Sir Knight Willard M. Avery
45th Grand Master of the Grand Encampment
Knights Templar, U.S.A.
FEBRUARY AND AUGUST

Only three Presidents of the United States were born in February, but the influence of Brother George Washington, our first President, seems to have identified it as the “Month of Presidents.”

Of course, not only Freemasons, but all citizens of the United States pay their tribute and respect to the memory of the man who was “First in War, First in Peace, First in the Hearts of his Countrymen.” The leadership he gave our fledgling nation and the prestige he exemplified to the whole world as President provide us with a heritage almost too great to fully comprehend and appreciate.

On more mundane matters, let me repeat my invitation to all Templars, their wives and families — not only voting members — to attend the 54th Triennial Conclave in August. Voting member or not, you are entitled to discuss and express your opinions informally among fellow Templars — but, above all, attend because you will enjoy the associations as well as the many features (to be announced later) which will be provided by the various committees.

In a few months, your Grand Recorder will have the opportunity to offer in our Knight Templar Magazine the Official Proposals which will come before the voting membership in August which will permit advance knowledge of the various presentations. This, of course, cannot be done until after the Conclave Call has remained open the required 90 days in advance of the Triennial Conclave to permit receipt of all such proposals.

Your individual Commanders and Recorders now have advance information of the tentative schedule in Indianapolis. In that connection, I urgently direct that the Commandery rosters be promptly and properly updated in the office of the Grand Recorder in Chicago. We want every Templar to be well informed and we have the instrument in the Knight Templar Magazine. As you are well aware, the magazine provides two of its 32 pages for localized news from each Grand Commandery. This is in addition to the “general” two pages which go to our Subordinate Commanderies abroad, or to the Grand Commanderies whose Supplement Editors may, for whatever reason, fail to send their materials.

Fortunately, the office of the Grand Recorder reports an average of 45 of a possible 47 Supplement Editors are forwarding Grand Commandery news without fail. They are doing a splendid job; they deserve to have their information received by every Knight Templar, which is one major reason why it is so important that updated membership be forwarded monthly.

As a reminder to all, the 54th Triennial Conclave dates are August 11-16, 1979. Please try to attend.

[Signature]

February 1979
FEBRUARY: The cover collage, which shows Grand Master Avery’s presiding and participating in a number of activities, features in the upper left an especially representative photograph of York Rite “continuity and cooperation.” While General Grand High Priest Gordon R. Merrick, right, and General Grand Master of Cryptic Masons Owen L. Shanteau ended their three-year terms last September, Sir Knight Avery will conclude the Grand Encampment triennial this August — to merge and dovetail the York Rite administration with the present leadership of Junior W. Vandall, General Grand High Priest, and General Grand Master of General Grand Council John H. Watts. The latter two will serve until 1981, while Grand Encampment’s next triennial occurs in 1982. This overlapping of terms is considered of value in cementing the cooperative relationships which, perhaps, may lead to eventual Unity.

P.C.R.
Nevada: An update from Nevada Grand Recorder Frank E. Hart on the Voluntary Campaign efforts in that state indicates a change in the Chairman for the current Campaign. Sir Knight Clark M. Billingsley, P.C., Edward C. Peterson Commandery No. 8, Carson City, assumes the duties of Chairman for the 11th Campaign which runs through April 30, 1979. Address for Chairman Billingsley is: 316 East Burton Street, Carson City 89701. Elsewhere in this issue appears the first state-by-state tally of contributions for the 11th Voluntary Campaign.

Norwich: Slippery typewriter keys account for the discrepancy in a November magazine story on the presentation of a set of jewels to Richard Coeur de Lion Preceptory No. 7, Canada, from Columbian Commandery No. 4, Norwich, Connecticut. It was James R. Case, Connecticut Historiographer, who noticed the Commandery location was switched from Norwich to Greenwich.

Texas Valentine Gift: E. Bloomquist, P.G.C., Texas, has forwarded a $60,000 check for the 11th Annual Voluntary Campaign in support of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Sir Knight Bloomquist, promoter of the Annual Arabian Horse Show, says, “There’s more coming!” It’s welcome news for those who will benefit from the Eye Foundation grants and individual assistance.

Dates: At the risk of drawing further attention to a January misprint, our “Masonic Calendar” mentioned Anno Lucis, which we said was “abbreviated A.K.” We were one letter removed. It should have been, of course, A.L., not A.K.

Films and Sources: “Soldiers of the Cross,” a new quarter-hour color film offered from the office of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar in Chicago, is on the materials available list now being distributed to Recorders. This is one of several films and slide programs provided for use free-of-charge from the Grand Recorder’s office.

Another film, available only from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, is “Release from Darkness,” a half-hour color feature. Newly prepared for the Eye Foundation is a color-slide and script feature entitled “That Others May See.” It, too, is available from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation located at 509 South Sixth Street, P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

Caught: In the December Knight Templar Magazine, Sir Knight and Reverend E. C. Macklin, Ithaca, New York, pointed out the error in the article “The Three Wise Men?” by Sir Knight Robert R. Hoffman, Sr., P.C., Trinity Commandery No. 44, Norwood, Ohio. The essay refutes the tradition that there were specifically three Wise Men, and says one possible reason the number “3” has persisted is due to a legend that the Wise Men or Kings represented “the three great races of Sem, Cham and Jephet.” The subsequent sentence in the article read: “Cham were people from South and Central Asia — Islam by faith; and it is assumed that either Sem or Jephet came from India, the other from Africa.” Of course, the “Cham” race did not belong to the “Islam” faith during the time of Christ, since Mohammed did not appear until the 7th century A.D. Our thanks to Sir Knight Macklin for catching the slip.
MASONIC FATHERS AND SONS

by
Robert F. Stark, Director of Membership
Order of DeMolay in New Jersey

Fifty-nine years ago in Kansas City, Missouri, a young Master Mason expressed a deep concern and love for a fatherless young man, and the first Masonic Dad was born. He was Frank Sherman Land, a man with a compassionate heart, a warm humanity, and a faith in the inherent goodness of his community’s youth. He became Dad to millions of boys around the world and opened the door of Masonic fatherhood to millions of Master Masons in every part of the globe. His gift to each, adult and youth, is a continuing expression of that love and mutual respect which puts into practical application the law of the Great Architect of the Universe.

Master Masons and DeMolays are members of the same family, a family which, when united, is able to lead men everywhere to higher planes of human existence. We are a team whose members working together offer to each mutually beneficial results. That such a team exists and works together destroys the much-touted generation gap, a gap widened into an impassable chasm by those not privileged to see the bridge of love we have built across that gap—a bridge which permits the Master Mason and the DeMolay to communicate effectively one with the other and to work in perfect harmony in building temples of the spirit in the hearts of all men.

It is far from incongruous that such a relationship should exist and can be successful; for our ancient Brothers in Masonry several centuries ago employed a similar system, less refined and somewhat limited by our standards, perhaps, but similar nonetheless. In building the great cathedrals in Europe, our operative ancestors accepted young men as workers with them. These were the apprentices entered into service with a master craftsman to learn the builder’s art. The youngster worked under his tutor’s direction usually for seven years, during which time he progressed from the very simple to the intermediate and finally the complex tasks.

The young man’s work was assigned by his mentor and instruction given in its proper preparation and use; and the apprentice’s work was reviewed and corrected or approved by the older craftsman. Eventually through this repeated process of teaching, encouraging, and approving, the apprentice learned his lessons well enough to advance to the master’s rank.

While this apprenticeship program of our operative Brothers has as its goal the training of young men to be builders in stone, we speculative craftsmen are called to a higher profession: the shaping of minds and spirits in the building of men. One of our craft expressed it this way:

“Isn’t it strange that princes and kings
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings,
And common folks like you and me
Are builders for eternity?”

“Each is given a bag of tools,
A shapeless mass and a book of rules.
And each must make ere life has flown
A stumbling block or a steppingstone.”

Think of it, my Brothers, “common folks like you and me” are builders of eternity. We are partners with → → →
God as he builds a man from the only raw material available: a boy! As Masons and as DeMolays we are given a bag of tools, the moral truths of Freemasonry for the adult man, and the Seven Cardinal Virtues or Precepts for the DeMolay. We must each use these tools to shape the candidates who knock at our preparing room doors into the citizens who will fit as living stones into the edifice of brotherly love we seek to build. And lest we be confused or go astray, we have ever before us the book of rules, the Word of God as contained in the Volume of the Sacred Law we keep opened upon the Altar which is the center point of our meeting rooms.

"Knowledge is obtained by degrees and cannot everywhere be found." In the last quarter of the 20th Century this is as true as it was in the days of the cathedral builders. It may seem a paradox that in the era of unparalleled free public education, available to more citizens than ever before in history, that we can validly contend our people are ignorant. Certainly it can be countered that almost everyone can read and write to some extent, but ignorance is not limited to those unlettered few in our society. Our young people are taught the liberal arts and the sciences and possess a book knowledge superior to any previous generation; but they have been cheated of an education in the social graces, the moral truths, the fraternal cooperation among the family of men, and the establishment of priorities to lift them from the ignorant apprentice to the enlightened master of human existence. These same rough ashlers are potentially the finest stones ever known and, with proper, sincere, and concerned guidance and instruction, would adorn the spiritual temple of man as brightly as the beautiful jewels adorned the Temple of Solomon.

It is, I contend, the duty of each Master Mason to accept the role of the master craftsman of old and spend some of his time training a DeMolay apprentice in the beautiful art of living. By so doing we will be fulfilling our heritage as Freemasons in the traditional way and will assure an indestructible spiritual edifice built on the strong foundation of moral truth and entered through the twin pillars of love and respect.

My Brothers, we have the tools, we have the knowledge, and we have the rough stones. The plans are on the trestleboard. We must go to work!

In my 19 years of fraternal life I have been keenly aware of the numbers of young men who have never been exposed to a life in which "please" and "thank you" were common words in one's vocabulary; to observing the simple social amenities; to an appreciation of the quality of living as contrasted with the mere physical existence. And worst of all, the youth who is starved for genuine affection from those he holds most dear, who has never heard the words "I love you" uttered, much less experienced the outward expression of an inner concern. No, my Brothers, I am not talking about the ghetto youth; I am talking about those with whom we rub shoulders every day.

I have been brought up short in my Masonic life many times by running into the all-but-impenetrable wall many of our Fraternity have built to shield us from the young. We have characterized all youth as noisy, rebellious, unkempt, and unworthy of attention by respectable, mature men. I have experienced first hand the addition of more and stronger bricks to that wall in a fearsome attempt to shut out the "young whippersnappers who want to change things and take over." And by that same wall-strengthening, I have seen youthful enthusiasm crushed, sincere dedication trampled, and a willingness to work turned aside. The result has been a mutual disaster: the young fail to learn how to live on an elevated level, and the old watch that
which they have served decline in numbers and influence, and the legacy of a lifetime of service is buried with them because they have left no inheritors.

We both, young and old, have much to learn, and the time to learn is now.

My Brothers, DeMolays and Master Masons, I have seen what a mutual respect, a united concern, and a genuine expression of love can do. By an investment of time and effort, I have been able to work with hundreds of young men, and I have seen an amazing response from many — no, not all — but many. I have watched as a green recruit so shy he wouldn’t even say hello, but hid his face and closed his eyes when spoken to, become Master Councilor of his DeMolay Chapter, later petition Freemasonry and become an active floorworker in his Lodge. I have seen a bright boy with long, straggly hair, unkempt, and with an utter disregard for everyone, respond to an interest in him as a human being. He had been given a key to his front door but never a set of principles or a disciplined pattern of living, a new Volkswagen but no example of what it means to give of oneself to another. I heard his mother cry when he asked for money for a haircut, and watched the tears of joy stream down his face when he was graduated from high school in the top ten percent of his class, an articulate, well-dressed, and mannerly young man. His homeroom teacher, who had been mine and who had recommended him to us, told me it was a miracle what happened to him after joining DeMolay. I told her it was no miracle; it was a simple matter of concern for him and the insistence that respect from others comes only after a respect for oneself, a respect achieved through the adoption of the proven principles of successful living. And where, my friends, did he get those principles? From the Order of DeMolay and his Masonic Dads.

These two may be extreme examples from our history book, but they are illustrations which make it possible for us to understand what the vast majority assimilate through contact with members of the world’s oldest and greatest Fraternity: Freemasonry.

My Brothers, we are engaged in a monumental struggle for men’s minds, for it is in the minds of men that we find the future; and the effective impression of right living upon the minds of the young will assure the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God becoming a reality in our lifetimes. But make no mistake about it, my Brothers, we are at war with many others who would impose their wills and their ideas on these very same young people; and it will take commitment on our part to win that war. We are armed with the strongest weapon in the world: LOVE. No other has it. But to be victors, we must use that weapon, detonating it with concern and respect.

Have you looked about you recently and really taken stock of the membership composition of the Masonic bodies to which you belong or may visit? Have you observed, as I have, that there is a large population of senior and near-senior citizens — particularly in leadership positions? God bless every one of them. I wouldn’t have our Fraternity any other way than to include the experienced and aged Brothers who have served long and well and preserved for all the joys of being a Freemason.

I would, however, like to see two things in this Fraternity we love so much: One is an influx of young, enthusiastic men with the talent and time to serve Freemasonry for many years; and, two, the warm, fraternal welcome and encouragement by the older members and a real desire to teach these youngsters what it means to be a Mason and offer them training in Masonic leadership and the opportunity to use that training while they are still young. This is a practical way to strengthen Freemasonry, to preserve its traditions and → → →

Knight Templar
laws unsullied, to make it grow and become once again a viable and virile force in our communities.

Statistics show that most DeMolays become Master Masons and do so at an earlier, more productive age than non-DeMolays. Of even greater importance is the fact they take an active part in Freemasonry when they are encouraged. As Senior DeMolays they not only bring a vigor into their membership but they bring that precious and priceless asset of Masonic training. They know about ritual, about meeting procedures, about fraternal regard, about law, custom, and usage; they know about working in harmony, about protocol and respect; they know about guarding the Temple gates against the unworthy and the need to make good men better by practicing the precepts of the initiatory ceremonies; and they know that Freemasonry and Freemasons are honorable and that their obligation is to act in accordance with the hallmarks of the Masonic character. Think of it, Brethren: trained leaders as initiates! No other organization in the history of the world has been able to call on a pool of trained and responsive leaders from the moment of membership.

Thousands of Senior DeMolays have served as Worshipful Masters, 150 have been Grand Masters of Grand Lodges, and hundreds of thousands have been active workers in the quarries of the Craft. We need never be found at the wailing wall crying for more members, for more active practitioners of our gentle art if we will but pay attention to the apprentices who live in our midst — the young men of DeMolay — and if we put out our hands NOW to welcome them into our family and train them in the proven standards of right living.

In concluding these remarks, I want to leave you with a story which carries with it a beautiful lesson for all of us. It concerns an old man and a child and what that child learned by watching the old man simply doing his job. The old fellow was an important member of our early society, although unsung and unnoticed by his peers: he was the town lamplighter. Few paid attention to him as he quietly wandered the streets carrying his paraphernalia, climbing his ladder, and lighting the streetlamps as darkness approached.

As a child, Robert Louis Stevenson, the now-famous author, noticed him, though, and had an interesting thing to say about his work. Standing in his home one evening, the child drew aside the curtains at the window and stood for many minutes staring into the street. His Nanny noticed him and asked, “Robert, what are you doing?” He replied, “Why, Nanny, I’m watching a man punch holes in the darkness.” She was curious and walked to the window, looked out, and, sure enough, saw a man punching holes in the darkness, the lamplighter going about his task, and leaving pools of light behind him as he continued down the street.

My Brothers, each of us would do well to adopt such a philosophy and join the old fellow who punched holes in the darkness. Let each of us, Master Masons, pledge to become as the lamplighter and use our flames of knowledge and experience to light the symbolic candles — our DeMolay Sons — so that they and we together can lead our communities from darkness to a future where the brilliant light of love, truth, and happiness abide.

So mote it be.

Dad Robert F. Stark is a Past Commander of Chester Commandery No. 66, Pennsylvania, and resides at 406 East 21st Street, Chester, Pennsylvania 19013.

The work and thoughts of an unknown good man are like a vein of water flowing and hiding underground, secretly making the earth greener.

S. Leacock
THOMAS JEFFERSON'S ESSAY ON GEORGE WASHINGTON

Submitted by Sir Knight Clement A. Tamraz, Yonkers Commandery No. 47, New York, the following essay details the inner character of George Washington as seen by his political contemporary, Thomas Jefferson. "Jefferson knew Washington personally and worked with him for many years," says Tamraz, "and we must remember that Jefferson was one of the world's most erudite men of that time." This little-known essay by Jefferson speaks frankly of the man who is known today as "The Father of our Country."

His mind was great and powerful, without being of the very first order; his penetration strong, though not so acute as that of a Newton, Bacon or Locke; and as far as he saw, no judgement was ever sounder. It was slow in operation, being little aided by invention or imagination, but sure in conclusion. Hence the common remark of his officers, of the advantage he derived from councils of war; where hearing all suggestions, he selected whatever was best; and certainly no general ever planned his battles more judiciously. But if deranged during the course of the action, if any member of his plan was dislocated by sudden circumstances, he was slow in re-adjustment. The consequence was that he often failed in the field, and rarely against an enemy in station, as at Boston and New York. He was incapable of fear, meeting personal dangers with the calmest unconcern. Perhaps the strongest feature in his character was prudence, never acting until every circumstance, every consideration, was maturely weighed; refraining if he saw a doubt, but, when once decided, going through with his purpose, whatever obstacles opposed. His integrity was most pure, his justice the most inflexible I have ever known, no motives of interest or consanguinity, or friendship or hatred, being able to bias his decision. He was, indeed, in every sense of the words, a wise, a good, and a great man. His temper was naturally irritable and high-toned; but reflection and resolution had obtained a firm and habitual ascendancy over it. If ever, however, it broke its bonds, he was most tremendous in his wrath. In his expenses, he was honorable but exact; liberal in

General Washington giving instructions to Nathan Hale.
contributions to whatever promised utility; but frowning and unyielding on all visionary projects and all unworthy calls on his charity. His heart was not warm in its affections; but he exactly calculated every man's value, and gave him a solid esteem proportioned to it. His person, you know, was fine, his stature exactly what one would wish, his deportment easy, erect and noble; the best horseman of his age, and the most graceful figure that could be seen on horseback. Although in the circle of his friends, where he might be reserved with safety, he took a free share in conversation, his colloquial talents were not above mediocrity possessing neither copiousness of ideas, nor fluency of words. In public when called on for a sudden opinion, he was unready, short and embarrassed. Yet he wrote readily, rather diffusely, in an easy and correct style. This he had acquired by conversation with the world, for his education was merely reading, writing and common arithmetic to which he added surveying at a later day. His time was employed in action chiefly, reading little, and that only in agriculture and English history. His correspondence became necessarily extensive, and with journalizing his agricultural proceedings, occupied most of his leisure hours within doors. On the whole, his character was, in its mass, perfect, in nothing bad, in few points indifferent; and it may truly be said, that never did nature and fortune combine more perfectly to make a man great, and to place him in the same constellation with whatever worthies have merited from man an everlasting remembrance. For his was the singular destiny and merit, of leading the armies of his country successfully through an arduous war; for the establishment of its independence, of conducting his councils through the birth of a government, new in its forms and principles, until it had settled down into a quiet and orderly train, and of scrupulously obeying the

Distinguished Service to Masonry

Pictured above is Arch E. McClanahan (left), Nashville, Tennessee, receiving the General Grand Chapter Silver Medal Award from M.E. Grand High Priest E. Oakley Wynne. Sir Knight McClanahan is a Past Grand Presiding Officer of the York Rite Bodies and present Grand Treasurer of those bodies.

The presentation was made at a reception held in McWhirtersville Lodge No. 375 (Sir Knight McClanahan's Lodge) on his 90th birthday. A large crowd of well-wishers was in attendance, including present and past Grand Officers of the York and Scottish Rite Bodies.

West Virginia “Money Tree”

At the December 18 Christmas Observance of Calvary Commandery No. 3, Parkersburg, West Virginia, $425 was collected for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation as a bare money tree was “decorated with green” by the 42 Sir Knights and ladies in attendance. Contributions included five life sponsorships and $150 raised at a rummage sale sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Sir Knight Tamraz resides at 450 North Rossmore, Los Angeles, California 90004
In the 163 year history of the modern Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, only one other Triennial Conclave has been held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The 47th took place in August, 1958, with Grand Master Walter Allen DeLamater presiding, and saw the election of Louis Henry Wieber as the new Grand Master. But neither DeLamater nor Wieber were residents of Indiana. Interestingly, the last Grand Master who was also a native Hoosier was Leonidas Perry Newby, from Knightstown — the hometown of the current Grand Master, Willard Meredith Avery. Grand Master Newby was elected at the New Orleans Triennial Conclave.

The 1958 Triennial began with a parade down Pennsylvania Street in the heart of Indianapolis. The Grand Marshal was C. Byron Lear, Past Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, and the Chief of Staff was Theodore Voelter, New Jersey Past Grand Commander and then Department Commander of the North Atlantic Department. The "mounted" staff included such distinguished Templars as Illinois Past Grand Commander G. Wilbur Bell, who three years later would be elected to the Grand Encampment line as Grand Captain General. Other Grand Masters to be elected in the Grand Encampment line of succession later included Past Department Commander John L. Crofts, Sr., then Chairman of Policy and Purpose, and Past Grand Commander Roy Wilford Riegel, then Chairman of the Committee on Drill Regulations. The parade was complete with 60 cars, floats and bands.

Another addition to the 47th Triennial Conclave was the appearance of the "super-excellent Drill Team of Detroit Commandery No. 1, 16 platoons strong, which performed before a cheering and appreciative audience assembled in the Grandstand of the Indiana State Fairgrounds." This same showplace Drill Team will present an exhibition at the Indiana Convention Center in August, 1979.

Twenty-one years ago the Grand Master's honor guard consisted of members of Raper Commandery No. 1, Indianapolis, and Knightstown Commandery No. 9. The business sessions were highlighted by the first Triennial report of the new Knights Templar Eye Foundation, authorized at the preceding Triennial. In that report it was stated that more than 250 cases had been processed and over $225,000 had gone for research. The figures today tell a different story — a success story; as of July 1, → → →
1978, more than 24,000 cases have been served and almost $1,000,000 has been granted for research.

Indianapolis has grown since that Templar gathering in 1958. The parade route is unchanged, but the scenario is modernized. In 1979 Templars will have the new Indiana Convention Exposition Center as the setting for Drill Team Competition, Divine Service and Grand Master’s Banquet. The headquarters hotel, where the Grand Master’s Reception and Triennial business sessions will take place, is the Hyatt-Regency, a new 500-room hotel which makes up only a portion of Merchants Plaza. The Hotel rises 20 stories with space-age glass elevators to take tourists and guests to a revolving rooftop cocktail lounge.

It is always a good idea to “take with a grain of salt” the tourist catchphrase, “everything is within walking distance from downtown”; however, downtown Indianapolis was conceived as a compact, “mile square” area with a circle in the center. Today, the “circle” is the site of the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument, the first U.S. monument ever built to honor the common soldier. “Monument Circle” is the heart of the city; it is three blocks distant from the Hyatt-Regency. And the Convention Center is across the street from the hotel. Certainly, all of the sights which Indianapolis has to offer are not “within walking distance” of Monument Circle, or the Hyatt-Regency, but a majority of points of interest are near-by.

For most Sir Knights, Conclave business will be the order of the day; but for those who find time to be tourists, Indianapolis is replete with offerings. Of Masonic interest is the Murat Theatre and Shrine Temple, site for several Triennial events including ladies luncheon and entertainment on Monday, August 13. The Scottish Rite Cathedral, located several blocks east, is known the world over as one of the most beautiful examples of Tudor Gothic architecture, with a carillon of 54 bells ringing from the Cathedral tower. The Scottish Rite Auditorium will host a Broadway Comedy presentation on Tuesday, the 14th.

History buffs will enjoy a visit to Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Established as an Army Post in 1906, today the Army Finance Center is located here, and it is known as the “home of the Army Dollar,” where all Army pay and allotment checks originate. President Benjamin Harrison’s home is open to tourists daily. Harrison was the 23rd and only Hoosier President of the United States; his home, built in 1874, is a National Historical Landmark containing many of the late President’s personal possessions, his books and mementos of his career.

Also in Indianapolis is the home of Charles Warren Fairbanks, Vice-President under Brother Theodore Roosevelt from 1905 to 1909, and for whom Fairbanks, Alaska, was named. Fairbanks was made a Mason “at sight” in Oriental Lodge No. 500 in Indianapolis, was a member of Keystone Chapter No. 6, and was Knighted in Raper Commandery No. 1 in 1905. He was also a life member of Murat Shrine Temple. The Fairbanks home is another Indianapolis landmark, though it is not open to the public. Another Vice-President of the United States who came from Indiana was Sir Knight Thomas Riley Marshall, who served two terms with Woodrow Wilson.

The Connor Prairie Pioneer Settlement and Museum is situated in a brick house, built circa 1823, which is furnished in period style with accompanying barn, trading post, loom house and even a whiskey still. It is open for tours daily.


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The Museum of Indian Heritage, Eagle Creek Park, Indianapolis (the nation’s largest urban park containing 5,000 acres), is “a treasure house of Indian Americana.” A number of Indian cultures are displayed, as well as rare archeological artifacts of America’s ancient past. This museum is open daily except Monday over the summer.

For children there is the Children’s Museum with galleries exhibiting the cultures of other lands, natural science, trains, a furnished log cabin, and much more. The Indianapolis Zoo will also be open for young and old.

Downtown, near the headquarters hotel and Convention Center are more sights: The Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument is a daily attraction, as is the Indiana State Museum. The state capitol is close-by, and Clowes Memorial Hall (home of the Indiana Symphony Orchestra) is located on the Butler University Campus. Christ Church Cathedral, the Governor’s Mansion and, of course, Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Museum are musts.

Then, after the Triennial Conclave ends on August 16, when the meetings are finished and election and installation a fond memory, why not stay in Indianapolis for the opening of the Indiana State Fair? The 1979 Fair will run August 16 through 26 at the Indiana Fairgrounds, right in Indianapolis.

Of course, there is much more to see and do in this city; to discover all its beauty and history in the short time allotted would be impossible. For example, it is not generally known that in the 19th century, before Chicago became the great transportation center it is, Indiana’s capital city was the railroad capital of the country. By 1855 eight railroads terminated there. It was the location of the first Union Station in the U.S.

Indiana also played an important role in the Civil War, with four military camps, an arsenal and superior railroad facilities. The first unit to organize and leave for battle was the eleventh Regiment, commanded by Colonel Lew Wallace who later returned to Indianapolis and authored Ben Hur. (Brother Wallace received his degrees in Fountain Lodge No. 60, Covington, Indiana.)

At the turn of the century, Indianapolis was the auto capital of the world, producing over 60 different makes of cars, many of which can be viewed in the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in North Central Indiana.

In the 1920’s a five-block long war memorial plaza was constructed. The memorial includes the national headquarters for the American Legion.

From 1945 to 1960 the population grew rapidly, and business and industry continued to expand. By 1970, Indianapolis had become tenth in population density and is still growing. It has a unique system of government called UNIGOV. Unigov is “the result of consolidating the city and county governments within the greater Indianapolis area.” This area includes some 388 square miles and about 1 million people. Under Unigov, people and areas “have access to a simple and direct system of governmental services and facilities.” In a study completed by the Council on Municipal Performance to determine which cities in the U.S. did the best job of securing the economic well-being of its citizens, Indianapolis and Houston tied for first place.

“Sounds for Sight” Charity Ball

The Drill Corps of Allen Commandery No. 20, Allentown, Pennsylvania, will sponsor a “Sounds for Sight” Charity Ball on Saturday, March 3, at the Americus Hotel Grand Ballroom, Allentown. All Sir Knights, ladies and friends are invited to the event – proceeds to benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.
"Masonic Heritage Tour": Grand Council of Ohio

In one of the events leading to the 150th Anniversary of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of Ohio, a visit to England, Wales and Scotland is planned for April, 1979, to coincide with the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of England. The 14-day tour, departing from Detroit Metropolitan Airport, begins Saturday, April 14.

Upon arrival in England, travelers will gather for Easter Services at Wesley’s Chapel on City Road. Afterward a short tour of London is planned, and then check-in at Piccadilly Hotel, headquarters for three nights in the British capital. Visits to Masonic points of interest will begin with a trip to Freemasons Hall, Queen Street, London, where officers and members will confer the Royal and Select Master degrees for the Grand Council of England. Later, members of the tour will attend the Assembly of the Grand Council of England and will witness the degrees as portrayed by British Companions. The last Masonic "stop" will be with Scottish brethren in Edinburgh where visits are planned for the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland Freemasons Hall and Museum. While there, Brothers will attend a Lodge meeting at the Temple on Queen Street.

Historical itinerary includes tours to Stonehenge, Windsor Castle, Bath, Bristol, Wales and Stratford. Ladies’ activities are also scheduled during degree work.

The tour includes most meals; and cost, based on current dollar value, is $1,299 per person, double occupancy. Deadline for reservations is February 28, 1979. Complete information can be had by contacting George F. Kuebler, Grand Master, Grand Council R. & S.M. of Ohio, 3646 Navarre Avenue, Oregon, Ohio 43616.

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An Invitation to Prayer

For ten days this month, Pilgrim-Ministers sponsored by eight Grand Commanderies will traverse Jerusalem on the third Holy Land Pilgrimage. Sir Knight Harry M. Smit, Chairman of the Board of Holy Land Pilgrimages, Inc., and leader of this journey, invites all Sir Knights to spiritually join them each day:

"During the course of the third Holy Land Pilgrimage the Pilgrim-Ministers will pause for prayer at 11:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., each day, wherever they may be.

"We invite each Sir Knight to join us in this devotion by individually pausing for prayer at these times each day, February 15-25. The difference in time zones and geographical distances are unimportant, as God is ever-present and is beyond our concepts of time and place.

"By so praying, each Pilgrim-Minister will be united in the ever-present love of the Father with each Sir Knight."

Harry M. Smit
WASHINGTON: THE INDISPENSABLE MAN

by

Sir Knight H. C. Arbuckle, III

The year 1965 saw the publication of the first volume in James T. Flexner’s four-volume biography of George Washington, entitled The Forge of Experience (1732-1775). The remaining three volumes, in the American Revolution (1775-1783), And the New Nation (1783-1793), and Anguish and Farewell (1793-1799), came out in 1968, 1970, and 1972, respectively. This set of books represents the most readable multi-volume biography of George Washington written to date and is good proof of Little, Brown & Co. publishing ability.

However, James T. Flexner knew that a four-volume work would not be acquired or read by the average reader. No, indeed; what the average reader wants is a good, readable, lively, factual, and enjoyably written one-volume work that will take Washington from the cradle to the grave, and will include a good analysis not only of his life but how his deeds helped shape the United States.

And that is just what Mr. Flexner did in Washington: The Indispensable Man. In one volume of 423 pages, Mr. Flexner gives the life of George Washington, using past writings, manuscripts, documents, and other reminiscences, beginning without preconceived notions concerning Washington, and drawing his own conclusions about Washington’s character, administrations, etc.

The Indispensable Man is more than a condensation of Mr. Flexner’s previous four-volume work. As he says “...this one-volume life is by no means a series of patched-together extracts ... Except for the account of Washington’s death, the text is almost altogether new.” He has gone to great pains to make sure his book is not superficial or incomplete because of its relative shortness.

There are three things in particular that interested me in this biography of Washington: First, it is one-volume; second, it was written by a man who has “won his wings” as an authority in the field; and third, the chapters are not excessive in length.

Mr. Flexner quotes Washington throughout but I found one item in particular that sounds as if Washington might have been talking about 1978 rather than 1796. In discussing how the majority of the country might feel when the minority might have a different idea, Washington says in part “...if a minority ... be permitted to dictate to the majority ... nothing but anarchy and confusion is to be expected ...” It seems to me that the Supreme Court of the United States could well read that passage and benefit therefrom.

One thing that puzzles me — and distresses me — is that nowhere in the 423 pages does Mr. Flexner mention Freemasonry. It is well-known that Washington was a member of the Craft and devoted quite a bit of time to the Fraternity; yet nowhere is that noted in this book.

The book can be ordered from Little, Brown and Company, 34 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02106. Cost is $12.50 postpaid. If you decide to order a copy, you will find Washington: The Indispensable Man one of the best books you have bought in many a day.

Sir Knight Arbuckle’s mailing address is P.O. Box 3026, Corpus Christi, Texas 78404.
HIGHLIGHTS

Kansas Job’s Daughters Install

Ms. Paula Prater, daughter of Sir Knight and Mrs. Gayle L. Prater, was installed as Honored Queen of Bethel No. 21, International Order of Job’s Daughters, on December 23 at the Masonic Temple in Newton, Kansas. Taking part in the ceremony was the Drill Team from Newton Commandery No. 9, Sir Knight Prater’s home Commandery. Ms. Robin Grace, retiring Honored Queen, served as installing officer.

SIDELIGHTS

MSA Public Relations

The Masonic Service Association has released a ten-minute documentary film, “Fraternally Yours,” produced by Imagination Unlimited! and narrated by Ohio Past Grand Master Jerry Rasor. The color film depicts the services of the MSA which soon celebrates its 60th year. Copies are available for sale or rental from MSA, 8120 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

In the area of leadership, a new “how-to” manual directed to “those aspiring to Masonic office” has been published by MSA. The 52-page “Think Tank for Junior Wardens” provides “a wealth of ideas . . . for all Masons.” The digest is available by sending 75 cents to the Masonic Service Association.

Speaking of Promotions

Robert F. Henderson, Eminent Grand Senior Warden, Grand Commandery of Arizona, is a Past Grand Master of Masons in his jurisdiction, as well as Past Grand High Priest and Past Grand Illustrious Master. In addition to his rise in the Masonic arena, he has recently been promoted as Arizona Regional Sales Manager for Santa Fe Railway.

Smiles for the Camera

During her official visit to Westminster, Maryland, Mrs. Arthur G. Coots (center), Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beaufort and two of her officers, Mrs. Paul E. Case, Supreme Worthy 2nd Vice President (left), and Mrs. Wilburn W. Ashwood, Supreme Marshal (right), pose for Templar film producer Sir Knight J. Ira Laird as he shoots final footage for “Soldiers of the Cross” to be released this month.

Ascension Day Commemoration

The Templar Knights Commanders’ Association, Metropolitan District of New York, invites all Sir Knights, their families and friends to participate in the Ascension Day Parade and Church Service at Marble Collegiate Church, Fifth Avenue at 29th Street, New York City, on Sunday, May 13. The parade will commence at the Eternal Light Monument in Madison Square Park at 3:45 p.m., with church service to follow.

Sir Knight David Aiken, Grand Commander of New York and Secretary of the Association, urges all Sir Knights to take advantage of the opportunity “to march to church together in unity.” He adds that television coverage is planned “if we fill the hall.”

M.W. William R. Punt, Grand Master of New York Masons, will deliver the message, supported by Reverend Daniel Fleming, Associate Grand Prelate. Grand Master Punt, a 25-year Mason, was recently Knighted by Grand Commander Aiken in Nassau Commandery No. 73, Hicksville.
Ohio RAM Invites Canadian Degree Team

Walnut Chapter No. 172, Royal Arch Masons of Ohio, celebrated its 75th Anniversary during the capillar year ended last June. To mark the event, N. Emerson Taylor, then Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Ohio and a member of Walnut Chapter, invited the London District Degree Team of Ontario, Canada, to visit and exemplify the Holy Royal Arch Degree. A coin, depicting the Canadian visit and the Anniversary, was struck by Walnut Chapter and is now available for collectors and interested Masons.

Sir Knight Taylor advises that coins may be secured by sending $2.50 each to the Treasurer of Walnut Chapter — Herbert Mendenhall, 8830 Greenburg Drive, Powell, Ohio 43065.

Installation at Athens Commandery

Digenis Akritas Commandery No. 1, U.D., Athens, Greece, installed new officers for the coming year at a meeting held November 23, 1978. Sir Knight Ryoji Beutner, P.C., Heidelberg Commandery No. 2, West Germany, and Grand Master Avery’s Representative for Germany and surrounding areas, acted as installing officer for Sir Knights Demos Thanos, new Eminent Commander; Demetri Liakopoulos, Generalissimo; and John Souvaliotis, Captain General.

Sir Knight Nicolaos Highy, re-elected Recorder of the Athens Commandery, reported that 21 Companions were conferred the Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta on the same evening. Future plans include conferral of the Templar Order on the 21 Candidates.

Dispensation was granted to found Digenis Akritas Commandery at the 1976 Triennial Conclave.

Scottish Rite Grand Commander’s Class

The Valley of New Castle, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in Pennsylvania, named its Fall Class in honor of Sir Knight William Creigh Graham, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Pennsylvania. The Grand Commander’s Class convened over two successive weekends — November 10, 11 and 17, 18, 1978.

Grand Commander Graham, banquet speaker, is a native of Butler, Pennsylvania, and retired Coordinator of Rehabilitation Medicine Service and Hospital-Community Relations Officer, Veterans Administration Hospital in Butler. He is past presiding officer of the Butler York Rite Bodies, and a member of Syrian Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Knights of the York Cross of Honour, H.R.A.K.T.P., Red Cross of Constantine, Knight Masons and Royal Order of Scotland. He was coroneted a 33rd Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., Northern Masonic Jurisdiction in 1971.

Florida “Masonic Night” Pending

March 7 is the date set for “Masonic All States Night” celebrated annually at Bayfront Arena, St. Petersburg, Florida. Sunshine Commandery No. 20 in St. Petersburg will provide the Color Guard for the event as well as the Honor Guard for the Grand Master of Masons of Florida, Sir Knight Donald H. Wessell. All area Masons, their ladies and friends are invited.

More than 6,000 attended the 1978 gathering.
Good Beginning for 1979

A noticeable increase in the number of new members to the Grand Commander’s and Grand Master’s Clubs of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation followed publication of the full membership of these organizations last month. February’s list for contributors to the current and ongoing work of the Eye Foundation include:

Arizona No. 2 — J. Earl Smith
Massachusetts No. 2 — In Memory of Louis A. Beaudoin from his wife, Vicki
Massachusetts No. 3 — James T. Fary
Maryland No. 4 — Etrebil A. Schaub
Maryland No. 5 — Mrs. Florence S. Schaub
Missouri No. 7 — Richard Alex Behr
New Jersey No. 6 — Leonard Everett

Special benactors joining the Grand Master’s Club this month are:

No. 124 — Robert E. Price
No. 125 — Max L. Clark
No. 126 — Lusina M. Clark
No. 127 — C. William Smith
No. 128 — Mr. & Mrs. Charles Davis
No. 129 — Vincent E. Tallman
No. 130 — Albin W. Johnson

“No matter which Club is joined,” says Past Grand Master Bell, “the result is the same — benefit to those who suffer from blindness or potential blindness. When one considers that a blindness might be prevented with the aid of just a few dollars, we can readily see that the work we do is important in today’s world.”

Membership is open to any individual (not only Templars), but closed to groups. An initial donation of $100, and a pledge to repeat contributions of at least $100 annually for the next nine years, begins membership in the Grand Commander’s Club. In turn, these members receive a numbered wallet card showing their membership and state. When $1,000 has been contributed, either via the Grand Commander’s Club or by a one-time contribution in this amount, the individual is acknowledged as a member of the Grand Master’s Club. These members receive a metal wallet card and personalized desk plaque as a small thank you for their continued assistance.

Neither Club offers exemptions, credits or Commandery benefits of any kind. Benefactor gifts may be designated for either current needs or the Permanent Endowment Fund.

Contributions and/or information may be obtained by writing the Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 509 South Sixth Street, P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705. (Telephone: 217–523-3838.)
A Templar Commandery restored...

THE ANCIENT FRENCH KNIGHTLY ORDERS

by
Sir Knight Paul B. Kerr, P.C.
Nazarene Commandery No. 99, Montrose, Pennsylvania

Villers-le-Temple is an obscure village in Wallonia — French-speaking Belgium. It boasts a first class hotel, called La Commanderie, which includes one of the great restaurants of Europe. The buildings of this hotel are ancient and once were part of a walled military-religious fortress complex built about 1250. This was a Commandery of Knights Templar and, later, a Commandery of Knights Hospitaller of St. John, one of literally thousands of such units scattered over Europe and Asia in the Middle Ages.

M. Jean-Joseph Lorneau, the proprietor of “La Commanderie,” was born in this village and became interested in the abandoned fortress ruins. It was just stone walls, underground passages and falling timbers when he acquired it 17 years ago and began a marvelous restoration. In 25 years of study he has also acquired a 3-room library of historical books and documents about the ancient masons, and knightly orders, as well as tracing his own family back 500 years.

The local Belgian and French Masonic Orders recognize him as a friend and seek his help. But he has not joined the Masonic bodies, preferring not to be bound to secrecy by any one Order. It seems that modern Continental speculative Masonic bodies overlap and conflict, and, particularly, often take different paths from the English and American Masons, whom they may not recognize. Also, European Masons do not wear lapel buttons or rings and keep the fact of their membership truly secret.

M. Lorneau’s History of the Village

The Village shows evidence of having been Celtic in first settlement; later Gauls and then Romans lived there. Some Roman ruins can be identified. The oldest written records are from the early 1200’s.

Sire Gerard de Villers, esquire and lord of the village, was the builder of the Commandery in this Walloon village. It consisted of fortress and 32 dependent houses.

The visitor today feels still the influence of the Knights Templar upon the spirit of the little village and is more aware of the Temple Order than of the Knights Hospitaller (Knights of Malta) who acquired the property after the suppression of the Knights Templar by order of Pope Clement.

The Order of the Temple, agreeing in spirit with the military, religious and aristocratic emphasis of the Crusading era, became enormously popular very soon after its original founding in Jerusalem.

The new idea was the addition of the trade of warfare to an Order of celibate Christian monks. The object was the recovery of safe pilgrimage routes to the Holy Land. The Knights took the triple vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Soon after the fall of Jerusalem in the First Crusade (1099), nine French and Belgian Knights acquired as a place of residence the convent and church of the Temple on Mt. Moriah in Jerusalem, from which their name was derived. These remarkable buildings were Moslem, ancient, and still exist today as the Dome of the Rock and El-Aksa Mosque.

Growing rapidly in numbers, in 1128 the Knights Templar received
the sanction of the Roman Catholic Church, with a Rule, or Charter, drawn up by the great St. Bernard of Clairvaux (in today's French Province of Burgundy).

The Knights Templar, and a parallel but rival Order of Hospitallers (later known as the Knights of St. John, and Rhodes and Malta), were the only trained and permanent Christian military forces in the Holy Land during the 200 years of the Crusades.

Backing them up, as truly international organizations, were some 9,000 manors or estates of the Templars, and 19,000 properties of the Hospitallers, scattered about Europe, especially in France, England, Spain, Portugal, and also in Belgium, especially Condruez and Hesbaye.

The Head of the Houses of Condruez and Hesbaye lived in Villers. The village thus became an important command center and a banking center, for the military power of the Knights and their honesty made them the natural international bankers of the time, even for kings.

The Crusades grew less and less successful and came to an end with the death of St. Louis (King Louis IX of France) in 1270. Jerusalem was finally destroyed in 1291 and the Christians expelled from the whole of Palestine. The Templars, who to the last had fought with unfailing courage, sent their treasure to Cyprus, where the last Grand Master, Jacques de Molay was elected in 1297. With him was a descendant of Sire Gerard de Villers, a Knight Templar also named Gerard, who was responsible for guarding the Treasury.

King Philip of France determined to consolidate his nation and his power, and he needed money. On Friday, October 13, 1307, he ordered all Templars (but not Hospitallers) arrested and their property confiscated. Through the cooperation of Pope Clement V, a Frenchman who owed his position to the French King, the Templars were tried on a series of religious and immorality charges. The infamous Inquisition subjected the Templars to torture in France (but not in other countries which forbade torture) and extracted "confessions."

In France the Grand Master and the Grand Preceptor were captured, along with most of the leaders of the Order. Some escaped. The most conspicuous and the most important of the fugitives was Gerard de Villers, along with forty brethren, whom he armed for defense.

Gerard de Villers had about 5 years to consolidate his fortress. The area, in today's East Belgium, was politically in the territory of Thibault, the Prince-Bishop of Liege, who became his protector. When the Pope ordered the Bishop to condemn the Templars, he begged for time, and never quite got around to it.

Meantime, the Grand Master and dozens of Templar leaders were burned at the stake in Paris as "lapsed heretics," because they had renounced their "Confessions."

In 1312 the Pope ordered all properties of the Templars turned over to the Knights Hospitaller, whereupon the fortress at Villers-le-Temple became a normal Commandery of St. John. Gerard had become Commander of these Hospitallers before he died, in a castle near Villers, some years later.

In 1503 the House of Villers regained a relative importance, becoming again a "Major Commandery." In fact, the Maltese Commandery continued the Templar tradition by holding his own court of justice for several centuries. The freemen of Villers developed a spirit of independence and a willingness to fight for the right to govern their own affairs.

The Fortress During the Middle Ages

The castle is on the point of a rock, impressive in its strength and brilliant in its reputation.

February 1979
A vast lower court, designed for the use of commerce, enclosed all the out buildings and dependencies. One goes from there to the inner court containing the donjon or keep. This is a bulky edifice, square shaped, solidly built and flanked by four towers. From the rather spacious and very pleasant inner courtyard one may enter many large and beautiful halls, which, with the kitchen, constitute a ground floor. The apartments of the next floor are provided with countless fine features which delight the eye.

Within the main enclosure is an extremely lovely chapel, with an artistically worked iron grill surrounding the sanctuary. This chapel has an air of grandeur not found in the large churches.

The ancestor of Gerard of the Treasury, called Sire Gerard and most likely his grandfather, returned from the Crusades to find his wife, Lady Margaret dead. He decided to enter the Order of the Knights Templar where his brother was at that time the Commander. He forthwith turned over all his considerable properties to the Order. Soon he was Commander at Villers, and there he caused the little Chapel to be built. In due time he became Preceptor of Liege and Master of the Templars, the latter office after he visited the very large fortress in Paris, called the Chapter, where he was invested. He died in 1273, as indicated on his tombstone which is presently mounted in the Villers Parish Church (and mentioned in the Guide of the U.S. Order of DeMolay). Originally he was buried in the Templar Chapel he had built. His tombstone was secured and hidden during the French Revolution by the people of the village.

The French Revolution from 1789 was anti-church as well as anti-monarchy. It eliminated the Knights of Malta, and it destroyed the castle-fortress in Paris. It also destroyed the castle and the lovely chapel at Villers. The remaining buildings have been restored by the Lorneau family.

Here in Villers-le-Temple, 4155 Belgium, American Knights Templar can very easily enjoy a holiday, and at the same time learn of the life and times of the Knights of old.

France is also the scene of the great calls to the Crusades, the historical events that led to our ancient knightly precursors. Particularly it is a joy to visit the great pre-Crusade cathedrals in Burgundy (Autun, Cluny) which are called Romanesque, and then to visit the great Gothic Cathedrals (Paris, Chartres) which were built in the days of the Crusades, but using new structural and architectural knowledge probably brought back to Europe from the Middle East by the Knights Crusaders and their
11th Annual Voluntary Campaign

For the week ending December 29, 1978, the cumulative total for Commandery contributions to the 11th Voluntary Campaign stands at $68,188.30. Though lower than the 10th Campaign figure for the corresponding week ($101,428.10), it is higher than totals for either the 7th, 8th or 9th Campaigns. According to Charles S. McIntyre, Jr., Campaign Chairman, “the 1977-78 Campaign exceeded all expectations but with a little work, we can make the 11th even better.”

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... ANCIENT FRENCH KNIGHTS...

masonic engineers who accompanied them to the Holy Land.

After 1307 the Knights Templar were effectively neutralized. Their allies, the Masonic Guilds, thereupon ceased to cooperate in cathedral construction; the evidence is to be seen, says M. Lorneau, in unfinished spires or towers all over Europe. Perhaps the most conspicuous is Notre Dame of Paris which has no tower spires. Lorneau's library has walls covered with Masonic marks. It's a fascinating place to see.

Sir Knight and Dr. Kerr resides at 13 Grow Avenue, Montrose, Pennsylvania 18801.

Bixby, Johnson and Ferrigno

Kenneth Johnson, Jr., son of the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, is shown flanked by the two stars of "The Incredible Hulk" TV series — Bill Bixby and Lou Ferrigno. Johnson is creator and producer of the "Hulk" series and is also known as writer and producer of TV's "Bionic Woman."
THE SHRINE—IS IT TRULY A MASONIC BODY?

by

Russell H. Anthony, D.V.M., Imperial Marshal
The Imperial Council, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine

"On Tuesday, June 6, 1876, at 2:00 p.m., the Imperial Grand Council of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine (A.A.O.N.M.S.) was formed with Illustrious Walter M. Fleming, Grand Potentate of Mecca Temple, presiding. The Conclave was held at the Masonic Hall at 6th Avenue and 23rd Street, New York City, New York.

"An order of business at the meeting was that Noble George F. Loder moved that a prerequisite for reception into the Order was that the applicants shall be Knights Templar. Noble Edward M. L. Ehlers moved that a Mason of 32nd degree be also made a prerequisite for receiving the Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, thus making the prerequisite for receiving the Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, a Knight Templar or Thirty-second Degree Mason."

The above statements are direct quotations from the Proceedings of the first Imperial Council Session. While the grammar and rhetoric leave something to be desired for the modern day scholar, these quotations are readily understood and are correct.

The following statements are direct quotations from Imperial Council Bylaws:

"Article 10 of the Imperial Council By-laws dated July 8, 1977, entitled, Prerequisites of the Order reads as follows:

210.1 Prerequisites. A Noble must be either (a) a Knight Templar in good standing in a Commandery or Preceptory of Knights Templar in amity with and recognized by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, or (b) a 32° Mason in good standing in a Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the obedience of either the Supreme Council of the Northern or of the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction of such Rite in amity with and recognized by either of them."

I ask you my Brethren, is this act promulgated over 100 years ago by a Masonic Conclave of Brothers in a Masonic Temple in any way anti-Masonic? Every one of us will agree that it is not. I call your attention to it only to stimulate your thinking in regards to the position the Shrine of North America should hold in our Masonic family.

We as Free and Accepted Masons are taught that the Master Mason degree is the highest you can receive. We as York or Scottish Rite Masons are taught that we have received further light in Masonry when we receive these advanced degrees. We as Shriners are symbolically placing on our Masonic apron every time we wear our Fez. By obeying simple logic it follows that a Noble should be an integral part of Masonry.

The non-Shrine Mason will say that the Shrine is a body similar to the Tall Cedars of Lebanon, M.O.V.P.E.R. → → →

knight templar
Grotto, Order of White Shrine of Jerusalem, Order of the Eastern Star, Order of the Amaranth, the Sciots and High Twelve. What right does the Shrine have to be considered as a true Masonic body and not an appendant one as the others just mentioned? The answer is very simple: the prerequisites required. Our Shrine forefathers had great visions in seeing that the Order was truly a Masonic body. They believed that if the Order was to maintain a truly Masonic structure, each applicant had to receive as much Light in Masonry as it was possible to receive before being admitted.

Share with me a beautiful reality, my Brethren. I see a firm, strong and large tree base made up of our Symbolic Blue Lodge Masonry. I see a strong, straight and tall tree trunk made up of our York and Scottish Rite Masonry. Lastly, I see a sharp, fast growing point at the top of the tree trunk made up of our Shrine.

The Shrine of North America is an ever growing force in Masonry. It has had phenomenal steady growth while most all other fraternal orders affiliated with or outside of Masonry are having disastrous declines. The time has come when the Master Mason, Knight Templar, and the 32nd Degree Mason accept the Noble as his Masonic equal, not as his inferior. The Shrine should be a member of the Masonic family, not an appendage of it.

Now is the time for unity. Masonic leaders should start inviting Shrine leaders to their conclaves and recognizing them in proper protocol: Shrine leaders should likewise reciprocate at their conclaves. Nobles should work diligently at all levels of Masonry. Name calling, jealousies, misunderstandings, and all petty misgivings should be put asunder. At the present time, all Nobles are Brothers. Let us all work for the day when all Brothers are Nobles.

In conclusion, let me share with you my creed or statement of belief that I have been sharing with Masons all over North America for the past three years: “Believing that every Shriner is first of all a Mason, it is my conviction that Masonry is highly served in the growth of the Shrine, and one of the better reasons for a man becoming a Mason is his desire to become a Shriner.”

The views expressed in the foregoing article are those of Sir Knight Anthony who is a member of Apollo Commandery No. 26 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He resides at 801 A Avenue, N.E., Cedar Rapids 52402.
ELIPHALET BULKELEY (1746-1816)

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

Saint Johns Day in June 1815 was observed by Lodge No. 61 at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, "according to the Rule and Square." The address of the day was delivered by Colonel Eliphalet Bulkeley, a "Past Captain General of Knights Templar," who also gave an interesting explanation of "the carpet."

On the 13th of the following January "nearly every Mason in the vicinity" attended Brother Bulkeley's funeral services and burial with Masonic ceremony. He had been a Mason for 26 years and a member of Lodge No. 61 for nine.

Born in Colchester, Connecticut, the son and grandson of eminent divines, he was prepared for college and sent to Yale. His name probably saved him from disgraceful expulsion, but the record merely shows that he "left in consequence of some boyish disgust or irregularity." So did Oliver Ellsworth, a room-mate and companion in "youthful indiscretion."

Ellsworth transferred to Princeton, was among the petitioners for a lodge charter while a student there, graduated in 1766, and rose to distinction in legal circles, becoming Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. He does not appear to have continued his interest in Masonry. Bulkeley was truly rusticated, going back to the family farm in Colchester.

He married and settled down to quiet family life until the Lexington Alarm, in response to which he led a company of 60 volunteers to the Siege of Boston. He was out in several campaigns with state levies and became a Colonel in the militia establishment before the war ended.

Now he became a public figure as merchant and tavern keeper at Colchester, then the hub of highway travel in southeastern Connecticut. He served as Notary, as Justice of the Peace for 20 years, and represented the town at 16 sessions of the General Assembly. He was not a conspicuous figure in church circles.

Wooster Lodge at Colchester had been at work for nearly ten years, and Bulkeley was 45 years old, before he was attracted to Masonry. He was entered an Apprentice on January 3, 1790; passed Fellowcraft February 3; raised to the Sublime degree on March 3; elected Junior Warden in June; advanced to the chair of Master in December, and served as such for eight consecutive years!

Then there was a stampede of Bulkeleys into Masonry. Three followed Eliphalet into the Lodge within the year, and within the decade no less than 14 of the same name were initiated, as well as several Jewett cousins. Eliphalet was deputized for institution of four offshoot lodges in neighboring towns. He sat one year as Grand Junior Warden but was not advanced in the Grand Lodge chairs.

In the course of business trips to New York City, he is presumed to have acquired the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter, and was dubbed a Knight Templar. He was the first High Priest of Van den Broeck Chapter, and prime mover in organization of Union Chapter when he removed to New London.

In 1796 Bulkeley is on record as the first Captain General
(equivalent of today’s Eminent Commander) of an Encampment (Commandery) of Knights Templar meeting alternately at Colchester and New London. They carried on under authority of a charter granted by a superior body in London, England, brought to them by a sea-faring man, who delivered a similar document to Sir Knights in Granville, New York. In 1819 Thomas Smith Webb granted them a charter of recognition from the Grand Encampment of the United States.

In 1800 Bulkeley moved his center of activities to New London where he advertised that he had “opened a house of entertainment at that elegant new building, Free Masons Hall, where the man of business, of pleasure, or the valetudinarian, may be equally gratified.” The building had been dedicated the year previous with a grand procession, in which Knights Templar appeared in public for the first time in Connecticut. There were an even dozen if they all turned out.

Some Bulkeley relatives had removed to Wilkes-Barre, and Eliphalet followed them out in 1807. Here he again became a hotel-keeper with attendant business interests. In civic affairs he was for a number of years president of the Borough Council, in effect, the mayor.

While he was in New London, probably the leading Masonic light, a most interesting development took place. In 1800 a group of Haitian refugees had been brought into New London, and were interned until their status could be clarified. Among them was Jean Pierre Boyer, Master of the Ineffable Lodge at Jacmel, and much later President of the Republic. Boyer visited the local lodges and communicated knowledge of the degrees of Lodge and Rite of Perfection to a number of Masons in Norwich and New London. Some of the diplomas and certificates Boyer had with him found their way into Bulkeley’s hands for safekeeping, and he took them with him to Wilkes-Barre. When they were brought to light years after his death, they excited some wonderment. Those documents explained a statement made at the time of Eliphalet Bulkeley’s death, when he was said to have been “in possession of every degree that could be obtained this side of the Atlantic!”

Ohio Templars Mark 100 Years


Following his banquet address, Sir Knight Bell was presented checks totaling $530 from the Ladies of Palestine and the Frank W. Kiefer Chapter, DeMolay, for the K.T. Eye Foundation. A 100th anniversary coin was struck and is available to collectors at $3.50 each. Orders (with checks payable to Treasurer, Palestine 100th Anniversary Committee), may be sent to John N. Ulsh, Chairman, 175 Oaksmere Drive, Springfield, Ohio 45503.
John Hamilton Hessey, 1890-1979

Maryland Past Grand Commander John H. Hamilton, President Emeritus of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association and Past Grand Master of Masons in Maryland, died January 6 in Baltimore. Sir Knight Hessey received his law degree from the University of Maryland and was admitted to the bar in 1912; he later served as Dean of the Law School at the University of Baltimore. A veteran of WWI, he was a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Service.

Sir Knight Hessey belonged to all bodies of the York Rite in Baltimore, and was elected Grand Commander of Maryland in 1950. He was Former Intendant General of the Division of Maryland, Red Cross of Constantine, Past Potentate of Boumi Temple, Baltimore, and a 33° Scottish Rite Mason, Southern Jurisdiction. He is survived by his widow, Gladys, and two sons, John IV, and Mahlon. Graveside services were conducted by the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Hugh N. Layne, South Carolina

Sir Knight Hugh N. Layne, Honorary Past Grand Commander and Grand Recorder of South Carolina from 1963 to 1971, died December 21, 1978, at the age of 77. In his Masonic life he was a P.C. of Spartanburg Commandery No. 3, Past M.E. Grand High Priest and Honorary Past M.I. Grand Master of South Carolina. He was also a Past Sovereign of All Saints Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, and a recipient of both K.T.C.H. and K.Y.C.H. awards.

A retired mail carrier and member of Convenant Presbyterian Church, Layne was briefly involved in state politics, serving one term in the South Carolina House of Representatives. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Bernice Wood Layne, four children and eight grandchildren.

In Hallowed Memory

Elmer Jens
Iowa
Grand Commander — 1952
Born January 16, 1895
Died December 12, 1978

John Hamilton Hessey
Maryland
Grand Commander — 1950
Born August 18, 1890
Died January 6, 1979

Past General Grand Master, R. & S.M.


A 63-year Mason, raised in Casper Lodge No. 15, A.F. & A.M., in 1915, Sir Knight Mokler was installed as the first Grand Master of the Grand Council of Wyoming in 1952; 16 years later he was elected to the highest office of the General Grand Council. Previously he had served as Personal Representative or Special Deputy for eight General Grand Masters.

On December 27, 1915, he was knighted in Apollo Commandery, Casper; he held the offices of Recorder and Treasurer in that body. He was also first Sovereign of Immanuel Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine in Casper.

Blessed are they who mourn

Quiet minds cannot be perplexed
or frightened, but go on
in fortune or misfortune
at their own private pace
like a clock in a thunderstorm.

Robert Louis Stevenson

knight templar
Reviewing the past year we have accomplished much. More Commanderies than ever before are providing programs during or after their stated conclaves. Our 11th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Eye Foundation is off to a good start. At least one Commandery, Bethlehem No. 90, has already exceeded its goal of $5.00 per member. Congratulations! A number of Commanderies have conferred the Orders, some on sizeable classes.

Looking ahead, we have much to do, however, on membership, and only three months remain to determine whether we will end the year with a gain or loss. I am asking all Commanders to make a special effort immediately to help put us in the “plus” column. This will require planning and the effort of EVERY Knight Templar. This is not a job for just one or two members. In an earlier issue I asked if your three best Masonic friends were Knights Templar. Look again, and if they are not, do something about it, NOW! At every Division Reception I have raised the question of membership. Many of you have commented to me about my remarks. NOW is the time to do something about it.

I am asking every Knight Templar to make an effort this year to attend more meetings of his Commandery AND his Blue Lodge. Let’s make 1979 a banner year for Masonry and for Templary.

William C. Graham
Grand Commander

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The 11th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Eye Foundation is in full swing. As of now, there are two commanderies in Division 9 which have sent in their quota during December, 1978 and this is only the beginning from those Commanderies for this campaign. They are Bethlehem No. 90 and Beauceant No. 94 from Allentown.

Let’s hope the rest of the Commanderies throughout the state can do as well as these two and will not wait until the last minute to report their results.

Oscar J. Lamey, Eye Foundation Chairman for Bethany Commandery No. 83 in Dubois, appeared on Kittanning’s radio station WACB “Phone Party” to explain the Eye Foundation in general and Bethaney’s work in particular. The unrehearsed and spontaneous program lasted one hour and fifteen minutes.

S.K. Lamey has also shown the film “Release From Darkness” to the Ford City Lions Club and the Ford City Kiwanis.

On November 18, 287 Sir Knights and Brothers attended the 75th Anniversary Celebration of Germantown Commandery No. 82, K.T. The dinner and entertainment were enjoyed by all, after which they danced to the music of “Sound of the Big Bands.”


Also in attendance at Pilgrim’s stated conclave with S.K. Stambaugh and S.K. J. Franklin Runkle, Jr., Cmdr. (far right) were Sir Knights Irwin S. Bennett, E.G.Sw.B., and Howard T. Hardie, Jr., V.E.D.G.C.

S.K. William C. Graham, R.E.G.C., presented the James W. Sigafoos Memorial Award to Brother Chris Canning, P.M.C. & M.S.A. of Allentown Chapter Order of DeMolay. The award is presented each year to the DeMolay in a Division No. 9 Chapter, who has the highest membership increase for that Templar year. The award is sponsored by Bethlehem Commandery No. 90 in memory of Most Puisant Past Grand Master Sigafoos. A traveling plaque for the Chapter and a $50.00 bond for the individual DeMolay are awarded.

**TEMPLAR DATES**

February 3, 1979 – Div. No. 1 Reception
February 4, 1979 – DeMolay No. 9, 125th Ann.
I am interested in buying, at a reasonable price, a watch fob which has a crown-like top with the York Rite on one side and the Scottish rite on the other. The fob opens like a book with the dependent bodies on the inside.

The fob is for my own use and will not be sold but passed down to my son or grandson. I am a Knight Templar, and a member of Scottish Rite and Shrine. Theo Davis, Jr., P.O. Box 1333, Melrose Park, Illinois 60160

I appreciate hearing from those who served in the Army Air Force up to WWII, Airship or Balloon Service, or women with flight service for any period. Primarily interested in wings, insignia, and memorabilia. George W. Juno, 765 Saratoga Rd., Burnt Hill, New York 12027.

I am a Sir Knight of St. John's Commandery No. 10, K.T., New Bern, North Carolina, and also a North Carolina State Highway Patrol Trooper. I am starting a collection of shoulder patches from all the State Highway Patrol or Police Agencies in the U.S.A. Can use lots of help with this from all states. Trooper T. F. (Tom) Jones, S. H. P., P.O. Box 185, Bayboro, North Carolina 28515.

I am a member of South Carolina Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, and Scottish Rite at Charleston, South Carolina, and would like to hear from any Masonic organization having tokens, coins or medals for sale. L. H. Simmons, Jr., P.O. Box 32, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

As a member of Commandery No. 40 in Long Beach, California, I receive the Knight Templar Magazine and enjoy it very much.

I would like to purchase a heavy gold York Rite Ring. If anyone has one for sale please send price and description. E. S. Wilkes, 1536-S State SP 70, Hemet, California 92343

I have a very old Masonic sword from the Ridgewood, New Jersey area. I believe the handle is ivory with cross and crown on one side and initials on the other, and capped by a Knight’s head armor. The blade is initialed “Ab. D. B. Zabriskie,” and is silver in color with gold-colored markings and Masonic emblems. Would like to communicate with interested buyers. Please include bid. Mrs. Arthur Terhune, R.D. 2, Box 2125, Bangor, Pennsylvania 18013

Am interested in obtaining past issues of the Knight Templar Magazine I also have some past issues that I will swap or donate to someone who needs them. William H. Egbert, Generalissimo, St. Elmo Commandery No. 15, 1628 Faxon Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee 38112

I have for sale a 32° ring. It is 10K Gold – the band is yellow, the eagle, white. It has a brilliant diamond of more than 1/3 carat in the eagle’s breast. Value is $450; will accept $225. Ring will be mailed postpaid and insured and money returned if not satisfied. Edward L. Carroll, 610 West Patlin Avenue, Orange City, Florida 32763
I have been a Blue Lodge member 61 years and a Commandery and Chapter member for more than 53 years. I have enjoyed all these years of Masonry, especially those with Howell Commandery No. 28, Michigan. Howell has only about 150 members; however, we are quite well known by having taken part in several Triennial Conclaves. Also we have had three Grand Commanders in 50 years.

I was a member of the Drill Team for more than 40 years, but my age now does not permit me to be very active any more.

I sure enjoy the Knight Templar Magazine and read it from cover to cover. 
Robert Krause, 522 East Clinton Street, Howell, Michigan, 48843.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Congratulations on your upcoming 62nd year in Masonry.

Need genealogical data on William Flowers who lived in North Carolina before moving to Darlington County, South Carolina, prior to 1800. His first wife was Christiana Peters. Interested in locations they lived, etc. One of the daughters married Robert Monk in 1799. Other Darlington County names related and for whom I am also interested in obtaining further facts are Lewis, Parnell and Bryant. Am current president of the William Ira Lewis Family. He was born before 1850 in Darlington County.

Ray Eugene Flowers, P.O. Box 1202, Cayce, South Carolina 29033

Wanted: Fraternal and genealogy information on Sir Knight William D. Campbell, born "in Canada," 1862, died Superior, Wisconsin, February 7, 1920. Was Shriner via Scottish and York Rites in Duluth-Superior area. As Great Northern RR conductor, ordered a train through forest fire in 1894, in Hinkley, Minnesota, saving 600 lives. William D. Erickson, 3905 Cherrywood Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

The article on Francis Scott Key (Behrens, September 1978) has prompted me to write you concerning a Masonic book in my possession. Entitled "Masonic Minstrel," it contains 327 pages of songs, plus 130 pages of Masonic writings. The original title page is missing so I don’t know who edited it, or where or when it was printed.

Included in the collection are a note preceding a song called “The Patriotic Diggers” saying that people turned out in New York last autumn to erect fortifications against the threatened invasion. Since Baltimore was bombarded in September 1814, the book would have been published in 1815. There is also a song about Perry’s victory on Lake Erie (1813). A description of the “New Masonick Hall Philadelphia,” laid April 17, 1809, is included, plus a 4 1/2 page description of cornerstone laying ceremonies of the Washington Monument in Baltimore on July 4, 1815.

I am interested in any information on this book, some 12,000 copies of which were printed. Also would like to know of its rarity and/or value. Ralph C. Corey, 2522 Wexford Run Road, Wexford, Pennsylvania 15090.

I have the following equipment I wish to sell: two Knight Templar swords (one gold with chamois cover and belt with gold chain, engraved W. T. Mollison — former Commander of Rainbow Division WWI); and one regular with leather case. Also, one pair of buckskin leather guantlets with K.T. emblem on guantlet. Kelsey R. Johnson, Box 266, Madison Lake, Minnesota 56063

I need a Commandery Coat size 42 regular, and Chapeau size 7 or 7 1/8. I would be glad to pay a reasonable price for a coat or uniform and chapeau in good or better condition. Robert E. Lee, 3 Victoria Drive, South Burlington, Vermont 05401
MAXIMS FROM A FEBRUARY PRESIDENT

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot help small men by tearing down big men.

You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.

You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.

You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatreds.

You cannot establish security on borrowed money.

You cannot build character and courage by taking a man’s initiative and independence.

You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

Abraham Lincoln

SECOND CLASS

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