



# Knight Templar

VOLUME XXII

— DECEMBER 1976

NUMBER 12



*“Gloria in Excelsis Deo”*

# KNIGHT TEMPLAR

Christmas



Greetings

**DECEMBER 1976:** The illustration for the holiday edition of the *Knight Templar Magazine* is a design especially prepared and presented to us by Sir Knight Kenneth E. Pool, Colorado Commandery No. 1, Denver. As a note of possible interest, it marks the 12th successive December issue to feature a Crusader and his mount as a Christmas theme. The first, in 1965, proved popular, and the theme has been continued. The December magazine highlights the Knights Templar Cross of Honor Awards during 1976, also a variety of Christmas features for your holiday reading. The staff joins in extending you holiday greetings in every clime where Templary exists.

Paul C. Rodenhauer, Editor

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## SHARED COMMANDERY PROJECTS

December 1 until the close of fund-raising opportunities next April 30 is the period established for the 9th Voluntary Campaign on behalf of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. We hope each Commandery throughout our Grand Encampment will get off to a good start and that the total next April will reflect a larger voluntary total than ever before.

This Voluntary Campaign, as it does each year, presents a very special challenge to you. It offers the chance to get back in action in the event you have not attended your Conclaves frequently, to renew friendships and acquire new friends. It makes it possible for you to volunteer your services in your Commandery's fund-raising activities and to enjoy the benefit of unselfish sharing for a humanitarian cause. It gives you the opportunity to let the work of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation be better known to other Masons and to the public. Your enthusiastic participation will help tell the world what Templars represent.

The Christmas Season makes us more aware of the needs of others. Since the first Campaign was suggested in 1968 by Past Grand Master John L. Crofts, the fund, supported by his efforts and those who followed as Grand Masters, has grown from some \$41,000 to well over \$430,000 annually. It is a true reflection of your interest and concern for your fellowmen in a project which will be vital as long as blindness exists in our world. Let the Yule Season encourage our initial zeal and the Festival of Easter bring our united activities to a fine conclusion.

During this month of December, I ask that you do not forget the sojourning Templars in your midst. I suggest that you invite sojourning Templars in your area to the Christmas observances of your Commandery. There will be almost 50,000 Knights Templar separated from their home Commanderies this Christmastide, Templars who live in areas removed from the Conclaves in which they hold membership. A special invitation from you will indicate your regard and your special interest in your fellow Sir Knights. Ask them to join you, as fellow Christians, in your observance of the Christmas Season.

To you and to yours this holiday season, we extend our warm greetings for days of joy and happiness.



### MERRY CHRISTMAS



Willard M. Avery  
Grand Master





## EDITOR'S JOURNAL

**From Tiffin:** Suggested fund-raising projects for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation have been requested by Sir Knight Harold E. Shumaker, Tiffin, Ohio, to assist DeMolay Commandery No. 9 in their efforts for the Foundation. Readers might wish to add or suggest others than: Benefit musical programs or recitals, distinguished speakers, banquets, pancake breakfasts, garage sales, horse shows, theatrical presentations, Christmas Tree selling, Christmas ornaments, auctions, pot-luck dinners, birthday celebrations.

Any Masonically-acceptable, properly-conducted project is suitable, preferably a fund-raising activity rather than requests for contributions. Sir Knight Shumaker can be reached at 221 Beechwood Drive, Tiffin, Ohio 44883. Many additional suggestions will be welcomed by him and by the *Knight Templar Magazine* for future listings.

**Carols:** According to one source, carol singing began in the belief that evil spirits were especially powerful on the eve of any church festival. Originally, it is said, carol singing was engaged in more to make a noise to drive away the evil spirits than to make the harmonious music of the carols of today.

There are all types of Christmas celebrations and varied Christmas background descriptions, but regardless of nationality, Christmas in Christian countries means the same — the Birth of Christ and the Wish for Peace and Good Will for Mankind.

**Washington:** December marks the month of death of Brother George Washington. The First President was born February 22 (New Style), 1732. He died at Mt. Vernon, December 14, 1799, in his sixty-eighth year.

**Ring Returned:** Sir Knight Fred N. Myers, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, thanks the unknown individual who sent him his 33° Scottish Rite ring after it was lost at the Supreme Council in Milwaukee in September. A request for its return was already prepared for inclusion in the *Knight Templar Magazine* when Sir Knight Myers wrote that the ring, without return address or name, arrived in the mail.

**Six Years:** A six-year search initiated by the Grand Encampment will make available to all Commanderies in the not-too-distant future (we trust) the names and numbers of Life Sponsorships. The project made it necessary to check and research each card and each sponsor's number or names from the start of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Sponsorship project some 19 years ago. Currently, any Recorder can receive a print-out of the Life Sponsors listed for his Commandery. The project is 98% up-to-date. Prompt reporting helps. Life Sponsorships, as noted in the Constitution, are for *living* Sir Knights who make payment of \$30 in a lump sum to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. There are memorial and related forms and contributions for others.

**Exception:** Templar Donald M. Barratt, Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, takes exception to the common practice of pausing in the Pledge of Allegiance after "one Nation" and before "under God."

As Sir Knight Barratt points out, there IS no pause and none is indicated. He concludes: "This might be a good item to stress in the *Knight Templar Magazine*."

His postscript kindly says: "My wife and I both enjoy the magazine; keep up the good work."

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR

Fifty-two Sir Knights from 46 Grand Commanderies have been awarded the 1976 Knights Templar Cross of Honor for significant Christian service, "above and beyond the call of duty," given to their Grand Commanderies and to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. The award, which consists of medal, certificate and wallet card, is made to those Sir Knights who do not necessarily aspire to high office in their Commanderies, but who nonetheless offer unselfish and faithful service to Templary.

Grand Commanderies with a membership of 10,000 or less may submit one nomination; those with over 10,000 may submit one additional nomination for each additional 10,000 members (or fraction thereof). Only one nomination can be accepted from the total of Subordinate Commanderies during the year.

The Grand Master and Grand Officers take this Christmas season to congratulate and thank the Sir Knights listed below for exemplifying those precepts taught by this ancient Order.

Alabama	Bessemer No. 35	Norman Curtis Wilkinson
Arizona	Arizona No. 1	Minor Grover Rhodes, Jr.
Arkansas	Trinity No. 33	William Jean Lanier
California	Long Beach No. 40	Harold Howard Penhale
	Oakland No. 11	Ernest Glenn Damsell
Colorado	Glenwood No. 20	George A. Wilson
Connecticut	Hamilton No. 5	Frederick James Allsup
District of Columbia	Columbia No. 2	Eli J. Oakley
Florida	Emmanuel No. 36	Alexander Thornton
Georgia	Constantine No. 26	Aaron Eugene Cole
Idaho	Idaho Falls No. 6	Dale Norman LeMaire
Illinois	Patton No. 69	Cecil N. Lovin
Indiana	Baldwin No. 2	Emil Loren Steffey
Iowa	St. Aldemar No. 30	Walter Freeman Johnston
Kansas	Leavenworth No. 1	James E. Kelley
Kentucky	Paintsville No. 48	Ted Adams
Louisiana	Crusader No. 21	Joseph Malcolm Greer
Maine	Trinity No. 7	Elwood Loren Overlock
Maryland	Beauseant No. 8	Earl Milton Bittner
Massachusetts	Berkshire No. 22	Karl Olavi Lepisto
Michigan	St. Bernard No. 16	Earl Edward Gronda
Minnesota	Red Wing No. 10	Lionel Irving Hemmenway
Mississippi	Hattiesburg No. 21	Charlie Herring
Missouri	Ascension No. 39	Mearl Richard Blake
Montana	Black Eagle No. 8	Charles Edward Lee Bartelt
Nebraska	Bethlehem No. 18	Reuben C. Coppom
Nevada	Not Awarded	
New Hampshire	Mount Horeb No. 3	Robert Edward Bunker
New Jersey	Delta No. 26	William Schoene, Jr.
New Mexico	Pilgrim No. 3	Richard Boyd Johnson
New York	Lake Ontario No. 32	Earl A. Osborn
North Carolina	Charlotte No. 2	Donald Winfield Kling

North Dakota	Auvergne No. 2	Clayton Stanley Christianson
Ohio	Hamilton No. 41	Raymond A. Castator
	Cambridge No. 47	Raymond Russell Fleming
	Columbus No. 69	Raymond Alfred Bennett
Oklahoma	Cushing No. 42	Dennis H. Clay
Oregon	St. Aldemar No. 11	Herbert T. Hacker
Pennsylvania	Hospitaller No. 46	Harold Nixon Bitner
	Melita Coeur De Lion No. 17	George Steiner
South Carolina	Greenwood No. 5	James Lewis Kemp
South Dakota	Schrader No. 9	Waldon Clark Wood
Tennessee	Memphis No. 4	Shack Franklin
Texas	Arlington No. 107	William Hubert Lowry
	Port Arthur No. 73	Clyde Vanleave May
	Alexander C. Garrett No. 103	William Thomas Yearout
Utah	Ivanhoe No. 5	Durward Malcolm Lowell
Vermont	Mt. Zion No. 9	Joseph J. Bianchi
Virginia	Blacksburg No. 32	Michael Smith Kipps
Washington	Ranier No. 28	Hilmer Carl Benson
West Virginia	Kanawha No. 4	Perry William Campbell
Wisconsin	Tancred No. 27	Donald Louis Gilbertson
Wyoming	DeMolay No. 6	George M. Hunnell



#### Grand Master's Club Member



Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master, has presented Junior Past Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle with the Grand Master's Club wallet card and desk plaque from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

The metal wallet card and plaque were awarded to acknowledge a contribution of \$1,000 to the Eye Foundation.

#### From Dove Court Garden

James S. DeMond, P.G.C., Indiana, Chairman of the Committee on Ritualistic Matters, has received a letter from Harry Beckett Raylor, Provincial Prior, Provincial Priory of North and East Yorkshire, England, in which Very Eminent Knight Raylor expressed his "wonderful experience" at the 53rd Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment.

In it, he takes the opportunity to point out that a short time later "the ceremony of the Consecration of Victoria Tabernacle No. 52, British Columbia, was a huge success and I shall be forever indebted to G. Wilbur Bell, Russell B. Tandy and Alvin L. Crump for the help they gave in consecrating this new Tabernacle" of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.

"It was most generous of them to first of all become members of the English Constitution so that they could take part, and then to travel from their respective homes to Victoria at their own expense to act as Pillars at the consecration."

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## THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING

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by  
Irving I. Lasky, M.D.  
Pacific Commandery No. 3, California

As all writing comes by the grace of God, literary men may well be in a perpetual state of priesthood. In every man's writings, the character of the writer must lie recorded. In the highest civilization the written word is still the highest delight. He who has known the satisfaction of writing as well as reading is provided with a resource against perturbation. We prize the written word and they prize them most who are themselves wise. Like Plato's disciple who has perceived a truth, "he is preserved from harm until another period."

Rudyard Kipling was born on December 30, 1865, in Bombay, India, where his father directed an art school. He was educated at the United Services College at North Devon, England, and returned to India in 1880, where he was on the editorial staff of the *Civil and Military Gazette and Pioneer* at Lahore until 1889. He began writing verse and tales while in India, and continued after his return to England in 1889. He received the 1907 Nobel Prize for literature.

Rudyard Kipling was a leading supporter of the British Empire. He believed that it was the duty of Great Britain to carry "the white man's burden" by civilizing backward races.

Brother Kipling was initiated in the Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782, Lahore, Punjab, India, in 1886, by a special dispensation because he was only 20 years and six months old. He recorded his own raising in the minutes as he was immediately elected secretary of the Lodge. He wrote the following which appeared in *The Freemason* (London) on March 28, 1925. "I was secretary for some years of Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782, E.C., Lahore, which

included Brethren of at least four creeds. I was entered by a member of Brahma Somaj, a Hindu; passed by a Mohammedan, and raised by an Englishman. Our Tyler was an Indian Jew. We met, of course, on the level and the only difference anyone would notice was that at our banquets, some of the Brethren, who were debarred by caste rules from eating food not ceremoniously prepared, sat over empty plates." (\*see footnote)

Rudyard Kipling became a Mark Master in Mark Lodge "Fidelity" April 12, 1887, and received the Mark Mariners degree in Lodge "Mt. Ararat" at Lahore, April 17, 1888. In that year he also affiliated with the Independence and Philanthropy Lodge No. 391 at Allahabad, Bengal. (English Freemasonry has never prohibited dual or plural membership.)

Kipling's intense interest in Masonry is evidenced by his founding of the Lodge "Builders of Silent Cities" No. 4948, and Author's Lodge No. 3456 in 1927. His writings contained frequent Masonic references, such as "The Man Who Would Be King" from *Wee Willie Winkie* (1889), "In The Interests Of The Brethren" from *Debts and Credits*, (1926) and "The Widow At Windsor" from *Barrack Room Ballads* (1892). The most famous is his "Mother Lodge" from *The Seven Seas*, (1896).

In "The Man Who Would Be King," the story involves two Freemasons who were soldiers of fortune and their travels throughout India to practice their craft. It is also a demonstrated balance between good and evil. The good is characterized by efforts to apply and follow the tenets of faith, hope and charity. The evil in turn destroys both men when they fall prey to greed, avarice and a → → →

relinquishing of the high standards of morality and Masonry. Frequent reference is made to words of Masonic recognition between members of the craft, the all-seeing eye, the square and compass and the historical reference to Alexander the Great and his Masonry. Likewise, King Solomon's temple and the building thereof is mentioned.

To completely describe the brilliant writing of Brother Rudyard Kipling would require extensive quotation. In general, his literary efforts were spectacular in both poetry and prose. Again, humor, pathos, tragedy, realism and love may be easily found.

His "Ballad of East and West" states:

"Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet.  
Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God's great Judgment Seat.  
But there is neither East nor West,  
Border, nor Breed, nor birth,  
When two strong men stand face to face,  
though they come from the ends of the earth."

Rudyard Kipling suffered the extreme of anguish when his son was killed in World War I. To his memory he wrote "Epitaph of The War. A Son." The tragedy is epitomized:

"My son was killed while laughing at some jest. I would I knew  
What it was, and it might serve me in a time when jests are few."

The humor of Kipling's literariness may be found in "The Betrothal and False Dawn."

"And a woman is only a woman, but a good cigar is a smoke.  
Never praise a sister to a sister in the hope of your compliments reaching the proper ears."

Of particular transcendence is Rudyard Kipling's "If" which many have measured their lives by.

"If you can meet Triumph and Disaster

And treat those two imposters just the same.

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue

Or walk with Kings – nor lose the common touch,

Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it

And – which is more – you'll be a Man, my son."

Rudyard Kipling was so popular in America that several towns were named after him, although contemporarily he was a controversial figure because of his attitude toward the British Empire which many misunderstood. As is true of many great men, it was not until after his death in 1936 that a fair estimate could be made of his view on the subject. He was, after all, a man of great wisdom, perspicacity, evenness, and a remarkable member of the craft.

Albert Pike wrote, "The spoken discourse may roll on strongly as the great tidal wave; but, like the wave, it dies feebly on the sands. It is heard by few, remembered by still fewer, and fades away, like an echo in the mountains, leaving no token of power. It was the written human speech, that gave power and permanence to human thought." It is this that makes the whole human history but one individual life.

(\*Masonic authorities dispute this as fictionalizing.)

Sir Knight Irving I. Lasky, 33<sup>o</sup>, lives at 1012 3rd Street, No. 105, Santa Monica, California, 90403.

‡

### Christmas Giving

There is no better gift for a worthy Mason than the opportunity to become a Templar. *You* are the one who can do it.

Louis A. Beaudoin  
Chairman, Grand Encampment  
Committee on Membership



## **A NEW AWARENESS**

by

**The Reverend Richard Hewitt**  
Sacramento Commandery No. 2

The coming of the Christ Child — Whose birth we celebrate on December 25 — is an event which has made a tremendous impact on the thinking of mankind ever since it occurred more than 19 centuries ago. The Christ is considered by many to be the Messiah whose coming was eagerly anticipated for centuries by the Hebrew people. A widespread belief holds that the coming of the Christ was foretold in the Book of Isaiah, thus: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government there shall be no end."

There is a significance to be found in the Christmas story which escapes many. Let's look into Luke's Gospel. We read in those Holy writings that the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her she had found favor with God, and as a result she would conceive and bring forth a son whom she was to call Jesus. Puzzled, she asked: "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" The angel replied: "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the son of God."

Many see this narrative simply as an historical account of an event which transpired some 1900 years ago. Seeing it in this light, they feel it has but little importance in today's world. Thus they commit a grave error, for when we delve deeply into Luke's account we come upon a significance which can profoundly affect our lives and point the way to a great improvement in our outlook.

In each of us there is a limitless capacity for spiritual awareness, either pretty much stifled or fairly well developed, depending on our viewpoint and ways of living. Those who fail to cultivate this high awareness are in much the same state as the inn at Bethlehem where the Holy family sought lodging that fateful night and where no quarters were available to them except in the stable.

Often our minds are occupied with earthly things, so important to us since they constitute the greater part of our lives on earth. We busy ourselves with scrambling to make a living for our families, to provide homes and the good things of life for them and, in so doing, tend to overlook the most vital thing of all. Of course our neglect of this most important thing is not deliberate; we don't overlook it "on purpose," but the result — the effect on our lives — is the same. In so neglecting it we unwittingly hang a "No room" sign over the doorway to our hearts.

There is nothing actually wrong with us and our lives except the fact that the entrance to our innermost selves often bears the "No room" sign. In fact, many people are much like the girl about whom a noted religious author once wrote. She said: "Of course I mean to take up religion some day, but I want to have a good time first."

There are those who regularly attend church each Sunday and depart as soon as the services are over. At the same time they leave behind the atmosphere, the teachings, the inspiring music, the minister's sermon, and soon revert to the same earthly — sometimes earthy — beings they were before church. → → →

A minister, much disturbed by such a tendency among his congregation, preached a strong sermon on the Ten Commandments and the extreme advisability of observing them in everyday living. To use a phrase, he really laid it on the line. After the service the members of the congregation were shaking his hand at the door, and a little elderly lady, much given to "harmless" gossip, vigorously pumped his hand and exclaimed: "Parson, that was the best sermon you ever preached! Everything you said applies to somebody I know!" What sort of sign do you suppose she'd hung above the doorway to her heart?

It's true that most of us feel we must work for a living, but in the process let's not shut out of our hearts that bright inner awareness, that brilliant inward vision of what life should really be. If we're ever to grow and become increasingly better men, it's vitally necessary that we develop and hold fast to a greater and finer vision of life than ever before. It has been said that there are far too many who tell it like it is and far too few who tell it like it should be.

Such a finer vision is equivalent to the Christ Child, and its revelation within us is equivalent to the Child's birth. Let's not relegate that revelation to the "stable" of our minds, but let's give it the best room in our mental inns. Let's look after it, cherish it, and treat it as we would a highly honored guest.

How could anyone feel that there's little room in his life for the attitude of mind typified by the Christ Child? Everyone tends now and then to give attention to things which are trivial and of no account when considered from the standpoint of a better life. If a person were to forego just one of those trivial things, there'd be ample room in his mental inn for the birth of a new vision and its ultimate result: a finer way of life.

None of us can honestly say that we're not interested in better living, finer things, more harmonious relations with others, greater warmth of love from families and friends, less worry and concern, and the like. But many of us take

some rather strange ways to achieve these blessed gifts. In fact, some folks take earthly ways which are practically guaranteed to prevent their appearance.

A favorite author of mine once wrote that the only way to reach our high goal is to begin where we now are, with the mental equipment we now have, and move toward the goal we seek. But sincerity is required, a firm faith is required, a deep resolve is necessary if we are to attain that high objective. We may be certain that as we move forward with sincerity, with faith, with resolve, we SHALL succeed. In the writings of the prophet Jeremiah are these words of great promise: "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

That high vision symbolized by the Christ Child CAN be born in our hearts today — if we will allow it. But only we can allow it for ourselves; no one else can do it for us. Others may point out a way for us, but only we can travel that way for ourselves. Let's follow the example of the small boy who learned to roller skate by getting up EVERY time he fell down. Each time we slip back, let's pick ourselves up and move forward, serenely confident that ultimately we shall know Him Whom we seek.

"Ye shall seek me, *and find me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

Sir Knight Hewitt resides at 1318 H Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

‡

### Christmas

A soulful fragrance fills the air,  
A mystic brilliance buoys the light,  
The love of God is glowing there —  
The Christ Child with His Halo white.

Milford E. Shields, P.C., K.T.C.H.  
Poet Laureate of Colorado

## FATHER CHRISTMAS

by  
J. E. Behrens  
Staff Associate

In all ages, in all countries, the imagery of Christmas invariably includes a figure, sacred or secular, of a man bearing gifts for children. More likely than not he is bearded and old, and depending upon the country of origin, the character may be a symbol of reward, or both reward and punishment. He is best known to children of the United States as Santa Claus, St. Nick, or Kris Kringle.

The original Saint Nicholas, from whom all the subsequent Christmas figures descend, was a bishop in Asia Minor. He was born about 280 A.D. of a very wealthy and devout family. His father was himself a bishop, and his mother was known to be a holy woman. As an infant Nicholas displayed great fervor in the study of the scriptures and the teachings of Christ. It is said that as a child he voluntarily fasted all but two days out of each week.



Because of his devotion to Christ as a child, he is known as the patron saint of children.

When Nicholas' parents died, they left him heir to a great fortune; but what the youth wanted more than anything was to secretly give away all his wealth. Legend has it that at this time Nicholas heard of a poor man, once a rich noble with great land and many possessions, having since lost all his fortune. The man had three daughters whom he loved, but he feared for their future because without money or possessions he had nothing with which to supply a dowry for them. Without a dowry the daughters could not marry, and the man was thus tempted to sell them into slavery.

Nicholas, on hearing this, went to the man's house late one night and dropped a bag of gold in an open window. It fell by the hearthside and was found the next morning by the grateful man. In a short time the eldest daughter married. The second daughter similarly received a mysterious gift of gold which allowed her to marry. In anticipation of her bag of gold, the third daughter placed a stocking near the fireplace to catch Nicholas' gift. From this, no doubt, comes the custom of hanging stockings "by the chimney with care, in hopes that St. Nicholas" will soon be there. And for better or worse, ever since, children have hung their stockings on the mantle, in expectation of their reward.

When Nicholas was still a young man, he was made Bishop of Myra, and his reputation as a generous and godly personage spread. Along with his love of children and patronage to them, he also came to be known as the patron saint for sailors. Once during a visit to →→→

the Holy Land, Nicholas was sailing near Egypt when a storm all but overturned the ship. The sailors were certain of death, but the Bishop offered his prayers, and the storm subsided.

Another tale describes the healing powers of Nicholas as he brought back to life a sailor who had slipped from one of the top masts onto the ship's deck. Seaports around the world bear chapels to his honor.

When Nicholas arrived in the Holy Land, he wanted only to become a hermit — a wandering holy man devoted to God, living his life in prayer for mankind. But he heard the voice of God in a dream, and it said to him, "Go and live among men, for yours shall not be a life of quietness." And live among men he did. Diocletian, pagan Roman emperor and persecutor of the Christians, imprisoned the Bishop for his beliefs. He was released only when Constantine, the first Christian emperor, gained the throne and declared religious toleration for all.

Variations of the legends surrounding the saint abound; even today in some European countries it is believed that St. Nicholas travels throughout the land during Advent, the four weeks before Christmas. The purpose of his early arrival is as a "heavenly messenger," appearing to the children to prepare them for the coming of the Christ child. As such, he plays the role of benevolent admonisher. In general, though, the date of his arrival has come to coincide with that of Christ's birth.

Tales of Nicholas spread to Russia and from there to the Northern countries of ice and reindeer. The Dutch who came to America for the freedoms it offered brought along tales of St. Nicholas — however, his personage had changed from a dark-robed religieuse, to a gay, fat, old man wrapped in fur (no doubt to guard against the Northern winters), whose saintly qualities had all but disappeared.

It is quite easy to see the transition in names from St. Nicholas to Santa Claus. With the change, the religious significance of Santa Claus as a saint has also dwindled, until today the jolly old soul

has come to represent only a fairy tale character, and, at best, a distant cousin of the original Nicholas, the unselfish giver, who distributed his wealth in emulation of God the Father who gave of his wealth to mankind.

But the portrait of today's Santa — where did it come from?

Most people know the poem, "The Visit of St. Nicholas" by Dr. Clement Clarke Moore, in which Santa Claus (though not referred to as such) is described in minute detail:

"His eyes — how they twinkled  
His dimples, how merry.  
His cheeks were like Roses,  
his nose like a Cherry!  
His droll little mouth  
was drawn up in a bow,  
And the beard on his chin  
was as white as the snow;  
The stump of his pipe  
he held tight in his teeth,  
\*\*\*\*\*  
He had a broad face  
and a little round belly,  
That shook when he laughed  
like a bowlful of jelly.  
He was chubby and plump,  
a right jolly old elf, . . .

Who would not laugh at the sight? One wonders how Dr. Moore expected the old gentleman to fit through the chimney.

Moore's poem appeared in 1823 in *The Troy Sentinel* (anonymously at first, because Dr. Moore, a professor of Divinity at a New York Theological Seminary, felt that this association with the portrait might be a bit beneath his expected dignity). It had been transmitted to the newspaper by a woman who had heard Moore recite it the Christmas before to the delight of his own children.

The "jolly old elf," as he described him, rested for many years in Moore's words and in the imaginations of his readers. It was not until later in the 19th century that Thomas Nast, famed political cartoonist, gave physical dimensions to the verbal picture Moore had created. Nast's Santa Claus is characterized by the slender pipe, disheveled hair and beard, chipmunk cheeks, almost → → →

too-round belly, and, of course, the toys which seem to pop miraculously out of every pocket and fold of clothing.



The differences between the historical saint and the fairy tale character are many. Perhaps the greatest difference is that our Santa Claus is almost totally benevolent – despite what the song says about Santa knowing “if you’ve been bad or good”; if he does know, it doesn’t seem to make much difference to him at this point in his career. The Bishop of Myra, on the other hand, was prepared with gifts and candy as a reward for good children, and with birch rods as punishment for the bad.

Santa Claus, however, is not the saint. He is what one writer has called a “melting pot” character – a potpourri of all the legends from all the lands from which the present population of this country stems. It seems logical, then, that our Father Christmas should be benevolent and forgiving – it is reflective of the country he attends.



## Regional Conference Boise, Idaho



Top picture shows Grand Master Avery and York Rite leaders addressing group at Northwestern Conference, Boise, October 30-31. Those below show some of the Grand Commandery officers in attendance.



## GEORGE WASHINGTON

Brother George Washington was born February 22, 1732, and died December 14, 1799. He was a man's man, a soldier, statesman, planter, diplomat, a Mason and a thinker of great thoughts. He was endowed with those sublime qualities of character which we call courage, determination and virtue. Washington's home life found him a lover of the fireside; a domestic-minded householder; a man careful of his property but generous with his servants; a devoted husband; lover of the outdoors, the earth, the growing grain; a hospitable man who offered the best he had; and a man to whom church and divine worship were an integral part of life. His home was a refuge and a haven of peace and joy. He left it with regret, and returned to it with thankfulness.

Freemasonry came to America just before Washington was born. Its requirements were simple but strict: the most fundamental being a belief in the Great Architect of the Universe. It taught morality, brotherly love and mutual help, and it inculcated patriotism in its tenets. Washington was raised a Master Mason on August 4, 1753, when he was 21 years old. Twenty-five years later, at the chartering of Alexandria Lodge No. 22, this foremost citizen of the young republic was asked to be first Worshipful Master. He accepted, was re-elected and served a full 20 months, the last four of which he served concurrently as first Master of his Lodge and first President of the United States.

from an article by Sir Knight Thomas F. Pollock, Captain, U.S.N. (Retired)  
Past Commander, Foothill Commandery No. 63  
Monrovia, California



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## THE CHRISTMAS STORY FROM THE SOURCE

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by  
Sir Knight H. C. Arbuckle, III  
Corpus Christi Commandery No. 57, Texas

I remember the first time I ever heard the Christmas story. It was in Sunday school and I was a little boy. The teacher read it to us, using the King James version, wherein is found some of the most beautiful English in the world. When I got big enough to read, I read the story in my own King James Bible.

Then I grew some more, matured somewhat, and discovered that there were other versions of the Bible. After several years, I decided that I still liked the King James best; however, it could not hurt to read the Christmas story in other versions. So I did.

Now, you take the Living Bible. I worried about it for quite a while, since it is a paraphrase and not a new translation. Well, I have a copy of *The Living Bible*, Holman, Illustrated Edition (A. J. Holman Co., Philadelphia, \$14.95) and I rather like it. Since I am a schoolteacher, I like pictures and maps and such, and this edition is replete with them. Of course, it doesn't read like King James, but then it is in Modern English and is more readily understandable.

There is another edition of the Bible called *The Layman's Parallel Bible* (Zondervan Bible Publishers, Grand Rapids, Michigan), that I like to use as a study Bible. It gives four popular translations of the same passage of Scripture in parallel columns and that way you can compare the different versions one with another. The versions used in this edition are the King James; the Modern Language; the Living Bible; and the Revised Standard. With this Bible, you get four for the price of one, so to speak.

Naturally, when I started studying the Bible, I wanted to have a critical explanation handy for passages I could in no way understand, so I had to hunt up a

commentary. The first one I came upon was the *Abingdon Bible Commentary* (Abingdon Press, Nashville, \$14.50), an old standby that has been with us since 1929. Put together with good, sound scholarship under the direction of F.C. Eiselen, Edwin Lewis, and David G. Downey, this commentary is a delight to use.

Of course I didn't stop with one commentary; I ferreted out another so I could compare and contrast ideas and opinions in my study. The second commentary I got was *Matthew Henry's Commentary* (Zondervan, \$14.95) in the new, one-volume edition. It too is a substantial, authoritative sourcebook. Matthew Henry began it in 1704, and it was first published in 1708, and although it is 268 years old, it nevertheless is a valuable aid in studying the Bible.

Even with these study Bibles and commentaries, I go to still another source when I read about the Christmas story. I refer to Dr. A. T. Robertson's *A Harmony of the Gospels for Students of the Life of Christ* (Broadman Press, Nashville). The most exciting part of this entire book, to me, is Part IV, "The Birth . . . of Jesus," for there is the start of it all.

Every Sir Knight ought to read and reread the New Testament, for one must be a Christian to be a member of our Order. But this time of year, he especially should read the Christmas story, complete with the star in the east, the wise men, the birth of the Babe in the manger, and so on. And these books will be helpful, eager tools for the Sir Knight who wants to learn more about the Saviour's birth.

Sir Knight Arbuckle's mailing address is Post Office Box 3026, Kleberg Station, Corpus Christi, Texas 78404.

## Ascension Day Service Planned

A parade and Church service to commemorate Ascension Day, May 29, 1977, has been scheduled at the Marble Collegiate Church on Fifth Avenue and 29th Street in New York City.

The parade will commence at the Eternal Light Monument in Madison Square Park, at 24th Street, at 3:45 p.m., with the Church Service at 4:00.

Sir Knight David Aiken, Secretary of the Templar Knights Commanders' Association, Metropolitan District of New York, invites all Knights, families and friends to attend the ceremony and to "march together in unity."

## Eye Foundation Applicants

The amount of allowable income and property for those applying to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for assistance has been changed effective August 27, following a meeting of the Trustees at Kansas City.

A \$600 increase for income allowance has been adopted, and the exemption for a home owned and occupied by the applicant is now increased from \$14,000 to \$16,000.

## Lorain Commandery No. 65 Installation



Past Commander Mack S. Long congratulates Albert S. Norton, recently installed Eminent Commander of Lorain Commandery No. 65, Ohio, as Past Commander Paul E. Romoser looks on. Shortly after the installation, the new Commander celebrated his 75th birthday.

## Shriner of the Year

Sir Knight Roy Wilford Riegler, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, was named Arab Temple's "Shriner of the Year" at the Shrine's Fall Ceremonial, Arab Mosque, Topeka, Kansas, November 6. A clipping from the *Topeka Daily Capitol* states, "The special Shrine award was initiated last year and includes a trophy, commemorative wall plaque and a \$100 contribution to the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children in Sir Knight Riegler's name.

"Riegler is an outstanding attorney, judge and legislator. He was president of the Washburn Student Council in 1924-25 and State Commander of the American Legion in 1946-47. He served 18 years as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives and the Kansas Senate. He was majority floor leader in the House, 1937-39."

## Centennial Commandery Anniversary

Sir Knight A. Raymond Mullin, historian, holder of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor, prepared the 100th Anniversary record of Centennial Commandery No. 55 in Coatesville, Pennsylvania. Their 100th Anniversary banquet was held October 16.

Sir Knight Mullin is the Senior living Past Commander of Centennial No. 55, having served in 1929.

## Death of Millard

Late news announced the November 12 death of Past Grand Commander Frank G. Millard, Michigan, who was born March 1, 1892. Burial was in Arlington National Cemetery. He was Intendant General, Red Cross of Constantine. His record included General Council of the Army, Retired Brig. General, Michigan National Guard.



## Grand Commander's, Grand Master's Clubs

Three new members have enrolled in the Grand Commander's Club of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. They are:

- No. 3 — Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt McClendon, Alabama  
 No. 3 — Charles D. Browder, Jr., Texas  
 No. 4 — James C. Willingham, Texas

Contributions to the Grand Commander's Club are made in increments of \$100 until \$1,000 is reached, at which time members are admitted to the Grand Master's Club and receive a metal wallet card and a personalized desk plaque from the Eye Foundation.

Membership in both the Grand Commander's and Grand Master's Clubs carries no Commandery credit, and contributions are separate from Voluntary Campaign and assessments.

In the January issue of the *Knights Templar Magazine*, a complete list of \$1,000 and \$100 membership in the two Clubs, and their numbered positions, will be published for a 1976 review of "benefactors."

## Addendum

Sir Knight Warren L. Bacon, P.M. San Fernando Lodge No. 343, California, writes that he enjoyed the sketch of the late Brother "Hap" Arnold by Past Grand Commander H. Edward May in the September *Knights Templar Magazine*. He informs us that one item on the General was omitted from the article. "General Henry H. Arnold Lodge No. 791, chartered in 1958, was so named in his honor. Originally its meeting place was Edwards Air Force Base, but in 1968 this was changed to Rosamond." He adds, "Most of the Air Corps men really liked General Arnold, which was refreshing since enlisted men aren't usually overly enthusiastic about general officers."

## Knighting of "Scottish Rite" Class



Fifteen Scottish Rite Masons received the Order of the Temple in a special Scottish Rite Class of Louisville-DeMolay Commandery No. 12, on September 25, at Crescent Hill Masonic Temple, Louisville, Kentucky. This type class, according to Sir Knight Morrison L. Cooke, P.G.C., is the third such conducted in Kentucky.

The conferring cast consisted of Scottish Rite members of the Commandery, and was headed by Sir Knight Shirley E. Wells, R.E. Grand Commander of Kentucky, 32°, K.C.C.H. Sir Knight Friend Lodge, 33°, Commander of Louisville-DeMolay, acted as Generalissimo; Sir Knight William J. Netherton, 33°, Past Grand Master General and Grand Treasurer of the Kentucky York Rite Bodies, was Captain General; and Sir Knight DeMolay P. Jones, 33°, was Prelate. Several other 32° and 32° K.C.C.H. Scottish Rite members of the Commandery also participated.

Sir Knight George R. Effinger, 33°, and Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Kentucky for the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., S.J., was dinner speaker following the conferral.

"Hearts that care will always share"  
 — 9th Voluntary Campaign,  
 Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Plans are being finalized to send seven Ministers to the Holy Land on or about February 17, 1977, under sponsorship of the Templars of Michigan and Kentucky.

Richard M. Strauss, Grand Commander, Michigan, appointed a Grand Commandery "Holy Land Pilgrimage" Committee whose purpose was to "directly implement this most noble concept of supporting the clergy."

Each of the 52 Constituent Commanderies in Michigan (which has been divided into six geographical districts), has elected a Minister to the Committee. One Minister is then selected from each of the six districts. The seventh will be sent from Kentucky, where Donald H. Smith, P.G.C., is spearheading the Grand Commandery involvement.

One of the events planned on the Pilgrimage is a re-baptism in the River Jordan, at the place where Jesus was baptized.

According to Sir Knight Harry M. Smit, Chairman of the Pilgrimage Committee, the total cost of the 10-day Pilgrimage for all 7 Ministers is \$6,000, and the Committee invites support from all Templars. Sir Knight Smit says, "The idea has been born, and now lies humbly in a manger, awaiting the arrival of the Wise Men, to honor it by their gifts, so that its life might be sustained, and that it might grow to its full potential." Individual contributions can be made payable to "The Holy Land Pilgrimage" and sent to Harry M. Smit, Chairman, Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee, 13990 Merriman Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

A few copies of *Masonic Americana* at \$1.50 each remain on hand at the Grand Encampment office. Total printing was 35,000.

Also available, in limited quantity, are self-adhesive Bicentennial Seals at \$1.00 for 8, \$7.50 for 100, and \$35.00 for 500. The adhesive seals are 1½ inches in diameter.

A popular Bicentennial keepsake has been the commemorative marble paperweights, two inches square by three-quarters of an inch deep with a protective layer of cork on the base. The marble souvenirs are faced with a circular metal plate in three colors, with the Cross and Crown centered, surrounded by the inscription in gold: "Knights Templar, U.S.A., Salute to the Nation's Bicentennial."

More than 12,500 are in circulation. A few remain at the office of the Grand Encampment.

For Bicentennial items (always sent postpaid), indicate quantity and forward check to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

The Grand Encampment Office also has available vases and ashtrays bearing the Grand Encampment insignia, at a charge of \$4.00 for each ashtray or bud vase. Several remain from the 53rd Triennial Conclave at Kansas City this past summer.

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### MISTLETOE – THE PLANT OF PEACE

In old Britony, the word Mistletoe meant "all heal." The plant was held in high regard because it was thought to have miraculous protective and healing powers. Young couples would pledge their troth beneath a sprig of the plant, and enemies would end their warfare and decree a covenant under the thick leaves and waxy-white berries.

## WACO'S LEE LOCKWOOD TRIBUTE

The Lee Lockwood Library and Museum, erected by the Scottish Rite Foundation of Texas in Waco, is a structure designed to serve as an educational facility and historic monument for the benefit of both Masons and the general public. The library and museum, a tribute to Sir Knight Lockwood, 33<sup>o</sup>, Past Deputy Grand Commander and Past Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas, commemorates 100 years of Scottish Rite Masonry.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held August 12, 1967, and today the three-story edifice extends over a two-block site, with provisions for future expansion. Guarding the front entrance are two sphinxes carved out of solid pieces of stone — one a symbol of Wisdom with eyes half closed, and one a symbol of Power, with eyes wide open. The sphinxes were gifts from the El Paso Scottish Rite Bodies and are replicas of the sphinx at the entrance of the House

of the Temple in Washington, D.C. In the foyer stands a full-length bronze statue of Illustrious Lee Lockwood, recipient of honors in both Southern and Northern Masonic Jurisdictions. Executed by Brother Bryant Baker, New York Sculptor, the statue was presented by the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies. It was the last piece of sculpture created by Bryant before his death.

The museum contains historic and Masonic items, such as the small American flag carried to the moon by Colonel Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, 33<sup>o</sup>, and the George Washington Grandfather Clock standing in the Lee Lockwood Room, and which once stood in Mt. Vernon and was originally owned by Washington's father. Masonic collector's items include many pieces from the Centennial year of Scottish Rite Masonry in Texas, 1867-1967.

The Library maintains books and articles of historic, fraternal, governmental, and educational religious nature. It is located on the west side of the building and contains

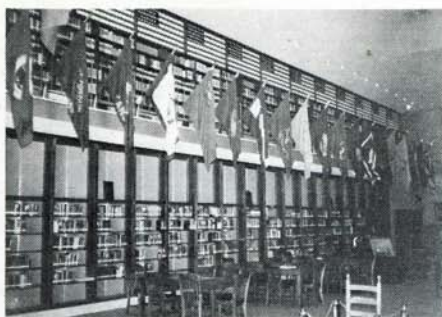
a balcony from which flags from all 50 states are displayed. A perpetual book fund has been established to insure the growth of the library from donations and estate bequests; contributions of \$200 or more provide an endowment fund which will buy a book a year in



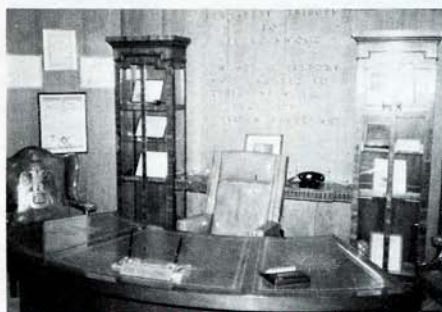
Illustrious Lee Lockwood



Lee Lockwood Library and Museum



The Library – showing flags from all 50 states



The Lee Lockwood Room



Bronze Statue (Brother Bryant Baker, artist)

perpetuity. A \$5.00 or \$10.00 gift buys one book. Such gifts, etc., are maintained by the Scottish Rite Foundation of Texas, located at 1901 Franklin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76703.

The Lee Lockwood Room, on the balcony level, is a “permanent tribute” to the Past Sovereign Grand Inspector General, a member of DeMolay as a youth, serving as Grand Master of the Order in 1966-67, and distinguished member of both Scottish and York Rites and allied Masonic organizations. Behind the sculpture of Brother Lockwood are words from his Grand Master’s address, Grand Lodge of Texas, 1939: “We believe in the great principles of free government, of free speech, the equality of all men before the law, the sanctity of the home, the right to worship God according to the dictates of one’s own conscience and that only through fraternity, tolerance and truth, can the happiness of mankind be achieved.”

The Library and Museum at Waco has been described as “a lasting memorial to the past, built by the present, for the benefit of future generations.”

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There was a young man who had just begun  
 He was a willing worker and  
 A Widow’s Son  
 He was raised on the level and  
 Died on the Square  
 and was buried on the hills and only  
 Three Know Where

## TODAY'S CHANGING WORLD

by

M.E. Knight Richard V. Weir

Supreme Grand Master, Sovereign Great Priory of Canada

*M.E. Knight Richard V. Weir presented the following address to the Sir Knights under the jurisdiction of the Sovereign Great Priory, the Canadian sovereignty similar to that of the Grand Encampment.*

Great Changes have taken place in life and living — especially during the last decade. Because of these changes all around us, we must face up to the facts of life to realize that we have arrived at a time when, for new and compelling reasons, we should examine the operation of Knight Templary.

We must re-examine the position of Knight Templary in the light of the progress we have made towards: 1) implementation of the avowed aims of our Order; 2) changes in our environment and mode of life as it has affected our operation; and 3) the role we should continue to play in the world of Freemasonry and the "one world" of mankind.

The things that we should DO revolve around six phases of our work.

1. Membership
2. Attendance
3. Performance
4. Interest
5. Environment
6. Scope

The problems we have are common to all fraternal organizations, but particularly among Knight Templary which operates within the framework of Freemasonry, and which, in spite of its age and the fact that it is world-wide, feels the impact of the change in customs, habits and attitudes.



We cannot close our eyes to our problems, we must face up to them and find a way to deal with them. I would focus on just one phase of our problems, that of "performance" in its various aspects of Ritual, Ceremonial, and Administration.

It is my feeling that we have to do a great deal at the grass roots level of Templary. We must look at our AIMS and OBJECTIVES at the Preceptory level, and when we find deficiencies, take DECISIVE STEPS at that level to correct them.

There are still many values in life, and we must make them LIVE at the community level before we can influence the rest of the world. As Knights Templar we have a responsibility and the potential for common action

in the home  
in the community  
and in the fraternity

It is here that people can be taught — enlightened and informed. It is here that they can be advised and guided to fully understand and appreciate the great values in life. If we can nourish a general understanding of our vital needs, we can then cultivate a determination to defend, preserve and maintain the real values in life.

The ultimate word is "character" at every level, and character is based on PRINCIPLE. Our "principles" will be based on "standards," our "standards" will be determined by

“values,” and VALUES ARE STANDARDS OF “QUALITY.” As Knights Templar we must uphold the principles of morality and virtue, honour and truth, duty and loyalty – and we must remain firm and steadfast in the teaching of those principles ON WHICH THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR ORDER RESTS. There are so many forces working AGAINST those principles – forces which we sometimes fail to recognize – that our task is made so much greater, and we MUST RALLY AND STRENGTHEN our forces by the study and learning of the TRUE VALUES of life.

Those true values may be very briefly summed up in the “Seven Cardinal Virtues”:

Temperance  
Fortitude  
Prudence  
Justice  
Faith  
Hope  
Charity

Within the framework of the Seven Cardinal Virtues we find all the attributes of Knights Templar including: Duty – Honour – Truth – Loyalty; Respect – Pride – Dignity – Discipline; Industry – Tact – Diplomacy – Courtesy and Kindness. Probably the greatest need of our time might be summed up in “discipline” and “respect,” and we start with “Self-discipline” to promote peace and harmony among ourselves and society around us. The opponents of these principles, the radicals and the revolutionaries, are working hard to promote the doctrine of “absolute freedom” and ignore the fundamental truth that Freedom demands RESPONSIBILITY AND RESTRAINT. A “disciplined society” will at all times recognize the rights of others. It is our responsibility to TEACH, that those RIGHTS, to produce more fruitful living, must be based on RESPECT

for the individual,  
for women,

for our leaders (government, etc.)  
for our Flag,  
for our country, and  
for LAW and ORDER.

Besides these basics, we should teach and promote respect for that which is good, true, pure, clean and beautiful. We should put considerable effort into encouraging some of our young people to have RESPECT for Parents, the property of others, their own appearance, AND RESPECT FOR THEMSELVES. (The breakdown in respect has been in progress for about two generations and we cannot correct it overnight.) Knights Templar have a job to do in marching forward towards the re-establishment of a society in which these essential characteristics of discipline and respect will have their proper role.

I suggested at the start that we must now COMBINE ACTION AND IDEALS. We must also do something about the ideals of Knights Templar, and to this end I offer four guidelines:

- 1) Maintain closer ties with our Craft Lodges – keeping our eyes open for Craftsmen willing and ABLE to embark on the pathway of Knight Templary.
- 2) Spread the story of Templary in the Craft Lodges and Chapters.
- 3) Serve at all times with dignity and understanding.
- 4) Pursue with imagination and determination the task of lauding, defending and supporting ALL individuals and agencies which act for the protection of society through law and order.

Sir Knights – we can have no illusions about the need for action in a world of strife and uncertainty. The world of yesteryear no longer exists. We are challenged by new patterns of thought and philosophy. Our whole system of civilization is in turmoil. By our actions, our lives and our example, we must pursue the Masonic creed of “building character into the hearts of men,” and thereby strengthen and maintain the great Order of Knight Templary. Let us pass on to future generations that

## Aviation Hall of Fame

William A. Patterson, retired president of United Airlines, has been honored in the Aviation Hall of Fame at Dayton, Ohio. Sir Knight Patterson, Evanston Commandery No. 58, Illinois, became president of United in April of 1934 and retired in April 1966.

The first stewardesses on flights were selected by Sir Knight Patterson. At the time of his induction into the Aviation Hall of Fame, he was 76 years old. He says he is still keenly interested in aviation.

A 33° Scottish Rite Mason, Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and a Templar, he remains active Masonically. Alvin L. Crump, Past Department Commander, writes that he "feels this honor naming him to the Aviation Hall of Fame will be of interest to all our members, both Scottish Rite and York Rite."

## 125th Anniversary Celebrated

Stichter Lodge No. 254, F. & A.M., Pottstown, Pennsylvania, offers special metal plates and mugs, and bronze finish coins, in honor of their 125th Anniversary. The 11 inch plate and 1/2 liter mug show a view of the Pottstown Masonic Temple with inscription. The 1 1/4 inch diameter coin includes a likeness of Brother George Washington in Masonic regalia on the obverse and an anniversary legend on the reverse.

Plates are available at \$12, mugs at \$10, and coins at \$2 each from Charles L. Clayton, 464 North Hanover Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464.

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## ...TODAY'S CHANGING WORLD

which wisdom, time and experience has produced in us. If we do these things, then, as Knights Templar we will have done our duty and kept the Faith.

‡

## Saugatuck Lodge Celebration

The Masonic apron of General George Washington and the Masonic jewel of the Marquis de Lafayette were displayed at a ceremony honoring the 150th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, the 100th anniversary of Saugatuck Lodge No. 328, and the nation's Bicentennial. Most Worshipful Grand Master of Michigan, Vincent A. Vatter, presented Saugatuck Lodge with a metal plaque of re-consecration, stressing the "excellence of the Lodge's programs held during the triple anniversary year."

Brother Ted P. Kimball writes that the event, attended by some 165 guests, was the 11th of 13 planned for the year, and was highlighted by presentation of a five-foot birthday cake.

## Pennsylvania Peddlers



For the fifth year, York Commandery No. 21 and Gethsemane Commandery No. 75, York, Pennsylvania, will join in selling oranges and grapefruit for Christmas. A full truckload of 995 cases from Florida will be sold, with the bulk of the proceeds going to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

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## Remember Old Highway Signs?

Drive along the highway  
of life  
Skip the stress and skip  
the strife  
Be ready for each bumpy  
rise  
And then remember —  
TEMPLARIZE!

## MASONS UNITED

On October 22, 1976, the Order of the Temple was conferred on Sir Knight F. Dale Dillman, 50-year Mason, at Champaign Commandery No. 68, Illinois. This Knighting, according to Sir Knight George Burow, Scottish Rite Deputy for Illinois, was "an outstanding example of Masons working in unity," as evidenced by the array of Sir Knights present having affiliations in the Scottish Rite, and by the background of the candidate.



Sir Knights Volney E. Storey, R.E.G.C. of Illinois, David Dillman, F. Dale Dillman and Michael Webb, E.C., Champaign No. 68.

The new Sir Knight is a Past Officer and present Trustee in the Valley of Danville, N.M.J., and received the 33° in 1960. He is Past Master of Western Star Lodge No. 240, A.F. & A.M., Champaign, and Past Chapter Dad of Acacia Chapter Order of DeMolay. The elder Dillman was attracted to the York Rite by his son, Sir Knight David Dillman, who sponsored his father's petition.

The conferral team consisted of 15 Sir Knights, each of whom holds the 33° in the Scottish Rite Valley of Danville, and nine of whom hold the York Cross of Honour. The team included past officers of eight different Commanderies, one Past Grand Commander, two Past Grand Illustrious Masters, and a Past Grand High Priest, all of Illinois.

Among the 150 guests in attendance were Sir Knight Volney Edward Storey, R.E. Grand Commander, and Sir Knight Earl F. Torrell, Grand Captain General, Illinois; Right Worshipful Vance C. Van Tassel, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and several District Deputy Grand Masters.

The Illinois Bodies have scheduled a York Rite Day for February 12, 1977, in Danville, where they hope to have one of the largest classes ever.



### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Herzliche Gluckwunsche zum neuen Jahre  
Voeux sincerés de bonheur et de prosperite pour la nouvelle annee  
Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year  
Fervidi auguri di Buon Natale e un Felice Anno Nuovo  
Felices Navidades y un prospero Ano Nuevo  
Sinceros votos de Feliz Natal e um prospero Ano Novo



## ONE-DAY BICENTENNIAL FESTIVAL

A statewide Bicentennial Class was held in Atlanta, Georgia, with 386 candidates for the Chapter, Council and/or Commandery degrees. The key to the success of the Festival, according to Sir Knight Richard Sagar, was, "Keep it moving without delays and speak up."



Atlanta Bicentennial Class: The 450-seat auditorium was filled to capacity.

Normally, the Chapter and Council degrees are conferred on one Saturday, beginning at noon; the Commandery Orders start the following Saturday at 2:00 p.m., closing about 9:00 on both days. The two-day festival allows for all degrees and Orders to be conferred in full form in costume. The Festival Committee in Georgia normally charges registration fees of \$2.50 for Royal Arch, \$1.50 for the Council, and \$5.00 for the Commandery candidate, to cover expenses.

The difference in Atlanta was that, with the approval of the Grand High Priest and Most Illustrious Grand Master, the Chapter and Council degrees were conferred in strict chronological order (in recommended abbreviated forms). This was possible since candidates were not accepted for the Chapter unless they also took the Council degrees.

The Orders of Red Cross and Malta were conferred according to the Grand Encampment approved short forms. No registration fees were charged, no financial support from the Grand Bodies was required, and all printing and other expenses, including lunch, were supplied free "from the pennies saved by the Festival Committee from previous Festival fees."

### Change of Address

All changes of address are requested to be reported promptly to the Recorder of your Commandery so that he, in turn, can notify his Grand Recorder and the Grand Encampment.

Any post office "return" of mail or the *Knight Templar Magazine* itself now costs the Grand Encampment 25 cents each. Prompt notification to the Recorder is essential, as is his relaying update reports to his Grand Commandery, thence to the Grand Encampment.

### Delayed Shipments?

A message received last month noted that United Parcel Service had been curtailed, from September 15, "in the Eastern states" but that UPS remained "hopeful that contract negotiations will resume at the earliest possible date." The work stoppage may be over when this magazine is received. The information is sent so that those awaiting shipments from UPS (although halted immediately when word was first received), will realize the difficulty.

The Eastern Regional Assembly, United Grand Imperial Council of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders, was held October 22-24, in Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania. Attending were officers elected at the Annual Assembly in Birmingham last June, including: Knights Companions Harold W. Kent, K.G.C., Grand Sovereign; Paul C. Rodenhauser, K.G.C., Grand Recorder; Walter B. Wilson and Robert Ingalls, K.G.C., Grand Trustees; and G. Wilbur Bell, Grand Almoner. Appointed officers, Knights Companions Ernest L. Rowan, Grand Standard Bearer; William Campbell, Grand Herald; and the Reverends Robert K. Hill and John C. Brumbach, Grand Chaplains, also attended.



**United Grand Imperial Council Officers, Regional Committee Members and ladies surround Knight Companion Harold W. Kent, Grand Sovereign, Knight Grand Cross, center, at Buck Hill Falls, in Pennsylvania Poconos.**

The College of Viceroy's was exemplified and conferred by Granite State Conclave, Concord, New Hampshire; Senate of Sovereigns by Trinity Conclave, Harrisburg; Order of the Red Cross by Williamsport Conclave, Williamsport; and Appendant Orders by Orient Conclave, Bloomsburg.

The Conference was concluded Sunday morning with a Church Service conducted by the Illustrious Grand Chaplains.

Grand Sovereign Harold W. Kent also attended the Western Regional Conference October 29 and 30 in Long Beach, California. Present were Knights Companions G. Wilbur Bell, Clarence D.



**(l-r) Sir Knights F. C. Jones, F. W. Hughes, C. A. Pettegrew, G. W. Siefer, W. F. Davis, W. C. Graham, and former Recorder H. H. Gilliland.**

Franklin Commandery No. 44, Franklin, Pennsylvania, offered a variety of special events at its stated Conclave in October. A dinner, attended by some 156 Templars and ladies, was followed by a patriotic feature presented by Lt. Colonel Rex K. Snider and the U.S. Air Force R.O.T.C. Detachment from Grove City College.

Francis E. Rice, in charge of the Commandery's public relations, says: "At the stated Conclave in the Asylum, with William C. Graham, Grand Generalissimo, and Division Commander Willis F. Davis in attendance, six new candidates were granted approval to become Knights of our Commandery."

A Rededication to Templary program was presented under the direction of Commander Floyd C. Jones. Grand Generalissimo Graham presented membership awards to Sir Knight George W. Siefer, Membership Chairman, and Clarence A. Pettegrew, Past Commander for 1975.

Phillips, K.C.C., and seven Intendants General, representing Arizona, California (North and South), Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington. Knight Companion Bell was speaker at the Assembly which was attended by some 90 Knights Companions and ladies.

## Regional York Rite Efforts

November marked two York Rite Regional Conferences, one in Reno, Nevada, Saturday, the 13th, conducted by Department Commander William P. Wilson, California, for the Grand Encampment, and attended by G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., and Grand Recorder Rodenhauer. General Chairman was Clarence K. Jones, General Grand Captain of the Host and Deputy General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, R.A.M., International.

The second conference, concurrently, at Bloomington, Minnesota, was attended by Grand Master Avery and Deputy Grand Master John B. Cottrell, Jr. Department Commander Hugh E. Hossle, Iowa, presided for Grand Encampment sessions. Chairman of arrangements was General Grand Master of the Third Veil, D.G.G.H.P., Henry R. VanGeest.

The General Grand Council at Reno was headed by General Grand Master, General Grand Council, R. & S.M., International, Dr. Owen L. Shanteau. General Grand High Priest Gordon R. Merrick was in charge of the General Grand Chapter portion at Bloomington.

Next Regional Conference of the York Rite will be in Charlotte, North Carolina, January 21-22. General Grand Principal Sojourner Robert F. Secrest, who is also Deputy General Grand High Priest for the Southeastern region, will be in charge of arrangements. The following weekend, January 29-30, 1977, will mark a Regional York Rite Conference at Louisville, Kentucky, with Norman L. Harper, D.G.G.H.P., in charge. Department Commander J. Willard Register, Southeastern, and K. Edwin Applegate, East Central, will conduct Grand Encampment sessions.

The International York Rite Council, composed of dais officers of the two General Grand Bodies and the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar will meet February 20 at Washington, D.C., to plan future "cooperative" Regional sessions.

## Eye Foundation Grant Awarded

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., has awarded a grant of \$26,500 to Geisinger Medical Center of Danville, Pennsylvania, for equipment to facilitate specialized eye surgery.

The grant will be used to purchase an Automated Vitreotome M-5 for corrective surgery in cases of diabetic retinopathy and other disorders which result in portions of the eye's vitreous fluid becoming cloudy. The device is used to remove the opaque fluid and replace it with clear. Geisinger's Department of Ophthalmology estimates that between 120 and 180 patients per year could benefit from the procedure.



Dr. Henry Hood, president of Geisinger Medical Center, receives check from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation from Sir Knight Warren R. Williams, Jr., Right Eminent Grand Commander of Pennsylvania. Also participating in the presentation are (l-r) Bernell Stambaugh, Eminent Grand Junior Warden of Pennsylvania; Floyd Yeager, Commander of Calvary No. 37; Melvin Evans, Commander of Division 14; David R. Smeltz, Grand Sentinel, Knights Templar of Pennsylvania; and David Alcon, Commander of Division 16.

The Department of Ophthalmology at Geisinger last year received a grant from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., for ultra-sound echographic equipment used in the diagnosis of detached retina cases. The Department is headed by Dr. James L. Curtis and has a staff of 12 physicians, including two retinal surgeons.





THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON, ABOUT 1812

# DECEMBER 1976



PRESIDENT JAMES MADISON

NOVEMBER		JANUARY							Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			1823—Monroe Doctrine announced	1818—Illinois admitted to Union	1783—Brother Washington gave farewell address	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		1927—Model A Ford introduced, cost \$385	1967—First human-heart transplanted	1965—Geminis 7 launched to rendezvous with Geminis 6		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		1848—Joel Chandler Harris, American author, born	1817—Mississippi entered Union	1816—Indiana admitted to the Union		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			1774—Siege of Quebec began	1776—Brother Washington crosses the Delaware			
								1787—Delaware entered Union	1791—Bill of Rights went into effect	1773—Boston Tea Party	1765—13th Amendment abolished slavery		
								1799—Brother George Washington died at Mt. Vernon.	1791—Continental Naval Fleet actively organized	1775—Royal proclamation closes colonies to all trade as of March 7, 1776	1787—New Jersey entered Union		
								1819—Alabama entered Union	1775—Texas admitted to the Union	1853—Gadsden Purchase of Arizona and New Mexico from Mexico	1776—Brother Washington crosses the Delaware		
								1620—Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock	1845—First gas lights installed in White House		CHRISTMAS DAY		
								1790—First successful cotton mill started, Pawtucket, R.I.	1846—Iowa entered Union	1946—President Truman proclaimed official end of WW II			
								1803—Louisiana purchased from France	1856—Woodrow Wilson, 28th President, born				
								1777—Winter Encampment at Valley Forge began	1972—Sir Knight Harry S. Truman, 33rd President, died				
								1974—Nelson Rockefeller became 41st Vice President					



O God, who art the Author of love, and the Lover of pure peace and affection, let all who are terrified by fears, afflicted by poverty, harassed by tribulation, worn by illness, be set free by Thine indulgent tenderness, raised up by amendment of life, and cherished by Thy daily compassion, through Jesus Christ our Lord - Amen.

Gallican Sacramentary, A.D. 800

May the PEACE and HAPPINESS  
of CHRISTMAS  
be yours through each day  
of the coming year

### I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

TO THE FLAG – YES.  
TO THE COUNTRY FOR WHICH  
IT STANDS – YES.  
TO WHAT ELSE?

To what else have I pledged my allegiance? To what else have YOU pledged your allegiance?

To your family? Good. To your church? Good. But isn't there something else to which you and I have pledged our allegiance?

Don't you remember York Rite Masonry?

Haven't you – haven't we – pledged ourselves to York Rite Masonry and to the principles for which it stands?

We remember the day that we first felt the tugging inside of us, pulling us toward the True Light in York Rite Masonry; in Ancient Craft Masonry; and finally, in the Order of the Temple which gives the answer to the Christian Master Mason, we pledged our allegiance to York Rite Masonry.

Are these progressions only memories? Are they relics of the past or are they living in our hearts and minds even more vividly now than yesteryear?

It has been truly said, that where a man's treasure is, there is where his heart is also.

Companions and Sir Knights, where is your treasure?

If it is supporting this great country of ours; if it is being used to sustain the church and family, it is well spent. But your treasure also belongs to York Rite Masonry.

We must renew our pledge today, together, to York Rite Masonry!

I pledge allegiance to York Rite Masonry and to the principles for which it stands, one Christian order, under God, indivisible, with freedom for all.

*Think York Rite Membership.*

From EAST BAY YORK RITE MASON with the approval of Sir Knight C. E. Dunn, K.T.C.H., Oakland Commandery No. 11, California.

On April 3, 1974, a tornado destroyed most of the town of Xenia, Ohio, and with it the Xenia Masonic Temple. Two years to the day after the tornado struck, the cornerstone of the new Xenia Temple was laid.

To commemorate the destruction of the old Xenia Temple and the construction of the new Temple, the Finance Committee of the Xenia Masonic Temple Association Building Program offers for sale a plate, at a cost of \$10 which includes postage and insurance. The obverse displays both the old and new Xenia temples; the reverse includes a short history of the two temples.



Nathaniel Green Commandery Crosses, made from the wood of the Old Xenia Masonic Temple, are also available. They include an engraving of Nathaniel Green Commandery No. 81, and cost \$2, including postage.

Requests for items should be mailed to Sir Knight Billy J. Jones, 1781 Sioux Drive, Xenia, Ohio 45385. Proceeds of the sale of the crosses will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

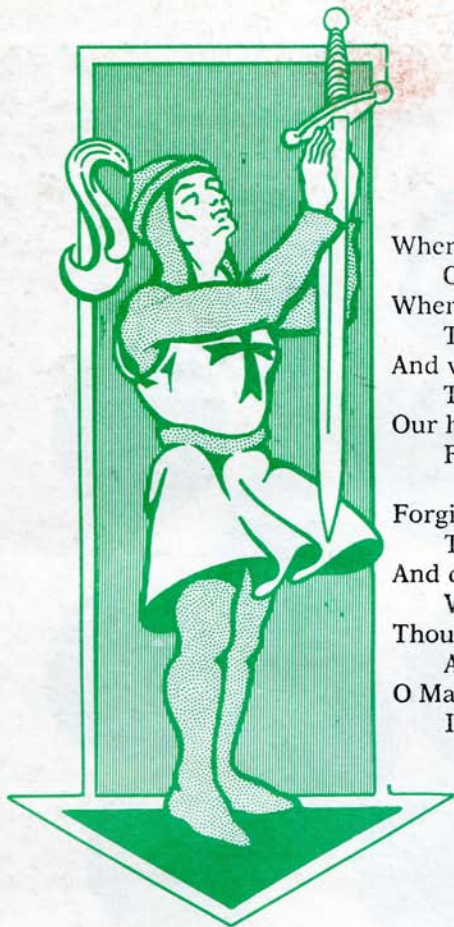


# CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

From the Grand Encampment Staff



Clustered above are: Robert Bigley, Office Manager and Assistant to the Grand Recorder; Norma Solomon, Data Processing Computer and Terminal Operator; Joan Behrens, Editorial Assistant; Marlene Kernan, Clerical; Ellen Sjoquist, Data Processing Systems Controller; Carol Prestidge, Terminal Operator, microfilming; Jan Hapgood, Controller; Diane Smetko, Receptionist, Dictaphone Transcriber; Paul C. Rodenhauer, Grand Recorder; Ellen Solomon, Terminal Operator; John Mueller, Mail Room; Bernice Powell, Accounting; Joe Buklis, Charge d'affaires, mail, duplicating; Violet Carlson, Secretary to the Grand Recorder.



## One In Christ

Wherever men adore Thee,  
Our souls with them would kneel;  
Wherever men implore Thy help,  
Their trouble we would feel;  
And where men do Thy service,  
Though knowing not Thy sign,  
Our hand is with them in good work,  
For they are also Thine.

Forgive us, Lord, the folly  
That quarrels with Thy friends,  
And draws us nearer to Thy heart  
Where every discord ends;  
Thou art the crown of manhood,  
And Thou of God the Son;  
O Master of our many lives,  
In Thee our life is one.

*Henry van Dyke*