

**From The Grand Knight
October 2024**



Fellow Knights,

Thank you for your support, faith, and trust in me in carrying forward the mantle of Grand Knight. I have several Knights I want to thank for mentoring me to this accomplishment.

Sir Marv Weaver, PGK, thank you for signing my Petition for Knighthood and Elevations to Order of the Sword and Order of Excalibur. Sir Dave Marston, PGK, thank you for your words of wisdom, "keep doing what you're doing!" Sir Ted Pilihos, PGK, thank you for your conversations over a couple of beers, when I was in town or by phone. To all the Past Grand Knights, thank you for your words of wisdom and conversations. Finally, I want to thank my family for their support over the years.

We have a lot of work to do. We must continue to break down the paradigm we are a secret society or a good ole boys club. We must become more transparent to attract more new Knights. We must do a better job communicating. We must overcome the barriers to the communication process. We should set aside our differences/biases and do what is best for the Association. Listen to one another and collaborate as a team. We should be willing to consider new ideas and, if appropriate, accept them for the future of the Association.

Who are you mentoring? Do you have a mentor? Are you mentoring a potential new Knight? Mentorship is the key to getting new Knights and elevating Knights to the next level. We all can do a better job with mentoring.

My challenge to each of you is to recruit five new members into the Association. We must reverse the aging of the Association and get younger. Our survival depends on the younger generations. We should also be willing to allow them to lead. Be there to help and mentor if or when they encounter obstacles.

In closing I want to thank IPGK Paul Siverson, for his support, guidance, and wisdom and the support of the entire Association.

Strength in Unity®

Scott Ytzen

Sir Scott Ytzen
MSgt (AF Ret)
35th Grand Knight