



IOWA NEWS FOR MARCH 2022

Christian M. Beard

Grand Commander

Greg Kenkel

Newsletter Editor

Sir Knights,

Well, we made it to March. And with that is the much-anticipated Special Conclave of the Grand Encampment in Fort Wayne. This is in conjunction with the East Central Department Conference. At this time we will determine if Grand Master Johnson will continue on in his tenure as Grand Master, or if a new slate of officers is elected. I'm not one on making predictions (even though in my day job I do this all the time), so I'm not going to make any here. In any event, I expect lively discussion and please note that my heart is for the good of the Order and not tied to any specific individual.

In March, Des Moines ordinarily holds the spring festival, however due to the special Conclave and various other conflicts, this will not be held until April 30 this year. So there is still time to sign up and get candidates to attend. The work is always exceptional, and I hope that we can top our class from the Fall, which already was very large. If you have not seen the work in a while, or (even better) if you would like to participate, please reach out to our Department Commander, David Dryer, for details.

Easter this year is not until April 7, however I am enclosing the message from our Grand Prelate and Right Eminent Past Grand Commander Wade Sheeler. This is a message not often heard, and I was pleased to read this.

Grand Encampment has done away with the regional Easter services, and has gone back to only one in Arlington, VA. I have been several times, and if you have not made it, I highly recommend it! It is amazing to see the hundreds of Sir Knights march up Shooter's Hill in front of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Usually the building is also open and available for viewing. I highly recommend it!

As your Commanderies are preparing for your Easter observances, please reach out to me with dates and times, and I will make every effort to attend. This does not necessarily have to be on Easter Sunday, it can be around the time of Easter.

Until we meet again, I remain

In His Service

Chris Beard, Grand Commander