



IDAHO KNIGHTLY NEWS

Barry E. Newell, KTCH, KCT, Editor
306 Maple St., Emmett, ID 83617
ksigmason@gmail.com

Editor's Note

If anyone would like to submit an article for the Idaho Knightly News, please email me your article using Microsoft Word. Keep it between 1 page and 1.5 pages.

Upcoming Events:

Grand Commandery of CO..... Sep 5-7
Grand Commandery of WY..... Sep 12-14
Grand Lodge of Idaho..... Sep 19-21
Northwest York Rite..... Oct 18-19

69th Triennial of the Grand Encampment

By Barry E. Newell

Last month, Sir Knights from all over the world assembled in Salt Lake City, UT, for the 69th Triennial of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar USA. I was joined by Sir Knights Steve Hall, VEDGC, Matthew White, EGG, Jeremy Vaugh, PGC and DC, Rick Rowe, PGC, David Grindle, PGC, and Jim Herndon, PGC, and PDC.

Sunday was a light day...for some of us...where I attended the Divine Services held by the Grand Prelate and his Associate Grand Prelates in the morning and the Grand Master's Reception in the evening.

Monday morning kicked off with the Opening Session and Procession of Grand Encampment Officers, the Most Eminent Grand Master, Dignitaries of other Masonic bodies, Subordinate Commanderies, and, lastly, Grand Commanderies. During this morning session, Sir Knight Kussman, Most Eminent Grand Master, announced that Dr. Thomas Lee was the recipient of the National Award of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar USA. This is an award that is given by the Grand Encampment at each Triennial Conclave. It is awarded to a person--not necessarily a Knight Templar--who has made an outstanding contribution to our country through civic, professional, military, scientific, religious, etc., endeavors.

Monday afternoon started the business sessions of the Grand Encampment where the Grand Master's Allocution was given. Some reports were given afterward and that took us through the end of the first day.

On Tuesday morning we were back to work. The Committee on Charters and Dispensations made a report where the voting members approved chartering of the Grand Commandery of Serbia and the York Grand Commandery of the United States of Mexico. More reports were given, but a notable one was by the Special Committee on Grievances who received a grievance from the Grand Commandery of Wyoming after Sir Knight Michael Johnson was removed from office in 2022. The committee included a Past Grand Commander of Wyoming, they met with delegates from Wyoming and met with Templar Jurisprudence before coming to a unanimous decision to dismiss the grievance with prejudice. The report and motion to dismiss was accepted and adopted by the voting members.

At mid-morning, we adjourned the Grand Encampment, and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Inc. was opened. We had to vote on two Trustee positions, and one Sir Knight was re-elected to serve. I am excited to announce that Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn was elected as a Trustee (a 9-year term). We also passed a rewrite of the Constitution.

We then resumed labor in the Grand Encampment and completed a few business items before lunch. In the afternoon session, we elected the following officers for the 70th Triennial:

Most Eminent Grand Master: David J. Kussman

Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master: Jeff A. Bolstad

Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo: Jack M. Harper II

Right Eminent Grand Captain General: James C. McGee

Right Eminent Grand Treasurer: David A. Studley

Right Eminent Grand Recorder: Larry E. Tucker

Sir Knight Paul Erickson was appointed the Right Eminent Grand Prelate for the Triennium.

Tuesday night the Grand Encampment held its Banquet where nearly 700 Sir Knights and guests gathered taking up 3 ballrooms of the hotel. The food and fellowship were great and the night ended with the DeMolay's Ceremony of Light performed by the International Master Councillor and International Congress Secretary. The young men did an outstanding job and did their Order proud.

The officers elected and appointed of the Grand Encampment were installed Wednesday morning.

