

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As I write this message we still have no guarantee as to who will be our next president, COVID-19 is making a tremendous resurgence around the world, crime is rampant, and uncertainty prevails, Gloom and Doom is all around, but, I know that no matter what may happen, what the outcome, the Lord's will, will prevail and all who have faith will prevail.

The lesson of Martha is so important at this time; "A trustful faith is greater than knowledge. Without faith in a Supreme Beneficent Power, without faith in a life everlasting, the suffering and trials of this life would be unbearable." This faith will see us through all things and we can trust that all will be well in the end.

I hope this message finds you all well and safe and that you are doing everything you can to keep yourself, family and neighbors safe. As in all things, I believe prayer's the key, and in Masonry we are admonished; "In your devotion the Deity, remember your Brothers welfare as your own". The Bible tells us to pray continually.

Since I last wrote, two of our chapters were able to meet in person before being shut down again. Several other chapters are now meeting regularly on Zoom or other media. Basically, staying in touch will one another and reaching out to our communities through whatever means available is keeping us involved with a sense of usefulness. If you haven't heard from a sister or brother, friend or neighbor, give them a call. Who knows, maybe just your voice or a call at the right time may be what they need to get through a rough time or just bring a smile to their face.

Last Saturday would have been the last day of our Grand Chapter session and Sister Pam, our Worthy Grand Matron and I got together at Pam's house to draw the tickets for the district baskets for education. It was a fun time for Sister Pam, Brother Dan and I. We had a few technical difficulties at first, but got the drawing done. In the Worthy Grand Matron's message on Monday, she let you know who the winners were.

While we were doing that, I was also attending an International Grand Chapter Zoom hosted by New Hampshire's Grand Chapter. Brother Larry Holmes PGP and sister Debbie Hoffman were also in attendance. Friday night was the kick-off with introductions, games, and just getting to know each other. Saturday morning started at 8:00 A.M. Eastern time which for us here 6:00 and 5:00 A.M. for Arizona and Nevada. The Most Worthy Grand Matron Marianne Shenefelt addressed us, then we went into breakout sessions on marketing, membership, and a most interesting session on overcoming hardship. There were 32 Grand Jurisdictions represented including Bolivia, S.A., Canada, and Australia.



Grand Chapters were asked to donate a basket for silent auction on Saturday afternoon. I called Sister Pam and we agreed to donate the "Paws and Stripes" basket donated by Alamo Chapter. There was a total of nine baskets donated with the funds from the auction to go toward each Grand Chapter's charity. New Mexico's basket was a hit and received the highest bid, and \$200.00 will go to Paws and Stripes this year.

After the session ended a chat room was left open for WGM and WGP to discuss anything they wished to talk about. This was a most enjoyable experience and made us all realize we are all experiencing the same situations and a chance to discuss how each of us are having learn to think outside the box and come away with new ideas.

We are now embarking on a new year for our Grand Chapter with a continuance from last year. Many of the things your chapter would normally do at this time, according to the red book, must still be done. Committees need to meet and plans made, only this time we must follow outside guidelines. Remember face masks, and social distancing are recommended. It is up to each chapter and district to figure ways to get it done, but it must be done.

Sister Pam and I hope to see each of you in person soon, but, until then, we will continue to have Zoom sessions. We will do our best to keep you informed and always in our prayers.

May the Lord keep you and hold you until we meet again.

God Bless
Don Sulzemeier,
Worthy Grand Patron