



IOWA SUPPLEMENT

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Sir Knights

I hope that you are enjoying your summer and having a great time with family and friends. Living in the breadbasket of the country we know what the seeds we have sown will in the future yield a great harvest. And one thing is certain the state of Iowa knows a thing or two about growing things. Since my installation it has been my pleasure to visit with the Masonic youth groups of Iowa. These young men and women are the seeds that will be our masonic future harvest. While we no longer have the numbers we had in the past the young people that we have are a force to be reckoned with. The Iowa Rainbow's had a huge success in their fundraising for the Wings of Hope foundation with around 60 girls they were able to raise over \$15,000 which is an amazing feat and that works out to 250 per girl. And we had another very successful year, Iowa Jobs Daughters Bethel #1 the only one in the state had an average of \$480 per member for the H.I.K.E. program and that level, it is the highest in the country. The 2017-2018 De Molay State Master councilor Daniel Cunningham was running to be the International Master Councilor. If we can keep these young people engaged in the Masonic family we will indeed have a bountiful harvest in the future.

I know that it seems like we are constantly asked to donate to charitable causes, but if you think about it we each have taken an oath to serve our fellow man. The Grand Commandery of Knight Templars of Iowa has two primary

charities that we support, the Knight Templar Eye Foundation and the Holy land Pilgrimage. If our youth groups can raise considerably more money than we do, we need to re-think how we do things. Are we dedicated to supporting our charities or are we merely just doing the minimum we can get by with. One of the things that I have for a fundraising program this year, is a custom designed quilt with the grand Commandery logo in the center and each of the Commandery's name and number on one of the blocks within the design.

Each recorder should have received by this time, a letter explaining the quilt, a picture of the quilt, and 2 books of raffle tickets. There were 1,500 tickets printed and are for sale at \$5.00 each. The winning ticket will be drawn at the 2019 Grand Conclave.

If we sell all of the tickets we could raise \$7,500.00 which would be approximately half of what the Rainbows raised and the cost for each of Iowa's sir knight would \$5.00. Just think of what good we could do if we made a serious effort at raising funds, if we were to get \$10.00 per sir knight in the state we would be on par with what the Rainbow Girls raised.

In closing I am sure that each of us will do whatever is best for us and that is all I can ask for. I hope that we continue to support the youth groups in our communities for they are our future.

May the Lord keep you and bless you

Forrest Peck REGC