



**MARYLAND NEWS  
DECEMBER 2023**

Bradley D. Andrukitis, KCT REGC  
Grand Commandery of Maryland  
SK Dan Brewer, Editor

Sir Knights,

It is my great honor and pleasure to have been elected and installed as the Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Maryland at our 2023 Sessions.

Congratulations to all the Grand Commandery elected and the Officers who were installed and invested.

The Grand Line Officers and Committee Members look forward to serving you for the upcoming year. We are committed to providing you with the best experience possible as a Maryland Knights Templar. We have a resolute and experienced line of Sir Knights and I look forward to working with all of you.

We have started out of the gate running.

In our first month, we had the privilege of installing the officers of the newly merged Carroll Beauceant Commandery No. 8. This much-needed merger should benefit all the Sir Knights who are members of it. I am grateful to all the Grand Commandery Officers for the excellent attendance at this event as well as the

others who came to support the Sir Knights of their Commandery. We wish Carroll Beauceant Commandery No. 8 much success in this endeavor to do great works.

I also had the honor of being REGC during the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of my Commandery, Palestine Commandery No. 7. On November 27<sup>th</sup>, they held a Festive Board to celebrate 150 years of Templary in our state capital of Annapolis. It was a wonderful evening beginning with DeMolay from across the state exemplifying the DeMolay Degree. They are to be commended for their outstanding ritual work. This was followed by the Festive Board with many toasts and tributes to commemorate this historic event. Congratulations to EC Wiker and his Officers for an outstanding evening.

A Mid-Atlantic York Rite Leadership Education Program & Seminar has been scheduled for March 2, 2024. This is a wonderful opportunity for all who may be interested in learning or further enhancing their leadership skills. This will be held in Alexandria, Virginia so it is not far to travel, and you will have the opportunity to meet and interact with Sir Knights and others from the 6 Grand Commanderies of the Mid-Atlantic Region. All three classes are being offered and seating is limited to fifty attendees per class. This is not just open for Sir Knights, it is open to all masons, their wives, and all other masonic organizations, York Rite and Scottish Rite, including our youth groups. Course materials will be furnished. The only cost to the attendee will be your lunch and any travel and lodging you incur to get there. It can be found on our website.

On Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, our Sir Knights will be assisting with the Installation of Officers of the Westminster Assembly #245 Social Order of the Beauceant. It will be at 4:30 PM at the Masonic Temple in Westminster. We greatly appreciate the ladies of SOOB who have continued to assist this Grand Commandery, as well as their local Commandery, in an exemplary manner. Please come and support them as they install their new officers.

Christmas Observances are taking place at commanderies around the state, as we as Knights Templar can celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I have been privileged to attend these celebrations at Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 4 in Frederick and Palestine Commandery No. 7 in Annapolis, as well as a Christmas Dinner Observance with York Commandery No. 16 in Camp Springs. I look forward

to attending several more in these next few weeks. I always enjoy the chance to join in celebration, together with family, friends, and our fellow Sir Knights.

On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have our Annual York Rite Religious Service for the residents at Bonnie Blink. Unfortunately, due to a COVID outbreak at the homes, the service will be conducted by our Grand Prelate, Charles Beckhardt, on closed-circuit television to the residents in their rooms. For the safety of the residents, others will not be permitted in MMH or the Chapel. I know many of you look forward to attending this each year and we hope you will return next year. The Baltimore Commanderies Dinner and Christmas Observance will be conducted as planned later that afternoon.

It is my great honor to serve as the REGC of Maryland. We will strive to make the best experience possible for you as a Knights Templar in Maryland.

From our family to yours, Lady Christine, and I, wish you a Merry Christmas filled with peace, health, and happiness.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Brad

Bradley D. Andrukitis, REGC

Grand Commandery of Maryland