



Grand Commandery of Michigan

"Together, for a Better Tomorrow"

Gary L. Paquet, Right Eminent Grand Commander

Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies:

With June upon us, schools of instruction should be well under way. If you haven't already done so, now would be great opportunity to contact your instructor for your commandery or battalion and schedule your school of instruction. Remember, starting in August, your inspection is based on what you as a commandery wish to improve. For many, it will be your opening, but it can be any aspect of what we do: the Orders, reception of grand officers, drill, honor guard, etc. Communicate with your instructor and tell him what you wish to focus on. This way he can fine tune the instruction to better meet your needs.

To accommodate this new direction in inspections, we've expanded the number of Sir Knights on the instruction board. We still have one Sir Knight as the Instructor General to oversee the program, David Riley, but we've established a lead instructor and assigned two additional knights to each battalion. These knights are well established and knowledgeable regarding ritual and tactics. They are here to serve.

While May/June is usually the time for receiving instruction, these Sir Knights are available year-round. Plan a time to meet with them quarterly. This way you have ongoing instruction. You will improve more quickly and can correct a problem early before it becomes a habit. Take a little bit of time at each conclave to work on your plan. As you become more efficient, you will find yourself spending less time on tactics and ritual and more on programs, social events and those items that attracted you to the craft.

I also ask you to spend a little time working on your individual part throughout the month. The commandery is made up of individuals working toward a common goal. It takes each of us doing our individual part well to make the experience a quality one for all. Take 15 minutes each day practicing your ritual or tactics. Unless you have a photographic memory, it doesn't just happen. If you are in the moving line, say Junior Warden, don't wait to look at the ritual or tactics of the Senior Warden until after you get elected and installed. Start from day one as Junior Warden observing what the Senior Warden does and

***June Birthdays: The happiest of birthdays to all.***

6/8 Sir Knight Emmett Mills, Jr. PGC  
6/20 Sir Knight Stanley Simons, PGC  
6/22 Sir Knight Jack Mengel  
6/22 Lady Susan O'Dell

what his ritual is. Take pride in your work and set the example for others to follow. Make the experience for that new Sir Knight a memorable one for the right reasons.

Until our paths cross again, safe travels to wherever the journey take you.

Gary L. Paquet, Grand Commander

