“Each year, one vicious habit rooted out, in time ought to make the worst man good.”
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JANUARY: The cover carries a seldom seen likeness of Benjamin Franklin that depicts him at about 40 as a successful, somewhat prim and proper man of affairs. The cover caption is one of Franklin's many homilies, appropriate for a New Year's resolution. Another of his observations, rather different in tone, is: "A benevolent man should allow a few faults in himself, to keep his friends in countenance." A summary of the fabulous Franklin — Mason, Statesman, Man of Letters, Inventor, Scientist, and more — begins on page 13. Also as a special Yuletide reprise in this issue, Wylie B. Wendt writes about the origin of the Templar Christmas Observance starting on page 19.

Paul C. Rodenhauser, Editor
ANOTHER MILESTONE: ANOTHER CHALLENGE

On New Year’s Day in 1791, Robert Burns wrote the lines:

This day Time winds th’ exhausted chain,
To run the twelvemonth’s length again.

The verse still applies as we move from 1973 into 1974, from the year 855 to the 856th of our Order. Another twelvemonth’s length is ahead, and what we do with it depends upon each individual Templar.

I think it is wise to remember that milestones come and go, but the future is always before us. It is the challenge of the days to come that is important, not so much the recollection of days that are gone. This young year offers us a renewed opportunity to devote more and more effort to the advancement of the York Rite generally, Templary particularly. Let us use the experience of the past to help us meet the challenge of the twelvemonth’s length that spreads an inviting vista of gains in membership, of new enjoyment and appreciation of our Order, of redoubled dedication in serving our families, our nation, our church — and humanity.

In this issue, the staff of the Knight Templar Magazine highlights the background of two prominent Americans — Benjamin Franklin, one of the Founding Fathers of the 18th century, and a contemporary Mason, Gerald R. Ford, new Vice President of the United States. And in this same issue is a salute to 15 great Templars who serve during this triennium as Chairmen of Standing and Special Committees. Knights such as these are the ones who help to foster the growth and perpetuate the precepts of Templary. Their dedicated effort is an inner core of strength that keeps our Grand Encampment on the path of progress. I thank them for their willing acceptance of their assignments and I extend to them a tribute for their work on behalf of our Order.

To them and to each Sir Knight, the New Year brings a special challenge. Let us meet that challenge to the best of our abilities.

Let us make 1974 a true milestone in the advancement of Templary.

Roy H. Riegel
Can you tell me whether Frank Marshall, who wrote the DeMolay Ritual, was ever a resident of, or a member of Masonic bodies in Leavenworth, Kansas? Leavenworth is 25 miles from Kansas City and I was born there.

GEORGE O. HACK
700 N.E. 7th Street
Gainesville, Florida 32601

Editor's Note: Frank A. Marshall, born in Leavenworth, Kansas, a longtime editorial writer for the Kansas City Journal, had original York Rite memberships in Kansas City Chapter, Shekinah Council and Kansas City Commandery, but affiliated with Westport bodies (in Kansas City, Missouri) when those were organized.

Through the avenue of communications of the Knight Templar, this reader received a letter from Brother Earl C. Hamlin of Bestor G. Brown Lodge No. 433, Wichita, Kansas.

I was informed they have raised 35 candidates this year. Congratulations are in order.

These men are potential applicants for the Commandery. Let us hope they will be informed and enlightened in receiving additional Degrees in York Rite Masonry. It is a disservice to allow qualified men to become dormant after being Raised.

May the future of this Lodge remain as bright as appealing as their 50 year medallion.

KENNETH B. ULTSCH, SR.
765 Broadway
Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150

I am trying to obtain a copy of the 1914 Proceedings of the Council of Deliberation, State of New York, A.A.S.R., N.M.J., U.S.A., which was held in Albany, New York, June 26, 1914, for my personal library.

FREDERICK A. EGAN
2001 Longcome Drive
Wilmington, Delaware 19810

Last summer while traveling through the small town of Phillipston, Massachusetts, on a Sunday morning I attended a church service.

Words cannot describe the inspiration I felt when I entered the church and saw behind the pulpit "The Cross First and Then the Crown."

I would humbly request any Knight Templar passing through Phillipston, stop, go into the church for one moment, then leave with a feeling of pride being a member of Knight Templar.

After reading the Knight Templar, Volume XIX, April 1973, Number 4, page 18, I wanted to send in my contribution pertaining to "The Cross First and Then The Crown."

THOMAS KELLEY
29 Union Street
Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458

A native of Pennsylvania, long since transplanted in New England, I sometimes tell my listeners that I came from Pennsylvania to Massachusetts in exchange for Benjamin Franklin. To the best of my knowledge I am the only Brubaker in this part of the country. And in all my travels I have never met another Brubaker. However, I have had some correspondence with M.W. William W. Brubaker, Past Grand Master of Iowa, and knew of the late Rex Brubaker.

I would be pleased to know of or hear from any Brother by the name of Brubaker.

Cyrile E. Brubaker
33 Summit Street
Orange, Massachusetts 01364

January 1974
Inspiration for a New Year

Nehemiah saw that, indeed, the people were discouraged, and Jerusalem was laid waste. There was no sign of hope — only despair. The ruins attested to the killing, stealing and persecution by their enemies. There was an air of decadence all around them. The people were discouraged and didn’t believe that there was any use in rebuilding the walls.

But Nehemiah went from one to the other, urging them to take up the task of rebuilding the walls, each one assuming responsibility for a particular section, so that every part of the wall was being rebuilt simultaneously. And they rose to the task!

But their enemies were not idle! Their enemies round about assaulted them time and time again. They mocked and ridiculed them. In order to protect themselves, they were forced to literally work with their trowels in one hand and the weapons for their defense in the other. THIS IS THE HERITAGE THAT CAME DOWN TO US FROM THOSE WHO REBUILT THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM! Their tools of labor in the one hand — their swords in the other! Knight Templary, today, needs to take a lesson from antiquity, as did Sir Knight Robert Bruce of Scotland, who built and fought at the same time — snatching victory from defeat! WE NEED TO BUILD! WE NEED TO FIGHT! WE NEED TO FIGHT AGAINST EVIL! We need to fight against those who would shatter and tear down the temples that we seek to build — the temples of our souls!

From a Sermon to Templars by Sir Knight and the Rev. Fred M. Eister former Grand Prelate Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

HAPPY NEW YEAR
Postcards: Cards from Templars abroad during the last quarter of 1973 highlighted some of the disturbances in several areas – notably Greece and the Middle East.

Sir Knight and Mrs. Arch M. Dullnig, Texas, changed their travel plans and detoured Israel and Egypt for obvious reasons last fall, but still enjoyed the many other stops on their extended tour. Sir Knight and Mrs. Frank L. Bourke, Maine, were in Athens in November when martial law was declared. All guests were restricted to their hotels from 4 p.m. until 6 a.m. daily.

Sir Knight Dullnig is Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on Finance. Sir Knight Bourke is a 1967-70 Past Department Commander.

1000 Year Old Stone: Received from Sir Knight Malcolm H. Van Dyke II, Attaché Specialist, Embassy of the United States, Beirut, Lebanon, is a stone from the Tomb of King Hiram, “certified to be at least 1,000 years old.” About two inches square, it reposés in the Grand Encampment office, Chicago. Sir Knight Van Dyke will author a feature on the Tomb of the King of Tyre in the March issue.

Will Rogers: Brother Rogers (who failed to receive the York Rite Degrees and Orders before his death, although scheduled), once said: “The country is where it is today on account of the real common sense of the big normal majority.”

Bicentennial: The “immortal marches” of the late Sir Knight John Philip Sousa seem made for a patriotic celebration as significant as the 200th Birthday of the United States. Many of his marches will be featured before and during the official observance. Now it also appears that his only successful operetta, “El Captain,” may be staged in 1976 by the New York City Opera as a bicentennial presentation.

In November, a revival of the operetta opened at Ford’s Theater, Washington. It was composed in 1896 and was first seen at the Tremont Theater, Boston, April 13 of that year. Sousa was Knighted in Columbia Commandery No. 2, Washington, D.C. in 1886. A number of his most stirring marches were written to salute Masonic and Templar events. The composer died in 1932.

Another bicentennial Templar tribute will be the compiling and printing, expectantly by July of this year, features about the Masonic founding fathers and other leading Americans which have appeared in the Knight Templar Magazine. The collection will be in book form. Details later.

In Fond Memory: Because it is obviously a physical impossibility to mark each passing of a deceased Templar in the Knight Templar Magazine, the In Memoriam listings are generally limited only to those who have served as officers on a Grand Commandery level. Two other notices recently received warrant special attention.

Both, one from a son and one from a widow, reflect pride and respect for the Masonic life of the deceased Templars. James L. Milford, Ambler, Pennsylvania, wrote: “After a long life, including a distinguished banking career, my father passed away October 5, 1973. My father was an outstanding example of, and lived as near as anyone could, in accordance with the rules and tradition of the Masonic organization.” His father was the late Sir Knight W. R. Milford, whose record ranged from infantry service in World War I to Treasury Department posts of responsibility.

The widow of the late Sir Knight La Verne Corning, who had been a member of Porto Rico Commandery No. 1, Puerto Rico, tells how her husband enlisted in the Navy at 17 and “sailed the equivalent of seven times to the moon and back — on everything from a 32,000 ton battleship to a 100 foot net-tender. My husband made many trips to various Lodges, also was an instructor.”
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN FOR CURRENT TRIENNIALIZ

Much "behind the scenes" work is done during the Triennium by the Committees appointed by the Grand Master. The Constitution names the Standing Committees. In addition, there are Special Committees named by the Grand Master as he deems necessary. Following are brief biographical sketches of the Committee Chairmen as appointed by Grand Master Riegle August 16 in Chicago.

Herbert D. Sledd, Lexington, Kentucky, attorney, is Chairman of the Templar Jurisprudence Committee. He served as both Grand Commander of Kentucky and President of the Kentucky Bar Association in 1965. He is currently active in the American Bar Association.

As Chairman of Jurisprudence, Sir Knight Sledd plays a major role as advisor to the Grand Master on all questions of Templar law and usage. He serves as Parliamentarian during the Triennial Conclave.

Active in the Grand Commandery of Kentucky as well as other Masonic bodies in which he holds memberships, Sledd is an Elder in his church and active in many civic organizations. He is particularly active with the Boy Scouts and the Lexington Unit, Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children.

Arch M. Dullnig, retired corporation executive, is Chairman of the Finance Committee. He served two terms as Mayor of Tyler, Texas where he resides with his wife Norma.

Sir Knight Dullnig lists "the Masonic fraternity" as his special interest. His long list of honors and service therein includes: Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Texas; Captain of Ascension No. 25's Drill Team at five Triennials; Past Potentate, Sharon Temple; Past Sovereign, St. Austin Conclave. Prior to becoming Finance Chairman, Dullnig served on the Grand Encampment Committees on Purpose and Policies, Membership and as a Past Department Commander.

Gordon J. Brenner, Chairman of the Committee on Religious Activities for the 52nd Triennium, is a New Jersey executive. No stranger to Grand Encampment, he served as Grand Warder in 1967 and Chairman of the Committee on Membership, 1967-70. He is also Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey.

The President of GFH Enterprises, Inc., and Allied American Corporation, he is also Chairman of Brenner-Naughton, Ltd. From 1940 to 1950 he served his home of Carlstadt as
Magistrate. Sir Knight Brenner is a Deacon in the Carlstadt Baptist Church and active in many civic organizations.

Masonic affiliations and honors include: Past Sovereign, St. Quentin Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Past President, The Forty-Fivers; Honorary Legion of Honor, Order of DeMolay; Royal Order of Scotland; National Sojourners; H.R.A.K.T.P. and numerous others.

The Rev. Alan DeLeon Gray, Chairman of the Committee on Necrology, has retired as Superintendent-Minister to the more than 1,200 children at the Oxford Orphanage.

A Past President of the Southeastern Association of Workers with Children as well as the North Carolina Conference of Workers with Children, he is also a Past President of the Masonic Homes Executives Association.

After serving as Grand Commander in 1964, Sir Knight Grey served for many years as Grand Prelate. He is a former member of the Grand Encampment Committee on Religious Activities; Past Grand Chaplain of all North Carolina York Rite bodies; First Chaplain, Imperial Council, A.A.O.N.M.S.; Intendant General, U.G.I.C., Red Cross of Constantine; K.Y.C.H.; 32°, K.C.CH., A.A.S.R., S.J.

William J. Tobler, a Kansas City florist for 50 years, is Chairman of the Committee on Triennial Conclave. It is his duty to make the arrangements for the 52nd Triennial Conclave in Kansas City August 14-19, 1976.

A Templar for 44 years, Sir Knight Tobler is an Active Member of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, and an Active Legion of Honor. He is also a Past Executive Officer for Missouri. Other Masonic memberships include: 32°, K.C.CH., A.A.S.R., S.J.; Past Potentate, Ararat Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; Past Preceptor, H.R.A.K.T.P.; Royal Order of Jesters; Red Cross of Constantine.

Dr. Oliver S. Willham, President Emeritus of Oklahoma State University, is Chairman of the Committee on the Educational Foundation. His career at Oklahoma State included 14 years as President before his retirement in 1966.

A Past Department Commander, Sir Knight Willham served as Chairman of the Committee on Condition of the Order prior to becoming Chairman of the Educational Foundation in 1967. An Honorary 33°, Scottish Rite Mason, S.J., Dr. Willham is also a Trustee of the Permanent Fund, Intendant General and Past Sovereign, Red Cross of Constantine.

Dr. Willham’s life has been devoted to education. His list of academic honors and titles is lengthy. Even in retirement, he continues to work in his field of agriculture. In 1970 he was awarded the Henry J. Bennett Distinguished Service Award for his work with developing countries.

S. Lewis Smith, retired Design Engineer, is Chairman of the Committee on Drill Regulations. He was a member of the Committee during the last Triennium and served as a Drill Judge at
N. Donald Bell, Chairman of the Committee on Membership, is a Farm Implement Dealer. He and his wife Bessie reside in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Past Grand Commander Bell’s Masonic memberships include: 32°, A.A.S.R., S.J.; Allied Masonic Degrees; H.R.A.K.T.P.; Royal Order of Jesters; Past Potentate, Sudan Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; Red Cross of Constantine. He has a special interest in the Shrine Crippled Childrens Program.

Civic activities have included: Past President, Chamber of Commerce; Lions Club; Past Director, Carolinas Farm Equipment Dealers Association; City Improvements Board; Elks. He has served on the Board of Stewards, St. Paul Methodist Church.

Dr. Paul W. Sweet, Jr., Chairman of the Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities, is a Centralia, Washington, Obstetrician. He and his wife M.J. are the parents of three Children.

Sir Knight Sweet served as Department Commander of the Northwestern Department during the 51st Triennium and is a former member of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations. He is currently Sovereign of St. Albans Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine. Other Masonic memberships include: H.R.A.K.T.P.; K.Y.C.H; Royal Order of Scotland.

Dr. Sweet has been active with the Boy Scouts, serving as Cub Master and then District Commissioner. He is a member of the United
Methodist Church. He holds professional memberships in several state and national medical associations and has been on the Board of Trustees of the local medical service since 1960.

George W. Davidson, Chairman of the Committee on DeMolay, is a retail jeweler. He and his wife Thelma reside in Bellefontaine, Ohio.

Sir Knight Davidson was on Active Duty during World War II and the Korean War in the Signal Corps. He is currently a Lt. Colonel, USAR, Executive Officer for Plans and Operations, 5th Army. He serves on the Special Committee to select applicants for appointments to the military academies. He has been active with the Red Cross, Civil Defense and Boy Scouts, to name a few.

A Senior DeMolay, he holds the Legion of Honor, Chevalier and Zerebabbel Key. He has served as Ritual Director and Governor at Large of Ohio. Other Masonic affiliations include: Honorary 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J.; K.Y.C.H.; H.R.A.K.T.P.; Antioch Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.

Marvin E. Fowler, Secretary-Treasurer of the George Washington National Masonic Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia, is Chairman of the Committee on Easter Sunrise Memorial Service. He is retired as Head Pathologist and Chief of Division of Forest Disease Research, U.S. Forest Service. He is the author of some 100 scientific publications.

Past Grand Commander Fowler is the Provincial Grand Master, Royal Order of Scotland, a position he has held for 20 years. He is also a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge; Past Grand High Priest; Past Illustrious Grand Master; Past Grand Master, K.Y.C.H.; Honorary 33°, A.A.S.R., S.J.; and numerous other Masonic honors. Sir Knight Fowler and his wife Roberta are the parents of one child, Terri.

Robert S. Schoedinger, Chairman of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, is a Funeral Director in Columbus, Ohio, where he resides with his wife Sue. They are the parents of two daughters.

He is Vice-President, Secretary and Director of Franklin Federal Savings & Loan; President and Trustee of Paulina Home for the Aged; Trustee of the Ohio Masonic Home; Chairman and Trustee of the Masonic Temple Association of Columbus.

Past Grand Commander Schoedinger is an Honorary 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J.; Past Sovereign, Red Cross of Constantine; DeMolay Legion of Honor. He is on the Board of St. John’s United Church of Christ and is active on several church committees.

Carl J. Baesemann, Chairman of the Committee on Templar History, is in the General Insurance business in Denver, Colorado. He is a Past Department Commander and former Chairman of the Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities.
A Past Grand Master of the Grand Council and Past Grand Commander, Sir Knight Baesemann is a Past Prior, K.Y.C.H.; Past Preceptor, H.R.A.K.T.P.; DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor; Rosicrucian Society; Royal Order of Scotland; El Jebel Shrine, A.A.O.N.M.S. and others.

Sir Knight Baesemann is a past president, Acacia Toastmasters Club; past Area Governor, Toastmasters International; member of Mayor’s Committee for Employment of the Handicapped; active member and past Area Chairman, National Federation of Independent Business, Inc.

Joe R. Harris, retired Naval Architect, is Chairman of the Committee on George Washington Memorial Chapel. Additionally, he is a member of the Committee on the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service.

Past Grand Commander Harris’ special interest is the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. He is Virginia’s Chairman for the current Walter A. DeLamater Memorial Campaign. He is a member of the Virginia Knights Templar Eye Foundation Appreciation Club composed of Virginia Templars owning four or more Life Sponsorships.

Other Masonic affiliations include: Past President, Shenandoah Knights Templar School of Instruction; Past Sovereign, St. Polycarp Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Past Preceptor, H.R.A.K.T.P.; Past Master, A.M.D.

Edgar H. Clark, retired Traffic Manager for Kellogg’s, is Chairman of the Committee on Knights Templar Cross of Honor Award. He served as a Class A Drill Team Judge at the Triennials in Denver and Chicago.

A 35 year member of Battle Creek No. 33, Sir Knight Clark is also a member of Saladin Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; Past President, Battle Creek Shrine Club; member, DeWitt Clinton Consistory; St. Vincent Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; K.Y.C.H; Royal Order of Jesters. He is an Honorary Legion of Honor, Order of DeMolay, and a member of the Eastern Star and White Shrine of Jerusalem.

Biblical Revelation

The *Knight Templar Magazine* has been requested to express the appreciation and the acknowledgment of Captain R. E. Hall for the letters received in response to his August article on Biblical Revelation. Sir Knight Hall has received “an overwhelming amount of correspondence” but, due to a transfer to Germany, has been unable to answer each letter individually.
VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Gerald R. Ford, Jr., whose appointment to Vice President of the United States of America was confirmed in December, is one of four brothers initiated in Malta Lodge No. 465, Grand Rapids, Michigan, September 30, 1949. Past Grand Master of Michigan Masons, Newton S. Bacon, Grand Secretary, says their father, Gerald R., Sr., 33°, presented lambskin aprons to all four brothers “in a packed Lodge Room.”

He was elected to the House of Representatives for his thirteenth consecutive term in November 1972, receiving 61.7% of the 5th Congressional District votes.

Columbia Lodge No. 3, District of Columbia, conferred the Degrees of Fellowcraft and Master Mason as a courtesy to Malta Lodge. He was Raised May 18, 1951. Received the Scottish Rite Degrees in the Valley of Grand Rapids in 1957, created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General Honorary 33°, N.M.J., in 1962. Member of Saladin Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., in Grand Rapids and of Court No. 11, Royal Order of Jesters. Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honor. He is not yet affiliated with the York Rite.

Gerald R. Ford, Jr., received his B.A. degree in 1935 from the University of Michigan where he was a member of Michigamua, top senior honor, and his law degree from Yale University Law School. Admitted to the Michigan State Bar in 1941, he has been admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court; he has received honorary degrees from more than a half dozen universities and colleges.

In 1932-33, he was on Michigan’s undefeated national championship football teams and was named Michigan’s most valuable player in 1934, playing center. On New Year’s Day 1935, he participated in the Shrine East-West Crippled Children’s benefit game in San Francisco and, in August of that year, in the All-Star classic against the Chicago Bears.

Vice President Ford entered the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served 47 months on active duty during World War II, participating in 3rd and 5th Fleet carrier operations.

Married Elizabeth Bloomer, Grand Rapids, in 1948. The Fords have four children: Michael Gerald (Born March 15, 1950); John Gardner (March 16, 1952) Steven Meigs (May 19, 1956); Susan Elizabeth (July 6, 1957). The Vice President is a member of Grace Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids. Maintains active memberships in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and AMVETS.

Received numerous honors and governmental and political assignments. Among the latter: appointments to the Warren Commission in 1963, service as permanent chairman of the 1968 and 1972 Republican National Conventions, and as Minority House Leader. Visited the People’s Republic of China in the summer of 1972 and is the recipient of the Distinguished Congressional Service Award of the American Political Science Association, the George Washington Award by the American Good Government Society, the American Academy of Achievement Gold Plate Award.
INCOMPARABLE BROTHER BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

by
Paul C. Rodenhauser, Editor

To describe Benjamin Franklin is to describe a genius, a man who excelled as a journalist, scientist, author, an inventor; a civic leader, administrator, politician, diplomat, statesman, philosopher, a wit — and a Mason. He was also a genial man of the world who apparently cut a few capers occasionally proving that he was human as well as precocious.

It was Carl Van Doren who called him "a harmonious human multitude" because of Franklin's all-embracing interests and attainments, his insatiable curiosity about the elements of nature, his understanding of people, his patriotism, his vitality.

Almost completely self-educated, he read the great works of the past as well as the writings of contemporaries. He taught himself a number of languages. His broad and liberal education continued throughout a long and amazingly fruitful life.

Born January 17, 1706, as today's calendar is reckoned, he was the tenth son and the fifteenth child of Josiah Franklin and his wife of Boston. After a brief schooling he joined his half brother James to learn the printing trade. James published the New England Courant — until it was suppressed because of its audacious attacks on the clergy and its radical and "liberal" treatment of a wide range of subjects. Benjamin, although possessing a high opinion about his own contributions to the paper, discovered that an "overly liberal" youngster received nothing but the condemnation of the town's most influential citizens.

At 17, he took off for Philadelphia. One introduction to an edited edition of Franklin's Autobiography, summarizes the next few years as follows: "He pursued his trade of printer. He was befriended by William Keith, Governor of Pennsylvania, who offered to help the young man get started in business.

"Franklin left for England, where he hoped to arrange for the purchase of printing equipment. Arriving in London in 1724, he was soon deserted by Keith, and again turned to printing for a livelihood. His privately printed Dissertation on Liberty and Necessary, Pleasure and Pain (1725) introduced him to leading Deists and other intellectuals in London. A year later he returned to Philadelphia, and by 1730 he had been appointed public printer for Pennsylvania."

So much has been written about Franklin that it is redundant to say he prospered. He established the first circulating library in the United States; his Poor Richard's Almanack was a spectacular success. At 42, he was able to retire from the trade of printer but continued to advise and back his partner — and to draw profits from the business.

For three and a half decades he devoted himself mostly to politics and diplomacy, to writing, to scientific ventures, to a wide range of inventions, also to copious correspondence on everything from dust clouds to minute advice to friends and family.

The span of Franklin's life saw the rise of America from colonialism to independence and national union. During the period from 1706 to 1790, rough provincialism grew to cultural accomplishments. And in almost → → →
every facet of this growth, Benjamin Franklin was a central participant. More than one historian has called America’s 18th century “The Age of Franklin.”

It was in his early twenties that recovery from a serious illness is credited with Franklin’s “conversion.” He decided he was going to become a Freemason. Although he took pains to let his desire be known, there was no encouraging response. With his own brand of ingenuity, he then published in his Pennsylvania Gazette what has been described among other terms as an amusing attack upon the fraternity.

Philadelphia Masons suddenly understood his intentions and wishes. He had won his point and was invited to become a member. It is said that his membership marked the start of a career as a man of “substantial respectability.” Bernard Fay writes that Franklin, having declared to himself and to his God that he was a believer, “then wrote an Act of Adoration in which he praised God for having created the sun and the world, and also for directing our lives into the paths of virtue, by means of his Providence.”

H. L. Haywood, in his Well-Springs of American Freemasonry, indicates that there was a Lodge at work in Philadelphia at least as early as 1729. Some writers designate a date two years earlier. In 1734, Franklin reprinted and distributed the 1723 original edition of Anderson’s Constitutions.

A Grand Lodge had been organized in Philadelphia in 1731 with William Allen as Grand Master, Franklin was Grand Master in 1734, again in 1749. The account of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania is a unique story of itself. Modern Masonry, “as exemplified by the first Provincial Grand Lodge,” began to fade and was supplanted by the “more vigorous Masonry . . . more aggressive, more spirited . . . which called itself York Masonry, or Antient Masonry . . . .”

From 1761, when these York Lodges were granted their own Grand Lodge, all Masonry in Pennsylvania was Antient Masonry. It is so until this day — the Union of 1813 notwithstanding.

Franklin’s varied range of interests was phenomenal. His experiments with electricity alone would have inscribed his name in history. For almost fifty years before his experiments, men had been suggesting that there was an identity between lightning and the electric spark, but none had been able to prove it. Franklin not only made an actual demonstration, but was also able to explain lightning in rational and logical terms, not as a supernatural manifestation.

Brother Franklin also was an early meteorologist. During an eclipse of the moon, observers in Philadelphia were able to see only the beginning because of clouds from the northeast. Days later he noticed in a Boston newspaper that the sky there had been cloudy, even though Boston was northeast of Philadelphia. He sent for newspapers from cities in the path of the eclipse and found that the storm had been from the southwest to northeast, even though the wind had been blowing from the northeast. He is credited with being the first to notice this prevailing weather pattern and to offer an explanation of air mass circulation. The concepts of high and low pressure in the atmosphere originated with him.

He was a physicist, proving that the boiling point of water depended upon atmospheric pressure. He was an athlete — even though many of his likenesses were painted in later years and showed him after his masculinity had become portliness and his brown hair had gone to baldness.

He was a diplomat in every way, a charmer with the ladies, a master of adaptability with every type of person. Despite the continuing identification in the minds of generations with Poor Richard and the occasional sanctimonious expressiveness in his
Autobiography, Franklin was a dashing, gay, disarming and witty individual. With it, he was a giant of intellectual vigor.

Franklin, both as a Mason and a man, was real — a genuine person — with weaknesses and indulgences possessed by many others. A bit of vanity and forgetfulness shows up in the Autobiography, but there can never be a doubt that he was a great man, one of the most inspirational and influential of the Founding Fathers.

Beginning with the Stamp Act in 1765, he became in London the leading American spokesman for constitutional legislation. He left London a month before Concord and Lexington, was chosen a delegate to the second Continental Congress, became a member of the committee to draft a Declaration of Independence. He was sent to France to negotiate an alliance; staying on as Minister afterward to serve in peace arrangements with George III.

Back in America in 1785, Franklin was chosen President of the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, then a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1787. Released finally from public duty in 1788 at the age of 82, he devoted himself to his Autobiography, to correspondence and to the development of his scientific interests. He died at 84 on the 17th day of April, 1790.

His epitaph, his own composition, reads:

The Body of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
Printer,
(Like the cover of an old book,
Its contents torn out,
And strip of its lettering and gilding,
 Lies here, food for worms.
Yet the work itself shall not be lost,
For it will, as he believed, appear once more,
In a new
And more beautiful edition,
Corrected and amended
By
The Author

Kipling a Romancer?

Harold V. B. Voorhis, Masonic writer and researcher, noted the quotation by Rudyard Kipling in Dr. Beryl S. Kinser’s feature in the December issue. Kipling said he was “Entered by a Hindu, Passed by a Moslem and Raised by an Englishman.”

Sir Knight Voorhis writes that it is totally wrong. “The Initiation and Passing was done by G. B. Wolseley and the Col. Oswald Menzies, and the Raising by Wolseley. It so happens that in the original records of his Lodge (Hope and Perseverance), Kipling acted as Secretary and recorded the information in his own hand.

“The so-called information (about the Hindu, Moslem, Englishman) was spread into Masonic literature of 1925 by Kipling himself — 40 years after his Initiation.” The writer concludes: “To say he had a poor memory is not quite enough — he had a vivid imagination.”

January — Masonically

January is the birth month of many famous Masons. Two Masonic Presidents — William McKinley (January 29, 1843) and Franklin Roosevelt (January 30, 1882) — two patriots — Benjamin Franklin (January 17, 1706) and Paul Revere (January 1, 1735) — two “men of letters” — Robert Burns (January 25, 1759) and Wolfgang Mozart (January 27, 1756) — Union leader Samuel Gompers (January 27, 1850) and General Douglas MacArthur (January 26, 1880) all were born this month.

It was on January 3, 1746, that Brother Benjamin Franklin discovered electricity. President Theodore Roosevelt died January 6, 1919. Sir Knight Andrew Jackson, later President, defeated the British at New Orleans on January 8, 1815, “ending” the War of 1812. On January 14, 1943, two Masonic heads of state, Brother Franklin Roosevelt and Brother Winston Churchill, met at Casablanca to plan Allied strategy.

On January 20, 1936, Edward VIII succeeded to the throne of England upon the death of his father. A fire aboard the spacecraft Apollo I on the ground at Cape Kennedy January 27, 1967, killed three astronauts including Sir Knight Virgil I. Grissom, one of the original Mercury astronauts.
DeMolay Spelled with a "K"

George M. Klepper, Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, referring to the Order of Knighthood for DeMolays from 17-21 years of age, says that "the Order of Knighthood is simply DeMolay spelled with a ‘K.’ It is our way to continue and advance the teachings of DeMolay with older young men through a program geared to their special interests."

Advancement of DeMolay’s Order of Knighthood is one of the Grand Encampment’s 1973-76 projects. Grand Master Roy W. Riegle is working with DeMolay Grand Master Klepper in establishing “a special and constructive course of cooperation and, thru the office of the Grand Recorder, professional and technical assistance in preparation and issuance of Knighthood publications.”

A Family Affair

Lauren C. Knauer poses with her grandfather, Robert C. Thomas, P.C., Santa Ana No. 36, Santa Ana, California, following her installation as Honored Queen of Bethel No. 166, Santa Ana. Serving with Miss Knauer are, standing, left to right, sisters Celane, Senior Princess; Lisa, Recorder; Karen, Choir.

Mexico City Knightings

Fourteen candidates headed by the M.W. Grand Master of the York Grand Lodge of Mexico, Brother Robert W. Burnet, were Knighted November 9 by Ivanhoe Commandery No. 2, Mexico City, Mexico, with P.C. William Webber, K.T.C.H., presiding over the ceremonies in English.

One week later, the Grand Encampment’s newly printed Spanish Ritual was utilized in Mexico City for the first time to confer the Order of the Temple upon a class of eight headed by Illustrious Brother Juan Jose Gastelum Salcido, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Mexico, A.A.S.R. Sir Knight Webber again presided, this time in Spanish.

Included among the members of the class were Illustrious Brother Basilio Santos Rodriguez, 33°, Treasurer of the Supreme Council; and Active Member of the Supreme Council, Illustrious Brother and now Sir Knight Jorge Alarcon, 33°.

Camping Travelers Plan Easter Rally

The Virginia Unit, National Camping Travelers, Inc., will again kick off their season by camping in the Washington, D.C., area to attend the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service. The club is composed of Master Masons and their families. This year’s campout starts on Good Friday and runs thru Easter Sunday at Fairfax Lake Park. Guided tours will be featured. Interested campers may contact Allan C. Peringer, 2404 Sero Court, Chesapeake, Virginia 23325.

Projection for 1974 and the Future

We are reading the first verse of the first chapter of a new book whose pages are infinite.

January 1974
Campaign Note

Earl R. Little, New Orleans, Grand Commandery of Louisiana Chairman for the 6th Voluntary Eye Foundation Campaign, is utilizing the Louisiana Supplement pages for January to encourage Life Sponsor, Associate Patron and Patron applications. Last item on the second page of the Louisiana Supplement is an outlined “coupon,” which Templars receiving the Louisiana Supplement can use to relay their checks, applications and memorials to the Louisiana Grand Recorder’s office. Chairman Little’s minimum goal for the Grand Commandery of Louisiana is $12,000 during the Walter A. DeLamater Memorial Campaign.

Grottoes Plan Tour

Howard A. Bodeker, Grand Monarch, Supreme Council, Grottoes of North America, Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets, announces a one week tour to Switzerland and Germany. Boston and Cleveland are departure points April 19.

Grand Monarch Bodeker advises that tour information for members and their immediate families is available by writing: Grottoes of North America, Swiss Bavarian Carnival, 111 East Wacker, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

Ladies at Work

The Worthy Grand Matron of the Eastern Star, Idaho — Mrs. Ina Wilson — is devoting her year to raising funds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Additionally, Idaho’s Social Order of the Beauceant is supporting the Foundation.

“These ladies deserve more recognition for their all-out drive,” says Grand Commander Thomas G. Crain, “We Sir Knights need to get busy.”

Greek Visit

In the June Knight Writers Sir Knight Nicolaos R. Higby, Hermann von Salza No. 1, Frankfurt, Germany, residing in Athens, Greece, invited Templars visiting Greece to visit with him. Sir Knight and Mrs. Leo Canelake, Eveleth No. 35, Eveleth, Minnesota, were one of several Templar couples who accepted the invitation.

Sir Knights Higby, left, and Canelake.

22nd Christmas Breakfast Observance


They were telecast for a decade. P.C. Nelson Sears was master of ceremonies, P.C. Charles R. Frasch general chairman. Commander of Cyrene Commandery No. 34, host Commandery, is Earl L. Gerfen. The 23rd annual breakfast is scheduled Sunday morning, December 15, 1974.
Beginning Friday, February 15, the traditional meetings of the Allied Masonic Bodies, the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America and the Conference of Grand Secretaries of Jurisdictions in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico will take place at the Hotel Washington, Washington, D.C.

PROGRAM OF A.M.D. MEETINGS

February 15 7:30 p.m. Masonic Workshop, The Philalethes Society
February 16 8:30 a.m. Registration
9:30 a.m. Grand College of Rites of the U.S.A.
10:30 a.m. Grand Master’s Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the U.S.A.
12:30 p.m. Luncheon – Dutch Treat
2:00 p.m. Installed Master’s Council, A.M.D.
2:30 p.m. Council of the Nine Muses, No. 13, A.M.D.
3:00 p.m. Great Chief’s Council, No. 0, Knight Masons
3:30 p.m. Grand Council, Knight Masons of the U.S.A.
4:45 p.m. Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis
6:00 p.m. Annual Banquet, Allied Masonic Degrees
8:00 p.m. Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the U.S.A.
11:00 p.m. Ye Ancient Order of Corks

February 17 7:30 a.m. Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honour
9:00 a.m. Society of Blue Friars
9:30 a.m. Grand Preceptor’s Tabernacle, H.R.A.K.T.P.
10:00 a.m. Grand College of America, H.R.A.K.T.P.

CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS

February 17 12 to 5 p.m. Registration
5 to 7 p.m. Grand Masters’ Tea and Reception
February 18 7:00 a.m. Deputy Grand Masters’ Breakfast, Palladian Room
8:00 a.m. Registration
10:00 a.m. George Washington Masonic Memorial Association Meeting at the Memorial, Alexandria
2:00 p.m. Masonic Service Association, Diplomat Room
7:00 p.m. Grand Secretaries’ Dinner, Palladian Room
February 19 7:30 a.m. Frank S. Land Memorial Breakfast, Regency Ballroom
9:00 a.m. Grand Masters’ Conference, Diplomat Room
9:00 a.m. Grand Secretaries’ Conference, Tudor Room
12:30 p.m. Grand Secretaries’ Luncheon, Executive Room
7:00 p.m. Grand Masters’ Banquet, Regency Ballroom

February 20 9:00 a.m. Grand Masters’ Conference, Diplomat Room
9:00 a.m. Grand Secretaries’ Conference, Tudor Room

COMING IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE – PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DECEMBER CONSTITUTING OF GUATEMALA COMMANDERY NO. 1, GUATEMALA CITY.
THE ORIGIN OF THE CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE

by

Wylie B. Wendt

P.C., K.T.C.H., Kentucky

The Christmas season has just passed and recollections of it and what it stands for are still fresh in our memories. To Knights Templars, Christmas has a special significance, because if there had been no birth of Christ (Christmas), there would have been no Christian Church, no Christian religion and no Order of Knights Templar. Our Order is the only organization within the Masonic structure open to candidates who are seeking membership on their own volition by petition (as differentiating from those Masonic bodies where membership is by invitation) where such membership is based upon a belief in the Christian religion.

This past Christmas all Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies under the obedience of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America were supposed to celebrate the 96th anniversary of what has been designated the Knights Templar Christmas Observance, and the percentage of those Commanderies participating in the celebration was high, as the percent has been increasing in recent years.

The ceremony consists of a program promulgated by the Committee on Christmas Observance of the Grand Encampment, the Committee writing a suitable greeting to the Grand Master of Templars, embodying the Christmas sentiment, to which the Grand Master responds. The program includes such other Christian and Templar topics and music as the local Commandery desires to introduce.

The custom was started ninety-seven years ago in 1876 by Sir Knight Stephen Berry, P.C., Portland Commandery No. 1 and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maine from 1892-1917. Sir Knight Berry was also the Reviewer of the Proceedings of other Templar Jurisdictions (Foreign Correspondents they were called in those days) and he invited the Templar Correspondents of other Grand Commanderies to drink a toast at noon on Christmas day, expressing sentiments typical of the Order of Knights Templar.

From this small beginning, it has changed slightly from year to year until it has become the nationally recognized Templar custom of the present day.

The Triennium, 1883-1886, had as the Grand Master, Sir Knight Robert E. Withers, of Virginia. During his term of office, he served for a short period in China as the United States Consul at Hong Kong. Sir Knight Berry, feeling that the Grand Master would appreciate a Knight Templar toast, sent him a message headed “To him that’s away” and asked for a response, to which the Grand Master replied. Sir Knight Withers, in his report to the Grand Encampment in 1886, referred to the Christmas Observance as a “novel and pleasant episode.”

In 1889 Grand Master Charles Roome of New York appointed a “Committee on Christmas Toast.”

In 1898 Grand Master La Rue Thomas of Kentucky enlarged the Christmas Service as a progressive movement for Templary. In his report of 1898 he said in part: “Hundreds of telegrams and letters have been received each Christmas, all containing sweet words of
encouragement to the Grand Master, and all testifying to their love for our Noble Order and their loyalty to our Grand Encampment.”

In 1901 Grand Master Reuben Hadley Lloyd of California, in his report, said in part: “From far-off Manila, six thousand miles beyond the sea, on Christmas Day, 1898, I received a telegram from Sir Knight Duboce, the gallant colonel of the California Regiment of Volunteers, saying: ‘The sojourn ing Templars toasted you on Christmas morning.’”

The same year, a message came from Sir Knight John Gilson of Alaska saying: “According to custom of Knights Templar the world over, to meet this morning at twelve o’clock, Washington time, wherever they may be and drink a Toast to the Grand Master of Knights Templar, fourteen Sir Knights, residing in this far-off Northern Land left their cabins this morning, two hours before daylight, forty degrees below zero, and met in Fraternity Hall and there drank a Toast to the health and prosperity of the Grand Master of the Noble Order of Knights Templar.”

In 1913 Grand Master William Bromwell Melish of Ohio, in his address, said: “The Christmas Observance has become an established custom dear to the hearts of Sir Knights and Commanderies.”

In 1937 the address made by Grand Master Andrew Agnew contained a complete history of the Knights Templar Christmas Observance, which was the basis for an article appearing in the December issue of the Grand Encampment Review (the forerunner of the Knight Templar Magazine) and from which article the facts mentioned in this paper were obtained.

As has been the custom of our local Commandery for many, many years, we celebrated the Christmas Observance this past Christmas and participated in this service which is unique in the annals of Templary and Freemasonry.

Those Sir Knights who attended have that inner glow and satisfaction of knowing that they were participating with kindred spirits and loyal fraters at the very same time in a program dedicated to the essence of Templary — a belief in the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues.

Sir Knight Robert Brainerd Gaylord, Grand Master 1949-1952, in his response to the toast proposed by the committee, responded as follows: “Templary as an intergraded Order whose center is Christ, joins with the Christian Church in making fervent obeisance to the Christian miracle. Sir Knights are charged to attune themselves once again to the Message first heard by simple shepherds tending their flocks on Judean hills these many centuries ago. We must be reborn spiritually.”

All Grand Masters since, up to an including Grand Master Riegle, have participated in the Christmas Toast. The late Walter A. DeLamater, Grand Master 1955-58, as Deputy Grand Master proposed that the Committee on Religious Services of the Grand Encampment, whose sole duty had been to write the Christmas Toasts, be changed to the Committee on Religious Observance to encompass Templar religious activities throughout the year.

The late Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker (1964-67) characterized the Christmas Toasts as “one of the most significant customs of modern Templary.”

The Christmas Toasts to the Grand Master and his Response thereto are printed in the official Grand Encampment proceedings. This unique program of Christmas Observance truly sets our Order apart from all other organizations.

‡

January 1974
STRENGTH IN UNITY

As one who has been privileged to travel in Masonic circles beyond the boundaries of my state, I have been somewhat puzzled when some leaders of our Craft are surprised at the York Rite Unity displayed in our Commonwealth.

What is York Rite Unity as understood by York Rite Masons in Kentucky? We probably would begin with a quotation about harmony being the strength of all well-regulated institutions and then try to explain our state which has been since the eighteenth century, four states of mind.

Kentuckians, like most Americans, are a proud independent people. They love their state which was the fifteenth to enter the union and was one of those few states below the Ohio River which did not secede during the War Between The States.

We are independent men from the mountains on the East; we are men oriented to the cities of the north, along our Ohio River. We are proud of our beautiful rolling Blue Grass hills in the central part of the state and the rich bottom lands of the Western purchase areas. Men in these areas have thought differently in economics and politics for almost two hundred years but for almost that same time they have been able to meet on the level, be Brothers, and act as such when Masonry is present.

Within the Grand York Rite bodies we find men from every part of the Commonwealth. The problems of one section demand a solution from all sections. The desire to assist the bodies whether Chapter, Council or Commandery, brought about the formation of a body designated The York Rite Council of Kentucky. The membership of this body changes each year yet keeps a continuity through its own membership.

The membership of the York Rite Council is made up of the three highest elective officers of the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and the Grand Commandery and the Grand Secretary and Grand Recorder of the three bodies (who are one and the same for all the bodies, Charles K. A. McGaughey).

The Chairmanship of the York Rite Council rotates on a regular basis so that the presiding officer of each Grand Body will be chairman every third year.

So we have a York Rite Council, what do they do for unity? Well, for one thing, they respect the independence of each of the bodies. They understand the problems of the other bodies and these problems are freely discussed. Of the present membership, all but one member is a K.Y.C.H. and that one has led the three local York Rite Bodies in his hometown.

The understanding leads to a special strength. The Council plans the Annual Assembly, Convocation and Conclave of the York Rite Bodies at the same location on three successive days in September each year. The Annual York Rite Banquet held during this three day period is presided over by the chairman of the York Rite Council. York Rite Festival days are planned and coordinated and representatives from each of the Grand Bodies attend and assist as needed.

On March 30, 1974, a state-wide festival will be held in Louisville sponsored by the York Rite Council. The Grand Officers of each body will take their stations in the conference of the Royal Arch Degree, the Select Master Degree and the Order of the Temple. The other Degrees and Orders will be conferred by local bodies who have special proficiency in the work. This → → →
will be the first state-wide effort sponsored by the York Rite Council.

The York Rite Council meets each quarter at the place where the annual Grand meetings are held. This helps in planning as well as in familiarization.

It would be unfair to truth if I failed to point out the part that Charles K. A. McLaughney plays in this special unity. He is like a catalyst. His knowledge and his love for our Craft are like a guiding beacon; he has set a course which will run on after most of us have departed.

Men like Charlie and Bill Netherton, who is Grand Treasurer of the three Grand Bodies, have been leaders in Masonic Harmony in general in Kentucky.


This kind of Harmony, Brotherhood and Unity is necessary if we are to concentrate on doing our best work and our best teaching to the men who are achieving the first three Degrees. Without the fellowship needed in the Blue Lodge, none of our Grand Bodies of the York Rite or the Scottish Rite can hope to grow and teach as we desire.

So, with the strength of all well-regulated institutions in our minds, harmony in our hearts and unity in our thoughts, let everyone of us remember that he must be Raised before he can proceed.

Kentucky has more than fast horses, beautiful women and fried chicken; it has a strong York Rite Unity and Masonic harmony.

Submitted by: Donald H. Smith
103 Southland Drive
Richmond, Kentucky 40475
Deputy Grand Commander, Kentucky

Mrs. Helmick Saluted

Sir Knight and Rev. Ernest G. Rice, Grand Prelate, Grand Commandery of West Virginia, presents a bouquet of roses to Mrs. Earle G. Helmick, wife of P.G.C. Helmick, honoring her for refurbishing and making new robes and headgear for the Order of the Red Cross, making 22 Malta Robes and coverlets for the East and West.

Mrs. Helmick has also made the Grand Standard and Beascent for Calvary Commandery No. 3, Parkersburg, and several Grand Standards for other West Virginia Commanderies, all free of charge Calvary Commandery picked up the check for materials. The presentation was made at Calvary’s Annual Inspection; Deputy Grand Commander M. Douglas Lucas was inspecting Officer.

Shape of Things to Come

Several decades ago, Joseph Fort Newton wrote these words:

“No one can see, even in outline, the shape of things to come. History has been stepped up incredibly and is now exceeding the speed limit. Still, it is my belief, in spite of old rancors, new envies, and the chaos of the hour, that we are entering the greatest era in the story of man, destined to see changes such as man has never seen.”
TRIENNIAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Following his election at the 52nd Triennial Conclave in Chicago, Grand Master Roy W. Riegle presented an official statement of policy and purpose at a meeting with elected Grand Encampment officers and appointees. It has served as the basis of all regional workshop conferences held since August. Excerpts from the Grand Master’s Statement follow.

Generally, we plan to do every act within our abilities to make possible the advancement of Templary in all of its departments; to make known the tenets of Templary and to enhance its image throughout our nation and in other places of the world; and to always remember in all of our planning, deliberations and acts that no man or organization is an island alone in the world. To remember always that Templary must reach its objectives on its own strength and not on the weakness of other men and organizations.

Specifically these are the policy objectives for the Triennium:

1. We will work through ever present difficulties for a larger and stronger membership, employing all methods legitimately possible to attain this goal, Knighting candidates individually where and when desirable, but employing the means of festival Knightings also where and when possible, remembering that while we must hold to our old ideals, beliefs and visions, we must at the same time change our methods to achieve our goals.

2. We will strive to build a stronger and enduring Knights Templar Eye Foundation, making it larger in its scope and service to mankind, always remembering that we who now manage its affairs must carry out the hopes and aspirations of its founders, their vision that through this Foundation countless thousands of people, regardless of age, creed, color or national origin, will be saved from a life of darkness. To this end we must then do everything necessary to enhance the Foundation’s effectiveness; that is, to hold the yearly Voluntary Campaign of Commandery activities supporting the Foundation, to have a loyal, interested and energetic Wills and Bequests Committee in the Grand Encampment and in each Grand Commandery and Constituent and Subordinate Commandery. The time has come in the life of the Foundation for more action. It will be our fervent hope and determined effort that at the end of the Triennium in 1976 the Permanent Endowment Fund of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will be at least $5,000,000.00. The Foundation can be and will be, if we accept the challenge, the vehicle by which we can strengthen our great Order.

3. We will encourage the full use of all money of the Knights Templar Educational Loan Fund, available in the different divisions, so that as many worthy young men and women as possible will receive an education that will not only be useful to them in their lives, but also, to our nation, and the world. The full employment of the Educational Loan Fund and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will add to the prestige of Christian Masonry and will show to the world that we are truly emulating the Templars of old by serving mankind.

4. We will stimulate Sir Knights throughout the land to attend the Knights Templar Easter Sunrise Memorial Service. This inspirational Service is perhaps our greatest evidence of Christian belief and demonstration of
patriotism. It not only shows our belief in the immorality of the human soul, but also expresses our loyalty and devotion to the government which guards us against tyranny and despotism so that we can think, work and live as a free people. We will seek to broaden attendance at the Easter Memorial Service by inviting more of our Senators and Congressmen, also the Governors of the various states. We have a strong Easter Sunrise Committee, Chaired by a devoted and experienced Sir Knight, Marvin E. Fowler, through whom we can channel our suggestions for the further advancement of this Service which should reach the greatest peak ever in 1976. In that year citizens and organizations all over this land will be celebrating the establishment of our country. Particularly on Easter Day 1976, it is our fervent hope that from all over the United States Templar pilgrimages will be made to Arlington National Cemetery – perpetual shrine of those who died for our freedom.

5. It will be our aim to cooperate and coordinate our Masonic efforts with all Masonic Bodies so that our great Masonic Family can flourish and extend its influence through the United States and beyond. The success of another Masonic Body shall not deter us from bending every effort to make our great Order just as successful, or more so. We will be charitable to compliment those who succeed in any branch in Masonry. Every attempt will be made to broaden and strengthen our Department Conferences held jointly each year with the General Grand Council and General Grand Chapter. We will participate in the meetings of the International York Rite Council, for it is good for leaders of York Rite Masonry to come together to exchange ideas, to come to know each other intimately, to be unafraid to speak to each other about what can and should be done for the good of York Rite Masonry.

6. We shall encourage, compliment and cooperate with all Masonic Youth Organizations, such as the Order of DeMolay, Job's Daughters and Rainbow Girls. We realize the uncontestable fact that the continued life of our Order, and all Masonic Orders, depends upon the education, interest and participation of the youth of our country. That which we can do for Youth, we will do.

7. We believe that drill teams are a distinct and colorful adjunct to our Order. We believe that if more Commanderies had drill teams we would have, not only stronger and more active Grand Commanderies, but our Order itself would be greatly strengthened. Drill teams can perform many duties for Commanderies. We will, during the Triennium of 1973-76, encourage the continuance of existing drill teams and the formation of new ones. Ours is a militant Christian Order, and drill teams add luster to our bright image. We intend to give them full encouragement and praise.

8. We have been helped tremendously by many women's organizations, especially in the form of contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. These groups, we hope, will continue such aid. We ask you – our Officers and Representatives – to compliment, praise and give recognition to these organizations at every opportunity. Extend them our generous thanks for their interest in our charitable projects and in our Order. They should be made to know that we are grateful for such help; they should know that we appreciate it. We will set aside a specific time during the 1976 Grand Encampment Triennial Conclave, during which all Masonic Organizations and individuals can publicly present contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

9. We will be asked on many occasions, as we have been in the past, to approve certain activities which are done for the purpose of raising money for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. These activities will be carefully screened by the Trustees of the Foundation. → → →

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and when found worthy and feasible will be approved. However, they must be sponsored and controlled by a Commandery or Grand Commandery after approval of the Trustees.

10. We shall continue to improve the facilities of our Chicago office. It is our hope that this office will become an ever-greater service center, not only to Grand Commanderies and local Commanderies, and for all Sir Knights, but for the advancement of all Masonry.

11. It is our special wish that a gracious benefactor someday, out of his generous heart, will give and transfer to the Grand Encampment an adequate building or home, in suitable surroundings, to be a permanent headquarters for the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. To that end, we should let it be known, starting now, that we will sincerely welcome such an appropriate gift from the heart and purse of any person.

12. Finally, we are soldiers of the Cross; we believe in the Christian Religion, the practice of the Christian Virtues, the immortality of the human soul. This belief, this practice, this faith will continue to receive our dedicated adherence.

**IN HALLOWED MEMORY**

**Bolling S. DuBose**  
Georgia  
Grand Commander — 1942  
Born: January 19, 1889  
Died: November 16, 1973

**Kenneth H. Earle**  
Rhode Island  
Grand Commander — 1954  
Born: April 30, 1903  
Died: November 16, 1973

**William H. Spry**  
Minnesota  
Grand Commander — 1964  
Born: April 7, 1899  
Died: December 6, 1973

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**Second Oldest Montana Knight**

Not a 100 year Templar, but the second oldest in Montana is Sir Knight Clarence J. (Mac) McClellan, P.G.C. (1951). He will be 93 in April. He attended Triennial in San Francisco, New Orleans, Indianapolis, Philadelphia and Detroit.

An early promoter of baseball, he was partially responsible for a “booster club” to sponsor baseball in his hometown of Beatrice, Nebraska. Moving to Billings in 1917, he continued as an active supporter of Junior American Legion baseball.

Past Grand Commander McClellan is an active promoter of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, holding several Life Sponsorships.

**Advance Easter Plans**

Another Grand Commandery with advance plans for attendance at the 1974 Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at Arlington is the Grand Commandery of Illinois, with Forrest C. McDaniel, Deputy Grand Commander, as chairman. Bus, plane and automobile arrangements are available for a one-day and one-night Easter stay at Washington and three nights at Williamsburg to visit historical points of interest associated with the founding of the United States.

**Answer to the Energy Crisis?**

The Franklin Stove, one of the numerous inventions of Brother Benjamin Franklin, may see a return to action this winter if oil and gas supplies are further curtailed. Franklin’s famous stove was designed before he began his electrical experiments. The major feature was the flue, which doubled back forming a type of radiator, around which the air in a room circulated.
MEETING DATES FOR MASONIC BODIES

Each January, as an annual clearing house service, the Knight Templar Magazine presents a compilation of meeting dates and location of Masonic and Masonic-affiliated bodies. The magazine assumes responsibility only for the information as provided by the officer named.

CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA
February 17-20, 1974 Washington annually William B. Stansbury, Jr. Executive Secretary

CONFERENCE OF GRAND SECRETARIES IN NORTH AMERICA
February 18-20, 1974 Washington annually Dwight L. Smith Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, R.A.M., INTERNATIONAL
Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 1975 Cleveland triennially Charles K. A. McGaughey General Grand Secretary

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL, R. & S.M. INTERNATIONAL

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, U.S.A.
August 14-19, 1976 Kansas City triennially Paul C. Rodenhauser Grand Recorder

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J. 
September 22-26, 1974 Atlantic City annually Stanley F. Maxwell Executive Secretary

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°, A.A.S.R., S.J.
October 19-23, 1975 Washington biennially Fred Kleinknecht Grand Secretary General

IMPERIAL COUNCIL, A.A.O.N.M.S.
June 25-28, 1974 Atlantic City annually George M. Saunders Imperial Recorder

U.G.I.C., RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE
June 6-8, 1974 Louisville annually Paul C. Rodenhauser Grand Recorder

CONVENT GENERAL, KNIGHTS YORK CROSS OF HONOUR
September 6-7, 1974 Denver annually Stanley W. Wakefield Grand Registrar-General

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE, ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND
September 26, 1974 Atlantic City annually Marvin E. Fowler Provincial Grand Master

SUPREME COUNCIL, GROTTOES OF NORTH AMERICA, M.O.V.P.E.R.
June 13-15, 1974 Cleveland annually Albert Arnold Executive Secretary

THE PHILALETHERS SOCIETY
February 15, 1974 Washington annually Franklin J. Anderson Executive Secretary

SUPREME FOREST, TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON
May 9-11, 1974 Atlantic City annually R. Keith Hite Supreme Scribe

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.
June 19-22, 1974 Cleveland annually Stewart M. L. Pollard National Secretary

NATIONAL COURT, ROYAL ORDER OF JESTERS
June 24, 1974 Atlantic City annually W. Howard Millington Royal Impresario

GRAND COLLEGE OF AMERICA, H.R.A.K.T.P.
February 17, 1974 Washington annually George C. Moreland Grand Registrar

January 1974
# Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees

February 16, 1974  Washington  annually  Robert L. Grubb  
Grand Secretary  

Supreme Council, Order of the Amaranth, Inc.

July 7-10, 1974  Portland  annually  Martha A. Maurer  
Supreme Secretary Em.  

Supreme Temple, Daughters of the Nile

June 9-13, 1974  Salt Lake City  annually  Helen V. Drake  
Supreme Princess Recorder  

General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star

September 26-29, 1976  Cleveland  triennially  Mamie S. Lander  
Grand Secretary  

Supreme Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant

September 23-27, 1974  Kansas City  annually  Mrs. E. Loy Knoske  
Supreme Recorder Em.  

Supreme Shrine, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem

May 14-17, 1974  Indianapolis  annually  Dorothea E. Sheffer  
Supreme Worthy Scribe  

Grand Council, Ladies Oriental Shrine

May 21-24, 1974  Chicago  annually  Gladys Abbott  
Grand Recorder  

Supreme Assembly, International Order of Rainbow for Girls

Supreme Recorder  

Supreme Guardian Council, International Order of Job’s Daughters

August 14-18, 1974  Grand Rapids  annually  Doris E. Finley  
Supreme Secretary  

International Congress and Supreme Council, Order of Demolay

March 28-  Memphis  annually  Richard E. Harkins  
Executive Director  

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Michigan 48 Man Full Form Opening Team

The photo of the Drill Corps and Officers was taken at the Annual Inspection of Michigan’s Battle Creek Commandery No. 33 November 3. Having featured a 36 man team for nearly 25 years, Battle Creek expanded to 48 last year. The inspection was conducted by Grand Commander Max L. Clark. Murl L. Myers is Battle Creek’s Commander. C. William Smith, P.C., has served as Captain General for several years.
THE MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE JEWELS

by

Justin O. King

According to the American system, the movable jewels are the Rough Ashlar, the Perfect Ashlar and the Trestleboard, while the square, plumb, and level are the immovable jewels. The reason assigned is that the former have no particular location in the Lodge, while the latter are confined to the East, West and South respectively.

In England, and almost universally outside of the United States, the square, plumb and level are called the movable jewels because being emblems of office they are transferred with the officers they represent. The others are immovable because they are each assigned to a particular place in the Lodge.

Where the American explanation and designation originated I do not know. Robert Morris attributes it to Webb, while Albert Pike calls it a modern innovation and presents a strong argument for this position. Even in the United States, the English form is found in the oldest Rituals.

The Rough Ashlar represents the Entered Apprentice on his first admission into the Masonic Order. It is not a shapeless mass or rock but though rough has already assumed the shape of a rectangular solid. We all know the candidate must at least have a good reputation before he can be elected to receive the Degrees. The place where he is first examined after his entrance is in the South, therefore, the place of the Rough Ashlar should be in the South just in front of the Junior Warden.

The Perfect Ashlar represents the Brother to whom the working tools of Masonry have been applied and his character has been applied and his character has been modeled in accordance therewith. The Perfect Ashlar being ready to be tried by the working tools of a Fellow Craft, should be placed in the West just in front of the Senior Warden.

The Trestle, well, I think the description given the English lecture describes it very well. "As the Trestle Board is for the Master to lay lines and draw designs on, the better to enable the Brethren to carry on the intended structure with regularity and propriety, so the Volume of the Sacred Law may justly be deemed the spiritual trestle board of the Great Architect of the Universe in which are laid down such divine laws and mortal precepts that were we conversant therewith, and adherent thereto, they would bring us to an ethereal mansion not built with hands but one eternal in the heavens."

It is my personal opinion that the square, level and plumb should be the immovable jewels, and I present the following argument, which I read some time ago, and cannot now give the author. (I am not quoting his exact words.)

"The square, level, the plumb are the immovable jewels; not the material tools used by operative Masons, but the great moral principles which speculative Masons use, and which the metal jewels found in a Lodge merely symbolize." No one, I presume, will contradict that these latter are immovable; but the great Square of Nature, the Level of Equality, and the Plumb-line of Rectitude and immovable and unchangeable, and exist the same yesterday, today and forever.

In another sense, too, as geometrical principles, they are immovable. Vary the angle in the slightest degree at which the two sides of the square intersects each other, and it is no longer a square; elevate or depress any portion of the level, it loses its horizontal position,
and is no more a level; and to remove the
plumb one iota from a strictly upright
position, it ceases to be a plumb. Indeed if
these are not the immovable jewels, I am
utterly at a loss to determine in what
sense any of the jewels of a Lodge can be
said to be immovable; for the ashlars and
trestle-board, as I conceive, are not
immovable, either in their literal or
symbolical sense, as nothing material can
be said so to be. Therefore, I presume no
one will contend that the simple metal
tools are themselves the jewels or
principles by which a Mason is expected
to regulate his life and conduct.

Does anyone suppose that it was a
material standard that the Great Archi-
tect of the Universe had reference to
when he declared unto Amos that he
would set up a plumb-line in the midst of
his people in Israel by which they should
be thereafter judged? Most certainly not.
But it was the great principle of moral
rectitude which he placed in their midst
as the Standard by which they should be
tried.

And in the final day we shall all be
tried by this same standard, together with
the immutable and immovable square of
truth; and by standing these unerring
tests, will alone be redeemed, or rather
elevated to that perfect and immovable
level upon which we all hope to meet
when our imperfect ashlars shall have
been made perfect, and fitted to their
place "as living stones in that house not
made with hands, eternal in the heavens."
And how else can they be made perfect,
except by the application of those
unnerving and immovable principles
symbolized by the square, level and
plumb, agreeable with the designs laid
down by the Supreme Grand Master in
the Book of Life — our spiritual trestle-
board?

I personally think that if our American
ritual tinker, whoever he may have been,
when he transferred the adjective
"immovable" from the ashlars and trestle-
board to the square, level and plumb, had
said that the latter were immovable
because they represented unchangeable
principles and the former movable
because they represented a developing chacter, he would have had a much
stronger case than he has. It may be, how-
ever, that his thought was present, even
though it is not given in the ritualistic
explanation, and this may account for the
fact that it gained such ready and
universal acceptance in this country.

‡

1882 Garfield Monumental Fair Sword

Thomas Hudson McKee, Dallas, Texas,
displays his grandfather's Knight Templar
sword bearing the inscription: "Awarded
to Sir Thomas H. McKee of St. John's
Commandery No. 24 at the Garfield
Monumental Fair held in the Rotunda of
the Capitol at Washington, D.C., Dec.
2nd, 1882."

Grandfather McKee was a member of
the old St. John's No. 24, Indiana — a
fact uncovered by Indiana's Grand
Recorder Richard Unger, P.G.C.
Grand Master Roy W. Riegle speaks to officers and members of the seven Grand Commanderies of the North Central Department during the November 17-18 Conference at Altoona, Iowa. To his right is Grand Generalissimo Cottrell; to his left at far end, Past Grand Master Bell, Grand Captain General Johnson, Deputy Grand Master Avery, Department Commander Charles A. Howard, Jr.

Grouped at the combined closing session of the York Rite Conference at Altoona are, left to right: Junior W. Vandall, G.G. Scribe, G.G. Chapter; General Grand Master Hoyt McClendon, General Grand Council; D.D.G.G. High Priest James P. Irish, Chairman; Grand Master Riegle, Department Commander Howard, and the Representative of the General Grand Master, Grand Council, Louis V. Sylvester.

Pictures below show some of the Templars attending the Grand Encampment workshop sessions. The North Central Department of the Grand Encampment includes the Grand Commanderies of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, and North and South Dakota.

RETREAD EGGER

A misunderstood letter resulted in ascribing Frederick J. Egger's Templar membership to Manhattan No. 31, Bronx, in the December issue. He is a member of Jerusalem Commandery No. 17, Penn Yan, New York. Sir Knight Egger is a life member of the "Retreads," an organization of those who served in World War I and World War II. It was in connection with an item about Grand Master Riegle's membership in the "Retreads" that Sir Knight Egger's Templar affiliation was noted.

50,000th LIFE SPONSOR

At presstime, the 50,000th application for Life Sponsorship in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation was received by Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M. Recognition, complete with a photograph, will be extended in the February issue of the Knight Templar Magazine. Similar recognitions will go to the individuals who become the 2,000th Eye Foundation Patron and the 1,500th Associate Patron. Currently, there are 1,826 Patrons, 1,170 Associate Patrons.
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Prayer for the New Year

Lord, behold our family here assembled. We thank Thee for this place in which we dwell; for the love that unites us; for the peace accorded us this day; for the hope with which we accept the morrow; for the health, the work, the food, and the bright skies that make our lives delightful; for our friends in all parts of the earth . . .

Give us courage, gaiety, and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies. Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavors. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving to one another. Amen.

Robert Louis Stevenson