



SOUTH CAROLINA SUPPLEMENT
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R. E. Grand Commander
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First, Sir Knights, thank you for the chance to serve you as Grand Commander. Next, I would like to thank the Sir Knights that have agreed to serve the Grand Commandery of SC. Our future looks bright with these fine Knights in leadership roles. Congratulations to Vic Phillips, our newly elected VE Deputy Grand Commander. Special thanks go to R.E. John Marcucci. R.E. Marcucci stepped into the role of Grand Captain General on the death of Sir Knight Lee Brock last May. No one worked harder to serve our Grand Commandery. Please remember Sir Knight Brock in your moment of prayer.

Please join me in congratulating James Humphrey, our new Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Jon Bowker, our new Most Illustrious Grand Master. One of the great things about the Grand York Rite of South Carolina is the close relationship the three bodies share. To keep our relationship growing, the three bodies have decided to conduct six district wide meetings this year. The purpose of these meetings is to serve as our official visits for this 21-22 York Rite year. Our joint District Deputies will be in contact soon to coordinate these events. With some planning, we believe this method of meeting will be a great way to keep everyone up to speed on current events and provide the Grand Heads a good way of listening to the needs of the membership. Speaking of better ways to communicate, we are working on moving into the modern age!

We are working on guidelines for using Zoom as a communication tool. Zoom will allow us to conduct statewide planning and training without leaving the comfort of your home. Stay tuned as we roll out this new tool.

Sir Knights, our theme this year is the eleventh commandment. The last year has taught us many lessons. We felt the full weight of waiting a time with patience. We learned that none of us is immune to loneliness, anxiety, or despair. We fully realized the value of each other's company. The meetings I have attended since the easing of restrictions have been joyful events. Our challenge is to maintain that wonderful momentum. The best guidance I can give is found in the Holy Bible (KJV): John 13:43 reads "**A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.**" The words of our Lord and Savior. Love is not always easy but is always worth the work.

When I was a boy, I discovered a copy of "King Author and the Knights of the Round Table". After devouring that work, I was sold. I wanted to be a Knight. Never would my twelve-year-old self believe that I could be elected to such an elevated position. I give you my solemn promise to serve this Grand Commandery with all the zeal of that twelve-year-old!
Again, thank you for allowing me to serve!

Fraternally,

Mark McDonald
R.E. Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of South Carolina