

Massachusetts and Rhode Island Supplement



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GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE – JUNE 2020 Sir Knight George Leonard Herbolsheimer, IV



Sir Knights,

This message was supposed to have started out with "Well, the Masonic year is fast approaching its close and I hope you have a restful and relaxing summer". Needless to say, we've had our restful, albeit stressful, vacation from Masonry and I hope that there will be many Commandery meetings during June and over the summer. Your Grand Officers are beginning to put together teams to put on the Orders for those candidates who either haven't begun their orders or were someplace in the middle when the pandemic hit. I have put into place guidelines for summer conclaves, including express permission to find local air conditioned sites to hold the conclaves, if your Asylum isn't so up to date. Your York Rite heads of bodies are working on a family outing for the end of the summer to reopen our Chapters, Councils and Commanderies. I do hope that the new Masonic year brings back some degree of normality to the Craft.

It has been wonderful to see the Commanderies in this jurisdiction utilizing the wonders of modern media to meet with the Fraters in a social setting, to find out how each other is doing and to offer support in this time of crisis. Let's hope that the Craft in general can continue to use this modern technology to empower our brethren to keep in touch with each other. It will allow many absent brethren to join with their Commandery, even if they can't attend the conclaves.

One of the blessings of this quarantine is that it has given me, and I'm sure many of you, time to consider just how fortunate we are and how the gifts of our Father and His Son have enriched our lives. Most of us continue to be fairly spared from the ravages of this virus, and the world seems to be a happier, more cordial place to live in. The sky seems bluer, the air fresher and the attitudes of the populace a little more forgiving. I don't expect the world to continue as it has, but maybe we can learn the lesson of reaching out to our friends and brethren more often to ensure they are well.

My Fraters,, continue to stay safe, keep well, and maintain your social distancing, and until we meet in person again, I leave you with

My Knightly Greetings

George L. Herbolsheimer IV
Grand Commander,

Grand Prelate's Corner

Sir Knights,

This time of quarantine has been a great challenge for all of us. It is hard to not fully live out or calling in the ways and methods we are used to employing. Yet, we are still able to be in ministry for our Lord. A note, email, phone call or video chat can make a world of difference in someone's life. Keep in touch with and care for one another. Practice charity of spirit as well as finance. Remember, my Fraters, we are not alone in this journey. The One whom we serve, walks with us and leads us onward. God bless you and your loved

In His service,
Matt Wissell



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