Grand Master's Page—April 1994

59th Triennial Conclave

It is not too early to make your plans to come to Denver in August. The Triennial Committee is hard at work to make your visit to Colorado a memorable time.

The drill team competition will be held Saturday, August 13, at the Mart of Denver. All other activities will take place at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Denver.

Most of the voting delegates should have received their "order form" by now, but it should be remembered that there is something planned for every Sir Knight and his family, regardless of rank. There is an "order form" on page 11 of the March Knight Templar magazine for everyone.

August in Colorado is one of our most delightful months - lovely days and cool evenings. In 1859 the cry was "Pike's Peak or Bust." In 1994 it could be "United to Denver."

26th Annual Voluntary Campaign

This month closes the 26th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. This is our last chance to make it "three in a row" - three one million dollar years" The trustees sincerely hope we can continue the same level of service we have had in years past. It's up to all of us to support OUR foundation.

Tour Of England And Wales

There are still a few open reservations to join me on our tour to the British Isles. For something you will never forget, call: Travel Bound, Inc. at 1-800-874-7898 and make your reservation. We will leave June 10 and return to the States on June 24.

Golden Chalice Award

The trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation are pleased to announce that nine Golden Chalice awards have been (or will be) presented since the chalice was authorized last year. These awards represent gifts of over one hundred thousand dollars to the foundation.
Knight Templar
"The Magazine for York Rite Masons - and Others, too"

APRIL: Both Grand Master Thornley in his message on page 2 and Past Grand Master Smith on page 9 urge all Sir Knights to remember that there is only one month left in the 26th Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. There is still time, but there is no time for delay! This issue contains news about the campaign; Grand Prelate Weir’s sermon for the 1994 Easter Sunrise Service in Alexandria, Virginia; a lovely poem about Jesus’ sacrifice for all of us; and several articles of interest to Sir Knights and Brothers everywhere. May you find much to savor in these pages!

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William Henry Thornley, Jr.
Grand Master and Publisher
3080 South Race Street
Denver, Colorado 80210-6331

Charles R. Neumann
Grand Recorder and Editor

Joan B. Morton
Assistant Editor

Grand Recorder
5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2460
(773) 777-3300
Fax: (773) 777-8836

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.
Correction: In the January issue the date for the Annual Conclave of Kansas was reported as May 7. The correct dates are May 6-7, 1994.

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 KCT 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 a Green pin for widows of those below the rank of Commander and a 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.)

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

There is no limit on orders: $1.50 each under 100 copies; $1.00 each over 100 copies. Write your checks to and mail to the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

A Pilgrim's Path: Freemasonry and the Religious Right: This is John J. Robinson's last book, and it is now available as a hardbound copy. Every Mason should want this intriguing and educational book in his library.

The book is available for $15.00 each, plus $2.50 shipping and handling. 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; IL 60630-2460.

Born In Blood: The exciting book by John J. Robinson is available at the price of $16.00, including S & H. • Dungeon, Fire and Sword: The Knights Templar in the Crusades. This history of the Knights Templar by the late John J. Robinson is now available for $20.00 each, plus $3.00 shipping and handling. 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; IL 60630-2460.

You will certainly want to take this opportunity to honor your widows at regular or special 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.

Complimentary for Widows: Widows of Knights Templar are eligible to continue to receive our magazine as long as they desire. To retain or reinstat the mailing, simply instruct your local Recorder or the Grand Encampment of your wishes.
Must Jesus 
Bear the Cross Alone?

by The Reverend Thomas E. Weir 
Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, U.S.A.

The Reverend and Sir Knight Thomas E. Weir presents "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?" at the 64th Annual Easter Sunrise Service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, on April 3, 1994.

A general invitation was extended by Most Eminent Grand Master William Henry Thornley, Jr., to the Sir Knights and their families and friends to join the grand officers and their Brother Christian Masons at this traditional Easter service. For those who are unable to attend the 1994 Easter ceremony in Alexandria, we would like to share with you the Reverend Weir's Easter message. Sir Knight Weir has served as the Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Virginia and Scotland and the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of Maryland. He is a Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter and a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Maryland.

"Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light, Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shades of night; Day spring from on high, be near, Day-star in my heart appear." (Charles Wesley, p. 173, U.M. Hymnal)

We are grateful for these words of Charles Wesley to express our feelings on this day when the sun rising in the East to open and adorn the day has special meaning for us as Christians and as Masons.

We are grateful not only for Charles Wesley's words; we are grateful for his life and for the lives of all those Christian saints whose minds and hands and hearts have bridged the gap between the hill of Golgotha and this place so important to us.

In the years that followed the Resurrection, there was a concentrated effort to eradicate the Christian faith and exterminate all who followed the Cross. The heroism of being fed to the lions may grab our imaginations, as does being covered with pitch, bound to a stake, set ablaze and used as a torch for Nero's garden, but the most devastating assault upon Christianity today is the day-to-day pressure for Christians to ease up on the obligations of their faith.

Paul addressed the problem in his Epistles to the Thessalonians. Even in that remote age, Christians were getting discouraged about getting the rewards for their faith.

We have all known those who must choose between taking up their crosses and protecting their own business or social interests. The cost to those who suffered the burden of fire, dungeon and sword is
well known. We need to give thanks, too, and encouragement to those who have said, The course the leaders in my church or business want to take is contrary to what Christ Himself taught about life, love, respect and responsibility; I cannot take part, no matter what it costs me.

We thrill to the ideals of Christian fidelity as we recount how lives were lost to Roman swords and Saracen blades. Can we admire any less those Christians who, under pressure from individuals or bureaucracies, were unwilling to compromise their faith, and suffered all the vengeance that self-centered individuals and bureaucracies can inflict?

It is tragic that the Church may be its own worst enemy. Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God who emptied Himself of His divine privilege and took the form of a servant, now sees His followers fighting for preeminence and domination.

I spent a substantial part of my life at the universities of Edinburgh and Saint Andrews, as well as in libraries, church archives and other collections of Christian experience trying to understand what Christians expect the Church to be, what they think it is and what it really is. It was an exhilarating experience. I dug through materials as diverse as the notes a farmer took during sermons of one of the great preachers of three hundred years ago and a piece of paper, signed by a king, which ordered the death of two men who dared to have religious convictions different from his.

After five years of doing little else, I came to the conclusion that Christ is the only true head of the Church and that those of us who follow Him have to do the best we can with what we have: faith, hope, love, knowledge. There is, indeed, so much we know about God, about Christ, about the Holy Trinity and about what the Triune God expects of us in terms of religious commitment and personal behavior.

What we know little about is how we should work as a team, the details of how we should organize and so on. Roman Catholics, Orthodox Catholics, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists and many, many other denominations have had to struggle with the question of what the Church is and what it should do.

At this service and others where Christians celebrate Christ's victory over the greatness of death and pray for his victory over smallness of life, we ask that Christ will accept our efforts to follow Him, to be His children, to live His life, imperfect or misinformed as our efforts may be.

Little has been accomplished by the attack of one denomination on another except bloodshed and pain. Those who think conflicts between or within denominations are a recent development will be disappointed. When Paul wrote his first letter to the Corinthians, better than 1,900 years ago, he struck out at the conflict and hatred within the Christian community there. 1,990 years ago, each denomination in Corinth claimed to be the best, the only or the one true Church. Paul dismissed their contempt for each other and their most pretentious claims, as each group tried to prove its own superiority. Paul knew that we can expect no clear answer if we employ only the human resources of emotion or intellect to the issues.

Mary Watt told the story of a man and his wife who were having an argument about a problem in their church. Finally, the man told his wife, Paul says that if a woman has a question about the church she should ask her husband." "That," said the wife, "is where me and Paul disagrees"

So, instead of emotional warfare, St. Paul showed them a more excellent way. He wrote, (1 Corinthians 13:1-3) "It does not matter if I speak in human words or the language of angels; what is important is that if I speak without love, I am just a
noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the
gift of prophecy, if I can understand all
mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a
faith that can move mountains, but am not filled with love, I am nothing. If I give all my
possessions to the poor and sacrifice my
body to the flames, but do it without love, I do not increase the value of my life." The victory
of the cross is not a contest of one force against another, but of one love greater than all hatred. Follow the way of love," Paul said
to the feuding Corinthians. So must we follow
the way of love on this Easter Day.

Nothing else seems to have much effect in
the long run. In the early days of the Scottish Reformed Church, church attendance was compulsory. In addition, violators of the moral
code were subjected to a process called "kirk ing." If the elders of the congregation decided that one of their congregation had been overtaken by sin, they solemnly summoned the offender to the next Sunday morning worship service. A special seat, known as the penitent's stool, was placed in front of the pulpit. The offender made a public confession of his or her sins and the minister "applied" the Gospel, rather like a leather strap behind the woodshed. Brother Robert Burns was treated to this process more than once. We cannot be certain that folks so treated sinned less, although we may be certain they were more careful.

The mutual respect and concern for each other that love brings out from us seems to be our only hope. The hymn tells us, "Faith of our fathers! we will love Both friend and foe in all our strife. And preach thee, too, as love known how By kindly words and virtuous life: Faith of our fathers, holy faith! We will be true to thee til death."

Masons have been accused of trying to earn themselves a place in heaven by doing good deeds. Instead we are simply trying to earn a place for ourselves on earth. Standards of human behavior have fallen so low that I should think that every church, every body dedicated to the good of mankind, every decent person would be delighted to encourage a group of men and their families who seek friendship, truth and morality; who seek to do good unto all and who call themselves, "Masons."

Churches will not impress their friends nor bully their foes by hammering them with words or swords. The victory of the Cross can become the victory of the Church if we can separate what Christ has done for us from what we are compelled to do for Him. When He called me into the ministry, The Lord was especially good to Becky, the boys and me. My first church was a three-point circuit in West Georgia. In one of those churches, we had a devoted saint who, for many years, played the piano for all the services. Every Monday before second Sundays, she and I would plan the music. It was not always easy because she had some definite ideas about what should and should not be played. We had some variety for the first two hymns, but there was always a struggle, which she won, about the third hymn. Every Sunday no matter what was announced or what the bulletin said, she would contradict me, if necessary, then play, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone."

The fact is that Jesus must bear the Cross alone. He did for us what we cannot do for ourselves. He was nailed to the cross, His side was pierced and His was coldness of the tomb. By sacrificing His life for ours, by atoning for our sins, He redeemed us. He came that we might have life more fully. We were all created in the image of God. At Easter we ask to be created in the image of Jesus Christ.

Easter marks a beginning, not an end. When he became Governor of Rotary District 757 in 1962, Pat Patterson said, "I am responsible for this district. If anything is wrong or could be done better, let me know and I'll set it straight, but before you
say anything to me, make sure you are doing your job the best it can be done."

Perhaps that is our relationship to the risen Christ. He died to save us from our sins. Our thanks today for His victory can best be expressed by seeing that we take up our private and public responsibilities as the best Christians we can be.

"Visit then this soul of mine," Charles Wesley concluded, "pierce the gloom of sin and grief; fill me, Radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief; more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day."

Sir Knight Thomas E. Weir is a member of St. Elmo Commandery No. 12, Hyattsville, Maryland, and resides at 6409 Queens Chapel Road, 14yat1sille, ME) 20782

The Sacrifice

He stood quietly, and took the cup
   The One, the Holy, who God called up
To be His lamb, His sacrifice,
   To save the unworthy, those guilty of vice.

He raised no objection, when falsely accused
   And patiently submitted when He was abused;
He suffered in silence and walked with the gross,
   While a loving Simon was bearing His cross.

He was cruelly nailed to that cross on the hill
   Between two criminals as shameful, but still
He blamed not His accusers and prayed for us too
   "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do."

The reason for the sacrifice became clear in time
   That Christ should rise bodily and be sublime;
That He should die for our sins that day
   And become our Savior and show us the way:

To live our lives and fulfill God's plan,
   To dedicate ourselves to the service of man,
To do His bidding without any qualms,
   Without thought of ourselves in the giving of alms.

But how many of us would do God's will
   And drink that cup and agree to kill
Our bodies, that our souls might live
   To give life to others, and share His love.

But will Christ's sacrifice be in vain,
   When God so loved the world that He gave His Son?
The answer, my friends, is yet to be,
   And the deciding factor is you and me.

Sir Knight James C. Taylor, P.G.C.
   Elk City Commandery No. 22
   Elk City, OK
   1207 Mayor Lane
   Elk City, OK 73644
We are near the end, but we are not near the total contributions that we racked up in the past two campaigns - over a million dollars in each campaign.

To those Commanderies which have worked hard for our Eye Foundation, I am your cheerleader: Keep It up; go over last year.

For those Commanderies which have given nothing, I am the goad to prod you into action. Every Commandery can give something through its membership. Don't be one that does not participate.

Let each Knight Templar close his eyes for a minute and sample the darkness, open them to the light and Praise the Lord; then give help to those who may not be able to open their eyes to the light.

One month remains this year to do this good deed. It should take about one minute to decide to do it.

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

Letter To The Eye Foundation

Dear gentlemen:

Last month I had cataract surgery on my left eye, which your organization made possible with your financial help.

There are no proper words to tell you how much that operation means to me. Now I can drive a car, crochet, see colors, put on make-up properly, and read without using a 200-watt light bulb. Also, my depth perception is back to normal, and I can walk outside without tripping on curbs, etc. And now, after a year of unemployment, I am ready and able to go back to work! I will never take my eyesight for granted again.

Mr. John G. Hardin, one of your members, came to my home and took my application for help. He and his wife were so kind to me, and I thank them very much for their efforts on my behalf.

What you have all done for me is beyond wonderful - it's truly a miracle to me. You have all the gratitude that is within me to give. And when I become financially able, I fully intend to make a donation to your wonderful organization.

May God bless you all as you have blessed so many others!

Sincerely yours,

Sharon L. Cantu

Yakima, Washington
In Memoriam

Warren H. Deck
New York
Grand Commander-1965
Born August 29, 1918
Died November 29, 1993

Robert A. Miller
California
Grand Commander-1963
Born January 29, 1914
Died February 7, 1994

James Pierre Kakebeeke
Oregon
Grand Commander-1960
Born October 6, 1902
Died February 11, 1994

Alvin E. Hauserman
Kansas
Grand Commander-1970
Born May 1, 1918
Died February 22, 1994

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
New Club Memberships

Grand Commander's Club
No. 100,059-Clarence E. Davis, Jr. (GA)
No. 100,060-Charles R. Luke (GA)
No. 100,062-Jimmy Doyle O'Dell (AL)
No. 100,063-Scott Edmund Duncan (AL)
No. 100,064-Edwin Bryant Thomas (AL)
No. 100,065-Hans Bahne (NY)
No. 100,066-David D. Goodwin (NY)
No. 100,067-George Henry Allred (NC)
No. 100,068-Pressly A. Laird (IL)
No. 100,069-Merlyn M. Smith (OR)
No. 100,070-John A. Friedrichsen (OR)
No. 100,071-William R. Simmons (VA)
No. 100,072-Paul C. Holbrook (NC)
No. 100,073-William E. Holloman (GA)
No. 100,074-Ben W. Carden (GA)
No. 100,075-Jeffry Alan Dickerson (TX)
No. 100,076-Rex L. Jensen (NV)

Grand Master's Club
Correction
No. 2,136-In memory of Rosie Winberry Rose
by James P. Rose (TN)

New
No. 2,151-O. Max Leach (VA) by Bayard
Commandery No. 15 in memory of Babe and
Sidney Louis
No. 2,152-William W. Longworth (VA)
No. 2,153-to honor Robert C. Stewart by Ivanhoe
Commandery No. 24 (WI)
No. 2,154-to honor Thomas K. Rosenow by
Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24 (WI)
No. 2,155-to honor Charles R. Neumann by
Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24 (WI)
No. 2,156-Curtis A. Gibson (OH)
No. 2,157-Calvin C. Snow (AL)
No. 2,158-to honor Richard H. Palm- G.C. club
membership completed by St. John's
Commandery No. 20 (OH)
No. 2,159-to honor Charles M. Collins, M.D. (NM)
by Mr. and Mrs. Lee P. Tolman, RI
No. 2,160-Edward M. Block (NV)
No. 2,161-Douglas E. Kurth (MI)
No. 2,162-Walter F. Lynch (NM)
No. 2,163-M. D. Crull (KY)
No. 2,164-M. D. Crull (KY)
No. 2,165-Rodney J. Houton (VA)
No. 2,166-Paul A. Gilmore (VA)
No. 2,167-Robert R Renkel (OH)
No. 2,168-Bruce B. Shafer (PA)
No. 2,170-George M. Fulmer (DC)
No. 2,171-Leon Saville (VA)

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:
Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O.
Box 579, Springfield, IL 62705, (217) 523-
3838.
Grand Master's Club And Grand Commanders Club Pins

Grand Master Thornley is pleased to announce that, for all who became members of the Grand Master's and Grand Commanders 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.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
Twenty-sixth Annual Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending March 4, 1994. The total amount contributed to date is $377,434.92.

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<td>100.00</td>
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<td>Tokyo No. 1, Japan</td>
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<td>Heidelberg No. 2, Germany</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Needs Your Help In The 26th Voluntary Campaign
(Your Commandery Will Receive Credit)

For a donation of $20.00, you will receive 100 trash bags (16" x 14" x 36", .0015 Mil.)

Delivery will be made to address on form below (sorry, no P. 0. Box delivery).

Many of us purchase these bags at various stores. You can “HELP OTHERS TO SEE” by making a $20.00 donation to Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

(Donation is Tax Deductible)
(Your Cancelled Check is your Receipt)

YES, I WANT TO "HELP OTHERS TO SEE" THROUGH THE K.T.E.F. AND HAVE ENCLOSED A DONATION OF $ _____
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Please Mail Check Payable To:
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The Cornerstone of Masonry, which at once is its first and greatest landmark, is the old, yet vital and simple, faith in God. The interpretation of this faith is found in the Holy Bible.

Everything in Masonry has reference to God, speaks of God, points and leads to God.

Criticism of Masonry

Recently, Dr. James L. Holly, a Beaumont, Texas physician, charged in his book entitled *The Southern Baptist Convention and Freemasonry* that Masonry was too closely linked to pagan rituals and occultism. The Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Houston Texas, on June 14-17, 1993, received a year-long study of Freemasonry from its Home Mission Board. The primary criticism by the Home Mission Board of Freemasonry was leveled at the penalties in the ritual and the use of the term, "Worshipful Master," for a Masonic Lodge officer, as well as the implications that Masons' good works programs; for example, children's hospitals, language development centers, and philanthropies such as the Eye Foundation; can bring salvation.

Masonry - A Personal Choice

The report from the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention concluded its recommendations on the study of Freemasonry be indicating that it was up to individual Baptists to judge Masonic practices in light of Christian beliefs and Southern Baptist Doctrine.

Knights Templar and Religion

In my own religious background I have a great uncle on my mother's side of the family who was a Baptist minister, and I have a great uncle on my father's side of the family who was a Methodist minister. For the record I am an ordained United Methodist minister, and I have been a member of a Masonic Lodge for over forty years.

The teachings of Knights Templar are not contradictory with my religious beliefs but are complementary and supportive of those beliefs.

Masonry is not a religion, but it is religious; it is not a church, but a fellowship of men united through a mystical tie. Masonry deals with the attributes of a moral and spiritual life. Faith in God, the moral law and the hope of eternal life are as much facts in our human world as mountains and hills and seas are in the natural world. They are here; they are a part of human nature and Masonry speaks of these matters.

Christian Seeks the Celestial City

For me, Christian in John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* is similar to Pilgrim in the ritual of the Order of the Temple. *The Pilgrim's Progress*, written over three hundred years ago, is a religious allegory depicting Christian as having left everything to fulfill his definite purpose to be on the right road to the Celestial City. Fortunately for Christian, he meets companions on the road, Faithful and Hopeful, who help him through the Valley of the Shadow of Death. Along the way,
Faithful faces a packed jury including Mr. Blindman, Mr. No-good, Mr. Malice, Mr. Love-lust, Mr. Headly, Mr. High-minded, Mr. Enmity, Mr. Liar, Mr. Cruelty, Mr. Hate-light, and Mr. Implacable. After many temptations at the hands of Giant Despair, Hopeful and Christian arrive at Beulah, where the air is sweet and pleasant. After their passage over the River of Death, they pass through the waters to the Celestial City.

Pilgrim Seeks Christian Knighthood

Pilgrim in the Order of the Temple has the assistance of the Junior Warden, who serves as his guide and companion on his journey to be admitted as a member of the Order of Christian Knighthood. In ancient times the members of the Order of the Temple were warlike and protective; however, in this modern era members of the Order of the Temple are encouraged to defend the weak, the innocent, the helpless, and the oppressed.

We are reminded in the Order of the Temple that: Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with that you have; for he has said ‘I will never fail you nor forsake you.’ (Hebrews 13:1,2,5 RSV)

Emerson said in a memorable address that "the main enterprise of the world for splendor, for extent is the up building a man," and so it is for all Sir Knights of this Valiant and Magnanimous Order of Christian Knighthood!

Sir Knight Jack J. Early, 33° and Eminent Grand Prelate of Kentucky, is a member of and Prelate of Louisville-DeMolay Commandery No. 12, Louisville, Kentucky. He resides at 9002 Hurstwood Court, Louisville, KY 40222

"Pastoral Pen Points"...

Taken from First Baptist Church bulletin, Fort Valley, Georgia

Last May, the late George Jones (Past Grand Commander of Georgia) sat in my study telling me about Holy Land pilgrimages, sponsored by the Masons (Knights Templar) for ministers. He wanted me to go. George and others submitted my name and I was selected. As most of you know, George died of cancer last August, but in our final conversation he shared how he was thrilled that I was going. His only regret was that he would not be at the airport to see me off.

"On February 8, I will depart for Israel. The Masons have generously provided this trip, paying for all expenses. Beyond that, the local lodge, several Sunday School classes and others have shared love offerings to help with incidental expenses. I have been overwhelmed by these demonstrations of generosity.

"Mallie and I were privileged to be a part of a dinner and inspection at the local Commandery last week. I was impressed by the commitment of this organization to Godly things. The Masons sponsor an Eye Foundation that has restored the sight to people who were virtually blind. Every year the Masons send more than eighty ministers (three from Georgia) to the Holy Land. Many of the pastors could never afford a trip to Israel on their own. Do these sound like the projects of a non-Christian organization? Of course not. One misinformed Texan is wrong in his attack on Freemasonry. Some of our finest teachers and most faithful soul-winners are Masons. Thank God for them.

"I look forward to my trip as I will walk where Jesus walked."

Reverend John Talley
First Baptist Church
Fort Valley, Georgia
Welcome to the 1994 59th Triennial of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U.S.A.
August 12th – 17th Denver

This is your opportunity to book your airline reservations in advance - at unpublished discount rates!

Arrive via United Airlines as early as Aug. 9th and depart as late as Aug. 20th and receive substantially reduced airline fares, $150,000.00 flight insurance and 24 hour traveler assistance services. Examples of United Airlines Airfare reductions: Stay over a Saturday night and receive an additional 5% off the lowest applicable airfare. Travel midweek and receive 10% off the discounted Y26 fare! Travelers from Canada can receive 10% off the discounted Y26 fare. Have your name entered into a drawing for a free airline ticket! All tickets will be sent via overnight express service - at no cost to you!

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Make your reservations through HUB TRAVEL CENTER via our toll free number 1-800-825-4482

Call Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
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Or fax your reservation request to (708) 563-0212, 24 hours a day

Please have the following information ready when placing your phone call to make reservations: Group Star # GEK, names of travelers travel dates, United Mileage Plus number, and credit card number. Do you need a car rental? Do you qualify for a senior citizen discount?
Robert Enoch Withers
Thirteenth Grand Master
1883-1886

Sir Knight Withers was made a Master Mason in Marshall Lodge No. 39 at Lynchburg, Virginia, on February 1, 1851. In 1871 he was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia and was reelected in 1972.

He was exalted in Eureka (now Lynchburg) Royal Arch Chapter No. 10 in November, 1852. He was elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Virginia in 1871.

He was knighted in DeMolay Commandery No. 4 at Lynchburg on January 25, 1856. That year he attended the Grand Commandery of Virginia and was elected Grand Warder. In 1875 he was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Virginia and served three years. At the Conclave of the Grand Encampment held in Cleveland in 1877 he was elected Grand Senior Warden. In 1880 he was elected Deputy Grand Master, and in 1883, Grand Master. His position as Consul at Hong Kong took him away from the United States during part of his Grand mastership, and the duties of the Grand Master were taken care of by Deputy Grand Master Charles Roome during that period.

Sir Knight Withers had a strong and attractive personality. He was a man of upright character, of courtly manners and of varied experience. In all his actions he showed the greatest fidelity to the principles and to the interests of the Great Order to which he was so proud to pledge his allegiance.

Charles Roome
Fourteenth Grand Master
1886-1889

Charles Roome was born in New York City on August 4, 1812. After receiving a common school education, he engaged in various occupations until 1837, when he became a clerk in the office of the Manhattan Gas Company. With a view to advancement, he began the study of civil engineering, and in due time became assistant engineer, then engineer, and finally in 1854, president of the company. He held that position until the company was merged into the Consolidated Gas Company in 1884, when he was elected president of the new corporation. In 1886, he became Chairman of the Board of Managers, which position he held until his death.
In his early years he enlisted in Company D, Seventh Regiment, New York State Militia, and later attained the rank of Captain. During the Civil War he organized the 37th Regiment New York Volunteers and commanded it as Colonel in the field, and "for faithful and meritorious services" he was brevetted Brigadier General.

Following a long illness he died at his home in New York City on June 28, 1890. The funeral services were held in St. Thomas Protestant Episcopal Church of which he was a member. In accordance with his wishes the services were quiet and simple. The aprons worn by the members of Kane Lodge were the only outward display of Masonry. The remains were interred in Greenwood Cemetery with Masonic burial services rendered by his lodge.

Sir Knight Roome was initiated in Kane Lodge No. 459 on January 2, 1866. In 1867 he was elected Worshipful Master and served in that capacity during 1868, 1869, and 1870 and again in 1876. In 1870 he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master and in 1871 Grand Marshal. He was elected Grand Master in 1879.

He was exalted in Jerusalem Chapter No. 8 on May 4, 1866 and was High Priest in 1882-83. He was greeted in Adelphi Council No. 7 on December 9, 1870.

In the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite he was an active worker in the New York Bodies. He received the 32° degree in 1866. He served as Thrice Potent Master of New York Lodge of Perfection from 1870 and 1872. He was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33° Honorary on September 19, 1872, at New York City.

On November 9, 1866, he was created a Knight Templar in Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 23. He became Eminent Commander in 1869. In October of the same year he was elected Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Commandery of New York, and by regular annual promotions became Grand Commander in 1875.

At the Triennial Conclave of 1880 held in Chicago, he was elected Grand Generalissimo, and in 1883 Deputy Grand Master. By reason of the absence of the Grand Master, Sir R. E. Withers, in diplomatic service, he became acting Grand Master on January 1, 1885, and continued until the Triennial Conclave in St. Louis in 1886. At that Conclave he was elected Grand Master.

General Roome was a man of marked individuality. He was erect, stalwart and commanding, and readily impressed one as a leader among men. "Honesty, integrity and justice tempered with mercy," were the distinguishing traits of his character. As a friend he was generous and true, as a citizen he was patriotic and public spirited, and as a Christian he was reverent and sincere.

John Peter Shindel Gobin
Fifteenth Grand Master
1889-1892

Sir Knight Gobin was born in Sunbury, Pennsylvania on January 26, 1837. He was educated in the public schools, and learned the printer's trade. While still an apprentice he studied law and was admitted to the Bar of Northumberland County in 1859. He continued his practice until 1861.

He entered the United States Army in 1861 with the rank of Lieutenant in the 11th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. He subsequently recruited company C, 47th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, in which regiment he was rapidly promoted for conspicuous service and gallantry, and was brevetted Brigadier General on March 13, 1865.
Highlights

100% Life Sponsorship
Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Beaumanor Commandery No.
Decatur, IL

Mizpah Commandery No. 53
Oak Lawn, IL

Damascus Commandery No. 5
Keokuk, IA

Bethany Commandery No. 72
Ravenna, OH

Samuel S. Yoke Commandery No. 81
Stroudsburg, PA

Sir Knights Collect Cans for KTEF

Because of a few concerned Knights, the members of St. Elmo Commandery No. 42 in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, are all life sponsors of the Eye Foundation and the collection goes on. Pictured right top are Sir Knights Roger Pryor, James Cherry and Bill Cook. Taking the picture is Sir Knight William A. Howard, R.E.P.G.C. of Florida. This team of Sir Knights have over thirty businesses saving the aluminum cans for this great purpose. Many other Sir Knights of this Commandery are participating in this program That Others May See." Your Commandery could be doing the same thing, adding another million dollars a year for use by the Eye Foundation.

Brotherly Love in Connecticut

October 19, 1994, Archie Pickering, 61, of Maine, the driver of a lobster delivery truck, was injured when he was pinned in the cab of his vehicle in an accident that occurred on I-95. Mr. Pickering is a Mason as well as a lobsterman, and the Maine Grand Lodge put out a call for help.

Members of Acacia Lodge, based in Darien, Connecticut, arranged for local lodging for Mr. Pickering's family, providing transportation and offering friendship and advice to the injured lobsterman. The last was quite important, for doctors advised Mr. Pickering that his injured leg should be amputated. Acacia Lodge member Charles Windels, who lost one leg in World War II, spent hours with Mr. Pickering answering questions and offering moral support. Mr. Pickering underwent the amputation and has returned to his Maine home, but he still stays in touch with Mr. Windels.

For these efforts, Acacia Lodge No. 85 has been given a plaque by the Grand Master of Connecticut, Kenneth Hawkins. Ernest Orozco, Lodge Secretary, said the gesture came as a surprise: "The Masons
always help Brother Masons," he said. Cliff Cable, Master of the Lodge said, We are a quiet Fraternity. We don’t expect recognition for things we do."

George L Lyter, Jr., installed Supreme Tall Cedar in Baltimore, MD

At a midwinter conference held at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore, MD, on Saturday, January 22, 1994, George L. Lyter, Jr., was installed as Supreme Tall Cedar of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America.

Brother Lyter was raised a Master Mason in Union Lodge No. 324 in Mifflintown, PA in 1968. He joined the Tall Cedars and the Valley of Harrisburg Consistory that same year. He is currently a member of Adams Lodge No. 319 in New Bloomfield, PA. He served as Grand Tall Cedar of Juniata Forest No. 88, as well as a trustee for three years. He was one of the founding members of the Juniata Valley Clown Unit, and served as District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar of District No. 18 for the years 1985, ’86, and ’87. He was elected Supreme Director of Region No. 4 in 1988, serving three years.

The Tall Cedars of Lebanon is a Masonic Affiliated organization with over 28,000 members in 110 Chapters (called Forests) throughout the United States and Canada. Since 1951, the Tall Cedars have provided continuous financial support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association contributing over $7,000,000 to the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon, and have the distinction of being the first organization to provide financial support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Watertown Commandery No. 11, NY First Place Marching Unit in Parade

On the last Sunday of November, 1993, Watertown Commandery No. 11, Watertown, New York, won first place for marching units in the Watertown Christmas Parade. Pictured from left to right are Sir Knights: Burt Goodnough, Sr. Warden; Gene Ellis, Captain General; Tim Hartman, Jr. Warden; Weldon Carter, Generalissimo; and Dick Haller, Eminent Commander.

Under the leadership of Commander Dick Haller, Watertown Commandery has made a fine comeback from near oblivion. After two years of building, activity is high. Two dispensations for excursions into Ottawa and Kingston have been granted by R.E. Grand Commander Lawrence Polla. The latter renews a long-standing relationship between Watertown and Hugh de Payens No. 1. Christmas Observance was held in Kingston with sixteen Sir Knights and their ladies attending.
Recipients of the Grand Encampment Membership Jewel

82. Owen R. Henry, Cyrene Commandery No. 7, Cherry Hill, NJ. 2-1-94.
83. G. Bradley Bourland, Colorado Commandery No. 4, Austin, TX. 2-1-94.
84. John S. Kish, St. Johns Commandery No. 9, Carteret, NJ. 2-10-94.
85. R. D. Finley, Jr., Waco Commandery No. 10, Waco, TX. 2-10-94.
88. David J. Young, Atlantic Commandery No. 20, Ocean City, NJ. 2-28-94.
89. John W. Johnson, Gulfport Commandery No. 38, Gulfport, MS. 3-1-94.
90. Frank F. Draper, Jr., San Antonio Commandery No. 7, San Antonio, TX. 3-4-94

Collingwood Library And Museum

Located near Mt. Vernon, the estate of our first President and our honored Masonic Brother, George Washington, is the Collingwood Library and Museum on Americanism (CLMA). This historic property of nine acres was once part of the George Washington River Farm and now serves as the headquarters of the National Sojourners, as well as a library and museum. CLMA is a nonprofit organization, chartered in 1976, dedicated to American ideals and maintained "to foster appreciation of our American heritage by sharing the facility with all those persons who cherish the freedom of life, liberty and free expression."

The library has an impressive number of books for research with a wide spectrum of topics and titles. Complementing the library is a museum containing artifacts of historic significance, which have been donated to the museum by National Sojourners and others.

Many readers have collected such items throughout their careers and may be searching for a permanent repository for them. CLMA has expressed an interest in acquiring such artifacts to assist in developing suitable public displays and exhibits which are planned for the facility. If you have something you consider appropriate and are interested in donating it to CLMA, write the Curator, CLMA; 8301 East Boulevard Drive; Alexandria; VA 22308, or telephone (703) 765-1652 for further information.
Grand Master William H. Thornley, Jr.
Receives Pennsylvania Franklin Medal
From Grand Lodge Of Pennsylvania

On Wednesday, December 1, 1993, at the Quarterly Communication of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal was presented to our Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr.

Sir Knight Thornley has been a lifelong member of King Solomon's Lodge No. 346, located in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, in which he was Entered in April of 1946.

The Pennsylvania Franklin Medal was created in 1979 for the purpose of recognizing those who have distinguished themselves as Freemasons thereby reflecting credit upon the Craft. Sir Knight Thornley becomes the third recipient of the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal residing outside the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the other two being Stanley F. Maxwell and Francis G. Paul, both Past Sovereign Grand Commanders of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

The medal was presented by Brother Edward H. Fowler, Jr., then Right Worshipful Grand Master, who stated that it was his great privilege and pleasure to present this medal to a member of the jurisdiction who has brought so much credit to the Craft.

Grand Master Thornley Presents
the Knight Commander of the Temple
to Pennsylvania's Sir Knight Jackson

The Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr., while attending the Quarterly Communication of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, took the opportunity to present Sir Knight Thomas W. Jackson with the Knight Commander of the Temple Throat Medallion for outstanding contributions as a Freemason.

Sir Knight Jackson is beginning his fifteenth year as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and is a Past Commander of Continental Commandery No. 56 in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and a Past Division Commander of Division No. 16.

Shown at the Quarterly Communication of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania are (left to right): Sir Knight Thomas W. Jackson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and a Past Commander; Brother Edward H. Fowler, Jr., then Right Worshipful Grand Master of Pennsylvania; and Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr., Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.
World War I German Air Aces and Brother Bölcke
by Sir Knight William H. Johnston

The article in the November issue, "Sir Knight Eddie and the Red Baron - Part III" by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, was very interesting, and I appreciate reading material such as this. However, there are a few discrepancies under the picture on page 29, "German air aces in WWI."

Oswald Bölcke (Boelcke) (his name was misspelled Boelke) was a great pilot, but he only shot down forty aircraft, not forty-eight. It was he that is considered to be the architect of aerial combat tactics, not Max Immelmann, the "Eagle of Lille."

Ernst Edet should be Ernst Udet. With sixty-two victories in World War I, he was the highest-scoring German pilot to survive the conflict. After the war, he found international fame as a test, sports and aerobatics pilot. In 1935, he entered the new Luftwaffe and in June 1936, he became director of the Technical Department at the Air Ministry.

Ernst Udet met early opposition from Hermann Goring, Commander-in-Chief of the Luftwaffe, first in 1935 when Udet advocated the construction of a long-range bomber force with the capability to strike at long-range ground targets. Early in 1939 Ernst Udet was Director General of Equipment with the rank of General-leutnant and in 1940 he was promoted to Generaloberst. However, as indicated by several sources, his outspoken support for bombers and criticism of the High Command brought him into conflict with Goring. Reportedly, Ernst Udet, suffering from depression, shot and killed himself on November 17, 1941.

From his first conflict with Hermann Goring until his death in 1941, it is considered by many that his promotion to Director General of Equipment was in title only. It is clear that his brilliance as an engineer and pilot were completely ignored by the High Command with the urging of Goring.

Below is some background on the greatest pilot produced by Germany during World War I.

Oswald Bölcke

Oswald Bölcke was born near Halle an der Saale, May 19, 1891. In 1911, Oswald began military service with the Koblenzer Telegraphenbatallon Number 3. In 1914, he requested and received transfer to the newly formed Luftwaffe. In 1916, Hauptmann Bölcke was requested to prepare a set of fighting rules based upon his vast experience. These were to become known as the Dicta Bölcke" as the German pilots of World war I named them. They were so basically useful that the German pilots of World War II were issued a handbook containing the rules of Bölcke, whose basic tenets were:

1. Always try to secure an advantageous position before attacking. Climb before and during the approach in order to surprise the enemy from above, and dive on him swiftly from the rear when the moment to attack is at hand.
2. Try to place yourself between the sun and the enemy. This puts the glare of the sun in the enemy's eyes and makes it difficult for him to see you and impossible for him to shoot with any accuracy.
3. Do not fire the machine guns until the enemy is within range and you have him squarely within your sights.
4. Attack when the enemy least expects
it or when he is preoccupied with other duties such as observation, photography, or bombing.

5. Never turn your back and try to run away from an enemy fighter. If you are surprised by an attack on your tail, turn and face the enemy with your guns.

6. Keep your eye on the enemy and do not let him deceive you with tricks. If your opponent appears damaged, follow him down until he crashes to be sure he is not faking.

7. Foolish acts of bravery only bring death. The Jagdstaffeln must fight as a unit with close teamwork between all pilots. The signals of its leaders must be obeyed.

Not only was Oswald Bölcke an innovative fighter pilot who left a legacy for German fighter pilots, but he set an example for all to aspire to. Somehow during the period 1912 to 1914 he found the time to become a Master Mason in a Lodge in his home town of Halle an der Saale. He aspired to live by the teaching of Masonry throughout the remaining part of his life. Oswald Bölcke wore the "Forget-Me-Not" on his flight jacket and scarf for all to see. He never shot to kill the pilot, only to kill the machine. As evidence, he landed immediately after downing a British machine, his first concern being the welfare of the pilot and ensuring that he was afforded the respect and honor due an officer.

Oswald Bölcke was widely respected by British pilots, as well as by his own comrades. He downed his fortieth aircraft on October 27, 1916, and after noon on October 28, 1916, he collided with an aircraft flown by his friend Lieutenant Böhme. Bolcke's aircraft crashed behind lines; Lieutenant Böhme's aircraft was able to land safely.

The British sent a request to fly a salute to the fallen Oswald Bölcke, and in response the German Command issued the order no one would fire upon the British aircraft. This is probably the first time the missing formation was flown for a fallen airman. The British dropped wreaths of flowers at the funeral of the man some British called Brother Oswald Bölcke - the man who was respected by most of the others.

Sir Knight William H. Johnston is a member of Mississippi Commandery No. 1, Jackson, Mississippi, and resides at 13 Saint George Drive, Stafford, VA 22554-3620

Northwest Ohio York Rite Festival

The First and Sixth divisions of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, together with the other York Rite districts in northwest Ohio, are planning the Annual Northwest Ohio York Rite Festival to be held in Findlay, Ohio, on April 23, 1994. All of the degrees of the York Rite will be conferred on that date. The York Rite Class will honor Sir Knight L. Glenn Marshall (right), who served as Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masons of Ohio, 1960-1961. This festival has been held for the past three years in Findlay and has been successful in creating about forty York Rite Masons each year. Information about this festival is available by contacting any Commandery in the First and Sixth divisions of the Grand Commandery of Ohio.
Kit Carson:  
A Freemason with a Masonic Family 
by Sir Knight James A. Marples, 32°

The article on Brother Kit Carson in the January 1994 issue of the *Knight Templar* magazine was good, but as a relative of Kit Carson, I believe some significant facts should be added.

My great-grandmother, Clarissa Jane Williams Goodrich White, was a cousin to Kit Carson. Her family had lived in Tennessee, and later in Kentucky in a settlement that was not too far away from Carson's birthplace, and the family likewise migrated westward. Kit's father Lindsay with his wife Rebecca Robinson Carson settled in Howard County, Missouri. Kit Carson served in both the Mexican War and the U.S. Civil War.

Clarissa's brother, Abraham Williams, likewise served in the U.S. Civil War, afterward living at St. Joseph, Missouri—but went to live with his son, Walter C. Williams, in Chicago, where Abe” died on December 27, 1926, and is buried at Evergreen Cemetery, Evergreen Park, Illinois.

Significantly, Abe Williams’ great-grandson, Brother Walter C. Pence (my third cousin), belonged to Oak Forest Masonic Lodge No. 832, and having obtained the prerequisite degrees, he became a Noble in Medinah Shrine Temple in Chicago. Noble Walter Pence died of cancer in 1991. I never got to meet my third cousin, face-to-face, but I was able to speak to his daughter, JoAnn (Pence) Cole of Tinley Park, Illinois, just a few weeks ago on December 20, 1993.

In addition to Christopher 'Kit" Carson being a Master Mason, his brother Moses B. Carson was a devout Freemason who was a great inspiration to Kit all during his life. Moses B. Carson became a Mason in 1826 in Franklin Union Lodge No. 7. Twenty-eight years later, in 1854, Kit Carson became a Mason in Montezuma Lodge No. 109 at Santa Fe, New Mexico (under Charter from the Grand Lodge of Missouri). It should be noted that the first Lodges in Kansas were likewise chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

After my great-grandmother came west, she first married a gentleman named George Goodrich. Within a few short years, he died. Clarissa then married a fellow that was both a Big and Tall man, and a Freemason at that. He was Illustrious Brother George White, 33°. George White was a distinguished man who was well known in fraternal organizations, including the I.O.O.F. Odd Fellows Lodge, the Knights of Pythias, and in Masonic Lodges as well as other Masonic bodies throughout the nation. He was a personal friend of Sir Knight William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, 32°.

While it can be correctly stated that Kit Carson was an explorer, it is equally true that George White was a rover. Both labels are similar, yet Carson was a trailblazer and guide, while White later drifted along various previously established trails that often crisscrossed as he moved from place-to-place and circled back again.

My great-grandmother, Clarissa White, was like Kit Carson, small in physical stature, but had a mental stature that was great, and a religious stature that was strong. Those traits were common to that family.
Although none of my great-grandmother's children became Masons, her youngest son Ray White became a member of the I.O.O.F. Odd Fellows Lodge and her daughter (Ray's older sister) Dora White joined the Rebekah Lodge, the ladies branch of the I.O.O.F. Dora was my grandmother and she married John Marples, at Gretna, Kansas. Dora was a great supporter of all types of Masonic endeavors and activities, and

"As Masons, I ask you to follow the lead of my kinsman Kit Carson. He faced a prickly cactus or two along his path. Let us not be discouraged, but let us be mindful that we have good reason to be."

her two sons became Masons. Sir Knight John William "Bill" Marples became a member of Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 12 of Knights Templar Masonry in Wichita, Kansas. My father, Sir Knight Bill Marples, was involved in Masonry over a dozen years prior to Charles Marples' (his younger brother) joining the Fraternity. My uncle Charles was a member of Mt. Adams Masonic Lodge No. 227, Yakima, Washington, and Scottish Rite.

My grandmother was still alive when I joined DeMolay, all those years ago. Due to the Masonic Lodge being occupied, the DeMolay boys wanted to meet me (with their investigating committee), and they came to the home where my grandmother was living. I think the boys were more impressed by my grandmother than they were with me. She told the boys about her famous father who attained the 33°. Between that, and the homemade cookies she served them, it was obvious that their report on me was "favorable." I remember what she told them as they left that evening: "I'm glad that Jimmy-Willie is going to become a DeMolay...and later on, a Mason." It was my destiny to become a Mason at the earliest age possible, just as she predicted. My dad, my uncle, and I were all keenly interested in family history, so it was only natural that we were proud to be tied to Kit Carson by our blood ties and by our Masonic ties.

It should be noted that Kit was also known as Nestor of the Rocky Mountains. Nestor refers to the oldest and wisest of the Greek heroes of the Trojan War. This title truly befitted a man later to become brigadier general. Probably if Kit Carson were living today he would point to the unknown future for society and civilization and say: 'Brethren, as Masons, we must blaze that trail."

To the best of my knowledge, Brother Kit Carson was one of the earliest pioneers to actually facilitate "the American dream" while advocating peace and harmony amongst cultures. Kit himself married an Indian girl who died after giving birth to a daughter. Afterward, Kit married a Mexican lady and had three additional children. Near the end of his life, Kit Carson was an Indian agent and his tactfulness saved the lives of thousands of Indians, and thousands of Whites.

As Masons, I ask you to follow the lead of my kinsman, Kit Carson. He faced a prickly cactus or two along his path. Let us not be discouraged, but let us be mindful that we have good reason to be. Being aware of a problem is the best way to surmount the obstacle. Kit Carson had a purpose in life. ..And so do YOU. Let's forge ahead toward a greater frontier with a stable, cohesive society.

Sir Knight James A. Marples is a member of Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 12, Wichita, Kansas, and resides at 107 Brownie, Rose Hill, KS 67133-9705.
What are you going to do with me?" Money cried. "You cannot keep me idle forever." Thus a new format changed the fabric of the Knights Templar organization, transforming the complexion of this society forever.

The original nine, led by Hugo de Paynes in 1117, was a purely military organization, but also designed for charitable purposes: to help the sick and the poor, and the oppressed travelling on the path of the Crusades. The knights soon found themselves involved in fundraising activities, which led into incongruous enterprise banking.

Within a short space of time, more knights and noblemen joined the organization. This swelled the wealth of the society, and money - lying idle - found spokesmen in the Knights Templar. Money talked and speaking loudly, the knights soon found a place for it. At first, it was the small fry who formed the Temple clientele, but the large fry soon found its uses too. The hazards of travel were more meaningful to the man of means. It was inconvenient for him to carry large sums of money, and the bank note was then unknown.

The Knights Templar began by loaning money to pilgrims on the Crusades. The first trace of a Templar loan occurred in 1135, to a couple who turned over their property in Saragosa, all they possessed, which included their house, land and vineyards. This allowed the couple to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Sepulchre. The land and property were turned back to them when the debt was repaid. The knights realized the revenue off the property, which was used as collateral.

From this modest beginning, it was only a decade before a huge loan was made to Louis VII, for the second Crusade. At first the Templars employed their money in the immediate vicinity of the headquarters of the Templars. They also bought up small farms and estates in Palestine. Noblemen and knights, whose estates the Knights Templar bought up, joined them. Every investment seemed to be successful.

The Templars seemed to be everywhere, in France, England, Scotland, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungry and Flanders. Soon the knights were well known as financiers. The Templars guarded and transported money and valuables. Their vaults became secure, and were located on neutral grounds.

Monasteries had traditionally filled these roles of money lending and safe deposits. The Templars preempted this business, contributing to the development of credit practices. All the monies of the Holy Land were given to the Templars for keeping including the Papal Tythes.

The first international banking houses came from the merchant republics on the Italian Seaboard, as well as the Jewish communities of the Diaspora. The Lombards and the Jews played a prominent part in financing the first Crusade. Even the Roman Empire, with its far flung powers, dealt in bills and drafts with promissory notes used almost as currency.
Usury was anathematized, and so for Christians, the interest covering the loans was calculated before hand, and included in the amount borrowed. This was in spite of the Church’s prohibiting of usury, the order receiving disguised interest.

Jean de Joinville, the friend and biographer of Louis IX, relates that he deposited 400 denires in the Temple House at Acre. He wished to draw on his money, but was told that no such deposit could be traced and indeed "nobody had heard of him at all." He appealed to the Grand Master, without success, and sadly resigned himself to his loss. A few days later the Master came to him, laughing heartily, and said the money had been located. The Temple Commander to whom Joinville had entrusted it had been transferred to another preceptory. He alone had knowledge of the transaction, hence the regrettable mistake.

A mistake of this kind would not meet accord of a large company, but bookkeeping in the Middle Ages was a tenuous and confused business. Sometimes items belonging to a specific roll were missing or duplicated, while items of other categories made an incongruous appearance. Many transactions were concluded by an oath, and a handclasp only, as a matter of honor, or because they were too shaky to be set down on paper.

But the Templar interests extended beyond war, diplomacy, and political intrigue. They created and established the institution of modern banking. By lending vast sums to desperate monarchs they became the first bankers in Europe. They also became bankers for Muslim Potentates as well.

With their preceptories throughout Europe and the Muslim East they became the safe and efficient manner in which to transfer money. Deposits made in one city could be claimed and withdrawn by means of notes inscribed in intricate codes. The Templars became the primary money changers of the age, and the Paris preceptory became the center of European finance.

The Templars possessed their own seaports, shipyards and fleets. Temple ships were favorites of many pilgrims for the captains would not push them around in favor of wealthier passengers. Neither would pilgrims be ransomed at high seas, as happened frequently. The Templars traded with the Muslims but not in war materials, and only then when they were partners in a truce. Christian slaves were sold, but only to Christian masters.

The Templars also enjoyed a veritable monopoly on the best and most advanced technology of their age. They had the best which could be produced in armorers, leather-makers, stonemasons, military architects, and engineers. They also made large contributions for the development of surveying, mapmaking, road building, and navigation. They were the first to use the magnetic compass.

Principles of hygiene and cleanliness were understood by the order. As soldiers, their wounds and illnesses made them adept in the use of drugs. The order also maintained its own hospitals and its
own physicians and surgeons.

Henry III of England said "You Templars have so many liberties and charters that your enormous possessions make you rave with pride and haughtiness." This was a power that even the Papacy dared not explicitly claim - the power to make or dispose of monarchs.

While Templars were everywhere, there were three main nations involved; Spain, England, and France. The Spanish Templars were involved mostly in fighting with the Moors. For instance, El Cid captured Valencia in 1094, but eight years later, the nation was bath in Moorish hands.

In the main, help came from two sources, England and France. England supplied the money and France the manpower.

There were two main divisions, Eastern and Western Templars. The Eastern arm could not have existed without the West If the brethren in the Holy Land were the spearhead, the Western Templars were the shaft. Many of the brethren never left their homeland, but they were considered part of the success of the Crusades.

In each order, the granaries and armories were of utmost importance; the Templars found favor in gaining land, buildings, cities, members, and supporters. Yet, each Templar organization had its own distinctive features.

The Eastern Templars were the sunbelt of the frontlines, of Outremer, men who fought hand-in-hand with the Saracens, men who were more at home in the deserts than in the meadows.

The Western Templars were farmers and businessmen, not warriors. These Templars did not want the responsibility of ruling and maintaining such an area, and they knew how to bargain for what they wanted. As a result, renouncing their right to rule, they received six castles, a thousand shillings, a tenth of all revenues, and exemption from certain taxes, typical of all Western European Templars.

In England, crippling taxation was a result of feudal economy, and tolls were imposed on every conceivable thing. From the list of taxations, a few can be

"Henry III of England said, 'You Templars have so many liberties and charters that your enormous possessions make you rave with pride and haughtiness.' This was a power that even the Papacy dared not explicitly claim - the power to make or dispose of monarchs."

seen as "hidage and carouged, dangefeld and horngend," etc. Euphonious as this may be, every aspect of human life was touched, mostly on land, and in lieu of various services, such as bearing arms. Everything exported or sold was taxed.

England's greatest value to the Order of the Temple was as a source of revenue. English Templars contributed to the development of London as an international money market and to the development of the English economy overall. This resulted in revenues from huge tracts of land, castles, and hundreds of obviously lesser Templar sights. The reason for this can be said in one word - MONEY.

The power of the Temple can best be illustrated by showing the number of Templars in control in all England was one hundred and thirty-five, of which eleven were priests, and only six knights, the Templars being small in number.

Judges were Templars, which resulted in quickly and easily granting to the order any exemption from paying the usual taxes. They also had the right of assertes, that of converting forests to arable land, and they paid no amercements, the general or lesser taxes.
The Templars' banking activities were a large part of the functions of the Temple in London.

The Templar Church in London operated a system of national and international credit and finance. Kings, noblemen and merchants deposited gold, silver and jewels with the order for safe keeping. Loans were made and payments made to people overseas. Cash was not always involved, for a primitive form of cheques for credit were made dealing in transfers in the form of paper upon which the transaction was written. This indicated the place, date, name and signature as well as the destination and designated recipient.

Templars acted for the Royal Treasury, it being the storehouse for moneys and precious objects of the agency through which these moneys were stored and audited. They were kept in London on the king's behalf. The Templars also acted as envoys and ambassadors for the king.

While the order's activities covered all of Europe, the main point of interest was Paris. Inspired by its own accomplishments, the order in France grew increasingly wealthy and powerful, and the Temple organization grew increasingly arrogant, brutal and corrupt.

By 1306, Philip the Fair, King of France, was anxious to rid the territory of these Templars. They had become a military force, much stronger and better organized than any other body.

The Templars turned down Philip the Fair and kept him from joining them on the basis that it would only give the King of France more power, a greater scope of his authority. Besides, he owed the Templars money, and he was in need of finance, always.

The Knights Templar's allegiance to the Pope was only nominal, and Philip was jealous of their immense wealth and power. This gave Philip the excuse of heresy, and he played the game to the hilt.

Planning his moves carefully, he sought to rid himself of this pest. It took him eight years to achieve this goal, and his men carried out his plans suddenly, swiftly, efficiently and lethally. With the aid of Pope Clement V, he achieved his goal with the burning of Jacques de Molay and Geofre de Charney at the stake in March of 1314.

While the plans of Philip the Fair were carefully carried out, the immense wealth of the Templars eluded him. The fabulous and tremendous Treasury of the Templars was never found, and where it went no one ever knew.

Banking and credit practices of today, some believe, are a direct reflection of the financial activities of the Templars of the Crusade era. Checks were not used until the age of the printing press, but the general practices of the Templars helped form banking and credit as we know it today.

**Bibliography**


Williams, Jay and Freeman, Margaret B. *Knights of the Crusades*. New York City: Heritage Publishing Co.

Sir Knight W. Duane Kessler is a member of Reed Commandery No. 6, Dayton, Ohio, and resides at 4159 Williamson Drive, Dayton, OH 45416
A beautiful Knights Templar certificate is a great gift idea. 11x14, blue parchment, paper certificate with five colors. The gold arch-ways are embossed, and 80% of the letters are raised letter. There are six shadow figures. The cost of this lovely certificate is $8.00 each, including shipping and handling. Net proceeds will benefit the Eye Foundation. This is a limited edition of only 2,500 certificates. When ordering this certificate, please refer to its name, "What Is A Templar?"

Certificates will be mailed out twenty-one days after I receive the order. If ordered in amounts of ten certificates or more, I can provide a discount. Send orders to: Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18352. Please include check or money order and your telephone number with your order.

The library of the Grand Commandery of Indiana wishes to locate a copy of History of the Grand Encampment, K. T. of the U.S.A. by Francis J. Scully (1952) for donation or purchase as soon as possible. Robert E. Price, G.R.; P.O. Box 702, Connersville; IN 47331.

Temple Commandery No. 23, Grand Junction, CO, has thirty-eight long coats they would trade for used chapeaux or anything of value. The following are the sizes and numbers: 36-17, 38-10, 40-6, 42-4, 46-1. Write Temple Commandery No. 23, 2400 Consistory Cdf., Grand Junction, CO 81501.

Wanted: Uniform: A large Sir Knight from the upstate New York area is in need of a uniform; size 54L jacket, 44 pants. If anyone knows where I can purchase a uniform of this size, the information would be greatly appreciated. Paul Josephson, 20 Pecos Circle, W Henrietta, NY 14586-9705, (716) 334-7353.

For sale: Chapeau, size 7 1/2 with carrying case; belt and sword; coat, size 42; pants, size 36W. 30 long. All in excellent condition and will ship UPS. Robert R. Walls, (417) 524-7121.

For sale: 2 Knights Templar pendants; cross and crown on face and R.A.C. emblem on back. One is gold, the other gold filled: $175.00 for gold; $50.00 for gold filled; $200.00 for both. Re/pr G. Weal, 127 W Palmetto Avenue, Co Land, FL 32770.

Masonic related clipart is available for IBM and compatible computers and also Macintosh. These can be used in your newsletters and correspondence. Also available is Masonic Wallpaper for MS windows. Send long SASE for more Information and printed samples. J. Yates, P0. Box 3496, Wichita Falls, TX 76309. Percentage of proceeds guaranteed to directly benefit the KTEF.

For sale: uniform coats. New polyester/wool, summer weight; sizes 44 short, 44X long, and 46 short. $23.00 includes shipping and handling. 10% of all sales will be donated to KTEF. General Merchandise Company, 13690 Broadway Street, S. W., Pataskala, OH 43062; (614) 927-7073.

Let a real watchmaker take care of your clocks and watches. Graduate of German watch-making school with 35 years of experience. Repair and restorations. 10% discount to all Masonic Brethren and percentage of profits to be donated to the Eye Foundation. The Clockmaker 218 Sand Shore Road, Budd Lake, NJ 07828, (201) 691-8960.

In almost every battle of the revolutionary war one Mason or another exemplified the valor of the patriots. None, though, quite equaled the Battle of Yorktown where dozens of prominent Masons carried the day for the Continental Army: Lafayette, Anthony Wayne, George Washington, Von Steuben, Light Horse Harry Lee, Henry Knox, Benjamin Lincoln, Dr. Craik, and on the British side, Lord Cornwallis.

Nine First Day Covers recount this important day. 10% of proceeds will be donated to the KTEF. Send $21.00 for this unique set to Edsel Masonic Covers, P0. Box 36, Hazelwood MO 63042.

Wanted: Pipe organ from lodge building to be placed in historic lodge musuem. Will consider any type and will dismantle and move. Also wanted: old lodge furniture for museum. Jell W. Foster, P.O. Box 423, McPherson, KS 67460, (376) 241-1317.

Wanted: one milk white glass, canteen shaped globe, approx. 12" with or without Commandery emblem. Write giving details and price to Naperville Masonic Temple Association, 34 W. Jefferson Avenue, Naperville, IL 60540.

Giving away lodge furnishings: pillars, used, 8x4/square base of 2; require painting; handmade by a Brother of metal. Pay for shipping or pick up. These are excess due to lodge merger. Secretary Stu Venable; Pacific Rim Lodge No. 567, F & AM.; 5155 East Pacific Coast Hwy; Long Beach, CA 90804; (376) 241-7390 evenings.

Whither Lodge No. 323, F. & AM., of Whittier, California, is celebrating its 100th anniversary (1894-1994) with a beautiful coin, struck to commemorate the year. The coin is available in bronze for $6.00 or 1-oz. .999 fine silver for $15.00. Check or money order to Joseph H. Bullock, 16627 Peach Blossom Court, Whittier CA 90603.

Macalester Lodge No. 290, A.F. & AM., has struck a 75 year, antique bronze, 1 1/2" diameter coin. These coins are available for $50.00 each, postage prepaid. Send check payable to Macales ter Lodge No. 290; G. O. Norman, 3rd Secretary, 7630 Watson Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55116.

100th anniversary lapel pin inscribed "Pentaha 1994, November 22, 1893" (our charter date) with square, compass and G set in the middle. The pin is silver color and blue enamel. Send $5.00 and SASE to Charles Hahn, 20705 Scottsoby Drive, Germantown, MD 20876-4111.

April 1994
George Washington Lodge No. 585, located at Vicenza, Italy, is commemorating its 37th anniversary as the first military American Lodge in Italy. This commemorative event is being honored by a limited edition, fine porcelain plate, 10" diameter, with a Masonic painted decoration. Cost is $25.00 each. Including S & H. Send your order to Ole F. Olson, CUR 42718 Box 2494, APO AE 09630. Checks or money orders only.

For sale: American Union Chapter No. 1 celebrated their 200th anniversary in 1992. There are still a few 200th anniversary coins for sale at $6.00 each. Write Roy D. Mar98, Treasurer, P.O. Box 575; Marietta; OH 45750.

Indian Chapter No. 1, McAlester, Indian Territory papers are mailed to anyone interested for a fee of $5.00. They are really nice looking with an Indian bust and pipes on front and the date "1887." J. C. "John" Minor, 120 Mallard Noblow, Alton Cagle, Doyle Briscoe; Pt. No. 1, Box 33, Alhira, IL 61413.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 23 years, and still need many pieces. I am collecting all varieties. These one day will be up in a Masonic museum Why not find a home for your mask? 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 Sbrce*, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (602) 884-7585.

GEOLOGY: over 16,000 surnames. If you are a Mason, it at no charge. H. Harry Kazarian, 91 Beaufort Street, Providence, RI 02908.


For sale: 2 burial crypts, side-by-side, in Forest Lawn, Cypress, California, valued at $800.00 each. Best offer. Al Harbin, East 2600 Deer Road, Harrison. ID 85833-9802.

Must sell to settle estate: trailer in Adult Park, St. Petersburg, Florida, with 2 bedrooms. 1 1/2 baths, central air and heat, enclosed porch, extra shed. Furnished. Asking $8,500. Make offer. Call for details Robert Werner, day: (412) 281-6887, evening: (412) 367-3246.


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 Majurs, 1116 East Plate Drive, Palatine, IL 60067. (708) 358-7118.

I am trying to locate Mr. Jack Morgan, who lives in upper state New York. He in or was the head of the American Oil Institute. G. E. Webster, 4952 Bloomfield Road, Macon, GA 31206.

For sale: pocket watch, Illinois Bunn Special, 21 jewels, white-gold filled case, fine condition, $250.00. Warren Vantreex, 1230 Park Blvd., Rushville, IN 46173. (317) 932-2601.

Wanted to buy: Griswold, Erie, Erie Spider or Selden Griswold cookware or other marked pieces. what have you. Call collect Larry Crawford; (309) 334-2255; No. 4 Hickory Barrons; R.R. 1, Box 33, Alhira, IL 61413.

Wanted to buy: books written by Brother Henry Ford, and other books concerning Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company. Alan McFarlane, 1609 South 77th Street, Aberdeen, SD 57401.

For sale: 2 grave sites in Masonic section of Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia, Michigan, valued at $550 each. Contact: Larry Crawford, P.O. Box 33, A9ira, IL 61413.

Take to buy: Virginia Military Institute Franklin Mint, sterling silver plate-your asking price. Orlando 7 King, P.O. Box 23, Stecuben, ME 04880.

Wanted to buy: Williamsburg, Virginia brass works workbench. Terry Kelly, P.O. Box 3443, Scottsdale, AZ 85271.

Need replacement of a Virginia Military Institute Franklin Mint, sterling silver plate-your asking price. Orlando 7 King, P.O. Box 23, Stecuben, ME 04880.

I am a violinist, teacher and a collector or violins. I would like to buy violins, violas, cellos in any condition, and add to my collection. If a good student comes along, I let him or her use it at no charge. H. Harry Kazarian, 91 Beaufort Street, Providence, RI 02908.

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