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To the Sir Knights of Texas:

As we begin the month of February we should remember several important items. **First**, we should strive to start out the year on a good note, as it is important during these first few months to be working in your Lodges and encouraging your new Master Masons to join the York Rite. **Second**, February is the month that you should remember that special person who allows you to participate in all of the Masonic activities that you enjoy so much. Take her out and say thank you in a way she will remember. Or better yet, encourage your Commandery to have a night to honor your ladies, and throw a big party with dinner, chocolates, and just a great time where she does not need to worry about anything, other than looking her best!

Membership

Sir Knights, as I stated above, membership should be our primary focus during the year. However, because of the busy schedules that most Lodges, Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies have during the months of September through December, many of our festivals are between January and August. It is important therefore, that we work harder during these months to bring our new Master Masons into the York Rite. As I have stated in the past, membership is the life blood of not just our organization, but every organization! We are competing with many organizations for the people in society who are willing to join and be part of an organization. Furthermore, the amount of work, and other qualifications we require for a person to join Freemasonry also excludes much of the general population at large. In today's society there are many men who would love to join the Masonic Fraternity, but because of their job or family requirements they are unable to commit the amount of time that is required to study for the different proficiencies. This has long been an argument for why people do not join Masonry; however, another point to consider is that many men do not know they are allowed to join our fraternity. Many of us say we know a person or friend that is not a member, but live by our Masonic principles. How do you know he is not a member?

The next time you see that person, ask him what Lodge he is a member of, or when he was knighted. Whether he is a member or not, you just started a conversation about Masonry!

Because of Valentine's Day, many people consider February to be a month to dedicate to your special someone, but some people dedicate the month to all of their special people, which include their families. What better way to show that you love someone than to encourage them to join the Masonic Fraternity; it will bring you closer together and give you a lifetime of memories to share.

Website

Sir Knights, remember to keep the website up to date with your activities; many people around the state are using the website to look for festivals and other meetings, so post your Commandery events. Remember our goal is to improve communication around the state, and this is an easy and effective way to achieve that goal.

Grand Annual Conclave

Sir Knights, many of you have already made your reservations for the Grand Annual Conclave, but if you have not, do not put it off any longer! Make your reservations today! The registration form is on the Grand Commandery website, download it today! If you do not have access to the website, please contact your Recorder. **All Knights Templar whether officers or not are welcome to attend.**

Sir Knights, let me say again what a wonderful feeling it is to lead an organization such as this one! Every day, I thank God for this experience He has allowed me to receive. It is truly an honor for me to lead an organization of men such as you. Men who are so dedicated to this fraternity and to the Christian Religion. I can only hope that I represent each of you and the great state of Texas in a way that is pleasing to you and honorable to this Christian Order. Have a wonderful month and keep up the good work.

*Fraternally,
W. David Melear*

**W. David Melear,
Right Eminent Grand Commander**