

Grand Commandery of New Mexico State News for May 2022



SK James Overfelt, REGC

www.nmyorkrite.org

Editor: SK L Roughgarden lenrough@gmail.com

Thank you to all of the Sir Knights for electing me to be the Grand Commander of New Mexico during the York Rite Annual Sessions, April 9th 2022. The last few years have been difficult with no in person meetings and no degree festivals due to the Covid virus and for yet another year the New Mexico York Rite Annual Sessions were mostly virtual. At the time we were planning the sessions, the outlook for in person meetings was still very uncertain due to the prevalence of Covid. When the time came to commit to a hotel contract, it was too risky to sign a commitment and then possibly not be able to meet in person. Therefore it was decided to meet at the Grand Lodge with only the officers being installed attending in person and otherwise the sir knights could Zoom into the business meetings and installations. The Sessions were only a single day with each of the three bodies, Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery allotted two hours for both the business meeting and installation. Next year we can finally have three full days, April 13th-15th, 2023, with the Holy Land Pilgrimage dinner and the Grand Banquet where we can really enjoy the fellowship of the many people who we have only seen on Zoom calls for the last couple of years.

With the lack of York Rite degree festivals in New Mexico, we had quite a few candidates at the special Land of Enchantment Festival in February. It was special because we typically have the Land of Enchantment Festival in the summer but just could not wait with so many people wanting to take the degrees. Even with a dozen candidates, there were still quite a few who could not attend for various reasons. Therefore the heads of the Grand York Rite bodies have scheduled another Land of Enchantment degree festival for July 22nd and 23rd in Santa Fe. The weather in Santa Fe is great that time of year and having both lodge rooms, Montezuma and Cerrillos, for the degrees is very convenient. If you want to take the degrees, contact the Grand Recorder, SK Harry Jenkins, and get on the list of candidates so we can send you an application form as soon as all the details for times and costs have been worked out.

Other times and dates to make note of are the York Rite quarterly meetings for 2022:

WHO CHAIRS THE MEETING	HEAD OF BODY	DATE/TIME/LOCATION
ME Grand High Priest	Adam Hathaway	July 21, 2022 7 pm in Montezuma Lodge
MI Grand Master	Sky Olsen	Oct 22, 2022 9 am in GLNM Library
RE Grand Commander	James Overfelt	Jan 28, 2023 9 am in GL NM Library

The October and January meetings will be hybrid. Details for the July meeting in Montezuma Lodge the night before the Land of Enchantment degree festival are still being worked out.

My best wishes to all Sir Knights and I hope to see everyone during my travels this year. Stay tuned for the Grand Commander's 2022 visitation schedule.