

**Sir Knights!**

**We, as Knights Templar, have a duty to support our charities. One of these charities is the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The Foundation supports research into curing and treating eye issues. This research is absolutely essential in working to eliminate eye diseases.**

**Over the years the Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Washington have been very generous. During the previous Voluntary Campaign, we were the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest Grand Commandery total per active members.**

**The Commandries in Washington have also been very generous on an annual basis by supporting the Foundation in its annual Campaign. Another way to support the Eye Foundation is to remember them in wills and endowments. These vehicles can also provide long-term benefits to the foundation.**

**One of the goals of our Grand Commander this year is to make the Grand Commandery of Washington 100% Life Sponsor of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. This is a one-time \$30.00 donation per member. This is another great way for a Commandery to support the Eye Foundation.**

**Some Commandries include the \$30.00 as a part of the initiation fees for the Commandery Orders, others use their Commandery dues and funds. The Life Sponsorship has an added benefit to the Commandery. For each Life Sponsorship the annual assessment from the Grand Encampment is reduced by \$1.00. This means that over time the Life Sponsorship will actually pay for itself.**

**The Grand Commander is also having a special raffle which will raise monies for Life Sponsorships. Tickets are \$30.00 each, which just happens to be the cost of a single Life Sponsorship. More on this at the Official Visit of the Grand Commander and in the Focus.**

**It is important to remember that a Life Sponsorship can be bought for anyone, whether they are a Knights Templar or not and each Life Sponsorship bought will show in the numbers of the Commandery**

**and the Grand Commandery. Consider buying one for a family member or as a recognition to someone in your community.**

**Currently, I do not have a good handle on how many of our Commanderies are 100% Life Memberships and how close the Commanderies are doing to reach that goal. I would appreciate this information so I can help each Commandery reach this goal.**

**As always, if you have questions, please contact me.**

**SK Richard Roblee  
Eminent Grand Generalissimo  
Grand Commandery of Washington  
roblee6@charter.net**