



## IOWA NEWS FOR JANUARY

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Newsletter Editor

**Sir Knights,**

Happy New Year to the Sir Knights and Ladies of the Grand Commandery of Iowa. I hope your Christmas season was peaceful and you were able to spend time with loved ones and friends. It's hard to believe that we're already into 2022, and our Conclave will be upon us before we know it. We will again be at the Scottish Rite Consistory for Conclave, and are anticipating using the same hotel as last year. I think it worked out well for all involved. I'm not yet sure who the personal representative will be. Heck, I'm not even sure who the Grand Master will be, since as of now, a special Conclave of the Grand Encampment has been called for March. As of this writing, 11 jurisdictions have called for the special Conclave, and one of the agenda items is election of officers of Grand Encampment. As I have stated in the past, I think all of this is nonsense, no matter which side of the issue you are on. I still believe it is, and everything could have been avoided. Thankfully all the rest of the world's problems have been solved, so we can focus on this issue...

As of this writing, I am intending to hold a ritual competition at Conclave this year. A few Sir Knights have put some thoughtful remarks together on how we can make this more participatory. One of these ideas, which I support, is to hold the competition on Saturday, which will then no longer require participants to take a day off work to attend. As of now, I am planning on holding a school of instruction in February, where we will discuss possibilities and also iron out what the competition looks like. I think we all agree that we need more ritualists in our Order, and the ritual competition will serve as a good primer for that. More to come in the near future.

I hope everyone stays warm and healthy this winter, and until we meet again, I remain

In His Service

Chris Beard, Grand Commander