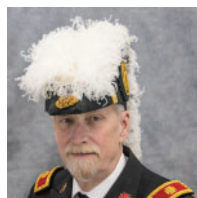




New Mexico Supplement



H. C. Sky Olsen
Grand Commander

Sir Knights,

I hope this finds you and yours all in good health and happiness.

I am looking forward to taking part in conferring the Orders once again and I'm sure all of you feel the same. It has been over a year since the last Land of Enchantment Festival and the one scheduled for the end of July had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. Let's hope the Health Orders have all gone away by the time the next Land of Enchantment Festival rolls around next July, 2021.

In preparation for that day, read over the ritual and see what parts you might like to perform. You say you're not a ritualist? You don't have to be a ritualist or a great actor. Just memorize some lines, something all Masons have done. You can do it again. I know as we get older, it's more difficult to memorize a part. I know that from personal experience, but many of our parts are three or four lines, which is something any of us can do as long as we start practicing well in advance. Starting now, you have ten months. Given that amount of time, most of us could learn one of the larger parts.

Please don't forget the Chapter and Council degrees. Every prospective Sir Knight must first become a Companion, so check over those parts as well. I know it can be stressful performing in front of others but we have all done it and we all know that we all make mistakes, so there should be no embarrassment involved.

Taking part in the Degrees and Orders opens your eyes to what they really mean. It seems as though every time I perform a part, I realize something I never noticed before. Some bit of ritual, a word or a phrase, that suddenly links to some other bit in a new configuration, opening your eyes to some new truth that was always there but un-noticed before. Better still are the looks on the faces of the candidates as our ritual is opened before them and those truths that have become old familiar friends to us, are revealed for the first time to them.

There is another opportunity for those who don't enjoy the spotlight but wish to participate. Helping with the props and costumes is always necessary and you learn the Degrees and Orders from a completely different perspective: that of every piece of equipment, prop or costume, and when and where each must be placed, moved and replaced by a different one. More people knowing where everything belongs and helping lay out the room means less time wasted between scenes.

Another way to help is assisting with meals and the cleanup afterward. It seems mundane but the meals are very important. A bad meal, over or under cooked or served on a dirty table, can detract greatly from the candidate's experience. Fortunately, the Land of Enchantment Festival has always had excellent food, but help is always appreciated.

If you would like guidance regarding parts which are needed, please contact me and I'll put you in touch with the director for that degree. Let's all try to get in on the fun!

I hope to see you all in Commandery, God willing and the Grand Encampment ban on in person meetings and the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico's Edict permitting. That sure does seem like a lot of conditions but I'm looking forward to it nonetheless. At that time we can discuss this in more detail.

Wishing you all good health and strength in the Faith,

Courteously,

H. C. Sky Olsen
Grand Commander
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Photo by Michele Balke

Sir Knights - Mark your calendars!

Register at <https://swyrc.org>

October 30 Chapter/Council

October 31 Commandery

Email to yrl@yorkriteleadership.org

(This program is open to ALL (16yo+) Masonic Family Members)

October 30 Leadership 201 - Continue your journey.

October 31 Leadership 101 - Start your leadership training!

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