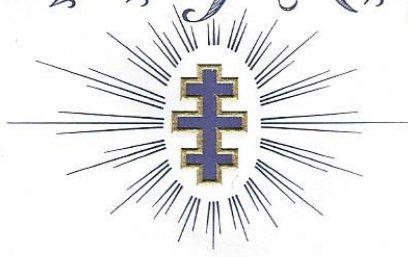


Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



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OFFICE OF

DEAN D. REIN

RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

June 4, 2020

To: Likely Attendees – 2020 GEKT Southwest Department Conference

Re: Department Conference Updates

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope and pray my letter finds you and your loved ones healthy and secure. With the unprecedented events transpiring daily, your thoughts of attending our upcoming Grand Encampment Southwest Department Conference on October 31, 2020, are probably not at the forefront of your mind. I do want to update you, though, with the latest information I have regarding our upcoming conference.

Out of an abundance of caution, the Grand Encampment has decided to hold our Department Conference virtually using Zoom as the video/teleconferencing platform. It will be held at the same date and time as originally scheduled: Saturday, October 31, 2020, 8:00 a.m. until approximately 5:00 p.m. The agenda and presentations have already been prepared. Protocols and procedures are being developed and will be made available within the next couple of weeks. The York Rite Leadership training will also be held virtually. Be mindful of emerging leaders within your purview whom you believe would benefit from this worthwhile training. Once all of the information is finalized and made available for distribution, a registration packet will be sent to you and all likely attendees. Registrations will be completed and returned for processing, followed by a reply email containing the Zoom link, enabling access and participation in our Department Conference.

Our Grand Encampment Department Conferences are traditionally held in conjunction with the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council Regional Conferences, commonly known to us as the Southwest York Rite Conferences. I anticipate the other two bodies will determine to hold their conferences virtually as well. This will be a well-coordinated effort by all three organizations in order to provide a superior experience, albeit virtually.

Next year, circumstances ought to return to a level where we can hold our York Rite conferences in person and enjoy the fellowship and all of the rewards that such gatherings engender. Until then, I look forward to seeing you virtually at our upcoming Department Conference in October. Please remain healthy and secure.

Courteously,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dean D. Rein', written in a cursive style.

Dean D. Rein, KCT
R.E. Department Commander –
Southwestern Department