

ARKANSAS SUPPLEMENT



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Happy 4th of July!

Barely two weeks ago, (This was written on June 1) on May 20, 2020, the following article was published by the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* in their "Other Days" section:



- The session of the Hugh de Payens Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, Little Rock, complimentary to the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Arkansas, closed last night with a dance at the Albert Pike Consistory, Eighth and Scott streets. The dance had three intermissions in which the crucifixion scene, the ascension scene and the forest scene were enacted on the consistory stage. The consistory choir furnished music. At the business session two charters were granted to two new Commanderies, St. Omar Commandery No. 25, and DeQueen Commandery No. 26, at DeQueen. A buffet luncheon was served at noon in the consistory dining room.

Sir Knights, I am struck by the thought that this event occurred less than 2 years after the end of World War I, and the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918. We can learn from our Brothers of the past that all that we are enduring today will pass. With faith in God, and our LORD Jesus, may we all celebrate our nation's Independence Day with Joy and Gladness in our hearts. And faith that, though fortitude undaunted, we will emerge victorious. T.J. Henwood

Editor's note: Sir Knights, again keep in mind that this publication is submitted one month prior to publication. Here are some revised dates, as I know them on June 1, 2020:

AR Grand York Rite Sessions - Electronic "Zoom" meeting August 29, 2020
Order of High Priesthood - Postponed until Grand YR Sessions in 2021
AR College SRICF - Live Meeting July 18 (Hopefully)
Sword & Trowel/KYCH/Past Commanders - July 25, 2020
AR York Rite College - August 1, 2020
AR 80, Knight Masons - Postponed until December 2020.
Gilchrist #26, A.M.D. - Postponed indefinitely.
St. Giles, Red Cross of Constantine - Postponed to Oct. 10
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Greetings, Sir Knights:



I hope all is well with each of you and that you will be able to celebrate our Independence Day on 4th of July. I hope that all of you are able to stay safe and well during this time.

At the time of this article (6/1/2020) the Corona virus is in full force. The Governor of Arkansas has put into place phase 2, which is opening more business and allowing Churches to meet inside of the Church as long as we continue to social distance, wear mask and have no hand shaking, as well as no eating of food. Our Grand Master of Masons of Arkansas, M.: W.: David Bradley has opened our Lodges, but again social distance and wearing of masks is prescribed. There can not be any degrees, or food inside and no hand shaking again as above.

However, Jeffery Nelson the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment has issued General Order No:12 that no Grand Commandery or Suburbanite Commanderies can conduct business or meet in person until further notice. All Conclaves currently scheduled are hereby cancelled. However, the GM (of Grand Encampment) did authorize me as the Grand Commander as well as all Grand Commanders to convene our Grand Conclave by means of teleconference or webcast provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members

of the Grand Commandery and the Stated Conclave. With this said, under dispensation from Grand Master Bradley, we are having our Grand Conclave on August the 30, 2020 via a Zoom meeting. Sir Knight Dick Browning the Grand Secretary/Recorder of the York Rite has purchased a license from Zoom to have this meeting. If you like and want to join this meeting contact Dick Browning and let him know. We would like to get as many as we can to visit this our Grand York Rite Conference.

As of this writing, local Commanderies in Arkansas are not authorized to hold electronic meetings.

The Grand Chapter and Grand Council will also meet on August 29 via Zoom. But local Chapters and Councils are prohibited from having electronic meetings, and are governed by the edicts of the Grand High Priest and MI Grand Master.

Sir Knights please stay safe and well and remember we serve a Risen Lord, and we can do all thing through Him which strengthen us.

Yours in Christ,

Ronald Tucker
REGC