



## IOWA NEWS FOR NOVEMBER

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Newsletter Editor

### **Sir Knights,**

November is here and it's hard to believe that the year is already winding to a close! I'm not sure what to make of it, with everything that has been thrown at us this year.

Des Moines will be hosting the Fall York Rite Festival on Saturday, November 20. This will be a full day of every degree and Order and we hope to have a large class. Our Department Commander, David Dryer, will again be conducting the work. If you would like more details and specifics, please reach out to him.

I want to thank the Sir Knights who helped at the Cornerstone ceremony in Fort Dodge on October 2. This was an event that Grand Lodge was asked to do, and in turn we were asked to form lines for. This was for the dedication of the courthouse renovations done in Fort Dodge. This was a civic ceremony and community leaders were present, and we had a chance to engage with them. Although not Masons, they did reflect on their personal ties to Masonry through family members and a few mentioned thinking about joining. These are the types of opportunities we have to present ourselves. As I have stated in the past, we need to be public and present whenever asked, and sometimes we have to ask to participate. But this representation and public appearance should be on every Sir Knight's mind.

In late October we had our North Central Department meeting in Sioux Falls. As of this writing I don't have any details to share, however I am looking forward to seeing the Sir Knights from our Department as well as from Grand Encampment. In light of the current situation with Grand Encampment, I am imagining there will be some discussion.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year, please remember to give thanks for the blessings we each have and reflect on the positive. These past 2 years have been trying, in my opinion more than necessary, and I look forward to 2022. I am grateful for the Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Iowa and look forward to welcoming new Sir Knights in November. Until then, I remain

In His Service

Chris Beard, Grand Commander