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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I hope that this finds you and your families well. I know that we are all facing challenges as we adapt to our new way of life during this Pandemic. The Grand Council met on Monday August 3rd to discuss our Chapter's September and October meetings. In accordance with the Massachusetts COVID guidelines, Fraternal Orders are part of Phase 3. During Phase 3, Fraternal Orders may meet indoors with the following guidelines- 8 persons per 1000sq feet and a maximum of 25 people. Some of our Chapter rooms are not large enough to abide by these rules. Also, we cannot limit the number of members at a meeting. Every member has a right to attend a meeting to hear the business and vote on matters that may arise. Therefore, there will be no Chapter meeting during the months of September and October. I know that this is a major disappointment to our members, but we must keep the health and welfare of our members as our #1 priority.

I would ask that the Chapter Secretaries to send 1 notice/newsletter for the months of September and October to inform members of the latest decisions and Chapter updates. You will not need to send the list of PMs and PPs this year. When sending your notices, you do not need to send them to your Honorary Members, but you do need to send them to Grand Council and Jurisprudence.

I would like to remind you that the Charitable Board and Isadore Forbes Benevolent Board are available to our members who require temporary financial assistance during this Pandemic. Each Chapter has a representative to each of these Boards and can assist you with the process.

This year will be doing a WGM **Stampless** Project to raise funds for the Benevolences. Your Chapter Secretary will be sending you more information.

I am happy to announce that we are starting a new Project called "Charity Challenge". We are challenging each Chapter to choose a Service Project to support this year. During this pandemic, we all are seeking a purpose and want to help others. There are ways to do service projects by observing social distancing. A flyer with more information will be sent to our Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons.

During our time away from each other, I encourage you to stay in touch with each other by phone calls, sending cards and Zoom meetings.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Fraternally,
Sister Judith A. Podymaitis, WGM

