The Battle Cry of Freedom
FEBRUARY: Forty-six years ago Liberty, then a flourishing periodical, presented as its cover illustration the young lady with the Flag of Freedom and the proud young man with Templar sword and chapeau. Reproduction of the painting is by courtesy of Mr. Robert Whitman, President, Liberty Corp., New York City. Within the February issue is C. A. Burritt's account of Charles Wilson Peale and his 1776 painting of Brother George Washington. Sir Knight James Royal Case highlights the current magazine with the story of "Brother Return Jonathan Meigs." We hope you will enjoy all the articles, news and views of timely interest which are included in the February 1976 issue.

Paul C. Rodenhausen, Editor

FEBRUARY 1976

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MEMORIES AND ASPIRATIONS

In a moment flat, we can all recall the yesterdays of our life — the times of turmoil, the times of peace; the days of sorrow, and days of renewal, memories of problems and difficulties as well as memories of exultation and joy.

It is pleasant to reminisce and roam backward through the years, but not if we lose sight of the Present in the daydreams of the Past. We must recognize that the Past is dead. It is what we do NOW — TODAY — that is meaningful.

And that calls for Progress! In this significant 200th anniversary of our nation, the 858th of our Order, we should be inspired by the past to move upward and onward, to bring even greater glory and progress to our beloved Templary. Let us aspire, as in days of old, to a refined and moral chivalry which prompts us to defend the weak, the innocent, the helpless and the oppressed. Let us be TEMPLARS — in fact as in name — and let us take honest pride in our membership.

We have gained much in the past dozen or more years. We have emerged from comparatively quiet obscurity to a new strength and a virile status of leadership. We can be proud of the service we extend not only to Templars but to all branches of Masonry. Let us hold on to those gains and increase their value through trienniums to come.

We can take pride in our Knight Templar Magazine, presently circulated to 365,000 Knights Templar in 26 countries of the world — in the variety and scope of literature and publications available from our Grand Encampment office in Chicago — in the research for individual Templars — in the multiplicity of services in printoffs of rosters, label mailings, our Knights Templar Eye Foundation assistances, and in the numerous other questions for which the Central Office of our great body can provide answers and general information.

We can be proud, but we also can be humble. We can aspire to much more, far more, as each year moves on. But we cannot, we will not turn back! The impetus is forward!

Let’s march!

Roy Wicford, Triangle
In reference to Sir Knight Harry M. Smit's article, "In Support of the Clergy," in the December issue, I would suggest that Grand Master Riege place the proposals within this article at the top of his agenda for the 1976 Triennial Conclave. He should also underline with all the emphasis at his command the need for our Order to activate itself and come to the immediate defense of our Christian religion and to attack the Satanic forces at large.

I believe Sir Knight Smit has struck a resounding blow with his Templar sword at our lethargic attitudes and shortsightedness. Victor F. Baumeister, Warden, St. John's Commandery No. 1, 1807 Eugene Court, North Graylyn Crest, Wilmington, Delaware 19810

I would like to locate and obtain the Commandery sword of my father, Archie T. Hall, who died in 1964 in Roanoke, Virginia. Any information will be greatly appreciated. Jack E. Hall, Rt. 4, Box 379 N, Culpeper, Virginia 22701

In July 1975 our property was burglarized. Among the objects stolen were pre-Civil War antiques and a Knights Templar sword belonging to my grandfather, with his name (R. C. Montgomery) engraved on the blade. He was a member of the Macon, Georgia Commandery.

My family is most anxious to recover the stolen articles and has posted a $2,000 reward for information leading to that recovery. I am particularly anxious to locate the sword. Any person having knowledge of its whereabouts is urged to contact me. James J. Montgomery, 110 Allen Street, Warrenton, Georgia 30828

I was a member of the "Army Airways Communication Service" (A.A.C.S.) during World War II, and was aboard the H.M.S. Rohna, which was sunk in the Mediterranean Sea in November 1943 with a loss of 1,000 troops. I would like to hear from any brother who was aboard the ship and through God's mercy is still alive. Daniel B. Middleton, Holy Sepulchre Commandery No. 8, 2331 Belleair Road, Lot 904, Clearwater, Florida 337516

I am interested in a sword that belonged to my Grandfather. We believe that the name on it is C. E. Mason, however it could be Chas. E. Mason or Charles E. Mason. The last we knew it was in the Rock Island, Illinois area. If it can be found please contact David E. Mason, 1515 Golden Valley Drive, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722.

I have a new Past Master's apron for sale. Cost $68.90. Have invoice. Will sell for $50.00. Makes beautiful gift. James N. Allison, P.D.G.M., 609 D Red Bud Drive, Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063

The shock of the metric system might be lessened if we realize how much we use it now. All ball bearings are made to metric dimensions; the last two digits of the bearing multiplied by five is the bore in mm. The OD and width are also mm and the engineer designing shafts and housings has to use tables and long decimals to show dimensions in inches! Even our silver coinage is metric; a dime (decimal!) is 18 mm wide by 1 mm thick; the quarter is 25 mm wide by two mm thick. Try to show those in inches. Cecil L. Dunham, Springtime Commandery No. 40, 1009 Pearce Drive, No. 204, Clearwater, Florida 337520
How can there ever be unity in the York Rite when there is none regarding the Knights Templar uniform and the ritualism regarding its use? Annually more Masons are dubbed than ever before... More Commanderies are formed annually, so fewer spare uniforms and less paraphernalia can be distributed. What to do? Streamline the ritual whereby much of the ostentatious flamboyance is minimized yet have the Christian flavor remain.

I agree wholeheartedly with the Arizona Plan whereby all Sir Knights may participate. Thomas Odell, Chico Commandery No. 12, 6214 Fern Lane, Paradise, California 95969

Years ago my father-in-law bought an eight grave plot at Acacia Park Cemetery on Irving Park Boulevard in Chicago. We have used four of the eight graves with one left for myself, leaving three lots that I would like to sell. Please contact me for more information. Mrs. LeRoy W. Meims, 3916 Devon Road, Royal Oak, Michigan 48073


On receipt of the excellent cover article on Sir Knight John J. Pershing, I wanted to send you this brief statement. In 1926, at the age of 9, I was returning from Europe with my parents on the S.S. Leviathan, then the largest ship in the world. With no stabilizers in those days, most of the passengers were seasick in their cabins, including my parents. As I ate alone in the dining salon, a waiter said that a gentleman, also alone, would like me to join him. I ate with this fine person for several days, knowing that he was very considerate of me, but not knowing, until later, that he was General Pershing. What a nice experience for a 9-year-old boy! John F. Porter, 2323 Private Road, Newport Beach, California 92660

Williamsburg Commandery No. 50, Williamsburg, Kentucky, is a new Commandery, chartered September 25, 1975. We are badly in need of uniforms, so we are making a plea to other Commanderies or Sir Knights who may have some that they will donate or sell cheaply. E. Paschel Siler, P.O. Box 27, Emlyn, Kentucky 40730

We, Chicago Heights Chapter No. 218 R.A.M., recently acquired extra Chapter equipment through a merger. We are interested in disposing of these at reasonable prices. If any chapter is interested they may contact me for a list of items we have. Otis E. Whitaker, High Priest, 1146 Parkview Avenue, Chicago Heights, Illinois 60411

I am a new Sir Knight in Cœur de Lion Commandery No. 1, Pensacola, Florida. If any Sir Knights have back issues of the Knight Templar Magazine, or any books on Masonry which they no longer need, please send them to me. They will have a good Masonic Home and will be shared with other Sir Knights. Clifford S. Fivesh, 7860 Kipling Avenue, Pensacola, Florida 32504

I would like to locate and obtain the Commandery Sword of my father, Francis M. Sankey, a member of Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1. Any information regarding this sword will be appreciated. Eugene R. Sankey, Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1, 4757 Echo Glen Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15236

Georgia Commandery No. 1, Augusta, Georgia, the oldest Commandery in this state, issued a bronze medal commemorating its 150th anniversary in 1973. There are a few of these left which may be obtained for a donation of at least $1.00 each to the K.T. Eye Foundation. Make check or money order payable to the Foundation and mail to J. Fred Dillard, Recorder, Georgia Commandery No. 1, Country Club Apartments, 10-D, Augusta, Georgia 30904
Westergard: A salute goes to Sir Knight Mads Peter Westergard for his 1975 Knights Templar Cross of Honor Award. A combination of postal and processing problems made it impossible for Sir Knight Westergard to receive the award from Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle at the South Dakota Annual Conclave last year. He is now officially numbered among the Knights Templar Cross of Honor recipients. He was recommended by Madison Commandery No. 20, approved by 1975 Grand Commander Loren A. Campbell and Grand Master Riegle.

Cover: We are indebted to Sir Knights C. Clark Julius, No. 21, York, and Charles S. Canning, No. 20, Allentown, both of Pennsylvania, for unearthing and suggesting the illustration on the February cover. The reproduction is 46 years old.

Observance: Tancred Commandery No. 23, Portland, Oregon, held its 43rd annual Christmas Observance in Friendship Masonic Temple in cooperation with four other Commanderies – Oregon No. 1 and Washington No. 15, Portland; Delta No. 19, Tigard, and St. Elmo No. 20, Woodburn. Eminent Commander Lloyd Baker, Tancred, presided; Excellent Prelate Roy Burright, P.C., was director. Icy roads and stormy weather prevented attendance by the Grand Commander, but Sir Knight Burright says "attendance was good and Sir Knights in uniform filled all the places at the ceremonial table. Pastor Mark Teats, Rockwood Christian Church, gave an excellent address and the Unity Church choir sang Christmas music."

Christmas observances were universally held and we regret our Knight Templar Magazine's inability to make mention of all services.

Colorado via Kansas: Sir Knight Robert Al Smith, Recorder, DeMolay Commandery No. 13, Red Feather Lakes, Colorado, writes: "When I was knighted in Emporia, Kansas, several years ago, little did I realize that the then Commander would someday be our Grand Master, Roy Riegle. It is an honor and a privilege to have been knighted by him personally."

Sir Knight Smith also has a question for our readers. "I have several old fruit jars. They have designs like this:

[Images of Masonic symbols with patent dates Nov. 30th 1858 and 1858]

"What is the connection between Mason's name, our York Rite emblems, and fruit jars. Was a Mason a York Rite Mason?"

February Birthdays: No reminder is needed that we celebrate Abraham Lincoln's birthday on the 12th of this month and George Washington's "movable" birthday on the 22nd, but we oftentimes miss the rather obscure fact that William Henry Harrison was born February 9.

One month of the year has no Presidential birthday in it. June is the missing month. Calvin Coolidge, by the way, was the one and only President born on the 4th of July. Other bits of information about Presidents reveal that five were born in October, five in November. Birthdays in each of the other 10 months do not exceed four. President Taft, on the 15th, carries the distinction of having the only September birthday.
CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS
OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA

THEME: Masonry In The Bicentennial Year

William B. Stansbury, P.G.M., Maryland, Secretary-Treasurer of the 1976 Conference of Grand Masters, announces the following agenda for the February 15-18 Conference at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Chestnut Street at Ninth, Philadelphia.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1976
9:00 A.M. — Registration — Mezzanine — LaFayette Room
3:30 — 6:00 P.M. — Bicentennial Kick-off — Reception and Entertainment featuring famous Philadelphia Mummers' Band and Alexander Scourby, Stage, Screen, Radio & TV, "American Legends and Tall Tales" — Crystal Ballroom

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1976
7:15 — 9:30 A.M. — Deputy Grand Masters' Breakfast — Betsy Ross Room (Mezzanine)
10:00 — 12:00 P.M. — George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association — Crystal Ballroom
12:00 noon — Luncheon Break
2:00 — 5:00 P.M. — Masonic Service Association of the U.S. — Crystal Ballroom
6:30 P.M. — Grand Secretaries' Dinner — Garden Terrace Room
8:30 P.M. — Special entertainment — Bicentennial theme — Crystal Ballroom. Dr. "Benjamin Franklin" of Philadelphia presents his Historical Group of Singers and Dancers

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1976
7:00 — 8:45 A.M. — Frank S. Land Breakfast (DeMolay) — Garden Terrace Room
9:00 — 11:45 A.M. — Opening of Grand Masters Conference — Crystal Ballroom
11:45 — 12:00 P.M. — Buses to Masonic Temple — Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
12:00 — 2:00 P.M. — Grand Secretaries' Luncheon — Poor Richard Room
12:15 — 1:45 P.M. — Luncheon at Masonic Temple courtesy of Northern Jurisdiction — Scottish Rite
1:45 — 2:15 P.M. — Grand Masters Picture at Temple
2:15 P.M. — Grand Masters Conference reconvenes — Grand Lodge Room — Temple
6:30 P.M. SHARP — Buses leave for Philadelphia Sheraton Ballroom
7:15 P.M. — Grand Masters Banquet with prominent Speaker; Entertainment: The Johnny Mann Singers

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1976
9:00 — 10:30 A.M. — Grand Masters Conference reconvenes — Crystal Ballroom.
10:30 – 12:30 P.M. – Guided Walking Tours of Historic Philadelphia (Independence Mall, Betsy Ross House, Liberty Bell, etc.)
12:30 P.M. – Luncheon sponsored by Conference of Grand Masters – Crystal Ballroom
2:00 – 4:00 P.M. – Conference reconvenes – Crystal Ballroom

**LADIES PROGRAM (not included above)**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1976**

10:00 A.M. – Welcoming Coffee – Franklin Suite (Mezzanine), followed by Guided Walking Tour of Historic Philadelphia (Independence Mall, Betsy Ross House, Liberty Bell, etc.)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1976**

9:00 A.M. – Buses leave for Masonic Temple – Iowa Multi-Image presentation, “The Heart of Masonry,” and Temple Tours
11:00 A.M. SHARP – Buses return to Hotel
12:30 – Luncheon for ladies by courtesy of Grand Masters Conference – Special Program – Garden Terrace Room

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1976**

Ladies free for shopping at famous Wanamaker’s, Strawbridge & Clothiers, and Gimbel’s Department Stores located near Hotel. (Check Reservation Desk for paid Walking Tour to Historic Society Hill.)

**CHECKOUT TIME:** 4:00 P.M. (Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, and Grand Secretaries); all others 2:00 P.M. (Checkout area provided for these.)

**NOTE:** Grand Secretaries Meetings in Poor Richard Room – 9:00 A.M. Tuesday and Wednesday

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**MASONIC AMERICANA COMMEMORATES NATION’S BIRTHDAY**

Final modifications in the printing of *Masonic Americana* were completed last month. Copies now available at $1.50, with minor corrections, have the same contents as the printing made near the end of 1975. One major exception is a change in the cover illustration which marks the 13th edition, the final printing of the compilation.

As some 30,000 readers who have ordered the book are aware, *Masonic Americana* contains stories and word-portraits of leaders, scenes and events associated with the history of America. Well over 200 pages, it is fully catalogued and cross-referenced. It contains many features previously printed or currently scheduled in the *Knight Templar Magazine*.

Mailings continue to be made at no charge for postage. Checks at $1.50 for each copy may be sent to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.
CONFERENCE OF GRAND SECRETARIES
IN NORTH AMERICA

Dwight L. Smith, P.G.M., Indiana, Secretary-Treasurer of the Confer-
ce of Grand Secretaries, sends notice that the 48th annual Conference of
Grand Secretaries will be held in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Phila-
delphia, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 17-18, with the following
agenda:

1. Requests for Masonic Information by Individuals: How to Handle –
   Stokes (Virginia)
2. Handling and Entertaining Distinguished Guests – Costs, etc. –
   Groshell (Utah)
3. Requests for Relief From Stranded Masons: How To Handle –
   Lester (Georgia)
4. State-wide Concurrent Jurisdiction – King (Arizona)
5. Relationship of Grand Secretary to Grand Master, Committees
   and/or Office Work – Reese (Oklahoma)
6. Communication Between Lodges in Two Jurisdictions: How to
   Handle – Crowell (Nevada)

In addition to the above, two 10-minute items have been added, although not actually part of the agenda:

   Experience with Grand Lodge Involvement in Tours and Trips, and
   Taxes Pertaining Thereto – Byrd (Texas)
   Experience With Data Processing – Settle (Colorado)

LUNCHEON – The luncheon will be at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, February
17. The cost of this luncheon is absorbed by the Conference. It is there-
fore restricted to Conference members. Tickets for active Grand Secre-
taries, Associate Members and Honorary Members are provided for in the
annual dues. Tickets for Members-at-Large and Assistant Grand Secretaries
may be secured at cost. You will be notified later as to cost of tickets.

BANQUET – The annual banquet will be Monday, February 16, at 7
p.m. Attendance is limited to Masonic Brethren. The speaker will be our
own Robert A. Hinshaw of Ohio. Tickets for active Grand Secretaries,
Associate Members and Honorary Members are provided for in the annual
dues. Guest tickets will be available.
The royal governor of North Carolina enlisted a force of 1,600 Scottish Highlanders, most of whom had been active in the Regulation of 1774, to put down the rebel forces in the area following the burning of Norfolk. A British expeditionary force mounted in Ireland and under the command of Lord Cornwallis was also requested.

Unfortunately for the British, the two forces did not work together. Brother Cornwallis choose to go south in an attempt to capture Charleston, South Carolina, first.

The 1,600 Highlanders were completely routed by the patriot militia at Moore's Creek Bridge on February 27, 1776.

Commodore Esek Hospkins was preparing to sail on the Bahamas with his fleet of seven small ships, converted from their former service as merchant vessels. A large supply of munitions lay in Nassau.

On February 22, Brother George Washington celebrated his 44th birthday. That celebration of his birth has now been changed to the third Monday in February each year as a result of the Monday Holiday Bill.

Commemorative Plates

The York Rite Advancement Association of Middletown, Ohio, is offering a commemorative plate to celebrate its recent move into a new Temple after 92 years in its first permanent Temple.

The plates depict both the old and new Temples, with the dates “1883” and “1975” and the words “Middletown Masonic Temple.” The charter dates of each Middletown Chapter, Commandery, Council and Lodge appear on the reverse side of the plate.

The cost is $7.50 per plate plus $1.50 for mailing within the Continental United States. Orders should be addressed to York Rite Advancement Association, P.O. Box 348, Middletown, Ohio 45042. If orders are made after the supply of plates is exhausted, the money will be refunded.

Sovereign Grand Commander, N.M.J.

Pictured is Illustrious Stanley F. Maxwell, 33\textdegree, Sovereign Grand Commander, Supreme Council, 33\textdegree, A.A.S.R., Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The new Sovereign Grand Commander, who is also a Knight Templar, carries on the work of the Supreme Council relinquished last year by Illustrious George A. Newbury.
BROTHER CHARLES WILSON PEALE

by

C. A. Burritt

Brother Charles Wilson Peale was one of the most popular portrait painters in the country. Although he painted many pictures of Brother Washington and other famous Americans, Peale never even saw a painting until he was a grown man.

He was born in April 1741 in Chester-town, Maryland, the son of Charles and Margaret (Triggs Matthews) Peale. He married Rachel Bruner January 12, 1762; was married again in 1791 to Elizabeth De Peyster, and a third time in 1805 to Hannah Moore.

Brother Peale apprenticed to a saddle-maker and went into his own business at the age of 20. He also taught himself watchmaking, silversmithing, unholstery and sign painting. He first saw paintings while on a shopping trip for leather supplies in Norfolk. He thought the pictures were bad and was sure he could do better himself.

When Peale returned home he began to paint, thought the task simple, and found he could make money doing it. He decided to make painting his career. Peale took lessons from John Hesselius and paid for them with one of his best saddles. He also took lessons from John Copley of Boston, and in 1766 a group of wealthy Maryland men financed a trip to London so Peale could study with a well-known artist of the time, Benjamin West.

Peale returned to America three years later and settled in Philadelphia. He traveled through Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, painting portraits as he went. Peale visited Mt. Vernon in 1772 and made the first known portrait of George Washington, when he was still a Virginia colonel. Later Peale was to paint many more pictures of Washington. Estimates are given that he had 14 sittings with Brother Washington and painted about 60 portraits of the first President. Portraits of Washington by Peale hang in the Brooklyn Museum, New York; the Metropolitan Museum; Princeton University, and the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

He also painted the portraits of such famous Americans as Martha Washington, John Hancock, Nathaniel Green, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay and John Paul Jones.

During the Revolutionary War Peale was active in recruiting for the Continental Army and was made captain of a company of volunteers. He commanded the 4th Battalion after serving in the battles of Germantown, Trenton and Princeton.

A well-liked commander, Peale would cook meals for his men if...
they were hungry and make them fur-lined moccasins if their boots wore out. In his spare time he painted miniature portraits of the officers. Peale’s Washington, Lafayette and Tench Tilgham hangs in the chamber of the house of delegates in Annapolis.

He was a Mason according to the records of old Williamsburg (Virginia) Lodge (now No. 6). “Brother Peale” is referred to in several instances in the 1775 minutes in connection with his request to borrow a portrait of Provincial Grand Master Peyton Randolph from the lodge so he could copy it.

Brother Peale believed anyone could learn to paint, and he taught his art to everyone in his family. He was the father of 17 children and two of his sons — Rembrandt and Raphaelle Peale — also became famous painters.

Peale was versatile in many fields. He enjoyed politics, mechanical things, music, nature and science as well as art. As an inventor he developed new types of eyeglasses, false teeth, gunpowder, shoes and the polygraph. He had a collection of live bears, birds, snakes and an elk. He also mounted and stuffed animals using a new technique of taxidermy that was about a century ahead of its time — the idea of placing each animal or bird in a simulated natural environment.

In 1781 Peale established what was known as “Peale’s Museum,” which housed his own paintings and many by members of his family, relics, specimens of natural history and other items. As his collection grew Peale moved it to Philosophical Hall and in 1802 to the second story of Independence Hall.

Washington sent him some pheasants and Benjamin Franklin sent him some specimens brought back from the Lewis and Clark Expedition for the museum.

In 1801 Peale raised some money, borrowed equipment from the Army and Navy and started out on the first scientific expedition in America. He went to a New York farm where he dug up two full skeletons in the mastodon and assembled and restored the remains for his museum. Two of Peale’s major later works, Exhuming the Mastodon and The Artist in His Studio, are direct results of this expedition.

Peale was also largely responsible for establishing the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 1805 and taught there for several years. He authored An Essay on Building Wooden Bridges, 1797; Introduction to a Course on Lectures on Natural History, 1800, and An Epistle to a Friend on the Mean of Preserving Health, 1803.

Many of Peale’s ideas were far ahead of his time. He believed all men were created equal; he hated slavery and freed the slaves he inherited. He never spanked his children and believed that girls should be educated. He also believed that men could live to be 112 if they only took care of themselves.

Peale himself remained quite active into old age. In his late seventies he improved on a new invention, the velocipede, an early form of bicycle. At 81 he learned a new style of European painting from his son, Rembrandt, and painted one of his most famous paintings, Christ Healing the Sick, at that time. Two years later he completed his own portrait.

He remained in good health and might well have lived to be 112 but during the winter of 1827, at the age of 86, he carried a trunk on his back for one mile without stopping. He was tired, wet and cold, and the strain on his heart was too much. Peale lived only a few months longer, and died February 22, 1827 in Philadelphia. He was buried in St. Peter’s Churchyard.
RUE DE TEMPLE

by

Ollie B. Berry

My wife and I had the pleasure to visit Paris for several days in August 1974 while visiting our son who is on military assignment in Europe.

One day we got on the subway and our son never told us where we were going until we walked up to a little wrought iron gate. He opened it and we walked into a small humble, lonely park. He said, "Now Dad, I'll tell you where we are." Then he began reading from his Paris guidebook.

We were in Temple Park, the location of the first Temple of the Knights Templar. It was from this exact place that those brave first Templars were taken and removed to the prison on Isle de St. Louis and there tortured if they would not deny their loyalty to the Order. From what we could gather it was from this place that Jacques DeMolay and his followers were taken to be tortured and burned.

Since that time they have named the street Rue De Temple. There is no need to say I tried to tread lightly for it seemed as if I were walking on sacred ground.

The Seine River, near where Jacques DeMolay was burned at the stake.

Above and below: Scenes from Temple Park in Paris, France.

The Temple Park is only a few blocks from the famed Opera House and Grand Hotel. DeMolay’s execution place is one block from the Seine book stalls and older historic sections of Paris.

Sir Knight Berry lives at 1121 South 11th Street, Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901.

‡
Even if Roy Wilford Riegel were not the Grand Master of Knights Templar, his masterful composition should be gratefully acknowledged in any publication which serves patriotic Americans. His commemoration of General Douglas MacArthur is concise but expository; little more needs to be said.

From a human interest angle, you may care to hear about a personal experience of mine. General MacArthur was due to pass by in a parade car, and I happened to be casually seated on the hood of a parked auto about twenty yards off the route. He had a charisma about him which few men have. He didn’t just nod and wave happily like most notables do. He would “zero in” on selected targets and make one really feel his personal magnetism.

Well, I never expected it could happen to me. I hadn’t lifted a finger when suddenly (there was no doubt) he was looking directly into my eyes, and then he waved at me. Right at ME! Naturally, I waved back, but I might have jumped to attention and saluted. Instead, a surge of emotion caused a tear to run down my cheek as he passed.

While the General commanded the Army Forces in the Far East, I was stationed in the Marianas Islands, Saipan, in particular, from which B29’s flew to attack Japanese forces. We were attached to the Commanding General’s staff of the Western Pacific Base Command Fiscal Staff in charge of all Finance Sections except under MacArthur’s command. Having been trained specially for this work, it was expected that we would have responsibility for all forward areas. However, as our Grand Master can appreciate, the General had his own ideas and retained his own prerogatives.

With reference to the comments about “General William Mitchell, who strongly endorsed air power and a unified control over it,” we Badgers and particularly we Milwaukeeans have long held “Billy” Mitchell in high esteem as one of our native sons.

Thank God for men like Mitchell and MacArthur, dissimilar as they were. Without men like Mitchell, men like MacArthur would have tasted bitter defeat. Perhaps even the U.S.A. might have suffered the same fate as Germany or Japan.

Although another city built a memorial for MacArthur as his “home by choice,” he, too, is a favorite “son” of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He continued to maintain his family’s legal residency here while traveling throughout the world for many years. As a very minor note in history, I may add that William M. Langen, my father, campaigned in 1945 under the Presidential primary slogan — “MacArthur, Wisconsin’s Favorite Son.” If more people had boosted the General for the Presidency, history would probably have been much different, and the General would never have needed to say, “I now close my military career and just fade away — an old soldier who tried to do his duty as God gave him the light to see that duty.”

I trust our Grand Master will not take offense if I paraphrase a few of his own words: “General MacArthur was relieved as Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers” because he “tried to end the conflict with a decisive victory.” That is the truth. He goes on to say, “He gave Japan a balanced budget and required the government to live within that budget.” Maybe Dad was right: perhaps MacArthur should have been President. What would we give for a man of that caliber as a candidate for the Presidency of the U.S.A. today?

Sir Knight Langen lives at 2805 North 27th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53210.

*
I was very much interested to see the photograph of my dear friend Douglas MacArthur being sworn in as Chief of Staff of the United States Army, while standing behind him was my cherished friend and fellow Sigma Chi, Pat Hurley. In your description of this photograph, General Hurley is listed as Secretary of State. The Historical Picture Service gave you a bum steer. Unless my memory plays me false, Pat Hurley was serving as Secretary of War.

It is too late to do anything about your most interesting magazine, but I thought you would like to correct your own records and perhaps that of the Historical Picture Service, in relation to Pat Hurley.

I happened to be one of the original group who established the MacArthur Memorial Foundation and all the appurtenances thereto at Norfolk.

Jean MacArthur was a native of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and lived in Nashville and was the niece of the late William E. Beard, then state news editor of Nashville Banner, which I owned and published for many years. Mr. Beard was responsible for the General’s use of the cob pipe.

Jean was my guest at the Manila Hotel in 1936 when I was on Pan American’s first flight to China. The General’s mother had just died, and he was not appearing in public, but I knew Jean was in love with him and they married the following spring. She was a great soldier herself and is still one of our dearest friends.

That is a tremendously fine story by Grand Master Riegel. It brings back many memories. I am greatly indebted to you and Grand Master Riegel for a Yuletide-New Year treat, so interesting and authoritative.

The picture of MacArthur signing the surrender papers on the quarterdeck of The Missouri is a duplicate, except in one detail, which I treasure quite highly. It is being signed by my late, beloved friend, Chester Nimitz, for the United States and was autographed to me by the Admiral.

Another interesting sideline is that I persuaded Cordell Hull to ask then Secretary of the Navy, Claude Swanson, to name a ten-thousand-ton cruiser for the City of Nashville. When this was done, my two daughters became the first joint sponsors of a United States Man of War. I presented the silver service to the cruiser.

General MacArthur selected The Nashville as his flagship when he returned to the Philippines. He and my good friend Carlos Romulo, my late, cherished friend, Courtney Whitney, and others of that famous group went ashore from The Nashville.

One of my prized possessions is a photograph of MacArthur with my old shipmate, Captain Charles E. Coney (now Rear Admiral, retired), on the navigation bridge of The Nashville shortly before dropping anchor at Leyte.

A 101-gun salute to my fellow Sir Knights as we enter the Bicentennial of this blessed country of ours.

Brother Stahlman lives on Harpeth Drive, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027. His postscript states: “Pat Hurley and I were jointly honored by the Sigma Chi Fraternity with the presentation of its highest honor, the Significant Sig Medal, in Boston in 1937.”

‡

Just the Beginning

OUR 200th ANNIVERSARY
St. John's Bicentennial

Donald D. Thomas, Commander of St. John's Conclave No. 1, Wilmington, Delaware, has invited Templars and Master Masons to attend a series of programs commemorating the nation's bicentennial.

The first was "These, My Brethren," January 8. Next will be: "Delaware – The Revolution and the Craft," February 12; "The Lodge in the 17th Regiment of Foot," March 11, with the final lecture, "The Dover Light Infantry," scheduled April 8. The thirty-minute programs are held in the Red Room, Masonic Temple, starting at 8 p.m.

Grand Lodge Medallions

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has issued a Medallion to commemorate the Bicentennial anniversary of the formation of our nation. It bears the likeness of George Rogers Clark, the first known Freemason to come to the area that is now called Illinois. The reverse side has the Grand Lodge seal.

Two types of the Medallion were made: a limited 1776 numbered, in silver, and some in bronze. The price of the silver Medallions is $20 each, and of the bronze $2.50 each. They are available from Paul R. Stephens, Grand Secretary, P.O. Box 110, Rushville, Illinois 62681.

New Knighthood Release

The Grand Encampment office at Chicago has recently completed the printing of the "Knighthood Program Planning Guide," a release distributed to DeMolays in the Order of Knighthood. This Order, supported by the Grand Encampment and the individual Grand Commanderies, is designed for young men between the ages of 17 and 21 who are members of DeMolay.
Grand Master Visits Oklahoma

Most Eminent Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle participated in the Installation of Officers of Bethlehem Commandery No. 45 December 13 at the Masonic Center in Broadway Circle, Oklahoma. A luncheon honoring Grand Master Riegle was held at noon at O'Mealy's Cafeteria, Oklahoma City. A reception was held following the Installation in the Masonic Center Dining Room. Several other Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment, Grand Commanders, Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas also attended.

Idaho Annual Conclave Change

Original information received from Idaho announced that the 1976 Annual Conclave would be held May 25-26. This was released in General Order No. 10 to Grand Encampment voting members and on page 31 of the January Knight Templar Magazine. A correction from Boise now changes the Annual Conclave to April 25-26.

International Order, Job's Daughters

Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master, was on hand for the second annual Grand Session, Grand Guardian Council of the International Order of Job's Daughters, December 11-13 at St. Petersburg Beach, Florida. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation was the project of the year.

Mrs. Thelma “Dee” Wagner and J. “Al” Johnson were the presiding officers for the Grand Session. The new officers were installed by Mrs. Idakatherine Schenk, Supreme Guardian, Missouri, and Associate Supreme Guardian George Cawcutt from Wisconsin.

Sangre de Cristo Tabernacle No. L, Nebraska, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, finds itself in a very unique position to participate in the observance of our Bicentennial year, writes P.G.C. Charles F. Adams, Registrar. “By an unusual coincidence, both of the National membership numbers featured in the observance, being 1776 and 1976, were assigned to members of Sangre de Cristo Tabernacle.

“National Number 1776 is held by Knight Priest C. Harold Edwards, Lincoln, a Past Grand Commander and Past Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters in Nebraska.

“National Number 1976 is held by Knight Priest Edward M. Knight, Alliance. Sir Knight Knight (the repetition is correct) is a Past Grand Commander of Nebraska, a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., and Intendant General for the Division of Nebraska for the United Grand Imperial Council of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine.”

Three Opportunities

Payment of $30.00, $50.00 or $100.00 helps your Commandery, supports the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and exempts you from Templar Assessment. Do it NOW during the 8th Voluntary Campaign – In the Spirit of '76!
Sir Knight Clair G. Eckman, pictured above, of Strasburg, Pennsylvania, regularly selects small articles and poems from the *Knight Templar Magazine* to be published in the *Strasburg Weekly News*, his hometown daily newspaper.

Sir Knight Eckman, who celebrated his 74th birthday in September, is a member of Lancaster Commandery No. 13, Lancaster; a 51-year member of Lamberton Lodge No. 476 and Strasburg I.O.O.F., and a 50-year member of Harrisburg Consistory 32°.

In open ceremonies by the York Rite Bodies of Tijuana, Lower California, Mexico, December 10, 1975, recognition was extended to Sir Knight Hector Martinez De Alva, P.C., "for his generosity in having donated to the York Rite Bodies of Tijuana the property upon which the new Masonic Temple was constructed." This testimonial was in the form of a "Diploma of Merit," hand engraved in colors.

Immediately after this brief ceremony, Sir Knight William Webber, K.T.C.H., installed the Officers of the Commandery for 1976. Tijuana Commandery's newly installed Commander is Sir Knight Francisco Perez Ortiz.

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**BICENTENNIAL METALLIC ADHESIVE SEALS**

Especially earmarked for the 200th Anniversary of our nation are circular Bicentennial Self-Adhesive Seals for use on mailing envelopes, letters, documents and decal-type objects. The Seals are in three colors, one-and-a-half inches in diameter, with a Cross and Crown in the center, surrounded by the wording: "Knights Templar U.S.A., Salute to the Nation's Bicentennial."

The Bicentennial Seals are available in strips or rolls, dependent upon the quantity, at 12 Seals for $1.00; 100 for $7.50, and $35.00 for 500. Postage is prepaid. Checks for these self-adhesive labels may be forwarded to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.
RETURN JONATHAN MEIGS

by
James R. Case, K.T.C.H.

Few Connecticut men who fought in the Revolutionary War equaled our Brother Return Jonathan Meigs for his “prudence, activity, enterprise and valor.” He commanded the Connecticut Light Infantry at the storming of Stony Point on the night of July 15-16, 1779, a testimony to his reputation for leadership, discretion and dependability. His record from the Lexington Alarm until the Treaty of Peace was without a single unfavorable entry.

Born in Middletown in 1740, he was a hatter by trade as was his father before him. When the war broke out he left business and family and led a company to the siege of Boston, later in the summer being selected among those who were to accompany Arnold on the celebrated march through the Maine woods in the effort to take Quebec by surprise.

In the New Year’s Eve assault on the citadel he was taken prisoner and, although soon paroled, was not exchanged for 3 years, re-entering active service under Colonel and Brother Samuel Wyllys as second in command of a Connecticut regiment later known as the “Leather Caps.” from the distinctive headgear they had adopted — in spite of the fact that the Colonel was a hatter!

In reprisal for the British raid on Danbury in April 1777, an expedition was organized to retaliate by an attack against Sag Harbor on Long Island. From Guilford, Meigs led about 200 men across the Sound in whale boats, landed and moved overland in a surprise attack, destroying much shipping and war-like stores. For this exploit he was voted a sword of honor by Congress.

In 1780 his courage and persuasive arguments suppressed a mutiny among Connecticut troops in winter cantonment, for which he received a letter of commendation from Washington.

After the war Meigs became interested in the Ohio Land Company and went to Marietta as one of the surveyors. He was later made a Justice of the Peace and Clerk of the Territorial Court when it was organized. He continued his duties as surveyor and was frequently employed in negotiations with the Indians.

His ability and integrity was again recognized in his appointment by President Jefferson in 1801 as agent to the Cherokee Nation in Georgia. They gave him the name “White Path” as a testimonial to his square dealings. He continued in that capacity until his death at Hiwassee, Tennessee, in 1823.

Meigs was the father of Brother Return Jonathan Meigs, Jr., Postmaster General of the U.S., Governor, Senator and Chief Justice of Ohio.

While in camp at Redding during the winter of 1778-9 Meigs was a guest of honor at the “festivals” of American Union Lodge but did not become a Mason until 1790 when he was Initiated and Passed in that famous Lodge which later relocated in permanence at Marietta.

Back in Connecticut on a visit in 1791 he was the orator at the St. John’s Day exercises of Wooster Lodge No. 10, in Colchester and for his discourse was rewarded by being raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason! He served as Master of American Union Lodge in 1801.

A contemporary describes him as a “thin, spare man of medium height and possessing a highly intelligent countenance.” A later tribute characterized → → →

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Proposals for “Notice of Conclave”

Proposals to come before the 53rd Triennial Conclave at Kansas City, Missouri, must be received by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment by or before June 1, 1976. A “Notice of Conclave,” listing committee meetings and all Proposals, will be mailed to Grand Encampment voting members by June 29, 1976, a full 60 days in advance of the Conclave.

Voting members of the Grand Encampment are the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General of each jurisdiction, all Past Grand Commanders, also the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each Subordinate Commandery while holding office.

Proposals from voting members may be mailed to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

“Beat the Drums”

Grand Commander Kent Berkley, Kentucky, has forwarded a special message to Constituent Commanders, Recorders, Past Grand Commanders and all Grand Officers and Inspection Staff requesting their cooperation in “beating the drums” for the Bicentennial Pilgrimage to Arlington in April. Sir Knight Berkley’s letter is reproduced in part:

“As you are the backbone of Temp lary in Kentucky, I feel that I can call on no finer group to beat the drums for this worthwhile project than you. The time is swiftly approaching for our Easter Pilgrimage and we want as many Kentucky Templars as possible to take advantage of this wonderful and unique opportunity. They may reserve a place on the busses by simply sending all or a part of the $105.00 to Sir Knight Carroll. A full itinerary is planned and it looks like an exciting time. Let’s all get behind this and make it a big success.”

Sir Knight Billy Joe Carroll’s address is 3470 Buckner Lane, Paducah, Kentucky 42001.

...RETURN JOHATHAN MEIGS

him as “a pattern of excellence as patriot, philanthropist and Christian.” Freemasonry honors him as one who ever and well sustained the honor, reputation and dignity of the fraternity.

Sir Knight Case is a Life Member of Wooster Lodge No. 10, the Lodge of Meigs. Case resides at 39 Highland Avenue, Bethel, Connecticut 06801.

Bicentennial Paperweights

Mementos of America’s 200th Birthday Anniversary – substantial three-color Bicentennial Paperweights – are available from the Grand Recorder’s Office, Chicago, at $3.00 each (or pre-packaged lots of 60 at $2.50 each), with postage prepaid. The paperweights are two-by-two inches, three-quarters of an inch deep, cork-protected, with a three-color Knights Templar metal insignia in the center. There is no charge for postage from the office of the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.
THE CONFERRAL OF MASONIC DEGREES

by

C. Lydon Harrell, Jr., K.Y.C.H.
Virginia Supplement Editor

We should give deep study and consideration to this subject in order to arrive at the real purpose of Masonry itself, and hence the purpose of the conferring of degrees. In doing this, we must have as the basis of our whole thought process the reason why we exist as souls and in spirit and why we inhabit a physical body here on earth.

The most important thing for us to realize is that we exist because of God’s love for us. We must never lose sight of this; it should always be in our minds. Then we must realize what we are and of what we are made. In the book of Genesis we are told that we are made in God’s Image. In the 46th Psalm we are told to say to ourselves, “Be still and know that I am God.” Thus, God created us in His Own Image and out of Himself, and loves everyone of us as His creation, His children and spiritual beings which are a part of Him.

In order for us to acquire the wisdom and ability to love all impersonally (which we must have in order to be qualified to enter into the high spiritual worlds referred to as Heaven), we were sent out on the journeys of lives in the physical world to learn and to do, as we are taught in the 5th Degree of the Scottish Rite. The soul and spirit must be refined from all impediments of sin and error in order to acquire wisdom through experience.

As we pass through these lives we must be taught to stand on our own two feet, to walk on our own, to understand and speak the spoken word, to read and write, and learn the many lessons taught in schools and colleges, most of which are directed toward training us for vocations in the physical world. Depending on our parents, we also begin learning of spiritual matters, the first of which is our parents love for us and ours for them, and then of our love for others and their love for us. In Sunday schools and churches our teachings are centered on the Word of God. We are taught there by the lecture method — lessons given by Sunday school teachers and sermons given by ministers. Those more interested in learning expand their knowledge by studying the Bible and other spiritual writings. At the age of 21, when we have obtained sufficient training and have attained the maturity to better understand spiritual Truths, we become eligible for the initiation into these Truths as revealed in the various Masonic degrees. Those so disposed seek the Light as taught in these degrees by petitioning for them. We who work in Masonry and especially those who work in conferring the Masonic degrees become the dispensers of God’s Light in a manner different from any other. Here, by pageantry and symbolism, we endeavor to teach the lessons of our Great Architect with the seeker as a participant.

Masonry as we know it began many years ago, as operative Lodges or guilds to teach, perpetuate and improve the great art of architecture and its related crafts. As time passed it broadened its scope to include the teaching and personification of the great Spiritual Truths of our Great Architect of the Universe. According to the records in existence, this movement began to grow greatly and spread around the world at about the beginning of the 18th Century. Until now, that has become its sole purpose.

Why is this function so important? Why should we seek the Light of these great Spiritual Truths?
Let us consider the instance of a vessel entering a port during darkness. There are lighted buoys to mark the channel and to guide it into port. There are also buoys with whistles, horns or bells in the event the weather prevents the lights from being seen. Should the crew not see the light or hear the message of the buoy, the ship would probably run aground, become stuck fast to the bottom, smash up rocks or other impediments, and founder with great danger to the crew.

Let us also consider the instance of the man who drove his car over a muddy road and had his windshield so thickly and completely covered by mud splashed by other cars that he could no longer see how to drive. If he continued to drive under this condition, he would certainly crash and possibly receive terrible injuries or meet his death.

Now let us liken ourselves to be under similar conditions in this great journey of life on earth. As we grow older and develop our personalities we take on many impurities such as attachment to things other than God, desires of all kinds, vanity, other forms of ego, greed, lust for power and satisfaction of fleshly desires, jealousy, suspicion, gossip, judging others, hatred, prejudice, laziness, hard-headedness, impatience, anger, inconsiderateness, selfishness and so on. By the time we have matured, we have taken on so many of these impurities that we are cut off from the Light of God.

Like the crew of the ship which does not see the lights of the buoys or get the message of the bell buoys, we are diverted from our course toward God or become completely stranded. As the man in the car who, in order to proceed to his destination, must clear the mud from his windshield we must remove the impurities and impediments which have surrounded and afflicted us to the point that we can see the Light of God and proceed on the path to Him, which Jesus tells us is straight and narrow. As the driver removes enough mud to see through the windshield, he beholds that the sunlight shining on the countryside contains great beauty, the true reality of which is hindered or prevented by spots of mud and a film of dirt still on the windshield. He finds that to enjoy this great beauty, he must remove every bit of the mud and film that hinders his view. So we too should remove these impurities and impediments of sin and error that surround us here on earth and endeavor to become that Perfect Master which is our true destiny in life. We can do this only by seeing the Light of God and following it to the end of that straight and narrow path. As the driver who truly realized the beauty of the countryside only after he had removed enough mud and film to get the benefit of all of the sun’s light, only after we have removed from around us enough of the impurities and impediments that afflict us will we experience the radiant beauty of our Heavenly Father, develop an awareness of our Oneness with Him and see His Light in its fullness that will guide us to complete consciousness with Him which is our true course and destination.

The conferral of Masonic degrees helps each of us ascertain what impurities and impediments afflict us and guides us toward ridding ourselves of them. In each degree we are given more light toward this end. We can progress as fast as we are willing to work, as slow as we wish, or not at all.

Those participating in the conferring of the degrees are carrying out work for our Great Architect as important as that performed by ministers and other church workers. The purpose is the same — to make other Masons and ourselves as aware of the Light and spiritual truths as we can. We have taken on the sacred duty of doing our level best in the performance of every task we have assumed, for it is in the service of God and our fellow man, a creation of God, that we perform.

The Greatest Teacher our world has ever known came to minister to others, not to be ministered to. Nothing was too great a task or too small for Him to do.

Experiencing God’s love is our reward. Nothing could be greater. Nothing more should be desired.
REPORT FROM KANSAS CITY

"Major program planning for the Fifty-Third Triennial Conclave August 28-September 2, 1976 in Kansas City, Missouri is well under way. The principal events now are pretty well blocked out, and the committee is getting down to the nuts and bolts details.

"The committee, headed by General Co-Chairmen Sir Knight Merlin R. Grundy and George H. Bowen, held a regular meeting January 4, 1976 with Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel in attendance. The committee meets at least once a month regularly from now until conclave time, the first Sunday afternoon of each month. But there will be many sub-committee meetings and contacts by individual committee members at random to buckle down the many details necessary to make the conclave outstanding.

"Already the committee and the Grand Recorder's office find it necessary to clarify a main point about registrations, which is that only voting delegates to the conclave and distinguished guests will be housed at the Hotel Muehlebach, the convention headquarters. This means in some cases that delegations will have to be split, the voting members at the Muehlebach, the others members at a hotel nearby.

"When making reservations for your own delegation, request the Muehlebach only for voting members, and designate other choices for the balance of the delegation. Reservations are available now for the conclave by writing to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1221 Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri 64105.

"In addition to the major program events, outstanding entertainment is scheduled for August 28 and August 31. Details about these and other important program events will be revealed in advance in the Knight Templar. Watch succeeding issues."

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Ascension Day Service

The Templar Knights Commanders Association, Metropolitan District of New York, invites family, friends and Knights Templar to attend the Parade and Church Service in commemoration of Ascension Day May 30, 1976 at historic Marble Collegiate Church on Fifth Avenue at 29th Street in New York City.

The Parade will start at the Eternal Light Monument in Madison Square Park at 24th Street at 3:45 P.M., with the Church Service at 4:00 P.M.

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News from Norristown

Copies of a book of Bicentennial interest may be ordered at a price of $5.00 postpaid from Ronald E. Heaton, 728 Haws Avenue, Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401.

The publication is announced as: "The Lodge at Fredericksburgh, A Digest of the Early Records by Ronald E. Heaton, Norristown, Pennsylvania, and a Nominal Roll of members, visitors, et al by James R. Case, Co-Author, Bethel, Connecticut."
IN HALLOWED MEMORY

Joseph B. Smith
Minnesota
Grand Commander — 1936
Born November 26, 1890
Died November 24, 1975

Arthur W. Goodin
Georgia
Grand Commander — 1948
Born September 1, 1888
Died December 21, 1975

Donald C. Martindell
Kansas
Grand Commander — 1954
Born June 26, 1899
Died December 31, 1975

LORD BE WITH YOU

Lord be with you in the morning
When the dew is on the rose,
And the glory of the sunrise
Through the misty vapor glows;
When the kindling light is mirrored
On the stream’s unquenched face,
In the tree tops, tiny songsters
In the chorus take their place;
Robin calls and redbird whistles
In the golden sunlight’s ray —
Lord be with you in the morning,
To help you start the day.

Lord be with you at the noontime,
When the world is filled with light,
And flower-fragrant breezes
Thrill your soul with sweet delight;
When the sky is blue and cloudless
And the earth is smiling too,
A world of joy and beauty
Speaks in whispers low to you.
Life with ecstasy is calling
As you pause from work or play —
Lord be with you at the noontime,
To bless you in the day.

Lord be with you in the evening,
When the western sky is red,
And the clouds in gold and purple
Float so stately o’er head;
Like some glorious pageant’s closing
Or a sequel to the morn —
In the eastern sky a star gleams
And the night bird calls forlorn;
When the cool, light breezes whisper
In a soft caressing way —
Lord be with you in the evening,
To help you close the day.

Lord be with you in the nighttime,
When the cares of day are through,
And the moon in all her glory
Smiles upon the silvery dew;
When the whip-poor-will is calling
With a rippling melody,
In your heart you feel the magic
Of a sweet tranquility;
When beneath the honeysuckles
Long, dark shadows creep —
Lord be with you in the nighttime,
To guide you off to sleep.

Charles M. Houpt

Although not a Past Grand Commander, the passing of Sir Knight Charles M. Houpt, Altoona, calls for more than normal mention. The late Charles M. Houpt, 78, retired maintenance engineer, was a Past Grand Master of R. & S. Masons of Pennsylvania, a member of the Knights York Cross of Honor, Altoona Scottish Rite bodies, Jaffa Shrine Temple, Constania Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Tabernacle VII, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, and the recipient of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor in 1972. He was Recorder of Mountain Commandery No. 10 for 10 years.

Leonard Pounds
721 North Carolina Street
Louisiana, Missouri 63353

February 1976
YORK-SCOTTISH RITE FESTIVAL, REUNION

Freemasons in the St. Louis, Missouri, area saw a dream of long standing become a reality December 20 and 27, 1975. These were the dates when the Degrees and Orders of both the York and Scottish Rites were conferred upon a class of nearly one hundred candidates.

It is estimated that this is the first time in Missouri a Brother Master Mason could become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason and a Knight Templar in joint ceremonies. Grand Recorder Bruce H. Hunt, Past Grand Master of Masons, says: "How better could the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist be celebrated than by bringing together in a united effort to promote their mutual interests the two great rites of Freemasonry — the York Rite and the Scottish Rite."

The first joint York Rite-Scottish Rite Festival-Reunion was named the HERMAN A. ORLICK CLASS in honor of the junior Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Missouri, M.W. Brother Herman A. Orlick, K.T., 33°. Frater Orlick attended all ceremonies and addressed the class on more than one occasion.

Wrote Sir Knight Hunt: "Masonic unity and cooperation began when the occasion was planned, and continued to ripen as the dates for the conferring of the work approached. It was said then, and can be repeated again and again that never was there more harmony, nor were the several Degrees and Orders ever conferred with greater meaning or smoothness of operation than in this festival-reunion.

"At the conclusion of the Order of the Temple, Moolah Shrine Temple of St. Louis, Missouri conducted 'cold sands' for all who had petitioned."
Sir Knight Harry G. Wiles, Kansas No. 14, was elected National Commander of the American Legion at the closing session of the 57th Annual National Convention of the 2,700,000-member war veterans organization in Minneapolis, Minnesota, last year.

A member of the Kansas Bar Association, American Bar Association, Federal Bar Association and National Lawyers Club, he is active Masonically and a member of the Elks and Eagles. He is also Director, former President and presently Chairman of the Board of Directors of Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Macksville. He is an Eagle Scout and an advisory member, Executive Committee, Boy Scouts of America. With his wife and three children, Sir Knight Wiles lives in Topeka.

He is a veteran of World War II. His service in the U.S. Navy was as a naval officer in the Office of Naval Intelligence from 1943 to 1946. Among other degrees (B.S., University of Kansas; L.L.B., Juris Doctor degrees, University of Kansas School of Law), he graduated from the U.S. Naval School of Oriental Languages at the University of Colorado, specializing in the Japanese language.

God built a continent of glory and filled it with treasures untold.
He carpeted it with soft rolling prairies and pillered it with thundering mountains.
He studded it with soft flowing fountains and traced it with long winding streams.
He graced it with deep shadowed forests and filled them with songs of the birds.

Then he called unto a thousand peoples and summoned the bravest among them.
They came from the ends of the earth, each bearing a gift and a hope.
The glory of adventure was in their eyes and the glory of hope within their souls and out of the labor of men and the bounty of earth, out of the prayers of men and the hopes of the world, God fashioned a nation in love, blessed it with a purpose sublime and called it AMERICA.

Submitted by Konrad H. Stummeier
Lemmon Commandery No. 25
South Dakota

A PRAYER
Give us, Lord, a bit o’ sun,
A bit o’ work and a bit o’ fun,
Give us in all the struggle and sputter,
Our daily bread and a bit o’ butter,
Give us health our keep to make
And a bit to spare for other’s sake
Give us, too, a bit of song,
And a tale and a book to help us along,
Give us, Lord, a chance to be
Our goodly best, brave, wise, and free,
Our goodly best for ourselves and others
Till all men learn to live as brothers.

An Old English Prayer

February 1976
Montana P.G.M. on Medallion

The Rev. Hugh Duncan, Grand Master of Masons of Montana, 1883-1884, is pictured on one side of a medallion struck to observe the Centennial of Methodism in Butte.

Brother Duncan was the first regularly appointed Pastor of Mountain View Methodist Episcopal Church in Butte, serving in 1875-1876. He was later given an appointment in Idaho, where an Eastern Star Chapter was named for him in recognition of his work.

On the reverse side, the medallion depicts the original church building and denotes the Centennial period, 1875-1975. The medallions are available, at a cost of $2.50 for antique bronze, $15.00 for silver, from Butte United Methodist Parish, 1621 Thornton Avenue, Butte, Montana 59701. Enclose a check or money order.

No Complaints

Sir Knight Theodore York, Palestine Commandery No. 33, a resident of Bainbridge, Ohio, writes:

"Sir Knight Robert O. Shaver says your print is too small.

"At 73 I have no difficulty reading the magazine. But those who do, are missing a great opportunity to interest younger men in Templar.

"Those who, like Sir Knight Shaver, have difficulty reading, should have a younger, commendable person to read it for them.

"There is no better way to recruit the younger generation into our honorable and beneficial society."

Archbishop of Canterbury

The Most Rev. Donald F. Coggan, the archbishop of Canterbury, said in his first visit to the United States that churches should be training grounds for "Christian commandos." The archbishop, who succeeded Michael Ramsey in 1974, said too many churches "have sunken into clubs."

Willcutt China “Wizard”

Sir Knight Taber S. Willcutt of Wilton, Connecticut, is known in fine china circles as the "wizard of Connecticut," according to an article published in his local newspaper.

People from throughout the East send him their shattered precious china pieces to be repaired. Sir Knight Willcutt, a member of Clinton Commandery No. 3, became interested in his hobby about 15 years ago when he broke a highly treasured plate that had been a gift from his mother. Using clear glue he mended it so that no one could detect where the break had occurred.

He has since switched to a special German cement that makes it impossible to break a piece in the same spot that was repaired. Among the items Sir Knight Willcutt has repaired are a figurine of Moses which had broken fingers and a shattered arm; a large white china dog with half its neck missing, and a beer stein in 13 pieces.

Galeener’s “Squumkins”


Last year Sir Knight Galeener had "too many acorn squash and pie pumpkins so he threw out those that could not be used in the garden," says Sir Knight Russell. "Next year the seeds multiplied and, being in close proximity to the bee hives, caused the squash and pumpkins to become cross-bred."

As a result, Sir Knight Galeener placed his "squumkins" on the table as decorations at a covered dish dinner of Commandery No. 68. The squumkins are also edible and the seeds, which can be kept and steamed, are "quite tasty."

"Our chapeaux are off to you Sir Knight Kenny for your discovery," says Recorder Russell.
I find it rather difficult to write an article for the February issue of the Magazine, while all around me are the sounds of Christmas.

February, the shortest month of the year, is time for reflection on the past and to culminate your plans for the remainder of the Year.

Membership and the conferring of the Orders is, as always, the first consideration of every Commander, so that each Commandery may show a gain, and thereby turn the loss column of this Grand Jurisdiction into one of justifiable pride in the perpetuation of this Grand Order for the future.

Any study or experience which will enable us to develop our organization for service to our fellowmen should be eagerly welcomed. The development of our individual members so that they may be better fitted for their part in the affairs of the world, to make them leaders in their Communities by the force of their character and through their recognition and assumption of the rights, duties and responsibilities of leaders and citizens is a work that is today appealing to Freemasonry and to Masons with a strength and vividness that will accept no denial.

Too frequently the great latent power of our Fraternity is unused. Sometimes it is misdirected. Seldom is its full potency completely applied. There are no greater tasks to be undertaken, nor any more promising in results, than those of first developing from our members, both leaders and workers, and then utilizing the full strength of our organization and of the individuals composing it, in a benevolent effort to bring the principles of the Christian faith and the practice of the Christian virtues to a position of preeminence such as they have not hitherto enjoyed.

The stature of our two great Presidents whose Birthdays we celebrate this month, Washington and Lincoln, will remain with us as vivid and as appealing as at that time. Theirs was a destiny no one could foresee, culminating in a heritage entrusted to us, for which we must be constantly alerted to the danger of permissiveness and complacency whereby all is lost. Remember the "SPIRIT OF 76."

A thought from our Grand Master, "Get a new member to replace you, and then get another to continue and improve TEMPLARY."

Francis R. Black
Grand Commander

February, 1976
EASTER WEEKEND PILGRIMAGE TO ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

APRIL 17-18, more information will be forthcoming from Sir Knight Ewart Roberts, R.E.P.G.C., Chairman, 1535 Luzerne Street Ext., Johnstown 15905, or Sir Knight J. Harry Hoffman, Vice-Chairman, 1383 Hill Street, York, 17403.

Ascension Banquet and Memorial Service, National Cemetery, Gettysburg, Saturday and Sunday, April 24-25.

ANNUAL GRAND CONCLAVE, MAY 23-24-25-26, YORK COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA, YORK.

“TOUR OF CHURCHES” HELD IN PITTSTON

A Day of Prayer Service and a walking tour of downtown, churches was held recently in Pittston, sponsored by the Pittston Bicentennial Committee, Protestant Laymen’s Association and the John F. Kennedy Council, Knights of Columbus, and Wyoming Valley Commandery, Knights Templar.

The service started in the First Baptist Church which is also celebrating its 200th anniversary. Nello Ricetti, executive director of Luzerne Intermediate Unit, was principal speaker.

Following the church service, a flag and certificate were presented to Pittston City by County Commissioner Edmund Wideman Jr., designating Pittston an official “Bicentennial Community” due to the number of patriotic programs planned in the next year by the City’s Bicentennial Committee.

Shown above, from the left, first row: George Samo, Knights Templar; Mrs. Maria Capolarella, Pittston City Bicentennial chairman; John Martin, chairman of Sunday’s observance and a member of Knights of Columbus; Commissioner Wideman, Ricetti and Spencer Masters, Knights Templar.

Second row: Ambrose McGowan, Knights of Columbus; Albert Bartoli, Lee Marcino and Earl Campbell, members of Pittston Bicentennial committee; Howard Fedrick, Luzerne County Bicentennial Committee, and Bert Jones, Knights Templar.

A walking tour of churches in downtown Pittston was then held and included First Presbyterian Church, United Methodist Church, Temple Agudath Achim and St. John the Evangelist Church.


pennsylvania supplement

123rd annual Conclave in York
The following represents the standings of Grand Commanderies at or above the $500.00 level in the 8th Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation as compiled during the week of January 12.

Ohio ........................................ $8,508.00
Florida ....................................... 7,860.70
Georgia ....................................... 4,416.65
Texas .......................................... 4,321.50
Mississippi ................................... 3,544.50
Pennsylvania .................................. 3,092.90
Michigan ...................................... 2,814.04
Mass. & R.I. ................................... 2,763.16
Tennessee ..................................... 2,588.50
New York ...................................... 2,032.50
Washington ................................... 1,935.00
North Carolina ................................ 1,740.00
Virginia ....................................... 1,740.00
Utah ............................................ 1,735.40
Illinois ....................................... 1,637.26
Louisiana ...................................... 1,538.00
Maryland ...................................... 1,337.00
Arkansas ....................................... 1,110.00
Wyoming ....................................... 836.00
Kentucky ....................................... 778.00
Colorado ...................................... 741.75
West Virginia .................................. 704.00
South Carolina ................................ 692.00
Iowa ............................................ 676.31
New Jersey .................................... 626.12
Connecticut .................................... 579.16
California ..................................... 555.00
Oklahoma ...................................... 535.00
Indiana ......................................... 518.00
Minnesota ...................................... 500.00

The 8th Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation extends from December 1, 1975 through April 30, 1976. All funds raised will be counted for Commandery credit except Wills and Bequests.

Individual Commanderies are asked to relay all reports, on forms provided, through their Grand Commandery Chairmen. They in turn will then forward copies of the reports to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in Springfield, Illinois.

To “The Greatest Gang”

Melvin A. Pixley, Executive Officer in Southern California, International Supreme Council, DeMolay, describes in a January release his “gratitude and appreciation” for DeMolay’s Bicentennial efforts in the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year’s Day.

To quote, in part: “Obviously, there is no way to reproduce all the names and express individual thanks. However, effort was made by me to personally greet, shake hands and thank everyone who participated.

“Perhaps the highlight of the entire project was the enthusiasm, spirit and comradery of everyone involved. Mom Pixley and others stated this had to be one of the finest hours of the DeMolays, Job’s Daughters and the Masons.”

Sir Knight Pixley says there were 1,704 young people and adults occupied in “building ten floats at the Rose Palace.”

He closes with this expression and description: “Gang, without question or equivocation, you are the GREATEST!


Wisconsin DeMolay Publication Note

The Badger, “DeMolay’s Oldest Continual Publication,” reports that Fond du Lac Chapter elected new officers in November to help “revitalize the chapter.” Kendall Karst was elected Master Councilor. Installation was held December 3 with Fond du Lac’s Sweetheart, Miss Julie Nussbaum, present for the ceremonies.
Historical Tidbit

Sir Knight John H. Poloney, Lincoln, Illinois, relayed an article – perhaps apocryphal, perhaps true – from an Associated Press article with an Albuquerque, New Mexico, dateline. A portion follows.

“ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) – On a spring day in 1836, Mexican General Santa Anna, the man who stormed the Alamo, stood before a firing squad under the command of General Sam Houston. But the triggers were never pulled.

“The reason? Santa Anna gave a little sign, and Sam Houston’s eyes fairly popped out.

“Santa Anna was a Mason, and he had given a secret distress signal to Houston – a brother Mason.

“The Mexican general was allowed his freedom after signing a peace treaty.

“You have to get into secret archives to get this kind of history,’ says Perry Van Arsdale, historian, linguist and cartographer.

“Van Arsdale and his geologist wife, Mildred, have been delving into secret archives, dusty court records, and old memories the past 20 years to collect a comprehensive history of Pioneer America – the mainland of the United States before 1900.”

East-West Game

January 3 was the date of the 1976 Shrine East-West Game at Stanford Stadium, California. Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, was one of the 11 honored guests January 2 at the Fairmont Hotel reception, San Francisco, hosted by Islam Illustrious Potentate Charles B. Farrow in honor of Imperial Potentate W. W. Bennett, Kansas City, Missouri.

Display Of The Flag

The following item appeared in the October 1910 issue of the New England Craftsman.

“The origin of the custom of displaying the American flag in Templar parades is interesting. Prior to 1880 only the beauserant and banners were permitted to be carried on such occasions. At the conclave in Washington that year Sir Knight Colonel W. P. Wiltsee, of Cincinnati Commandery No. 3, a veteran of the Civil War, was in attendance. He had provided a beautiful silk American flag, and as the parade moved on Pennsylvania Avenue he joined the ranks with his flag and took up position beside the banner bearer of his Commandery. He was counseled that it was against the usage of the Order and might not be permitted.

“With characteristic bluntness the veteran replied that if the flag of his country could not be displayed in a parade of which he was a part then he would not march. He carried the flag the entire distance and it was cheered to the echo.

“Since this episode Old Glory has been prominent in each succeeding conclave parade. The identical American flag which Colonel Wiltsee carried in 1880 was taken to Chicago in August 1910, and displayed by Cincinnati Commandery No. 3, in the Grand Parade.”

– The Hanselmann Beauseant
(Relayed by Stewart M. L. Pollard, Helena Commandery No. 3, Burlington, New Jersey)
THE AMERICAN'S CREED

I believe in the United States of America, as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

The American's Creed by William Tyler Page was adopted by an Act of Congress, April 6, 1918.