TEMPLAR CROSS OF LILIES AT TOMB OF UNKNOWN SOLDIER
Contents

The Grand Master Looks to the Bicentennial Year ........... 3

The Gallant Adventurers
The Rev. Basil L. Johnson, Grand Prelate .... 7

Tomb of the Unknowns — Sir Knights
H. Edward May, Stewart M. L. Pollard .......... 11

Meetings of Masonic Leaders
in Washington ..................................... 18

Allied Masonic Degrees
York Rite International Conference
United Grand Imperial Council Seminar
George Washington Memorial Association
Masonic Service Association
Shrine’s DeMolay Memorial Breakfast
Conference, Grand Secretaries
Conference of Grand Masters

General Order No. 5
DeMolay Order of Knighthood ............... 10
Easter in the Canal Zone, 1913 .......... 31

Knight Writers ................................ 4
Editor’s Journal ................................ 6
Highlights and Sidelights .................... 16
In Hallowed Memory ......................... 30

APRIL: The Cross of Lilies and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier pictured on the cover symbolize Easter Worship at Arlington National Cemetery and Templar’s tribute to our nation’s honored dead. The annual Templar service for Sir Knights and the general public marks its 44th consecutive year in 1974.

Two features especially in keeping with the April theme of the Knight Templar Magazine are the Easter Message by the R.E. Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, the Reverend Basil L. Johnson, beginning on page 7; and, starting on page 11, an article on the history of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, as related and correlated by Sir Knight H. Edward May, P.G.C., Florida, President, and Sir Knight Stewart M. L. Pollard, Secretary-Treasurer, National Sojourners, Inc.

Paul C. Rodenhauser, Editor
In this month of holy days in the Year of Our Lord 1974, our thoughts and our actions are especially attuned to the teachings of the Church and the commitments we have made as Knights of the Temple.

It is the time for a renewal of faith, the time for a rebirth of our belief in the immortality of the soul.

Every season of Easter is significant to us as Christian Masons. The Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery brings this wondrous significance to our hearts in glorious and overflowing measure. It has been truly said that participation cannot be adequately described; it must be experienced.

With full cognizance of and appreciation for the many Templar Easter Services held throughout our jurisdiction, I express the hope that if at all possible every Templar, at least once, make the pilgrimage to Arlington for a Grand Encampment worship and memorial service. It brings a sense of Christian fellowship, for Templars and the public alike, in a setting of hallowed memory that offers inspirational vitality for the whole year.

And what better time than 1976! In that year, Masons and others throughout our land will be celebrating the Bicentennial of our nation’s birth. It is my great aspiration that Templars from all parts of the Grand Encampment will be making pilgrimages to Arlington for our Easter Sunrise Memorial Service April 18, 1976 — a wonderful Crusade of Christian dedication to join in worship at the perpetual shrine of those who died for our Freedom.

The inspirational service in that Bicentennial year will not only give public evidence of our Christian belief, it also will be a true demonstration of our patriotism and love for our country.

Mark it well: April 18, 1976 — an especially meaningful Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery.

May every Easter, wherever you worship, bring you, your fellow Knights and your families genuine Christian happiness.

A Joyous Easter to all!

Roy Telford Riegel
The KNIGHT WRITERS
COMMENTS FROM READERS

The article on the Washington Monument in the February issue brought back vivid memories of my visit to Washington in 1919. I rode the elevator up and I do not remember if I knew then, but I do now — I walked down the 898 steps. For weeks after I walked and walked down those steps in my dreams. I was also appalled at the desecration of the Memorial Stones along the way.

HAROLD E. BUSHA
6050 Lake Avenue
Elyria, Ohio 44035

Usually reading the Knight Templar from cover to cover I noted with interest in the February issue, on inside front cover it says the cornerstone ceremonies at the Washington Monument were conducted by M.W. Grand Master SAMUEL B. French.

On page seven it says that were conducted by M.W. Grand Master BENJAMIN B. French.

Certainly both cannot be right. Which was it?

HARRY M. POTTER, P.C.
210 Meadow Drive
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

Editor’s Note: A salute to Sir Knight Potter, a demerit for the Editor. It’s Benjamin all the way.

I have a Life Membership in all the bodies — 61 years March 13th. I have emblems of all sorts but never use any except my Blue Lodge. If it had not been for the square and compasses I would never have progressed to the others. If I lose the square and compasses I can throw the others in the trash pile.

Here is something I am real proud of: on September 19 last year I gave the 50 year pin to my inspection candidate. I Knighted him in 1923 and he is still active, So am I. I will soon be 91 but I attend all the meetings.

WILLIAM H. BUTLER
206 Eddy Street
Newark, Ohio 43055

After reading the very interesting article entitled “Thoughts of a New Knight” in the March issue I would like to contribute my “two cents” worth before inflation.

This Sir Knight has suggested a practical way of settling the controversial question relative to our uniforms which has been discussed as long as I have been in Templary — now almost 15 years. The Grand Encampment (voters) this past year have again ruled against any changes but the controversy still goes on. I do believe the majority of our beloved Order are satisfied with our present uniform, but I, for one, would like to see this discussion “laid to rest.”

ANTHONY PFEIFFER
120 Monroe Boulevard
Terre Haute, Indiana 47803

Editor’s Note: A survey, with printed ballots, in the May 1970 issue resulted in no conclusive answers from more than 5,000 readers. Responses departed from clear affirmative or negative replies and incorporated a large degree and variety of modifications.


Because of this notice, Chester L. Lave, K.Y.C.H., of Syracuse, New York, has very generously allowed me to have this copy for which I am deeply indebted to him.

FREDERICK A. EGAN
2001 Longacre Drive
Wilmington, Delaware 19810

For some months I have been looking for a Knights Templar auto emblem but have not been able to locate same. I am a Past Recorder for Elyria Commandery No. 60 and should know where such items are found. Could someone please help me with this matter?

K. E. HINDS
939 Elm Road, R.D, No. 3
Grafton, Ohio 44044

April 1974
A souvenir mug was made for the 17th Annual Grand Convocation and the 16th Annual Grand Assembly of the York Rite in Germany; this mug is now available to collectors of Masonic memorabilia. They were made in limited number and the mold was then destroyed. They are of glazed brown ceramic, with the seal of the Grand Chapter of Germany and the seal of the Grand Council of Germany plus the coat-of-arms of the city of Nurnberg, Germany, and are approximately 6 inches high and are a 1/2 litre content. Should any collector wish to purchase one of these mugs the cost is $7.00. This includes postage. Please write to Companion Billy D. Adams, 42nd HEM Co., APO New York 09696.

GEORGE PHILLIP BRADFORD, JR. 1210 East Columbus Drive Tampa, Florida 33605

I have adopted as my project for the ensuing year the acquisition of Donors for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

March 2nd, our group was set up at 100 Oaks Shopping Center in Nashville and, during the hours we were there, we issued ten donor cards. We were aided in this by Mr. Lamar Triplett, Executive Director of the Regional Eye Bank, Medical Arts Building, Nashville.

On May 2nd, we will be stationed at Rivergate Shopping Center, our newest and largest. We plan to have a larger staff then.

REV. MRS. FLORENCE M. REDELSHEIMER Royal Matron, Parthenon Court No. 9 Order of Amaranth Nashville, Tennessee

The Committee’s Report, printed verbatim in the Proceedings of the 52nd Triennial Conclave at Chicago, fails to include in the attendance records the name of Deputy Grand Commander George S. Emunds, Maine. Sir Knight George, for the official records, was present and participating.

April in History

April 9, 1865, the Civil War came to an end at Appomattox. It was April 12, 1945, when Brother and President Franklin D. Roosevelt died at Warm Springs, Georgia, and Sir Knight Harry S. Truman became the 33rd President. April 14 is the anniversary of the 1865 assassination of President Lincoln. Upon his death April 15 Sir Knight Andrew Johnson became President. The Titanic sunk on April 15, 1912.

The 18th of April, 1775, was the night of Sir Knight Paul Revere’s famous ride. The historical battle at Lexington occurred the next day.

April 23 was the birthday of Brother James Buchanan, 15th President. He was born in 1791. On April 25, 1777, Brother Lafayette landed at Charleston, South Carolina, with French troops to aid Washington’s army.

Brother James Monroe, fifth President, was born April 28, 1758. On April 29, 1789, Brother George Washington gave the first Inaugural Address as first President of the U.S.A.
Promise or Performance? General Chairman Charles S. McIntyre, P.G.C., Michigan, Trustee of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, has received numerous promises and pledges of productive fund-raising activity for the 6th Voluntary Campaign. However, says Chairman McIntyre, “unless performance during this final lap of the Campaign in Memory of Walter A. DeLamater accelerates dramatically, we will fail to reach our goal. The result will be a reduction in the Foundation’s ability to carry out the Templar work which has been hailed as one of the world’s greatest humanitarian projects.”

The 6th Voluntary Campaign to support the Knights Templar Eye Foundation’s casework and research grants closes April 30. Grand Commandery and Subordinate Commandery—chairmen have a leeway of two weeks for their final reports to reach Rhinebeck. Reports of funds will count for Commandery Campaign credit only if they are received at the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Office, Rhinebeck, New York, by May 14.

Templars are reminded that exemption from the annual Eye Foundation assessment is now given not only for Life Sponsorships, but also for members who upgrade their support by becoming Patrons ($100) and Associate Patrons ($50). Formerly, most Patrons and Associate Patrons were non-members.

Unique: P.D.C. Ted Voelte arranged an unusual, if not unique, installation ceremony March 2 at Atlantic City for New Jersey’s 1974-75 Grand Commandery officers. He incorporated five Grand Encampment “purple cords” in the ceremony. Sir Knight Voelte, wearing the purple cord of a Past Department Commander, was Installing Officer. Grand Generalissimo John B. Cottrell, Jr., Department Commander Louis A. Beaudoin (Northeastern), Department Commander W. J. J. Fleming (East Central) and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, representing Grand Master Riegel, presented the respective jewels of office and extended greetings to the elected dais officers, Grand Commander Reed, Deputy Grand Commander Grenot, Grand Generalissimo Pace and Grand Captain General Terhune.

Birthday: Clinton J. Hahn, Hugh de Payens No. 19, Easton, Pennsylvania, a Templar for 70 years, celebrated his 98th birthday February 19 and received a greeting from Grand Master Riegel. The Grand Master also sent advance birthday greetings to Sir Knight John Schwarz, Denver, Colorado, longtime Templar associate, who will celebrate his 89th birthday April 24.

Ecumenism: From the Wednesday, January 16, issue of The Irish Times, forwarded by Sir Knight John M. Cunningham, Washington, D.C., comes an account of Freemasons and “Knights of St. Columbanus” in a Cork meeting “to discuss how best both organizations may cooperate to serve the community in which they live.” Sir Knight Cunningham includes a notation that Knights of St. Columbanus in Ireland are the same as Knights of Columbus in the United States.

The article observes that the “Knights and the Masons have yet to work out in detail the areas where they can cooperate but they will probably start on a low key with such things as joint fund collections or flag days and possibly a jointly run bureau to help elderly people . . . For the past two years the Cork Masons have been inviting local Catholics to informal social evenings and sherry receptions.”
THE GALLANT ADVENTURES

by
Dr. Basil L. Johnson
R.E. Grand Prelate

“All these persons died in faith. They were not yet in possession of the things promised, but had seen them far ahead and hailed them, and confessed themselves no more than strangers or passing travellers on earth. Those who use such language show plainly that they are looking for a country of their own. If their hearts had been in the country they had left, they could have found opportunity to return. Instead, we find them longing for a better country—I mean, the heavenly one. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God; for he has a city ready for them.”

Hebrews 11: 13-16 (The New English Bible)

We are met today at the site dedicated by our nation to the burial of our national leaders who have devoted their lives to the fight for the ideals in which they have believed. We are met today in the name of One who gave His life, that those who believe in Him may never die. Let us devote a few moments of thought to a consideration of two vitally important elements in the formation of one’s character: struggle and ultimate triumph.

Kipling’s “The Explorer” begins with a description of a placid farmer, tilling his crops at the base of a hitherto unconquered mountain range. No one has had the courage to tackle the impenetrable mountain. At its base the farmer enjoys his comfortable life:

Till a voice, as bad as Conscience, rang interminable changes
On one everlasting Whisper day and night repeated—so:
Something lost behind the Ranges, Lost and waiting for you. Go!

The poem describes the exhaustion of the climb, the bitter snowstorms which kill his “plains-bred ponies”; the triumph of not turning back; the hallucinations brought on by the thirst of the desert beyond the Range; the voices which call to him from the night; the fear of going crazy. Finally the explorer exclaims:

Well I know who’ll take the credit—all the clever chaps that followed—
Came, a dozen men together—never knew my desert fears;

But the Explorer has with him always one important resource: he calls it the Whisper of God. It is a vision of the future, with all its potential, waiting for the one who has faith. The Explorer concludes:

God took care to hide that country till He judged His people ready,
Then He chose me for His Whisper, and I’ve found it, and it’s yours!
Anybody might have found it, but—His Whisper came to me!

In the scripture passage just read, we see this same sense of anticipation as the early Christian disciples face the dread experience we call death. For men in all the centuries, it has been the dread and impenetrable mountain range over which no man has ever climbed—never, until Jesus the Christ went through the veil and came back to His disciples, to assure them He would prepare for them and await their entrance into the eternal. Knights of the Temple, keep always before you the vision of the ascension of our Lord, the promise of eternity.

Because of this “whisper of the Lord” Christians for 20 centuries have
known they were only “pilgrims of eternity,” momentarily passing through this physical vale of tears, but on their way to a better land. “They are searching for a fatherland,” says our scripture. In point of fact they were reaching out after something better—“wherefore, God was not ashamed to be called their God, for He had prepared for them a city.” We are met here to proclaim our faith also, that life does not end with the grave, but goes marching on eternally.

We sang (or heard the strains of) “Onward Christian Soldiers.” It has been a challenge to Knights of the Temple over a multitude of years, for our Order is not a “sitting Order”; ours is a marching Order, for we are marching toward a city, the eternal city. “Above all things,” writes William Barclay, “God is the God of the gallant adventurer. God loves the man who is ready to venture for His name. The prudent, cautious, comfort-loving man is the very opposite of God. The man who goes out into the unknown and keeps going will in the end arrive at God.” Christians must always be challenged to become, “gallant adventurers” in the name of our God. Knights Templar, even as our predecessors where challenged to venture in the name of God, for the service of the poor and down-trodden, I would challenge you once again—go forth into the unknown future without fear, in the firm faith that it is God whispering in your ear, “be not afraid, for I am your God.”

AND THE GREATEST ADVENTURE OF ALL IS DEATH.

Some speak of death as mystery; others call it the inevitable, or sheer extinction, while still others speak of terror, transition or adventure. “To die will be an awfully big adventure,” says Peter Pan. Thinking of those words of his good friend, Sir James Barrie, as he stood on the sinking deck of the Lusitania, Charles Frohman’s last words were: “Why fear death? It is the most beautiful adventure in life.”

Tertullian said of the Christian: “He knows that on earth he has a pilgrimage, but that his dignity is in heaven.” “It was not that the early Christians were foolishly other-worldly; it was not that they detached themselves from the life and work of this world;” concludes Barclay, “but they always remembered that they were on the way.”

What an heroic band those first disciples were. After the resurrection they were transformed from fearful sheep without a shepherd into roaring lions of faith, strong even into death. In spite of every problem they lived in hope and died in expectation. They never gave up; they never drifted; they never wearily gave up the journey. “Always live on the line of discovery,” said an old minister. The early Christians did just that.

Joaquin Miller read the words which Columbus recorded day by day on that first voyage across the unchartered Atlantic, “this day we sailed on.” Fired in imagination by this phrase, the poet strode about the room, his eyes shining: “This day we sailed on.” They had met storms; one ship had lost its rudder; the men were threatening mutiny. Columbus was on the verge of despair. But he had set his course and nothing could turn him from it.

Before him not the ghost of shores;
Before him only shoreless seas.
The good mate said: “Now must we pray,
For lo! the very stars are gone.
Brave Adm’l’r’l, speak; what shall I say?”
“Why say: ‘Sail on! SAIL ON! and on!’”

→ → →

8

april 1974
Then pale and worn, he paced his deck,
And peered through darkness. Ah, that night
Of all dark nights! And then a speck —
A light! a light! At last a light!
It grew, a starlit flag unfurled!
It grew to be Time's burst of dawn.
He gained a world; he gave that world
Its grandest lesson: "On! Sail on!"

AND THE GREATEST PROMISE OF ALL IS LIFE! ETERNAL LIFE!

The triumph of eternal life is testified to in these lines from Archibald Rutledge.
"One dearer to me than all else in life had, for days, lain helpless, speechless. We knew that the mortal mists were gathering fast; that the irremediable river must soon be crossed. That last morning of our watching was misty; the day emerged so wanly that we hardly knew that it had come. Suddenly the one we loved so dearly sat up in bed, a strange light on her face of a happiness past all our mortal joy. She stretched abroad her arms, crying in the radiant abandon of spiritual certainty, 'The Dawn! The Beautiful Dawn!' Those were her dying words — glad, triumphant. And for me they hold the eternal promise of the sunrise. They glow with immortality. Believing in a God of infinite love and of infinite power, I find it natural to believe that death is not a disastrous sundown but rather a spiritual sunrise, ushering in the uncontracted glories of immortality." One thinks of the words of George Meredith: "Death met I too, and saw the dawn glow through."

Death is a great adventure, but none need go toward it in the dark, for beside him, if he will, will walk that same figure who walked beside the two on the road to Emmaus that Easter morning so long ago; and as they walked He explained to them the words of scripture, how He must die and rise again. The man of faith will face the future as did Columbus. What lies across the sea, he cannot know, but his insight into the clear meanings of the facts will persuade him that the sea has another shore.

Let us not think of our departed dead
As caught and cumbered in their graves of earth;
But think of death as of another birth,
As a new freedom for the wings outspread,
A new adventure waiting on ahead,
As a new joy of more ethereal mirth,
As a new world with friends of nobler worth,
Where all may taste a more immortal bread.
So, comrades, if you pass my grave sometime,
Pause long enough to breathe this little rhyme:
"Here now the dust of Edwin Markham lies,
But lo, he is not here: he is afar
On life's great errands under mightier skies,
And pressing on toward some melodious star."

Support us, O God, through the darkness of this troublous life, until the day dawns toward our eternity. And then receive us into those glorious mansions foretold of old by our Saviour Christ, in whose blessed Name we pray. Amen.
The “Order of Knighthood” whose official name is the “Chivalric Knights of the Holy Order of the Fellow Soldiers of Jacques DeMolay” was created in 1947 by the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, as a working organization within the constituted framework of a DeMolay Chapter for DeMolay activities among young men between the ages of 17 and 21.

At the 53rd Annual Session of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, at St. Louis, Missouri, the Appointment of a Special Knighthood Task Force Committee was approved to develop and refine the “Order of Knighthood” program as a workable vehicle for serving older DeMolays between 17 and 21, thereby fulfilling the Order’s obligation of building the bridge from youth to manhood.

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America recognizes the intimacy between the Templar Order and the Order of DeMolay through ritual, general purposes and the adoption of the name of the martyred Grand Master of medieval Knights Templar, and commends the social and moral value of the Order of DeMolay.

Now, whereas the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar has specifically received an official request from George M. Klepper, Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, to provide assistance for the “Order of Knighthood”;

THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, and after consultation with the Committee on DeMolay and the Committee Advisory to the Grand Master, it is hereby ordered:

1. That the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America through the office of the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment provide support for the “Order of Knighthood” Program as developed by the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, in the forms of public relations and publication and dissemination of appropriate materials within reasonable and attainable limits.

2. That each Grand Commander give appropriate consideration and offer cooperation to the respective Executive Officers of DeMolay and, through the level of the Constituent Commandery, encourage and support the “Order of Knighthood” Program of the Order of DeMolay.

3. That the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment forward to each Grand Recorder a sufficient number of copies of this General Order for distribution to each Grand Officer and each Commandery, together with the Grand Commander’s own order of implementation as may be devised in accordance with the foregoing.

It is to be noted that the role of the Grand Encampment and each body within its jurisdiction is one which will encourage and foster the goals of the “Order of Knighthood,” and that the organization, operation and government of the Order are the prerogatives and responsibilities of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, through its established representatives known as Executive Officers.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, at Emporia, Kansas, this 12th day of March, A.D. 1974, A.O. 856.

Courteously and Fraternally,
Roy Wilford Riegel
Grand Master

(SEAL)

ATTEST:
Paul C. Rodenhauser
Grand Recorder

April 1974
Easter Sunday, 1974, marks the 44th consecutive year Knights Templar have gathered in the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery to affirm to the world their belief in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Marching to the strains of "Onward Christian Soldiers" as they file into the magnificent Arlington Amphitheater to hear a traditional message of faith, hope and inspiration, the Sir Knights present an impressive array of flowing plumes and shining swords.

It has become traditional after the Easter Service for the Sir Knights to move to the Tomb of the Unknowns where a beautiful Cross of Lilies is presented in the name of the Knights Templar of the United States of America.

The Tomb, during the next year, will be undergoing the first major improvement since the memorial was constructed in 1920. One and a half million dollars are to be spent in renovating the area around the Tomb and for the construction of an additional crypt to provide for the possibility that the remains of an unknown from the Vietnam War may be found when search and recovery activities are completed in Southeast Asia.

Plans call for increasing the spectator area by 75% for such events as the changing of the guard and wreath-laying ceremonies by replacing the east front of the Amphitheater with an elevated plaza and expanded steps. The remainder of the renovation project includes repairing the cracks on the Tomb and leveling sunken granite slabs on the plaza, as well as improvement of the quarters below the Amphitheater for the tomb guards.

Completion of the project in March of 1975 will be in time for the increasing tourist visits which are expected to peak during the Bicentennial celebrations. More than four million visitors visited the Tomb last year. Access to the Tomb will be limited during the renovation, but visitors will still be able to see the Tomb Guards and ceremonies from a lower level on the east side.
The bodies of three unidentified servicemen — one from each of three wars (World War I, World War II and Korea) — now are entombed at Arlington National Cemetery in the “Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.”

On March 4, 1921, Congress approved a Resolution providing for the burial in the new Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Amphitheater on Armistice Day 1921 of an unknown and unidentified American Soldier of World War I. This resulted in an interesting selection system for the one to be entombed.

Four bodies of Unknown Soldiers, one from each of the following cemeteries — Aisne-Marne, Meuse-Argonne, Somme and St. Mihiel — were selected and were brought to Chalons, with utmost care having been taken to insure there were no evidence of identification on the bodies selected and no indication that their identity could ever be established.

The next step in the process was selecting one from among them to represent all the Unknown American Dead. The simple ceremony was most impressive, conducted in the Hotel de Ville on October 24, 1921, with American and French military and civilian dignitaries in attendance. While a French military band played an appropriate air, Sergeant Edward Younger, a soldier with an outstanding record, slowly entered the room where the four caskets were placed. He slowly passed between the two lines formed by the officials and advanced to the caskets. Circling the caskets three times, he placed a spray of white roses on the third casket from the left. He then faced the body, stood at attention and saluted. He was immediately followed by officers of the French Army who saluted in the name of the French people.

After brief official ceremonies by the City of Chalons, the casket was placed on a flag-draped gun carriage and escorted by American and French troops to the railroad station where it was placed aboard the funeral car in a special train for the journey to LeHavre. After more impressive ceremonies in LeHavre, the precious cargo was received aboard the American Cruiser, “Olympia,” which was to return the Unknown to his Homeland.

On November 9, 1921, at 4 p.m., the “Olympia” reached the Navy Yard at Washington, D.C., where the flag-draped casket was solemnly delivered by the Navy to the Army and escorted to the rotunda of the Capitol. Here, upon the same catafalque that had similarly held the mortal remains of Presidents Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley, the body lay in State under an honor guard of selected men from the Army, Navy and Marine Corps. Thousands of patriotic individuals passed before the casket to pay homage to The Unknown Soldier who symbolized all of our Unknowns and the purpose for which they died.

Then on the morning of November 11, 1921, Armistice Day, the casket was removed from the Capitol and, under heavy military escort, with general officers of the Army and Admirals of the Navy as pallbearers, it was conveyed to the Memorial Amphitheater. Following the caisson bearing the flag-draped casket walked such a concourse as never before followed a soldier to his final resting place — the President of the United States (Sir Knight Warren G. Harding), the Vice President, the Supreme Court Justices, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, recipients of the Medal of Honor, Senators, Members of Congress, the General of the Armies of World War I (Sir Knight John J. Pershing), senior officers of all Armed Services, Veterans of World War I and former wars, State officials and representatives of patriotic organizations.

A simple but impressive funeral service was conducted which included an address by President Harding, who conferred upon the Unknown Soldier the Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross.

Special representatives from the governments of Belgium, England, France, Italy, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Poland conferred upon the Unknown the highest military decoration of their respective Nations.

This was followed by a brief committal service, three salvos of
artillery, the sounding of Taps and the National Anthem, bringing to a close the completion of another page in American history.

Very shortly after the ceremonies, the question of selecting a suitable monument to complete the Tomb was given under Washington’s consideration. It wasn’t until June 3, 1926, that Congress authorized the completion of the Tomb, through competitive designs. Twenty-four designs were submitted and five of those were selected for further study. Finally, one was selected. The winning design was the work of Mr. Thomas Hudson Jones, sculptor, and Mr. Lorimer Rich, Architect, of New York City.

The design is in the form of a sarcophagus. The total height is 11 feet, the width is 8 feet at the base and 6 feet 8 inches at the top. The length is 13 feet 11 inches at the base and 12 feet 7 inches at the top. The severity of the design is relieved by the Doric Pilasters in low relief at the corners and along the sides. The panel of the front, facing the City of Washington and the Potomac, has carved upon the marble a composition of three figures commemorative of the spirit of the Allies in the War. In the center of the panel stands “Victory” with her palm branch to reward the devotion and sacrifice that went with courage to make the cause of righteousness triumphant; on one side a male figure symbolizes “Valor” and on the other stands “Peace.” Each of the sides is divided into three panels by Doric Pilasters, in each panel of which is carved an inverted wreath. On the back appears the inscription “Here Rests In

Honored Glory An American Soldier Known But To God.” This is the only inscription appearing on the Tomb.

The marble is the finest and whitest of American marble — Yule, Colorado, marble, the same as used in the Lincoln Memorial. The Tomb is made of only four pieces of marble — the die, which is all in one piece and one of the largest ever quarried, weighing over 50 tons; the base, the sub-base and the cap-stone.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, in its simple and impressive beauty, is a fitting and lasting memorial to all those brave heroes who gave their all on the field of battle for the high principles for which the American Nation has always stood.

As Soldiers of God, the Knights Templar of the United States approach the Tomb with assurance that the valiant heroes entombed there are, in Truth, known to Him, who overcame the Grave.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: The cooperation of the Directorate of Defense Information, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs), in providing source information is gratefully acknowledged.
New History at Lexington

A granite cornerstone, gift of New Hampshire Consistory, has been placed in the Scottish Rite Masonic Library and Museum complex now under construction at Lexington, Massachusetts.

The ceremonies at Lexington March 10 were conducted by Grand Master Donald W. Vose and officers of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The event attracted a number of presiding Grand Masters within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction; top officers of the Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J.; Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel, Grand Encampment; other national Masonic leaders and local and state civic and Bicentennial officials.

Preserved in the cornerstone are copies or replicas of such documents as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States and examples of important Masonic records and distinguished service awards, including copies of the Knight Templar Magazine and the Proceedings of the 52nd Triennial Conclave.

Artist conception of the Library and Museum.

The facility, erected and equipped on 12 acres adjacent to Supreme Council headquarters at a cost of $6 million, is to be a permanent Masonic Bicentennial contribution. It contains four museum galleries, library, storage areas and a 390 seat auditorium. Formal dedicatory exercises are scheduled for April 20, 1975.

Outdoor York Rite Festival

The Glenwood Springs ranch of Grand Commander Brinkley B. “Buster” Brown will be the setting for Colorado’s outdoor York Rite Festival June 27-29. Thursday, June 27, is Royal Arch Day, when all Chapter Degrees will be conferred. All Council Degrees, including the Super Excellent Master Degree with horses and chariots, will be conferred on the 28th, followed by Commandery Day on June 29. Lunch, banquet and entertainment will be provided each day, according to Festival Committee Chairman James A. Kirkbride.

Secretaries and Recorders are asked to send their list of candidates to Grand Commander Brown, P.O. Box 68, Glenwood Springs 81601, prior to June 24. Some lodging is available in the area, as well as space for campers and trailers.

Honolulu Summer York Rite Meetings

The York Rite Bulletin, Honolulu, has been relayed to the Knight Templar Magazine via Kansas Supplement Editor Jerry Butcher by Sir Knight Robert Chong Kong, Deputy General Grand High Priest for Hawaii. It lists a full schedule of York Rite activities in Honolulu for 1974. They include, for the benefit of visiting York Rite Members, the following:

May 2 Royal Arch Widow Degree
May 9 Combined Stated Meeting
May 30 and June 6 – York Rite Festival
June 6 York Rite Social
June 13 Combined Stated Meeting
June 27 Super Excellent Master Degree
July 11 Combined Stated Meeting
July 18 Mark Master Degree
July 25 Past and Most Excellent Master Degree
August 1 Royal Arch Degree
August 8 Combined Stated Meeting
August 22 Royal Master Degree
August 29 Select Master Degree
September 12 Combined Stated Meeting
September 19 Order of Red Cross
September 26 Order of Malta

The York Rite Bodies meet in the Masonic Temple, 1227 Makiki Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814.
The 77th Annual Session, Order of the Amaranth in California, at Fresno March 4 featured distinguished participants headed by Mrs. Doris Bell, Supreme Royal Matron. The Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation spoke on the Foundation’s activities. The Order of the Amaranth is a participant in the support of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Left to right: Past Grand Master of Knights Templar, U.S.A., G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation; Mrs. Doris Bell, Supreme Royal Matron; Raymond Ebbage, M.W. Grand Master of Masons in California and Hawaii; Mrs. Nola Lee Frank, Grand Royal Matron of California; Sir Knight Charles Hutson, Grand Royal Patron of California; Sir Knight Frank Jones, Grand Commander of Knights Templar of California and Sir Knight Thomas Jones, Supreme Royal Patron.

Saxa Rubra — Red Cliffs

A February exchange of correspondence took place between two Masonic historians and researchers on the subject of Saxa Rubra. Sir Knight Harold V. B. Voorhis, New Jersey, wrote the Editor that he “had some words about Saxa Rubra” with Sir Knight James R. Case, Connecticut. Voorhis said there “never was such a place” but that Case “came up with” the following:

Saxa Rubra literally means “red cliffs” and were in the vicinity of the Milvion bridge where Maxentius was defeated by Constantine AD 312 October 18. The collapse of the pontoon bridge contributed to the defeat.

Sir Knight Voorhis expressed the thought that the reference would interest Knight Templar Magazine readers because of its association with the history of Christian Knighthood.

ESC Salutes Grand Master Riegel

The European Shrine Club's "Kamel Tales" for February devoted its cover to a "salutation to a Great Masonic Leader, Roy W. Riegel, Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U.S.A." Beneath the "salutation" was an official picture of the M.E. Grand Master in full Templar Uniform.

Inside the front cover was a complete biography of the Grand Master, together with a quotation from his 1973-76 "Statement of Policy." The material, by offset printing, was a reproduction of a release and picture made available from the Grand Encampment office in Chicago.

Editor of "Kamel Tales" is Sir Knight Elmer C. George, Recorder of Heidelberg Commandery No. 2, Heidelberg, Germany.
Beaucent Aids Masonic Temple Fund

Reading Assembly No. 117, Reading, Massachusetts, organized a yard sale for “trash and treasures” as a fund raising project to aid the building fund of the Reading Masonic Temple. Nearly $1,800 was raised. The members are planning an auction this spring for the same cause.

Sir Knight Edward K. Gard, Chairman, new Reading Masonic Temple Building Fund, accepts a check from Beaucent Co-Chairwomen Mrs. Niles L. Nordberg and Mrs. Paul E. Case.

Combined York Rite Sessions

The first combined sessions of the Grand Chapter, R.A.M., the Grand Council, R. & S.M., and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Illinois take place August 1-3 of this year at Springfield. Until 1974, all Grand Bodies held separate sessions on non-related dates.

The Grand Council will meet Thursday, August 1; the Grand Chapter Friday, August 2, and the Commandery Saturday, August 3. Drills and devotional services will be scheduled Sunday morning, August 4.

Jobies to Sing Abroad

Debra Chapman, Honored Queen, and Junior Princess Julie Eggleson, Bethel No. 56, Tomah, Wisconsin, will tour Switzerland this June as members of a school music group.

Sir Knight John Wayne Honored

General (and Sir Knight) Harold K. Johnson, USA (Ret.), President of the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, presented the Foundation’s top honor, The George Washington Award, to film superstar John Wayne at February 18 ceremonies conducted at Valley Forge Military Academy. Sir Knight Wayne was honored, in Johnson’s words, “for his outspoken patriotism; his belief in traditional American values; and for constructive words and deeds which support America, suggest solutions to basic problems besetting the nation, contribute to responsible citizenship, and inspire love of country.”

Robertson to Postal Service

Sir Knight Hayes Robertson, Evanston No. 58, Evanston, Illinois, a Chicago lawyer and business executive, has been nominated by President Nixon to a nine year term as U.S. Postal Service Governor. A former State Senator, Cook County Republican Chairman and candidate for Governor, Sir Knight Robertson is a Trustee of Illinois Masonic Medical Center.
Bennington Battle Day Observance

The State of Vermont observes August 16 as a holiday commemorating the turning back of the British Army’s attempt to seize supplies stored in Bennington in 1777. Led by Col. John Stark, the Vermonters prevented the separation of the New England states from the rest of the colonies, one of the deciding factors in the outcome of the Revolutionary War.

Each year Bennington, home of Taft Commandery No. 8, celebrates the occasion with a parade under the auspices of the local Firemen’s Association.

Salina Assembly, S.O.O.B., Birthday

Mrs. Carroll R. Dean, first Most Worthy Oracle, and Mrs. Herbert L. Brown, first Worthy President, were honored by Salina Assembly No. 229 on the Assembly’s ninth birthday. Current Worthy President of the Salina, Kansas, Beauceant Assembly is Mrs. Charles L. Randles. Mrs. Everett Knapp, Past President and Charter Member, read a short history of the Assembly.

Red corduroy drapes were made and hung in the Knight Templar room as the yearly project for the Commandery.

Galt House, RCC Headquarters

William J. Netherton, Grand Sovereign, Knight Grand Cross, United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, will preside over the 102nd Annual Assembly of the Order June 6-8 at the Galt House, on the riverfront in Louisville, Kentucky.

The activities are scheduled to begin with a Thursday, June 6, boat trip and dinner on the Ohio River and to conclude with a formal banquet Saturday evening, June 8. Business sessions are listed at 2:30 p.m. Friday afternoon, continuing Saturday morning and concluding Saturday afternoon.

Ivanhoe’s “Fund Raiser”

Ivanhoe Commandery No. 46, in Gardner, Massachusetts, “the Chair City of the World,” supplies Captain’s Chairs decorated with a Past Commander’s emblem as a fund-raising project. The chairs are made for presentation to an outgoing Commander or a Past Commander and are offered through Sir Knight John O. Giles for Commanderies which may wish to adopt the project as a fund-raiser. Orders or requests for information can be sent to John O. Giles, 310 High Street, Gardner, Massachusetts 01440. He quotes Henry Ford by writing that “You can have it in any color you wish as long as it’s black.” Sir Knight Giles announces the cost at $85.00, including shipping from Gardner. He asks for six weeks’ delivery time.

Birthday Month for Grand Master

Sir Knight Roy Wilford Riegle, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, will observe his birthday anniversary April 27 at the Riegle headquarters, Palace Building, Suite One, Emporia, Kansas 66801.
ANNUAL TREK OF MASONIC LEADERS TO WASHINGTON

The Conference of Grand Masters brings Grand Masters of Grand Lodges of North America to Washington each year and forms the nucleus for a variety of additional Masonic gatherings, including the Conference of Grand Secretaries, with its agenda of subjects of common interest among grand jurisdictions. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer responsible for the Conference of Grand Masters is William B. Stansbury, Jr., Past Grand Master of Maryland, Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the Conference; Dwight L. Smith, Past Grand Master of Indiana, and Grand Secretary of Indiana’s Grand Lodge, serves as Executive Secretary for the Conference of Grand Secretaries.

Other events include the Allied Masonic Degrees meetings the weekend preceding the Conference of Grand Masters, the annual meetings of the Masonic Service Association and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, the Supreme Council, 33rd Southern Jurisdiction, reception and luncheon, the Shrine’s Frank S. Land Memorial Breakfast, the invitational dinner-discussion gathering sponsored annually by the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, and other special dinners, meetings and conferences.

Following are summaries and highlights of several of the meetings scheduled from February 14, through the morning of February 20 in Washington, D.C., with the Washington Hotel and the Shoreham-Americana Hotel serving as headquarters.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES WEEKEND

A Condensation by Morrison L. Cooke
Chaplain, Grand Master’s Council, A.M.D.
Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery
of Knights Templar of Kentucky

The annual Philalethes Society Masonic Workshop was held Friday evening, February 15. William E. Yeager, President, turned the meeting over to Dwight L. Smith, Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary of Masons in Indiana, who acted as Master of Ceremonies. The theme was “Readin’, ‘Ritin’, and Research.”

The first paper was given by Alphonse Cerza who has compiled an Index of recommended Masonic reading for those who may be interested in Masonic publications. He said, “we would be better off getting more Masonry into our members than members into Masonry.”

Jerry Marsengill’s “Ritin” outlined some basic steps in order to become a good writer. “It is most important,” he said, “never to undertake to write unless you have first read, read, read.” Keith Arrington, Assistant Librarian of the Library of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, gave a detailed description of the Library, which proved to be “both interesting and enlightening.” Conrad Hahn summed up the three papers following
which there was discussion from the audience.

Dwight L. Smith was honored with the Certificate of Literature for the best article in the Philalethes in 1973.

Saturday morning, February 16, the meetings began with the 42nd annual convocation of the Grand College of Rites at 9:30. Dr. William Peacher, Grand Chancellor, presided. William M. Wyman was elected Grand Chancellor and Allen Roberts, Grand Marischal. Stanley Wakefield was elected Honorary Past Grand Chancellor. 73 were elected Fellows.

Grand Master’s Council, A.M.D., opened its 41st annual communication at 10:30 with James D. Smith, Sovereign Master, presiding. Smith obligated 32 candidates. Owen Shanteau was elected Sovereign Master and William E. Yeager, Jr., Tyler.

The Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the U.S.A., opened in 42nd annual communication at 11:30 a.m., Sovereign Grand Master Warren H. Coolidge, presiding. The Grand Master reported that he had travelled over 10,000 miles during the year visiting local Councils and other Masonic bodies.

C. Wallace Jackson, P.S.G.M., opened the Installed Master’s Council, A.M.D., at 2:00 p.m. in the absence of Sovereign Master Murray C. Alexander. The degree of Installed Master was conferred upon 14 candidates. Jackson was elected Sovereign Master and Robert L. Grubb, Secretary.

At 2:30 the Council of the Nine Muses No. 13, A.M.D., was opened by Robert L. Grubb, Sovereign Master, Marvin Fowler, Senior Warden, read a paper on George Washington entitled, “Most Important Day.” He was then installed as Master and Robert Grubb went to the bottom of the Line as Tyler. James Case, elected to replace Wylie B. Wendt after he had resigned, became Chaplain.


The Grand Chief’s Council No. 0, Knight Masons of the U.S.A., was opened at 3:00 p.m. with Walter McCracken, Excellent Chief, presiding. 22 Knights were dubbed. G. Wilbur Bell was elected Excellent Chief and Walter McCracken was elected Scribe, an office he had held before becoming Excellent Chief.

The Grand Council, Knight Masons of the U.S.A., opened at 3:30. Dr. William Peacher, Great Chief, presided. Grand Scribe J. Landis Randall noted a gain of 58 during the past year. Adrian B. Hommell was elected Great Chief; J. Landis Randall was re-elected Grand Scribe and Richard M. Stephenson was elected Grand Sentinel.

At 4:45 p.m. the Societas Rosicruciana met with Harold V. B. Voorhis, Supreme Magus, presiding for the 25th year. William E. Yeager asked to be relieved as Senior Substitute Magus. Waldron Biggs was elevated to that office and John Beddlington Cottrell, Jr., was
elected as the Junior Substitute Magus. Warren Coolidge presided for the Annual Banquet of the Allied Masonic Degrees at 6:00 p.m. Speaker was the Rev. Robert L. Pugh, New Bern, North Carolina, Past Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina. “Masonry needs courage based upon belief in the Supremacy of God,” he said. More than 200 were present.

Grand Council was resumed at 8 p.m. Three Councils received Charters. Marvin Fowler was re-appointed for a 3-year term on the Board of General Purposes. Bruce H. Hunt was appointed to the Board to replace resigning Carl Griesen. Ernest M. Moore, Jr., was elected Sovereign Grand Master and Herbert A. Fisher, Grand Tyler. Robert L. Grubb was re-elected Grand Secretary and also elected to receive the Knight Grand Cross for his many years of service.

The Masonic Order of the Bath met in 53rd Annual Assembly, Henry Emmerson, Commander General, presiding, followed by the 48th Cellar of Ye Antient Order of Corks with W. W. Minton, Grand Bung for the Americas, presiding. There were 73 candidates in each of the classes.

Convent General, K.Y.C.H., held a Sunday breakfast with Gordon Merrick, Grand Master General, conducting the business which followed. There was a record-tieing attendance of 103.

The 42nd Annual Consistory of the Society of Blue Friars met at 9:00 a.m. Harold V. B. Voorhis, Grand Abbot, presided. Voorhis presented the new Friar, George A. Newbury, Sovereign Grand Commander of Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J. Brother Newbury read his paper, “Freemasonry Tomorrow,” a treatise on what we might expect in the future. In commenting on our affluent society which seems to worship leisure, Newbury stated, “to the Chinese, work is a virtue, not just a means of making a living.” He concluded by saying “Masonic philosophy can be a potent force of good in days to come, and every generation of Masons should make that philosophy become alive.” He received a standing ovation.

Harold Voorhis announced that he was retiring as Grand Abbot and his Deputy, Conrad Hahn, would be the new Grand Abbot.

The 42nd Ingathering of the Grand Preceptor’s Tabernacle, Knight Templar Priests, was opened at 9:30 a.m. by Chester C. Coffin, Preceptor. Two candidates were ordained. Coffin was re-elected Preceptor, George Moreland, Registrar.


Robert V. Osborne was installed Grand Preceptor and George Moreland was re-elected Grand Registrar. Carl J. Baesemann was elected Grand Outer Guard. Baesemann is a Past Department Commander of the Grand Encampment, currently is Chairman of the Committee on Templar History.

**YORK RITE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Sunday Afternoon, Hotel Shoreham**

A major topic was the correlation of a reduction in the length of overall ritualistic work to expedite York Rite Festivals. General aim is to present work in all three bodies within a 7-8 hour period.

A meeting was arranged for further discussion on the ritual Sunday morning, June 9, at the Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky, following the 102nd Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine. Present for the February meeting were: Companions Selby, Merrick, Vandal and McGaughey – General Grand Chapter; Companions McClendon, Watt and Hunt – General Grand Council; Sir Knights Riegle, Avery, Cottrell, Johnson and Rudenhauser – Grand Encampment.

GRAND SOVEREIGN’S DINNER-DISCUSSION MEETING


Specifics, in addition to generalized subjects, included the new Masonic Museum under construction for the Supreme Council, 33°, N.M.J., the production of the General Grand Chapter’s R.A.M. film, the Grand Encampment’s scheduled July 4 release of “Masonic Americana,” a book on persons, events and scenes associated with America’s founding and progress.

Right: P.G.M. Bell, Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation; Sovereign Grand Commander Newbury, and Virginia’s Grand Master, Stewart W. Miner, Conference Chairman.
Monday morning was devoted to a visit to the George Washington Masonic Memorial for the 64th annual meeting of the Association.

Most Worshipful Brother Raymond C. Ellis, Past Grand Master of New York and President of the Association, declared the meeting open at 10 a.m. The opening prayer was given by Rev. Thomas E. Dicken, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. The assemblage joined in singing one verse of "America" and one verse of "God Save the Queen." The address of welcome was delivered by M.W. Brother Stewart W. Miner, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The response was by M.W. Brother Lloyd S. Cochran, Grand Master of New York. W. Brother Robert C. Swiger brought greetings from Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, the Lodge over which George Washington served as Charter Master.

After welcoming the distinguished Masons present, M.W. Brother Ellis delivered the report of the President and Board of Directors. He emphasized the financial condition of the Association and presented a new program for raising funds for the Endowment, to put the Memorial on a more self-sustaining basis. It is hoped that through the vigorous support of the Grand Lodges throughout the United States and of other Masonic Bodies, a total of 10,000 Honorary Life Memberships will be procured at a contribution of $100 each to the Endowment Fund. The second phase of this program is to secure at least 1,000 donations of $1,000 each.

The names of these donors are to be placed on a suitable metal plaque which will be displayed in a prominent part of the Memorial in perpetuity. The goal is to reach this objective by February 1976. The program outlined by M.W. Brother Ellis was adopted unanimously by the Grand Masters present at the meeting.

The Secretary-Treasurer, M.W. Brother Marvin E. Fowler, Past Grand Master of the District of Columbia, then gave a brief account of the conduct of business at the Memorial during the past year.

The Grand Lodge representatives present and those representing other Masonic Bodies then made their annual contributions to the Memorial. The amounts received totaled slightly over $79,000.00.

R.W. Brother Clyde B. Mix, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington, acting on behalf of the family and in memory of the late Brother Norman B. Hickok, presented to the Memorial a first edition copy of Anderson's Constitution of the Freemasons, published in 1723. This valuable accession to the Masonic Library at the Memorial will be placed in its rare book section.

M.W. Brother Charles R. Glassmire, Grand Master of Maine and Chairman of the Nominating Committee, made his report after which the following were unanimously elected: President — Raymond C. Ellis of New York; First Vice President — Charles F. Adams of Nebraska; Second Vice President — John K. Young of Pennsylvania; Third Vice President — Charles M. Lankford, Jr., Virginia; Secretary-Treasurer — Marvin E. Fowler of the District of Columbia.

Members re-elected to the Board of Directors whose terms had expired on this date were: Raymond C. Ellis of New York; Bruce H. Hunt of Missouri; John C. Kaufman of Georgia; O. Lloyd Onion of Virginia; Donovan Worden, Jr., of Montana.

Vacancies created through the death of Sanford M. Chilcote and → → →
the resignation of Harry D. Proudfoot of Oregon were filled by the election of Donald W. Vose of Massachusetts and Forest A. Wakeman of Indiana.

The unexpired term of John H. Jefferson, deceased of Indiana, was filled through the election of J. Lewis Monical, Grand Master of Arizona, for a term expiring in February 1976.

A committee of Grand Masters of which M.W. Brother Lawrence J. Larson, Grand Master of South Dakota, served as Chairman, visited the tomb of Washington at Mount Vernon early in the morning and placed therein a wreath on behalf of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. M.W. Brother Larson delivered a tribute to Washington which will be published in the Proceedings.

President Ellis extended a warm greeting to Most Worshipful Brother John H. Hessey, President Emeritus, and Brother Frederick F. Schondau, Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus, thanking each for their long and devoted service to the Memorial. Brother Ellis announced that the first $1,000 special contribution to the Memorial just adopted as a portion of the new program had been made by Brother Frederick F. Schondau.

Special tours of the Masonic rooms and displays were conducted throughout the building. A luncheon for the delegates and their ladies was served in the building's dining halls.

A uniformed Knight Templar, member of Old Dominion No. 11, Alexandria, was on special duty for visitors to the Knights Templar Chapel in the Memorial Building.

A check for $1,000 was presented to President Ellis by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Roy Wilford Riegle, for maintenance of the Knights Templar Chapel in the Memorial Building.

Sir Knights Cottrell (Grand Generalissimo), Bell (Past Grand Master), Crump (Past Department Commander) and Crofts (Past Grand Master) of the Grand Encampment, pause in the Secretary-Treasurer's office beneath a picture of Brother George Washington during tours of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial building.

MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION
A Report on the 55th Annual Meeting of the Association by Conrad Hahn, Executive Secretary Treasurer

The 55th Annual Meeting of the Masonic Service Association of the United States February 18, 1974, was attended by more than 250 delegates and observers.

The Chairman of the Executive Commission, Newell A. Lamb, P.G.M., Indiana, called the meeting to order promptly at 2:00 p.m. M.W. Brother Forrest A. Wakeman, Grand Master of Indiana, was nominated by M.W. Brother Nathaniel C.
Dean, Grand Master, North Carolina, and unanimously elected presiding chairman.

The report of the Executive Commissioners, including the Hospital Visitation Program, was presented by P.G.M. Newell A. Lamb and accepted.

The Executive Commissioners introduced a resolution to amend the constitution with regard to the geographical divisions from which the Commissioners are elected. It was adopted without dissent.

The change places Delaware in the North Atlantic Division instead of the South Atlantic Division and merges the Southwestern Division, composed only of New Mexico and Arizona, into the Pacific Division, which was re-named the Western Division and is now composed of the Grand Lodges of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming and the Philippines.

Seven committees, made up of all the Grand Masters of the Association’s member Grand Lodges, reviewed the Annual Report of the Executive Commissioners and the work of the Association for the preceding year and made recommendations of approval or modification.

Reports were made by the following Chairman: G.M. Royal C. Scofield (Ohio), Publications and Educational Activities; G.M. Lawrence Larson (South Dakota), Hospital Visitation Program; G.M. Stewart M. Miner (Virginia), Necrology; G.M. Lloyd S. Cochran (New York), Finance; G.M. William F. Saars (Connecticut), Foreign Relief; G.M. Donald W. Vose (Massachusetts), Membership; G.M. John N. Fortner (Delaware), U.S.A. Relief.

The Finance Committee pointed out the rapidly rising costs of materials, especially printing, the need for increasing income because of inflation and recommended an increase of 15 per cent in the annual dues paid to the Association by its member Grand Lodges to become effective in January 1, 1975, which was adopted harmoniously.

Two Commissioners retired in 1973. E. Walter Parsons, P.G.M. and Grand Treasurer of New Jersey, representing the North Atlantic Division for 20 years, was presented Resolutions of Appreciation from the Association by P.G.M. Newell A. Lamb, who also presented to G.M. Robert McC. Figg, South Carolina, an In Memoriam citation honoring one of his predecessors, P.G.M. Dr. L. Wade Temple, Jr., who had served as Commissioner for the South Atlantic Division for 15 years. M.W. Brother Temple died December 31, 1973.

Commission Chairman Newell A. Lamb was unanimously re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year as were Commissioners Herbert A. Ronin (Nebraska) for the Central Division; Robert A. Hockstad (Michigan) for the Great Lakes Division; Waldron C. Biggs (Vermont) for the North Atlantic Division; and Evans Crary, Jr., (Florida) for the South Atlantic Division.

LaMoine Langston, P.G.M., New Mexico, Southwestern Division, and Glenn B. Van Fleet, P.G.M., Colorado, Pacific Division, declined renomination. The delegates from the New Western Division chose Grand Master A. Harold Small of Montana to represent that area on the Commission.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota again set a record in contributions for the Hospital Visitation Program when its Grand Master, Verne E. Long, presented Executive Secretary Conrad Hahn a check for $32,320.00, from thousands of contributions by individual Masons for the benevolent ministrations of Masonic Field Agents and their Volunteers in Veterans Administration Hospitals.

A resolution approving the acts and decisions of the Executive Commission, the Executive Secretary-Treasurer and the Chief Field Agent during 1973, was adopted, also a resolution of appreciation for his services to the presiding Chairman of the meeting.

The 55th Annual Meeting was closed, as it had been opened, with prayer by the Rev. Thomas E. Dicken, Grand Master of Kentucky.
What was described as “one of the finest, most rewarding and impressive” of the Imperial Council, A.A.O.N.M.S., breakfasts honoring the memory of DeMolay’s Frank S. Land was held Tuesday morning, February 19, at the Shoreham-Americana.


Breakfast speaker was Sir Knight William B. Saxbe, Raper Commandery No. 19, Urbana, Ohio, new Attorney General of the United States. He spoke of the erosion of the desire “to want to live within the law.” He referred to impersonality in today’s living, saying there is too often, “no censure, no approbation, only indifference,” and that the move to larger and larger metropolitan areas was creating “large cities of ‘strangers.’”

Sir Knight Lewis, foreground, pours coffee while Past Grand Master Bell exchanges breakfast greetings with Sir Knight Gilbert H. Dehnel, an administrative assistant at the Supreme Council’s House of the Temple, Washington.

Past Grand Master Crofts and Deputy Grand Master Avery model DeMolay lapel pins at the Frank S. Land breakfast.

The Almas Shrine Chanters sang for the breakfast program; Imperial Potentate Jacob A. Wingerter presented greetings. International Master Councilor, DeMolay Heller, New Jersey, gave the benediction. Imperial Potentate Wingerter will preside for the 100th Imperial Shrine Session June 23-28 at Atlantic City. He is a member of Salaam Temple, West Orange, New Jersey.
Once again, “shop talk” constituted the major portion of the program at the forty-sixth annual Conference of Grand Secretaries.

Fifty-four of the 60 active members of the United States, Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico answered roll call, together with 11 associate members, nine members at large and one honorary member.

Two highly respected members and Past Presidents, Archer B. Gay of Virginia and D. Peter Laguenus of Louisiana, were called by death during the year, along with a former Grand Secretary of Rhode Island, Fred W. Johnstone.

Five newly elected or appointed Grand Secretaries who were attending the Conference for the first time were welcomed by President Edward H. Siems, of California. They were D. Peter Laguenus III, Louisiana; Reg L. Guy, Manitoba; William A. Carpenter, Pennsylvania; Alejandro Reyna-Fernandez, Puerto Rico, and John P. Stokes, Virginia.

An interesting and informative agenda had been arranged by the committee in charge, headed by the late Archer B. Gay and completed by him only a few days before his untimely death in September 1973. Subjects for discussion were:

- Taxes on Masonic Grand and Subordinate Lodges: Federal, State and Local;

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, minister of Marble Collegiate Church, New York City, and a distinguished Freemason, was speaker at the traditional Conference banquet.

Paul R. Stephens, Illinois, was elevated to the presidency for 1974-75, with William Campbell, Connecticut, first vice-president, and John S. Rowe, South Dakota, second vice-president. Dwight L. Smith, Indiana, was elected secretary-treasurer for the twentieth time and Robert P. Beach, Massachusetts, was re-elected assistant secretary-treasurer.

Members of the committee to prepare an agenda for the 1975 Conference are Charles T. Jackson, Iowa; Harvey R. Hansen, Minnesota, and Doyn Inman, Wisconsin.

Newly elected General Secretary, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, William A. Carpenter, right, chats with Conrad Hahn at Grand Secretaries' Luncheon.
Sessions began Tuesday morning at 9 and concluded Wednesday afternoon. Topics included: Tax Exempt Status of Masonic Homes; Forms of Masonic Charity; Public Relations — the “Public Image we Seek”; Masonic Education; Grand Lodge Relationship to Subordinate or Appendant Bodies.

Highlight of the Grand Masters’ Banquet Tuesday evening was the appearance of Vice President Gerald R. Ford, who spoke informally and briefly about his family’s long association with Masonry and his own appreciation of his membership.

Text of Vice President Ford’s banquet remarks, together with photographs, will be featured in the May issue, courtesy Executive Secretary William B. Stansbury, Jr.

Concluding fraternal social event of the Conference Week was the luncheon at the House of the Temple Wednesday noon, by invitation of Henry C. Clausen, Illustrious Sovereign Grand Commander, Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction.

“Great Start” for Excalibur Priory

William A. Anklam, “Dad” Advisor, announces that March 4 marked a “great start for Excalibur Priory, Chivalric Knights of the Holy Order of the Fellow Soldiers of Jacques DeMolay,” the Order of Knighthood for DeMolays from 17 to 21 years of age.

The Priory Officers and Advisory Council members of Excalibur Priory were installed by Temple Priory of Sacramento. Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of California were among the Masonic leaders present.

Anklam writes: “Due to the gas shortage we are going to establish Excalibur Priory Clubs in such cities as Salinas, San Jose, Santa Rosa, Eureka and any other areas in our Jurisdiction as necessary. This will help Sir Knights in those areas to keep in touch with the programs of our Priory. We will work in those areas as needed and we hope that the Commanderies in those areas will support us and furnish a Sir Knight to act as our Representative there.
P.G.C. Gerdemann moves to California

On Sunday Feb. 17, 1974, the Drill Team of Arkansas City hosted a farewell dinner for our Jr. P.G.C. Neil Gerdemann and his Lady Ann. As a farewell gift the Gerdemanns were presented with a wall clock by these Sir Knights and Ladies. Around thirty or so were present.

It appears that the climate of Lompoc Calif. is better for our Jr. Past Grand Commander than the frigid, icy, changeable climate of Kansas.

We will miss them here in Kansas, but Neil told me, “Tell the folks that this is not good bye, just-until we see you again.” The Gerdemanns’ stated that Kansans may “drop in” if they happen to travel in the area of 1216 West Hickory, Lompoc Calif. 93436.

“Vaya con dios” Ann and Neil.

Hutchinson York Rite Ritual Dates.

The following dates are being listed for the schedule of degree work that the Companions and Sir Knights of Hutchinson Ks. will be executing in the future, the March dates were to late for printing.
Royal Arch Degree – April 3, 1974
Red Cross and Malta – April 9, 1974
Council Degrees – April 17, 1974

Grand Commanders Reception Plans.

A reception to honor the new Grand Commander of Kansas will be held in Fredonia Kansas on June 1, 1974 at 6:30 p.m. More to follow.

Kansas Association of Past Commanders.

The President of the Kansas Assn. of Past Commanders, Robert M. Riley reports the annual meeting, induction ceremony, and election of officers will be held May 4, 1974 in Topeka Kansas at 7:00 p.m. After Grand Commandery.

From the Deputy Grand Commander.

Our Grand Commander, R.E. Phil Boley, issued a General Order in 1973 commanding that each Commandery should appoint membership committees. Officers should be reminded that the advancement in line in the Constituent Commanderies did not cancel that directive. Along with their normal advancement, officers should fill the vacancies created on those committees.

Your Deputy Grand Commander asks that the Commander report to him the activities carried on by those committees. The basic reason for reporting is to share with others any successful actions by the committee. What works for one Commandery may work for another and your neighbor commandery may profit from your failures by not repeating the same mistakes. We sincerely hope all reports can be happy and affirmative. George S. Reinsberg 435 North 14th. Fredonia Kansas 66736.

Grand Masters Reception
Forrest D. Haggard

The following schedule of time and place for the reception honoring the new
Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons has been received and is herewith printed for Masonic recognition in our State and that those who are interested may take notice and guard accordingly.

**WHEN:** Saturday April 20, 1974 — Reception; 4:30-6:00 PM, Lounge and balcony-Dr. & Mrs. Haggard and family receiving guests; Light refreshments (punch and appetizer) Brouse time for Masonic Displays. 6:30-8:00 PM — Main Banquet Hall-Excellent Meal-Light Music and favors. Festivities continue 8:30 thru midnite. Dancing-Main floor (Orchestra and Quartet) Snack bar and tables — Main Floor-Cards and games — Game and Card Rooms.

**WHERE:** Johnson County Community College, 111th and Quivira Road, Overland Park. The “Commons Building”. Access off of 69 Highway at 111th street exit west or off 1-435 South on Switzer to 111th and then west. Map provided in all mailouts.

Cost $4.75 per person includes all activities, For reservations contact Gerald Townsend 7600 West 75th. Overland Park Ks. 66204. Please make your own lodging reservations.

The Grand Master will be preaching the 9:30 A.M. Worship Service of the Overland Park Christian Church, FREE-MASONRY AND MINISTRY. Public service, all invited.

**Tentative Grand Commandery Schedule**

**Thursday May 2, 1974**
1:00-5:30 PM — Registration at Downtown Ramada Inn.
6:00 PM Informal Dinner-Dutch treat-Ramada Inn.

**Friday May 3, 1974**
Registration continues at Arab Shrine Mosque 13th and Kansas Avenue.
6:30 PM Joint Breakfast, hosts KYCH, RED CROSS, HRAKTP, Kansas Past Commanders Association, all Sir Knights invited. $2.00 per plate-Downtown Masonic Temple-14th and Van Buren.
8:00 AM Grand Commandery Convenes-Arab Shrine Mosque-Usual order of business.
11:30 AM Buffet Lunch-Downtown Masonic Temple $2.50 per plate.
1:00 PM Grand Commandery reconvenes-Downtown Masonic Temple.
6:45 PM Grand Commanders Banquet-Arab Shrine Mosque, souveniers-$3.50 per plate, Address by M.C. Lewis, PGM of Masons of Arkansas and the Grand Commander of Arkansas.
Saturday May 4, 1974
7:30 AM — Breakfast for Grand Commandery Officers and Distinguished Guests — Arab Temple hosts by invitation only.
9:00 AM Divine Services — First Presbyterian Church — 9th and Harrison Street.
10:15 — Street Parade.
11:30 AM — Luncheon — Arab Shrine Mosque.
1:15 PM — Competitive Drills — Topeka Municipal Auditorium, 8th and Quincy Streets.
3:45 PM — Sunset Review — Drill Awards.
4:00 PM — Installation of 1974-1975 Grand Commandery Officers by M.E. Grand Master ROY WILFORD RIEGLE.
5:00-6:30 PM — Donation Supper-Topeka Drill Team Hosts-Downtown Masonic Temple.
Tentative Ladies Schedule-Subject to Change.
**Thursday May 2, 1974**
1:00-5:30 PM — Registration-Downtown Ramada Inn.
6:00 PM — Informal Dinner-Dutch Treat-Ramada Inn.

**Friday May 3, 1974**
10:30 — Brunch — Topeka Assembly No. 24 S.O.O.B. Hostess — $3.00 — Downtown Ramada Inn-door prize and fashion show.
2:00 PM — Tour Governors Mansion (tentative) Mrs. Robert Docking hostess.
IN HALLOWED MEMORY

Nelson C. Bledsoe
Arizona
Grand Commander — 1913
Born September 1, 1876
Died February 22, 1974

William T. Buckner
Virginia
Grand Commander — 1945
Department Commander — 1955-58
Born September 19, 1894
Died March 3, 1974

Earl E. Seiwell
New Jersey
Grand Commander — 1945
Born November 26, 1899
Died March 3, 1974

William Thomas Buckner
1894-1974

William T. Buckner, Grand Recorder and Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Virginia, died March 3 after a long life of dedicated leadership in Masonry and related bodies.

An Honorary 33°, Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction, a Knight Commander of Constantine and Intendant General, United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, he had presided over many bodies, including his Grand Chapter and Grand Council, Marshall Acca Temple and numerous others.

He was Department Commander of the Grand Encampment 1955-58. An enlistee in World War I, he served in the U.S. Navy for two and a half years.

He became president of Tower-Winford Electric and Manufacturing Company in 1949. He married, in 1923, Lavinia Randolph Robins, who preceded him in death. Two sons survive, also his widow, the former Audrey Hawthorne, whom he married in 1965.

The Bledsoe Saga
1876-1974

Sir Knight Nelson C. Bledsoe, M.D., Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Arizona in 1913, dean of all Past Grand Commanders in the Grand Encampment, died February 22 in Tucson at the age of 97. He was born September 1, 1876, in Ventura, California, and moved to Arizona in 1904 when it was still a Territory. He became chief surgeon and physician for the Calumet & Arizona Mining company, and continued the practice of medicine until 1965.

The newspapers of Tucson wrote that “he was accorded every Masonic honor in the state, including that of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, A.A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction, until October of 1973.”

Sir Knight Kenneth B. Pitkin, Tucson, writes: “He was the finest gentleman I have ever known. We feel a great personal loss in Arizona Masonry, especially so in our own home.”

General John J. Pershing

Sir Knight Pershing was Knighted in Mt. Moriah Commandery No. 4, Lincoln, Nebraska, on December 3, 1894. The Commander in Chief of the Allied Expeditionary Forces during World War I and America’s only General of the Armies laid the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier during the Knight Templar Easter Services in 1943. The stamp is from the collection of Sir Knight Phil A. Telic, Stamp Editor of the Wisconsin Masonic Journal.
Easter in Canal Zone

The back cover shows a group picture of the Easter Observance of Canal Zone Commandery, U.D., in 1913. It is of historical interest that the Panama Canal was not formally opened until more than one year later, August 15, 1914.

In the Grand Encampment Proceedings for the 1913 Triennial Conclave held in Denver, Grand Master William B. Melish reports on his granting of a Dispensation for Canal Zone Commandery April 11, 1912. His action was taken after "a thorough investigation of all conditions connected with Freemasonry in the Canal Zone."

One of his advisors was Sir Knight C. H. R. Howe, "Assistant Division Engineer of the B. & O. R.R., now of Chillicothe, Ohio, but for years a resident of the Canal Zone . . . Sir Knight Howe instituted Ishman Council, R. & S.M., and served as T.I.M. He is also an honorary member of Canal Zone Chapter, R.A.M."

Sir Knight Howe sent a favorable review of the Masonic situation in the Canal Zone: "There are at present between five and six thousand Americans engaged in constructing the Canal. And, quoting Col. Goethals, Chairman of the Canal Commission, I will state that it will require between four and five thousand men to operate the Canal after it is open.

"The permanent operatives to whom I refer will be . . . high class artisans, professional men, etc., in the power houses, in machine shops, and at the naval reservation and dry docks, as well as in the various administrative offices."

Accordingly, the Grand Master granted the Dispensation in 1912, the Committee on Charters and Dispensations approved and a Charter was authorized August 14, 1913.

On November 16, 1913, the newly elected Grand Master, Colonel Arthur MacArthur, journeyed with Past Grand Master George M. Moulton to Ancon, Canal Zone, and constituted Canal Zone Commandery No. 1.

Then the total Grand Encampment membership was 225,000. Today it exceeds 365,000.

Masons at Alabama’s Gulf Shores

The Alabama Grand York Rite bodies met February 24-26 in Gulf Shores, Alabama, for their first joint session. For the first time, ranking officers of each of the General Grand Bodies were present.

EASTER IN THE CANAL ZONE, 61 YEARS AGO

With credit to Sir Knight Melvin L. Pfankuche, Kirkland, Washington, formerly of Connecticut, now a member of University Commandery No. 23, Seattle, the *Knight Templar Magazine* presents a picture of Knights Templar who participated in “1913 Easter Services, Canal Zone Commandery, U.D., held at Gatun, Canal Zone.” The picture from Sir Knight Pfankuche’s Masonic collection is inscribed “compliments of Gerald D. Bliss, Senior Warden.” (See article inside back cover – page 31.)