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Greetings to the Sir Knights of Texas:

Summer in Texas is always hot and July is no exception. Parades are big events on the 4th. Per the General Order No. 1, you are permitted to wear our distinctive uniform in public while participating in parades and other ceremonies to celebrate patriotic observances.

My Commandery's patriotic observance is held on Memorial Day at the Pecan Grove Cemetery in McKinney. We started this event many years ago to honor our fallen dead all the way back to the Civil War. One of our local Boy Scout troops puts flags on each grave of the veterans of all wars in which many died, even the rebel flag is placed on the graves of the Confederate soldiers.

Our first observance was attended by only about 25 Sir Knights and their family. As the years have passed, the attendance now exceeds two thousand, with dignitaries, such as U. S. House Representatives, Sam Johnson and Ralph Hall. Many city and county officials also attend and speak to the attendees of the event. The Boy Scout troop also provides a barbecue dinner for all who wish to stay after the close of the ceremony.

McKinney Commandery No. 34 is very proud of this Memorial Day Observance and its tremendous growth over the years. Patriotism is not dead in America. Our citizens love our flag, our beloved dead, and our Nation. May it always prosper and grow.

65th Triennial Conclave

We will be going to Alexandria, VA for the 65th Triennial Conclave August 10 thru 15. For those planning to attend, please be advised that there will not be a Texas Breakfast as in the past. Cost constraints have taken its toll again. We hope to have continental fixings in the hospitality room however. Please come by to see us in the Texas hospitality room and enjoy our Texas hospitality. (P.S. At this time of this writing, we have not been assured of a hospitality room by the housing committee, but we are hopeful.)

DeMolay and Rainbow

State DeMolay Conclave will be held Austin on July 12-15.

Get involved - Support the Youth

Festivals

There are Festivals posted on the York Rite Web site for July. If your Commandery is conferring the Orders, please get that information on the list so we can promote the event. If you need assistance with the degrees and the orders, this is the best way get help. Please contact myself or Michael Blair, our webmaster, to get the information on website.

Membership

Membership is our greatest concern. My goal for the year is an increase of 500 Knightings and reinstatements. Your efforts are the key to meeting this goal. I attended an evening in Nacogdoches Commandery No. 55 on May 11. We had two candidates Knighted that evening and Nacogdoches Commandery has received three or more petitions by eager men in the area. This Commandery had not knighted anyone in several years, but by encouragement and rededication by a few, this Commandery is getting back to work. Your Commandery can do the same. It's time to rededicate our efforts and work to improve our membership.

Please remember our Permanent Endowment and Penny-a-Day Programs. Contact R: E: Paul E. Wunsche for information on the Permanent Endowment Fund and R: E: Doc Dixon on the Penny-a-Day Program.

In His Name,

*H. David Moore,
Right Eminent Grand Commander*

Food for Thought:

Old friends are gold! New friends are diamonds! If you get a diamond, don't forget the gold because to hold a diamond, you always need a base of gold!