

MONTANA SUPPLEMENT



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What do we do now?

Greeting my fellow Sir Knights and their families,

With all that has been going on in the world and locally there has been an overwhelming amount of disruptions to our “normal” daily way of life. These changes can have many effects on us as individuals, families and communities. Some people are thinking this is overkill and needs to stop, others think we need more restrictions. I am not an epidemiologist, a doctor or a politician and neither are most of us reading this article so I will continue operating under the instructions of those who have the most accurate information and do what is best for myself, my family and my neighbors. Hopefully by the time this article comes out at the end of April, we will have started to resume some level of what we had before all this started and I am praying I will be able to spot the ever elusive Charmin double roll again but until then, what do we do now?

We all know that some businesses have been closed or had to change how they do business, big events have been canceled and gatherings have been stopped and this is where we as Masons, have had the most disruptions because for many of us, Masonic activities/gatherings are the only form of social interaction we have and as you all know, you can do something Masonic every night of the week.

For my family, personally speaking, the only things we do outside of work and family gatherings, is attending Masonic functions. We don't go out and “DO” anything else, mainly because the only people we want to hang out with are other Masonic families, it is kind of sad I know, but if something works, don't change it!

Again, I am hoping that by the time this comes to print we will be starting back on the track of what is normal activities but if not, what can we be doing to stay on track and on task with Masonry? First and foremost is to stay in contact with our Brothers and their families and make sure they are squared away and doing okay, especially our older Brothers and their spouses. During the times of the great Charmin wars, some of them may not have been able to battle on the front lines to get some of the basic supplies they may need, see what you can do he assist them. Even phone calls offer great psychological support by letting people know that even though they may be alone at home right now, they are never actually alone, we are all here for each other.

Given the fact that a bunch of us have some extra at home time, I see that as a perfect time to work on our ritual work. Floor work may be an issue unless you have a large home, but the book work can be worked on without any problems. Go over your own parts for opening/closing in your various Masonic bodies. If you have your parts down, start learning the next chair above you. If you get stuck on some words, call your Brothers and ask them, heck set up a conference call with several brothers and practice together. Most cell phones have a button to add a caller to a call so get 3 or 4 guys together and keep active, that way when the “normal” returns, we don't have to try to play catch up.

Another thing that may be possible in some places is to get a couple Brothers together at your lodge building and get your spring cleaning started now. It will give some good contact and will also be a great time to really rip things apart and get in deep cleaning without worrying about disrupting any meetings because they have all been canceled for now.

The main thing to remember is we are going to get through this together and life will return to our normal. A phrase that I like to remember is “If God bring you to it, God is going to see you through it!”

Respectfully submitted by Daniel E Koch PM. REPGC