

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER:

The Department of Nevada has cancelled our Convention scheduled for June 18-20, 2020 in Elko, NV, at the Red Lion Casino & Hotel. We were praying for greater changes in the Governor's *Declaration of Emergency Directive's* to allow us to proceed as planned. Based on our National Commander-in-Chief's Executive Order #2, we will proceed as ordered to satisfy our Department elections which will be conducted by the Department Council of Administration.

We always look forward to our Convention to recognize and present awards for outstanding individual and Post accomplishments. As usual we have many. Unfortunately, this year the recognition and awards will need to be handled a bit differently. Our Programs Chairman, working with our appointed Committee Chairmen have not skipped a step regardless of our inability to hold a Convention, have decided to issue the cash awards in advance of the other things such as plaques, or certificates – which will be sent to each Post as completed.

It has been both a pleasure and a challenge to be your Department Commander. Before the pandemic hit, I was able to visit 26 of our 36 Posts... but we just added another one in Las Vegas, Post 12198, named after our own PSC Stephan P. Gibbs, so make that 37 Posts. (Yeah, we did that during the pandemic thanks to PSC/Membership Chair Herman Hagen and Tony Marshall, among many others!)

Whew! What a year! I really miss our mingling at meetings and other events, but it will change. I refuse to let COVID-19 win. We'll get a chance to gather again and celebrate our successes!

Please do all you can to stay safe by social distancing, wash your hands a lot, wear a mask, take good care of your family, and please check on your comrades once in a while. We/they would love to hear from you!

In Service to Others,

Tony Yarbrough