“Roger Williams took his staff and traveled into the forest and made treaties with the Indians.” (See Page 3)
LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Those familiar bywords of filmdom, in whatever order, sound a clear call for all Templary to unite in a Campaign for Sight!

December 1 marks the beginning of the 10th Annual Voluntary Campaign for our Knights Templar Eye Foundation, one of the world’s greatest charities, a unified Christian project that has brought light and sight to thousands who have been benefitted since its establishment 21 years ago.

Our efforts in the five months which follow will be dedicated to the humanitarian work of the Foundation, taking the form of benefit presentations and fund-raising programs. These offer far-reaching opportunities to inform all Masons and the public of the purpose and extent of our battle against blindness.

Last year’s campaign resulted in nearly half a million dollars. We can take pride in that; we can experience a sense of greater fulfillment when we exceed that mark in the new campaign. Your dedication, and mine, will put us over the top. We can aid our foundation, under the expert and devoted direction of Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, to provide ever greater aid to the blind and those threatened by blindness. Theirs is a compelling need that continues so long as blindness itself exists.

The work of our co-worker in Templary, Past Grand Master Bell, has been most productive. You and he have achieved much. Many thousands of cases have been processed. Millions have been expended for surgical and hospital expenses — well over a million dollars last year alone. These figures mean little until we realize that each one helped was a person — a fellowman — who did not have personal resources or access to a publicly supported program. Our Christian concern is to help those in need.

This concern is shared by every Templar. Each should be knowledgeable about the forms and procedures involved. Each should know how to expedite applications. Each should experience the thrilling sense of accomplishment you gain when you become involved in casework. Information is readily available from your local committee members or from the Grand Commandery committee — or directly from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

I urge every Knight Templar to become involved, to learn the facts and figures, then let the world know that we, as Templars, stand ready, willing and able to help those who are less fortunate.

This is the month for Thanksgiving. Make it a month of project-planning so that others may Give Thanks for years to come!

[Signature]

November 1977
November: More than 350 years ago, the Mayflower made its November arrival off the shores of Cape Cod to establish a Puritan colony “where they might worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience.” So wrote Nathaniel Hawthorne one hundred and more years ago in “Grandfather’s Chair.” That story also tells of Roger Williams, whose stylized illustration is on our cover. Hawthorne says that Roger Williams “took his staff and traveled into the forest and made treaties (as well as friends) with the Indians.” The most Puritan of all Puritans, he was banished from Massachusetts and founded Rhode Island in 1636.

The story of another early Indian of historic note is described in the special feature by George Marshall in this issue.

P.C.R., Editor
Great-great Uncle: Apparently Sir Knight William Hepburn Russell, founder of the Pony Express and subject of a September feature, is not quite so unknown as we had thought. Among those who wrote to comment on the article was Sir Knight Otto Neustadt, K.Y.C.H., of Raleigh, North Carolina: “My maternal grandfather was named William Hepburn Russell (after Sir Knight Russell), and as his first grandchild I was given his watch upon his death in 1910, a few months before I was born. He had grown up in Hannibal, Missouri, became a lawyer and moved to New York.

“What is especially interesting is the inscription written by my mother, Anne Russell Neustadt, on the flyleaf of Gaylord Dubois’ book, The Pony Express, before she presented it to my son, William —

And remember that it was your Great-great-great Uncle William Hepburn Russell, for whom your great grandfather was named, who was the senior partner in the firm which founded the Pony Express.”

An Admirer Speaks: From Sir Knight J. Walter Karsner, Columbia No. 2, Washington, D.C., came the request for an additional copy of the September Knight Templar Magazine with the Grand Master’s message, “One Year Later,” in which Sir Knight Avery discussed again unity in the York Rite and the policy and purpose of the Grand Encampment. Said Karsner: “The terms of the message make this issue one of great historical value – it should be preserved carefully by all.” Sir Knight Karsner is no newcomer to the fraternity. On September 8 of this year he was presented with the Grand Lodge of Virginia’s Veterans Emblem indicating sixty years of good standing in Freemasonry.

Recent Correspondence: Among the letters from Sir Knights calling to our attention the United Press International release on the “Order of Knights Templars” in Switzerland (October), was one from a Sir Knight James Dixon, Washington, D.C. Through subsequent correspondence we learned that Sir Knight Dixon, a realtor by profession, is also a writer. But then, perhaps it runs in the family – his wife is Jeane Dixon, the world-famous seer, who is herself a prolific writer. An article by Sir Knight Dixon will appear in the December issue.

Smith: It is so very easy to write “Thomas Webb Smith” for “Thomas Smith Webb.” We did it again in our printing of the name in the article by Deputy Grand Master Cottrell in the October Magazine. You may have noticed — and those from the New England area did! — that the name was transposed. Henceforth and forever, it is “Thomas Smith Webb” — even though the sound isn’t right!

Tokyo Move: Relayed via Sir Knight Myron G. Bettencourt, Recorder of Tokyo Commandery No. 1, Japan, Masonic activities in Tokyo have moved to: Mori Building No. 6, 6-8 Toranomon 3-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo (105). According to Sir Knight Bettencourt, “The Masonic Bodies in Tokyo have moved into temporary quarters for about two or three years while a new multi-story building is being constructed.”

Thought for the Month

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.
CHIEF JOSEPH BRANT

by

Sir Knight George L. Marshall, Jr.,

Perhaps no Mason who ever lived in America has been so condemned by some authors and praised by others as Joseph Brant, the Mohawk Chief who sided with the Tories during the American Revolutionary War.

The parents of Joseph Brant, whose Indian name was Thayendanega (meaning, “he places two bets”), were Mohawks living at Canajoharie on the Mohawk River in New York. Brant, however, was born on the banks of the Ohio River in 1742, during an excursion by his parents to that region. He was the son of Nickus (Nicholas) of the Wolfe family, who, although not a chief, was a Mohawk of some standing in the tribe.

While still in his early youth, Brant became a favorite of Sir William Johnson, the popular British Indian Agent in Northern New York, who was also a Mason and a former Provincial Grand Master of the New York Colony.

Brant served under Sir William from 1755-1759 during the French-Indian Wars, and soon thereafter became his close companion and helped him run the Indian Department, administered by the British out of Quebec. During this time he is reputed to have been adopted by Sir William as his son. Sir William selected a number of young Mohawks, and sent them to an Indian missionary school (Moor’s Charity School) at Lebanon, Connecticut – the school in future years which was to become Dartmouth College. Brant was among those chosen and is the only one known to have derived any benefit from the educational process. However, his schooling was apparently quite brief, for in 1762 he was an interpreter for a missionary and served in a local war in 1763. In 1765, he was living at Canajoharie, having recently married the daughter of an Oneida Chief, and here he lived peaceably for three years. During the years 1769-1772, Brant assisted in revising the Mohawk Prayer Book, and in translating the Acts of the Apostles into the Mohawk language. He also joined the Anglican Church, was a regular communicant, and evinced a great desire to bring Christianity to his people.

In 1774 Sir William Johnson died and was succeeded in his territories by his son Sir John Johnson, and as Superintendent of the Indian Department by his son-in-law, Col. Guy Johnson, both of whom were Masons. These, together with Brant and Tory leaders Col. John Butler and Col. Walter Butler (also Masons) were to become leaders of the Loyalist resistance and terrorism in Northwest New York.

The Six Nations of the Iroquois, composed of the Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras, staged a big council fire near Albany in August, 1775, after
news of Bunker Hill had made war seem imminent. They decided at that time that such a war was a private affair between the British and the Colonists, and that they should stay out of it. Later, however, the Johnsons and Brant used their influence to enlist the Indians into the British cause, despite the appeals of the American Congress and the authorities of New York to dissuade them, and ultimately succeeded in bringing four of these tribes into an alliance with England — the Mohawks, Senecas, Cayugas, and Onondagas (the Oneidas and Tuscaroras sided with the Colonists). There are four basic reasons why they succeeded in enlisting the Indians in the British cause: (1) these tribes had fought with the British against the French, whom they hated; (2) their kindredship and sympathy with the Johnson and Tory families was strong; (3) the British helped them several times in their wars against the Algonquins to the west; (4) the British could and did offer them more and better gifts.

About the year 1776, Brant became the principal war chief of the confederacy of the Six Nations, due perhaps to the patronage of the Johnsons and the unusual circumstances in which he was placed. With the office of leader, he also received a Captain's commission from the British. Immediately after receiving this appointment, Brant made his first voyage to England. By making this trip he gained time, and was enabled to observe for himself the evidence of the power and resources of the king and to determine if it would be wise to cast his lot and that of his people with the British. Moreover, it may be at this time that he was recruited as an agent to incite the Indians against the Colonists. Also, he may have gone to protest the policy of Governor Guy Carleton, commander of the British forces in Canada, who refused to invite the Six Nations to join the war against the Americans, except to use 40 to 50 men as scouts.

Brant was well received in England, and was admitted to the best society. His previous association with educated men, his own education, and his naturally easy and graceful manner facilitated his being so received; and as he was an "Indian King" he was too valuable a personage to be neglected. The members of the British cabinet and nobility fawned over him, and arranged to have his portrait painted by such famous artists as Reynolds, Romney and others. Among his particular friends was the English diarist Samuel Boswell. Also, during this trip, Brant received the Masonic degrees in either Falcon Lodge in London in April 1776 or (as some say) Hiram's Cliftonian Lodge No. 417, London, at the same time and place. He had the distinction of having his Masonic apron given to him from the hand of King George III (who was not a Mason).

Brant returned from England in time to watch General William Howe engage Washington around Long Island, New York, and Westchester, and then departed for his homeland. Traveling by night, he eluded all the Americans guarding the Hudson highlands and the area around Albany, and arrived at the Iroquois village of Onoquaga, where he told the young braves of his trip to England and of the friendship of the British. He denounced the Iroquois' 1775 decision to remain neutral and called the Americans the enemy of all Indians. His speeches were received with violent enthusiasm in Onoquaga, and Brant departed on a tour of other Iroquois villages to similarly stir up support for the British cause.

Early in 1776 fugitive Loyalists were organized by Sir John Johnson into companies of "Royal Greens" who hung on the Canadian frontier, waiting for the opportunity to attack. Also, the Butlers, especially Walter, led the infamous Tory Rangers, whose reputation for barbarity and savagery was so great that they became more hated than the Indians.

The Revolution was well underway — it was too early to predict the victors. Ingenious strategies and grave mistakes would take place on both sides. Washington's Valley Forge winter was yet to come, and many patriots would die, but many others would survive to begin the building of the new country.

One particular incident of survival of a fellow-Freemason (thanks to Joseph
Brant) and the attempted saving of another Freemason, are often quoted by Masonic writers.

After the surrender of the American forces at the Battle of the Cedars on the St. Lawrence River in 1776, Brant exerted himself to prevent the massacre of the prisoners; particularly one Capt. John McKinstry, a member of Hudson Lodge No. 13 of New York, who was about to be burned at the stake. McKinstry, remembering that Brant was a Freemason, gave to him the Masonic sign of appeal which secured his release and subsequent good treatment. He and Brant thereafter remained friends for life, and in 1805 he and Brant together visited the Masonic Lodge in Hudson, New York, where Brant was well received and on whose wall his portrait now hangs.

The American General Sullivan, also a Freemason, ambushed the Indians and Loyalists at Newtown, New York, in 1779, resulting in the flight of the Indians and a march across the state by Sullivan to the Genesee Valley, destroying the Indian villages and breaking the power of the Indian confederacy. During this campaign a Lt. Boyd, a young Freemason and scout for Sullivan, was ambushed and captured along with a soldier named Parker. In the words of John Salmon, who was a friend and fellow-soldier of Boyd, the incident continued as follows; "... When Lt. Boyd found himself a prisoner, he solicited an interview with Brant, whom he well knew commanded the Indians. This chief, who was at that moment near, immediately presented himself, when Lt. Boyd, by one of those appeals which are known only by those who have been initiated and instructed in certain mysteries, and which never fails to bring succour to a distressed brother, addressed him as the only source from which he could expect a respite from cruel punishment or death. The appeal was recognised, and Brant immediately, and in the strongest language, assured him that his life should be spared.

"Lt. Boyd and his fellow-prisoner Parker were immediately conducted by a party of Indians to the Indian village called Beard's Town... Brant, their generous preserver, being called on service which required a few hours absence, left them in the care of the British Colonel Butler of the Rangers – who, as soon as Brant had left them, commenced an interrogation to obtain from the prisoners a statement of the number, situation, and intentions of the army under Gen. Sullivan..." (Quoted from O'Reilly's Sketches of Rochester)

Another authority (Morse: "Freemasonry in the American Revolution" in Little Masonic Library) continues "... Butler ordered Boyd placed kneeling before him, with an Indian on each side, one holding his arms, and another with a tomahawk raised over his head. Butler then three times asked of Boyd information which his loyalty to his commander would not permit him to give. 'Boyd,' he said, 'Life is sweet, you had better answer me.' 'Duty forbids,' was Boyd's reply, 'I would not if my life depended upon the word.' Boyd three times refused and Butler delivered him to the infuriated Indians who put him and Parker to death; he remaining faithful to the last to his trust; who like another great Masonic figure, forfeited his life rather than yield up his integrity."

Thus it would seem that Brant, the savage, was more charitable in his actions toward his patriot Brethren than were the British Tory Freemasons with whom he was in league. But we should not forget that Brant had received the education of a civilized man, had read the Scriptures, and professed to be a Christian AND a Freemason, and he knew that the rapine and atrocities practiced by the Indians were unjustifiable.

Brant continued until the close of the war in 1782 to harass the settlements. Following the Revolution, Brant led his people across the border to settle in Canada. He became affiliated with Lodge No. 11 at the Mohawk Village on Grand River about a mile and a half from Brantford, Ontario, of which he was the first Master; and he also affiliated with Barton Lodge No. 10 at Hamilton, Ontario.

In 1785, Brant made another visit to England, where he was again
well received. On being presented to the king, he declined to bend his knee or kiss his hand, but said he would gladly kiss the hand of the queen. Again, due to his talent and mien, he sustained himself well in the best circles of the British metropolis, and became a friend and companion of the Prince of Wales. The main object of this visit was to obtain for his tribe some compensation for their services during the war, and Brant himself received a military pension and grant of land in Canada. However, a secondary objective of his visit was to find out whether, in the case of a general war between the Indians and the United States, the Indians could rely on the support of Great Britain. The British government declined commitment on so delicate a matter, and referred him to the Governor of Canada. While on this visit Brant also translated the Gospel of Mark into the Mohawk language. He returned home early in 1786.

The United States government sought his aid in securing an end to the wars with the Indians in the west, and he went alone to Philadelphia in 1792 for a meeting with President Washington and his cabinet; and he claimed to have received, 1000 guineas down payment, plus the offer of an ultimate reward of 20,000 pounds for arranging “a peace with the Ohio Indians.” He assured the United States he would help, but upon his return home he changed his mind and actually worked to foment unrest and warfare among the Ohio Valley Indians against the Americans. After a campaign in the Ohio area in 1794 he was not again engaged in war, and devoted his attention to the interests and moral improvement of his tribe.

Brant constructed for himself a spacious dwelling in Canada, where he lived in handsome style with “... a host of slaves, as many as the aristocratic Virginians who would later rule the United States ... His clothes were of the finest material, and in his luxurious home elaborate meals were served on crisp Irish linen.” (Horan: The McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians) He was there a hospitable and convivial man, treating those who visited him kindly and courteously. His children were all well educated and his sons Joseph and Jacob were sent to Dartmouth. In 1795 his oldest son, Isaac, made a drunken assault on his father, who drew his dagger and inflicted a mortal wound. The case came before the elders of the tribe, who exonerated Brant on the grounds of self-defense. Brant throughout his life maintained friendly relations with the British, and favored the introduction of agriculture and the useful arts among his tribe.

What more, then, can be said about this remarkable individual, who was as Horan says “... at ease drinking from fragile china cups, but could also hurl a tomahawk with deadly accuracy...”? We know that he was well educated; he spoke and wrote the English language correctly; his compositions are highly respectable in terms of thought and style, “... far beyond many of the farmers he had fought against...” Perhaps it would have been impossible for Brant to have supported the American cause, “... he being too vain and too closely allied with the (British) lords of the Mohawk Valley to consider casting his lot with the humble Palatine Dutch farmers who talked so much of freedom.” But everything considered, perhaps no other native American profited so greatly from the Revolutionary War. In retrospect, it seems fair to say that “... had he given his support to the struggling Colonial army the course of our history would certainly have been changed...” (Horan)

Brant died on November 24, 1807, at the age of nearly 65 years, at his own house on Grand River, Ontario, and was interred by the side of the Episcopal church he had built there. In 1850 Freemasons restored his tomb and placed an inscription on it; and a statue of him was unveiled at Brantford, Ontario, in 1886.

His last words, uttered to his adopted nephew, were, “Have pity on the poor Indians; if you can get any influence with the great, endeavor to do them all the good you can.”
THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDERS

The advancement of Templary in each Grand Commandery—membership, ritual, tactics, personal interest and overall supervision—depends in large measure, favorably or unfavorably, upon the Right Eminent Grand Commander of his jurisdiction.

His is the duty of representing the sovereign Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Master in his Grand Commandery. To him goes the responsibility; to him also goes the credit for the success attained by his Grand Commandery.

Grand Master Willard M. Avery says: “I salute all Templar leaders, in both Subordinate and Grand Commanderies. I salute them for their executive leadership and for the vitally important responsibilities they have assumed. With their responsibility goes genuine authority, and I look to them, each one of them, for continued progress in Templary.”
Robert M. Bates IOWA

Don E. Robinett KANSAS

Robert B. Horine KENTUCKY

Wilburn W. Terral LOUISIANA

Douglas B. Taylor MAINE

Edward J. Grabowski MARYLAND

Arthur H. Fancy MASS. – R.I.

C. Baird Penzien MICHIGAN

George A. Lee MINNESOTA

Lloyd B. Tanner, Jr. MISSISSIPPI

Walter F. Ruestman MISSOURI

Charles D. Hunter MONTANA

Donald W. Larkins NEBRASKA

William B. Berk NEVADA

Richard L. Smith NEW HAMPSHIRE

Albert J. Terhune NEW JERSEY

Tim F. Gillespie NEW MEXICO

Herbert A. Belden NEW YORK

Frederick G. Speidel NORTH CAROLINA

Sydney Hoveskeland NORTH DAKOTA
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12 November 1977
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orville R. Bonnell</td>
<td>417 Main Street, Box 356, Penneboro, West Virginia 26415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert C. Guenthner</td>
<td>Masonic Temple, 204 Washington Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus R. Nichols</td>
<td>Masonic Temple, 105 North Center Street, Casper, Wyoming 82601</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADDRESSES OF COMMANDERS AND RECORDERs,**

**SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES**

St. John No. 1, Wilmington, Delaware

Henry G. Law, E.C. 2608 East Riding Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808

Harry V. Felmey, Rec. 1518 Hickory Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19805
St. Andrews No. 2, Dover, Delaware
Harold C. Hill, E.C. RD 2 Box 236, Camden, Delaware 19934
C. Ray Scarborough, Rec. RD 6 Box 407A, Dover, Delaware 19901

Alaska No. 1, Fairbanks, Alaska
Lawrence Claude Milton, E.C. 1824 Bridgewater Drive, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
James M. Lake, Rec. 915 Seventh Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Anchorage No. 2, Anchorage, Alaska
Thomas F. Freeman, Jr., E.C. 2407 West 32nd Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99503
James L. Oliver, Sr., Rec. P.O. Box 175, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Honolulu No. 1, Honolulu, Hawaii
John B. Connell, E.C. 278 Ilihau Street, Kailua, Hawaii 96734
Daniel Y. S. Pang, Rec. 1227 Makiki Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Tampico No. 1, Monterrey, Mexico
Daniel Ordaz Serratos, E.C. Col Lowas, D Zarubrand 2629, Monterrey, N.L., Mexico
Salinas E. Oscar, Rec. Doblado Sur 106, Monterrey, N.L., Mexico

Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico, D. F., Mexico
Javier A. Orozco, E.C. Mozart 44, Mexico 2, D.F., Mexico
Marcos E. Folange, Rec. Eucken 19, Mexico 5, D.F., Mexico

Tijuana No. 3, Baja, California
Jesus Navarro Galindo, E.C. Apartado 695, Tijuana, B.C., Mexico
Cesar Pera, Rec. Playas De Tijuana, Calle De La Lava 229, Tijuana B.C., Mexico

Hermann von Salza No. 1, Frankfurt, Germany
Alexander Petuchow, E.C. Reinsburgster 81, 7000 Stuttgart 1, West Germany
Gary Kollo, Rec. 6477 Limeshain 3, Bergstrasse 12, West Germany

Heidelberg No. 2, Heidelberg, Germany
Verlie D. Stonehocker, E.C. 26th Ams Cmp No. 1007, APO New York, New York 09860

Bavaria No. 3, Munich, Germany
Ante Jelenic, E.C. Justins Kernerstr 19, D-8000 Munchen 21, West Germany
William S. Langton, Rec. Strittholzstr 54, D-8036 Herrsching, West Germany

Walther Graf Von Spelen No. 4, Nuernberg, Germany
Heinz Schmidtchen, E.C. D-8500 Nuernberg, Konstanzenstr 11, West Germany
Ludwig Riedmueller, Rec. Waldheimstr 18, D 8540 Schwabach, West Germany

Porto Rico No. 1, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Bienvenido R. Elias, E.C. 52 S.E. No. 1212, Reparto Metropolitano, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico 00921
Joseph L. Martinez, Rec. GPO Box 1119, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936

Tokyo No. 1, Tokyo, Japan
Mitsuro Koba, E.C. Comptroller, Hq. U.S. Army Japan,
APO San Francisco, California 96343
Myron G. Bettencourt, Rec. Dir. of Resources Mgt., U.S. Army, Garrison Honshu,
APO San Francisco, California 96343

Al Hasa No. 1, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
H. M. Tanner, E.C. C/O ARAMCO Box 5018, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
L. L. Brown, Rec. Northrop Box 110, APO New York, New York 09616

November 1977
Dispensations for Commanderies also have been granted by the Grand Encampment Committee on Dispensations and Charters to Hamburg and Dusseldorf, West Germany, and are awaiting presentation.

“The Relevancy of Masonry” — A Follow-up

Dear Brother:

I read “The Relevancy of Masonry” in my October Knight Templar and was finally moved to write.

I submit this to identify a weakness not uncommon to most organizations, but unforgivable in a brotherhood such as ours.

I do not hold membership in any of the Lodges close by, although I have lived here several years and have attended and even helped in the work of these Lodges in the past. I do not, because I have not been asked. I petitioned to become a Mason; I should not have to petition to stay a Mason.

When I have made myself known to fellow Masons they have often said, “you should come to Lodge sometime.” I usually reply that I would like to and, “next time you go, why not take me with you?” That is as far as it goes.

I’m afraid many of those who attend Lodge are satisfied with the status quo. They are happy to have lots of dues receipts but don’t especially care if any new faces appear at Lodge. And some of the lodges I have been in would do well to remember that those who do attend could be home watching TV and just may chose to do so next time.

I have proudly identified myself as a Mason for 25 years and at one time was active on a national champion Commandery drill team. My old Commander didn’t recognize me at the last Arlington Sunrise Service although an unknown brother from an unknown Lodge saw my large shield pinned to my coat and gave me a big friendly “Hello Ivanhoe” which took away a lot of the morning chill.

These are the men who make the Commandery and all Masonry live — the men who see any Mason as a brother and welcome him as such.

Let us all devote more of ourselves and our Lodges to gathering in the forgotten brothers, and new members will join because of it.

Submitted in brotherly love,
Sir Knight Charles Stephenson
Ivanhoe Commandery No. 54, Van Wert, Ohio
HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS

One Month Away

Recorders, in particular, are reminded that their Commanderies update reports when received in Chicago before the 5th of December, will be the basis for the awarding of productivity plaques at the conclusion of the 10th Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

If reports are not received by December 5, the report for the previous month will be utilized. Constituent Commandery awards will be made to each one showing a per capita productivity of $5.00 or more. The Campaign starts December 1; it ends April 30, 1978. Awards also will go to Subordinate and Grand Commanderies.

Bullock Anniversary Salute

A current Grand Commander and five Past Grand Commanders were present when Past Grand Commander and Mrs. Dallas F. Bullock celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in Philadelphia. Shown above are: Past Grand Commander Howard T. Scull, Jr., Grand Recorder of Pennsylvania; Grand Encampment's Deputy Grand Master, John B. Cottrell, Jr., P.G.C.; incumbent Grand Commander Martin E. Edwards; former Grand Encampment Chairman of Ritualistic Matters G. Calvin Dyson, P.G.C.; (front) S. Blair Sponeybarger, P.G.C., and (seated) anniversary celebrant P.G.C. Bullock, all from Pennsylvania.

Boise, Albuquerque and Moline

The Northwestern York Rite Regional Conference at Boise, Idaho, was concluded October 30. November 12 marks the date for the Southwestern Regional Conference at Albuquerque, to be followed by the North Central Conference at Moline, Illinois, November 19 and 20.

Earlier York Rite Regional Conferences were held at Hot Springs, Arkansas, September 17 and 18, for the South Central area, and at Atlantic City, New Jersey, October 7 and 8, for the Northeastern 11-state gathering.

Two additional conferences are scheduled in January to complete the schedule of seven national workshop meetings – January 20 and 21, the Southeastern, at Jackson, Mississippi, and January 28 and 29, the East Central, at Indianapolis.

Fund Raising for 10th Annual Campaign

"Because it was a success when first offered during the 8th Voluntary Campaign in 1975," Hanselmann Commandery No. 16, Cincinnati, Ohio, is offering the decal illustrated above as a means of fund-raising for the 10th Annual Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

According to Howard A. Wolf, Recorder of Hanselmann No. 16, "$3,300 was cleared through the sale of the decals when offered in 1975. This Campaign we would like to offer it to Commanderies who might like to try our method of promotion." Details and price list will be furnished upon request from Fred Shepherd, Jr., or Lonnie R. Jackson, in care of Hanselmann Commandery No. 16, 317 East Fifth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.
Mason 71 Years is Smithsonian Associate

One of only 38,000 Americans so honored, Sir Knight Edward Engson, St. Johns Commandery No. 68, Huntington Park, California, has been named to membership in The Smithsonian Associates of the Smithsonian Institute located in Washington, D.C.

The Smithsonian was established by Congressional Act in 1846 and, in Sir Knight Engson's words, is "a very vital force in the life of the nation, and a decidedly prominent factor in the development of the arts and science in America." Its activities embrace all branches of science relating to the United States, with special emphasis on scientific research. Under Smithsonian auspices are the Bureau of American Ethnology, National Zoological Park, Astrophysical Observatory, Museum of Natural History, Arts and Industries Building, International Exchange Service, Canal Zone Biological Area, National Air Museum and United States National Museum. The Institute embraces the four fields of culture, education, history and science.

Sir Knight Engson was raised a Master Mason on April 6, 1906, making him a 71-year member of the Craft. He celebrated his 97th birthday on August 31.

Connecticut Templar History

The 31-page History of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Connecticut, compiled by Sir Knight James R. Case, K.T.C.H., Historiographer of Connecticut, has been published to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of that Grand body. The first 100 years of the history are based on George A. Sturdy's work printed originally in the 1923 Proceedings.

Copies are $2.00 postpaid from Grand Recorder J. Zalmon S. Hunt, 196 Church Street, Willimantic, Connecticut 06266.

Valparaiso Celebrates 100 Years

Eminent Commander Clarence F. Jensen, Valparaiso Commandery No. 28, Indiana, presented Grand Certificate of Gold Awards to 50 year members Armandt T. Rosenbaum, Ray L. Dean and Lynnet M. Casbon (below, seated), at the 100th Anniversary ceremonies of the Commandery held at Valparaiso Masonic Temple.

Sir Knight R. Frank Williams, Grand Commander of Indiana, was received with Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery, Council, Chapter and Grand Lodge. Following reception, the Order of Red Cross was conferred on 12 candidates by Grand Commandery officers.

New Philanthropy

At the York Rite Regional Conference in Atlantic City in October, Dr. Owen L. Shanteau, General Grand Master of General Grand Council, announced that philanthropic efforts from the General Grand Council will be directed to research in the field of Arteriosclerosis. He said that the project had been under study for several years.

There are now three charities supported by the three York Rite Bodies—Arteriosclerosis, RARA, Royal Arch Research Assistance, by the General Grand Chapter; and the long-established Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
Grand Sovereign at San Diego

Grand Sovereign Stanley F. Maxwell, Knight Grand Cross, attended and addressed the Western Regional Assembly of the Order of Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders at San Diego, California, September 16-18. An informal "rap" session was a Friday afternoon feature, followed by a "Dinner at San Diego Zoo," with Martin B. Orlieb presiding. Saturday morning was devoted to Conferral of Orders by Arizona Conclave and Tucson Conclave of Arizona; San Diego Conclave, and St. Croix, Long Beach.

After a Saturday afternoon of tours, Intendant General Irvin S. Gress presided for the traditional banquet at the Sheraton Inn. Fifteen Conclaves and seven states were represented.

Renzo Gaia, Intendant General for Washington, presided for a Prayer Breakfast Sunday morning. The speaker was Ralph W. Rohrbach. The program included Dr. Granville Frisbie, who offered the Invocation, and a religious choral presentation by Job's Daughters, East San Diego - Bethel No. 331, Valeria Barnett, Honored Queen.

From the Canal Zone

The news has been filled with pros and cons on the Panama Canal. The three bodies in Balboa - Canal Zone Chapter No. 1, Canal Zone Council No. 1 and Canal Zone Commandery No. 1 - continue their membership activities unabated.

A Fall Festival was announced for November 5. The Commandery bulletin received in September carried this message:

"Please keep in mind the dates of our Fall Festival. Plan to attend and support our officers during this work... Support your Lodge and the York Rite. Your attendance and help are needed... If you need any petitions please call the Secretary/Recorder and they will be sent right out. Do some Brother Mason a favor and tell him the York Rite Story."

Many and varied have been Voluntary Campaign Fund-Raising projects conducted for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Charles S. McIntyre, Past Grand Commander of Michigan, who continues as Chairman of all Voluntary Campaign activities, offers a number of suggestions which might be useful to achieve the three purposes of the campaign - raise funds for the Foundation's work, unite in planning special benefits and fund-raising projects, and, in so doing, acquaint the public and other Masons of the large scope of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation operations.

Additional suggestions and recommendations will be welcomed by the Knight Templar Magazine. Several of the suggestions from Sir Knight McIntyre include:

Musical benefit, high school band competition, basketball tourney, a banquet honoring a distinguished Mason or Templar, pancake and sausage breakfast, concerts of all types, garage sales, one-day tours of historic spots, tug-of-war contests between firemen and policemen, sponsorship of a noted speaker, theatre parties and anything Masonically acceptable which will raise funds, involve Commandery participation and favorably publicize the work of the Foundation.

Program presentations of this type are the responsibility of the Constituent, Subordinate or Grand Commandery sponsoring the event. Templars well understand the need to avoid any project activity or commitment which will reflect unfavorably upon the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

The 10th Annual Voluntary Campaign starts December 1 and concludes April 30. At the conclusion, plaques will be awarded the three top Grand Commanderies on a per capita basis, the top Grand Commanderies in dollar totals, the top producing Subordinate (not Constituent) Commandery, and each Constituent Commandery reporting a per capita productivity of $5.00 or more. Plaques are sent to the Grand Recorder for subsequent distribution as desired.
In a nutshell . . .

THE YORK RITE STORY

G. Wilbur Bell
M.E. Past Grand Master
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A.

Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell traces again the thread that connects the Grand Lodge and Templary, the York Rite and Symbolic Masonry, one of the themes to which he has addressed himself in his frequent appearances. Sir Knight Bell is Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., Springfield, Illinois. (December's book review by Sir Knight H. C. Arbuckle, III, will discuss Scottish Rite volumes of Masonic interest.)

The word YORK to every Mason carries a special significance. In the legendary, operative and symbolic history of the fraternity, YORK signifies antiquity, tradition, authenticity. Over the centuries its concept has changed but little, consistently maintaining its ritualistic impact in spite of wars, depressions, booms and changing aspects of civilization.

It is no reflection upon any other Rite to emphasize this impressive background and its profound influence. York Freemasonry has been identified as encompassing the Symbolic Lodge, the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Council of Royal and Select Masters, and the capstone of the Rite, the Commandery of Knights Templar. The Commandery makes the historical and spiritual transition from the Old Testament to the New Testament through the Order of the Red Cross, the Order of Malta and the Order of the Temple, all under the sovereign jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment in the United States, also among its 19 Subordinate Commanderies beyond the seas.

The Capitular (Royal Arch Mason), the Cryptic (Royal and Select Masters), and the Chivalric (Knight Templar) are bodies that are permitted to explain the value of membership to Master Masons, to display their wares, so to speak, and to actively encourage and invite good and true Masons to continue their Masonic education by learning more about the meaning and the background of the fraternity as they advance through the three sets of Degrees and Orders.

Some Masons – honestly but mistakenly – feel that all the lessons they need are contained in the Symbolic Lodge. It is quite true that the Degree of Master Mason is the most important Degree any Mason can attain. Not one of us will ever forget the impressiveness and solemnity of its ritual, and the thrilling achievement of becoming a Master Mason. And not one of us will ever be anything but wholehearted in our respect for, and our recognition of, the authority of the Blue Lodge and the Grand Lodge. Each Grand Lodge is the “supreme” body of Masonry in its individual jurisdiction.

But there remain new lessons and additional information to be imparted after the Symbolic Lodge. Perhaps any studious and sincere Mason could conduct his own research over the years to acquire more and more knowledge of the whole family of Masonry and the family’s history. However, with all
this reading and research, he still would miss the impact of participation. York Rite Masonry cannot be adequately described; it must be experienced.

To give a capsule impression of the York Rite would be to focus upon the ineffable word. In the Blue Lodge, the word is lost; in Capitular history and ritual, the word is recovered. It is guarded and preserved in the Council. In the Commandery of Knights Templar, the beautiful and inspiring Order of the Temple brings the history to a glorious Christian climax.

The three York Rite bodies beyond the Symbolic Lodge are not designed for those who merely wish to add to their list of memberships, although it is well recognized that not all who become members can concentrate their time and physical presence in York Rite activities. But in the process, these Masons do gain a fraternal education and ethical experience that not only helps explain the past, but also opens new vistas of Masonic understanding.

The York Rite appeals to Master Masons genuinely dedicated in learning more about the fraternity. It offers an education and a spiritual revelation, combined. It helps a man to a greater awareness of Masonry in all its aspects, how it began and developed, what it means. It also helps us learn more about ourselves and better prepares us to symbolically wear the “breastplate of righteousness” in daily life, in our associations with others. It brings us new and valued friendships and makes it possible for us to gain even greater enjoyment from the fellowship of our brothers.

There is no contesting that the Master Mason Degree is the most important of all, but that does not constitute a reason for stopping our education. The sidelights, the highlights and the panorama of Freemasonry that lie ahead give each Master Mason new opportunities for fraternal knowledge, much as a university provides education to better prepare men to face the world in which they must live and work.

The York Rite also is the ladder that entitles those who climb the rungs to Templary to apply for or to be invited into membership in other bodies for which the advanced York Rite is a prerequisite.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in each state or jurisdiction is the governing body for the Chapters within its area. The same is true of the Grand Councils and the Councils within their jurisdictions. There is a General Grand Chapter with which Grand Chapters of states can be associated. There is also a “federation” known as the General Grand Council, for Grand Councils if they wish to be affiliated.

The structure of Templary differs in that there is a sovereign body, the Grand Encampment, which was formed in 1816 in this country for the “better government of the Order,” with the Honorable DeWitt Clinton as first Grand Master. The Grand Encampment of the United States of America has “supreme legislative, judicial and executive power and jurisdiction over the Orders of Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar within the United States of America and geographical regions over which the United States exercises jurisdiction...”

Under the Grand Encampment there are Grand Commanderies, and under their jurisdiction are the Constituent Commanderies. A Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, as chartered by the Grand Encampment, elects its state officers and has the responsibility for its Constituent Commanderies. Each Grand Commandery “may adopt such Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations as are not inconsistent with the Constitution, Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment...”

This gives, I trust, a quick glimpse of the York Rite structure. It is hoped that it may help encourage the Master Mason to consider whether his Masonic education is adequate without the lessons and influence of the complete Masonic structure. The York Rite, from the Symbolic Lodge through Templary, can perform no miracles, but it can and will open the doors to Masonic knowledge and understanding for worthy Master Masons looking for new, rewarding fraternal experience.
TEMPLARS OR MEMBERS?

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

Formerly a bi-monthly contributor to the Knight Templar Magazine, Sir Knight Wylie B. Wendt celebrates his 92nd birthday on November 19. He was knighted in Newport Commandery No. 13, Kentucky, on April 4, 1908, and in a few months will have reached the 70-year mark as a Templar.

He affiliated with Lansing Commandery No. 25 in 1908 while on the engineering faculty at Michigan State College, and in 1915, he transferred to Kansas State College in Manhattan, joining Oriental Commandery No. 48. In 1920 he affiliated with Schrader Commandery No. 9 in Rapid City, South Dakota, serving as Commander in 1922 and 1923. He was elected to the post of Grand Captain of the Guard of the Grand Commandery of South Dakota in 1922 and was Grand Junior Warden in 1925 when he returned to Kentucky, where, in 1935, he affiliated with Louisville-DeMolay Commandery No. 12.

Sir Knight Wendt is known to Kentucky Templars as the “Venerable Patriarch”; in 1965 he became Kentucky’s first recipient of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. He is also a member of the Scottish Rite, A.A.O.N.M.S., current Intendant General, United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, in Kentucky, and much more. Following is Sir Knight Wendt’s description, originally appearing in the July 1969 Knight Templar Magazine, of the Order of Knights Templar, the only uniformed Order in Freemasonry, including several personal observations on the many who call themselves “Sir Knight.”

As a general rule, Orders of Chivalry are emanations of royalty. Our Order of Knights Templar is a Chivalric Order, but it does not have a royal founder.

The period of the Crusades extended from 1096 to 1272, and during the early years of the Crusades, three Orders of Knighthood were founded and have left their records on the pages of history. In the order of their establishment, these Orders were (1) Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, later known as the Knights of Malta, organized 1048 as a Hospitaler Order, and became military in 1119; (2) Knights of the Temple of Solomon or Knights Templar, organized 1118 as a Military and Religious Order; and (3) Teutonic Knights of St. Mary of Jerusalem, later known as the Teutonic Knights, organized 1190. The founders of these three Orders were all of noble birth and were knights at the time of the formation of the Orders.

There may have been other Orders of Knighthood in recorded history formed by the voluntary association of members, but these three are the only ones that come to mind at the present writing. All other recognized chivalric Orders were founded by kings or emperors or persons of royalty, such as the Knights of the Round Table by King Arthur; Knights of the Golden Fleece by Philip, Duke of Burgundy, in Flanders; → → →
Knights of the Garter by King Edward III of England; Knights of St. Andrew, or the Thistle, by Robert Bruce of Scotland; Order of the Bath by Henry IV of England; Legion of Honor by Napoleon of France; and the Order of Dannebrog by Waldemar II, of Denmark; to name but a few.

In addition to the Knights Templar and Knights of Malta, both of which were formed voluntarily by Knights, Freemasonry has the following legitimate Orders of Knighthood, small selective groups, which by tradition have backgrounds of royal founding: (1) Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, founded by Emperor Constantine the Great; (2) Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, founded by Empress Helena, the mother of Constantine; and (3) the Royal Order of Scotland, founded by Robert Bruce of Scotland.

All five of the above named Orders of Chivalry connected with Freemasonry are organized entities, having national organizations, national officers, and are in no sense merely degree conferring groups, but exist as Orders of Knighthood with traditional and historical backgrounds.

Orders of Chivalry or Knighthood, with their respective statutes and insignia and decorations, seem to have been the result of the desire among men-of-arms to recognize and reward outstanding service. These Orders originated largely between the age of Charlemagne and that of the Crusades. In recent years they have lost much of their martial character and have served principally as instruments through which governments and organizations could honor men who have distinguished themselves in some field of activity.

The Order of Knights Templar is such an Order of Chivalry, the last step of progression through the York Rite of Freemasonry, and while the Order is interested in a substantial growth, it should be concerned more in securing Templars than in obtaining members.

In the opinion of the writer, a Commandery of one hundred active and interested Templars is a more valuable adjunct to the Order than a Commandery of five hundred members that merely exists, drifting along without a program, with no vision of the purpose of Templary, and believing that a Commandery is formed solely for the purpose of securing members with no program or activity for these members once they have been obtained.

In speaking of the priesthood of Christ, Hebrews 5:6 states “Thou art a priest forever after the Order of Melchisedec.” Christ was made a priest forever.

When a Knight of Malta is dubbed and created a Knight of the Valiant and Magnanimous Order of the Temple, he is created a Knight forever. He is not just joining a Commandery, he is not just taking another step or grade in Freemasonry, he is being dubbed and created a Knight forever, with all this statement implies. He is not just joining a fraternity or society, he is becoming a member of an Order for life. He is now a Knight of the Temple. He may demit, but he is still a Templar, although unaffiliated.

As stated earlier in this article, all Orders of Knighthood have insignia and decorations. The Order of Knights Templar has been a uniformed Order ever since it became active in this country in the days of the American Revolution. It has always had its distinctive insignia which sets it apart from all other branches of Freemasonry. It is the only historical Order connected with the two popular rites. Surely, Freemasonry is worthy to have a uniformed Order of chivalry affiliated with it.

The uniform is essential to the successful prosecution of a program of a Commander. A Sir Knight without a uniform cannot function in all the activities of his Commandery, if that Commandery has a program that follows the Templar pattern. No Commandery will ever become inactive if it maintains a uniformed unit.

Templary is the handmaiden of the Church. Our Order is the only branch of the two popular rites of Freemasonry predicated upon the Christian Religion. The cross of Christ appears upon our banners, our uniforms, our swords, our belts. The cross is the outstanding insignia of our regalia. Surely a real Knight
Convent General Gathering


John C. Kaufman, Brunswick, Georgia, was elected to the presiding office for 1977-78.

A Century of Highlights

The attendees at the recent 100th Anniversary of Newton Commandery No. 9, more than 200 strong, represented a cross section of Templary throughout the state of Kansas.

Past Grand Commander of Kansas and Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Roy Wilford Riegle, was present; Don E. Robinett, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, was on hand for the activities at Newton’s Masonic Temple; former Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, Dr. Basil Johnson, Wichita, attended, as did ten Grand Commandery officers, Past Grand Commanders and other dignitaries and their ladies.

The anniversary gathering honored “Mox” Vogt, Hesston, Newton’s Prelate for 35 years, also all Past Commanders as well as Newton’s prize winning drill teams which first won recognition in state competition in 1894.

Commander Carlton Gates presided. Reports, musical presentations, historical reviews and Knights Templar Eye Foundation information were presented by Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Housh, Gerald R. Butcher, John Trude and others.

...TEMPLARS OR MEMBERS?

Templar has a desire to wear the insignia of our Order and wants to be seen and counted as a Soldier of the Cross.

Let us begin to want to wear the uniform at Knight Templar functions. Let us become interested in creating Templars, rather than just members, even as necessary and desirable as members are. And then let us devote some time to developing a program for old members, instead of concentrating on new members.

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

Point of Information

“‘To use its funds for research, treatment and hospitalization of those who suffer from disease or injury to the eye, which, if untreated, might result in blindness; that admission for treatment of such persons shall be without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin; that the treatment of patients for this purpose shall be free and limited to persons unable to pay, so that the funds will be used exclusively for charitable and scientific purposes...’”

Excerpt from Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Signed March 1, 1956.
Staples in Charge

Roger W. Staples, General Grand Master’s Representative in General Grand Council, was in charge of arrangements for the Northeastern Regional York Rite Conference October 7 and 8 at the Marlborough-Blenheim, Atlantic City, New Jersey. His counterparts are Albert A. Remington, III, Deputy General Grand High Priest, and Dr. Alton G. Billmeyer, Department Commander for Grand Encampment.

From 11 states a total of 109 Sir Knights and Companions, augmented at dinner by the ladies, participated in the open discussions which were led by General Grand High Priest Gordon R. Merrick; General Grand Master of General Grand Council, Dr. Owen L. Shanteau; and the Grand Master of Grand Encampment, Willard M. Avery.

General Grand Recorder Bruce H. Hunt, General Grand Secretary Charles K. A. McGaughey and Paul C. Rodenhauser, Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, presented informational features Friday evening from 8 to 10 p.m.

Next year’s Northwestern Regional Conference has been scheduled October 13-14.

DeMolay Grand Master Saluted


Sir Knight McCulley was elected Grand Master of DeMolay last April at Dearborn, Michigan.

Prophet on Sight


The picture shows G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation; Dr. Earl Torell, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Commandery of Illinois; Candidate Scotty Giffin; Thomas W. Richards, Past Grand Commander, Monarch of Bahar Grotto; Grand Monarch Steeves, and Senior Grand Warden Buecker.

General Order Pending

General Order No. 5 of Willard M. Avery, Grand Master, will be mailed from the office of the Grand Encampment during the first week of December. It will contain the listing of Representatives of the Grand Master and Grand Encampment for annual Conclaves in 1978. General Order No. 5 goes to the Representative and Permanent members of Grand Encampment.

Each January, the Annual Conclave visitation dates and locations also are listed on page 31 of the Knight Templar.
Suprise! — Grand Master’s Club No. 65

Those who have been keeping track of recent additions to the Grand Master’s Club of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, may have wondered at the apparent elimination of member No. 65. No. 65 was assigned several months ago, but because of the special request of Sir Knight James K. Wilson, Chairman for the 10th Annual Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in California, disclosure of the contributor’s name was held in confidence until a special presentation could be made.

On September 14, David Slayton, General Chairman of the 1977 Grand Sessions Committee, California York Rite of Freemasonry and Grand Sword Bearer of California, presented Grand Master’s Club membership No. 65 to Mrs. Norman R. Brindle at the first meeting of Long Beach Assembly No. 39, Social Order of the Beauceant. Unknown to Mrs. Brindle, her husband, Sir Knight Norman R. Brindle (Grand Master’s Club No. 58), had enrolled her in the Club with the donation of $1,000. Mrs. Brindle received her plaque and metal wallet card at the Beauceant meeting.

Meanwhile, plans were in the works to present an award of appreciation to Sir Knight Brindle at the October 1 reception for Sir Knight B. Marshall Ross, Grand Commander of California. As with his wife, Sir Knight Brindle was not aware of the special presentation.

Tale of a Gavel

Following the September feature “Let the Pony Come Through” on the short-lived but well-known Pony Express instituted by Sir Knight William Hepburn Russell, Sir Knight Ernest H. Adams (Dayton Commandery No. 68, Ohio, speaking at his High Twelve Club), presented the following story of the razing of the old Pony Express barn in St. Joseph, Missouri:

Sometime in the 1920’s, the Pony Express barn was torn down, and at the insistence of the Chamber of Commerce of St. Joseph, Missouri, some of the timbers were saved and gavels made from them. My uncle was at the time Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. When the gavels were distributed there was one for him.

“When my uncle died, the gavel was given to my father and later to me. In addition to being my uncle’s namesake, we were also brothers, he being a member of Zeredatha Lodge No. 189 in St. Joseph.

“I have the gavel with me today and it is my pleasure to present it at this time to my High Twelve Club for their use in calling the brethren to order. I’m sure my uncle would approve, and if this piece of wood could talk, what a story it could tell.

“A gavel was given to each Governor of each state and to the President’s office, as well as to several other dignitaries.”

Investiture at Clearwater

Chivalric Priory (formerly J. Edwin Larson Priory) was reactivated September 29 for the investiture of five novices into the Order of Knighthood in Clearwater, Florida. They included John Vance, Michael Perry, Robert Doak, Eric Nordquist and State Master Councilor W. Gordon Wardell.

Ceremonies took place under the direction of Illustrious Knight Commander John Roberts of Jacques DeMolay Chapter in Largo, Florida. The Priory Advisory Council is represented by Priory Advisor “Dad” Sir Knight Dale Woodruff and other Knights Templar of Springtime Commandery No. 40, Clearwater, which now sponsors Chivalric Priory.
IN MEMORIAM

George Grant Crewson
New York
Grand Commander — 1953
Born June 21, 1887
Died August 31, 1977

Fred Robert Humphrey
Connecticut
Grand Commander — 1958
Born February 11, 1888
Died September 2, 1977

James Corbett Slaughter
Georgia
Grand Commander — 1965
Born March 19, 1898
Died September 10, 1977

Willis Talbott
Washington
Grand Commander — 1950
Born March 16, 1893
Died September 29, 1977

Christian Ministry in California

Some 20 years ago the Knights Templar of California determined that in addition to the mission of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, there was another area in serious need of support. There were thousands of vacant pulpits in churches around the country without ministers to provide spiritual guidance. To help prepare young men and women to fill those pulpits, a “Christian Ministry Scholarship Fund” was established.

Funds are generated by a $1 assessment for each California Sir Knight, by bequests, and by memorials from the various Commanderies made in the name of the members who have passed away. A Life Membership Fund was established in 1975 which allows members to contribute $30 in lieu of the annual assessment. The interest is used each year, leaving the principal contribution available to provide perpetual income.

The “Christian Ministry Scholarship Fund” is used to award scholarships to outstanding divinity students in their last two years of post-graduate study in five accredited divinity schools in California. Fifteen $1,000 scholarships have been awarded annually to three student ministers at each school; in addition a $1,000 contribution is made to each school to assist in its faculty salary budget.

Reporting on the Scholarship Fund, Sir Knight Thomas F. Pollock, P.C., California State Editor, says, “The Knights Templar of California consider this to be a most important challenge for the future in this state and would like to see it spread to other states as a means of perpetuating the concept of a Christian nation dedicated to the principles of freedom and human dignity, as originated by our forefathers two hundred years ago.”

Death of Edward J. Bullock

Death came to Edward John Bullock, Chicago, September 25, 1977, at the age of 104. His records show that he was a member of Chapter and Council for 80 years and a member of Commandery for 79.

He served as Illustrious Grand Sovereign of Grand Council, Red Cross of Constantine, in 1947-48, and was a member of that body for 72 years, probably a record for length of membership. Sir Knight Bullock, Siloam Commandery No. 54, was a member of the Scottish Rite for 62 years and a Shriner for 73.

He was an active member and longtime officer of the Union League Club, Chicago, since 1922. He had retired from Standard Oil Company, Indiana, as Vice-President and Director of Purchases. Sir Knight Bullock is survived by three daughters, a son, twelve grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

His birthday was observed September 16 by St. John’s Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, at the Union League Club, Chicago.

Jesus, Thou divine Companion
Help us all to work our best;
Bless us in our daily labor,
Lead us to our Sabbath rest.

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November 1977
Marching under the standard of the Grand Commandery of New York, 22 Sir Knights from six Zone 12 Commanderies paid honor to the memory of President and Sir Knight William McKinley on the 76th anniversary of his death. On September 14, two days prior to the 164th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New York, a floral tribute in the shape of the Templar cross and crown was placed at the foot of the McKinley monument in Niagara Square, Buffalo, New York, where McKinley died in 1901.

Sir Knight Carl L. Fisher, Commander of Batavia Commandery No. 34, presided at the ceremonies, as Reverend and Sir Knight Don C. Markham of Lake Erie Commandery No. 20 and Publicity Chairman for the 164th Annual Conclave, led the attending Sir Knights in prayer.

Sessions of the New York Conclave took place on September 16-18 in Buffalo, home of immediate Past Grand Commander Richard W. Hillman. Some 500 representatives from more than 100 Commanderies in New York, as well as Sir Knights from 12 Northeastern states, attended the meetings held in the Buffalo Statler Hilton.

Sir Knight Alton G. Billmeier of Maryland was Grand Master Avery’s official representative to the Conclave where activities included a banquet for the Grand Commander, exhibition by the Bethlehem-Crusaders Drill Team, Divine Service, and installation of new Grand officers.

Sir Knights Fisher (left) and Markham lay the cross and crown at the monument of William McKinley, 25th President and Templar. McKinley was fatally shot while visiting Buffalo in 1901. At his death the vice-president, also in Buffalo only a short distance away, was sworn in as the 26th President of the United States. This next president — Theodore Roosevelt — was also a Mason.

Dear Sir Knight Rodenhausen:

Regarding Sir Knight James D. Berry’s article on membership losses (September Knight Templar Magazine), I firmly believe the care of our present membership is of great importance.

Recently, as president of a Masonic affiliated group, I assigned a page of our roster to active and interested members with the admonition to contact the members on the assigned page. As to attendance, send him a birthday card or a cheer card if he is not well; keep in touch “often”; offer transportation if necessary or helpful. Let him know you care ... everyone likes personal attention.

In my case as president, it was a great success and very gratifying to have every seat in the room occupied. There is no expense involved — only a few active, interested members participating in a procedure of being close to a few members who respond to friendly gestures, and find their return to meetings and a renewed interest in the members and in the ritual.

Sir Knight John W. Jeffers
Golden West Commandery No. 43
Los Angeles, California
GRAND COMMANDERY CONCLAVE


R. S. Allen, Cody, was installed as Gr. Treas.; Marcus R. Nichols, Grd. Recorder; W. L. Duncan, Lander, was appointed Gr. Prelate of the Grand Commandery. He replaces Wm. H. Cochran, Cheyenne, who served the Grand Office for the past 16 years. For his faithful, untiring and excellent service to the Order and to the Royal Arch, Sir Knight Cochran was presented a plaque of recognition and designated Grand Chaplain Emeritus of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and Grand Prelate Emeritus of the Grand Commandery.


Retiring Grand Commander, S.K. Martin L. Eggert, Casper, was congratulated for an excellent year under his leadership.

The 9th Annual Templars Eye Foundation drive netted $2,215 from Wyoming, a 10% gain over 1976. It was noted 30% of the monies now goes to research in sight.

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons

Gordon R. Merrick, Ft. Collins, General Grand High Priest, was honored guest at the 69th Annual Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons Conclave in Evanston, Wy., September 16, 1977. He was accorded a rousing welcome when Roy “Rosie” K. Lake, Green River, Wy., M.E. Grd. High Priest, called the meeting to order following the official opening by the Evanston Chapter No. 2 by Arthur Monroe as High Priest.

Purchase of the movie “Saga of the Holy Royal Arch” with $250 contributions from the visiting companions, was the top move in the promotion of the Rite. Distribution of the film in Wyoming will be through the Secretary, Marc Nichols.

Every Wyoming Royal Arch Chapter must use the “Saga” to educate all Masons and everyone affiliated with Masonry. When the film was produced it was designated the top if its kind in educational filming.

Companion Merrick stressed the important link the Arch plays in the Masonic Ladder of learning. No other branch fits so well in the learning ladder.

RARA — Royal Arch Research Assistance — promoted by the Chapter to assist the learning of handicapped children who have audio problems, is researched at the
Colorado State University, Ft. Collins., Co. Companion Merrick related that the Doctor in Charge of that particular program is a member of the ARCH.

Dan R. Smith, Cody, was installed Grd. H. Priest; Wm. A. Farthing, R.E. Dpty. Grd. H. Priest, Lander; Jack Nixon, Wheatland, R.E. Grd. King who is Grand Master of Wyo. Masons; Wilbur S. McCauley, Laramie, was elected R.E. Grand Scribe. R.S. Allen, Cody, and Marc R. Nichols, Casper, were elected Treas. and Secretary, respectively. Other elective officers are: Alan Garbut, Rawlins, R.E. Grd. Cpt. of Host; Wm. F. Smith, Buffalo, Grd. Prin. Sojourner.

Wm. L. Duncan, Lander, replaced Wm. H. Cochran as E. Grand Chaplain. Companion Cochran has served 16 years in a very credible manner and was accorded the title of Chaplain Emeritus and presented the Grand Chaplain’s Apron as a memento.

The 1978 Conclave of the Grand Chapter, Council and Commandery will be at Cody Sept. 21-22-23.

GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY


Evanston Council No. 10, U.D. opened their Council, then asked Grand Master John M. Allen to preside. He then declared Evanston Council U.D. closed and Grand Council opened for work. Following the opening and business, Evanston Officers were all introduced and congratulated for forming a new Wyoming Council No. 10.

With the formation of the Evanston Council No. 10, a net gain of 39 new members was accomplished last year.

Evanston Council No. 10 was then constituted by G.M. John M. Allen. A charter was presented Illustrious Master Charles O. Shiflet. The officers of Evanston Council was then installed by G.M. John Allen.


The 1978 Assembly will be in Cody, Sept. 21-23.

Ernest Burgon – Reporter


A NOTE TO OUR READERS...

From time to time some of you will notice mistakes in this supplement. Those mistakes are there for a purpose. This Editor makes an effort to provide something for everyone and there are some people who are always looking for mistakes.


Leonard Cook, Secretary, and Dave Weisse join in the picture reception.
I am interested in developing a Masonic Library. If you have any Masonic books you wish to sell or dispose of, please contact me. James D. Grib, P.O. Box 533, Monroe, Wisconsin 53566

I read and enjoy the Knight Templar Magazine very much. I also look forward to the comments from other Sir Knights in the Knight Voices.

I wonder if some of our Sir Knights, in their travels, could and would help me out. I’m looking for a book entitled “The Link Family” by Paxson Link, 1951, on the antecedents and descendants of John Jacob Link, from 1417 to 1951.

If someone has one of these books for sale, or might know where I could purchase a copy, please contact me. C. Wilburn Horn, 400 E. Pine Street, Desloge, Missouri 63601

I have in my possession a copy of The True Masonic Chart published in 1824. The Title Page reads: “The True Masonic Chart, or Hieroglyphic Monitor: containing All The Emblems Explained In The Degree of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, Royal Arch, Royal Master, and Select Master: Designed, and Duly Arranged, Agreeably To The Lecturer By R.W. Jeremy L. Cross, G.L., Illustrations, ... Charges ... Songs ... &c., Third Edition, With Additions and Emendations, New Haven, Published and Sold by the Author. (Etc.) T. G. Woodward and Co. Print., 1824.”

This 234 page Chart is completely repaired and rebound. I would like to sell this antique book and will consider bids. Mrs. Thomas W. Newberry, Whitehall Apt. 4-D, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405

My great grandmother, Sarah Maria, was born in Anson, Maine, in 1847 and married Tristram Gardner Daggett in 1868. Her parents were Stephen and Sarah (Brown) Gilman.

Could anyone give me any further information about either the Gilmans or the Browns? Verna F. Goodridge, R.F.D. 1, Box 367, Madison, Maine 04930

I have shaving mugs with the names and emblems of the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch and Commandery. I would like to purchase shaving mugs with the name of the owner and any other Masonic Emblem on them – Council, 32°, Shrine, etc. All correspondence will be answered. Grover C. Davis, K.Y.C.H. 1503 Tehama Street, Corning, California 96021

New and interesting hobbies appear in “Knight Voices.” Perhaps some Knights and ladies would like to add to our daughter’s and son’s hobby of collecting business cards. Doug Rabold, 110 Brockwood Drive, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013

On several occasions I have sent articles, requested in Knight Voices, of Masonic interest to readers and I have always received a most sincere thank you.

Thanks again for doing such a good job and God willing we both will be able to enjoy the Knight Templar Magazine for many more years. William T. Kellam, Post Office Box 43, Galena, Maryland 21635

For sale: two Knight Templar swords in good shape new with scabbard, and leather cover over that. $10.00 plus postage. Ted Nohl, 822 3rd Avenue, West, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806

Match Books from All Over!

Russell Hershey, Lancaster Commandery No. 13, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, relays a letter from an Iowa mother who requested match covers for her son in a recent “Knight Voices” segment of the Knight Templar Magazine. The letter speaks for itself:

Greetings from Iowa — and a big thank you for the many match books! It’s a pleasure to see so many different and foreign ones. So for Joe, thank you. Being a typical 16 year old he has elected “mom” as his personal secretary. He’s in 11th grade this year and active in music and football, baseball and all sports. At present it’s football — practicing hard for that first game coming up Friday night. He worked all summer for his dad (home building contractor) saved his money and just recently purchased a car — now I’m wondering when his interest will turn from match books to girls!

It may interest you to know the Knights Templar have sent over 3,000 covers. We’ve heard from 32 states and also Bolivia. What a great group of people.

Again, thank you so much for all you sent to him.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Cloyce Stafford

Graduation to Grand Master’s Club

In the September Knight Templar Magazine the listing of new Eye Foundation Club members included Sir Knight and Colonel H. B. Hatcher, Crusader Commandery No. 17, Bainbridge, Georgia, with Grand Commander’s Club membership No. 1 in Georgia. This month, Sir Knight Hatcher becomes Grand Master’s Club member No. 70, as his contributions (initiated with a $100 donation) have reached the $1,000 mark.

Sir Knight Hatcher, a resident of Donalsonville, completed his tax-deductible $1,000 contribution in October, when his membership was automatically transferred to the Grand Master’s Club and acknowledgement was made in the form of a metal wallet card and personalized desk plaque.

For those interested in following Sir Knight Hatcher’s lead, membership in the Grand Commander’s and Grand Master’s Club is open to all individuals (whether or not Knights Templar), but is not open to organizations or other groups. Beginning with a $100 contribution, membership is gained first in the Grand Commander’s Club with contributions made in increments of not less than $100 annually. When a $1,000 total is reached, membership is transferred to the Grand Master’s Club. Immediate application may be made to the Grand Master’s Club with a single donation of $1,000.

Neither Club offers exemptions, credits or Commandery benefits of any kind. Individuals seeking information on the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and on the specific Clubs, may write G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., Executive Director, Eye Foundation, 509 South Sixth Street, Post Office Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

A friend is a person who when you’ve made a fool of yourself does not think that you have done a permanent job.
A POEM FOR ALL SEASONS

Let me but live my life from year to year,
   With forward face and unreluctant soul.
   Not hurrying to, nor turning from the goal;
Not mourning for the things that disappear
In the dim past, nor holding back in fear
   From what the future veils; but with a whole
   And happy heart, that pays its toll
To youth and age, and travels on with cheer.

So let the way wind up the hill or down,
   O'er rough or smooth, the journey will be joy,
Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,
New friendship, high adventure, and a crown,
   I shall grow old, but never lose life's zest,
Because the road's last turn will be the best.

Henry van Dyke