



Knight Templar

VOLUME XXXVI

DECEMBER 1990

NUMBER 12

**Have a Very Merry, Old-Fashioned Christmas
and A Happy New Year, 1991!**



Let us keep ever in mind.

The True Christian Attitude

As we near the anniversary of the birth of our Lord and Savior, let us each strive to celebrate this Holy Day in the spirit of love and consideration for our fellow man. Let us try to develop a true Christian attitude toward all mankind; and give to them the same generosity of understanding we find for our own actions, including our faults. Let us make the New Commandment a cardinal principle of our conduct, and truly love our brethren.

Christmas should be a joyful holiday. Let us celebrate it joyfully, and really mean it when we say, "Merry Christmas to all."

Those to whom I write are the "Torch Bearers" of today. The future and the destiny of our beloved Fraternity are in our hands. Will you carry the torch proudly and high, and toss it to your successor with dignity and authority? Only by so doing will our

successors in their time have the opportunity of perpetuating the good works of our institution. Knights Templar have a glorious past. Let us make sure our successors have an opportunity to have a glorious future.

May the thoughts of Christmas fill your home with warmth and cheer, and may your hopes and dreams come true in the New Year.



Merry Christmas,

Marvin E. Fowler, Grand Master

Knight Templar

"The Magazine for York Rite Masons - and Others, too"

DECEMBER: As this wonderful time of year comes around once again, it is time to pause in our daily pursuits and pastimes to reassess our priorities, search our hearts, to look to the Great Captain of our Salvation for guidance, and to find in the meaning of His birth the greatest gift ever given to mankind. Sir Knights, may this time with your loved ones be the happiest, most enjoyable Christmas ever, for the future holds that brightest promise as told to you by our Lord two thousand years ago.

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December 1990

Volume XXXVI Number 12

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Grand Master

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and Editor

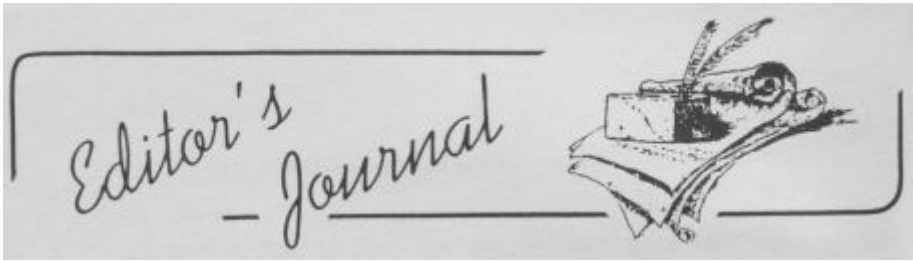
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Grand Encampment officers at Triennial In Providence: Pictured are officers of the Grand Encampment in attendance at the triennial of the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International, and General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons, International, held in Providence, Rhode Island, on August 19-23. From left to right are Sir Knights Charles R. Neumann, Right Eminent Grand Recorder; James M. Ward, Right Eminent Grand Captain General; Blair C. Mayford, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo; William H. Thornley, Jr., Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master; and Marvin E. Fowler, Most Eminent Grand Master. All are voting members of the General Grand Council. At far right is Companion Gaines Greene, who was serving as Right Puissant General Grand Marshal of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International.

Grand Master Fowler, Deputy Grand Master Thornley, and Grand Captain General Ward are also voting members of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International.

Voluntary Campaign Chairmen: The following changes of Voluntary Campaign Chairmen were received after General Order No. 6 had gone to press:

The Voluntary Campaign Chairman of Alabama is Arthur C. Harding. He resides at 309 Sun Valley Road, Birmingham, AL 35215.

The name of the Voluntary Campaign Chairman of the Philippines is Clyde L. Whitfield, P.O. Box 8638, Tamuning, Guam 96911. Phone: 646-73-92.

Mozart, Masonry and Music: Dr. and Sir Knight John A. M. Lyon, author of the article *Mozart, Masonry and Music*, advises that the material included in the article was originally presented before the Michigan Lodge of Research No. 1 on June 30, 1990. It also makes most enjoyable reading!

Duplicate Mailings: Dual members receive a copy of *Knight Templar Magazine* and other mailings from the Grand Encampment for each Commandery in which they hold membership. The first two digits of the label code indicate the state and the remainder the Commandery number; for example, 01002 refers to Mobile Commandery No. 2 (002) in Alabama (01).

Dual members are entitled to receive these mailings. However, a Sir Knight may arrange to stop the mailing of duplicate magazines. Contact the office of the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, IL 60604-2293, with your request.

Templary's highest award...

Our Cross of Honor

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America presents the 1990 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 Sir Knights to receive the coveted Cross of Honor.

Alabama

Mac Arthur Davis, Monroeville No. 47

Arizona

Arthur Morgan "Jim" Bjornstad,
Yuma No. 10

Arkansas

John H. Robinson, Olivet No. 20

California

Charles Evert Moomey, Vacaville No. 38

Colorado

Marvin S. Danhauer, Salida No. 17

Connecticut

Warren Jenkins Dennison
Stamford No. 12

Florida

William A. Bessent III, Pilgrim No. 7

Georgia

Lewis Hendrix Keith, Atlanta No. 9

Idaho

Donald S. McAnulty, Twin Falls No. 10

Illinois

Woodrow Franklin McNeese,
Ottawa No. 10

Indiana

Noal Orble Stephens, Wright No. 64

Iowa

Jackson Myron Thorns,
Holy Cross No. 10

Kansas

Franklin Leroy Tiers,
Junction City No. 43

Kentucky

Robert Riley Rainey, Winchester No. 30

Louisiana

Walter Wildenfels,
Indivisible Friends No. 1

Maine

Henry George White, St. Aldemar No. 17

Maryland

Willie E. Phillips, St. Elmo No. 12

Massachusetts! Rhode Island

Harry Clinton York, Milford No. 11

Michigan

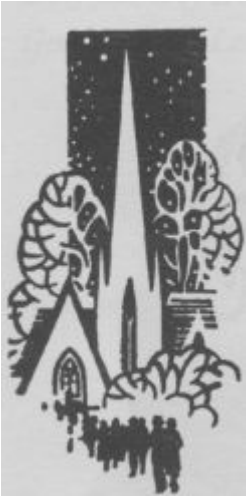
Donald Thomas Wilson, Port Huron No. 7

<p>Minnesota Clarence Howard Johnson, Ivanhoe No. 31</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Harry Fisher Schaeffer, Beauceant No. 94 Robert Walter Klein, Dieu Le Veut No. 45</p>
<p>Mississippi Robert Lee Earnest, Tupelo No. 39</p>	<p>South Carolina James Edward Wilson, South Carolian No. 1</p>
<p>Missouri Earl Eoff, St. John's No. 20</p>	<p>South Dakota Arthur Albert Remmele, Brule No. 19</p>
<p>Montana Delmar P. Langbell, Aldemar No. 5</p>	<p>Tennessee Jon Vernon Roithner, Watauga No. 25</p>
<p>Nebraska Robert M. McDonald, St. John No. 16</p>	<p>Texas Malcolm W. Bradshaw, Indivisible Friends No. 13 Ernest Dixon Toney, Crockett No. 91</p>
<p>Nevada Mead Walker, DeWitt Clinton No. 1</p>	<p>Utah Moffet Eugene Felkner, Utah No. 1</p>
<p>New Hampshire John Wood Baker, North Star-St. Gerard No. 4</p>	<p>Vermont Karsten Larsen, Taft No. 8</p>
<p>New Jersey Herschel M. Garrison, Olivet No. 10</p>	<p>Virginia Douglas Lawrence Jordan, Piedmont No. 26</p>
<p>New Mexico Elliott H. Chappelle, Pilgrim No. 3</p>	<p>Washington Ronald Neil Dingle, Ivanhoe No. 4</p>
<p>New York George Howard Harrison, Otsego No. 76</p>	<p>West Virginia Lawrence Moore Chapman, St. Johns No. 8</p>
<p>North Carolina Dolan Allen Surratt, Salisbury No. 13</p>	<p>Wisconsin Edward Lester Makal, Wisconsin No. 1</p>
<p>North Dakota Kenneth D. Highet, Auvergne No. 2</p>	<p>Wyoming Noel Francis Collins, Mt. Lebanon No. 11</p>
<p>Ohio Lonnie Raymond Jackson, Hanselmann No. 16 Emerson Glenn Arnold, Allenby No. 73</p>	<p>Philippines Abelardo T. Cam ahalan, Cavite No. 7</p>
<p>Oklahoma Kurt Heinz Schutz, Lawton No. 18</p>	
<p>Oregon Laurence Lucien Grimshaw, Pacific No 10</p>	

Christmas 1990

by The Reverend and Sir Knight
Thomas E. Weir, Ph.D.

Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



We were expecting to be home *for* Christmas in 1950. The U.S.S. KEPPLER (DDK-765) was home ported in Newport, Rhode Island. When the Korean War broke out in June 1950, we were ordered first to the Mediterranean and then, to the Far East. After a stint on "The Formosa Patrol," we moved to the carrier task groups off the Korean coast. There, we provided anti-submarine protection for the big boys, provided ground control for combat aircraft, and ran "small boy" errands. As winter set in, refueling and revictualing punctuated our usual routine. We were all certain we would be home for Christmas. Every day we expected orders, but there was no word. One day as we waited for orders, we replenished commissary stores from a supply ship. Load after load of beans and beef, sugar and salt passed to us over the lapping waves on a slender "high line." When the last load appeared, we had our orders. The last load was a Christmas tree. We knew where we would be that Christmas. Rod Bornhop would be Santa Claus in Korean waters, not in Newport harbor.

This year, Sir Knights, American servicemen and women; who have built a history not only of heroism and valor in combat but also of loving kindness to poor, hungry, sick, and defenseless peoples around the world; are serving once more in a strange and unaccustomed environment.

The men and women of our armed services are routinely asked to do far more in defending our country than most of us realize. I have seen the men aboard the ships of a carrier battle group work straight through the night on jobs that had been postponed because of the demands of daytime operations,

then go back to another strenuous day without a break. Every soldier, sailor, marine, and airman knows that, in peace and war, he may have to work around the clock, be uprooted from his home and family, and answer demands of which he never dreamed.

Our debt is great to our own armed services and those of the civilized nations, who have fought such conflicts as we have required of them and who have miraculously, for forty-five years so far, protected the globe from World War III.

What better Christmas prayer can we have than to pray for those who

shield this nation, other free nations, and the principles of freedom and justice throughout the world? May they enjoy, O Lord, "Peace on earth; goodwill to men," this Christmas, as well as a safe and early return to their homes and families.

God bless the men, women, and families of the allied defense forces as they protect us. God bless the United States of America.

The Reverend and Sir Knight Thomas E. Weir, Right Eminent Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment and a member of St. Elmo Commandery No. 12 of Hyattsville, Maryland, resides at 6409 Queens Chapel Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782



Christmas Bells

No touch of winter's frosty breath,
No snowclad fields 'neath skies that
lower;
All Nature thrills with joyous life,
As faintly from the distant tower Ring
out the cheerful Christmas Bells. Hark!
How their cadence softly swells O'er open
fields and bosky dells,
"In Excelsis Gloria!"

'Neath skies of blue the plains lie decked
In thousand varying shades of green. Soft
shadows sweep o'er meadows gay
With many a floweret's brilliant sheen;
While Christmas Bells in glad refrain Sound
the glad tidings once again Which angels
sang in raptured strain,
"In Excelsis Gloria!"

from *The Christian Year Under the Southern
Cross*,
published in New Zealand



The Magic Flute was the last opera composed by Mozart. According to one well-known music critic, "It is the most extraordinary work that has ever been given to the world, for although set to a libretto which is absolutely ludicrous, the beauty of

the music has caused this opera to be regarded as one of Mozart's finest musical achievements." At the time he undertook the task Mozart told the librettist, Brother-Mason Emmanuel Schikaneder, that he could not write for a magic opera, but obviously Mozart underestimated his capability. Mozart indicated that the opera was full of Masonic symbolism. The number three is conspicuous as it is in the three Masonic degrees. Some of the symbolism goes back to ancient Egypt; however, some of these symbols are used in Masonry. The story conveyed is that of enlightenment or the seeking of more light. The humanitarianism of Mozart and Masonry is ever present. The chorus of the priests, "O Isis and Osiris," is one of the greatest choral compositions which Mozart ever wrote. For this, his last opera, Mozart did not finish the overture until 4:00 am. of the day of the performance. He



conducted the initial performance that night without any prior rehearsal of the orchestra for the overture and he received a thunderous ovation. The main part of the overture is a fugue which is considered by many to be one of the greatest fugal works in all musical literature. The day before he died Mozart wanted to hear his *Magic Flute* once more.

Altogether, Mozart composed forty-nine symphonies. Perhaps his three greatest symphonies were composed in a period of less than two months during the summer of 1788. These were the *Symphony In G Minor*, *Symphony In E Flat Major*, and *Symphony in C Major or the Jupiter Symphony*. Of the *G Minor Symphony* Franz Schubert said, "You can hear the angels singing in it." Since Mozart's day, all of the great composers have lauded this work.

Much of the Masonic music by Mozart written for Lodges is for a few musical instruments and for no more than three voices. For instance, in the *Masonic Music Manual* published by Macoy, the selection "Jehovah, Lead Us" by Mozart is written for bass solo and is intended for the reception of newly entered apprentices.

During his career, Mozart was called upon without much notice to provide any type of music whatsoever - from the most solemn Mass to the lightest stage entertainment, music for dancing, and concert music. The great variety required of him did not bother

him, however. He always created music enthusiastically and never skimmed with warmed over pieces. He provided not only surface charm but unmatched beauty of detail. He never turned out listless, pattern music. Mozart had, perhaps, the greatest creative musical mind ever and his retention of music in his memory was incredible.

Constanze, Mozart's widow, never visited the burial place of Mozart until long after his death on December 5, 1791. She never had much appreciation of Mozart as a musical genius, the world's greatest during his lifetime.

Mozart was buried in an unmarked plot in the St. Mark's churchyard in Vienna, Austria. It was actually a simple burial with the body placed in a linen sack; the casket was removed before the final lowering of the body. All of this was in accordance with an edict by the Emperor Joseph II applicable for all common people but not for nobility. He was put in a mass grave with several other bodies. It is remarkable that the most famous Austrian of all time was not accorded a marked, separate grave plot. It is known that his sister-in-law Sophie, a sister of Constanze, had great difficulty in obtaining a priest to perform the last rites of his church, possibly because Mozart was an active Freemason. It has been said by one biographer that the body was accompanied to the grave plot only by the gravedigger and Mozart's mongrel dog. Mozart was always fond of his dog and his canary.

Also, it has been claimed that Mozart's skull was taken from the grave by the son of the churchyard keeper and placed in the museum in Vienna.

Apparently none of those attending the final church service in a side chapel of St. Stephen's Cathedral followed the body to the final burial place. Shortly after interment, a Masonic Lodge of Sorrows was held in the Lodge of

Crowned Hope of which Mozart had been a member. On December 14, 1791, a solemn requiem was celebrated for Mozart in Prague at St. Niklas Church with an attendance of 4,000.

Mozart joined Freemasonry on December 14, 1784, in Vienna. During Mozart's short life of thirty-five years he gave generously of his time and talent to his mother Lodge, as well as to several others. He not only composed music but also was the choreographer for many musical occasions at Lodge meetings and ceremonies. Above all he gave witness to all who knew him, that he was dedicated to the principles of Freemasonry.

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Dr. and Sir Knight John A.M. Lyon is a member of Ann Arbor Commandery No. 13, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and resides at 3248 Alpine Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108



Past Grand Commander Elected Deputy Grand Master of Kentucky

Sir Knight William G. Hinton, Past Grand Commander and Past Grand Prelate of Kentucky, was elected Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky on October 18, 1990.

58th TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE

Welcome: All Sir Knights And Their Families

The Sheraton Washington Hotel will serve as the headquarters for the 58th Triennial Conclave in Washington, D.C., which starts on Friday, August 16, and concludes Wednesday, August 21, 1991.

Pre-Registration

Placing your orders for tickets with the committee before July 1, 1991, will minimize delays and confusion when you arrive in the District of Columbia. You may use the Order Form from your *Knight Templar Magazine* for your advanced registration and ticket orders. Make your check or money order payable to the 58th Triennial Conclave Association, Inc. DO NOT SEND CASH.

When you arrive in Washington, D.C., your packet of tickets, badge, program, and other materials will be ready for you at the registration area in the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

TO SAVE TIME ON ARRIVAL, MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY. USE THE FORM IN THIS MAGAZINE, AND MAIL TO WALTER H. KITTS, 1105 MERWOOD DRIVE, TOKOMA PARK, MD 20912.

Housing Information and its form will be presented in the January Issue of *Knight Templar Magazine*.

State or other organizations that wish to have special functions at the Triennial can contact Ms. Sandra Brent, Asst. Director of Catering, (202) 3282918, or write to her at Sheraton Washington Hotel, 2660 Woodley Rd. at Connecticut Ave. NW., Washington, D.C., 20008. She will provide the menus and rooms. Remember that the 58th Triennial Conclave and all related activities will be within the Sheraton Hotel, and no transportation will be provided between hotels.

Tentative Program

All Events Scheduled on Eastern Daylight Time

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1991

9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. - Registration for all visiting Sir Knights and ladies at the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M. - K.T. Educational Foundation meeting.

2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M. - Drill team judges' meeting.

4:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. - Drill team captains' meeting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1991

9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. - Registration for all visiting Sir Knights and ladies at the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

7:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. - Drill team competition.

9:30 A.M. - Committee on Jurisprudence.

11:30 A.M. - Meeting of Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

2:00 P.M. - Committee on Finance.

4:00 P.M. - Committee on Ritualistic Matters.

7:30 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M. - Drill teams pass in review and awards. Admission for each registered Sir Knight and lady, included in registration packet.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 1991

9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. - Registration continues.

10:00 A.M. - Divine service.

2:00 P.M. - *Knight Templar Magazine* editors' meeting.

8:30 P.M. TO 10:30 P.M. - Reception of Grand Master Marvin E. Fowler at the

Sheraton Washington Hotel. Admission tickets required. Tickets for each registered Sir Knight and lady, included in registration packet. (Additional tickets available, \$15.00 each.)

MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1991

9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. - Registration continues.

8:15 A.M. Grand Encampment officers and distinguished guests assemble.

9:00 A. M. SHARP - Grand Encampment opening ceremonies (Open to ladies and friends.)

12:00 NOON - Ladies' luncheon. Admission ticket required, \$27.00.

1:30 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. - Grand Encampment business session.

Evening is reserved for state dinners and special functions.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1991

7:00 A.M. - Honors breakfast - Red Cross of Constantine, KYCH, KTCH, HRAKTP. Tickets required, \$17.25 each.

9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. - Registration continues.

9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. - Grand Encampment business session.

1:30 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. - Grand Encampment business session reconvenes.

7:00 P.M. - Grand Master's banquet at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. Admission ticket required, \$55.00 each.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1991

9:00 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M. - Grand Encampment session - Conclusion of business.

11:00 A.M. - installation of grand officers. (Open to guests.)

ORDER FORM VOTING DELEGATES

For registration fee and additional tickets as noted below to be available Friday, August 16, 1991, at the Sheraton Washington Hotel and upon my arrival.

Name _____
Title _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Lady (first name) _____
Arrival Date _____

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL ADVANCE ORDERS IS JULY 1, 1991, after which date tickets on an as available basis can be purchased in the registration area of the Sheraton Washington Hotel. You may use this order form from your *Knight Templar Magazine* for your advanced registration and ticket orders.

Registration packet will include the specially struck gold badge and program commemorating the 58th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, map of hotel, tickets for you and your lady to the Grand Master's banquet, tickets for you and your lady to the Grand Master's reception, and admission to the awards and pass-in-review night.

Registration Fee\$150.00

Additional tickets may be purchased for the following:

____ Grand Master's reception,
Sun. evening, \$15.00
____ Ladies' luncheon, Monday
noon, \$27.00
____ Grand Master's banquet,
Tues. evening, \$55.00
____ Honors breakfast,
Tues. morning, \$17.25
TOTAL WITH CHECK FOR.....\$_____

MAKE PAYABLE TO: 58TH TRIENNIAL
CONCLAVE ASSOC., INC.
AND MAIL TO: WALTER H. KITTS, 1105
MERWOOD DRIVE, TOKOMA PARK, MD 20912

**ORDER FORM
NON-VOTING DELEGATES**

For registration fee and additional tickets as noted below to be available Friday, August 16, 1991, at the Sheraton Washington Hotel and upon my arrival.

Name _____
 Title _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Lady (first name) _____
 Arrival Date _____

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL ADVANCE ORDERS IS JULY 1, 1991, after which date tickets on an as available basis can be purchased in the registration area of the Sheraton Washington Hotel. You may use this order form from your *Knight Templar Magazine* for your advanced registration and ticket orders.

Registration packet will include the specially struck badge commemorating the 58th Triennial Conclave, tickets for you and your lady to the Grand Master's reception, a souvenir program book, admission to the awards and pass in review night, and additional information. Additional tickets may be purchased as listed below.

Registration Fee\$60.00

Additional tickets may be purchased for the following:

- ___ Grand Master's reception,
Sun. evening, \$15.00
 - ___ Ladies' luncheon, Monday
noon, \$27.00
 - ___ Grand Master's banquet,
Tues. evening, \$55.00
 - ___ Honors breakfast,
Tues. morning, \$17.25
- TOTAL WITH CHECK FOR.....\$ _____

MAKE PAYABLE TO: 58TH TRIENNIAL
 CONCLAVE ASSOC., INC.
 AND MAIL TO: WALTER H. KITTS, 1105
 MERWOOD DRIVE, TOKOMA PARK, MD 20912

To Members

Are you an active member,
 The kind that would be missed?
 Or are you just content – that
 Your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings
 And mingle with the flock?
 Or do you meet in private
 and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part
 To help the work along,
 Or are you satisfied to be
 The kind who just belongs?

Do come to the meetings
 and help with hand and heart.
 Don't just be a member
 But take an active part.

Think this over, member.
 You know what's right or wrong.
 Are you an active member,
 Or do you just belong?

This poem was submitted by Karl C. Fromm, Sir Knight from Pandora, Ohio, who at 101 years young has been a Mason for 76 years!



A Christmas Message

It's the season of the *year*,
When nights are crisp and cold and clear.

It's a time for Templar hearts to glow,
When thoughts turn to manger scenes of
long ago.

It's the birthday of the dear Christ child,
Who the father sent—so meek and mild.

It's redemption start for fallen man,
How one is saved with God's plan.

It's Christmas—God's gift of salvation,
When all join in joyful celebration.

Except for the southern reaches of the northern hemisphere, the Christmas season is blessed with many nights that are crisp and cold and clear. It was on such nights that several of our Christmas traditions began. Those traditions started in Europe - especially in Northern Europe, where the climate is much the same as that of North America.

Our nation, America, was originally settled by pioneers of European stock. Those pioneers introduced their native country's Christmas traditions across our great and good land. Most of these traditions embodied scenes of evergreens, snow, cold, animals, sleighs, gifts, church, home and hearth, friendship, good will and cheer. Always the overriding reason for such festivity was to remember and to observe the Christ child's birthday of long ago. Always the festivity was concluded by midnight Christmas Eve church services; services that not only commemorated Christ's birthday, but explained as well, God's plan of salvation for fallen man - and how it all begins with the virgin birth of the Christ child, so meek and mild.

As we go about our individual 1990 Christmas activity, let us not forget to keep Christ in Christmas, despite the glitter of commercialization and the gala of festivity. Like those pioneer forebears, who left us a priceless heritage, may each of us be found in attendance at the church our choice. In the words of those pioneers,

God Jule (meaning Merry Christmas)
Dean N. Goranson, F.G.P.
Grand Commandery of Indiana

Holy Land Pilgrimage Medallion



The second Holy Land Pilgrimage medallion has been created. It is a beautiful 2 3/4-inch bronze medallion depicting a scene that all Knights Templar are familiar with. Only 300 will be available, so you will want to get your keepsake now. The cost is \$37.00, of which \$15.00 will be returned to the Holy Land Pilgrimage fund of your Grand Commandery to be used to send Christian ministers to the Holy Land as your guests.

To date, 390 Christian ministers have made the pilgrimage to the Holy Land as the guests of the Knights Templar of 38 states since the first pilgrimage in 1977.

Plans for the 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage in 1991 are complete. Because of the anticipated numbers of ministers that will be sent on this pilgrimage, the group will be divided into two sections. The first group will leave New York on February 12 and return on February 22; the second group will leave on February 26 and return on March 8, 1991.

Your support of this great Christian Templar program is greatly appreciated.

P. Fred Leslie, Past Grand Commander
of Michigan Chairman, Holy Land
Pilgrimage Committee

Buying gifts can be really difficult. Everyone knows the hassle of finding the right size, color and style, then after all that trouble wondering if the effort will be appreciated.

Fortunately, Masons can avoid these problems. There's a gift that is sure to please anyone interested in Freemasonry, and it's suitable for almost any occasion. The only problem is finding a store that sells it.

This marvelous all-purpose gift is, very simply, a book about the Fraternity. It's neglected because few people know what to look for. Masonic books are printed in small numbers and are not widely advertised. As a result, finding them is often a catch-as-catch-can proposition. But there are so many titles that one of them will suit any taste.

Some Masonic books, especially the older ones, are fanciful. They weave incredible theories about the Craft's origins. Others are scholarly. Quite a few are anti-Masonic. This category includes those infamous exposes which range from accurate to purely fictitious. And, of course, there are dictionaries and encyclopedias for quick reference.

Volumes that are more than a century old can be bought for a few dollars. They are literally a part of the Craft's history. And since specific titles are hard to locate, shopping for them can take on the excitement of a treasure hunt.

For those who don't like the looks of an old book, new volumes are published frequently. In addition, reprints of old titles make classics available in new packages.

A little caution is in order for those not already familiar with Masonic literature. While some of these volumes are reliable, others contain misinformation. As a result, all

The Perfect Masonic Gift

by Sir Knight C. Bruce Hunter

Masonic books should be read with an understanding of their vintage and the authors' motives.

Still, all of these books can add to a reader's understanding of the Fraternity. But they're not just for Masons. In a time when there is so much confusion about what can be told to a non-Mason, letting a friend read a well chosen Masonic book can be the answer.

And it doesn't have to stop there. A little Masonic literacy can add excitement to local bodies. If enough members donate books to the Lodge or Chapter, it will soon have a small library. Books can then be made available for members to take home between meetings - and they can, perhaps, share what they have learned at the meeting. The resulting discussion will greatly improve Masonic fellowship.

Our Fraternity has a surprisingly large literature. It spans centuries, it's very informative, and we should take advantage of it.

Sir Knight C. Bruce Hunter is a member of Cyrene Commandery No. 5, Asheville, North Carolina. His address is P.O. Box 2038, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2038.

Excellence We Value

by Dr. and Sir Knight Harold Blake Walker

It is instructive to examine the notebooks and manuscripts of some of the great writers of history, poets, novelists, and essayists. They reveal a painstaking effort to find precisely the right word to express their meaning. Words and sentences are crossed out and done again, as if each page must reflect the highest excellence possible. Frequently the change of a single word resulted in flashing insight not apparent before the change.

Possibly the literary worlds surrounding Shakespeare or Cervantes, Browning or Shelley valued the quality of a man's work more highly than we in our time. As John Gardner noted, "A society gets the kind of excellence it values." If we value perfection in a poem or a painting, a novel or an essay, we are more likely to get it than if we are satisfied with the trivial and the shoddy.

If we are satisfied with the trite and the inept on TV, producers will not be inspired to the achievement of excellence. We get what we seem to value. If we are willing to settle for careless work, few will be willing to extend themselves to offer quality and precision. We get what we appear to value. If our tastes in literature, art, or music are cheap, we will produce no Shakespeares, Michelangelos, or Beethovens. We will get what we value.

Curiously, in the sports' arena we value quality and competence. We cheer the record-breakers who strain to the uttermost to achieve their goals.

We honor the men and women who excel on the cinder track, and the football stars who lug the pigskin one thousand yards or more in a single season. The swimmers, the basketball stars, and the hockey players who exhibit exceptional abilities win our plaudits. It is not surprising,

therefore, that we get top performers in sports. We value them highly and pay them accordingly.

We recognize instinctively that excellence on the golf course or the tennis court is costly. It involves diligent training and endless practice; hours on the putting green or sweaty days on the tennis court. We know that competence demands a stern regimen of toil. It can be said of all men and women who achieve excellence in any area of human endeavor that before they became masters they were slaves. It is easier, however, to be a slave in the areas society values in terms of reward than in places where there are no cheering sections and no significant monetary rewards.

Most of us live and toil with neither cheering sections nor great monetary compensations. The plumber and the electrician win no plaudits for replacing a leaky pipe or repairing a short-circuit. If they work with competence, dedicated to excellence, it is because of something in themselves that demands their best. They know they will be criticized if they do poor work and they know, too, they will be denounced for whatever they charge for their toil.

The teacher, like the plumber or the electrician, seldom is honored or rewarded for excellence. If she throws her life into her work and is able to inspire young minds to learn and to think, it is because of something in herself that requires her to give the best of which she is capable. Wherever social rewards are minimal, self-motivation is the priceless ingredient for the pursuit of competence.

Society, obviously, is made up of people, mostly ordinary everyday men and women, who reveal whether they honor excellence by the way they do what they do. The more we honor excellence and give ourselves to the pursuit of it in whatever we are doing, the

more we contribute to a society that will value it. When we recognize that we are here in the economy of God to be some way heroic, rising to the highest competence we are able, we will begin to create a society that deserves excellence because it values it highly.

A society calling for the best a man or woman has to give will find him equal to his task. Such a society puts us in the way of greatness and of the greatest satisfactions we can know. Essentially it is true that "A society gets the kind of excellence it values."

Dr. and Sir Knight Harold Blake Walker is a member of Evanston Commandery No. 58, Evanston, Illinois, and resides at 422 Davis Street, No. 201, Evanston, IL 60201

The Christmas Spirit

What is the Christmas spirit? It is the spirit which brings a smile to the lips and tenderness to the heart; it is the spirit which warms one into friendship with all the world, which impels one to hold out the hand of fellowship to every man and woman. For the Christmas motto is "Peace on earth, goodwill to men," and the spirit of Christmas demands that it ring in our hearts and find expression in kindly acts and loving words. What a joyful thing for the world it would be if the Christmas spirit could do this, not only on that holiday, but on every day of the year. What a beautiful place the world would be to live in! Peace and good-will everywhere and always! Let each one of us resolve that, so far as we are concerned, peace and good-will shall be our motto every day, that we will do our best to make the Christmas spirit last all the year round.

Anonymous

Many years ago I attended the Triennial in San Francisco. It was an exciting experience for those were the days of brilliant parades and decorated streets. As a Sir Knight was walking down the street after the parade, he was approached by a group of children. They showed by their glowing faces and sparkling eyes they were much impressed by his appearance. They admired his uniform, his sword and belt, but what caught their eyes most of all was his white plume. One little boy spoke up and said, "Mister, what did you do to get that white plume?"

As I heard the words of that little boy, I was moved to ask myself the questions, "What have we as Sir Knight done, and what are we doing to deserve that white plume?" In the days of old, it meant something to be a knight. It was not all pageantry and romance. The knights of old lived in an age when Christianity was threatened by an aggressive Mohammedanism. And the call to arms in the name of Christ summoned men to active service, not to quiet submission. It challenged soldiers of the cross to enlist in the cause and follow it, come what may.

Multitudes of heroic men responded to the call of the Cross, marked themselves with the sacred emblem, and under it as a banner fought the good fight of faith. Such is our splendid inheritance as an order.

Today a large army of Christian Knights have enrolled under the banner of the Cross and wear the white plume. And what are we doing? Are there no battles to be fought today, hardships to endure, services to perform as Christian Knights? Is there nothing that stirs the chivalry inherent in every Knight? Is there no call for heroism in this modern day?

Yes, never was there a greater need for heroism than there is today. If there is any Sir Knight who does not see the



The Plumed Knight

by
Dr. and Sir Knight Howard R. Towne, D.D.

crying need, it is because he is indifferent or thoughtless.

Today our trouble is more than political and economic. It is moral and spiritual. If we fail as a people to solve this condition, we may collapse someday just as the great Roman civilization did in the long ago. "The Roman Empire was declining in the days of St. Paul," writes Taylor Caldwell, "and the American Republic is declining today, and for the same reasons: permissiveness in society, immorality, the welfare state, endless wars, terrible taxation, cynical disregard of the established virtues, greedy materialistic pursuits, abandonment of religion, inflation, criminality, corruption," and she might have added drug abuse and child abuse and dozens of other reasons. How our country needs a renewed faith in Christ!

One evening a young man called on that great character of American history, Wendell Phillips, to ask for his autograph. The old man treated him kindly and interested him for several hours with tales of yesterday. As the youth was about to leave, he turned to Mr. Phillips and said, "I think if I had lived in your time, I would have been heroic too."

This aroused the old reformer's indignation. And pointing down the street he said, "Young man, you are living in my time, and in God's time. Be assured, that no man could have been heroic then, who is not heroic now. Good night." Well, we read of the heroism of the Sir Knights of old and think we would manifest the same heroism if we had the same opportunity. But the voice of the immortal Phillips is still heard: "Be assured, that no man would have been heroic then, who is not heroic now."

We need to remember that great truth which says that "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil, is that good men do nothing." Thus the Sir Knight finds himself enlisted in the ranks of those

defending truth against falsehood, faith against doubt, justice against darkness, hope against despair, compassion against uninhibited hate. Though he fights in the world, he is not of the world, for he keeps his honor unsullied, his fortitude undaunted, his mercy unrestrained.

Knighthood summons men to service on behalf of common man, the downtrodden, and the oppressed; it challenges "the powers that be, in the name of the powers that ought to be." It points the way in which men must walk to bring the social order into harmony with the divine order, the kingdom of God.

Some of you years ago may have seen Walter Hampden in the play *Cyrano De Bergerac*. It is the last few minutes of the play that grip us. We feel it would be worthwhile going back again and again to see the play, if only to listen to the gallant Cyrano at the end, defeated, but saying, "I have one thing without stain, unspotted from the world in spite of doom, and that is my white plume."

Here in our permissive age, Sir Knights, we can understand the note from afar. Most of the men who have been the major inspiration of our lives have fallen asleep, their white plumes unstained. And this is what we would desire for ourselves, Sir Knights, and for the day in which we live.



Dr. and Sir Knight Howard R Towne, Grand Prelate Emeritus of the Grand Commandery of Michigan, is a member of Traverse City Commandery No. 41, Traverse City, Michigan, and resides at 521 Webster Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

Three West Virginia Knights Templar Undergo Test Of Endurance For Friendship And Love Of Templary

Sir Knight David E. DeMent; Past Commander of Huntington Commandery No. 9 in Huntington, West Virginia, Past Grand Commander of West Virginia, and presently Commander of St. Lucie Commandery No. 17 in Fort Pierce, Florida; was pleasantly surprised September 28, 1990, when he answered his doorbell in Port St. Lucie, Florida, and found three good friends, all Past Commanders of Huntington Commandery standing on his stoop grinning widely. The three enthusiastic Knights had begun their 925-mile odyssey on Thursday, September 27, and arrived at DeMent's



home at 5:00 p.m. the next day. The trio included: John G. Rick" Elam, Grand Captain General of West Virginia; Albert T. Duke, Jr., Deputy Inspector General of West Virginia Division No. 8 and KTCH; and G. Butler Adkins, Jr., Prelate of Huntington No. 9.

The idea for trip began innocently enough as a joke back in June during a telephone conversation between Elam and DeMent. DeMent informed Elam that he was taking his Commandery to Okeechobee Lodge No. 237, F. & A.M., in Okeechobee, Florida, on Saturday, September 29, to participate in a two-day York Rite Festival that involved the conferral of all Chapter and Council degrees and Templar Orders, and that he had 'volunteered' Elam to confer the Order of the Red Cross. Elam, not to be outdone, determined to find a way to turn the joke on DeMent. After securing the commitment of Adkins and Duke to accompany him, he worked out plans for the trip with DeMent's wife Ann and Sir Knight Paul Friend, Generalissimo of St Lucie Commandery, for lodging and for parts in the various casts, while keeping the plans totally secret from DeMent. The secret was kept and the surprise was complete.

The two-day festival proved a great success with an estimated eighty Brethren taking part and resulting in twenty-three new Sir Knights for Florida. The festival began on Friday Evening, September 28, with the conferral of the Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master degrees. Saturday morning at 7:30 the Royal Arch and Council degrees were conferred. Dignitaries present included: Jeffrey J. White, Grand Royal Arch Captain of Florida; George McCool and John E. Shotier, Most Illustrious Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master of Cryptic Masons of Florida, respectively; and James Dalzell and Paul Hockett, Right Eminent Grand Commander and Grand Standard Bearer of Florida, respectively.

Sir Knight Elam conferred the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross "as scheduled," assisted by Sir Knights Adkins as Excellent High Priest, Duke as Prince Master of the

Palace, DeMent as Companion Master of Cavalry, Grand Commander Daizell as Companion Conductor, and Larry Bagwell, Past Commander of Marietta, Ohio, as Prince Chancellor. The Huntington Templars also held stations in the Order of Malta and the Order of the Temple, as did Sir Knight George J. Whitley, Junior Past Commander of Huntington Commandery, who now resides in the Clearwater, Florida, area.

Pictured from left to right on page 21 are: G. Butler Adkins, Jr., and George J. Whitley, Prelate and Junior Past Commander of Huntington Gommmandery; Albert T. Duke, Jr., Deputy Inspector General of WV Division 8 and KTCH; Paul Hockett and James Dalzell, Grand Standard Bearer and Grand Commander of Florida; David E. DeMent and John G. Rich" Elam, Past Grand Commander and Grand Captain General of WV.

Letter To The Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Dear Sir Knights,

Thank you ever so much for your gift to me of sight. It's been a few months now. The surgery for the intraocular lens implant was done early in May by Dr. Stephen Graham of the Boulder Valley Eye Clinic in Boulder, Colorado. I'm sorry I can't show you what was accomplished for me. The surgical clinic has some fascinating film footage of the surgery itself.

Because I have diabetes, it took sixteen weeks before I was able to be fitted for glasses. I cannot express to you the thrill of having full sight. I do still, periodically, suffer from eye strain, but that's when I'm reading sixteen hours a day either studying for continuing professional education or getting my accounting business going.

I can't thank you enough. My glasses are beautiful. And the world around me is beautiful. I'm seeing coyotes where I couldn't even **see** the field, ducks where I couldn't even see the pond. The Rockies look like mountains with trees standing on them instead of grey masses with trees inbedded in them. I can see mountain goats, the adolescents playing their head-butting games, preparing for when they become young bucks.

There's just so much, I can't describe it all. However, I thank you ever so much for this generous gift. And it pleases me to tell you that Dr. Graham donated your funds to research. He is a beautiful man.

Again, Sir Knights, thank you!

Respectfully,
Terri R. Ytsma
Central City, CO 80427

Southern California Research Commemorative Coin

Southern California Research Lodge has struck a coin to commemorate forty years of service to Freemasonry and the attaining of four thousand worldwide members. The bronze coin displays the Lodge logo "Lamp of Learning," and is offered for \$5.00 plus \$1.00 for shipping. Those interested should make their checks payable to: Senior Warden Lewis L. Main, K.T., and send them to him at P.O. Box 2727, Long Beach, CA 90801-2727.

Old Hickory and Old Bullion A Tale of Love and Hate

By Sir Knight Robert C. Barnard

Thomas Hart Benton, "Old Bullion," was born on March 14, 1782, the oldest son of a wealthy North Carolina family. When he was eight years old, his father died and his mother took the family from that thousand acre estate to a twenty thousand acre claim in Tennessee.

Tom's youth was dominated by his strong-willed mother and her rigid, pietistic training left an imprint on his life so that he never gambled, smoked or drank, even though these were normal activities for many people on the frontier.

He entered the University of North Carolina, but was expelled after about a year. He then studied law on his own and was admitted to the bar in 1801. He prospered as a lawyer, although in ill health, and branched into politics in 1809, becoming a Tennessee State senator as a Jeffersonian Republican.

Andrew Jackson, "Old Hickory," Benton's lifelong friend and mentor, but at one time his greatest enemy, was born in a log cabin in North Carolina on March 15, 1767.

His parents were poor Scotch-Irish immigrants who passed away by the time he was fourteen. Fortunately, he was befriended by a lawyer, Spruce Macey, who adopted him and trained him for the law.

After being admitted to the bar in 1787, he moved to Tennessee at the age of twenty. Settling in the Nashville area, in a few years he became a wealthy man selling land and practicing law.

Although they were both lawyers, it was in the military field where Benton and Jackson met and became good friends as fellow officers in the state volunteers during the War of 1812. By the time they met, Jackson, who was the elder by fifteen years, had fought two duels, killing one of his opponents, and was a man feared and respected throughout the state of Tennessee. Shortly after war was declared, he received a commission as major general of militia.

Benton, on the other hand, was merely a young, relatively successful attorney when the war began. He conceived a



Major-General Jackson, in command of the American forces at New Orleans, from a painting by Chappel.

plan for recruiting three regiments of volunteers and went to General Jackson's home, the Hermitage, to present it. Jackson was impressed, and with Benton's help, he raised a force of over two thousand men to defend the West and New Orleans. Benton became colonel of one of the infantry regiments and doubled as Jackson's principal aide.

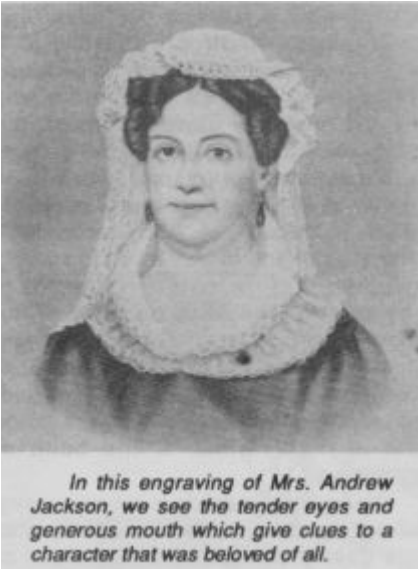
The military plans did not work out, however, and when Jackson was ordered to turn all of his troops over to the regular army commander, General Wilkinson, who was seemingly in the pay of the Spanish, the Tennessean took his men home again, including Colonel Benton, loyal to his chief. Since Jackson had spent most of his money on the expedition, he was deeply in debt. Benton volunteered to go to Washington to get approval of payment for Jackson's expense vouchers to recover the money. He was successful, and the general was grateful.

Nonetheless, the friendship came to an abrupt end due to actions that neither man could have foreseen. A duel took place between Jackson stalwart, William Carroll, major of militia, and Ensign Littleton Johnston. The reason for the duel need not concern us, but it happened that Carroll insisted on Jackson being present. Johnston's second was Jesse Benton, beloved younger brother of Thomas Hart Benton.

Jackson, who was not known as a peaceful man himself, intervened to make peace, but failed, and in the process, Carroll became involved in a duel with Jesse Benton. The duel itself was a farcical comedy; when the command to fire was given, Jesse turned to the rear and stooped to present the smallest possible target. Carroll shot him in the seat of his pants, causing a painful wound and bruising the young man's feelings even more. Big brother Colonel Benton returned from Washington and immediately came to the conclusion that Jesse had been shamefully used and that the Benton honor had been seriously damaged by Andrew Jackson's friend Carroll. Jackson was blamed for allowing it to happen.

Thomas Benton said that the duel was conducted in a "savage, unequal, unfair and cruel manner." Jackson replied by letter that his actions had been entirely honorable and that he would gladly give satisfaction if necessary on the field of honor.

Ill feelings continued on both sides and tale bearers made the enmity grow. When Tom Benton and little brother Jesse came to Nashville on September 4, 1813, Jackson was ready to "horsewhip Tom Benton on sight." Word of the Bentons' presence at a downtown hotel spread quickly and Jackson came to town accompanied by Colonel John Coffee and



Stockley Hays, a cousin of his wife. The ever-present grapevine proclaimed that both Bentons were armed with two pistols. The Jackson party was armed equally well and in addition, Andrew carried his riding whip.

Returning from a trip to the post office, the Jackson group passed near Talbot's Tavern, where the Bentons were staying, and Andrew saw Benton enter the front door. He brandished his whip and ran into the entrance shouting, "Defend yourself, you damned rascal!"

Benton reached for his pistol, but Jackson's draw was quicker. Looking into the muzzle of Andrew's pistol, Thomas Benton slowly retreated, with Jackson following step by step. Little brother Jesse, meanwhile, slipped through a door behind Jackson and shot him in the back. Jackson fired twice at Tom Benton, who fired twice in return. The general fell, with his left shoulder shattered and a ball imbedded in his arm. Benton was unwounded, although he had a bullet hole through his sleeve.

At this point, Jackson's friends entered, took one look at the seemingly mortally

wounded Jackson and set out to kill both Bentons. Had six shooters been invented, they would no doubt have succeeded. Having fired pistols without permanent results, Coffee and Hays attacked with daggers. They perforated Tom Benton in five places. Hays stabbed at Jesse Benton and only a large button saved him from death. Tom Benton, in his efforts to parry the dagger blows, fell downstairs backwards.

Seeing that their general and beloved friend was terribly wounded, Hays and Coffee broke off the fight to get medical aid and hopefully to save him. Tom and Jesse Benton disappeared quickly in the confusion. Andrew Jackson was carried back to his hotel, where he completely soaked two mattresses with his blood. An ordinary man would have died, but Old Hickory" refused.

Continued in Knight Templar January

Sir Knight Robert C. Barnard is a member of DeMolay Commandery No 24, Bloomington, Illinois, and resides at 28 White Place, Bloomington, IL 61701



Commitment Is The Answer

by Sir Knight John G. "Rick" Elam

One cannot browse through a Masonic publication today without discovering at least one article addressing ever increasing losses in membership and attendance. No Masonic organization is exempt. Explanations of this problem, as well as proposed fixes, generally run along the same lines. If this growing problem concerns you, then allow me to impose upon you for just a few minutes longer, if not, read no further.

I ask you to consider a simple word, but by no means a simple solution. It is a word which often seems to be lost, or at least ignored, in the instant travel, instant entertainment, instant food, instant marriage, instant divorce, no-fault world in which we reside. That word COMMITMENT is defined by *Webster's Dictionary* as "a pledge to do something in the future; the state of being obligated." We, as Masons, and even more particularly as Knights Templar, realize that commitment requires self-discipline and must therefore come from within. Perhaps, it can be taught, but it cannot be forced upon one who lacks the desire to be committed.

While our world is constantly changing, the principles of truth, morality, justice, and brotherhood upon which Masonry is founded remain steadfast. It is true that Masonry is exclusive in that it attempts to accept only men of good character. Templary goes one step farther in that it accepts only Christian men of good character. It seems to me that this fact alone is reason enough for a Christian Mason to commit himself to our organization.

As Knights Templar, we Christian Masons must endeavor to live as

Christ-like as is humanly possible; fixing our thoughts on our organization as a whole and never falling prey to pettiness and personal quarrels. Only in this way can we attain our ultimate purpose, the glorification of God. Can you still declare, as we all have, that you now "entertain no enmity or ill will against a soul on earth" which you would not "freely reconcile" if you should "find in him a corresponding disposition?" If not, consider the words of the apostle Paul when he wrote to the Colossians (3:13-14 KJV)"... forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfectness."

Obviously, this article is not addressing all our members. Many of our Sir Knights are deeply committed to our order or other Masonic bodies. This article is for our non-committed Brethren. To those I say, "Get with the program!" In other words, support your Masonic bodies not only with your dues, but with your participation. Search for good men who are worthy of further light; then make a commitment and stand by it.

Sir Knight John C. "Rick" Elam is a Past Commander and member of Huntington Commandery No. 9, Huntington, West Virginia, and presently serves as Eminent Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandery of West Virginia. He resides at 1732 Crestmount Drive, Huntington, WV 25701

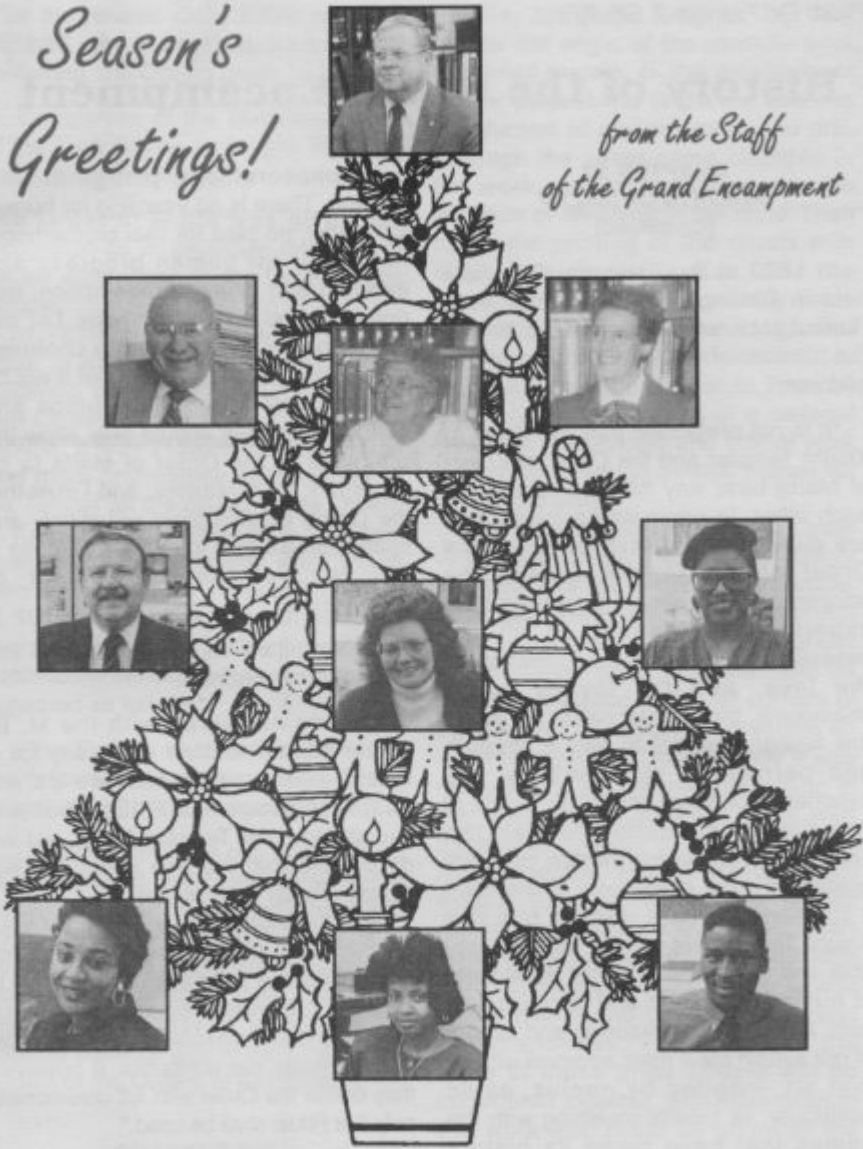
Season's Greetings

"Nature is full of genius, full of the divinity; so that not a snowflake escapes its fashioning hand."

Henry David Thoreau

*Season's
Greetings!*

*from the Staff
of the Grand Encampment*



Top down, left to right: Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, Right Eminent Grand Recorder; Sir Knight James O. Potter, Comptroller; Audrey Potter, Executive Secretary; Karla Neumann, Accounting and Database Supervisor; Sir Knight Randall W. Becker, Assistant Editor; Joan B. Morton, Assistant Editor; Bessie Cooper, Word Processor; Pam Hawkins, Secretary/Receptionist; Trena Jones, Database System Operator; and Cortez Robinson, Database Operator.

History of the Grand Encampment

Chapter XX Knights Of Malta (Continued)

In 1880 at the Triennial Conclave held in Chicago, Grand master V. L. Hurlbut took an adverse stand toward the Order of Malta, stating in his address:

"It is not pretended that the Order of Knight Templar and the Order of Knight of Malta bear any historic relation to each other. In origin and purpose they are distinct and dissimilar. Does the Order of the Temple require the adoption of this alien adjunct? Is it so imperfect, so wanting in all the essentials to secure the administration, the love, and the loyalty of its champions, that it must call in the aid of this foreign element to give it strength and permanent success? Let the experience of every valiant Sir Knight of this vast convocation furnish the answer. Giving every degree of every grade and order of Masonry all the merit it can justly claim, it remains true that Knight Templarism stands unapproachable and alone, the colossal monument of human aspiration and heroism and faith. Above all the shadows and vapors of our selfish life it rises adorned with all that art, inspired by genius, could contribute; its tablets gleaming with the names that have made its history immortal; its summit, bathed in the prophetic splendor of the dawn and the high noon of consummation, surmounted by the cross, the sign of the invincible spirit and purpose that

reared and consecrated, a pledge of final triumph. There is no yearning for human sympathy, no plea for real brotherhood, no prayer for human progress and freedom and ultimate redemption, that does not find an answer here. Let this divine form stand unaided to challenge our veneration and worship; let it not be obscured by adventitious props and aids. At most, we should only allow the attributes of the Order of Malta to be conferred, as heretofore; and I trust that the Grand Encampment will plainly and finally declare that the Order of Malta is not required as an adjunct of Templarism."

The Committee on Ritual to which this was referred reported:

"We do not agree with the M. E. Grand Master that no necessity for a Ritual exists; and whilst we do not desire to present a Ritual that will overshadow the Templar Ritual, yet we do believe that the one submitted will supply a want long denied.

"We therefore recommend it for your adoption with the provision that it is not made obligatory upon any Commandery to work it in full, unless instructed to do so by their Grand Commandery; but they must communicate the *attributes*. If however, they confer the Order with full ceremonies, only this Ritual shall be used."

This report was adopted and the revised Ritual was prepared and printed. At the Triennial Conclave of 1883 it was accepted and ordered distributed.

In the revised Constitution adopted in 1895, the rule of succession in conferring the Orders reads as follows:

"1. Companion of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, 2. Knight Templar, and 3. Knight of Malta.

The Order of Malta was given full recognition as an individual degree and not an appendage to the Order of the Temple.

In 1919 it was decided that the Order of Knights of Malta be conferred following the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and before the Order of the Temple. It was thought that this would give more prominence to the Order of the Temple as the climax of the Orders of Knighthood. This required certain changes in the ritualistic work which were adopted at the Triennial Conclave of 1919. When the Constitution was revised in 1934, the order of succession reflected this change and appeared as follows:

"The Orders shall be conferred in the following succession: Red Cross, Knight of Malta, and Knight Templar."

The Order of Malta has continued to be conferred in that order, following the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and before the Order of the Temple. It is conferred in a separate ceremony, either in long or short form. The Ritual used in the Order of Malta will be considered more fully in the Chapter on Rituals of the Orders of Knighthood.

Chapter XXI

The Rituals And The Work Of The Orders Of Knighthood

The Ritual of the Orders of Knighthood, published in a single volume which we now

use, is probably familiar to all Sir Knights, but few realize the origin of the esoteric work contained therein, or the development of the ceremonial features, and the introduction of asylum tactics and drill. Through the years came changes in the work, with controversy over the adoption of revisions in the ritual. Then came the printing of the rituals with difficulties in distribution, and the problem of lost rituals. For many years the problem of preserving and developing the Ritual was presented to the Grand Encampment at its Triennial Sessions. The evolution of a national Ritual as the uniform and official work for the subordinate bodies makes an interesting story.

The present Ritual covers the Order of the Red Cross, the Order of Knight of Malta, and the Order of the Temple. Formerly there were three distinct rituals, each evolving as the Grand Encampment grew in power and its jurisdiction spread to the far corners of the country. This evolution presents an interesting history. Unfortunately it was not lawful to put the ritual in writing in the early years, and the work was transmitted by word of mouth. One can only guess what was the true and exact work of those times. The later printed rituals are easier to judge, but even some of these have disappeared from the archives and files of the Grand Encampment and of the older Grand Commanderies. The growth of the ritual of these three Orders will be considered together, with references to the work and ritual as given in the Proceedings of the Grand Encampment along with such other material as seems to shed light upon this subject.



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. Items submitted to Knight Templar that refer to Templar or Masonic subjects will continue to be printed free of charge. All other items should be accompanied by a \$5.00 remittance made payable to the Grand Encampment. Any submission may be subject to editing.

Looking for belt buckle and drill team jewel having the name of Scioto Commandery No. 35 thereon. If you have one or both of these items and are willing to dispose of it (them), please write James C. Pace, 6923 Starfire Dr., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

If anyone has the Knight Templar with the article, "Character, Don't Leave Home Without It," by Sir Knight William A. Carptner, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Penn., please contact Burl E. Ellzey, 1639 Lee St., Laurel, MS 39440

For sale: Knight Templar sword with silver scabbard in perfect condition, has my name engraved on it. Beautifully engraved. Price, \$75.00. William F Brown, 660 Riviera Bay Dr. N.E., St. Petersburg, FL 33702

For sale: Templar sword, beautifully engraved. Scabbard and sword handle are gold; the blade is silver. Included are cloth cover and tooled leather case. 65 years old. \$170.00 plus postage. Sue Doucleff, 8040 Shawnee Run Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45243, (513)561-6409

For sale: Commander's sword and scabbard, beautifully gold etched with case, \$175.00. Walter L. Shoemaker, 211 Lombardy Ln., Trenton, TN 38382

LOST IN PITTSBURGH: Masonic gold ring with red stone with Shrine emblem overlay. Chapter emblem on one side, Knights Templar on other. EVH initials inside. E. Herrman, 118 Orin St., Pittsburgh, PA 15235, (412) 731-2062

Wanted: Vermont Mason seeks to assemble Masonic library for research and scholarship. Would ask any Brethren with unwanted monitors, digests, rituals (current and old/all jurisdictions), out-of-print Masonic books, dictionaries, exposes, histories, encyclopedias or sets of transactions of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, London, or the American Lodge of Research to please write Brother James P. W. Goss, Box 578, Rutland, VT 05702

Wanted: I am in the process of constructing a museum in our Lodge, North Hills No. 716, Any Brother wishing to donate Masonic memorabilia, please contact Brother Robert J. Werner, 413 Clark Bldg., Pittsburgh, PA 15222, day: (412) 2816887, evening: (412) 367-3246

I would like to buy Masonic sterling silver spoons. Included would be any Masonic, Eastern Star, Scottish Rite, Knights Templar, or Shrine spoons. Bill Juricic, 2003 Capri Ave., Jo/let, IL 60436, (815) 725-2476

For sale: Blue Lodge gold ring (square and compass) with black stone, size 8-3/4, 2 years old. \$150 new; my price, \$75. Sir Knight Arthur Durant, 112 Spring St., Kingston, NY 12401, (914) 331-9384

For sale: collection of Masonic jewelry, 18K, 14K, 10K sterling, all organizations. Some special interest pieces and coins. Must sell to pay medical bills. Richard Deweese, Rt. 3, Box 1460, Bonham, TX 75418, (214) 583-2916

Wanted: item or info on where one can be found: gold pocket watch chain with round disc and markings on disc. When thumped, disc spins and square and compass show up. Glen Stone, Rt. 1, Box 208-B, Honea Path, SC 29654

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building a collection for over twenty years, a labor of love. These one day will end up in a Masonic museum. I will gladly buy one or a whole collection. Contact me for my offer and fast reply. I collect all varieties, so more than likely need any you have for my collection. Fraternaly, Maurice Storck, Sr., 775 W. Roger Rd., No. 214, Tucson, AZ 85705, (602) 888-7585

For sale: Scarlet Book of Free Masonry, by author M. W. Redding, date 1889. Make an offer. Eugene Mc Far/and, Box 132, Colliers, WV 26035

I am a violinist and a collector of violins, violas, cellos, and would like to buy them in any condition at fair prices and add them to my collection. H. Harry Kazarian, 91-Beaufort St., Providence, RI 02908

For sale: metal waste basket, covered with U.S. stamps each is one of a kind' Delivered in U.S., \$20.00 each. Fred Freedlund, 825 Ixora Circle, Venice, FL 34292

For sale: 6 cemetery lots, having monument privileges, in Forest Park/Westheimer Cemetery, which is north of Houston, Texas. To settle an estate. Write to Rex Bowen, 519 E. Main, Cushing, OK 74023

Attention Ship's Company: Reunion of USS Higbee (DD-806), March 8-10, 1991, at Buena Park, California. Contact Jimmie Huffman, 8311 San Marino Dr., Buena Park, CA 90620, (714) 527-8026

For sale: 2 grave plots, section Garden of the Good Shepherd, Greenlawn Cemetery Park, Portsmouth, Virginia. Cost, \$1,150.00; will sell for \$1,000. Thomas Moore, 3441 Bridge Rd., Suffolk, VA 23435, (804) 484-2128

Seeking info on James Edgar Davis (b. 2-8-1889), Tex. Mother was (Marion?) M.E. Howell, KY; father, Wm. Davis, IL, died 1889. Mother remarried, Pitcock, Tex. Half-brother Roy, one child: Hazel, Corsicana, Tex. My father was Chief of Police of Los Angeles, 1926-1938; married to Edna Rae Kline (b. 1892, Ill.) In 1912 joined Lodge Moneta No. 405, Gardena, Calif. June Davis Strand, P.O. Box 5024, Sun City West, AZ 85375



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart