumental Crusade #3 and Beauseant #8. This observance was held at the Grand Lodge, Gothic Room, Cockeysville, Maryland.

# 2022

Antioch Commandery #6 participated in the following religious services: Good Friday Outdoor Service – Davis Memorial UMC Easter sunrise services- Ellerslie UMC, watch the sun rise over Will’s Mt. Ascension Sunday Service at the Templar’s meeting on June7th.

Yorkrite Memorial Service October 29th, along with the Grand Chaplain of the Council and Chapter conducted the annual YorkRite Memorial Service.

May 26th Conducted the Ascension Service for Jacques DeMolay Commandery #4.

# 12. HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE SK Charles Beckhardt, Grand Prelate

April 5, 2022- Received email from Grand Recorder Kris Brown with the information and attachments for the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Forwarded the information to my committee for their review and information. When the applications are received, our committee will meet to make a recommendation.

# MAY 1, 2022 TO OCTOBER 31, 2022

August 31, sent e-mail to Eminent Commanders reminding them of the cut off time to submit candidates for the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Chesapeake Commandery #10 received confirmation from the Grand Encampment that their candidate Rev. Robyn Brown was accepted for the 2023 Holy Land Pilgrimage Trip.

We received one candidate, Rev. Wayne Clark, from Jacques DeMolay Commandery #4. Rev. Clark was submitted as our recommended candidate to the Grand Encampment Chair of The Holy Land Pilgrimage by the September 30th deadline. We will not know if he has been chosen until a later date.

# OTHER ACTIVITIES

November 16, 2021- Along with the REGC Austin, visited the Carroll Commandery#17. At the request of the REGC Jon Austin, co-wrote the Christmas Greetings message for the Maryland Sir Knights.

Various Dates – Attended Grand Visitation for Maryland #1, Jacques DeMolay #4 , Beauseant #8, Carroll #17. February 7, 2022- Attended Special Conclave called by REGC Jon Austin.

# MAY 1 2022 TO OCTOBER 31, 2022

May 14th -Attended special Conclave called by REGC Jon Austin. May 30th- Marched in the Annual Memorial Day Parade with Door to Virtue YorkRite Bodies. Approximately 15-20 Sir Knights from various Commanderies participated. Held in Westminster, Maryland.

Prayers: Offered prayers when call upon throughout the year.

**13..FINANCE & ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE SK Bradley Andrukitis, VEDGC**

Good morning REGC and Distinguished SK’s,

This committee is pleased to provide the requested information as we continue our efforts to keep our Sir Knights informed of our current financial standing.

The Finance Committee met via Zoom on Sunday, October 16, 2022, at 6 PM.

The following SK’s were present:

John H. Austin, REGC

Bradley D. Andrukitis, VEDGC

Scott Lapp, EGCG-Elect

Randall L. Watson, EGT

Kris D. Brown, EGR

Vernon H. Huebschman, Assistant EGR

A recap of our current account balances in our Morgan Stanley accounts was given by EGT Randall L. Watson. We also reviewed a current spreadsheet of our budget to ascertain our current standing as to our proposed and actual budgets year-to-date.

Topics of discussion included:

* Ladies Program at the Annual Conclave – Grand Commandery has pledged to cover the costs for 2022 but the other Grand York Rite Bodies may contribute to the payment of the cost incurred. Future coverage of this expense will be discussed with the other Grand York Rite Bodies with an estimated $500 contribution from each. The York Rite College has already agreed to contribute to the Ladies Program expenses.
* Purchasing a Grand Commandery Banner for use at upcoming parades. SK Gary Kennedy, EGG-Elect, will explore this purchase with an allocation of up to $1,200 that was approved for this expense.
* A $100 donation to Carroll Assembly, Social Order of the Beauseant was approved for their assistance during the 2022 Annual Sessions. It is our understanding that the other York Rite Grand Bodies will also make donations to them for their assistance.
* A payment for maintenance of the Grand Commandery Website, this was tabled until further information can be obtained.
* A payment was made to the GWMNM to register for participation in their 2023 Anniversary Celebration.

I would like to thank all the members of this committee for their assistance. Special thanks to EGT Randy Watson for his guidance and recommendations whenever called upon by this committee.

I am pleased to serve as the chairman of this committee. I look forward to continued service assisting you, the Grand Commandery of Maryland, and our fellow Sir Knights.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bradley D. Andrukitis, VEDGC

Chairman, Finance and Audit Committee

Grand Commandery of Maryland

I move this report be adopted and spread upon the Proceedings of this Grand Conclave. Seconded by REPGC Treklas, and passed unanimously.

14. Knight Templar Eye Foundation SK Gary Kennedy, Grand Captain General

A close-up of a coin

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

55th Voluntary Campaign

Greetings to my fellow Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Maryland. I am deeply honored to serve you as Chairman for the 55th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. During the next several months, I will endeavor to keep you up to speed regarding the great progress being made because of your generous contributions.

But first I offer my sincere congratulations for a highly successful 54th Annual Voluntary Campaign where the State of Maryland achieved a 100% life sponsor membership. So, Maryland can now have the same bragging right as many other Grand Commanderies have accomplished. That final tally was $ 37,991.50 and the achievement of 100% Life Sponsorship for all the Commanderies in Maryland. A special thank you to all the Sir Knights of Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 4 and Monumental Crusade No. 3 with assistance from Beauseant No, 8 who teamed up to provide financial support necessary to help those commanderies that might be less fortunate to achieve 100% participation.

For the 55th Voluntary Campaign, the Grand Encampment has provided incentives to our Sir Knights. There are special programs for donations such as the “Presidents Coin” which is a special coin available for a limited time for a donation of $25 as well as accepting Memorial Donations, Honorary Gifts, and Trust, Wills and Bequests. For those that enroll in the Grand Masters Club you become eligible for the Crusader's Cross, and for those that donate for a Life Sponsor, you help your Commandery to maintain the 100% Participation award, or even a 200% Participation award for your Grand Commandery.

Sir Knights, the bottom line is that the Knights Templar Eye Foundation continues to do great work, and we can only continue to do this through your continued support. Thank you to each of you for what you do for Templary, and May God Bless You for your support in this 55th Annual Knights Templar Eye Foundation Voluntary Campaign.

In Christ Service,

Gary Kennedy

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Life Sponsorship & Contribution Report |  | |  | | --- | |  | | |  | | --- | | As of 10/01/2022 Maryland - Knights Templar | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  | Active Members | | Life Sponsor ONLY | | | | Patron ONLY | | | | Associate Patron ONLY | | | | GCC ONLY | | | | GMC ONLY | | | | Unique Exemptions LS+P+AP | | | |
|  |  | Maryland | | 921 | | 913 | | 99.1% | | 17 | | 1.8% | | 29 | | 3.1% | | 26 | | 2.8% | | 43 | | 4.7% | | 913 | | 99.1% | |
| 1 - Maryland | | | | | 74 | | 74 | | 100.0% | | 3 | | 4.1% | | 3 | | 4.1% | | 1 | | 1.4% | | 5 | | 6.8% | | 74 | | 100.0% | |
| 3 - Monumental Crusade | | | | | 237 | | 232 | | 97.9% | | 9 | | 3.8% | | 9 | | 3.8% | | 1 | | 0.4% | | 12 | | 5.1% | | 232 | | 97.9% | |
| 4 - Jacques DeMolay | | | | | 109 | | 108 | | 99.1% | | 2 | | 1.8% | | 3 | | 2.8% | | 3 | | 2.8% | | 7 | | 6.4% | | 108 | | 99.1% | |
| 6 - Antioch | | | | | 81 | | 81 | | 100.0% | | 2 | | 2.5% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 2 | | 2.5% | | 1 | | 1.2% | | 81 | | 100.0% | |
| 7 - Palestine | | | | | 99 | | 99 | | 100.0% | | 1 | | 1.0% | | 2 | | 2.0% | | 3 | | 3.0% | | 5 | | 5.1% | | 99 | | 100.0% | |
| 8 - Beauseant | | | | | 32 | | 32 | | 100.0% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 3 | | 9.4% | | 1 | | 3.1% | | 2 | | 6.3% | | 32 | | 100.0% | |
| 10 - Chesapeake | | | | | 102 | | 102 | | 100.0% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 4 | | 3.9% | | 4 | | 3.9% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 102 | | 100.0% | |
| 11 - Thomas J. Shryock | | | | | 50 | | 50 | | 100.0% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 1 | | 2.0% | | 3 | | 6.0% | | 7 | | 14.0% | | 50 | | 100.0% | |
| 13 - Montgomery | | | | | 43 | | 43 | | 100.0% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 3 | | 7.0% | | 1 | | 2.3% | | 43 | | 100.0% | |
| 16 - York | | | | | 37 | | 35 | | 94.6% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 2 | | 5.4% | | 1 | | 2.7% | | 2 | | 5.4% | | 35 | | 94.6% | |
| 17 - Carroll | | | | | 57 | | 57 | | 100.0% | | 0 | | 0.0% | | 2 | | 3.5% | | 4 | | 7.0% | | 1 | | 1.8% | | 57 | | 100.0% | |

For your review the following are the current numbers for all the Commanderies in the State of Maryland through week 2 ending October 1, 2022. The 55th Voluntary Campaign officially kicks off October 1st and runs until April 30th, 2023. The report (above) shows that we are currently at 99.1% which is slightly below the 100% goal that was achieved in 2021. On the left side the report (below) shows all contributions received from members during the 54th Voluntary Campaign when we achieved 100% Life Sponsorship status. On the right side the report shows all contributions received so far as we begin the 55th Voluntary Campaign. As a reminder, the 55th Voluntary Campaign measurement day is May 15th, 2023.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021 YTD 2022**   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Maryland | | **$ 37,991.50** | **$ 3,647.00** | | |  | |  |  | Grand Commandery | **$ 2,476.50** |  | **$ 1,897.00** | | | |  |  | 1 - Maryland | **$ 1,275.00** |  | **$ 155.00** | | | |  |  | 3 - Monumental Crusade | **$ 1,867.00** |  | **$ 650.00** |  | | |  |  | 4 - Jacques DeMolay | **$ 6,963.00** |  | **$ 110.00** | | | |  |  | 6 - Antioch | **$ 3,960.00** |  | **$ 60.00** | | | |  |  | 7 - Palestine | **$ 4,135.00** |  | **$ 75.00** | | | |  |  | 8 - Beauseant | **$ 1,215.00** |  | **$ 80.00** | | | |  |  | 10 - Chesapeake | **$ 3,150.00** |  | **$ 230.00** | | | |  |  | 11 - Thomas J. Shryock | **$ 8,665.00** |  | **$ 130.00** | | | |  |  | 13 - Montgomery | **$ 835.00** |  | **$ 100.00** | | | |  |  | 16 - York | **$ 1,010.00** |  | **$ 25.00** | | | |  |  | 17 - Carroll | **$ 2,440.00** |  | **$ 135.00** | | | |

**15. KNIGHT TEMPLAR EDUCATION FOUNDATION** SK Arthur G. Hebbeler, REPGC

Right Eminent Grand Commander,

On behalf of the Knight Templar Educational Foundation-Maryland Division, I am pleased to report that the 2021-2022 Scholarship Program was an unqualified success. We awarded $17,000 in scholarships to six well-qualified scholars. There were 15 applications submitted.

Because of some changes in the Foundation committee, there were a few glitches with materials being sent to the wrong person. However, we successfully completed the reviews, and gave a fair amount of grace to every applicant as to the information received so that no one was penalized for late or missing data. For 2023, there will be a new application and application process. This information should be available by early January 2023.

2022 Recipients are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ashby Remley | $ 4,000.00 |
| Madison McKay | $ 3,500.00 |
| Aisa Wrights | $ 3,000.00 |
| Natalie Kinnear | $ 2,250.00 |
| Jazmin Rivera | $ 2,250.00 |
| Ella Reinders | $ 2,250.00 |

Your Committee encourages all Sir Knights to consider making a donation to help us grow the Educational Foundation fund for the Maryland Division. We are one of the larger funds in the Grand Encampment, and have elected to continue to manage our funds locally, rather than returning them to the Grand Encampment for management with the funds of smaller Grand Commandery accounts. We have not has a formal campaign for the Educational Foundation for many years. Perhaps it is time for us to consider doing so as a way to raise awareness of our program.

The Grand Treasurer’s report includes information on the current status of the Educational Foundation. Also, the Grand Encampment approves of the manner in which we have structured our Foundation board for the Maryland Division, and does not require any changes to be approved by the Grand Encampment.

The Committee thanks the Grand Commander for the opportunity to serve the Grand Commandery in this worthwhile program.

Courteously,

Arthur F. Hebbeler III, KGC

Past Grand Prelate, GEKTUSA

Chairman, Maryland Division KTEdF

Members:

Thomas Heimiller, PGC, KCT  
Arthur Tawse, PC   
Mike Robbins, PC   
Terry Royce  
Chris (Doc) Jensen, PC   
ex Officio members  
John Austin, GC, KCT  
Bradley Andrukitis, DGC   
Kris Brown (sec./treas.), GR, KCT

**16. YOUTH RELATIONS**  SK Scott Lapp, Junior Grand Warden

Right Eminent Grand Commander Austin,

In preparation for the Annual Sessions of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maryland, I submit the following report on the activities of the Youth Relations Committee. For activity prior to the Semi-Annual report, please refer to my previous report or the minutes from the May Conclave Our Sir Knights are very involved individually with several youth groups as chaperones and chapter advisors. Many events during the spring and summer were coordinated through them as joint efforts. While it seems little was done during those months, we actually were very active but kept our roles as mentors low key and drove the spotlight toward the youth organizations themselves.

We did however, put a very large spotlight on our Annual Youth Relations / sponsorship outing this year; our group outing to Medieval Times dinner and tournament in Arundel Mills. In the past we have taken the groups to Hershey park, but owing to the increased difficulty of logistics due to COVID and out of state venue, the committee thought it better this year to keep it more local. There has also been waning interest in the Hershey Park trip with the attendees, so this was also an effort to try to bring back some excitement to the event.

We assembled at the venue on August 27th, at 3pm and held a brief trivia competition for the kids in the crowd in the main hall. We gave out gift cards as prizes for the several winners, and allowed time for them to shop before the start of the show. A special thanks goes out to Monumental Crusade Commandery #3 for donating the $200.00 for those gift cards. We then enjoyed a dinner and a tournament and departed about 6pm. It was great fun and most of our group were in ancient costume or similar style; for examples, please see the DeMolay facebook page.

My spread sheet of details is attached for specifics, but one of the most notable points is that we had 14 prospects in attendance, spread throughout the many chapters in the state. Everyone seemed to take advantage of using the event to spur interests in their local groups. I also had a chance to engage 4 Masons who did not know about York Rite, as did several of my Sir Knight colleagues, and have put them in touch with local commanderies need their home to get more involved. Remember, as Sir Knights, we are ambassadors and should always be on the look out for good Masons of quality who can uphold our standards and enjoy the fellowship of our Order. This event helps with that goal.

Also of note on the report, is the in and out monetary figures for the event. After the donations from the attendees, we were as a group (York Chapter / Council / Commandery) responsible for a cost of a little over $3400.00. Compared to Hershey Park, we saved a bit of money since we saved $3000.00 just by not renting a bus and asking folks to drive separately (which people started doing for Hershey Park anyway).

Next year we plan to do it again, since the venue has already issued us a credit for the tickets not used by absentees this year. Going forward, the committee has put forth that in the following years, to try other venues to keep the event from getting stale. If anyone has any ideas where they would like to go, please forward it to me or the Grand Recorder so we can bring it up at the committee meetings.

And finally, my last topic point is to bring up the observation that many Masons, who are interacting with our Sir Knights frequently and intimately in other bodies, do not know more about what we do. Further, that many of our own Sir Knights do not know, or have forgotten how closely we work with our Youth groups on a regular basis. And that is detrimental, because like all Masonic bodies, they are also challenged currently with Membership issues.

So to serve as a reminder, I have asked the Executive Officer of Maryland DeMolay to join me and give you a brief recap on what they are currently working on, how it pertains to us, and what you might do to get or stay involved to make theirs, and ours, a more fulfilled endeavor. Please welcome one of our own, Sir Knight Carl Michel.

We take the opportunity every time we are at events with those Youth groups, to support them, encourage them, and help them in any way possible. Our main goal is to be a continual and assisting presence to our youth, so they feel supported in their work, but also so the Knights Templar stay a viable body in their understanding of Masonic activities in Maryland. In this way, we bolster our own chances to recruit new Sir Knights from those ranks at an earlier age and while they may still hold a carry over interest.

This committee appreciates the chance to work and guide our Masonic Youth through these fun and active events, and look forward to continuing to do so through the rest of the year and into the coming years.

In His service, and on behalf of the Youth Relations Committee, respectfully submitted this 29th day of October, in the year of our Lord, 2022.

Scott Lapp, PC

I move this report be adopted and spread upon the Proceedings of this Grand Conclave; seconded by SK Randall L. Watson, and passed unanimously.

**17. APPENDANT & COORDINATE BODIES** SK Randall L. Watson, Grand Treasurer

REGC and Sir Knights,

The Committee on Appendant and Concordant Bodies has no activity to report for the Annual Grand Conclave.

Randall Watson,KCT

Chairman

Accepted by the REGC as requiring no further action or consideration.

**18. CIVIC & PATRIOTIC**  SK Gary Kennedy, Grand Captain General

Past events for Maryland Knights Templar 2022

In May 2022 (Memorial Day) the Grand Commandery and Carroll Commandery participated in the 155th Westminster Memorial Day Remembrance Parade.

* On Wednesday, October 26th Sir Knight Kennedy representing Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 4 attended the 20th Anniversary of the Kline Hospice House of the Frederick Health Hospice.

Upcoming events for Maryland Knights Templar 2022 + 2023

* On Tuesday November 1st, 2022, Sir Knight Kennedy will be giving a presentation on Masonry and Knights Templar Eye Foundation to the Damascus Maryland Lyons Club.
* On Saturday, December 3, 2022, from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Join us to celebrate Christmas in New Market We'll be kicking off the 2022 Christmas season on December 3rd at 3PM with a parade down Main Street and a healthy helping of Christmas spirit. The event is free and open to all. Come enjoy live music, the Christmas Market with over 30 local merchants, a visit with Santa Claus, our annual decorated tree auction, lighting of the Christmas tree, and MORE!
* In Feb. 2023 a major celebration comes to us in the DC region. Masons and Sir Knights will come from the world over to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the completion of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria. Several events and a parade are to take place. The Grand Commandery of Maryland is registered to take part in the Parade on Feb. 20th.
* In May of 2023 the Grand Commandery of Virginia celebrates its Bicentennial in Williamsburg VA. Several events are scheduled Thursday May 4- Sat. May 6. Thursday May 4th is the Parade.

I move this report be adopted and spread upon the Proceedings of this Grand Conclave; seconded by SK Dean Burt, and approved unanimously.

**19. CORRESPONDENCE COMMITTEE** SK Vernon Huebschman, Asst Gr Recorder

The only correspondence received is the change of address for the Grand Encampment offices in Sugarland Texas as reported in the Grand Secretary’s Report.

Accepted as requiring no further action.

**20. GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL’S REPORT**  SK Frederick A. Spicer, REPGC

Right Eminent Grand Commander,

It has been a pleasure serving you and the Grand Commandery of Maryland for the past year.

This year, the inspections consisted of:

**Ten Man Opening**

**Sword Drill**

**Reception of the RE Grand Commander**

Of the eleven commanderies, some part of the inspection was held in all but one.

York Commandery #16 was unable to schedule an inspection. Beauseant #8 and Carroll Commanderies asked to hold a “combined” inspection, with officers of both sitting in the various chairs. It was explained to me that neither would be able to muster enough officers on their own and due to the fact they are in “talks” over a possible merger – I allowed it.

When a commandery stands inspection, it is the entire commandery, from the sentinel all the way through to the Commander…….every word missed, every tactic misstep, every salute not returned, counts as an error. These errors are then totaled and ranked least to most.

It is therefore possible that a commandery does not score lowest in errors - in any one of the inspection categories - but still retains the fewest overall.

Results:

Sword Manual – Monumental Commandery #3

Ten Man Opening – Jacques DeMolay #4

Grand Inspector General Award: Most Improved – Chesapeake Commandery #10

The Warwick Trophy is awarded to the highest proficiency during Inspection –

Palestine Commandery #7.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as the Grand Inspector General for

the Grand Commandery of Maryland. I thank you Right Eminent Grand Commander for appointing me and the Commanders and Sir Knights of our constituent commanderies for all their kindness and cooperation and wish them all the best in the future.

Yours in Christ,

Frederick A. Spicer, REPGC

I move this report be adopted and spread upon the Proceedings of this Grand Conclave. Seconded by SK Bradly Andrukitis, and passed unanimously.

**20. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** SK Bradly Andrukitis

Right Eminent Grand Commander Austin,

This committee is pleased to provide the requested information as we continue our efforts to increase our membership of Knights Templar in Maryland. The membership committee has continued to be active since our Semi-Annual Conclave. As the Grand Commandery Officers have traveled with the REGC around the state we have had the opportunity to hear from the membership chairman from most of our commanderies as to their membership status.

As we strive to increase our membership it is important to have an accurate picture of where we currently stand. Our Eminent Grand Recorder Kris Brown and our Assistant Grand Recorder Vern Huebschman play a key role assisting with this committee and the MMS.

As of January 1, 2022, we had 940 Sir Knights on the membership roster.

As of October 22, 2022, we have 921.

We had (19) Sir Knights who have passed away.

We had (7) who were Knighted, (0) who affiliated, (3) who demitted, (6) who were suspended, (2) who were reinstated, a net loss of (19).

Public awareness and a public presence in our local communities is imperative to our membership. As Knights Templar we have a responsibility to assist those in need, now more than ever.

Some of the activities that constituent commanderies engaged in community involvement and awareness included presenting charitable contributions to various organizations throughout their area to assist with healthcare, homelessness, food assistance, and youth groups.

One Commandery has an appointed York Rite representative who presents a York Rite Membership Package to all newly raised Master Masons in their area.

As parades will again be held this year after which some were not held due to (COVID-19) the last few years, the Grand Commandery will be participating with the local commanderies which are involved around the state, including the Mayor’s Parade in Baltimore in December. These are excellent opportunities to be seen and hope each of you who are able will join us to march in these parades.

Other programs, which might increase our presence, we hope to implement or continue in the future include:

1. Presenting newly knighted SKs with their swords at Blue Lodge meetings or open events.
2. Assistance with the purchase of uniforms that might alleviate some of the financial burden to SK’s.
3. One Commandery will be laying wreaths at a local cemetery.
4. In December, Commanderies around the state will have the annual Christmas Observances which are open events where family and friends can attend.

Membership will continue to be the number one priority for the Grand Commandery of Maryland. The emphasis will be on the recruitment of new, motivated members, retention of existing members, and the reinstatement of those Sir Knights which we have lost to a demit or suspension.

The membership guidelines as well as the instructions to access the tools available on the Grand Encampment Website will be distributed to all Eminent Commanders and Membership Chairman of each constituent Commandery in Maryland.

The Eminent Commander of each Commandery has appointed a Membership Chairman who is required to establish membership goals concerning adding new Sir Knights, retaining current Sir Knights, and reinstating Sir Knights who have demitted or have been suspended. The Membership Chairman will is required to submit periodic reports and updates to me as the Membership Chairman for the Grand Commandery. I will then, in turn, be required to report this information to the Membership Chairman of the Grand Encampment. The Membership Chairmen must also make sure that they or whomever is designated to update the Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS) does this on a regular basis as changes in your membership occur. We constantly use this information and need it to stay accurate.

I am pleased to serve as the chairman of this committee. I look forward to continued service assisting you, the Grand Commandery of Maryland, and our fellow Sir Knights.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bradley D. Andrukitis, VEDGC

Chairman, Membership Committee

Grand Commandery of Maryland

22. Knight Templar Instruction & Ritual Committee SK Frederick A. Spicer, REPGC

This information concerning this report is incorporated in the Grand Inspector General’s Report

**23. KNIGHT TEMPLAR HANDBOOK** SK Bradley Andrukitis

This Committee is just forming up to begin its work. No report at this time

**24..KNIGHT TEMPLAR TRAININ**G SK Charles Warns II REPGC

Right Eminent Grand Commander,

Attempts were made to form separate training dates for both the Baltimore area and the Eastern Shore Commanderies.

We were unable to get dates that were good for these two groups that satisfied everyone’s requirements. Most of the obstruction was due to previous commitments to many Masonic organizations that our Commandery leaders are involved in.

I would like to emphasize as I did in communicating with the Commanders and Recorders, that there is no need for Commanders or Recorders to participate in the training. I do however suggest that a representative(s)of the Commandery attend to show support for the Commandery’s Sir Knight or Knights that are receiving the training.

The plan to be sure everyone understands, is to have 3 sessions. One for the Eastern Shore, one for Baltimore, and one for the Commanderies west of Baltimore. Annapolis and Camp Springs could choose which they would want to attend. We would like to get as many Sir Knights as possible who have been knighted in the past two or three years into the sessions. The sessions would take place on a Saturday and would be approximately 5 hours at a location selected by the Commanders in each of the 3 areas.

This is what it will take for these sessions to occur:

* The Commanders of each area should get together to decide on a date for their session.
* The Recorders would solicit potential students for their area session.
* The Recorders would then send a list of Knights they will send to the session.
* The Recorder would submit a list to me with the following information:

Name, Address, Phone #, e-mail address, year knighted

* The Commanders would arrange for room set up (classroom style if possible) and lunch.

I would then send a communication to the Sir Knight explaining the training and detailing the agenda. I will be available up to the date of the class to answer inquiries.

At this point it will take the co-operation between the Commanders of each area to select possible dates that are good for them (at least two dates would be good) so that I can make sure our training team is available. I would like to hold the sessions in February and March.

My previous attempts to get dates was unsuccessful so I will be asking the Grand Commander to choose a Commander from each area to co-ordinate a meeting (zoom would be appropriate) to set dates. I would like to be a part of those discussions.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Warns II, REPGC

October 13,2022

**25 QUARTERMASTER’S REPORT** SK John P. Mitchell, Grand Generalissimo

No report submitted for this Grand Conclave.

**26. JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE** SK John A. Rafine, REPGC

Right Eminent Grand Commander,

This committee is pleased to report that there are no outstanding issues. No By-Law changes have been submitted to this committee for review, but we have assisted Maryland Commandery No. 1 with its proposed By-Laws revisions and expect them to be submitted for formal review.

Grand Commander Austin sent us an email from PGC Hebbeler advising that “we can do whatever we want as far as KTEdF board structure for Maryland” per Larry Tucker, R.E. Grand Recorder. While the Grand Encampment’s Constitution has not been revised to incorporate the amendments passed during the 68th Triennial held in August 2021, we recommend proceeding with voting on our proposed Grand Constitutional amendments presented at the Special Grand Conclave in February 2022.

We regret learning that Grand Recorder Kris Brown is unable to continue his duties as Grand Recorder. As he was elected to that office during the May 2022 Grand Conclave, a special election must be held to elect a Grand Recorder for the next term per Section 58 of our Grand Constitution, “Special Election” which reads, “The Grand Commander may authorize a Special Election to fill vacancies in Commandery offices.” We wish Sir Knight Brown a speedy recovery and ask to keep him in our prayers.

Antioch Commandery No. 6 met with the officers of Salem Chapter No. 18 and Salem Council No. 11 to discuss their York Rite future. All agreed to continue the York Rite in Cumberland Maryland and Antioch Commandery has been reinstated by the IRS as a non-profit organization.

The credentials committee reported there were 10 commanderies represented and 37 voting members present, a quorum was established and Grand Commandery of Maryland Proposed constitutional amendments presented at the March 2022 Grand Conclave. Since information was received from Grand Encampment stating that the Grand Commandery of Maryland had Grand Encampment approval to structure its Educational Committee board structure, proposed resolution numbers 5 through 8 were declared unnecessary and withdrawn from consideration.

Proposed resolutions 1 through 4 were read, motions made and seconded for vote. There was discussion concerning Proposed Regulation #2 Virtual Grand Conclaves, mostly questioning its adoption within Maryland. Concerns were addressed regarding its limitations during which the resolution’s wording “In the event of extraordinary circumstances” was a decision to be made by the Grand Master and Grand Commander.

There was discussion about proposed resolution 4, Forfeiture of Membership and Reinstatement for loss of membership in Lodge, Chapter or Council in the event of loss of dual or plural memberships. Grand Recorder Huebschman informed us that the recorders work closely with the member and MMS database for research and supporting documentation for such memberships.

Unanimous votes were made for adoption of proposed amendments 1 through 4 and the Constitution, Regulations and By-Laws of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of the State of Maryland is being revised to incorporate proposed regulation 1 through 4.

We are pleased to serve the Grand Commandery of Maryland in this capacity and wish you continued health and success for the duration of your term in office.

Fraternally,

John Rafine, PGC, Chairman

Kenneth Wyvill, Jr., PGC

Randall Watson, Grand Treasurer

Attachments:

Grand Recorder Brown’s resignation

Proposed Grand Commandery of Maryland Constitutional Resolutions 1 through 8

SK KRIS BROWN: RESIGNATION AS GRAND RECORDER

*Right Eminent Grand Commander John H Austin,  
  
Pursuant to The Grand Encampment Constitution reference section 233.  
  
I ,Kris Darrell Brown ,  Knights Templar Cross of Honor , Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maryland.do at this date and pursuant to the REGC Austin’s acceptance per the rules of section 233. Resign.  
  
I will continue to assist the Grand Commandery in any way needed , including my replacement after he has been voted into office.  
  
At this time I wish to thank all Sir Knights , fellow recorders, and the Right Eminent Grand Commanders of the State of Maryland. As also the Grand Recorders of the Grand Encampment and the various Sir Knights I’ve worked with including Lady Una.  
  
Courteously  
Kris Darrell Brown , KTCH , KYCH  
Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Maryland*

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

**Proposed Legislation Arising From Grand Encampment Amendments at August 2021 Triennial – Submitted at Special Grand Conclave in February 2021 for Action in May 2021**

GE Amendment 2021-01 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-02 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-03 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-05 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-10 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-11 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-12 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-13 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-15 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-16 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-17 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-18 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-19 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-20 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-21 – Failed – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-22 – Failed – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-23 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-25 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-26 – Failed – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-27 – No Changes Needed

GE Amendment 2021-28 – No Changes Needed

New language underlined. ~~Deleted language struck through.~~

**Proposed Resolution #1 (to Amend the Constitution to be consistent with Grand Encampment Amendment 2021-04 for Electronic Proceedings):**

THE GRAND RECORDER

Sec. 20. It is the duty of the Grand Recorder:

E. To send promptly to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment ~~two~~ copies of the announcement and Notice of Death of members of the Grand Encampment, which may occur within this Jurisdiction, giving the date of birth and of death, together with the character of his official and other service.

F. To ~~mail~~ provide to the members of this Grand Commandery, and to the Recorder of each Constituent Commandery of the jurisdiction, such number of copies of the annual proceedings and of the Laws and Regulations adopted by this Grand Commandery as may from time to time be determined; also, to the Constituent Commanderies notices of all rejections, suspensions, expulsions, re-instatements, withdrawals or deaths within this jurisdiction, that shall be communicated to him by the Recorders of the Constituent Commanderies. He shall keep in a suitable book or database, a register of each Constituent Commandery - showing the present and past officers and members of each, all suspensions, expulsions, deaths and withdrawals, and in the database, or a separate book the names of all who have been rejected.

AMENDMENTS AND ALTERATIONS

Sec. 66. The Grand Commandery upon the concurrence of three-fourths of its members present at any Stated Conclave, may revise, amend and alter the Constitution, and by a two-thirds vote of the members present, may revise, amend and alter the regulations; provided a written copy of the motion so to revise, amend or alter shall be filed at one Annual or Semi-Annual Conclave and acted upon at the next Annual or Semi-Annual Conclave, publicity being given by incorporating the proposed alteration or amendment in the ~~printed~~ proceedings.

**Proposed Resolution #2 (to Amend the Constitution to utilize Grand Encampment Amendment 2021-06 for Virtual Grand Conclaves):**

CONCLAVES

Sec. 3. The conclaves of the Grand Commandery shall be:

D. Virtual – In the event of extraordinary circumstances, the Grand Commandery may conduct a Grand Conclave by electronic means. A virtual meeting shall be held by means of teleconference or webcast, provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members of the Grand Commandery, and the Grand Conclave shall be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of the Grand Encampment Constitution. No ritual shall be performed, and no Orders shall be conferred during any such virtual Conclave.

To hold a virtual Conclave, it shall be necessary to obtain a dispensation or order so to do from the Grand Master to authorize the holding of such Conclaves upon such other direction as he may require.

**Proposed Resolution #3 (to Amend the Constitution to utilize Grand Encampment Amendment 2021-07 for Virtual Conclaves):**

THE GRAND COMMANDER

Sec. 16. The Grand Commander shall have the following specific powers and duties but the enumeration shall not be deemed a limitation thereof.

F. To grant Dispensations to Constituent Commanderies:

4. To hold Virtual Conclaves as provided in Section 47.C.

CONCLAVES

Sec. 47. The Conclaves of Commanderies shall be:

C. Virtual – In the event of extraordinary circumstances, a Commandery may conduct a Stated or Special Conclave virtually. Such virtual Conclaves may be for the transaction of business only. A virtual Conclave shall be held by means of video teleconference or webcast, provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members of the Commandery, and the Conclave shall be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of the Constitution. No ritual shall be performed, and no Orders shall be conferred during any such virtual Conclave.

In the absence of a General Order authorizing the holding of a virtual Conclave, it shall be necessary to obtain a dispensation from the Grand Commander, upon such additional conditions as he may determine.

**Proposed Resolution #4 (to Amend the Regulations to comply with Grand Encampment Amendment 2021-24 Addressing Forfeiture of Membership and Reinstatement for Loss of Membership in Lodge, Chapter, or Council:**

FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP AND REINSTATEMENT

NON-AFFILIATION IN LODGE OR CHAPTER

Sec. 156. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge, Chapter, or Council for any reason, he shall~~, after due notice and hearing, with respect to the fact of such suspension or expulsion only,~~ be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery.

SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FOR

UNKNIGHTLY CONDUCT

Sec. 158. ~~When a Knight Templar has been expelled from his Lodge, Chapter, or Council, for any reason, he shall be expelled, as the case may be, from the Commandery.~~

{Delete Section 158 and renumber the following Sections (159-208).}

**Proposed Resolution #5 (to Amend the Constitution to comply with the Grand Encampment Knights Templar Educational Foundation Rules Revised December 1, 2020 Addressing the Membership of the Maryland Educational Foundation Committee):**

STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 34.

A. The Committee on The Educational Foundation shall consist of ~~the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and Grand Recorder, ex-officio, and six other members, two to be elected at each annual Conclave for three years~~ five members to serve five-year terms of which one shall expire each year, and one member to be elected each year at the time of the annual conclave. The Grand Recorder will serve as Secretary-Treasurer. The Committee shall have general oversight of the responsibilities of The Knight Templar Educational Foundation within the state of Maryland.

**Proposed Resolution #6 (to Amend the Constitution to comply with the Grand Encampment Knights Templar Educational Foundation Rules Revised December 1, 2020 Addressing the Chairman of the Maryland Educational Foundation Committee):**

STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 34.

A. The Committee on The Educational Foundation shall consist of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and Grand Recorder, ex-officio, and six other members, two to be elected at each annual Conclave for three years. The Committee shall meet at least annually after the close of the annual conclave to elect a chairman under the direction of the Grand Commander. The Grand Recorder will serve as Secretary-Treasurer. The Committee shall have general oversight of the responsibilities of The Knight Templar Educational Foundation within the state of Maryland.

**Proposed Resolution #7 (to Amend the Constitution to comply with the Grand Encampment Knights Templar Educational Foundation Rules Revised December 1, 2020 Addressing the Secretary-Treasurer of the Maryland Educational Foundation Committee):**

STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 34.

A. The Committee on The Educational Foundation shall consist of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and Grand Recorder, ex-officio, and six other members, two to be elected at each annual Conclave for three years. ~~The Grand Recorder will serve as Secretary-Treasurer.~~ Upon approval of the Grand Commander, the Committee may name one of its members to serve as Secretary-Treasurer in addition to his normal Committee duties, or the Committee may name the Grand Recorder as Secretary-Treasurer, in which case he shall be a non-voting member of the Committee. The Committee shall have general oversight of the responsibilities of The Knight Templar Educational Foundation within the state of Maryland.

**Proposed Resolution #8 (to Amend the By-Laws and Constitution to comply with the Grand Encampment Knights Templar Educational Foundation Rules Revised December 1, 2020 Addressing the Signatures for Withdrawals From the Maryland Educational Foundation Fund):**

By-Laws 17.

The moneys of this Grand Commandery shall be divided into Three Funds:

The First Fund shall be known as the General Fund and shall consist of all receipts not specifically designated.

The Second Fund shall be known as the “Keith A. Brown Endowment Fund” of this Grand Commandery~~. Shall~~ and shall consist of the bonds, stocks or any other form of investment, and any cash deposited in the endowment account.

Earnings from this fund may be drawn as follows:

$ 100,000 allows 60% drawn from earnings;

$ 150,000 allows 70% drawn from earnings;

$ 200,000 allows 80% drawn from earnings; and

$ 250,000 allows 90% drawn from earnings.

The Third Fund, to be known as the Education Foundation Fund of this Grand Commandery~~. Shall~~ and shall consist of bonds, stocks or any other form of investment, and any cash deposited in the educational foundation account. Withdrawals on the Education Foundation Fund shall be signed as designated in Section 34.A.

Withdrawals on ~~all Three~~ the General and Endowment Funds shall be signed as designated in Section 9.I.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 34.

A. The Committee on The Educational Foundation shall consist of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and Grand Recorder, ex-officio, and six other members, two to be elected at each annual Conclave for three years. The Grand Recorder will serve as Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall, together with the Chairman or a designated Committee member, issue and sign checks in payment of administration expenses, scholarships, or grants when authorized by the Committee. The Committee shall have general oversight of the responsibilities of The Knight Templar Educational Foundation within the state of Maryland.

**27. CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE** SK Richard P. Naegele, REPGC

SK John Austin reported that this committee is not yet fully formed and its work can begins with the decisions taken during this Grand Conclave to adopt or reject the proposed constitutional amendments..

**28. DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS** SK Spyridon G. Treklas, REPGC

No report at this Grand Conclave

**29. GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE**  SK Kenneth S. Wyvill, JR. REPGC

Right Eminent Grand Commander,

The have been no reports of grievance filed since the last Grand Conclave.

**30. MASONIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  SK Richard P. Naegele, REPGC

REPGC Naegele delivered extemporaneous remarks expresses his gratitude to all for the collective cooperation among the York Rite Bodies, the two Rites, and the Grand Lodge of Mayland.

**31. 2022 SESSIONS COMMITTEE** SK Bradley Andrukitis VEDGM

Good afternoon REGC and Distinguished SK’s,

This committee is pleased to provide the requested information as we continue our efforts to provide the best Sessions experience for our Sir Knights, Ladies, and Distinguished Guests.

Our goal is to make sure all attendees have a pleasurable stay while at the same time attending to the important business at hand.

In collaboration with our other York Rite Grand Bodies, we are pleased to welcome our Sir Knights, Companions, Youth Groups, Ladies, and our Distinguished Guests from other jurisdictions.

We are pleased to report that registration for our 2022 Sessions has increased significantly from last year across the board.

We have 117 registered guests. These include 65 Sir Knights and Companions and 52 Ladies/Guests. Most of the reservations were made online and paid via credit card which seems to simply the process.

The breakdown of registrations for the various events is:

67 for the Friday Dinner – Last year this was dinner on your own.

56 for the Men’s Luncheon – 45 last year

39 for the Ladies Program – 24 last year

109 for the Saturday Banquet – 69 last year

REGC Austin added the Friday Dinner to this year’s schedule. This was previously dinner on your own. This gives all our guests an opportunity to spend more time together, they do not have to leave the hotel to find dinner elsewhere, and some of the awards can also be presented at the dinner as well as at the banquet which will make that portion of the program more time efficient at the banquet.

Lady Kandi Austin and her committee did an outstanding job planning, organizing, and preparing the 2022 Ladies Program. Our Ladies are an integral part of our organization as they always are there to support us, whether it is behind the scenes or at these events and we are so grateful to them for that. The Grand Commandery has funded the Session’s Ladies Program in the past and will continue our support for this worthwhile portion of Sessions Weekend. We are working to have the other York Rite Grand Bodies to join us in supporting the Ladies Program next year. Registration for the program is up almost 40% this year.

Carroll Assembly, of the Social Order of the Beauceant, are assisting in the check-in process as well as seeing that the hospitality suite is properly furnished, and our guests are well provided for. It is important to us that they are included in our Sessions, and we are thankful for their support in our endeavor.

I would like to thank all the members of this committee, as well as all who were involved to make the 2022 Sessions possible. Your outstanding efforts are greatly appreciated. We look forward to next year and always welcome any suggestions or ideas to make this event a wonderful experience that you look forward to attending. A report will be provided from this committee at the Semi-Annual Conclave detailing the results of all the weekend’s events.

I am pleased to serve as the chairman of this committee. I look forward to continued service assisting you, the Grand Commandery of Maryland, and our fellow Sir Knights.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bradley D. Andrukitis, VEDGC

Chairman, Sessions Committee

Grand Commandery of Maryland

**32. 2023 TIME & PLACE COMMITTEE**  SK John H. Austin, REGC

The York Rite Grand Sessions of 2023 will take place at the Clarion Hotel in Frederick Md.

Location- 5400 Holiday Drive, Frederick Md. 21703, USA

Phone- 301-694-7500 Fax-301-694-0589

[www.clarioninnfrederick.com](http://www.clarioninnfrederick.com)

Dates- October 27 & 28 2023

Room rates- $109.00/night. Additional State and local taxes are applicable and currently at 11%

Rooms must be reserved by SEPTMEBER 26, 2023 to receive the discounted rate. Check in 3:00 PM, check out 11:00 AM

Negotiations have been completed to allow for bookend stays (Thursday and Sunday) at the same rate and to be applied to our total Room Nights credits as well as potential complimentary items if we exceed our room usage and meal minimums.

An additional Friday Banquet is contemplated and awaits our planning in the use of the facilities.

The use of the Hotel conference spaces will be at no fee if we use the required 80 Room Nights from the Hotel.

**33. GWNMM 2023 Celebration** SK John H. Austin, REGC

SK Austin did not have a formal report but he noted that the Grand Commandery has received awards from the GWNMM Foundation as Patrons in 2021, and then as Master Architect Patrons in 2022 for continuing support.

**34. AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS**  SK Arthur G. Hebbeler, REPGC

**Meritorious Service Award** :

SK Patrick Stangler – Antioch Commandery No.6

SK Daniel Brewer- York Commandery No.16

SK Gary Paul Shircliff- Antioch Commandery No.6

**Companion of the Temple Award Recipients**:

Mrs. Marcella Lapp

Mrs. Georgia Myers

**Knight Commander of the Temple Award :**

SK Gary Kennedy- Jacques DeMolay Commandery No.4

**Knights Templar Cross of Honor Award Recipient:**

SK Franklin Williams – Thomas J. Shryock Commandery No.11

**Certificates of Service as Grand Commandery of Maryland Grand Officers**:

SK Bradley Andrukitis, VEDGC

SK John Mitchell, EGG

SK Gary Kennedy, EGCG

SK Kris Brown KTCH, EGRec

SK Vernon Huebschman, Asst GRec

SK Randall Watson KTCH, EGTreas

SK Danny Dickerson. GSW

SK Scott Lapp, GJW

SK Scott Wilson, GWdr

SK Charles Beckhardt, GPre

SK Samuel Lane, GSwB

SK Michael Youse, GStB

SK David Andrukitis, GSent

Adjutants- SK Kevin Drabczyck, SK William Hare, SK Gerard Kendle, SK Keith Warner

SK Frederick Spicer, REPGC, KCT, GIG

**KTEF 100% PARTICIPATION Award** from Grand Encampment Knights Templar Eye Foundation:

Presented to Grand Commandery of Maryland/ SK Gary Kennedy Chair. Md. KTEF Committee

Certificate of Appreciation- EC George Christoff- MC No.3 & EC Bob Candler- Beauseant No. 8

**George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association- Maryland Grand Commandery Awarded status of MASTER ARCHITECT PATRON for its support of the Memorial**

**Grand Encampment Of Knights Templar/ Grand Commanders Certificate** to John Harmon Austin REGC for completion of term of office for Templar year 2022

Entitling the rank, distinction and privileges of a Past Grand Commander.

**35. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: FINAL** SK Vernon Huebschman Asst GR Rec

The following chart is a listing of all Voting members who were present:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Number | Commandery Name & Location | Members present |
| 1 | Maryland Commandery No. 1 Cockeysville, Maryland  4 | Scott Gordon Lapp, Senior Grand Warder Robert Bruce Lumbert Frederick T Rossmark, Commander Frederick Ashley Spice, REPGC |
| 3 | Monumental – Crusade Commandery No 3, Cockeysville, Maryland  8 | George James Christoff  William C. Hare Vernon H. Huebschman Scott Gordon Lapp, Sr Grand Warden Richard Phillip Naegele, REPGC James Bradley Thomas, Generalissimo Spyridon George Treklas, REPGC Charles Edward Warns II, REPGC Randall Lyle Watson, Grand Treasurer |
| 4 | Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 4 Frederick, Maryland  4 | Gary Jerome Kennedy, Grand Capt Gen John Andrew Rafine, REPGC Michael Wayne Shrank James Cary Stargel |
| 6 | Antioch Commandery No. 6 Cumberland, Maryland 1 | Samuel J. Lane, Commander |
| 7 | Palestine Commandery No. 7 Annapolis, Maryland  6 | Bradley David Andrukitis, VEDGC  Gordon Alan Davids, Randolph Stephen Disney, REPGC Rafael Angel Rodriguez, Capt Genl Raymond Denmark George Andrew Martinez |
| 8 | Beauseant Commandery No. 8 Cockeysville, Maryland 0 | Charles Beckhardt, Grand Prelate\* |
| 10 | Chesapeake Commandery No. 10 Denton, Maryland  4 | Alexander Dean Burt III Clifton Reese Friel, REPGC Vernon Henry Huebschman John Henry Myers Jr, Capt General |
| 11 | Thomas J. Shryock Commandery No. 11 Salisbury, Maryland  1 | Michael A. Youse  Glynn Bridges\*  James Massey\* |
| 13 | Montgomery Commandery No. 3 Germantown, Maryland 2 | John Harmon Austin, REGC Carl Richard Swanson, Commander |
| 16 | York Commandery No. 16 Camp Springs, Maryland 1 | Raymond Hughes Denmark  Mark Irwin, REPGC (DE) |
| 17 | Carroll Commandery No. 17  Westminster, MD 0 | Jeffery Disney  Michael Raab, Commander  John Robbins |

**36. UNFINISHED BUSINESS** SK John Austin, REGC

The only Unfinished Business brought to the attention of this Grand Conclave has been the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Commandery of Maryland during the Jurisprudence Committee Report. To recapitulate the results:

* Items 1 4 were brought forward individually, comments received & debated. The REGC called for a vote on each item individually, and each received a favorable vote, and were declared to be duly enacted.
* Items 5-8 were withdrawn by the Jurisprudence Committee as no longer requiring action

**37. NEW BUSINESS** SK John H. Austin, REGC

No new business was brought to the attention of this Grand Conclave.

**38. ELECTION of OFFICERS**  SK John H. Austin, REGC

Having accepted the resignation of SK Kris Brown as Grand Recorder, in consequence of SK Brown not being able to serve the coming term as Grand Recorder, the Right Eminent Grand Commander announced that an election to fill the vacancy in that office would now be held.

Nominations were declared open. SK Randall L. Watson nominated SK Vernon H. Huebschman as Grand Recorder; seconded by SK Richard P. Naegele REPGC. Further nominations were called for three times. There being no further nominations, the Assistant Grand Recorder was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for the nomination. SK Huebschman was asked if he accepted the election to the office of Grand Recorder, which he did gratefully.

39. INSTALLATION of OFFICERS SK Clifton R. Friel, REPGC

SK Clifton R. Friel, REPGC, assisted by SK Charles Warns II REPGC installed the following

Sir Knights to their respective stations and places:

SK John H. Austin Right Eminent Grand Commander

SK Bradley D. Andrukitis Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander

SK Gary L. Kennedy Eminent Grand Generalissimo

SK Scott G. Lapp         Eminent Grand Captain General

SK Randall L. Watson, KCT Eminent Grand Treasurer

SK Vernon H. Huebschman Eminent Grand Recorder

SK Michael A. Youse Grand Senior Warden

SK Samuel J. Lane Grand Junior Warden

SK Charles A. Beckhardt Grand Prelate

SK George J. Christoff Grand Warder

SK Scott W. Wilson Grand Standard Bearer

SK Michael R. Rabb Grand Sword Bearer

SK David L. Andrukitis Grand Sentinel

SK Randolph S. Disney KCT Grand Inspector General

The Following Sir Knights have been selected to assist the Grand Commander.

SK John P. Mitchell Quartermaster

SK Frederick Rossmark Assistant Quartermaster

SK Keith W. Warner Adjutant- Armorer

SK William C. Hare Jr. Adjutant- Armorer

SK Gerry T. Kendall Adjutant – Grand Commander’s aide-de-camp

SK Kevin M. Drabczyk Adjutant – Grand Commander’s aide-de-camp

The following Sir Knights have been selected to act as the Grand Commander’s Advisory Council.

Kenneth Wyville REPGC, Frederick Spicer REPGC, Charles Warns REPGC, Arthur Hebbeler REPGC, Spyridon Treklas REPGC, Clifton Friel REPGC,  Bradley Andrukitis EDGC, SK Richard Feeser, EPC Terry Royce, EC Robert Candler, EC Samuel Lane, EPC John Thomas, EC George Christoff, EPC Dennis Brekhus, REPGC Randolph Disney

40. COMMENTS

SK John Austin, REGC, thank everyone for their patience with the large amount of material that had to be processed in this Grand Conclave. There was a special Thank You to SK Ray Denmark for stepping in as Grand Sentinel for the Day. Also, thanks to SK Clifton R. Friel, REPGC, SK Charles Warns II REPGC, and SK Richard P. Naegele, REPGC for their participation in the Installation Ceremonies.

41. CALLING OFF SK John H. Austin, REGC

There being no futher business coming before this Grand Conclave the Right Eminent Grand Commander called upon SK Charles Beckhardt, Grand Prelate for a parting prayer.

**Our most gracious heavenly father, we thank you for sending your son to us. To teach us. To love us and finally, chose to die for our sins.**

**As Knights Templar, we took an obligation to continue to take care of your flock. So, as our new Grand Line Officers take their positions, guide and counsel them in the performance of their duties and responsibilities.**

**We ask a special blessing upon our right eminent grand commander, John Austin as he leads this Grand Commandery of Maryland. Let him feel the support of his grand line, the Eminent Commanders of each of our commanderies and the entire membership of knights templars across this state of Maryland.**

**As we have concluded our business and before we go our various ways, let us enjoy each other’s friendship and fellowship for the rest of our session.**

**Finally, give us safe travels to our homes. Amen.**

Right Eminent Grand Commander Austin then declared this 2022 Annual Grand Conclave Called Off until reconvened by order at the time and place designated

Respectfully submitted,

SK Vernon H. Huebschman

Grand Recorder

Grand Commandery of Knight Templar of Maryland