

Wyoming Supplement

William A. Biggs, Grand Commander

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From the Apartment of the Grand Commander

Sir Knights:

This is the month we celebrate Easter. Our children look for Easter eggs and chocolate bunnies. Our families attend the church of our choice and many have Easter pageants and plays. Many see this as the representation of the Easter season and for what it stands for. This not the truth. We as Christian Knights understand that Easter completes the cycle that our Lord Jesus Christ started those many years ago.

As I have attended our Festivals and watched the Commandery Orders presented to new and eager candidates, I was and still am moved when I remember my initiation as a Sir Knight and what an impact that made on me. The Order of the Temple is our Passion Play. Every year our Sir Knights rededicate ourselves to the ascension of our savior Jesus Christ and the Christian religion.

Faith-Friendship-Love

This theme is simple but speaks volumes. As Templars and Christians, we share the great joys of the celebration of the birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As friends, we are drawn together through common interests: history of fellowship, common values, and meeting on the level. And finally, Brotherly Love, not only the charities in our Masonic philosophy, but the kindness we convey to our brothers in sorrow and distress.

The Grand Officer Line of Wyoming is elected to serve you. To be successful, we need feedback from every Sir Knight to celebrate your successes and help provide aid when you are having trouble. In Wyoming, we have several Commandries that are working together to make their efforts stronger. No one needs to go through problems alone. You only need to ask for help.

As Knights Templar, every member, new or seasoned, officer or past officer, grand or past grand, young or old, all play a key role in perpetuating our craft. We rely on all the membership to stay engaged, to provide energy, knowledge, guidance and support in the development of those that will be our future leaders. No one can "retire", particularly when we have Masonic bodies struggling. The solution is not to take a back seat but to ensure future generations can enjoy what we have. Someone went this way before you, and now the legacy is in your hands.

As I travel around, I hear a lot of discussion about younger Masons and how the older Brothers find it difficult to understand what they want from the fraternity. They often proudly refer to themselves as millennials (born 1982-2001.) At times, their views on Freemasonry, the role it plays in their lives, the dynamic in the lodges, and the way we communicate seems to be different from what they expect from Masonry.

We as older Masons can be resistant to change where we should instead embrace it. It is important to remember that Millennials sought out Masonry, and they are eager to learn. Where in the past, one may have joined the fraternity as a social opportunity, Millennials see the role of Masons through history and how their lives have made a difference. They want to align themselves with the tenets of this great institution. They want to research deeper into Masonry, which can be intimidating to some of the Brethren. Millennials expect more, to warrant the investment of their time. It is up to us to educate and mentor these Brothers to help them understand the value of our institution. They expect to make a difference in the world, value education, bring vitality and desire to distinguish themselves as Masons. They will preserve this great institution for generations to come.

During my Masonic travels, long before being elected to the grand line, my wife Terry and I have made many wonderful friends who have revealed us to the heart and soul of Masonry. It is to this end I've embarked upon this opportunity to serve my Brothers. *In His Service*,

William A. Biggs

Right Eminent Grand Commander