

**ARIZONA
SUPPLEMENT**

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High Desert Lockdown

I looked over our Chalcedony Lodge #6 history tonight. I was curious to find out if there was any information concerning the great Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918-19. I found a scant reference indicating that the Lodge did not meet in October and November of 1918 by order of the Board of Health. I guess there is some historical precedent for our present situation.

How are you doing these days? If you're like me, you're experiencing a lot more time at home as meetings, church, and many other activities are all canceled. It looks like our church service at the Methodist Church in Heber will be on some type of internet program like Zoom or YouTube. I guess, on the bright side, I will be able to participate in the service on our laptop in the kitchen, possibly sitting in my underwear.

We also bought tickets to see Tony Bennett in Phoenix on April 16th. Tony is now 93 years old and this is his seventieth anniversary in show business. He has rescheduled for a date in September. My advice to Tony: don't take any chances at your age and be sure to practice social distancing, especially with the guys in your band.

I have been taking a walk everyday with our little beagle pup, Gracie. We like to hike up to the Holbrook water tower and watch the traffic on the interstate, especially the westbound lane. We see a lot of trucks and not many passenger vehicles. God bless our truckers! They continue to transport all manner of goods in these

difficult times. I'm sure that creature comforts on the road are pretty minimal at this point.

Trips to our local Safeway are also interesting at this time. On a recent trip to the store there was no toilet paper and no eggs. The only thing I can figure is that people are getting diarrhea from all the eggs they've been eating.

I've also been wasting time watching YouTube videos posted by a guy named Jason Asselin. He's kind of a rustic type that lives in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and drives around most of the day in a truck with a cracked windshield. He likes trains, like me, so I enjoy his videos. He lives by the Escanaba and Lake Superior Railroad, a line forgotten by time. Lately they have been running a really cool FP7A diesel built in 1951 with a spiffy dark red and silver paint job. They've also had a couple derailments and had some beautiful runs through the woods with their snow plow train.

All in all, it's good to be riding out this flu deal in "fly over country." I see that New Mexico is in lockdown and that in Chicago you can't even take a walk on the Lakeshore. Use your time wisely or maybe not. Sometimes it's kind of fun to just waste some time doing something that you normally wouldn't do. It's also a good time to check on some of our Brothers and Sir Knights, especially those that are probably trapped at home. Hope to see you in Lodge or a York Rite happening after this thing blows over!

--- Editor

Men do not avail themselves of the riches of God's grace. They love to nurse their cares, and seem as uneasy without some fret as an old friar would be without his girdle. They are commanded to cast their cares upon the Lord, but even when they attempt it, they do not fail to catch them up again, and think it meritorious to walk burdened.

... Beecher