



# Nebraska Supplement

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Greetings fellow Sir Knights, Companions, and Brothers, wherever dispersed!

Some good news. This month I am preparing for our Grand York Rite of Nebraska Session scheduled for April 15-17, 2021 at the Younes Conference Center, Kearney. We are planning to attend in person. I have proposed that only York members attend the session, due to the continued, presence of COVID-19 in our society. I have worked with the two other heads of the York Rite bodies: M.I. Grand Master, Walter Johnson (Grand Council of Nebraska) and Grand High Priest, Michael E. Jones (Grand Chapter of Nebraska) and they agree with me that we should strongly recommend that spouses, guests and significant others do not attend the session, in order to protect them. We made this determination in early January, due to the lead time necessary to disseminate the invitation to our constituents, as well as informing the Younes Center of our intent to conduct the meeting this year. It was in January, that the COVID-19 vaccines were just starting to be distributed. Governor Pete Ricketts, at the end of January, also moved the state to the "Green" phase based on decline of positive cases, and hospital capacity. With this information at our hands, we, the Grand Officer leads, weighed the evidence to what we presumed the state of the nation, Nebraska, and cities would be in three months after the initial dosages of the vaccine were given to the public. As such this is how we came to the conclusion to restrict attendance, because we still feel it is better to be safe than sorry. Some of the consequences of this

decision was to eliminate the hospitality room, and while we will still have the meals, the number of individuals seated at a table will be limited. Please continue to pray that we have COVID-19 under better control and can loosen these restrictions!

Now some better news! I am inviting all Sir Knights to attend the Spring Nebraska York Rite festival in March. We have planned to present the Chapter degrees on the 6th of March 2021, and the Council along with the Commandery Orders given on 27th. Both sessions will start promptly at 08:00 a.m. This is exciting as it has been far too long since the work has been given in Nebraska and we have several candidates waiting to receive the degrees. The restrictions for the Commandery Orders are, that unless S.K. Jeffrey N. Nelson, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A, allows Knights Templar to transition, for COVID-19 restrictions, to the proposed "Phase 2" of General Order #14 (<http://www.knightstemplar.org/downloads/GO14.pdf>) will be limited to only presenting two of the Commandery Orders with limited presentation of the work for those two. These candidates are to be encouraged to attend the full presentation of the Commandery Orders once we have COVID-19 under control, and social distancing restrictions have become more relaxed or eliminated. To me, even under these circumstances, this is still very exciting none the less!

Again I continue to pray to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that my fellow Sir Knights, Companions, and Brothers, always trust and understand the power of the promise our Lord gave to watch over us and our loved ones. God Bless and remember: Navare operam Quid impedit (Latin: Do your duty, come what may!).

LaVern J (Joe) Work (II)  
Grand Commander