



## IOWA NEWS FOR OCTOBER

Christian M. Beard

Greg Kenkel

Grand Commander

Newsletter Editor

Sir Knights:

October is here and that means it's time for our North Central Department Conference. This year it will be back to in-person in Sioux Falls, SD at the usual location, the Ramkota Best Western. Registration details can be found on the Grand Encampment website and room reservations must be made with the hotel itself. It is my expectation that the Dias officers attend, and as many other Sir Knights as possible. Our Department Commander David Dryer will be presenting updates from Grand Master Johnson and I am expecting a good turnout from the Grand Commandery of Iowa. These sessions always provide good information and it's always good to meet with fellow Sir Knights and Companions from our Department. I look forward to seeing you all there.

I want to thank everyone who came out for the York Rite reception in Cedar Falls. It was a great meeting and good fellowship with all. I also want to thank those that represented the Grand Commandery of Iowa at the Grand Lodge Communication. Our presence there was well-received, and I hope it generated more interest in the York Rite in general.

As we get into the "meat" of our Commandery season, I want everyone to be thinking of plans to bring in Sir Knights, and when and where to confer the Orders. Des Moines will be conducting a festival in November, and I will have more details in my next update in this publication. While this is a good opportunity to get candidates in, I would like to urge each Commandery to find ways to confer the Orders locally. As you know, part of my focus this year is getting more activity in our local Commanderies, and more Sir Knights learning the parts. At the risk of sounding like a broken record, I am going to continue to ask this of you, and will be reaching out to each Commandery on the action plan to do this.

As we move into the year, Grand Recorder Anderson will be sending out nominations for the Knight Templar Cross of Honor. I urge Commanders and Recorders to begin thinking about who in your ranks is worthy of this honor. We also have scholarships available from the Educational Fund. In the past few years, we have not dispersed as many scholarships as we have had available, so please continue to think about this opportunity to reward a deserving student as they continue their college education. Grand Recorder Anderson can provide the application form, which can also be found on the Grand Commandery website.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon, and until then I remain

In His Service,

Chris Beard, Grand Commander