

## WISCONSIN SUPPLEMENT

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Charles M. Olson  
Grand Commander

Greetings, Sir Knights!

Happy August? It appears we just got started and now the summer is winding to a close. Many of our commanderies have been dark over the summer; a time to relax, charge the batteries and get ready to start anew in the Fall.

The COVID virus is making everything tentative, but we need to do all we can. Summer is a great time to get the guys together, practice some ritual, enjoy a few beverages together and simply enjoy our great craft. Hopefully, you've either had or soon will have a School of Instruction conducted by your Divisional Grand Officers. S.K. LeRoy Kifer, PGC began our movement towards increasing proficiency in our ritual work. While different Commanderies have differing abilities, we all need to be proficient in the basic business of our Commandery. Opening and Closing should be second nature and performed without much thought. Every Conclave should be opened and closed in form, even if there are not enough Sir Knights present to fill all the chairs. Practice is key and it is great to open and close with our ritual.

We are also emphasizing the Order of the Temple and Reception of the Flag this year. The importance of a well conferred Order of the Temple is obvious. We need to impress our candidates and make their Order of the Temple the most moving experience in their Masonic lives. By doing so you will gain an active member, excited to be a part of your Commandery. If we stumble through the order or read our parts, we send the message 'this isn't really important.' If we want our new Sir Knights to think Commandery is important and worth their time, we need to show them through our impressive ritual work. It takes time and effort to do good ritual work. Your candidate will see your effort and be excited to do his part in the future.

When we are asked to provide flag presentations and escorts, this is our opportunity to impress others and get them to think about joining Commandery. If you look good and impress, you may get a new member. Nobody wants to join a group that looks bad or fumbles around. Patriotism is one of our hallmarks, and we show that by inspirational and well executed Flag Presentations

Therefore, our inspections will be different this year. Our focus will be on the Order of the Temple and Reception of the Flag. You need to do both well. If your Commandery chooses, the Full Form Opening and Reception of Grand Officers may be conducted as

a school of instruction with your Division Officers working with you to help teach others. Let us use the time to learn and grow. Improved skills translate into improved ritual work which will impress our candidates and instill a sense of pride in you. When you look good, you feel good!

Soon we will fully resume our labors. I hope you have enjoyed a restful summer and will return to the asylum with renewed energy and dedication. I plan to visit all our commanderies this year and hope to...

See you in the Asylum!

Courteously,  
Charles (Mick) Olson, KCT, REGC

From the Grand Sword Bearer

Sir Knights as I write this article it is June 16<sup>th</sup> with that being said please check any important information or dates included in this article as they may have changed. It is such a different world right now with all the things that has happened within the past 5 months with the pandemic, stay at home orders, shortages, cancelled events, unrest and so on. Hopefully by the time you read this we will have things near as possible back to normal!

As of Saturday June 13, 2020, we had our Virtual Grand Conclave via the Zoom platform and I believe it went very well, a big thank you to everyone involved in making this event possible! Congratulations to our newly Installed Right Emanate Grand Commander S.K. Charles "Mick" Olsen and his staff of elected and appointed officers, I look forward to an interesting year.

In our Trestle board of life there will always be obstacles to overcome in our everyday life's, all we can do is make adjustments to keep our paths as level as possible and place our trust in our Heavenly Father for Devine Guidance. Just as our Fraternal Forefathers had to overcome diversity in their eras so shall we and become stronger and wiser because of it.

Courteously Yours

S.K. Steven J Schwartz

Grand Sword Bearer