

TEMPLAR NEWS - OMSDT

· OCTOBER 2023 · VOLUME 2 · ISSUE 7 · FRONT PAGE ·



OMSDT Calendar

OCTOBER 05 ROUND TABLE

OCTOBER 19 ROUND TABLE

ALL ROUND TABLES ARE HELD AT
| 6 PM PACIFIC | 7 PM MOUNTAIN |
| 8 PM CENTRAL | 9 PM EASTERN |
ZOOM LINKS WILL BE POSTED ON BELIEFBOOK



This is our **Day of Charitable Service** issue! All the reports that were submitted to Grand Secretary Reneé Nordio will be featured in this issue.

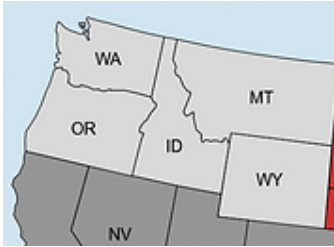
The Order realizes that there are some members, for a variety of health reasons, were unable to do physical labor and we truly understand and count no one the lesser for having health restrictions. Health issues take precedence and God knows your situation and your heart.

Because of this, we are confident that many members may likely

make monetary contributions in lieu of service projects, as well as doing service projects throughout the year during good health. But it was September 9th that was set aside that, collectively, we wanted to make an impact in each of our own communities by performing service projects.

No charitable service is greater than any other. The important thing is that it comes from a cheerful heart (2 Cor. 9:7) with the desire to glorify God by helping your community. From the reports that were submitted, it appears that was surely the case!

Priory of King David's Day of Charitable Service



(States in light gray) **Grand Prior Derek Nordio** from ID reports: "I was out of town on 9-9-23, so on 9-16-23, I spent several hours repairing an alleyway behind my home. Although Reneé and I don't use the alleyway for access to our home, it is the only parking access for the homes that back up to it. Sadly, the city doesn't maintain the alley that is very steep, or make repairs to the alley, nor does the city even plow the snow from the alley in winter. So, in addition to making repairs to the alley, I also plow the snow from that alley each winter so the residents can access their homes.

Every year, the alley ends up with ruts and in bad shape, so with the purchase of 1500# of gravel and a lot of shoveling and raking, the alley is now in good repair and ready for winter.

I met one of the homeowners, Jake, who had just bought his home a month ago, and he asked me about the Templars when he saw me working in the alley and seeing my truck's personalized license plate, "TEMPLAR". I was able to enjoy a nice conversation with him and share with him a brochure and business card about OMSDT."



BEFORE



License plate



AFTER

Priory of St. Joan of Arc's Day of Charitable Service



(States in dark gray) On 9-9-23 **SFC William Ryan** from AZ, along with his wife, Kelly, and a few members of Extended Hands Ministries spent six hours creating and cleaning up after a youth event at Keiller Park in Willcox, AZ. He reported the following:

“Willcox, AZ is a small community in southeast Arizona with a population of just over 3000. The families of this community are at two opposite ends of the financial spectrum. With a 70% poverty rate and a very small tax base, this community does not have very many things for the youth to do.

With the additional help of the local Elks Lodge, we provided a fun day at the park with a bounce house, a water slide and a dunking booth. We served hot dogs, chips and water and soda for refreshments.

I wore my ‘Defender of the Faith’ shirt that attracted some of the adults' attention to ask about our organization. I handed out some OMSDT pamphlets and have hope for a couple new members. Everyone that came to the event was greeted with the love of Christ and were all told that we are sharing God's love with them.

It was a great event with many smiling faces and fun for all. Truth be told, all of the people that helped put on the event had just as much fun as the youth, watching and helping them have fun.”



SFC Bill



Priory of St. Joan of Arc's Day of Charitable Service



(States in dark gray) **CAA Michael Thomas** from CO reported the following: “My day of service project was at a Celtic festival in Wisconsin helping to run a Clan tent and talking with at least 75 people about Scottish heritage and genealogy research and how to do it.”

Priory of St. Sebastian's Day of Charitable Service



(States in red) **CAA Amanda Moreno** reported the following: This is my Templar Day of Caring project. “I have been watching her for a total of 3 weeks. She is a foster who was pulled from a shelter. I was told she was on the brink of being euthanized which is so sad to hear. She is such a sweet little girl. She is a one year old Border Collie. If anyone is looking to adopt please let me know. She deserves a good home with someone who can love on her.”



There are about 1.8 million active nonprofit organizations in the United States. These include all sorts of nonprofits, not just 501(c)(3) charities. To narrow down to just charities, not including schools, hospitals, unions, etc., there are 1.4 million active charities in the United States and OMSDT is one of them, receiving our 501(c)(3) status on July 31, 2023.

Priory of St. Sebastian's Day of Charitable Service



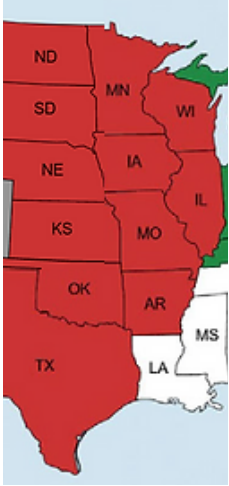
(States in red) **CAA Ben Weeks** from KS reported the following: “This past weekend, beginning on 9-9-23, I had several unique experiences I wanted to share. First, I got to visit the home of OMSDT, the Loretto Chapel. I spent the rest of an extra long weekend at the most remote monastery in the western hemisphere, Monastery of Christ in the Desert.

There was no cell phone reception there, and you didn't even need a clock. When the church bell rang you hiked up the hill to the church (seven services a day). The monastery is run by the Benedictine Order (the same order that the Templar Rule is based on) and it was amazing to see how they operate. For our Order's service weekend I got to help the monks pull down old trees, cleaned up a large work area, reorganized building materials and disposed of trash. We also pulled down some dead tree limbs and drug them to the trash pile. I spent a majority of my time running the Kubota tractor and carrying trash.

Overall it was an amazing time and I highly recommend everyone venture into the wilderness to spend some quiet time and visit with their Creator.”

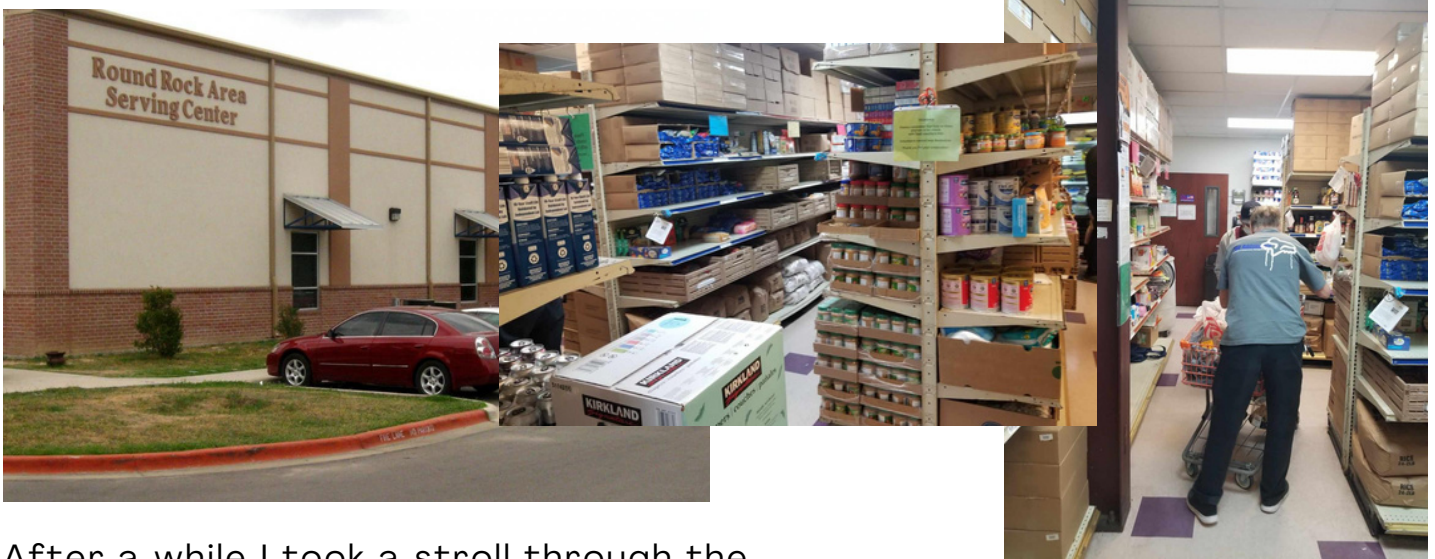


Priory of St. Sebastian's Day of Charitable Service



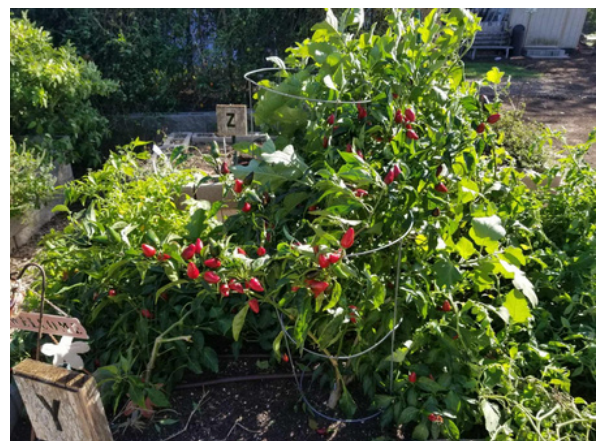
(States in red) **Grand Master Rick Trujillo** from TX, reported the following: “For the last 3 years I have volunteered at the Round Rock Serving Center located in Round Rock, TX and spent a few hours there helping organize the stock they had.

Of course there were other people there to donate their time and help wherever the center needed us. I helped re-organize a few shelf stands which were approximately 15 Ft in height and I lost count how many times I had to go up and down the ladder with arms full of donated food. I also helped organize the back entrance of the center where they had lots of furniture. Along with the food pantry they also accept donations of clothes and furniture to give to the less fortunate.



After a while I took a stroll through the wonderful community garden they have in the back of the center where they are growing jalapeno peppers, red peppers, bell peppers and squash. They also have 3 banana trees among a lot of other fruits and vegetables.

I love volunteering at this center and will continue to do so in the coming years.”



Priory of St. Michael the Archangel's

Day of Charitable Service



(States in yellow) **SGT Paul Aguilar** and **SGT Mitchell Peters**, both from PA, reported that they participated in the Travis Manion Foundation 9/11 Heroes Run on 9-9-23. The 9/11

Heroes Run 5K series was inspired by Marine 1st Lt. Travis Manion, who was killed by a sniper in Iraq in April 2007 as he selflessly protected his battalion.

Before his final deployment, Travis visited Rescue One in NYC—famous for losing almost all of their men on 9/11—and returned home with deeper passion about why he was fighting in Iraq.

At its heart, the 9/11 Heroes Run is a tribute to a personal commitment to never forget the heroes of that day. Now in its tenth year, the 9/11 Heroes Run national race series was held in more than 50 locations across the country and around the world.



Religious organizations (like OMSDT) and churches dominate the nonprofit 501(c)(3) sector, accounting for almost 40% of all nonprofits in the U.S.

To qualify for tax exemption under section 501(c)(3), organizations must pass a five-part test with the Internal Revenue Service. The law requires that they have some organizational structure, be engaged in one of several specified "exempt" activities (such as religious, charitable, scientific, or testing for public safety), not distribute their surpluses (profits), not devote a substantial amount of their resources to lobbying, and not engage in partisan political activity. As a Knights Templar organization, from the diligent work of Grand Master Rick Trujillo and his attorney, with our mission of honoring the works of the original Templars, OMSDT passed that five-part test.

Prory of St. Michael the Archangel's

Day of Charitable Service



(States in yellow) Although he works in public service on a daily basis, being a presenter at this event was done above and beyond the call of duty for **SSGT Kelmy Rodriquez** from NY.

He reports: "It was a great honor to be one of the presenters for the Religion and Public Safety Colloquium – "Servant Leadership in Public Safety" at Albertus Magnus College.

All the presenters were phenomenal and highly knowledgeable in Public Service, Spirituality, Mental Trauma, and Emotional Centering."

ALBERTUS MAGNUS COLLEGE
We have faith in your future.

RELIGION AND PUBLIC SAFETY COLLOQUIUM:

SERVANT LEADERSHIP IN PUBLIC SAFETY

Join us for conversations on bridging spirituality, public safety, and self-care.

Wednesday, September 27
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Hubert Campus Center - Behan Community Room
831 Winchester Ave, New Haven, CT 06511

PRESENTERS

- Sr. Cathy Buchanan, O.P., Albertus Magnus Dominican Ministries & Service, retired corrections officer
- Tom Rondeau, Hampden County (MA) Sheriff's Office
- Fr. Joe Ciccone, St. Joseph Mission, retired NJ Sheriff
- Fr. John Kelmy Rodriquez, OSB, Pax Abbey, retired EMS Supervisor

*Seating is limited. Advance registration required
Register for free at albertus.edu/eckhart/events

Attendees will receive lunch and a certificate of attendance

Sponsored by: Albertus Magnus College Department of Criminal Justice & The Meister Eckhart Center



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Priory of St. Luke's Day of Charitable Service



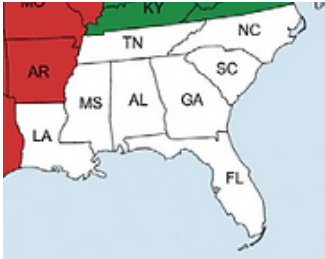
(States in green) **1SGT Thomas Felts, Sr.**, from KY, along with the help of his grandson, Tyler Felts, spent much time on 9-8-23 at the Knox-Whitley Humane Association in Corbin, KY. He filed the following report for his service project:

“Our project was to volunteer help to run the facility, which included walking dogs, feeding dogs, stocking supplies, and yard maintenance. My grandson Tyler did the yard maintenance which improved the room and space for all the dogs to run and exercise.

My part consisted of walking approximately 21 dogs 2 times throughout the day. Two gallons of gas was our only expenditure and the end result was that the dogs were happy to have the companionship and the staff were very happy with what we did.”



Priory of the Holy Trinity's Day of Charitable Service



(States in white) **CAA Bobby Lawson** from TN, spent four hours on 9-9-23 at the Shelby Gardens Place Assisted Living and Memory Care Community in Cordova, TN. He reports the following: "With permission of the administrative staff, I interacted with several residents who suffer with dementia and Alzheimer's. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to visit with residents in a group setting.

I was able to begin a dialogue by introducing myself, giving a brief biography including my affiliation with the Knights Templar. I asked each if they were still working or if they were retired. Most interacted with me and spoke about their past. It appeared that they were eager to do so. I found their life stories very intriguing. They even interacted with each other. The group consisted of a federal economic fraud investigator, an international marble and granite purchaser, an accomplished pianist and organ player, a farmer, a teacher, and an over-the-road tractor trailer driver, to name a few.

The few who didn't speak were in their late stages of Alzheimers, but everyone was smiling. We played Bingo and enjoyed ice cream. The day was beautiful. The temperature was in the low 80s and a cool breeze was almost constant. I was advised the residents hadn't been outside for weeks due to the heat. I watched as they faced the wind, gazed at the flowers, and watched the butterflies.

Their silence as they enjoyed the day that the Lord had made was even more meaningful as their conversation. I spent no money, but gained a wealth of contentment. The activities director, pictured with me, was emotionally appreciative."



CONGRATULATIONS!

After serving the one-year requirement at the rank of Master Commander leading a Priory, on September 4, 2023, Sir Mark Snurr was promoted to the rank of Prior, and will continue to lead the Priory of St. Luke.

It was with great pleasure that Grand Prior made the announcement, remarking that Prior Snurr has shown a genuine desire to grow and serve, displaying wonderful leadership skills and dedication to the Order.



Congratulations, Prior Snurr, on your well-deserved promotion!

TEMPLAR ACADEMIE

"CHRIST-FOCUSED IN ALL THAT WE DO"

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THESE MEMBERS FOR COMPLETING
ACADÉMIE CLASSWORK IN THE
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2023

BOBBY LAWSON (CAA Classes)



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OMSDT LEADERSHIP

ORDER LEADERSHIP

Grand Master (GM)
Rick Trujillo

Grand Prior (GP)
Derek Nordio

Grand Secretary (GSY)
Reneé Nordio

Grand Marshal (GML)
Marc Blaydoe

Grand Chaplain (GC)
Joseph Wames
(currently on leave)

PRIORY LEADERSHIP

Priory of King David
Grand Prior (GP) Derek Nordio

Priory of Joan of Arc
Grand Prior (GP) Derek Nordio

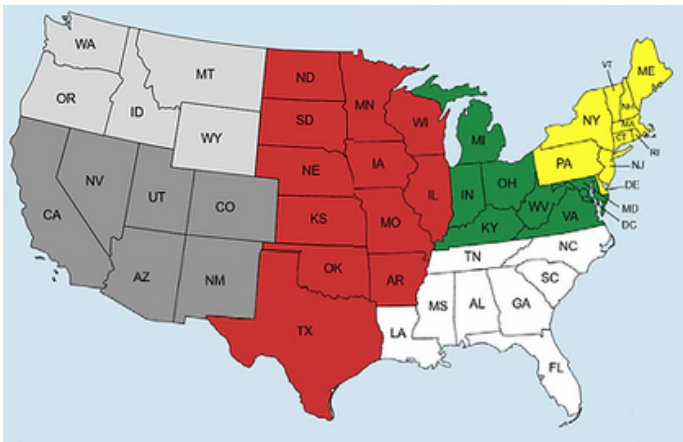
Priory of St. Sebastian
Grand Master Rick Trujillo

Priory of St. Luke
Prior Mark Snurr

Priory of St. Michael the Archangel
Grand Secretary (GSY) Reneé Nordio
(Rank: Interim Master Commander)

Priory of the Holy Trinity
Grand Marshal (GML) Marc Blaydoe
(Rank: Master Commander)

Priories of St. Miltiades (Africa)
and St. Evaristus (Asia)
Grand Prior (GP) Derek Nordio



King David (Light Grey)

St. Joan of Arc (Dark Grey)

St. Sebastian (Red)

St. Luke (Green)

St. Michael (Yellow)

Holy Trinity (White)



St. Miltiades

St. Evaristus