



NEWS for February 2024
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Web Site: www.yorkritewa.org/gckt/

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Sir Knights—

Here it is, February already. Just over three months until our grand sessions in Wenatchee. We will have some resolutions to be voted on. Now is the time for the committees to think about their reports. Why so early? Well, in past years it seems the committee chairs didn't submit their reports until the day of the Grand Commandery session. If the reports are submitted prior (and one needs to be submitted even if your committee didn't have much to report), it makes for a session that can be run more efficiently.

One of my goals for this year was to get the Grand Commandery of Washington to 100% life sponsorship in the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. This past May, we started with 162 Sir Knights who were not life sponsors. As of this writing, we are down to 71. I want to thank the individuals and the commanderies for their outstanding job in accomplishing this. Will we get to 100%? Absolutely! My goal is to have this accomplished by mid-March.

I am still encouraging all commanderies who do not have it in their bylaws to include a KTEF life sponsorship for their new members to do so. Once at 100%, this is an easy way to ensure you maintain it.

Has your Commandery submitted a name for the Knight Templar Cross of Honor? Or the Meritorius Service award? We must recognize our members who for many years have given freely of their time and resources to keep Templary alive. Remember...we are ALL volunteers. But we NEED to recognize people for their hard work and efforts.

How often do you go out to your craft lodge dressed as a Knight Templar? Have you visited a DeMolay Chapter, Jobs Daughter Bethel or Rainbow Assembly as a Templar? I would encourage you to do so so as to show the

youth of today that WE are there to support and encourage them as they grow.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Grand York Rite session in May!

Sincerely and fraternally,

**SK Bryan D. Bechler, REGC
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Washington**