

Louisiana Supplement

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Quarterly York Rite Meeting, June 27, 2020



Local commanderies are encouraged to have ZOOM type meetings so your commanderies can meet!

Grand Commanders Message

Greetings all Valiant Sir Knights of the Temple,
I once heard this saying,

“We are the Sum of the decisions we have made throughout our lives”
I find this version to be more accurate: “We are the Sum of the decisions we, and others, have made throughout our lives.”

Sometimes the simplest of advice can impact your life in the most profound way. I write now of an experience I had some 36 years ago. Since this life changing event, I have told this story many times and those who have, truly heard the story, and have pondered its teachings, were truly blessed as I was to experience it.

It was 1983, I was at home working in my dad's shop. My mom's brother came to visit, this man was by far my favorite uncle on both sides of the family. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, he worked his whole life for the U.S. Postal service, and his life outside of that was devoted to his family and his church. After visiting with my mom, he walked out to the shop to say hello to Dad and me. I was so happy to see him and tell him the great news that Frankie and I had set a date for our wedding. He was also excited and offered his congratulations.

He then asked me if he could give me some advice, I acknowledged my approval. He then reached down on the workbench and picked up a piece of scrap plywood and a pencil, he drew a circle on the plywood and then he drew a black dot in the middle of the circle. He turned to drawing for my review, and he explained that the black dot represented me, and that the circle represented my life, and that while single I needed to consider how my decisions would impact me. He then drew another dot beside mine, and said that dot represented Frankie, and that once married, I needed to also consider Frankie in every decision I made. He then stared at me for a long few seconds in total silence, then he drew three or four smaller dots around ours and said, “Need I Say More”. He did not explain, but by his presentation, I knew he meant our future children. You see, he knew that was one thing my dad had never understood. In the simplest of ways, he had changed my life forever.

I have been asked many times to give this “Circle Talk” for various lodges, and Youth groups, I feel it is important for every Mason and Templar to hear and understand. You never know when someone is listening, and looking to you, for guidance and inspiration.

In our fraternal teachings we have that saying, “That a wrong once done, goes on and radiates until it affects the outer most reaches of space”. We often liken this circle unto that of a pebble being dropped into a pond, its ripples go on and radiate until they affect the outer most reaches of space.”

I prefer to think of it like this,

“A decision once made, “Goes on and radiates until they affect the outer most reaches of space”.

Good or Bad, it will affect all those inside your circle, and possibly some outside your circle.

In Loving Memory of Albert Loise Lively Jr.

And remember Sir Knights,

“Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give Glory”

With Faith & Humility,

Rory Bozeman,

RE Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the state of Louisiana