

Wyoming Supplement

Jack C. Cook, Grand Commander

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Here it is November, and the year is quickly marching on. Have you kept in touch with your members that have not felt like coming out because of all the pandemic fears we have had this last year? Have you brought in a petition to your Blue lodge? Have found a Blue Lodge Mason that seems to be losing interest to take on as your apprentice and guide them in the ways of Masonry and the York Rite? With luck we will soon be having our York Rite Festivals in Casper, Riverton, Green River, and Sheridan so we need to find more troops. If travel is not an option, have you dusted of your paraphernalia and started the degrees in house.

We have seen that not all the people we bring into Masonry stay in Masonry. I don't have an answer or a reason, but it seems that they may not have had a mentor to help them understand the lessons and the meaning of the various degrees and orders. They may have seen old, tired members reluctantly going through the motions of doing degree work. We need to face it, those boring meetings of show up and grumble through the opening, read minutes and bills and close, do not really inspire.

Have you changed how you do education, by opening it up to questions, say for example what is the debate in the Order of the Red Cross and its meaning in society today? Have you broken out the paraphernalia for the orders to see if you have all the equipment you need? By doing so in a meeting, it teaches or reminds everyone what the equipment is, where it is located in the vast tombs of storage. Does it need repair, cleaning, replacement? Are there any of your members that needs a little help with the signs, words, grips, sword work? How about planning a night to gather and do a little training in the history, mysteries and meanings? Have a few doughnuts and some coffee!

We enjoy a great life here in Wyoming and in the whole country because of our veterans and our service men and women. The idea of Veteran's Day has been around from the time of the civil war. For many years it was referred to as Armistice day yet it was not until the end first world war that the Armistice was signed on the Eleventh hour of the Eleventh day of the Eleventh month.

As Templar Knights we are sensitive to and acknowledge those men and women who have served and are serving in the Armed Forces and have willingly gone into harm's way so we can be free and have a life we enjoy.

November is also the time when gather together with family and friends to celebrate the harvest. Giving thanks to God.

Thanks Giving
By Edger A Guest
Dear lord, Accept our humble Prayer
Of thanks for all Thy watchful care,
For yield of field and vine and tree
Our hearts give gratitude to Thee;
Now lies the frost upon the vine,
We see another year decline,
But through the pain and strife and woe
Thy Blessings manifestly show.

Have a very happy Thanksgiving!

Fraternally Jack Cook Grand Commander of Wyoming

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