



IDAHO KNIGHTLY NEWS

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Editor's Note

If anyone would like to submit an article for the Idaho Knightly News, please email me your article using Microsoft Word. Keep it between 1 page and 1.5 pages.

Upcoming Events:

Quarterly Zoom MeetingJul 18
Grand Encampment Triennial..... Aug 17-21
Northwest York Rite Oct 18-19

Independence Day

By Barry E. Newell

Happy Fourth of July, Sir Knights!!!

Today, we commemorate the birth of our great nation, a beacon of freedom and liberty for all. It is a day to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have come before us and to celebrate the values that have shaped our country.

In the spirit of the Templars, let us remember the principles that unite us as

Brothers and Sir Knights. Just as our forebears defended the sacred and the just, so too must we stand vigilant in our defense of the freedoms we hold dear. Our dedication to these ideals not only honors our noble heritage, but also strengthens the fabric of our nation.

On this Independence Day, let us pledge to uphold the virtues of faith, hope, and charity. Let our actions be guided by the light of truth, and let our hearts be filled with gratitude for the blessings of liberty. As we gather with family and friends, may we find inspiration in the enduring spirit of patriotism and unity.

May God bless you, may God bless our Order, and may God bless the United States of America.

Chivalry, Part 5

By Barry E. Newell

Modern Chivalry

In medieval times, the code of chivalry focused on three areas: the military,

social life, and religion. Today our codes will naturally be different as times have changed customs, traditions, beliefs, and attitudes, but there will be some similarities as there are some traditions and beliefs that are timeless and founded upon truth and goodness.

The basic foundation of the chivalric code of old leads us to the modern chivalric code and the basics for being a gentleman. Brett and Kate McKay point out in their book that a man who has mastered the art of manliness (being a true gentleman) embodies the characteristics of looking out for and is loyal to his friends and family, does the right thing, even when it is not convenient, is proficient in the manly arts (dress/appear, hospitality, education, etc), treats women with respect and honor, serves and gives back to his community, sacrifices for the good of others, works hard and seldom complains, exhibits both great courage and tender compassion, has a confident swagger but isn't a pompous jerk, is witty without succumbing to sarcasm, and embraces instead of shirking responsibility.

Today many think chivalry is dead because many men are not gentlemen, but rather meat-heads more focused on their looks than life and trying to imitate moronic spectacles from TV sitcoms. Too many men from the time of manliness and chivalry are not around anymore and there exist too few bastions of true chivalry. One of these is the Masonic fraternity.

From the beginning of our lessons in Masonry, we see examples of chivalry. Many symbols can be shown to represent actions and beliefs that all good men should embrace, but I particularly want to focus on the 3 Tenets: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. By truth is every noble virtue we know founded

upon and should dictate every thought, word, and action. As the Square teaches us to square our actions, the level to treat every person as equal, and the plumb to walk uprightly before God and man, so does Brotherly Love teach us to regard the whole human species as one family, thereby rendering us responsible to aid, support, and protect to the best of our ability. Last, but not least (I know, cliché) is Relief, and as the lecture tells us, all men are required to assist the distressed, destitute, and sorrowed. This last tenet can also be seen in the lessons given in the Order of the Temple where one must vow to defend the weak and defenseless.

Many outside the Masonic fraternity strive to bring back the courteous actions and appearances of chivalry from past generations. One example as I stated above is the couple, Brett & Kate McKay, who wrote the book "Art of Manliness", but many others talk about how chivalry isn't dead in this modern world. Brian R. Price talks about timeless virtues of: Courtesy, respect, generosity, honesty, fidelity, humility, justice, excellence (prowess), courage, loyalty, and duty.

To my fellow Sir Knights (and all true gentleman), I challenge to act as such and strive to keep chivalry alive.