

VOLUME XXXIX

NOVEMBER 1993

NUMBER 11



Knight Templar presents a warm Christmas story, lovingly penned by a proud daughter, It's a tale of a special child and a special clown.



# **Grand Master's Page - November**

## 26th Annual Voluntary Campaign

The 26th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation begins next month. We have had two banner years in a row! I realize it is asking a lot to make it three, but the Foundation really needs your help now, more than ever before.

I am asking each officer of a constituent Commandery to help your Commander to plan activities that will involve not only the members of the Commandery but your community. We are overshadowed by the work the Shriners have been doing for over sixty years - excellent work to be sure - but we need to tell "our story" to the public.



When you are asked to work for the Commandery during the 26th Campaign, surprise your local chairman by saying YES!

## LIX Triennial Conclave

It is not too early to begin planning to come to Denver next August, especially those Commanderies that plan to enter the drill competition to be held Saturday, August 13. The Committee on Drill Regulations is headed by the foremost Drill Master in the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight Ned Eugene Dull, M.E.P.G.M. Those Drill Captains who have not yet been in contact with Sir Knight Ned should do so as soon as possible.

Sir Knight Howard R. Caldwell, KCT, R.E.P.D,C., has agreed to be General Chairman for the Conclave. Anyone wishing Information concerning vendor space, state dinners, etc., should contact him at 8108 Grandview Avenue, Arvada, Colorado 80002.

This will be the fourth time the Grand Encampment Triennial has been held In the Mile High City: 1892, 1913, 1970, and now 1994. The Sir Knights of Colorado (together with most of the Masons) are working to make this an enjoyable time for everyone. Most of you know Colorado is a wonderful place to vacation, so come early and stay late!

## North Central Department Commander

Sir Knight Thomas K. Rosenow, P.D.C. (Wisconsin), has accepted the appointment to complete the term of the late Sir Knight Clyde E. White, Jr., as the Right Eminent Department Commander of the North Central Department. If the name is familiar it Is because Sir Knight Tom served as Department Commander for Sir Knight Ned Eugene Dull from 1982 to 1985. This will be only the third time that anyone has served more than one term as Department Commander.

I am sure we all welcome Sir Knight Tom and Lady Beverly back as active members of the North Central Department and to the staff of the Grand Encampment.

Ollon H 17 William H. Thornley, Jr., P.E., GO Grand Master

# **Knight Templar**

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

**NOVEMBER:** In this issue on page 2 Grand Master Thornley welcomes our new North Central Department Commander, and both he and Past Grand Master Smith (on page 5) stress the importance of the upcoming 26th Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. To help in your planning and fund-raising, the campaign chairmen for all states are listed on page 11. Our Grand Commanders are pictured starting on page 7 with names and addresses listed following the pictures. *Knight Templar's* Christmas story "The Mickey Mouse Watch" will warm your heart, and Sir Knight Bennett's saga of Eddie Rickenbacker is concluded.

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## November 1993

Volume XXXIX Number 11

Published monthly as an official publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

#### William Henry Thornley, Jr.

Grand Master and Publisher

#### 3080 South Race Street Denver, Colorado 80210-6331

Charles R. Neumann Grand Recorder and Editor

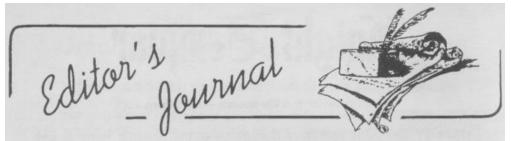
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Mail magazine materials and correspondence to Editor, 57 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chico, I1-60630-2460.

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



Lady Sofia, widow of Clyde E. White, Jr., R.E.P.D.C., writes: Serving as North Central Department Commander was a great honor for Clyde. He received many cards, memorials, telephone calls, and visits at the hospital and at home. There were Sir Knights and ladies from each of the seven states in the North Central Department, plus Texas, Missouri, Kansas, and Kentucky, for his funeral. We want to say 'THANKS' for all of this." Clyde White's Family

Announcement: The Grand Encampment has begun a program of Honors, which has two levels: Knight Grand Cross of the Temple and Knight Commander of the Temple. This program gives the Grand Encampment a way of honoring Sir Knights who have distinguished themselves in their fields of endeavor. It does not limit itself to Masonry alone, but to qualify, a person must be a Knight Templar. The recipients receive a beautifully engraved Patent and a jewel. The jewel may be worn on the uniform or on a tuxedo. The recipients may also use the letters KGC or KC<sup>-1</sup> after their names; they should be introduced along with the Knights Templar Cross of Honor holder.

Announcing: The Widow's Pin to commemorate those who were active Templars: The Most Eminent Grand Master, William Henry Thornley, Jr., has authorized the design and manufacture of an attractive Red Templar Cross pin for widows of Sir Knights who held office below the rank of Past Grand Commander (this includes Commanders. Past Commanders. and grand officers.)

You will certainly want to take this opportunity to honor your widows at regular programs of your Commandery. Order in lots of 10 at \$5.00 apiece from Sir Knight Herbert Fisher, Honorary P.D.C., 553 Caren Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

**Born In Blood:** The exciting book by John J. Robinson about the Lost Secrets of Freemasonry and their relationship to the Knights Templar is available at the price of \$16.00. Please make checks payable to the Grand Encampment, and send them to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, Illinois 60630-2460.

Dungeon, Fire and Sword: The Knights Templar In the Crusades. This history of the Knights Templar by author and medievalist, the late John J. Robinson, author of the much-acclaimed Born in Blood: The Lost Secrets of Freemasonry, is now available from the Grand Encampment. Copies are \$20.00 each, plus \$3.00 shipping and handling.

The Unseen Journey, Masonic а videotape, is available from the Grand Encampment: A professional one-hour videotape telling the story of Masonry has been made for the Mason and non-Mason by Fratros of а professional audio/visual company, under the supervision of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. This exciting and informative tape employs the highest production standards. Copies are on sale here for \$29.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Send check to the Grand Encampment, 5097 N. Elston Ave., Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630-2460.

26th Voluntary Campaign Knights Templar Eye Foundation



## **Binding Up the Wounds of the Afflicted**

by Sir Knight Donald H. Smith Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment

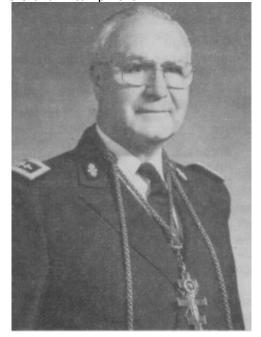
# Having full faith and confidence In the fidelity and ability of every Knight Templar -

With this statement, as national Campaign chairman, I am placing in your hands the success of the 26th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. I trust that by now, with less than a month before the Campaign, every Commandery has a Committee planning the events that will raise the funds to assist in the success of our charity.

Awards for contributions are: the Associate Patron, \$50.00; the Patron, \$100.00; the Grand Commander's Club, \$100.00 per year for 10 years; and the Grand Master's Club, \$1,000.00. These awards are made to any contributor or to the person named by a contributor. For a contribution of \$10,000.00 a beautiful Chalice is presented to the donor. These contributors can be individual or corporate.

A Patron's Certificate would be a nice gift to your lady, and it would be nice to invite the ladies to assist in the event or program you have planned or are planning for this Campaign.

Our ladies' organizations have always been large contributors to our charity. The Social Order of the Beauceant, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Order of the Amaranth have done so much to help us in our work. We salute them and thank them for their benevolence.



Now as we await the beginning of the 26th Campaign and as we wait to see who will be number one in total contributions and number one in per capita giving, here is another note of thanks from someone you have already helped through your work in the past: Dear Mr. Thornley, Jr.:

I received your letter the other day stating that the funds for my operation have been approved. I want to take this opportunity to write and thank you so much for all your help. I know the good Lord in Heaven will bless your organization a million times over for what you have done for me. You know, a person might think there's no one who will help, but if you pray and believe in the Lord, he will provide a Way. I just want to say thanks again from my heart and soul.

If you can use any part of this letter to show people how the Knights Templar Eye Foundation helps people, please feel free to do so. I will close now saying Thanks" and may God bless.

> Sincerely Your, E. O., age 42,11-31-93

## We are called to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted.

Sir Knight Donald Hinslea Smith, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment and P.G.C. of Kentucky, is a member of Richmond Commandery No. 19, Richmond, Kentucky, and resides at 1041 Idylwild Drive, Richmond, KY 40475

#### \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### Historic "Lord's Prayer" Prints Benefit Eye Foundation

Four-color prints of the historic. Symbolized Masonic Lord's Prayer are again available from Sir Knight James E. Stratton, who owns the copyright. A portion of the proceeds from every sale benefits the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. To date, the prints have provided approximately \$3,000.00 to the KTEF. The painting, which was done about 1875, shows the "Lord's Prayer" surrounded by fifty Masonic symbols. The beautifully antiqued prints make a unique, heirloom-quality gift for Brother Freemasons, newly Raised Brethren, and past officers. Prints are available in two sizes on heavy stock suitable for framing: 8"0 0", \$2.50 each or 11"x14", \$3.50 each. Please add \$2.00 to the total of your order for postage and packaging. Send check or money order to: J. E. Stratton, 7613 Soaringfree Lane, Charlotte, NC 28226



# 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.





Peter T. Zivanovich INDIANA



Glenn N. Marshall IOWA

James E. Guyton

MAINE



Robert A. Clapp KANSAS



Joseph F. Chalker MARYLAND



Robert L. Davis MISSISSIPPI



Harold E. Hall NEVADA



Lawrence Polla NEW YORK



Alan Winkenhofer KENTUCKY



Alexander N. Hetman MASS./R.I.



J. Edward Blinn MISSOURI

picture not available

Robert M. Argel NEW HAMPSHIRE



Charles T. Robbins NORTH CAROLINA



Lloyd A. Hebert LOUISIANA



William R. Bannister MICHIGAN



Roger V. Wendt MONTANA



Owen R. Henry NEW JERSEY



Harland L. Thomesen

Morgan A. Hartman NEBRASKA



Jay Twilley NEW MEXICO



W. Durward Koll NORTH DAKOTA



Robert E. Rayner PENNSYLVANIA



H. Gregory Hiers

SOUTH CAROLINA

picture not available

Thomas H. Eastwood

UTAH

E

Rex L. Eutsler OKLAHOMA



Lynn Brueggemann SOUTH DAKOTA



James R. Winner III VERMONT



Burnell T. Roble WISCONSIN



Ivan D. Rinck OREGON



Donald M. Smith TENNESSEE



C. D. Elliott VIRGINIA



Keith E. Koch WYOMING



James D. Mooney TEXAS



Frank R. Davidson WASHINGTON

picture not available

No Report PHILIPPINES



John G. Rick Elam WEST VIRGINIA

#### ADDRESSES OF GRAND COMMANDERS

Sam L. Garrett, Sr. Hubert W. Cocklin Charles W. Waters, Jr. Richard T. Cooper Gerald A. Ford Rodney I. Gray, Sr. Donald D. Thomas Walter H. Kitts (DC) Charles E. Losey Charles L. Taylor, Jr. Maurice W. Echo John D. Deetz Peter T. Zivanovich Glenn N. Marshall Robert A. Clapp Alan Winkenhofer Lloyd A. Hebert James E. Guyton Joseph F. Chalker Alexander N. Hetman William R. Bannister II Harland L. Thomesen Robert L. Davis J. Edward Blinn Roger V. Wendt Morgan A. Hartman Harold E. Hall Robert M. Argel Owen R. Henry Jay Twilley Lawrence Polla (NY) Charles T. Robbins, Jr. W. Durward Koll Richard H. Palm Rex L. Eutsler Ivan D. Rinck Robert E. Rayner H. Gregory Hiers Lynn Brueggemann Donald M. Smith James D. Mooney Thomas H. Eastwood James R. Winner III Commodore D. Elliott, Jr. Frank R. Davidson John G. Elam Burnell T. Roble Keith E. Koch

1402 Melanie Lane, Phenix City, Alabama 36867 242 Plaza Drive, Prescott, Arizona 86303-9715 Route 1, Box 170, West Helena, Arkansas 72390 25892 Fenda Way, Valencia, California 91355 3745 S. Pitkin Circle, Aurora, Colorado 80013 59 Brookview Avenue, Wallinaford, Connecticut 06492 208 Sypherd Drive, Newark, Delaware 19711 1105 Merwood Drive, Takoma Park, Maryland 20812 P.O. Box 7474, Jacksonville, Florida 32238 219 Julia Lane, Toccoa, Georgia 30577 P.O. Box 50536, Idaho Falls, ID 83405 1452 E. Walnut, P.O. Box 1351, Decatur, Illinois 62525 8049 Spruce Street, Highland, Indiana 46322 4617 Pineview Drive, N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402-1717 R.R. No. 2, Box 292, Independence, Kansas 67301 P.O. Box 500, Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121-0500 31 Creagan Avenue, Gretna, Louisiana 70053 Box 422 Pond Road, Gouldsboro, Maine 04607 1009 Valen Road, Westminster, Maryland 21157 149 Green Street, Woburn, Massachusetts 01801 P.O. Box 310128, Flint, Michigan 48531-0128 1037 W. County Road D., St. Paul, Minnesota 55126 2238 Woods, Tupelo, Mississippi 38801 P.O. Box 14, Marshfield, Missouri 65706 P.O. Box 2432, Kalispell, Montana 59903-2432 Box 583, York, Nebraska 68467 1505 Lander Street, Reno, Nevada 89509 280 Bayside Road, Greenland, New Hampshire 03840 R.D. 8, 8 Silver Cloud Circle, Medford, New Jersey 08055 19 Del Norte Drive, Roswell, New Mexico 88201 67 MacArthur Avenue, Lodi, New Jersey 07644 3302 Albemarle Drive, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410 R.R. 2, Box 10, Wimbledon, North Dakota 58492 3005 Foster Drive, N.E., Warren, Ohio 44483 700 Sooner Park Drive, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74006 P.O. Box 144, 467 E. Broadway, Eugene, Oregon 97401-3373 815 Jane Lane, Clarks Summitt, Pennsylvania 18411 R.F.D. 1. Box 207-B, Hampton, South Carolina 29924 H.C.R. 1, Box 80, Rockham, South Dakota 57470 P.O. Box 396, Atoka, Tennessee 38004-0396 3000 Cannongate, Arlington, Texas 76015 947 East 1000 North, Lehi, Utah 84043 P.O. Box 161, Middlebury, Vermont 05753 5724 Hawthorne Lane, Portsmouth, Virginia 23703 916 N. 32nd, Renton, Washington 98055 1732 Crestmont Drive, Huntington, West Virginia 25701 4605 Jay Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53704 P.O. Box 971, Lander, Wyoming 82520-0971

#### GRAND COMMANDERY CHAIRMEN OF THE 26TH ANNUAL VOLUNTARY CAMPAIGN

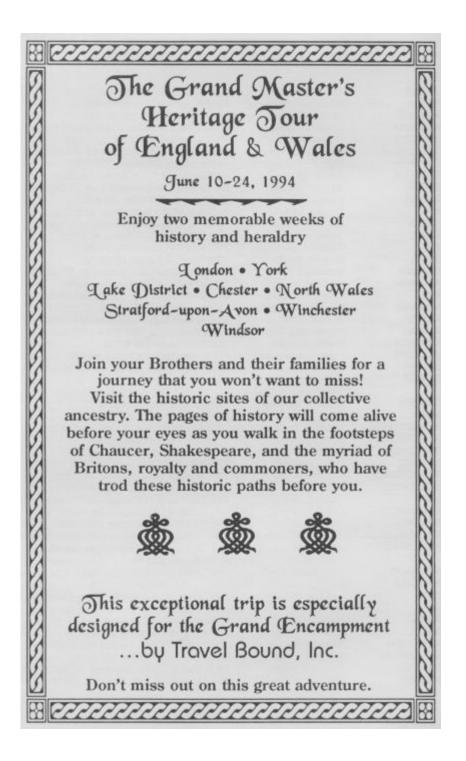
ALABAMA ARIZONA ARKANSAS CALIFORNIA COLORADO CONNECTICUT DELAWARE DIST. of COL. FLORIDA GEORGIA **IDAHO** ILLINOIS INDIANA **IOWA** KANSAS KENTUCKY LOUISIANA MAINE MARYLAND MASS/R.I. MICHIGAN MINNESOTA MISSISSIPPI MISSOURI MONTANA NEBRASKA

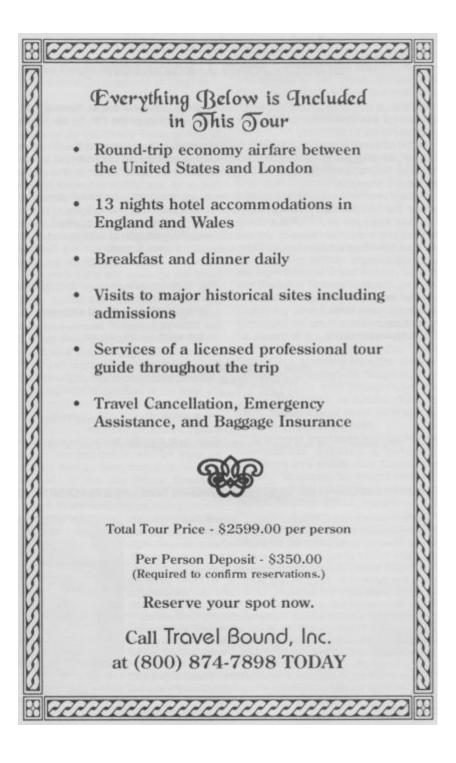
NEDHASKA NEVADA NEW HAMPSHIRE NEW JERSEY NEW MEXICO NEW YORK NORTH CAROLINA NORTH DAKOTA OHIO OKLAHOMA OREGON PENNSYLVANIA SOUTH CAROLINA

SOUTH DAKOTA TENNESSEE TEXAS UTAH VERMONT VIRGINIA WASHINGTON WEST VIRGINIA WISCONSIN WYOMING James F. Vaughan Raymond E. McDowell Lynas C. Gustin Donald J. Spencer Wallace A. Techentien Wayne N. Saunders Warren F. Schueler, Sr. John C. Werner II Albin W. DiPasca Lloyd C. Odom Ernest I. Teter William T. Unwin James W. Roberts Clifford M. Baumback Martin A. Reed Kurt Legait Harold H. Young Leland H. McLean Charles R. Livingston Bruce K. Pratt Roy M. Geer Gary H. Johnson Frank E. Hankinson III Donald C. Treece Earl G. Park (Chmn.) Gary Sparr (Co-Chmn.) Donald O. Bickham Arthur L. Simpson Charles J. Kennedy Edward Seabon Glen W. Burttram Burr L. Phelps C. James Weisel Roald E. Satherhagen Robert R. Neff Paul A. Fitch William E. Best James H, Richards II James T. Berry

Lee Sideras Ben W. Surrett Kurt J. M. Swanda Wayne Motley Phillip D. Goss William W. Longworth Ronald Dingle Charles W. Sinsel Thomas T. Herek William D. Kramp

190 Azalea Drive, Gadsden, AL 35901 5824 W. Ivanhoe, Chandler, AZ 85226-1846 812 Jefferson, Van Buren, AR 72956 8350 Rathburn Avenue, Northridge, CA 91325 6593 Urban Street, Arvada, CO 80004 141 N. Stowe Place, Trumbull, CT 06611 16 Marta Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808 8907 Southwick Street, Fairfax, VA 22031 P.O. Box 510, Homosassa Springs, FL 34447-0510 P.O. Box 666, Fort Valley, GA 31030 7907 Appomattox Lane, Boise, ID 83703 743 E. 167th Street, South Holland, IL 60473 2010 Elm Street, New Albany, IN 47150 705 Diana Court, Iowa City, IA 52240 1020 Orient, El Dorado, KS 67042 12708 Mackinaw Drive, Middletown, KY 40243 211 Helen Street, Westlake, LA 70669 68 Highland Avenue, S. Berwick, ME 03908 7108 Rodgers Court, Baltimore, MD 21212 39 Angelica Street, Mattapoisett, MA 02739 22451 Bayview, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081 Box 25, Humboldt, MN 56731 815 Spruce Street, Columbus, MS 39702-5427 Route No. 3, Box 3, Kahoka, MO 63445 123 Cedar, Lewistown, MT 59457 P.O. Box 294, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 P.O. Box 962, McCook, NE 69001 600 Terrace, Carson City, NV 89703 208G Raymond Road, Deerfield, NH 03037 416 Morris Place, Roselle, NJ 07203 1957 Osage Lane, Santa Fe, NM 87501 3715 N Y S Rt. 206, Chenahgo Forks, NY 13746 128 Overbrook Drive, Concord, NC 28025 229 19th Avenue, North, Fargo, ND 58102 3615 Stockholm Road, Westerville, OH 43081-4243 P. O. Box 3208, Norman, OK 73070 2972 Seckel Street, Medford, OR 97504 718 Limestone Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101 307 74th Avenue, N. Paim Ridge I, Apt. 3A, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 223 E. 15th. Sioux Falls. SD 57104 P.O. Box 294, Loudon, TN 37774 7724 Jacksboro Highway, Ft. Worth, TX 76135 7412 S. Maple Street, Midvale, UT 84047 22 Summer Avenue, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 502 Wentworth Avenue, N.E., Roanoke, VA 24012 6441 S. Oakes Street, Tacoma, WA 98409-6003 Route 2, Box 111, Grafton, WV 26354 376 D. Park Hill Drive, Pewaukee, WI 53072-2418 2025 Shoshone Trail N., Cody, WY 82414





# In Remembrance of Brother John J. Robinson

The friends of Brother John J. Robinson will be pleased to know that on Monday, August 30, 1993, he was Coroneted an Inspector General Honorary of the 33°, by the Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite.

On the following Friday, September 3, he succumbed to the ravages of the illness, with which he had struggled so valiantly. His loss diminishes not only our Fraternity, but each one of us. The Scriptures tell of a time "when giants walked the earth." In our time, a giant no longer walks among us.

In recent years Brother Robinson's research resulted in three books about the Fraternity: Born In Blood: The Lost Secrets of Freemasonry; Dungeon, Fire and Sword; and A Pilgrim's Path.

Brother Robinson was a unique author, lecturer, and teacher, who touched the very heartbeat of the Masonic Fraternity. He shared freely his great gifts of wisdom and wit. Our lives have been flooded with Masonic Light, because he chose to come our way. Thank you cannot say enough.

Come my friends,

'Tis not too late to seek a newer world. For my purpose holds, to sail beyond the sunset, of all the western stars. Tho' much is taken, much abides; and tho' We are not now that strength which in old days moved earth and Heaven: that which we are, we are.

Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will, To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

Lord Alfred Tennyson

The above tribute was taken from the Missouri Supplement for October 1993

## Knights Templar Stein To Benefit Knights Templar Eye Foundation

This first, limited edition, Masonic Knights Templar Stein will benefit the Eye Foundation. This stein is the first in a series representing different Masonic bodies that will be produced over the next eight years. Each stein is 20-oz. with custom-made, blue and gray body with a lid and shell handle, and includes nine pieces of artwork on the body. Each is hand-painted in 22c gold and platinum, and fired for seven days. Then three other colors (black, brown and red) are added to make up the beautiful five-color effect of this Masonic stein. Each stein is numbered for the limited edition; this series contains 1,000 pieces.

The cost of this stein is \$45.00, which will include shipping and handling, and of this amount \$10.00 goes to the Eye Foundation. Each contains a certificate of authenticity. This will make a great gift for Christmas, or any gift occasion for a Sir Knight.

If interested, please send check or money order to: Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052. Shipment will be in approximately twenty-one days after receipt of order. Phone number: (215) 770-9416



## Easter 1994

by Sir Knight Richard B. Baldwin Past Grand Commander of Virginia

On Sunday, April 3, 1994, the 64th 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 events of in Washington, D.C., including delegation dinners, tours, and the reception for our Most Eminent Grand Master and his officers.

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 \$75.00 per night, single occupancy, and \$85.00 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 2, 1994, 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 borne 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 AM. 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 AM., a breakfast sponsored by the Grand Encampment will be served at the Hotel Washington. The cost is \$13.00, including tax and gratuity. Tickets are available from the Breakfast Committee Chairman, Sir Knight Marion K. Warner, P.G.C., 1127 Tiffany Road, Silver spring, MD 20904; telephone (301) 622-0912. Reservations must be made, and paid for, by March 30, 1994.

It is most important that each Grand Commander appoint a delegation chairman and notify this 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!

## Sale of Cross and Crown Lapel Pin to Benefit Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is pleased to offer a custom-made, 14kt. solid gold Lapel pin that anyone would be pleased to wear. We believe it will be a cherished keepsake for years to come and could make a unique Christmas gift. All profits will be donated to the 26th Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Please send your check or money order for \$25.00 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling to: Duquesne Commandery No. 72 K.T., C/O Charles A. Garnes, P.G.C., Recorder, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235. Satisfaction guaranteed. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.



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- Harry Franklin Otterman Indiana Grand Commander-1968 Born August 18, 1911 Died September 2, 1993
- Herbert A. Skillings Oklahoma Grand Commander-1979 Born September 14, 1922 Died September 9, 1993
- Ralph W. Bell Minnesota Grand Commander-1975 Born December 21, 1907 Died September 19, 1993
- William Joseph Clarke Georgia Grand Commander-1977 Born September 29, 1906 Died September 22, 1993

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

#### **Grand Commander's Club**

Tennessee No. 59-Spencer P. Johnson California No. 74-John N. Lawler Tennessee No. 60-Kenneth P. Jett, Jr. Maryland No. 59-Herbert R. Miller

#### **Grand Master's Club**

No. 2,056-Mrs. Dan Oppenheimer (TX) No. 2,057-Monroe Dodd Crull (KY) No. 2,058-in memory of Richard W. Peterson by Bartholomew Conclave, R.C.C. (IA) No. 2,059-Jay E. Jewell (TN) No. 2,060-John W. McNaughton (IN)

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 Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is now Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, IL 62705, (217) 523-3838.

#### Grand Master's Club And Grand Commander's Club Pins

Grand Master Thornley is pleased to announce that, for all who became members of the Grand Master's and Grand Commander's Club after July 1, 1992, new pins will be issued at no charge to the recipients. If you became a member of either club prior to that date and would like a pin for yourself, send a \$10.00 donation to the Eye Foundation in Springfield and you will receive one.



# **The Mickey Mouse Watch**

## by Lee Maloney

It was only a few days before Christmas, a holiday which would come like the twinkling of the Bethlehem Star... WINK ... and just as quickly leave - welcome or not! The state of New Jersey had just been blanketed with a huge snowfall; it was almost as if this was dumped out of the sky in great haste to make it for a "White Christmas!" By now the shoppers were gritting their teeth, hunched over from the bitter winds going down their backs, and the driving sleet made their every path and direction icy and slick!

Completing this ominous snapshot of the season's dimming spirit; billowing, dark, funnel clouds rumbled discontentedly overhead, trying to suppress by their very villainous presence any chance of cheerful optimism which still could be flickering in hearts below! They seemed to hope earth was taking seriously their intentions to away its 'clean white-stuff" and slush remaining shoppers home before they could finish this nonsense about "Fa la la la la" Christmas gift-giving!

These same dank clouds seemed to hang over the city like yesterday's dirty laundry, trying to look very smug and self-satisfied in their ongoing, hateful efforts to happily storm away the mere traces of white, the last reminder it soon would be Christmas!

But earth held steadfast with its own green, silver, gold, and red tinsel, that still clung determinedly to the clutching branches of the unsold Christmas trees in the lot. The trees, looking quite limp and battered in this soaking wet weather, still banded together in a most valiant array, secretly giving "earthlings" a message concerning what Christmas is really all about; by sheer will and stubbornness, they intertwined and none would let go of his brother's frail evergreen arms!

On just one of these many roads of ice, holding down its own private fortress and daring anyone to travel upon it, was seen a rather decrepit, almost pathetic looking bus. It crept forward and appeared in its rundown condition to have no sense of safety in doing so!

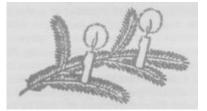
Its yellow paint had run into a blend with its rust, giving it a most delicate forced Still. retirement appeal." it crunched determinedly on with its precious cargo inside, tackling all the road's ice-mirrors that awaited it. Huge snow tires and chains melded together in a steady clink over the asphalt below, as each revolution of the wheels gave a resounding smack. Inside the cab, the repetitive grinding noise of tires against ice and snow seemed to be lulling the twenty men aboard, giving them a false sense of security. When they heard the tires hit the dry spots like the cracking of a nut within you teeth - after several attempts to win, broken tooth or no - they started reassuring themselves that perhaps the roads weren't that bad after all. Bus and company of men lurched forward.

Even the old yellow bus caught the importance and special meaning of this trip for the spirit of its occupants was high. Each mile accomplished was bringing Santa Claus to the Children's Hospital! One of these "Santa Helpers" was a clown, appropriately dressed in baseball attire for his routines. He was dedicated in his feelings for these special children and considered every one of them his own. His heart lifted each and every time he could make His Kids laugh. He had been slouched against the window, thinking about these same warm, wonderful thoughts, when his fellow seating-companion disturbed his reverie by booming into his ear, "Hey, Yo Yo, grab your gear... we're here!"

Sure enough. The clown peeked anxiously out through the muck and drizzle, sidling against his window, and saw for himself the front entrance of the Children's Hospital, looming up in tones of gray.

In no time at all, the men got off the bus they had nicknamed "Old Faithful," gathered quietly by almost tiptoeing to the entrance, and made ready to fling open the double doors of Ward B to herald, in joyful chorus, words that mean: "Christmas Is here ... The Shriners are here!"

The tiny Christmas tree; bedecked with lopsided, but positively festive-looking, homemade paper rings and cotton and red construction-paper Santa



Clauses (although grown-ups" might need a little explanation as to what they actually were); never looked more elegant than on this very day.

Sparkles had dried on already sticky glue fingers, and smaller ones preferred to eat the chalky substance... until caught. Older children were wisely hanging their contributions of art at the eye-level of the tree. There were more crayon marks on the bed sheets than on their drawings! But none of this was thought of as a serious dilemma by their favorite nurse, Mary Hutchinson. She oohed and ahed over what a fine job they had done in making their very own Christmas tree ... soo beautiful!

Nonchalantly, a crib had been dragged over a bit closer to all of these goings-on, and inside could be seen a tiny set of woeful, brown eyes peeking out between the crib slats

The boy kept peering intently up into the tree branches trying to imagine how his own Santa would have looked hanging up there. He was sure it would have been one of the 'bestest"... if only his hands could work for him to draw one, like the rest of the kids.

It was not too long after the arrival of the Shriner bunch that Yo Yo the Clown had earned a great deal of spontaneous laughter with his balloon-animal gyrations. The squeals and anticipated giggles could be heard - The kids just waited for the balloons to pop in his face because of all of the twisting and stretching it took to bring each fairy animal to life. They shouted and clapped when he got up to play "Casey up at bat" with his mighty, thirty-six-inch-long, light plastic one and naturally... kept striking out! All eyes lit up as he swung his bat at the umpire and jumped over hill and dale to steal another turn! That is, all except the eves nearest the tree - eyes which had such a gaunt and sad look to them that they looked like they were attached to a body with over a hundred years of thinking behind it!

These eyes looked like two dying coals with no tinder to spark them into flame. Yo Yo had seen a lot of sad eyes in his years of clowning around... but never had he seen a child that looked this lonely. The boy, having had to finally relinquish the Christmas Star for Nurse Mary to place atop the tree, was not particularly interested in the men here. "Why even bother with Christmas when it only comes once a year and never stays?" he thought to himself.

When the smiling clown tied his own special creation of hall-teddy, hall-giraffe balloon to his bed, the boy even turned his head away and feigned disinterest!

Yo Yo had broken through this defense (hiding hurt by acting bored instead) before. He purposely set up shop right before the boy's crib - only there was still no response'

Yo Yo slipped away when he could to the doorway where Nurse Mary was watching her charges, her face saying the dreariness of the day was chased by rainbows. The Irish term it as smiling to beat the band!"

Yo '(os clown rigging widened her smile all the more. Yo Yo had originated it himself, along with his own happy, makeup face, as each one of the clowns in his unique unit was asked to do.

One half of the suit was red, the other solid white and these two pieces seemed to be held together by large sewn letters, his baseball team's name, 'The Nuts." A huge, six-inch-wide, brimmed, jaunty, baseball cap sat backwards on his head, a dark blue striped jersey peeked out at the neck and arms where it could, and mile longs - shoes looking just this way - completed his crazy ensemble.

Not having had even a smidgen of a smile from Mr. Solemn Eyes, Yo Yo asked his special nurse what his name was an why he was so terribly sad. The nurse sighed, but lowered her eyes so that the child in that crib would not know he was being mentioned, and replied, "That's Tommy, he looks four but actually his ninth birthday is coming up in March... and I guess as long as I've been here, and himself being a lad given to us the day of his birth ... because he was born with a serious bone growth disease, an' no one wantin' him... n'all. . . why, he just has never found any reason to smile."

Yo Yo busily tied a very cooperative balloon to the red hair of Nurse Mary, hiding

the wee trace of a tear forming in the corner of one of her eyes and returned back to the spot where he was bound and determined to see if he could make this tiny earth angel smile! The fact that the lad had never smiled or laughed in his entire span of (soon to be) nine years did not stop this clown from wanting to cheer him up, as best he could, under these sad circumstances.

By this time, one could almost feel the thrill in the air magically increasing by leaps and bounds as the men received the signal that "Santa" was somewhere very near. It was now that the men and the children peered



intensely out the windows to see if they could see his sleigh; that is the lucky ones did - the ones that could somehow hobble over to the windows on their crutches or roll their wheelchairs to the sills.

One little blue-eyed sprite with gold, flaxen hair yelled excitedly, "Yo Yo... I see him... Look! He's right there behind that dark cloud!" The clown nodded that he had seen him, too, and scooped her up, crutches and all, to lovingly carry her back to the center of the room, where she could see Santa come bounding in through the double doors. Then, after a few seconds of prayerful appeal for help from within himself, he turned and walked over and placed his hand gently on Tommy's head, as he said, "Hi Tommy, I'm Yo Yo, and I want to ask you what you would like Santa Claus to bring you this year?" If Tommy felt the light pressure of Yo Vo's hand upon him, he did not acknowledge this, but his answer in a

high-pitched, thin and wavering voice told all too well how he felt about Christmas! "Awww, Santa has never come to see me since I've been here, Christmas is just for babies.., anyway!" The clown looked into those eyes that expressed such naked betrayal, and tenderly and absentmindedly brushed a fallen lock of hair off Tommy's forehead, saying, 'So, then this is all the more reason why he'll make Christmas even more special now! Can't you share with me just one single thing you'd like him to give you?" BINGO! Tommy's bottom lip started to quiver but he replied, almost shyly, 'if you take my covers down, I'll show you." And



then he added hastily in an apologetic manner, "I can't move my arms up, but I keep it in my right hand anyway. ..just in case it can be fixed for pretend time." His little face remained hopefully fixed on Yo Yo's as the clown carefully drew down the blankets to see what he had in his hand. It was a job to keep his own hands from trembling noticeably as he thought, Gee, here's a kid that cannot even jump out of bed each morning, and now he tells me he can't even take his own blankets off!"

The kid reminded him of his own grandson, Patrick Michael, who was born with perfectly straight and healthy limbs. Patrick loved baseball and for making third base in the Little League this year, he was going to give him his Yankee Pennant baseball from the World Series that had been signed by all the team!

And now, here in a crib, lay a kid who, for all he knew, had no exact reason to be born because he wasn't wanted, and yet, had no reason to be dead because of his disease! The clown had learned years ago to hide his sadness for these kids behind his happy, grease-paint smile ... They did not need for him to feel sorry for them, but just needed to be treated like regular kids. So he tried his hardest to concentrate on looking into the hand of the child to get a clue about what he wanted for Christmas, but with the "kivvers" down, a lump grew so large in his throat, it just about threatened to stop his heart from beating.

For here in one of life's forgotten hospitals was a kid whose body looked like something he had seen a hurricane do to an uprooted tree, as it dumped its remains back to the earth! As it landed the tree seemed to have flung its gnarled and broken limbs upward, outstretched and pleading with the storm to spare its life! Nature had dealt with Tommy just as cruelly. His little body was all twisted up and even his hands were backwards, unavailable to him for use in this impossible position.

The clown bit down hard on his bottom lip and tasted blood as he tried to gain control of his emotions and lift the tiny object Tommy was clutching. Tommy did not seem to notice as he chirped, "I keep it in my hand even though I don't use it any more... It makes me feel good to have it!" Yo Yo's voice came out cracked and strange as he asked, Is this what you want Tommy?"

And then his heart surely almost broke as the child replied, Oh, I'm happy with my watch... I just want someone to paste the hands back on it."

The kid just wanted someone to replace the hands on his ten-cent Mickey Mouse play watch!

The clown just had to stop and catch his breath, and grab his big white hanky out of his back pocket and blow into it loudly. When Yo Yo went to stuff his hanky back, it was smeared with lots of red and white face paint. And poor Yo Yo... He looked like he had been caught in a sudden rainstorm - face up - his face was so wet with tears.

Santa's entry could not have been more welcome than at this time as the clown mumbled, "Be right back, Tommy." In his haste to rush over to Santa's pack, he completely forgot to pull up the covers for Tommy.

Santa looked up from his juggling of toys as Yo Yo approached and gave him a merry wink. "Hi, Yo Yo, and just what do you want Santa to bring you this year?" Yo Yo instead of replying, "a new bat to hit with," leaned over and spoke into Santa Claus' ear, "If you ever have miracles in your bag, please have one now!" and



then he proceeded to whisper just what it was he wanted Santa to have in the way of a present for Tommy.

Santa quickly bent to his task of fumbling in his sack to come up with the "Miracle" Yo Yo so desperately needed him to find. He pulled out a mighty small, wrapped package, but there was no denying the twinkle in his eye when he said, "Here, Yo Yo. I want you to give him this from me!" The clown thanked him profusely and hurried over to where Tommy's face still looked pretty worried over the fact he was even getting a Christmas present. What if Santa had overheard him telling his friend clown that Christmas is for babies? (And here, Santa Claus even knew how this present was to count for two people on that day... without so much as a hint from an elf!)

Yo Yo literally ripped off the paper and opened the box to hold it up and show Tommy what Santa had sent over. When Tommy saw what it was, he started crying, saying between sobbing-hiccup sounds, "Oh, Yo Yo, thank you, thank Santa ... This is the most wonderful Christmas present I have ever had in my whole life!"

Yo Yo the Clown, sentimental softie as he is, just couldn't take another moment of Tommy crying by himself. He bent down and scooped the trail child to his chest, and bawled right along with him. If anyone else in this room noticed the commotion of this "crying pair," they wisely paid no attention to it - all except Nurse Mary, who had to bend extra low to tie the bow on the bonnet on the dolly given to Miss Blue Eyes because seeing them both over there hugging away, her tears kept not minding her, and kept falling right out of her eyes, no matter how she tried to stop them.

Shortly after this, the Shriners left all of these shiny faces, boarded "Old Faithful," and headed home to spend Christmas with their families. Yo Yo was very quiet on the ride back to Woodbridge, a ten-cent Mickey Mouse watch with no hands still clutched in his hand that someone special had given him as a Christmas present!

It was still overcast, and the winds were moaning even louder than ever now that "You'd Better Watch Out," but to all of these twenty men on the bus, it sure felt like Christmas.

Sometime later, Ward B finally settled down and all got tucked in and kissed good night by their "Angel of Mercy." Only tonight, oven though Tommy's arms were not so great to look at, he had asked that they be left outside his blankets. He wanted to proudly showoff his brand new, real watch, with the luminous hands and the sweeping second hand dial!

His night light was not turned off that evening either, and Tommy was smiling in his sleep. As the soft ray reflected gently upon his face, Nurse Mary wondered if Yo Yo knew that this was the very first Christmas present Tommy had ever gotten. She felt so grateful that someone had cared enough to give Tommy such a wonderful gift that he could smile over in the years ahead. Christmas had come in a little manger in this hospital, too!

My dad still has his Mickey Mouse watch with no hands. When I **see** him fingering it, I know that someone very special to him needs an uplifting story for tomorrow; and he is going to showoff his curious conversation piece before he begins the true story of this Christmas gift from the year 1967.

Yo Yo the clown was born on August 20, 1911, and christened Harry Francis Yeoman. He is a much older clown now, having reached his eighties; but he is still busy making His Special Kids laugh, as they never have before! I would like to end this Christmas story with my father's own words:

May this story be my way of wishing you all a blessed Christmas, as you show in your hearts a generosity to give to those who have less than you, by touching your soul to all of the children, just like Tommy, all over our world."

> Your friend Yo Yo the Clown

\* \* \* \*

Ms. Lee Maloney, Yo Yo the Clowns daughter, resides at 1501 North Parton Street, No. I Santa Ana, CA 92706



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# Sir Knight Eddie and the Red Baron - Part III

by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett. 33°, KYCH

The liner St. Louis sailed for England immediately after Thanksgiving in 1916 with Rickenbacker among its passengers. Upon arrival, he was accused by English customs of being a German spy, and detained. Some flamboyant publicity referring to his German heritage during his racing career raised the suspicions of a wary British customs officer. it required the influence of Louis Coatalen of Sunbeam Motor Works to effect Eddie's release. While he was in London, the beginning of unrestricted German submarine warfare doomed Sunbeam's plans to race in America. Eddie immediately applied for training in the British Royal Flying Corps, but was refused because he was overage. Disappointed, he booked return passage on the St. Louis.

Fired with patriotic resolve, Rickenbacker embarked on a speaking tour back home, advocating America's entry into the war. He drew large crowds wherever he spoke, and continued to be obsessed by the notion he should be flying. He was rejected for being over the 25-year age limit, and various schemes to become involved in flying for the government were unsuccessful. When a friend, Major Burgess Lewis, called in May 1917 with an offer for him to go to Europe with General Pershing and his advance corps of AEF staffers. Eddie jumped at the chance. He was enlisted as a sergeantchauffeur with the group. Pershing's staff included, among others, Colonel George S. Patton and Colonel T. F. Dodd, the officer he had befriended in California. Thanks to Dodd, Eddie was promoted to sergeant first class and given his own stateroom on the

crowded ship.

Contrary to many stories, Rickenbacker was not a driver for General Pershing. He did, however, repair a plugged fuel line one day for Colonel William 'Billy" Mitchell, and because of the incident was called to drive flambovant aviator on numerous the Mitchell facilitated occasions. Eddie's application for flight training, as did a friend, Major James Miller. When he took his physical examination. he encountered another friend - his examining physician. The doctor quietly shaved two years from Eddie's age in order that he could satisfy the age requirement.

He joined a class of twelve aspiring aviators and traveled to a French primary flight school at Tours, southwest of Paris. His first training was in a non-flying, clipped-wing Morane-Saulnier in which he learned rudder and aileron control. Next, he was given two hours of dual instruction in a Caudron trainer, a wide-span pusher type. Training covered seventeen days and amounted to twenty-five flying hours. At the conclusion of the course, Rickenbacker was classified as a pilot and commissioned a first lieutenant in the Signal Corps.

Although he lacked gunnery training and the balance of his flight time, he was requested by his friend, Major James Miller, commanding the aerodrome at Issoudun. Familiar with Rickenbacker's vast mechanical expertise, Miller wanted Eddie as his engineering officer. His job was to organize the operation of repair shops, obtain material, procure spare parts, and supervise all mechanical maintenance. Eddie was not altogether happy with the assignment, because he had no regularly scheduled flight opportunities. He logged what time he could on one of the old Nieuports based there.

Major Carl "Tooey" Spaatz relieved Major Miller as base commander, and he wanted Eddie to continue as engineering officer. Only when he was hospitalized for a week, and his assistant was able to carry on satisfactorily, was Rickenbacker able to get into a position to request gunnery school and combat duty. Spaatz approved his request.

Eddie arrived at the newly-formed 94th Aero Pursuit Squadron in March 1918. It was the first flying unit composed entirely of American pilots and was commanded by Major John Huffer, a veteran of the Lafayette Escadrille (American volunteer flying unit in the French air service). The new squadron was assigned a seasoned combat pilot to act as an advisor. He was Major Raoul Lufberry, an ace with seventeen planes to his credit. He was a native Frenchman who immigrated to America, only to return to defend his native land at the beginning of the war. The 94th was based at Villeneuve, fifteen miles behind the front, and sharing facilities with the 95th Aero Squadron. They were equipped with castoff Nieuport biplanes without machine guns. Rickenbacker's early flights were unarmed patrols led by Lufberry.

Eddie's first hurdle was airsickness. Doggedly resisting the malady, he overcame it in a few days of flying, and it never bothered him again. He flew frequently and was fortunate to avoid injury or being shot down while he gained essential combat experience. His first real opportunity came on patrol with Captain Hall, during which they spotted a lone German Pfalz biplane. The Pfalz eluded Hall, but Rickenbacker closed from above and behind, firing at close range. He scored his first victory and news media all over the world carried the story of Rickenbacker's triumph.

When the 94th selected a unit insignia, many of the pilots presented suggestions. The majority approved the old expression, "throwing your hat in the ring," indicating

"Eddie became a member of the Masonic Fraternity in Kilwinning Lodge No. 297 at Detroit in 1922. He completed his York Rite work in 1926 when he became a member of Detroit Commandery No. 1."

readiness to take on a fight. Hence the "Hat in the Ring" squadron insignia was born, sporting the red, white and blue hat within a circle. It was the most famous of Allied air identifications.

Although Raoul Lufberry was assigned to advise and teach, he could not resist combat adventures. Early in May 1918, a lone German Albatross flew over the field. Lufberry, hearing the strange plane, ran to the flight line and commandeered the first aircraft he came to. He attacked the German at 2,000 feet above the field, but his guns jammed on his first pass. Freeing the jam, he once more jockeyed for position. The Albatross was armored and Lufberry's hits were ineffective. The Frenchman moved in too close and came into range of the observer/gunner in the rear cockpit. A burst from the observer's machine guns scored multiple hits on Lufberry's plane, which burst into flames. He climbed out of the cockpit and straddled the fuselage, sliding back until the flames were upon him. He jumped rather than burn to death. The disaster occurred in full view of the young pilots of the 94th, who witnessed Major Lufberry's body impaled on a fence. He had remarked a number of times that he

would not jump from a burning plane, but when the chips were down, he did just that. Rickenbacker was enraged by the disaster, cursing the air service for not issuing parachutes which were available.

When Rickenbacker's flight commander, Jimmy hail, was killed in May, he was assigned to lead. Eddie had more flying hours than any other American. In addition to regular patrols, he flew as a "lone wolf," prowling the skies for German planes. When he devised a strategy to pounce on unsuspecting enemy aircraft, he began taking Reed Chambers, another pilot, with him. They would simply climb as high as possible (about 18,000 feet) and wait for German aircraft to fly past beneath them, so they could dive out of the sun. The plan was very successful, and Rickenbacker chalked up four more victories in May. As the month ended, he was grounded with a lingering high fever which required hospitalization by the end of June.

Some benefits were derived from the lengthy hospital stay. Eddie solved a number of mechanical problems that had plaqued all of the pilots of the squadron, a major one being jammed machine guns. Some of his solutions proved to be quite effective. Eddie returned to action by ferrying a new SPAD pursuit back to the airfield at Toquin, where the 94th had been moved. His elation to be out of the hospital was short lived. He developed an ear infection that required surgery to relieve an abscess. He was not back on the flight line until the end of August - an absence of nearly three months. Morale in the 94th was at rock bottom. Rickenbacker pitched in to help whip the entire squadron into shape in time to assist in the September offensive. Billy Mitchell (now a brigadier general) committed a massive air fleet to assist at St. Mihiel, which included 700 pursuit planes, plus hundreds of observation and bomber aircraft.

The 94th played an active initial role in the offensive providing artillery coordinates to batteries bombarding retreating German

supply trains. During the offensive, Eddie had first chance to fly his against Richthofen's "Flying Circus." The Red Baron was gone, but his JG1 still had the finest pilots in the entire German air service. Rickenbacker upped his victories to seven on successive days by downing two Dr1 triplanes. Although he was the leading American ace with seven kills, Eddie had stiff competition. The "Arizona Balloon Buster." Frank Luke, was close on his heels. The balloon was a most dangerous target because the exploding hydrogen gas, ignited by machine gun tracer bullets, was a tremendous hazard to the attacking airplane. Luke overtook Eddie by scoring his 14th victory, which included both planes and balloons. His triumph was brief, however, as he was brought down by ground fire after destroving three balloons. Luke continued firing his pistol after he had crashed, refusing to surrender. He was killed by German infantry, ending his brief and meteoric career.

On September 24, 1918, Rickenbacker was given command of the entire 94th Aero Squadron. He was one of two original members surviving and was idolized by the younger pilots. Eddie was not a stickler for discipline or protocol as Richthofen had been with Jasta 2. His primary rule was that no pilot was permitted to consume alcohol in the 24hour period preceding a flying mission. He personally continued flying constantly, and on September 25 added two more victories during the same engagement. Those dual kills earned Rickenbacker the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1930.

On September 26, the Argonne offensive began and the 94th was ordered to knock out observation balloons along the front. Out alone before dawn on the 26th, Rickenbacker scored another victory and limped home with a tip shot off a propeller blade. During the offensive, he flew six or seven hours a day, eventually amounting to 134 air engagements.



Some top Allied air aces: top left: Rene Fonck, 75 victories-French; top right: Raoul Lufberry, 17 victories-American; center: Billy Bishop, 72 victories-Canadian; lower left: Charles Nungesser, 45 victories-French; lower right: Frank Luke, 21 victories-American. Portraits by Sr Knight Joseph E Bernett

October was Eddie's finest month. He shot down fourteen aircraft with his 25th and 26th kills coming on October 30, his last of the war. His title as America's "Ace of Aces" was secure. His 94th Squadron finished the war with a total of sixty-nine victories, the highest of any American unit. Who knows what Rickenbacker's record might have been over a long period?

Life did not end for Eddie at the close of World War I, of course. He had a long and eventful career after the war and was able to look back on a life of achievement and public service few men are capable of accomplishing. Here, we have been primarily concerned with his achievements during World War I, but it is impossible to close this account without relating some of the high points in his life after the "war to end all wars."

Rickenbacker's return to the States began with an agenda that included a country-wide tour to sell Liberty Bonds, countless speaking engagements, and writing his memoirs. He enthusiastically promoted aviation, including an unsuccessful attempt to interest the government in sponsoring a trans-Atlantic flight.

Rickenbacker had a whirlwind career in business. By 1920, he was raising money to manufacture an automobile bearing his name, a venture that eventually foundered. He became involved in early airmail and passenger business in Florida, taking time out to marry Adelade Frost Durant in New York on September 16, 1922. They were blessed with two sons, David Edward, born in 1925, and William Frost, born in 1928.

Along the way, Eddie acquired the Indianapolis Speedway and Allison Engineering Company, and even a comic strip called "Ace Drummond." His later ventures were more financially rewarding than his Rickenbacker car, and he was able to pay off his indebtedness. His most notable business association was in joining Eastern Airlines and eventually buying controlling interest. He spent many years building the airline into a major carrier. In 1941, he was severely injured in a crash which left him with a lifelong limp. A long recovery was incomplete when Pearl Harbor was bombed in December 1941.

General H. H. Arnold enlisted Rickenbacker's aid in making many morale tours and special missions on behalf of the government during the war, including one to Russia. On one such journey, Eddie's plane (he was a passenger) was ditched in the Pacific Ocean on a flight to New Guinea when it *ran* out of fuel. He and seven others drifted for twenty-four days before being rescued. Rickenbacker's heroic leadership during the ordeal was a major factor in the group's survival.

Following World War II, Eddie continued as chairman of the board for Eastern, finally retiring on December 31, 1963. His civic activity never abated, and he continued to be a familiar figure to all Americans. Certainly a highlight in his own life was the presentation from President Herbert Hoover in 1930 of the Congressional Medal of honor, the nation's most prestigious award for valor.

Another of his cherished honors was receiving the 33<sup>1</sup> in the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in 1949. Eddie became a member of the Masonic Fraternity in Kilwinning Lodge No. 297 at Detroit in 1922. He completed his York Rite work in 1926 when he became a member of Detroit Commandery No. 1. Finally, as to us all, death came to Edward Vernon Rickenbacker at Zurich, Switzerland, on July 23, 1973. His cremated remains were returned Columbus, Ohio, for burial. A guartet of Army Air Force jets from Lockbourne Air Base flew over the cemetery during the interment as a final salute to one of the great heroes of World War I.

Three quarters of a century has passed since Eddie and the Red Baron piloted their fragile little planes over the Somme River in World War I, but their exploits have never lost any luster. They were in a grim business, but both possessed the strength to become heroes of the highest order. Both stories have different endings. The Red Baron was consigned to a transient and troubled grave before he could assume a post-war role in his fatherland. Rickenbacker tasted the fruits of victory and built a spectacular life by hard work, ability, and



German air aces in WWI: upper left: Oswald Boelke, 48 victories; upper right: Max Immelmann, the "Eagle of Lille," architect of aerial combat tactics, 15 victories; lower left: Werner Voss, 48 victories; lower right: Lothar von Richthofen, 40 victories (in 77 days); center: Ernst Edet, 62 victories; only survivor and became a top Luftwaffe general in WWII.

dedication to high ideals. Now, both are consigned to history, with judgment for their deeds the providence of an Authority beyond the confines of this planet.

#### THE END

List of reference material available on request.

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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 60630-2460. 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

Great gift idea for Past Commanders' night and incoming new Knights, and a great gift for any holiday - a beautiful Knights Templar certificate The certificate is 1104 on blue parchment paper that is 80 lb. with 4 different color inks, raised letter. Arch is a beautiful gold. The knight on horse is beautiful black, brown and red. Black fancy script lettering and off the sides of the arches are 6 different figures that are shadowed at 15%. The net proceeds from sale of this certificate will benefit the KTEF. Send \$7.00 to Stanley C. Bus, 219 S. 18th Street Allentown PA 18104. The certificate will be mailed to you within 7 days.

For sale: a beautiful colored print titled, "The First Crusaders," painted by Sir Knight V. M. Villazon, Past Grand Commander of Florida (1983). It consists of the Crusaders mounted on horses and is 11"04", plus a border without frame. This would make a great gift for Past Commanders, new Se Knights, pus every Commandery should have one. The net proceeds are for benefit of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Send \$7.00 to Albin W. Di Pasca, State Chairman of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for the Grand Commandery of Florida, P0. Box 510, Homosassa Springs; FL 34447-0510. The print will be mailed to you within 7 days.

For sale: an 11"x14" print called "From Darkness to Light," a very colorful print showing the path to Knight Templar from list degree, naming all degrees up to Order of the Temple. This will be a conversation arouser for every Knight's home. Frame-able. \$6.00 plus \$1.50 postage. 10% of proceeds will be donated to the KTEF. Gerald L. Patton, Sr., 7129 Cerritos, Stanton, CA 90680.

The Library of the Grand Commandery of Indiana wishes to locate a copy of History of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America by Fancis J. Scully (1952) for donation or purchase as soon as possible. Robert E. Price, G.R., PD. Box 702, Connersville, IN 47331.

Wanted: Commandery coat, size 60 stout, for Commander of North Star-St Gerard Commandery No. 4. Aldine Tilloson; ft Spring Street, Lancaster; NH 03584

Wanted: frock-style Commandery coat, size 48XL, and trousers, 40-42 waist. M. C. Boice, 8509 Winding Lane, Pensacola, FL 32514, (904) 478-9671.

For sale: uniform coats. New polyester/wool, summer weight, C.P.O. coats mean your Commander) can obtain coats at a low cost We have 42S, 44S, 44XL and 48XL (The XLs can be cut down to L or R) \$20.00 each plus S&H. We also have small sizes for \$5.00 each to use as pocket flap material. Percentage will be donated to KTEF. J. William Meyers, 1460 East US Highway 29, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-5686 or John Myers 2120 N. 5Ff 127, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-2797.

For sale: C.P.O. coats, poly-wool, summer weight; sizes 44 short, 44X long, and 46 short. \$23.00 includes shopping and handling. 10% of all sales will be donated to KTEF. General Merchandise Company, 13690 Broad Street, S. W; Pataskala; OH 43062; (614) 927-7073.

For sale: 14K gold medal inscribed "Presented to Eminent Sir Knight Wilbert Edson Fisher by Chevalier Bayard Commandery No. 52, K.T., June 8th, 1926, Chicago, III.' Ruby in Center has been removed. Members in Peoria area welcome to Call and see it. I am also interested in its history. Richard Henderson, 404 Claremont, E. Peoria, IL 61611, 699-0858.

For sale: a Masonic quiz program for IBM-PC or compatible computers. System requirements: MS-DOS version 3.1 or later, 256K RAM. The program has three types of quizzes to test your knowledge of Freemasonry. 10% of the proceeds from sale will be donated to the KTEF. Send \$8.00 to Stephen Hill, 5539-2 Hood Drive, Fort Riley, KS 66442.

Masonic related clip art is available for IBM and compatible computers on floppy disks for just \$10.00. These are ready to use in your newsletters and correspondence. Also available is Masonic wallpaper for MS windows. Send long SASE for more information and printed samples. Percentage of proceeds guaranteed to directly benefit the KTEF. John Yates, PD. Box 3496, Wichita Falls, TX 76309.

Masons have shaped the history of the U.S. Collectors of first day covers share in the memory of their accomplishments. My 1993 WWII covers cite the contributions of Masons in that period of conflict: Mark Clark, Wilys Jeep, Higgins Boat, Clark Gable, Jack Wood, McDonald, Ridgeway Smith, Johnson-9 heroes of WWII on covers with commemorative stamps. 10% of proceeds will be donated to the KTEF. Send \$20.00 for the set to Edsel Masonic Covers, Box 36, Haze/wood, MD 63042 Men's Masonic dress watches for sale: quartz movement, leather band, and square and compass on the dial. Very nice watch includes 1-year warranty. Percentage of proceeds guaranteed to be donated to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Price includes postage. Send \$39.95 to Target Marketing, P.O. Box 449, Rutland VT 05702.

For sale: men's or ladies' dress watches with quartz movement either chrome case with black plastic band or gold case with brown leather band. Masonic, Shrine, O.E.S., Grotto (or most any Lodge symbol) on dial. 12month warranty; 4-week delivery. Percentage of proceeds will be donated to the Eye Foundation. \$40.00, postpaid. Hairy G. Bowen, 2633 South Country Club Way, Tempe, AZ 85282, (602)968-7021.

For sale: Masonic rings, Signet style with classical square and compasses on top, trowel on one side, two-ball cane on the other. Ring is very durable, yet elegant Custommade of hard chrome and nickel alloy. Solid throughout. Silver color only. \$99 plus tax, \$4.00 S&H. Whole sizes only, 7-15. 10% of profits will go to KTEF. Check or MasterCard/Visa info to Auratech Designs, 107-M Plaza Drive, Suite 123, St. Clairsville, OH 43950. Money back satisfaction guarantee.

Kennesaw Lodge No. 33, F. & A.M. of Marietta, Georgia, is celebrating its 150th birthday and has had a coin struck to commemorate the event. The working tools and holy altar are on one side and the years and name on the reverse. Coin is available in bronze for \$5.00 and .999 fine silver for \$20.00. Mail check to H. F Watson, 2774 Hicks Road, Marietta, Gil 30060.

Eddy Lodge No. 21, A.F. & AM., Carlsbad, New Mexico, has its centennial coin for sale. The coin is in antique bronze and may be purchased at \$6.00 each. Eddy Lodge No. 21, PO. Box 337, Cadste4 NM 88220.

Streator Lodge No. 607, A.F. & AM., of Streator, Illinois, is celebrating its 125th anniversary with a coin with the working tools, the All-Seeing Eye and square and compass on one side and the lodge name and years on the other side. Available in antique copper finish, \$4.00, or gold finish, \$7.00. Checks payable to Streator Lodge No. 607 and mail to William Sanford, PD. Box 98, Rutland, IL 61358.

Limited edition 100th anniversary coin (1893-1993) Palatine Chapter No. 206, Palatine, Illinois. Limit of 3 coins only per order, while supply lasts. \$5.00 each. Send your order to the Secretary Jim Maurais, 1116 East Plate Drive, Palatine, IL 60067, (708) 358-7188.

Fund-raiser for Benton Lodge No. 521, F. & AM., Fowler, Indiana: official Swiss Army knives with silver alloy inlaid square and compass on a blue handle. Contains scissors, tweezers, toothpick and nail file. Knives are custommade, high quality, tough and smell enough to be carried in slacks. \$18.95 plus \$2.00 shipping per knife. Bruce Creek, R.R. No. 1, Box 229, Remington, IN 47977, (219) 297-3305.

Goldsboro York Rite Masonic Bodies still have a few commemorative Coca Colas left, at a cost of \$10.00 each. This include, shipping and handling. Call (919) 735-9888 after 4:30 P.M., or said check or money order to P.O. Box 411, Goldsboro, NC 27533-0411 Allow four weeks for delivery.

For sale: Scottish Rite ring, 32; value, \$1,400.00. I will take \$700.00 for quick sale. Cleo Brown, 2915 Franklin Road, Apt 107, Murfreesboro, TN 37129, (615) 896-3049.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 23 years, and still need many paces as I am collecting all varieties. These one day will end up in a Masonic museum. Why not find a home for your mark? I will gladly send you a check for one piece or will buy your collection. if you collect I will gladly exchange. Any assistance will surely be appreciated. I will answer all letters. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (602) 898-7585.

GENEALOGY: FREE INFORMATION TO ALL MASONS. Send No. 10 (4x10) SASE (stamped, self-addressed envelope) and names you are searching for: wives, relatives, etc. N. W. Rethodor PC.; 6402 Allan Sweet; Riverside; CA 92509-5703.

Wanted: metal stamp with Blue Lodge symbol, or pennies already stamped. Will make my own, or purchase your finished product. Jerry Cook, 6942 West Olive Avenue, Mi 25; Peoria; AZ 85345 (602)488-7326

Looking for a company or individual who makes and sells stainless steel Masonic rings with Blue Lodge emblem. Malcolm Walls, HC65 Box 865, Davy WV 24828.

For sale: Masonic widow wishes to sell late husband's Masonic ring, appraised at \$600.00; will negotiate. Mrs. Ray Burchfield, 772 E. McKenzie, Greenfield IN 46140, (317) 462-9647.

For sale: seven volumes, total of 2375 pages, Mackey's History of Freemasonry by Robert I. Clegg. 33; new revised, enlarged, published by Masonic History Company. Curtis Cook Route 12 B, Deansboro, NY 13328.

In possession of old lambskin aprons and jewels from the Colusa Lodge, F. & AM., No. 240 and would like to restore embroidered areas, dean jewels and create a wall hanging for the Lodge. Unable to find a safe, satisfactory method. Reese advise. I am grateful for any help in this. Marjorie A Zwald 257 Highway 45, Colusa, CA 95932

Wanted: words to the poem: One Night I Knelt More I-Juan, Knelt Send to Dale E. Roll; FIR. No. 1, Box 40; Plainville, KS 67663.

Gardeners wanted to exchange seeds. For information sand a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Seed Exchangers, P0. Box 10-K, Burnips, MI 49314-0010.

Wanted: oil burning railroad lanterns. Also want information on Dietz Glass Company, a manufacturer of lantern glass. Arnold B0 Griffin, 903 St. Andrews, Humble, TX 77339.

For sale: Pompano Beach FL condo: 2 BR. 2 baths, N.E. corner on ocean, private beach, 6th floor, good view of ocean. Call (216) 532-4280.

We Plough the Fields We plough the fields, and scatter The good seed on the land. But it is led and watered By God's Almighty hand: He sends the snow in winter. The warmth to swell the grain. The breezes and the sunshine. And soft refreshing rain. All good gifts around us Are sent from heaven above, Then thank the Lord. O thank the Lord. For all His love.

Jane Montgomery Campbell