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To the Sir Knights of Texas:

## Acorns and Pumpkins

In our part of Texas, we've had a spring and summer of incredible rainfall. South Texans are almost always grateful for the rain and the abundance it brings. This year, we've had green grass, beautiful wildflowers and now an abundance of acorns. We hear them bouncing off our roof and sidewalk all day and night. My wife isn't as grateful for them, because she has to sweep them off our patio and sidewalks.

There's an old poem about a woman who was walking through a meadow. As she strolled along meditating on nature, she came upon a field of golden pumpkins. In the corner of the field stood a majestic oak tree, and the tired old woman sat down under it. She began to muse about the strange twists in nature. Tiny acorns hung on huge branches and huge pumpkins sat on tiny vines.

She thought, "God blundered with creation. He should have put the small acorns on the tiny vines and the large pumpkins on the huge branches."

Resting beneath the tree, she drifted off to sleep. She was awakened by a tiny acorn bouncing off her nose. Chuckling to herself, she amended her previous thought, "Just goes to show that God knew best all along."

She had an object lesson and gratitude that things weren't always as she thought they should be.

In this season of Thanksgiving, it's fairly obvious that we thank God for the blessings he has given us—salvation from our sins, a free country in which to worship Him, family and friends who love and comfort us and an abundance of things that most of the world cannot even envision. It's also important, however to be grateful for the things that seem less obvious—the things God has done and provided that may not seem like blessings when they happen, but turn out to be just as meaningful in reflection

Thank God for acorns that weren't pumpkins this Thanksgiving season.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6)*  
*In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)*

And like the apostle Paul, remember to tell all, "I thank my God every time I remember you." (Philippians 1:3)

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The foregoing message was prepared at my request by our Eminent Grand Prelate, Sir Knight James N. Higdon, PGC, KCT.

In keeping with the traditions of our Order, it is my hope that, although not obligatory, each Commandery in this Jurisdiction will observe this uniquely American holiday of thanksgiving and remembrance of God's gifts to us with an appropriate meal for your Commandery family and/or appropriate ceremonies in the Asylum of the Commandery.

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**IN MEMORIAM:** With deep regret we report that on September 26, 2007, Thomas C. Yantis, PGC, KCT, passed from this mortal life. In addition, Donald L. Smith, PGC, KCT, passed from this mortal life on May 13, 2007

In His Service,

Thomas W. Snyder  
Grand Commander

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 3**  
**November 10**

**Austin York Rite Festival**  
Chapter & Council Degrees on November 3 beginning at 8:00AM  
Commandery Orders on November 10 beginning at 8:00AM  
Lunch Provided both days