



IDAHO SUPPLEMENT

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Back in the Saddle?

Greetings Sir Knights!

The challenge of these supplements is that they have to be finalized and submitted about six weeks before they are actually printed and forwarded to the members. Thus, it makes providing timely news to everyone a challenge.

As of this writing, there is tentative information that our new Grand Master of Idaho, M.W. Brother Steven Zimmerman, has allowed some Masonic activities to resume. The leadership of the various bodies that I am in contact with are all busy preparing their contingency plans for when they can safely return to work. Hopefully by the time you are reading this, things have improved some and at least some Masonic activity is occurring again. I know I certainly appreciate the efforts and leadership of Past Grand Master Steven Hall, but I most assuredly do not envy the year that he had or the decisions he had to make in his determination of what was best for the fraternity. But I am optimistic that perhaps the tide is changing.

Nevertheless, with that in mind, I have to remind the Sir Knights that Templar conclaves may **NOT** resume at this time. No in person Templar meetings may occur due to Grand Master Nelson's General Order No. 12. Several Sir Knights have inquired; it is simply not within my authority to alter, rescind, or revise that order and we are ALL beholden to it. I am as eager as anyone to resume safely meeting, however, it simply is not a possibility as of this writing.

We started looking at goals a few issues ago. We've covered administrative goals and now we can turn to more "fun" fraternal goals.

Each officer of a constituent commandery is challenged to learn the ritual for his station for at least opening and closing the commandery. Commanders and past commanders – remember there is an award bar available to each Sir Knight who demonstrates proficiency in the opening and closing ritual for the Commander's station. I challenge each Commander and Past Commander to strive for this badge. But each Sir Knight can learn their few lines for the ceremony. This makes us all stronger and helps to reinforce what we do and why it is important. It also shows our other members that we believe what we are doing is important. And just about everyone can learn a few lines if they work at it a few words at a time. This is an excellent activity for working with your fellow knights over the phone or in a well-tyled Zoom session.

Each sir knight is challenged to re-read the ceremonies of the three Orders and to learn the "proficiency" work for each. Again, this reinforces what we do, why we do it, and the lessons we teach. If each of us puts this effort in, assuredly we are more able to explain Templary to prospective members, our friends, and the world at large. We all need to know and understand the *WHY* of what we do so that we can explain it to ourselves and to help others understand why they should consider becoming a Templar, or consider coming back to Templary.

Looking on the horizon, it will soon be time to consider nominations for our various awards. While I know our year has been unique and unusual, that is no reason to not make sure that your special, hard-working Sir Knights are not considered for our awards. They are based upon a body of work and not a given year. More will be forthcoming, but please be thinking about this!

May God Bless You All!
Jeremy C. Vaughn, Grand Commander