

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF OHIO
October 2024

The 182nd Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Ohio was held on October 10, 11 and 12, 2024 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North.

Sir Knight Richard L. Ganion, our Right Eminent Grand Commander, presided. He and our Grand Officers entered between lines formed by Sir Knights from the several Divisions.

All sixty-three Constituent Commanderies of this Grand Commandery were represented. All of the Grand Officers were present. All of our living Past Grand Commanders were present except Sir Knights Richard L. Weaver, David M. Snyder, Richard M. Holcombe, S. Thomas Ramsay, Richard J. Brady, Thomas H. Gault and Terry L. Wymer.

Attendance was reported as follows: Grand Officers 28; Past Grand Commanders 10; Commanders 44; Generalissimos 19; Captains General 21; Past Commanders 87 and 2 Proxies, giving us 211 voting delegates. We also had 13 non-voting members of Ohio Commanderies and 18 out of state guests.

We had many Distinguished guests from Ohio and out of state, plus the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, SK Jeffrey A. Bolstad, our own Past Grand Master from Ohio, SK William H. Koon II, and our East Central Department Commander, SK Jay P. Kennedy. All of the distinguished guests were afforded the proper Templar honors, including our Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, SK Paul A. Weglage.

The Grand Recorder reported that the Annual Returns for the year ending May 31, 2024 showed 63 Commanderies. He also reported that during the year we had the following gains and losses:

Membership as of June 1, 2023		5707
	This year	Last year
Knightings	209	211
Admitted on demit	81	55
Reinstated	23	28
Total Additions	313	294
Deaths	214	262
Withdrawals	105	60
Suspensions - NPD	42	46
Suspensions - N/A	97	88
Corrections	2	2
Total Losses	460	458
Membership as of May 31, 2024		5560
Net Loss	147	164

The trophy for the most knightings went to the North Central Division with 38 knightings.

Updated digital copies of our Statutes are available by requesting them from the Grand Recorder.

The Finance Committee presented a budget for the 2024-2025 Templar Year showing income and expenses of \$132,273.00.

During the weekend the College of Honors presented the following awards:

Knight Templar Cross of Honor

Richard J. Amlung, a Past Commander of Cuyahoga Falls No. 83

Richard E. Eakin, a Past Commander of Findlay Commandery No. 49

Knight Commander of the Temple

Matthew G. Gloor, a Past Commander of Defiance Commandery No. 30

Joshua J. Grove, a Past Commander of Akron Commandery No. 25

Larry H. Haines, a Past Commander of Canton Commandery No. 38

William G. Windnagel, a Past Commander of Fremont No. 56

Knight Grand Cross of the Temple

Alfred T. Johnson, a Past Commander of Raper Commandery No. 19

Companion of the Temple

Four were approved and will be presented at Division functions.

The Divine Service was held on Friday afternoon. The offering was \$1000.00 and will go to the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund. By the time things settle in the Middle East we may be able to send SEVERAL ministers.

During this past year we were blessed to not lose any of our Past Grand Commanders, although we are saddened that several are no longer able to be with us.

The Installation of Officers and Awards Banquet were held on Saturday, October 12, 2024. Our Past East Central Department Commander SK Gerald G. Pugh had the privilege of installing SK Dale A. Exline as our new Right Eminent Grand Commander, along with our corps of Grand Officers. SK R. Thomas Starr served as the Installing Marshal, SK Franklin C. Boner served as Installing Recorder and Sir Knight Dennis M Evans served as Installing Chaplain. SK Martin R. Trent presented our retiring REGC his Past Grand Commander's jewel which had been previously worn by Past Grand Commanders Martin R. Trent and George W. Davidson.

We were pleased to again have our Drill Competition and also our Ritual Competition.

Ritual Competition Results

5th Libation

Stephen E. Roth Findlay No. 49 1st

Chris F. Schick Mansfield No. 21 2nd

Carl C. Keller Reed No. 6 3rd

Ode to the Skull

Thomas A. Gartner St. Luke's No. 34 1st

H. Mac Hared Hanselmann No. 16 2nd

Timothy D. Ohm Mount Vernon No. 1 3rd

Flag Lecture

Richard A. Roe Marietta No. 50 1st

Thomas A. Gartner St. Luke's No. 34 2nd

Ronald C. Nischwitz Sidney No. 46 3rd

Junior Warden's address

Richard A. Roe Marietta No. 50 1st

Chris F. Schick	Mansfield No. 21	2 nd
Ronald L. Ensell	Columbian No. 52	3 rd
Prelate's Address		
Clifford J. Askey	Cuyahoga Falls No. 83	1 st
James M. Carlson	Raper No. 19	2 nd
Andrew McConnell	Reed No. 6	3 rd

Drill Results	Captain	Team	Captain
C-15 Field			
1 st - West Central Division	Stewart	857	36
D-7 Field			
1 st - Marietta 50	Miller	918	36
2 nd - Palestine 33	Stewart	913	8
3 rd - Findlay 49	Eakin	904	36
4 th - Eagle 29	Johnson	884	28
5 th - Sidney 46	Stiltner	857	73
6 th - Warren 39	Goddard	847	73
7 th - Canton 38	Haines	813	128
C-6 Asylum			
1 st - Valley 80	Fair	906	57
D-6 Asylum			
1 st - Defiance 30	Cripps	973	24
2 nd - Medina 84	Gregory	964	26
3 rd - Bryan 74	Miller	963	20
4 th - East Central Div.	French	947	44
5 th - Columbus 69	Adams	890	95
Ned E. Dull Drill Captain's Award			
Zac Stewart	Palestine 33		
Joseph J Fair	Valley 80		
Steve Miller	Bryan 74		
Bruce Basil Drill Captain's Award			
Dave Miller	Marietta 50		
Tim Adams	Columbus 69		

This coming year the Drill Competition and Ritual Competition will be held on July 26, 2025 at the Dayton Masonic Center.

The 183rd Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Ohio will be held at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North, Worthington Ohio, on October 9 and 10, 2025.

Fraternally submitted,
Al Johnson, Grand Recorder