MASSACHUSETTS & RHODE ISLAND **SUPPLEMENT**

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SK George L. Herbolsheimer, IV, REGC September 2020 Message

My Fraters,

It's September. Time to get Templary active in Massachusetts and Rhode Island again. Can we meet in person; well, probably not unless my negotiating skills prove better than I think they are. But, we can get the ball rolling for the time when I can convince the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment that those of us in RI and MA who shut down long before most of our western compatriots, deserve not to be punished for the errors of their states. And, it's always possible that by the time you read this missive, we will be undergoing a second wave of the pandemic and the Grand Master will have proved prescient.

We have decided to have our annual meeting of the York Rite by teleconference. While I will miss greeting each and every one of you, neither the Governors of RI or MA will probably be allowing a gathering of our size by then, and it is better for us to plan an interesting day for all of you. It will be one day, and if you haven't received the call by the middle of this month, please contact the York Rite office in Boston. Similarly, Committee reports, budget and financial statements will be ready by the first of October. They will be emailed to all who want them, and hard copies will be available through the office.

Even, however, if we cannot meet as Knights Templar in person, we can still keep our asylums busy with teleconference, we can still continue the acts of charity that most of our Commanderies have been practicing throughout the summer, and we can be at meetings of our blue lodges (and maybe Chapters and Councils) talking about the value and virtues of Templary for our Brothers and Companions. I know that many of our lodges are meeting in person - I had already been to one by the middle of July. One of our candidates asked when he was going to receive the Order of the Temple. He, however understood when I told him that there has been a pause in the conferring of the Orders.

Sir Knights, continue to practice the mandates of Templary, to "feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted". Be out in your community doing good. Reach out to your fellow Sir Knights as I will be doing. Assist them in any way you can, and when we do meet in person, we will have the conscience of having fulfilled our duties.

I wish you a wonderful rebirth of your Masonic activities this month, and may we go forward to victory in His name.

Always Moving Forward in His Service,

George

DID YOU KNOW THIS? PAST GRAND MASTERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT from MA/RI



8. William S. Gardner 12. Benjamin Dean 21. Henry W. Rugg 33. Harry G. Pollard XVII-Newton MA XXI-Boston MA XXX-Providence RI XLI-Lowell MA 1940-1943 1868-1871 1880-1883 1907-1910 1863-65 REGC 1869-7 REGC 1875-77 REGC 1920-21 REGC I St. Omer 21 Pilgrim 9 St. John's 1 Pilgrim 9 Grand Master No./Name-Triennial No./Location-Year REGC MA/RI-Commandery

These are the four Past Grand Commanders of Massachusetts & Rhode Island who have served as Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar. Reference: www.knightstemplar.org/pgeo/mepgm.html for Biographies.