William Henry Thornley, Jr.
Most Eminent Grand Master
1991-1994
In Memoria

Shirley Jane Thornley

Born
April 1, 1923
Denver, Colorado

Died
September 30, 1991
Hanover, Pennsylvania

The family and I would like to thank all the Sir Knights, their ladies, and her innumerable friends for the many telephone calls, flowers, and cards Jane received while she was in the hospital and the memorial contributions that have been made in her memory to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.
Sir Knights, the time has arrived for the annual salute to our Grand Commanders, which appears on page 11. Congratulations to the leaders of our beloved order, and with them our wishes for a productive and fruitful year. Also an invitation to our Easter Sunrise Service in Washington, the story of an American patriot at the time of the American Revolution, a look at the history of a pioneer Lodge in Florida, and a history of Vermont's Grand Commander's jewel.

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Material for the Grand Commanderies’ two-page supplement is to be directed to the respective Supplement editors.

Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders.
ATTENTION: Grand Recorders And All Sir Knights!!! The Grand Encampment has MOVED. As of October 1, 1991, our address and phone number are: 5097 N. Elston Ave., Suite 101. Chicago, IL 60630 phone (312) 777-3300. Our new quarters are spacious, modern and comfortable, but moving the office has been a monumental task. As of the middle of October, we are still unpacking. Please ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT AT OUR NEW ADDRESS ON ELSTON AVENUE. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Triennial News Coverage: The 58th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment ended on August 21, too late for Knight Templar to furnish a complete news report on the Conclave in September. The first part of a report of the Triennial Conclave, along with photographs, was published in the October issue; and the conclusion is published here, beginning on page 21.

Our Sincere Condolences: The staff of Knight Templar Magazine and the office of the Grand Recorder wishes to express its deepest sympathy to Grand Master Thornley on the passing of his beloved wife, Jane.

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, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, Illinois 60630. Our magazine is full of information and Masonic news that all Masons will enjoy.

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, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630, with your request.
Jonathan Heart
Extraordinary
Early American
by Sir Knight Dean N. Goranson, KTCH

Never in the annals of history, either secular or Masonic, has so little acknowledgement or recognition been made for outstanding and superior service, as in the case of Jonathan Heart, a Connecticut Colonial school teacher, soldier, and Freemason. Although, when we consider the life and time in which he lived and served, 1748 to 1791, it is not altogether surprising that great historical events of the moment would shunt him and his accomplishments aside.

Jonathan Heart, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Heart, was born in 1748 at the village of Kensington, Connecticut. Heart, short for Jonathan Heart in this essay, became a Mason shortly after his 1769 graduation with honors from Yale College. He was made a Mason, according to his own careful record, in the Lodge at Wallingford, Connecticut, now called Compass No. 9. Professionally, Heart was a schoolmaster in New Jersey and after two years in the classroom, he returned to the place of his birth, the Kensington district of Farmington. There, he joined in a business partnership for merchandising with a local minister. The outbreak of the Revolution, with Lexington’s 1775 call to arms, caused him to turn his thriving business over to his brother and volunteer for military duty.

A cursory inspection reveals that Heart compiled a most impressive and illustrious military record, a record that places him in a position of high distinction. He enlisted in Putnam’s” (Israel that is) Battalion and marched with them to Boston and took part in the battle of Bunker Hill. Subsequently, as the Connecticut line was formed, he joined the First Regiment. It was in this outfit that he performed the rest of his Revolutionary War service, and it was a six-year stint, a period of continuous duty, where Heart saw action in every major Revolutionary War battle from Bunker Hill to Yorktown.

Military annals show Heart to have enlisted as a private. From a private he became an ensign, from an ensign he moved up to lieutenant, and from that rank he was elevated to captain. It was
from the rank of captain that he was discharged from the army and returned to Connecticut. A breast rivaling the size of that of Paul Bunyon would not be large enough to accommodate all the campaign ribbons and battle stars which Heart would be entitled to wear.

In the midst of the war, Heart found time to marry a woman by the name of Abigail Riley. To them was born one son, Alecs Everlin Heart. The son, in turn, married but had no children.

Evidently, military duty and matrimony did not entirely occupy Heart's mind; for, he somehow found time to institute one of the most astounding American Masonic careers ever to be fashioned. It all started when, in his words, he was made a Mason in the Lodge at Wallingford, Connecticut, now called Compass No. 9.

During the late winter of 1775-1776 at the siege of Boston, officers in the Connecticut regiments, including Heart, with time on their hands, began Masonic discussions at Waterman's Tavern in Roxbury. A tavern, important to Colonial and frontier life, was not only a hostelry and a place of conviviality, but a common platform on which to exchange ideas. Usually, in its great upstairs hearth room - oblong in shape - at this period in America's development, the exchange of ideas embodied such topics as politics, merchandising, insurgency and occasionally Masonry and religion. Sometimes the discussions became prologue for acts of insurgency (like the Boston Tea Party), for merchandising territory, for voting to support or not support local governmental issues and/or candidates, for a handy place for Masonic assembly in the long hall, and for providing the Parson a temporary place for Sunday morning worship. A tavern, in short, was a convenient all-around - all-purpose community center. As a consequence, the Connecticut regimental officers who were Masons petitioned Deputy Grand Master Richard Gridley to form them into a regular Lodge.

Since John Rowe, the sitting Grand Master at the time, was considered a Royalist, he prudently withdrew. It was under his name, however, that the
commission" or warrant to erect American Union Lodge was issued on February 15, 1776, to Joel Clark. Clark was chartering Master while Heart was elected as Secretary. Here it is interesting to note that; according to James R. Case, member of Missouri Lodge of Research, in his article entitled 50 Early American Military Free Masons"; 'his (Heart's) personal recommendation alone was enough to guarantee the chartering of Union Lodge at Danbury, organized among the Brethren serving in the army depot and general hospital located there." Another important aspect of the "commission" or warrant to erect American Union Lodge is the fact that it was provincially constituted by representatives of the older or original Premier Grand Lodge of England, thus providing a vital link in the Masonic chain to prove the regularity for much of American Freemasonry. Especially does this condition of regularity manifest itself when one realizes that American Union Lodge, with extant records, has remained intact as a working unit which today occupies the No. 1 position on the Ohio Grand Lodge Registry. American Union Lodge, whether traveling or stationary, looms rather large in regular American Freemasonry and its heritage.

The importance of Heart is immediately recognizable when one understands that he was an original member of the famous American Union Lodge; that he was its first Secretary, a Secretary with handwritten records yet on archival file in Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania Grand Lodges; that he was elected its Senior Warden in February 1779, and Master the following June, a position he continued to hold until his untimely death in 1791. On many occasions, American Union Lodge served as a common platform to unite men of every rank and station. At such time, Heart, as longtime Worshipful Master, occupied a position which made him the most prominent figure present; especially, on the occasions when general officers such as Washington and Putnam were visitors. The fine tradition of Masonic Feasting-Table Lodge, a form of collation, was observed on at least five timely junctures during the war. The most outstanding feast of the five took place on St. John the Evangelist Day, December 27, 1779, at Morristown, New Jersey. At this most celebrated meeting, there were 104 Brethren present, mostly officers of high rank, including Brother Washington. The unusual feature of this assembly was the presentation of a petition desiring that the Colonial provincial Grand Masters should appoint a Grand Master General over all Masons in the United States. Such General Grand Master, though not named in the convention address, should be Brother George Washington. The understandable dissent of too many provincial Grand Lodges, coupled with the urgency of the war and the fact that the General had never served as a Worshipful Master, caused him to decline such an august assignment. Feasts at American Union Lodge were attended by visiting army Lodge Brethren, prominent local civilian Masons; such as doctors and clergy. Most, but not all, Feasts were held without the ladies present, with Brethren in procession to the Festive Board, where Musick was held. After dinner, business was conducted with the
utmost of decorum and harmony, songs were sung with gusto; and to close, toasts were made to appropriately honor the Commander-in-Chief, General Washington, and the martyrs; Warren, Montgomery, and Wooster.

Joseph Webb, Grand Master of the provincial "Antient" Massachusetts Grand Lodge, appointed Heart to be Deputy Grand Master to constitute Washington (Military) Lodge No. 10. The elaborate ceremonies held at West Point took place in the Massachusetts Bay Regiment on November 11, 1779.

The Light Companies (infantry) of Connecticut were sent to Virginia under Lafayette to subdue Cornwallis. The crack companies to a greater degree were officered by members of American Union Lodge, including Heart. Many weeks passed by after the October 19, 1781, surrender of Cornwallis before the Connecticut Light Companies were permitted to rejoin their regiments outside West Point, New York. Through 1782, with dwindling attendance due to reduction of the army, with no Lodge work done and with no business transacted "the traveling American Union Lodge on April 23, 1783, closed, to stand closed, until the Master should call them together." This occurred in 1790 when the Ohio Company of Associates, a make-up primarily of high ranking Revolutionary War army officers from Boston who had accepted land grants for pay for services, established a colony in the new Northwest Territory at what is now Marietta, Ohio.

Captain Heart, after America's Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, was discharged from the army in late 1783. On his return to Connecticut, he found his thriving merchandising company in a state of ruin from the ravages of war. For approximately two years, while deciding upon some other avenue of engagement to make a living, Heart remained extremely active in Masonic pursuits.

As a testimony to Heart's competency and his high degree of Masonic proficiency, he was immediately appointed to be Grand Lecturer in the newly formed Grand Lodge of Connecticut. The names of Yale men, classmates, and members of American Union Lodge were conspicuous on the rosters of the several organizations with which he served. At Middletown, Connecticut, Heart became prominent in capitular Masonry and registered the heart" as his mark. It was at Frederick Lodge at Farmington, made up primarily of wartime comrades, both civilian and military, that he seemed most interested. It was here with this same group that he entrusted the records and seal of American Union (Military) Lodge; however, he kept in his possession the commission" or warrant. It is a well known tact that for the first ten years the list of officers for the Connecticut Grand Lodge reads like a reunion muster roll for American Union (Military) Lodge.

Continued in Part II of Jonathan Heart, Extraordinary Early American, which will appear in the December issue of Knight Templar!

Sir Knight Dean N. Goranson, F.G.P. and KTCH, is a member of Angola Commandery No. 45, Angola, Indiana, and resides at RR 6, Box 273, Angola, Indiana 46703
On any list of the world's greatest men, the Apostle Paul is worthy of a place. Searching his writing for some clue as to what made him the person he was, surely one of the most revealing passages is this, written to the Church at Phillippi: "One thing I do, forgetting the things that are behind and reaching forward to the things that are before, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Here we have a picture of a person able to marshal all his energies for the problems at hand. In philosophy, we have a word for this kind of individual. The word is "integrated." It means well organized, or put together, so that a well integrated person is just the opposite of a certain figure in Washington, who was described as mounting his horse and riding off in all directions."

We all know people like that. All their energies and abilities are never moving in one direction. If part of them is moving forward, another part is likely to be going backward. But it was not this way with St. Paul. He had so organized himself that every part of him was headed in the same direction. On every side, today, one sees, not so much bad living as hodgepodge living. And for all of this, St. Paul had a very simple remedy. He tells us to get life out of the plural and into the singular. He was constantly calling on people to give their lives centrality and focus, tuned to a single note.

Some years ago, there was a musical play in New York, which included a popular song entitled "Johnny One Note." Its theme had to do with a certain boy who could play only one note, could talk only on one theme, walk on one leg, wear but one tie, tell but one story, hence his nickname, "Johnny, One Note." Now life never has had enough Johnny one-notes. And Paul was calling our attention to this

One Thing Knights

by Dr. and Sir Knight Howard R. Towne
fact. Unfortunately, there is a widespread impression that all it takes to accomplish this is perseverance. Paul says, this is not enough. It takes more than perseverance to get all the forces of life moving in one direction. We need to control our memories.

Now what is the function of memory? Is it only to enable us to recall things out of the past? Certainly, many regard this as the chief function of memory. But Paul shows us that its purpose is also to make it possible to forget certain things. For in life there are many things that are better not remembered. Paul belonged to this group. Almost more than any man we know, he knew how to handle everything disagreeable in his past. He sums up his secret in these words: "Forgetting the things that are behind, I press forward."

Sir Knights, we too must lay hold of Paul's ability before we can claim to have learned the mastery of life. "No army," said Lloyd George, "can march on a retreating mind." That is to say, you can't live without forgetting and a purpose. "Where there's no faith in the future, there is no power in the present." Jesus said, 'No one, having put his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of God." Once we have been convinced of this fact, we understand the purpose of life.

As one-thing Knights, we need to go forward and never look back. Paul as he counseled others ran the race of life looking forward to the goal of eternal life. He forgave the past everything that it did to him. He held no grudges against it, and in so doing he found the only way under heaven by which we can go forward into the future unhampered by the misfortunes of bygone days.

Surely, it was being a one-thing man that made Lincoln the man that he was; few men in public life have had more bitter experiences than he had. Yes, but see how he dealt with these experiences? I often think when I meet up with some problem of the time when Lincoln sent an urgent message to Stanton, his Secretary of War. The messenger brought back this reply to the President: "Mr. Stanton tore up your letter and said you were a fool." "Mr. Stanton called me a fool," said Lincoln. "Yes Sir." - There was a moment of silence, after which Mr. Lincoln laughed and said, "Well, if Mr. Stanton says I'm a fool, I guess I must be one. Mr. Stanton is generally right!"

Surely, no man has learned the mastery of life who permits himself to be troubled by the memory of other people's discourtesies. In the battle of life, it is every bit as important to know how to deal with the past, as keeping the goal in mind, and resolutely pursuing it.

Sir Knights, life has dealt each of us many blows. How did we deal with them? May God help us to do so as wisely as did St. Paul, who through God's grace found the power to forgive the past everything that it did to him, enabling him to say, This one thing I do, forgetting the things that are behind, and reaching forward to the things that are before. I press on toward the goal!" Sir Knights, in all our future endeavors may we live by this principle.

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

Take My Hand

Take my hand and walk with me,  
Along life's road in harmony.  
We'll be friends eternally.  
Take my hand and walk with me.

Take the love I offer you.  
All I want is your love, too.  
Happiness is all I seek.  
Take my hand and walk with me.

by Lady Roberta Fowler
Saluting
Our Grand Commanders

Congratulations are extended from our Most Eminent Grand Master, William Henry Thornley, Jr., and the grand officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., to the forty-nine newly elected Grand Commanders of the Grand Commanderies under their jurisdiction. As part of this salute to their dedication and tireless service to Templary, Knight Templar Magazine is printing the names and pictures of the Sir Knights who will serve as Grand Commanders for the current Templar year.

These Grand Commanders, whose pictures appear on these pages, will be the guiding hands on the tiller of the ship of Templary, navigating their vessel faithfully through the uncharted waters ahead.
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<td>Harland L. Thomsen</td>
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Highlights

Sir Knight

Is Your Engine Running?

In automobile races, the phrase used just before the start is "Gentlemen, start your engines."

Referring to page 20 in the September issue of *Knight Templar Magazine*, a challenge was given by Sir Knight William Henry Thornley, Jr., Most Eminent Grand Master, to "Start your Motivation Engines" in a race to win the prestigious medal known as the Grand Encampment Membership Award. By being a participant in this race, you will be helping Templary get going in the right direction so that the 21st Century can be entered without a continuing membership decline statistic.

The first Lap" award in our race consists of the Knighting and/or restoration of 10 Sir Knights after September 1, 1991. Other "Lap" awards are won for each additional 5 Knightings and/or restorations. The finish line is far away and yet in sight, so many laps can be run before the checkered flag appears.

Two months have gone by since the announcement of this award. Every Commandery in the Grand Encampment should have read at least one petition by now.

Sir Knight
Is Your Engine Running
Or
Are You Still In The Pits For A Complete Overhaul?????
Easter 1992
by
Sir Knight Richard B. Baldwin
Past Grand Commander of Virginia

On Sunday, April 19, 1992, the 62nd Easter Sunrise Memorial Service, sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, will be held on the steps of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial beginning at 7:00 A.M. As in past years, this service and the breakfast following will complete a memorable weekend of events in Washington, D.C., including delegation dinners, tours, and the reception of our Most Eminent Grand Master.

The main hotel will again be the Hotel Washington in downtown Washington, D.C. Rooms have been blocked for us, and reservations may be made through your delegation chairman. To contact the hotel, call Ms. Sandy Murphy at (800) 424-9540. Identify yourself as a Knight Templar. Rates start at $70.00 per night, single occupancy, and $80.00 per night, double occupancy, plus tax.

The highlight of activities at the hotel will be the reception for our Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr., who will be joined by the Grand Encampment officers and their ladies. The reception will be held on Saturday, April 18, 1992, from 2:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M. in the Sky Room. Dress is informal, and you and your family are invited to attend. There is no charge.

Easter morning, buses will depart from the hotel at 6:00 A.M. for the service at the Memorial. The breakfast will be held this year at the Hotel Washington, and the buses will return you there. Delegations staying at other hotels or motels must provide their own transportation or meet at the Hotel Washington. (If you wish to hire local buses, the committee will assist you in arranging for them. The cost of these local hires must be done by the requesting delegation.)

Parking for cars and buses is available at the Memorial. However, no vehicles will be permitted up the driveway after the parade begins at 7:00 A.M. Prior to the service, beginning at 6:30 A.M., carillon music will be played over the public address system. Starting at 6:45 A.M., the Kena and Almas Shrine Temple Band will play Easter selections until the parade moves out at 7:00 A.M. The sermon will be delivered by our Right Eminent Grand Prelate, Sir Knight and Reverend Thomas E. Weir.

After completion of the service, beginning about 9:15 A.M, a breakfast sponsored by the Grand Encampment will be served at the Hotel Washington. The cost is $12.50, including tax and gratuity. Tickets are available from the Breakfast Committee Chairman, Sir Knight Marion K. Warner, P.G.C., 1127 Tiffany Road, Silver Springs MD, 20904; telephone (301) 622-0912.

Reservations must be made, and paid for, by Wednesday, March 15, 1992.

It is most important that Grand Commanders appoint a delegation chairman and notify the committee's General Chairman, Sir Knight Richard B. Baldwin, P.G.C., 5400 Bromyard Court, Burke, Virginia 22015; telephone (703) 323-0007, in order to receive all mailings concerning this event and to facilitate adequate planning!
George D. Stein
Ohio
Grand Commander-1975
Born August 23, 1903
Died September 15, 1991

Donald E. Wolfe
Iowa
Grand Commander-1966
Born November 15, 1908
Died October 3, 1991

W. Boyd Sibold
Ohio
Grand Commander-1977
Born May 17, 1913
Died October 8, 1991

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc
New Club Memberships

Grand Commander's Club
New York No. 42-Rev. Dr. Eligius G. Rainer
Tennessee No. 44-in memory of Rev. Lester M. James by Ann E. James
California No. 63-John M. Robertson

Grand Master's Club
No. 1,714-in honor of Robert A. Freyer by Clifford C. Topliff (CA)

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

Sale of Watches Benefits KTEF

Sir Knight Harry G. Bowen, Scottsdale Commandery No. 12, Scottsdale, Arizona, and Grand Master's Club member, donates 10% of the sale of made-to-order Masonic watches to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The watches, $65 each, (shown below) are available in three colors: blue dial, gold letters; white dial, blue letters; and gold dial, black letters. Other features: one-year limited warranty, 24K gold-plated case, Kreisler stretch band (1 micron gold), mineral glass crystal stainless steel, dust-proof back and silver oxide battery (UC 362). All watches are assembled in the U.S.A.

In addition, Sir Knight Bowen is offering a gold pocket watch complete with a 12-inch gold chain with white dial and black letters. These are also personalized and sell for $125 with 10% also going to the Eye Foundation.

Order from Sir Knight Harry G. Bowen, 2633 South Country Club Way, Tempe, AZ 85282, (602) 968-7021
News Of The 58th Triennial Conclave
by Sir Knight Randall W. Becker

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America held its 58th Triennial Conclave in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C., August 16-21, 1991. The following is Part II of Knight Templar Magazine's report on the special gatherings and events of this Triennial Conclave.

In addition to housekeeping, significant legislation adopted by the Grand Encampment included: (1) Section 48 (f)4 of the Constitution, to allow the Grand Commander authority to issue dispensation to change stated Conclave date and time to accommodate holidays and special situations that he may deem appropriate upon the written request of the constituent Commandery, based upon an affirmative vote at a previous stated Conclave, and provided only that due and timely notice be provided the membership of the change; (2) Section 180 of the Statutes, to read "A petition, whether for Orders of Membership, shall be referred to a committee of three members of the Commandery, only when requested to do so by a member in good standing in the Commandery acting upon the petition. If a committee is empowered to investigate the petitioner it shall consist of members who shall know or personally interview the petitioner. The fact of the report, being made, and not its character, shall be entered on the minutes of the Commandery." (3) Section 190 (b) and 190 (C) of the Statutes, the approval of plural membership rather than dual membership, authorizing a Sir Knight to belong to more than two Commanderies at the same time, and (4) that, to permit retention of rank of administrative officers and the Grand Prelate, Section 235 of the Statutes be amended to read; "One who has filled by installation and term of service, the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, or Department Commander in the...
Grand Encampment; Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander; Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General or Grand Prelate in a Grand Commandery; or Commander in a Commandery; shall retain the title of the highest office attained and completed by him in the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and Commandery, with the word, 'Past' immediately preceding and qualifying the official title."


Monday evening was reserved for state dinners, and the Grand Master's Banquet was held on Tuesday evening, with 1,000 guests filling the Sheraton Room. After the introduction of distinguished guests and Grand Encampment officers at the head table (left) by Sir Knight John C. Werner II, Past Department Commander and General Chairman of the 58th Triennial Conclave, Grand Master Fowler welcomed the attendees. After dinner, Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and Dr. Stephen J. Ryan, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology of the University of Southern California and Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, were introduced (next page, top). The speaker of the evening was The Right Honorable The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Deputy Grand Master and Governor of the Royal Order of Scotland, head of the family of Bruce
and descendant of King Robert the Bruce (right, second from top). Lord Elgin delivered his remarks about Masonry in Scotland.

On Tuesday, all grand officers advanced one station, leaving the chair of Grand Captain General empty. Sir Knight William Jackson Jones (previous page, bottom), Past North Central Department Commander and Past Grand Commander of Illinois, was elected to that office. The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer were reelected.

As the business sessions were concluded on Tuesday, Wednesday morning was reserved for the open installation of officers. Sir Knight William Henry Thornley, Jr., (right, below) was sworn in as our new Grand Master, along with the other grand officers. The Reverend Thomas E. Weir was reappointed Grand Prelate. New Department Commanders were appointed as follows: John L. Winkelman, Northeastern; James E. Moseley, Southeastern; James DeMond, East Central; Clyde E. White, North Central; Donald L. Smith, South Central; Joel C. Bingner, Northwestern; Robert M. Abernathey, Southwestern; and Richard M. Strauss, Department Commander of all Subordinate Commanderies, Italy, and the Philippines. A report on the Department Commanders will follow in a later issue of this magazine. After the open installation, the Grand Encampment Triennial sessions were declared closed for 1991, and it was announced that the 59th Triennial Conclave would be held in Denver, Colorado, in August 1994.

Photos by the author; Sir Knights William Schoene, Jr., Grand Senior Warden, New Jersey; and Bradley L. Baker, P.C., Bethel Commandery No. 36, Elgin, Illinois.
Pensacola, Florida, is said to be, “the best-kept secret in Florida.” Sixty miles east of Mobile, Alabama, it nestles on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico where it is famous for its sugar-white beaches rarely duplicated anywhere else in the world. It is often called, "L.A." or 'Lower Alabama.” This area is a lot different than what is usually thought of as Florida, especially the southern part of the state, yet people flock here, especially after retiring, - the military in particular. The U.S. Navy has its "Cradle of Naval Aviation," basic air training here, and there are several U.S. Air Force bases nearby. Pensacola has existed for a long time.

The Spanish ventured into Pensacola Bay between 1500-1559 and in 1559 established a colony, which was subsequently abandoned. Pensacola is called “The City of Five Flags” because it has existed under the Spanish, French, English, Confederate and American flags.

The British occupied Pensacola from 1763 to 1781. During this period they organized the town as any well-established English village should be with a tremendous fort, part of it recently discovered during road reconstruction around the old city hall (now the State T. T. Wentworth Museum). The Governor's mansion was separate with other private dwellings surrounding the fort. Ships were continually arriving from Europe and the Caribbean with necessities as well as luxuries such as cloth and wines.

Life for the British troops of the 31st regiment of Foot must have been miserable. The weather for much of the year is subtropical, and hurricanes are
known to happen from June to November. In addition, there are various insects and diseases of the time that were common to the point that Pensacola became known as, "the Graveyard of the British Army in America." It was natural that these soldiers turned to one of their own institutions - the Masonic Lodge.

Military Lodges were common in the British Army. Most were warranted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland or Ireland and were of the "Antient" persuasion as opposed to the "Moderns," a controversy raging at that time involving the breaking away of the Antients from the Grand Lodge of England due to ritualistic and societal divisions. The troops in Pensacola comprised St. George Lodge No. 108 of Scotland.

Townsmen were invited to join this Lodge and when the troops were ordered out of Pensacola around 1769 the local members, wishing to continue their Masonic association, petitioned the Provincial Grand Lodge at St. Augustine under Grand Master Governor James Grant. A full report of the formation of St. Andrews Lodge No. 1 of West Florida was made to the Grand Lodge of Florida in their 'Proceedings' of 1890. Subsequent attempts to locate any of the original documents at either the Grand Lodge of Florida or the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania have proved fruitless; however, a photocopy of a Master Mason's Certificate issued in 1771 by St. Andrews Lodge No. 1 was discovered in the Louisiana State Museum in New Orleans.

The site of the Lodge has been determined from research originating from a copy of an English map of the period, displayed at Ft. George, an advanced redoubt north of the settlement. It is referred to as, "A Mason's Lodge, Built of Wood, Used as a Church." Many Lodge members were signers of a petition to the bishop of London to send a minister and provide suitable quarters.

In 1782 the Spanish re-occupied Pensacola after the victory of Bernardo Galvez, Fort George being blown up in the process. The terms of surrender required pledging allegiance to the Spanish Crown and other limitations on traveling. The Roman Catholic Church was the only recognized church but others could observe their religion in the privacy of their homes. Gould's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry states that Freemasonry was suppressed by the priests which accompanied the Spanish troops. This is the only reference I have been able to find concerning this although it would seem to be logical: witness the later demise of the Grand Lodge in St. Augustine after occupation by the Spanish.

Thomas Rigas in his article, "Our Heritage of Religious Freedom," published in Knight Templar (1986), showed that the State of Virginia, in its Statute for Religious Freedom in 1786, became a model for the First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution when it declared, "...all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, to the dictates of conscience." To that time the Anglican Church was the officially recognized church in Virginia, and other colonies had
similar churches. Sir Knight Rigas urged every Mason to understand and appreciate the First Amendment and our heritage of separation of church and state evolving from the Revolution and included in our Constitution. Masonry is not a religion, but it has always been suppressed under a totalitarian regime.

Although both England and Spain had State Churches, the former allowed freedom of religious expression to a greater degree. We must remember also that churches were involved in political intrigue as well. Is Masonry still persecuted? Of course. Masonry cannot exist where there is religious bigotry and suppression of free thought. When Church conspires with Crown to suppress free expression, then persecution results.

Thus Freemasonry was suppressed as a result of civil and church powers and driven into exile. Let us not forget that Masonry is still persecuted by some churches and, of late, by some mainstream Protestant churches that heretofore had at least remained neutral.

St. Andrews Lodge is next seen in Charleston, South Carolina, where at least some of the original members in Pensacola were on the rolls. They communicated with the Grand Lodge at St. Augustine for permission to reconstitute themselves. This was granted and the Lodge operated as such until the re-occupation of St. Augustine by the Spanish and the subsequent suppression of Masonry as in Pensacola.

The Lodge next applied to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and was accepted. Upon the formation of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina in 1805, St. Andrews became a part thereof and continued to function until 1881 until dwindling membership required its inactivation and transfer of its few members to other Lodges. An examination of its membership shows that many prominent men in South Carolina history were members.

In examining the history of the first Lodge in West Florida, one is struck by the fact that we take for granted the freedom we have to meet as Freemasons and to practice our own religious beliefs openly in the church of our choice. It also shows the part played by an institution that provided fellowship to those far from their native home in a strange land.

Couldn't it cause us to stop for a moment and consider the price some men were willing to pay for their freedom of assembly? St. Andrews No. 1 was born on the frontier of our country, survived the upheaval of war, became a leading force in Freemasonry in another city, slowly dimmed, and was gone. Yet it is a tribute to the men who were born free and who, rather than forfeit their freedom, trekked across the Southeast to new homes where they could meet openly as Free and Accepted Masons. Maybe their history will lead us to appreciate what we have today.

Sir Knight Myron C. Boice, P.C., is a member of Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 1, Pensacola, Florida, and resides at 8509 Winding Trail Lane, Pensacola, FL 32514.
Vermont’s Historic
Grand Commander’s Jewel
by Sir Knight Clyde Thomas Reynolds

If a tree falls in the forest and no one hears it, does it make a sound? A Grand Commander's jewel is much like that. It is the icon of power, authority, beauty, and the most honored of any badge of office any Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the state of Vermont can wear. It is his for a one-year term, and as has been the custom since April 23, 1949, it is the official jewel of that high office of Knights Templar in the Green Mountain State.

Throughout a heavily forested region, the falling of a single tree presents one of those maddeningly useless questions which lead invariably to equally useless answers... well, almost invariably. In the case of one particular tree - one very special tree - the sound of its fall was felt, if not heard, across Vermont, and perhaps to the far corners of the globe.

In the second week of May 1978, one of the last living links to Vermont's past, a giant white pine tree believed to have served as the model for the original Vermont state seal, was downed by high winds. The tree, one of the oldest and largest in the nation and designated a historic site, was located just off Route 313 along the Batlenkill River west of Arlington.

Birth dates of trees are hard to come by, but some believe the tree stood for almost three hundred years. Historical references to the tree are somewhat sketchy, but the oldtimers and folklorists are more than happy to help fill the gaps in telling the story of one of nature's noblest, the Vermont State Seal Pine.

An English Lieutenant considered himself to be somewhat artistic, and he was feeling especially inspired on that sunny day in the fall of 1778. As a secret courier for Vermont's first governor, Thomas Chittenden, the Englishman was looking forward to spending several days with the governor, who was living in Arlington.

Some would debate that several days spent in the company of the legendary Chittenden should inspire such anticipation, but everyone would agree that, yes, the governor's hired girl was quite a specimen. Sparking was on the lieutenant's mind, and the sheer exuberance of it all moved him to create.

He engraved the scene from his window - a majestic white pine, a grazing cow, a wheat field - on one of the governor's drinking cups. The cup, made from a section of a horn and bottomed with wood, attracted the attention of Ira Allen during one of Allen's many visits with Governor Chittenden.

Allen adopted the engraving (with a few changes) as the first state seal, and engaged Reuben Dean, a Windsor silversmith, to make the seal. It's believed that Dean's seal was fashioned along the lines of the samplers of the day, the only works of art commonly found in early Vermont.

No one seems to know of the English lieutenant's success (or failure) with the governor's hired girl.
Romantic notions aside, however, there is another reason the giant white pine in Arlington became such a dominant theme of the Great Seal.

Under the Royal Charters of British rule, Vermonters were relatively free in everything except the ownership, use, and disposition of pine trees growing on their lands. The charters specially reserved all pine trees for the sole use of the Crown, for masts on the ships of the Royal Navy.

Needless to say, this rubbed many a Vermonter the wrong way, so when Vermont became an independent, sovereign state and adopted its own constitution, it seemed only natural for the designers of the Great Seal to give prominence to the pine tree. It was a symbolic declaration that Vermonters would from that day forward have authority over the pines, as well as the mountains, farms, flocks, and herds within the state's boundaries. With this assertion of newly-found authority, the last token of royal ownership was destroyed.

The original Vermont state seal was accepted by the General Assembly on February 20, 1779. Ira Allen's original design for the seal underwent several revisions through the years; new seals were authorized in 1821, 1862, 1878 and 1890. But the stately white pine of Arlington and the words "Freedom and Unity" remained the most prominent elements of each design.

Then, in 1937, when George D. Aiken was Governor, the Vermont Legislature authorized the newest and current seal, a "faithful reproduction, cut larger and deeper, of the original seal, designed by Ira Allen, cut by Reuben Dean of Windsor, and accepted by resolution of the General Assembly dated February 20, 1779." This new, old seal was put into commission on October 26, 1937.

Aside from its importance in the development of Vermont's state seal, the giant pine contributed greatly to yet another symbol of Vermont's absolute and unqualified independence.

Some forty-three years ago, a broken branch fifty feet above the ground was carefully removed by two men from the stately pine under the direction of Captain Herbert Wheaton Congdon, a member of Red Mountain Lodge No. 63 in Arlington, under the authority and watchful eyes of state forester, Perry Merrill. The Cushing Company of North Bennington dried and seasoned the wood at their plant. They also furnished a suitable red dye that would color the wood without impairing or obscuring the grain of the pine. Adolph Becker of Bennington made the cross. The jewel was made by Frederick T. Widner of Boston, a noted goldsmith Freemason.

It was decided that the center of the sun on the cross should bear the design of the Great Seal, including the proud motto "Freedom and Unity." There was in this no departure from Masonic or Templar usage. The rays of the sun are arranged in strict accord with the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. For Vermonters, there is a significance special and peculiar to all citizens in the Green Mountain State, that the center of the sun of our liberties is in that motto, "Freedom and Unity."

Now as the materials for the Great Seal. It was noted that gold has been found in Vermont from time to time in rather small quantities, and that in the mining of copper at Strafford a certain amount of gold was recovered each year. Here then was something that would greatly add to the jewel. It could be made of Vermont gold. The suggestion was most interesting because it proposed something that seemed impossible.

The chairman of the board of directors of the Vermont Copper Company, a Mr. George Adams Ellis of Bennington and New York, confirmed the fact that an appreciable amount of gold was recovered in the course of smelting.
copper. He generously offered to supply the goldsmith with sufficient gold for the purpose, and in due time a slug of Vermont gold weighing an ounce and one half stamped as assaying 99 and 77/100th pure. This gold was used in fashioning sunrays of gold, having nine rays between each arm of the cross, and the solid gold state seal was mounted at the center of the ornament. On the back of the cross was fastened, by an ingenious device, one of the copper coins made in Vermont from Vermont copper, under the authority of Vermont when it was an independent sovereign state, not yet admitted into the union with the original colonies (actually a small republic from 1777 to 1791). Coins such as this were commonly used by the members of the first two Vermont Lodges in Vergennes and Middlebury. It is not impossible that this very coin, now part of the Grand Commander's ceremonial jewel, was circulated among and handled by some of the pioneer Freemasons.

To sum it up, the wood from which the Passion Cross is made symbolizes the rejection of the last assertion of absolute and unqualified independence. The gold symbolizes the richness of Vermont heritage. The copper coin symbolizes that, during the thirteen years it stood alone outside the Union of the States, our little mountain commonwealth was completely sovereign with its own coinage and its own postal system.

The resulting dazzling adornment, the Grand Commander's Jewel of Knights Templar of Vermont, is the only documented use of wood from the state seal pine. While only a few of the Vermont Sir Knights have or will have the privilege of wearing this impressive ceremonial icon, it will serve to remind Templars in many jurisdictions and of many generations of the unique character of Vermont, and its contribution to American life.

At the regular Conclave of Lamoille Commandery No. 13, formerly located in Morrisville, on that historic day in 1949, R.E. Past Grand Commander Waldron C. Biggs presented to his immediate successor, Orville N. Kew, a Grand Commander's Cross, for use on ceremonial occasions to be the property of the Grand Commandery of Vermont.

From the official records, it is noted, the following resolution was presented and adopted at the 1949 Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Vermont:

"It is hereby resolved, that this Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Vermont approves and gratefully accepts, this beautiful and unique Grand Commander's Jewel now being worn by our present Right Eminent Grand Commander and to be hereafter worn by his successor in office. The combination of important symbols and relics of the history of our beloved Green Mountain State with the most rigid and exact conformity to Templar heraldry and symbolism has resulted in a jewel of great beauty, which, without any sacrifices or compromises to the officially prescribed requirements, symbolizes, also, at the same time the history of our state. This it does more completely than any other Grand Commander's jewel of which we have knowledge."

The resolution further expressed thanks to all those who had a part in the summation of the jewel but most especially to Right Eminent Sir Knight Waldron C. Biggs, Past Grand Commander of Vermont, who initiated the project, collected the funds, and supervised the project from start to finish.

The state seal pine tree played such an important part in the heritage and history of Vermont, it seems only fitting to offer this special salute as Vermont celebrates its Bicentennial Year of 1991, being the 1st REPUBLIC, the 14th STAR.

Sir Knight Clyde Thomas Reynolds, past Vermont Supplement editor and M.E.G.H.P. of Vermont, is a member of Vermont Commandery No. 4, Windsor, Vermont, and resides at Church Street, RFD No. 2, Box 843, Bethel, VT 05032

November 1991
To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to "Knight Voices," The Grand Recorder, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630. 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.

Sir Knights and Recorders, please note: Louis R. Wise is looking for the heirs of William L. Myles, died San Diego, middle 50s. He has sword, made by James Fukec Co., New York, with his name on it and believes it may have sentimental value for the heirs. Sword is silver with slide and case. Contact Louis R. Wise, 404 E. Ahivers Ave., Port Angeles, WA 98362-3708, (206) 452-3023

Wanted: chapeau carrying case and case for sword. Please include shipping in your price. Donald D. Shaffer, 675 Coppenhaffer Rd., York, PA 17404

Wanted: Syria Temple items, 1893-94, 1918, and 1911, miniatures. Charles R. Markle, Sr., 1998 Orange St., York, PA 17404

For sale: 10K Shrine ring: silver Shrine emblem with red star riveted and silver-soldered to gold base. On one side of ring is a camel, on the other side is a fez. Present size is 9. Excellent condition. Originally cost, $448.00; asking $200. Robert M. Fleming, 211 Al/wood Dr., Glen Burnie, MD 21061-2522

In only its third year, the South Carolina Masonic Research Society is proving to be a solid investment in promoting Masonic research. Membership entitles you to a copy of the annual "Transactions" and the society's newsletter. To become a member of the society, send your name, address, Lodge name and number and your investment of $15 to the South Carolina Masonic Research Society, 1401 Senate St., Columbia, SC 29201. The 1989 "Transactions" can be purchased for $8 and the 1990 for $10. The 1991 issue will be available in early 1992. The society invites you to become a member and welcomes your participation.

Henry Godeke Chapter No. 38, RAM., at Olney, Illinois, has paraphernalia for degree work (no robes, no swords) that our Chapter does not need. If there is a Chapter that would like this paraphernalia contact Ivan Keen, 1011 E. Butler, Olney, IL 62858, (618) 395-2572 for appointment. Come and pick it up and it is yours.

Old Town Chapter No. 68 of Old Town, Maine, has 75th anniversary coins for sale. Coins are $5.00 each, postage included. One side depicts the anniversary information and the other side has Hiram's mark so that a Companion could put his own mark in the center to identity it. Sand requests to James A. Oakes, 312 Center St., Old Town, ME 04468

Wanted: Masonic researcher and local secretary for the Correspondence Circle of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, London, in need of good condition back issues of transactions of that Lodge, prior to Vol. 77. Vol. number, bound or paper-back, and price, including shipping, to H. M. Hartlove, 5004 Holly Road, Portsmouth, VA 23703-3506, (804) 483-2253

Carl Junction, Missouri, Lodge No. 549, A.F. & AM., will be celebrating its 100th anniversary November 1991. A few commemorative coins are available at $5.00 each. Check or money order to G. R. Martin, Sec., P.O. Box 165, Carl Junction, MO 64834

The Floydada Blue Lodge No. 712 are now celebrating their centennial year with a commemorative coin which may be purchased for $5.00 per coin. Please send check or money order and S.A.E.A. to Floydada Lodge No. 712 in care of Wes Campbell, S. W; Route 4, Box 112, Floydada, TX 79235

Chapter pennies wanted by avid collector. I have been building this collection for over 21 years and still need several thousand pieces as I collect all
varieties, I will gladly send a check for each piece or will buy your collection. Any assistance surely will be appreciated. Why not find a home for your mark, as one day this collection will end up in a Masonic museum. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214, Tucson, AZ 85705, (602) 888-7585

The Morgantown Lodge of Perfection of Orient of West Virginia, A.A.S.R. has minted a antiqued bronze medallion to honor Ill. C. B. Hall, 33° deputy for the Supreme Council for WV, and dedicated to the Childhood Language Disorder Centers. The proceeds from this medallion will go to the Childhood Language Disorder Center being established in Morgantown, WV. Send $8.00 or more as a donation to Peter Y. Turner, 820 College Ave., Morgantown, WV2650 7-0761

For sale: Masonic gold pocket watch, made by Dudley Watch Co., Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Incorporated into the works are: square & compass, Holy Bible, trowel, plumb line and gauge. Kyle Miller, Box 55, Towner, ND 58788, (701) 537-5225


Wanted: Gobel ceramic figures of George Washington and Ben Franklin (one pair). Both are standing beside a pillar and have on their Masonic aprons. These were made in Germany in late 1950s-early 1960s. Please send photos, condition, and price to E. John Elmore, P.O. Box 964, Burlington, NC 272160964, (919) 227-4034

Wanted to purchase: any antique muzzle loading firearm that displays as part of its decoration Masonic symbolism. Also interested in any info concerning 18th or 19th century gunsmiths who were Masons. Ronald G. Gabel, 723 N. 22nd St., Allentown, PA 18104, (215) 434-1650

For sale: 2 Dudley Masonic watches with display backs, in good running condition: one model #1, white gold filled case at $3,000.00; one model #2 yellow gold filled case at $2,500.00. E. A. Charlton, Jr.; 6612 Huntington Ave.; Newport News; VA 23607-1940; (804) 247-1021

Need to sell: burial plot in Floral Hills, Raytown, Missouri. E. C. Ramey, R. 7, Box 572, Lebanon, PA 65536

Needed, donated, if possible: Apple computer No. 2GS or ZE for a 2 1/2-year-old boy who has been diagnosed as having holoprosencephaly, an infection that affects the motor parts of the body. He cannot speak or sit up. At a school he goes to they are trying to teach him to recognize symbols on the screen by a wand he can control by a little movement in his arm. If anyone can help or knows someone who can, please contact F B. James, 48 Westwood Dr., Whitman, MA 02382, (617) 857-1327

Wanted. Used set of Scottish bagpipes. Age and condition are not important if repairable. Bob Wofter, 3499 Bradley-Brownlee Rd, Cortland, OH 44410, (216) 638-1009


46th army reunion: The 746th Railway Operating Battalion (all companies), June 15-19, 1992, at Hacienda Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. Reunion host: Janice Ziola-Nemecek, 4657 Via Torino, Las Vegas, NV 89103; work: (702) 734-1661, home: (702) 364-5766

Wanted: burial plot in Floral Hills, Raytown, Missouri. E. C. Ramey, R. 7, Box 572, Lebanon, PA 65536

Wanted to buy: Children's pedal cars, pedal vehicles, wagons, toy cars, old gasoline pumps, antiques, coke machines, etc. Clean out the attic and call me! Danny Fisher, 1921 Castle Dr., Garland, TX 75040, (214) 272-3843

For sale: one crescent style Conklin gold fountain pen with date 5-28-18 stamped on the clasp. It has a Sheaffer's "33" 14K gold point - a real antique. I will consider any reasonable offer. Jacob L. King, P.G.C.; 109 Indian Hills, A-4; Hot Springs; AR 71913; (501) 623-5413

November 1991
Vermont Grand Commander’s Jewel
(See story on page 27)