



Wyoming Supplement

Gregory K. Shiek, Grand Commander

Kenneth M. Badget, Editor
PO Box 653, Cowley, WY 82420-0653 (307) 202-1629
e-mail: calicobl@tctwest.net

Sir Knights and Ladies,

I hope your January was a good and restful month for you after all the business of the Holidays and this finds you each healthy, rested and content.

I bring up the word content as it has been a word brought up often in Cheri's and my life together. Early in our relationship, during one of those meaningful conversations that reveal and share so much, Cheri said she was "content". I immediately took that to mean "it is OKAY, but not fantastic." Much more discussion ensued, complete with dictionary documentation (remember, no internet back then) to find the meaning of the word "contentment". Its been a joke between us since, but just a few nights ago something happened, which gave me such an indescribable, overwhelming feeling of contentment that I needed to share it.

I was coming back from a Commandry meeting in Riverton and I had the privilege of PGC Tom Nance as my copilot. We had attended a great meeting and were enjoying our fellowship as we traveled. We were driving over Powder River Pass, a high mountain pass over the Big Horn Mountains in northern Wyoming. It was just an amazingly clear night, with thousands of stars far above us, yet they seemed so close it was as if we could reach out and touch them. We pulled over onto the side of the highway and

stepped out into the crisp, dark night. Side by side, just two Companions bound by our fraternity and our friendship, we took in the enormity and wonder of the sky above and around us. IT WAS INCREDIBLE! There was no light pollution from earth, no clouds to hide the glory, and there was that absolute, peaceful silence to surrounded us as we marveled at God's hand. We could clearly see shooting stars, the Milky Way and numerous constellations. I stood there, and I knew contentment, not as defined by Daniel Webster's dictionary, but as defined by my whole being. My life is full. I have a family and friends who fill my heart and support me. We have our health. In my travels with Commandry I have met so many inspiring people who have befriended me, given me support, educated me, debated with me in a respectful manner, and who have taken me under their wings until I could fly on my own.

In getting to know these people we learn that not only do they have stories that are fun to hear, but we can learn from them. Every person we meet shapes our lives in some way. Let your impression on others be a positive influence and share your knowledge with them so that those seeking guidance in our fraternity find the answers they seek. Leave them with the desire to know more, to become more, to do more. Help prepare them to fly on their own. And to ease your own journey, ask questions. Seek out those whom you respect and listen to the wisdom they have gained through their years along the path. For me, I have found the old cliché "you get what you put into it" to be accurate and the more I put into it, the more contentment I find.

God Bless,
Greg Shiek
Grand Commander of Wyoming