



# GRAND COMMANDERY OF NEW MEXICO

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[www.nmyorkrite.org](http://www.nmyorkrite.org)

Editor: SK L Roughgarden: [lenrough@gmail.com](mailto:lenrough@gmail.com)

**James E. Bungard, REGC**

Good Sir Knights of the New Mexico Division!

I am excited about the upcoming commandry visitations and the upcoming Southwest Department Conference. Not to mention the Colorado River Fall Festival in Laughlin. My first visitation will be conducted in November. It is only fitting that it will be conducted at my home Commandry, Las Cruces #11. The Sir Knights are doing a wonderful job practicing for the opening and reception of the Grand Commander. We have 3 newly knighted Sir Knights who have willingly engaged and will be assuming positions in the upcoming reception. I applaud their many practices and endeavors to do an excellent job.

As Knights Templar in general, and particularly in New Mexico we have a unique opportunity to "Seize the Moment" this time of year. As farmers are bringing their respective harvests, we too should be reaping what we sow. We can think about the implementation of programs in identifying potential benefactors to whom we can assist in making the lives of the less fortunate better. This is the opportune time to seize the day and make ourselves known to all for the good works we do to aid and assist the less fortunate. We want to become the Christian Organization of Choice within Freemasonry. Our noble acts will attract like-minded men to join our Order. When we work together, great things are possible!

As a reminder the student scholarship application in accordance with New Mexico General Order #4 has been extended until October 31, 2024. We will announce the results as soon as we process and make an award. New Mexico General Order #5 concerning Templar awards is still on-going. Please submit award recommendations by October 31, 2024.

Events coming up in which you are welcome to participate are; Four Corners Royal Arch Festival in Holbrook, AZ. Southwest Department Conference in Salt Lake City UT, November 1-2, 2024 and Colorado River Fall Festival, October 20-22 in Laughlin NV. I will see some of you at these events, Commandry specific in Laughlin, where the Orders will be conferred exquisitely. You are all welcome to join me in my upcoming official visitations for some fellowship and fun.

Interesting Halloween Facts:

Did you know that according to History.com, the Halloween we know today can trace its roots back to the ancient Celtic end-of-harvest festival of Samhain. During Samhain, people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off evil spirits. In the eighth century, in an effort to spread Christianity, Pope Gregory III decreed Nov. 1 as All Saints' Day and incorporated some of the rituals of Samhain. All Saints' Day was also called All Hallows and the night before, when the traditional Samhain festival used to take place in Celtic regions, was called All Hallows' Eve.

In the 1940s, trick or treating was halted because war-time rationing had curtailed the use of sugar.

Halloween joke, "What do you get if you divide the circumference of a jack-o'-lantern by its diameter? - Pumpkin  $\pi$ .

Did you know there are no words in the dictionary that rhyme with orange, the color of pumpkin.

October is a wonderful month in York Rite Freemasonry, especially out here in the Southwest. I love this time of year. Not overly hot, but not overly cold, and the autumn wind brings a sweet smell to us all. I hope, wish and pray that you all have a wonderful month of October.

Carry on good Knights!