



Knight Templar

XXV

JUNE 1979

NUMBER 6



George Washington, Father of His Country,
subject of

THE FIRST "TRULY MASONIC"
U.S. POSTAGE STAMP?



George Washington

President and Freemason



START OF A NEW TRIENNIUM

In another two months, give or take a week or two, a new Grand Master of the Grand Encampment will be elected to serve as the sovereign leader of Knights Templar of the United States of America. We wish him well, and we know that every Templar holding allegiance to the Grand Encampment will want to give due obedience to his decrees and directives and complete cooperation in the new triennium of 1979-82.

In the interim, we all have the opportunity to give considerable thought to the long-range objectives of Knights Templar. I sincerely hope that the pleasures of summer vacations will not divert or distract us from our duties and obligations.

The present triennium ends as of June 30 and a new chapter begins with the election of officers at Indianapolis August 11-16. Between the present and the 54th Triennial Conclave, we have a June 14 Flag Day to observe, the start of summer on June 21 to celebrate, the 132nd anniversary of Samuel F. B. Morse's telegraph to commemorate, the 40-hour week established by Federal Law in 1936 to salute, and the 203rd anniversary of the United States of America to hale in July.

Now is the time to think about purposeful Commandery programs and projections; this is a time to look ahead and plan ahead. It might be the season to take a summer break physically, but let's not lose continuity of programming and activities, the kind which will attract deserving Masons to the banner of Templary. This year, next year and *every* year.

We wish you all a pleasant summer season, but there is time before and years thereafter to work with a purpose for the good of our Order and look forward to its future progress. Let's turn the present to good advantage and, above all, please remember that August 11-16 marks the 54th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment. We will look for you in Indianapolis.

Let us labor well for the progress of Templary and of Masonry, and keep in mind this single sentence quotation from Washington Irving:

"Great minds have purposes; others have wishes."

Fraternally,



Willard M. Query

Knight Templar

The Magazine for York Rite Masons

JUNE: As the cover illustration indicates, one of our June features deals with stamps, especially one proposed by John R. Allen, New Orleans (with the Stamp Club Committee to Celebrate George Washington's 250th Birthday), which could be the first U.S. postage stamp that is "truly Masonic." Also, because this month marks the conclusion of the third year of the Grand Encampment triennium, the June issue appropriately reviews, in condensed form, the proposals which will come before the 54th Triennial Conclave at Indianapolis. Some 1,200 Voting Members of the Grand Encampment will receive a *Notice of Conclave* later in the month which will contain the complete texts of all proposals received in the Grand Encampment office before the deadline date of May 14.

P.C.R.

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EDITOR'S JOURNAL

Grand Inspector: Carveth K. Neer, Grand Inspector, Grand Commandery of Kansas, writing about membership, says: "I do not have a magical answer to the problems but I do think they can be corrected without too much effort.

"When a man pays his money to become a Mason and then proceeds with his degrees and Orders he expects to receive a fair exchange for that money. We all want the new members, but what are we giving them? It seems we hurry up and get the work over so we can go home. It leads to 'short forming' too many degrees . . .

"I think every petition signer (should) call his prospect and see that he gets to the meetings and if he doesn't have a way to get there, then go by and pick him up."

Sir Knight Neer describes the giant oak that stopped growing — until the tree was "pruned and dead wood removed." Then, he says, "it was as good as new. We can all learn a lesson from this. If we are to have a strong York Rite, we must do as they did to the oak tree." In short — eliminate the dead wood.

Shrine: As would be anticipated on a subject creating conflicting views, Sir Knight Russell H. Anthony's article in the February *Knight Templar Magazine* brought a flow of responses. Letters and articles from more than 35 Grand Commandery jurisdictions were received. Unfortunately, they were too numerous to be fully acknowledged in the magazine, although each one was thanked individually.

June Thought: The surest way to destroy your enemies is to make them your friends.

Michigan Note: Dr. Howard R. Towne, whose "Springtime Prayer" was a feature on the back cover of the April *Knight Templar*, served as R.E. Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment from 1964 to 1967, when former Governor of Michigan and former Secretary of the Army, the late Wilber M. Brucker, was Grand Master. Sir Knight Towne continues his Templar service as Grand Prelate of Michigan.

Flag Ceremony: Grand Commanders or representatives are requested to be on hand in Celebration Hall A, second level of the Hyatt Regency, Indianapolis, at 8 a.m., August 13, to prepare for participation in the opening flag ceremonies of the 54th Triennial Conclave.

Forty-eighth: The Grand Assembly of Illinois, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, will have its 48th Annual Session June 30 and July 1-2 at the Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago. Speaker will be Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Mrs. Hester M. Kolmer, Supreme Inspector in Illinois, "cordially invites Rainbow Girls, Masons and Eastern Stars to attend."

Zimmerman: A May item on a recent recipient of Eye Foundation assistance via Commanderies in Pennsylvania and Florida failed to carry the correct name of the current Eminent Commander of Mountain Commandery No. 10, Altoona, Pennsylvania. Sir Knight John D. Zimmerman (not Zimman) of Six Mile Run, Pennsylvania, is also Mountain Commandery's Chairman for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. We regret the discrepancy.

TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE PROPOSALS

The following are condensed proposals currently scheduled to be presented to the Voting Membership at the 54th Triennial Conclave at Indianapolis August 11-16, 1979. Permanent and Representative members of the Grand Encampment, averaging 1,200, will be mailed the Notice of Conclave from the Grand Encampment office as of June 13 – the Constitutionally-required 60 days in advance. Only one signature from a Voting Member is required for each resolution. The proposals are listed in the order received in the Grand Encampment office.

1. A proposal that the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. establish a National Award, to be made at each Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to our country. This may be a military, civic, professional or scientific, or whatever. This award need not be restricted to members of the Fraternity.

Morrison L. Cooke, P.G.C., Kentucky, recommends adoption and a Committee to be established by the Grand Master to facilitate.

2. A resolution to amend Section 237½ so that the Knights Templar Cross of Honor nominee would: *come as a complete surprise to the Sir Knight receiving it.*

Proposed by Calvert Earl Schlick, P.G.C., Maryland.

3. A proposal to amend Section 12 of the Grand Encampment Constitution and Statutes to read as follows:

Funds of the Grand Encampment shall be disbursed only on warrants on the Grand Treasurer, signed by any two of the following: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Recorder, Chairman of the Committee on Finance. No Warrant shall be issued unless the Grand Encampment shall have made an appropriation to cover it save that in cases of emergency or necessity. Warrants approved in writing by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance may be issued on the General

Fund to an amount not exceeding in the aggregate in any one year Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000).

Proposed by George H. Thomas, P.G.C., Ohio.

4. It is proposed that the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment be amended to grant the status of Past Grand Officers to the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment – and to retain such rank as Past Grand Officers.

Proposed by Herbert D. Sledd, P.G.C., Kentucky.

5. A motion to amend Section 41(i) to read:

These ceremonial robes are to be used only in the Asylum for the conferring of the Order of the Temple and/or for the opening and closing of a Commandery of Knights Templar and their design and material approved by the respective Grand Commandery having territorial jurisdiction.

- and motion to amend Section 62(c) to read:

These ceremonial robes are to be used only in the Asylum for the conferring of the Order of the Temple and/or for the opening and closing of a Commandery of Knights Templar and their design and material shall be approved by the Grand Commandery under which it is chartered.

Proposed by Frank E. Hart, P.G.C., Nevada.

6. It is proposed third paragraph of Section 18½ of the Constitution be amended to read: → → →

Upon payment of *Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)* in a lump sum to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., it shall issue to the Knight Templar making such payment a certificate as a life sponsor of Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; and thereafter, the Grand or Subordinate Commandery of which any Knight Templar may be a member shall be exempt from the annual assessment because of his membership in the Commandery.

Proposed by G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

7. It is proposed that:

Official Ritual of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the U.S.A. be hereafter printed in clear English, except the obligations and means of recognition, hereafter known as 'the Essentials,' which shall be designated by printing the first letter of each word.

Proposed by Frederick G. Speidel, P.G.C., North Carolina, and forwarded with approximately a dozen additional signatures.

8. A recommendation proposed by Sir Knights George F. Flentje, Jr., Edward J. Warwick and Edward J. Grabowski, Past Grand Commanders of Maryland, and submitted by Edward J. Warwick, Grand Recorder, as follows:

Whereas: That in those cases where a Commandery elects to remit dues of a member who is a permanent resident of a nursing home, or of a member who is paralyzed or otherwise physically incapacitated as to be unable to participate in the activities of his Commandery except with undue preparation, and will certify such in the Annual Report to the Grand Commandery, the Commandery will be relieved of paying the Grand Commandery Per Capita Levy on these members; further, it shall be understood that an infringement of the privilege will subject the Commandery to a termination of relief in this respect; likewise the Grand Commandery be also relieved of paying the Grand Encampment Per Capita Levy on these members.

9. A motion for Amendment, Revision

and Alteration of Section 113½, Statutes, Special Committees, providing for a Committee on Holy Land Pilgrimages as follows:

There shall be a Committee on Holy Land Pilgrimages. It shall have the general oversight of the practical working of sending ordained Christian ministers, gratis, on Pilgrimages to the Holy Land, for their spiritual enrichment, enthusiasm, and refreshed dedication.

The election of participation by the various respective Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies in Holy Land Pilgrimages, shall be optional with them.

It shall, from time to time, transmit to the Grand Encampment matters of interest and recommendations for the proper administration of its purpose.

Proposed by W. Jack Dover, D.G.C., Michigan.

10. Proposal to amend Section 85 of the Constitution so that the revision will read as follows:

The Grand Encampment, upon the concurrence of *Two-thirds* of its members present at any Stated Conclave, may revise, amend and alter this Constitution or the Rituals adopted by the Grand Encampment, and by a *Majority* vote of the members present, may revise, amend or alter the Statutes; . . . This proposed amendment, if adopted, shall become effective after the present 54th Triennial Session.

Proposed by Willard M. Avery, P.G.C., Indiana.

11. Motion for Amendment, Revision and Alteration of Section 113½ of the Statutes. Add the following:

113½(c) Special Committees. There shall be a committee on Holy Land Pilgrimages. It shall have the general oversight of the practical working of sending ordained Christian ministers, gratis, on Pilgrimages to the Holy Land, for their spiritual enrichment, enthusiasm, and refreshed dedication.

The election of participation by the various respective Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies in Holy

TRIENNIAL TEAM

Robert E. Price, Past Grand Commander of Indiana and Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on the 54th Triennial Conclave, poses with Triennial Committee Heads — left to right: (seated) Harold Hoolihan, Finance Chmn.; Grand Master Willard Avery; Past Grand Commander Price; Herbert Newman, Drill Regulations Chmn.; and Richard D. Unger, Registration Chmn.

(Front standing) Robert Moore, Banquet Chmn.; Richard Alexander, Shrine Liaison; Walter P. Worland, Badges and Gifts Chmn.; Clarence Duke, Printing Chmn.; Rev. Marvin Isley, Divine Services Chmn.; Harold Frost, Housing Committee Member; Joseph A. Barnes, Housing Chmn.; Jeffrey Saunders, DeMolay Liaison; Kenneth Gibson, Souvenir Program Chmn.

(Back) James Stout, Housing Committee Member; Earl Hoage, General Co-Chairman; Kyle Hughes, Vice Chairman, Entertainment; William Waymire, Housing Committee Member; James S. DeMond, Entertainment Chmn.



Land Pilgrimages, shall be optional with them.

It shall, from time to time, transmit to the Grand Encampment matters of interest and recommendations for the proper administration of its purpose.

Proposed by R. Frank Williams, P.G.C., Indiana.

12. Proposals to amend Sections 10 and 18½ of the Constitution as follows:

Add sentence at end of Section 10 to read:

Grand Commanderies that remit dues and assessments of their 50-year members and indigent members are exempt from annual per capita dues and/or assessments on such members.

And Section 18½ to be amended to read:

For the purpose of this project, and in accordance with Section 10 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, an annual assessment of One Dollar (\$1.00) per member each year, except —

(a) Members whose dues have been remitted because of their inability to pay the same. 50-year members who

have been exempt from any assessments by their Grand Commanderies.

(b) Members who have purchased Life Sponsorship Certificates; and

(c) Members who are Patrons or Associate Patrons of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Proposed by Maurice Wohlwend, G.C., Albert Jensen, P.G.C., and W. Lloyd Lyons, P.G.C., Washington.

13. A resolution to amend Standing Resolution adopted at the Fiftieth Triennial Conclave, Detroit, Michigan, August 19-24, 1967:

That the fourth paragraph of said Resolution which reads in part, "that the Knight Templar Magazine be mailed monthly to each Knight Templar in good standing," be changed to read, "that the Knight Templar Magazine be mailed bi-monthly (every two months) to each Knight Templar in good standing."

Submitted by W. Lloyd Lyons, P.G.C., Arnold L. Johnson, P.G.C., and Harold E. Good, P.G.C., Washington.

Annapolis Reception Planned

Saturday June 30 is the date set for a reception honoring Grand Encampment's Northeastern Department Commander Alton G. Billmeier. The event will be sponsored by the Grand Commandery of Maryland and will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Ogle Hall, U.S. Naval Academy Alumni House, on King George Street in Annapolis, Maryland's capital. All interested brethren are invited to attend. For lodging and other reservations, contact Past Grand Commander James M. Gardner, 512 Ridge Road, Rolling Knolls, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Fund Raising for New Heyworth Temple

Heyworth Lodge No. 251, Illinois, is raising funds to finance construction of a new temple and, says Worshipful Master Norman E. Malcom, are offering for sale cultured marble pen sets, white with brown mottling, with choice of Masonic emblem color-engraved on top.



Single-pen model (4¼" x 7¼" x 1½") is available for donation of \$15.95 (includes shipping and handling); and double-pen model (5¾" x 10¾" x 1½") for \$35.95. Sets (and additional information) are available through Fred Slayback, Secretary, Heyworth Lodge No. 251, Heyworth, Illinois 61745. Choice of emblem (Blue Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite or Shrine) should accompany orders, with checks made payable to Heyworth Lodge Building Fund.

According to Worshipful Master Malcom, "All funds in excess of our building goal will be donated to Masonic charity."

Garden State Visits Sunshine State

Retired New Jersey Masons residing in Florida enjoyed a visit from M.W. Kenneth L. Larsen, then Grand Master of Masons in New Jersey, at two "Reunion Days" held March 10 in Ft. Lauderdale, and March 11 in St. Petersburg.



Grand Master Larsen and a delegation from the New Jersey Grand Lodge undertook the journey south to meet with sojourning New Jersey brethren and to discuss various programs which, says Larsen, "can benefit out of state Masons" — including Senior Citizens Advisory Council, Blood Bank Program, Masonic Community Charity Fund, and others. Some 450 Masons, family members and friends greeted Grand Master Larsen at Doric Lodge in Ft. Lauderdale, and another 650 gathered the next day at the Masonic Home in St. Petersburg.

A repeat trip is scheduled for 1980, to visit among the 6,100 New Jersey Masons in Florida. Past Grand Master Larsen indicates that interested out-of-state New Jersey Masons may receive information on the various programs by contacting Malcolm B. Wernik, P.G.M., Director of Development Services, P.O. Box 308, Burlington, New Jersey 08016.

York Rite Conferral for 29 in Pittsburg

The York Rite Bodies of Pittsburg, Kansas, united to confer the degrees and Orders of the York Rite on 29 candidates last April at the Pittsburg Masonic Temple. The conferrals were sponsored by Pittsburg Chapter No. 58, R.A.M., Charles Tustin, High Priest; Independence Council, R. & S.M., James Robbins, Master; and Montjoie Commandery No. 29, Carveth Neer, Commander.

THE FIRST "TRULY MASONIC" U.S. POSTAGE STAMP?

by

Sir Knight John R. Allen, Chairman

Stamp Club Committee to Celebrate George Washington's 250th Birthday

"George Washington, the Man and Freemason, is in distress!" says Sir Knight John R. Allen, Richmond, Virginia. In the following, he explains "how we might relieve that distress and possibly attain the only 'truly Masonic' U.S. postage stamp as part of a stamp set 'humanizing' George Washington for the 250th Anniversary (Sestercentennial) of his birth." According to Sir Knight Allen, "Only one short letter is needed: from you, members of your family, and friends who support this proposed stamp set. With sufficient support, this dream might become a reality in little more than two years. LETTERS SENT IMMEDIATELY will be the prime determinants since the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee of the U.S. Postal Service is already considering possibilities."



Although George Washington has been pictured on more U.S. stamps than anyone in history, a set of postage stamps has been proposed because no single stamp could do him justice on his 250th Birthday. To justify an entire stamp set, it must be unique. The proposed 1982 set would more adequately portray Washington in natural surroundings and depict his varied interests in life, whereas the set of twelve stamps issued for his 1932 Birthday Bicentennial (front cover) simply showed his head and shoulders from various famous portraits or busts.

Background

The foreword of the book *George Washington: Man and Monument* (Friedel and Aikman), states:

It is unfortunate that Washington — our only president who died before the 19th century — now seems a bit remote to many Americans. The legendary Washington has sometimes obscured the human Washington — diminishing somewhat the force of his example.

Many previous stamps have pictured the face and shoulders, or bust, of

Washington, other stamps have pictured him in full-length as a soldier. Unfortunately, picturing only his face and shoulders, or picturing him in full-length as a soldier, may have contributed to the legendary figure and obscured Washington's human side even more in the 20th century.

The only stamps depicting Washington in full-length, in civilian attire, and surrounded by people, were issued in 1937 for the Constitution Sesquicentennial, and in 1939 for the 150th Anniversary of his first inauguration as President. No other postage stamps have depicted him in his various roles in life — as a man of the people, surrounded by people.

Recent newspaper articles have re-emphasized Washington's "humanness." Robert Evans wrote in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, *Patriot-News* (February 18, 1979):

One aspect of the man which we too often overlook was his social and economic status in the Colonies. Washington, the aristocrat from Mount Vernon, was at the very top of the heap under Crown rule. He → → →

enjoyed wealth, power and social ranking. In short, he had everything to lose and nothing to gain by embracing the revolutionary cause. . . . It was at Valley Forge that the very human George Washington reached his pinnacle. . . .

Martha Washington, too, was a staunch patriot who shared the hardships of the Revolution. She shared the general's headquarters even during that heart-breaking, winter in Valley Forge.

She visited the huts, bringing medicine brewed from her own garden herbs, dispensing food she had prepared with her own hands, and, by her example, inspiring other wives to sell their jewels for the relief of the soldiers. She organized committees to knit socks and make bandages. (Madelyn Kurth, *Chicago Tribune*, February 18, 1979)

Even after the fighting, the Washingtons did not settle back to a life of comfort:

Later, when the war was over, Washington wanted to retire at Mount Vernon, his home, by now somewhat neglected; but the realization that the evolving nation was not functioning under the Articles of Confederation led to his becoming a prime mover in the steps leading to the Constitutional Convention of 1787 in Philadelphia. . . . Two years later he was elected president. It wasn't merely because he had led an army. [It was his humanness!] (Evans, *Patriot-News*)

Biographers Freidel and Aikman wrote, Washington "laid the conceptual cornerstone for the American Presidency . . ." With his background, the influence on the Presidency could have been more military in nature, but he wisely chose to separate these two powers. Unfortunately, he has repeatedly been pictured on U.S. stamps in full-length as a soldier, whereas he has only been pictured twice in full-length as a civilian.

Stamp Set Theme

George Washington, like so many

people, had many roles in life — as a Surveyor, Husband, Family Man, Virginia Landowner, Church Steward, Freemason, Soldier, and President, to name a few. Although his "roles" have not been depicted on U.S. postage stamps, a set of stamps to fill this void has been proposed to "humanize" Washington on the 250th Anniversary of his birth in 1982. The eight suggested "roles" are not comprehensive but are the basic areas which might provide a representative stamp set to "humanize" him. Some existing paintings were suggested for consideration as a basis for this set of eight or more stamps, but there is no guarantee that the suggested paintings will be used even if the overall theme is adopted.

Of the eight "roles in life" composing the minimum set, the Freemason and Church Steward themes will likely be of immediate interest to Masons. The paintings suggested are the two 46 x 18 ft. murals enshrined at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia (Figures 1 and 2). The first depicts Washington clothed in a Masonic Apron laying the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol; the second shows him in Procession at Christ Church, Philadelphia.

Laying the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol was performed by President and Brother George Washington in Masonic ceremony, as was the custom of the day. This event has not been depicted on U.S. postage stamps — although it was significant in the life of Washington and in the building of our Nation — because Postal Service guidelines prohibit stamps commemorating fraternal organizations. Washington lived the tenets of Freemasonry in the conduct of his everyday life, and he invited the Grand Lodges to participate in the U.S. Capitol cornerstone laying ceremonies. This great event should be depicted on a U.S. stamp because of its importance in U.S. history — not because of fraternal significance. We should be proud, nonetheless, for this

to become the first “truly Masonic” U.S. postage stamp. It would indeed be a false prohibition to continue ignoring this significant event in U.S. history simply because of fraternal connections. It is *the man*, not the organization, being honored.

The only two stamps showing his religious faith were those of him kneeling in prayer at Valley Forge, issued in 1928 and 1977. Use of the mural of George Washington in procession at Christ Church as one of the set would be unique, and would emphasize his attendance at a church other than those at Mount Vernon and Alexandria. Unfortunately, only one stamp in 50 years has shown Washington’s belief in the Supreme Architect.

The remaining six “roles in life” include Surveyor, Husband, Family Man, Landowner, Soldier, and President. No specific pictures were suggested for the surveyor role because the final decision rests with the Postal Service, and it will be difficult to find one which suitably depicts Washington at so young an age, recognizable to us. This formal proposal also avoided suggesting appropriate portraits for the role of soldier – the U.S. Bicentennial Era has already resulted in so many war-related stamps, and this will likely be the area of many diverse, conflicting requests for a 1982 Birthday stamp. The specific portrait chosen as the basis for depicting Washington as a soldier should simply be consistent with the overall “humanizing” theme.

Several alternatives were suggested for “humanizing” Washington in the roles of Husband, Family Man, Landowner, and President. They are too numerous to mention and picture here. Although the mural of Washington laying the U.S. Capitol cornerstone would be equally



appropriate in the category of “President” (as in the Freemason category), the most unique presidential portrait proposed is entitled “The Artist and the President” (J. L. Ferris Collection – Smithsonian Institution; Figure 3). It shows Washington posing for an artist while Martha criticizes the work. Washington eventually tired of the many demands for portrait posing, but this one captures an aspect of presidential life we never see.



The Washington “Family Portrait” (Figure 4: Edward Savage – Mellon Collection, National Gallery of Art) shows George as a family man with Martha, and her two children. Interestingly, a 25 cent “Home Life” stamp was considered in 1932 (Figure 5) → → →



when the First Class rate was only 2 cents. It was never issued. This design might be



reconsidered for the proposed Family Man or Landowner categories for 1982, and incorporated into the set with only minor changes. For the "husband" role, portraits of Washington's betrothal and wedding were suggested. Martha played an important part in the life of George Washington, and she should not be neglected in "humanizing" him on stamps.

Summary

Postal authorities have purportedly said that present guidelines disallow a stamp of Washington laying the U.S. Capitol cornerstone because it was done in fraternal (Masonic) ceremony. Nor will there be another religious stamp except for Christmas issues. Rumors are that they would even abolish the religious Christmas stamp if it could be done without an outcry from the general public.

The goal of the "Stamp Club Committee to Celebrate George Washington's 250th Birthday" is simply to generate letters supporting a stamp set "humanizing" Washington. The Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee must be shown that there is a great demand for the Masonic theme as part of this set; that they should "humanize" Washington without false

prohibitions of fraternal or religious themes.

This is a dream which might become a reality only if the support is great — support through letters from individuals worldwide. The roles of "Freemason" and "Church Steward" might only be considered as part of a set, if considered at all. The set has been formally proposed; and *if we miss this chance, there will not be another chance for 50 years.* The theme of Washington laying the U.S. Capitol cornerstone has been avoided on stamps because of its fraternal significance; it is time for the U.S. Postal Service to confront the issue "head-on" and recognize the great historic significance of this event.

Conclusion

Let us relieve George Washington's distress by "humanizing" him now, rather than waiting for another generation to do it for us. One short letter is needed from you. Others from your friends. George did far more for our country; is one letter too much to ask for us to do for him?

Write your original letter to:

**Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee
c/o Administration Group, Room 5700
U.S. Postal Service
Washington, D.C. 20260**

If convenient, send copies to your U.S. Senator and Congressman.

For further information, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: John R. Allen, Chairman, "Stamp Club Committee to Celebrate George Washington's 250th Birthday," P.O. Box 26135, Richmond, Virginia 23260. We welcome copies of your letters in order to gauge the number of responses, but your letter to the "Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee" is the *most* important one!

Sir Knight Allen is a member, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 19, New Orleans; Cachet Chairman — Louisiana Lodge No. 102, F. & A.M., New Orleans; and 2nd Vice President, George Washington Masonic Stamp Club.

"THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN . . ."



A standing-room-only crowd of thousands of Christians gathered at 7:30 a.m. within the Amphitheatre of Arlington National Cemetery to hear the sermon offered by the Reverend and Sir Knight H. Dwight McAlister, Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, at the 49th Annual Sunrise Service to celebrate Easter, 1979.

But for most in attendance, Easter began two hours earlier, before sunrise, on Sunday, April 15. By 5:30 a.m., Sir Knights, wives, children and friends were ready to board buses outside the Washington and Marriott Hotels for the short trip to Arlington, Virginia. Just outside the West Gate of the Cemetery, uniformed Templars lined up for the march to the Amphitheatre. According to spectators, the procession of almost 700 Sir Knights marching behind Grand Master Willard M. Avery and his corps of Grand Officers, Department Commanders, Grand and Past Grand Commanders, and Committee Chairmen, was "a striking and inspiring sight." Stepping to the measured cadence of "Onward Christian Soldiers," played by the U.S. Marine Band, the extended line of Sir Knights entered the Amphitheatre and filled the area with a traditional "sea of plumes."

The Scripture Lesson was read by Easter Sunrise Committee Chairman Marvin E. Fowler, and preceding Reverend McAlister's address, Colonel Earl F. Vaughn, Chaplain, USAF, gave the Prayer. The U.S. Army Chorus and U.S. Marine Band performed Easter selections, highlighted, as in past years, by the singing of Malotte's "Lord's Prayer" by Michael S. Ryan.

The service, sponsored by the Armed Services Chaplains Committee and the Military District of Washington, in cooperation with the Grand Encampment, concluded with the placing of a Cross of Lilies at the Tomb of the Unknowns in the name of Knights Templar of the United States.

Following the service, Sir Knights and families departed Arlington for state breakfasts. Some 400, including Grand Master and Mrs. Avery, Reverend and Mrs. McAlister, and Grand Encampment elected Officers and their wives attended the annual Easter Breakfast sponsored by the Grand Commandery of the District of Columbia.

Fight to the Finish

The 11th Annual Voluntary Campaign report for the week ending April 27, 1979, indicates a total of \$422,193.19 in contributions — a \$10,000 increase from the same week last year, and almost \$90,000 over the same period during the 9th Campaign!

Alabama	\$ 4,682.15
Arizona	13,152.73
Arkansas	1,749.50
California	11,759.27
Colorado	6,229.94
Connecticut	2,908.54
District of Columbia	3,971.96
Florida	10,301.85
Georgia	19,908.94
Idaho	3,439.83
Illinois	9,429.22
Indiana	3,914.00
Iowa	1,146.50
Kansas	1,867.25
Kentucky	2,824.80
Louisiana	4,555.00
Maine	4,052.48
Maryland	8,218.75
Mass.—R.I.	6,780.89
Michigan	31,263.64
Minnesota	5,419.75
Mississippi	3,518.93
Missouri	6,368.54
Montana	8,223.00
Nebraska	652.50
Nevada	4,649.67
New Hampshire	3,765.00
New Jersey	4,660.00
New Mexico	3,136.52
New York	7,540.35
North Carolina	5,425.25
North Dakota	2,027.46
Ohio	25,505.75
Oklahoma	1,572.59
Oregon	5,125.03
Pennsylvania	34,687.32
South Carolina	5,374.83
South Dakota	2,902.39
Tennessee	21,096.50
Texas	91,377.82
Utah	4,368.63
Vermont	1,172.90
Virginia	6,528.88
Washington	992.50
West Virginia	3,260.48
Wisconsin	2,295.70
Wyoming	1,107.66
Philippines	120.00
St. John's No. 1, Delaware	60.00
Honolulu No. 1, Hawaii	30.00
Alaska No. 1, Fairbanks	100.00
Porto Rico No. 1, San Juan	678.00
Anchorage No. 2, Alaska	240.00
Tokyo No. 1, Japan	30.00
St. Andrew's No. 2, Delaware	167.00

"No Risk Guarantee"

Knights Templar Eye Foundation Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell says, "There is a no risk guarantee of satisfaction when an individual joins the Grand Master's or Grand Commander's Club." Why "no risk?" Because the results from this "freewill" offering are guaranteed to bring satisfaction — not only to the benefactor but to the recipient as well.

Beginning membership in the Grand Commander's Club this month are the following contributors of initial donations of at least \$100 dollars:

North Carolina No. 3 — Paul Schwartztrauber
 Tennessee No. 9 — William R. Douglas
 California No. 11 — Mr. & Mrs. G.H.M. French
 In Memory of Ruth Emilie French

A wallet card identifying the donor and state is forwarded with receipt to new members in the Grand Commander's Club. When membership contributions reach \$1,000 (with annual payments of \$100 or more), or when \$1,000 is forwarded as a single donation, the donor joins the Grand Master's Club. Here, membership includes a personalized desk plaque and a metal wallet card.

Four new Grand Master's Club members are listed this month:

No. 148 — James P. Kakebeeke
 No. 149 — Carl Tegner
 No. 150 — Abe Bissell
 No. 151 — George Lang

Any individual — not alone Knights Templar — may take advantage of this "no risk guarantee" for satisfaction, says Sir Knight Bell. Those seeking more information may write G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 509 South Sixth Street, P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705. (Membership provides no Commandery credit.)

Hermann von Salza, No. 1,
 Frankfurt, Germany 110.00
 Heidelberg No. 2, Germany 150.00
 Harry J. Miller, U.D.,
 Bitburg, Germany 1,590.00
 Miscellaneous 4,005.00

WHAT OF TOMORROW?

by

Sir Knight Richard S. Hassell
Santa Monica Bay Commandery No. 61

"Tomorrow" in the immediate sense is only a day away. However, in a more poetic sense, it can be construed as being any part or segment of the near or distant future, depending on our own perspectives, goals and ideals.

When the Founding Fathers (many of whom were Masons) affixed their signatures to the Declaration of Independence, they were very aware that they were laying their lives on the line, but also with the knowledge that they were fighting to establish a sovereign nation, based upon the principles of Freedom, Justice, Equality and Humanity to serve as a shining example for mankind throughout all future time.

It is entirely possible that those of our Founding Fathers who were Masons, through their deep convictions that Freemasonry and its teachings were a way of life, provided the catalyst and inspiration which served as a common bond and a stabilizing factor

between all of the Revolutionary forces, Mason and non-Mason, all of whom were dedicated to a common cause in bringing about the independence of this most beautiful and God-given land.

If Freemasonry is to be preserved as a way of life, we as Masons and Sir Knights should and must dedicate ourselves individually and collectively in displaying the courage of our convictions, by embarking on a "Crusade" to "help, aid and assist" in promoting the growth and progress of the Blue Lodge and all concordant bodies, at the local level, nationally and, indeed, worldwide, observing the Ancient Landmarks and regulations of the Grand Lodge and working together in the warm atmosphere of sincerity and enthusiasm displayed by our Founding Fathers.

Sir Knights, the keyword is *enthusiasm* and tomorrow is *now*.

Submitted by Sir Knight Richard S. Hassell, Warder, Santa Monica Bay Commandery No. 61, member of Grand York Rite Membership Committee, California. Sir Knight Hassell lives at 911 Second Street, Santa Monica, California 90403.

Coming Next Month: Knights Templar Eye Foundation 11th Annual Voluntary Campaign results and list of award-winning Grand, Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies.



HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS

Oklahoma "Knights Templar Days"

Okmulgee, Oklahoma, Mayor Paul Brown signed a proclamation designating April 21, 22 and 23 as "Knights Templar Days" and welcomed the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma to Okmulgee for its 1979 Annual Conclave. The official response to the Mayor's welcome was presented by Grand Generalissimo Ned E. Dull, representing the Grand Encampment.

Chesapeake Ladies Night — Installation



From left — Sir Knight Albion Bailey, R.E. Grand Commander of Maryland; Sir Knight Alton G. Billmeier, R.E. Northeastern Department Commander; and Sir Knight Clifton Friel, Eminent Commander, at joint Ladies Night and Installation of officers held April 4 for Chesapeake Commandery No. 10, Denton, Maryland.

Canada's 96th Annual Assembly

An agenda released by Grand Chancellor Charles E. Wells, Past Grand Sovereign, shows the 96th Annual Assembly of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada will be held at Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver, British Columbia, August 18-21, with Columbia No. 34 as Host Preceptory.

Registration will open at 3 p.m. Saturday, the 18th, two days after the adjournment of the 54th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment at Indianapolis.

Golden Anniversary

Sir Knight and Mrs. Earl W. Schultz, formerly of Nebraska, now of Red Feather Lakes, Colorado, will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary at a June 23 "open house" at High Country Club in Red Feather Lakes. Along with the anniversary announcement, Nebraska Grand Recorder Ralph R. Carleton sent word that "Companion Schultz has worked in Masonry for the past 40 years. He is a Past Grand High Priest and a Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in Nebraska. He was also the sparkplug in forming Temple Commandery No. 30, K.T. at Sidney, Nebraska, in 1954."

Temple Stamp Club — 40th Anniversary

The Temple Stamp Club of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, organized June 21, 1979, by a group of Masons interested in philately, will celebrate its 40th Anniversary this month. To commemorate the event, a bi-colored anniversary cover has been issued, including a card-history of the Club. The covers, containing reproductions of the Kenwood Masonic Temple and the Scottish Rite Cathedral (both in Milwaukee), are available for 75 cents each, and will include a new Architecture stamp to be issued shortly. Also available is a set of four different stamps on separate covers for \$2.50, and a single cover with a block of four stamps for \$1.50.

Interested collectors are told they may purchase items by forwarding check and self-addressed stamped envelope (No. 10 size), to: Temple Stamp Club, Scottish Rite Cathedral of Milwaukee, 790 North Van Buren Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

Massachusetts Amaranth Elects

Miss Dorothy Hill, Springfield, was installed as Grand Royal Matron of the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth in Massachusetts on Saturday, April 28 at the 54th Annual Session of the Grand Court held at the Wakefield-Lynnfield Masonic Temple. Sir Knight George D. Eastman of Medford Court of the Amaranth and a member of Couer de Lion Commandery No. 34, Medford, was installed as Grand Royal Patron.

As reported by Sir Knight Stanley W. Folta, Springfield Commandery No. 6, Miss Hill is the first Grand Royal Matron coronated from Laurel Court No. 1, Springfield, in recent history. A joint Grand Reception for H.L. Hill and Sir Knight Eastman was held May 19.

For Coin and Medal Collectors

Columbia Holy Royal Arch Chapter No. 91, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has a number of "bicentennial coins" still available for interested collectors, according to member William E. Riley. Individuals may correspond with Sir Knight Riley, 2615 Franklin Avenue, Broomall, Pennsylvania 19008, to secure the commemorative item. Cost is \$3.00 each including postage.

Grand Encampment Nominations

Six Sir Knights will compete for office in the Grand Encampment line at the 54th Triennial Conclave of Grand Encampment August 11-16, 1979.

Grand Master Avery announces that one nomination limited to three minutes will be permitted for each nominee and one second for each candidate limited to one minute.

Arkansas K.T.C.H. Awarded in Hot Springs



Sir Knight Axel L. Larson (right), Past Grand Commander and member of Hot Springs Commandery No. 5, Arkansas, received the Knights Templar Cross of Honor from William P. Wilson, R.E. Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment at a special presentation April 16. Sir Knight Larson, injured in a fall on the ice in January, has been confined to the hospital since that time; the award was made in his hospital room.

Liberal, Kansas, Army Airfield Reunion

The Chamber of Commerce of Liberal, Kansas, is conducting a search for any and all people who "trained, served or worked at the old Liberal Army Airfield during World War II" — some 6,000 in all — to invite them to a reunion September 21-23. Among those already on the list to attend is South Dakota Senator and Brother George S. McGovern who trained at Liberal.

The facility, operational from June 1943 until September 1945, graduated 4,468 men. More information can be obtained by writing the Chamber of Commerce, Box 676, Liberal, Kansas 67901.

Five Years Later – Xenia Renaissance

The town of Xenia, is the county seat of Greene County, Ohio. On April 31, 1974, a tornado with “a 375 mph gale force and velocity of 50 mph” descended upon the town. Like many other structures, the Xenia Masonic Temple was left a shambles; the spire of the building,

licensed mechanical engineer, and later Eminent Commander), decided that the new building should be raised on the old site.

“Realizing the Xenia Masonic Temple Association had more time than money,” says Kessler, “they decided to build the



Old Xenia Masonic Temple



Following the tornado

witnesses report, was carried “many miles up Northeast Route No. 42.” The altar, woodwork, paraphernalia and records were salvaged, but the remainder of the

exterior rubble had to be removed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Plans for the rebuilding of the Temple began immediately, says W. Duane Kessler, Secretary of the Xenia Masonic Temple Association. “Sir Knight Billy Joe Jones was charged with the responsibility of financing the new structure with as little debt as possible. Funds were received from insurance, Xenia Lodge No. 49, Xenia Chapter No. 49, Wright Council No. 96, and Nathaniel Greene Commandery No. 81, and from Aldora Chapter No. 262, O.E.S., Rainbow Girls, Job’s Daughters and DeMolay.” A second “Building Committee,” first headed by Sir Knight William Haubach (who was then succeeded by Justus Miller, a



1979 – The new Xenia Temple

new structure with Masonic workmen, subtlety as little as possible.” Workmen from the temple “designed, engineered and constructed the entire temple

with the exception of the mass-pouring of concrete, laying the concrete block and brick walls, and installing the roof and air-conditioning system.”

Through the combined efforts of Temple workmen and assistance from appendant women’s and youth organizations, the new Xenia Temple was readied for dedication by M.W. Jerry C. Rasor and the Grand Lodge on August 26, 1978. York Rite dedication was held September 17, 1978, attended by Robert M. Huntzinger, Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter of Ohio; J.W. Burr, Grand Master, Grand Council; and W. Boyd Sibold, then Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Ohio. Regular meetings began in January.

REPORT OF THE THIRD HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

by
Sir Knight Harry M. Smit, Chairman of the Board
Holy Land Pilgrimage, Inc.

The Pilgrims pose before a giant Menorah, a gift from the people of Great Britain to Israel in 1956. It stands outside the Knesset, the legislative body of Israel. The Menorah is inscribed with a quotation from Zechariah 4:6, "So he said to me, 'this is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel' not by might, and not by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts."

From left: Martin Ruge, Emmanuel Lutheran, Menominee, Michigan; Bob Martin, First Baptist, Morganfield, Kentucky; John Spaulding, Middletown United Methodist, Middletown, Kentucky; Harold Filbrandt, United Methodist of Marshall, Michigan; Z. Earl Vaughn, Shawnee Heights Baptist, Muncie, Indiana; Sir Knight Harry M. Smit, Servant and Chairman, Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee; Richard Lochner, Eastlawn United Methodist, Idaville, Indiana; Harold Weemhoff, First United Methodist, Birmingham, Michigan; Willard King, — Peck, Buel and Melvin United Methodist Churches, Peck, Michigan; Herman Risch, Hope United Methodist, Whitehouse, Ohio; Paul Hartman, Central United Methodist Lansing, Michigan; David Kelle, Enon General Baptist, Princeton, Indiana; Wesley Perschbacher, St. Peter's Episcopal, Hillsdale, Michigan; Rollin Simpson, Lynnville, Indiana; Dennis Odekirk, St. John's Episcopal, Sturgis, Michigan; Sir Knight Frank Williams, Servant, Past Grand Commander of Indiana.



What is it like to be in the Holy Land? There was no jet lag for me — but there was a profound cultural shock. We boarded our plane in New York on February 15, and for the next ten hours we ate, slept, read, chatted and prayed. On landing, we left the plane's comfortable insulated room, and stepped off onto the warm soil of Israel. We were standing on Holy ground. Each of us felt a reverent thrill at simply being there.

Later that night, I stood before the Old City Wall of Jerusalem. It was beautifully illuminated by multi-colored lights. I stood across the street and watched the Wall which became like a movie screen, upon which was projected a parade of camels, veiled women, Bedouin Nomads, Jewish rabbis, Moslems, soldiers,

donkeys, goats and sheep. It was like being on a Hollywood movie set. I thought this had to be unreal. These people must be specially costumed for play acting. Reality was surely back in America, where everyone dressed similarly, where only cars were used for transportation, and everyone clipped along on expressways. I felt somewhere there had to be an invisible zipper that I could simply pull, and instantly step back into reality. It took me two or three days to fully accept the sights, sounds, and smells of the Holy Land as the reality in which I was then living.

Our group of 16 consisted of 14 Christian ministers from a variety of denominations who were being sent to the Holy Land, gratis, by the → → →

Grand Commanderies of Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan. Sir Knight Frank Williams, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Indiana, and I accompanied the group as Servants. We assembled in New York and were graciously met and accorded Templar hospitality by Sir Knight David Aiken, Right Eminent Grand Commander of New York, and his staff.

We arrived in Israel just prior to sundown on the beginning of Sabat, the Jewish Holy day. We checked into our rooms in Jerusalem and went to the Wailing Wall, just as the Jewish ceremonies were beginning. We experienced a cacophony of reverent chanting and music as thousands of devout Jews formed in small groups and were led in worship, in perhaps 100 different places before the Wall. Some linked arms and danced in long lines, singing ancient hymns to God.

I asked our guide if the group could leave the tourist area and walk among the worshippers. We were granted permission and stood before the Wailing Wall, the last remaining wall of King Solomon's Temple. Each of us could feel an invisible force, an attracting presence, about the Wall. As we walked before the Wall there were literally hundreds of worshippers standing with their feet together, bobbing repeatedly from the waist towards the Wall. Each of us went to the Wall and prayed. As I stood before the Wall, a Jewish worshipper came up beside me. He started to read the scriptures in Hebrew, then began to cry as if in anguish. The tears of his love for God ran down his cheeks.

One of the ministers in our group remarked later that the great wall in which Jews shoved prayers in the fractures and cracks, was like our own lives. Our lives are fractured and cracked, but as we place prayers in the holes, we are smoothed and made strong and whole.

Throughout the Pilgrimage there was

much prayer. The Pilgrim-Ministers were deeply moved when they learned that many of the 360,000 Knights of the Grand Encampment were joining in prayer with them at 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. each day. In addition, the congregations of many ministers were also united with us.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is the traditional site of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus Christ. It was built by Knights Templar. At the place of the cross, we each knelt and prayed.

I suppose that to many, a sacred shrine is "nothing but another church." But to us, each place was very special, where we could see God more clearly and feel His touch upon us more positively. At various places, a Pilgrim-Minister would be moved to suddenly break into a joyous spiritual song, or perhaps spontaneously repeat a verse of the Bible, or say a prayer.

Each day in Jerusalem before the dawn Moslems, from their minarets, call the faithful to worship. The first morning I remember getting up and going to the window to hear this. When the Muzzein concluded, I heard a cock crow in the darkness. The cock crowed two more times over the city of Jerusalem, and then came the dawn over the sacred city. How blessed we were, to be awakened by our Moslem friends, calling us to think of God. The cock still crows in Jerusalem each morning, giving man a perpetual opportunity to awaken from his dreams and to affirm his allegiance to the Christ.

Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and climbed Mount Tabor. He there met Moses and Elijah. Then he was transfigured. On seeing the Mount of Transfiguration, you would quickly know that one would not climb this tall mountain, on a mere chance of having a meeting — but rather, one would climb it only deliberately, with an appointment. We ascended Mount Tabor. To do this, today, the bus can only go part way. You then transfer to a convoy of radio

controlled private small taxis who together go over the narrow, winding trail to the top. From here it is as though you are on top of a very special world. Far below is the Plain of Jezreel. At the summit are the sacred remains of an ancient crusader church. But there is also a beautiful new church. I introduced myself to the priest in charge, and told him we would like, if possible, to have a private room for a service. He asked if I would like the Chapel of Elijah, or the Chapel of Moses. I was stunned — I could not choose. He smilingly then conducted us through Elijah's room, and left us in the Chapel of Moses. After our service, he then invited us to stand in the sanctuary of Jesus Christ, and led us in song.

Caesarea is the place where Saint Paul was kept prisoner for two years, before being sent to Rome for trial. This is also a place where our ancient brother Knights maintained a stronghold. On a grassy knoll overlooking the sparkling Mediterranean Sea, there are the remains of an ancient crusader wall. At this spot, the group formed for a very special service. This writer called upon all present to bless with their prayers the magnificent Order of Knights Templar. We then took wine from Cana and, using a common crystal cup, celebrated Holy Communion. Each Pilgrim-Minister served the elements to the person next to him, as he would in his own church. I will never forget the awed reverence of Sir Knight Frank Williams, when he sank to his knees, to receive the sacred elements, at that spot.

We have all returned to our homes now. The third Holy Land Pilgrimage has ended. Or has it? I have heard comments from the Pilgrim-Ministers, such as, "This has been the most spiritually moving event of my life; it was more important to me than my ordination as a minister." Or, "When I returned to my congregation, and offered Communion, for the first time in my career as a minister, I broke down in the pulpit and cried." The

knight templar

Pilgrim-Ministers have promised to continue their contacts with one another — as they have found a new love and understanding. They promise to continue to minister to each other and to the world, in a new found strength.

Is it possible that our willingness as Christian Sir Knights, in contributing our time, money, energy and prayer to Holy Pilgrimages, we have somehow, in some way, forever enriched the world — and have simultaneously enriched not only Templary and Masonry, but our own souls, as well? The answer to this is written on the heart of each of us.

Sir Knight Smit is P.C. of Damascus Commandery No. 42, Detroit. His mailing address is Holy Land Pilgrimage Inc., 13990 Merriman Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

‡

Special Guest

Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne was on hand to address members of the Illinois Masonic Medical Center at the Annual Trustees meeting held May 8 at The Women's Athletic Club, where she announced the appointment of IMMC staff member Dr. Hugo H. Muriel as Commissioner of the Department of Health for the City of Chicago.



Mayor Byrne with IMMC Trustees Alvin L. Crump (left), P.D.C., Trustee of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director. The Mayor accepted an invitation from Sir Knight Bell to visit Springfield, Illinois, in 1981 when the 109th Annual Assembly of the Red Cross of Constantine is scheduled to be held in that city.

John Bridges Phelps, K.G.C.

Florida Past Grand Commander John Bridges Phelps died April 27, in Miami, Florida, at age 93. Known as "Mr. York Rite Mason of Florida," he had served as head of all Grand York Rite Bodies in Florida, and in 1957 was elected General Grand Master of the General Grand Council, R. & S.M. In 1951 he was elected Grand Master General, Convent General, K.Y.C.H., and was a member of Knight Templar Priests, Great Priory of America, C.B.C.S., Societas Rosicruciana, Royal Order of Scotland, and Mahi Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. At the time of his death he was Grand Secretary-Grand Recorder Emeritus of the Grand York Rite Bodies in Florida.

Sir Knight Phelps was especially active in the Red Cross of Constantine, in which he served as Grand Sovereign in 1960-61; he was a recipient of the Knight Grand Cross in that Order. Until his death he served as Intendant General for the Division of Puerto Rico. Templar funeral services were held April 29.

Grand Encampment

Roll Call of Honored Dead

IN HALLOWED MEMORY

Alfred R. Corsberg

Wyoming

Grand Commander — 1955

Born November 1, 1895

Died March 21, 1979

Roland Sherwood Marshall, Sr.

Maryland

Grand Commander — 1956

Born December 27, 1896

Died April 10, 1979

David Lee Paulk

Georgia

Grand Commander — 1945

Born February 24, 1892

Died April 22, 1979

John Bridges Phelps

Florida

Grand Commander — 1935

Born July 10, 1885

Died April 27, 1979

Robert Lee Hall

North Carolina

Grand Commander — 1967

Born September 22, 1906

Died April 30, 1979

Tentative Triennial Committee Meetings

Meetings attendant to the 54th Triennial Conclave at Indianapolis are tentatively listed as follows:

Thursday, August 9: Knights Templar Eye Foundation Trustees — 2:00 p.m.

Friday, August 10: Knights Templar Educational Foundation, open meeting — 2:00 p.m.

Friday, August 10: Drill Team Judges — 4:30 p.m.

Friday, August 10: Drill Team Captains — 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 11: Committee on Jurisprudence — 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 11: Committee on Dispensations and Charters — 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 11: Committee on Finance — 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 12: Supplement Editors Meeting — 2:30 p.m.

Definite scheduling will be incorporated in General Order No. 8 to be distributed later this month. Notice of Conclave will be mailed June 13 to voting members. These consist of Past Grand Commanders, the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General of each Grand Commandery; the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each Subordinate Commandery, and the Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment.

In addition to the listed meetings, Special Committees and the Conclave Committees of the Grand Encampment will meet when necessary during the sessions, upon the call of the Chairman or the Grand Master, in meeting rooms on the second level of the Hyatt Regency, Indianapolis.

MASSACHUSETTS—RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

The bulk of funds contributed to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation via assessments, Annual Campaigns, Clubs, Life Sponsors and Patrons is used to pay for surgery and medical care for individuals who could not otherwise afford the cost. Each year also a portion of funds is given in grants to University Laboratories and Research Foundations to help underwrite expanding studies of eye disorders and dysfunctions.

One recipient is the National Retinitis Pigmentosa Foundation which allocates funds to researchers such as those at the Berman-Gund Laboratory for Study of Retinal Degenerations, located at Harvard Medical School. The following letter to Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director, of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, helps to answer in part the question – “who benefits?”

“Dear Sir Knight Bell:

“[I have] received the check for \$5,000 from Sir Knight James T. Fary [Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island]. This represents the second-part donation of the \$10,000 grant made to the National Retinitis Pigmentosa Foundation, Inc., last year by Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

“Tremendous accomplishments are being made at the Berman-Gund Laboratory toward the prevention and cure of retinitis pigmentosa and allied retinal degenerative diseases. The support from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will be used to expand their research efforts even further.

“[Following] is a recent report on the activities of the Berman-Gund Laboratory, written by its Director, Dr. Eliot Berson.

“On behalf of those persons affected by retinal degenerations, I again want to express my appreciation and thanks to you and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for its work in eye care and for its support of one of our research programs.”

Sincerely,
Dennis L. Hartenstine
Executive Director, RP Foundation

The Berman—Gund Laboratory For The Study Of Retinal Degenerations (Harvard Medical School)

Retinal degenerations represent a significant cause of visual loss to people from all over the world. A 1970 National Eye Institute survey of 16 states revealed that 19% of patients declared legally blind had retinal degenerations. The

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind reported that 26% of the registered cases of blindness in 1977 were due to retinal degenerative diseases including retinitis pigmentosa while other eye diseases respectively accounted for → → →

10% or less. An estimated 100,000 people in this country alone have retinitis pigmentosa or allied hereditary retinal degenerations. With respect to retinitis pigmentosa, the challenge is further magnified when we consider that so many young people are afflicted with these diseases.

The Berman-Gund Laboratory for the Study of Retinal Degenerations of Harvard University Medical School was conceived in 1971 as a multidisciplinary research effort to understand the cellular mechanisms involved in retinitis pigmentosa and other retinal degenerations. A research plan for the Laboratory, written by Dr. Eliot L. Berson, was approved for its scientific merit by the Executive Committee of Harvard's Department of Ophthalmology in 1971. Seed support for the Laboratory was provided by the George Gund Foundation, the National Retinitis Pigmentosa Foundation, and private donors as well as National Eye Institute Grants. Three investigators with expertise in electron microscopy, biochemistry and tissue culture, respectively, were selected from among 40 applicants in 1972 and 1973. The Laboratory was constructed and equipped in 1973 and 1974. Dr. Berson's electrophysiology laboratory was transferred from the Harvard School of Public Health into the Berman-Gund Laboratory in the summer of 1974, and the Berman-Gund Laboratory was formally dedicated on November 9, 1974.

The research efforts of the Berman-Gund Laboratory have included studies of patients with retinitis pigmentosa and allied retinal degenerations, studies of animal models of retinal degenerations, and research at the cellular level on rods, cones and pigment epithelium, as these cells are known to be involved in most types of hereditary retinal degenerations.

For example, electroretinographic testing was shown to provide criteria for early diagnosis and classification of

different types of hereditary retinitis pigmentosa. Affected patients can now be detected often 10 or more years before symptoms develop or changes are visible on a routine ocular examination, and electroretinography can be used to provide estimates of visual prognoses and as an aid in genetic counseling.

An organized eye donor program has been established for patients with retinitis pigmentosa and allied retinal degenerations. For the first time, tissue has been received within minutes after death for electron microscopy, biochemical studies, and tissue culture.

Electrooptical technology has been applied to the problem of night blindness; the symptom of night blindness can now be alleviated in patients with retinitis pigmentosa with the aid of a night vision pocketoscope.

A data bank has been coded with some 300 pieces of information on each of more than 1500 patients with retinitis pigmentosa and allied diseases presently on file. This data is being analyzed to improve classification, define natural histories, and determine risk factors that may modify the course of these diseases.

The Berman-Gund Laboratory for the Study of Retinal Degenerations occupies 3200 square feet in the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary and has fully equipped sections for electrophysiology, biochemistry, electron microscopy, and tissue culture. The Laboratory has grown from 11 in number at the time of the dedication to a staff of 18 at present. The present professional staff includes 5 members of the Harvard Ophthalmology Department Faculty and a consulting biostatistician from Harvard's Department of Preventive Medicine. From 1974 to the present, the Laboratory has provided training for 4 postdoctoral fellows and 14 students including 2 Harvard Medical students.

Whereas the Laboratory was initially supported about 80% by private sources

—News received from Arkansas Past Grand Commander Jacob L. King confirms Grand Encampment acquisition of copyright for Dr. Francis J. Scully's book, *History of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America*. Dr. Scully's history covers in detail the development of the Grand Encampment during the period 1816 to 1952, and briefly touches on the Crusades, Ancient Orders of Knighthood, and Templary in America prior to 1816.

Copyright negotiations were finalized by Past Grand Commander King and Sir Knight R. Julian Glover, attorney, member of Hot Springs Commandery No. 5.

Plans are being considered to update Dr. Scully's book — either as an expanded edition of the original, or a second volume focusing on the last quarter century.

... RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

and 20% by two National Eye Institute Grants at the time of the dedication, the Laboratory now is about 2/3 supported by the National Eye Institute (\$300,000/year direct costs) and 1/3 supported by private funds (\$150,000/year) and has five National Eye Institute grants.

The research accomplishments, the steady growth in personnel and activity, and the increasing support from public and private sectors, attest to the scientific merit of the research programs in the Berman-Gund Laboratory. The research effort of the Laboratory has been reviewed annually by a panel of 15 distinguished professors that serve as advisors to the National Retinitis Pigmentosa Foundation, and their response has been one of endorsement and support of the Laboratory's activities. The Berman-Gund Laboratory has helped provide new hope for patients afflicted with these blinding retinal degenerations. □

Recognizing "the long tenure of Masonry" in the Canal Zone (1898-1979), a special set of philatelic covers has been prepared with inserts covering the history of the Lodges in the Canal Zone and the 1977-78 District Grand Master, R.W. Thomas C. Peterson. The Canal Zone District, under jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts since 1913, supports six Blue Lodges, and R.W. Peterson, 33°, was the first District Grand Master born in the Canal Zone; his father was P.M. of Sibert Lodge in Gatun.



The two-cover set is available for \$3.00 postpaid, and checks may be made payable to John M. Cunningham, P.O. Box 7200, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044.

Wyoming Conclave Rescheduled

The 1979 Annual Conclave for Wyoming Knights Templar has been moved ahead one week — to September 20. The change was made when it was discovered that no lodging was available in the host city of Lander during the weekend of September 13. The Wyoming York Rite Convocation was pre-empted by the annual One-Shot Antelope Hunt, a Lander tradition since 1942.

Brucker Hall Addition

A life-sized bust of Wilber M. Brucker, former Secretary of the Army and Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, was presented to The U.S. Army Band on April 14, for permanent display in Wilber M. Brucker Hall, Fort Myer, Virginia. The late Secretary of the Army was instrumental in having the Chorus recognized as an official unit of the U.S. Army, and in March 1978 Brucker Hall was dedicated as the new home of The Army Band and Chorus.



The bust, commissioned by Mrs. Clara H. Brucker (left), widow of the late Secretary, was sculpted by Ms. Liz Hart (right) of Dallas, Texas, and accepted on behalf of the Band by Colonel Eugene W. Allen (center), Leader and Commander. The sculpture will be placed in the foyer of Brucker Hall near the bust of General and Sir Knight John J. Pershing, founder of the Band.

In attendance at the dedication were Sir Knights from around the country who marched in the Templar Easter Sunrise procession at Arlington Cemetery the following morning. A special contingent from Sir Knight Brucker's home state of Michigan, including Grand Officers of Michigan's Grand Commandery, witnessed the Easter Eve tribute.

Check from South Carolina Amaranth

For the past seven years the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth in South Carolina, has made contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation totaling \$19,000. The most recent donation was made at the 1979 Annual Sessions of the Grand Court, held March 30 and 31, when Grand Royal Matron Marjorie Kelly presented a check for \$3,043.72 to Charles C. Adams, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of South Carolina.



H.L. Marjorie Kelly presents check to Grand Commander Adams as Sir Knight Willard F. Bond, Jr., Grand Royal Patron, looks on.

Sir Knight Robert F. Secrest, Grand Secretary-Recorder of the York Rite Bodies in the state, notes that the Grand Court of South Carolina is now 25 years old with some 1,300 members in 19 constituent courts. "The money was raised," he says, "by contributions from members and special projects, such as fish fries, Masonic Dinners, etc." He adds that the Eye Foundation will again be the Grand Court's philanthropic project for the coming year, under the direction of current Grand Royal Matron H.L. Frances Watson and Grand Royal Patron Sir Knight Robert A. Nobles.

Officer's Jewel Found

A generalissimo's jewel of office was found at the Flanders Hotel, Ocean City, Jersey, on Sunday, March 4, 1979. For return, contact Sir Knight Herbert W. Sumner, Jr., 12-27 Jerome Place, Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410, accurately describing same.

MASONRY AND THE SHRINE

J. Walter Karsner

Past Grand Commander, District of Columbia

A recent article by Russell E. Anthony asked "Is the Shrine a Masonic Body?" As an officer in the line of the Imperial Council he says he hoped "the article stimulated readers to think, which was my hoped-for objective." Later a "rebuttal" was published written by Robert S. Purcell but, to my mind, he seemed to ignore a direct statement.

The answer to the question is *NO*. The Shrine is not a Masonic body, for two reasons. First, there are only two Masonic bodies: the Blue Lodge and, in America, the Royal Arch Chapter.

Our Mother Grand Lodge of England proclaimed the clear definition:

"Ancient Craft Masonry shall consist of the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, together with the Holy Royal Arch, *these and no more.*" (their emphasis)

All other miscalled "Masonic" bodies have been permitted to base their membership upon selected Masons. These *bodies* do not become part of the Masonic fraternity as, for example, the Order of the Eastern Star. They are forever outside the definition of the Masonic fraternity proclaimed by our Mother Grand Lodge of England, the first and last authority.

Secondly, the Shrine could not be a Masonic body as they are incorrectly termed, because a large portion of its membership is in the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar which rests upon the requirement that each of its petitioners

must profess "a firm belief in the Christian religion."

During recent years a high official of the Grand Encampment has persistently emphasized the virtues of "Christian Masonry" and "Christian Masons." There can be no "Christian Mason." It is a contradiction by terms.

Personally, I have enjoyed a membership of more than sixty (60) years as a Knight Templar, with great respect and admiration for its great accomplishments and services. I have been privileged in years long gone to associate with Templars of highest rank, and have worked with them and enjoyed countless social occasions. There is no taste of sour grapes in my mouth.

I have been a constructive Knight Templar in my own jurisdiction and nationally. As a fact, not a boast, I, more than any other individual was instrumental in getting the Grand Encampment to sponsor the Easter Sunrise Service at Arlington. The records of the office of Adrian Hammersly will confirm this. I originated the Easter morning breakfast and presided over the first one as Grand Commander, District of Columbia, in 1940. I, in 1940, selected the Washington Hotel as a base for future years and I pioneered the arrangements which later have been so splendidly developed by more talented friends. I have paid my dues, in many places.

The above statement is not for personal advertisement. I have no need for it. It is to evidence a base of credibility.

Sir Knight Karsner lives at 800 South Washington Street, No. 102 A, Alexandria, Virginia 22314



British Thanks

The Temple Church, London, is one of the oldest extant examples of Templar institutions in the West. It was built "in the round" during the early days of the expansion of Templary into Western Europe. According to one source, "the church, in the heart of London, was expanded with a magnificent high Gothic extension before the middle of the thirteenth century. More recently an organ has been installed and this is the object of current restoration."

This same source (an anonymous Sir Knight from the United States) has sent, via the Grand Encampment and "on behalf of the Knights Templar of America," a contribution to the Master of the Temple Church to aid in the restoration. The contribution was acknowledged as "most welcome" by the Master, The Very Reverend R. L. P. Milburn.

Invisible Lodge

A request last month from Brother William I. Joy, Brookfield, Ohio, brought to light the existence of a unique Lodge of Master Masons. The 800 members of The Invisible Lodge are all "Masonic Magicians residing throughout the world," says International President Joy. Permission was granted to reprint the April 1978 article "The Great Houdini" in *The Trestle Board*, official publication of The Invisible Lodge.

Fertile Field

There's a message for Templars in the recent questionnaire addressed to Scottish Rite Masons in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Asked if they were members of the York Rite, the response was 6%. Equally strange was the question about Shrine membership. The response — 1%.

"The Cross and the Crown"

This poem was written by Sir Knight John A. Small and was included in his book Poems Unlimited. It was inspired by a sermon from Mark 10. Sir Knight Small is a member of Tucson Lodge No. 4; Chapter No. 3, Royal Arch Masons; Council No. 6, Royal & Select Masters; Arizona Commandery No. 1; and is 1st Vice President of the clown unit of Sabbar Temple, Tucson, Arizona.

To value a smile,
You must see a frown,
You must bear a Cross,
If you cherish a Crown.

In every parable,
Psalm or story,
We learn of trouble,
Preceding the glory.

So be prepared for
The darkness of night,
If you would welcome,
The coming light.

The highway we use,
Is made of rough stone.
But one we must travel,
To ascend to the throne.

So look at each trial,
Along the way.
As a jewel in your crown,
On judgement day.

And just as Bartimeus,
Who was once blind,
Let your faith make you whole,
Then follow behind.

Used by permission of Sir Knight Small, 3350 South Tahoe Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85730.

CAN GEORGE DO IT?

Sir Knight Gilbert H. Hill, P.C., Coronel-Ascalon Commandery No. 31, Denver, Colorado, sheds some light onto the origin of the oft-heard phrase "Let George do it," and focuses on several George's who had important roles in the making of this nation.

Way back in the 15th and 16th centuries (1499 – 1515), Louis XII of France, thought he could. He is probably the first in history to have so much confidence in "George." Ever since that time, the words of the French monarch have been quoted, sometimes not knowing who was the original author.

Louis the XII, a military leader and well-loved ruler, caught up in the struggles against Italy, personally led many advances into Italian territory. His attention and talents absorbed by military affairs, he entrusted much responsibility to his prime minister, Cardinal Georges d'Amboise. "Let George do it; he is the man of the time." These are the words of the once Duke of Orleans, when home affairs were pressing for consideration, while he was away from the realm. For his rare judgment and high regard for his people, the "Estate of Tours" conferred

the surname of "Pere du Peuple" (Father of the People) upon him. This select judgment of the French King came as a matter of course and was called into account in the 18th century when "Georges" were taking a great hand in human affairs:

George William Frederick, the English Monarch known as George III was having trouble with his colonies in the New World. George Washington, one-time royalist, had turned against the British, and became the leader of a new order in government. And six of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were named "George," including George Clymer of Pennsylvania; George Read of Delaware; George Ross of Pennsylvania; George Taylor of Pennsylvania; George Walton of Georgia; and George Wythe of Virginia. Don't we need George to do it now?

Georgia – The Last Colony

It was the 13th British colony established in North America and originally intended as "a refuge for imprisoned English debtors" – although historians say that the colonists were carefully chosen and actually very few were members of the "debtor class." The principal founder was Brother James E. Oglethorpe.

Oglethorpe was elected to Parliament in 1722 and served for 32 years as a member of the House of Commons. In the early years he was made chairman of a parliamentary committee to investigate penal conditions, and he thereby became interested in the so-called "debtor class" and the growing number of poor over-populating London jails. Parliament granted Oglethorpe and his associates 10,000 pounds to settle a new colony which would serve a double purpose – it would be a place where debtors could start a new life, and it would also serve as a "buffer" colony to protect South Carolina (up until then the southern-most of the colonies) from the Spanish in Florida. In addition to the funds from Parliament, a large amount of money was also raised by subscription, "Freemasons contributing heavily."

Two years after founding Savannah, the Grand Lodge of England issued a warrant to Brother Oglethorpe to establish King Solomon's Lodge No. 1. Oglethorpe was its first master and served for nine years.

International Supreme Council Elects

C. C. Faulkner, Indianapolis, Indiana, was elected Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, in Kansas City, Missouri, Wednesday, May 2, climaxing the 59th Annual Sessions and 60th Anniversary of the founding of the Order by Frank S. Land in 1919. The new Grand Junior Councilor, filling the first elective position in the ISC line, is Reese L. Harrison, Jr., of San Antonio, Texas.

Other officers elected at Kansas City are William C. Chasey, Pennsylvania, Deputy Grand Master, David J. Morgan, Nevada, Grand Senior Councilor; Paul E. Skoglund, Missouri, Grand Secretary; Chandler C. Cohagen, Montana, Grand Treasurer, and H. Malbern Marks, Assistant Grand Treasurer.

George M. Saunders, Past Grand Master of DeMolay, after years of service to the International Supreme Council, was elected Grand Secretary Emeritus.



New Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, C. C. Faulkner, Jr., Indiana, with Paul E. Skoglund, who was elected Grand Secretary of the Order.



Reese L. Harrison, Jr., Texas, newly-elected Grand Junior Councilor, is shown with Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary Emeritus George M. Saunders, Kansas City, Missouri.

Grand Encampment was represented by Grand Generalissimo Ned E. Dull, ISC Honorary Member, who was officially received Sunday; by Past Grand Master of DeMolay and Grand Encampment, John L. Crofts, Sr.; Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation; and Paul C. Rodenhauer, Grand Recorder. The three latter are Active Members in the International Supreme Council.

Grand Master Willard M. Avery, Honorary Member, unable to attend the opening session Sunday because of Annual Conclave visitations, was present Monday for the remainder of the session and the Wednesday ISC banquet when the new officers were formally installed.

The schedule included a tour of the birthplace of the Order of DeMolay, the Old Scottish Rite Temple, 15th and Troost, Kansas City, and a Memorial Service at the gravesite of Frank S. Land, held at Mt. Moriah Cemetery.

The 12th Annual International DeMolay Congress was held April 26-28 also in Kansas City. William K. Clark, Jr., Oregon, was elected new International Master Councilor, and Eugene L. Martino, Mississippi, Congress Secretary.



At left, David J. Morgan, elevated to Grand Senior Councilor; on the right, the new Deputy Grand Master, William C. Chasey, Sr., Pennsylvania.

DeMolay Summer Leadership Conferences

The International Order of DeMolay, will sponsor eleven International DeMolay Leadership Conferences during July and August at sites throughout the United States. According to Thomas R. Labagh, Director of Public Relations, the Conferences will provide an opportunity for "individual growth to DeMolays, with resulting growth to Chapters, and Jurisdictions." Junior Councilors of local Chapters are especially urged to attend.

Typical DeMolay Chapters are formed at the beginning of each Conference, with elected officers and organization of sports teams. The Conferences will focus on the development of individual leadership qualities, the education of members in basic DeMolay programs and procedures, and "establishing and fostering an increased understanding of brotherhood between and among DeMolays from various jurisdictions." The \$98 per-person cost for each Conference includes meals, lodging and program for six days, Leader-

ship Conference notebook, publications, and two Conference T-shirts. (Transportation to and from Conferences is not included.)

Lecture and discussion topics will cover a variety of subjects including Ritual, DeMolay Week, conducting good Chapter meetings, organizing projects, communication, awards and other DeMolay-oriented general knowledge subjects.

Afternoons will be devoted to general recreation and athletic competitions, with evening hours used for optional sessions and entertainment. A daily "Conference Newspaper" will be printed, and a Ritual Display is planned for the last night of each Conference. A "Rededication Service" will conclude the activities.

Reservation forms may be obtained by writing DeMolay Headquarters, 201 East Armour Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri 64111. The dates and locations of the Conferences follow:

July 8-14 LaHonda, California	July 22-28 Jonesboro, Arkansas
July 8-14 Lynchburg, Virginia	July 30-Aug. 5 Fort Worth, Texas
July 8-14 Tacoma, Washington	August 12-18 Greeley, Colorado
July 15-21 Potosi, Missouri	August 12-18 Jacksonville, Florida
July 15-21 Decorah, Iowa	August 19-25 Akron, Ohio
August 26-Sept. 1 Becket, Massachusetts	



DeMolay Installation scenes in the Scottish Rite Temple, Kansas City

The Committee on Time and Place announced confirmation of the 1980 Supreme Council sessions to be held at Indianapolis, Indiana, with headquarters at the Indianapolis Hilton Downtown. DeMolay Congress is set for April 10-12; Supreme Council will meet April 13-16. Host city for 1981 will be Cherry Hill, New Jersey, where the Congress will run from April 2-4 and the ISC session will be April 5-8. An invitation was also accepted from Brother David J. Morgan, Grand Junior Councilor and Executive Officer in Nevada, to hold Supreme Council Sessions in Reno, in April 1982.

MASONS FOR AMERICA DAY

by

**Sir Knight David Frazier, Florida
Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of Council**

Brother Masons all over America, we are told that membership in the Masonic Fraternity is declining, but not in the Southeastern section of our country.

We know that we must do something to attract the interest of the millions of good eligible men to the Masonic Fraternity so that it may start and continue to grow. We must give the public something that Americans can relate to Masonry. At present, what could attract more favorable attention than a patriotic endeavor nationwide each year?

Florida, among other Southeastern states, has been enjoying an increase in Blue Lodge membership. I believe that much of the success is due primarily to our annual "Masons for America Day" parades. The bands, floats, marching units with the banners proclaiming "Masons for America" attract many thousands of spectators from everywhere.

These parades and activities must be carefully planned and executed to be successful. After the parade, there could be a barbecue or some kind of dinner and perhaps a dance. A good speaker is also an asset.

If every Most Worshipful Grand Master and every Grand presiding Officer in all appendant orders in each state would participate in this or a similar activity, the public would soon have an excellent project to relate to Masonry, since the Rainbow Girls, DeMolay and Job's Daughters would be representing the youth of our country also. This should be an annual event, well-organized and well-publicized by every Lodge and newspaper, giving all details as to time and place. Committees could be chosen by the Most Worshipful Grand Master from each area so that all would be well informed. It is hoped that an activity of this nature will attract good men to Masonry.

I hope that this message will be seriously considered by Grand Masters and Grand Presiding Officers of every state. This is a project to which all Americans can relate and remember every time they see our flag. The time is now, Brothers. We must wait no longer.

SECOND CLASS

**POSTMASTER: Send notice to
GRAND RECORDER, Knights
Templar, U.S.A., 14 East Jackson
Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago,
Illinois 60604.**

Readers are requested to send address changes and corrections to their LOCAL RECORDERS — with the label portion of this page enclosed.