



# Knight Templar

VOLUME IX

MARCH, 1963

NUMBER 3



**Sam Ferrell, Department Commander, South  
Central Department of the Grand Encampment,  
K. T. of U. S. A.**



## **Knight Templar**



**Official Publication of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of  
the United States of America—Issued Monthly**

**PAUL M. MOORE, Grand Master**

**JOHN TEMPLE RICE, Grand Recorder**

Postmasters Send Notices to

**OFFICE OF PUBLICATION OF "KNIGHT TEMPLAR"—SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Send All Subscriptions, New and Renewals (\$1.00 per year) to—Address

"KNIGHT TEMPLAR" Magazine—24 West South Street, Greenfield, Indiana.

(Notice to Subscribers—The date on the wrapper indicates when your Subscription Expires.)

The "Knight Templar" entered as Second Class Matter at the United States Post Office, Greenfield, Indiana, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

**OFFICE OF EDITOR—NEWS**

Mail feature articles, news articles of general interest, and pictures for publication to the Editor "Knight Templar" Magazine

**WILLARD M. AVERY, P.G.C., Editor**

**P. O. Box 56, KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA**

**EARL BARNES DELZELL, P. G. C. of Iowa, and Member of Committee on  
Knight Templar Magazine Passes Away**

We note with sincere and special regret the death on February 20 of Sir Knight Earl Barnes Delzell, P. G. C., of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Sir Knight Earl went from a career as a school superintendent to the Iowa Grand Lodge, serving first under C. C. Hunt, and then for many years as Grand Secretary and Grand Librarian. He served in turn as Grand Commander; Sovereign of St. Ignatius' Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Grand Preceptor (national) of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest; head of the Nine Muses; President (national) of the Grand Secretaries' Conference; Grand Master of Masons in Iowa; President (national) of the Masonic Association; Chairman (national) of the Grand Masters' Conference; as a member of Grand Encampment Committees on Ritualistic Matters and George Washington Masonic Memorial.

When Grand Master Paul Miller Moore decided to revitalize and enlarge the scope of the Knight Templar it was natural that he would request the able service of Sir Knight Delzell on the three man committee specially appointed for this purpose. In spite of poor health Earl ably served on the committee. The slogan, "Set of the Sails," was contributed by Sir Knight Delzell as a theme around which Grand Master Moore formulated his program for the triennium.

We express our sympathy to his wife Grace, and their four sons and their families. We, too, shall miss him.

# Personalities and Activities in the South Central Department - Kentucky, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas and Tennessee

*We are most happy to salute the South Central Department of the Grand Encampment in this issue of the Knight Templar Magazine. This Department has probably been the most active of all of the Departments in the Grand Encampment organization in that there has to this date been held two Department Conferences and other Department meetings and activities under the able leadership of Sam Ferrell, Department Commander. In addition to Sam other leaders in the South Central Department are E. Creighton Wilcoxon, G. C. of Kentucky, William R. Pohlmann, G. C. of Louisiana, John T. Elliott, G. C. of Arkansas, H. Jack Hefner, G. C. of Texas, and Kenneth Fanning, G. C. of Tennessee.*

**SAM FERRELL, Dept. Com. of the South Central Department, Grand Encampment, K. T. of U. S. A.**

*(Picture of Sir Knight Ferrell appears on the cover)*

**By Enos Swain, Editor, Danville (Ky.) Advocate-Messenger.**

Samuel Ferrell, known to a host of friends as "Sam," was born near Somerset in Pulaski County, Kentucky, March 24, 1896. He was educated in the public schools of Pulaski County, and first worked as a machinist for the Southern Railway Company near his home town of Somerset. After a time he left the railroad and was employed as a service station operator by the Standard Oil Company of Kentucky. He advanced through the ranks to the position of general agent in Danville, Kentucky, and held this position for a number of years. In 1939 he left Standard Oil and established his own oil station and restaurant business in Danville. He is now an independent petroleum jobber operating as Sam's Service, Inc., and distributes "Samoco" petroleum products.

His Masonic record is consistent and impressive. He is a member of the K. Y. C. H., Kentucky Priory No. 25 and Oleika Temple Shrine at Lexington. He attended his first Grand Commandery Conclave at Owenboro, Kentucky, in May 1919, and has attended every succeeding Conclave. He served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky from May 1945 to May 1946. He has served as Chairman of the Finance Committee since 1957.

Sam is an Honorary Member of the Grand Commanderies of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Indiana, Illinois and Tennessee.

Sir Knight Ferrell was a charter member of the Somerset Kiwanis Club in 1926, and has been affiliated with the same club in Danville for many years. He serves as chairman of the club's Ticket Sales Committee for the annual Minstrel given for the club's charity fund, and sales have been highly successful under his leadership. He has headed numerous community drives for charity purposes, and the community has always found him a ready worker and generous contributor.

He is a parishioner of Trinity Episcopal Church, Danville, Kentucky, and is presently serving on the official board of the church. Several years ago he served as chairman of the committee to build a new Parish House, the work of which was completed with outstanding success. Sam is currently serving as a member of the Danville Municipal Housing Commission by appointment of the Mayor of Danville.

He is married to the former Miss Thelma Pierce, of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, whose father, the late W. O. Pierce, Sr., served as Thrice Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Kentucky in 1927. They reside at 704 Hillcrest Avenue in Danville, Kentucky.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

**E. CREIGHTON WILCOXEN, Grand  
Commander of the Grand Com-  
mandery of Kentucky**

E. Creighton Wilcoxen was born December 1, 1899 in Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. He comes from pioneer Kentucky stock, being just four generations from the settlers of Bryan Station Fort, just north of Lexington in Fayette County.



**E. Creighton Wilcoxen, G. C. of Ky.**

Daniel Boone's sister Sarah married John Wilcoxen and they came with the Boone family over Wilderness Road into Kentucky and were among the first settlers at Boonesboro, on the Kentucky River just fifteen miles east of Lexington. Their son, Daniel Wilcoxen, helped defend Bryan Station Fort when it was attacked by the Indians and the British during the Revolutionary War.

The Wilcoxen family has never been far from the site of the old fort, and Sir Knight Creighton is considered one of the "old timers" in the Blue Grass.

He attended public school in Lexington and for a short time worked in Huntington, West Virginia. He went into the plumbing and heating business over twenty-five years ago and has been more than successful in his vocation. His contracts have included public schools, public swimming pools, and it was his firm that held the plumbing contract on the now famous Floral Clock at the State Capitol in Frankfort. He has spent hours upon hours in the planning and engineering of the water systems of some of the great horse farms in the Blue Grass.

While his Masonic record is published in full in the 1962 Proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, it is well to tell of this one thing. In 1958, under the administration of Leslie Combs Bruce, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, Sir Knight Wilcoxen was appointed Chairman of the Kentucky Division of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. He has done an outstanding job in this position, and still retains it. His personal work toward the goals of this foundation has caused Kentucky to rank at the top of the lists of the Grand Commanderies within the Grand Encampment.

Sir Knight Wilcoxen is a member of the Lexington Kiwanis Club (1949) and is still very active. He was Chairman of their Key Club for Boys (1959) and really made a name for himself as Chairman of their "Apple Sale" during 1951. He belongs to the Lexington Executives Club, the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, and various other civic organizations. He is a member of the Second Presbyterian Church in Lexington, and is a member of the Board of Deacons.

His hobbies are baseball and football. He has a very special interest in the Cincinnati Reds baseball team, and will drive almost anywhere to see a good football game. He is a hunter too, liking best of all to hunt pheasants in South Dakota where he goes almost every year during the season. A good man and true — a good Grand Commander.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

**WILLIAM RUDOLPH POHLMANN,**  
**Grand Commander of Louisiana**  
**Grand Commandery**

William Rudolph Pohlmann was born on December 1, 1910, in his family's fourth generation since settling in New



William Rudolph Pohlmann, G. C. of La.

Orleans. Trained as an auditor, he has devoted his career to the city's leading taxicab company.

Civic-minded in the extreme, he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Young Men's Business Club, Passenger Club, Wings Club, Bon Vivants and several Carnival organizations; he is on the governing boards of the Salvation Army, Spring Fiesta Association, Audubon Park Commission and various horse-show associations created for charitable work. Horseback riding is his principal hobby.

His Masonic activities, besides his York Rite affiliations, include membership in the Grand Consistory of Louisiana; in the Court of Honor of the 32° degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite; in Jerusalem Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; in New Orleans Court No. 36, Royal Order of Jesters; in Farhad Grotto; and he is Past President of the High Twelve Club of New Orleans. He has taken a leading part in Grand Lodge activities.

He has been a member of Salem Evangelical and Reformed Church (United Church of Christ) from choir-boy days to Church School teacher, Treasurer and member of the Church Council.

## Grand Commandery of Louisiana Plans for the Future

Grand Commander William R. Pohlmann has pointed his principal efforts towards the centennial celebration of Louisiana's Grand Commandery in New Orleans, from Sunday, April 7, through Wednesday, April 10. He has poured his enthusiasm into the state's 16 Commanderies and through them into the berships, hoping to stir their zeal to the purpose which crowned Templarism in Louisiana with the Grand Encampments of 1874, 1922 and 1952.

To this end he is publishing a book on Templar's surging history in Louisiana, from the dozen or so members in 1816 who yearned for an Asylum that would carry their Order into human striving, to the erection of this

state's Grand Commandery on February 12, 1864, the eighth in the South, the 23rd in this country.

On Templar's bright tapestry in Louisiana are recorded many brilliant scenes—such as the unveiling of the statue to Henry Clay in 1860 when the plumed paladins helped stage "one of the grandest pageants" the city of New Orleans had ever seen, and "certainly the most elaborate, magnificent and well conducted," according to the *Daily Delta*; the 1869 dedication of the Masonic Cemetery in New Orleans with 65 mounted Knights acting as honor guard for the Grand Master of Masons and his official family; the 1874 Grand Encampment when 50,000 Orleanians lined the

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

streets to cheer the march-past of the plumed hosts; the ceremonial obsequies in 1881 to the memory of the assassinated President, James Abram Garfield, himself a Knight, when 10,000 men, headed by Knights Templar, followed the catafalque as it made its slow progress through streets garbed in black; the 1922 Triennial when newspapers estimated the number of visitors at 40,000, and New Orleans drenched its streets and avenues with the most brilliant lighting in history, symbolizing the Templar mission to roll away darkness and the dangers that lurk therein; and the 1952 Triennial, with its grand parade of 7000 or so Knights afoot, on horseback or in automobiles.

These were years of unrest, agony and undeviating purpose, the century since the crusading spirit of the Knights Templar entrenched itself in Louisiana's Grand Commandery — fratricidal war, carpetbag reconstruction, appalling epidemics and devastating floods; but Templary brightened them in its mission to harmonize past misunderstandings and to evoke new dedications. It is of record that the 1874 Grand Encampment, which convened in New Orleans a few months after an outraged citizenry had by force of arms thrown out the notorious Kellogg administration, helped to end the South's reconstruction agony, for the thousands of visitors, appraising the situation at first hand, carried back to their communities throughout the United States the story of how "bitterly and relentlessly" the Southern people had been scourged "by injustice, falsehood and oppression," and opened the eyes of the nation to the purposes of scheming politicians. Three years later carpetbaggery in the South ended and the government withdrew the armed forces with which it had infested the South.

His thinking and his plans animated by this tradition, Grand Commander Pohlmann has organized four days of religious services, Templar dedication and patriotic display for this centennial celebration—a springboard to the enthusiasm that will bring the fourth Grand Encampment to New Orleans before many years have passed.

### JOHN THOMAS ELLIOTT, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas

John Thomas Elliott was born August 10, 1920 in El Dorado, Arkansas, the son of Thomas K. and Rosa M. Elliott. He has lived in El Dorado all his life and received his education in the public schools of that city.



John Thomas Elliott, G. C. of Arkansas

In World War Two he served his country with the United States Marines Corps in the South Pacific. He attained the rank of S/Sgt. and was discharged the 29th day of October, 1945 at Camp LeJeune, N. C.

He married the former Almeda Crowder and they are the parents of three children: Nancy John, Robert Thomas, and Peggy Rose. They have one grandson, Mark Elliott Lewis.

He was Knighted in Gethsemane Commandery No. 31, Knights Templar of El Dorado, Arkansas, on January 14, 1949 and for the first time in the history of this Commandery a father and two sons were Knighted on the same night. Sir Knight Elliott is the youngest man to serve as Grand Commander of Arkansas.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

### H. JACK HEFNER, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Texas

H. Jack Hefner was born in Sherman, Texas, on April 14, 1895, and has been a resident of Texas all of his life. He now resides in Dallas.



H. Jack Hefner, G. C. of Texas

Most of his business life was spent in the oil industry in oil well and drilling supplies, purchasing department, etc., of various leading oil companies. He retired in 1960 and since his retirement, and particularly during this year, has been devoting most of his time to Commandery and other Masonic affairs.

As might well be expected, Sir Knight Hefner has devoted much of his life to Masonic work, having served as Worshipful Master of his Lodge, a member of the Masonic School and Home Advisory Committee of the Grand Lodge, High Priest of his Chapter, and Illustrious Master of his Council. He was Knighted in Dallas Commandery and

was affiliated with A. C. Garrett Commandery in 1948 when it was given a dispensation.

Sir Knight Hefner is a member of the York Cross of Honor and the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests. He served as Preceptor of Redeemer Tabernacle No. IX at Dallas in 1956 and 1957.

Serving as Grand Commander of the largest Grand Commanderies in the Grand Encampment and one of the most active ones can be in itself a full time job. Sir Knight Hefner's retirement is "only in name," since this year is devoted to Templary.

### TEXAS GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS CONDUCT PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS

The Grand Commandery Officers of Texas are noted for being hard workers within the constituent commanderies. Two of these able and efficient workers are Hal Burnett, G. C. G. and



Hal Burnett, G. C. G. (left) and  
Litt S. Perry, G. G.

Litt S. Perry, G. G. These two Sir Knights recently conducted public installations at Odessa Commandery No.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

110, El Paso Commandery No. 18, Monahans Commandery No. 102, Snyder Commandery No. 69, Sweetwater Commandery No. 89, Big Spring Commandery No. 31, Midland Commandery No. 84, Abilene Commandery No. 27 and San Angelo Commandery No. 28. Sir Knight Burnett was the installing officer and conducted the entire ceremony from memory and gave the charges to hold-over officers as well as newly elected Sir Knights. Sir Knight Perry served as Marshall in each of these installations.

In a number of cases officers of the Beauceant were installed on the same occasion. These installation services were performed in a dignified and impressive manner before a good attendance of not only Sir Knights, but their families and other Masonic friends.

---

**KENNETH FANNING, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee**

Kenneth Fanning, Grand Commander, was born at Scotts Hill, Tennessee, on January 10, 1906, the son of Alfred Woodard and Nettie Lee Mars Fanning.



**Kenneth Fanning, G. C. of Tenn.**

He was married to Miss Irene Morris of Oxford, Miss., on May 3, 1931 and they have one son, John Woodard Fanning.

He has been a resident of Jackson, Tennessee for many years and has been engaged in automotive and truck repair and servicing activities for several years.

He has served all of the York Rite Bodies in Jackson very actively, and has presided over all of them except his Lodge, which he is now serving as Junior Warden.

During his year as Grand Commander, he has visited officially each of the twenty-eight Commanderies in the state, and in twenty-six of them has knighted at least one Sir Knight. In each Commandery he has stressed the eye foundation program and the membership program, also the Knight Templar magazine. Under his leadership it is felt that the Grand Commandery of Tennessee will continue its march of progress and that the record of net gain in membership for twenty-one consecutive years will not be broken and that the year of 1962-63 will add another year to that enviable record.

---

**GRAND OFFICERS MEET**

Grand Master **Paul M. Moore** met in conference on February 20, 21, and 22 with **Wilbur M. Brucker**, Deputy Grand Master, **John L. Crofts**, Grand Generalissimo, and **G. Wilbur Bell**, Grand Captain General. This is the seventh conference of the Dais Officers since the 1961 Triennial Conclave, on matters related to the advancement of the Order. Past Grand Master **Walter A. DeLamater** also attended a part of the conference for discussion on Eye Foundation matters.

Grand Master Moore personally entertained at a luncheon on February 20, General Grand High Priest **Edwin A. Martini**, and others of General Grand Chapter, General Grand Master **Dr. George G. Verbruyck** of the General Grand Council and the above named Grand Encampment Officers.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*



## Astronaut Cooper Class at Cocoa, Florida

Truly inspirational to all present was the all-day, all-York Rite Festival at Cocoa, Florida, on January 26, sponsored by the York Rite bodies (2 Chapters, 1 Council, 1 Commandery) of Brevard County. Not only that the class was led by one of America's outstanding young men—not only that the greatest gain in membership in the history of the Cocoa bodies was recorded—not only that the work of the day added more members to the Florida York Rite bodies than any single previous occasion. The benefits of cooperative action by York Rite were demonstrated most convincingly.

Class Leader and Exemplar throughout the day was Major Leroy Gordon Cooper, Jr., U. S. Air Force, who will thus carry also the rank of Sir Knight when he goes into orbit on April 2 to carry out the most sophisticated mission

yet undertaken by our space agencies. By his modest, poised, and yet compelling personality he literally captivated all present at the Cocoa ceremonies. Certainly all those, and as certainly all Knights Templar, will have a special concern for the complete success of all future missions of this new member of the Order.

Also present and participating actively in the ceremonies of all degrees and orders was Brother John F. Roberts, of New Smyrna Beach, who had presented himself for advancement at the age of 97 years, after being a Mason for 67 years. During the day 127 candidates were exalted to the degree of Royal Arch Mason, 211 were greeted as Select Masters and witnessed the Super-Excellent Master degree, and 168 enlisted in the ranks of the Templars. Because of the size of the crowd, all ceremonies were held in the National Guard Armory.

Spark-plug for the affair and principle work-horse was Sir Knight G. A. "Gill" Williams, young, able, and energetic Secretary-Recorder of the Cocoa bodies. Class Conductor and coordinator for all work was Sir Knight Stephen B. Dimond, Deputy Grand Master of Grand Council and Chairman of the Committee on Work for Grand Chapter. Also present and taking active part in the ceremonies were William E. Tanner of West Palm Beach, Grand Commander, Robert L. Thompson of Fort Myers, Grand Master, Ray H. Schmidt of Panama City, Grand High Priest, John B. Phelps of Miami, Grand Secretary-Recorder and Past General Grand Master, R. & S. M., John L. Crofts of Nokomis, Grand Generalissimo of Grand Encampment, and many other present and past Grand Officers.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Mississippi

Marsh Hainer, G. C., 1930—January 11, 1963

### Nevada

Gordon Hugo Jonasen, G. C., 1920—August 9, 1962



Major Leroy Gordon Cooper, Jr., USAF, left; and John F. Roberts.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

## Unique Team Puts Pep in Commandery

By BLISS KELLY, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



Front row, Miss Connie Nelson, Worthy Advisor, left; and Mrs. Jesse Sherwin, Mother Advisor, Shawnee Assembly Rainbow for Girls. Back row, left to right, Fred J. Smith, G. J. W., Grand Commandery of Oklahoma; Irvin Cecil, G. C. of Grand Commandery of Oklahoma; and E. L. Hinton, Commander of Shawnee Commandery and "Rainbow Dad."

When mature men team up with vivacious teen-age girls, new ideas, enthusiasm, smiles and bright eyes are the result. That's what the Sir Knights of Shawnee Commandery No. 36, of Shawnee, Oklahoma, discovered when they began sponsoring Shawnee Assembly Rainbow Girls about three years ago.

It is believed that this is the only Commandery in the United States which acts as sponsor for an assembly of Rainbow Girls, demonstrating that there is something new under the sun. At first, it was only a temporary thing. The Mother Advisor for the girls had moved

to another state and there were some Sir Knights—as well as some of the girls—who thought it would be impossible for the two groups to be compatible because of the wide difference in ages.

The girls weren't sure "those old men in stiff uniforms" would understand them, and the Sir Knights wondered what "those silly girls" might do. No one had ever tried the plan, but since it was an emergency, temporary help was given, in order to comply with Rainbow rules that some Masonic body must act as sponsor.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

First, the girls had no place to meet, and so one of the most beautiful Commandery Asylums in the state was made available for them. When the Supreme Assembly was held, these "dads" furnished automobiles for transportation and some expense money for the delegates. Then, there was a picnic in which all participated, working together in complete harmony. These men were not considered as old, but more like dads and grandfathers. The girls were found to be sensible and alert; not scatter-brained. Other activities brought better understanding—and so, the following year, the Commandery took official action and became the permanent sponsor for the girls. This year, just to show their high regard for the Sir Knights, they elected E. L. Hinton, Commander, as "Rainbow Dad," an honor he values highly. At a recent installation of officers of the Rainbow Assembly, Grand Commander Irvin Cecil was an honored guest, with a number of other officers of grand York Rite bodies.

What has this done for each organization?

The Rainbow Girls had about a dozen members when the alliance was formed, and now has about fifty active members. Shawnee Commandery, after three years, has had more petitions this year than the total of the previous two years. Attendance has been improved, interest has been excellent and enthusiasm for York Rite Masonry has been strong.

Knights Templar do not think of the girls as silly, but as beautiful, sensible daughters, and the girls call their sponsors "dads." Fathers of these girls, knowing that the Commandery was active and alert, petitioned for the York Rite orders. Some have petitioned for the Masonic degrees and will continue on to the Commandery.

Who knows whether these girls, when married in a few years, will push their husbands into becoming Knights Templar?

All this fits into the plan of the Grand Master, Paul M. Moore, for sponsoring of DeMolay Chapters by Commanderies because it's a program aimed at youth and the future of our young people.

#### "WE NOTE IN REVIEW"—

*From the address of Sir Knight Glenne R. McArthur, Chairman of Grand Encampment Committee on Patriotic Activities, at Iowa conclave.*

"We are concerned in this Grand Encampment with the building and improving of the Image of Templary in the field of Citizenship and Civic Responsibility. That means that all Templar activities and committees must be geared together to attain a common objective—An Improved Templar Image. It is the responsibility of each Knight Templar to do those things that will help to improve and facilitate that gearing together.

"If you search out the fundamental meaning of the word, you are going to find that 'Patriotic' denotes devotion to the welfare of one's country. You are going to find that it involves those individuals who are actuated by a love of their country. You are going to find that a 'Patriot' is interested in developing the public welfare and safety of his community and of his country. Therefore, in its broad concept, perhaps, this committee on 'Patriotic Activities' might better be named a committee 'to foster and promote the improvement of civic responsibility among Knights Templar.'"

". . . Each Grand Commandery should have a program tailored to its particular needs. Within each Grand Commandery jurisdiction, there are problems that arise and relate to particular communities and local situations; therefore, the program must be varied for constituent commanderies within the same district or within the same Grand Commandery. Your Grand Commandery has endeavored to promote a George Washington Birthday observance through its local commanderies. This does not mean that your program should end with that one possible activity; it does not mean that, prompted by your Grand Commandery committee, you should move in where an observance is already being sponsored by your Lodge or others. . . . It is not our purpose to interfere with others, or to duplicate sponsoring efforts already at work; rather, it is our privilege to bring

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

to bear and focus our God-given creative imagination as Americans and Knights Templar upon ways and means to foster and promote Americanism, to foster and promote good citizenship and civic responsibility, to improve the Image of Knights Templar by their good citizenship in that particular community and throughout this Grand Jurisdiction.

"Remember that the Grand Encampment does not and can not dictate a specific patriotic activities program for your constituent commandery; neither does your Grand Commandery committee. Each will pass on suggestions, but you must initiate your own program—fit it to your local need. . . . Situations vary in different parts of this country. For example: Memorial Day is not observed in certain parts of this country as it is in this jurisdiction. Grand Encampment policy was carefully set out in bold-faced type on the back page of a recent issue of 'Knight Templar' magazine. Let me quote:

"The Officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U. S. A., and the members of its committees, understand clearly the overwhelming importance within our Order of the local Commandery; that its affairs should be in good order under active leadership, and that there should be evident, in the opinion of the community where it is stationed, a definitely constructive force and effect. We are confident that all this is clearly understood in every Grand Commandery. But we are concerned that the same knowledge of the absolute necessity for purposeful direction and success, at the local level, is in the minds and hearts of all Templar members and officers."

". . . There is a great deal of work to be done. And each constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery needs to pass in to the Templar Magazine news items relating to the things that it does in areas of patriotic activity—each such related item becomes suggestive to others that have the opportunity to read about them . . . each of us is challenged to be a Builder, to

build and improve the image of Templar, to think and work and support and cooperate with others in making this program productive.

"Someone has written—'Once in a while, history and an individual meet head on.' You and I are witnessing that sort of leadership in our Grand Encampment for this triennium. Our Grand Master, Sir Knight Paul Miller Moore, will be recognized by future historians of Templar as that leader who through study, analysis and careful planning, brought together an administrative organization to promote through its many facets a team approach that was productive of an improvement in the Image of Templar.

"You are a part of that team effort. The work of the Patriotic Activities committee in this Grand Commandery and the work of the corresponding committee in your constituent commanderies is each a part of that geared-together program whereby we seek to improve the Image of Templar. Don't sit and wait for someone from miles away to tell you what to do. Within your Commandery, consult one another and plan a program, just as your dais officers of this Grand Commandery will plan its program. By planning together, we can keep a smooth running approach to the Templar objective—an improvement in the Image of Templar."

### A Prayer for Today

Our Father, for the beauty which fills the earth, for the love which hallows our homes, for the joy which springs from work well done, we thank Thee, from whom all blessings flow.

Grant that when anxieties and doubts assail us we may find our joy and strength in the glorious promise that, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee."

May we be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might, for Thou art our God forever and ever and will be our guide even unto death. Amen.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

## "Buffalo Bill"—Knight Templar

By CHALMERS LOWELL PANCOAST, P. G. C. of New York  
and former Editor of Knight Templar Magazine

A distinguished American, Master Mason and Knight Templar, was the famous "Buffalo Bill" Col. William F. Cody. He was Knighted in Palestine



Col. William F. Cody

Commandery, Knights Templar No. 13, North Platte, Nebraska, and he also received his Masonic Degrees in Platte Valley Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 32, same city. As a newspaper reporter in the Southwest, I interviewed Buffalo Bill several times on his visit to Albuquerque, New Mexico, with his Wild West Show, 1902-03. Some years ago when I was making a research for Famous American Masons and Templars, I received a most interesting letter from

Sir Knight Samuel Goozee, Eminent Past Commander of Palestine Commandery No. 13, relative to the Masonic history of Col. William F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill." The Recorder of Palestine No. 13, North Platte, Neb., also wrote that Sir Knights Samuel Goozee and William H. McDonald, Eminent Past Commanders, were active in the Commandery during the days of Buffalo Bill. The letter, in part, follows:

Omaha, Neb.

March 18, 1933.

Chalmers Pancoast  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir and Frater:

In reply to yours of Feb. 20th, to the Eminent Commander of Palestine Commandery No. 13, at North Platte, Neb., concerning Sir Knight William F. Cody, his extensive business interests kept him away from home, except when he came back for short rests. He was a dearly beloved member of the Masonic Order, and was highly acclaimed as a Knight Templar. An interesting memory of mine is the occasion of the burial of a poor Civil War veteran at North Platte. Colonel Cody joined the funeral procession, visited with the comrades and walked with them—one and a half miles each way—from town to the cemetery and return.

Taking his life in his hand, Buffalo Bill for years had shared the perils and dangers, endured by the advance guard of the Grand Army, that conquered this great Empire of the West.

Fraternally,

Samuel Goozee.

The town of Cody, Wyoming, was founded by Col. William F. Cody, in 1896. The statue on Cedar Mountain was dedicated July, 4, 1924. The Buffalo Bill Museum at Cody, Wyo., opened July 4th, 1927. "There's a touch of human pathos, a glamour of the Wild and Wolly West, around the names of old Indian Scouts, who have gone to their last and long rest."—From "Trail Blazers."

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

## From Our Readers

Donald E. Cheville, 4902 Harvard Road, Washington 22, D. C., sent to this office a YORK RITE BULLETIN for the York Rite Bodies in Camp Springs, Chillum, and Hyattsville, Maryland. This bulletin is a 12 page bulletin the same size as the Knight Templar Magazine with a cover in two-colors which most attractively displays the emblems of the Chapter, Council, and Commandery and other appropriate art work. A feature of the bulletin was the monthly calendar showing the activities in the Bodies in these cities during the month. We wish to congratulate these York Rite Bodies and Sir Knight Cheville for this splendid bulletin, and its most attractive appearance from a publication standpoint.

John D. Pistono, P. C. and P. G. I. M., 215 South 16th Avenue, Yakima, Washington, recently wrote us a letter in part as follows:

**"TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

In regards to York Rite Masonry, I am writing this letter for information. What I have in mind is to see if we can have an emblem or if there is one made that would represent the York Rite as a whole, the Chapter, Council, and Commandery, then have a band ring made with the emblem which would represent the three Bodies, and be presented to a member after he completed the Royal Arch.

Hoping the above single emblem can be produced, as the Scottish Rite presents their candidates with the ring which represents the Scottish Rite at the 14°.

I really do not know where I should place this letter, and with your assistance may find the right parties for action."

One of the most inspiring items that has recently come to the attention of the Editor of this Magazine is a report dated February 1 from Glenne R. McArthur, Chairman of Patriotic Activities Com-

mittee of the Grand Encampment. This is a detailed 48 page report showing activities and making suggestions for future action. This was sent to each Grand Encampment Officer and Department Commander and certainly should be a stimulant to and basis for further action in the field of Patriotic Activities.

Thomas N. Morrison, P. G. C. of Florida reports the following in a letter received February 12th:

"Something more in the way of news. Last Thursday night I visited Ft. Valley, Georgia for the Official Inspection of that Commandery by V. E. Deputy Grand Commander, Floyd L. Reynolds. Ivanhoe Commandery No. 10 of that city has a membership of 212 Sir Knights. Present at the inspection were 80 Sir Knights in uniform, 30 without uniform, 7 Past Grand Commanders of Georgia and 7 of the present Grand Commandery Line Officers. Wm. Tom Batman, the present Grand Commander of the state of Georgia, hails from this Commandery. Their Conclave for inspection is often referred to as the Junior Grand Commandery Conclave of Georgia.

I am an honorary member of this Commandery for which I am most grateful. Should you care to use any of the above I think the Georgia boys would appreciate it."

Dear Sir Knights:

The rhythmic tempo of marching feet, the flash of the sword leaping from its scabbard, the intricate movement of men inprecise timing—these are the things that make a man feel he belongs.

Rhythm and precision—

I felt it when I was in the ranks; I'm a little awed by it when I'm in front issuing orders. I thrill to the clash of the swords returned to their sheaths; I feel excitement in the flash of blades in the arch of steel; my mouth goes a

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

little dry as the divisions wheel into the triangle; I feel humble when kneeling to devotions.

Like heart beats—precise, rhythmic—together.

Now, you know how I felt, and I want to add something more—I want you to know that I appreciate your participation last Wednesday in the Commandery Inspection—that I appreciate the time you took from other interests and duties.

Without you, my own emotion and satisfaction would not have been possible.

Thank you for coming.

Sincerely,

LARRY OFFENBECKER

Captain General

Apollo Commandery No. 12

Albert Lea, Minnesota

Bert W. Casselman, of Parkville, Missouri, writes that **Julius L. Johnson, G. C. of Missouri** attended his own Commandery, Kansas City Commandery No. 10 and took part in the ceremony of installation of officers. Eldon J. Lovland is the Eminent Commander of the Commandery. Sir Knight Lovland is also Master of Grand View Lodge No. 618, A. F. & A. M. whose first Master was Harry S. Truman, former President, and P. G. M. of Missouri.

The kind of letter that the editor of the Knight Templar is surprised and elated to receive is one that was sent to me under date of January 30, written by J. Van Loy, Recorder of Trinity Commandery No. 16, of Bradenton, Florida, enclosing a list of their entire membership and a check in the amount of \$259.00 covering the cost of a year's subscription to the Knight Templar for each member paid for from the Commandery treasury. The Commandery is also sending a subscription to the Knight Templar to each Master Mason within its jurisdiction who is raised during the year.

Thanks very much.

(The above referred to letter was sent to me through John B. Phelps, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commander of Florida.)

### THREE D. C. COMMANDERIES MERGE

Three Commanderies in the District of Columbia have united to effect one strong organization that, through greater economy and efficiency, can offer more outstanding services to its membership. The merged commanderies comprise Potomac No. 3, chartered in 1873; DeMolay No. 4, chartered in 1874, and Brightwood, chartered in 1921.

The consolidated units decided to retain the name Potomac No. 3. It will have a membership of approximately 600.

The new officers, recently installed by G. C. Harry L. Beach, are: Gordon W. Crozier, C.; Lafayette Price, G.; Norris R. Perry, C. G.; Charles R. Stapler, S. W.; Kenneth C. Crist, J. W.; N. Leroy Wright, Pr.; J. Rowe Mehlfelt, Treas.; Frederick L. Freeman, Rec.; Roy M. Alexander, St. B.; Walter J. Decker, Sw. B.; Ernest Renfro, W.; and Asa Clark Snyder, S.

### CORRECTION—NEW JERSEY

Through inadvertence and error on the part of your editor, it was stated in the February issue that at the special conclave honoring C. Byron Lear, P. G. C. G. of the Grand Encampment, that the Order of Malta was conferred by Jersey Commandery No. 19 when in fact the Order was most ably conferred by St. Johns Commandery No. 9 of Elizabeth, New Jersey. The work was directed by Wilfred W. Minton, P. C. of St. Johns Commandery, with C. J. Downey, P. C., acting as Captain General for the conferring of the Order. Our apology to the Sir Knights of St. Johns Commandery.

*"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"*

## Plan To Attend the Arlington Easter Sunrise Service, April 14, 1963

### The Voice of Albert Pike

“To every Mason there is a God—one Supreme, Infinite in goodness, in wisdom, foresight, justice and benevolence; Creator, Disposer and Preserver of all things. How, or by what intermediate powers or emanations He creates and acts, and in what way He unfolds and manifests Himself, Masonry leaves to creeds and religions to inquire.

“This is the Masonic creed: believe in God’s infinite benevolence, wisdom and justice; for perfect harmony in the final result of all the concords and discords of the universe; and be charitable as God is, toward the unfaith, the errors, the follies and the faults of men; for all are one Brotherhood.”

EDWARD J. MARRICK  
4111 OVERLEA AVENUE  
BALTIMORE 6, MARYLAND  
DEC. 63

Return Requested  
Box 477  
Greenfield, Indiana