



Knight Templar

VOLUME XXXIV

DECEMBER 1988

NUMBER 12



Season's Greetings from
Our Most Eminent Grand Master
Sir Knight Marvin E. Fowler

Taking Charge

Every major Masonic body, including ours, continues to decline in membership. Perhaps this in itself is not too important in the long run, but it is certainly an indication and sign of an unhealthy situation.

Our population continues to grow and if all were well, we would be gaining in membership. There are literally countless thousands of good men who have not been attracted to our Fraternity—if indeed they have even heard of it. We need to study our situation and the environment in which we now live. Are we out of step with current conditions? Perhaps.

It seems evident that we can at least conclude that our Masonic leadership is and has been inadequate. Many are prone to look only at the leadership on the national or state level and attempt to affix the blame, but leadership extends far beyond these limits. Every presiding officer of every Masonic body is a leader. His influence, whether it be good or bad, is felt at the grassroots level, and it is at this level that we have permitted apathy, indifference, and stagnation to develop. If Masonic leadership—at all levels—could be induced to truly lead, our membership problem would soon disappear. Every Masonic meeting would again offer something of interest and value to attendees, and all of our Masonic bodies would again flourish.

Will you help in this revival of Masonry?



Marcin E. Fowler

Knight Templar

"The Magazine for York Rite Masons — and Others, too."

DECEMBER: Our cover features the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight Marvin E. Fowler, and conveys his best wishes for the holidays. In the spirit of the season, *Knight Templar* offers a Christmas message from the Grand Prelate on page thirteen and a reprint of an old favorite on page twenty-one. As an annual feature, the distinguished recipients of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor are listed, beginning on page five.

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Taking Charge Grand Master Marvin E. Fowler | 2 |
| Our Cross of Honor | 5 |
| Whatever Happened to Lafayette? (Part II) Sir Knight William A. Brown | 7 |
| Preparation for Renewal Sir Knight Harold Blake Walker | 11 |
| Peace on Earth Grand Prelate Thomas E. Weir | 13 |
| Bringing Masonry Home Sir Knight Donald L. Dorward | 19 |
| Symbolism of a Candy Cane Sir Knight Donald J. Barthelmeh | 21 |
| ----- | |
| Grand Commander's, Grand Master's Clubs | 18 |
| On the Masonic Newsfront. | 23 |
| ----- | |
| December Issue | 3 |
| Editor's Journal | 4 |
| The Family of Masonry | 16 |
| In Memoriam | 18 |
| Knight Voices | 30 |

knight templar

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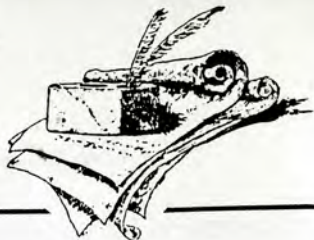
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Editor's Journal



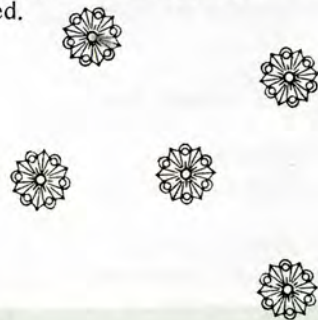
• **21st Annual Voluntary Campaign:** The yearly campaign for funds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation began on December 1 and will continue through April 30, 1989. A tally of the proceeds of the 21st Annual Voluntary Campaign will appear in *Knight Templar*, beginning in January. The campaign chairmen for the Grand Commanderies, along with their addresses, were printed in last month's issue. Sir Knights with any questions are directed to the Recorders of their constituent Commanderies.

• **IRS Employer Identification Numbers:** The comptroller of the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight James O. Potter, has asked that all Commanderies—grand, constituent, and Subordinate—be advised that the Grand Encampment must receive their Employer Identification Numbers (E.I.N.). Even those Commanderies not having an E.I.N. are requested to reply. The Grand Encampment is required by law to furnish this information to the IRS.

Please send your replies to James O. Potter, Comptroller, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, IL 60604-2293. If you have any questions, call (312) 427-5670. Your prompt attention to this request will be appreciated.

• **Complimentary Magazines for Widows:** Widows of Knights Templar are eligible to continue receiving their *Knight Templar Magazine* as long as they so desire. To retain or reinstate the mailing, simply instruct your local Recorder or the Grand Encampment that you would like to continue receiving the magazine.

• **Moving?:** If you are going to be moving, inform your local Recorder six to eight weeks before you actually move so that *Knight Templar Magazine* can greet you in your new home—uninterrupted. *Knight Templar* is sent to hundreds of thousands of Sir Knights across the country, and address changes are a continuing concern. If you are not at the address where *Knight Templar* is being sent to you, it will be returned to us—at a cost of thirty cents. Help us keep costs down—do your part by informing your local Recorder of your coming address change six to eight weeks ahead of time!



• **Merry Christmas!:** The staff of *Knight Templar Magazine* would like to wish all Sir Knights and their families a happy and peaceful holiday season and the best of luck and health in the coming year.

Our Cross of Honor

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America presents the 1988 recipients of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. These distinguished Sir Knights have demonstrated meritorious service and have been rewarded for it. The Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment state that the Knights Templar Cross of Honor "shall be awarded only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the order far beyond the call of duty and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member."

This year the Grand Commanderies have selected fifty-four Sir Knights to receive the coveted Cross of Honor, including one each from Subordinate Commanderies in the Philippines, West Germany, and Mexico.

Alabama

Ernest L. Bishop, Sr., Florence No. 39

Arizona

Lawrence J. Evans, Jr., Scottsdale No. 12

Arkansas

Felix D. Goza, Christian Friends No. 35

California

Robert Hall Wilson,
Southern California No. 39

Colorado

Murray E. Carter, Pikes Peak No. 6

Connecticut

Edmund Hawley Smith, Hamilton No. 5

District of Columbia

Hugh Albert Shawen, Columbia No. 2

Florida

Myron E. Goodrich, Miami No. 13

Georgia

Henry Clayton Garrett, Pilgrim No. 15

Idaho

L. Merton Dawald, Lewiston No. 2

Illinois

William D. Cullen, Mt. Pulaski No. 39

Indiana

Robert H. Barksdale, Sr.,
New Albany No. 5

Iowa

John Robert Hinebaugh, Malta No. 31

Kansas

Charles M. Talbott, Tancred No. 11

Kentucky

Ralph E. Proctor, Richmond No. 19

Louisiana

Hiram K. Greer, Indivisible Friends No. 1

Maine

Richard Earl Richardson,
Blanquefort No. 13

Maryland

Robert Omer Reynolds, Jr.,
Palestine No. 7

Massachusetts/Rhode Island

Warren Coleman Wilson, Athol No. 37

Michigan

Lloyd W. Kohl, Marshall No. 17

Minnesota

Earl Philip Christie, Faribault No. 8

Mississippi

Marvin William Cox, Mississippi No. 1

Missouri

William Walter Gray, Oriental No. 35

Montana

Hiram Abiff McCullough, Crusade No. 17

Nebraska

Maynard Ramge, Mount Zion No. 5

Nevada

Robert Franz Gilbert, Malta No. 3

New Hampshire

Melvin William Chase, Mount Horeb No. 3

New Jersey

Harry Maguire Potter, Crusade No. 23

New Mexico

Oscar M. Schroll, Pilgrim No. 3

New York

Glenn K. Ludemann, Genesee No. 10

North Carolina

Walker Howell Rayburn, Griggs No. 14

North Dakota

James Harry Pfau, Auvergne No. 2

Ohio

Arthur Grant Long, Shawnee No. 14

David J. Roth, Findlay No. 49

Oklahoma

Melvin M. Jennings, Jr., Lawton No. 18

Oregon

Daniel R. Kadin, Malta No. 4

Pennsylvania

Walter W. Heintzelman, Allen No. 20

James Vernon Pedano,
Kensington-Kadosh No. 54

South Carolina

Clarence E. Longberry, Jr., Sumter No. 20

South Dakota

Charles Lampert Bennett, Schrader No. 9

Tennessee

William Franklin Hall, St. Elmo No. 4

Texas

Arneldo John Levy, San Marcos No. 56

Luther F. Purcell, Texarkana No. 64

Willard S. Purdy, Jr., St. John No. 101

Utah

Walter James Miller, Utah No. 1

Vermont

Fletcher T. Hall, Taft No. 8

Virginia

Clyde Gardner Burcher, Hampton No. 17

Washington

Donald William Beeman, Cataract No. 3

West Virginia

Calvin Henry Matzke, Wheeling No. 1

Wisconsin

Arnold Clare Works, Neillsville No. 36

Wyoming

James Albert Pindell, Ivanhoe No. 2

Philippines

Regalado B. Manimtim, Cavite No. 7

Mexico

Adam Morales, Ivanhoe No. 2

West Germany

Elmer Custer George, Heidelberg No. 2

Good actions ennoble us, and we
are the sons of our own deeds.

Cervantes

Whatever Happened to Lafayette? Part II

by
Sir Knight William A. Brown
Old Dominion Commandery No. 11, Alexandria, Virginia

Last month in Knight Templar, we read of the daring escape plan concocted by the Marquis de Lafayette and Dr. Justus Bollman to free the general from the prison in Olmutz, Austria, where he had been imprisoned by the emperor of Austria for being an "enemy of monarchy." Though imprisoned, Lafayette managed to smuggle messages to Bollman; with the help of Dr. Francis Huger, to whom Lafayette was a boyhood hero, the escape was planned for November 8, 1794.

On Saturday morning, November 8, 1794, Drs. Huger and Bollman paid their inn bill and sent a servant ahead with the custom-made coach to wait for them at Hoff, a village twenty-five miles down the road. The two men then set watch for Lafayette's carriage. Soon the carriage stopped by the side of the road; Lafayette and the corporal got out and went walking through a field.

At that point Huger and Bollman spurred their horses, galloping up as

Lafayette pulled the corporal's sword out of its sheath, but the supposedly cowardly little corporal failed to be frightened; instead, he grabbed the sword blade, cutting his hands, and began to yell for help. Peasants working in the nearby field looked up but merely watched the struggle. The driver also failed to answer the call. Only the other two soldiers took action—they headed back toward the fortress shouting and waving their hats to attract the attention of the sentries on the walls of the prison, which was some distance off but still visible across the flat plain.

Lafayette's miscalculation of the character of the corporal led to a series of complications in the plan. Instead of being able to hold the corporal at bay with his own sword, the general was struggling for its possession. Bollman rode up to help Lafayette; he leaped from his horse and tossed the reins to Huger—who missed them! The horse, frightened by the clamor, lurched and took off down the road, Huger watching helplessly as it galloped away.

Bollman pulled the corporal off Lafayette, but the corporal gave → → →

up the sword only to seize Lafayette by the cravat. The general cried weakly, "He is strangling me!" At this point Huger joined the fight, this time first passing his arm through his mount's bridle.

Failing to intimidate the corporal by drawing a pistol, Huger stuffed it back into his pocket and managed to pull the bloody hands away from the general's throat. Lafayette, tired out from his encounter, fell to the ground, and Bollman dragged the corporal down, pinning him to the ground and pushing a handkerchief into his mouth.

Huger helped Lafayette to his feet and shouted to him to take his horse, which had been trained to carry two men, and "get to Hoff," the village where the servant waited with the carriage built to conceal the general. Lafayette mounted and started to trot away, then stopped, apparently unwilling to leave the two behind. Waving him on, Huger again called out, "Get to Hoff!" and Lafayette rode off.

Huger and Bollman conferred for a moment and then released the corporal, who took off after Lafayette on foot. A peasant boy had stopped Bollman's horse and returned it. When Huger spotted the horse he ran to it, helped Bollman up behind, and trotted off after Lafayette. Unfortunately, Bollman's horse was not trained for a double load and, when urged to go faster than a trot, bucked both riders off. They remounted, but the horse bucked them off once more. Finally Huger told Bollman to take the horse and he would follow on foot.

After Bollman rode off, Huger ran along the road leading to the mountains. Just when he thought he was safe, he heard shouting and looked back to see

three men running after him. Huger began to run again, hoping to reach the mountains and slip across the Prussian border, but he was overtaken by a peasant on horseback who had joined the chase. Seeing that it was impossible to escape, Huger gave up to the horseman; the three on foot joined them and Huger was escorted back to Olmutz, where he was turned over to the soldiers.

He was immediately taken before General D'Arco, the commandant of the fortress, for examination. D'Arco's reputation was certainly to be tarnished by the escape of such an important prisoner,



This Paris monument is dedicated to the memory of Lafayette and American independence.

and he was determined to uncover the whole plot. Huger answered the often pointed questions truthfully and in some detail, telling of his meeting with Bollman and the events of the escape itself. Huger said he felt justified in what he had done. "I did not think of harming anyone, and I was assured that it was the purpose of M. Lafayette to cross immediately to America and not to mix himself any more in the affairs of the empire."

This argument did nothing to help Huger's case; D'Arco noted at the end of this transcript of examination: "The culprit was turned over by the military authorities to the Olmutz court, put in irons, as a criminal, and held in the strictest custody." All Huger's possessions

"Lafayette had misunderstood Huger's frantic plea to 'get to Hoff'; he thought the American had simply told him to 'get off!'"

were taken from him; an iron was put on his ankle, another around his waist, and he was chained to a staple in the wall over a wooden bench which was to be his bed.

Lafayette, meanwhile, was alone in an unfamiliar area, as Hoff was twenty-five miles from the prison at Olmutz. Complicating matters further, Bollman had not told Lafayette of the escape route they would follow. During the confusion resulting from the corporal's resistance, Lafayette had misunderstood Huger's frantic advice for him to "get to Hoff." Not recognizing the name of the city, Lafayette thought the American had simply told him to "get off." Separated from his guides, the general reached a fork in the road—and picked the road which led him away from Hoff and the waiting coach.

Covered with mud and blood from the fight, he rode into a village and offered two thousand crowns for a fresh horse. The large sum, his accent, and his disheveled appearance aroused suspicion, and he was taken into custody. He kept a cool head and gave a plausible explanation for his appearance, and was about to be released when someone in the crowd recognized him. The general at first denied the identification, but when the mayor insisted he be taken to Olmutz to make certain, he admitted that he was indeed Lafayette and was escorted back to his cell.

Bollman was the only one to reach Hoff. Not finding Lafayette there, he guessed that the general had gotten lost and set out to try and find him, believing Lafayette might have tried to cross the border into Prussia by a different route. Bollman tried to pick up his trail, but a week later he too was arrested and taken to Olmutz to join Huger. The civil examination of Huger had begun and, since Huger spoke no German, a Professor Passi living in the vicinity was employed as interpreter.

For three months Huger and Bollman were kept in solitude and brought separately before the tribunal for examination. The early investigation centered on a suspected political plot involving Austrians. Finally the judges determined the two had worked independently of any local help and for the sole purpose of freeing Lafayette. The charges were reduced to "forcing a military post"; after that they were allowed a little more freedom and better food. However, the examinations continued.

There were efforts on many fronts to help the two. Huger managed to smuggle letters out to Thomas Pickney, former governor of South Carolina, who was then the American minister in London. He first wrote Pickney on January 5, 1795, asking Pickney to write to his mother and closing with the plea, "Don't forget us."

At home, Huger's family wrote to George Washington, asking that the President to intervene to obtain Huger's freedom. Secretary of State Timothy Pickering informed them that the President was concerned, but "... the cause of Mr. Huger's confinement would render any application delicate and difficult, the United States having no public functionary in the Austrian dominions."

However, the Olmutz prisoners had more influential help closer to them in Austria. Mr. Passi, the interpreter who had been in on all the examina- → → →

tions of Huger, was a close friend to a Count Mitrowsky, who also became interested in the prisoners Huger and Bollman. Count Mitrowsky supplied money, which Passi used to bribe the judges, and when Huger and Bollman were found guilty they received a very light sentence of one month's labor in irons, followed by banishment from Austria. With a little more money, the

"A directive came back upbraiding the bribed judges for their leniency, but too late; the prisoners were already on their way to America."

judges saw fit to reduce the sentence to fourteen days of confinement and banishment from Austria. The crown lawyers had reported to Vienna, and a directive came back upbraiding the judges for their leniency and demanding the trial be reopened, but the demand came too late. The fourteen days had passed and the two prisoners were on their way to the United States.

Lafayette continued to be held prisoner until Bonaparte invaded Austria in 1797, forcing the emperor to sue for peace. The Directory asked Bonaparte to demand the release of Lafayette and the others in the Olmutz prison as a condition to the peace settlement. At last the famous general was freed September 19, 1797, just five years after his arrest on the Austrian frontier.

But the story does not end there. Bollman arrived in America and, failing repeatedly in business, became a land agent for Aaron Burr in 1805, which entangled him with the Burr plot to establish a western empire in the Louisiana Territory. Bollman was caught delivering some papers from Burr to General and Brother James Wilkinson [see *"The Villainous Wilkinson,"* Knight Templar, June 1986—Ed.] and for the second time in twelve years was imprisoned. However,

he regained his freedom when the case did not hold up in court. Bollman died in Jamaica in 1821, just three years before Lafayette made his last trip to America.

What was not publicly known was that Washington had been trying to make contact with Lafayette ever since the beginning of the French Revolution without success. All of Washington's friends were of the nobility, and they had all fled to England—those who had not been imprisoned or executed. It may well be that Washington's search for Lafayette and his press for information contributed to the fact that Lafayette was held incognito, and so out of the reach of the French revolutionaries, thus saving his life!

As for Huger, on his return to America he married the daughter of Thomas Pickney. Finding the life of a medical man not to his liking, he divided his time between his plantation on the Santee River and a summer home in Statesburg, South Carolina, choosing the life of a rice farmer. Huger also served two terms in the South Carolina legislature.

In 1824 Lafayette arrived in America to revisit old familiar places and friends. He got in touch with Huger and heard of Bollman's death. Lafayette asked Huger to join him in New York and be one of his traveling companions for his stay in America. Auguste Levasser, a member of Lafayette's party, wrote: "At dinner, at the theatre, and the ball—in short, everywhere—the name of Huger was inscribed with that of Lafayette." There was even a play written entitled *Lafayette, or the Castle of Olmutz*, which the party attended in Philadelphia.

Huger, a very modest man, though willing to tell his story, said of himself, "I simply considered myself the representative of the young men of America, and acted accordingly."

Sir Knight William A. Brown lives at 2404 Valley Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

When troubles and discouragements
surround us, it is comforting to know that
a power greater than us is working
toward new life and growth.

Preparation for Renewal

by

Sir Knight Harold Blake Walker

Evanston Commandery No. 58, Evanston, Illinois

Those of us who have passed through the midstream of life have experienced a series of shocks that have upset the even tenor of our lives. We have been battered by depression and war, by inflation and disillusionment, by social disruption and political betrayal. The securities of more tranquil yesterdays have become insecure. The phrase "sound as a dollar" has become a mocking echo of the past.

We are tempted at times to believe that our era is uniquely turbulent in history. Curiously, though, every period has seemed unique and more difficult than any other to those who lived through it. When the early Christians were complaining of their lot, the stubborn saint who wrote the Book of Hebrews offered a thumbnail sketch of history in order to remind his readers they were not the first to blunder into disturbing change.

There was Noah, the writer of Hebrews noted, whose world was turned topsy-turvy by a flood that destroyed everything, and there was Abraham, who set out from the Ur of the Chaldees to pioneer a new land. He did not know where he was going except that "he looked for a city that hath foundations,

whose builder and maker is God." (11:10 KJV) Joseph was a choice illustration. He went from favorite son, to slave, to prison, and finally to power as the prime minister of Egypt. His life was one difficult change after another, but he kept his feet on the ground. The recital went on to include Moses and David, Samuel and Daniel. All of them were "trouble-born stars."

Pause anywhere you wish along the corridors of time and you will find people struggling with problems and difficulties that seemed to them more onerous than those faced by any other generation. Nevertheless, generation after generation of men and women have muddled through their troubles to find a place, a city or a town, with solid foundations "whose builder is God."

It is a sobering fact of history that times of disconcerting change also have been ages of great renewal, as if man's extremity were God's opportunity. John Milton's greatest work was done in the midst of England's civil war. John Bunyan wrote from Bedford Prison in a time of intolerance and persecution. Byron, Shelley, and Keats wrote while → → →

France and England were engaged in a brutal war; Goethe and Beethoven wrote gloriously while Napoleon was making a shambles of Europe. Even while desolation and tragedy were haunting the spirits of men and women, the preparations for renewal went on.

Each of us has traveled through baffling and discouraging personal experiences, only to discover unknown powers

“Goethe and Beethoven were able to write gloriously, despite the fact that Napoleon was making a shambles of Europe.”

of renewal and recuperation. Once we were physically strong, never knowing what it meant to be ill; then serious illness struck and it took a long time to fight back. But somewhere along the road we touched the hem of God's garment and found “help in time of need.”

It may be that we never will be able to do all the things we did before illness struck, but something of vitality and power stirred within us, and life came to mean more than it ever meant before. Now we have something to give, something to share with others facing disconcerting trouble. Our pace is slower, but our steps are surer; our tempo is more moderate, but the spirit is richer.

There is a striking illustration of the power of renewal in Abraham Lincoln's attitude toward the reconstruction and remodeling of our national Capitol. When the Civil War broke upon a troubled nation the dome still was unbuilt, and at the first inaugural the bronze statue “Freedom” lay on the ground, surrounded by jacks and scaffolds. But, during all the days of the war, Lincoln insisted that the project be finished. Bull Run, Antietam, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, with agonizing tolls of dead and wounded, came and went. But under Lincoln's

prodding, the work on the Capitol went on, and by the time of the second inaugural it was finished, with Freedom lifted to her place atop the dome.

Looking toward the completed work and the statue of Freedom, Walt Whitman wrote, “I like to stand aside and look for a long, long while up at the dome; it comforts me.” It steadies us all when there is preparation for renewal in the midst of uncertainty and trouble. So, while troubles and discouragements surround us in our time, it is good to know there is a power beyond ourselves working for renewal.

Sir Knight and Dr. Harold Blake Walker lives at 422 Davis Street, No. 201, Evanston, IL 60201.

Mathias Named to Hall of Fame

Former Olympian Bob Mathias will be inducted into the International DeMolay Hall of Fame at the 1989 Hall of Fame banquet, April 14, in Kansas City, Missouri. The banquet is part of a weekend-long convention which marks the 70th anniversary of DeMolay International.

Mathias, initiated into Tulare Chapter in 1945, was an outstanding track and field athlete who won the decathalon championship at the 1948 Olympic Games in London. He repeated the achievement four years later at Helsinki, Finland. In 1949, he was awarded the James E. Sullivan Memorial Trophy presented annually to “the amateur who, by performance, example, and good influence, advanced the cause of good sportsmanship.”

At the induction ceremony, a video highlighting Mathias' career will be shown, and he will be presented with a replica of his Hall of Fame plaque. A permanent plaque will be displayed in the DeMolay Hall of Fame at the DeMolay Service and Leadership Center in Kansas City.

Christmas was always a wonderful time at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia. It was not so much Christmas itself, when the cadets were all home, but the time before Christmas, between the exams of January and the toughest part of the "Rat Line" for those who might elsewhere have been called freshmen.

The Christmas service in Jackson Memorial Hall was filled with joy and excitement, a real challenge to the chaplain. In addition, the entire hall was dominated by a mural of the cadet charge at the battle of New Market, when the corps of cadets, then aged sixteen to nineteen, had marched up the Shenandoah Valley to war. They attacked the Union artillery; the artillery commander, who had never seen a line of neatly uniformed troops relentlessly advancing at port arms, thought they were the regulars and retreated.

Glorious as this achievement is, is this the message of Christmas? Is this setting what Longfellow had in mind when he wrote:

I heard the bells on Christmas Day,
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

We need no mural in 1988 to remind us of the carnage, more moral and personal than military, that threatens to overwhelm us and destroy those to whom the future belongs. We wish for the peace promised by the birth of Christ but squandered by the selfishness of nations, groups, and individuals. Our selfishness condemns us:

And in despair I bowed my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong, → → →

Each Christmas
gives us the chance
to rediscover the brotherly
love and good will that
the birth of Christ
should inspire.

Peace on Earth

by
the Reverend Sir Knight
Thomas E. Weir,
Grand Prelate
of the Grand Encampment

And mocks the song,
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

If selfishness is nature's gift to us, Jesus Christ is God's gift. To a world, then as now, encouraged by nature to be wrapped up in itself, God gave a child wrapped in swaddling clothes. To a world in need of direction, He gave the way, the truth, and life. Let us look beyond the transient pic-

"If selfishness is nature's gift to us, Christ is God's gift; to a world wrapped up in itself, He gave a child wrapped up in swaddling clothes."

tures on the walls and in our minds to the undying reality of God's love, to His becoming incarnate in history and in our lives.

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:

"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep.

The wrong shall fail,

The right prevail,

With peace on earth, good will to men."

As the apostle Luke said: "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us." (2:15 KJV)

Till, ringing, singing on its way,

The world revolved from night to day,

A voice, a chime,

A chant sublime,

Of peace on earth, good will to men!



The Reverend Sir Knight Thomas E. Weir is the Deputy Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Maryland and a member of St. Elmo Commandery No. 12 of Hyattsville, Maryland. He can be reached at P.O. Box 642, Riverdale, MD 20737.

Beauceant Leader Elected

Alice Danskin, the wife of Robert E. Danskin of Billings, Montana, was installed as the Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant at the annual meeting held at the Riverview Plaza in Mobile, Alabama,



on September 30, 1988. Mrs. Danskin was born in Dixon, Illinois, into a Masonic family. Her maternal grandfather was a Knight Templar; her father, Charles C. Hintz, was a sixty-year Mason; and her mother, Margaret Anderson Hintz, was a Past Matron of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Danskin also served three years as Mother Advisor of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

She is the wife of Sir Knight and Dr. Robert E. Danskin, now retired from dentistry, a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Montana and currently Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Cryptic Masons of Montana. They have four children—two sons and two daughters—all of whom were active in Masonic youth groups. They also have a two-year-old granddaughter.

Mrs. Danskin has been active in church and civic groups, including choirs, Girl Scouts, Pink Ladies, and the Billings Symphony Associates. Her special interests have centered around music and the arts and the activities of her family, as well as the several Masonic orders.

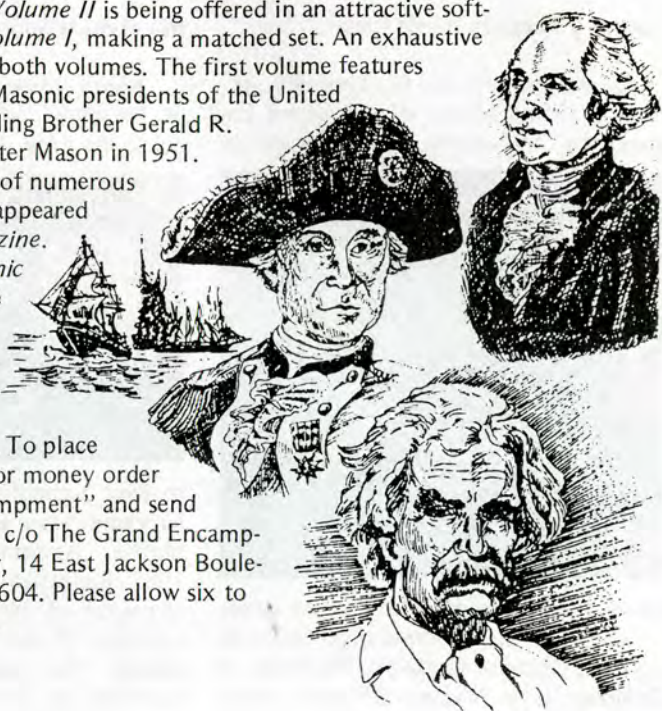
Members of the S.O.O.B. are wives and widows of Knights Templar. Their main benevolent project is the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, to which they have contributed over a million dollars.



Masonic Americana, Volumes I & II

Masonic Americana, Volume II is being offered in an attractive soft-cover design to match *Volume I*, making a matched set. An exhaustive index has been added to both volumes. The first volume features articles on the fourteen Masonic presidents of the United States of America, including Brother Gerald R. Ford, who became a Master Mason in 1951. Both books are made up of numerous articles which originally appeared in *Knights Templar Magazine*.

Matched sets of *Masonic Americana* which include both *Volumes I & II* are available for \$5.50 a set. Individual copies of either *Volume I* or *II* are \$3.00 each, postpaid. To place your order, make check or money order out to "The Grand Encampment" and send to "Masonic Americana" c/o The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Please allow six to eight weeks for delivery.



Grand Generalissimo Presents KTEF Grant

On October 18, following the installation of officers of Ascalon Commandery No. 16 of St. Louis, Missouri, Sir Knight Blair C. Mayford, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar and a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Missouri, presented a Knights Templar Eye Foundation grant to Dr. Steven Lee, doctor of ophthalmology at Washington University in St. Louis. At the Grand Commandery Conclave in Springfield, Missouri, last May, Dr. Daniela S. Gerhard accepted a grant for Dr. Fred C. Chu from the Eye Foundation for research at St. Louis Children's Hospital and Washington University.

In the picture above are Dr. Steven Lee, receiving the grant; Dr. Daniela S. Gerhard; Dr. Fred C. Chu, who received the grant last May; and Sir Knight Mayford. States Sir Knight Mayford, "All three scientists and doctors are dedicated to pediatric ophthalmology and the elimination of blindness in children."



Thornley Receives "Gold Collar"

Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr., Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, recently



received the "Gold Collar" of the active member of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay. The Order of DeMolay is a Masonic-affiliated youth organization which, according to Sir Knight Thornley, "for nearly seventy years has been an instrument of service, fostering the development of values in teenage boys." Pictured at right with Sir Knight Thornley is Sir Knight Dean Mathena of Arvada, Colorado, the DeMolay Executive Officer for Colorado and a member of Denver-Colorado Commandery No. 1 in Denver.

Common sense is the most widely shared commodity in the world, for every man is convinced that he is well-supplied with it.

Rene Descartes

Initiation at Supreme Assembly

Orlando Assembly No. 256, S.O.O.B., of Orlando, Florida, had the honor of being the only Assembly in the country



to have a candidate for initiation at the Supreme Assembly of the Beauceant in Mobile, Alabama, on September 29, 1988. Reports Mrs. John B. Fletcher, Jr., Recorder of Orlando Assembly, "Five members of our Assembly were there to witness the supreme officers do the initiation in a beautiful and impressive manner." Present were Mrs. Olin Crabtree, President; Mrs. Stanley Anthony, Oracle; Mrs. Richard Carr, First Vice President; Mrs. Freeman Millard, Preceptress; and Mrs. Fletcher. The candidate was Mrs. Howard P. Bennett of Rockledge, Florida.

Orlando Assembly was one of the Hostess Committees and was in charge of the Presidents' Breakfast. Mrs. Fletcher states that "We're looking forward to going to El Paso, Texas, next year!" Pictured above are Mrs. Millard, Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Crabtree, and Mrs. Anthony.



from the Masonic Family

York Rite Leaders Receive Scottish Rite Honors

The highest honor of Scottish Rite Masonry was conferred on a distinguished group of Freemasons in Grand Rapids,



Michigan, on September 27, 1988. The 33° is awarded for "outstanding service to Freemasonry or for significant contribution to humanity, reflecting credit upon the Fraternity." Two prominent York Rite officers received the 33° as members of the 1988 class: Sir Knight Charles F. McLeod (above, left) of Columbus, Ohio, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann (above, right) of Libertyville, Illinois, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A.

The degree conferral took place at the yearly meeting of the Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The Northern Jurisdiction is comprised of 436,000 members; a total of 172 received the degree in the 1988 class.

Montana Shrine Centennial

Algeria Shrine Temple of Helena, Montana, celebrated its 100th anniversary in



June. To commemorate this event, the Mallim Sef (Masters of the Sword) Shrine marching group is offering pins and bolo ties. As pictured above, the pins are an outline of the state of Montana with the words "Algeria, Helena, 1888-1988" surrounding a smiling Shriner. The pins are two-inch by one-inch in four colors, with a safety catch.

The cost of the pins are \$3.00 each; bolo ties are \$10.00 each, postpaid. If interested, contact Lloyd Older, Secretary/Treasurer, Mallim Sef, 1600 20th Street South, No. 5, Great Falls, MT 59405.

We all know that books
burn—yet we have the greater
knowledge that books cannot
be killed by fire.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

IN MEMORIAM



Clyde S. Heckrodt
Oklahoma
Grand Commander—1969
Born January 23, 1917
Died October 12, 1988

Floyd Bandy
Idaho
Grand Commander—1967
Born March 8, 1895
Died October 25, 1988

Hugh E. Hossle
Iowa
Grand Commander—1972
Born November 29, 1912
Died October 27, 1988

Masonic Watches

Sir Knight Harry G. Bowen of Scottsdale Commandery No. 12 of Scottsdale, Arizona, is offering for sale watches with Masonic, Eastern Star, and Shrine decorations. These watches are available in either gold or silver tone with either expansion or leather bands. The sweep second hand features a fez on the Shrine watches and a trowel on the Masonic models. Each watch carries a one-year warranty. The watches sell for \$45.00 postpaid and tax paid; \$3.00 from each sale will be donated to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. If interested, contact Sir Knight Bowen at P.O. Box 25063, Tempe, AZ 85282, or call (602) 908-7021.



Knights Templar Eye Foundation New Club Memberships

Grand Commander's Club:

California No. 52—Henry Taylor

Grand Master's Club:

No. 1,261—Gerald P. Winchell (TX)
No. 1,262—Arnold C. Vale (Philippine Islands)

How to join: Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make 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 now Com-mandery credit given for participation.

Information is available from G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master, Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, IL 62705.

Knight Templar Pins

Wheeling Commandery No. 1 of Wheeling, West Virginia, is selling their 150th anniversary pins. These pins are 3/4-inch by 3/4-inch and are white and black with a red Maltese cross in the center. The wording "Wheeling, K.T. 1, 150" appears around the sides.

The pins sell for \$5.00 postpaid, with the proceeds going to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Wheeling Commandery has only a limited supply. Interested parties are advised to send their checks to J. Nelson Deakin, Jr., P.G.C., 3 Woodview Drive, Wheeling, WV 26003.

When we are among our loved ones, we often let down our social barriers. How do you present your feelings about your Masonic affiliation to your family?

Bringing Masonry Home

by Sir Knight Donald L. Dorward

How do you bring Masonry home?

I was born and raised, both physically and Masonically, in central Illinois. I was gone for around thirty years; upon my return to Illinois ten years ago, there were approximately 13,500 Sir Knights in the Grand Commandery of Illinois. At the last Grand Conclave, ten years later, there were approximately 10,500. This represents a loss on the average of three hundred Sir Knights per year—twenty-five per month—and the loss continues. The end product of such arithmetic is obvious, and the problem effects not only the Commandery but all Masonry.

I do not believe that the “rah, rah, rah, let’s get petitions and new members” approach will answer the problem. I do not believe that the loss of membership is the disease; rather, the loss of membership is a symptom of something that has been lost in Freemasonry.

I cannot believe that an organization that has survived the fantastic social and political changes of the last four hundred years has suddenly lost viability. It is inconceivable that the basic premise underlying Freemasonry is suddenly unable to cope with the changes of society

in less than two generations. Either we have lost sight of some of the basic principles, or we have become so ingrown and inbred as to become totally obsolete. The principal strength of Freemasonry is, as it has always been, the provision of a means by which man can exercise his instinctive desire to be part of a group.

Several years ago, I published an article in *Knight Templar* called “Membership! What For?” [September 1984]. In this article I brought up points I felt had been lost from the basic activities of Masons to the detriment of the Fraternity. During this inspection season, I would like briefly to expand on some of those important points, with a short but true story.

Around fifty years ago, a young family—father, mother, daughter, and son—spent the late afternoon and early evening with friends. On leaving the home, the mother made a comment about the interior decoration of the home they had just left. The father’s response was unusual; he said, “He’s a Mason!”

To the little pitcher with very big ears in the back seat, this was a very strange statement. He had heard about → → →

masons; that's what they called bricklayers. Why should his father want so obviously to be a bricklayer?

Several years later, the father achieved his lifelong ambition to become a Master Mason. By this time, the son knew that his father was not becoming a bricklayer. The father was excited and eager about his Masonic affiliation. He regularly attended the meetings; he became a line

“When you meet a Brother, do you greet him joyfully, or do you—behind his back—wonder aloud how that guy ever got elected?”

officer at his earliest opportunity; he went through the Scottish Rite and into the Shrine. He became a life contributor to the Shrine hospitals and brought home brochures about the miraculous work accomplished in those institutions. Subsequently, he started through the York Rite, joining the local Royal Arch Chapter. Tragically, unfortunately, he had only a few years to enjoy his Masonic affiliation, but he never lost his enthusiasm.

Several years later, the son had an opportunity to petition a Lodge. He still knew little more than he had known before about Freemasonry; however, he had loved, admired, and respected his father. He felt that any organization which had been so attractive to his father had to be a special organization. He petitioned.

Last May, I—that son—was awarded a small blue and gold pin signifying that I had been a Master Mason for forty years. Obviously I have traveled a great deal further and experienced a great deal more of Freemasonry than did my father. However, I have never lost that enthusiasm which my father engendered. I have been highly honored by the Masonic Fraternity, a fact which would have made my father extremely proud. Many times

through the years I have heard Masons say, “My son is not interested in Masonry. I can't understand it, but he simply does not have any desire to become a Mason.” I often ask myself quietly, “How did you bring Masonry home to your family?”

My mother is a retired schoolteacher. One of her favorite comments is, “Your actions speak so loud, I can't hear what you say.” Our children are very shrewd observers of their parents, measuring carefully their actions against their words. Do you go to the meetings of your Masonic bodies willingly, or do you manufacture excuses to avoid them? “The meetings are boring, and I am too busy.” “This is my bowling night.” “This is my bridge night.” “There is an excellent program or game on the tube.”

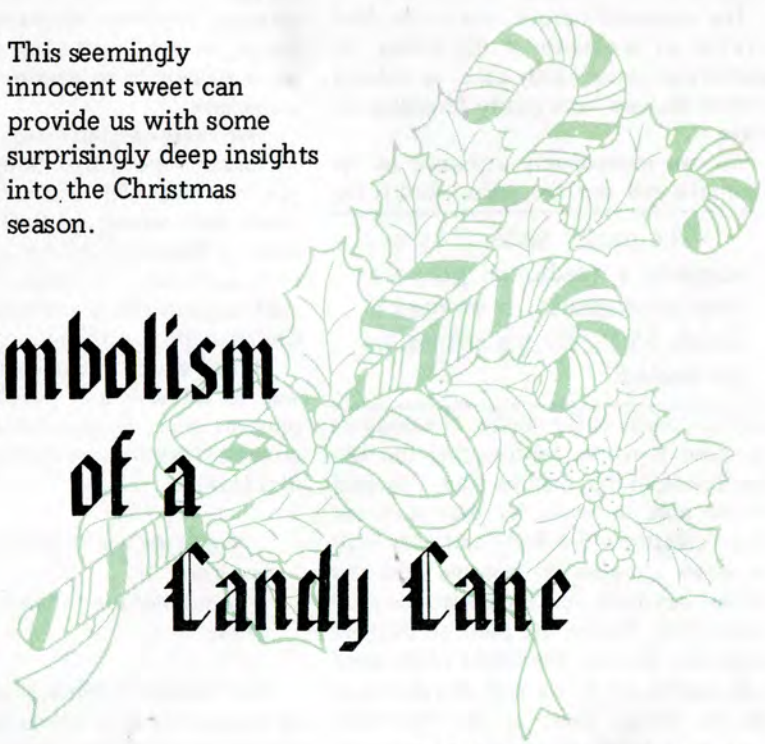
When you come home from your meetings, is it with pleasure and enthusiasm, or do you moan and groan about being bored? Do you complain that all that is done is somebody asking for money, or now they're planning to increase your dues? When you meet a Brother on the street, do you greet him joyfully as a Brother, or do you—behind his back—wonder aloud about how that guy ever got elected?

In the final analysis, if we can't impress our families, who presumably love and respect us, as to the value of Freemasonry, how can we hope to impress others? The gently satirical cartoonist Walt Kelly said it best when he spoke through the mouth of Pogo, saying, “We have met the enemy, and they is us.”



Sir Knight Donald L. Dorward is the Grand Warden of the Grand Commandery of Illinois and a member of Peoria Commandery No. 3 in Peoria, Illinois. He lives at 107 Main Street, Box 227, Washington, IL 61571.

This seemingly innocent sweet can provide us with some surprisingly deep insights into the Christmas season.



Symbolism of a Candy Cane

Sir Knight Donald J. Barthelmeh

This article originally appeared in the December 1971 issue of Knight Templar. Each year we receive some requests for it, so this year we offer it again for your enjoyment. Though now seventeen years old, the ideas and sentiments expressed are as real and as hopeful today. Happy holidays!

No season is so rich in signs and symbols as is Christmastide. We are literally surrounded by beauty, artistry, craftsmanship, and creative ability, as so many

visual expressions draw our attention to the birth of Christ. The stars of silver, gold, and shining blue remind us of the new star seen in the east. Every carol breathes the spirit of angelic voices. Greens of every description remind us of the eternalness of life with God. Our gifts to others imply the greater gift we would offer to the baby Jesus.

Of the scenes of Christmas, none is more beautiful than the shepherds on the hillside watching their flocks by night, with crooks in hand, about their humble business of guarding and keeping safe their flocks. From here they receive → → →

the announcement, "Unto you is born a Savior." (Luke 2:11 KJV) Then they joined together to go "see the great sight which had come to pass." (Luke 2:15)

The shepherd's crook was at the first service of worship of the Christ. Its counterpart is our candy cane—so old as a symbol that we have nearly forgotten its origin.

We are immediately attracted by its color—the red and the white. Red is for

"The minty taste of hyssop suggests a medicinal purpose; how appropriate, as we read in Isaiah 53:5, 'By his stripes we are healed.'"

sacrifice; white is for purity. The body of the cane is white, representing the life that is pure, or that may be pure: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8 RSV) But only in so far as we are pure do men see God; not yonder but here, not then but now shall we see Him. As you are pure, so shall He be to you. Even as the Christ Child came in all purity, so do we seek the purity of life He brings. Even as the shepherds came in humility and purity of purpose, so is our worship always to be in humbleness before the Lord.

The broad red stripe is symbolic of our Lord's sacrifice for us. We may celebrate the birth of a child, Jesus, but we must also be mindful of the man, Christ. Christmas always brings us ultimately to Calvary. We pause to reflect on who we find yonder on Calvary's tree. Just as we take the Christmas tree to mark His birth, so we transpose it into an old rugged cross in Lent to remind us that God "came down at Christmas" to reveal His love and to prove the extent of His love. He gave His life on the cross in sacrifice for our sin.

And then the many smaller stripes: these symbolize the sacrifices we must make as Christians, the offerings we

would bring to be intertwined with the supreme sacrifice of our Savior. They may mean the wounded sheep He has brought to the fold or the scars of our sorrows, which the Good Shepherd bore for us, or the lesser pains and sufferings we must bear in witness to Him in whom we believe.

The form—a staff—suggests a symbol of service: the Savior Shepherd seeking out His own with a determination that none shall perish; we fulfilling our purpose as those who He has called to serve even as He came to serve. The form of a staff suggests life is a service, even as the Christian life is a worship.

But of course the color and form give way to the aroma of peppermint and its pungent taste. Peppermint is akin to the aromatic herb hyssop; recall the Psalmist's plea (5:17):

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:

Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Old Testament scholars suggest the use of hyssop not only for its delightful taste but also for medicinal purposes. A healing nature is suggested. What better symbolism at Christmas for us, for we are told, "With his stripes we are healed"? (Isaiah 53:5)

It is candy, and candy cane is to be shared—broken down into myriad pieces for all to share. It draws us into a fellowship of sharing. How good it is to remind ourselves of Jesus' statement, "This is my body," broken for us. (Matthew 26:26) Just as Jesus' body is broken in order to be shared, just so our lives as good stewards must be shared. We come to realize as children of God and sharers of Christ's life that only as we give shall we receive!

Love came down at Christmas, all lovely and divine. Now in the season of

Continued on page 27

On the Masonic Newsfront ...

Sir Knights March in Kansas Parade

On October 1, 1988, the Sir Knights of Esdraelon Commandery No. 49 of Iola, Kansas, with the help of several southeastern Kansas Commanderies, marched in the 31st annual Biblesta Parade in Humboldt, Kansas (pictured at right, top). Reports Sir Knight J. D. Baughn, Commander of Esdraelon Commandery, "It was a big success, with twenty-five Sir Knights coming in uniform to help make this a good showing. Next year will be a great showing!"



Among the marchers were Sir Knight Maurice L. "Butch" Blackman, Grand Commander of Kansas, who served as Captain; Sir Knight Billy King, Grand Sword Bearer, who served as Guide; Sir Knight Charles Talbott, Grand Sentinel; and his brother, Ray Talbott, Deputy Grand Master of Cryptic Masons, who displayed the banner which, according to Sir Knight Baughn, "kept us from being misnamed as the Knights of Columbus, as happened in a previous parade."



Sir Knight Russell George supplied a 1951 Ford flatbed truck (bottom picture) which Esdraelon Commandery dressed out with two American flags and other banners. The Commanderies present to lend their assistance were from Chanute, Fredonia, Parsons, Ottawa, and Kansas City, Kansas.

Letter to the Editor

Dear *Knight Templar*,

Have you at times ever wondered if any of those people who have their letters published in "Knight Voices" ever locate their family members, sell their swords, or find the things that they wanted to buy?

The day I received my copy of the May issue of *Knight Templar*, in which I sought correspondence with fellow soldiers in my unit during World War II, I heard from a Sir Knight who is a member of my church, although he is not a member of the order here in South Carolina. Within the first week, I had a letter from a doctor in Atlanta,

Georgia, who told me that during World War II he had been a pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force Ferry Command and had flown aircraft across the south Atlantic. . . .

Then about two weeks later I hit the jackpot. A letter arrived from a Sir Knight living in Greenville, South Carolina, who said that he had served in that squadron during World War II. We have corresponded several times, met in person one time at my Lodge here (incidentally, his brother is a Past Master of my Lodge), and we plan on my wife and I visiting him and his wife next October at their home in Greenville.

What seems odd to me is that no one from my Commandery here has ever mentioned that they have seen the letter (they must not read "Knight Voices"!). Oh well. Just thought that you might like to know that letters in "Knight Voices" reach those they are intended to reach.

Sir Knight Carroll L. Marshall
Columbia Commandery No. 2
Columbia, South Carolina

DeMolay International Announces New Theme

The Order of DeMolay International recently announced the launching of a new theme for their youth organization. Robert W. Murphy, director of marketing for the Order of DeMolay, announced that, "a contemporary design with bold, bright colors emblazoned with the words, 'DeMolay Leading the Way,' " was selected as the youth organization's theme for the next two years (see illustration at right).



Mr. Murphy noted that the new theme was chosen to reflect the organization's emphasis on providing the tools and resources necessary for a young man to develop into a better citizen and leader. International Master Councilor John Hinck explained, "Our theme was chosen to tell the world that DeMolay is an organization of leaders for today, and for the future."

The new graphic theme will be featured on all material issued from the DeMolay Service and Leadership Center in Kansas City, Missouri; it will appear on publications, brochures, stationary, and store products, as well as being used in the various leadership programs offered by DeMolay International. DeMolay feels that the theme's design is equally effective in color or in black and white. It has been sent to Chapters across the country to be used in their promotional efforts.

Grand Encampment Officers at Canadian Assembly

The 105th Annual Assembly of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada was held at Prince George, British Columbia, on August 20-23, 1988, with the headquarters established at the Coast Inn of the North. Most Eminent Knight Donald A. King, Supreme Grand Master, presided over the assembly.

Most Eminent Knight Dr. Clinton A. Bell, Past Supreme Grand Master and Grand Recorder for the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, reports that "it was a most impressive occasion," as the assembly was honored by the presence of four ruling Grand

Masters and several other distinguished Sir Knights. Included in this group were Sir Knight Marvin E. Fowler, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar; Most Eminent Knight Gary M. Kollo, Grand Master of the Great Priory of Germany; and Grand Prior Jean-Pierre Lehr, National Grand Master, Independent Great Priory of Helvetia.

Also present were Sir Knight Donald Hinslea Smith, Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment; Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment and grand representative of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada near the Grand Encampment; and Jean-Martin Dubois, Grand Chancellor, Independent Great Priory of Helvetia. Also present were grand representatives of many other York Rite and Scottish Rite bodies.

A parade and wreath laying ceremony preceded the annual church service on Sunday. Most Eminent Knight Bell reports that "business was conducted with very little controversy for the next two days." Right Eminent Sir Knight Edward S. P. Carson was elected to the office of Supreme Grand Master. The 106th Annual Assembly will be held in Chatham, Ontario, on August 19-22, 1989. Headquarters will be the Wheels Motel.

Purple Clad Rock Climbers

On Labor Day, September 5, 1988, thirty-nine Kansas Companions and their families were joined by fifteen Companions and their families from Colorado on the Mountain Stream behind the Park Row Lodge in Manitou Springs, Colorado, for a picnic. This was the first get-together for the "Purple Clad Rock Climbers" who would make the voyage to the top of Pikes Peak the next morning and make the annual inspection of the Cryptic deposit buried there.



A total of forty-eight made the trip to the deposit this year. According to Sir Knight Dean Hjorth, Illustrious Grand Master of Kansas, "The weather on top was beautiful, but the smoke coming down from the forest fires in Yellowstone Park did cut down on the viewing from the top of Pikes Peak." Pictured above are the following Kansas Companions (kneeling): Jim Beye, Jay Sheldon, Jr., Cleo Rathbun. Standing (clockwise): Ray Talbott, Glenn Blackburn, Lawrence Bodine, Robert Kurz, Dean Hjorth, Maurice Blackman, John Rigg, Dee Duttweiler, David Snyder, Robert Tomlinson, Jr., Philip King, and Charles Talbott.

Among those making the trip were nine officers of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Kansas, the Grand High Priest and the Grand Commander of Kansas, two Past Grand Masters, and several other Companions from Kansas. There were also fourteen Companions and wives from Colorado on the trip. Sir Knight Hjorth wishes to thank those who made the trip and then "had to make a mad dash" to Austin,

Texas, so they could attend the South Central Conference. States Sir Knight Hjorth, "We appreciated all who attended and hope that you enjoyed this outing and are looking forward to next year and another trip to the top of the mountain!"

Knight Masonry in Minnesota

On July 30, 1988, Most Excellent Great Chief Edward H. Fowler, Jr., constituted Minnesota Council, U.D., of Knight Masons (pictured at right). The three degrees of Knight Masonry, often called the "Green" degrees because of their historic and traditional connection to Ireland, were conferred on sixty-two charter members at 1:30 p.m. at the Rochester Masonic Temple.



Various Companions participated in the conferring of the three degrees. Sir Knight Jerry R. Korstad presided over the first and third degrees. Sir Knight Kasper Kalb presided over the second degree with Great Chief Fowler also sitting in the East. After the degrees were conferred, a short business meeting was held and the next meeting date and place were established. The nominations for new officers were presented, and the following officers were installed for the ensuing year: Jerry R. Korstad, Excellent Chief; John Hallberg Jones, Senior Knight; Russell K. Amling, Junior Knight; Norman D. Wilson, Scribe; Gerald R. Flickinger, Treasurer; Roy B. Allison, Senior Warden; David S. Bouschor, Junior Warden; Donald L. Briggs, Director of Ceremonies; William R. Newell, Priest; Gary H. Johnson, Steward; and Ralph L. Hultquist, Sentinel.

Sir Knight Russell K. Amling, Junior Knight (and chairman of the Committee on the Educational Foundation for the Grand Encampment), reports that Great Chief Fowler commented that the degrees were well presented and that "with the caliber of work he saw and the people he met, Masonry in Minnesota should be in good shape and Knight Masonry is off to an excellent start."

Refreshments were served in the clubroom following the degree work and constituting. A banquet was attended by many of the new Knight Masons and their guests.

Knight Templar Filing

The Grand Encampment offers for sale plastic collapsible "cut-corner" files for those who wish to have a method of filing back issues of *Knight Templar*. The files are a quality product—sturdy and durable. They are colored blue and measure 10¼ by 2½ by 7 inches. Each file will comfortably accommodate up to thirty-six copies—a three-year supply. A clear plastic slot for an identification label is located across the spine of the file. These files are shipped flat for snap-up construction upon receipt. The non-scratch files are available for \$4.50 each, postpaid; \$3.75 each for three or more, by writing the office of the Grand Recorder, Suite 1700, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-2293.

Candy Cane—Continued from page 22

Christmas we seek to spread that love among all men. One symbol is the shepherd's crook, made visual in its implications through a candy cane. It calls us to serve; its red bands direct us to a life of sacrifice; its essence of mint relates the tastefulness of those who would share. We are also reminded that our lives might be pure, made white by the sacrifice of our Savior, circling ourselves and spiraling up into lives of love and peace.

Sir Knight Barthelme was the pastor of St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ in Cincinnati, Ohio.

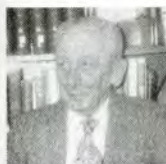
Masonic History Available

East Hills Chapter No. 268, R.A.M., in Penn Hills, Pennsylvania, celebrated their 100th anniversary on April 30, 1988. A history of the Chapter, comprising a book of 72 pages entitled *Ten Decades of Capitular Masonry*, was printed as a commemoration; a limited number of these books are still available at a cost of \$6.00 each, post included. Interested parties should contact Charles W. Leah, Secretary, 795 Kiski Park Drive, Apollo, PA 15613.



Merry Christmas!

from the Staff
of the Grand Encampment



In rows from upper left: Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, Right Eminent Grand Recorder; Joe Buklis, Mailroom; Bessie Cooper, Typesetter and Database Operator; Pam Hawkins, Receptionist; Miyo Jensen, Typesetter and Database Operator; Trena Jones, Database System Operator; Joan Morton, Editorial Assistant; Karla Neumann, Accounting; James M. O'Connor, Editor, *Knight Templar Magazine*, Audrey Potter, Executive Secretary; and Sir Knight James O. Potter, Comptroller.

History of the Grand Encampment

CHAPTER XVI

FEATURES OF THE TRIENNIAL CONCLAVES (continued)

The usual banquets and entertainments were held for the Officers of the Grand Encampment and the Sir Knights. The Grand Ball in the Public Hall was opened by the grand march led by the Grand Encampment Officers and their ladies. The Grand Commandery of Missouri gave a breakfast under the direction of Sir Knight George C. Marquis. The fourth day opened with a New England breakfast tendered by the Grand Commanderies of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, and Massachusetts /Rhode Island. The traditional salmon luncheon of the Grand Commandery of Oregon was also held. Numerous other receptions were held, including the formal Grand Encampment Banquet at the Hotel Cleveland in honor of Sir Knight Mark Norris, the Grand Master.

The parade brought much praise, and in the reports we find:

The heart of Cleveland beat in time with the steps of nearly ten thousand Knights Templar today, as they marched through downtown streets to open the first formal session of their 41st Triennial Conclave. With the beat of many drums Sir Knights from almost every state in the Union swung down Euclid Avenue to the Public Square and thence to the Stadium.

Marching men are no novelty in the world today. This morning was

witnessed [sic] the marching of men, who marched for God and humanity. It was like witnessing the beginning of a new Crusade. Except as men lift the banner of the Cross above other signs and symbols, the world may not be saved.

The outstanding event was again Detroit Commandery No. 1 under the leadership of Sir Knight Charles B. Van Dusen, with many changing formations throughout the parade; they were a delight to be spectators. First place in the competitive drill was won by Lansing Commandery of Lansing, Michigan.

On account of war-time restrictions, the Forty-Second Triennial Conclave, held in Chicago in 1943, was streamlined into a two-day business meeting. All the usual program of entertainment, parade, and social events of the previous Conclaves was entirely absent. For the first time in many years there was no general attendance of Sir Knights and no ladies were present to grace the occasion.

However, some of the traditional banquets were held. The Grand Commandery of Missouri was again the host of the Grand Encampment with the Monday morning breakfast. The Grand Encampment dinner was held at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, at which the governor of Illinois, Sir Knight Dwight H. Green, was the principal speaker. Quoting from his address:

Tonight every single one of us is conscious of the fact that we are now engaged in the greatest, the most world-shaking war ever to be recorded in the pages of history. From the ends of the earth the

forces of freedom are marshalled in a struggle to the death with the legions of autocracy, dictatorship, oppression, and evil. But this struggle is not new in the annals of Freemasonry, of which our Order is such an important part.

Hundreds of years ago—long before liberty became the creed of the great and good nations of the earth—Freemasonry began its long, uphill struggle for freedom against the entrenched forces of autocracy and oppression. For hundreds of years before our own United States set a glorious example of free government, of the people, by the people, and for the people, the Masonic Order suffered persecution from governments similar in creed and moral outlook, governments equally as evil as those which now seek to black out the light of liberty throughout the world.

But Freemasonry did not flinch—did not give an inch before the onslaught, because the flame of freedom, once it burns in the human breast, lives forever. It cannot die. Down through long ages of oppression Freemasonry survived; survived and gathered new strength. It has been tested and proved by fire and sword, and it stands today, solid as a rock, stronger in numbers than ever before in history, a monument that is an inspiration in our present day struggle for freedom.

Noble qualities have run like golden threads through the teachings of Knights Templar—and from the principles they inspired are born the spiritual, civic, and social good which has placed every community graced by a Commandery deeply in its debt. If all lives were guided by reverence, patriotism and domestic respect and love,

there would be none of the attacks against godliness and civilization which are shaking the world today.

In 1946 the Grand Encampment held its 43rd Triennial Conclave at Houston, Texas. Elaborate preparations had been made for the meeting, and the city was gaily decorated for the occasion. Everywhere the sign "Welcome Sir Knights," brought a greeting to the visiting Templars who enthusiastically accepted the invitation and took over the city.

Activities began with the arrival of the Grand Master's train Saturday evening. The Grand Master, Sir Knight Charles N. Orr, was escorted to the Rice Hotel where a dinner had been arranged for him and his party. The governor of Texas, Coke Stevenson, extended a cordial welcome to the visiting Knights and presented the Grand Master with a certificate designating him as an Honorary Captain of the famous Texas Rangers.

The official opening of the Conclave began with religious services at the Coliseum, where the Grand Prelate, Sir Knight Chester B. Emerson, presented an inspiring sermon on "Our Rights and Our Responsibilities."

On Monday, the Grand Commandery of Missouri gave its traditional breakfast, and the Grand Commandery of Oregon, its usual salmon luncheon. That evening a banquet was held for the Grand Master at the Rice Hotel. It was a brilliant function with addresses by Grand Master Orr and Pat M. Neff, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas and former governor of the state.



The Committee on Templar History has plans to prepare an updated history of the Grand Encampment, continuing where Sir Knight Scully left off. When completed, the updated history will be announced in the KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE.



Knight Voices

To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to "Knight Voices," The Grand Recorder, Suite 1700, 14 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604.

□ Wanted—a few good men from the following Kansas communities: Emporia, Abilene, Salina, Goodland, Marysville, Manhattan, Liberal, Phillipsburg, Colby, and Pratt. Qualifications: Interest and enthusiasm; leadership skills; must be a Knight Templar. Experience: not necessary; will train. Apply to: *Grand Commander of Kansas, P.O. Box 1217, Topeka, KS 66601.*



□ I am trying to locate the Templar sword and scabbard that belonged to my late beloved grandfather, Percy Clifford Fish of Kalamazoo, Mich. I would welcome any info, regardless of how insignificant it may seem. *David C. Brown, 225 Tilton Ave., San Mateo, CA 94401.*



□ For sale: gold and enamel Templar watch charm—.33 ounce, 1" square. Mark Master key-stone on reverse. \$150.00 or best offer. *Tom Alexander, 33 Christian Ave., Concord, NH 03301, (603) 224-1099.*



□ Trying to locate pictures of Past Masters of DeQuincy Lodge No. 279 of DeQuincy, La.: P. V. Wadleigh, 1905; Asa B. Otis, 1906; W. A. Gore, 1908; W. L. Seibert, 1929; William Pfeil, 1931; G. L. Moye, 1938. *M. L. Cooper, 801 4th St., DeQuincy, LA 70633.*



□ For sale: Needlepoint and counted cross-stitch kits for the various Masonic degrees and related bodies, including Blue Lodge, Shriners, O.E.S., and many more. The symbols are designed to be framed as an 8" x 10" wall hanging. However, material provided would allow use for a slightly larger pillow or whatever your imagination may dictate. Price of \$15.00 each includes canvas or Aida cloth, needle, yarn or

floss, complete instructions, shipping, and handling. *C. A. Adams, Box 34, Rt. 103, Mount Holly, VT 05758.*



□ Trying to contact anyone who served on the USS Hunt (DD-674) in order to learn if there is any interest in holding a reunion in the fall of 1989. Anyone interested should contact *Alfred W. Bailey, 85 Van Liew Ave., Milltown, NJ 08850.*



□ Wanted: WWII A.A.F. enlisted collar brass, open or solid. Also WWII cap insignia, M.A.T.S. and TAC patches, 8th, 13th, and 90th Bomb Sqdn. patches, and stripes for P.F.C. and corporal, U.S.A.F. before 1978. Will pay postage. *R. E. Brown, 188 Carlsbad Cir., Vacaville, CA 95687.*



□ For sale: Cheney electric stair chair. One regular flight of steps, straight. Purchased May 1985. Dealer serviced July 1988. Excellent condition. \$1,500.00 or best offer. Shipped FOB. *William J. Miller, Rt. 1, Box 221A, Rixeyville, VA 22737, (703) 937-3042.*



□ Reunion: USS Zane (DMS-14), May 25-28, 1989, in Portland, Oreg. Contact *Clyde Bailey, 37177 Hwy. 228, Brownsville, OR 97327, (503) 466-5425.*



□ 1989 reunion: 746th Railway Operating Battalion—all companies—June 20-23, at the Menger Hotel, 204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, TX 78205, (800) 345-9285 (for reservations).

For more info, contact *Edith M. Gillen*, (214) 579-9613, or *Edye J. Gillen-Hall*, (214) 389-2043.



□ Seeking info on the family of William "Bill" Glenn, my great-uncle, who moved from Ala. to Waxahachie, Tex. (1880-90). Any of his family or friends having knowledge of his family, please write *H. V. Glenn, Rt. 3, Box 47, Crossville, AL 35962*.



□ For sale: four lots in the Sherwood Memorial Park, Salem, Va. \$1,200.00 for all four lots, or a reasonable offer. *Thomas B. Bentley, 205 S. Higley, No. 245, Mesa, AZ 85206*.



□ Seeking parents and time and place of birth of Rev. John Gilbert, who died in 1841 at or near Petersburg, Lincoln Co., Tenn. Son Ambrose Bouland Gilbert served as minister to Ball Fork Baptist Church in Lincoln Co. about 1841; son Washington Alexander Gilbert was in mercantile business in Moulton and Tuscumbia, Ala., in 1830s-1870s, and was a Mason, as were many of his descendants. Contact *Mrs. Richard L. Hughston, 605 W. Broadway, Midland, TX 79701*.



□ Seeking info on Daniel Robbins, Sr. (b. circa 1760, N.J. or western Pa.; d. 1844, Winchester Twnshp., Adams Co., Oh.). He married Sarah Leedon around 1783; census of 1790 shows a Daniel Robbins in Allegheny Co., Pa. Sarah died in 1834; both buried in Olive Green Cemetery in Winchester Twnshp. Seven sons: Phillip, John, William, Thomas, Joseph, Jesse, and Daniel, Jr. Contact *J. H. Robbins, P.O. Box 270443, Tampa, FL 33688-0443*.



□ For sale: two spaces—companion crypts—in Melrose Abbey Memorial Park mausoleum, Santa Ana, Calif. Value \$2,500.00; no reasonable offer will be refused. Contact *Robert W. Dobson, 2102 President Ave., Tupelo, MS 38801, (601) 844-6465*.



□ USS Walke (DD-723) crew members will hold a reunion in May 1989 at Las Vegas, Nev.

Please contact *Paul Bergeron, 963 Damato Dr., Covina, CA 91724, (818) 331-0256*.



□ Reunion of the 93rd Navy Construction Battalion, WWII, is scheduled for October 5-7, 1989, in Mesa, Ariz. For more info, please contact *Ed Cox, 7732 E. Holmes Ave., Mesa, AZ 85208*.



□ Seeking info on the Plemmons family: Bill and Lou Plemmons (Beaverdam Twshp., Haywood Co., N.C., 1900). Lou (b. May 1871; d. 1902 or 1903 of typhoid fever). Children Carl Washington and Minnie Etta were raised by Lou's sister Margaret Jane Burnett (husband James) in Belton, S.C. I would like to find my grandparents' resting place. Write for more details. *Kathryn Hawkins Gillaspie, 114 Old Bleachery Rd., Greenville, SC 29609*.



□ The officers, men, Air Groups (VC-13), (VC-36), and their ladies of the USS Core (CVE-13) will have their fifth annual reunion on May 11-14, 1989, in Lancaster, Pa. Contact *Harold S. Coldren, P.O. Box 275, Blue Ball, PA 17506, (717) 354-5444*.



□ As a collector of railroad switch keys, I would appreciate any help from the Sir Knights. I have been a Knight Templar for forty-eight years. *William F. Kerr, 230 S. Second St., Black River Falls, WI 54615*.



□ Reunion notice: for all stationed at Tullin [sic] AB, Austria, 1945-1955. For dates and details, contact *Horace G. Ray, 223 Whispering Hills, Bowling Green, KY 42101, (502) 843-3902*.



□ Attention WWII Army Air Force troop carrier members: the 1989 reunion of the 435th Troop Carrier Group, 76th Troop Carrier and Headquarters Squadron will be held in October 1989 at Orlando, Fla. For info contact *Bill Wehr, RD 1, Box 193, Watsonstown, PA 17777, (717) 538-1501*.



Santa Claus, or St. Nick, is but one symbol of the Christmas season. For another perspective on another familiar Yuletide favorite, see the article on page 21. Merry Christmas!