



Knight Templar

VOLUME XXXX

DECEMBER 1994

NUMBER 12



A Merry Christmas and A Happy and Prosperous New Year

We, the officers of your Grand Encampment, extend to you and your loved ones our Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy and Joyous New Year."

As we get into the spirit of Christmas - shopping, addressing Christmas cards, wrapping gifts, decorating our homes, baking cookies and other goodies, and trimming the Christmas tree, which keep our ladies (especially mine) busy prior to the holiday season - there just does not seem to be time for anything else. Our families and homes, together with our religious activities and our great Fraternity, are the most important things that we all have in common.

Time has a way of taking care of itself. I have often heard people say, "Where did the last year go?" Just one year ago we began the 26th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights

Templar Eye Foundation. This campaign was the third campaign in succession to result in a million-dollar year. Sir Knights, let us all get behind this (the 27th Campaign) and make it four in a row.

When you receive this issue of the magazine and read this editorial, we will be in the 27th Annual Voluntary Campaign. Sir Knights, it is not necessary for us to tell you of our need for funds to continue our great philanthropy. Therefore, how about each of us giving ourselves a Christmas present?

If you already hold a Life Sponsorship in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, send your campaign chairman a check for \$30.00 for another certificate. If you are not a Life Sponsor in the Eye Foundation, become a member by sending your campaign chairman a check for \$30.00 today.

Remember: **It Is More Blessed To Give Than To Receive!**

27th National Voluntary Campaign Chairman

It is a pleasure for me to announce the reappointment of Sir Knight Donald Hinslea Smith, Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. and Past President of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, as Chairman of the 27th Annual Voluntary Campaign. Let us all get behind him and make this campaign the best ever.



Blair Christy Mayford
Grand Master



Knight Templar

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

DECEMBER: For this joyous season *Knight Templar* has been blessed with an abundance of Christmas messages, including the Grand Master's, page 2; the Grand Prelate's, page 11; Reverend Kerr's, page 13; and Past Grand Master Smith's, page 15. In addition, we include poetry and other items to celebrate this time of our Savior's birth. Past Grand Master Smith rings in the 27th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Eye Foundation on page 5, and our illustrious recipients of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor are listed on page 7. We wish you enjoyable reading and a happy and safe holiday season.

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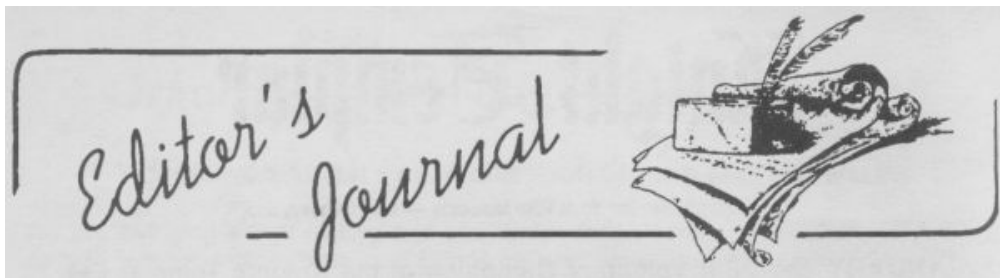
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Notice: The Grand Encampment has depleted the current supply of the 'Digest of Approved Decisions.' We are in the process of updating this digest and will reprint it when it is completed. Watch for the announcement in the *Knight Templar* when the new digest is available.

Announcement: The Grand Encampment continues 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 Grand Encampment continues a program to honor widows of Knights Templar. A Green pin is for widows of those below the rank of Commander, and a Red Templar Cross pin is for widows of Sir Knights who held office below the rank of Past Grand Commander (this includes Commanders, Past Commanders, and grand officers.) Honor your widows at regular or special programs of your Commandery. Order in lots of 10 at \$5.00 apiece, payable to the Grand Encampment, and send to the Grand Recorder; Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

Sir Knights, Attention!: An important and invaluable booklet entitled *The York Rite of Freemasonry - a History and Handbook*, is

available from the Grand Encampment. Authored by Sir Knight Frederick G. Speidel, KYGCH, 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, plus shipping and handling. Write your checks to and mail to the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

Complimentary for Widows: Widows of Knights Templar are eligible to continue receiving our magazine as long as they desire. To retain or reinstate the mailing, simply instruct your local Recorder or the Grand Encampment of your wishes.

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. • *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.

Out of Darkness



27th Annual Voluntary Campaign Knights Templar Eye Foundation

by Sir Knight Donald H. Smith
Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment
National Campaign Chairman, 27th Voluntary Campaign

This month brings us a variety of beginnings and a flood of memories. December brings us winter, Christmas, New Year's Eve and our Eye Foundation Voluntary Campaign. Each of these wonders is an important annual opening of a special period in our lives. Most of us can look back in our memories and find good times and sad times during this special period on the calendar.

Winter brings the cold and the snow, but it also brings memories of fireplaces and family gatherings.

Christmas is the great celebration of the arrival of our Savior and our Salvation. We also remember the gifts that we found under the tree as children so long ago.

New Year's Eve is an end and a beginning; it is what we make of it for ourselves and others. We, as Christian Knights, should begin our fund-raising effort at this time when the spirit of giving is strong: as a result, we further His work of Blessing the poor and the blind with His love.

The Babe in the Manger was a Gift to the world beyond all gifts that have ever been given. We, who are the recipients of that Miraculous Gift, must do all we can to bring His gifts to others.

Hearty congratulations go to all the Commanderies that have labored hard to make these campaigns a success. Your work has been a great stimulus in the care of the more than 51,000 needy persons that your Eye Foundation has served. I am sure that you have found your rewards.

But I must also call attention to the more than 250 Commanderies that did not participate in the 26th Annual Campaign. Your help was and is needed. Whatever the reasons that your Commandery stood back from our assault on darkness, I ask that you join the hundreds of Commanderies that gave from the heart. All of us need to give as we can to His work.

"Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you." (Matthew 7:7)

"Therefore said they unto him, 'How were thine eyes opened?' He answered and said, 'A man called Jesus made clay and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, "Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash"; and I went and washed, and I received sight.'" (John 9:10-11)

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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



Knights Templar License Plate



Wheeling Commandery No. 1, Wheeling, West Virginia, is selling Knights Templar license plates for a donation of \$7.00 each. These plates have a white background with black letters, gold crown, and red cross. The plate is pictured at right. Proceeds go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and the plate is mailed postpaid. Please make check out to: J. Nelson Deakin, Jr., and mail to 1276 National Road, Apt. 313, Wheeling, WV 26003

Our Cross of Honor

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America presents the 1994 recipients of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. These distinguished Sir Knights have demonstrated meritorious service and have been rewarded for it. The Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment state that the Knights Templar Cross of Honor "shall be awarded only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the order far beyond the call of duty and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member."

This year the Grand Commanderies have selected forty-nine Sir Knights to receive the coveted Cross of Honor.

Alabama

Billy Allen Clark, Etowah No. 15

Arizona

James Whitley Sebastian, Arizona No. 1

Arkansas

Elmer Lee Williams, Chandos No. 14

California

James Clayton Forristall,
Rosewood No. 21

Colorado

Verl Albanus Stuart, Mt. Sinai No. 7

Connecticut

Frank Warren McNally, Sr
St. John's No. 11

Delaware

Franklin Ray Townsend, St. John's No. 1

Florida

Edward E. Bush, Couer de Lion No. 1

Georgia

Aaron Wayne Norton, Philemon No. 33

Idaho

Henry S. Dahlquist, Gate City No. 4

Illinois

Joseph Willard Lucas, Mt. Pulaski No. 39

Indiana

Tom Calvin Baird, Jeffersonville No. 27

Iowa

James E. Smouse, St. Aldemar No. 30

Kansas

Carlton H. Gates, Newton No. 9

Kentucky

Raymond L. Fugate,
Conrad H. Cates No. 37

Louisiana

Walter Owen Steinwinder
Indivisible Friends No. 1

Maine

Arthur R. Edgecomb, Blanquefort No. 13

Maryland

Maxwell Valentine Frye, Jr.,
Chesapeake No. 10

Massachusetts/Rhode Island

John William Pinksten,
Coeur De Lion No. 34

Michigan

Willard George McPherson,
Genesee Valley No. 15

Minnesota

Kenneth Merrill Sulem,
Minneapolis Mounted No. 23

Mississippi

Thomas Cornelious Sharplin,
Hattiesburg No. 21

Missouri

William Edward Criss, Mary No. 19

Montana

George Washington Pamerter,
Black Eagle No. 8

Nebraska

J. Herb Price, Mt. Nebo No. 11

Nevada

Emile J. Lallement, Jr.,
DeWitt Clinton No. 1

New Hampshire

Earl Nathan Woodbury,
Mount Horeb No. 3

New Jersey

Robert Duffield Barber, Olivet No. 10

New Mexico

Richard William Amerman,
Shiprock No. 15

New York

Courtland M. Andrew,
St. Georges No. 37

North Carolina

William Howard Oakley, Ivanhoe No. 8

North Dakota

Adwolt Scott, Wi-Ha-Ha No. 4

Ohio

Roy Myron Bacon, DeMolay No. 9
Robert ft Neff, Columbus No. 69

Oklahoma

Donald Warren Rimmer, Norman No. 38

Oregon

Herbert Orvis Kimball, Pacific No. 10

Pennsylvania

Eugene Amos Sheasley,
Holyrood No. 100

South Carolina

James Gaston Dover, Aiken No. 14

South Dakota

Ivan Hilimer, Capital City No. 21

Tennessee

Nick Raul Ramos, Baldwin No. 7

Texas

Samuel Charles Lundy, Dallas No. 6
Leslie Lee Coone, Arlington No. 107

Utah

John J. Kaiser, El Monte No. 2

Vermont

Stuart E. Lee, Mt. Calvary No. 1

Virginia

Pete Thomas Johnson, Bayard No. 15

Washington

Joseph B. Daly, St. Helens No. 12

West Virginia

Frank Huff Keedy, Damascus No. 23

Wisconsin

Earl L. Brassington, Robert Macoy No. 3

Wyoming

David Charles Brant,
Hugh de Payen No. 7



Grand Master's Edicts, No. 1-3

Edict No. 1

WHEREAS: There have been conflicts in a given Department of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, where two Grand Commanderies have held Annual Conclaves at the same time, making it impossible for the Department Commander to attend both Conclaves. It is my Order that from this date forward, only one Annual Conclave of a Grand Commandery will be held at one time in a given Department.

Failing to comply with this Edict, the Grand Commandery guilty of infringing on the rights and dates of the other Grand Commandery will have its Conclave dates reset by the Grand Master.

WHEREAS: This same Edict will hold true in the case of any Department Conference of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, as there will be no two Department Conferences held on the same date.

In the case of Annual Conclaves of a Grand Commandery, the Department Commander assigned to each department is expected to attend each Grand Commandery Conclave in his assigned Department.

In the case of Department Conferences of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, the officers of the Grand Encampment are expected to attend all seven Department Conferences each year.

Edict No. 2

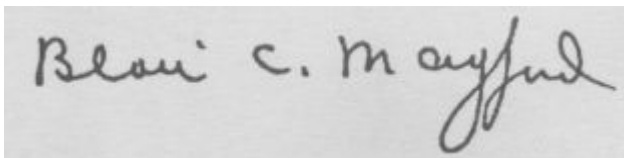
WHEREAS: It has been called to the attention of your Grand Master that some jurisdictions of the Grand Encampment are in violation of "Section No. 257" of the *Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America* and "Decision No. 386" in regard to sequence in which jewels may be worn in *Digest of Approved Decisions of the Grand Masters* by Sir Knight Paul Miller Moore, Grand Master, 1961-64; and Sir Knight Ned E. Dull, Grand Master 1982-85; and an interpolation of the Order of Precedent made by Sir Knight William Henry Thornley, Jr., Grand Master, 1991-94.

WHEREAS: The only Badge of Identification that is permitted to be worn on the wearer's right breast of the Templar uniform is the Committeeman Badge of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

Edict No. 3

WHEREAS: Membership in the Grand Encampment has been steadily declining and as a means of instituting a way to deter this continued loss the following is adopted.

WHEREAS: For the 60th Triennium of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, York Rite Festivals, Scottish Rite Reunions and Shrine Ceremonials will be held jointly across the territorial limits of the United States of America. Full cooperation is expected throughout the jurisdiction of the seven Departments of the Grand Encampment.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Blair C. Mayford" in a cursive script.

Blair Christy Mayford, Grand Master
August 17, 1994

Make The Commitment

It has been said that one of our problems is to get more men into Masonry to have better attendance, but the real problem is to get more Masonry into our members. This is a problem facing most Lodges and concordant bodies. Often we have the membership but not the attendance. If we are to improve attendance and thus increase interest and draw new members, we must, in some way, open up the minds and hearts of all our members to a better understanding of the three principle tenets of Masonry: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

In order to accomplish this we must first reaffirm our own commitments to Masonry. We must take an honest and close look at our own feelings. What are our personal feelings toward this organization? We must also reaffirm our desire to be a part of this great Fraternity. We must show our support by attending meetings and making a commitment to assist in developing some type of membership retention program. We must also make a commitment to assist in the development of programs that will attract new members. If we, as Masons, are to be a part of the future, we must all make these commitments to do our share. We must accept the challenge and dare to make the changes that are necessary for this Fraternity to survive in today's world.

It is known that we first form habits; then habits form us. If this is true, let us form the habit of attending meetings and taking part in the various Masonic activities in our community. It is just as easy to form the habit of attending meetings as it is to form the habit of finding something else to do. We must all make these commitments if Masonry is to be a part of the future.

Sir Knight Herbert L. Wentworth, P.C.
Ukiah Commandery No. 33
Ukiah, CA
1039 Despina Drive
Ukiah, CA 95482

Angels We Have Heard On High

by The Reverend and Sir Knight Thomas E. Weir, Ph.D., KCT
Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



It was just an ordinary day on a hillside near Bethlehem. Shepherds went about their routine duties and exchanged the usual greetings. They were unprepared for what happened next: "An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified." (Luke 2:9 - KJV) There was more to come: "Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'" (Luke 2:13 - KJV)

A hymn writer, with that flair for words that separates the sensitive spirit from the mundane, put it this way: "Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains.....Another said it perhaps more profoundly: "It came upon the midnight

clear, That glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold." What visions these words bring; what memories they stir!

Memories are precious to us all. At my age, two things are especially important: memory, and I have forgotten what the other one is. Whatever our age, memories are important: memories of events, memories of people. With joy overflowing their hearts, Matthew and Luke set down what the early Church remembered about Christmas, and we remember with them.

When Becky and I went to the Holy Land in 1969, our experience was influenced by the wartime experience of George Hogg, a Scottish friend.

He was stationed in what was then the British Protectorate of Palestine and was able to visit those precious places where our religion unfolded. To be truthful, he was disappointed with his visits to Bethlehem. Centuries of devotion, with the best intentions, had changed a simple barn, where cattle and a baby were sheltered against the winter wind, and a manger, from which the cattle fed and in which a baby made his first tentative efforts to take hold of life, into a shrine of gold, silver and gems. The feeding trough, the barn, the inn, and everything commonplace had been swept away, and a massive, ornate church had been erected to commemorate the very down-to-earth experience of being born, of having a baby - an event, in itself, far from unusual.

The story is told about a rich and pampered woman, who went to the hospital to have her first baby. She did not go alone. She took an entourage that included her gynecologist and family doctor. Every time she had a pain, she screamed at the top of her lungs. The whole hospital was getting upset. Finally, the hospital medical director strode in and put his foot down: "Mrs. Manley, there is no need to be hysterical." "Well, if you were having a baby, you would be hysterical, too." "Madam, if I were having a baby, everybody would be hysterical."

George and other visitors to the Holy Land had to fight back through ages of affection and affectation to get to the heart of what the Bible remembered: a baby born in a barn and placed in a manger because there was no room at the inn. In the simplest of settings and in the simplest and most profound way, God entered our lives as Jesus Christ.

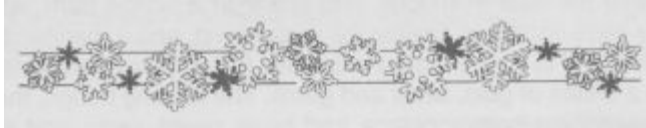
The spirit of Christmas did not come to the palaces of kings or the storehouses of wealth. It did not favor the arenas of power or the mansions of the rich. Instead it came to ordinary people in the midst of doing what they ordinarily did: "And there were shepherds living Out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shown around them, and they were terrified."

I should imagine so! If a host of angels appeared to us in a blinding light, they would certainly get our attention!

Yet are we not surrounded by angels at this moment? Even Scrooge, who had forgotten everything decent in his pathetic pursuit of money, suddenly became aware that he could not escape the spirit of Christmas Past. Scrooge found all the memories of wonderful people whose love he had shared laid out like presents round a tree.

Perhaps we should, therefore, look for the spirit of Christmas in the hearts and faces of family, friends and strangers. As we welcome this Christmas, perhaps we should first give thanks for the memories we have of departed family members and friends: "...Angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold."

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



The Blessings of Christmas

by the Reverend and Sir Knight
Donald Craig Kerr, 32°



Christmas is one of the easiest holiday ceremonies to celebrate. Everyone understands it, and most everyone expects something from it. The late Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a Roman Catholic priest and scientific scholar, would say, "The function and distinctive characteristic of Christianity would be expectation." It certainly is true that among the blessings of this season is the feeling of surprise.

When I think back to some of those earlier Christmases that I remember as a boy, surprise was very important. Where this idea originated I do not know, but there was always something magic at this time, which made things unknown and invisible appear out of the darkness in brightly-colored packages.

Sometime and somehow in the dark of night, when all were asleep, the tree was brought in and decorated and set aglow with lights, though not until Christmas morning was the tree to be seen. I have no idea how "Santa" accomplished this miraculous feat, but it was our firm belief that he was the one who did it - much to our surprise! It was important that things be hidden and presents kept out of sight, until the mystery could be unveiled on Christmas Day.

When reading the story in the Gospels, you catch the feeling that no one was ready for what was to happen. The shepherds were in the field and had to be awakened. The innkeeper was unprepared for Joseph's surprise knock at the door. Herod, the king, was anxiously

waiting for the Wise Men to tell him what was happening. There was no advance warning. It was not known what God was planning, until the miracle of surprise came and Jesus the Christ was born.

Expectation is the dominate note of the Christian religion, and it is evident in much of the Masonic ritual that we know. Never should we lose that childlike wonder of waiting for something to happen.

Another significant characteristic of the Christmas pageant is its serenity. It might seem a little contradictory to mention serenity, considering the feverish activity, the excitement, and all the plans that have to be put in place. In spite of all the commotion, however, there comes a time when a kind of quiet calm and gentle stillness settles over us.

A few years ago, when returning home from being away for five weeks in India and after fifteen or sixteen hours of flying, my first impression upon arriving in New York was so heart-warming that I wanted to stand still and just look and listen. To hear the bells and carols of Christmas, to see the lights of the trees and feel the sense of friendship among total strangers brought Christmas very close. Having wandered through hundreds of Hindu temples and Buddhist shrines and walked within the culture of a non-Christian land, for me what we at home take for granted became very personal. There was a peace within that was very real and true.

Christmas brings the example of Christ. That is what is most important. Christ is born, and from that divine event we learn

that God is close at hand. With His birth we feel a sense of that miraculous power which can hold us, love us, and guide us. To all who have felt the pain of life, that is a blessing of strength. It is what inspires in the Masonic heart the zeal for compassion and the reason for charity.

Another blessing that is important to Christmas is its solemnity. There is a special grandeur about the day. Something extraordinary and glorious, something perfect and pure has taken place, and we are caught up in that Holy Presence and made to feel we belong to His Kingdom.

The story, as we read it, is a strange paradox. A child is born, the heavens are filled with brilliant light, angels sing, and the only ones who see or know anything about it all are shepherds, who hastily run over rocky terrain to see the baby. Meanwhile, Wise Men are on the way. They offer expensive gifts and bow before the child and worship him as a king. Later on, Herod, King of Israel, becomes worried and wonders if the newborn baby will one day usurp his power and influence. It is a strange medley of scenes. What do they tell us?

They tell us that there is no barrier of separation between this world and God's world. We live and abide in a unity of life. In the form of Christ it is as though God has opened the heavens and surrounded the whole world with a cosmic array of bewildering glory. Such is the solemnity of Christmas. It is a time to hope and feel comforted, to pray and to sing and to see the magnificence of God.

Anyone who knows what Masons are and what they do understands the solemn oath by which all the strands of Masonic loyalty are bound together under one Sovereign power.

Along the coast of Nova Scotia at the quaint and scenic and sometimes stormy inlet of Peggy's Cove, one will find a chapel built upon the barren rocks over which the brutal slashing of the wind and wave crashes with resounding fury. In the chancel of that small frame church an artist has painted a mural, showing Jesus walking on the water, defying all the tempest and anger of nature's wrath. The arm of Jesus is outstretched in a gesture of rescue and salvation. His face is poised towards the battering seas. Tossed by the waves and confused by the mists of the sea, the sailors are seen in a boat with one man in the prow, pointing to the light of hope which casts a shadow on the horizon. It is a picture of solemnity and serenity and surprise, bringing peace out of restlessness. Fear and strain are being cuddled in the strong arms of God's loving care.

Jesus is born and his name is "Emmanuel," which is to say, "God is with us." No more must God remain beyond the outer limits, invisible. God is wherever we are. That is the glorious message of Christmas: Unto us is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." That is our reason for hope and joy and gladness!

Sir Knight Donald Craig Kerr, Th.D. 32°, is a member of Beauseant Commandery No. 8, Baltimore, Maryland, and resides at 755 S. Palm Avenue, No. 305, Sarasota, FL 34236-7750

59th Triennial Conclave Memorabilia

There are still available some badges and ladies' charms as follows: ladies' Triennial charms, \$6.00 each; gold and silver badges, \$15.00 each; and 59th Triennial Committee badges, \$15.00 each. Add \$1.50 handling and shipping, per order. Contact: James A. Henley, 9480 Garrison Court, Westminster, CO 80021.

Christmas Prayers

on the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge

by Donald H. Smith, Past Grand Master

The following article ran in the 1984 Knight Templar Christmas folder. Because it is appropriate for the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, Knight Templar takes great pleasure in running it again in our 1994 Christmas issue.

As I stepped from my warm Kentucky home into a brisk arctic-like wind last Christmas Day, I was suddenly reminded of a Christmas season more than two generations ago when there was no warm home. Our habitats were like those of the animals - holes in the ground in a dense snow-covered forest. There was no warmth except for the heavy clothing we wore day and night. In that small corner of Belgium on the German border, there was no gathering to celebrate our Savior's birth on that day.

The largest and most costly battle in the history of American arms began in the coldest December northern Europe had experienced in the century. It has been reported that daytime temperatures averaged 150 and that the nighttime average was 00 during that period. There were about 106,000 casualties in the battle; more than the total number in the four years of the Pacific Campaign. Americans call that wintry terror in the Forest of Ardennes, the Battle of the Bulge.

After fifty years it is difficult to describe the emotions I felt as a twenty-one-year-old leader, who watched the Tiger Royal tanks of the Sixth Panzer Army track noisily out of the deep forest fog banks, who heard the terrorizing shriek of the 88 millimeter tank shells being fired point blank, who saw the battalions of white-clad enemy soldiers advancing through the straight rows of evergreen trees in that state forest, and who with his men held his ground at great cost. Those memories have begun to dim, but those feelings recur when I walk in deep snow, when my feet begin to get cold, and when the fog settles on the roads and hollows of home.

It was during that late December winter war that hundreds of young men - American, Canadian, English, and German - discovered how to pray. Those of us who are here to recall that season thank God for His gift and pray that we have done what He spared us to do when He answered our prayers that Christmas 1944.

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. He resides at 1041 Idyiwild Drive, Richmond, KY 40475

From Dr. Francis J. Scully's...

History of the Grand Encampment

Chapter XXIII - Biographies Of The Grand Masters

(continued)

Lee Stewart Smith

Twenty-fourth Grand Master

1916-1919

(continued)

During the Civil War he enlisted in the First Battalion of Pennsylvania Artillery and later in the 101st Volunteer Infantry. He was discharged from service in 1865 with the rank of sergeant. Upon the reorganization of the Pennsylvania National Guard after the war, he was appointed Assistant Adjutant General of the Second Brigade with the rank of major. He became a charter member and later Commander of Post 3 of the Grand Army of the Republic.

For two terms he was president of the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh and later served on the board of directors.

Sir Knight Smith was a great traveler and visited practically all the European countries as well as Egypt, Syria, Palestine, the West Indies, and parts of South America. He toured Mexico in 1901 and in 1903 and 1904 made a trip around the world. He was the author of "Through Egypt to Palestine" and "Round the World Toward the Westering Sun," which received favorable notice from book reviewers. He was well known as a public lecturer, and gave many talks for the benefit of the Masonic fraternity, church, and charitable organizations. His deeds of kindness, courtesy and benevolence endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

On October 15, 1868, he married Miss Agnes Savilla Wolf of Pittsburgh, who

died in 1905. They had one son who was associated with his father in the dental supply business. In 1913 he married Mrs. Mary C. Applegate of Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

Sir Knight Smith was made a Mason in Franklin Lodge No. 221 at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. After moving to Bellevue, a suburb of Pittsburgh, he became charter member and the first Master of Bellevue Lodge No. 530. Later he affiliated with Franklin Lodge No. 221.

He was exalted in Duquesne Chapter No. 193 in Pittsburgh in 1867, and was greeted in Allegheny Council No. 38 of Pittsburgh in 1873.

In the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite he received the 32^o degree in



Pennsylvania Consistory at Pittsburgh in 1875 and the 33^o in 1890.

He was knighted in Allegheny Commandery No. 35 of Pittsburgh on August 29, 1871. He was Eminent Commander in 1877-78, and was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania in 1888.

He was appointed Grand Standard Bearer at the Conclave of the Grand Encampment in 1898, and in 1913 he was elected Deputy Grand Master. Due to the death of Grand Master MacArthur on December 27, 1914, he became Acting Grand Master. At the Thirty-third Conclave of the Grand Encampment in Los Angeles in 1916 he was elected Grand Master.

Joseph Kyle Orr
Twenty-fifth Grand Master
1919-1922

Joseph K. Orr was born in New York City on February 21, 1857. After completing the public schools he entered the College of the City of New York in 1870. In 1873 he moved to Columbus, Georgia, and in 1884 organized the J. K. Orr Shoe Company. In 1897 the firm was removed to Atlanta, where it developed into one of the largest manufacturing plants in the South.

Sir Knight Orr never held any political office, but kept up an active interest in civic and educational work. He was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, and a member of the Board of Georgia Peabody College for Teachers at Nashville, Tennessee. He served as President of the Chamber of Commerce in Atlanta. In October 1883, he married Miss Frances Bradley of Oswick, Alabama, and two children were born to them.

He died on September 18, 1938. On that Sunday he had attended church services as was his custom. Later he attended a meeting to arrange for the

purchase of a site for a Negro Boy Scout Camp. Soon after leaving there, he passed away suddenly. The funeral was held on September 20 at North Avenue Presbyterian Church, with Dr. Richard O. Flinn officiating. Orr had been an Elder in this church for many years. The funeral was attended by many prominent Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Georgia. Interment was in West View Cemetery.

Sir Knight Orr became a Master Mason in Mount Hermon Lodge No. 304 at Columbus, Georgia, in May 1878. A few years later he served as Worshipful Master.

He was exalted in Darby Chapter No. 7 at Columbus, Georgia, in 1882. He was greeted in Jason Burr Council in Atlanta in 1905. He received the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in Atlanta Consistory in November 1910. He was a member of Yaarab Temple of the Mystic Shrine.



In Memoriam



Russell W. Houston
Florida

Grand Commander-1949
Born November 28, 1901
Died May 25, 1994

Hilton Harvey Usher
Tennessee

Grand Commander-1969
Born September 9, 1906
Died August 24, 1994

Carl Ray Scarborough
Delaware

Grand Commander-1992
Born September 22, 1921
Died October 6, 1994

Homer Carmi Price
Tennessee

Grand Commander-1989
Born February 6, 1914
Died November 4, 1994

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
New Club Memberships

Grand Commander's Club

No. 100,197-Randall I. Shadd (NM)
No. 100,198-Harold R. Markle (WV)
No. 100,199-in honor of Thomas E. Hager (TN)
by J. Kenneth Blair

Grand Master's Club

No. 2,284-in honor of Harold C. Jamison (PA) by
Mary Commandery No. 36
No. 2285-Alfred S. Massam, M.D. (FL)
No. 2,286-James Franklin Scalf III (TN)

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 of \$100 or more 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 Commander's Club Pins

Grand Master Mayford 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.

Life Sponsorship Pins Available

This very attractive pin in the shape of a shield is available for a donation of \$7.00 each or \$5.00 each in lots of twenty. Show your Commandery members that you are a Life Sponsor of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation by ordering yours today. Pins are available to any Knight Templar who already has purchased a Life Sponsorship or who intends to do so. Contact: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, IL 62705, (217) 523-3838.

Sir Knight Floyd A. Cailloux, Texas Receives Golden Chalice Award



Sir Knight Floyd A. Cailloux (middle), a member of Ruthven Commandery No. 2 of Houston, Texas, was presented the Golden Chalice award for contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., by Sir Knight Reese L. Harrison, Jr. (left), a Knight Commander of the Temple and a Past Commander of San Antonio Commandery No. 7 of San Antonio, Texas.



Illinois' Sir Knight Greenberg Receives Prestigious Award

On October 7, 1994, the Illinois Lodge of Research presented its prestigious Alphonse Cerza Medal to Dr. Stephen R. Greenberg, KYCH, 33¹. This recognition is awarded for high achievement in Masonic writing. It has been given on only five previous occasions. Sir Knight Greenberg has been active in Masonic publications for many years and has been a frequent contributor to Knight Templar magazine. He is a Past Commander of Mizpah Commandery No. 53 in Oak Lawn, Illinois, and an affiliate Past Commander of St. Bernard Commandery No. 35 in Chicago. He is a resident of Park Forest, Illinois.

Recipients of the Grand Encampment Membership Jewel

110. Homer E. Sullivan, Jr., Hattiesburg
Commandery No. 21, Hattiesburg, MS.
8-4-94.
111. W. A. Green, Jr., Laurel Commandery
No. 33, Laurel, MS. 8-23-94.
112. Virgil V. Teague, Ivanhoe
Commandery No. 2, Rawlins, WY. 8-
24-94. One bronze cluster, 10-11-94.
113. Donald E. Robinson, New Haven
Commandery No. 2, New Haven, CT.
8-24-94.
114. Paul A. Gilmore, Arlington
Commandery No. 29, Arlington, VA. 9-
13-94.
115. Alan W. Kaufman, St. John Commandery No. 24, Logansport, IN. 9-14-94.
116. Henry D. Adair, Melrose Commandery No. 109, Houston, TX. 9-29-94.
117. Jack T. Dossett, Durham Commandery No. 3, Durham, NC. 9-29-94.
118. Billy Frank Smith, Mississippi Commandery No. 1, Jackson, MS. 9-30-94.
119. George Collins Brock, Mississippi Commandery No. 1, Jackson, MS. 10-4-94.



Christmas

Jesus Christ the Son of God was
born on Christmas Day
No silks or satins or grandeur
things for this child to display
His shelter was a stable a
manger was his cradle

God in his infinite wisdom sent his Son to
earth The flesh and precious blood of Jesus
Christ Saved the world from sin and death
uniting heaven and earth

Three wise men came to
Bethlehem to find the newborn
King
Gold myrrh and frankincense these
gifts the wise men bring

A star shone brightly in the east to guide
them on their way
They followed it to the stable in
Bethlehem where the Christ child lay

How easy for the Saviour to cast
earthly things aside
He was born in Gods own image so he did
not try

Jesus lived and died accordingly as
the scriptures had foretold
The Lamb of God was
sacrificed
to save us for his own

Angels sing their praise on high
alleluias fill the sky
Christians all rejoice and sing heaven and
earth proclaim his name
Jesus Christ the Prince of Peace their King

Church bells ringing choirs singing
"Peace on earth good will to Men"
Holly mistletoe and poinsettias
candles
glow in silent reverence
Christmas carols fill the air
have a blessed Merry Christmas Day.

Susanna Burton Goehler
Timberlane Estates
2160W. Beaumont Lane
Lecanto, FL 34461

Grand Lodge Library and Museum Named in Honor of Allen Earl Roberts

by Brother Donald M. Robey, P.G.M.

On Saturday, July 9, 1994, the Grand Lodge of Virginia named its library and museum in honor of Right Worshipful Allen Earl Roberts, a noted Masonic historian and author, who is a Virginia Mason.

The ceremony was held as a part of many different activities, which were included in a Masonic Family Day held on the grounds of the Grand Lodge of Virginia's home and office building.

Most Worshipful Thomas F. May, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, began the dedication ceremony at 10:00 A.M. as the first activity of the day. Following a very meaningful prayer by R.W. Albert Earl Richardson, Most Worshipful Donald M. Robey, P.G.M. of Virginia, gave a brief account of the life and Masonic activities of Right Worshipful Allen Earl Roberts. He said that Roberts' activities in fraternal circles have spanned more than forty years. He is noted for his writing in the field of Freemasonry, having written over twenty-eight books on Freemasonry, an untold number of articles, and regular columns for the Philalethes Society and numerous Short Talk bulletins for the Masonic Service Association.

Robey spoke about Roberts' work as the owner of a film production company, Anchor Communications, which specializes in audio/visual aids for business and fraternal organizations. He listed a series of leadership training films Roberts has produced which include *The Pilot*, *Growing the Leader*, *Breaking the Barriers to Communication*, *Planning Unlocks the Door*, and *People Make the Difference*.

These films have been used for many years by various Grand Lodges to develop leadership training for Lodge officers.

Grand Master May said that Roberts was Raised a Master Mason in Babcock Lodge No. 322 in Highland Springs, Virginia, on April 1, 1948; served as Worshipful Master of Babcock Lodge in 1959; served Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777 as Worshipful Master in 1966; and has been Secretary of that Lodge since 1973. Most Worshipful Stewart W. Miner appointed Roberts as District Deputy Grand Master for District No. 15-B in Virginia in 1974. Roberts served as Deputy Grand Secretary under Most Worshipful Archer B. Gay. He served as a member of the Committee on Masonic Education in Virginia for fourteen years. He is a Past High Priest and Past District Deputy Grand High Priest in the Royal Arch Chapter in Virginia, and is a Past President of the Philalethes Society, is now its Executive Secretary, and writes a regular column "Through Masonic Windows" for their monthly publication.

The Grand Master listed the Masonic medals awarded to Roberts, which include the Josiah H. Drummond Medal from the Grand Lodge of Maine; Silver Medal of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International; John Dove Distinguished Service Medal of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Virginia; the Virginia Craftsmen Distinguished Service Medal; Gold Medal of the Glasgow, Scotland, Compass Association; the James Case Medal of Excellence of the Masonic Lodge of

Research in Connecticut; and the George Washington Distinguished Service Medal by the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

Following the many accolades heaped upon Right Worshipful Brother Roberts for his many accomplishments for the Grand Lodge of Virginia and Freemasonry in general, the Grand Master had Brother Roberts and his wife Dottie cut a ribbon which unveiled a bronze plaque affixed to

When I reached Ralph, he said: Brother Roberts, that was the best speech I've ever heard!' - I had been knighted!! From that moment I knew I was going to spend my life working for Freemasonry!"

the door of the Grand Lodge library proclaiming it officially as the Allen E. Roberts Masonic Library.

Following the unveiling, Roberts responded in his usual manner by speaking off the cuff" about why he had done some of the things he had done in Freemasonry. A copy of his remarks are attached to this article. All in attendance gave Brother Roberts a well deserved round of applause and spent over an hour with him touring the library facilities and museum at the Grand Lodge office building.

In the photo (left to right) are Grand Master Thomas F. May, Allen Earl Roberts, and Mrs. Dottie Roberts as Brother May unveiled the plaque on the door to the library.



As a token of appreciation and for future Masonic researchers, Robert has donated to the library and museum many items of Masonic significance, which he has collected over the years. He has also donated the original manuscripts of his writings to the library. The library has been set up as a registered non-profit corporation to encourage tax-deductible donations for future acquisitions for the library.

Brother Roberts' Remarks

In 1961, shortly after my first major book, *House Undivided*, was released, Raymond Rideout, Grand Master of Masons in Maine, asked me to speak at the Northeast Conference on Masonic Education and Libraries in Portland in 1962. He wanted me to talk about the place in Freemasonry of the writer of history. I accepted.

Within that talk I said that Freemasonry has many of the best writers around, but they wouldn't be writing for the Craft. It would take them as long to research an article or historical book for Freemasonry as it would for well-paying magazine and book publishers. The Masonic writer would receive little, or nothing, in coin of the realm from Masonry. Our then Masonic editors received nothing, or at the best a pittance. I didn't ask in what camp that left me!

I was the last speaker at the 1962 Conference. When I sat down, a fellow came over and said: Most Worshipful Brother Pollard wants to see you." I went over to the hospital cot on which Ralph Pollard was lying. For those who don't know about Ralph, he was paralyzed from his neck down. The army had treated him for arthritis by immobilizing him. This turned into a permanent condition. His wife, Miss Millwee, did all of his writing in long-hand. But his brain and voice made up for his condition. Ralph and Millwee were perhaps the best loved couple in Maine Freemasonry. His Grand

Lodge recognized his work for the Craft by making him an Honorary Past Grand Master - the only one ever in Maine.

When I reached Ralph, he said: Brother Roberts, that was the best speech I've ever heard!" - I had been knighted!! From that moment I knew I was going to spend my life working for Freemasonry'

Let me hasten to thank my good wife, Dottie. Without her continuing help and encouragement, I would have accomplished nothing.

I must also thank many others for their support over the years, but especially two men who defied all logic. One of them, Most Worshipful Donald M. Robey, awarded me Virginia Masonry's highest honor, the George Washington Distinguished Service

Medal, and there is this exceptional act today by Most Worshipful Thomas F. May. How does one thank them for their laurels?

Today is one I've looked forward to with decidedly mixed emotions. There are those who have gone before me far more worthy of this honor than am I. For them—let me accept this as a culmination of those who worked for Master's wages. Thank you again, Most Worshipful Brother Tom May and the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

I hope this will be the beginning for the Masonic leadership everywhere to recognize the worth of those who work behind the scenes to make this Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God a viable force for the benefit of all mankind.

Brother Donald M. Robey, P.G.M. (Virginia), is the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA 22301

Supreme Worthy President, S.O.O.B.-1994-1995

At Supreme Assembly held in Springfield, Missouri, (Mrs. Roland J.) Phyllis Maddox was installed Supreme Worthy President of Supreme Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant.

Phyllis Mostert Maddox became associated with Masonry through her mother and father, Emily and Nick Mostert and began her work and learning experience in the Order of Rainbow for Girls at thirteen. During that time, she presided as Worthy Advisor of Magnolia Assembly No. 105, and through the years, she rapidly advanced to Grand Choir Director and Grand Hope of the Grand Assembly of Texas.

It was through Rainbow that she met Roland Maddox, a board member of a local Rainbow Assembly. Married in 1950 they have since raised four children. Phyllis earned a degree in music, taught choir in local schools, and was choir director of her church.

Mrs. Maddox has been presiding officer in the Order of Eastern Star and in the Daughters of the Nile. She became a member of Galveston Assembly No. 152, S.O.O.B., June 28, 1973, and presided as Worthy President in 1982 and 1989. She has been director of music for a number of years and served on several committees of Supreme Assembly.

Among her activities she worked with several civic organizations. Her Sir Knight, Roland J. Maddox, has served as presiding officer in many Masonic bodies and was Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Texas.

On October 1, Mrs. Maddox began her travels to visit each of the 148 chartered Assemblies throughout the United States.



submitted by (Mrs. William) Lois J. Chant, P.S.W.P.

Christian's Twelve Days of Christmas

- On the first day of Christmas, the Father gave to me His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the second day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the third day of Christmas, the Father gave to me the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the fourth day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the fifth day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Five crowns of grace, Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the sixth day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Six days to Labor; Five crowns of grace; Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the seventh day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Seven days to praise Him, Six days to labor, Five crowns of grace, four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the eighth day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Eight words of blessing, Seven days to praise Him, Six days of labor, Five crowns of grace, Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the ninth day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Nine fruit of the spirit, Eight words of blessing, Seven days to praise Him, Six days to labor; Five crowns of grace, Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the tenth day of Christmas, the father gave to me Ten Grand Commandments, Nine fruit of the spirit, Eight words of blessing, Seven days to praise Him, Six days to labor, Five crowns of grace, Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the eleventh day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Eleven faithful followers, Ten Grand Commandments, Nine fruit of the spirit, Eight words of blessing, Seven days to praise Him, Six days to labor, Five crowns of grace, Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.
- On the twelfth day of Christmas, the Father gave to me Twelve gates to Heaven, Eleven faithful followers, Ten Grand Commandments, Nine fruit of the spirit, Eight words of blessing, Seven days to praise Him, Six days to labor, Five crowns of grace, Four vibrant Gospels, the Holy Trinity, Two Testaments and His Blessed Son from sin to set me free.

Sir Knight Ronald M. Pruett, D. Mm.
El Paso Commandery No. 18, El Paso, Texas

Commanderies Need Audio/Visual Tools

by Sir Knight M. William Echo, G.R., P.G.C., KYCH

We have all heard the old expression, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Can you imagine describing accurately the state of Idaho to someone without a map, or without a drawing or sketch of any kind? Each person to whom you spoke would form a different mental picture of the state, none of which would be accurate, and some would be far from it.

Let us project this concept into the asylum of Knights Templar. Many of our Fratres, especially those who were created Knights Templar within the last several years, have never seen a full-form opening. (You might be amazed how many.) Many of those who have seen a full-form opening have not seen it correctly done. Yet, we are expected to be able to perform this routine by simply reading the books, and furthermore, to get it right, it can be accomplished, of course. I submit that in many jurisdictions it rarely, if ever, is done right.

First, many of the maneuvers involved are simply called for and not described in detail. Even those that are described leave much to the interpretation and/or imagination of the individual. For example, the marching lines, the spacing, and relative positions are all subject to gross variation from person to person, and yet they still fall (more or less) within the confines of the written description as perceived by the group trying to do them.

Second, there may be one or two "old timers" who are sure that they remember the right way to do the maneuvers. Sometimes they do remember, sometimes not. Compounding that problem is the fact that the new white tactics book is not identical to the old Rea's

Tactics, so that the "old timers" tend to ignore the new book and do things the old or "right" way.

Third, and probably by far the most important element, is patience. None of us likes to practice something that he doesn't really understand, led by someone who isn't really sure if he's right or not. The Eminent Commander may be able to get a reasonably good group of officers out for the first practice, but when uncertainty and confusion begin to set in, succeeding practices turn our fewer and fewer Sir Knights until everything falls apart. Even if the Commander is successful in bringing the practices to a working conclusion, what the group is doing may contain substantial inaccuracies.

It is the fact that people like to be proud of what they are doing. Pride and satisfaction in accomplishment are powerful motivating factors, and that pride rubs off on others, even persons outside the group.

However, many of our Commanderies accomplish essentially nothing. The members are, of course, apathetic and disinterested.

We need to rebuild that structure which was the heart and soul of our Commanderies in times past, when our Fratres would forego almost any conflicting activity to attend their Commandery and participate in its ceremonies and accomplishments.

Meanwhile, back to the "picture that is worth a thousand words." All of the above leads simply to a proposal that the Grand Encampment or some Grand Encampment authorized persons produce a really good video cassette of the opening and

closing rituals and of the three Orders and make it available to all of our Commanderies. There are, I feel quite certain, constituent Commanderies, somewhere within the Grand Encampment, that are quite capable (perhaps with some help from a good professional film maker) of producing a really high quality document. I believe that this effort would be worth a great deal of financial and administrative effort on the part of the Grand Encampment.

There should be a cassette of the complete full-form opening ceremony, following the tactics in every detail. It

"In all of the Orders, the solemnity of the ceremony and the proper emphasis on various details can only be conveyed by pictures, not by words. It is far easier to mimic an observed action than to follow a verbal description of it."

should also include separate sections on proper sword handling, shown from several different angles and perhaps even some in slow motion, all with appropriate audio commentary. There should be a section on proper marching technique. Have you ever seen two Fratres do an about face the same? - If so, not very often, and then probably not correctly. There should also be a section on proper reception of the Grand Commander and the grand officers. Many of our Eminent Commanders have only the foggiest of ideas how to accomplish this task. There should be views of the formations from several angles and even from above in some cases. The words should be included, and properly pronounced. Our Fratres are the last people on earth from whom we should be keeping our secrets. The closing should also be included, although most Commanderies

can probably handle the closing without as much help. Nevertheless, it should be included.

There should be a separate tape for each of the Orders.

Many times, especially lately, the Order of Malta is conferred in short form. This is tantamount to criminal, as far as the candidate is concerned. He has paid to see the complete ceremony, and in full regalia and in full form. This is a beautiful Order, and to confer it in anything less than full-form and with full regalia is not only cheating the candidate, but is not going to make as favorable an impression upon him by far.

In all of the Orders, the solemnity of the ceremony and the proper emphasis on various details can only be conveyed by pictures not by words. It is far easier to mimic an observed action than to follow a verbal description of it.

I hasten to emphasize that it is certainly not my intention that the candidate should simply be seated and the Orders shown to him on TV. That, of course, is totally ridiculous and absurd. The video tapes would be used by the degree teams as a teaching and demonstration tool only. They would be under the immediate and complete control of the Eminent Commander, and he would be responsible for the use and keeping of them. They should be no more difficult to keep track of than a ritual.

A few of my Fratres to whom I have spoken about this tell me that it is unlawful to make such a tape, that we would be revealing our secrets, that it would be a breach of our obligations, etc.

To such a foolish response I would only point out that such an attitude is self-defeating in the extreme. In the first place, John Ankerberg, as we are well aware, has produced on national television the complete ritual and ceremonies of the Symbolic Lodge work,

and made the tapes available to anyone with forty-four bucks. Here, for all to see and hear, is every secret that Masons have ever supposed they had.

Are we dead because of that? Has it even made any perceptible difference? Obviously not. I would bet that the bulk of Ankerberg's sales have gone to Masons themselves.

Second, if we are to pull our fat out of the fire, it is going to require something in the nature of heroic measures. Since what

we are doing now is obviously not working at all, I submit that whatever it costs to produce and distribute instructional tapes of our work, whatever the effort required, it would be well worthwhile, and the quicker we start, the better.

Sir Knight M. William Echo, G.R, P.G.C. (Idaho), KYCH, is a member of Idaho Falls Commandery No. 6, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and resides at 862 Raymond Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83405

New Hampshire York Rite Belts Still Available

The Grand Commandery still has a supply of these fine belts on hand, and would be glad to send you one for a Christmas present for someone or to have for yourself. The belt is black web, military style with the three York Rite emblems in gold, silver and red and the names "York Rite," and "Chapter, Council" and "Commandery" woven into an attached ribbon. It will be a striking addition to any wardrobe, as well as great advertising for our York Rite. Over 1,500 have been sold so far. It comes in a standard 51" length and can be cut to suit. Longer are available upon request. The proceeds will be divided between the three York Rite Charities. Also available is a new Freemason belt with "FREEMASONRY" and the working tools and square and compass in a circle on a navy blue belt with gold lettering and silver and gold colored emblems. Same length and cost as above. Please make clear which belt you are buying. Send your check today for \$12.00 to Frederick H. Heuss, P.G.C; 6 Vernon Avenue; Rochester, NH 03867



MSA - Appeal For Texas

The Masonic Service Association of the United States has been requested by the Grand Lodge of Texas to put out an appeal on their behalf to help in their recovery from the flooding that occurred in late October 1994.

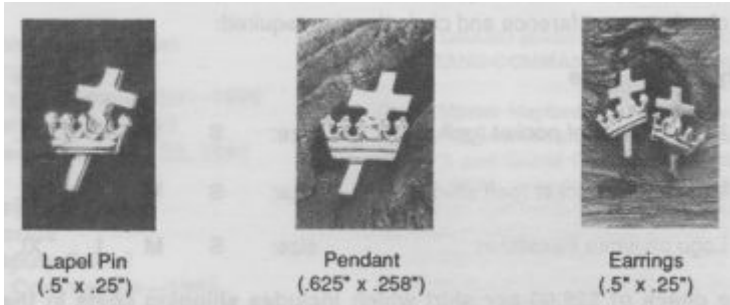
MSA was advised by the Grand Lodge of Texas that the devastation is very great and there are a lot of people suffering as a result of this flooding. The funds sent in response to this appeal will be helping the people of Texas in their recovery from this disaster.

MSA stresses that all funds received as a result of an appeal put out by MSA are turned over to the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Texas will receive one hundred percent of the monies donated, as no administrative costs are ever assigned to any appeal!

You may forward to the MSA such funds as you feel would be appropriate to help our devastated Brethren in Texas. Checks may be made payable to the: MSA Disaster Relief Fund and sent to 8120 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4785, marked Texas Relief."

Cross & Crown Lapel Pins, Pendants And Earrings (pierced ears)

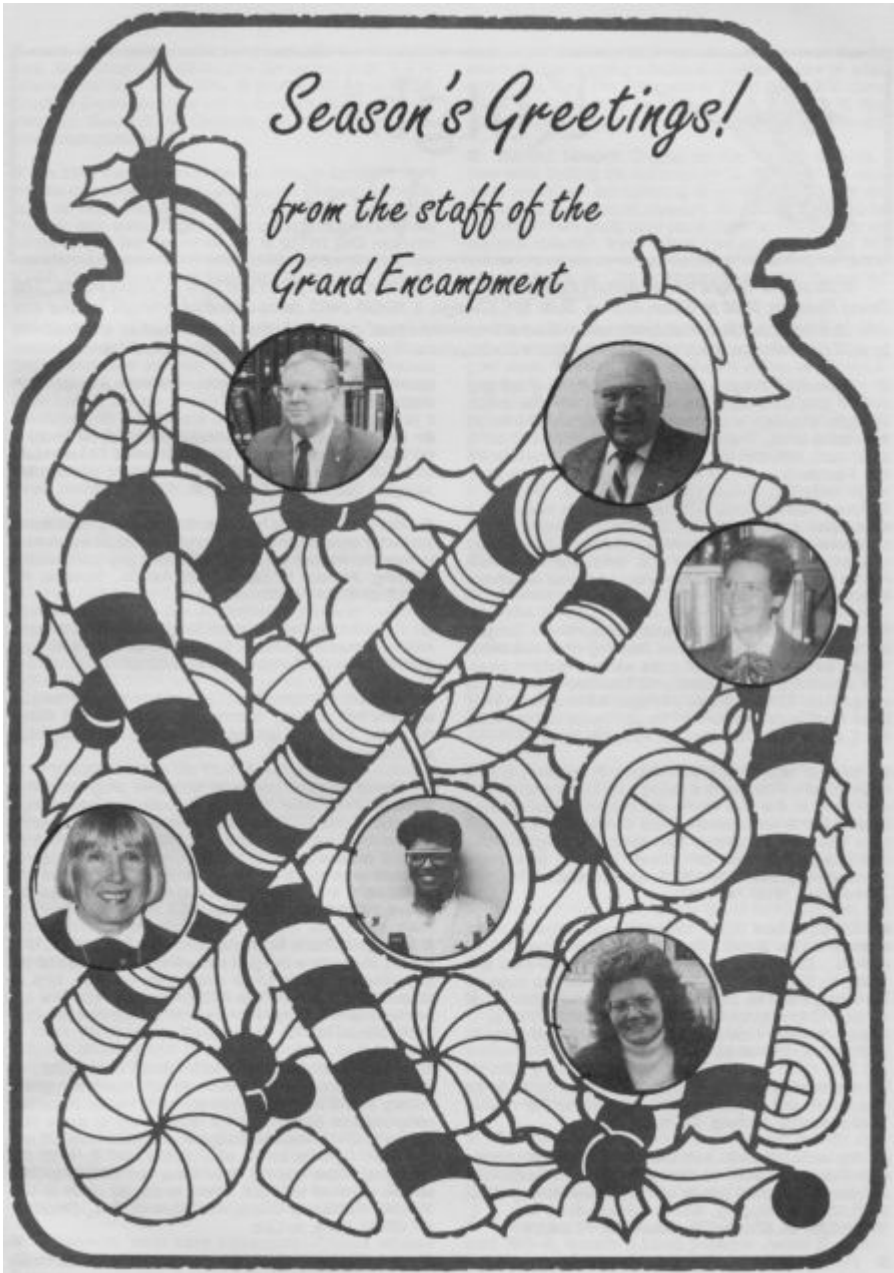
Net Proceeds for Benefit of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.



Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will again offer the custom-made, 14 kt. solid gold lapel pins, in addition to pendants and earrings.

Lapel pins	\$25.00 each plus \$1.00 shipping and handling
Pendants	\$40.00 each plus \$1.00 shipping and handling
Earrings	\$40.00 pair plus \$1.00 shipping and handling

Please send your check or money order for desired items to: Duquesne Commandery No. 72, K.T.; C/O John E. Stallings, Jr., KTEF Chairman; 438 Biddle Avenue; Pittsburgh; PA 15221. Satisfaction guaranteed. Allow four weeks for delivery.



Top, left to right: Sir Knight Charles A. Neumann, Right Eminent Grand Recorder; Sir Knight James O. Potter, comptroller; Karla Neumann, accounting and database supervisor. Bottom, left to right: Sylvia Ericksen, database operator; Bessie Cooper, word processor; Joan Morton, assistant editor.



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.

A beautiful Knights Templar certificate-great gift! 11x14" blue parchment, paper certificate with five colors. The gold archways are embossed, and % of the letters are raised letter. There are six shadow figures. Cost is \$8.00 each, including S & H. Net proceeds will benefit the Eye Foundation. Limited edition of only 2,500 certificates. When ordering, please refer to by name, "What Is A Templar? Certificates will be mailed out twenty-one days after order received. 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 18052. Please include check or money order and your telephone number with your order.

For sale: round pin, 1r4" with unique, Knight Templar emblem. It has full color on white, including cross-in-crown in center, surrounded by a red cross within a maltose cross. The emblem design includes 12 Masonic squares and compasses. \$2.50 includes postage. All profits to Holy Land Pilgrimage fund. Order from Damascus Commandery No. 1,KT;200E. Plato Rd.; St. Paul; MN55107.

Lost at last Triennial meeting in Denver: 2 K.T. uniform belts. First belt is a Texas Past Commander's belt with gold chain and name on inside, Floyd Waddil. Second belt is an Oklahoma Past Commander's belt with plain black leather straps. Last seen in gray plastic bag with one pair of black drill shoes. It found, please call Richard Hargrave, 2348 S. Evanston Ave., Tulsa, OK 74114-3244, (918) 743-4871.

For sale: new C.P.O. uniform coats, polyester-wool, summer weight. Sizes: 42S, 44S, 44XL (Sorry, we are Out of 48XL.) \$20.00 each plus S & H. Small sizes (35S and 36XS) for \$5.00 each can be used as pocket flap material. Percentage will be donated to KTEF. John Myers, 2120 N. SR. 127, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-2797 or J. William Meyers, 1460 East U.S. Highway 20, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-5686.

Wanted: to purchase chapeau, size 7I. Must be reasonable and in good condition. Reply to Pat Stailey, 3412 Stanolind, Midland, TX 79707.

For sale: chapeau with cross and all-white plumes, size 7'18. Also, accompanying sword with beautifully embossed scabbard and in carrying case. Asking price, \$425.00 plus shipping. Will entertain offers. Mrs. J. L. Keller, 2251 St. Charles Dr., Clearwater, FL 34624.

For sale: Masonic sword, good condition, circa 1920. Will send picture to those interested. Best offer. L. Cameron, 1717 SW. Par*, Apt. 1222, Portland, OR 97201.

Wanted: I am trying to locate and obtain a useable saddle and tack that once belonged to California Commandery No. 1, San Francisco, CA (circa 1855). I would also be interested in any photographs or descriptions of the above saddle and tack. As an alternative, I am inquiring as to whether there are any mounted Commanderies and what types of saddles and

tack they use. Kevin Conragan, 486-90th St., Apt. 204; Daly City, CA 94015-1855.

Would like to locate for possible purchase the sword of the late Sir Knight Morton L Mitchell, Ivanhoe Commandery, St. Lou, MO, in the 1950s-1960s. Harold H. Weller, 1924 Mesquite Trail, Hurst, TX 76054, (817) 281-5253.

Our Commandery has over 2 dozen long frock coats (the older style uniform coats) to give away. All we need is to have interested parties call us and pay for the UPS shipping. Anthony W Harper, 120 Ash St., Baraboo, WI 53913, (608) 356-4848

For sale: collection of Knights Templar convention delegate ribbons, some dating to 1896. Send SASE for hat. Dan Kingore, 2135 S. Tonne Dr., Arlington Heights, IL 60006.

Wanted: a Knights Templar spur with Knights Templar emblem. Will pay any reasonable price. Hubert L. Koker, Recorder, El Paso Commandery No. 18; 1505 Magruder St.; El Paso; TX 79925.

Video for your Lodge or Masonic programs. The "Masonic Quiz Tape" has over 4 hours of questions and answers of Masonic interest. Provoke thought and bring light to the Craft. VHS tape, \$10.00 each, \$1.50 S & H. Partial proceeds to KTEF. Also, cross-stitch Masonic emblem ornaments and book marks. Quantities of six, \$4.00, no S & H. Earl H. Spahlinger, 848 F. College St., Alliance, OH 44601, (216) 823-8336.

Spring of Acacia lapel pins: Each handcrafted pin is of sterling silver with a 24k gold vermeil. Price is only \$9.00 per pin, including 5 8 H. Order now for the holidays. 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF. These unique pins are available only through Professional Creations Unlimited, 1630 Orchard Hill Rd., Cheshire, CT 06410-3728.

Newly published: book with names of members of Masonic Fraternity who received our nation's highest military award for bravery, the Medal of Honor. Also, has congressional citations and a brief history of same plus the name of the Masonic Lodge of which the recipient is a member. Cost is \$9.95 ea., plus \$3.00 S. & H. CT residents please add 6% state sales tax. 10% of profits will be donated to KTEF. Check or money order to The Weidner Publishing Group, 490 Cornwall Ave., Cheshire, CT06410. Sorry, no CDs.

Masonic clip art for IBM compatible and Macintosh computers. Included are Blue Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, O.E.S., Knights Templar, Shrine and several others. Also, Masonic wallpaper for Windows and other computer items of Masonic interest. Please send self-addressed, stamped envelope for more information and printed samples. A percentage of these sales to go to KTEF. John Yates, PD. Box 3496, Wichita Falls, TX 76309.

For sale: Masonic rings, signet style, with square and compasses on top, trowel on one side, 2-ball cane on other.

Durable, yet elegant. Custom made of solid chrome/nickel alloy. Silver color only, \$99.00, plus OH tax and \$4.00 S & H. Whole sizes only: 7-16. 10% of profits will go to KTEF. Check or MasterCard/Visa into Aural och Designs, 107-M Plaza Dr., Stale 123 St. Clairsville, OH 43950. Money-back, satisfaction guaranteed.

In 1944 the tide turned for the Riles in Europe. I have ten first-day covers commemorating the Masonic generals, such as Teddy Roosevelt, Jr.; Omar Bradley; and Walter Krueger, who were in the forefront of our victory in both war zones. Only a few sets of ten left at \$27.00 (MO residents add 6% sales tax). 10% of each order will be given to the KTEF. Order from Edsel Masonic Covers, P.O. Box 36, Hazelwood, MO 63042-0036.

Newsletter editors, please take note: Many Masonic related newsletter editors like yourself would like to share their publications with you. If you would like to participate in a Masonic newsletter exchange, please send a sample copy before March 1, 1995. Include a self-addressed envelope with 2 first-class stamps, and I will send you a copy of all those who wish to exchange. There is no charge for this service; however, none will be accepted after the cut-off date. John Yates, P.O. Box 3496, Wichita Falls, TX 76309.

Wanted: antique Masonic door knockers for our newly renovated Lodge. We will repay the postage for any donations. Ton S. West, WM; At I, Box 96-C; P5km; LA 70056.

The Grand Lodge of Vermont is celebrating us bicentennial during 1994. A commemorative coin has been struck to mark the occasion, and several mementos including a coin are currently available: commemorative coin, \$5.50; money clip, \$9.00; paperweight (coin incased in Lucite), \$13.50; clock and coin (incased in Lucite), \$33.00; bicentennial pin, \$3.00; unique Vermont covered bridge pin, \$3.00. Prices include postage and handling. Grand Lodge of Vermont, 431 Pine St., Burlington, VT 05401.

Pythagoras Lodge No. 41, F & A.M. of Decatur, Georgia, is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 1994. Commemorative coins in bronze. \$6.00 each, pp.: silver, \$26.00 each, pp. Send check to Secretary G. H. McLendon, 196 E. Ponce de Leon Ave., Decatur, GA 30030.

For sale: B. R. Young, F. & A.M., Lodge No. 132, Hodgenville, KY, still has a limited number of 150-year anniversary coins at \$5.00 each, including postage. Mail money order or check, payable to B. H. Young Lodge No. 132 and send to Edgar Bell, Jr. W.; 105 Capla Ave., Hodgenville, KY 42748.

Victory Chapter No. 210, RAM., is celebrating its 75th anniversary. A commemorative coin has been struck to mark the occasion. Cost of the coin is \$5.00, which includes shipping and handling. Proceeds from the sale will go to the Royal Arch Research Assistance Fund. Make checks or money orders payable to Arthur Mills, 5625 Cobblegato Dr., Dayton, OH 45449-2837.

Mercer Lodge No. 121, F. & AM., of St. Mary's, Ohio, is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 1994. Commemorative key chains in bronze, quantity limited, \$5.00 each, pp. Send check payable to Jonny Dicks, Secretary; 7029 Four Turkey Rd.; Celina; OH 45822.

Attention, post card collectors: limited edition Directory Alaska Postcards 1897-1940 by M.W. John H. Grainger—cost, \$20 including S & H. Grand Lodge of Alaska coins available from constitutional convention, 1981-1993. Hurry as some coins are very scarce. \$10.00 plus \$3.00 S & H. Check or money order to Alaska Masonic Library & Museum Foundation, P.O. Box 109772, Anchorage, Alaska 99519-0722.

Masonic pocket watches: We still have a few of these old-time, mechanical, American pocket watches, value-priced at only \$250.00, postage and insurance included.

Each has Masonic symbols instead of numbers on the dial and is a dean-running timepiece in either yellow or white gold finish. Call The Professor at (512) 882-5974. Send check or money order for \$250 to H. C. Arbuckle III, Box 3026, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3026. You'll be glad you did!

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 23 years, and still need many pieces 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 Stoicic Sr; 775 W. Roger Rd, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85700; (602) 888-7585.

For sale: men's and ladies' quartz watches, expansion or leather band, made in USA; any logo and blue, white or gold dials. Working tools of Mason in lieu of numbers. Member's name, Lodge/Chapter on dial. Past Master or Past Matron available. Order now for Xmas delivery. \$68.00 includes S & H. Ten or more to same address, \$00.00 each. (602) 968-7021, Harry G. Bowen, 2633 S. Country Club Way, Tempo, AZ 85282-2921.

U Wanted: 2 books: The Royal Order of Scotland by R. S. Lindsay and The Royal Order of Scotland—The Second One Hundred Years, R. S. Lindsay. Contact for cost: W. C. Johannsen, 430 Midway Island, Clearwater, FL 34630 or (813) 447-3 730.

Attention: Wish to purchase for collection: German and Japanese military souvenirs, helmets, uniforms, hats, swords, daggers, medals, books, or any other military item. Carl H. Faust Box 2141, Sefauket, NY1 t 733, (516) 751-5556.

I have several antique Masonic items for sale. Send SASE for list. Also, always looking to buy antique Masonic items. Stephen J. Kapp, 1180 Okinawa Ln, No. B; Yigo; GU 96929.

Wanted by Sir Knight, novice fly tier, tying materials that you can no longer use due to lost interest, eye sight problems, or you would just like to see skill passed on to the next generation of tiers. I have limited funds but will either buy or make a donation to the KTEF, if that is your wish. P. C. Farrell 149 Carl Ave., Brockton, MA 02402, (508) 588-4197, and leave message.

Brother Knight seeking Boy Scout camp patches, old and new, and also, Order of the Arrow patches. Will trade for or buy one or many. Nelson E. Clements, 108 Vermont Ln., Levittown, PA 19054.

Brother L. J. Dodd, retired first sergeant, seeking vintage American made Indian and Harley-Davidson motorcycles for restoration and exhibition. All parts and equipment also needed. Seeking models from 1932 through present. Please call; I'll cover costs and fair value. Wor. Leon J. Dodd, P.O. Box 435, Belmont, MA 02178-0004, (617) 484-8375 anytime.

For sale: beautiful Florida Pompano Beach club condo on ocean: 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, recreation building, 2 pools, garage, walk to 70 shops/restaurants. Good investment. Price reduced. (216) 532-4280.

Wanted: slide trays, cat. 963-25-42, for Balomatic, mod. 655-A, Bausch & Lomb projector. James R. Green, P.O. Box 427, Canon, GA 30520, (796) 356-2472.

Have your full name written in Egyptian hieroglyphics! Computer produced on genuine Egyptian papyrus, matted and framed, 8x10 overall. \$24.95 includes shipping. Great holiday gift! G. D. Kingore, P.O. Box 2073, Arlington Heights, IL 60000-2073. Please specify name.

Mount Emblem Cemetery, Elmhurst, Twilight sect ion-3 lots, \$3,585 value for \$1,500 or best offer. Call collect (704) 891-8962 after 5p.m.

The Holy Star

As shadows cast by cloud and sun
Flit o'er the summer grass.
So. in Thy sight, Almighty One,
Earth's generations pass.

And while the years, an endless host,
Come pressing swiftly on,
The brightest names that earth can boast
Just glisten and are gone.

Yet doth the Star of Bethlehem shed
A luster pure and sweet,
And still it leads, as once it led,
To the Messiah's feet.

O Father, may that holy star
Grow every year more bright,
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.

William Cullen Bryant