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My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I have received communications from our MWGM, Sister Maryanne Shenefelt which she has entitled moving forward 2021 and I have asked our Grand Secretary to attach her letter and guidelines to this communication because I want you all to know what our MWGM has said concerning elections, resolutions, electronic balloting and installation of officers.

As I'm sure most of you know we in Colorado have our own Grand Chapter Jurisdiction that is governed by our Constitution and Bylaws and within that framework, I as your Worthy Grand Matron am bound to faithfully adhere to all of the rules and regulations as stated therein. I also believe that I have a moral obligation to keep our membership safe from undue harm or exposure to the Covid-19 virus that is still a major health issue in our communities. However, it is also my opinion that we need to find solutions to move forward.

Our Chapters across the state have responded in accordance with their local government regulations and mandates. Some have had and are having in person meetings and some are not and I want to assure you that I have every faith and confidence in our Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons to do what they believe to be right for their Chapter members and our Chapter members are doing what they feel comfortable with. Whether meetings are in person or communication is being held electronically or by a phone call we continue to show our fraternal love and concern for each other as we face this ever changing and challenging situation together.

Once again I want to thank all of the members who have steadfastly performed the duties of their office or committee for an additional year. Now I'm hopeful that as vaccines become available and the level of infection and transmission plateaus and begins to decrease, I think it's time for us, as our MWGM has suggested in her communication. to move forward in 2021.

Since my receipt of the MWGM's communication, I have pondered and prayed about what I need to do as your WGM to act and give direction to our Subordinate Chapters to preserve our Order in Colorado and to continue to put the health and wellbeing of our membership first as well as fulfill my duties and responsibilities under our Bylaws and Constitution. Therefore, please accept the following guidelines as decisions concerning these various issues.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF A NEW CORE OF OFFICERS FOR SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS: If you're holding in-person meetings at the time of your election of a new core of officers, you will need to follow the guidelines in the Red Book bearing in mind we still must comply with all regulations in force at the time. If you are unable to hold in person meetings due to government restrictions, I approve our MWGM's suggestion to use a mail in ballot as described in her communication. However, I feel that I cannot justify electronic balloting due to the fact that a lot of our membership does not have that capability easily available to them. And this form of communication, under normal circumstances, cannot guarantee a confidential and secret ballot if more than one candidate runs for the same office. With respect to the suggestion for abbreviated in person voting I think this could be a viable alternative so long as you give sufficient notice to the membership and follow the guidelines as our MWGM stated in her letter.

INSTALLATION OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTER OFFICERS: With regard to installation of officers, I find our MWGM's guidelines innovative and acceptable given the circumstances. Just to be clear your installation must be an open installation, no secret work.

I hope you will find this helpful in planning your chapter meetings in 2021. With respect to our Grand Chapter Session in September, I pray that we will have reached a sufficient state with Covid-19 that we will be able to hold our Grand Session in due form at the location and dates previously stated. The WGP and I will be working with the Grand Line Officers, the Jurisprudence Committee and the Board of Directors over the upcoming months to make any necessary decisions to ensure the safety of our membership and the prosperity of our Order. I will keep you informed of any necessary changes as this saga continues.

In Faith and Love,



Anna Peterson

Worthy Grand Matron