



New Mexico Supplement



D.W. Winchester, PGC
Grand Commander

Sir Knights,

Greetings. I am hopeful that this message is finding everyone safe and secure. We are in a very peculiar situation, as these are trying times. We hear a lot of information from social media and from our local news. As the Right Eminent Grand Commander, I hope that everyone is doing their best to do as much as they can to help reduce the risk that is upon us.

I want to encourage everyone to keep in touch with every Sir Knight, and extended family, electronically or by phone that they can be able to stay connected. We need to make sure we are still involved with our members and we have not forgotten them during this incident. As of this communication, April, we are still under the order of the Grand Master of New Mexico, but we still need to communicate. Here are just some things that we have been through in the last few years.

These are some of the facts from Medical News Today:

- Heart disease: as of 2017 647,457 deaths 23.5%
- Cancer : 599,108 deaths 21.3%

The American Cancer Society estimates the leading cause of cancer for males is lung and Bronchus at 76,650.

Sir Knights these are yearly evaluations. I put this in a perspective for what the COVID-19 pandemic is about. Yes, this is a bad reality that we are dealing with and something we need to address but the human condition is dealing with more than this. Let us not forget that we went through the H1N1 and the H1N5 viruses also with the Ebola scare. Let us do everything we can to subdue this and get back to what we call normal.

Be safe, vigilant and most of all be prudent and secure. Hopefully, this will end soon, and we will all get back to the normal life that we have come to know. Please Sir Knights do what you can to help prevent the spread of this and to stay healthy.

From my Lady Denise and I our prayers and well wishes are with you during these times.

Courteously,

D.W. Winchester, PGC
Grand Commander

A Silver Lining?

Many of our Companions and Fellow Soldiers are overcoming the obstacles we currently face with enhanced communication. The Grand Encampment's Education Committee is working to provide ongoing resources for all Sir Knights to continue their Chivalric Masonry Journey, the York Rite Leadership Program is working to provide a virtual classroom so that members can continue to grow, and our own Grand Commandery is continuing to explore tools and options to assist our Commanderies in continuing good communication and taking care of our own.

If there are any ideas you have, projects you would like to complete, or messages that should be heard, make it happen. We can still practice social distancing and remain the beacons of light in our communities. If there is anything that the Grand Commandery can do to help, please bring it up!

Please remember that we are offering Zoom meeting hosting, we have alternatives as well, and this is not only to York Rite - if we can help our Lodges, reach out to them and let us know what we can do! This is a time for all of the Masonic Family to realize our mandates - Work in our Craft daily, actively effort where we agree, and overcome the obstacles presented us to make our world a better place!

Photo by Michele Balke

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