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“Anticipation is sometimes more exciting than actual events.”

— Ana Monnar

Greetings Sir Knights,

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it sometimes seems like the longest. I think it is a transitional time. Moving from Winter, struggling toward Spring. It seems at the same time, quiet, yet unsettled somehow. I guess it must be the anticipation of the coming Spring. That can feel sort of like a child waiting for Christmas, or for a school dismissal bell to ring. It just never seems to get here quickly enough. And this year, 2020, it's actually a day longer. Yes, it's Leap Year.

In our house growing up, we kept track of Leap Year and could see it coming with anticipation. It meant my Dad would have a birthday! See, my Dad's birthday is February 29<sup>th</sup>. By now, I've had many more birthdays than he has, but he still has me outscoored in the age and wisdom categories. So I am using a little Executive Privilege here and giving a shout out to my father, **Sir Knight Thomas Daniels!** Happy Birthday Dad! Gosh! I hope he reads this...

Anticipation keeps us leaning forward in life. That eager engagement that keeps us advancing gives us double reward, first in anticipation and later in memory. Spring is coming!

The calendar is filling up this time of year and we eagerly look forward to opportunities to get together and work in our beloved Order. We have listed a few items not to miss.

**Masonic Week**, February 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> 2020 at the Hyatt Regency-Crystal City in Arlington VA  
Schedules and hotel info can be found online at the address below.  
Registrations are required and can be made, at  
<http://www.amdusa.org/MasonicWeek/>

**Annual Conclave** is coming up in March. I urge you to come and participate in the decisions and governance of your Grand York Rite Bodies. Your opinion and vote are important. Take an active role in making your York Rite experience to be the best it can be, shape the future, reunite with old friends and make new ones. It will be as good as you make it. Make it an important and meaningful time.

**Get Ready** for new things. New officers will be elected, New visions for our future, new programs and strategies to make us stronger. NOW is the time to be a Knight Templar! NOW is the time to plan and prepare to secure our path forward. Anticipate and participate!

I have to share this picture. James Vance took it at Castle McCullough. It's a favorite. It makes me proud to be one of you.

