



VIRGINIA SUPPLEMENT

Carry the shield forward.



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Knightly Greetings,

“May you live in interesting times” is, by the Chinese, considered a curse. You can take that at face value or take a moment to realize that there are two sides to everything. We are in interesting times and they are anything but a curse.

There are quantum leaps being made in many fields such as medical research and communication. Families are sharing quality time together again. The creative nature in most of us is coming to the forefront.

A modernized version of the lesson as given by our Savior Jesus Christ in the Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 19 verses 11-20: A merchant was making a business trip and called an employee meeting. He divided his business into sections and gave each employee one with instructions to conduct business in his absence. When he returned, he called these employees to see the results. The first reported that had doubled the value of his section. The merchant congratulated and rewarded him. The second had increased his sections value by fifty percent and the merchant congratulated and rewarded him. This continued until the last employee reported that he let his section lie dormant to protect it. The merchant dismissed the employee telling him, you should have done something as doing nothing results in nothing.

There are Sir Knights that are highly active in holding virtual conclaves, developing programs, recruiting, learning parts in the Orders, seeking ways to practice and do all that is possible to not only to maintain but improve our Order in the absence of in-person Conclaves. All of this while conforming to the guidelines to which we currently must adhere.

What specifically are the active Sir Knights doing?

They have developed a Knight Templar Correspondence Course consisting of two sections that is available at no charge through the Grand Commandery website. It is self-administered, immediately reviewed with the results

returned while you wait, and upon completion a certificate is generated. Additional sections are being conceived to expand Templar knowledge.

A Templar Guide was developed and is available through the Grand Commandery website. Three additional manuals are being written pertaining to Finance, Membership, and the Trustees Responsibilities. When completed they will also be available on the website.

Visits are being made to Lodges and Chapters by Sir Knights in uniform and in one case antique regalia. Petitions have been received! The Drill Corp is holding a school and competition. Missing Proceedings are being located and as needed, written. By holding Virtual Conclaves, they are conducting business and sharing information.

These Sir Knights are looking for ways to do things rather than wasting their time finding reasons why things cannot be done. Great work Sir Knights.

The word “apathy” appears in some previous Proceedings and unfortunately it is being allowed to creep back into our Order by some who recognized the problem in the past. Inactivity with no interest being created creates a perfect environment for apathy. Do not give it an opening as it will spread like COVID 19.

Keeping those things in mind, where do you stand? There is room for others to get on board.

Until our “in person” Conclaves resume, exercise care and stay well.

“Carry the shield forward.”

With All Knightly Courtesy,

J. Jeffrey McClelland, KCT
Grand Commander