

April Patriotic Instruction

Brothers,

This will be one of my shorter Instructions, and it is less of an Instruction as it is a challenge to our order. As I write, we find ourselves, as a nation, in the midst of a health pandemic that has not been seen in 100 years. Many Brothers are now under State imposed shelter in place orders, their businesses have been closed, their jobs have been lost and unfortunately some of our Order have themselves, or their family become infected with Covid-19. My challenge is simple, reach out. Shoot a fellow Brother a text, in your Camp or Department or not, and check on them. Ask them how they are doing, if they are affected in anyway, if there is anything you can do to help. With the wonders of modern technology, we can make arrangements for those Brothers from afar. Whether it be sending them items they may need, or just picking up the phone and giving them someone to talk to because they can't risk leaving their home at this time. A simple text or email saying hello can go a long way in raising someone's moral.

Also, to piggyback off my instruction of last month, make sure to thank those essential employees those that are still working to keep this country running. This extends beyond our Police, Fire, EMTs and Military. This includes our Nurses, Doctors, other hospital staff that help heal us, truck drivers who make sure vital supplies make it to our local shelves, make sure they know how much we appreciate them putting their lives and wellbeing on the line, making sure those in our community, know that we are thankful for what they do is also patriotic. In many of my past instructions I like to personalize the topic a little bit to really drive the point home, and this is no different. My big sister, Amber, who I will never admit to her face, is one of my closest friends and someone I truly look up to, she is an amazing sister and an even better aunt to my two sons. She is a CT Tech at a hospital in Rhode Island. One of the things hospitals are looking for in patients that are presenting symptoms requires them to receive a CT of the lungs, which requires my sister to be hands on with patients that are under investigation (PUIs) or are in fact positive. Many times, she is scanning patients and they are unaware that the patient could be sick with Covid-19, so they do not wear their protective personal equipment (PPEs) as there is a shortage of supplies for the hospital staff, and they are forced to ration, leaving them even more at risk. Make sure these people know we appreciate their sacrifice to keep this country safe and running during these trying times.

In Fraternity Charity and Loyalty,
Br. Ben Frail, PDC

National Patriotic Instructor