The GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL majestically rises above Shooter's Hill, Alexandria, Virginia
A NEW TRADITION

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial stands alone on a hilltop—a monument to American history and American Freemasonry. But it is, of course, much more than a monument to the past. It is also a monument to the future. As much as any mass of granite and marble, this magnificent structure houses the ideals of our Fraternity.

For the first time in April 1983, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., held its Easter Sunrise Memorial Service on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. The decision to hold the 1983 service in Alexandria came when we were informed that, after more than a half century, the Order of Knights Templar would not be permitted to sponsor the Easter Sunrise Service at Arlington National Cemetery. We found it necessary to adapt ourselves to a new situation—to clear the way in order that our years-old Easter tradition might grow into something new, something more meaningful, if possible, than what we had come to know as “Easter at Arlington.”

With the dedication of a committee headed by George M. Fulmer, P.G.C., District of Columbia, we began that new tradition in 1983. And on April 22, 1984, Templars and their families will once again be invited to the Grand Encampment’s Easter Sunrise Service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria.

I have attended this Templar service for many years, first as an officer from Ohio, then as an officer in the Grand Encampment line, and, most recently as Grand Master. The display of Christian fealty apparent as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour at this annual Grand Encampment service has only increased with each passing year. It is something in which every Sir Knight should participate, for in so doing we literally become those “Christian soldiers” of old.

Speaking personally, this event, more so than any other in the Templar year, gives me the opportunity to meet and march with my Christian fratres from all across this great nation. It is my dream to have every jurisdiction represented at Easter 1984. If you haven’t already decided to attend, please consider this my personal invitation to join your officers and fellow Sir Knights in Washington and Alexandria. Make your plans now, and help us continue a new tradition. It is one small way we have to exhibit our Christian heritage, our love of the Masonic Fraternity, and to honor the memory of our own Brother George Washington.
FEVERARY: The cover this month, as well as the Grand Master’s message on page 2, focus on one of the best known modern Masonic “landmarks” — the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. In April 1984, Templars will meet at this Memorial to join in Easter worship, and George M. Fulmer, P.G.C., District of Columbia, has provided readers with advance plans for this year’s Sunrise Service on page 5. We also invite you to partake of the history, features, and news in our February issue. Templary is “on the move” in 1984. Come in and share the events, celebrations and happenings taking place across the face of the Grand Encampment.

P.C.R.

FEBRUARY 1984

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Material for the Grand Commanders’ two-page Supplements is to be directed to the respective Supplement Editors.

Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders.
Philippines: According to P.G.C. Raymond E. Wilmarth the confirmed date for the 1984 Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the Philippines in Manila is Tuesday, April 24. Past Grand Treasurer Edmund F. Ball is scheduled to represent the Grand Master at this Templar activity which will see the gathering of Sir Knights from the Philippines' five Constituent Commanderies: Far East No. 1 in Manila; Okinawa No. 2 in Yagibaru; Kalaw Memorial No. 3, Manila; Guam No. 4, Agana; and Negros Occidental No. 6 in Bacolod City.

Grand Captain General: Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr., Grand Captain General, has asked the editor to relay his appreciation for the many cards, letters, and flowers that he received during his December hospital stay. Just before Christmas, Sir Knight Thornley slipped outside his home and shattered his elbow. Though he is now back at home and work, he regrets that his accident prevented him from witnessing his son’s installation as Worshipful Master of Jacques DeMolay Lodge No. 171. Sir Knight William Thornley, III, was installed the evening of the accident.

Illinois Chairman: The Chairman for the 16th Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for the Grand Commandery of Illinois is Dan W. Haigh, Past Commander of Chicago Heights Commandery No. 78. We have been notified that the address listed for him in earlier publications was incorrect. All Illinois reports and funds for the Campaign should be relayed through Sir Knight Haigh at 526 Illinois Avenue, Glenwood, Illinois 60425.

Clarksburg: West Virginia R.E. Grand Commander Donald E. Peterson has announced a Knight Templar-DeMolay Day scheduled for March 17, 1984, in Clarksburg. Each organization has set a goal of 100 candidates for the early spring event.

Note in Advance: Due to a scheduling conflict, Grand Master Ned E. Dull informs us that he will be unable to attend the September 7-8, 1984, Annual Conclave of Colorado in Estes Park, as originally noted in both General Order No. 6 and last month’s Knight Templar Magazine. Instead, Grand Captain General William H. Thornley, Jr., Denver, will act as official representative.

Oberamergau: Grand Master Ned E. Dull has announced arrangements for a “Templar Pilgrimage to Europe” to take place in July of 1984. The program, offering a one- or two-week trip to Alpine Country in the Rhine and Bavaria regions of Germany, and an optional extended tour into Switzerland and the Black Forest, is described in detail elsewhere in this issue. As a part of the tour, Templars may make reservations to attend the 350th Anniversary Performance of the famed Passion Play at Oberamergau. According to Germany history, the villagers of Oberamergau made a promise to God that they would perform the Passion Play once every ten years if He would spare them from the plague then ravishing Europe. Their prayers were answered, and the play has been a village tradition since 1634.

Thought for February: “My religion is very simply. I love God and all my brothers.” – Charles Rann Kennedy
EASTER 1984

George M. Fulmer, P.G.C., District of Columbia, and Chairman of the Committee on Easter Sunrise Memorial Service, reports that he and his Committee are laying the foundation for what they anticipate will be one of the best-attended Easter services ever conducted by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. For the many Grand Commanderies which have already made their reservations, and for those who will be finalizing attendance plans this month, the following report provides the preliminary details for Easter 1984.

Promptly at 7:30 a.m., April 22, 1984, the 54th Annual Easter Sunrise Memorial Service, now under the auspices of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., will begin. Again this year we will celebrate this day of Christ’s resurrection on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial on Shooter’s Hill in Alexandria, Virginia.

Plans being formulated for the Easter weekend will, when completed, be similar to those in the past with some improvements to make your visit more enjoyable. The Service itself will be in the new format as developed last year, The Reverend and Sir Knight Eugene H. Buxton, Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., will deliver the sermon. Masonic bands and chanters will provide the music. A parade of uniformed Sir Knights will precede the service.

Saturday afternoon from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. a reception will be held at the headquarters Hotel Washington for M.E. Grand Master Ned E. Dull and the Officers of the Grand Encampment and their ladies. This reception is open to all and dress is informal.

Sunday morning after the service a Breakfast will be served beginning at 9:15 a.m. in the Twin Bridges Marriott Motel. Tickets are $7.50 each, tax and gratuity included, and are available from the Breakfast Chairman Marion K. Warner, 1127 Tiffany Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904. This breakfast is sponsored by the Grand Encampment, and the Committee encourages all in attendance to participate with the other State Delegations who will be there. It is strongly recommended that reservations be made as early as possible as there is a limited number that can be seated in the single dining room.

For reservations at the Headquarters Hotel-Washington, Sir Knights may call Ms. Sandy Murphy or Ms. Debbie Cochran at 1–800–424-9540. Those calling should identify themselves as being with the Knights Templar. Rooms have been blocked for our members at $46 single, $50 double, $56 triple, $85 for one-bedroom suite, and $120 for two-bedroom suite. All rates are subject to D.C. tax of 10 percent, plus $1.00 per room per night for D.C. occupancy tax. Delegations arriving by bus will be charged $1.25 per bag for unloading and also for loading.

Grand Commanders, delegation chairmen and committeemen are encouraged to contact the chairman of this Committee for information and assistance and to be put on the mailing list for all releases from this Committee. Contact:

George M. Fulmer
Box 94B, Rousby Hall Road
Lusby, Maryland 20657
Phone: 301–326-3221

Make plans now to participate in this outstanding Templar and civic event.
FEBRUARY MASONIC MEETINGS

Listed below is the planned schedule of meetings of Allied Masonic Bodies which will convene at the Hotel Washington, Washington, D.C., February 10-12, 1984.

Friday, February 10  7:00 p.m.  Annual Assembly and Feast of the Philalethes Society

Saturday, February 11

8:30 a.m.  Registration
9:30 a.m.  Grand College of Rites, U.S.A.
10:30 a.m. Grand Master’s Council, A.M.D.
11:30 a.m. Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees, U.S.A.
12:30 p.m. Dutch Treat Luncheon
1:30 p.m.  Royal Ark Mariner’s Degree (Exemplification)
2:00 p.m.  Installed Master’s Council, A.M.D.
2:30 p.m.  Council of Nine Muses No. 13, A.M.D. (all A.M.D. Members are invited)
3:00 p.m.  Great Chief’s Council No. 1, Knight Masons
3:30 p.m.  Grand Council, Knight Masons of the U.S.A.
4:30 p.m.  Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis
6:00 p.m.  Annual Banquet, Allied Masonic Degrees
8:00 p.m.  Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees
10:00 p.m. Masonic Order of the Bath of the U.S.A.
11:00 p.m. Ye Antient Order of Corks

Sunday, February 12

7:30 a.m.  Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honor (Breakfast)
9:00 a.m.  Society of Blue Friars
9:30 a.m.  Grand Preceptor’s Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests
10:00 a.m. Grand College of America, H.R.A.K.T.P.


Templar Bowling Tournament Set

Pennsylvania Sir Knights will be honing up their bowling skills this month and next in preparation for the April 14-15, 1984, Knights Templar Eye Foundation Bowling Tournament to be conducted under the auspices of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. The tournament carries American Bowling Congress sanction and will include singles, doubles and team competition.

This “First Annual Knights Templar Handicap Bowling Tournament,” will take place at the ABC West Lanes in Harrisburg. Individual entry fee is $10, and team fee (per five-man team) is $50, with *50 percent of all money received to be paid back in prizes and 50 percent to go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Additional details may be obtained from Don W. Fink, 2518 Fairview Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18104.
THE KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN

by
Dr. and Brother J. Allen Gilbert
Portland Chapter No. 3, R.A.M., Oregon

The Crusades were officially initiated in 1095 A.D. by west European Christians intent on recovering the Holy Sepulcher from invading Moslems. Fully supported by the Papacy, the series of wars that followed sought to put an end to Moslem interference forever.

Circumstances leading to the Crusades began years before when Seljuk Turks, much to the disdain of the church, overran Jerusalem and interrupted Christian pilgrimages to the Holy City. To aid the poor and ailing pilgrims, Italian merchants obtained permission from the caliph of Egypt to establish a hospital near the Holy Sepulcher. Under the direction of Benedictine monks, a church and eventually a hospital were erected in the vicinity about 1080 A.D.

Chosen as the first rector of the new Hospital of St. John was Benedictine Brother Gerard de Tunce, who, with the sponsorship of King Baldwin I of Jerusalem, founded the Knights of St. John. The Knights, or Hospitallers as they were called, pledged to defend the Christian pilgrims and tend the wounded.

Upon his death in 1120, twenty-five years after the start of the Crusades, de Tunce was succeeded by a new Grand Master - French Prince Raymond du Puy. Grand Master du Puy was an aggressive man, and under his direction the Knights of St. John adopted a revised constitution. The vows taken by the fraternity - chastity, poverty and obedience - were retained, but the Knights now took up arms in defense "of their holy religion against the incessant depredations of the Infidels."

From this modest beginning, the Knights of St. John grew. Grateful crusader knights, healed of their wounds at the hospital, bestowed portions of their estates on the Order, while others remained in the Holy Land and worked at the hospital. Because of such gratitude, the Knights developed into a powerful and wealthy organization. In 1136 the Order was given an important stronghold, the castle Bethgehin in southern Palestine. The third Crusade was in progress at the time but failed miserably in its attempt to drive the Moslems from the Holy City. By the end of the 12th century, however, the Knights had occupied a number of historic castles, among which was the formidable Krak des Chevaliers.

After the defeat of the third Crusade, plans for a fourth emerged with the full blessing of Pope Innocent III. The new Crusade was aimed at the heart of Moslem power in Egypt, and French barons began to arrange transportation for the crusading Knights with Enrico Dandolo, the doge of Venice. But when the army arrived in Venice, it lacked the agreed passage money and was soon in debt for subsistence of its camps. To help pay their debts, the Knights struck up a bargain with Dandolo, in which they would help the doge conquer Zara, a Christian town held by the king of Hungary. Despite the objections of the Pope, the force sailed to Zara and in 1202 captured and sacked the city.

After spending a cold winter in Zara, the Knights were persuaded to accompany the Venetians to Constantinople to insure that Alexis, pretender to the

knight templar
Byzantine Imperial throne, assumed power. The populace detested the new emperor and, defying the Crusaders, rose up and removed Alexis from the throne. Outraged, the Crusaders captured and mercilessly pillaged the city in 1204, thereby invalidating the Knights' original cause. The Knights were exiled from the Latin Kingdom of the East and cast adrift in search of a new home. Guided by the twenty-first Grand Master, John de Villers, the Knights set sail for the island of Cyprus. Sick at heart, de Villers was overwhelmed by the loss of their castle bases but knew that the order possessed enough wealth to survive.

Upon their arrival on Cyprus, the Knights were welcomed with open arms and granted the town of Limasol, where they remained for eighteen years. During their stay they developed war ships under the astute leadership of Grand Master William de Villaret, who drastically reorganized the Order to meet the changing circumstances. In 1300 the Knights launched a final desperate attack on Alexandria but failed and were beaten back. Eventually, discord arose between the Knights and Cyprus sovereigns, and the Order once again began its search for another base.

Grand Master de Villaret and his knights headed for the Island of Rhodes with the financial backing of Pope Clement V, who foresaw the many strategic advantages of acquiring the island. [At the same time King Philip of France was conspiring with Pope Clement to destroy the Order of Knights Templar and Grand Master Jacques DeMolay.]

Rhodes, long the home of Turkish and Saracen pirates, was captured by Villaret in 1310 and ruled as an independent sovereignty, complete with its own coinage. As a result of their increased sea power, the Knights withdrew from land conflicts to wage successful battles at sea, becoming the scourge of Moslem shipping.

For the next two centuries, the Knights of St. John constructed massive fortifications and beautified the island with magnificent architecture while establishing numerous bailiwicks in Italy, Spain, France, Germany and England. During that period, under the leadership of Peter D'Aubusson, the Knights defeated the mighty Turkish fleet off Smyrna, their heroic defense exciting great admiration throughout Europe. After the death of D'Aubusson, the Knights were left in peace until 1520, when Suleiman became sultan of the Ottoman Empire. Suleiman was only twenty-six years old when he ascended the throne and proclaimed his desire to capture "Belgrade and then Rhodes." Belgrade fell to the Ottoman leader in 1521, and the following year Grand Master Philip Villiers de L'Isle Adam received a letter from Suleiman demanding surrender of the island of Rhodes. In July 1522, the sultan landed in preparation of the final assault. The Knights of St. John held out until December 16 of that year, when, after a valiant defense, L'Isle Adam surrendered. The remaining Knights were allowed to leave with dignity aboard their own galleys.

Once more the Knights went into exile, first in the province of Viterbo, north of Rome, and then in the Mediterranean seaport of Nice. Still unable to find a suitable home, L'Isle Adam negotiated with Charles V, king of Spain, about obtaining the island of Malta. The king agreed providing the Knights swore allegiance to Spain and paid an annual rental fee of one falcon. The Grand Master thought such terms would destroy the Order's independence and was prepared to refuse; however, the Pope interceded and negotiated in favor of the Knights. On March 24, 1530, the Knights of St. John were awarded complete and perpetual sovereignty of the islands of Malta and Gozo and the city of Tripoli, together with all their castles and fortresses.
The 32nd Annual Christmas Breakfast and Observance was held by Cyrene Commandery No. 34, Columbia, Pennsylvania, on December 11, 1983, in honor of R.E. Grand Commander Charles S. Canning. Pictured above (left to right) are Cyrene Commander Wilbur E. Weaver; Dale E. Fantom, Division No. 15 Commander; Grand Commander Canning; Paul C. Rodenhauser, Grand Recorder of Grand Encampment and originator of the annual program; and Nelson Sears, P.C. and Master of Ceremonies.

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**KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN**

Thereafter, the Order was known as the Knights of Malta.

The Knights remained on Malta until 1798, when Napoleon took possession of the island in his campaign against Egypt. Once more the Knights were forced to give way and go into exile, although Napoleon made room for them in France.

To this day the Knights of St. John is the only order of knighthood still active, with one base in Rome and another in the United States. Throughout the centuries they have left behind an interesting history, a fraction of which has been related here.

Brother Gilbert, a retired engineer, is a member of Midday Lodge No. 188, A.F. & A.M., Portland, and is currently advancing through the York Rite. His address is 5840 S.W. Erickson, No. 46, Beaverton, Oregon 97005. This article is reprinted in part from THE NUMISMATIST magazine, August 1983.

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**Eye Foundation Does Work**

Sir Knight Robert L. Gumfory, Eminent Commander of Arizona Commandery No. 1, Tucson, is convinced of the worthwhile effects of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. His "conversion" came about in 1983 when he became personally involved in the case of a 64-year-old widow, and the true story of how her eyesight was restored is recounted by Sir Knight Gumfory below:

"The name of a lady had been given me by a Masonic Brother who informed me that this lady was in need of help from the Eye Foundation. The first step was to contact her and find out what assistance was needed. I personally contacted her by phone then went to her home the same day to interview her. The first thing I found was that cataracts had caused total blindness in both her eyes.

"Her husband had died, and she had been forced to sell their business since she could not operate it alone. The person to whom she sold the business failed to make the mortgage payments, and she was forced to go to court to recover from the buyer. Her widowed daughter then mortgaged her home to try to help her mother with court costs and legal fees. They ended up penniless.

"Though aged 64, this woman had for two years been unsuccessful in obtaining aid from Social Security, State Aid, etc., for cataract surgery. About 30 days after I saw this lady, she entered Tucson El Dorado Hospital. Dr. Richard Marcell performed the first eye surgery with great success. Ninety days later, the other eye was operated on. 100% vision was restored in both eyes. The total cost of the operations and new glasses was less than $5,000."

This true story ends with a brief postscript from E.C. Gumfory: "Let us all keep up the good work by supporting the Knights Templar Eye Foundation - because it is real, and it does work!"
THE STATUE OF LIBERTY — IN NEED OF REPAIR

Perhaps more than any other national monument, the Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World represents the best of the American dream. It symbolizes an idealism which every schoolchild understands when he or she first reads the story of how the United States came to be — the same idealism that we, as adults, all too often scoff at as a naive throwback to another age so far removed from today’s dog-eat-dog world.

Soon after publication of the October Knight Templar feature “And Her Name: Mother of Exiles,” by Assistant Editor J. E. Behrens, we received an inquiry from Sir Knight Ron Cyre, Jacksonville, Florida. He wrote, “The Statue of Liberty is failing apart and may collapse. At present, money is being raised to repair her. How about an update on this Masonic monument and the plans for its repair? Let the members know where and how to send monies to repair the monument that almost never was erected — due to lack of funds.”

This year and next the Statue of Liberty will be very much in the news: A national Centennial Commission has been established by the President of the United States to conduct a campaign to raise $230 million to restore and preserve both the Statue and neighboring Ellis Island. Begun in 1982, the “Statue of Liberty — Ellis Island Centennial Commission” hopes to raise $30 to $40 million for Liberty’s repair. Another $200 million will be used to restore the buildings on Ellis Island and to create an endowment fund to underwrite future repair work. The fund is being solicited from private donations. And in answer to Sir Knight Cyre, individual donations may be sent to “The Statue of Liberty — Ellis Island Foundation,” P.O. Box 1986, New York, New York 10018.

In addition, the Grand Lodge of New York has instituted plans, under the aegis of a special Statue of Liberty Committee, to hold a combined Masonic-patriotic ceremony on August 5, 1984, exactly 100 years to the day from the original Masonic cornerstone laying. The event, according to Committee Chairman P.G.M. Arthur Markewich, will help focus public attention on the need to raise the $230 million for future upkeep. It will also “call worldwide public attention to the significant role played by Freemasons, here and abroad, in helping raise funds for the original construction and erection of the Statue and in the laying of the cornerstone.”

As plans develop and as details are received from the Grand Lodge of New York, the information will be disseminated in the pages of the Knight Templar Magazine.

22 Ministers to Share Holy Land Adventure

Twenty-two Christian Ministers from ten states will join P. Fred Lesley, P.G.C. and Grand Recorder of Michigan, on the Eighth Holy Land Pilgrimage scheduled to embark from New York’s Kennedy International Airport on Tuesday, February 21, 1984. Sir Knight Lesley, who is Co-Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage, and who is making the journey at his own expense for the second year, will again attend the Ministers as servant and guide during their ten-day sojourn in the land of the historical Jesus.

The 1984 travelers will include five Ministers from both the Grand Commanderies of New York and Michigan; three each from Indiana and Kentucky; with one each from Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Iowa, South Carolina, and Virginia.

According to Co-Chairman Lesley, the total number of Christian Ministers to benefit from this Grand Encampment project will be 112 at the close of the 1984 Pilgrimage.
FAMOUS FREEMASONS OF THE U.S.A.

Famous Freemasons of the U.S.A. is an ongoing Masonic research project that has been undertaken by Sir Knight Thomas Rigas, St. Bernard Commandery No. 35, Chicago, Illinois. The purpose of this project has been to gather names and biographies of prominent Masonic personages who will be catalogued according to their occupational endeavors or claim to fame. Emphasis is placed on non-Masonic service and achievements in their professions, careers, and in service to their communities and nation.

Sir Knight Rigas describes his work as “a serious, carefully conducted Masonic literary effort where the research material will be prepared so as to produce interesting historical/biographical articles for use in regularly published Masonic magazines, transactions of Masonic research Lodges, and by serious Masonic scholars and writers.” He writes, “Famous Freemasons of the U.S.A. is not a directory-type, profit-making venture. The carefully documented research material is used strictly for Masonic education and literary purposes in a manner which is accepted by custom and tradition in Masonic research and educational circles.

“In its carefully conducted research activities, Famous Freemasons of the U.S.A. depends to some extent on the cooperation of knowledgeable and thoughtful Masonic Bodies, writers and researchers who send biographical sketches or lend other valuable assistance.”

In his attempt to expand the collection of contemporary Masonic biographies, Sir Knight Rigas is seeking the names of Masonic personages in the following categories: sports and athletics; founders and top executives of leading business and banking enterprises; leading inventors and scientists; military heroes; musicians and actors of screen and stage; leading religious leaders and clerics; educators and college presidents; newspaper and magazine editors/publishers; and other contemporaries of unusual achievement in their professions or careers.

Any Masonic Body or Freemason wishing to participate in this Masonic research project is invited to send biographical sketches and other documentation on prominent contemporary Masons to Sir Knight Rigas, M.P.S., Famous Freemasons of the U.S.A., 2600 West Farwell Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60645. In addition to giving full credit and acknowledgment, Sir Knight Rigas indicates that he will send any contributor of a biographical sketch of “a prominent contemporary Masonic personage listed in the above categories” a gift of appreciation consisting of two George Washington documents reproduced below and on the following page.
The first is a full-length sketch of Brother George Washington, engraved by H. Wright Smith from a painting by Thomas Hicks. The second is a reproduction of Washington’s hand-written letter dated April 4, 1789, at Mount Vernon to the presiding officer of the Senate accepting the Presidency of the United States of America. (Both documents are printed on ‘fine stock paper, 8¼ x 11 inches, and are suitable for framing.”)

Mount Vernon, April 14, 1789.

Sir:

I had the honor to receive your official communication by the hand of Mr. Secretary Thompson, about one o'clock this day, having concluded to obey the important direction of my duty, and having been impressed with an idea of the expediency of my being with Congress at as early a period as possible, I propose to commence my journey on Thursday morning which will be the day after to-morrow.

I have the honor to be

Your most obedient
Sir,

The Honble Jno Langdon Esq.

Mount Vernon, April 14th, 1789

Sir Knight Rigas notes that these documents are in limited supply and requests those interested to forward biographical sketches to his attention as soon as possible.

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So far as I am acquainted with the principles and doctrine of Freemasonry, I conceive them to be exercised only for the good of mankind.

George Washington

Christmas in Michigan

In spite of poor weather, Muskegon Commandery No. 22, Michigan, enjoyed a good attendance for their Christmas Observance and Widows’ Night held at the Muskegon Masonic Temple on December 6, 1983. Christmas messages from Grand Master Ned E. Dull and Grand Commander Arthur R. Ribble were read by Excellent Prelate Robert Peterson, P.C., and Eminent Commander Leon D. Nobes.

The Sir Knights in uniform performed a Full Form Opening for the event, and members, families, and guests then enjoyed a roast turkey dinner. Hospitaler Chairman R. A. Zimmerman, P.C., presented the Grand Encampment slide presentation on the Holy Land Pilgrimage project, and the attending widows of departed Sir Knights were given fruit trays as Christmas gifts.
MASONRY, APOTHEOSIS, AND THE WILL OF MAN

by
Sir Knight and Dr. Irving I. Lasky
Golden West Commandery No. 43, Los Angeles, California

The words of Spencer must never be forgotten: "Life is the continuous adjustment of internal to external relations. The completeness of life depends on the completeness of this correspondence; and life is perfect when the correspondence is perfect." We should realize that man's consciousness and mentality are subject to laws as inexorable as those of the sidereal world of matter. These are moral forces that are established by natural laws. They involve man's inner emotional dynamism and his relevance to the universe as well.

This thin outer crust of the human being is underpinned by many dynamic emotional forces lately named the id (I am), the ego (I wish to be), and the superego (I shall strive to be but will never achieve). Such phenomena enter as an amalgam of knowledge, will, instinct and the mystical.

The ancients (Pythagoras, Confucius, Socrates, and Zoroaster), among others, knew of such phenomena. The predictions of these philosophers were based on far more than ascribing names and branding the entities of the psyche. Even the seers of the apocrypha and their predictions were based upon these phenomena and their understanding. Their very rules by which to live were similarly established. Additionally, their predictions and prophecies were born of the profound understanding of such dynamism.

Brother Albert Pike has stated, "The mind, soul and body of man (philosophy) teaches the truths concerning the nature and existence of one Deity, and the existence of the immortality of the soul. It revives the academy of Plato and the wise teachings of Socrates. It reiterates the maxims of Pythagoras, Confucius, and Zoroaster."

Our very own Supreme Commander Henry C. Clausen puts it in his original vein in the book Emergence of the Mystical: "There is in Christ's gospel a rapport with many religions; Christianity, Buddhism, Islamism, Confucianism, Judaism, Brah'mism and others. All of this originally arose from man's early fears of nature's forces. (It became easier as the ancients understood their own psychic dynamism and began to understand and accept the power of the mystical. — Author's note). Gradual progress was made to higher and more mature concepts of freedom and a release from fear. Hence there developed a unanimity of belief that the great cause is the one God; that man partakes of the divinity in that God who dwells within him; then this accounts for his inner knowledge of right and wrong, and that this spark of the Divine can be developed into a living and eternal flame." As in the craft, the ancient philosophers obtained of that which his "darkness" had deprived him, i.e., "The Light."

From the very beginning, in a painfully slow way, man has sought betterment. Perhaps the earliest sign was the discovery of flame, by which he warmed and cooked, and the wheel which made his burdens less difficult.

Examples of cultural betterment may be demonstrated by the bravery and martyrdom of a Jacques...
DeMolay who at the last struggled for the equivalent of liberty, equality and fraternity.

With the seventeenth century, Baconian philosophy came to science with its nostrum of a new belief. With it came built-in weaknesses, failures, and the inevitable paradigm of consequences. Forgotten were the philosophers of the ages past and the knowledge of the testaments of the past. Forgotten was the importance of the synthesis which had been the watchword of Plato. Forgotten were Socrates who taught so very wisely and died by the poisoned hemlock of hate, and Aristotle, the wisest of all, and Pythagoras, to name but a few. Forgotten are the words of Santayana: He who ignores the mistakes of history makes the same mistakes.

Just what has this science brought us? For certain, it has shortened distance and abbreviated time in only an illusory way, for nothing really changes. It has taught us to save lives wholesale and kill retail. It has led us to frenzies of technologies, skills, gadgetry leading to a scatology of nothingness.

Forgotten are the earlier philosophy that taught the difficult and hazardous tasks of dealing with problems like good and evil, beauty and ugliness, order and freedom, and life and death.

The element of instinct has also been grossly overlooked in the new gadgetry of science. Brother Clausen treats of instinct in his *Emergence of the Mystical* in "Truth Beyond Nature." As Brother Clausen demonstrated, to add credence to the phenomenon of instinct, Aristotle was right when he said, "The instinct of animals in general gives us the best illustration of teleology in nature." Will Durant in his remarkable *Story of Philosophy* quoted: "A young dog fears to jump down from the table; it foresees the effect of the fall not by scientific reasoning, but by instinct alone, and an elephant who had been led through Europe, and had crossed hundreds of bridges, refused to advance upon a weak bridge, though it had seen many horses and men crossing it." That phenomenon cannot be put into a computer.

In Greek mythology, Sisyphus was condemned to roll a huge rock up a steep hill only to see it roll uncontrollably back down the hill as he approached the summit. Like Sisyphus, civilization has repeatedly neared a zenith only to fall back into barbarism and begin *de capo* its dreary upward travail. Hence the almost eternal recurrent cycle in all civilizations. What is the will to live? Why do we in the Craft constantly seek to understand the parallelisms and obliquities of the real meaning of life? *The will to live is the strong blind man who carries on his shoulders the lame man who can see.* Such is our Craft, the strength of order out of chaos.

To convince one of the powers of Masonry, we must appeal to the interest of man, his desires and his very will alone. To wish to enter the Craft, the motivation must take its origin from his very marrow and his genesis of will. Else, to no avail.

Those who offer inducements to enter the Craft, such as a free turkey, a clock or sundry flotsam, demonstrate a terribly regrettable hubris which should be avoided if not banished from our Masonry. This lack of reverence makes a simile to a cheap neighborhood matinee and its "door prizes" of similar type.

Character lies in the will as it does in the Craft. It is a continuity of purpose and attitude. *It teaches Virgil’s great lines:*

"Happy the man who has learned the cause of things and has put under his feet all fears, and inexorable fate, and the noisy strife of the hell of greed."

We must never forget that "A bit of wisdom is a joy forever."

When we, like Sisyphus, ascend the ladder of life, death is not visible. It lies
Templar Film Critics

G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director
Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Dear Sir Knight Bell:

I am returning this date the Eye Foundation film, Legacy of the Christian Knights and enclose herewith the "comment sheet" relating to our showing of the film. As you can see, it was enjoyed by those in attendance and one comment made several times was that this is one of the best Masonic films available.

I would also at this time like to schedule the film for a showing for Dodge City Commandery No. 35 and the Beauceant of Dodge City, Kansas.

Fraternally,
Bill Updegrove, Jr.
Grand Warden, K.T., Kansas

Editor’s Note: Legacy of the Christian Knights is available directly through the Eye Foundation office. To request a showing date, write to Executive Director Bell at P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

Pre-Christmas Beauceant Visit

Mrs. Barton K. Feroe (right) newly elected Worthy President of Atlantic City Assembly No. 49, New Jersey, is pictured above with Mrs. Harry P. Ross (left), P.W.P., and Mrs. Harold N. Kinsey, Supreme Worthy President, Supreme Assembly at a pre-Christmas luncheon to welcome new officers, held December 12.

Mrs. Feroe’s family can be described as Masonically “unique”: Sir Knight Feroe, her late husband, his six brothers, and their father were all Raised Master Masons, became members of both York and Scottish Rites, as well as Shrine and Tall Cedars of Lebanon.

...MASONRY, APOTHEOSIS, AND THE WILL OF MAN

down at the bottom of the other side. At the end, we all meet death in one way or another; just as experience coordinates itself into wisdom, brain and body begin to decay.

The fear of death is the beginning of philosophy and the penultimate basis for all religions. De La Rochefoucault said that man cannot look directly at the sun nor can he face death. However, man must live well and to the fullest to die well and with dignity.

What has all this to do with Masonry? The Craft is like the center of ourselves and the vital and immortal principle that connects us to the divine center of life. We are the grave of Hiram Abiff. The lost guiding light is buried at our very core. We must by the rule, the measure, the square and the compass, find the "light."

It is only in this very real and very large sense that our Masonry becomes a working philosophy for those brought within the circle of Masonic life. These are the secrets, but they are there for all to know, locked within our hearts — secrets of the deep and hidden quantums of the soul.

Albert Pike said, “What force draws the needle round to the north? What force moves the muscle that raises the arm, when the will determines it shall rise? Whence comes the will itself? Is it spontaneous, a first cause, or an effect? These too are miracles; inexplicable as the creation, or the existence and self-existence of God.” (Quoted from Clausen’s Emergence of the Mystical.)

Mr. Lasky resides at 11920 Dorothy Street, No. 204, Los Angeles, California 90049.
The third in a series of booklets on Masonic numismatics has been completed by Sir Knight Samuel H. J. Womack, K.Y.C.H., Past Illustrious Grand Master of Maryland, and is now available for sale to collectors of Masonic coins and commemoratives. Booklet No. III, “A Treatise on Some 130 York Rite Medallions” is offered for a donation of $2.54, which includes postage, and may be ordered from Aiken Council No. 140, Allied Masonic Degrees, Coin Booklet Committee, 663 Hampton Circle, Belvedere, South Carolina 29841.

Sir Knight Womack, Secretary of Aiken Council, A.M.D., also notes that “a few copies” of Booklets I and II are still available at the above cost.

100 Years of Templary in Canton

Canton Commandery No. 38, Ohio, former home Commandery of President William McKinley, has planned a rededication ceremony and a celebration of its “renewed vigor in knighthood” during this its 100th anniversary year. A commemorative coin, struck in honor of the event, incorporates a reproduction of the Templar cross and crown in white enamel highlighted by gold on a black field on the obverse. The reverse carries a reproduction of the Canton Masonic Temple.

Coins may be ordered for $4 each from George MacPherson, P.C., 6754 Pine-tree, N.E., North Canton, Ohio 44721.

90th Birthday, and Kansas Celebrates

When Sir Knight Willard A. Begwin observed his 90th birthday on November 9, 1983, he was treated to a birthday party by fellow members of St. Paul’s Methodist Church of Arkansas City, Kansas. Not long after that event, he was further honored by the York Rite Bodies of Arkansas City with a surprise party at the Masonic Temple in that city.

A Past Commander of Arkansas City Commandery No. 30, Sir Knight Begwin has completed more than 67 years in the York Rite. He is a skilled ritualist and has had the privilege of Knighting such distinguished Kansans as the late Robert B. Docking, former Governor of Kansas, and Past Grand Commander Joe Atkins.

Among his regular activities, Sir Knight Begwin delivers “meals on wheels” and is treasurer of the York Rite Bodies in Arkansas City. In 1967, he was awarded the second Knights Templar Cross of Honor from the Grand Commandery of Kansas by then Most Eminent Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker.

Knight Templar Day

Temple Commandery No. 23, Knights Templar in Grand Junction, Colorado, will conduct a “Knight Templar Day” on Saturday, March 17, 1984, with conferral of all the Orders that afternoon. The honored guests on this occasion will include Grand Commander Morris Elder, Colorado Springs.

february 1984
THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT ANNOUNCES
TEMPLAR PILGRIMAGE TO EUROPE

Dear Sir Knight:

Last year's pilgrimage to the British Isles, attended by over 400 Knights, their families and friends, was an overwhelming success. That is why this year, The Grand Encampment is offering another unique vacation program — one or two weeks in the magnificent Alpine Country plus the opportunity to personally participate in several outstanding and significant Templar events.

The Alpine Country Tour will visit the beautiful Rhine and Bavaria regions for one week — 8 days and 7 nights for as low as $749 (plus 16% tax and service charge) depending upon your city of departure. Then, you can extend your vacation for another week to include Switzerland and the Black Forest for only $349 additional (plus 15%). Prices are based on New York departures.

Plus, you can choose to take a special one-night optional tour to attend a special 350th Anniversary Performance of the spectacular Oberammergau Passion Play for only $179 (plus 16%).

We've arranged to make this marvelous vacation available exclusively to our members through Trans National Travel, who has sent over 374,000 travelers on vacations since 1969 and specializes in group travel. Trans National Travel is the company that took Knights Templars to the British Isles last year, offering members the opportunity to travel while at the same time enjoying the companionship of fellow Knights.

We look forward to enjoying your fellowship on our Pilgrimage.

Sincerely,

Ned E. Dull
Grand Master

P.S. For more exciting details, just turn the page...
The Grand Encampment Invites You
On Our Pilgrimage To
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• First-class accommodations for
  three nights at the Arabella Hotel
  in Munich.
• First-class accommodations for
  one night at the Karlsruhe Hilton in
  Karlsruhe. (Passengers taking the
  two-week vacation will spend four
  nights in Munich in lieu of one night
  in Karlsruhe.)
• All transfers and baggage handling
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  pared in advance.
• Welcome get-togethers in Frankfurt
  and Munich.
• Complete travel and tourist informa-
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**These Special Activities Have Been Arranged Exclusively for Knights Templars:**

- High German Table Lodge meeting for members of Knights Templar, in historic Heidelberg. With special guests Sir Knight Elmer George, The Grand Masters European Representative, and members of the German Order of the Knights Templar.

- Optional dinner for the ladies, non-member friends and relatives of the Knights Templar will be available.

- Grand Banquet at Hambach Castle including a buffet dinner, dance performance and brass band.

- The opportunity to attend special church services in Karlsruhe.

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**Plus, you can extend your vacation for another week in the Alpine Country!**

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**In Addition to all the Other Features, Your Second Week also Includes:**

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- Welcome get-togethers in St. Moritz and Karlsruhe.

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A one-night tour to watch history in the making!

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Thoughts of Others Dominate at Christmas

For more than a few years now, the Sir Knights of Arlington Commandery No. 29, Virginia, have met for a traditional Christmas Observance. It is at once a celebration of the season and an occasion to practice that well-known golden rule, "'tis better to give than to receive." And each year, the giving increases. Writes Past Grand Commander Joe R. Harris, "At our annual Christmas Observance, contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation are placed on the Altar. Those not in attendance often give their checks to the Chairman to be added with the others. The total contributed this Christmas was $5,190 for the purchase of 173 Life Sponsorships.

175th Anniversary Mug

Newburyport Commandery No. 3, Massachusetts, recently celebrated the 175th anniversary of its founding with a dinner and a fraternal visit from Grand Commander Albert E. Thornley, Jr., accompanied by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, M.W. J. Philip Berquist.

A commemorative mug, suitably engraved, was struck in a limited edition and distributed to the Knights and guests present. The remainder of these anniversary mugs are now offered to collectors on a first-come basis for a cost of $6.00 if picked up from the Commandery, or $7.00 post-paid, if mailed. Checks may be made payable to "Newburyport Commandery No. 3" and sent to Sir Knight Robert R. McKinney, 13 Columbus Avenue, Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950.

New Jersey Welcomes Mrs. Kinsey

Mrs. Harold N. Kinsey, Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beaufort, was warmly greeted upon her official visit to Newark Assembly No. 75, S.O.O.B., Irvington, New Jersey, on December 7, 1983. Mrs. Paul C. Coughos, Worthy President of Newark Assembly, presided at the banquet in Mrs. Kinsey's honor which was attended by Beaufort members and their husbands, many of whom are Masonic leaders in the state.

Pictured above at the pre-Christmas gathering are, from left, Sir Knight Thurman C. Pace, Jr., Northeastern Department Commander for Grand Encampment; Mrs. Kinsey; Mrs. Coughos; and Sir Knight Harry J. Weiskopf, Jr., R.E. Grand Commander of New Jersey.

1984 Charity Ball

The annual "Sounds for Sight" charity ball, organized by the Drill Corps of Allen Commandery No. 20, Allentown, Pennsylvania, will take place February 11, 1984, at Allentown's Americus Hotel Grand Ballroom. This is an affair for Templars, Masons, relatives, and non-Masonic friends, with proceeds going to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The donation of $12.50 per person includes a hot buffet at 7:00 p.m., and dancing from 9:00 to midnight.
Knights Templar Eye Foundation
New Club Memberships

Grand Commander’s Club:

Iowa No. 4 — Col. C. A. Barker
New Mexico No. 4 — Gene R. Lowery
Georgia No. 7 — Lester Edenfield, Jr.
Georgia No. 8 — Mrs. G. M. Jones
Virginia No. 7 — William D. Overton
Virginia No. 8 — Eugene F. Moorefield, Jr.
Virginia No. 9 — C. V. Barnes
Maryland No. 14 — Gerald C. Moore
North Carolina No. 14 — Tolbert M. Whittington, Jr.
Indiana No. 17 — George M. Ruston
Tennessee No. 20 — Harold W. Barrett
New York No. 21 — Howard A. Kaiser
New York No. 22 — Frederick A. Stahl
Texas No. 49 — Jim L. Hayes

Grand Master’s Club:

No. 487 — Glenn D. Felty (TX)
No. 488 — William C. Phillips (MD)
No. 489 — Vernon E. Turley (CA)
No. 490 — John G. Wright (TX)
No. 491 — Fred E. Stirkorb (CT)
No. 492 — Miss Carol Crump (IL)
No. 493 — A Concerned
Pennsylvania Sir Knight
No. 494 — Rev. Dr. Don C. Markham (NY)
No. 495 — Norbert J. Eich (NM)

How to Join: Any individual may send a check in the amount of $100 or more to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to begin membership in the Grand Commander’s Club. With this initial contribution, the member pledges to make additional annual contributions of $100 or more. Once contributions total $1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master’s Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is no Commandery credit for participation.

Information is available from G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

Triennium Mid-Point

February 1984 marks the half-way point for the current Grand Encampment triennium, and Grand Master Ned E. Dull and the 56th Triennial Conclave Committee are hard at work placing everything in readiness for the August 10-14, 1985, event in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Because of its location and its many summer attractions (including Riverfront Stadium, home of the Cincinnati Reds), Chairman Robert S. Schoeding, P.G.C., Ohio, anticipates a record attendance of voting delegates, drill team participants, and guests. The Cincinnati Convention Center has already been reserved for such activities as the drill competition on Saturday morning, August 10, and the Detroit Commandery No. 1 Exhibition Drill and Awards Ceremony on Saturday night; the divine service on Sunday morning, August 11; and the Grand Master’s Banquet on Tuesday night, August 13.

With a view toward economy, the 56th Triennial Conclave will be shortened by one day, with installation of the incoming Grand Master set for Wednesday, August 14, immediately following the final business session. Also, instead of an August street parade, the Grand Master has requested a special Parade and Review of all drill teams at the Convention Center prior to drill awards presentations.

Over the next 18 months, the Knight Templar Magazine will carry updated Committee reports in order to keep the Sir Knights of all Grand and Subordinate Commanderies apprised of plans, scheduled activities, and any revisions that might occur.

I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me seemed insufficient for the day.

Abraham Lincoln
TWO PRODIGAL SONS

by

Sir Knight Leland J. Ameen
St. Bernard Commandery No. 16, Saginaw, Michigan

No doubt the parable of “The Prodigal Son” has enabled many theologians to explain the elusive lessons that are sublimated within those pages of our Holy Writings. So it was that this writer was able to capture and share a most tender parallel of parables, a true and tender story of a prodigal father and a prodigal son, who both suffered “prodigious prodigality” and were reunited at Masonry’s altar where they continued to enjoy indescribable friendship, until the early and unpremeditated death of the father.

This parable starts, as is not uncommon, with a broken home. The father and his mismated spouse soon separated. The mother took the son with her, and she consequently remarried. During those early years of the divorce, the father floundered lost and lonely. He despaired and dropped from the ranks of Masonry, partly because he was ashamed that his marriage had failed. He tried to forget that someone else was now close to his son and spent most of a double decade going daily to his work at General Motors and coming home to an empty apartment and a full can of beer.

This parable surely had some heavenly intervention along the way because the father, after some years, managed to meet and marry a lovely Christian lady whose previous husband was deceased. Her children were all grown up, married, and gone. Needless to say, this man fell deeply in love with this lady, and he told this writer many times how she turned his life around and made it meaningful and joyful. The lady was a member of the Eastern Star, and she convinced this man to reinstate his membership in Masonry. He soon renewed his memberships in both the York Rite and Scottish Rite bodies.

By now, the prodigal son had also achieved adulthood. Somehow, he had managed to complete high school, but he also had a very distraught and decrepit association with his dad during those years. He, too, had an unsuccessful first marriage, which also ended in divorce. Like father like son. He, too, went through a period of mental and moral readjustment.

The son reeducated himself in aeronautics, became a pilot, aircraft salesman, and an aircraft technician. Somewhere along the way, he, too, met a lovely lady whose chemistry was coaxial and correct for him, and she, too, has been a most influential stabilizer.

These stories of father and son are true facts that embraced each individual’s route of prodigality. There is no doubt in my mind that these two prodigals, who were lost, were also recovered by virtue of the lessons that they learned in their Lodges and Commanderies.

By the early seventies, the father had become very active as well as very talented in Masonry and had professed his faith into his Saviour’s keeping. He told me many times that the Christian context of our Commandery allegory was the spiritual enticement which he needed and loved, and to him it was a bond between Lodge and Church that had both majesty and merit. It helped him to be a better Christian. This father was active in the Order of Eastern Star, succeeded to the high chair in the White Shrine of Jerusalem, was in line in the Royal Arch,
and ultimately made his progress through the chairs of his Commandery.

The father, who lived in central Michigan, made a concerted effort to find his son. He finally located him in a western Michigan metropolis in 1980. He reestablished a loving rapport with his son, now a mature and successful man, who listened attentively to his dad as he expounded his progress in Masonry and how it had affected his life. In short time the son petitioned a Lodge in his community, was accepted, initiated, passed, and Raised to the degree of Master Mason. Needless to say, the father commuted many times the 150 miles to his son’s city and had many enjoyable and confidential conversations with a son with whom for many years he had been unable to communicate.

Masonry had suddenly opened up a common door where they both could enter, with equal stature, and relate their most profound personal philosophies without any thought of argument or discord. They had become cemented together by that indissoluble chain of sincere affection on the Entered Apprentice evening when the father traveled to his son’s Lodge and presented him his Apron. This prodigal son is now the Educational Officer of his Lodge. He was later exalted in Royal Arch, and it at last came time for him to take the Commandery degrees and Orders.

In April 1981, the father was installed as Eminent Commander and served with elan, vigor, and skill. It had become a personal crusade for the father to Knight his son on “Inspection night” during his year as Commander, and he made each day of his life a contribution toward an act of Knighting that could not be less than perfection. He made it a point almost daily to rehearse the Order of the Temple with me, or with a Past Commander who was a close friend, until he was sure he could face the son he loved so dearly and not be rendered speechless during what he considered the most intimate moment in their two lives.

But in October of that year, just one week before the son’s Knighting, the father succumbed to the call of his Supreme Commander. It was a sad evening in some respects as we participated in the son’s Knighting, because the father who strived and studied and practiced and cherished that opportunity had suddenly passed away. The Knighting was performed in the father’s asylum, using his sword which was then presented to the son.

I am in possession of six letters of correspondence that this son wrote to his dad during something less than two years that this parable covers. Each letter is a testament of good fellowship, intimate respect, and brotherly love that could only be related to or understood by Brothers and Sir Knights, whose souls and minds have been tendered and tempered by years of symbolic warfare. Because the limitations of space will not permit me to print them all, I will share with you just one of those letters, composed in prose-poetry form. He sent it to his father enclosed in a Father’s Day card.

A man, almost a stranger,
approached from the east.
He gave to me a simple white badge
and made words with thoughts
that will not cease.

I made a journey to strange places,
Learned new words and phrases.
He is now, no longer, a stranger,
He is FATHER, BROTHER, and
my basis.

As you can see, this was written soon after the E.A. Degree. On the back of the card the son inscribed: “Dad, this is the first and only Father’s Day card I’ve sent in 20 years.” Here we observe Masonry’s most forcible lessons in action. As the lesson of this parable is put to rest, we know that one prodigal son found an earthly Lodge, and we believe the other prodigal son found a Heavenly Lodge.

Sir Knight Ameen lives at 3600 Diamondale, E., Saginaw, Michigan 48601.
Have you ever been called for jury duty? It’s an experience, shall we say, in almost total frustration.

You sign in with the jury clerk and are told to wait until the litigants decide if they really need a jury to sort out their arguable points of evidence — the judge makes a speech to the assembled jury candidates telling them of the importance of an open mind, and the need in our Democracy of the common man taking an active part in government and in the dispensation of justice.

And then you wait some more.

For a fact, I waited nearly a whole week. But in my case I found that waiting and waiting and waiting in the jury assembly room was not a total loss of time, for it gave me hours to get acquainted with my fellow jurors — two other jurors were members of Commanderies, and we Knights had time and opportunity to discuss Commandery affairs. In talking to these two men, I found that I was changing my own viewpoint about the “inactive member.”

I always had some serious questions about the “inactive member,” but when one of the fellow Knights related that as an inactive member, living some distance from his Commandery, he was thinking of resigning from the Masonic Fraternity, his comment about resigning gave me a little jolt about my own situation.

The other man, however, said he was happy to be counted as a member of the Templars, even though his profession did not allow the time to attend the meetings.

Examining my own feelings about inactivity, I was somewhat shocked to find that I, too, would have to be counted as “inactive” in several organizations to which I belong. But did “inactive” really describe my situation? Was I “inactive” for a good reason? Was or was not just keeping my name on the roster of the organizations worthwhile and fruitful?

Well, let’s examine my situation, then, before passing judgment on others — the Judge’s talk to the prospective jurors emphasized that one should look at all the evidence before making any decisions.

Yes, I can find time in my particular program to attend my Blue Lodge and my Commandery, but what about my Chapter and my Council? I wonder if the active members in the Chapter would even recognize me if I could some night find the time to attend a meeting, it has been so long since I could be part of a “group of three.” For years I have had to meet a class on campus on Chapter night. But with three nights thus scheduled, I really should consider some home life.

But does my absence from the Chapter and Council necessarily mean that I have lost all interest in that Masonic work, or in that group of Masonic Companions?

Or, to mention my inactivity in another body — another fraternity, to be exact: I have carried a card in the B.P.O. Elks since World War II. That particular Lodge I joined while in the service, and the good feeling in these days generated by the hospitality shown to service men still calls up pleasant memories of the open doors and the welcoming hands I found back in those sometimes lonesome days when a packed duffle bag was always kept ready for the next move order.
That Lodge is about 250 miles from my home city, and I obviously have no way of being an "active" member, i.e. to attend meetings and to take part in the initiatory work; and my employment does not provide the time nor the inclination to transfer to a Lodge in this area.

But every month, I get a calendar of the events taking place in that distant club house. I get a birthday card on time from the Brothers there, and I enjoy taking part in providing funds for their scholarships in nursing, and for their programs for crippled kids. Of course, I also get the customary dues notice — but the memories, plus the current interests in the charities, plus the open doors the card provides are well worth the costs, even after these years, though I might be able to ask for remission of all dues.

And then there's the Shrine, Tebala to be naming names — another souvenir of WWII days. In the first place, to analyze my attachment to that Temple, while in the service I was invited to a corn roast — and incidentally in shaking hands around the festive board, I was told that as a Knight Templar I was eligible to walk the Hot Sands. (No one had informed me of that point in the three years I had been a Knight Templar, nor had I been invited into the Shrine Temple near my home!)

Do I enjoy retaining my membership in a Temple 300 miles from home? I sure do! Inactive, yes. But I can participate in the World's Greatest Philanthropy, the Shriner's Hospitals. My check carries my signs of Loyalty to help as far as possible with their projects, the Annual Circus, the newsletter listing the names of new Nobles, and their Potentate's Balls.

When I found some drummers from Tebala's Oriental Band at a Hotel in Flint one night when I was on the road, it was just like a college class reunion. Attachment is something one feels but can't always describe.

(There's an interesting story about that Fez of wartime austerity that finally caught up with me a year and half later. I was really proud of it until I showed the Fez to my Commanding Officer. He made a remark about its austerity and then reached in his desk and brought out his own Fez, embellished with rhinestones and rubies, and an ample tassel. Here was a busy Commander who was never without his Fez, even in wartime and while organizing a cadre of engineers for foreign duty. Someday I'm going to look up Navy Regulations about "Clothing and Accoutrements not Government issued nor approved.")

But each year I'm remembered at Christmas and at my birthday by the Officers of Tebala Temple and reassured that I'm truly a Noble, anxious to help, if only though my contributions, interests and good wishes for all the other programs.

I'm also "inactive" in my engineering society, necessarily, as the chapter in which I hold membership is also miles away from my home city. I am no longer following the profession of engineering while teaching. But each month I hear from Rock River Chapter of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers — I'm invited to join the Theatre Parties they schedule in Chicago each year, and a seat can be obtained for me if I am able to join the group at Wrigley Field. I always get notices of the State Convention, where in the seminars I might be able to dust the cobwebs from my mathematical brain and catch up on new ideas and improved design of instruments now used in the discipline of engineering.

All this brings us to the conclusion that while I'm active to a couple bodies of Masonry, I'm at the same time, of necessity, "inactive" in some others, and the question is raised as to whether I should be called "dead wood" or just another name on the rosters and deaf to calls of these other Bodies.

But distance, time, and work schedules have not really dulled my interests and loyalties. And then the more important
question: Are we doing enough to keep the inactive member firmly affixed to his cabletow? And what steps might we take to keep the inactive member as enthusiastic about Masonry and Templar as when he was initiated and Knighted?

In the examination of the first degree, the Brother is asked “What makes you a Mason? Nothing is said about the “obligation” to attend the meetings, although he is encouraged to do so. At his Knighting, the Brother is told to “Arise, and with this hand be received into an Order . . . founded on the Christian Religion and the practice of Christian virtues.”

Perhaps one of the problems we face in recruiting more professional men into our ranks these days is that so many professionals fear hypothecating any more hours to this or that organization. That doesn’t mean, however, that the physician, attorney, or city official could not be interested in our ritual and our philanthropies, and wouldn’t really like to be numbered among us and help with our work, as far as he is able.

So perhaps in inviting some men to take the Chivalric Orders, we should emphasize the programs and charities we sponsor: the Holy Land Pilgrimages for clergymen to visit and study the geography and history of that area; the good we do through our Eye Foundation; and the help we are ready to give to the young man or woman in college by our Scholarship Funds. The potential candidate should be made aware of all this activity and how he, too, can participate in the work without necessarily mortgaging the few hours rightly reserved for his other interests and his professional duties.

At the time of Knighting, why not provide him with a uniform and sword we have hanging in the armory, if he feels he would not have the opportunity to recover his investment in regulation coats and belts. When the new Knight is called before the assembly for introduction, let’s get a lapel emblem properly affixed, and explain to him all that that pin implies.

As a member in good standing, even though he must be absent, he is entitled to notices of everything the Commandery is doing, even though distance will prevent him from appearing. Let’s send him a birthday card and a Christmas greeting to let him know that he is not forgotten — something a bit more than just a cold dues notice.

Could we assign a member to “watch over him” as a Big Brother? Now and then he deserves a friendly letter inquiring about his health, his children, his current interests and hobbies, and his progress in his profession, and giving the information reported in open Lodge. Our absent Brother might be located in an area where there already is a Commandery which could be called on to and extend fraternal greetings. If he is located in that jurisdiction permanently, or just for the winter season, he might find time to participate in the floor work there, if invited.

Each officer and member who travels could be provided with the absent Brother’s location and telephone number, so between flights the officer might call him and give him a cherry hello from his home Commandery.

These are all just hints of what we might do to keep that inactive Knight on our rolls and not let his inactivity slip into withdrawal.

Let’s remember the Knight isn’t always inactive from choice but should be considered by our members as absent — he will never be a withdrawal as long as he feels he is really part of the group.

“With this hand, he was received into the bosom of an order whose Grand Characteristics are Unsullied Honor, Unwearied Zeal in a Brother’s Cause, and universal Benevolence.” He and we have these ideals in common and the absent Brother will remain loyal to us as long as we are and remain loyal to him!

Sir Knight Summers lives at 1514 West Lovell Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007.
Spurt in Campaign Contributions

More Sir Knights are becoming involved in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Annual Voluntary Campaign this year than ever before — this is the conclusion based on the 6th week totals for the 1983-84 Campaign. As of the week ending January 6, the cumulative total is $256,218.34, the most yet for any Campaign at this stage. The current top ranking shows Louisiana at the No. 1 spot, followed by Texas as No. 2, and that ever-mysterious "Miscellaneous" at No. 3.

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DeMolay Delivers

For the past several years, members of the George H. Hammer Chapter, Order of DeMolay in Billings, Montana, have prepared a Christmas food basket and delivered it to a local needy family just prior to the holiday. This project is undertaken each year in connection with "Day of Comfort," which, says Dad Advisor James C. Green of Black Eagle Commandery No. 8 in Great Falls, is an obligatory observance in which every DeMolay Chapter participates with the objective of giving comfort to someone less fortunate.

During 1982, the project increased in scope to include gifts and toys for the children of the chosen family. And in 1983, the project expanded even more as the Chapter and friends gathered not only food, but clothing, gifts, games, and toys. In fact, thanks to the work of George H. Hammer Chapter, not one, but three families benefited in 1983. In addition, a month's rent for the first designated family was paid by contributions from the DeMolay boys, with the balance made up from Pryor Mountain Lodge No. 151, A.F. & A.M.

Senior Councilor Mark Parlato was in charge of the 1983 project and, assisted by Jeff Lowenthal, Allan Anderson, and Mike Vaughn, and accompanied by two Chapter Advisors, all the packages were delivered on Thursday, December 12.

Plans are already being drawn for "Day of Comfort" in 1984 when the Chapter hopes to enlist the aid of all area Masonic bodies.
St. John’s Installation, Concordia

The annual election and installation of officers for St. John’s Lodge No. 113, Concordia, Kansas, was made a little more unique in 1983 because of the identities of the incoming Worshipful Master and his installing officers.

The new Worshipful Master, Sir Knight Don Robinett (center), is a Past Grand Commander of Kansas. He is shown above with Installing Officer Donald B. Hanson (left), current R.E. Grand Commander, and Installing Marshal John D. Trude, Grand Standard Bearer of Kansas Templars.

Worshipful Master Robinette is also a Past Master of Masonic Lodges in Randall and Jewell. He holds plural membership in all three Lodges and is also presently recognized as M.I. Grand Master of Cryptic Masons of Kansas.

Leaders Display York Rite Unity

It was a distinguished group that gathered for the Stated Communication of Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273, Portsmouth, Virginia, on September 6, 1983. On that date, Brother George B. Yeates was recognized for his many years as Lodge Secretary, an office which he fills concurrently with the office of Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Virginia.

Along with Worshipful Master Billy R. Taylor, Sir Knight Yeates was greeted by Most Worshipful William M. Johnson, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, and Most Excellent Companion John G. Eggleston, Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons in Virginia.

From left to right, M.E.G.H.P. John G. Eggleston; M.W.G.M. William M. Johnson; W.M. Billy R. Taylor; and the honoree, R.E.G.C. George B. Yeates.

Each of the Grand York Rite leaders conveyed to the assemblage his thoughts on the needs of Freemasonry in Virginia, in particular the unity and purpose of the York Rite in that jurisdiction.

Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the society, and to be considered by them as a deserving brother.

George Washington
Sixty-Year Membership Award Presentation

Brother Ioannis A. Lougaris came to the United States in the early 1900s from his native land of Greece. Determined to make something of his life in his adopted country, he taught himself English and eventually cemented his citizenship by serving with distinction in the U.S. Army during World War I. While in the military, he contracted tuberculosis and, told that he had only a few months to live, removed to Carson City, Nevada, where he decided to continue his education. He didn’t die; rather, he recovered his health, completed his education, passed the bar examination, and was admitted to the Nevada bar. At age 96, Brother Lougaris is currently the oldest practicing attorney in Reno, where he still keeps regular office hours five days a week and also takes cases into court.

As a result of his early illness, Brother Lougaris became interested in the treatment of veterans. According to Frank E. Hart, Grand Recorder of Nevada, Brother Lougaris, more than anyone else, was responsible for the establishment of a veterans’ hospital in Reno. And in 1982, that recently expanded veterans’ facility was named the “Ioannis A. Lougaris Medical Center” in his honor.

Raised a Master Mason in Carson Lodge No. 1 on October 4, 1923, Brother Lougaris has now completed his 60th year in Nevada Freemasonry. He is shown above, seated, receiving his 60-year award from Duane G. Laubach, M.W. Grand Master of Masons in Nevada (right). Witnessing the ceremony, at left, is Sir Knight Clarence K. Jones, Past Grand Master and Past Grand Commander of Nevada, a 50-year member of Reno Lodge No. 13. The award presentation was made in the newest wing of the Lougaris Medical Center.

Brother Lougaris, born in 1887, celebrates his 97th birthday on February 17.

A Doctor Says “Thank You”

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
Springfield, Illinois 62705

Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that Miss Kristin Gehring, a young lady who has been operated on by myself for very severe traumatic injury to the eye, has had her surgery funded and supported by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Over the years, the Eye Foundation has allowed me to start and complete multiple important and productive research projects. For that I am extremely grateful, and as a sign of my gratitude, I am delighted for the opportunity to operate on this young lady at no charge to the patient or to the Knights Templar.

Please accept this as a thanks for the many kindnesses you have extended to me.

Sincerely yours,
Louis A. Lobes, Jr., M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Ophthalmology
School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh
THE INVOCATION

As suggested by Sir Knight Howard B. Kittleston
Nazarene Commandery No. 24, St. Cloud, Minnesota

Have you ever been asked to offer the " Invocation" at a Masonic gathering? If so, you may have felt a bit inadequate to the task. Perhaps you may be asked to speak on a special occasion, and your audience, a diverse lot representing many different religious persuasions, expects to hear words of spiritual refreshment and renewal. You want to motivate them toward fellowship and brotherly love, but not repeat the same unenthusiastic words of a hundred previous speakers. In your attempt to enjoin the blessings of the Almighty on the myriad personalities before you, the following may be helpful.

The invocation is usually the first item on the program. It reminds us, and reaffirms our belief, that there is a Power greater than man afoot in the world. In the halls of Masonry, we profess our belief in the Supreme Being, "The Supreme Architect of the Universe." Inviting the presence of that Power suggests a sense of positive achievement for the duration of the gathering.

The first consideration to be made is that the invitation to Deity must be universally applicable to all faiths present. Offending none, instilling the tranquility of spiritual inspiration which breathes through all religions.

The second consideration is to give thanks to the Divinity within a general frame of worship: thanks for the continued blessings of life, for Divine guidance toward solutions, and for strength embued with courage to follow the common path of the Creator in all things. And those thanks should be tempered with a gentle admonition to accept honors with humility, to acknowledge gifts with thanksgiving, and to so conduct our lives through His teachings as to emulate His love, His wisdom, and His compassion.

The final consideration in preparing an invocation is the occasion itself. The speaker might well reflect on the mission and purpose of those present and reverently, in an attitude of sincerity, add his wishes for successful participation.

If you are not a member of the clergy or a professional speaker, prepare yourself well in advance. Write down your invocation and practice reading it so that both listener and speaker will be comfortable during its presentation.

A good invocation conditions the soul for the pleasures or labors that lie ahead.

Sir Knight Kittleston lives at 320 Third Street, Albany, Minnesota 56307.

Ohio Special Olympics

The Ohio summer games of the Special Olympics — a world wide program of athletic training and competition for the mentally retarded — will be held on The Ohio State University campus, Columbus, on June 22-24, 1984, and the Masons of Ohio are again planning to take part in the event.

C. Rolland Lattanner, M.W. Grand Master of Ohio, has set a goal of sponsoring 675 persons to the 1984 games, one for each of the 675 Lodges in the state. Sponsoring one person will cost $30, and the Grand Master has encouraged all Ohio Lodges to sponsor at least one athlete. The special Olympics is "a major part of the Grand Master’s program in 1984." And all Ohio Masons have been invited to attend, volunteer assistance, and "wear a hat or shirt with the square and compasses proudly displayed."
HISTORY OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Chapter IX (continued)

PERIOD OF ANTI-MASONIC ACTIVITY
1835-1835

Only nineteen Knights were present at the sixth Conclave of the Grand Encampment held at the Masonic Hall in Washington, D.C., December 7, 1835. Even though it was several years since the so-called "Morgan incident," strong anti-Masonic feelings were still obvious around the country.

Two charters were granted at this sixth Conclave, one to an encampment at Lancaster, Ohio, and the other to an encampment at San Felipe de Austin in the State of Texas, which was at that time a part of the Republic of Mexico. A committee, consisting of the first three General Grand Officers and the General Grand Recorder, was appointed to correspond with the Order in Europe with a view of bringing about a closer union with their priories and encampments.

At this meeting, Sir Henry Fowle was reported as owing the General Grand Encampment the sum of $758.63, which through misfortune and ill health he was unable to pay. By resolution the General Grand Encampment voted to give him a receipt in full, in view of his active leadership in the early days of the Order.

The Constitution, with some slight revisions, was printed with the proceedings of this meeting. The minimum fee for the Orders was now set at $20.00, and as the prerequisite for the Order, it was necessary to have received the three degrees of the Blue Lodge and the four degrees of the Chapter. The Orders were to be given in the following succession: Knight of the Red Cross, Knight of the Temple, and Knight of Malta.

At the election, Sir James Allen of New York was elected General Grand Master, and Sir Joseph K. Stapleton of Baltimore, Deputy General Grand Master. Sir Charles Sullivan was elected General Grand Recorder, which position he held for the next fifteen years.

Chapter X

THE PERIOD OF EXPANSION
1835-1856

It was nearly a decade after the anti-Masonic activity had died away before Templary began its remarkable growth, spreading throughout the Midwest and finally reaching California in 1853. Many new encampments were established, and several Grand Encampments were organized. The General Grand Encampment had grown up, and its need for wise and determined leaders was answered by such capable men as Sir Knights William Reese, W. B. Hubbard, Benjamin B. French and Albert Mackey.

Sir Knight Reese, in his capacity as General Grand Generalissimo, was the first to make any extended report of his official acts and to point out the avenue of expansion to the West. He was followed by Sir Knight Hubbard, who as General Grand Master gave the Order able and efficient leadership during this period of expansion. He was assisted by such capable men as Sir Knights Stapleton and French.

The determination of the Grand Encampment of Virginia to become independent of the General Grand Encampment was overcome by the firm yet courteous action of the General Grand Master, Sir W. B. Hubbard. The supremacy of the General Grand Encampment
was then settled and no doubt was left to its position as the sole governing body of Knights Templar in the United States. This was the purpose and position envisioned by Webb when he worked so long and faithfully for its organization. While trials and new crises were to come, its capable leaders were there to carry it safely through.

Sir Knight Hubbard early saw the need and desirability of uniform work through the Templar world. Every effort was made to present the correct and authorized work to the representatives of the various subordinate encampments attending the Conclave. When Templary spread to California, he commissioned Sir Knight Isaac Davis to carry the proper ritualistic work to that state.

This period saw the beginning of the wise leadership of Sir Knight Hubbard as the General Grand Master, which was to be extended for a period of twelve years, much to the benefit of the General Grand Encampment and to the Order generally. He placed the Order upon a high plane of dignity and respect that was to be the measure of its greatness in the years of its expansion.

**Seventh Conclave**

The seventh Conclave was held in the Masonic Temple in Boston, Massachusetts, on September 12, 1838. The meeting was opened by Sir James M. Allen, and representatives of the Grand Encampments of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and New York were present.

The Grand Encampment of New York transferred jurisdiction of Indivisible Friends Encampment in New Orleans, Louisiana, to the General Grand Encampment. A dispensation was granted for an encampment at Wheeling, Virginia, as the Grand Encampment of Virginia was considered extinct. However, this action started a controversy with organized Templary in Virginia which was to last for several years before coming to a final and amicable settlement.

For the first time, the General Grand Encampment took cognizance of spurious lodges and repudiated all connection with such bodies and directed all the subordinate encampments to abstain from intercourse with these lodges acknowledging the authority of the spurious Grand Lodge of New York.

Evidence of the importance of the position of Masonry in the United States at that time is indicated by the report of the Committee on “The Subject of Masonry” which stated:

“There is every reason for thankfulness and rejoicing in the prospects of the Institution; and your committee feel warranted in expressing without hesitation, the decided opinion that the time is not far distant when the Institution will again stand forth to the world in all its ancient splendor.”

Sir James M. Allen and Joseph K. Stapleton were reelected to their respective offices. Sir William J. Reese of Lancaster, Ohio, of whom more will be heard, was elected General Grand Captain of the Guard.

**Eighth Conclave**

The eighth Conclave of the General Grand Encampment was held at the Chapter Room of the Apollo, in New York City on September 14, 1841. Only two of the General Grand Officers were present at the opening — Sir James M. Allen, the General Grand Master, and Sir E. A. Raymond, the General Grand Treasurer.
I am looking to purchase a hardcover edition of 20,000 Alarms by Lt. Richard Hamilton with Charles N. Barnard, published by Playboy Press in 1975. I would appreciate it if any fellow Knights would inquire at their local bookstore as I cannot find one in my area. Thanking all fellow Knights in advance for their efforts. Donald A. Savage, 118 Cedar Street, Presque Isle, Maine 04769

Top prices paid for Shrine Provost Badges and Imperial Council Session Police and Security Badges. Please send description, xerox or sketch, if possible, and price in first letter. F. W. Latham, Box 3042, Waco, Texas 76707

I have for sale two Commandery Badges. One is for Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1; it has the silver eagle, cross and rose inlaid in ruby; INRI on bottom. Also one for Chartiers Commandery No. 78, which has Pennsylvania keystone symbol and large cross, white enamel, crown and small cross. All of this is on black enamelled Maltese cross on what looks like gold plate or filled. Both badges in excellent condition. Then, too, I am a collector of pre-war toy trains — Lionel, Ives, American Flyer and related accessories. Will consider trading badges for trains. For prompt reply include addressed stamped envelope. Samuel A. Miller, 129 Highland Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15235

Am seeking pertinent information on James W. Cory and Cyrus Cory who were born and died in Watertown, New York. Paul Cory, 2064 Dolphin Blvd., S., St. Petersburg, Florida 33707

Wanted — Masonic watches and fobs to buy to add for my collection. Fred Saba, 1754 North Cove Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43606 (1–419–241-1146)

I would like to hear from anyone named “Rebsamen” whose ancestors came from Turbenthal Germany (now Switzerland) in 1750 or later years. My name was originally Rebsamen but somehow was changed in South Carolina. L. T. Turnipseed, 4176 West Shore Ct., Douglasville, Georgia 30135

The following badges are in a collection which is now the property of a widow of a departed brother. All are dated 1904: Watsonville Commandery; Watsonville Commandery No. 22; Maryland Baltimore No. 29 Triennial; Masonic 29th Triennial; Marysville Commandery (sterling); New Hampshire Trinity Commandery (sterling); Bellingham, Washington; San Jose No. 10 Commandery; Omaha No. 1 Calvary Commandery; California No. 24; San Francisco No. 26 Commandery; Sonora Pacific Commandery; Boston Commandery; Golden Gate No. 16 Commandery; Golden Gate; Dist. of Columbia Knights Templar; Cœur de Lion Commandery.

The owner would like to sell it at a fair price. Her late husband paid $20 each for the sterling badges (or medallions) and $15 each for the others. Mrs. Christin would prefer to sell the entire collection as a whole but will sell piece by piece, if no buyer will take the entire lot. William H. Lambert, P.M., 537 Coyote Street, Nevada City, California 95959 (916–265-2878)
My maternal grandfather, George A. Hawkins, Sr., born in Cummings Landing, Kentucky, July 5, 1861, resided in Parkersburg, WV, until his death on March 4, 1959. My maternal grandmother, Varina Adrienne (Houchens) Bryan, born in Cabell Co., WV, died in 1886. George Hawkins remarried and had a son of the same name. My grandfather was Past Master of Lodge in Parkersburg and Grand Master of WV and Grand Patron of O.E.S. sometime between 1910 and 1915 (same time his wife was Grand Matron). He was also an attorney and ran a wholesale business. I have been unable to trace his Masonic records. Bill Yoho, 8901 Annapolis Rd., Lanham, Maryland 20706

I am a sixty-year Shriner, belong to all the subordinate bodies, and have been working on the Middleton genealogical family for years. My aunt in the 30s was approved for the D.A.R. but wasn’t able to pay the costs. The papers have been lost. She showed that we are descendants of Arthur Middleton of South Carolina who signed the Declaration of Independence.

My father was John Albert Middleton born in Copiah Co., Mississippi, November 5, 1869; his mother Ruth Wise. My grandfather was John D., b. April 25, 1831, in Tuscolooosa Co., Alabama. John D. was one of 10 sons and seven daughters of John Middleton who married Sarah Childress. All ten brothers served in the Confederate Army and one, Morning, was killed. Several of them were in their 50s and above. After the war, John D. moved to Limestone Co., Texas, and died in 1875. Dr. Parks served as a doctor in the Army, and Benjamin Middleton moved to Georgetown, Texas, in the 70s.

I have information on Arthur Middleton’s family back for several generations in America and England. Any information on the missing names would be appreciated. I will be glad to share what I have. J. Wayne Middleton, 2026 Ong Street, Amarillo, Texas 79109

I am seeking Masonic information on my great grandfather, Jacob Steinberger, and his son Hiram. I have reason to believe that they may have been Blue Lodge members in either Lehigh, Union, or Mifflin Counties of Pennsylvania. Can anyone shed more light on these names? Edwin Steinberger, 23977 Meadowbrook, Novi, Michigan 48050

I am a Sir Knight in Mt. Vernon Commandery Knights Templar No. 1, Columbus, Ohio. I have six graves for sale in the Masonic Garden Section of Forest Lawn Cemetery, located in the center (altar) section, priced at $1,000. D. B. Walker, 16 Beacon Hill Drive, New Port Richey, Florida 33552 (813-847-1182)

Wanted: French and German Bisque dolls. I have a small coverlet for sale made of Knight Templar ribbons from the West, circa 1890’s. Mrs. Joseph W. Nasal, Bungy Road, North Scituate, Rhode Island 02857

Information sought on George Washington Moore (called Doc), birth March 15, 1855, in Alabama; moved to Mississippi and married Mattie Sugg. Need information on him and her parents. She was born 1875 and died 1932. Also need information on their brothers and sisters. I am also seeking data on J. E. Gardner, born September 18, 1857, and died October 26, 1929. His wife was Nannie J. Moore. Also would like information on her parents, H. F. Moore and Mary Ann Sheffield Moore, too. All of these people lived in Itawamba County, Mississippi, and died here. If anyone can help, I would appreciate it. Johnnie Caughern, Route 4, Box 278, Fulton, Mississippi 38843.

Seeking information on Samuel Crocket Watkins; born about 1850 in eastern Virginia. He grew to young manhood there. Compiling family tree. Harry L. Watkins, 112 North 1st Street, Girard, Illinois 62640
Unveiled February 22, 1950, this Heroic Bronze Statue depicting Brother George Washington as Worshipful Master of his Lodge, adorns Memorial Hall and is one of the first pieces of art to greet the visitor to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. The statue, 17 feet 3 inches in height and weighing eight tons, was created by New York sculptor Bryant Baker. The 1950 ceremonies were conducted under the sponsorship of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, assisted by then President and Most Worshipful Brother Harry S. Truman.