



# Knight Templar

VOLUME XXXVII

JANUARY 1991

NUMBER 1



*Hugh McCurdy*

Born: December 22, 1829

Died: July 16, 1908

Grand Master of Masons of Michigan—1873

Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan—1871

Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of Michigan—1879

Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Michigan —1877

Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar—1892

*Be proud of past accomplishments, but.*

## **Dream New Dreams for Christian Masonry**

We live in a world of change. As we enter the new year, we must look forward, not backward. It is entirely proper that we be proud of the accomplishments of the past. We have much to be proud of. But past accomplishments are not enough. We must strive always to meet the challenges of each day. We must dream new dreams and seek the way to make those dreams become reality. We must strive to make the world a better place in which to live and rear our children. We must seek ways to make our Masonic Fraternity a more vital influence in the lives of all mankind.

Our task as Christian Masons is to make all men conscious of the New Commandment, to love one another. This is our task. This is our goal. Let us hope and pray that we may be equal to the tasks and challenges that lie ahead.

As we enter this new year, I wish good health and happiness for each of you and for your families. The great lessons of Templary should be shared by all Christian Masons. Did your New Year resolutions include increased activity and devotion to Masonry and Templary? We need the active participation of every member.

May the Great Architect of the Universe, the giver of every great and good gift, bless us all and bring prosperity to this Christian branch of Masonry



A handwritten signature of Marvin E. Fowler in cursive script.

Marvin E. Fowler, Grand Master

# **Knight Templar**

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

**JANUARY:** This month, the first of a new year, we examine the remarkable life of Hugh McCurdy, who was Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment ninety-nine years ago, in the days when America was enduring the hardships and enjoying the pleasures of the Victorian Era. You will also find the amicable conclusion of the careers of Old Hickory and Old Bullion. Sir Knight Walker raises the question of our accountability: and there is a unique thank you for our Grand Prelate.

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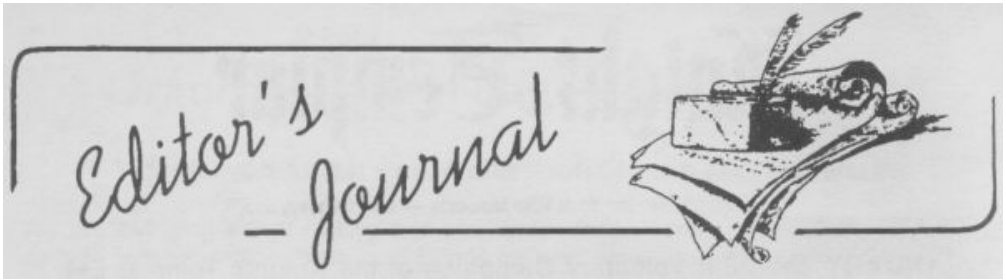
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**Holy Land Pilgrimage Medallion:** In the December issue of *Knight Templar*, we misspelled the chairman's name and forgot to mention where these beautiful and impressive mementos can be obtained.

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.

Please send you orders to Sir Knight P. Fred Lesley, Past Grand Commander of Michigan, Chairman, Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee; P.O. Box 498, Battle Creek, MI 49016

**General Order No. 7:** Please note the following corrections to General Order No. 7. The dates of all 1991 Conclaves appear on page 25.

Idaho, April 21-24; California, April 30; Utah, May 9-11.

**Sir Knights, Attention!** An important and invaluable booklet entitled *The York Rite of Freemasonry - a History and Handbook*, is available from the Grand Encampment. Authored by Sir Knight Frederick G. Speidel, KYGCH, Grand Preceptor of the Grand College, HRAKTP, and Past Grand Commander of North Carolina; this comprehensive, illustrated 78-page booklet explains the degrees, history, symbolism, and benevolent programs of the Blue Lodge, the Chapter, the Council and the Commandery, with illustrations of the jewels of the officers of each body and the Red Cross, Malta, and Templar banners.

You will find it a useful reference that belongs in the library of every member of your Commandery, answering many of the questions that are asked about the Rite; and it makes a perfect presentation to the new Templar at the time of his Knighting. It could be distributed as part of your membership program to officers/ members of the Masonic bodies in your area - and the price is right!

There is no limit on orders: \$1.50 each under 100 copies; \$1.00 each over 100 copies. Write your checks and mail to the Grand Encampment, 14 East Jackson, Suite 1700, Chicago, 11 60604-2293.

**Subscriptions:** to *Knight Templar Magazine*, the official publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, are available for the price of \$5.00 a year; Canada and Mexico subscriptions are available for the price of \$10.00 a year; and subscriptions for anywhere else are set at the price of \$15.00 a year. How about a subscription for your Masonic friend who is not a member of the Knights Templar or even of the York Rite? *Knight Templar Magazine* is the best way to publicize your Commandery and the Knights Templar. Subscriptions are available by sending a check or money order (for the appropriate amount made payable to the Grand Encampment) to the Grand Recorder, Suite 1700, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-2293. Our magazine is full of information and Masonic news that all Masons will enjoy.

# Michigan's Munificent Grand Master

by Sir Knight Tom R. Amidon

And he who would perpetuate his name to posterity must ennoble it with acts of charity and deeds of pure beneficence."

Those words have challenged Knights Templar for over 150 years. But never have they been more descriptive of one individual. Never has that challenge ever more resulted in the perpetuation of the principles of the Masonic orders than through one Sir Knight, Hugh McCurdy.

Sir Knight McCurdy lived a long time ago, in a little town in central Michigan, but his acts and deeds have had an influence on this Fraternity in Michigan, and it has lived on to this day. Although he came from a simple beginning, he rose to wear the purple of the Fraternity in every branch of the Craft. There are few who have ever left behind such a legacy. Truly, he was Michigan's Munificent Grand Master.

Hugh McCurdy was born in 1829 in Hamilton, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He migrated with his parents to Birmingham, Michigan, in 1837 when Michigan, although admitted to the Union the previous year, was on the edge of the frontier. He was industrious as a young man and quickly learned the trade of a cooper. Not content with this, through the

urging of a physician friend of the family, he began to study law. He was admitted to the Michigan bar in 1854 at the age of twenty-five after studying at the J. R. Corson Select School in Birmingham, the Romeo Academy, and with the law firm of Baldwin and Draper in Pontiac. ". . . and his whole life since that time has been marked by successive victories over fortune," (quoted from the publication *Freemasonry in Michigan* in 1898).

He supplemented his income while studying by working as the local school teacher in Birmingham in 1847, in nearby Royal Oak in 1848 and as a railway agent for the Detroit and Pontiac railroad. When that line, later known as the Detroit, Grand Haven, and Milwaukee was extended northward, McCurdy went with it. He settled in the little town of Corunna, the county seat of Shiawassee County in the central part of Michigan. He set up his law office and fervently began to practice.

## The Citizen/Lawyer

This energetic and personable young man became an instant success in Corunna upon his arrival there in 1855. He received an appointment to the office of county prosecutor when a vacancy suddenly occurred in 1856. Four years



later he was elected probate judge of Shiawassee County. He served on the county board of supervisors through the years 1855-73. During this period he was also elected to the state senate in 1864. He returned to the county prosecutor's position again in 1874. He was a frequent member of the board of trustees of the town of Corunna for many years. He was a lifelong Democrat and ran for office as such. Many times he ran unopposed as the nominated incumbent on both party tickets in a community which had always be and still is today - staunch Republican. McCurdy was a popular figure in that community. While successfully running for office he continued to run a thriving law practice and found time to establish the First National Bank in Corunna in 1865, maintaining his interest in it from its founding until he sold his stock in 1873. His obituary as quoted in the *Evening Argus*, the Owosso newspaper, said "...no meritorious person ever applied to him for personal relief, and was turned away without assistance, and no man ever had a heart that beat in warmer sympathy with his fellows." Praise continued with a quote from one of his political adversaries of that day, "... he was lovely and pleasant in his life, swifter than an eagle, of simple tastes and frugal habits" .....today in every part of the continent the name of Hugh McCurdy

is engraved upon the most substantial stone in the foundation of the superstructure of Masonry." And Freemasonry was that part of his life which brought McCurdy his greatest rewards and satisfaction. This is obvious when we look upon his deeds and accomplishments within the Fraternity. His fervency and zeal for his profession, his business, and his community were only prologue for what he was to give to the Fraternity.

### The Symbolic Mason

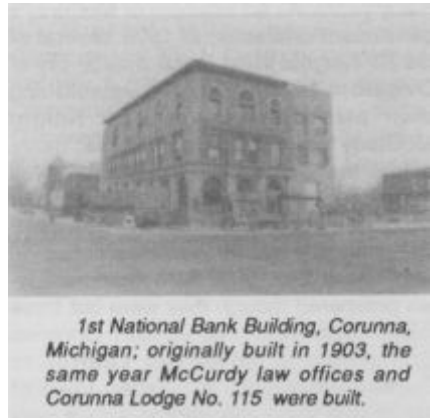
Hugh McCurdy had been made a Mason in 1850 in Birmingham Lodge No. 44, Birmingham, Michigan. That was the beginning of a long and faithful career of giving to the Masonic Fraternity, which spanned fifty-eight years and which led him to the summit of every Masonic body in Michigan and to that of Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America. When he moved to Corunna, Michigan, from Birmingham in 1855, the Calendonía township records indicated a population of slightly over five hundred hardy, frontier souls. The town of Corunna was a part of that township. Brother McCurdy quickly became active in local Freemasonry with Owosso Lodge No. 81, located just three miles away. Through his efforts, Corunna Lodge No. 115 was formed in 1859.



McCurdy was its first Worshipful Master, serving for the first six years of its existence. Corunna No. 115 had a long and glorious history but eventually merged with Owosso No. 81 in 1978. His active role in promoting the principles of the Fraternity in those times led him to be elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Michigan in 1873. His election was the first ever by a unanimous ballot. While Grand Master, he saw the institution of ten new Lodges in the state and had the honor of laying the cornerstone for Michigan's present state capitol building in full Masonic ceremony. Fifteen hundred Knights Templar, twenty-five hundred white aproned Master Masons and thousands of Michigan citizens were present that day. McCurdy was a great orator in a day of great orators. His dissertations from the Grand Lodge proceedings in those years and on such occasions as cornerstone layings were magnificent. His name lives on today in the form of Hugh McCurdy Lodge No. 381, F. & A.M., located in New Lothrop, Michigan.

### **The Capitular Mason**

Brother McCurdy was exalted a Companion in Washington Chapter, Royal Arch Masons in Flint, Michigan, in 1864. Following his usual interest and



zeal he established Corunna Chapter No. 33, R.A.M., in 1864 and served as its first High Priest for six years. He was elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan in 1871.

### **The Cryptic Mason**

Brother McCurdy was greeted at St. Johns Council No. 21, Royal and Select Masters in St. Johns, Michigan, in 1866. By 1875 he was able to establish Corunna Council No. 38 and served as its first T.I.M. for eight years. His zeal in this rite carried him to the summit once again when, in 1879, he was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of Michigan. Corunna Council has since been moved to Durand, Michigan, but still maintains, as Durand Council No. 38, its place in Michigan's Cryptic Masonic history.

### **The Templar Mason**

Companion McCurdy was created a Knight Templar on March 13, 1866, at Fenton Commandery No. 14, located in Fentonville (now Fenton), Michigan. Once again that ever present zeal for the Fraternity led him to establish Corunna Commandery No. 21 on September 4, 1868. That Commandery thrived for

many years. As an example of McCurdy's benevolent character, in 1908 several of the Sir Knights living in the nearby city of Owosso were interested in establishing their own Commandery. Sir Knight McCurdy not only supported that move before the Grand Commandery but was instrumental in seeing that those Sir Knights accomplished it. Owosso Commandery No. 49 was established on September 28, 1909. Both Commanderies prospered though they were but three miles apart. However, in 1921 Corunna Commandery moved its charter to Durand, Michigan, a railroad town of about two thousand people with a very active Masonic community, fifteen miles from the Corunna/Owosso area. In irony,



Owosso Commandery No. 49 found it necessary to consolidate with Durand No. 21 in 1984. Durand Commandery No. 21 continues to perpetuate the memory of Sir Knight McCurdy to this day.

Sir Knight McCurdy's love of Templary led him to the summit once again. In 1877 he was elected Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Michigan. But the Templar road didn't end there. On August 11, 1892, in Denver Colorado, at the age of sixty-two years, Sir Knight McCurdy was elected to the highest honor, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the U.S.A.

Along the way Brother McCurdy became a member of the Detroit Consistory in 1866 and in 1873 received the <sup>330°</sup>. In 1883 he became an active member for Michigan. He served Detroit Consistory as Commander in Chief in 1884. In 1888 he was elected Deputy Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, a position he held until his death in 1908. In addition, McCurdy was a member of Moslem Temple, AAONMS in Detroit. He was also a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. What an amazing record of service!

Hugh McCurdy led Michigan Masonry through some dynamic times. During the 1860s, '70s, '80s, and '90s, Freemasonry in Michigan went through the period of its greatest growth in terms of the number of Lodges chartered. In 1849 there were but twenty-three Symbolic Lodges in Michigan. By 1899 there were approximately 390! The Craft had sprung up in almost every town, village, and hamlet. 75% of the Symbolic Lodges in existence in Michigan today were formed during this important period in Michigan Masonic history.

In his autumn years he continued to devote his energies to his community. Within his lifetime he had seen a frontier town grow up. From wooden storefronts and knee-deep mud in the streets, he saw the development of a small city with modern brick buildings, paved walks, street lights, and even streetcars. A new home for the First National Bank, his law offices, and Corunna Lodge No. 115 was built in 1903. He lived to see his beloved county courthouse replaced. The old structure, which was brand new when as a young man he first practiced his profession, was torn down in 1904. Most Worshipful Brother Fletcher E. Turrell, Grand Master of Masons of Michigan, laid the cornerstone for the new courthouse. McCurdy, Michigan's "Grand



Old Man of Masonry" as he was now known, gave the principal address that day. And in a few short moments gave a dramatic history of cornerstone laying by Freemasons from that occasion at Westminster Abbey in 1502, to the ceremony at Washington, D.C., when George Washington laid the cornerstone for the nation's capitol in 1793. It was another magnificent address and was further evidence of not only McCurdy's love and knowledge of the Fraternity, but of the prominence of the Fraternity in the community in those times. The cost of the new courthouse exceeded its budget; however, McCurdy and a few other citizens provided their own money to complete the building. Present that day were eleven Commanderies, the Grand Lodge of Michigan, and all of the Blue Lodges of the county. How proud he must have been!

Upon his death on July 16, 1908, the leaders of every Masonic organization to which he had ever belonged were present at his funeral. The funeral could not be held from his home as was the usual practice in those days because of the large number attending. It was moved to the "Casino," a large community pavilion built on the land he had donated to the city of Corunna as a Christmas present in 1899. This 40-acre parcel of land surrounded his estate. It is located in the heart of town on the banks of the Shiawassee River. It was known thereafter as McCurdy Park and has been a community gathering place since that time. Ten thousand people from surrounding towns would come there for Fourth of July celebrations at the turn of the century. The park was the site of the Shiawassee County Free Fair for over fifty years beginning in the 1930's.

He was buried by the Grand Commandery of Michigan with full Templar honors. The hearse was escorted from the park to the cemetery by his beloved Corunna Commandery No. 21, forming a hollow

square around it. Present also were Detroit Commandery No. 1, DeMolay Commandery No. 5 from Grand Rapids, Fenton Commandery No. 14, Genesee Valley Commandery No. 15 from Flint, St. Johns Commandery No. 24, Lansing Commandery No. 25, Damascus Commandery No. 42 from Detroit, Hugh McCurdy Commandery No. 43 from Crystal Falls, as well as many Symbolic Lodges from the county including his namesake, Hugh McCurdy No. 381.



*McCurdy family burial plot, Pinetree Cemetery, Corunna, Michigan.*

From his eulogy given by then R.E.G.C. Hudson Coleman of Kalamazoo, the following was taken: 'He was not only public spirited, but he was kindly, charitable, and benevolent, without ostentation or the knowledge of any other than the recipient and himself. He was the constant donor of material aid, wise counsel and spiritual encouragement and uplift to hundreds and thousands of his fellow men. This is the golden legacy that awaits him on the other side, inasmuch as 'thou hast done it to the least of these my brethren thou hast done it to me.'"

Thus ends the story of a simple man of great courage and resourcefulness. From simple beginnings in a small frontier town, he rose to the greatest heights that a man could aspire to, and yet never lost the respect and admiration of the people who loved him, and whom he loved the

most, the citizens of the town of Corunna. I would like to believe that when it did end, when he came to the foot of the lines for that last time, with the Sir Knights of old Corunna No. 21, their swords raised high, that Someone who came through the lines to greet him said, Well done, good and faithful servant those things that you have done for these, the least of my brethren, you have indeed done for me."

Sir Knight Tom A. Amidon, Past Commander of Jackson Commandery No. 9, presently Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Commandery of Michigan, and a member of the Service and Education Committee for the Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Michigan, is a member of Jackson Commandery No. 9, Jackson, Michigan, and resides at 1663 Devonshire Road, Jackson, MI 49203

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### \$20,000 Eye Foundation Grant Presented to Washington University Medical School in St. Louis, Missouri

Some 150 ladies and Sir Knights were in attendance at the installation of officers of Ascalon Commandery No. 16, Knights Templar, St. Louis, Missouri, on October 17, when a grant from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation was presented to Dr. Lawrence Tychsen, M.D., Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, St. Louis Children's Hospital at Washington University Medical Center in St. Louis.



Pictured above, from left to right, are Sir Knight George C. Vincent, newly installed Eminent Commander of Ascalon Commandery; Sir Knight Blair C. Mayford; Dr. Lawrence Tychsen; Sir Knight Lionel J. Goede, Chairman Grand Commandery of Missouri Eye Foundation Committee; Sir Knight Louis L. Monken, Junior Past Commander of Ascalon Commandery No. 16.

Presenting the grant on behalf of the Eye Foundation, Sir Knight Blair C. Mayford, a Trustee of the Eye Foundation and the Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, thanked the ladies and Sir Knights who were instrumental in procuring funds for the Eye Foundation and making these grants possible.

In his remarks, Dr. Tychsen thanked the Eye Foundation for their support and described his efforts in finding the causes of eye movement defects in cross-eyed infants.

## **Part II**

# **Old Hickory and Old Bullion A Tale of Love and Hate**

by Dr. and Sir Knight Robert C. Barnard

Tom Benton made a faux pas at this time by breaking Jackson's sword over his knee in front of a crowd in the public square and crowing about how he defeated Old Hickory." Since it was well known that Jackson had been shot in the back by Jesse, the Bentons became extremely unpopular with the majority of local citizens.

Thomas Hart Benton hungered for military fame, but his battle with Jackson was his only action in the War of 1812. The general recovered and assumed command of the West. He sent Colonel Benton back to Nashville as a recruiting officer just before the great Battle of Horseshoe Bend when the Creeks were defeated, and again just before his tremendous victory over the British at New Orleans. In 1815, when it was obvious that he had only a blighted future in Jackson-dominated Tennessee, Benton moved to that new land beyond the Mississippi called Missouri.

In this rapidly growing community around St. Louis, Benton prospered, developing a lucrative law practice and profitable real estate investments. He became extremely popular and was elected Missouri's first

United States Senator in 1820.

Benton was then thirty-eight years old; tall, heavily muscled, with a majestic head and piercing gray eyes. He was still aggressive and overly sensitive about his honor; at times, he was still tactless. He became, however, one of the most forceful speakers in the Senate, and he developed a remarkable knowledge of all subjects for legislation.

It was in December 1823 that Senator Benton of Missouri first served on a committee of which the newly elected, Senator Andrew Jackson of Tennessee was chairman. Friends of both feared a renewal of hostilities, but their worry was unnecessary.

Jackson treated Benton as a man he had newly met, but wanted to be friends with, and Thomas eagerly responded in kind. The general told his wife Rachel, "It is a pleasing subject to me that I am now at peace with all the world."

Besides being drawn together by past actions and natural affection for each other, the two were bound by Masonic ties. Jackson's Masonic credentials are well known and lifelong. They began



General Andrew Jackson

before 1800 in Harmony Lodge No. 1 in Nashville, and at Knoxville he served at the installation of Polk Lodge on March 24, 1800. When Harmony Lodge lost its charter in 1808, he paid his dues to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee and remained in good standing. Jackson was Master of Lodge before 1822, and in that year was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, serving until 1824. In 1825 he introduced the Marquis de Lafayette in Tennessee Lodges. As President of the United States in 1828, he assisted George Washington's mother Lodge in laying a cornerstone of a monument to Washington's mother, and in 1836 he laid a cornerstone for the Masonic Lodge in Jackson City, Virginia. He was, of course, in good standing at his death on June 8, 1849.

Benton became a Mason only after he

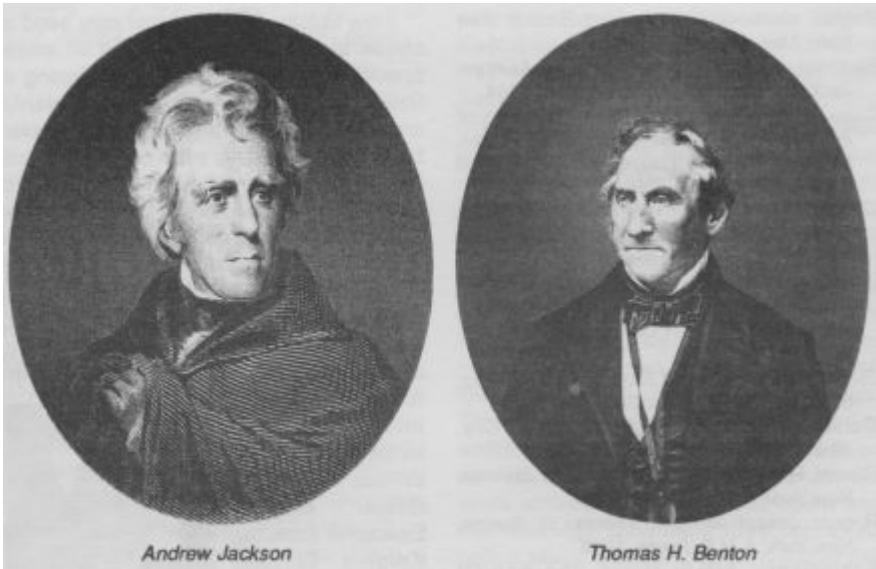
moved to Missouri in 1815, as a charter member of Missouri Lodge No. 1 in St. Louis. He was active for about ten years until the rise of the Anti-Masonic Party after the disappearance of William Morgan in 1826. Hatred of the Masons, who were thought to be responsible for Morgan's death after he threatened to "tell his Masonic secrets," rose to its zenith in 1828, at which time Freemasonry almost died in America. In New York, for instance, Masonic Lodges decreased from over five hundred to only forty-nine in 1834. From that point, recovery was fast and permanent.

A major factor in Masonic re-growth was the election of Andrew Jackson in 1828 and his reelection in 1832. He not only refused to give up his Masonic affiliation, he also regarded the supposed demise of Morgan to be a fairy tale concocted by his and Freemasonry's enemies.

Benton, on the other hand, found his Senate seat in precarious condition because of his Masonic membership and seemingly felt that his political life was too valuable to risk. In 1831 he ceased to pay his dues and withdrew for political reasons. This done, he continued to be Mason Jackson's leader in the Senate and his bosom friend for life.

In 1824, when Jackson ran for President for the first time, he received more popular votes than his opponent, John Quincy Adams, but he lacked the needed number of electoral votes. Adams had more friends in the House of Representatives and was elected president there.

Tom Benton was just as outraged as Jackson by the outcome, and from this moment on was Jackson's man under all circumstances. As the President's personal friend, he led the loyal forces to victory and the White House in 1828. Any action against the good name of Jackson was confronted by the determined strength of Tom Benton's devotion and loyalty, in the Senate or out of it.



Benton led Jackson's party in the battle that utterly destroyed the monopolistic Bank of the United States. During the process, President Jackson assured Senator Benton of his high regard and exalted opinion of your talents, virtue and patriotism."

Unlike many Western Democrats, Benton was too wise to favor the printing of paper money by various state banks, feeling that this would lead to the breakdown of the financial system. He backed only gold and silver, and his hard money policies earned him the nickname of Old Bullion Benton." He also sponsored free land for settlers and federal subsidies to the railroad to bind the country together. He opposed the extension of slavery, even though doing so cost him his seat in the Senate and later caused his defeat in his seat in the House of Representatives and as a candidate for governor of Missouri. Old Bullion, like Old Hickory, believed that some objectives were worth fighting for, and if necessary, dying for.

Andrew Jackson is rated by many historians today as one of the top

Presidents of the United States. He planted his ideas and policies permanently in the life of America. Every victory of the Jackson administration found Thomas Hart Benton leading the charge. There can be no doubt that today the American people have taken Old Hickory and Old Bullion to their hearts. Both men were capable of profound love and unrelenting hatred. They personified the most wild and yet often the best qualities of our young nation.

Long after Andrew Jackson's death, someone asked his old body servant whether his master would go to heaven on Judgment Day. Alfred replied, "If Gen'l Jackson takes it into his head to get to Heaven, who's gwine to keep him out?"

This anecdote serves as an excellent epitaph for both Old Hickory and Old Bullion. Who would wish to keep either of them out? As citizens and as Masons, we are surrounded by their glory.

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

**Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**  
**New Club Memberships**

**Grand Commander's Club**  
 West Virginia No. 10-Mark P. Ellis

**Grand Master's Club**  
 No. 1,562-Dean Goff (WA)  
 No. 1,563-P. H. Brotherton (KS)  
 No. 1,564-Arthur E. Ahlgrim (MI)

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 Commandery 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.



### **A Letter of Thanks**

Dear Sir Knights:

Thanks to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, I can once again see. Unless one has been able to see, and then lost his sight, he doesn't realize what it really means to see. Sight is something we all take for granted sometimes.

My surgery went very well, and I got along well. According to the doctor, it will be about eight months before I see normally.

I give God all the thanks and praise, and thank Him for providing help through Christian friends like you.

May God richly bless you.

Your brother in Christ,  
 Robert V. Greene, Sr.  
 Johnson City, Tennessee

## ***Thank You Very Much!***

The Reverend and Sir Knight Thomas E Weir  
Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment

Most of us have difficulty saying more than a simple, "Thank you," when we respond to the kindness of a friend who sends a gift. The thank you letter quoted below started simply enough. As Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, I was fortunate enough to attend on November 21, 1989, the Annual Conclave of the Great Priory of Scotland in Edinburgh, where Becky and I once lived and where I earned the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Since the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland on St. Andrew's Day was less than a fortnight later, I was able to attend with the gracious permission of the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge installation and banquet. In the turmoil of accommodating so many Brethren both foreign and domestic, I tended to get a bit disoriented. Brother George Lyle of St. Molio's Lodge No. 774 of Lamlash, Isle of Arran, Scotland, came to my rescue, seeing that I turned up where expected and in proper kit for the proceedings. Nearly a year later, Brother Andrew McCormack, another Brother of St. Molio's Lodge, wrote to say that George and his wife Bette would soon celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. I sent a small remembrance to be delivered by Andrew. George graciously responded, as follows.

"In 1940, I was constable in the London Metropolitan Police. I lived in a police section house (barracks). In anticipation of our marriage, Bette and I rented a flat in Putney, London. In August the bombing started in earnest. I had been in plain clothes, but like the rest of my colleagues, I was put back into uniform. On September 6, the shop where all our furniture and wedding

presents were stowed was totally destroyed. On September 9 and September 10 the section house was bombed. Colleagues were killed and injured on both occasions. The garage where we were to get the wedding car and the laundry where my good shirt was being cleaned were both bombed. Come September 11, a beautiful day, the bombing got worse. We are both Scots, but none of our relatives from Scotland could get to London. I set off to St. John's Church, Putney, with a colleague, who was to be best man. Whilst in the church the air raid sirens signaled another attack. Things got a bit bad. The bride failed to arrive, and the vicar took himself *off* to an air raid shelter. During his absence, the bride arrived. Things quieted down and the marriage ultimately took place. All police leave was canceled. We had our honeymoon in a communal air raid shelter. The other shelterers kindly and discreetly took themselves off to another shelter. A few days later our flat was seriously bomb damaged. Bette took herself off to her mother's home in Scotland.

"We had our Silver Wedding in Larkhall, Scotland, when we had all the people who should have been at the original wedding. Our Ruby Wedding was held at our daughter's home in Weybridge, Surrey, England.

"For our Golden Wedding, we decided to have a touring holiday in France (belated honeymoon) instead of a party. We set off on September 22. Andrew McCormack and his wife kindly had us out for dinner on September 13, when he presented your gift to us."

How is that for a thank you letter that is worth more than the gift?

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

## Foster Brooks, York Rite Candidate In California

Foster Brooks, well known radio and TV star (the Lovable Lush), was the honored candidate at the York Rite Festival held in Anaheim, California, September 28 and 29. All York Rite degrees and orders were conferred in full form, including a full Ceremonial Kings Banquet at lunch on Saturday with over 200 in attendance. A total of 71 were Knighted on Saturday afternoon. The work was conferred by members of several Southern California York Rite Bodies.



Sir Knight Paul C. Seyler,  
Generalissimo of Santa Ana

Commandery No. 36, Knights Templar, coordinated this festival for the second year, and plans are underway for next year. In addition, a coin was struck to commemorate this event, and Santa Anna Commandery intends to have another 100 coins struck commemorating THE FOSTER BROOKS FESTIVAL. The donation of \$10.00 will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. If you are interested in obtaining one of these coins, please forward \$10.00 to Sir Knight Paul C. Seyler, P.O. Box 1391, Long Beach, CA 90801.

## The Silent Communicator

To communicate is to advertise; and the best advertisement is that which in a majority of cases costs little or nothing. In our endeavors to increase our membership in order to offset loss by demit, non-payment of dues and death, the following is submitted as another means of attracting new members to the York Rite from the ranks of the Master Masons in their Blue Lodges.

There are many Companions who receive the *Royal Arch Mason* and the *Cryptic Freemason* magazines, and all Sir Knights receive the *Knight Templar Magazine*. Often these magazines are disposed of into the trash pile. It is recommended that instead of throwing these publications away that they be brought to the Masonic Temples and left there for others to read who are not members of the York Rite. This may spark a desire for a Brother to inquire into the York Rite, and what better way than to look on the mailing label which is on every publication as to whose name is on it so that he may make inquiry - and may even ask for a petition!

Sellers of such merchandise as food, appliances, clothing, automobiles, etc. spend untold dollars to sell their products; why don't we try to sell ourselves to others at no cost to us individually or collectively?

I recognize the fact that perhaps some Companions and Sir Knights are already doing this; but if all of us would, what a wonderful introduction to York Rite Masonry we would generate!

Sir Knight Albin W. Di Pasca, KYCH  
Past District Deputy Grand Commander  
Member of Ocala Commandery No. 19  
Bellview, Florida  
P.O. Box 510  
Homosassa Springs, FL 3264



## **Letter To The Editor**

It was a few years back when I was told I have cataracts. Over the years my family and I contacted everyone possible to seek help. No one seemed to care, or would give any advice to find help.

Over the years my cataracts progressed tremendously. I was worried I would lose my vision completely.

In August of this year I came to visit my daughter in Colorado. I then learned of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. I could not believe there was such an organization. I was so thankful your men took the time to come to my home and interview me. They made me feel very confident, since there was no one who would help me in the past.

We waited twelve long, hoping days for our interview to come back; it seemed to be the longest twelve days of my life. The day I received the letter I was filled with relief and gratefulness. I called everyone back home that night to let them share the good news.

I am so appreciative of your organization. Thank you is just not enough. It was so thoughtful for you to put together an organization as such.

I had my surgery on my right eye Thursday. Friday, Dr. Wright removed my patch and I could not believe the brilliant, vivid results - I can read again. Every day it gets better and better. I will let you know the results on my left eye. Thank you again.

Edith L. Simon

## **Ohio Past Master Installs His Father**

William F Kavander, on the left, was installed Worshipful Master of Baltimore Lodge No. 475 by his son Kirk Kavander, Past Master of the Lodge, at an open installation on November 21, 1990, with many family members and friends and associates of the Master present for the occasion.

The event was followed by a surprise reception by the wife of the new Worshipful Master. Both Brethren are members of the Lancaster, Ohio, York Rite Bodies, and are Sir Knights of Lancaster Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar of Ohio.



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## 58TH TRIENNIAL OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, U.S.A. August 16-22, 1991

Your Grand Master and the 58th Triennial Committee have finalized the room reservations and the registration form. It must be understood that the room reservations' form must be sent to the housing chairman, Sir Knight Robert V. Hines, 115 East Street N.E., Vienna, VA 22180. All Sir Knights from the Grand Masters to the newest Sir Knight must send in a reservation form. Grand Commanderies that want to have their group together should send the reservation forms together in one package. The housing chairman will process the requests and take the package to the hotel with written instructions for the reservation personnel.

If any Sir Knight or Grand Commandery requires a suite, please contact the Reservation Section of the Sheraton Hotel at A.C. (202) 328-2000 or write to this address: 2660 Woodley Road N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008. You must mention that it is for the 58th Triennial Conclave of the Knights Templar. You should be able to get the reduced rate with this information.

**DO NOT MAIL RESERVATIONS TO THE HOTEL**  
(except for above)

**SEND RESERVATIONS TO HOUSING CHAIRMAN: Sir Knight Robert V. Hines, 115 East Street N.E., Vienna, VA 22180.**

### SHERATON WASHINGTON RESERVATION REQUEST FORM: PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Arrival day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Check in time, 3:00 p.m.  
Departure day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Check out time, 1:00 p.m.  
Circle room type: single (1 person), double (2 persons), one-bedroom suite, two-bedroom suite  
Rate requested \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Sharing room with: \_\_\_\_\_

All guest rooms have one king size or two double beds. There is additional charge for rollaway. Single, \$98.00; double, \$98.00. Reservation deadline: July 17, 1991. After that date, as-available basis.

**ADVANCED DEPOSIT:** All reservations at the Sheraton Washinton require one night's deposit or credit card guarantee (including 11% tax plus \$1.50 occupancy tax). I have:

(A) Enclosed a check or money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(B) Enclosed credit card information authorizing my reservations to be guaranteed in the Amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check credit card used \_\_\_\_\_ American Express, \_\_\_\_\_ Visa, \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card, \_\_\_\_\_ Diners Club, \_\_\_\_\_ Carte Blanche, \_\_\_\_\_ Discover, \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Print name as it appears on card \_\_\_\_\_

Rooms will be subject to cancellation at 4:00 p.m., if not guaranteed; DON'T BE A NO-SHOW. If you must cancel your reservation, it must be 72 hours in advance of arrival time. Reservations confirmed when guaranteed reservations are received. Do not send reservations to the hotel. Send reservations to: Robert V. Hines, 115 East Street N.E., Vienna, Virginia 22180.

## Masonic Conferences - 1991

### CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA

February 17-19 San Diego, California (annually)	Current Conference Chairman: Ronald A. Sherod 11962 Weatherby Road Los Alamitos, CA 90720	Contact: David Lee Dresser Executive Sec./Trea. 7130 Kenneland Drive Dayton OH 45414
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### CONFERENCE OF GRAND SECRETARIES OF NORTH AMERICA

February 17-20 San Diego, California (annually)	Current President: Thomas Jackson Masonic Temple No. 1 Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19107	Contact: Tom Eggleston Secretary/Treasurer P.O. Box 279 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406
---	--	--

### GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

February 18 San Diego, California (annually)	Current President: Charles R. Glassmire 55 Applegate Lane Falmouth Foreside, ME 04105	Contact: Michael J. McLaughlin, Jr. Secretary/Treasurer 101 Callahan Drive Alexandria, VA 22301
--	--	---

### THE MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

February 18 San Diego, California (annually)	Current Chairman, Exec. Comm.: Archibald Duncan 140 Spruce Street Mahtomedi, MN 55115	Contact: Richard E. Fletcher Executive Secretary 8120 Fenton Street Silver Spring, MD 20910-4785
--	--	---

### MEETINGS HELD DURING "MASONIC WEEK" IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

February 21-24 Washington D.C. (annually)	The Philalethes Society Grand College of Rites, U.S.A. Grand Master's Council, A.M.D. Council of the Nine Muses No. 13, A.M.D. Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the U.S.A. Great Priory of America, Chevaliers Biefaisants de La Cite Sainte Great Chief's Council No. 0, Knights Masons, U.S.A. Grand Council, Knight Masons of the U.S.A. Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis Masonic Order of the Bath in the U.S.A. Ye Antient Order of Corks The Society of Blue Friars Grand College of America, HRAKTP
---	---

### GRAND COLLEGE OF AMERICA, HOLY ROYAL ARCH KNIGHT TEMPLAR PRIESTS

February 22 Washington, D.C. (annually)	Current Grand Preceptor: Ned E. Dull P. O. Box 429 Van Wert, OH 45891	Contact: George M. Fulmer Grand Registrar Box 94B, Rousby Hall Rd., SR3 Lusby, MD 20657
---	--	--

**INTERNATIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF DeMOLAY**

April 23-28

St. Louis, Missouri  
(annually)

Current Grand Master:

Edward C. Bieser  
10200 N. Executive Hills Blvd.  
P.O. Box 901342  
Kansas City, MO 64190-1342

Contact:

Robert W. Murphy  
Executive Director  
10200 N. Executive Hills  
Blvd., P.O. Box 901342  
Kansas City, MO 64190-  
1342**GRAND COUNCIL, LADIES ORIENTAL SHRINE OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

May 19-24

San Antonio, Texas  
(annually)

Current Grand High Priestess:

Lisa Powers  
11500 Braesview, Apt. 2701  
San Antonio, TX 78213

Contact:

Betty J. Rathbun  
1111 E. 54th Street  
Suite 111  
Indianapolis, IN 46220**SUPREME FOREST, TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON OF NORTH AMERICA**

May 29-June 2

Wildwood, New Jersey  
(annually)

Current Supreme Tall Cedar:

Richard Baringer  
1845 California Road  
Richlandtown, PA 18955

Contact:

Russell Ziegler  
Supreme Scribe  
12 Hearthstone Drive  
Reading, PA 19606**UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL, RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE**

June 6-9

Atlantic City, New Jersey  
(annually)

Current Grand Sovereign:

Thurman C. Pace, Jr.  
518 St. Marks Avenue  
Westfield, NJ 07090

Contact:

G. Wilbur Bell  
Grand Recorder  
P.O. Box 579  
Springfield, IL 62705-  
0579**SUPREME TEMPLE, DAUGHTERS OF THE NILE**

June 9-13

Portland, Oregon  
(annually)

Current Supreme Queen:

Edna M. MacLean  
7680 Minoru Blvd. No. 106  
Richmond, B.C.  
Canada V6Y 1Z5

Contact:

Geraldine Neely, Supreme  
Princess Recorder  
9832 Watts Branch Dr.  
Rockville, MD 20850**SUPREME COUNCIL, GROTTOS OF NORTH AMERICA, MOVPER**

June 19-22

Kissimmee, Florida  
(annually)

Current Grand Monarch:

Allyn Burgstahler  
5549 Marlin Drive  
Orlando, FL 32822

Contact:

Bernard W. Hartman  
Executive Secretary  
34 N. Fourth Street  
Columbus, OH 43215**NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.**

June 19-22

Wichita, Kansas  
(annually)

Current National President:

Maj. Benjamin M. Yudesis  
P.O. Box 726  
Morrow, GA 30260

Contact:

Nelson O. Newcombe  
National Sec/Treas.  
8301 East Boulevard Dr.  
Alexandria, VA 22308

**HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

June 22-26  
Wichita, Kansas  
(annually)

Current International President:  
Alton C. Emerson  
11155 B2 S. Towne Sq.  
St. Louis, MO 63123

Contact:  
Robert L. Jorgensen  
International Secretary  
11155 B2 S. Towne Sq.  
St. Louis, MO 63123

**SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF THE AMARANTH, INC.**

June 30-July 3  
Albany, New York  
(annually)

Current Supreme Royal Matron:  
Elsie A. Kent  
Route 8, Box 60  
Kingston, NY 12401

Contact:  
Ethel B. Fry  
Supreme Secretary  
2303 Murdoch Avenue  
Parkersburg, WV 26101

**IMPERIAL COUNCIL, AAOONS**

July 1-5  
San Francisco, California  
(annually)

Current Imperial Potentate:  
Joseph R. Padgett  
184 Gambel Lane  
Sedona, AZ 86336

Current:  
Charles G. Cumpstone, Jr.  
Executive Director  
P.O. Box 31356  
Tampa, FL 33631-3356

**INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS**

July, 1992  
Ft. Worth, Texas  
(biennially)

Current Supreme Worthy Advisor:  
Edna McLaurin  
5807 Lakeview Drive  
Hanahan, SC 29406

Contact:  
Florence Marlow  
Supreme Recorder  
P.O. Box 788  
McAlester, OK 74502

**SUPREME GUARDIAN COUNCIL, INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF JOB'S DAUGHTERS**

July 28-August 3  
Portland, Oregon  
(annually)

Current Supreme Guardian:  
Lynda Stone  
7435 N. Seward  
Portland, OR 97217

Contact:  
Susan M. Goolsby  
Executive Manager  
2515 St. Mary's Avenue  
Omaha, NE 68105

**YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE OF NORTH AMERICA**

July 31-August 3  
Anaheim, California  
(annually)

Current Governor General:  
Harold D. Elliott II  
340 N. Main Street  
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Contact:  
Henry A. Montague  
Secretary General  
500 Temple Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48201

**GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE U.S.A.**

August 17-21  
Washington, D.C.  
(triennially)

Current Grand Master:  
Marvin E. Fowler  
1904 White Oaks Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22306

Contact:  
Charles R. Neumann  
Grand Recorder  
14 East Jackson Blvd.,  
Suite 1700  
Chicago, IL 60604-2293

**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS, INTERNATIONAL**

Mid-September 1993  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
(triennially)

Current General Grand High Priest:  
Harold F. Yaeger  
1200 Austin Crossroad  
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Contact:  
William R. Selby, Sr.  
General Grand Secretary  
111 S. 4th  
Danville, KY 40422

**GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS INTERNATIONAL**

Mid-September 1993  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
(triennially)

Current General Grand Master:  
Evan L. Fleming, Jr.  
1520 South Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39180

Contact:  
Bruce H. Hunt  
General Grand Recorder  
P.O. Box 188  
Kirkville, MO 63501

**SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J., U.S.A.**

September 22-25  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
(annually)

Current Sovereign Grand Commander:  
Francis G. Paul  
P.O. Box 519  
Lexington, MA 02173

Contact:  
Winthrop L. Hall  
Executive Secretary  
P.O. Box 519  
Lexington, MA 02173

**SUPREME ASSEMBLY, SOCIAL ORDER OF THE BEAUCEANT**

September 23-27  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
(annually)

Current Supreme Worthy President:  
Ruth Sutton  
131 Columbine Drive  
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Contact:  
Gretchen L. Roth  
Supreme Recorder  
1253 Second Place  
Calimesa, CA 92320

**CONVENT GENERAL, KNIGHTS OF THE YORK CROSS OF HONOUR**

September 27-28  
Hot Springs, Arkansas  
(annually)

Current Grand Master-General:  
M. C. Lewis, Jr.  
226 Woodbine  
Hot Springs, AR 71901

Contact:  
Harry B. Warnick  
Grand Registrar-General  
6832 44th Place N.E.  
Seattle, WA 98115-7546

**SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°, A. & A.S.R., SOUTHERN JURISDICTION**

October 21-23  
Washington, D.C.  
(biennially)

Current Sovereign Grand Commander:  
C. Fred Kleinknecht  
1733 16th Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Contact:  
William C. Sizemore  
Asst. Grand Sec. General  
1733 16th Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

**ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND**

October 24  
Washington, D. C.  
(annually)

Current Provincial Grand Master:  
Marvin E. Fowler  
P.O. Box 125  
Annandale, VA 22003

Contact:  
Robert A. Statler  
Provincial Grand Sec.  
P.O. Box 125  
Annandale, VA 22003

**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR**

November 2-8  
St. Louis, Missouri  
(triennially)

Most Worthy Grand Matron:  
Lois J. Newman  
5654 Terry, Route 8  
Springfield, MO 65810

Contact:  
Betty J. Briggs  
Right Worthy Grand Sec.  
1618 Hampshire Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009





# 1991 ANNUAL CONCLAVES

DATE	GRAND COMMANDERY	CONCLAVE LOCATION	REPRESENTATIVE
February 25	Alabama	Birmingham	Marvin E. Fowler
March 1-3	New Jersey	Ocean City	Marvin E. Fowler
March 10-11	South Carolina	Rock Hill	Charles R. Neumann
March 14-16	Arkansas	No. Little Rock	Blair C. Mayford
March 16	District of Col.	District of Col.	Marvin E. Fowler
March 22-23	Mississippi	Jackson	William H. Thornley, Jr.
March 24-26	North Carolina	New Bern	Blair C. Mayford
April 6	Oregon	La Grande	Howard R. Caldwell
April 6-7	Connecticut	New London	William H. Thornley, Jr.
April 7	Nebraska	Columbus	Charles R. Neumann
April 8-9	Louisiana	Kenner	Marvin E. Fowler
April 12-14	Oklahoma	Tulsa	Blair C. Mayford
April 19	New Mexico	Roswell	David B. Slayton
April 19-20	North Dakota	Grand Forks	William H. Thornley, Jr.
April 19-20	Washington	Fife	Howard R. Caldwell
April 19-23	Texas	Houston	Marvin E. Fowler
April 21-24	Idaho	Lewiston	James M. Ward
April 24	Philippines	Manila	Marvin E. Fowler
April 26	Indiana	Indianapolis	James M. Ward
April 27	Tennessee	Nashville	Blair C. Mayford
April 30	California	Ventura	Marvin E. Fowler
May 3-4	Missouri	Jefferson City	Marvin E. Fowler
May 6	Maine	Bangor	James M. Ward
May 8-9	Georgia	Helen	Marvin E. Fowler
May 9-11	Kansas	Salina	William H. Thornley, Jr.
May 9-11	Utah	Ogden	Ned E. Dull
May 11-13	Virginia	Fairfax	William H. Thornley, Jr.
May 15	Maryland	Baltimore	Blair C. Mayford
May 17-18	West Virginia	Parkersburg	James M. Ward
May 22	Florida	Tampa	James M. Ward
May 31-June 3	Pennsylvania	Champion	William H. Thornley, Jr.
June 2-3	Vermont	Middlebury	Marvin E. Fowler
June 6-8	Iowa	Burlington	Blair C. Mayford
June 6-8	Michigan	Port Huron	Charles R. Neumann
June 7	Montana	Bozeman	Howard R. Caldwell
June 9-12	Nevada	Reno	William M. Avery
June 21-22	Wisconsin	Pewaukee	William H. Thornley, Jr.
June 27-29	Minnesota	Minneapolis	William H. Thornley, Jr.
July 18-20	Illinois	Peoria	Marvin E. Fowler
September 5-7	Colorado	Denver	William H. Thornley, Jr.
September 12-14	Wyoming	Rawlins	R.E. Grand Captain General
September 15-16	Kentucky	Louisville	William H. Thornley, Jr.
September 20-22	New York	Rochester	R.E. Grand Captain General
September 28	South Dakota	Sioux Falls	James M. Ward
October 4-5	Ohio	Canton	William H. Thornley, Jr.
October 5-6	New Hampshire	Merrimack	R.E. Grand Captain General
October 18-20	Mass/Rhode Island	Hyannis	Blair C. Mayford
October 23-27	Arizona	Sierra Vista	R.E. Grand Captain General

The word "accountable" is being used increasingly in discussion of corporate actions. The word means liable to be called to account, responsible," and it suggests that persons and corporations are responsible for the impact of their influence and actions on persons and on society.

Corporations are responsible for actions that impinge on society, on stock holders, and on the lives of their employees. Their decisions and actions bear on the lives of multitudes for good or ill. Frequently the interests of society, employees, and stock holders are in conflict, and it is necessary to achieve a balance that gives justice to the claims of each. It is not easy to arrive at such a balance.

Individuals, like corporations, are accountable for actions that touch on the lives of others. We are responsible for the influence we exert on our children, our business or professional associates, and on society. We do not live in a vacuum in which we can do as we please without regard to others. The decisions and choices we make bear heavily on the lives of those within the circle of our influence.

If we make moral integrity our ideal, that will influence in far-reaching ways our individual, political, and business decisions. But as Peter Alden remarked in Santayana's "The Last Puritan." It is unfortunate to have been born at a time when the force of human character was ebbing, when the tide of material activity and material knowledge was rising so high as to drown all moral independence."

As society has become industrialized and computerized, "the organization man" feels less and less responsibility as an individual. He may thereby suffer from moral myopia. Accountability has become so impersonal and diffuse as to become unaccountability. The individual no longer

"Individuals who feel they are accountable for the good of society are the key to the making of a better world."

**Account-**

**Ability!**

by Dr. and Sir Knight Harold Blake Walker

feels liable for group and computer decisions and choices.

Nevertheless, the individual, even when involved in group decisions, cannot avoid responsibility for his influence. The ultimate source of policies and actions is the individual moral agent. The importance of individual decision was suggested recently by the observation that if every American worker decided to give an extra hour of dedicated labor each working day, then the nation's balance of payments problem would be solved. American exports would more than cover imports, and there would be enough left over to rebuild the nation's financial structure.

When Arnold Toynbee in his *Civilization on Trial* viewed the history of the past, he found that progress came through individuals who cared about moral values and who selflessly contributed to the good of society. He listed the greatest benefactors of mankind, but he did not include the world conquerors, much less the great skeptics. Instead, he listed the founders of the great religious faiths of mankind: "Confucius and Laotse; the Buddha; the prophets of Israel and Judah; Zoroaster, Jesus and Mohammed; and Socrates."

Individuals who feel they are accountable for the good of society, whether they be British workers or spiritual benefactors, are the key to the making of a better world. The courage of individual political leaders like Abraham Lincoln, risking his political career by opposing the Mexican War in Congress as an unnecessary and unwarranted attack on a neighbor state, is a striking illustration of ethical accountability.

Frightened by the outcry against Lincoln, Billy Herndon warned his law partner not to flout popular sentiment. I will stake my life, that if you had been in my place you would have voted just as I did," Lincoln replied. "Would you have voted what you felt to be a lie? I know

you would not. Would you have gone out of the House - skulked the vote? I expect not." Lincoln went on to say there are times when "no man can be silent if he would."

The sources of freedom are spiritual and ethical, not material and secular. Both corporations and individuals have obligations to accept ethical responsibility for the greatest good of the greatest number. We are accountable for the impact of our influence on the life of our times.

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### **Hiram Chapter No. 1, Connecticut Presents 200th Anniversary Coin**



On April 29, 1991, Hiram Chapter No. 1, Royal Arch Masons, the oldest Chapter in Connecticut, will be celebrating its 200th year, and a special commemorative Chapter Penny, shown above, has been made to mark this occasion.

The coin is about 1.5 inches across and has Hiram's name, town, where and when chartered (1791) on the front around a keystone. The same is on the reverse side but in Hebrew characters.

The coin is \$6.00 and can be ordered from Companion Herbert R. Shilke, Chapter Secretary, at 45 Toddy Hill Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482, while supplies last.

## **History of the Grand Encampment**

### **Chapter XXI The Rituals And The Work Of The Orders Of Knighthood (Continued)**

The exact origin of the ritual of the several Orders is difficult to determine. The original ritual of the Order of the Temple was more than likely that used by the British Regiments when the Orders were conferred as one of the four steps of the Royal Arch. Sir Knight Ward St. Clair (110) in his article on "The American Templar Ritual" states:

From 1792 to 1794 the Order ceased to be a regular stop in Royal Arch Masonry and became an honorary Order conferred by the Lodge. During this period it is doubtful if more than an obligation was used. In 1794 the Order was dropped from the Lodge and became attached to Benjamin Hurd's Association of Red Cross Knights. It was an appendage of the Red Cross until 1805 when the Association dissolved in favor of Boston Commandery, at which time the Knights Templar again became the dominating Order. Some time between 1794 and 1802 the ritual of the Knights Templar was rewritten - probably by Hurd. We may even surmise further and say that Henry Fowle may have revised Hurd's version of the ritual. Henry Fowle is credited with taking over the Red Cross group about 1802. Since Webb and Fowle were friendly and were associated in other bodies of Masonry, it is thought that Fowle presented the Templar ritual according to his version in the fall of 1802 at Providence, R.I. While this presentation was later than the 1802 edition of his Masonic Monitor, Webb had very likely seen the work in Boston or Newburyport. Of

course a great deal of this supposition is based upon partial records and various incidents which occurred in the lives of the different actors on the fraternal stage. No copy of this revised ritual has been found.

This Hurd or Fowle ritual became the adopted or accepted work in the New England Bodies, or rather the Encampments, which formed the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts & Rhode Island. Instruction was given by lectures. No printed rituals were used and the work was learned by the word of mouth method."

The origin of the ritual of the Order of the Red Cross has been attributed to Sir Knight Thomas Webb, particularly by Alfred Creigh, who in his "History of the Knights Templar of Pennsylvania" stated:

"Do you ask me then from whence is the degree of Knight of the Red Cross derived? I reply, it was manufactured by Webb and his associates from the Knight of the East or Sword, Knight of the East and Knight of the East and West, degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite."

However, it has been shown that the Order of the Red Cross was in existence and conferred long before Webb became interested in it. There is no doubt, however, that Webb altered and elaborated portions of the ritual for use in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. When the degree of Knight of the Red Cross was introduced into the Templar system by Webb, this ritual became the basis of our present Red Cross work. Albert Mackey (66) in his "History of Masonry in South Carolina" refers to the Order of the Red Cross as conferred in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1783 stating:

There is no possibility of doubt that the Knight of the Red Cross, now used as a preparatory degree to that of the Temple, was manufactured by and could have been manufactured only by an Inspector of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, since it is but modification of one of the most interesting of the degrees of that Rite."

Whether the same ritual was used in Charleston as in Boston is an open question. Ward St. Clair (113) in his article on "The Order of the Red Cross" came to this conclusion:

"We have not touched upon the history of the degrees conferred in other counties and which contain the same fundamental story as does the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, nor have we included the story of the degrees conferred in a Council of Princes of Jerusalem under the jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Until we do perhaps it is not entirely fair to draw conclusions as to where our Illustrious Order of the Red Cross came from. A partial study of the history of these other degrees would seem to indicate that the Order conferred in Commanderies of Knights Templar is not taken from the Council of Princes degrees as Alfred Creigh, Albert Mackey, Albert Pike and others would have us believe. The degrees probably all had common bases in the Council of Emperors of the East and West, which was organized in France about 1758. It is the contention of this writer that the basic degree then followed two channels of development. One channel that of the Rite of Perfection and the Ancient and Accepted Rite with its continental influence, and the other the rite of England and Ireland. It is from the latter source that we derived our Illustrious Order of the Red Cross."

This is in agreement with the opinion

expressed by Sir Knight Moore in his address before the Provincial Conclave in 1862:

"I have carefully examined the Ritual of the Red Cross used in the United States, as also that of the Knights of the Sword, East, and East & West, as given under the Templar warrants of Ireland, and the Royal Arch Chapters of Scotland, - being in fact, the same degree as that of the fifteenth of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite; and consider the Ritual used in Scotland and Ireland the one best adapted for us, it appearing to be the original Degree from which that of the Red Cross of the United States is taken, in the latter there seems to be a few inconsistencies, and it has been altered from the original (although not in essentials) to suit their own peculiar mode of working."

The original work of the Knights of Malta was introduced into New England along with the Order of the Temple. In the early years it probably consisted only of a series of questions and answers and the signs of recognition which were communicated to the candidate. Later on, the ritual was revised and elaborated. Alfred Criegh has this to say about the early ritual:

"The ritual as now used for the Knights of Malta was prepared in Massachusetts a few years since, and from what we can learn from distinguished Templars, was only to fill the vacuum of historical and scriptural truths, until we could come into possession of the true and original work. I have procured a certified copy, through the Grand Register of the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, which, when perused, will clearly define the innovations, and make plain our teachings in accordance with truth, the Scripture, and Templar history."



# 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. 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

For sale: Size 40 old-style Commandery coat and drill coat plus chapeau, size 7-1/8, with carrying case. All in excellent condition. Mrs. Joseph Joyce, 8561 Kennedy Cir., Warren, MI 48093, (313) 575-9757

I am seeking the help of anyone who might have seen Knight Templar swords that have been stolen. My father, John Traufer, a Past Grand Commander of Montana, passed away in June of 1986. After his death, while we were clearing out my parents' home, it was broken into and several Commandery swords were taken, including the one he had as Grand Commander. I assume it was engraved with his name, but do not know for sure. Mrs. Quintin L. Yuhas, 800 Stuart St., Helena, MT 59601

For sale: Em. Commander's sword - a MC Lilley & Co. sword, 1920 era, completely reconditioned and in excellent condition, \$160.00. Sir Knight sword, also MC Lilley, same era, excellent condition with ivory grip, \$150.00. I also have a photograph of the Marion, Ohio, Commandery No. 36, Harding Class, with President Warren G. Harding seated in the center. Class members are identified, and the picture is signed "Fraternally, Warren G. Harding." The picture is matted and in a beautiful antique frame, \$500.00. Robert E. Ferguson, 1084 E. Church St., Marion, OH 43302, (614) 389-2026

For sale: matching sets of silver and bronze coins struck to commemorate the raising of

two Masonic columns in Rock Hill, South Carolina. These coins are emblazoned by these columns and other Masonic emblems on the front and are graced by the seal of the city of Rock Hill on the reverse. Sets are priced at \$50.00. This is a project of the three Masonic Lodges in the city. Oscar Fortner, 807 S. Cherry Rd., Rock Hill, SC 29730; (803) 327-7411

Wanted: old Masonic jewelry, Eastern Star, any age or condition, for a Lodge display. (Estate liquidations offer many old, unwanted pieces of jewelry.) Don Westerlund, P.M.; 4708 E. Florian Cir.; Mesa, AZ 85206

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: 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. Fraternally, Maurice Storck, Sr., 775 W. Roger Rd., No. 214, Tucson AZ 85705; (602) 888-7585

For sale: 14K gold, man's Masonic ring with 1/2 ct. diamond, valued at \$1,900. Also, lady's Eastern Star ring, valued at \$250. Both appraised. Make offer. Margaret Schrof, P.O. Box 888, Troy, OH 45373

For sale: Masonic books by private collector. Write for list of over 100 titles, which include original Dr. Plot, Anderson, Preston, Webb, complete Quatuor Coronati, and many others. Paul D. Fisher, 417 Devon Ter., Shillington, PA 19607

Seeking genealogical data on Masons named Mott in northeastern U.S. and eastern Canada, prior to 1825. Particularly interested in Major Edward Mott, moved from Preston, Conn., ca. 1795 to New York; brother of Samuel Mott, founding member of St. James Lodge, now in Norwich, Conn. Robert H. Bowerman, 222 Miantonomi Ave., Middletown, RI 02840

Seeking genealogical information on John Payne (b. ca. 1815, S.C.; d. after 1860), married Henrietta Martha Thrower (Jan. 1842) Montgomery Co., Ala.; d. 1888, Butler Co., Ala. Also interested in Masonic info on John Payne, Mont. Co., in 1850's and 1860's. Son, John Washington Payne, was a Master Mason in Butler Co., Ala., 1890. David L. Payne, Director Library Services, J. C. Fant Memorial Library, P.O. Box W-1625, (601) 329-7332

Now hear this! All escort carrier ships' company and squadron personnel who served on any U.S. Navy (CVE-1 thru CVE-123), please contact Escort Carrier Association, 1100 Holly Lane, Endicott, NY 13760.

46th Construction Battalion will hold its annual reunion in Ashville, NC., May 2-5. For further info contact Mary Hillway, Sec., at 1833 N.W. 11th St., Oklahoma City, OK, or Bill Arnold, 933 S. 68th Ln., Fort Smith, AR.

J PITZER: I am looking for info about my grandfather, Lyman Henry Pitzer (1870-1950). He lived in Butler Co., Kans., and Osage Co., Okla. Lyman Cox, 9273 W. 91st P1., Westminster, CO 80021

Would like to buy Reader's Digest condensed books with original dust jackets, published from 1950 through 1952 and from 1960 through 1962. Contact Larry H. Donnel, 564 Hwy. 305 South, Searcy, AR 72143, (501) 268-8745

For sale: two (2) mausoleum crypts in the mausoleum chapel at Florence Memorial Gardens, Florence, S.C. Contact: Ellison W. Messick, 1917 Westmoreland Ave., Florence, SC 29505, (803) 669-4039

For sale: lot with 4 spaces in Schuylkill Memorial Park, Schuylkill Haven, Pa., South Section, Lot No. 257. Valued at \$2,100 for all 4 spaces. I will pay transfer fee. Ruppert Shollenberger, Hi/side Apts., Apt. 56, 200 Rolling Hills Rd., Dunnellon, FL 32630-6953, (904) 465-0758 or (717) 622-3993

USS Gladiator, USS Defense and USS Sepulga ships' reunions are being planned for fall 1991. For info write Don Westerlund, CV, USN, 4708 E. Florian Cir., Mesa, AZ 85206, (602) 830-1161

For sale: two cemetery lots in best section of El Camino Mortuary and Memorial Park, Veterans Vista, No. 4, San Diego, Calif. Call C. Owens, (619) 281-8597 for details or Clyde Wright, collect (503) 753-2000

Trying to locate book by John Lambert and will pay any reasonable amount for it. Book authored by Lambert about the 15th Fighter Squadron of the U.S. Army/Air Force during WWII, followed the 15th Fighter Squadron of 5th Air Force from Pearl Harbor through Japanese surrender at end of war. Author was supposed to be a business man in St Paul, Minn., who did considerable research on several books about military units of this war. Donald V White, 69.361 Midpark Dr., Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

## It's Up To You

Have you made someone happy,  
Or made someone sad,  
What have you done  
With the day that you had?

God: gave it to you  
To do just as you would,  
Did you do what was wicked  
Or do what was good:?

Did you hand out a smite  
Or give them a frown?  
Did you lift someone up  
Or push someone down?

Did you lighten some load  
Or some progress impede?  
Did you look for arose  
Or just gather a weed:?

What did you do  
With our beautiful day?  
God gave it to you -  
Did you throw it away?

Sir Knight Glen W. Moorehouse  
Past Commander, Kingsport Commandery No. 33  
Kingsport, Tennessee