53rd TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE
Highlight of the Year
AUGUST 14-19, 1976
MAY 1975

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MAY: Featured on the May cover is the night skyline of Kansas City, Missouri, setting for the 53rd Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., August 14-19, 1976. Publicity Chairman John Quinn describes the wealth of Kansas City and adjoining attractions in his account beginning on Page 7. Additional program events will be included as highlights are released. General Chairman Merlin R. Grundy, spearheading the Triennial Conclave plans, is featured with other distinguished company on Page 32.

Paul C. Rodenhauser, Editor
JOIN ME IN KANSAS CITY

August 14-19, 1976, the Grand Encampment will hold its 53rd Triennial Conclave in Kansas City, Missouri. What a wonderful opportunity for Templars from across the nation to join together in celebration of the Bicentennial of our great nation! This will give all Templars the opportunity to show our patriotism as we mark this 200th birthday of our country and to rededicate ourselves to the principles for which this nation stands as we enter our 201st year.

Between this date and then, let us do something to prove we are a vital, progressive organization— that our Conclaves are more than the reading of the minutes and the paying of bills. We need to have programs, we need to justify our existence, we need to exemplify the depth and scope of our convictions, we need to prove worthy of the heritage handed to us by our predecessors.

Masons played a vital role in the founding of this great nation. Think of the patriots— Revere, Warren, Hancock, Washington, Franklin and many, many others— Masons all. Much of the early planning for revolution was carried out by patriots, including members of St. Andrew’s Lodge, Boston, who met in secret in the Green Dragon Tavern under the guise of attending Lodge.

It was Sir Knight Joseph Warren who sent Sir Knight Paul Revere to Lexington to warn Brother Hancock of the impending march by the British Forces. Joined in the common cause of freedom and bound by their Masonic ties, these patriots laid the groundwork for the birth of the greatest nation on earth.

Masons have continued to play a vital role in our country’s history since those historic moments nearly 200 years ago. Among them have been our 14 Masonic Presidents, Senators, Congressmen, Cabinet Members, Governors, Business Leaders, Military Leaders and others from all walks of life.

We have every reason to be proud of the role played by members of the Fraternity in the birth and development of this nation. And we can show that pride in our patriotic activities during this Bicentennial period, climaxd when we all join together for a Grand Encampment Bicentennial observance in Kansas City in August of 1976.

Roy Hilford Rigle

knight templar
While putting our Preceptory paraphernalia in order we found two Templar coats (the long ones). As we in Canada do not use them I wondered if by chance any of the Commanderies south of the Border would like to have them. They are in good condition. We would be pleased to let you have them for postage costs.

F. Carl Ackert, G.C.T., Past Grand Master, 1 Lincoln Avenue, Cambridge, Galt, Ontario N1R 4W4, Canada

I am a member of Mt. Sinai Commandery No. 8, Falls City, Nebraska. Would like to hear from Gaithers who are, or who have relatives dating back to 1800 in Kentucky. My grandfather, Basil Lancaster Gaither, was born in Kentucky as was his father and grandfather before him. My great-grandfather, Harrison Gaither, married Elizabeth Peek in Kentucky but I have never been able to authenticate their parentage which should go back to John Gaither in Jamestown, Virginia, in the early 1600's. Kenneth M. Gaither, P.O. Box 296, Falls City, Nebraska 68355

I am interested in obtaining Lodge Monitors and Chapter Pennies from as many Jurisdictions as possible, I will gladly pay all charges, postage, etc., and will send anything I can to any interested Sir Knight and Brother.

Leeville Rogers, 1307 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550

I need Volumes 34, 72 and 76 (years 1926, 1959 and 1963) of the Transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge (AQC) to complete my set. Please contact me if able to help obtain them.

F. A. Egan, 2001 Longcome Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19810

In 1974 River Falls Chapter No. 45, R.A.M., commemorated its 100th Anniversary. We had 200 "Centennial Souvenir Coins" struck. We have only 45 left. They are available by writing me at the address below for $3.00 to cover costs and mailing.

Frank Swanson, P.H.P., 622 Hazel Street, River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

The widow of Melvin P. Wood, Jr., has a sword that belonged to the father of Mr. Wood. She would like to present this sword to his Commandery but we have been unable to find what Commandery he belonged to. The name inscribed on the sword is "Melvin P. Wood" but no other markings are on it. His full name was Melvin Pinkney Wood. He could have belonged to a Commandery in Maryland or the District of Columbia. Franklin A. Keefer, 3931 Dudley Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21213

I am in possession of a Templar Sword with the name Charles H. Weiss, Mendota, Illinois. I would be glad to hear from someone interested in this sword.

Marion F. Davis, 14 Homer Street, Union Springs, New York 13160

Scott Commandery No. 13 has for sale a large amount of equipment used in conferring the Orders. The equipment hasn't been used and would sell for a reasonable price. Anyone interested should write to me for price and what items they are interested in. Fred R. Begly, Recorder, Route 3, Gate City, Virginia 24251

I am researching the History of Table Lodges and would appreciate receiving any information, references or names of persons to contact on the subject.

Richard T. Darby, 36 Prospect Street, Sherborn, Massachusetts 01770

Please send me 10 copies of Masonic Americana. I need these to pass on to others. You people always do a great job.

Homer P. Harris, 35 Benjamin Circle, Cartersville, Georgia 30120

I am a member at large and belong to St. Bernards Commandery No. 11, Eastport, Maine. I want to be a part of the organization as long as I live because it has done wonderful things for humanity for many many years and I am proud to be a member.

Kuno B. Leaf, 601 North Newnan Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202

May 1975
Upon first reading the Arizona Plan I thought that it made very good sense. However, it occurred to me what is being asked is Conformity in the name of Unity. I don’t see any valid reason why our attire should in any sense contribute to disharmony within the York Rite. Our Rite is a symbolic system of imparting to the candidates the ideals of Christian Freemasonry. Unless the writer is considering the universal use of the short form conferral of the Degrees and Orders on a national scale such as the York Rite Festival, there is no need for Conformity.

I can’t believe that most Commanderies don’t have enough regalia for the use of its active members. I’ve noted that some figures have been used to suggest that no Grand Commanderies are fully uniformed—as though that would somehow influence each member to attend. However such aprons are supplied for each Blue Lodge, Chapter and Council member; can any Sir Knight say that he has ever seen 100% attendance at any of those meetings?

I’ve noted that some Commanderies with Uniforms and Equipment have less trouble getting an acceptable turn-out for meetings and do far better than some Chapters with the prescribed aprons furnish.

Let’s not forget that while all that many members can or do contribute to their several York Rite bodies is their annual dues. I think we must be honest and accept the fact that some Masons prefer to do their main work in the Shrine, the Council, the Chapter or the Mother Lodge. That’s well for it gives more Masons a chance to actively participate.

I think that it can be fairly stated that in very nearly all ages Knights were armed with Swords. And a plume for a Warrior’s headgear was from ancient times awarded for valor. Now how much more fitting, for one of the Order of valorous, magnanimous Knights to be attired, than in our Traditional manner?

Yet it’s getting more expensive. Surely we who are by our obligations sworn to support the Christian religion would not suggest that the expensive Robes, Vestments and other Symbols of the Faith be abandoned by our many Christian Churches. Man has, since the earliest recorded history, spent his time, his talents and his gold, to make richer the religious and mystical experiences that his philosophies and ethics have led him to. Shall we then give up, in the name of Conformity to the other Bodies, that which we cherish and find meaningful? Kirby Greene, Commander, Constantine No. 20, Crookston, Minnesota

I read “The Arizona Plan” with great interest. The members of our Commandery, and others in the Zone to whom I have spoken are all in favor of this change. Then uniforms would be restricted to a “Super Commandery” on the Zone level which would put on Inspections, Orders, and other uniformed activities. This organization could be composed of Past Commanders, who would, of course, have uniforms. I think the plan has much to commend it, I hope it will soon be implemented.

Elwood S. Faus, Recorder, Rome Commandery No. 45, Rome, New York

The “Arizona Plan” would rob the Commandery of its one distinctive feature, its military flavor. It just would not be the Commandery without the sword! It is especially essential in the opening and closing. It certainly has nothing to do with York Rite Unity.

Lawrence I. Lowell, 8042 Woodman Avenue, Panorama City, California 91402

Three cheers for the Arizona Plan! It seems to embody the spirit of the famous motto of speakers: K.I.S.S. (Keep It Simple Stupid!).

While I don’t have a uniform, I do hope that any plan adopted will retain the current uniform for parade purposes. This would seem to incorporate the best of both worlds, and especially satisfy those Sir Knights who are so impressed by our marching units.

Finally, before we jump off the edge and choose white, square aprons, it might be worthwhile if we considered reverting to the earlier habit of triangular, black aprons (such as that of Sir Knight Webb). S. Brent Morris, Department of Mathematics, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 27706

I had the good fortune to marry a man who truly believes the Masonic teachings and tries to really live them! Please send him a copy of Masonic Americana and a Templar Bicentennial Paperweight. Mrs. Raymond D. Wilson, P.O. Box 394, Hope, Idaho 83836

I enjoy the Knight Templar Magazine, read it from cover to cover before I put it on the table.

Please forward five copies of Masonic Americana and one of the Grand Encampment’s Bicentennial Marble paperweights. Roy E. Horton, Past Grand High Priest, 948 North Bradley Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

The Knight Templar Magazine reserves the right to edit letters submitted for “Knight Writers.”
EAST CENTRAL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE

Department Commander William J. J. Fleming presided over the Grand Encampment session at the East Central Department Conference March 15-16 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle, Deputy Grand Master Willard M. Avery and Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell were also present.

Deputy General Grand High Priest Marvin L. Isley, Chairman of this year's conference, presided over the General Grand Chapter session and Regional General Grand Master's Representative William H. Harmon lead the General Grand Council discussion.


Next year's regional conference is scheduled January 31-February 1, 1976, in Dayton, Ohio.

Department Commander Fleming, Deputy General Grand High Priest Isley and Regional General Grand Master's Representative Harmon prepare for Sunday's joint meeting.

P.D.C. Ned E. Dull makes a point to Indiana Deputy Grand Commander James S. DeMond, Ohio Grand Recorder George R. Fitez and Ohio Grand Captain General W. Boyd Sibold.


may 1975
KANSAS CITY, THE HEART OF AMERICA

by
John Quinn
Publicity Chairman
53rd Triennial Committee

Welcome to Greater Kansas City, a metropolitan area that encompasses 2,768 square miles in six counties on both sides of the Missouri-Kansas State Line and is home to 1,250,000 people. The city that will host the 53rd Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar of the U.S.A. August 14-19, 1976, dates back more than 150 years and traces much of its growth, progress and popularity to its favorable geographical location – the Heart of America.

The area easily is accessible by plane, train, bus, boat, barge, auto and motorcycle. If arriving by private conveyance, it is at the crossroads of the nation where Interstate 70 (East-West route) intersects with I-35 and I-29 (North-South routes).

The visitor will find it a haven of Mid-Western hospitality with friendly people who are proud of their hometown and anxious to help the visitor see some of its many attractions.

The Hotel Muehlebach, which will be the Grand Encampment headquarters, is one of America’s long-reputed, outstanding hostelries. It is located in the heart of the downtown area on Twelfth Street between Baltimore and Wyandotte streets, just one block from the big Municipal Auditorium, which will be the site of meetings, activities and entertainment. Other fine hotels are within easy walking distance of the Auditorium.

Visitors will find the downtown area bustling and thriving in the throes of several large construction and expansion projects. They also will find it replete with historical points of interest, modern stores, shops, restaurants and offices.

Kansas City, Missouri, is famous for its parks, boulevards and fountains. One of the finest fountains is to be seen downtown at Ninth and Main, “The Muse of Kansas City,” in the heart of the commercial area. The visitor also may be interested in the civic center at Twelfth and Oak streets, a grouping of municipal buildings, including the City Hall with its 29th floor observation gallery open to the public.

Fanning out southward there is the Crown Center, a delightful new complex for shopping and dining and the hotel with a waterfall in its lobby. It is adjacent to the World War I Memorial which features a 400-foot tower. An observation gallery is reached by elevator and affords a magnificent view of downtown Kansas City, as well as Kansas City, Kansas in the distance.

There is the Country Club Plaza, the world’s first shopping center, developed in the early 1920’s through the vision of the late J. C. Nichols. It covers a dozen square blocks in attractive Spanish architecture and includes scores of shops, stores, restaurants and theatres. It is located now in midtown, with 47th Street as its heart, and may be reached by bus and/or taxi for a nominal fee from downtown.
The list of attractions for the tourist includes most anything a visitor fancies. Just east of the Country Club Plaza is the cultural center with the William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art at the northern edge, the Midwest Research Institute and the University of Missouri at Kansas City at the southern edge and the William Volker Memorial Fountain in the center. The fountain has as its center the famed statue of St. Martin of Tours.

Other attractions for the visitor are almost endless. There is the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, one of six Presidential libraries in the nation, reached from downtown via Independence Avenue eastward. The library contains the famous Thomas Hart Benton mural, “Independence and the Opening of the West.” And while in Independence, one might also see Sir Knight Truman’s home, still the residence of Mrs. Bess Wallace Truman, and the old Independence court house.

In other sectors of the metropolitan area, the visitor will find the River Quay (pronounced “key”); the R. Crosby Kemper Arena; the Truman Sports Complex, the only one in the world with both a baseball and a football stadium; Swope Park and its wonderful zoo; Old Westport Square; a wealth of famous statues to be found in the parks and along the boulevards along with the city’s 50 fountains; magnificent homes of the Country Club District and the Mission Hills-Indian Hills Districts; Union Cemetery; Fort Osage; and on and on.

The summer also will have outstanding outdoor attractions: the beautiful Starlight Theatre with its nightly big musicals in Swope Park, and Worlds of Fun, the giant outdoor theme park developed by Lamar Hunt, owner of the Kansas City Chiefs.

Dining and eating establishments of every kind are available. Kansas City, because of its location in the agricultural heartland, is one of the world’s great steak capitals, possibly the world’s outstanding center for barbeque (hickory smoked) meals. It offers dining of virtually all of the world’s great cuisine, but this is a story for another issue of the Knight Templar Magazine.

Sir Knight Merlin R. Grundy General Chairman, 53rd local Triennial Committee, notes informative folders and/or particular information is available from the Convention and Tourist Council of Greater Kansas City, 1221 Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri 64105 (816-221-5242).

May 1775

The Second Continental Congress met in regular session May 10, 1775. The victories at Lexington and Concord were still fresh. The unanswered grievances sent to England the previous fall were the reason for the session. No more impressive group of men had ever assembled in the colonies — some will say it has never happened again.

They were the unquestionable leaders, the Adams, the Livingsons, Jefferson, Washington, Hancock, Franklin, Lee, Henry and the others. With the death of Peyton Randolph, Brother Hancock was chosen President.

News arrived of Ethan Allen who, with 83 Green Mountain Boys, had crossed Lake Champlain and taken Fort Ticonderoga and Fort Crown Point from the British. Nothing stood in the way of a Canadian invasion.

And yet no one brought up independence. The session was held to find a method of getting the British to stop oppression of colonies. The only real fighting had happened in New England and it was defiance, not rebellion.

But the Continental Congress could not control the rapid movement of events that would lead to independence.
CRY SHAME, CRY HALT

by
Frederick W. von Son

Sir Knight von Son, P.C., Ivanhoe Commandery No. 2, Mexico City, is a Past Grand Master of the York Grand Lodge of Mexico, F. & A.M., and Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Mexico. Among his numerous other Masonic memberships, offices and honors, he is a member of the Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, and a Grand Inspector General, 33°, in the Scottish Rite.

Look in the mirror and see if this is not your image, and mine:
You are sane, liberally conservative or conservatively liberal, industrious, reasonably courageous. You understand the inevitability of change and accept a portion of it. You believe in strong family ties, yet surrender some of the patriarchal authority to which you submitted as a child. You share in the choice of your government by voting, at least occasionally. You recognize your responsibility to the community and support civic, benevolent and fraternal organizations, and even attend some of their meetings. Not extremely wealthy, you are not poor. Generous, you help the needy, the suffering, the distressed; you are a cheerful giver, albeit a prudent one. Vitally interested in what goes on in the world, you have a disturbing tendency to withdraw. You are too often unwilling to take public stances and to assume active leadership, to organize groups to promote your ideas and your opposition to those with which you cannot agree.

We are members of a large and silent majority — men and women of no particular country, race, religion or political creed. Though our languages may differ we can communicate; we can agree.

More than three hundred years ago, when the world was still immense, before immediate communications had shrunk it, John Donne wrote a small poem that has impressed me as deeply as it did Hemmingway, who took a line for the title of one of his great novels.
No man is an island in himself:
He is part of the main land.
If a clod be washed away, Europe is less.
Any man's death diminishes me.
Never send to know for whom the bell tolls;
It tolls for thee.

John Donne well understood that every man's life and every man's death is also our life and our death, that every man's joy and every man's agony is also our joy and our agony. Though we be many, yet we are one, and each one is part of the whole.

What has become of our harrowed world? Terror and violence are rampant as never before. Were terrorists not taught that violence breeds violence in chain reaction, that those that live by the sword often are its prey?

Hate, I once thought, was dead. I believed the promise of peace on earth. But hate is not dead today. Love is dead and hatred thrives and swells in evil malignancy. What has happened, what is happening today? Is love dead? Is God dead?

Once, when God was alive and ruled the earth as well as the heavens, man knew right from wrong, sin from virtue. There were, indeed, wars, but these were played by the rules and now seem chivalrous and heroic. Opponents did battle in the name of God, certain of His presence and their eternal reward.
But violence grew. The fires on earth raged and the concept of the eternal punitive fire in hell became hazy and quaint. The fear of everlasting punishment waned and the presence of God in man grew less.

Man, ever aware of his nature, of the good and the bad, of the strength and the weakness that are his, must keep within him the presence of a supreme power. Only thus can God, love and man survive. The Freemason proclaims his trust in God and his faith in the destiny of man. Upon him and such as he rests all hope of real peace in the world.

You must decide if sin is an offense against divine law, against God, or whether the word simply describes that which is harmful to man. Yet you will agree that arson, rape and murder, that wanton destruction of man and his works are harmful and evil. These are the dastardly sins of commission, deliberate foul acts covered by ancient prohibitions: “thou shalt not . . .” These are not committed by the silent majority but by the sick minority.

As simple prohibitions were inadequate for the regulation of mankind, duties were added. Failure to perform these are also sins, sins of omission. They include our failures to obey the “thou shalt not . . .”, thou shalt love your neighbor, thou shalt be tolerant, thou shalt be involved in your brother’s search for happiness, thou shalt ward off approaching danger.

Neglect of these obligations is the sin more usually committed by you and me, sinners of the lighter shades of gray. They include: insufficient demonstrations of love, a broken friendship, denial of a reasonable request, the failure to become involved in the welfare of man. One of Webster’s definitions fits my idea of the word “sin”: “failure to do as one ought towards one’s fellow men.”

The violent faithless man cannot wait for his reward — or punishment — but wants it now, today. He has lost his sense of what is evil and what is virtuous. The Freemason, religious or humanistic, and millions who share his school of thought, act morally. They seek not only immediate reward but the greater compensation which comes from the knowledge others may reap a portion of the benefits from the seeds he has selflessly sown. In this future harvest lies his meaningful wages.

Violence is one of the blackest of sins. It includes ruthlessness for hunger or want of frustration, brutal revenge for real or imagined wrongs and vicious aggression for the sake of aggression.

We, the members of this silent majority, do have weaknesses. We hesitate to become involved in the problems and suffering of others. Recall how a woman was brutally murdered, witnessed by many eyes. No help was offered. Members of the silent majority — silent, indeed!

Lest we become insensitive to violence, let us increase our awareness to it. Let us picture it vividly, realizing harm done to another is also harm done to us, that indiscriminate victims were selected by chance, the same chance which spared you and me. You are part of the frightened cast, victim or spectator.

We have witnessed an increasing number of massacres, assassinations and “executions” around the world in recent years. Bombings, kidnapings and bank robberies are more frequent. The trend is frightening, deliberately designed to scare you and me. To panic us into silent, paralytic submission.

Indiscriminate terror, everywhere, at all times, day after sorry day. What do we do, you and I? Do we cry shame upon such acts? Or have we become inured and hard? Are we too silent, too uninvolved?

Beware! Make no mistake! No man is an island in himself. Any man’s death diminishes me. Ask not for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for thee. Close not thine eyes, be alert. It tolls for thee.

It is evident that we must study, understand and explain the causes of violence, and realize, and make others realize also, that final involvement is inevitable.

Most revolutions have been affairs of blood. Much violence is
directed against what has derisively come to be known as The Establishment. Small groups of vanguard-patriots defy the law. Reports of successful attacks, an appearance of heroic invulnerability, encourage others to follow their performance and merge into small armies. They interchange information, moral and financial support, weapons, sanctuary and training.

If the rebellion succeeds and the established government is overthrown, the rebels change colors and become the minority-elite. To avoid another uprising, they rule with an iron hand. Their most able comrades, hence potentially most dangerous rivals, are eliminated during bloody purges or mysterious accidents. The survivors assume absolute authority and enjoy unimagined power and privileges.

The people, the poor, suffering, mute majority, lick their wounds and realize that nothing has really changed.

But violence may not always be blamed on the rebel. The tyrant, ignoring the rights of his people, neglecting their hunger, wants, disease and shame, has abdicated his right to rule. He has turned into a traitor, guilty of sinful rule by force.

If we could avoid such tyranny the need for forceful change need never arise. We must keep an ever watchful eye. Stop authority from exceeding the power we have granted for the healthy management of our countries' affairs.

There would seem to be little opportunity for the spreading of violence in a truly classless society. There is no reason for the polarization of the people into opposing camps. Thus, orderly democratization seems to be the answer.

Peaceful evolution, rather than mad revolution, entails education and cheerful submission to proper discipline. But perhaps this answer is too simple. Aristotle argued that the equalization of property may prevent citizens from quarreling, but economic injustice is not the only cause of revolution, nor economic justice its absolute cure. "The avarice of mankind," he writes "is insatiable ... men always want more and more without end ... it is in the nature of desire not to be satisfied, and most men live only for the gratification of desire." A serious accusation. "The beginning of reform is not so much to equalize property, as to train the nobler sorts of natures not to desire more, and to prevent the lower (the self-seeking) from getting more."

Only a general humanization by proper education of all classes, necessarily including those in authority, can eliminate violence. Where the whole power of government rests in the people there is no legitimate reason for violent remedies. When portions of this power are usurped, when any right of man is abrogated, then citizens must cease in their silence, must cry out aloud, must with timely and peaceful insistence try to correct the errors. Man must avoid the concentration of power which encourages oppression and its consequent fatal result. We must act as men before the beast takes over.

Most men of good will will agree with the Biblical lesson of the golden rule and the injunction to turn the other cheek. We are victims of aggression and, rather than take an eye for an eye, we meekly turn the other cheek. We are obedient. We must turn the other cheek, but as an act of courage and sacrifice, of positive purpose, not in abject and resigned fear. The same chapter of the Bible says, "every man who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment" and "blessed are those that are persecuted for righteousness' sake."

Turning the other cheek invites hurt. It must not be an act of helpless fear, but a deliberate act of courage. Confusing? Let me explain:

If a man be injured in his person, his family, his property or his rights and he fail to defend himself, his dereliction is ignoble and disgraceful. The timid observer, afraid to become involved, is likewise guilty of shameful cowardice. By his failure he becomes an accomplice of the aggressor and shares his culpability. He deliberately submits to a fate as unfortunate as that of the victim he failed to help.

The champion of justice,
on the other hand, the man that is involv-
ed, clearly situated on the side of reason,
will jeopardize his safety and that of his
kin in the noble defense of another’s
rights. He acknowledges that no man is an
island in himself. He will fight for his
neighbor before he must fight for himself,
before his own survival is forfeit. This is
the brave turning of the other cheek.

If we would live with dignity and pride
we must provide dignity and pride for
every man. We must offer the other cheek
in bold sacrifice, keep open our eyes in
the face of danger, contribute our time,
effort, money, our thoughts and inspira-
tion. These we must offer while there is
still time, before the sacrifice is greater,
before life and liberty are gone. We must
prevent oppression, quench tyranny,
before its unchecked growth engenders
violent retribution.

We must declare in loud, clear, ringing
tones that we shall stand, that we shall
fight violence in all its sinister manifesta-
tions. We shall let everyone know
violence is evil, shall teach the golden
rule, make crystal clear that wanton
aggression creates a society of rabid
wolves preying upon the old and weak
and defenseless.

As Free and Accepted Masons we are
committed to use well our standing in the
community. We must be firm, frank,
unequivocal, loud and most deeply
involved. Hide not our light under a
bushel, but expose to the world our
Tenets of Brotherly love and relief, of
peace and harmony. Turn the other cheek
while yet we have a face.

Be not accessory to their crime. Dip
not your hands in blood, the hands that
just broke bread. Rip not that bleeding
wound, but shield the man and cure his
hurt. Cry shame upon the killers. Cry
“halt, desist” while yet there is time. For
if you fail, you are dead. Condemned are
we who stand aside, our safety to insure.

We share the guilt unless we use the
weapons of our choice — the pen and
spoken word — to fight the violence that
has blotted our suffering world.

Feel not secure if only others are
attacked, for evil violence will spread
with lightening speed.

We shall tear the chain of apathy and
terror, take the neutral bystander linked
into that chain and impress into his
conscience there is no neutrality, no gray,
but only black or white. Take a side, the
side of good. This we shall say: reject
aggression, brawn and blood; teach good
and peace and reason.

We shall take the uninvolved and lead
him from that chain to form with us a
chain of godliness, an active, sharing bond
of brotherhood, impossible to tear.

Fenelon exhorted to “Speak, move,
act in peace, as if you were in prayer. In
truth, this is prayer.” I pray we may all
speak, move and act in peace and for
peace, that we will tear that chain of evil
and forever keep our bond of love.

So mote it be.

Sir Knight von Son may be reached at
Apartado Postal 12-659, Mexico 12, D.F.
Mexico.

Oklahoma Installation

The 1975 officers of Oklahoma City
Assembly No. 36, Social Order of
Beauceant, and Bethlehem Commandery
No. 45 were installed in ceremonies
January 11 in Oklahoma City. Mrs.
Homer P. Peck, Past Supreme Worthy
President was the Installing Officer for
the Beauceant. Past Grand Commander
Harry M. House installed the Command-
ery Officers. Then Grand Commander
James C. Taylor was in attendance.

may 1975
“HEADQUARTERS OF THE REVOLUTION”

by

C. L. Rothwell

The Lodge of St. Andrew, Boston, was founded in 1752 by a group of Masons who met at the Green Dragon Tavern and decided to form a Lodge. They had no Charter or authority from any other Masonic body. This was not uncommon at that time.

In 1754 nine of the members petitioned the Grand Lodge of Scotland for a Charter. Mail was even slower in those days. The Grand Lodge of Scotland issued a Charter on November 30, 1756, but it did not reach the Lodge until September 1760.

The first man to be initiated after the Charter was received was Paul Revere. One year later Dr. Joseph Warren was initiated into the Lodge. Revere and Warren later became the second and third Masons to be Knighted following the reappearance of Knights Templar as part of the Masonic fraternity.

The Lodge owned the Green Dragon Tavern which was located near the harbor. Also meeting at the tavern was a political club known as the North End Caucus. The members of this group were considered radical by the conservation element of Boston. Dr. Warren presided over both St. Andrew’s Lodge and the North End Caucus.

Because of its location, the tavern drew the officers and sailors of the ships in port who came to drink, to read the papers and almanacs, to talk to others and to swap their sea yarns. Many of them joined St. Andrew’s Lodge.

On December 27, 1769, Dr. Warren became Grand Master of the “Ancient” Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The Senior and Junior Grand Wardens were members of the British Army.

Also meeting at the tavern was St. Andrew’s Chapter, R.A.M., whose first records are dated August 12, 1769. The Chapter drew many British soldiers from English, Irish and Scottish regiments stationed in Boston. It was in this Chapter, with the help of the British Masons, that the first Knightings occurred.

The first Master of St. Andrew’s Chapter was James Brown, British soldier. He was present at all the meetings through the one held February 13, 1770. On March 5 the “Boston Massacre” occurred. Outraged citizens demanded, and got, the withdrawal of the British regiment involved. Army Lodge No. 322 of the 29th regiment went with Captain Preston’s company to Castle Island, thus ending their involvement with St. Andrew’s.

The “Boston Massacre” was hardly a massacre. Five people were killed. The patriots, however, lost no time in using its propaganda value. Paul Revere made an engraving depicting the scene which he sold. It was through this engraving that the fame of the “Boston Massacre” was spread.

On the evening of November 30, 1773, St. Andrew’s Day, the Lodge held its annual meeting and election of officers. A large attendance was always expected on this date. However, in 1773, the meeting was postponed until December 2 because only seven members were present. The Secretary made a note of the reason for the members absence: “N. B. Consignees of tea took up the Brethren’s time.”

That was a small comment but it reflects the close political ties of Lodge and the patriots. Many of the members were busy that night downstairs planning a small “tea party” and could not attend.

The citizens throughout the colonies were rejecting the shipments...
of tea due to the new taxes. It wasn’t the cost of the tea — tea was cheaper, even with taxes, in Boston than in London — but the principle of the matter. A ship owner in Annapolis claimed he had been forced by the patriots to set fire to his ship with its cargo of tea. The patriots meant business.

One of the methods the patriots were using was to get the consignees to refuse to accept the tea. In Boston two of the consignees were sons of the Royal Governor. They were named, along with others, in a report from a committee of the North End Caucus:

“That Thos. and Elisha Hutchinson, B. Clark & Sons and Benjamin Faneuil, by neglecting to give satisfaction as their fellow citizens justly expected from them in this hour, relative to their acceptance of an office destructive to this Community, have intolerably insulted this body, and in case they do not appear, forthwith, and satisfy their reasonable expectations, this body will look upon themselves warranted to esteem them enemies of their Country; and will not fail to make them feel the weight of their just resentment.”

The customs laws required that every cargo be unloaded within 20 days after arrival or revenue officers would seize the vessel and unload the cargo. Three ships arrived in Boston harbor on November 28. They had to be unloaded by sunrise December 17.

On the morning of December 16 several thousand people gathered at Old South Meeting House. The owner of the Dartmouth was threatened and sent to the Governor to obtain permission to sail without unloading. In the discussion while they awaited his return Brother John Rowe of St. Andrew’s, nephew of Grand Master John Rowe of the “Modern” Grand Lodge, is said to have asked, “who knows how tea will mix with salt water?”

The plans had already been laid for the “tea party” and the Masons had been involved from the beginning. They gathered at the tavern that afternoon, supposedly for a meeting. No meeting was held as only five members were present in the Lodge room. The rest were present in another room downstairs with the North End Caucus.

Shortly thereafter about 50 “indians” came out of the Green Dragon Tavern. No one had witnessed their entrance but many witnessed their noisy exit. They ran down to the docks and boarded some small boats conveniently moored there. Reaching the English ships they boarded, found the tea crates, broke 342 of them open and tossed them into the bay. Then they returned to their boats. That evening much cheering and singing came from the tavern. The British were never able to prove exactly how the “indians” appeared or disappeared.

St. Andrew’s Chapter apparently ceased work after that and its records are blank until March 20, 1789. St. Andrew’s Lodge, however, continued to hold meetings.

A close connection among St. Andrew’s Lodge, the North End Caucus and the Sons of Liberty continued to exist. All met, some secretly, at the Green Dragon. Many who entered for Lodge meetings never climbed the stairs to the Lodge room. Such was the secrecy of the whole group that, to this day, no one knows exactly who participated in the Boston Tea Party and other events.

Grand Master Warren called on fellow Templar Paul Revere to spread the word the British were marching. While there is some controversy over the subject of who hung the lanterns in Christ Church, it seems likely that the “friend” was Captain John Pulling, Jr., lifelong friend of Revere and fellow member of St. Andrew’s Lodge. It seems more likely they would turn to a fellow member, whose ability to keep secrets was already known, than to the church sexton as has been claimed. Pulling had apparently been a participant in the Boston Tea Party.

So much has been written about the ride of Paul Revere and the events at Lexington and Concord no details require further mention here. After Revere returned to Boston, Warren
and his Masonic Brother General Heath eluded the British who watched Warren and went out to join the Patriots harassing the returning British troops.

From then on most of the Lodge "work" was done in secret meetings, generally under the guise of the Committee on Correspondence, the Committee of Safety, the North End Caucus or the Sons of Liberty. The Masons were often gathered, altho generally not in the Lodge room.

In June the Committee of Safety decided to fortify the heights of Charlestown. On the evening of June 16 General and Brother Israel Putnam was in command of about 1,200 men whose orders were to proceed to Bunker Hill and fortify it. They eventually reached Breed’s Hill which they fortified with lines laid out by Brother Richard Gridley, a member of St. John’s Lodge.

In the British attack on Breed’s Hill Grand Master Joseph Warren, leading Boston Mason and patriot, was killed but the stage was already set for the birth of a nation.

Now that the war was out in the open there was no longer the need for the secret meetings held on the pretense of going to Lodge. Boston’s Masons had done their work well. Later Daniel Webster would refer to the Green Dragon Tavern, owned by the Lodge of St. Andrew, as the “Headquarters of the Revolution.”

Kansas Grand Master Knighted

M.W. Robert H. Arnold, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Kansas, was one of six Masons Knighted March 25 in Topeka Commandery No. 5 by Grand Commander George S. Rensberg, according to Grand Recorder Charles S. McGinnness. Sir Knight McGinnness believes this is the first Kansas Grand Master to be Knighted while in office.

Roy Wilford Riegel, Emporia, Grand Master of Grand Encampment, was in attendance and addressed the Templars following the Knightings.

Drill Team Fund Raiser

An old fashioned chicken ’n dumplings dinner was held at the Richfield Masonic Temple, Richfield, Minnesota, to raise funds for the Zion Commandery No. 2, Minneapolis, Drill Team’s expenses at the Drill Competition during the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota June 20-21. Another fund raiser was the sale of fruitcake during the holiday season.

Coming in the Knight Templar Magazine

Future articles scheduled for the Knight Templar Magazine include: a brief account of the four freedom documents of the American people and their Masonic signers, an historical account of the Battle of Bennington, a two part look at the origin of Commandery names, an account of Masonry in the southwest, a look at the meaning of the Gospels and biographical sketches of Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall, Naval hero John Paul Jones, humorist Will Rogers, General of the Armies John J. Pershing, fur trader John Jacob Astor and steadfast Templar Nathan B. Haswell. A special October article by Mrs. Willard M. Avery, wife of the Deputy Grand Master, will feature the Daughters of the American Revolution.
Philadelphia in 1976

William B. Stansbury, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, has announced the 1976 meetings will be held at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Thomas B. McIntosh, Jr., P.G.M., Louisiana, is Chairman of the 1976 Celebration Committee.

United Grand Imperial Council

Grand Sovereign C. Leander Prisk, K.G.C., will preside over the 103rd Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, June 13-14 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Blaine M. Simons, Intendant General for Utah and Past Grand Commander of Utah Templars, is General Chairman for the Annual Assembly. Committee members David W. Saunders, Paul B. Pickering and Newell B. Dayton. Headquarters will be the Hotel Utah.

50 Year Pin to Dr. Kern

Dr. Richard A. Kern, Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania Masons and Past Deputy Grand Lieutenant Commander of the Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J., was presented his 50 year Templar pin March 13 by Grand Commander Howard T. Scull, Jr., during his official visitation to Mary Commandery No. 36, Philadelphia.

Haym Salomon Stamp Issued

The Chicago Scottish Rite Cathedral was the scene of First Day of Issue Ceremonies honoring Brother Haym Salomon March 25 by the United States Post Office Department. Brother Salomon was the financial agent for Brother Robert Morris in raising the monies needed for Brother George Washington's army. Chicago was selected as the city for the first issuance because of the Morris-Washington-Salomon statue erected there through the efforts of Brother Barnet Hodes who was also responsible for arranging the issuance in a Masonic setting.

Copies of the First Day of Issuance covers, at three for $1.00, and official program, at $1.75 each, are available from the Chicago Scottish Rite Bodies, 915 North Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60610. Proceeds will go to the Scottish Rite Museum in Lexington, Massachusetts.

Among the Masonic leaders participating were Grand High Priest N. Tracy Walker for the York Rite, Robert L. Giesel for the Scottish Rite, Potentate Earl P. Brown for the Shrine and Junior Grand Warden Norman R. Buecker for the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

South Carolina Gains 677

Sir Knight Robert F. Secrest, Grand Secretary-Recorder of the York Rite Grand Bodies of South Carolina, announces a net membership gain of 677 for the Grand Commandery. Dispensations for a new Chapter, Council and Commandery in Myrtle Beach were issued at the Annual Grand Meeting March 9-11 in Myrtle Beach. Deputy Grand Master Willard M. Avery was the Official Representative of Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel. A one day festival is planned for May 3 for candidates in the new bodies.
Grand Master Honors Teacher

Mrs. Gladys Van Ordstrand poses with former students Curtis Rhoades, left, and Roy Wilford Riegle, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.

Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle, Emporia, Kansas, was present at the recent dedication of the Gladys Mauck Van Ordstrand Conference Room at the Memorial Union Building, Emporia State College. The room is named in honor of Mrs. Van Ordstrand, an alumni and prominent area educator.

Sir Knight Riegle, also an alumni, was a high school student of Mrs. Van Ordstrand. “She was a splendid teacher and she knew her commerce,” he said.

A Case for Carr

Harry Carr, P.J.G.C. and Past Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, the world famous London Research Lodge, has been selected to receive the “James Royal Case Medal of Excellence” from the Masonic Lodge of Research, A.F. & A.M., of Connecticut. The English Mason will receive the medal in ceremonies at Bridgeport May 29. Brother Carr then plans to travel in the United States, speaking before the Grand Lodge of Indiana and at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Chicago under sponsorship of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

Albert Penny to President Ford

President and Brother Gerald R. Ford has been presented with a Penny first used in the Carl Albert York Rite Festival at Tulsa, Oklahoma, in October 1971. The presentation was made by Sir Knight and Speaker of the House Albert through the efforts of Department Commander Clell C. Warriner and Oklahoma P.G.C. Jack Freeman.

Ford wrote Freeman thanking him for the coin and added, “I was most pleased to be remembered with this commemorative coin from the Knights Templar of Oklahoma. It is indeed a welcome addition to my Masonic memorabilia.”

Beaucausant Devotion

Mrs. Allie Kirk was installed Worthy President of Steubenville Assembly No. 57, Ohio, Social Order of the Beaucausant. Her fellow members feel Mrs. Kirk has given service to the Assembly “above and beyond the call of duty.” Temporarily transferred to Monroe, Michigan, while a line officer, Mrs. Kirk drove the 436 mile round trip to Steubenville twice monthly to fill her station for over a year.

Eye Foundation Materials

To obtain materials relating to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation — brochures and promotional pieces as well as all necessary forms — write DIRECTLY to the Eye Foundation in Rhinebeck. The address for all Eye Foundation material is: P.O. Box 191, Rhinebeck, New York 12572.
SCHOOL FOR PIPING

Sir Knight John McEwing, Lt. Colonel, U.S.A.F., Ret., spends his spare time with the Spokane Piobaireachd Society which he founded. “Piobaireachd” is Gaelic for the playing of the Highland bagpipe.

McEwing learned to play the bagpipes while living in rural Canada. He was 12 and found it difficult to find a competent instructor. From that experience he hoped someday to find a way to make instruction available to all.

His last assignment in the Air Force was at the NATO headquarters in Oslo, Norway, where he was invited to become a member of the Caledonian Society and was later elected their “Honorary Piper for life.”

When he retired to Spokane he set about founding a school for pipers. The first school was held in the summer of 1967 in the Naval Reserve/Marine Complex in Spokane. In 1970 the school moved to the campus of North Idaho College in Coeur d’Alene. Completion of the 80 hours of supervised study in the two week course gives students five college credits in applied music. It is the largest school in the world where only piping is taught and the only one to offer college credits.

From one instructor and 13 students the school has grown to 15 instructors and 152 students. Last summer’s class included 12 members of Shrine pipe bands taking a “refresher course.”

This summer the school will offer two two week courses, June 29-July 11 and July 13-25. Students may compete for check for $300 toward expenses to the Highland Games in Scotland. One is offered per session. Further information is available through Sir Knight McEwing, W. 3309 Dalke Avenue, Spokane, Washington 99208.

Sir Knight McEwing is second from right in this pose with pipers from several Shrine Temples.

McEwing leads the parade of graduates after receiving an Honorary Associate of Arts degree from North Idaho College.

Students range in age from 12 to 65 and include both men and women.
GRAND MASTER CROFTS COMPLETES TERM—
JUDGE ROBERT A. GRANT INSTALLED APRIL 9

John L. Crofts, Sr., Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U.S.A., retiring Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, presided over the Congress and ISC Sessions extending from April 2 to the 10th at Orlando, Florida. It was the second time in three years that the sessions were headquarterd in Florida. Stephen B. Dimond was in charge of arrangements.

Newly elected Grand Master of DeMolay is Judge Robert A. Grant, Federal Building, South Bend, Indiana 46624. Elected to serve with Judge Grant are: Jack H. Myers, Deputy Grand Master, Michigan; William J. McCulley, Grand Senior Councilor, Pennsylvania; Judge Thomas C. Raum, Jr., new Grand Junior Councilor.

State Master Councilor Mark A. Loose was elected International Master Councilor by the Congress. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Loose, Ohio. Congress Secretary is Brian LaFontaine, New Hampshire.

Re-elected were George M. Saunders, Grand Secretary and Past Grand Master, Chicago; and Chandler C. Cohagen, Grand Treasurer and Past Grand Master, Billings, Montana.

Richard A. Harkins, Director of the Supreme Council Headquarters, was commended for his staff's "efficient handling of the multitudinous details of his office, especially the Cordon."

Congress activities this year — the Eighth such Congress — began April 2 and were attended by 98 members from throughout the country. Each group separately studied, recommended and reported on operational procedures ranging from Appendant Organizations to Publications, including Athletics, Honors and Awards, Membership and related DeMolay subjects. These were presented in open forum for parliamentary consideration prior to the opening of the International Supreme Council Sunday, April 6. Their individual recommendations were considered by the ISC and were generally embodied in the combined reports.

The closing event of the session was a banquet and installation April 9, with Walter C. Ploeser and H. Malvern Marks as Installing Officer and Marshal.
MASONS OF DISTINCTION AT DEMOLAY SESSION
Since my Knighting last June in Raper Commandery No. 1, Indianapolis, I have often reminded myself to sit down and express my personal feelings towards the Order. Everytime I have, the right words could never be found.

I wish every Master Mason could share the experience that we Sir Knights have all shared together — Knighthood. It has to be one of the most beautiful and impressive Degrees in Masonry. The Knight Templar Order will remain very special to me, personally, for two reasons:

First: The magnificent work was conferred by a group of men that have to be rated the best of ritualists. I have seen many Degrees in both the Blue Lodge and York Rite bodies in many of our states but none could top Raper.

Second: Two very special people were able to attend my Knighting. My father, Sir Knight Dean Wilson, Excalibur Commandery No. 13, Boone, Iowa, traveled over 800 miles to be with me that afternoon.

Being a Sir Knight for many years, I know that tears came to his eyes when the sword was laid upon me. Because of his enriched life by his membership in most Masonic bodies, I have chosen to follow in his footsteps and, likewise, enrich my own.

I mentioned two people. The second was my very best friend, Sir Knight William Finney, who was Knighted the very same day with me at Raper. Because of the close friendship Bill and I share together, attending Masonic functions and socializing with other Brothers and their families, I believe that the generation gap does not exist in Masonry as it does in many other organizations.

It is best exemplified by our ages, 57 and 27.

Truly, every Sir Knight should ask a Brother Mason to enter York Rite Masonry and enrich his life with the beauty of the work and the lessons we teach.

Everett R. Wilson  
3538 North Eaton  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46226

Grand Master Speaker

The Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, Mrs. Cordon H. Purdy of San Dimas, California, was guest of honor at a dinner and meeting of the Emporia Assembly April 9 in the Masonic Temple. Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle was the principal speaker at the dinner.

K.T.E.F. “Fun Festival” in Kansas City

Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle and Eye Foundation Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell attended the April 13 kick-off banquet for the “Fun Festival” April 18-20 in Kansas City. The carnival was sponsored to benefit the Eye Foundation.

DeMolay Future Dates

The report of the Time and Place Committee of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, April 9, was adopted as follows:

1976  Congress, March 10-13  
      ISC Session, March 14-17  
      Indianapolis

1977  Congress, April 14-17  
      ISC Session, April 17-20  
      Michigan (location unknown)

The 1978 combined sessions will take place April 12-19 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The 1979 events, dates unannounced, will be in Kansas City, Missouri.
WILBER M. BRUCKER HALL DEDICATION

Official cornerstone dedication ceremonies for the Wilber M. Brucker Hall were held Saturday, March 29, at Summerall Field, Fort Myer, Virginia. The new facility will house the United States Army Band ("Pershing’s Own") and the Army Chorus which the late Grand Master of the Grand Encampment authorized as Secretary of the Army.

The Dedicatory Address was presented by Sir Knight and General Bruce C. Clarke. Mrs. Clara H. Brucker assisted in the cornerstone dedication ceremonies. The Grand Encampment was represented by Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle.

Mrs. Brucker and General Clarke (hidden by military personnel) assist in cornerstone dedication ceremonies.

Mrs. Brucker and Grand Master Riegle pose beside the cornerstone following the dedication ceremonies.

The United States Army Band and Chorus perform at the ceremonies.

Mrs. Brucker poses with Grand Master Riegle and General Clarke.

"During his five and one-half years in office, Mr. Brucker worked unceasingly to modernize the organization and equipment of the Army. His concern for the welfare and morale of the men and women strengthened his determination to personalize their relationship with the Department of the Army, an effect which continues to endure. At his insistence the Army Flag was designed and adopted, the Army Song was chosen and dedicated, and probably his most lasting contribution and one which we of The United States Army Band feel was the most important, The United States Army Chorus became an authorized unit.” (From the Dedication program tribute)
THE MASONRY OF MAGIC

by

Bill Pitts, P.C.

Webster’s New World Dictionary states that “masonry” is “something built by a mason or masons.” It, also, says that “freemasonry” is “a natural sympathy and understanding among persons with similar experiences.” That certainly covers our world of Magic and Magicians.

We know of no other hobby in the world that brings people together as does Magic. Traveling from one city to another, on vacation or otherwise, very few people call, or bother to contact, another of the same Lodge or other fraternal ties. Look out, though, if there is someone locally known to be interested in magic; they may be certain to receive a phone call from the weary traveller.

Even with jealousies and the “stealing” another’s effects and/or routines there is still a common bond that tends to bring all magicians together in a brotherly spirit. It makes no difference as to the social or financial backgrounds of the individuals – if they are interested in magic they all are “kings.”

Thus, with all this brotherly love that prevails among magicians, it was only natural that certain men bind themselves together in the cement of the “Invisible Lodge.” The Invisible Lodge was formed in 1953 by magician Sir Felix Korim, who was the first president of the organization. Members of the Lodge are Magicians who are, also, members of the various Masonic Orders. Some of the world’s greatest magicians have been Masons – names like Houdini, Okito, Blackstone and Thurston. Many of the big names in magic today are members of the Masonic bodies.

Any magician who is a member of a regular Masonic Lodge may apply for membership in the Invisible Lodge which now has over 500 members in the United States, England, Scotland, Wales, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, Belgium and Argentina. Present International President is magician Bill Joy, Obermiyer Road, Brookfield, Ohio 44403, from whom applications blanks or additional information is available.

The Invisible Lodge holds an annual stated meeting at the Columbus, Ohio, Magi-Fest. Other meetings are held during the year, however, at the annual conventions of the Society of American Magicians and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Meetings are always held at midnight, after one of the public shows, at the conventions. There is an initial membership fee but no annual dues thereafter. Once a member the membership is for life.

The working tools of the Invisible Lodge are all the implements of Freemasonry plus the “classic” items used by magicians in their acts. This is the Invisible Lodge – magicians working for the good of magic – Masons all – bound together under another common bond of fellowship in magic.

Sir Knight Pitts resides at 500 North 2nd Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901.

President McKinley Addresses Templars

President and Sir Knight William McKinley was escorted to Mechanics Pavilion, San Francisco, May 22, 1901, by 1,400 uniformed Templars. 12,000 awaited his speech.

The members of California Commandery No. 1, San Francisco, had invited McKinley to be their guest at a Templar reception.

“I want to thank my Brother Masons and their families for this more than gracious greeting, which is quite unique, differing from any of our receptions in the long journey which we have made from the capital city to this city by the sea,” he told the audience. “...good Masons make good citizens, and good citizens everywhere, Mason or no Mason, will forever preserve this jewel of liberty in the family of nations.”
Senior Members of Grand Encampment

Currently there are 18 senior members of Grand Encampment—men who served as Grand Commander 40 or more years ago.

The "dean" of senior members is Sir Knight Henry P. Glindeman. Glindeman was Grand Commander of Idaho Templars 51 years ago in 1924.

In 1927 George O. Linkletter was Grand Commander of New York. Chester G. Taylor, also of Idaho, was Grand Commander in 1928. Oklahoma's Leslie H. Swan served in 1929. David L. Griffith, Sr., lead Tennessee Templars and Joseph A. E. Ivey was Grand Commander of Arizona, both in 1930. Nebraska's William B. Wanner and New Jersey's C. Byron Lear (Past Grand Generalissimo of Grand Encampment) were Grand Commanders in 1932. Clyde A. Fulton lead Michigan Templars in 1933. Grand Commanders in 1934 included C. Stanley Chapman, California; Roland M. Brown, District of Columbia; George P. Nevitt, Wisconsin. This year's additions to the list are: Clarence V. Gulley, Arizona; John B. Phelps, Sr., Florida; Edgar D. Kenyon, Georgia; Harold W. Sprague, Massachusetts and Rhode Island; Theodore F. Voelter, New Jersey; John O. Baxendale, Vermont.

Books by Sir Knights Voorhis and Heaton

Loud and Clear: The Story of our Liberty Bell is the title of a book by Sir Knights Harold V. B. Voorhis and Ronald E. Heaton. Written to acquaint the public with documented facts about the Liberty Bell, the 32 page brochure with 10 illustrations is priced at $1.00.

Valley Forge: Yesterday and Today is Sir Knight Heaton's guidebook and historical record of Valley Forge State Park. The 64 page booklet is available at $2.50 per copy. Both books may be obtained through Ronald E. Heaton, 728 Haws Avenue, Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401.

Bruce Deck on Scientific Expedition

Bruce L. Deck, son of Sir Knight and Mrs. Warren H. Deck, has returned from a 40 day scientific expedition in the South Atlantic with five other scientists from Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, Columbia University. The expedition was sponsored by the National Science Foundation to study the variability in the Antarctic cicumpolar current system in the region the Drake Passage and the Western Scotia Sea. Sir Knight Deck, P.G.C., New York, is a member of the Grand Encampment Committee on Public Relations.

Samuel Gompers

One of the founders and first President of the American Federation of Labor, Samuel Gompers, was born January 27, 1850, in London, England. He was a cigar-maker by trade and worked for the rights of labor from the age of 14. He helped to develop the Cigarmakers International Union, helped found and served as President of, the Federation of Trades and Labor Unions and went on to organize the AFL.

He was Raised May 9, 1909, in Dawson Lodge No. 16, Washington, D.C., and received the 32°, A.A.S.R., S.J., in Albert Pike Consistory of Washington February 10, 1906. Samuel Gompers Lodge No. 45 in Washington was named for him.

In his autobiography Gompers related his Masonic memberships frequently protected him from charges of socialism, which he had always fought. Of the Masonic philosophy he wrote: "In my Masonic life I have visited Lodges in many lands, and I have learned that Freemasonry in many countries, particularly in Latin countries, is the principal means whereby freedom of conscience, of thought and expression is preserved."

Point of Information

A Commandery of Knights Templar holds Conclaves, rather than meetings.
WHAT IS TRUTH?

by
Wylie B. Wendt

When our Most Excellent Grand Master, Solomon, King of Israel, governed the Craft, he taught that Truth was a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. To be good men and true is the first lesson taught us in Masonry. There are many definitions of Freemasonry. Perhaps the one that serves best is the simplest: “Freemasonry is the search after Truth.”

Freemasonry exists primarily for two purposes: as a society for the relief of its members, their wives, widows and orphans; and as a school of moral instruction, having for its sole purpose to make men better. It is for this latter purpose that we have Degrees and Orders, each carrying a beautiful and impressive lesson and each portrayed by a dramatic presentation, some simple, some elaborate. But the underlying thought in each instance is that some important philosophic or moral truth shall be conveyed to the neophyte. A famous American teacher once said: “Character is the ultimate aim of all education and action is the test.”

The lessons taught in Masonry and Templary are more than mere mouthings. They must stand the acid test of worldly action. We as members of this ancient and honorable institution are exemplars of the lessons taught and we are so judged by our fellow members and by the profane world. Either our rituals mean what they say or they are a sham and a fraud. One of the three Orders conferred in a Commandery of Knights Templar is devoted entirely to the importance of Truth. Great is Truth and it shall prevail.

What is Truth? This was the question Pilate asked of Jesus in John 19:38. Truth is that spark of divine inspiration within the breast of all sincere and honest men that urges them to press onward, to search for the golden thread of events that have a bearing on the success and happiness of peoples and programs, following that thread no matter where it may lead and no matter who may be hurt in the onward march. Such zeal was displayed by our crusading Knights Companions of old. The Greatest Teacher of them all once said: “And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

It may be coincidental but the two words that are familiar to Companions of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, VERITAS and LIBERTAS, are the same two words, Truth and Liberty (Freedom), that are so prominent in the news media of today, the action of which is so much needed in public life today, on a national level, a state level and a local level.

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

Sir Knight James A. Garfield
20th President of the U.S.A.

“Next of importance to freedom and justice is popular education, and without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.”
Golden May for Winters

May marks the golden wedding anniversary of Sir Knight and Mrs. Carl Winters, Oak Park, Illinois. Dr. Winters, nationally known for his appearances and work with religious, philanthropic, business, civic and youth groups, is on the lecture staff of General Motors Corporation. His Masonic affiliations include membership in Siloam Commandery No. 54, Oak Park.

Mrs. Winters is active with Salvation Army work as well as other philanthropic and civic organizations, and with her writing.

Grand Commander on Calendar

Pressley L. Crummy, Grand Commander of Missouri, poses with a calendar showing him with a microscope and textbook. Sir Knight Crummy is the author of An Outline of Microscopic Anatomy. Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine used the picture as their poster for the year.

Peale is Chicago Speaker

The Annual Meeting of the Illinois Masonic Medical Center was scheduled Tuesday, April 29, at 8:00 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Chicago. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, former Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, U.S.A., was speaker of the evening.

Easter in Wisconsin and California

The Sir Knights of Manitowoc Commandery No. 45, Manitowoc, Wisconsin, were joined by the Third and Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus for an Easter Sunrise Service and breakfast Easter morning. Front row, left to right, K.C. Robert J. Rand, P.G.C. Albert Rohrbach, Commander Joseph J. Spoerl and K.C. Clarence Lax.

San Diego No. 25 and Harmony No. 71, San Diego County, California, sponsored a Masonic Easter Observance on March 30. Past Grand Commander Frank F. Jones gave the Address of Welcome. The Freewill Offering of the service was donated to the Knights Templar Foundation of California for Christian Ministry.

Alabama Visitors


may 1975
Honors for Swan

Sir Knight and Colonel Ronald D. Swan, Chief of Police of Beverly Hills, Missouri, has been appointed an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, Aide-de-Camp on the Personal Military Staff of Sir Knight and Governor George C. Wallace of Alabama. Swan is a member of Ascalon Commandery No. 16, St. Louis.

A Family Affair

Illinois Deputy Grand Commander Charles R. Newmann, left, poses with father-in-law Henry G. Sass, Jr., right, and grandfather-in-law Henry G. Sass, Sr. All three are members of Illinois Priory No. 11, K.Y.C.H., and Bethel Commandery No. 36, Elgin, Illinois, where Sir Knight Sass, Jr., is the Recorder.

1776 ★ 1976

Templar Bicentennial Services

Marble Bicentennial Templar paperweights and Masonic Americana — two Grand Encampment Bicentennial services — are available by writing the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

The paperweights, $3.00 each or $2.50 each in quantities of 60 or more, are two by two by three-quarters inches in size with a protective cork base. The marble block bears a cross and crown on a circular three color metal plate with the inscription: Knights Templar, U.S.A., Salute to the Nation’s Bicentennial.

Masonic Americana, at $1.00 each, is a collection of articles on Masonic personalities, events and places associated with the founding and development of the nation. It will appeal to Masons, non-Masons and prospective members.

Also available are the seven Grand Encampment 16 mm color-sound films: “Cavalcade of Templary,” “The American Flag,” “The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere,” “The Declaration of Independence,” “The American Revolution,” “The Battle of Yorktown” and “Westward Movement” as well as the slide/script programs on the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service, Flags on Parade and Symbols of Faith.

Films and slides are available on a free loan basis from the office of the Grand Recorder. To book a film or slide program, send your request at least eight weeks in advance listing first and second choices of showing dates. Film bookings are now being received for more than a year in advance as the Bicentennial year rapidly approaches.
THE AWED MAN

by
Gilbert H. Hill, P.C.

In the "Rubaiyat," of Omar Khayyam, this quatrain stanza:
The moving finger writes; and, having writ, 
Moves on: nor all your piety nor wit 
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line, 
Nor all your tears wash out a word of it.

Thus the great Persian poet and philosopher saw destiny take a hand, in the Eleventh and Twelfth Century, as it did on that fateful night in Babylon when Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain. There was awe in Babylon and there was awe in Naishapur.

So begins the story of the "Awed Man." From the dawn of time mankind has been awed by the unknown: puzzles, riddles, enigmas, dilemmas, have plagued the peace of the human mind in all ages and have caused to be written the stories of mythology and many superstitions.

The first adventurous seafaring men who dared to leave the home shores and press into the unknown, out of sight of land, wondered at the immensity of the trackless deep.

The lonely shepherd, on night watch with his flock, saw the millions of twinkling lights in the heavens called stars and wondered at their number and their place in the vastness of the sky.

Storms threatened the safety and comfort of primitive man, fire came down from heaven and thunder rolled in the clouds proclaiming a power, a mystery and a riddle.

The fire that came down from the storm clouds set ablaze the woods and dry growth of the earth and animals and birds perished that man might taste the first cooked food.

The constancy of the stars became guides for the mariner and the shepherd alike as they wandered beyond the bounds of the known and found new fields and strange shores.

The angry storm clouds and turbulent skies were not the vengeance of enraged gods, chastising man, but the answer to a need of parched earth and withered growth. The roll of thunder became a warning to take cover from danger and the wind filled the sails for the homeward voyage. The sun, the great star of day, once a high god in the catalogue of history, became the center of an ordered system. In three inches of the book of the "Tale of Time" there have been answers to all the wonders and puzzles man is heir to: there will always be, if man cares enough to wonder.

The beginning of real science stemmed from an awe and religious mysticism. Various concrete things became the agents of human destiny. Interest in the influence of the unseen and the occult nurtured astrology and finally gave birth to astronomy. Ancient alchemy ripened into modern chemistry and numerology became the mother of mathematics. What generous gifts were these: the reward of wonder, awe, and mystery!

On the high cliffs of Dover and in the mountain canyons everywhere echoes repeated voices, bird calls and the cries of animals and man was entranced. Sounds surely could travel distances and bounce back unchanged. They traveled in straight lines and maybe they never died. Thoughts developed into ideas. Ideas became devices and communication began in earnest: drum relays in the jungles, smoke signals and heliography by day, torches and fire by night.

To find the way without the stars and the sun, magnetite, the lodestone of antiquity, by its curious behavior, solved the problem and soon was developed the magnetic compass. But what about the latitudes in the Polar Regions, too far north for the magnetic
compass? The sunstone of the Vikings furnished the answer. A crystal called cordierite, picked up in Scandinavia and Iceland, was found to have polarizing qualities for light and the sun became the direction finder. The Viking use of the sunstone was the forerunner of the modern sky compasses which now guide trans-polar jet flights.

All of the curiosity inspired by the odd, the obscure, the menacing, the sinister and the ominous have been a constant challenge and a stepping stone to greater achievement.

"Not to know is no disgrace, not to want to know is a pity, but to want to know and not know how to find out is almost a tragedy.

James Wober Linn

Cave dwellers were poisoned by bad air, not by the evil spirits that lurked in the darkness. Not evil spirits but adverse environment threatened life. However, the period of darkness before the lamp light was needed for man to stimulate his imagination, draw the pictures of the good and evil spirits of his own creation, establish the value of virtues and weigh the pain of vice. Thus developed an imagination which saw new applications of the crude processes and appliances then possessed and the weapons and utensils of stone became metal.

With the new light in environment and the light of imagination new heights were gained and the threat of the sinister and the ominous were pushed back into the past.

But pestilence and plague reared their ugly forms from the Azilian Age to the Roman zenith of power and mankind, awed by disaster and shaken with doubt, turned to a faith to carry through crisis after crisis.

The sanity of sanitation had not appeared to break the stranglehold of contagion in the Dark Ages. Ten thousand people died in a single day in Constantinople in 543 A.D. The plague raged in Rome and England and in all the broad reaches of empire.

The fragmentation of the great realms began and, with them, Rome and the empires of that day. Weakened by the plague and the incursions of the barbarians, the then-known world was a shattered civilization without law and order, without roads and communications and with education disorganized. Only a valorous faith survived: not wealth, not influence, not privilege, not refinement. So humanity began again to build and to plan.

There blossomed the feudal system and “knighthood was in flower.” The flame of faith was not smothered in all the agony, pillage, grief and ruin. Patient years — and the Dark Ages passed into the dawn of Chivalry. Mankind had learned that the idolatry of the material was the veneration of a false god, that the intangible and the abstract were the foundations of an enduring culture and human progress. That honesty, morality, faith and charity must be protected and promoted first or all else will fall. An age of faith was born and the Crusades began and with them a beautiful system of morality veiled in allegory guided the designs of the dedicated.

Today our Twentieth Century civilization totters with the plagues of narcotics, alcoholism, immorality, vandalism, unbridled sensuality, corrupt politics and defeatism. Churches, homes and schools have failed to block the sweep toward disaster.

Only a new chivalry can rescue the drift toward doom. Only the vows of a valiant, modern Knighthood can generate the purpose and the power to preserve and protect the rich inheritances that have come to us in the best of the past. So, “the moving finger writes and moves on...”

Sir Knight Hill resides at 180 Lakeview Drive, P.O. Box 94, Camdenton, Missouri 65020.

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“Don’t just sit there; please do something.”

M. C. Lewis, P.G.C.
Arkansas
Sam Rice

Belatedly, the *Knight Templar Magazine* has received word of the October 13, 1974, death of Sir Knight Charles Edgar "Sam" Rice, Ivanhoe No. 33, Kankakee, Illinois. A member of baseball's Hall of Fame, Rice had a lifetime batting average of .322 with 2,987 hits to his credit. He was also a champion bowler, active golfer and raced pigeons.

Francis J. Scully

Dr. Francis J. Scully, author of the *History of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America*, died March 10 in Hot Springs, Arkansas. He was a Past Grand Master of Arkansas Masons as well as Past Grand Commander. Sir Knight Scully was Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on Templar History at the time the official history was written in 1949. Masonic services were conducted by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas.

Samuel T. Farmer

Samuel T. Farmer, longtime participant in the Easter Sunrise Services at Arlington and member of that Grand Encampment Committee, died March 22. Sir Knight Farmer served as Grand Commander of the District of Columbia in 1943 and was Grand Prelate at the time of his death.
Spotlight on Grand Master Riegle

The Friday, April 11, issue of The Gazette Emporia, Kansas, saluted Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle at the mid-point of his triennium and featured pictures of the Grand Master in both Templar and civilian uniform. The feature, in part, follows:

"On Easter Sunday, Emporian Roy Wilford Riegle took part in the 45th annual Knights Templar Memorial Sunrise Service at the Arlington national cemetery. It was the 11th time Mr. Riegle attended the ceremony, and the second time he has presided over the service as Most Eminent Grand Master of the Knights Templar of the United States. Mr. Riegle has one more year to serve as Grand Master, and he feels "especially honored" because it will be the nation's Bicentennial.

"Another Kansan – The Rev. Orlo Choguill, D.D. – took part in the ceremony. He was selected by Mr. Riegle to be the main speaker. The service was broadcast over NBC radio.

"Mr. Riegle is a graduate of Washburn University, the Washburn School of Law and Emporia State College. He holds five college degrees – B.S., A.B., A.M., LL.B. and J.D. He has practiced law in Emporia since 1925 and has served as probate and juvenile judge.

"Mr. Riegle has a contagious energy, a strong sense of patriotism and is keen on Christian ideals. To him, joining is not just something to do but a way of life. Mr. Riegle has no plans for retirement. 'I plan to stay active,' he says, 'and work the rest of my life.'

"Mr. Riegle married Keith M. Roberts in 1923. Their one son, Roy, also became a lawyer and practiced law for a time with Mr. Riegle. He died in 1969. The Riegles also have three daughters.

"Mr. and Mrs. Riegle are members of the Lutheran Church and live at 1522 Dover Road."

"If it isn’t rain, hail, sleet or snow holding up the mail, what is?"

Templar Announces Wedding

Donna Marine Yeager, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, became the bride of Sir Knight Norman Edward Schley, Waukesha, Wisconsin, April 19, at 4:30 p.m. Schley, well known for syndicated articles on accountancy, estates and trusts, says he "took both ladders to the 32°."

Padgett Retires July 1

John H. Padgett, Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery of Arizona, has announced plans to relinquish his duties effective July 1, 1975. On that date, Sir Knight Estel W. Brooks, present Grand Treasurer, will assume Sir Knight Padgett's responsibilities.

The Pioneer Mother

One of the many statues to be seen in Kansas City is this one of "The Pioneer Mother" in Penn Valley Park. The monument is dedicated to the spirit of the people who settled Kansas City.
1976 TRIENNIAL
CONCLAVE
COMMITTEE

William J. Tobler
Chairman
Grand Encampment

Merlin R. Grundy
General
Co-Chairman

George H. Bowen
Co-Chairman

H. M. Kreeger
Registration

Marvin Sherman
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James W. Robbins
Divine Service

John A. Dill
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Paul Pagano
Banquet & Catering

John Travelbee
Transportation

Robert D. Jenkins
Entertainment