NOVEMBER: November, time of harvest and Thanksgiving, is the traditional season for the Knight Templar Magazine to salute Right Eminent Grand Commanders, pioneers of progress in the Sovereign Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. A pioneering Mason of an earlier date, Brother Kit Carson, is the photographic subject of the November cover; his story as "Guide to the West" is told in Sir Knight Gilbert H. Hill's Americana feature on page 9. Vignettes of 1976-79 Department Commanders are in this issue also, and the resumption, curtailed last month, of "Knight Voices."

Paul C. Rodenhauser, Editor

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A SALUTE TO LEADERSHIP

Qualities of leadership, wherever and whenever found, are always sought and always in demand. I take this opportunity to extend appreciation to the Grand Commanders in our jurisdiction for the leadership they are exerting as administrators in their respective areas. I salute the 48 Right Eminent Grand Commanders for their Christian examples, for their initiative, for their able fulfillment of their obligations and responsibilities to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. Some have been newly installed, some have demonstrated their worth for a major portion of their terms, but all hold positions of the greatest value to our Order. May they continue their devoted service and contributions to Templary for many more years to come.

Also, I pay tribute to the leadership we have established in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation at Springfield, Illinois, where Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell serves as Executive Director. I feel that it would be almost impossible to evaluate the calibre of service he gives to this Christian body. He, with Past Grand Masters John L. Crofts and Roy Wilford Riegel, both past Presidents and present members of the Board of Trustees, exemplifies a dedication to Templary that should inspire each of us to support, to an even greater degree, the work of the Eye Foundation.

It is my hope and the hope of the Committee that our 9th Voluntary Campaign will result in Commandery fund-raising projects which will show the world that Knights Templar believe in, and subscribe to, deeds of charity and pure beneficence. I ask that you devote every effort to productive, Masonically-acceptable Commandery activities during the period from December 1 until the end of next April when the present Campaign concludes.

Finally, as we begin this month of Thanksgiving, I suggest that each one of us take the opportunity to count our blessings and make November 25 truly a day for the Giving of Thanks for ourselves and for our Order. The Pilgrims of more than 350 years ago phrased it well:

"Give praise to that All Gracious One by whome our steps were led,
And thank you for the harvest, Lord, and for our daily bread."

[Signature]
Grand Master
Kentucky and Easter: Kent Berkley, Past Grand Commander, has released plans for an Arlington Easter Sunrise Pilgrimage for 1977. Grand Commander Wells authorized the arrangements and “extends his hearty invitation to participate.”

Plans call for an Easter Weekend Tour leaving Paducah, at a time to be determined, Thursday night, April 7, arriving back at Paducah Monday morning, April 11. Reservations, at $115.00 per person — based on double occupancy — can be made by forwarding your name, address and a $20.00 deposit to Sir Knight Billy Joe Carroll.

Wonder Where it Went?: A Chicago Sunday feature described the giant Chicago Bulk Mail Center, the size of 11 football fields, where 75 percent of the mail originating in portions of other states is destined for other bulk mail centers. The Chicago Bulk Mail Center sends on mail destined for those out-of-town bulk centers and also for its own 20 sectional centers. The article comments, as a lead-in, that this “facility outfitted with numerous technological marvels has yet to realize its promise of faster, more efficient package delivery.” Meanwhile, says the article, “over at United Parcel Service, where the latest in equipment is likely to be a college kid wearing work gloves, more packages — not to mention a profit — are being delivered.” There, the generous rate, says the report, is $7.79 an hour for four hour shifts.

From another quote, we learn that much damage “being done at the bulk center can be seen at the main rewrap area.” There are 14 clerks for each of two shifts putting packages together. Many have been professionally packed in shipping rooms; “ordinary householders” have even worse luck.

Elevated: The heading in the October issue listed Sir Knight Kenneth C. Johnson as Grand Captain General. He vacated that title at the 53rd Triennial Conclave when the voters unanimously elevated him to the rank of Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo. The Grand Captain General, as reported, is now Sir Knight Ned E. Dull.

Lost and Found: A pink, beaded, fluorescent-type, dangling earring was found at the Triennial Conclave in Kansas City. The owner may contact the Grand Recorder’s office, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago 60604.

Hold All Tickets: In a listing of round trip tour costs from various cities to the Honolulu RCC Assembly next June, the charge for a single person traveling from Denver was listed as $383.19. Correct amount is $833.19. So — do not flock to Denver to buy tickets!

Jersey Continentals: Among the 53rd Triennial Conclave highlights were appearances by the Jersey Continentals, arranged by Past Department Commander Ted Voelter and Captained by W. M. Gage, P.G.C. This picturesque Bicentennial group in authentic costumes escorted the Grand Master and his officers to the Grand Master’s Reception, served as escort for the receiving of distinguished guests and for the Monday flag presentation, and in a variety of ways added color and meaning to the Bicentennial event.

The Jersey Continentals, formed October 5, 1975, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Grand Commandery of New Jersey Bicentennial Committee, is organized along the lines of a Revolutionary War Continental formation — commanded by a Captain, assisted by two lieutenants. It has its own fifer and drummer.
THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDERS

In open ceremonies throughout the jurisdiction of the sovereign Grand Encampment, Grand Commanders chosen by their Templar peers each have taken an oath of service: "I promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America..." Each promises to observe the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of his Grand Commandery, and to faithfully discharge the duties of his office to the best of his ability.

Grand Master Willard M. Avery, in saluting the Right Eminent Grand Commanders, says: "It is their leadership which determines the success of their projects, their operations, their membership status, and Commandery cooperation in general. In this work they need the active assistance and support of each Knight Templar. And if each communicates fully with his officers and his membership and makes his needs known, I feel there will be no lack of cooperative response."

Sir Knights — Behold Your Grand Commanders!

William M. Newsome
ALABAMA

Jesse C. Wilmot
ARIZONA

William Greenwood
ARKANSAS

Robert J. Miller
CALIFORNIA

William H. Thornley
COLORADO

Arthur J. McKinney
CONNECTICUT

Donald G. Warner
DIST. OF COL.

Harry A. Rosenthal
FLORIDA

J. C. Billingsley
GEORGIA

John C. Miller
IDAHO

Volney E. Storey
ILLINOIS

David R. Poling, Jr.
INDIANA
Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well-wisher to his posterity, swear by the blood of the Revolution, never to violate in the least particular, the laws of the country, and never tolerate their violation by others. As the patriots of '76 did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and laws let every American pledge his life, his property and his sacred honor. Let every man remember that to violate the law is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the charter of his own and his children's liberty.

Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap. Let it be taught in the schools, in seminaries and in colleges. Let it be written in primers, spelling-books and in almanacs. Let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice; and in short, let it become the political religion of the nation. And let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay of all sexes and tongues and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars.

Abraham Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address November 19, 1863. Lesser known is the article above in which the Great Emancipator enjoins love of liberty and reverence for the nation's laws.
CHRISTOPHER (KIT) CARSON—GUIDE TO THE WEST

by
Sir Knight Gilbert H. Hill, P.C.
Coronal Commandery No. 36

Carson City, Nevada, is the capital of the state of Nevada, and was named after Christopher (Kit) Carson, as is Carson Masonic Lodge No. 1, A.F. & A.M. Kit Carson was born in Madison County, Kentucky, on Christmas Eve of 1809, nine months after the birth of Abraham Lincoln in Hardin County, in the same state. To doubt the impact of these men on the history of our nation, is to consign discretion to the winds. Neither figure was ever an ordinary person: Abe, the tall, gaunt, rail-splitter, had no resemblance to Kit, who was small in stature, but built compact for action. If it can be said that Lincoln saved the Union, then surely it must be conceded that Carson did more to save the West than any other single man.

The wisdom and pointed humor of Lincoln will live as long as there is appreciation for candor. Carson, known by his contemporaries as “Nestor” of the Rocky Mountains, came in full favor at a time when to make the wrong move in the West was fatal. The title “Nestor” referred to the oldest and wisest of the Greek heroes of the Trojan War. The name was justified by the fact that Carson had a vast knowledge of Indian life and personality in both war and peace. He knew the safest trails for wagon trains. As an interpreter, teamster, and guide to emigrants and settlers in the West, his services were indispensable. The wolf howls and coyote cries at night that so alarmed the travelers, were quietly identified as harmless sounds of wildlife. The dangers of buffalo stampedes and surprise Indian attacks were emphasized to any care-free rovers. Throughout the young western territories, explorations and campaigns alike owed their successes largely to the advice and experience of Kit Carson, the mild-mannered trail leader.

With a very minor education, Kit’s natural abilities were great: He could speak French and Spanish fluently, and was proficient in many Indian dialects. He was the undisputed authority on the customs, habits, and manners of Indians in the Middle and Far West. For fifteen years, Carson never slept under a roof or saw the face of a white woman.

Kit’s father left Kentucky when the boy was one year old, and settled in Howard County, Missouri, near what is now the present city of Fayette. As a boy of fifteen, Kit was apprenticed to a saddler. However, yearning for adventure at the age of seventeen, he ran away, and joined a group of hunters and trappers in Santa Fe, New Mexico, becoming a hunter and trapper of wide reputation and experience, second to none. Although Carson was a sober man with a high regard for truth, he made friends easily, and never deserted one. In the rough element of humanity, which was a part of the trapper and fur-trader life, Kit was constantly in contact with low morals and licentiousness, but his strong and honorable character never weakened.

Carson was a strong restraining influence on the warlike Apaches who were led by the famous Geronimo. As Indian Agent at Taos, New Mexico, Carson resolved many disputes and problems, averting violence by adroit maneuvers, common sense, and fairness. Kit loved the outdoors, the beauties of nature, and the free Indian way of life. At Fort Lyon, Colorado, and after the war, Kit was Indian Agent until his death in 1868.

Dewitt C. Peters, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel and Surgeon of the
United States Army, was the only person Carson ever personally authorized to write his biography. From this source, the present writer has gained much information and inspiration.

Most frontiersmen, rough, tough, and ready, were a great contrast to the modest, quiet rifleman and guide. Whatever moral stamina he possessed was surely fortified by his philosophy of life, and also strengthened by membership in Montezuma Lodge No. 109 A.F. & A.M., at Santa Fe. The E.A., F.C., and M.M. degrees were conferred between March 29 and December 26, 1854, at Montezuma, under Missouri Grand Lodge Charter. Later, Bent Lodge No. 204 was also chartered by Missouri, in Taos, New Mexico, on December 15, 1859, and Kit demitted to it in April 1860, because he had settled down to ranching, 50 miles east of Taos. He was the Lodge’s first Junior Warden. When unfortunate circumstances (territorial upheaval and Indian trouble) forced the surrender of the Lodge’s charter, Carson returned to Montezuma Lodge No. 109, and remained a member until his death, May 24, 1868, at Fort Lyon, Colorado.

Moses B. Carson, Kit’s brother, together with two other Masons, were the founders of the Missouri Fur Company. Moses B. was initiated, passed, and raised, in Franklin Union Lodge No. 7 in 1826. This must have been a strong influence toward Kit’s desire to become a Mason in 1854. Old Franklin, in Howard County, is about 15 miles south of the present city of Fayette.

When Carson went to Taos, he married an Indian girl. Soon after the birth of a daughter, the Indian mother died. Much of Carson’s hard-won earnings as a hunter and trapper went to the advancement and education of his daughter, who later married and went to live in California. In 1843, Carson married a second time, to a Mexican woman, Senora Josepha Jarimilla; and to this marriage three children were born.

As adventurous explorers were beating Indian paths into routes for wagon ruts, John C. Fremont found the services of Kit Carson essential to his success as the “Pathfinder” for the Oregon, California, and Santa Fe trails. For $100 per month, Kit led the way through dangerous territory, around certain ambush, and over unbeaten paths to Salt Lake, and along the Columbia River to Vancouver Island. Enduring fierce snow storms over the mountains, one expedition finally reached Sutter’s Fort, later the site of the great gold strike of 1849. All the way from the Mississippi Valley to the Pacific Ocean the region was opened for the Westward Movement.

It was at the Old Plaza, in the beautiful little vineyard town of Sonoma, California (about 60 miles northeast of San Francisco), that Colonel John C. Fremont and Kit Carson in 1846, with only 600 men, took down the Mexican flag and proclaimed California territory a part of the United States.

The success of the Fremont expeditions and explorations, and all of the government scientific excursions were, in large measure, due to the sound advice and counsel of the great rifleman, trapper, and guide.

When the Civil War broke out, it was Colonel St. Vrain who helped organize the First New Mexico Cavalry. The same man, Ceran St. Vrain, had requested the Grand Lodge of Missouri to constitute Bent Lodge No. 204 at Taos, New Mexico. St. Vrain became Colonel of the First New Mexico Cavalry, and Carson was the Lieutenant Colonel. As the war moved into its sharpest conflict, Kit became Colonel of the New Mexico Regiment, and in 1865, he was brevetted a Brigadier General for his achievements. Previous to the Civil War, Carson had served as guide for General Kearney when he took possession of New Mexico and Arizona, during the Polk administration.

Kit was a friend and co-partner of Jim Bridger in several hunting and trapping ventures; one of special importance carried him through the Black Hills of South Dakota. In this period of the 1830’s, the fur trading and trapping business was at its height.

Before, during, and after
the Civil War; the Indian problem made heavy demands on the military potential of the country. Many of the problems were solved by the genius of the Rocky Mountain Nestor, with his vast store of Indian lore. In all his contacts with the several nations and tribes, he warned them against intoxicating drink. As Indian Agent, his counsel was most effective. At one time during the Indian wars, he was able to bring about the surrender of 10,000 Indians.

Four centuries of Taos history have been made vigorous by Conquistadores, priests and frontiersmen. Carson's grave is a Taos relic.

Like Lincoln, Kit could not accept lionization or adulation. As a modest man he threw himself into everything he did, with the force of full conviction, but never in search of personal prestige. Mrs. Fremont was a great admirer of Carson, and when her husband was nominated for president in 1856, she, as well as many others, felt that much credit for Fremont's success was due to the advice and wise counsel of his close associate and fellow commander.

Though this stirring story ends, its spell will never die: The two self-made men, Abe and Kit, both born in Kentucky in 1809, found their places in a destiny that united a shattered union and bound the West to a nation whose potential was later to serve to stabilize the affairs of the whole world. A United Nation, welded together by two great artisans, could well proclaim in the words of the 133rd Psalm, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

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

300 Years of Templar Service

Four members of Warren Commandery No. 39, Warren, Ohio, have been awarded fifty-year pins for service to Templary. The awards were made to honor Past Commanders and Veterans of the Commandery. The presentation was made unusual, according to Sir Knight Frank T. England, because the pins were awarded to the Sir Knights by the Commander who Knighted them 50 years earlier. Sir Knight Frank H. Mills, Jr., Commander in 1926-27, presented awards to Sir Knights Carl L. Feederle, Trace D. Harkelrode and Reed Stump. Sir Knight Fred W. Schall, Commander in 1925-26, presented an award to Sir Knight Charles L. Pfeffer.

(l-r) Fred W. Schall, Trace D. Harkelrode, Charles L. Pfeffer, Robert L. McNinch, Carl L. Feederle, Reed Stump, and Frank H. Mills, Jr.

Sir Knight Robert L. McNinch, present Commander of Warren Commandery, commented, "There stand before us 300 years of service in these six Sir Knights."
Waco Arabian Horse Show

Sir Knight Aubrey C. Martindale is Past Grand Commander of Texas and State Chairman of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. He is also a retired Houston police detective who has had his share of excitement in his nearly 70 years — from tackling gangsters in the 30’s as a member of Houston’s “Hoodlum Squad,” to a special letter of commendation from J. Edgar Hoover.

Most of his time these days, however, has been spent planning for the Arabian Horse Show which was scheduled October 29-31, in Waco, Texas. The show, for the benefit of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, included exhibits, competitions and displays of Arabian horses.

The Show has become an annual event for Templars in Texas. In the past two years, the Show’s proceeds have exceeded $30,000. According to Sir Knight Martindale, this year the goal is $50,000.

St. Bernard No. 35 Ceremony

St. Bernard Commandery No. 35, Chicago, will hold a special ceremony to confer the Order of the Temple on Wednesday, November 17, at 7:30 p.m. The ceremony will honor the memory of Past Commander Clare Lang, who was also Past Illustrious Potentate of Medinah Temple.

Chapter degrees will be conferred in Wilmette on Saturday, November 6, and Council degrees will be conferred in Evanston on the 12th. Orders of Malta and Red Cross will also be conferred in Evanston, on November 13.

DeMolay Knighting in New Jersey

A class of 71 candidates from the New Jersey DeMolay Knighthood Program have become regular or honorary Chivalric Knights of the Holy Order of the Fellow Soldiers of Jacques DeMolay. The degree was conferred during a day-long outing sponsored jointly by the Grand Commandery of New Jersey and Gorman A. McBride Priory, DeMolay Order of Knighthood, at Cresmere Lake, Pompton Plains, New Jersey.


Belated Plaques

Ukiah Commandery No. 33, Ukiah, California, has earned a “productivity” plaque for the 8th Voluntary Campaign, which ended last April 30. Recorder A. E. Thirkill directed the attention of the Eye Foundation and the Grand Encampment Office to the Commandery’s per capita fund-raising activity resulting in $710. With a total of 142 members as of December 1975, the per capita amounts to exactly $5. Another plaque is due Princeton Commandery No. 35, Princeton, Kentucky, as well as Ivanhoe No. 2, Oregon.
MEET YOUR DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

The Knight Templar Magazine salutes the seven Department Commanders who will serve as Personal Representatives of Most Eminent Grand Master Willard Meredith Avery during the 54th Triennium. Each will preside over the annual Regional Conference in his Department and attend Annual Conclaves within his jurisdiction. Duties include the promotion of Templary and York Rite efforts, and reporting to Grand Master Avery on the condition of the Order in their Departments.

Alton George Billmeier is the new Department Commander for the Northeastern Department for the 54th Triennium. The Northeastern Department is comprised of the Grand Commanderies of Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont, and the Subordinate Commanderies in Delaware.

A native of Reese, Michigan, Sir Knight Billmeier was born August 26, 1913. He received an Associate of Arts Degree from Bay City, Michigan, Junior College, and a Doctor of Optometry Degree from Pennsylvania State College of Optometry in 1938. He and his wife, Elsie, also an optometrist, reside in Denton, Maryland.

He was Knighted in 1946 and is a member of the York Rite bodies in Maryland. He is Past Master, Temple Lodge No. 128; Past Commander, Chesapeake No. 10; Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Maryland, 1968; Knight York Cross of Honour; Prior, Francis Scott Key Priory No. 14; and member, Boumi Temple A.A.O.N.M.S., Baltimore.

James Willard Register, Georgia attorney, is Southeastern Department Commander. The Grand Commanderies of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia form this Department.

Sir Knight Register was born in Laurens County, Georgia, February 9, 1916. He is presently an independent attorney, and he and his wife, Levada, live in Columbus. He is active in many civic concerns, including several Country Clubs, the Columbus Travelers Aid Society and the Columbus Family Counseling Center. He is a member, American Bar Association, Georgia Bar Association and American Trial Lawyers Association.

Masonically, Sir Knight Register has served as Commander of St. Aldemar No. 3, and Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Georgia. He is Past Master and life member, Columbus Lodge No. 7, F. & A.M.; Past Thrice Illustrious Master, Hope Council No. 4, R. & S.M.; and member, Al Sihah Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. He is Past Prior, Georgia Priory No. 39, K.Y.C.H.; Past Sovereign, Good Shepherd Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Royal Order of Scotland; and a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies of Columbus, including Honorary 33° (S.J.)

K. Edwin Applegate, East Central Department Commander, presides over the Grand Commanderies of Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia.

A native Hoosier, Sir Knight Applegate was born in Cicero, Indiana, in 1923. He holds a B.S. (1946), an L.L.B. (1948), and a Doctor of Jurisprudence (1967), all from Indiana University. In his professional career as lawyer, he served as United States Commissioner, Southern District of Indiana; Deputy Prosecutor, Monroe County; municipal judge, Bloomington; representative, Monroe County, State Legislature; and held a Presidential appointment as U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. He is very active in his community and is the author of Drug Crisis – The Lawyer's Role.
Sir Knight Applegate is a member of both York and Scottish Rites. Knighted in 1953, he is Past Commander, Bloomington Commandery No. 63, and Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Indiana (1969). He was coronetted Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Honorary 33°, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, in 1973, and is a member, Shrine, Red Cross of Constantine, and Royal Order of Scotland.

The Applegates reside in Bloomington and have four children.

Hugh E. Hossle, professional photographer from Iowa, was appointed Department Commander of the North Central Department, which includes the Grand Commanderies of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Born in Red Oak Iowa, Sir Knight Hossle studied map-making in the Air Force, and is presently a portrait and commercial photographer and owner of Hill Studio in Ames, where he and his wife, Virginia, reside.

Sir Knight Hossle was Knighted in 1938. He is Past Commander, Ascension No. 69; Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Iowa (1973); Prefect of St. Bartholomew Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; and Past Patron, Order of the Eastern Star. He is also a member, White Shrine of Jerusalem, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine, Royal Order of Scotland and Order of Amaranth.

John Shubel Robbins will assume the duties of the South Central Department Commander for the upcoming Triennium. The Grand Commanderies of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas are included in this Department.

Born in Jennings, Louisiana, Sir Knight Robbins received a B.S. in mechanical-electrical engineering in 1936 from Louisiana Polytechnic Institute. He is currently general manager of Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative, Inc., and a registered professional engineer. He is a member of the First Baptist Church in Jennings; a 27-year member, Kiwanis Club; Jeff Davis Boy Scout Finance Commission; and member, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Sir Knight Robbins is a member, Jennings Masonic Lodge No. 249, F. & A.M.; is Past Illustrious Master, Calasieu Council No. 19; Past Commander, Welsh Commandery No. 10; and Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Louisiana, 1973. He is a Past Sovereign, Red Cross of Constantine; 32° Scottish Rite Mason; Shriner; Past Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection; member and Past Patron, Jennings Chapter No. 9, Order of the Eastern Star; and member, Knight York Cross of Honour.

Merlin Forrest Purcell is the new Northwestern Department Commander. He will serve the Grand Commanderies of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

A native of Eureka, California, Sir Knight Purcell moved to Idaho as a youth and attended Boise Junior College. He and his wife, June, live in Boise, where he operates his own sporting goods company, Purcell’s, Inc. He is past president, Boise Rifle Club, and a life member, National Rifle Association. He is also a member of the Lions Club.

Masonically, Sir Knight Purcell is Past Master, Idaho Lodge No. 1, A.F. & A.M., and Past Illustrious Master, Idaho Council No. 1. He was Knighted in 1944, and has served as Commander, Idaho Commandery No. 1, and Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Idaho (1972). He is a Past Prior, Knights York Cross of Honour; member, Red Cross of Constantine; Past Illustrious Potentate, El Korah Temple; present Preceptor, H.R.A.K.T.P.; DeMolay Legion of Honor; and a member of the Board of Governors, Intermountain Unit, Shriner’s Hospital, Salt Lake City.

William P. Wilson, California businessman, is Southwestern Department Commander. The Southwestern Department includes Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

Sir Knight Wilson was born in Pomona, and he with his wife, Gladys, live in woodland where he and his...
New Wing to O.E.S. Home in Macon

Dawn E. Walsh, Worthy Grand Matron, Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois, announced that more than $101,000 was collected for the building of the Rockford Wing to the Eastern Star Home in Macon, Illinois. The Home accommodates 88 sisters who are members of the Order in the state.

The fund for the wing was first announced on February 4, 1976, at the 13th official visit of the Grand Matron, and since that time the more than $100,000 sum has been raised.

Each year the Worthy Grand Matron announces the charities to be supported each year. For the Bicentennial year, Mrs. Walsh stated the Illinois O.E.S. was working for several funds, including: therapy equipment for the Macon Home, Leukemia research, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and over $333,000 in educational scholarships.

... DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

sons operate their own company, William P. Wilson and Sons, Inc., dealing in irrigation pumps.

Among his Masonic accomplishments, Sir Knight Wilson is Past Master, Yolo Lodge No. 81, F. & A.M.; Past High Priest, Woodland Chapter No. 46, R.A.M.; and Past Illustrious Master, Sacramento Council No. 1. He was Knighted in 1951, served as Commander, Woodland No. 21, and was Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of California in 1970. He holds the Knight York Cross of Honour; is an officer in the Red Cross of Constantine; Sacramento Valley Scottish Rite, 32°; and Beh Ali Temple Shrine. He is Past Grand Patron, California O.E.S.; Past Associate Guardian, Bethel No. 260, Job’s Daughters; Honorary Legion of Honor, DeMolay; and Royal Order of Scotland.

District of Columbia Medallion

Sir Knight John M. Cunningham reminds readers that the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia has available a Medallion, minted in bronze and silver, to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of our Nation, and the part played by Freemasons in its founding.

Medallions are 1 1/2” in diameter and 1/8” thick, bearing the busts of Washington and Ford on the obverse. Bronze medallions are available for a donation of $5 each, and the Silver (.999 fine) for a donation of $25 each, postpaid. The medallion will be embedded in lucite for an additional $5 donation.

Checks or money orders, says Sir Knight Cunningham, should be made payable to the Committee on “76”, Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, 801-13th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

November’s Four Presidents

Four Presidents of the United States of America were born in the month of November. Presidents Polk and Harding were born on the 2nd; Garfield on the 19th; and Pierce on the 23rd.

During James Polk’s term in office, the Mexican War was “prosecuted”; in 1849 he declined renomination.

Harding and Garfield were both Templars. Polk was a Royal Arch Mason.
Grand Master’s, Grand Commander’s Club

The following new member has been enrolled in the Grand Master’s Club with a contribution of $1,000 to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation:

No. 39 — Wylie B. Wendt

Three new members have joined the Grand Commander’s Club with an initial contribution of $100.

No. 1 — Walter Clarke, Indiana
No. 3 — Louis H. DuFore, New York
No. 1 — Murton Taylor, Ontario, Canada

Members in the Grand Commander’s Club, upon payment of $100 or more yearly, become members of the Grand Master’s Club when $1,000 has been contributed to the Eye Foundation. These contributions carry no Commander credit and are separate from Voluntary Campaigns and assessments. Those enrolling in the Grand Master’s Club receive a metal wallet card and a personalized desk plaque.

Texas Birthday for Sir Knight Bigley

With E. Bloomquist at the microphone, augmented by applause-leader James M. Willson, Jr., Texas Sir Knights and ladies salute Robert W. Bigley on his 28th birthday at Waco during the Regional York Rite Conference in the dining hall of the Lee Lockwood Library and Museum.

Reception Honoring Louis V. Sylvester

M.E. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master General of the Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, will be honored at a reception Sunday, November 28, at the Florence Masonic Temple, 8223 North 30th Street, Omaha, Nebraska, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Invitations have been circulated by the following Nebraska bodies: Florence Lodge No. 281, A.F. & A.M.; Florence Chapter No. 61, R.A.M.; Omaha Council No. 1, R. & S.M.; Jordon Commandery No. 15, Knights Templar; Owaisa Chapter No. 296, O.E.S.; Sir Galahad Priory No. 7, Knights of the York Cross of Honour.
Masonic Lodge in Zurich

Leo P. Jolls, Evanston, Illinois, Honorary Past Commander of Austin Commandery No. 84, returned in October from Switzerland, and relayed the illustration above which shows the site of the Zurich Masonic Temple and the Asylum of Knights Templar. Sir Knight Jolls says that relics of the Roman Legions, who encamped in this area, are to be found in the Temple's basement. He formally brought greetings from the Order in Switzerland.

Grotto Cerebral Palsy Foundation

The Grotto Children's Home, located in Spokane, Washington, was erected for the care of children suffering from Cerebral Palsy. It is sponsored by the Grotto Cerebral Palsy Foundation, a non-profit corporation comprised of all the Grottos of the Northwest Grotto Association.

The Home opened in 1955, and today its supervisor, Mrs. Donald Hall, and 8 full-time employees care for 20 cerebral palsy children.

Visitors are welcome at the Home any weekday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and those interested in gifts or memorials to the Foundation are invited to contact Brother Foster G. Young, Ambassador for the Home, 252 East Claremont Street, Pasadena, California 91104.

A Shine Is Delivered

P.G.C. Adam Mehn, Louisiana, forwards the photograph above to indicate the service extended Past Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle during the final night of the 53rd Triennial Conclave by P.G.C. Marion R. Dollison, Missouri. As personal aide to the retiring Grand Master, Sir Knight Dollison, "over and above the call of duty," delivered a high shine to the shoes of Sir Knight Riegle.

Tour — Red Cross of Constantine

Literature describing an excursion to Honolulu for the June 2-4, 1977, Annual Assembly of the Red Cross of Constantine has been sent to Recorders of Conclaves, and other officers, for distribution to the membership. Information can be secured from Red Cross of Constantine Recorders throughout the United Grand Imperial Council within the United States of America.
December 1 marks the start of the 9th Voluntary Fund-Raising Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation located at P.O. Box 579, 509 South 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

The Committee, headed by Charles S. McIntyre, Jr., P.G.C., Michigan, urges each Commandery to participate fully to benefit from three major opportunities: 1 – A Commandery project for fund-raising provides a focal point for Commandery planning and activity; 2 – it achieves the job of obtaining funds for one or the world’s greatest philanthropies; and 3 – it gains invaluable public relations value upon Masons and the general public.

Recognition plaques will be prepared and relayed to Grand Recorders of Grand Commanderies after the campaign comes to a close next April. Plaques will be presented to each Subordinate or Constituent Commandery with a productivity of $5.00 for each member; to first, second and third place Grand Commanderies, based upon per capita results of their Constituent Commanderies; and also to first, second and third place Grand Commanderies based on “dollar returns.”

Rules, regulations, fact sheets, and report forms have been forwarded to each Recorder, plus stuffers for members of all Commanderies. More stuffers and supplies are available from the OFFICE OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT, 14 EAST JACKSON BOULEVARD, SUITE 1700, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604. This notation is highlighted and emphasized in the materials mailed to Recorders from the Chicago office.

In this issue of the Knight Templar Magazine are printed the names and addresses of Grand Commandery Chairmen. Each Recorder is requested to mail report forms and checks to his Voluntary Campaign Chairman for proper credit and recognition.

The Campaign extends from December 1 through April 30. A two-week period is allowed at the conclusion for final returns from Grand Commandery Chairmen.
Cooperation, Coordination, Brotherhood...

THE YORK RITE . . . WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

by
Dr. Owen L. Shanteau
General Grand Master, General Grand Council
Royal and Select Masters International

Organizations have goals and dreams and the past few years York Rite Masonry has been striving for a sound cooperative program. These efforts became more nearly a reality in the signing of a statement of policy by the Presiding Officers of the Grand Encampment, the General Grand Chapter and the General Grand Council at the installation ceremony in Kansas City.

For several years we have all been striving for the same basic program but with little apparent correlation of efforts. When things go awry and plans fall apart, often our energies are expended, and one tends to see the failures of others and to spend more time pointing out failures rather than solving problems. Where do we go from here? By precept and example I personally feel there will be a definite effort toward achievement. We no longer will work as competitors but rather as partners in this great business of York Rite Masonry.

Our wonderful American society needs the lessons taught in York Rite Masonry, and with the valuable opportunities afforded us from our Symbolic Lodges we will go forth in a cooperative movement.

Everything we do will be for the good of the Order. Throughout the world and more especially in America, it has become almost sacrilegious to fail. By establishing this program, and if each jurisdiction will follow through, we will succeed.

This is our time in history, and what you and I do today, tomorrow, and in the coming months is our contribution to the future. We have an opportunity to leave a great Masonic legacy for the next generation.

Great lessons can be learned from our predecessors. Errors that have been made can be turned into a huge success for Masonry. By good sound judgement we can determine reasonable standards that can make established goals a reality.

To properly prepare for a new undertaking is a great challenge. It is important to define and to make clear our plans for everyone involved. We should diagnose problems in advance and by a good cooperative program correct the problems, making the prognosis an overwhelming success.

By this cooperation we should eliminate anyone going off on a tangent of diversification. We should be able to prevent anyone from provoking attacks on established programs and ultimately reach the success we all desire.

All of our aspirations must be wrapped together in an area of increased membership, good leadership, and a firm belief in God.

We must participate at the National level, at the State level, and at the Constituent level. We cannot sit on our hands; we must speak out and encourage our peers to participate.

If someone presents a plan, we must analyze and break it down into component parts before we discard it as not suitable. It is a definite must to be open-minded.

We must be able to praise one another and to admire in others qualities we do not possess. Our constituents will work better if they know we will recognize their talents and appreciate their efforts.

We must recognize our Youth → → →
Tour Planned by R.A.M.

A Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hawaii will be instituted January 6, 1977, by General Grand High Priest Gordon R. Merrick and other General Grand Chapter officers, and a three-part Pacific tour is planned for Companions, Sir Knights, ladies and friends.

The three-part Pacific tour will begin with three days in the Los Angeles area over the New Year's holiday. Tickets have been reserved for the Rose Bowl parade and football game, and lodging will be in a hotel adjacent to Disneyland. Second portion consists of eight days in the Islands, four on Oahu and four on Hawaii. Deputy General Grand High Priest Robert C. Kong, first Grand High Priest of Hawaii, will be in charge.

An optional portion of the tour will include a ten- or eleven-day sightseeing trip to Okinawa, the Philippines, and Japan, with a short stop planned for Hong Kong.

Tour details may be obtained from Rocky Mountain Travel King, 516 South College, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521; or call (303) 484-5566 collect.

The Hawaii Grand Chapter will be the 56th in the "Federation" with units in 15 countries around the world.

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**THE YORK RITE**

DeMolay, Rainbow Girls, and Job's Daughters. These young people are our future. Let us recognize their achievements in due form.

With a positive, constructive attitude, a willingness to set realistic goals and in laying a firm foundation for succeeding, there will be no need to ask "Where do we go from here?"

Sir Knight Shanteau, who also serves as Recorder of his Constituent Commandery, can be addressed at Post Office Box 628, Logansport, Indiana 46947.

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**Roy Wilford Riegel Chapeau Case**

During the Texas breakfast August 29 at Kansas City, Grand Commander Francis A. White recognized Sir Knight Vincent G. Zubras, Jr., Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 103, Grand Commandery of Texas, for the purpose of making a presentation to then Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel.

Sir Knight Riegel received a case which was hand-made by Sir Knight Zubras, described as follows: "Total work time, approximately 100 hours; made of 3/8 inch pine, edged with gold-leaved decorative molding, painted black, finished with a special hard plastic coating; inside completely felt-lined, cut to fit chapeau with lower compartment for belt and gloves; top lid with gold Templar emblem surrounded by Salem Cross, hand-cut from acrylic plastic, gold-leaved and enamelled in Royal Purple, with gold-leaved 'R.W.R.' under Cross. Back of case: inscription in gold-leaved Old English lettering — Roy Wilford Riegel, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, United States of America, 1973-76."

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*A Festival of Peace prepare, and hither all my nations bring!*

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HENRY KNOX

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

When Washington bade farewell to the officers of his staff, upon demobilization in 1783, there was an affecting scene in Fraunces’ Tavern, New York City. As he concluded his formal remarks and turned to take leave of those present, he stepped first toward Henry Knox, extended his hand and clasped breast-to-breast in a brotherly embrace one by whom this mark of distinction was well merited.

As a bookseller in Boston Knox had not only supplied military textbooks to the British officers but, through study and discussion, had mastered the secrets of the artilleryman and engineer. He was commissioned Colonel and Chief of Artillery by Washington in 1775 although he had previously never seen active service. By his loyalty, energy and accomplishments the choice was vindicated long before he left the service seven years later as a Major General with a record on which there were no black marks.

By ox-team and over snow-covered trails, he had brought from Ticonderoga in midwinter the guns which bellowed at the Siege of Boston, from which the British were driven out in March 1776. It was Knox who planned the coastal defenses of Rhode Island and Connecticut. He played a prominent part in the losing battles around New York City as the British Army and Fleet moved in. He organized the artillery branch of the Continental Army and established the first arsenal at Springfield. He was at Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, everywhere inspiring his men and others by an “unusual coolness and intrepidity.” He wintered at Valley Forge. He sat on the court martial which tried Andre. His culminating success was as commander of the artillery and the train during the Siege of Yorktown.

Born in 1750, he was orphaned at the age of twelve and apprenticed to a bookseller, acquiring his own business when he became 21. He joined the militia when 18, was present at the Boston Massacre where he attempted to persuade the British captain from ordering his men to fire on the mob. In 1772 he helped organize the Boston Grenadier Corps, becoming the second in command. Against the wishes of the bride’s family, he married a daughter of the well-to-do royal secretary of the Massachusetts Province. Lucy Knox was loyal to her patriot-husband and left Boston with him in June 1775, sharing with him the fortunes of war and enduring the hardships of an army wife.

After the close of the Revolutionary War, Knox was signally honored by appointment as Secretary of War by the Continental Congress and continued as such under the Federal Constitution, one of four men in Washington’s Cabinet. His plan for a well-organized militia and standing army was rejected and, largely because of differences with Alexander Hamilton, he retired in 1794. During his term he is said to have proposed a military training establishment at West Point. In both New York and Philadelphia the Knoxes were elaborate and extensive entertainers and the intimates of the First Family. During the Siege of Yorktown Lucy had been the guest of Martha at Mount Vernon. Knox was huge in stature and weighed → → →
nearly three hundred pounds; his wife was also generously built and they were known as the “largest couple in New York.”

When the society of the Cincinnati was organized among Continental officers Knox was one of the prime movers, elected as the first Secretary-General and chosen Vice President-General in 1805. He accordingly had frequent correspondence with Washington, the letters exchanged revealing an unusual frankness and mutual trust. Although Hayden, in his book entitled Washington and His Masonic Compeers, states that Knox was a Brother Mason, and while there is a record of his visiting St. John’s Lodge in Boston during 1800, we are not sure where or when he became a member of the Mystic Tie.

Lucy Knox had inherited a 30,000 acre tract near the present Thomaston, Maine, from her grandfather Waldo and there the family located in 1796. A splendid mansion was erected; the couple lived in state and played generous host to all comers. Squatters on the land were bought out rather than tossed out; the Indian neighbors were treated with consideration; many improvements were undertaken to exploit the area and waters adjacent; the General’s energetic, constructive and benevolent disposition finding full outlet. He was elected to the General Court and chosen a member of the Governor’s Council at Boston; Maine not yet having achieved statehood.

Henry Knox was well on his way to a still greater prosperity and greater usefulness as he passed his fifty-sixth birthday in 1806. However, death came to him suddenly in a most distressful and inglorious way, occasioned, it is said, by a chicken-bone which lodged in his intestine, causing complications which carried him off to an untimely end.

Sir Knight John Philip Sousa, America’s “March King,” was made a member of the New York-based Hall of Fame for Great Americans with enshrinement ceremonies held in Washington, D.C. A bust of the composer-bandmaster, who died in 1932, was unveiled to the accompaniment of the Marine Band which Sousa led from 1880 to 1892. The bust will then be displayed in New York, Sousa’s birthplace, at the Bronx Community College Campus.

Sir Knight Sousa, founder of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, was a teacher of music at age 15, and a conductor at age 17. In addition to his numerous patriotic compositions, he wrote three marches for Masonic Bodies: “The Thunderer,” for the Blue Lodge; “The Crusader,” for the York Rite; and “The Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.”

Sir Knight David L. Braswell, a Sousa fan from Rocky Mount, North Carolina, says that “in times like these, a good Sousa concert [always] inspires Patriotism.”

“Templar Keynotes”

The Keystone State’s “Templar Topics” is an official publication of the Public Relations Committee of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, Charles S. Canning, Allentown, editor. It was launched in September.

Volume 1, Number 1 announces a “Speakers Bureau” under the authority of Grand Commander Warren R. Williams, Jr. Quoting Sir Knight Canning: “Your Public Relations Committee would like to develop a resource speakers bureau service for each Commander’s use. A speakers bureau would be one way of suggesting available speakers for Commanders to use for their Conclave programs.”

He concludes; “Help search for our talent and let’s develop Templar programs now!”

Sir Knight Case was also a Colonel of Artillery in the service. He resides at 39 High-land Avenue, Bethel, Connecticut 06801.

“Every house where love abides and friendship is a guest, is surely home, and home, sweet home, for there the heart can rest.

Henry van Dyke

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November 1976
“PROMPTITUDE, FIDELITY, INTEGRITY”

Following are the names and addresses of Grand Commandery Chairmen named by the Grand Commanders to conduct the 9th Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Each Recorder of a Constituent Commandery is requested to forward report forms and checks to his individual Grand Commandery Chairman for the Campaign. The several Subordinate Commanderies are requested to forward their returns to the office of the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Chicago.

Membership, for award purposes, will be based on update-reporting submitted to the Grand Encampment in December 1976.

ALABAMA  Loyd D. Durden  507 S. Edgewood Drive, Dothan 36301
ARIZONA  Nash C. Willis  1125 7th Avenue, Safford 85546
ARKANSAS  James C. Kelly  1412 Mulberry, Pine Bluff 71603
CALIFORNIA  James K. Wilson  960 Casto Creek, Sacramento 95825
COLORADO  James D. Hartman  2216 Mathews Street, Fort Collins 80521
CONNECTICUT  Charles L. Lincoln, Sr.  271 Brewer Street, East Hartford 06118
DIST. OF COL.  Howard S. Payne  4005 – 28th St., Mt. Ranier, Maryland 20822
FLORIDA  Robert O. Bell  330 Maryland, P.O. Box 1239, St. Cloud 32769
GEORGIA  Jack Cluck  201 Hillcrest Dr., North Augusta, S.C. 29841
IDAHO  John T. Parish  508 Butte Crescent Twin Falls 83301
ILLINOIS  Charles H. George  8239 North Tripp, Skokie 60076
INDIANA  Glenn W. Flaster  6636 E. Shelley St., Indianapolis 46219
IOWA  Hugh E. Hossle  P.O. Box 32, Ames 50010
KANSAS  Frank Neely  1710 North 2nd, Atchison 66002
KENTUCKY  Clayton A. Compton, Jr.  R.R. 3, Box 698, Crestwood 40014
LOUISIANA  R. A. Tharp  1709 21st Street, Lake Charles 70601
MAINE  Charles L. Hamm  47 Holland Street, Bangor 04901
MARYLAND  Edward A. Foreman  40 Lyndale Avenue, Baltimore 21236
MASS.—R.I.  Arthur H. Fancy  42 Keys Street, Oakdale, Massachusetts 01539
MICHIGAN  Robert B. Ednie  26945 Milford Road, South Lyons 48178
MINNESOTA  Monroe P. Kelly  Route 2, Battle Lake 56515
MISSISSIPPI  Evan L. Fleming, Jr.  1432 South Street, Vicksburg 39180
MISSOURI  Jerry F. Ward  212 Randolph Road, Kansas City 64119
MONTANA  Eimer L. Spear  1234 Helena Avenue, Helena 59601
NEBRASKA  Omar L. Gottula  1051 North K Street Fremont 68025
NEVADA  Fred Vonsild  201 Sinclair Street, Reno 89501
NEW HAMPSHIRE  Richard L. Smith  P.O. Box 1223, Rochester 03867
NEW JERSEY  Charles H. Grenot  257 Berkshire Valley Road, Wharton 07885
NEW MEXICO  Frederick E. Hunt  Box 1316, Roswell 88201
NEW YORK  Neil R. Baker  204 Marguerite Avenue, Syracuse 13207
NORTH CAROLINA  Otis V. Jones, Jr.  P.O. Box 5366, Raleigh 27607
NORTH DAKOTA  Orlando Ellingson  2724 Valley View Terrace, Bismarck 58501
OHIO  Donald W. Anderson  P.O. Box 308, Middlefield 44062
OKLAHOMA  Neal D. Leech  515 Anna Street, Shawnee 74801
OREGON  Charles E. Hodgings  192 Mountain Avenue, Ashland 97520
PENNSYLVANIA  Walter B. Pearce  407 Stuart Lane, Ambler 19002
SOUTH CAROLINA  William A. Vondohlen  P.O. Box 633, Mt. Pleasant 29464
SOUTH DAKOTA  Florin W. Hemminger  P.O. Box 1101, Pierre 57501
TENNESSEE  Whitton Florida  4313 Larigo Drive, Knoxville 37914
TEXAS  William D. Snipes, Sr.  4816 Avenue S, Galveston 77550
UTAH  Richard H. Simons  1135 Alton Way, Salt Lake City 84104
VERMONT  Paul E. Cowling  Box 164, West Brattleboro 05301
IMPORTANT REMINDER

All reports and funds are to be relayed through the Grand Commandery Chairmen! The emphasis this year is on benefits and fund-raising projects (One Big Event, if feasible) and PROMPT, ACCURATE REPORTING THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS!

To give thanks is not only a happening that embraces the whole purpose of creation within itself; it is also an experience. He who thanks God with his whole heart experiences something. He is himself enriched. All too often we think we are destitute of joy and fortune. Our lives seem empty and unsatisfied, and we know not why. Now take a look at yourselves. The times of poverty within are the times when you do not give thanks to God. What life brings has no value in itself. It acquires value only by our giving thanks to God. Today at the harvest Thanksgiving it is not those who have gathered much into their barns who are rich. Those who thank God much are the truly wealthy. So our inner happiness depends not on what we experience but on the degree of our gratitude to God, whatever the experience. Your life is something opaque, not transparent, as long as you look at it in an ordinary human way. But if you hold it up against the light of God's goodness, it shines and turns transparent, radiant and bright.

Albert Schweitzer
In 1886, France dedicated to the United States of America a sculpture, created by Frederick August Bartholdi. The Statue, "Liberty Enlightening the World," later to be known as the Statue of Liberty, was a gift from the French people to commemorate the centennial of American Independence. Emma Lazarus, author of "The New Colossus," the sonnet inscribed on the base of the statue, died November 19, 1887. Since that time, the statue of the Lady in the harbor has served as an omen of freedom and protection to all who pass her skirts.

Emma Lazarus, who died nearly a century ago, wrote:

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed
To me:
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

All who read the above must know where it is inscribed; when I first came to this country some 20 years ago, I had a corner office where I looked across the water at it many times a day.

In the spate of words that has been spilling out during our Bicentennial, I happened to read this inscription to the Statue of Liberty once again. It seemed to me to convey, in various subtle ways, not merely the philosophy of our country when it was written, but the heart of a true American approach to life.

For me to attempt to re-write it directly as a Masonic stanza would border on impertinence or even sacrilege, and indeed it is not necessary. Though not written as a Masonic verse, it can surely be construed as such, without that straining to find Masonic symbols where none were meant to exist.

"Your tired, your poor," — tired of hearing the terrible triteness of daily living, the bark of the hucksters (both printed and electronic), the high-pitched howl of the nonentities. The poor in spirit, who so desperately need to enrich their lives with the glimmer of hope.

"The huddled masses yearning to breathe free" — yes, there are masses of potential Masons who are looking for a way to live their lives so that they can breathe freely in the purer air of our own Principles. They know not where to start their search; some have not the benefit of religion, but they can be brought to it by our own great steps. Do we open the door a little, often enough for these drowning souls to make that first enquiry? Sometimes I feel we don’t.

"The wretched refuse" — a truly damning remark in its original context, but how valid a description of the unfortunates of other continents at the time it was written. Downtrodden, beaten, peasants and serfs, never to think for themselves, wretched in their daily existence, and treated like garbage or refuse — they existed, not lived. Perhaps today the physical situation has improved, but the mental garbage pounded into them day after day is still naught but "wretched refuse." We who have been Raised can surely clarify that refuse for the purpose for which we believe God put man above the animals: to purify the soul and exercise the power to think.

"The homeless, tempest-tossed" — I have known so many who have found a haven from the storm-swept seas of life, in the serene waters of our
Edward M. Selby

Sir Knight Edward M. Selby, Past General Grand High Priest, General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons International, passed away on September 23. Born January 10, 1905, Sir Knight Selby was Past Commander of St. Lukes Commandery, Newark, Ohio, and Past Sovereign, Holyrood Conclave, Steubenville, Ohio Northern Division, Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine. Sir Knight Selby passed away almost four years to the day he was elected General Grand High Priest at the 55th Triennial Convocation held September 24–28, 1972.

Sir Knight Lemon Dead at 95

Sir Knight Walter Lemon, Highland Commandery No. 31, Ohio, observed his 95th birthday May 28. His death occurred June 20, 1976. His daughter, Norma L. Puckett, Hillsboro, writes that he was a 50-year member of the York Rite Bodies – Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery.

Pending . . .

The December Knight Templar Magazine will carry a condensed description of the Lee Lockwood Library and Museum erected by the Scottish Rite Foundation of Waco, Texas.

The Texas museum contains both historic items and written accounts of the area as well as a variety of Masonic artifacts. It is a tribute to R. Lee Lockwood, Past S.G.I.G., Texas; Past Deputy Sovereign Grand Commander, Southern Jurisdiction, holder of Emeritus Member of Honour in both the Southern and Northern Supreme Councils and Past Grand Sovereign, Red Cross of Constantine.

The Christmas issue also will present features by James R. Case, Connecticut, a Biblical Book Review by H. C. Arbuckle, Ill, a teacher in Corpus Christi, Texas, legends of Christmas by J. E. Behrens, Knight Templar Staff, and related articles of holiday interest.
Grand Master Avery addresses dinner attendees at the Regional York Rite Conference September 18 at Waco, Texas. He was joined in an afternoon “open” session by General Grand High Priest Merrick and Dr. Owen L. Shanteau, General Grand Master, General Grand Council. Individual group sessions followed the dinner.


An October Regional Conference, with Albert Remmington, III, in charge, at Manchester, New Hampshire, October 8-9, was attended by 102 representatives. The date in 1977 will follow the standard pattern, October 7-8, in Atlantic City, New Jersey, the corresponding weekend.

As at Waco, an open afternoon meeting was presented by General Grand High Priest Merrick, General Grand Master of General Grand Council Shanteau and Grand Master Avery, with “York Rite Cooperation” the continued theme. Dr. Alton G. Billmeier conducted the Templar topics, featuring Grand Master Avery, Deputy Grand Master Cottrell and Grand Recorder Rodenhauser.

Two November Regional Conferences are Saturday, November 13, at Reno, Nevada, to be attended by Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., and Grand Recorder Rodenhauser; the second, in conflict, at Bloomington, Minnesota, November 13-14, attended by Grand Master Avery and Deputy Grand Master Cottrell. Department Commander William P. Wilson, Southwestern, will moderate Reno; Department Commander Hugh E. Hossle, North Central, at Bloomington.

Scheduled October 30-31 at Boise, Idaho, was the Northwestern Conference, Merlin F. Purcell, Department Commander.
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<td>1765 - First direct tax placed on America by Britain</td>
<td>1774 - Daniel Boone Born</td>
<td>1783 - Continental Army disbanded</td>
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<td>1789 - North Carolina admitted to Union</td>
<td>1777 - Continental Congress Adopted Articles of Confederation</td>
<td>1800 - Congress convened for first time in new Capitol Building</td>
<td>1863 - Lincoln delivered Gettysburg address</td>
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<td>1832 - 1st horse-drawn trolley line in U.S. began in N.Y.</td>
<td>1907 - Oklahoma admitted to Union</td>
<td>1883 - U.S. adopted standard time</td>
<td>1832 - First Street Railway in America</td>
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<td>1874 - Charles A. Beard, American Historian, born</td>
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THANKSGIVING – A DAY OF GRATITUDE FOR 355 YEARS

Thanksgiving Day, a truly American holiday, is an inherited legacy from our Pilgrim forefathers, and although one of our most cherished holidays, historically it is also one of our most controversial festivals.

The first American Thanksgiving was celebrated at Plymouth, by a handful of homesick men and women weary from their daily struggle for existence in a strange and hostile country. Food was scarce, shelter was still makeshift, and even the bare essentials of life were lacking.

With only 55 of the original 101 Settlers still alive, these amazing Pilgrims set aside a special day to offer thanks for a good crop from their twenty acres of corn and six acres of barley and peas. A sudden cold wind had brought unexpectedly large quantities of game into the harbor...which gave hope to many hearts that had almost abandoned faith.

Governor Bradford ordered a day of Thanks to be held on December 13, 1621, and sent a special patrol of four men out to provide as much fowl as they could shoot. The hunters returned with enough turkeys to supply the entire settlement for more than a week. With so much food suddenly available, the friendly Indian Chief, Massasoit, and 90 of his Braves were invited to share the feast with the people of Plymouth.

While this historic first Thanksgiving Day, shared with the Indians, is the basis of our annual celebration, regular yearly festivals did not come into existence until many years later.

In July 1623 a day of fasting and prayer was appointed in the infant colonies of New England, because of a severe drought. As the group of Pilgrims were joined in prayer, rain began pouring from the skies in abundance. The Colonial Governor immediately proclaimed this to be a Thanksgiving Day.

A fast day had been declared in nearby Charlestown, in 1631, since food was so scarce that starvation seemed imminent. On that morning sails were spotted on the horizon and several ships of supplies from Ireland arrived safely for a glorious Day of Thanksgiving.

Following the Revolution, when Congress adopted the Constitution in 1789, Thanksgiving Day was established as a national day of rejoicing and thanks. President George Washington appointed Thursday, November 26th, as the "National Thanksgiving Day."

This holiday was observed for a short while, but one by one various states began celebrating Thanksgiving on different dates. Although they were all in November, they varied greatly.

To enforce the order of President Washington, and bring uniformity to this national holiday, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation in 1864, that the last Thursday of November would be officially recognized and observed as Thanksgiving Day.

The date of this great festival came under controversy again in 1939, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an order that the next to the last Thursday in November would be recognized as Thanksgiving Day. The purpose to his action was in response to American merchants, who requested the change to lengthen the Christmas shopping season.

In 1942, however, it was decided to be a failure. Roosevelt then proclaimed that the Thanksgiving holiday would revert to the last Thursday of November – the day we still observe with our grateful rejoicing.
I am always pleased to exchange Masonic philatelic covers for either other Masonic covers, Chapter pennies and/or Masonic coins. Alan R.P. Golding, R.R. No. 1, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9J 6X2

I am reading Mason, so Masonic reading material is very welcome. At present I am looking for a copy of Robert Freke Gould’s three-volume History of Freemasonry. I am quite sure that somewhere a copy of same may be gathering dust, and if I could unearth a copy I would be most happy to get my hands on it. Conrad Stockvig, Spicer, Minnesota 56288

I would like to buy a prince of Commandery coat, size 40 (with all the bars) in good condition; trousers 34-31. Henry E. Arnett, Box 183, Troy, Missouri 63379

Caro Chapter No. 96, R.A.M., has a number of ten inch plates commemorating its centennial year, and decorated with Masonic and Capitular emblems—a fine addition to any collection. Send $6 (covers postage, insurance and cost). Alvie Stevens, 1646 Gilford Road, Caro, Michigan 48723

In commemoration of the centennial of its Dispensation by the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, Melita Commandery No. 13, Manitoba, Canada, has two postal covers, cancelled at Melita, Manitoba, Canada, on the centennial date, available at $2.00 per pair. Herbert W. Sumner, Jr., Recorder, 12-27 Jerome Place, Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410

I am a 50 year member of the Blue Lodge and Commandery, and I have a Masonic ball charm that was purchased in 1926 on the island of Malta. This charm is sterling silver, made in Germany, five-eighths inches in diameter. Four curving claws on hinges hold the ball together. When the claws are disengaged the ball opens into six sections, each section with four facets sloping from four sides to a center peak. All facets are engraved with Masonic Emblems, also Eastern Star. Masonic collectors or others who are interested in this rare item, please write. Herbert L. Ristine, P.O. Box 161, Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913

Several months ago I requested aid from Brethren who were interested in helping my 14 year old son (Emmett) start a collection of medals and other Masonic memorabilia. We want to thank those who responded through your fine magazine. Emmett has a start on what will become a cherished possession that he will ultimately pass on to another aspiring Mason. Thanks to one and all who are participating! Joe B. and Emmett Havens 3627 University Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38127

I enjoy reading the Knight Templar Magazine very much. I look forward to the articles in the Knight Voices section because it gives me more brothers to write and correspond with. I have started a collection of Masonic items (most anything) and would like to obtain more items of interest. Please contact me if you have any items for sale or if you know where I could obtain them. Harry F. Robinson, Route 1, Box 116A, Efland, North Carolina 27243
As a collector of old napkin rings, I have recently become interested in commemorative rings.

Should any of your readers have napkin rings depicting emblems and events of the various Masonic bodies, I would be interested in purchasing same. Please send a description or picture, and state the price required.

P.S. As the wife, daughter and granddaughter of Knights, may I compliment you on your publication. Mrs. P. R. Johnson, Route 3, Long Lake, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

I have an antique gold watch charm at least 70 years old that I would like to sell to some interested Knight. It has the Chapter Keystone on one side and the Knight Templar emblem on the reverse. Will be glad to furnish additional information regarding same. Paul J. Calvert, P.C., Holyrood Commandery No. 27, Route 2, Box 300, Avon Park, Florida 33825.

I have recently started a collection of military medals, ribbons, and decorations. If any Sir Knight would care to donate any items, either American or foreign, I would be very grateful to receive them. Brad L. Fahlen, 240 North Gilman, Susanville, California 96130.

I have the Knight Templar Magazine from December 1965 thru the present (except July and August 1967, and July 1971) which I will give to anyone who will pay the postage. I also have a large (7x10 inch page) Masonic Bible which I would like to sell for $25.00. Neil R. Bassett, Anchorage Commandery No. 2, 2415 Douglas Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99503.

I would like to obtain a Commandery Sword. If there are any Brothers that have one for sale please send a picture or description and the price. Would like one in pretty good condition. Sir Knight Terry Pendergaff, 7030 Grand Valley, San Antonio, Texas 78242.

A friend of mine bought a Knights Templar fatigue cap, baldric and gauntlets similar to those seen in New England Commanderies, at an auction. There is a name in the cap, G.M. Titcomb, and the items were made at Ames Sword Company Military and Society Goods, Chicopee, Massachusetts.

If these are lost items that someone wishes to cherish, please let me know. Richard A. Roush, Generalissimo, Valley Commandery No. 80, 260 York Wood Drive, New Lebanon, Ohio 45345.

I am a district Executive with the Boy Scouts of America. I would like to know if any of the Sir Knights might have any old Explorer, Scout, or Air Scouting memorabilia along the order of Arrow patches that they would be willing to dispose of. I am a very avid collector of Scouting memorabilia and very interested in gaining additions to my collection.

Keep up the good work...I think the Knight Templar Magazine is quite well written. I always share it with my brother-in-law who is a Mason but not a Knight Templar. The article on the Power of Prayer was quite interesting to him as he is a minister. Nelson E. Clements, Shamokin Commandery No. 77, 108 Vermont Lane, Levittown, Pennsylvania 19054.

I have started a Masonic Library in my effort for more light in Masonry. If any Sir Knight would care to send books, magazines, pamphlets, research papers, etc., they would be greatly appreciated. In addition, I am interested in past issues of the Knight Templar Magazine. Robert J. Rolen, Tancred Commandery No. 50, No. 19 Mariknoll Drive, Belleville, Illinois 62223.

Thank you for your beautiful letter. Also, I received Masonic Americana and it surely will remind “all of us” of the rich heritage we enjoy as citizens and Masons. I look forward to a visit to your office. Arturo P. LeFebre, 429 Arbor Road, Cinnaminson, New Jersey 08077.
THE SPIRIT OF THANKSGIVING

As Templars, we are taught to exhibit brotherly love, not only to our fellow Knights, but to all mankind. “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”

As a Trustee of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, for the Board of Trustees, for the Voluntary Campaign Committee, for all concerned Knights, I ask that you support the 9th Voluntary Campaign in every possible manner. It provides necessary funds for the Foundation; it offers the opportunity to unite in a common, Commandery fund-raising cause; it makes it possible to acquaint others with the benefits which the Knights Templar Eye Foundation offers to those in need.

As Thanksgiving and the Holiday Season approach, let us rededicate ourselves to achieve a goal of $500,000 during the period from December 1, 1976, through April 30, 1977. Forms and supplies from the Grand Encampment office in Chicago are in circulation. If Recorders or any Sir Knights require more materials in connection with the Voluntary Campaign, please write to the Central Office in Chicago. The address is printed in the masthead on page 2 of each issue. Otherwise, please get in touch with your Recorder or State Chairman. For materials NOT related to the Campaign, write to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, 509 South Sixth Street, P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

Charles S. McIntyre, Jr., Chairman