



## Grand Commandery of Kansas

### November News

S.:K.: Roger L. Walls REGC

#### ONE

As Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the Grand York Rite of Kansas, I take the position very serious. I have made 4 commandery visits since installation in July (4 months short for my tenure due to the late installation this year).

At one visit there were two knights present, at another visit there was one knight present, at another I was informed the knights were performing a third degree raising. I sat in as Chaplain for the degree, and after the degree, the master gave me the opportunity to make my pitch for the York Rite, something I have done on several occasions to a new Master Mason. At the last visit I made, there were 6 Knights present, another one who had demitted and two recently raised Master Masons. I took the opportunity to pass on three petitions for the York Rite.

Reflecting on the 4 visits, I gave much thought to our current situation of low participation. In my pitch for the York Rite, I concentrate on new members. But, after much thought, I came to the idea of NOT putting so much emphasis on the new members, but to address those few who do participate, the few who are dedicated.

The major issues coming from those who were there was the fact that, because of their remoteness from the Grand York Rite office, they feel they are ignored by the Grand York Rite. This fact brought up the thought of what the Grand York Rite needs to address.

There are 5-10 grand offices that make up each of the three bodies. There is no way these few can make contact with the communities of the constituent bodies. The Grand York Rite depends on those York Rite members of the different communities throughout Kansas to make that contact. We, as officers of the different bodies should place more emphasis on our support of those who are dedicated to their local bodies, and communities and Blue Lodges where our new members are obtained.

By this analysis, my conclusion is to support with all that is available to me as Grand Commander of the Grand York rite of Kansas. I can do that by making as my visits and give encouragement and support to that ONE who is dedicated to the order. Kansas is a large state that covers a large area and we, as officers of the Grand York Rite of Kansas need to "GO THE DISTANCE TO SUPPORT A WORTHY BROTHER IN DISTRESS", be ye Chapter, Council, or Commandery. We have unity in our diversity. We are the Grand York Rite of Kansas, and I hereby pledge my support to that ONE body with all the resources that are available to me.

"SO MOTE IT BE!"

Fraternally,

S.:K.: Roger L. Walls

REGC