

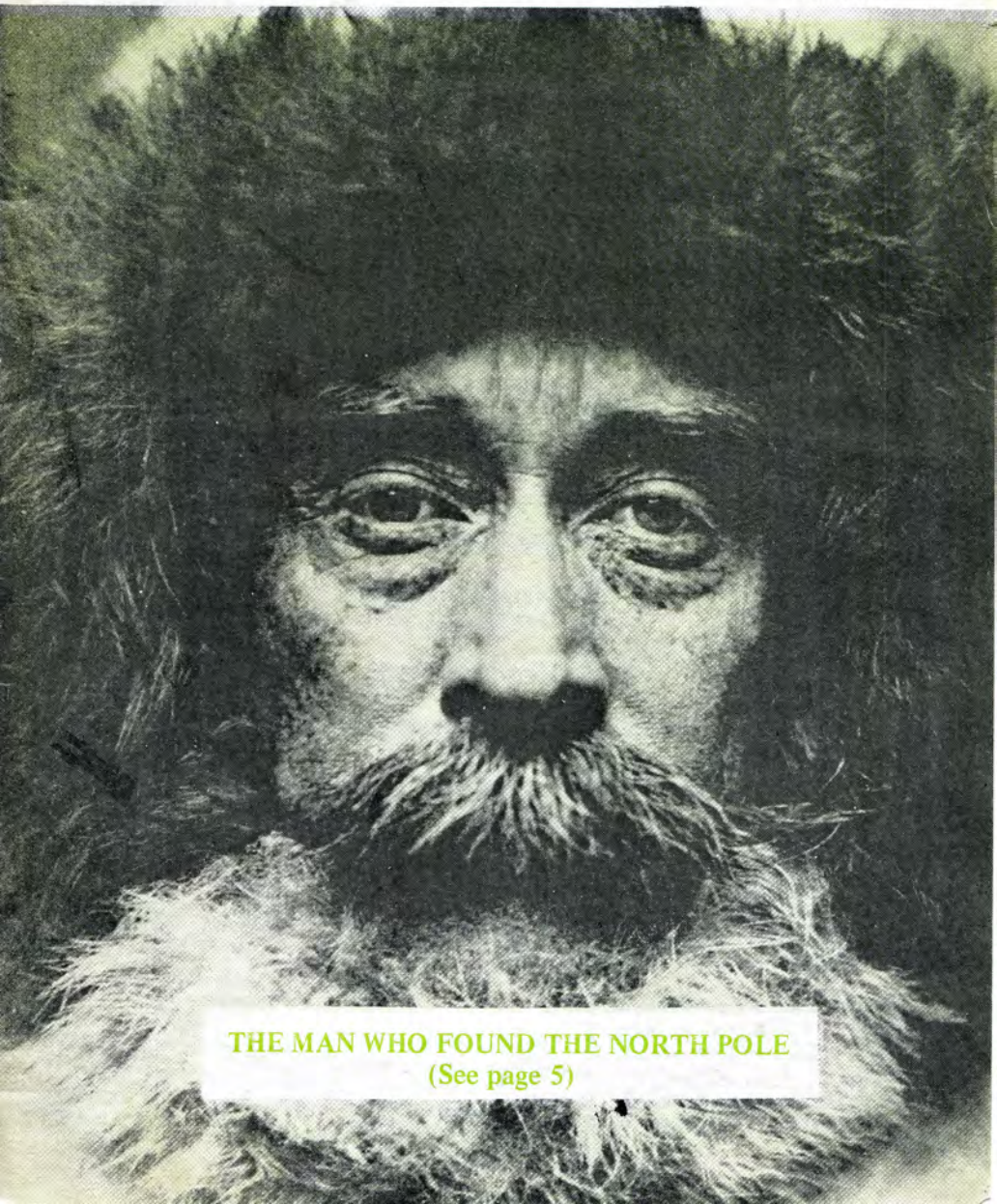


Knight Templar

VOLUME XXII

MAY 1976

NUMBER 5



THE MAN WHO FOUND THE NORTH POLE
(See page 5)

KNIGHT TEMPLAR

Templary Salutes



the Bicentennial

MAY SALUTE TO PEARY: The cover shows a revealing close-up of Brother Robert E. Peary, Arctic explorer, who was born in the month of May 1856. Admiral Peary reached the North Pole April 6, 1909, only to have his discovery disputed, unsuccessfully, by Dr. Frederick A. Cook. Earlier in life he had been engineer in charge of the Nicaragua Canal surveys and had invented the rolling lock gates for the canal. Warren E. Deck's story of Brother Peary on page 5 highlights a full complement of special features and news in the current issue for "the merry, merry month of May." Picture credits go to the Art Department, Chicago Public Library.

Paul C. Rodenhauer, Editor

MAY 1976

VOLUME XXII NUMBER 5

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

ROY W. RIEGLE

Grand Master
Palace Building, Suite One
P.O. Box 383
Emporia, Kansas 66801

PAUL C. RODENHAUSER

Grand Recorder
14 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1700
Chicago, Illinois 60604.

Editor

Paul C. Rodenhauer

Mail magazine materials and correspondence to the Editor, 14 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

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APRIL SHOWERS MAY BRING MAY FLOWERS

The gale winds of March, at least in the northern zone of the United States, have abated. Traditionally, the season of rain has touched the earth and prepared the way for the proverbial flowers of May. The season has turned and our thoughts begin to drift toward the summer months ahead.

Spring fever holds sway and we can be lulled very easily and gently into an atmosphere of tranquility and apathy. The change of season may provide a restful change of pace, but I am sure that each of us individually realizes that an Order of the magnitude of Knights Templar cannot be neglected nor ignored if April showers are to bring May flowers in membership.

Each one of us knows that we offer Masons a completely new inspirational experience, a reaffirmation nothing else can give. Each of us knows that there can be no "time off" if we are to perform our Templar requirements and recruit to our ranks, with the fervor which prevailed more than 850 years ago, Master Masons of proven worth, Masons who are true and faithful followers of the Great Captain of our Salvation.

The seasons change and the months roll by. However, there is never time for self-indulgence. We need re-charging and the application of new effort from time to time, and we always owe it to our fellow Masons to extend them the opportunity to join us in emulating the Crusaders of old, those valiant Knights who formed the Poor Soldiers of Jesus Christ at the site of King Solomon's Temple.

We are an Order that *must* prevail to help further the causes of good citizenship, patriotism, respect for our government and our institutions — our schools, our churches. It is our assignment to transmit to future generations those qualities which have been so freely given to us. We are Knights of the Temple in fact as well as in deed. We do not tear down, burn down or destroy. We love Templary and we love our nation — completely, with utmost dedication. We are builders for the present and the future.

And as this month of May nears its close, I suggest to you that we bow in silent tribute to those whose Memorial Days are over — to our comrades of the past — who have sacrificed that we annually may continue to have the opportunity to observe the date set aside as Memorial Day.



Roy Clifford Rieje



EDITOR'S JOURNAL

Bells Will Ring: A simultaneous ringing of bells is scheduled to salute the United States as it enters its third century July 4, 1976.

Communities, churches, schools, fire departments, universities and individuals – even the Liberty Bell, amplified electronically because of the crack it suffered in 1835 – will ring at 2 p.m., E.D.T., which is precisely 200 years from the moment that the Liberty Bell proclaimed the independence of the new nation in Philadelphia.

The bell ringing will last two minutes to mark the country's two centuries.

One Mann Missing: A recent coverage of a visitation by Grand Recorders to the office of the Grand Encampment failed to picture Thomas W. Mann, Grand Recorder-Secretary of the York Rite Bodies of Alabama. Sir Knight Mann was an interested participant during the two day visit. We regret the omission and herewith include a photograph of the Grand Recorder-Secretary as he appeared during the meeting in Chicago.



P.D.C. Voelter: Theodore F. Voelter, Past Department Commander, heads a New Jersey committee reporting on Doings of Grand Officers. Lifted verbatim is this quote on York Rite Unity: "Despite what some people say, this is possible. One example is our 1976 Bicentennial York Rite Festival held in Washington, New Jersey, last November when 80 Brother Masons in One Day took the Chapter and Council Degrees as well as the Orders of Knights Templar. Authority is outlined in a Grand Encampment Publication, 'Suggested Ritualistic Outline of One Day York Rite Festivals.'"

Second McGaughey Birthday: Charles King Alexander McGaughey has his 72nd birthday in 1976. There is a difference of opinion about the date. We reported it as March 22; Sir Knight McGaughey, General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, says it is May 22. We believe he should know.

Potentate Simons: Past Grand Commander, Past Grand Master, recipient of many other honors and offices, Potentate Blaine M. Simons, Salt Lake City, paused long enough during a Chicago stopover to phone the editor to announce that 81 Knights Templar and 92 Shriners were dubbed and admitted during a one day festival in March – and that his pleasure was further heightened when his son, Richard, received the Legion of Honor from the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay.

Loud and Clear: Harold V. B. Voorhis and Ronald E. Heaton have written an appropriate booklet for this bicentennial year. First published in 1970 and revised in 1976, it bears the title: "Loud and Clear, The Story of Our Liberty Bell." The writers were the recipients of an Honor Certificate Award designated by the 1970 National Awards Jury of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

For information, we suggest writing to Harold V. B. Voorhis, 105 New England Avenue, Apt. B2, Summit, New Jersey 07901, or to Ronald E. Heaton, 728 Haws Avenue, Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401.

Portland DeMolays: Sir Knight W. W. Youngson, Jr., 33^o, Secretary, Scottish Rite Bodies of Portland, Oregon, sends us a "Bikecentennial 1976" release about Portland DeMolays who will be making a cross-country bicycle trip from Astoria, Oregon, to Washington, D.C., during June and July. Idea is to take part in what is known as the "Bikecentennial."

TRY, TRY AGAIN

by

Warren H. Deck

Past Grand Commander, New York

"Stars and Stripes nailed to Pole. Peary" This was the joyous telegram received in New York September 6, 1909. Robert E. Peary had concluded 23 years of Arctic exploration and won the last geographic prize for the credit of the United States.

The accomplishment was in keeping with the spirit of President Theodore Roosevelt's term — for every American to carry the Stars and Stripes into every field of conquest to the uttermost ends of the earth, including the North Pole. 1909 was also an era of awakening for our Nation. America was still amazed over the easy victory in the Spanish American War. The flight of the Wright brothers was receiving increased attention. The Great White Fleet had just returned from a round-the-world cruise. And the first Model T was offered for sale. 1909 was, indeed, a year of pride.

For Peary, the North Pole was the accomplishment of his life work. He generally regarded his first 52 years as being comprised of one failure after another. But his definition of failure must be viewed with respect for the nearly impossible goal he had set for himself.

Peary was born in Cresson, Pennsylvania, May 6, 1856. His parents had moved from Maine in 1854 to make their fortune in the shook business, the manufacture of staves and headings for barrels. Before he was three, his father died and his mother moved to Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

His mother was often ill for long periods of time and Peary, being the only



child, was given more attention than he wished. Peary determined to be physically fit and spent much of his spare time exploring Cape Elizabeth, learning about nature or anything else he could find. A lisp which hampered his speech contributed to his being a loner.

While in Portland High School he became seriously ill, probably typhoid, and went South with relatives to recuperate. Within three months after returning, he had made up a year's school work. In his spare time during high school he became a taxidermist, which enlarged his interest in nature.

After graduation he felt that his knowledge needed broadening so he enrolled in Bowdin College. He chose Civil Engineering because of his fondness for one of the professors. He wanted to be first in his class but found that the top student was a book-worm. Peary decided to be second instead so he would have time for other activities. He graduated in 1887 with membership in Phi Beta Kappa. → → →

Settling in Fryeburg, Maine, he could not find employment but continued his work in taxidermy. To practice his knowledge of civil engineering he finally undertook a map of Fryeburg.

The map was to become evidence of his ability when an opening developed in the Coast and Geodetic Survey in Washington two years later. Although Peary appreciated the opportunity, he soon sought greater glory and in 1881 won a position as Civil Engineer with the U.S. Navy. This job also brought with it the rank of Lieutenant. Most of his fellow officers were Annapolis men and Peary found himself an outcast from the social life of the service.

Peary's interest in the Navy was partly because he knew that a survey was to be made in Nicaragua on the feasibility of an inter-ocean canal. By 1883 Peary had made the connection and was off to Nicaragua.

For a time it appeared that a knowledge of the Isthmus was to be his life work. But on returning to Washington in 1885, he stumbled across a book on the exploration of Greenland. This area had been dominated by Europeans for four centuries, but Peary immediately became interested. After months of reading and studying he wrote a plan for reaching the North Pole, much of which was usable in his later expeditions.

By May 1886 he had obtained a leave from the Navy and was off to Greenland with a party which included Dr. Frederick A. Cook, a Brooklyn surgeon. He hoped to determine whether or not Greenland was an island, to discover the nature and extent of the ice cap and to test his ideas on Arctic equipment. Despite great difficulties he made a short trip into the ice cap and returned safely. He had hoped to be the first to cross Greenland.

Returning to Washington, he was sent to Nicaragua for further work on the canal survey. Despite the torrid heat he kept thinking of his new goal of exploring the Arctic. Shortly after completing his work and returning to Washington, Peary learned that a Norwegian explorer had

crossed the southern part of Greenland. Peary was incensed that another would invade the territory that he had selected to explore.

Armed with another leave from the Navy, Peary started back to Greenland in 1891 to explore the Northeast coast which had been ignored by the Europeans. His trip over the ice cap reached many of the northern points on the island. At home, the results were widely publicized and enthusiastically received by geographers and scientific societies. Peary had won acclaim as an explorer, at last.

To make another trip, large sums of money were needed. Peary lectured extensively between 1891 and 1894 to build up the necessary funds. For some of his lectures he had Eskimos and equipment with him. Even some of the sledge dogs shared the stage. If Peary's lecture was too long, the dogs would howl and bring the session to a speedy close.

While assigned by the Navy to Brooklyn in 1896, Brother Peary was raised in Kane Lodge No. 454 of New York City. He later presented the Lodge with a Masonic flag which was displayed at Independence Bay, Greenland. The Grand Lodge of New York also received two specimens of the great meteorite weighing 90 tons, which he had discovered in North Greenland.

In 1897 he planned another trip to Greenland, but was having difficulty in getting a leave from the Navy. The Navy was opposed to officially assigning him to a scientific branch, but during each leave he was granted half pay. Suddenly he was assigned to Mare Island which would take him out of his area of Arctic supporters. Fortunately, he knew a man who had been instrumental in the election of President McKinley. His friend spoke to McKinley and Peary got a five-year leave.

The expedition left New York in July 1898. During his excursions through Northern Greenland Peary's feet were frozen and he lost eight toes. Even though he was able to walk again after several months this accident was to cause him severe pain during his → → →

remaining trips. In April 1901 he started for the North Pole. Massive pressure ridges and open water consumed more time than expected. As a result Peary only reached 84 degrees North Latitude before turning back. However, this was the farthest North any explorer had reached and he returned to New York a hero after four years in the Arctic.

By this time his old friend Theodore Roosevelt was in the White House and Peary got choice Navy assignments. He made several trips to Europe and had considerable freedom to lecture as he pleased.

His sponsors were increasing and several banded together to form the Peary Arctic Club. From this group came the offer to build a ship specifically for Arctic waters. Peary, now a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy, applied for leave and it was quickly granted. In July 1904 he was off to the Arctic again in his new ship, the *Roosevelt*, after a brief stop at Oyster Bay to see the President and his family.

Unfortunately, the ship had defective boilers and was later damaged by the pressure of the ice off Greenland. Peary traversed the Polar Sea to the 87th parallel before turning back. Because of the condition of the ship he was forced to return to New York.

Peary was so discouraged that he thought of giving up the Pole. But his supporters were agitating for another try. After repairs to the *Roosevelt* Peary left New York for his last Arctic venture on July 6, 1908.

It was February 22, 1909 when he left the ship for the overland trip to Cape Columbia. From the Cape it was 413 miles to the North Pole. Several parties left for the Pole so that each could drop off supplies and return. Only Peary's party, including Matthew Henson, a long-time man servant, and four Eskimos, was reserved for the dash to the Pole.

Travel on the Polar Sea was still extremely difficult but conditions were better than during Peary's last attempt. After 27 marches from Cape Columbia, Peary reached the Pole on April 6, 1909.

He travelled around the area and took several observations. In his diary he wrote, "My life work is accomplished." After 54 days on the Polar Sea, Peary returned to Cape Columbia and later to his ship.

It was five months later that his ship docked at a wireless station in Newfoundland to flash the news to the world. While Americans were happy with the first major geographic discovery of a countryman, they were stunned by having two Americans who claimed to have reached the North Pole. Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the Brooklyn surgeon who accompanied Peary on two of his early Greenland expeditions, had wired New York just six days earlier that he had reached the Pole on April 21, 1908.

Cook had learned about Arctic exploration from Peary and had also participated in one expedition to the Antarctic. But to most Americans he was an unknown compared to Peary. Peary learned of Cook's claim a short time later. Within a few days Peary was urging the American people not to believe Cook. He said Cook had handed the public a gold brick. Peary's attack was so bitter that the general public began to sympathize with Cook and disbelieve Peary.

The controversy reached its peak in 1910 but raged for many years. At first neither man was asked for any scientific proof of his claim. The storm of publicity defending Peary and accusing Cook was continued by the newspapers who had purchased Peary's story, the Peary Arctic Club and the National Geographic Society which had helped finance the last expedition. Even the Navy, which had at last endorsed the scientific value of the last expedition, secretly wanted one of its officers to have the honor.

The Peary-Cook dispute filled the newspapers and magazines and provided the topic for a score of books. Peary submitted his proof to the National Geographic Society which readily accepted his claim. Congressional hearings were held. Peary's claim was not accepted but he was awarded "the thanks of Congress for his Arctic explorations." →→→

At the same time Peary was seeking promotion to Rear Admiral. Peary's attitude toward Cook was shown during the House sub-committee hearing on his promotion: "The Pole was something to which I devoted my whole life. I did not feel that under the circumstances I was called upon to divide with a man who, no matter how able and deserving he might be, was a young man and had put in only a few years of that kind of work, and who had frankly, as I believed, not the right to it that I had."

Despite all that was written, neither could prove that he had been at the Pole. Nothing in the entire set of records indicates that either knew where he was on the Polar Sea, aside from the most rudimentary sort of dead reckoning. In 1908 no instruments had been developed that could exactly locate the North Pole. The charges against Cook were almost entirely based on questions of his personal integrity. In spite of the weight of evidence, Peary's version is still generally accepted and Cook's claim of an earlier attainment of the Pole is regarded as fabrication. The United States gradually accepted Peary's claim after many European scientific groups denounced Cook's story and accepted Peary's.

In April 1911 Peary was promoted to Rear Admiral and retired. His attention turned to aviation and he learned to fly. He was the first Navy officer to publicly advocate emphasis on aviation. In one article he wrote: "Unless this country builds a great fleet of airships the millions it is spending on its Army and Navy will be wasted." During World War I he organized the National Aerial Coast Patrol Commission which trained 300 aviators for war service.

Shortly after the war, his health failed. He was suffering from pernicious anemia which Dr. Cook had diagnosed in Greenland many years before. His last article in 1919 still showed his conviction on aviation - "The next war will be fought and won in the air."

He died February 20, 1920 at the age of 63. Burial was in Arlington National Cemetery.

Peary's survivors were his wife, Josephine, and two children. He had met Josephine in Washington and they were married in August 1889. She had spent some time in the Arctic aboard his supply vessels and one winter in Greenland. Their daughter, Marie, called the "snow baby," was born in 1893 above the Arctic Circle. Robert, Jr. was born in 1906. A second daughter died in infancy and Peary's mother had died in 1901 during one of his Arctic expeditions.

Sir Knight Deck, a member of the Grand Encampment Committee on Public Relations, lives at 511 Sanders Avenue, Scotia, New York 12302.

‡



A Flag In Every Classroom



Representing the more than 8,000 Masons of Mobile County, Sir Knight Charles A. Sweeney, left, Senior Warden of Mobile Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar, makes the first presentation of an American Flag to Dr. Frank Schneider, Principal of Mary Montgomery High School, Semmes, Alabama.

The presentation was symbolic of the placing of more than 1,440 flags in as many classrooms throughout the county. The Bicentennial project was underwritten by the members of the Mobile York and Scottish Rite Bodies, Abba Temple Shrine, Albert J. Youndt Chapter No. 511, National Sojourners, Inc., the Social Order of the Beauceant, Al Hassan Grotto, Chickasaw Lodge No. 894, F. & A.M. and individual Masons throughout the County.

JOHN CABELL BRECKINRIDGE

by
C. A. Burritt

“Brother Breckinridge lived a very perfect gentleman, and died a hero; a man incorruptible, candid, trustworthy, chivalrous, at whose death a State in tears clothed itself in mourning.” The life of John Cabell Breckinridge was testimony of the tribute given in his memory by Albert Pike at the Lodge of Sorrow, Washington, D.C. in 1876.

Sir Knight Breckinridge, who at the age of 35 was the youngest Vice President, was born January 21, 1821 in Lexington, Kentucky. The son of Joseph and Mary Smith Breckinridge, many of his family members were well-known. His grandfather, John Breckinridge, was a Senator and served as Attorney General of the United States under Thomas Jefferson; an uncle, Rev. and Brother Robert Jefferson Breckinridge, was a lawyer, author and principle founder of the Kentucky School system, and a cousin, Brother William C. P. Breckinridge, was a Congressman.

Breckinridge attended Centre College, graduating in 1839, and studied law at Transylvania Institute. He lived in Burlington, Iowa, for a short time, where he petitioned Des Moines Lodge No. 41 (now No. 1) on February 7, 1842, soon after his 21st birthday. He was elected Senior Warden that same year, and re-elected in 1943.

In 1843 he married Mary Burch. Two years later they moved to Lexington, where he began his law practice. Breckinridge served as Major in the War with Mexico in 1847, returning to Kentucky to be elected to the House of Representatives. He was next elected to Congress in 1851, and re-elected in 1853.

Breckinridge ran for Vice President on the Democratic ticket with Brother James Buchanan of Pennsylvania in 1856. At

the time of his election he was 35, the minimum age for the vice presidency.

As Vice President, Breckinridge presided over the Senate with impartiality, even though he strongly favored state rights and retaining slavery in the South.

When the Democratic party fell apart in 1860, he reluctantly accepted the presidential nomination of the state rights faction because he believed voters had a right to have all views presented. Breckinridge faced Abraham Lincoln, chosen by the newly-formed Republican party, and Brother Stephen A. Douglas from the original Democratic party. Ironically, Breckinridge's personal views on slavery were believed to have been in line with the Republicans, who opposed expansion of slavery into the territories but proposed no interference with slavery in the South. Actually, Breckinridge believed in the right for any area to be slave holding, but he hoped slavery would remain only in the South to make the entire question unnecessary.

Although Lincoln won the election with 180 electoral votes, Breckinridge came in second with 72 votes. He carried the eight “cotton” states, and North Carolina, Delaware and Maryland.

Following his defeat for the Presidency, Breckinridge was again elected to the Senate. He served until December 1861, when he joined the Confederate Army. He was then expelled from the Senate and incurred an indictment for treason.

In the army, Breckinridge was commissioned a Brigadier General and quickly rose to Major General. He led troops at Baton Rouge, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Jackson, Missionary Ridge, Stones River, Shiloh, Vicksburg and Cold Harbor.

→ → →

Three months before the war ended, he was enlisted in the Confederate Cabinet as Secretary of War, becoming one of the most wanted for trial and execution by elements in the North. This led to his dramatic escape on horseback to Florida, then by small boat to Cuba. From Cuba he fled to England, then on to Canada. In Canada he waited until amnesty was granted in 1868 and he could return to Kentucky.

Upon his return to his home state, Breckinridge found himself very popular. General Lee invited him to found a Department of Law at Washington College in Virginia, and President Grant wanted Congress to remove the constitutional disqualification which prevented him from holding office. But Breckinridge wasn't interested. He decided to stay in Kentucky and resume his practice of law.

Although Breckinridge's Masonic record is not complete, it is known that he affiliated with Good Samaritan Lodge No. 174 in Kentucky, and was listed as a Past Master on the rolls of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky for 1854. He was suspended in 1861 for unknown reasons, and reinstated November 16, 1871. Breckinridge was also a member of Temple Chapter No. 19, R.A.M.; Webb Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar, and received the 33^o A.A.S.R. (S.J.) March 28, 1860.

Sir Knight Breckinridge died unexpectedly May 17, 1875 in Lexington, at the age of 54, and was buried with Templar services. He is now honored by a monument in his native Lexington.

‡

Eastern Star Anniversary Medallion

The Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star of Kansas has for sale one and a half inch antique bronze medallions, struck to commemorate its 100th anniversary. The medallions are available at \$2.50 each from Mrs. Wilma E. Springs, Worthy Grand Matron, Box 2311, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71901.

Centennial Penny Available

Anchor Chapter No. 69, R.A.M., Hampton, Iowa, has for sale a limited number of centennial pennies struck to commemorate its 100th anniversary. Cost is \$3.00 each.

Included with each order will be a "collector's item" — a coin mistakenly struck on the Blue Lodge size coin with the Chapter centennial information on one side and the Blue Lodge emblems on the opposite side. Send orders to Glen Haney, Secretary, Anchor Chapter No. 69, R.A.M., Hampton, Iowa 59441.



May 1776

A Virginia Convention composed of the old House of Burgesses met at Williamsburg in early May without the Governor and his council. They had received word that King George was sending 12,000 German mercenaries to put down the "rebellion" and they were outraged.

On May 15 the convention instructed its delegates to the Continental Congress "to declare the United Colonies free and independent states." It appointed a committee to report on a declaration of rights and a plan of government for an independent state.

Virginia was the first to take such a step but the reverberations of this action would be heard around the world. Virginia's Patrick Henry, acting upon the instructions of this convention, would soon offer the resolution of independence in the Continental Congress and set the stage for the Declaration of Independence.

General William Howe, having evacuated Boston, was in Nova Scotia with his brother, Admiral Lord Howe, awaiting reinforcements before moving on to New York City. General Washington and his troops were moving from Boston to New York to protect the city. The war was about to be enjoined in earnest.

57TH MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION MEETING

by

Conrad Hahn

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Approximately 300 delegates attended the 57th Annual Meeting of the Masonic Service Association, held in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, during the Conference of Grand Masters.



Conrad Hahn

The meeting was called to order by Brother Newell A. Lamb, P.G.M., Indiana, Chairman of the Association's Executive Commission. Brother and Reverend Roy H. Stetler, Jr., D.G.M., Maryland, gave the invocation.

This was followed by the singing of "America," accompanied on the organ by Brother Millard F. Spooner; the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and the roll call of member Grand Lodges. John L. McCain, G.M., Pennsylvania, welcomed the delegates.

Brother R. Stanley Harrison, G.M., Connecticut, was nominated as chairman. He was elected and installed by Brother Lamb. Brother Harrison made brief announcements and called for the 1975 Report of the Executive Commissioners.

A welcome item appearing in the Executive Commission Report was a receipt, "Bequest, estate of Henry L. Neichel, Louisiana, \$10,374.60." In appreciation of the services and visitations of Masonic Field Agent Joseph E. Murephey, who died in September 1974, the late Brother Neichel made the Masonic Service Association a residuary legatee of one-tenth of a trust fund he established in his will.

Reports were then heard from the Committee on Education and Publications, the Finance Committee, Necrology, the Committee on Hospital Visitations and others.

Following the committee reports, incumbent Chairman Lamb was unanimously reelected for 1976. Incumbent commissioners also reelected are: Waldron C. Biggs, P.G.M., Vermont, North Atlantic Division; Evans Crary, P.G.M., Florida, South Atlantic Division; Robert A. Hockstad, P.G.M., Michigan, Great Lakes Division; Herbert A. Ronin, P.G.M., Nebraska, Central Division, and A. Harold Small, P.G.M., Montana, Western Division.

Grand Masters of 16 member Jurisdictions presented a total of \$84,700.00 in checks to Executive Secretary Conrad Hahn for the Hospital Visitation Program. The Grand Lodge of Minnesota again brought the largest contribution, \$27,344.00, which represented individual gifts from thousands of brethren in that state.

After the usual closing resolution to endorse the acts of the Executive Commission and the Association's officers, the meeting unanimously adopted with a standing ovation a Resolution of Appreciation to R. Stanley Harrison for his handling of the 57th Annual Meeting in February.

The above was condensed from the official report of Executive Secretary-Treasurer Hahn.

‡





Major Ronald Webb, now a Master Mason, credits his DeMolay background for survival after six years as Viet Nam prisoner of war.



Marshal Robert A. Walker, Active Member, escorts guests into I.S.C. session at opening ceremony.



Beauty takes a Congress bow. Among Sweethearts present were Indiana State Sweetheart Yarnell, Priory Sweetheart King.



Grand Master Jack Myers consults with Ohio's Supreme Council, 33^o, N.M.J. Deputy Stichter, new Active Member I.S.C.



Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegler is among those presenting checks to Grand Master Grant.



New I.M.C. Harris is presented for Congress remarks by retiring International Master Councilor Loose.



DeMolays kneel at prayer before masonic colors at opening Congress session.



Grand Master and Mrs. Riegler and, clockwise, Past Grand Master Lewis, Past Grand Master Crofts, Hazel Rodenhauser and the Grand Recorder, Grand Generalissimo Cottrell, P.G.M., and Executive Director K.T.E.F. Bell.

DEMOLAY CONGRESS AND INTERNATIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL

A total of 107 young men attended the DeMolay Congress in Indianapolis, Indiana, with activities starting March 11 and continuing through March 13.

Past Grand Master Chester Hodges was Congress Advisor for the period; individual advisors for Congress Committees were John B. Cottrell, Jr., Reese L. Harrison, Melvin A. Pixley, Ed. C. Bieser, Walter C. Ploeser, Odie R. Howell, Paul C. Rodenhauer.

The Congress concluded with a formal banquet Saturday evening, March 13, and the presentation of new International Master Councilor Jeffery L. Harris, Mississippi, and International Secretary Travis D. Eden, New Mexico, for 1976-77.

Active, Honorary Members and guests of the International Supreme Council assembled Sunday, March 14, for divine service, opening ceremonies at 1:30, receptions and three days of committee meetings, reports, recommendations and budgetary considerations. The formal banquet Wednesday evening climaxed the sessions, when Judge Robert A. Grant concluded his term.

New officers for one year terms are: Jack H. Myers, Grand Master; William J. McCulley, Deputy Grand Master; Judge Thomas C. Raum, Jr., Grand Senior Councilor; C. C. Faulkner, Jr., Grand Junior Councilor. Past Grand Master George M. Saunders was re-elected Grand Secretary; Chandler C. Cohagen, Grand Treasurer. Past Grand Master John L. Crofts concluded his term as Executive Committee Chairman.

C. C. Faulkner, Jr., new Grand Officer, is Executive Officer in Indiana. He was assisted by Joseph E. Wheeler, Chairman of the Host Committee, and by Indiana's State Master Councilor William J. Bayles.

Future Congress and I.S.C. meetings scheduled are:

- 1977 - April 14-20, Dearborn, Michigan
- 1978 - April 13-19, Milwaukee
- 1979 - Tentative, Kansas City, Missouri

Among the many highlights of the International Supreme Council was the

presentation of 50 year DeMolay lapel pins to: Jack W. Griffiths, new Grand Master of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of Canada, whose membership began in 1925; General Grand High Priest, R.A.M., Gordon R. Merrick, dating from 1921; John B. Cottrell, Jr., Grand Generalissimo, Grand Encampment, from 1926, three days in advance of Past Grand Master (of Grand Encampment and of DeMolay) John L. Crofts, Sr., also a recipient.

Pictures which are included represent a portion of the range of activities - both at the Congress and the I.S.C.



International Master Councilor Mark Loose concludes his term of office as he presides over 9th International Congress session. To his right are Parliamentarian Mike Oard, Oregon, and Congress Secretary Brian F. LaFontaine, New Hampshire.



Left, C. C. Faulkner, Jr., now Grand Junior Councilor, presents new Honorary Member, Major Ronald Webb, at I.S.C. Altar.



On the right is shown Congress Secretary Travis D. Eden, New Mexico. To his right is International Master Councilor Jeffery Harris for 1976-77, Mississippi.

NO EXEMPTIONS, NO CREDIT— ONLY “BENEFACTOR SATISFACTION”

Initiated by Sir Knight Charles S. McIntyre, Monroe, Michigan, Trustee, endorsed by Past Grand Master Crofts, Grand Generalissimo Cottrell, Past Department Commander Crump and others, and subscribed to by all Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle has unveiled a new benefactor program to assist the humanitarian work of the Foundation.

Sir Knight Riegle appointed a committee of Sir Knight McIntyre, Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell and Grand Recorder Paul C. Rodenhauer to study procedures and make recommendations. The result is contained in the current issue of the *Knights Templar Magazine*.

It announces a GRAND MASTER'S CLUB calling for a contribution of \$1,000 (tax deductible) designated for either the Permanent Endowment Fund or for Current Needs. Those individuals forwarding \$1,000 to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, as described in the magazine insert, will receive a metal identification wallet card (numbered and registered) plus a personalized desk plaque. The opportunity is extended to Templars and other individuals only — not to organizations.

Membership of individuals in the GRAND MASTER'S CLUB does not supplant the Voluntary Fund-Raising Activities for the Foundation. Membership offers NO credit of any kind to the Commandery or Grand Commandery; it excuses no assessments or dues and offers no benefit of any nature. It is a free-will contribution of \$1,000 by a Templar or another individual. Organizational gifts are recognized separately through standard channels with appreciation and special certificates. They cannot be purchased through the Club.

Similar is the GRAND COMMANDER'S CLUB available on a numbered card basis to those individuals



One early registrant for the “Grand Master's Club” was Sir Knight Joseph S. Lewis, Ponca City, Oklahoma, shown here presenting his \$1,000 check to Executive Director Bell and Trustee Alvin L. Crump. Sir Knight Lewis became No. 8 in the Club.

who contribute \$100, or additional increments in amounts of \$100, until a total of \$1,000 has been contributed. Then the members of the Grand Commander's Club will be transferred to the GRAND MASTER'S CLUB and will receive at that time the registered metal identification and a personalized desk plaque. All contributions are tax deductible, regardless of amount.

The summary of details is listed on the following page. As stated, membership in either the Grand Master's Club or the Grand Commander's Club does not excuse assessments and gives no Commandery credit in any form. It is a free-will contribution with personal satisfaction its only benefit.

The annual Voluntary Campaigns are expected to continue as in the past for fund-raising events to help the ever increasing need in the fight against blindness. The “Clubs” are completely voluntary with no desire to coerce or “pressure” for contributions in either bracket. All funds, whether the result of Voluntary Campaigns, or direct contributions, aid the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

IN SUMMARY:

The free-will contributions to the Grand Master's or Grand Commander's Club do not take the place of Voluntary Campaign efforts each year. Neither Club excuses Templars from assessments. It offers no credit of any kind. It presents no benefits — except the satisfaction of giving on a larger scale than normally possible.

Organizations receive other recognitions. They cannot become members of the Grand Master's Club or the Grand Commander's Club.

It costs \$100 annually, or as frequently as desired in increments of \$100 each, for an individual to be registered as a member of a jurisdiction's Grand Commander's Club. When and if the total reaches \$1,000, the individual becomes a member of the Grand Master's Club with proper recognition.

No credits, no exemptions, no Commandery or Grand Commandery benefits — only the satisfaction of making substantial gifts to a worthy cause.

To enroll as a \$1,000 or a \$100 benefactor, checks may be sent to the:

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
509 South Sixth Street, P.O. Box 579
Springfield, Illinois 62705

\$100 GRAND COMMANDER'S CLUB

- No. 1 — Kansas — Roy Wilford Riegle
- No. 1 — Nevada — Harold S. Gorman
- No. 1 — Tennessee — E. Guy Frizzell
- No. 2 — Tennessee — Kelso H. Renfro
- No. 3 — Tennessee — Ralph L. Eldridge

Those who hold state memberships in the Grand Commander's Club may increase their payments in increments of \$100 at any time toward the \$1,000 Grand Master's Club. In either instance, memberships are available to individuals, not to organizations, and in all cases no credit accrues to the Commandery or Grand Commandery. The benefactor program represents a free will offering and not Commandery credit.

\$1,000 GRAND MASTER'S CLUB

- No. 1 — Charles S. McIntyre
- No. 2 — John L. Crofts
- No. 3 — G. Wilbur Bell
- No. 4 — John B. Cottrell, Jr.
- No. 5 — Paul C. Rodenhauer
- No. 6 — Alvin L. Crump
- No. 7 — Willard M. Avery
- No. 8 — Joseph S. Lewis
- No. 9 — Mrs. Alvin L. Crump

Next Month — Voluntary Campaign Totals

The 8th Voluntary Campaign results will be itemized in the June issue of the *Knight Templar Magazine*. The campaign, designated as *The Spirit of '76*, began December 1 and terminated April 30, but an additional 14 days are allowed for Chairmen to relay their totals after the completion of fund-raising events.

The annual Voluntary Campaign provides operational and endowment funds to bridge the gap between assessments and general contributions on one hand and the humanitarian needs for increased expenditure on the other. Both President Roy Wilford Riegle and Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., stress that "the need will continue as long as there are sightless people in our world."

As the current issue is prepared for publication, the Campaign has brought a total exceeding \$275,000 to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, 509 South Sixth Street, P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705. Traditionally, the returns are larger during the closing weeks than at any other time of the five month period.

The City of Fountains

Rome has a lot of fountains. Kansas City, Missouri, location of the 53rd Triennial Conclave in August 1976, has more fountains than any other city in the world except Rome. Plan now to join with Templars from around the world in the "City of Fountains."

HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS

Proud of DeMolay Grandson



Vernon Lieblein, Holy Grail Commandery, Lakewood, Ohio, is proud of his Master Councilor grandson, Richard H. Lieblein, whose record reads: Jackson High School Senior, President Senior Class, an "A" student, Band Leader, attained Letter in Swimming, received scholarship from Ladies, Oriental Shrine, was one of 10 selected for General Motors Institute, and is Master Councilor of the Order of DeMolay.

Sir Knight Lieblein, former member of Fred Waring's orchestra, says "Rick's other grandfather, Dr. Careleton Smith, taught at the University of Michigan, where six of us from two families studied."

The "Officers elect" relayed by Sir Knight Lieblein also list Thomas Lieblein as Second Preceptor of his Chapter.

Comment from Voorhis

Harold V. B. Voorhis, New Jersey, writes to note that Bill Boden in Guatemala (pictured in the April issue) is a Radio "Ham" member of MARN No. 90. His call is TG9WD. "We hear him on our National Net Sunday noon, E.S.T., quite often. His rather elaborate Q.S.L. Card says of the country - Guatemala Central America, The Land of Eternal Spring."

Grand Master Riegle Honored by Class

A class of almost 400 gathered in the Auditorium of the Masonic Temple, Salina, Kansas, April 10, to participate in the Roy Wilford Riegle Bicentennial York Rite Class.

The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta were conferred by ritual teams from Wichita and Newton. The Grand Commandery officers conferred the Order of the Temple. Sir Knight Riegle dubbed the class members and spoke to them on the "background of the York Rite and of Templary."

Certificates were presented to each newly dubbed Sir Knight bearing the Grand Encampment's Seal saluting the Nation's Bicentennial.

York Rite Unity - Net Gain 640

Department Commander Charles L. Harrison, Virginia, reports on the Annual Conclave of South Carolina, March 14-15, at Charleston. He writes: "York Rite Unity in the State of South Carolina is outstanding. . . The business sessions of all Three Bodies are from Monday morning to Tuesday afternoon. . . On Monday night, there was a formal banquet with all decorations and gifts in keeping with the Bicentennial theme. . . I cannot say enough regarding the spirit, the unity, the 'oneness,' the success of the Grand York Rite Bodies of South Carolina. . . The Grand Commandery of South Carolina is a leader in the Southeastern Department."

Net gain for the year, 640.

Next Month

Dr. Harold Blake Walker, author and lecturer whose career embraces a full range of activity from pastor to Associated Press editorship, will be featured in the June issue of the *Knight Templar Magazine*.

427 Knightings in Mississippi Class

With Senator John C. Stennis, Mississippi's Junior United States Senator, Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle and other distinguished Masonic leaders in attendance, a class of 427 was Knighted during the York Rite Bicentennial Festival Committee March 27 in Jackson.

Senator Stennis received the General Grand Chapter's gold medal merit award during the session.

The program for the occasion announced: "The York Rite Bodies of Mississippi - both constituent and Grand - proudly salute our beloved country, the United States of America, in exemplifying the degrees and Orders of the York Rite of Freemasonry for the benefit of a large number of candidates."

The one-day festival began with a Friday evening registration at the Temple. The conferral of work started at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, March 27, when the Mark Master's Degree was presented, followed by the Past Master's Degree, the Most Excellent Master's Degree and the Royal Arch, with a luncheon break at 12:15. The Cryptic degrees were conferred in the afternoon and the Order of the Temple concluded the festival class.

Birmingham Bicentennial Festival

The George C. Wallace Bicentennial Statewide Festival has been scheduled May 15 in the Municipal Auditorium of Birmingham with an Alabama goal of "One Thousand in a Day."

The Chapter, Council and Commandery candidates will gather at 8 a.m., with the conferral of the Royal Arch degree 15 minutes later, followed by the Select Master's degree. After lunch, the Royal Master will be conferred before the start of the Orders of the Commandery.

Sir Knight and Governor Wallace is scheduled to address the candidates at 5:30 p.m. before the banquet.

Wedding for Janice and Jan

The wedding of Janice Joy Boor to Jan A. Hapgood was solemnized Sunday, April 11, at 4:30 p.m. in Sts. Peter and Paul, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Riverside, Illinois. Mrs. Hapgood is an instructor of music in the Chicago school system, active in the Order of the Eastern Star. Sir Knight Hapgood has been an assistant in the office of the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, since January 1968 and is active in all branches of Masonry.

Concord Chapter Medal

A special high relief medal has been struck to celebrate the American Revolution Bicentennial and the 150th Anniversary of Concord Chapter, Royal Arch Masons.



One side of the medal bears the American eagle logo with the dates, "1776-1976." The reverse combines the traditional Masonic square and compasses with the Royal Arch triple tau and commemorates Concord Chapter's institution in 1826.

The 1.5 inch by 10 gauge medals are available in bronze (unnumbered) for \$2.50 each, and in solid sterling silver (consecutively numbered) in a plastic presentation case for \$15.00 each. A capsule history of Concord Chapter will be included with each medal. Send check or money order payable to Concord Royal Arch Chapter to Jeffrey Powers, Concord Chapter, P.O. Box 792, Framingham, Massachusetts 01701.

Baker 70-Year Mason

Brother George F. Baker was awarded a 70-year Masonic service pin by Calvin T. Hubler, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio, January 16 at the meeting of John W. Durst Lodge No. 716 in Dayton Masonic Temple, Dayton, Ohio.

His son, Paul E. Baker, Sr., and his grandson, Paul E. Baker, Jr., served as Marshals.

Brother Baker, 93 years old, was Raised in Wolcott, Indiana Lodge No. 180 in 1906. He is a charter member of John W. Durst Lodge and served as one of its first Trustees. Later this year, he will receive a 50-year pin from the Scottish Rite, Valley of Dayton.

He also served the city of Dayton for 42 years, retired as City Service Director in 1955 and is a charter 50-year member of the Dayton Engineer's Club.

Of special interest is the fact that on March 23, 1956, when Brother Baker celebrated his Masonic Golden Anniversary, his two sons, Paul Sr., and George III, were raised in John W. Durst Lodge. Following the presentation of his 70 year pin, the petition of grandson David was received by the Lodge.

Medinah Temple Forms New Unit

Medinah Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Chicago, Illinois, announced the formation of a new unit - The "Crusaders," a group of fifty Past Commanders belonging to Medinah Temple, organized with the stated purpose of exemplifying the Orders of Red Cross and Malta in full form when invited by any of the Commanderies in Illinois.

The organization received the approval of Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, Grand Commander of Illinois, when he applied for and received one of the 50 charter memberships.

Sir Knight Edward Arnold, Commander, St. Elmo Commandery No. 64, Knights Templar, has extended the first invitation to the Crusaders to participate in a York Rite Festival May 8 at Myrtle Masonic Temple, Chicago, to honor Sir Knight Joe P. Houchard, K.Y.C.H., K.T.C.H., Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of Illinois last year.

For more information about the Medinah Crusaders, contact Sir Knight W. V. "Scotty" Giffen, 225 Eastern Avenue, Bellwood, Illinois 60104.

Layton Painting in Auction

"The Fairy Princess," a painting by Sir Knight Harry Layton, was selected for exhibition in the 1975 National Art Auction in Washington, D.C. last November.

Sir Knight Layton, whose paintings and murals have won him acclaim throughout the country, is one of only 45 artists whose works were selected for showing in the auction sponsored each year by the American Kidney Foundation.

Knighthood on his birthday last November in Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, he is a member of Long Beach Scottish Rite Bodies; Foslay Lodge No. 467, Culver City; Harbor Light Chapter No. 160, R.A.M.; Alpha Council No. 30, R. & S.M., and Al Malaikah Shrine Temple. He is currently working on a book on the architecture of King Solomon's Temple.



Pictured are Paul E. Baker, Sr., George F. Baker and Paul E. Baker, Jr.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND KNIGHTS KADOSH

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

During the week of May 6, 1872, the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, convened in Louisville, Kentucky, and both Commanderies, Louisville No. 1 and DeMolay No. 12, tendered their services as escort to this visiting body of Masons. The offer was accepted.



It was a Knightly act and fully appreciated by the Brethren of the Supreme Council, as will be apparent in the following letter written to the Recorder of DeMolay Commandery by Brother (and Sir Knight) Albert Pike, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council.

"I esteem it (said Brother Pike) to be a singularly good omen for the future of Freemasonry, that both Commanderies have, with rare and graceful courtesy, tendered, unsolicited, their services as escort.

"For although their ceremonial of investiture is different and their government not the same, the Knights Kadosh are Knights of the Holy House of the Temple, of which branch of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of the Temple of Solomon, the Princes of the Royal Secret and the Inspectors General are but the chiefs. As a Templar Degree, that of Knight Kadosh has in other countries been forbidden to be worked. Most of our Kadosh of American birth are also Templars of your branch of the Order, and are sincerely desirousto maintain the most intimate relations of amity and Brotherhood with the Knights Templar, all of whom are as Master Masons their Brethren, and as Masons of the Royal Arch their Companions.

"Be pleased, my very dear Brother, to convey to your Commandery, on behalf of the Supreme Council, its earnest thanks, and its glad acceptance of the Brotherly service so courteously and kindly tendered.

"And be pleased to assure the Commandery that, highly as the Supreme Council will value these generous offers as proof of the estimation in which the Knights Templar of Louisville held it and its members, it will value them far more for the fraternal feeling which has prompted them, and the welcome assurance they give that in the State of Kentucky, hereafter, the Knights Templar and the Knights Kadosh, neither jealous of each other, nor rivals, will walk hand in hand in the peaceful ways of Freemasonry, pursuing their common purpose of extirpating the worst evils that afflict humanity, injustice, untruth, uncharitableness and intolerance.

"I have the honor to be, as Templar and Kadosh, and in the bonds of Masonic and Knightly Brotherhood,

"Faithfully and affectionately yours,
Albert Pike
Sovereign Grand Commander"

Later, members of the Supreme Council were guests of the Knights Templar at a banquet which brought from the Sovereign Grand Commander another communication under date of May 27, 1872. He wrote:

"The Supreme Council, lately in session in your hospitable city, has charged me to communicate its grateful acknowledgement for the excellent courtesy and Brotherly kindness displayed by your bodies in acting as escort of the Supreme Council upon the occasion of its holding a Lodge of Sorrow during its → → →

Resolution Reminder

Proposals to come before the 53rd Triennial Conclave in August are required to reach the office of the Grand Recorder of Grand Encampment by June 1. After arrival of all proposed resolutions, they will be dated and listed in the order received and distributed on or before 60 days in Advance of the Conclave.

Proposals require only one signature but may include more. They are accepted from Voting Members of the Grand Encampment – the four top officers of each Grand Commandery, all Past Grand Commanders, also the current Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of the 17 Subordinate Commanderies under direct Grand Encampment authority.

... K.T. AND KNIGHTS KADOSH

late session, as well as for the elegant banquet given its members and those in attendance upon its session, and for your many other courteous acts of kindness and hospitality and generous welcome.

"I perform this duty with infinite pleasure, and beg you to accept assurances of the fervent desire of the Supreme Council and all of its members for the increase and prosperity of your Commanderies, and the advancement of your Order, and for your own individual happiness and good fortune.

Albert Pike
Sovereign Grand Commander"

The above information was taken from the History of DeMolay Commandery No. 12, Knights Templar, Louisville, Kentucky, printed in 1897.

Sir Knight Wendt lives at 5012 East Manslick Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40219. This article was originally printed in the December 1968 issue.

‡

Grand Lodge "Masonic Tracing Board"

The Sesquicentennial Commission of '76, Grand Lodge of Michigan – John H. Loree, Secretary – announces the "Masonic Tracing Board" by J. Fairbairn Smith, P.M., "Chairman of Historiology."

It is described as presenting a graphic view of events from 1764 to 1976 – "A Panorama of Masonic History" for Michigan. The 84 pages of 8 and one-half by 11 sheets, a tribute to the Sesquicentennial of the Grand Lodge, is available at \$5.00 each from: The Grand Lodge Secretary, Royce E. Curlis, Masonic Temple, 233 East Fulton, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502.

For Permanency

A number of inquiries from readers of *Masonic Americana* induced the Grand Encampment to order a limited quantity of the compilation in hard-cover form rather than in paperbacks.

Those who wish to own the hard-bound covers for libraries or personal use may order at a cost of \$5.00 each. The paperback continues to be available at \$1.50 each – with postage paid.

Both editions are the same in content. The hard cover volumes, with *Masonic Americana* imprinted vertically on the spine, currently are limited to a total quantity of 150. If greater quantities are ordered, allow one month for delivery.

To order paperback copies of *Masonic Americana* covering scenes, events and personalities associated with 200 years of history – send checks (at \$1.50 for each copy) to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, U.S.A., 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

In the event any readers wish to order hard-bound copies the cost is \$5.00 each. Postage is pre-paid in both instances.



All York Rite bodies in Utah participated in a One-Day Festival Saturday, March 27, at the Masonic Temple, 650 East South Temple, Salt Lake City. There were 85 candidates from all parts of the state who received the York Rite Degrees and Orders, from Master Mason to Knights Templar. Many went on to participate in ceremonies to become Shriners in El Kalah Temple.

Officiating at the York Rite Ceremonies were: C. Laverne Bane, Grand High Priest; Blaine M. Simons, M.I. Grand Master, and Jay R. Newman, Grand Commander.

Montebello Presents Check



President Cecil Skipworth of the Montebello High Twelve Club presented a check to James F. Graham, Grand Commander of Knights Templar of California, for its Eye Foundation at a meeting at which Sir Knight Graham was special guest and speaker.

Shown in the above photo, left to right, are Robert L. Karnes, P.G.M., R. & S.M.; Sir Knight Graham; Mr. Skipworth, and Ezra Hailsip, 56-year Knight Templar.

"Masonic Happening" in Texas

Texas York Rite and Waco Scottish Rite Bodies will honor the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Texas, Sir Knight J. W. Chandler, 33^o, with a "Masonic Happening" Friday, November 12 and Saturday, November 13, 1976, in the Lee Lockwood Scottish Rite Library and Museum, Waco.

Sir Knight Chandler, a member of Ruthven Commandery No. 2, started the "first Masonic Happening ever," according to Sir Knight E. T. Bloomquist, Grand Secretary/Recorder of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter and Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas.

A Masonic Happening is "a time when the Scottish Rite Bodies have a reunion in one part of the building and the York Rite Bodies have a York Rite Festival in another part." The candidates meet for introductions, have their meals together. A Shrine Ceremonial follows.



Sir Knight Ernest J. Bailey, P.C., Recorder, San Diego Commandery No. 25, California, writes that Sir Knight Glave Spencer Bunch, Jr., Prelate, pictured above, is "a most remarkable Brother of our Fraternity."

In his 33 years of Masonry, Sir Knight Bunch has "refused to allow the handicaps of a 30 percent congenital deafness, the experience of becoming totally 'exsighted' (a term he uses to refer to someone who was not born blind but becomes so later)...and the painful damage to shoulder joints, elbow joints and bicep muscles," deter him from active participation and service to the fraternity.

Sir Knight Bunch is also working on the completion of a book exposing the "millennial age-old injustice that has inadvertently, incorrectly and improperly defined all of the world's sightless population as being congenitally blind, rather than most of it, as incidentally exsighted."



Pennsylvania State Representative Kent Shelhamer presented a state flag to Crusade Commandery No. 12, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, at a Patriotic and Civic Service program for Division No. 14 Knights Templar, their guests and the general public.

Shown above with the flag, which will help celebrate the Bicentennial, are – left to right – Fred Whitenight, Jr., Commander, Crusade Commandery No. 12; Alfred Mowery, Division Adjutant; Melvin Evans, Division Commander, and Mr. Shelhamer, speaker for the evening.

The Ladies Auxiliary served refreshments following the meeting.



IN HALLOWED MEMORY

Raymond B. Holtz
 New Jersey
 Grand Commander — 1947
 Born June 24, 1896
 Died March 13, 1976

HISTORIC COUNCIL GROVE

When the Santa Fe trail was the great highway between the Missouri border — then the western limit of American settlement — and the Spanish town of Santa Fe, Council Grove was the most important way point on the route. Situated on the Neosho river, where rolling prairies gave way to the Great Plains, it was a natural stopping place, well-watered, and with abundant grass and timber.

West-bound travelers became accustomed to meet at the grove and take council for their mutual safety for the long haul ahead. Individual wagons were brought together into caravans, with a quasi-military organization to control them. Animals could rest and graze, while harness, yokes and wagons were repaired and timbers were cut and loaded for use in case of breakdowns on the treeless plains.

In a sense, Council Grove may be called the birthplace of the Santa Fe trail. Although such a route had been used by the Indians for centuries before the coming of the white man, it was at the grove in 1825 that United States commissioners negotiated with the Osages for a passage across their lands. This right-of-way, surveyed by the government in 1825-1827, became the Santa Fe trail as it is known today, and from this council with the Osages the present town took its name.

The grove was famous in the West from the time that white men first visited the area. Coronado was in the vicinity in 1541, when he was searching for the land of Quivira. Father Juan Padilla, a Franciscan priest who accompanied the Coronado expedition, returned to Quivira in 1542, hoping to convert the Indians, but he was killed by them that same year, the first Christian martyr in the United States. A monument two miles south of Council Grove marks the vicinity where some believe his death occurred, though

the exact place cannot be known with certainty.

In 1846 a treaty with the Kansas or Kaw Indians gave them a diminished reservation twenty miles square which included the site of present Council Grove. Traders and government agents soon followed the tribe to the new location. Seth M. Hays, the first white settler at Council Grove, established his home and trading post in 1847 in a log cabin just west of the Neosho river on the north side of the Santa Fe trail. This was the first house in what is now Morris County. In 1848, a Mr. Mitchell arrived to become government blacksmith to the Kaws. His wife was the first white woman to live in the county.

The treaty of 1846 had provided that the government would make an annual payment of \$1,000 to advance the education of the Kaw Indians in their own country. In 1850 the Methodist Episcopal Church South, which had maintained a missionary to the tribe since 1830, entered into a contract with the government to establish a mission and school on the new reservation at Council Grove. Funds for the building were provided by the government, and Allen T. Ward, an employee at the Shawnee Methodist Mission and Manual Labor School near present Kansas City (now operated by the Kansas State Historical Society as a state-owned museum), was sent to Council Grove to superintend construction.

The building was to be of native stone, two stories high, with eight rooms, and was designed to accommodate fifty students as regular boarders, in addition to teachers, missionaries, farmers and other mission workers. Work began in September 1850, and the building was completed in February 1851.

School began in May 1851, under the direction of Thomas Sears Huffaker, a 24-year-old teacher who had → → →

served in the same capacity at the Shawnee Manual Labor School. The Rev. Henry Webster was in charge of the farming and stock, and Mrs. Webster supervised the kitchen. Classes for Indian children were held until 1854, when the school was closed because of the excessive cost — \$50 a year — of maintaining each student.

The Kaw Indians never responded well to the efforts of the church, and sent to the school only boys who were orphans or dependents of the tribe. Girls were not allowed to attend school at all. Members of the tribe considered education and the ways of the white man degrading to the Indian character.

During this period the school averaged about thirty pupils a year. Instruction was given in spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic. The Indian boys worked on the farm and showed facility in learning the principles of agriculture, but they received no instruction in the trades. After the government withdrew its support in 1854 a school for the white children of Council Grove, one of the first in Kansas territory, was continued.

The Kaw Indians agreed in 1959 that the reservation be further reduced to an area of nine by fourteen miles. In the 1870's the tribe moved to a new reservation in present Oklahoma.

In 1859 the Mission building and grounds were conveyed by a United States land patent to the Council Grove Town Company. A portion was sold to Thomas S. Huffaker in 1865. Thereafter it was owned by several individuals until 1926, when Carl I. Huffaker, a son of Thomas, bought the part on which the Mission building stands. In 1939 he also purchased the remaining ground to the south.

The Kansas legislature in 1951 authorized the purchase of the Mission property from Mr. Huffaker. The Kansas State Historical Society, as trustee for the state, now operates it as a museum.

The above are excerpts from a pamphlet published by the Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas.

‡

Vice President George Mifflin Dallas, who served under Brother James K. Polk, 1844-48, was an outstanding Mason and statesman. The son of Alexander James Dallas, Secretary of the Treasury under Madison, he was Mayor of Philadelphia in 1828, Senator in 1831-33 and Minister to Russia, 1837-39. After leaving the Vice Presidency he served as Minister to Great Britain under Pierce and Brother James Buchanan, 1856-61.

Dallas was a member of Franklin Lodge No. 134, Philadelphia, and served two terms as Grand Master of Pennsylvania, 1820-1822. While Vice President he participated in the Masonic cornerstone laying of the Smithsonian Institution and the Washington Monument. In 1846 the new state of Texas named Dallas and Dallas County for him.

Fellow Pennsylvanian Thaddeus Stevens and his anti-Masonic state legislature tried to force Dallas to testify against the Masons. In January 1836 Dallas was arrested and brought before the tribunal like a criminal. Dallas, a lawyer, refused to be sworn. Eventually Stevens gave up and released Dallas. The investigation of Masons failed.

Dallas died December 31, 1864. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held memorial services.

John Edes Becomes Eagle Scout

John W. Edes, 15, son of Sir Knight and Mrs. John C. Edes, Cumberland, Rhode Island, recently was elevated to the rank of Eagle Scout at a court of honor in St. Joan's Church. John's father is a member of Blanquefort Commandery No. 13, Ellsworth, Maine.

John received recognition from the White House, Senator Claiborne Pell and Congressman Edward Beard for his Eagle project on the restoration of historic cemeteries in Cumberland. He is a senior patrol leader and a member of Cumberland-Lincoln Boys Club and Four Corners Community Chapel's senior high fellowship.

AN IMPROBABLE IDEA

by
Anthony Donn, M.D.

Last Christmas, as on several others, the Presbyterian Hospital received a gift for \$1,000.00 from Mr. Stanley Miller. The gift, though generous in terms of what the donor could afford, is not remarkable for its size nor for the fact that it was unsolicited.

The donor is a 75 year old practicing accountant who became blind and unable to work at age 62. Ten years previously he had developed cataracts in both eyes; these had been successfully removed and he returned to his profession. But when he was 60 years old, his corneas (the clear watch-glass-like tissue in the front of the eye) began to swell and lose transparency. By age 62, he no longer was able to read any print — even with magnifying glasses. He could no longer work for profit or read for pleasure. He consulted numerous specialists throughout the country and it was explained that his corneas were so swollen that even a corneal transplant would probably not help. In desperation he underwent this operation: as predicted by the ophthalmologists, he developed good vision in the operated eye — but it lasted only five months and he was as blind as before.

A few years before Mr. Miller went blind, a young South American ophthalmologist came to Columbia-Presbyterian's Eye Institute fired with the idea of making artificial plastic corneas. Most physicians held that this idea was preposterous because there were many reasons for believing that the artificial corneas would become infected and fall out and result in total blindness. Nevertheless, the Director of Ophthalmic Research, the late Dr. George Smelser, and the Eye Institute's Director, Dr. A. G. DeVoe, felt that Dr. Hernando Cardona merited support. They helped

him set up a laboratory. And for years he worked on purifying the plastic, on testing the plastic in rabbits' eyes and on developing the optics and mechanics of an artificial cornea.

By the time Dr. Cardona met Mr. Miller, people no longer dismissed Cardona's ideas. The plastic proved to be tolerated by the rabbits and a few patients with hopeless eyes had had Dr. Cardona's operation. Some operations had failed but some had succeeded, and the new corneas remained in place for years.

As a well-educated professional man, Miller was aware of the risks and of the experimental nature of the surgery. He felt that he had nothing to lose. In 1968, he allowed the surgeons at Columbia's Eye Institute to replace one of his swollen, opaque corneas with the artificial one. Six weeks later, he could read print as small as the telephone book and he could get about by himself. Three years later, he had his other eye operated on, using a newer model of the artificial cornea and this, too, succeeded. For the past seven years, Mr. Miller has worked and viewed the world by looking through the transparent axis of two sophisticated plastic bolts which are literally screwed into the front of his eyes.

At present, the experience with artificial corneas is much greater than it was seven years ago. Its advantages and disadvantages are better understood in the ophthalmic community. This work, however, would not have been possible without the continued and generous support of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. For six years they have provided the major economic base for this entire activity. In retrospect, it is inspiring to consider the profound → → →

foresight of the Knights Templar and their ophthalmic advisors in establishing this program.

The customary corneal transplant operation, using eyes that have been donated by other people, is still the operation of choice for many corneal diseases; however, there are some conditions in which chances of a living cornea succeeding are extremely remote. These include not only severely swollen corneas as in the case of Mr. Miller, but also chemically burned corneas such as those which occur after industrial accidents. In these cases, despite the surgeon's best efforts, the transplanted corneas usually become opaque and the operation fails. Dr. Cardona's contribution has been to provide vision to those who could not otherwise achieve it by conventional means. In theory, the artificial cornea is simple. A hole is made in the cornea, the eye is opened, and a transparent nut and bolt are screwed into the opaque cornea. Inside the bolt, which is made of purified methyl methacrylate, a system of lenses is arranged in order to provide vision for the patient. There are many theoretical disadvantages to this procedure, and most ophthalmologists felt that all of these artificial corneas would fail. In point of fact, however, a surprisingly small number fail totally. At the present time, about 400 of these artificial corneas have been implanted in living patients, the longest being that in a 90 year old woman who was totally blind and who now still sees 20/20, which is perfect vision, 15 years after her operation.

There are still unsolved problems with the operation. It remains partly experimental and there are unquestioned dangers. Nevertheless, Dr. Cardona has provided vision for a host of people who would otherwise be unable to benefit from the advances in ophthalmic surgery. His work is an outstanding example of research, partly supported by generous charitable contributions, resulting in the direct alleviation of human suffering. Continued effort will certainly refine the design of the artificial cornea and improve the surgical technique, allowing

THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA

Nobly, in truth, ye are cloth'd by the
Cross's equipment so dreaded,
When ye, the lions in fight, Accon and
Rhodus protect,
When through the Syrian deserts ye guide
the sorrowing pilgrim,
And, with the Cherubin's sword, stand
o'er the Saviour's blest tomb.
But a glory still nobler surrounds ye, —
the garb of the nurser,
When ye, the lions in fight, sons of the
race so renown'd,
Serve at the bed of the sick, refreshment
prepare for the thirsty, —
When ye perform the mean rites
Christian-like mercy enjoins.
Glorious Faith of the cross! thou only in
one wreath unitest
Those two flourishing palms, Meekness
and Valour at once!

From *The Poems of Schiller*, translated by Edgar Alfred Bowring, C.B. Original Preface, London, April, 1851. Preface to the Second Edition, London, November, 1873. Cambridge Edition. American Publishers Corp., 310/318 Sixth Avenue, N.Y. City.

Submitted by Kenneth Marx
Berkshire Commandery No. 22,
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

more handicapped patients to see. Not all research achieves such direct results, but Dr. Cardona's example can stimulate scientists and surgeons to dedicate their energies and resources to achieve even greater achievements in the field of eye care.

Dr. Donn is Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute of the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, 622 West 168th Street, New York, New York 10032.

‡

The Square of It

Meeting on the level and parting on the square used to be a standard for behavior in every community, large or small, in America. The expression, "on the square," has been so universally used by Mason and non-Mason alike, that it has integrated itself into our vocabulary as a simple and brief pledge of a man's word and bond.

St. Andrew's Lodge of Boston, according to record, held an adjourned meeting one night long ago, with no member except the sentinel appearing at the Lodge building; and that was the night the tea was dumped into the harbor, and American independence was born.

The Masonic affirmation of the dignity of man is evident in the Declaration of Independence, and the principles of Masonry are plain in the Constitution of the United States.

The public school system, the sinew and marrow of a society of free men, breathes the very spirit of Masonry.

Wherever you look, the length and breadth of the land, you see the achievements and the handiwork of Masonry, carefully levelled and squared, and true; and you sense the presence of human values in our institutions, both private and public. Masonry has been everywhere, building and refining, planning and achieving, working for and nurturing America.

But some Masons have grown either indifferent or smug, and do not openly take pride of participation in these great services. Masonry has its secrets, to be sure. But the aim and the purpose of the Masonic life are inherent in the American heritage, and every citizen has the right to know.

Brethren, speak out, preach the Masonic role in community affairs. Do not boast, but neither remain silent. Masonic service is manifest in our history. Your neighbors are entitled to know.

L. Garland Bailey
Ruthven Commandery No. 2
Houston, Texas

A Special Note on John Paul Jones

I was interested in reading the article in the *Knight Templar* about John Paul Jones. In 1972, my wife and I had the opportunity of visiting the cottage in which John Paul was born and of standing in the room where he drew his first breath. We also visited the church where he was christened, where his father lies buried, and where the U.S. Navy presented a Baptistry in honor of his memory.

One interesting fact that was not mentioned in the article, which is reported in the Pulitzer prize-winning biography by Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison is that Captain Jones created his own personal coat of arms and in it he included the Masonic symbols, the square and compasses. The coat of arms is illustrated in Admiral Morison's book.

While in Scotland, we also visited Edinburgh Castle, which houses museums of the armed forces of the United Kingdom. In the Navy Room, in a small glass case in a corner, there are some old etchings, prints and photographs entitled "Scottish Sailors in Foreign Service." Included among them is an old engraving entitled "Paul Jones," depicting Captain Jones as a privateer, with pistols in his belt and a scowl on his face. The title below the picture is "American Sailor." Although 200 years ago when he raided the coast of Britain and harassed and sunk nearby shipping, he was labeled "pirate" by the British, it seems that time would have healed those wounds and the father of the American Navy would be entitled to better treatment in his native land.

I hope "the powers that be" will remedy the situation and place a more appropriate likeness of John Paul Jones in place of the present picture.

A. Mims Wilkinson, Jr.
Atlanta, Georgia



INDIANA SUPPLEMENT



RICHARD M. STEPHENSON, Editor
224 South 23rd Street, Richmond, Indiana 47374

INDIANA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION MAKES REPORT

The Indiana Division of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation had a busy year in 1975. A total of 46 new loans were made to deserving college students in an amount in excess of \$62,000.00. This was the largest volume of new loans made by the Indiana Division since 1969 and one of the largest in the history of the Foundation.

As of December 31, 1975 the Indiana Division had assets totaling \$214,605.00 and of this amount \$209,961.00 was invested in the youth of today by way of educational loans. This means that 97.8 % of our monies were loaned out and working toward the aim of the Foundation.

For the information of many who are not familiar with the origin, purpose and operation of the Educational Foundation, it was originated in the year 1924 by an assessment upon each Knight Templar under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment K.T. of the U.S.A. for a period of nine years. Since 1933 no assessment to the Foundation has been made and Knights Templar today make no contribution to the Foundation. After half a century, the Knights Templar Educational Foundation has assisted more than 69,000 students for an aggregate monetary value of over \$26,000,000.00. The total capitalization of the Foundation is more than \$5,000,000.00.

This Capital is divided among the 50 Divisions of the Grand Encampment, of

which the Indiana Division is but one. The Foundation, recognizing the need for education is essential, provides financial assistance for vocational, technical or professional training and for undergraduate and post-graduate study in accordance with the policies conforming to the Regulations and Standard Practice of the Foundation. By the Regulations, the Grand Recorder of each Jurisdiction is the Division Secretary-Treasurer.

Although our current balance of funds available to loan is low, new funds are coming in every month by the repayment of old loans. Any Knight Templar knowing of a deserving college student in need of funds should write to the Grand Recorder for information and an application.

GROUP 4 CONCLUDES SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL

Group 4 of the State York Rite Association concluded its York Rite Festival on Saturday, March 27th with a class of 34 candidates being Knighted in the asylum of Lafayette Commandery. As during the conferral of the Chapter and Council Degrees on the previous weekend, the Order of Temple was conferred by officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana with Sir Knight James S. DeMond, Em. Grand Commander, conferring the fifth libation.

The Order of Red Cross was conferred by members of Robert A. Woods Priory No. 62, K.Y.C.H. of Bloomington, and the Order of Malta was conferred by

members of Indiana Priory No. 8, K.Y.C.H. of Fort Wayne. A dinner at 6:00 P.M. with Group 4 president, Gary L. Cornell, presiding, concluded the day-long affair.

ROBERT A. WOODS PRIORY INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

Joseph G. Isham of Indianapolis was installed as the Eminent Prior of Robert A. Woods Priory No. 62, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, at its annual conclave held at Bloomington in January.

Additional officers installed included: John W. Schmitt, Greencastle, Deputy Prior; Earl R. Rogers, Madison, Warder; Raleigh R. Cagle, Bloomington, Registrar; Ernest R. Roller, Jr., Vincennes, Prelate; Robert A. Rogers, Terre Haute, Orator, and Kenneth W. Wantland, Carmel, Herald.

Marvin L. Isley, a Past Prior of Robert A. Woods Priory and Grand Marshal of the Convent General, K.Y.C.H., served as Installing Officer with Frederick E. Manker, also a Past Prior, serving as Installing Marshal.

The following ten candidates were then inducted into the Priory: Leon Gordon Weber, Harold J. Sark, Robert D. Dulmage, Oscar Glenn Stepp, Richard Max Seybold, Stanley Francis Sears, James Russell, Devine, Harold Warren Sauerheber, Glenn William Weston and Herbert Summers Taylor.

A dinner for the Knights and their ladies, with J. Douglas Horine, outgoing Prior, presiding, concluded the day's activities.

HOOSIER MASONIC DATES

April 30-May 1, 1976 — Grand Commandery Conclave at Fort Wayne.

May 1, 1976 — DeMolay Class at Indianapolis in honor of General Grand Master Owen L. Shanteau of Indiana.

May 5, 1976 — Group 9-S Quarterly meeting at Princeton.

May 8, 1976 — Grand Council of Indiana will host a Reception at Columbus at Donner Center, 801 22nd Street. Social hour 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m.

May 15, 1976 — Fort Wayne Commandery All-Order Day.

May 15, 1976 — Shelby Chapter No. 20, R.A.M., will celebrate its 125th Anniversary.

May 18-19, 1976 — Indiana Grand Lodge Annual Communication at Indianapolis.

May 22, 1976 — Baldwin Commandery at Shelbyville will confer the Red Cross and Order of Malta. May 22, 1976 — Annual Meeting of Indiana Priory No. 8, K.Y.C.H., at Fort Wayne starting at 3:00 p.m.

May 22, 1976 — Grand Commandery Reception at Lafayette.

May 27, 1976 — Group 3 Quarterly meeting at Auburn.

May 27, 1976 — Battalion 6 will hold Ascension Day services at church in Connersville.

May 28, 1976 — LaValette Commandery at Evansville will hold Ascension Day Services at Masonic Temple.

May 29, 1976 — All Degree Day at Auburn.

June 5, 1976 — Group 6 York Rite will hold All-Degree Day at Knightstown starting at 1:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

June 5, 1976 — Grand Chapter reception at Shelbyville.

June 6, 1976 — York Rite Association of Indiana Quarterly meeting at Indianapolis.

June 6, 1976 — Group 4 York Rite meets at Lafayette. Picnic at Columbia Park.

June 7, 1976 — Group 9-N Quarterly meeting at Bloomington.

June 11-12, 1976 — Scottish Rite Council of Deliberation meets at French Lick.

June 12, 1976 — Group 3 will confer the Mark and Past Masters Degrees in gravel pit at Angola.

June 12, 1976 — Group 6 York Rite All-Order Day at Connersville starting at 1:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

June 14, 1976 — Group 7 Quarterly meeting at Greencastle.

June 19, 1976 — H.R.A.K.T.P. will hold Five State meeting in Indianapolis.

June 26, 1976 — Indiana Grand Lodge Reception.

June 27-July 3, 1976 — Knights Templar week at Camp Crosley.

July 3, 1976 — Group 8 York Rite meets at 2:30 p.m. for picnic.

July 17, 1976 — Group 9-S will sponsor an All-Degree All-Order Day at Evansville Scottish Rite Cathedral.



KNIGHT VOICES

COMMENTS FROM READERS



- ▣ I find the *Knight Templar Magazine* both interesting and stimulating. It is a welcome publication and certainly will further the effort to create well informed Masons. *Judson E. Richardson, Jr., Grand High Priest, 319 Warren Avenue, Charlotte, Michigan 48813*
- ▣ I have enjoyed reading the *Knight Templar* since my husband, Luther, joined the Commandery about a year ago. I had not seen the very fine magazine since the death, more than ten years ago, of my father, P.G.C. Raymond N. Babcock, who was also for a number of years Chairman of the Easter Sunrise Committee for services at Arlington National Cemetery, sponsored by the Grand Encampment. It is nice to have personal contact with Templary again. *Mrs. Louise Babcock Ray, 6731 Second Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012*
- ▣ Please send four copies of *Masonic Americana*, one for me, three for sharing. I find your fine magazine highly instructive and educational, a pleasure to read. *George R. Spang, 1328 Marble Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43227*
- ▣ I am a professional Scouter and work for the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. I would like to request that any Sir Knights having old Boy Scout items such as patches, medals, books, uniforms, etc., that they are willing or interested in getting rid of, please contact me. If one works in the profession long enough, one becomes a collector of Scouting memorabilia. *Angus L. McBryde, Jr., Palestine Commandery No. 4, 15 Edwards Place, Princeton, New Jersey 08540*
- ▣ Truth is stranger than fiction. In 1861 Whelock Commandery No. 5, Knights Templar, Texas, had fifty-five members. All joined the Confederate Army and all were killed in battle; thus the Commandery ceased to exist. *Sir Knight John W. Jefferds, Golden West Commandery, 2054 Bentley Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90025*
- ▣ Enclosed please find a check for ten copies of *Masonic Americana*. The copies will be given to the Utica Masonic Home for the use of the men and women in its buildings and in the health facility. The Retired Masons of the Utica area have formed a "Mr. Club" that entertains our brothers at the Masonic Home twice a month. We pick them up in our cars, take them to the Masonic Temple where we have movies, play cards and eat lunch. We then take them for a ride in the country before returning them to the Home. We also have special parties for such occasions as 50-year recognitions, Easter and Christmas. *Harold J. Lowenberg, Utica Commandery No. 3, 10301 Ridgecrest Road, Utica, New York 13502*
- ▣ Fifty years ago the Shrine published a magazine from May 1926 to December 1928. I have all 32 copies. They average nearly 90 pages per copy (9½ x 11½) and will provide many hours of entertainment and relaxation with their splendid articles of Conventions, Hospital accomplishments, news from the various Temples, ads of Shrine paraphernalia and splendid clean fiction in serial form. I will accept any fair offer for them. *Amos Snyder, Pilgrim No. 11, R.D. No. 1, Dauphin, Pennsylvania 17018*

□ The cover of the February magazine was familiar. The illustrator, Leslie Thrasher, and I were sergeants in the 40th Engineers (Camouflage) during World War I. Sergeant Thrasher was gassed during the fighting in the Toul sector in France sometime in June 1918 and spent a short time in Base Hospital 17 in Dijon.

There were several men in our regiment who wore Masonic rings and Thrasher might have been one of those men but I had no means of knowing as I was not admitted until May 1919, after we got home from France, and petitioned McCandless Lodge No. 390 in Pittsburgh. *William Pow, Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1, 2984 McNe¹ Road, Allison Park, Pennsylvania 15101*

□ The Buckingham County Bicentennial Commission is producing a paperweight, the proceeds from which are being used for the restoration of Locust Grove, the home of our famed Revolutionary hero Peter Francisco.

The paperweight is made from Buckingham County slate, measures two by two inches and is embossed with the local bicentennial seal. The cost is two dollars plus postage. *Frank R. Coleman, Commissioner on Publicity, Buckingham County Bicentennial Commission, DeMolay Commandery No. 4, Route 3, Box 112, Dillwyn, Virginia 23936*

□ I am collecting old Shaving Mugs, Moustache Cups, and Scuttle Mugs. I have heard the Lodge put out one with a Masonic emblem on it.

I would be very happy to buy any of these that the Brothers have. *Sir Knight Philip J. Brazer, DeSoto Commandery No. 56, P.O. Box 127, Bonne Terre, Missouri 63628*

□ I would like to add a few more pen pals, especially those who are interested in travel (U.S. and Canada), fine music and playing the organ, and railroading. Anyone interested may write me. *Allan T. Spencer, Lorain Commandery No. 65, 8945 West Ridge Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035*

□ I simply cannot agree with Sir Knight Harry M. Smit's suggestion in the December 1975 issue of the magazine for Knights Templar to send clergy members to the Holy Land.

For years my wife and I have been saving our hard-earned pennies, just dreaming of the time we would have accumulated enough to go to the Holy Land.

And here comes Sir Knight Smit, proposing that we give the clergy a trip, SCOT FREE! *Walter H. Dunlap, Temple Commandery No. 41, 8554 San Pedro Parkway, Dallas, Texas 75218*

□ Circumstances cause me to relocate to the southeast or the southwest of the U.S.A. If any reader wishes to relay a qualified opportunity, I would appreciate it if he would drop me a card or note. *Waldo C. Gray, P.O. Box 548, Atlantic Beach, North Carolina 28512*

□ I have two hobbies. One is collecting old auto license plates and the other is collecting stamps of any kind. If any of my brothers have any I would be very grateful to receive them. *George Phillip Bradford, Jr., Tampa Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8, 1210 East Columbus, Tampa, Florida 33605*

□ I need a used Past Commander's Dress Coat, size 48, waist 46 inches. I would also purchase other equipment; chapeau size 7¼. Please indicate style, size, price, etc. for each item. *Ralph Benard, 201 W. Union, Risingsun, Ohio 43457*

Membership Comment

Need I suggest that very seldom does anyone come to you and say, "Please, can you tell me how I can become a Knight Templar?" In my thirty-five years as a Knight Templar this has happened once.

Gordon J. Brenner, P.G.C.
Grand Recorder, New Jersey

Timely for Independence Day . . .

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