

Maryland Supplement

Serving our Community and our Masonic Fraternity

Charles E. Warns II, Grand Commander
cewwmsc@aol.com

My Fellow Sir Knights,

I wish all our Sir Knights and their families a Happy New Year and all the best for 2020.

It's tough to get started on our plans for the year when we have to begin in November when our hearts and minds are preoccupied with the coming holidays. Unfortunately, Thanksgiving and Christmas are behind us and it's time to turn to the initiatives discussed in my meetings with the Commander's in October and November.

In my first two supplements I spoke about re-setting the content for inspections in 2020 and the initiative for each Commandery to choose a charity to support outside of Masonry (either financially or by giving time).

This month I would like to speak about the Grand Commandery's effort to have 100% participation in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation "Lifetime Membership" program.

The basic tenant of the Lifetime Membership program is that each Sir Knight in each Commandery donates \$30.00 to the KTEF. That donation pays you in full for your lifetime for the \$1.00 donation that would normally appear on your dues statement. Making this \$30.00 donation enables you to forego paying that \$1.00 forever.

Then each year when you pay your dues you can skip the \$1.00 donation or make a donation in whatever amount you desire.

When 100% of the Sir Knights in a Commandery have become lifetime members, the Commandery as well as each Sir Knight is recognized by the Grand Encampment. In addition that Commandery receives a rebate from the Grand Commandery of Maryland equating to \$5.00 per Sir Knight.

If you wish to participate in the KTEF Lifetime Membership program, send your check for \$30.00 to your Commandery's Recorder who will forward it to the KTEF to be applied to the appropriate account.

There are other incentives that the Grand Encampment have for donating at different monetary levels which I urge each Commander to speak about during his conclaves.

Brochures are available that describe in detail the work that the Knights Templar Eye Foundation does in the realm of ocular medicine and ocular research.

The research supported by the KTEF on curing infant blindness has been remarkable. I ask our Commanders to be sure they have these brochures and give them out to our Sir Knights. They are available from our Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander John Austin.

Lastly, I would like to recognize the Past Commander's Association and the Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests for their recent donations to local charities in behalf of the Knights Templar of Maryland. Thank you!

Again have a happy and prosperous New Year.

Yours in service to Christ,

Chuck Warns
Right Eminent Grand Commander