JANUARY 1975

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Official Publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

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JANUARY: Brother Franklin Delano Roosevelt (January 30, 1882-April 12, 1945), 12th Master Mason to become President of the United States of America, is featured photographically on the cover and biographically in the account by C. L. Rothwell starting on page 7. His is one of the stories included in the Grand Encampment's Bicentennial Volume, Masonic Americana, a compilation of personalities, scenes and events Masonically identified with the establishment and history of the nation. Among other varied January items are locations and dates of national meetings in 1975 and a listing, on page 31, of Annual Conclaves and Grand Master's Representatives for the year.
"EVERY DAY IS BEST DAY OF THE YEAR"

A century ago, essayist-philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote: "Write it in your heart that every day is the best day in the year. Today is a king in disguise."

As we embark on another twelve-month journey through time, I would like to apply Emerson's thought to our commitment in Templary. Truly, fellow Knights, each day is the best day of the year if we make it so. Today and each day of this and every year brings us a wealth of opportunity to contribute in one way or another, whatever our position or rank, to the progress of our beloved Order.

It takes more than passive dedication. We need to look upward and onward — always, but we also need to activate ourselves today to new and greater heights in our respective Templar roles. We need to help create and inject new vitality in our Order. We need to think and act positively and progressively with energy and confidence. We must do our best in 1975 and the years to come to advance the precious heritage that is ours as Knights Templar.

My wish for you in this New Year is that you will use your individual abilities to their full potential for the cause of Templary, that you will not be discouraged by temporary set-backs and that your efforts will bring rewarding results to you and your fellow Templars.

May you and yours have a good and fruitful year, rich in happiness and accomplishment. And may we work together, as a strong and unified body, toward an ever growing, more influential, vigorous and progressive organization of Christian Masons.

Our best is all we can offer, but let's be sure it is truly our best. Our Order demands nothing less. Then, when we have given our finest effort, we can appreciate these closing words from Emerson:

"He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with worry, fret and anxiety. Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can... This day is all that is good and fair. It is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesteryears."

To one and all, a Bright and Happy Today — "A King in Disguise."

Roy Wilford Ragle
Although John Brown preceded us in responding to the letter from Don Treee, generally answering as I was going to, may we go two steps further.

There is such a thing as "modesty" in dress. As the original article stated, "[nursing] pantsuits are more practical and comfortable than dresses." Need we elaborate when a nurse needs to bend over, stoop, or lift a patient. I Timothy 2:9 reads that women [should] adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety. This is where the practicality, comfort and modesty of nursing pantsuits enters, plus the warmth they provide during the winter snow season.

More significantly, it is not necessarily the outer dress of a person which is important as is the inner clad soul which particularly Christianity and Freemasonry in general are all about. Rita (R.N.) and Thomas Odell, 6214 Fern Lane, Paradise, California 95969

With all due respect, may I suggest that fraternal bodies offering commemorative medallions, coins, tokens, covers, etc., select a representative who will be readily available to make prompt replies to requests for the aforementioned items. It is a bit disheartening when, after a two-month lapse, a followup inquiry has to be sent to find out whether the original request, with money order, has been received. Then comes an apologetic reply, with long awaited commemorative, stating: "I'm sorry, I've been out of town for the past six weeks."

Yes! There is an allowance for flexibility, but there should also be a provision for continuity. Alan R. P. Golding, R.R. No. 1, Peterbourgh, Ontario, Canada K9J 6X2

Your Mark Twain feature in the October issue prompts me to say that you should urge your readers to study, "Extract from Captain Stormfield's Visit to Heaven." Maybe it will convince them that isn't such a bad place to strive for after all! The Reverend George A. Stracke, Route 3, Box 88, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

I am presently writing a book on the subject of "Harbor Defenses of the U.S., 1886-1945." Would any former coast artillery personnel interested in correspondence with me on this subject please contact me? Dean R. Mayhew, Fish Point Road, Oriand, Maine 04472

I was requested by the Senior Warden of our Lodge to try to find the words of a Masonic poem entitled, "My Apron." I wonder if any of our readers could help and provide a copy of this poem. Anthony Dean, Route 5, Box 361B, Mount Juliet, Tennessee 37122

My interest is aviation history and with so much of it being destroyed I turn to all branches of Masonry in my effort to save it.

If anyone has any aviation items, military or civilian, I would appreciate the opportunity to purchase them. I am interested in the following: books, photos, manuals, wings, flight badges, unit histories, etc. My collection and data will be given to a proper institution when I am unable to give it proper care. R. L. Adkins, 3015 Royal, Pueblo, Colorado 81005

Of our first five Masonic Presidents, excluding the first as well as first Masonic, the numerical succession of Monroe, Jackson, Polk and Buchanan add to the numerical succession of Gerald R. Ford.

Three Masonic Presidents have names of 4 letters; two, 6 letters; three, 7 letters; three, 8 letters; two, 9 letters; with the first last, Washington, 10 letters.

The biblical name James predominates with four christened such, with two Andrews and two Williams, runners-up. James R. Rasor, 400 16th Street, N.E., Massillon, Ohio 44646

Please note my change of address. This is the most informative magazine and I don't want to miss any.

Thank you. Keep up a wonderful job. Kermit F. Hensinger, Box 180, R.D. 2 FPG, Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

January 1975
It is hoped to start a Correspondence Chess Tournament, limiting the entries to those with Masonic affiliations. And, if the response is great enough, to make it an annual affair.

Anyone interested in playing in such a tournament is asked to contact me for more information. Should any of the Sir Knights know of other Masons who might be interested, ask them, too, to contact me soon.

If the response is great enough now, play will begin soon in 1975. Harold P. Smiley, P.O. Box 424, Goldsmith, Texas 79741

We were reading in the Knight Templar Magazine about John Alexander Logan. We have an old watch that we were told was his. We thought maybe you could tell us if it is and what the value of it is or where we could write to find out.

It is engraved inside the case:

Lt. H. Flint Co. E
10 N.Y.
H.A. 1865
1st Com. D.Y. John Logan Post
No. 25 N.D.
FAHYS
Coin
P110 No. 1

On the back of the watch there is a gold inlaid Medal of Honor. Virgil Troppman, 112 South Wood Street, Mora, Minnesota 55051

(Editor’s Note: Our guess is that it belonged to Lt. H. Flint, Co. E., 10th New York, who may have gone to North Dakota after the Civil War and become first Commander of John Logan Post. Readers may have better information.)

After an item was printed in the Knight Templar Magazine I received 42 replies and 18 different Knight Templar Auto emblems, also the names of many companies who sell them, Other Masonic items were received with many thanks. There were letters from 20 states. Ken Kings, 839 Elm Road, R.D. No. 3, Grafton, Ohio 44044

Would you please list notice of my 56 year membership in Worcester Commandery No. 5? I wish all my friends to know. Thank you. The Rev. Ben Wyland, 1898 Shore Drive South, Apt. 107, St. Petersburg, Florida 33707

(Editorial Note: Grand Recorder James C. Sirios, Massachusetts-Rhode Island, says Sir Knight Wyland served many parishes during his long Templar career.)

The controversy over Knight Templar uniforms has been going on for some time and, up to now, I have never expressed an opinion in Knight Writers. However, the letter from Sir Knight Lloyd S. Riddle has prompted me to make the following comments.

Every time I see Knights Templar marching in uniform I get a real thrill and start thinking what Masonry is all about – lessons it really teaches. I convere of no change in uniform that would be for the better or would attract more attention. I like it just the way it is and sincerely hope no change will ever be made.

His reference to the uniform looking like "a Yankee officer's uniform" and that it "should be a Confederate gray" is quite a surprise to me and, especially so, since the lessons taught him in Masonry from his initiation into the Blue Lodge seem not to have made any impression. There is no Yankee or Confederate, North or South, as was thought of in Civil War days, but only a United States of America, and there should be only one flag, The Stars and Stripes forever.

If we haven't already, it is high time we forgot the past and look to the future in this great country of ours. Eimer S. Skinner, 104 East Ensey, Tuscola, Illinois 61953

Enclosed please find check for $1.00 for a copy of Masonic Americana.

Guyahoga Falls Commandery, Knights Templar of Ohio, has participated in the last eight Annual 4th of July Parades in the city of Stow. The Independence Day Celebration, and my participation in it, dates from July 4, 1959.

It is now "Festival U.S.A., for the Stow American Revolution Bicentennial." Other Masonic units participating in it are Stow Lodge No. 768 F. & A.M., Akron Consistory, Tadmore Temple A.A.O.N.M.S., Yusef Khan Grotto, Stow Shrine Club and National Sojourners. Robert J. Reynolds, 3874 Englewod Drive, Stow, Ohio 44224

Enclosed herewith is a check in the amount of $100.00 for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation as a donation from Chester Chapter, Order of DeMolay. We hope this will be of aid to carry on the Grand Encampment's crusade against blindness. Chester Chapter, Order of DeMolay – World's No. 1 Chapter, 1966-68 – Robert F. Stark, Chapter Advisor, 406 East 21st Street, Chester, Pennsylvania 19013

The use of brevity in letters to the Editor is helpful and appreciated. Letters are accepted with consent to condense.
Jefferson and Madison — Masons?

It is agreed by Masonic researchers that 14 Presidents — Washington, Monroe, Jackson, Polk, Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, Garfield, McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Harding, Franklin Roosevelt, Truman and Ford — were Master Masons. It is also known that Lyndon Johnson was an Entered Apprentice in a Texas Lodge. Some Masonic researchers have also asserted that Thomas Jefferson and James Madison should be added to the list of Master Masons who became President. Other writers do not support this view.

There are no existing records to prove the Masonic membership of Thomas Jefferson. However, it is said the Lodge in which he held membership has ceased to exist and the records were lost. His name appears in the minutes of Charlottesville Lodge No. 90 for September 20, 1817. Masonic publications of the period refer to him as a Mason and several speakers, after his death, referred to him as a Mason.

The Masonic membership of James Madison cannot be substantiated through existing records, again for the reason that Lodge records of Hiram Lodge No. 59 of Virginia, where he supposedly held membership, have been lost. In the papers of James Madison owned by the Library of Congress there is a letter from one John Francis Mercer, Governor of Maryland, who wrote: “I have had no opportunity of congratulating you before on your becoming a Free Mason — a very ancient and honorable fraternity.” The same minutes of Charlottesville Lodge which refer to Jefferson also refer to Madison. However, these minutes refer to Jefferson and Madison as “visitors” at a Masonic cornerstone ceremony for a college, a public affair.

The evidence for the Masonic membership of Jefferson and Madison is circumstantial. No records exist of Lodge membership. Apparently, in life, they did not refer to themselves as Masons. Thus they must remain in the questionable category until further proof is discovered.

Which Stephen Decatur?

There were three Stephen Decaturs who were naval officers in the early days of the United States. Two won fame in different wars. The number of Decaturs has confused many people, including some researchers who tend to mix-up the parentage, ships, etc. of the different Decaturs.

The first Stephen Decatur was a French naval officer who emigrated to America and married Priscilla Hill. They lived in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1752 when their son Stephen was born. Little is known about the first Stephen.

The second Stephen, who is referred to as Stephen Decatur, Sr., in most sources, was Master of the sloop Peggy in 1774 and commanded the privateers Royal Louis and Fair American during the Revolutionary War. He commanded the Delaware in 1798 as a Captain, U.S. Navy. He was senior officer of the U.S. squadron off Cuba during hostilities with the French in 1798-99. In 1801 he retired from the Navy and engaged in business in Millstadt, Pennsylvania.

This Stephen was a member of the now defunct Lodge No. 16, Baltimore, under a Charter from the Ancient Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He was initiated in August 1777. Decatur received his Master’s Degree in Lodge No. 3 of Pennsylvania on April 18, 1780.

The third Stephen, known as Stephen Decatur, Jr., was born January 5, 1779. He was appointed Midshipman in the U.S. Navy in 1798. Decatur was no stranger to the sea, having made a voyage with his father at the age of eight. He was commandant of the schooner Enterprise on February 16, 1804, when he entered Tripolitan waters, recapturing and burning the American frigate Philadelphia. In the War of 1812 he commanded the United States and the President. In 1815 he commanded the squadron which went to Algeria to force peace on the Barbary Pirates. Decatur was killed March 20, 1820, in a duel, a common method of settling disputes among gentlemen in those days. Decatur’s fame in duels almost matched his fame as a naval hero. Ten thousand persons, including almost every member of government and the high military officers, attended the funeral.

It was Stephen Decatur, Jr., who gave the famous toast: “Our Country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong!” He is believed to have been a Mason but no proof exists.
The 32nd President of the United States was one whose policies stirred tremendous controversies which still rage in the minds of Americans. He is both blamed and praised as the innovator of programs which continue to this day. It must be remembered that all four of his election victories were overwhelming. Even when he was most harshly criticised, the vast majority of Americans voted for him.

The Roosevelt family is an old Dutch family, a Patroon family with large estates dating to pre-Revolutionary War Days. Franklin D. Roosevelt was born January 30, 1882, at the family estate in Hyde Park, New York, to James and Sara Delano Roosevelt. He graduated from Harvard and the Columbia Law School but was not much interested in school or law. He wanted to be in public life.

He was a member of a law firm from 1907-33 but his activities were not notable. In 1910 he was elected to the New York Senate and remained until 1913, resigning to become Assistant Secretary of the Navy, 1913-20.

He met his fifth cousin Eleanor while a student and the romance blossomed. Eleanor was a niece of Theodore Roosevelt, who was President at the time. They were married on St. Patrick’s Day, the date being convenient to the President, who was to give his niece away, as he was to attend the parade in New York City. Franklin’s mother opposed the marriage and the bride’s uncle was happy because she could retain the “great name.” After the wedding the couple was ignored as guests crowded around the President.

In 1920 Roosevelt received the Democratic Vice Presidential nomination on the ticket that was defeated by Sir Knight Warren G. Harding.

The rising young politician was stricken suddenly by infantile paralysis in August 1921 at the family’s cottage at Campobello, New Brunswick. He was paralyzed from the waist. Doctors, fearful of telling Roosevelt he would never walk again, encouraged him to seek the “miracle” cures he heard about.

The story of his struggle to walk is one of tremendous personal courage and determination. At Warm Springs, Georgia, he found his “miracle,” a warm pool in which he could move the paralyzed limbs. In 1924, to a standing ovation, he walked to the podium to nominate Governor Alfred E. Smith for the Presidency.

Roosevelt never forgot Warm Springs. He established the Warm Springs, Georgia, Foundation which brought new hope to those crippled by infantile paralysis. He helped found the “March of Dimes” and other measures which financed medical research for a polio vaccine. It was while working for the Foundation that Dr. Salk and Dr. Sabin made their discoveries.

The future President was Raised November 28, 1911. He received the Degrees of the Scottish Rite February 28, 1929. He held memberships in Cypress Shrine Temple, Albany; Tri-Po-Bed Grotto, Poughkeepsie; Greenwood Forest, Warwick. In 1930 he was appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia near the Grand Lodge of New York. In 1934 he was named the first Honorary Grand Master of the International Order of DeMolay.

Brother Roosevelt was Governor of New York until elected President in 1933. He immediately declared a “bank holiday” and called Congress into special session. During the 100 days of that session more major impact legislation was passed than ever before.
The Democrats called the new programs the "New Deal." Some of the measures included: relief for the unemployed, aid for farm mortgages, the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the National Industrial Recovery Act, Agricultural Adjustment Act.

"Fireside Chats" via the radio explained his programs to the public. He held press conferences with skill. The old wealthy families considered him "a traitor to his class." The Supreme Court has "hostile." Roosevelt claimed when they struck down the NIRA and the AAA, and he proposed a larger court to rid him of the "nine old men." The attempt, which was called "court packing" by foes, failed but it did slow the Court down and resignations soon allowed him to appoint men of a more liberal nature. He eventually made nine appointments.

Roosevelt's Masonic membership brought headlines. In 1919, attending the cornerstone laying ceremonies of Stansbury No. 24 in Washington with Sir Knight and General John J. Pershing, Roosevelt said, "It has gotten so now no Masonic Temple can be erected unless there is some member of the Roosevelt clan present at the laying of the cornerstone and I am proud to say that no family in the country as a whole is more closely identified with Masonry than the Roosevelt family."

On November 7, 1935, the President attended the Raising of sons James and Franklin Jr. in Architect Lodge No. 519, New York City. The formal picture of that event appeared in Newsweek. On July 22, 1936, the German press printed the "sensational" news that Roosevelt was a Mason in large block headlines. They referred to the picture as a "secret illustrated document" showing Roosevelt in Masonic dress surrounded by a "circle of Jews."

In July 1941 the Nazi press published a picture of Roosevelt and two of his sons attending a Lodge meeting. They headlined: "Roosevelt is the main tool of Jewish World Freemasonry." Life wrote "the Nazis knew that Freemasonry, which is innocently non-partisan in the U.S., is known to be anti-Catholic outside the United States. Publicizing the President's Masonry would not endear him to Catholic Latin America." Newsweek added: "The paper neglected to mention that the news had been in standard reference books for years and that thirteen (sic) other American Presidents were Masons." (Actually, there were only 11 "proven" Masonic Presidents previous to Roosevelt.)

The Masonic membership of Franklin Roosevelt continued to be used as propaganda by the Axis powers. In August 1943 the Manila Tribune, under Japanese control, published an editorial accusing Roosevelt as the "chief Mason and generalissimo of the Jews" and other Masons of planning the bombing of Rome as a plot to destroy the Vatican.

As early as 1937 Roosevelt had attempted to focus public attention on events in Europe and Asia but was denounced as a "warmonger." His program to bring maximum aid to England and Russia was opposed. He was hampered by the war clouds over Europe from having an effective foreign policy. Congress passed neutrality legislation preventing aid to Allies.

Severely criticized when he ran for an unprecedented third term, he was driven to promise he would keep the country out of war. He met Brother Winston Churchill in August 1941 on the high seas to adopt the Atlantic Charter - freedom of the seas, territorial integrity, peaceful trade, freedom of choice and form of government. He presented the American people with the "four freedoms."

But war was inevitable. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Roosevelt again met with Churchill and agreed to concentrate on Europe, then Japan. He was the chief architect of the North African Invasion. Under pressure from Stalin to create a second front, following the "Big Four" conferences at Casablanca, Quebec, Teheran and Cairo, Roosevelt agreed to the invasion of Normandy. Churchill also wanted a
Balkan thrust. The leaders agreed to accept only unconditional surrender.

A magazine article, written in 1940 or 1944, stated: “Voters this year will have plenty of opportunity to vote for candidates who are Masons — in fact they will have to vote for a Mason for President and for Vice-President, since both candidates on both tickets are members of the fraternity.” Roosevelt, in his third term bid, chose Brother Henry A. Wallace. They were opposed by Brother Wendell L. Willkie and Sir Knight Charles L. McNary. For his fourth term he chose Sir Knight Harry S. Truman. The Republicans ran Brother Thomas Dewey and Sir Knight John W. Bricker.

In failing health, Roosevelt traveled to Yalta and drew up plans for the defeat and occupation of Germany and plans for a San Francisco meeting to form the United Nations. He was growing uncertain about the Soviets.

He went to Warm Springs to sit in the sun and recover his health. On April 12, 1945, the President died at the age of 63. He had served a few months into his fourth term.

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Miner's Lodge

Miner’s Lodge No. 273, Galena, Illinois, a Lodge of 50 members in the middle 1800’s, supplied five Generals to the Union Army during the Civil War. Three were also Templars.

Major General John A. Rawlings was later Chief of Staff and Secretary of War. John E. Smith, Major General (brevet), served as Master of the Lodge. William R. Rowley, Brigadier General (brevet), was Knighted in Galena Commandery No. 40. Brevet Brigadier General John Corson Smith, a member of Galena Commandery No. 40, later became Grand Master of Illinois Masons and an Active Member of the Supreme Council, 32°, N.M.J.

Brigadier General Ely S. Parker, a Seneca Indian Chief, was the founder and first Master of Miner’s Lodge. As Secretary to General Grant, he wrote the document of surrender at Appomattox. Later he became Commissioner of Indian Affairs. He served as Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Illinois and was a member of Monroe Commandery No. 12, Rochester, New York.

Presides Over Lodge and Chapter at 20

Masonic history was made in December when John Edward Lawson, King Hill, Idaho, was installed High Priest of King Solomon Chapter No. 16, R.A.M., on the 8th at Gooding, and Worshipful Master of Fidelity Lodge No. 80, Glenns Ferry, December 14.

Sir Knight Lawson, 1974 Prelate and present Standard Bearer of Twin Falls Commandery No. 10, is 20 years old.

Retiring High Priest of King Solomon Chapter, Sir Knight James H. Ridgely, believes “Idaho’s youngest Master Mason may be the youngest Worshipful Master and High Priest in the world.”

Born in Twin Falls January 7, 1954, John Edward Lawson is a third generation Mason. He became active in Mountain Home Chapter of DeMolay at 16, is a Past Master Councilor and holds the title of Past State Junior Deacon.

The first 18 year old Master Mason in the state, he was Raised November 30, 1972. In September 1973 he was presented his Worshipful Master Certificate of Proficiency at the Grand Lodge in Boise. In addition to Chapter and Commandery participation, he has served as Steward of Twin Falls Council No. 7.

He is Associate Patron of Victory Chapter No. 60, O.E.S., Glenns Ferry, where his mother, Aileen, is Associate Matron, Idaho’s first mother-son Associate Patron-Associate Matron team.

In the words of Sir Knight Ridgely, "Idaho’s youngest Master Mason continues his record-setting years."
NORTH CENTRAL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Department Commander Charles A. Howard, Jr., conducted the seven-jurisdiction Grand Encampment North Central workshops of November 16, Omaha, Nebraska, with a combined question and answer period the morning of November 17, moderated by Louis V. Sylvester, chairman of arrangements. Grand Encampment officers, headed by Grand Master Riegle, included Deputy Grand Master Avery, Grand Generalissimo Cottrell, Grand Captain General Johnson, Grand Recorder Rodenhauser. 1975 Conference is scheduled November 15-16, at La Crosse, Wisconsin.
Starting Friday, February 14, continuing through Sunday morning, the 16th, traditional Allied Masonic Degrees and related bodies will be headquartered at Hotel Washington, in Washington, D.C., for annual meetings. The Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, “keystone magnet” for February Masonic gatherings, and the Conference of Grand Secretaries will be in official session at the Shoreham-Americana Hotel, Washington, February 18-19. Marvin E. Fowler is Chairman of the Committee on Time and Place for the Allied Masonic Bodies. William B. Stanbury, Jr., is the Executive Secretary of the Conference of Grand Masters and Dwight L. Smith is Secretary-Treasurer for the Conference of Grand Secretaries.

PROGRAM OF A.M.D. MEETINGS
(Hotel Washington)

February 14  7:30 p.m.  Masonic Workshop, The Philalethes Society
February 15  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, A.M.D.
               11:30 a.m. Grand Council, A.M.D.
               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, A.M.D.
               8:00 p.m.  Grand Council, A.M.D.
               10:00 p.m. Masonic Order of the Bath of the U.S.A.
               11:00 p.m. Ye Ancient Order of Corks
February 16  7:30 a.m.  Convent General, K.Y.C.H.
               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 AND GRAND SECRETARIES
(Shoreham-Americana Hotel)

February 16  12-5 p.m.  Registration
               5:00 p.m.  Grand Masters’ Tea and Reception
               7:00 p.m.  United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, Invitational dinner-discussion meeting
February 17  7:00 a.m.  Deputy Grand Masters’ Breakfast, Palladian Room
               10:00 a.m. George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association Meeting and Luncheon at the Memorial, Alexandria (Brief Ceremony of dedication for Constantin Memorial at approximately 1:00 p.m.)
               2:00 p.m.  Masonic Service Association, Diplomat Room
               7:00 p.m.  Grand Secretaries’ Dinner, Palladian Room  → → →
New Bicentennial Films

Two new Bicentennial films - *The American Flag* and *The Battle of Yorktown* - are now available on a free-loan basis from the Grand Encampment office in Chicago. *The American Flag* is a 13 minute sound/color film tracing the history of the flag from the earliest flags brought to the New World by Columbus. *The Battle of Yorktown*, 14 minutes, portrays that decisive battle and the parts played by many Masons including Washington, Lafayette, de Grasse-Tilly, Rochambeau and Cornwallis. Both films begin with an introduction by Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel.

Because of the great and steadily increasing demand for all of the Grand Encampment's Bicentennial films, requests must be made at least six weeks in advance. It is advised to order even earlier and give an alternate date. Also due to demand for the films it is not possible to book two films to the same Masonic body on the same date. It is not too early to book your films for next fall or even for 1976.


Committee on Patriotic Activities

The Grand Encampment Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities is headed by Dr. Paul W. Sweet, Jr., P.G.C., Washington, Past Department Commander, Northwestern Department. Chairman Sweet earlier issued suggestions and recommendations through the Committee members to all Grand Commandery jurisdictions.

At the Southwestern Regional Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, a member of the Grand Encampment Committee, P.G.C. Clarence K. Jones, Nevada, relayed these suggestions for Bicentennial participation:

1 - Contact your State Bicentennial Committee to learn how you can assist;

2 - Plan for and especially promote attendance at the 1976 Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery;

3 - Make use of Bicentennial films and the *Masonic Americana* publication from the Grand Encampment Office, Chicago;

4 - Study the *Knight Templar Magazine* and all Masonic publications for ideas which you may apply in your own Commandery and Grand Commandery to celebrate our nation's 100th birthday.

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**a HAPPY NEW YEAR to all!**

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**WASHINGTON MEETINGS**

| February 18 | 7:00 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 19 | 9:00 a.m. | Grand Masters' Conference, Diplomat Room
|            | 9:00 a.m. | Grand Secretaries' Conference, Tudor Room
|            | 12:15 p.m. | Luncheon, Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction, at House of the Temple
Continuing to grow...

YORK RITE MASONRY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

by
Robert F. Secrest
P.G.H.P., Grand Secretary-Recorder

The following article is excerpted from an address by Robert F. Secrest, Grand Secretary-Recorder of the Grand York Rite Bodies of South Carolina. The Grand Commandery of South Carolina has shown a net membership gain for 34 years.

What are we doing and how are we doing it in South Carolina to enable us to have a continual increase in membership for the last 34 years?

It is hard to tell you just what we are doing, and why, but whatever it is, it has effected an increase over the years.

Most of the Subordinate or Constituent bodies - Chapter, Council and Commandery - set dates for the next class well ahead of time. They don't worry about not having petitions at the time they set the dates.

We try to inspire and stimulate the interest of our members to go out and work hard, getting new petitions for the dates set. They always come through.

Groundwork

Don't expect this to be an automatic method of getting members in volume to begin with. You must lay the groundwork long before. This will surely help and, after a time - not the first year - not the second year - but slowly and surely - you will see your membership increase.

Think with me along these lines:

Our Grand Officers in any jurisdiction cannot, as a person, or as a group, bring in new petitions and increase our membership in volume. Therefore, you must begin at the very grass roots of our Order: each Chapter, Council and Commandery. This is where our strength is.

York Rite Story

If possible, meet with each individual body. This is the place to generate enthusiasm - by talking to each person present, if possible. Tell them some of the York Rite story, that it consists of four separate bodies: Symbolic Lodge; Chapter of R.A. Masons; Council of R. & S. Masters; Commandery of Knights Templar.

Therefore, all Master Masons have received approximately one-fourth of the York Rite and all Master Masons who profess the Christian religion should be York Rite Masons.

Symbolism Development

You know these things but you would be surprised to learn how many do not know the connection between the Symbolic Degrees and the York Rite. Tell them this and other related information you think will be inspiring to them.

Social Aspects

Most Subordinate York Rite bodies have social affairs once, twice and, in some places, more than twice each year, including the ladies. Invite friends to the various suppers and entertainment. Having the ladies present on various occasions has created much interest in York Rite activities.

Influence of Wives

I could produce evidence of how the wives of some of our Brothers who were guests at ladies night banquets
cause their husbands to join the York Rite. Some of those men have become very, very, good workers and promoters in the York Rite.

**Meals Are a Help**

I would urge every Constituent body, particularly those where Chapter, Council and Commandery meet together for the stated meetings the same night and at the same location, to serve a meal.

If you will pardon a reference to my local Columbia body, some 12 or 14 years ago we began the practice of serving a meal at our monthly stated meeting. At that time, attendance was very low. There were nights when we had to call members to be present so that we might officially open.

Companion George W. Romanstine felt that serving a meal would eventually prove worthwhile to us. Now as many as 40 or 50 are attending our business meetings as meals are served every month. We never skip. Members know they will get a good meal at each stated meeting.

**Consider Members' Habits**

You can well understand that, when a man leaves his work at five or six o'clock and goes home to freshen up and eat, he gets comfortable, and it is hard to move him out of his easy chair to go to a York Rite session. But if he knows he can go from work to the York Rite meeting and get a substantial meal, he is more likely to attend these business meetings.

Some York Rite bodies are not financially able to prepare for such an expense. We began this venture by setting a box or basket out for those who were willing to contribute and let our treasury underwrite the balance. Now, although we having good attendance, our food bill is not expensive — it is all paid for by our treasury.

These meals are not catered. We have always been able to find members of our bodies who enjoy preparing and serving meals to a group of their friends. Seldom do we have a meal costing us more than $30.00.

We have grown from approximately 300 members 12 or 14 years ago to 780 members now.

There are many other attractions besides food that will gain the interest of your members. Think of those available to you and put them to use.

Generally, when a member attends the meetings regularly, he is much more interested in our fraternity. He will spread enthusiasm and interest to others who are not attending. If you don’t get them to meetings, you don’t have a chance to interest them.

**Improvement of Work**

Degree work is most important. When we receive a petition and accept the required fee, the least we owe that candidate is the nearest perfect dramatization of the Degrees possible.

Some York Rite bodies follow the customs of the Symbolic Lodge of each officer filling his particular chair or station in Degree work. We doubt this is the best policy.

We confer Degrees and Orders two or three times a year and not each month. There is much more to commit to memory in the York Rite so I think Degree teams are more effective.

The more experience that a Degree worker gets, the more proficient he is. This proficiency helps impress the candidate.

**Obtaining Ritualists**

Some ritualists have continued in their particular stations for 10 years, 20 years and longer. You will say, “How do you get Degree team members? How do you get them to assume the responsibility time after time?”

Scrutinize your active members who show the proper interest and ask yourselves these questions: Will he be able to do good work for that particular part? Will he assume the responsibility if he agrees to take that particular part?

If you think that he will, then explain to him and ask him to take a part on a Degree team. In most cases, if
he accepts, he will assume the responsibility. Help him learn the work and see that he gets the opportunity to confer his particular part.

Don't disappoint him and get someone else to do his part after he has sacrificed his time learning it. Follow these procedures with each office and station and you will, after a time, have a good Degree team.

Ritualistic Clubs

Several York Rite bodies have formed Ritualistic Clubs. They meet one night in the month, have a good meal, then practice Degree work. Many times places need to be filled and among those attending you may find someone who will take over those parts and practice them along with the rest. Thus they not only gain knowledge and proficiency in the Degree work but also have another night together for friendship and fellowship.

Festivals are good for attracting new members with one or two-day festivals planned well in advance. Notify York Rite Bodies far and near of your plans. Learn who are good Degree workers in the other bodies. Invite them to help with your work. Volunteer courtesy work for them in return. This will stimulate greater interest and strengthen the bonds of Brotherly love and affection in our great fraternity.

Many of you may say candidates do not get anything out of a "fast" class and they never attend meetings afterwards, that we are getting them ready for the Shrine. Many times this is true but it also applies to "slow" classes. But we also need the Shrine. Their work brings us many new members.

September 8th last year, Columbia York Rite Bodies held a one-day festival. Work was conferred on two candidates for the Charleston York Rite Bodies. They were Scottish Rite Brethren who lived in Walterboro. They were so impressed with the beautiful York Rite work, in an all day festival, that they are in progress of organizing a Chapter and Council in this town.

Companion George Romanstine, with his helpers, laid out his work upon the trestleboard so well that there was very little lost motion for the entire day. We began at 7:30 a.m., conferred all Degrees and Orders, including lectures in long form on 106 candidates, and were finished by 8:30 p.m., taking time out for a noon meal and an evening meal. The work was very impressive and most interesting and, as I have mentioned, two Scottish Rite Brothers were well impressed with the York Rite of Freemasonry.

Of the Chapters, Councils and Commanderies that have reported to the Grand Secretary-Recorder's office, their Annual Returns show more than 875 Exalted, Greeted and Knighted. Some returns are still to be received.

We have many fertile fields to cultivate and strengthen our great Fraternity. We can do it if we try.

In conclusion, I leave you with this thought: WE DO ONLY WHAT WE WANT TO DO.

Sir Knight Secret has offices at 901 Palmetto State Life Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29201.

THE NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUND RAISING AND PROMOTION ON BEHALF OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION, INC. THE 7TH VOLUNTARY CAMPAIGN, HONORING SIR KNIGHT EDMUND F. BALL, IS NOW IN PROGRESS. CLOSING DATE — APRIL 30.

TEMPLARS ARE URGED TO UNIFY THEIR EFFORTS IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL COMMANDERIES FOR MASONICALLY-ACCEPTABLE PROJECTS THAT WILL RESULT IN FUNDS FOR HUMANITARIAN USE BY THE FOUNDATION, REWARDING TEMPLAR ASSOCIATION AND FELLOWSHIP FOR MEMBERS, AND INCREASED EYE FOUNDATION PUBLICITY AMONG ALL MASONS AND FRIENDS.
Beauceant Patron Certificate

Mrs. John P. Burns, Worthy President of Carsoon City Assembly No. 236, Nevada, presents Harold G. Kispert, Commander of Edward C. Peterson Commandery No. 8, a check and an application for a Patron Certificate in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for the Assembly. The Assembly raised the money by selling stationery.

P.G.C. Gage Heads Atlas Lodge


Sir Knight Gage served the Grand Commandery of New Jersey as Grand Commander 1973-74.

Congratulations to Raymond H. Schrempf

An “s” masquerading as an “f” changed the name of Sir Knight Raymond H. Schrempf, one of Pennsylvania’s two 1974 Knights Templar Cross of Honor recipients, in the December Knight Templar Magazine. Sir Knight Schrempf is a member of Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1. The second recipient in Pennsylvania is Sir Knight Bert Booth, Nazarene Commandery No. 99, who was correctly listed among the honor group.

Byron Lear in The News-Sun

Past Grand Commander Carl R. Greisen, Grand Recorder Emeritus, Nebraska, relayed a November 29 clipping from the News-Sun, Sun City, Arizona, picturing “four golfers with 326 years in age among them.” First in the photograph was C. Byron Lear, P.G.C., New Jersey, Past Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment.

Sir Knight Lear, youngest of the “Four Score Foursome,” is 80. The three Sun City golfers with him are 81, 82 and 83.

Angola Commandery Christmas Event

A letter from Past Commander J. William Meyers, Angola Commandery No. 45, Angola, Indiana, announced that “on Saturday, December 21, at 8 p.m., Angola Commandery of Knights Templar and the Knights of Columbus of Anthony Wayne General Assembly will join together in presenting our second annual Christmas observance.”

The letter circulated to Sir Knights and Masons announced that the Order of DeMolay and Job’s Daughters were to “again participate in our program.”

Services were open to the public. Sir Knight Meyers asked that all Sir Knights and Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree, appear in full uniform, less swords. In 1973, approximately 150 Sir Knights and guests attended the observance from three states.

United States Masons Number 3,611,448

According to the Masonic Service Association, there were 3,611,448 Masons in the United States based on 1973 membership statistics of the 49 Grand Lodges. Grand Lodges with the largest memberships are: Ohio, 255,451; Pennsylvania, 234,598; Texas, 230,459; California, 223,777; New York, 216,479.
Chairman Change or Correction

The 7th Voluntary Campaign, named in honor of Sir Knight Edmund F. Ball, Indiana, is in progress for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Chairmen are reminded that Voluntary Campaign forms and supplies are available upon request from the Grand Encampment Office, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

Non-Voluntary Campaign materials relating to the Foundation are available from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Box 191, Rhinebeck, New York 12572.

Late or corrected information received now lists the Voluntary Campaign Chairman for South Dakota as Dale M. Anderson, P.G.C., Box 686, Pickstown, South Dakota 57367; and for North Carolina, Byron Brow, Box 454, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

Sir Knights Bigley and Hapgood

Sir Knight Robert Bigley, Office Manager, Grand Encampment headquarters, Chicago, is Senior Warden of Bethel Commandery No. 36, Elgin, Illinois. He is also Deputy Master, Cryptic Council No. 46, Elgin; member of Illinois No. 15, York Rite Sovereign College, and the Drill Corps of Austin Commandery No. 84, Glenview.

Sir Knight Jan A. Hapgood, Trinity No. 80, LaGrange, Illinois, Comptroller in the Grand Encampment office, was installed as Junior Warden of LaGrange Lodge No. 770 on November 30. On December 5 he became Associate Patron of LaGrange Chapter No. 201, Order of the Eastern Star. He has served as Secretary of his Lodge and is currently Chairman of the Membership Preservation Committee for the 14th Metropolitan District of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

Sir Knight Hapgood also serves as Advisor to Masonic youth groups.

$10,000 for Retina Research

Samuel H. Verner, P.C., Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1, former Division Commander, Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, presents $10,000 check from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to the Eye and Ear Hospital of Pittsburgh for continuing support of Dr. William G. Everett’s research in Retinal Disorders. Dr. Everett is at the left. Center is Sir Knight Judd N. Poffinberger, Jr., President of the Board of Trustees.

New Jersey Adds to Rolls

Past Department Commander Ted E. Voelter, P.G.C., New Jersey, reports continued festival progress in the Grand Commandery of New Jersey. His latest report notes that the Thirty-Second Annual Statewide Templar Festival at Plainfield in November brought “thirty more Templars on our rolls.” The class honored Past Grand Commander Charles W. Vreeland.

Orthographic Observation

A number of official Grand Commandery and other records reach the office of the Grand Encampment with incorrect spellings of the Grand Master’s name. As a reminder to all Recorders and others who utilize Sir Knight Riegel’s name in written or printed form, the full and correct listing is Roy Wilford Riegel.
CHAIRMAN McINTYRE STRESSES VOLUNTARY CAMPAIGN PROJECTS

Charles S. McIntyre, P.G.C., Michigan, Trustee, Knights Templar Eye Foundation and Chairman for the Edmund F. Ball Appreciation Voluntary Campaign, urges "cooperative fund-raising projects" as a three-way benefit for Templary.

"The New Year brings us new opportunities for worthwhile Commandery projects in which all members can share. The result can be: needed income for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation's casework; research grants and the Permanent Endowment Fund; increased Commandery interest which comes when members work together in planning and executing fund-raising; and, third, Masonic and public awareness of one of the world's greatest humanitarian projects in the field of vision reclamation.

"Each Recorder of a Constituent Commandery is asked to use the report forms provided to relay funds and concise information to his Grand Commandery Chairman. Each of the 17 Subordinate Commanderies is requested to send reports and funds to me in care of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Box 191, Rhinebeck, New York 12572.


"Above all, let's unite wholeheartedly in this special Appreciation Campaign for the Good of the Order and the Good of those in Need. Let's work together to meet the Grand Master's goal of 'more than $500,000.00 before the campaign ends April 30.'

Sir Knight Carroll Becomes Governor

Sir Knight Julian M. Carroll, Paducah Commandery No. 11, becomes Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky January 3. He succeeds automatically to the office vacated by the election of Governor Wendell Ford to the Senate. Carroll was Knighted March 30, 1974, by Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle in a class named in Carroll's honor. Master of Ceremonies for the dinner following the conferrals was then Grand Commander Morrison L. Cooke. Following remarks by the Grand Master, Sir Knight Carroll was the speaker.

P.G.M. Bell Expresses Appreciation

Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, was confined to the Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, in November for surgical correction of a circulatory problem. "During my stay of less than two weeks," he writes, "I was the grateful recipient of hundreds of greetings and good wishes from Templars throughout the Grand Encampment and beyond. To each of them, I express heartfelt appreciation for their concern, thoughtfulness and friendship. The busy and rewarding schedule of Eye Foundation activities makes it difficult to write individual acknowledgments but the Bell family hopes that each will accept this 'thank you' as a personal expression of real gratitude and appreciation."
\textbf{A Look at Andrew Jackson...}

\textbf{“I AM AN AMERICAN”}

by

Dr. Granville Kimball Frisbie

In one of the last years of the Revolutionary War, a small party of British soldiers was sent out to capture some troublesome patriots in the northern corner of South Carolina, near Waxhaw Creek. Among those taken were two boys, one thirteen, the other fifteen.

"Desperate fellows, these," said the British Officer, "but we shall soon tame them."

The younger boy was ordered to clean and polish the Officer's boots. The boy's eyes blazed with fury as he answered, "I am an American. I will not be the slave of any Britisher that breathes." The sword cut that Andrew Jackson received that day left a lifelong scar, both on his soul and on his arm.

The flaring temper exhibited by our Brother was to characterize his whole life. He himself once said, "I can command troops in my rough way, but I am not fit to be President." We are certain that Thomas Jefferson also was much alarmed at the prospect of seeing General Jackson President. Daniel Webster spent some days with Thomas Jefferson, the Sage of Monticello, after Jefferson had retired from the Presidency. During his visit Webster represents Jefferson as saying, "His passions are terrible. When I was president of the Senate Jackson was senator; he could never speak on account of the rashness of his feelings. I have seen him attempt it repeatedly, and as often choke with rage. His passions are no doubt cooler now."

In 1798 Mr. Jackson returned to his beloved Tennessee, resigning his seat in the Senate. During his active life he had become one of the foremost Indian fighters of his day. His activities included that of public prosecutor by the time he was 21, having read the law a few months with Judge McNairy of Salisbury, North Carolina. When the State of Tennessee was formed in 1796 he was chosen as the first Representative to Congress and arrived in Philadelphia, the Capitol. His lanky figure and long locks of dank hair hanging over his face caused a stir in the nation's politics, as the nation's government now would include backwoodsmen as worthy of a share in the nation's business.

Tiring of public life, Jackson returned to Tennessee and became a trader. Named a General in the regular Army, he led the frontiersmen into battle against the Creek Nation, chasing elements of them as far as Florida and, upon her purchase from Spain, he was appointed first Governor of that State. Yet, as soon as fighting ceased, he returned to Tennessee.

We do not know where our Brother received the Degrees of Masonry. He belonged to Harmony Lodge No. 1 of Nashville in 1805 and in 1826 he served as Deputy Grand High Priest at the Grand Chapter of Tennessee when it was instituted. He was the first American born President of the United States who was the product of a homespun American Masonry — Washington being a Master Mason during the Colonial period — while Most Worshipful Jackson was elected Grand Master of his Grand Lodge in both 1822 and 1823.

Soon after, he was chosen judge of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, with a salary of $600 per annum. This office he held for six years. It is said his decisions, though sometimes ungrammatical, were generally right.

As the hero of the Battle of New Orleans, his popularity elected him to the highest office, that of President. Consternation reigned in Washington upon his arrival for his inauguration; the White House and the so-called "effete East" suffered greatly from the...
Montezuma Commandery No. 14 and Verde Valley Council No. 13 were constituted November 23 at the Cottonwood Masonic Temple, Cottonwood, Arizona. Grand Commander R. Glenn White presided over the formal opening and installed the new officers of the Commandery.

Also on hand were Deputy Grand Commander Wayne L. Kirk, Grand Captain General Thomas E. Tizard, Grand Recorder John H. Padgett, Grand Junior Warden William S. Duniplace, Grand Sword Bearer Robert F. Henderson and Grand Sentinel L. W. White. William C. Kemble is the Commander.

David H. Rogers, Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, assisted by Sir Knight Henderson, Deputy Grand Master, conducted the Council ceremonies. Among the Grand Council officers present were Past Grand Commanders W. Lynn Dixon and Marvin E. Anderson.

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Exemptions from Assessment

Since the 1973 Triennial Conclave, there are three vehicles which provide members with exemption from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation annual assessment and, at the same time, aid the Permanent Endowment Fund of the Foundation.

As in the past, Life Sponsorships at $30.00 excuse a Templar from assessment. (Life Sponsorships are available only to living Knights Templar). Assessment exemption applies also when a Templar purchases an Associate Patron Certificate at $50.00 or a Patron Certificate at $100.00 — and the aid to the Eye Foundation is augmented correspondingly.

Unlike Life Sponsorships, Certificates for Associate Patrons and Patrons are not limited to Templars. They are available to other individuals or to groups who wish to help perpetuate the work of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

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Easter Plans

Special group tours to the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery have been announced by Northwestern Department Commander John W. Givens and by Illinois Grand Commander Forest C. McDaniel.

The Northwestern Department tour leaves from Portland, Oregon, and Boise, Idaho, with a stop in Denver, Colorado, on Thursday, March 28. Following the Easter service will be a three day tour of Virginia before returning on April 2. Further details are available from Sir Knight Givens, Route 1, Box 454, Gillihan Road, Portland, Oregon 97231.

The Illinois group plans tours by air and by bus. Those taking the bus tour will leave Chicago and Springfield on March 28 and return April 5 following tours in Baltimore, Annapolis, Valley Forge and Philadelphia. The air tour leaves Chicago March 27 and returns March 31. Further information is available from William R. Dawkins, 436 Illinois Avenue, Glenwood, Illinois 60425.

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...I AM AN AMERICAN

indignities bestowed by the extroverted revelers from the then “far West” who accompanied him.

Retiring in 1837 to the “Hermitage” outside Nashville, our Brother lived out his life. When the last hour came in 1845, he delivered, according to one who was present, an impressive lecture on the subject of religion. Two days later he was buried beside the grave of his wife, Rachel Robards Jackson, of whom he had often said, “Heaven will be no heaven to me if I do not meet my wife there.”

Sir Knight Frisbie, P.C., resides at 8301-223 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, California 92071.

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Sir Knight Frisbie, P.C., resides at 8301-223 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, California 92071.

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January 1975
THE ORDER OF KNIGHTS OF MALTA

by
Wylie B. Wendt
H.P.G.C. K.T.C.H., Kentucky

The Order of Knights of Malta is the oldest of the three Orders that were active during the Crusades. The Order was originally a society of Hospitalers. Hospitalers were charitable brotherhoods founded at various times and in different countries for the care of the sick. The vow to devote themselves to the work of mercy is added to the ordinary vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, which were common to all religious Orders of the church at that time.

The Order of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, otherwise called the Knights of Rhodes, and afterwards the Knights of Malta, was founded in 1048 by some merchants of Amalfi, a city of the Kingdom of Naples. These merchants built at Jerusalem a hospital for pilgrims on their way to the Holy Sepulchre. The hospital was dedicated originally to St. John the Almoner, but later to St. John the Baptist.

Peter Gerard, the first rector of the hospital, whose title was “Guardian of the Poor,” formed the staff into a religious Order, the Brothers of St. John, and he is known as the Founder of the Order.

Raymond DuPay was the successor of Gerard and it was under his administration, about 1119 or 1120, that the military feature was added to the Order, which then became known as the Knights of St. John. DuPuy is considered to be the first Grand Master of the Order. It is possible that the Order became military in imitation of the Templar Order, founded in 1118, which was military from its inception.

However, the Knights of Malta, as the Order was later called, differed from the Knights Templar in that the Order of Malta never was a secret association. Its rites of reception were open and public, which is wholly unlike anything in present day Masonry.

Historians have believed that the favors shown to the Hospitalers, and the persecutions waged against the Templars in the 14th century, may be attributed to the fact that the ancient Templars had a secret system of reception, which is evident in modern Templary, whereas the signs, words and modes of recognition of the present Maltese ritual are all an invention of a recent date.

In connection with his ritualistic work, the candidate finds it is necessary he be admitted to the secrets and privileges of the Degree of the Mediterranean Pass and become a Knight of St. Paul. This is the only time the word “Degree” is used in the ritual of the three Orders conferred in a Commandery of Knights Templar.

In 1312 the Order of Knights Templar was suppressed by Pope Clement V and Philip the Fair, King of France. Their properties and wealth was turned over to the Hospitalers, who were then on the Island of Rhodes, and the Hospitaler Order became known as the Knights of Rhodes. A large number of persecuted Templars escaped from Europe and joined the Knights of Rhodes. This was the first approach to the union of the Hospitalers and the Templars.

In 1522 Rhodes was attacked by the Turks and the Knights were forced to surrender and evacuate the Island. In 1530 the Emperor, Charles V, gave the Island of Malta to the Order and they were henceforth known as the Knights of Malta. The Order of Malta
was also a maritime Order and for two hundred years kept the travel lanes of the Mediterranean open.

Following the French Revolution, Napoleon captured Malta in 1798. By the Treaty of Paris in 1814, the island was given to England under whose jurisdiction the island remained during World War I and II. The island was one of Britain's strategic naval installations during World War II and was almost totally destroyed by Axis air raids.

The islanders' mass heroism and fortitude was rewarded by the unique bestowal on Malta itself of the George Cross. In 1962 the island's premier formally requested independence and after two years of discussion, on September 21, 1964, Malta became an independent nation within the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The Maltese colors are red and black and are much in evidence in the ritualistic costumes of that order. The ancient Templar costume was white and the first Templar uniforms in this country were white. This white uniform was not practical and was changed to a black uniform, thus perhaps showing the Maltese influence.

According to Voorhis, in his Thumbnail Sketches of Medieval Knighthood, there can be little doubt that this first and only continuous order of military and religious Knights had a great influence in Templary down through the ages.

Sir Knight Wendt resides at 5012 East Manslick Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40219.

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**Congressional Cemetery**

Congressional Cemetery is so called because of its ties with Capitol Hill. The official name of the cemetery, owned by Christ Episcopal Church of Washington, is Washington Parish Burial Ground. It was established in 1807.

In 1816 Congress purchased hundreds of lots for Congressmen who died in office as it was too much of a problem to ship the bodies home at that time. Among the famous buried in the cemetery are Sir Knights John Philip Sousa and J. Edgar Hoover.

**John D. Briggs Named IMMC Trustee**

John D. Briggs, Evans Lodge No. 524, Evanston, Illinois, has been named a member of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago. Brother Briggs is President of American Valuation Consultants, Des Plaines.

**Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel is pictured with Department Commander John B. Nye at the Southwestern Regional York Rite Conference in Albuquerque. Setting for the next Southwestern Conference will be the Queen Mary at Long Beach, California, November 8.**

Queen Mary Site of 1975 Conference
MASONIC MEETING DATES

Annually, in January, the Knight Templar Magazine presents a compilation of the next meeting date and location of Masonic and Masonically-affiliated bodies for the information of its readers. The magazine assumes responsibility only for the information as provided by the named officer.

CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA
February 18-19, 1975 Washington annually
William B. Stansbury, Jr. Executive Secretary

CONFERENCE OF GRAND SECRETARIES IN NORTH AMERICA
February 18-19, 1975 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
Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 1975 Cleveland triennially
Bruce H. Hunt General Grand Recorder

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

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33º, A.A.S.R., N.M.J.
September 21-25, 1975 Boston annually
Stanley F. Maxwell Executive Secretary

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33º, A. & A.S.R., S.J.
October 20-23, 1975 Washington biennially
Fred Kleinknecht Grand Secretary General

IMPERIAL COUNCIL, A.A.O.N.M.S.
July 1-4, 1975 Toronto annually
George M. Saunders Imperial Recorder

U.G.I.C., RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE
June 13-14, 1975 Salt Lake City annually
Paul C. Rodenhauser Grand Recorder

CONVENT GENERAL, KNIGHTS YORK CROSS OF HONOUR
September 12-13, 1975 Spokane annually
Stanley W. Wakefield Grand Registrar-General

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE, ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND
October 24, 1975 Washington annually
Marvin E. Fowler Provincial Grand Master

SUPREME COUNCIL, GROTTOES OF NORTH AMERICA
June 25-27, 1975 Las Vegas annually
Albert Arnold Executive Secretary

THE PHILALETHERS SOCIETY
Masonic Week, 1975 Washington annually
Franklin J. Anderson Executive Secretary

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.
June 25-28, 1975 Valley Forge annually
Stewart M. L. Pollard National Secretary

NATIONAL COURT, ROYAL ORDER OF JESTERS
June 30, 1975 Toronto annually
W. Howard Millington Royal Impresario

GRAND COLLEGE OF AMERICA, H.R.A.K.T.P.
February 16, 1975 Washington annually
George C. Moreland Grand Registrar
GRAND COUNCIL, ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES
February 15, 1975 Washington annually Robert L. Grubb
                                   Grand Secretary
SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF THE AMARANTH, INC.
July 6-9, 1975 Pittsburgh annually Gerald Laurens
                                                Supreme Secretary
SUPREME TEMPLE, DAUGHTERS OF THE NILE
June 1-5, 1975 Houston annually Helen V. Drake
                                      Supreme Princess Recorder
GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
September 28-29, 1976 Cleveland triennially Virginia M. Jones
                                                     Grand Secretary
SUPREME ASSEMBLY, SOCIAL ORDER OF THE BEAUCENTAINT
September 23-24, 1975 Portland annually Grace J. Doey
                                                Chairman, K.T. mag.
SUPREME SHRINE, ORDER OF THE WHITE SHRINE OF JERUSALEM
May 6-8, 1975 Denver annually Dorothea E. Shaffer
                                      Supreme Worthy Scribe
GRAND COUNCIL, LADIES ORIENTAL SHRINE
May 21-24, 1975 Chicago annually Gladys Abbott
                               Grand Recorder
SUPREME ASSEMBLY, INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF RAINBOW FOR GIRLS
                                 Supreme Recorder
SUPREME GUARDIAN COUNCIL, INTERNATIONAL ORDER, Job'S DAUGHTERS
August 6-10, 1975 Indianapolis annually Doris E. Finley
                                      Supreme Secretary
INTERNATIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF DEMOLAY
April 6-9, 1975 Orlando annually Richard E. Harkins
                                 Executive Director

TRI-STATE DEMOLAY CLASS IN HONOR OF SAUNDERS

A Wisconsin-Michigan-Illinois class of 125, named in honor of DeMolay's Grand Secretary and Past Grand Master, George M. Saunders, assembled at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Chicago, November 30, for the conferral of degrees by the Wisconsin State Officers, the Michigan State Officers and the C. E. Dagenhart Chapter of Bloomington, Illinois.

Edward C. Bieser, Executive Officer in Illinois, handled introductions and general arrangements. Participating from Wisconsin was Executive Officer James A. Benz. Jack H. Myers, Executive Officer for Michigan, returning from a vacation, was prevented from attending when his plane was grounded by inclement weather. The official opening at 2:30 p.m. was conducted by Illinois State Master Councilor Tom Cirricione, Michigan State Master Councilor Ed Fisher and the State Master Councilor from Wisconsin (accounting for 65 members of the class), Jerry J. Luckow.

Sir Knight Saunders, also well known as Imperial Recorder, Imperial Council, A.A.O.N.M.S., of North America, received a long standing ovation and was the recipient of a portable television set, scrolls of appreciation, testimonials and contributions to DeMolay.

Michael J. Gross, Deputy State Master Councilor, Michigan, presented the DeMolay Flower Talk. The DeMolay class was followed by the conferral of the Knighthood Degree by William V. Stephens Priory, Illinois Order of DeMolay.
MASONIC RESOLUTIONS FOR THIS OR ANY OTHER NEW YEAR

by

Donald F. Young
Brandywine No. 88, West Chester, Pennsylvania

1. To attend Lodge as often as I can.
2. To not leave my “Masonry” in the Lodge room.
3. To make my Lodge a better Lodge in whatever way I can.
4. To support the Worshipful Master and the officers of my Lodge in their plans and programs for the Lodge.
5. To serve my Lodge in whatever capacity I am able.
6. To give my full support to all of the Masonic youth groups.
7. To witness the conferral of the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason’s Degrees once each year.
8. To give whatever help I can to my Brethren who are in need of physical or financial assistance.
9. To visit two Lodges, other than my own, at least once each year.
10. To actively demonstrate a concern for those Brethren who are hospitalized, or who cannot attend Lodge functions.
11. To improve my knowledge of the Craft’s principles, symbolism and ritual by reading at least one book each year on Freemasonry.
12. To always remember that to some people — both friends and strangers — what I say and do is their sole basis for whatever opinion they will hold of Freemasonry.

January 1775

The Earl of Chatham rose in the House of Lords on January 20, 1775, during debate over the grievances received from the Continental Congress and proposed the British troops be withdrawn from Boston. Noting the Americans would not give up until the troops were gone he added, “What is our right to persist in such cruel and vindictive measures against that loyal and respectable people?”

The Duke of Richmond rose to add, “You may spread fire, sword and desolation, but that will not be government... No people can ever be made to submit to a form of government they say they will not receive.”

Their fellow members of the House of Lords did not agree. The debate moved to the House of Commons on the 23rd.

A petition, signed by hundreds of English merchants, called for repeal of the Coercive Acts. Edmund Burke delivered a speech on reconciliation with America.

Parliament did not agree. Motion to repeal the Coercive Acts was defeated, 197 to 82.

In America, attempts to resolve differences through legal channels were unsuccessful.

Memorial Notifications

Clayton A. Compton, Chairman of the Kentucky Knights Templar Eye Foundation Committee, sends the family of a deceased Templar formal notification of all memorials made to the Eye Foundation in the name of the Knight. A second card is then sent to the donor expressing the thanks of the Grand Commandery.

For further information and samples, Sir Knight Compton, who is also Kentucky Chairman for the current Voluntary Campaign, may be reached at R.R. 1, Box 698, Crestwood, Kentucky 40014.

Oliver Hardy

Oliver Hardy, of the comedy team Laurel and Hardy, was a member of Solomon Lodge No. 20, Jacksonville, Florida. While in Hollywood he attended Hollywood Lodge No. 355 and Mt. Olive Lodge No. 506. Hardy was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1892. He died in 1957.
The Knights Templar Eye Foundation is the recipient of a $500.00 contribution from the Perry Shrine Club, Perry, Georgia, during a meeting at Al Sihah Shrine Temple. It's a “first” for the club.

Pictured, left to right: Cecil Moody, Grand Recorder J. E. Moseley, Grand Commander George E. Jones, Alton Rainey, Larry Miller and Ollie Deibert.

MINNESOTA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

During the closing quarter of 1974, two Minnesota Commanderies celebrated centennial observances. Faribault Commandery No. 8, Faribault, observed its 100th Anniversary with a dinner program September 7 with 165 in attendance. Among other Masonic leaders, 10 Grand Commandery officers, the Grand High Priest of Minnesota, the 1974-75 Grand Commander, Sir Knight Adolph Kopischke, and two Past Grand Commanders, Sir Knights Lee Hargesheimer and J. B. Smith, were present.

Cyrene Commandery No. 9, Owatonna, celebrated its Centennial Anniversary with a dinner served by ladies of the O.E.S. and a commemorative program. Grand Commander Kopischke and other Grand Commandery officers, past and present, attended.

Ansar Temple Contribution

The Shriners of Ansar Temple, Springfield, Illinois, have made a $500.00 contribution to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation “in appreciation of its exceptional humanitarian accomplishments.” Recorder David N. Harmon wrote the donation is “from the 1974 Ansar Circus.”

Matching Contributions, Washington

Grand Commander Elmer Van Winkle, in a letter to Constituent Officers and Sir Knights of Washington, makes “a promise to donate $5.00 to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for every candidate receiving the Order of the Temple this Commandery year.”
SCOTLAND’S TEMPLE PARISH CHURCH

The history of the church at Temple goes back at least 800 years — to the days when there was a Preceptory of the Knights Templars at Balantrodach. This name — Baile nan Trodach or Stead of the Warriors — was bestowed by the local Gaelic population on the place of settlement of the monastic soldiers of the Temple, who had arrived in Scotland before 1150.

The ruin of the old church at Temple, which Ian Finlay describes in his book, *The Lothians*, as “a pretty fourteenth century church of pale, warm stone,” lies deep in the gorge of the South Esk. Its foundation, however, can more accurately be ascribed to David I, the “sair sanct for the crown,” who died in 1153. Certainly it is of Templar origin, the sole relic of Templar building left in Scotland.

Though today it is a roofless and crumbling ruin, it must at one time have been a lovely building, a sanctuary full of the beauty of holiness. It stands facing the north; the main doorway at the west end. The eastern window, above the altar, is still a picture of loveliness in its ruin. At the eastern extremity of the outside north wall a projecting weather table, the walling beneath which is patched, indicates that a secondary projection, a tomb or a sacrament house, once stood here. Inside this portion of the north wall is a late fourteenth century tomb recess. In the south wall opposite, and just to the west of a low doorway, is a piscina recess, into which water was emptied after washing the sacred vessels. Further west again the marks in the wall are plainly visible of two sedilia, i.e., seats for officiating clergy.

Below the small belfry on the outside the stone bears the mark of the bell rope; while to the right is a curious set of Roman letters:

**VAESAC**
**MIHM**

which no antiquary has succeeded in deciphering.

The roof of the old church is said to have fallen in during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, but probably it had been abandoned by the congregation long before as a new church in the valley was completed in 1832 while the Free Church in the village bears the date 1844. These two churches, the parish church and the Free (United Free after 1900), united in 1935 as Temple Church of Scotland. The building in the valley was then retained for worship while the former St. John’s U.F. Church was lately restored and renamed the Tradoch Hall.

Writing in the Second Statistical Account, the Rev. James Goldie, minister at Temple from 1789 to 1847, says that the parish church is “very neat and commodious, and placed on a very fine site. It is seated for 500 persons; and free sittings are provided at the Communion tables for about 40.”

The old Communion table, long and narrow, is one of three historic and interesting features in the church. The Communion cups given to Temple by Patrick Murray, the laird of Deuchar, bear the date 1689. It is easy, when standing in the church, to imagine the people seated round the tables and passing the cups from hand to hand. There is also “a small bell within the belfry inscribed ROBERTUS MAXWELL ME FECIT EDINBURGI FOR THE KIRK OF TEMPLE. COME ALL YE / SOLI DEO GLORIA ANNO DOM. 1705.” So the church bell rings faithfully on Sundays, calling the people to come to worship God in spirit and in truth.

The foregoing was submitted by the wife of a Templar following a visit to Temple Parish Church.

‡

When down in the mouth, remember Jonah: he came out all right.

Thomas Edison
courtesy of William H. Horsch
(CDR, U.S.N.R., Ret.) Detroit No. 1
PRESIDENTS, VICE PRESIDENTS AND ALSO-RANS

Fourteen Presidents have been or are Master Masons as were at least 17 Vice Presidents. Many more Masons have run for these offices, men who were leaders in their time. The following is a brief look at those Masons who won and those who also ran.

In the elections of 1789 thru 1800 the President was the man who received the most votes and the Vice President was the one who came in second.

Thus it was that George Washington became the first Masonic President in 1789. His only opposition was non-Mason John Adams who, therefore, became Vice President. In 1792 Washington was re-elected. Losers that year included Brother George Clinton.

Adams became President in 1796. John Jay, probably a Mason, was among the losers. In 1804 the Vice Presidency became a separate office to vote for and Brother George Clinton won defeating Brother Rufus King.

The year 1808 saw the first of an interesting vote. Brother Clinton received six votes for the Presidency and the winning number of votes for the Vice Presidency (113). Rufus King and Brother James Monroe were among the also-rans as was John Langdon who is presumed to have been a Mason.

1812 saw the first Templar candidate for the Presidency, none other than DeWitt Clinton, later to become the first Grand Master of the Grand Encampment. The Vice Presidency went to Elbridge Gerry, probably a Mason.

Brother James Monroe was elected in 1816, his opponent being constant candidate Brother King. Brother Daniel Thompkins was elected Vice President, opposed by, among others, Brother John Marshall, Monroe and Thompkins won again in 1820.

1824 was the year Brother Andrew Jackson always claimed the election was "stolen" from him. He received votes for both offices that year. He won in 1828 and 1832, the year the Antimasonic party ran a Presidential candidate in the person of one William Wirt. The Antimasonic party has an historical interest beyond its views — it was the first party to hold a convention to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency.

In 1836 Brother Hugh L. White, a Whig, was among the Presidential candidates. Brother Richard Johnson became Vice President. Among those who sought the office of Vice President in 1840 were Brothers Richard M. Johnson, L. W. Taxewill and James K. Polk. Polk and Brother George M. Dallas were the victors in 1844.

Brother Lewis Cass failed to win the Presidency in 1848 as did Brother Winfield Scott in 1852, the year Brother William R. King became Vice President.

Brothers James Buchanan and John C. Breckinridge won in 1856. One candidate for the Presidency was John Charles Fremont, reportedly a Mason although no proof exists.

Brothers Breckinridge and Stephen A. Douglas were among Lincoln's opponents in 1860. Brother Joseph Lane was defeated for the Vice Presidency. Brother George B. McClellan lost to Lincoln in 1864 but Sir Knight Andrew Johnson won the Vice Presidency and became the first Templar to win. A few weeks later he became the first Templar President.

Brother Schuyler Colfax became Vice President in 1868. The elections of 1872 and 1876 saw no Masonic candidates, two of the five elections where no Masons ran.

In 1880 the Masons returned, led by Sir Knight James A. Garfield who was opposed by a ticket of Sir Knight Winfield S. Hancock and Brother → → →
William H. English. In 1884 Sir Knights Benjamin F. Butler and John A. Logan were among the losers. In 1888 no Masons ran.

Adalai E. Stevenson (the first) won the Vice Presidency in 1892. He was a Mason. In 1896 Sir Knight William McKinley defeated Brothers William J. Bryan and John M. Palmer while Brother Garret A. Hobart became Vice President over, among others, Brother Simon B. Buckner.

Sir Knight McKinley and Brother Theodore Roosevelt defeated Brothers Bryan and Stevenson in 1900. Brother Roosevelt and Brother Charles W. Fairbanks defeated Brothers Alton B. Parker and Henry G. Davis in 1904. In 1908 Brother William H. Taft defeated a ticket of Brothers Bryan and John W. Kern.

Roosevelt and Taft were both losers in 1912. Brother Thomas R. Marshall became Vice President, defeating Sir Knight Hiram Johnson. Marshall was re-elected in 1916 over Brother Fairbanks, the former Vice President.

Sir Knight Warren G. Harding defeated the 1920 ticket of Brothers James M. Cox and Franklin D. Roosevelt, Brother John Davis, Sir Knight Robert M. LaFollette and Brother Burton K. Wheeler were among the also rans in 1924. Sir Knight Joseph T. Robinson was a Vice Presidential candidate in 1928.

Roosevelt won in 1932. In 1936 he defeated Sir Knight Alfred M. Landon and Brother Frank Knox. Brother Roosevelt and Henry A. Wallace defeated Brother Wendell Willkie and Sir Knight Charles L. McNary in 1940. The total Masonic ticket was repeated in 1944 when Roosevelt and Sir Knight Harry S. Truman defeated Brother Thomas Dewey and Sir Knight John W. Bricker.

In 1948 every candidate for the Presidency was a Mason. Sir Knight Harry Truman defeated Brothers Dewey, J. Strom Thurmond and Wallace. Sir Knight Earl Warren was a candidate for the Vice Presidency.

Sir Knight John J. Sparkman lost his bid for the Vice Presidency in 1952. No Masons ran in 1956 or 1960. Brother Barry Goldwater did not become President in 1964 but Sir Knight Hubert H. Humphrey became Vice President. President Lyndon B. Johnson was an Entered Apprentice in Texas whose Masonic law declares him to be a Mason.

Sir Knights Humphrey and George C. Wallace were losers in 1968. Brother Curtis LeMay was Wallace’s running mate. In 1972 Brother George McGovern was defeated.

Brother Gerald Ford’s Vice Presidential nomination was confirmed in December 1973. He became the 14th Master Mason to achieve the office of the Presidency in August 1974.

The names of candidates were taken from a list of those whose names were actually on the ballot or who received at least one electoral vote. Because of missing records in our early history and the proliferation of third and fourth parties in more recent history, it is possible a Mason who also ran has been overlooked. If any readers have further information on this subject we would be happy to receive it.

Sir Walter Scott

Sir Walter Scott was born August 15, 1771. He was made a Mason in St. David’s Lodge No. 36, Edinburgh, on March 2, 1801. Brother Scott laid the foundation stone for a new Lodge Hall at Selkirk and was made an honorary member of St. John’s Lodge No. 32 there.

Scott died September 21, 1826. A monument was erected to his memory in Princess Street, Edinburgh. The Grand Master laid the foundation stone with Masonic ceremony. Masons from his Mother Lodge contributed substantially towards the erection of the monument and were present at both the foundation stone laying and the final dedication ceremonies.
1975 Regional Conferences

Friday and Saturday, January 17-18:
Southeastern – Nashville, Tennessee

Saturday and Sunday, March 15-16:
East Central – Indianapolis, Indiana

Saturday and Sunday, September 13-14:
South Central – Joplin, Missouri

Friday and Saturday, October 10-11:
Northeastern – Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Saturday and Sunday, November 1-2:
Northwestern – Boise, Idaho

Saturday, November 8:
Southwestern – Queen Mary, Long Beach, California

Saturday and Sunday, November 15-16:
North Central – La Crosse, Wisconsin

Conference periods normally extend from noon of one day until approximately 10:30 a.m. the next. The Northwestern Conference in 1975 will be a Grand Encampment Conference, without the full participation of General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council representatives because of the date proximity to the September 28-October 2 Triennial Conclave of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council at Cleveland.

The November 8 Regional Conference will be a one-day session on the Queen Mary at Long Beach, California, but will begin at 8 a.m. instead of noon. Each session concludes with a combined question and answer period on York Rite subjects.

Department Commanders presiding over the Templar workshop sessions are: Southeastern – Charles L. Harrison; East Central – William J. J. Fleming; South Central – Clell C. Warriner; Northeastern – Louis A. Beaudoin; Northwestern – John W. Givens; Southwestern – John B. Nye; North Central – Charles A. Howard.

“Every day is the best day in the year. Today is a king in disguise.”

SOME SOMEDAY

Some, someday, will be Do-Day:
The day to gain the summit height.
Some, someday, I’ll find the way,
To add my weight beside my might.

Someday, I’ll greet the sun at dawn,
And ride the tide of work undone.
Till sun is gone, I’ll push my brawn,
And stars will know, what I have won.

I know that day should be today.
I know that “now” will soon be “then.”
I know my feet are made of clay:
My heart asks how? My soul cries when?

Then conscience calls in sterner tones,
And courage swells to fever pitch.
With all my will, my onward bones,
I lift to tasks both new and rich.

That someday’s here; I know it now.
Some someday, is near to never.
Today’s the day to hoe and plow,
For, the past is PAST FOREVER.

Gilbert H. Hill, P.C.
Coronal Commandery No. 36
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NEW YEAR

As the old year sinks down in Time's ocean,
   Stand ready to launch with the new,
And waste no regrets, no emotion,
   As the spars and the masts pass from view.
Weep not if some treasures go under,
   And sink in the other ship's hold—
That New Year that's sailing just yonder
   May bring you more good than the old.

Throw overboard useless regretting,
   Or deeds which you cannot undo,
And learn the great art of forgetting
   Old things which embitter the new.
Sing who will of dead years departed,
   I shroud them and bid them adieu;
And the song that I sing, happy-hearted,
   Is a song of the glorious new.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox