RIGHT EMINENT
DEPARTMENT
COMMANDERS

1994–1997

James Cavaness Taylor
South Central Department

W. Bruce Pruitt
Southwestern Department

Ernest I. Teter
Northwestern Department
Masonic Unanimity—A New Sign of the Times

Now that my year as Imperial Potentate of the Shrine of North America is rapidly winding down, I can say with pride that I have found a genuine sense of brotherhood and camaraderie among York Rite and Scottish Rite Masons and Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Throughout my North American travels over the past eleven months, Masons and Nobles alike have expressed what they feel to be a spirited togetherness within the Masonic community.

One of the finest examples of Freemasonry and unanimity that I've experienced in recent years took place last January, during the annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California. There, on a single float, we had representatives of the entire family of Freemasonry - the Grand Lodges, their appendant bodies, and their various youth organizations. It was an impressive display of Freemasonry for the whole world to see!

This unified portrayal of Freemasonry marks a huge step forward in efforts to bring all of our Masonic organizations closer together. In fact, I believe we are just beginning to witness a new sign of the times in Masonic unanimity. This is great news for everyone interested in establishing a better spirit of cooperation among Masons and Nobles everywhere.

Why the emphasis on unanimity? The leaders of the various Masonic organizations realize that to achieve our goals a unified effort on everyone's part will bring about greater results. After all, only by working together can the ties of Freemasonry be strengthened.

Throughout my more than thirty-five years in Freemasonry, I have been privileged to serve in many capacities, but what I have found to be most rewarding is meeting and working alongside the many fine Masons and Nobles who have made Freemasonry what it is today.

For the York Rite, the Scottish Rite, the Shrine, and Masonry to continue as the great fraternities they are, a strong cohesiveness is of the utmost importance. Let's all join in continuing to build a better community through Masonic unanimity.

Yours in the Faith,

Sir Knight Burton Ravellette, Jr., P.G.C.
Imperial Potentate, Imperial Council AAONMS

We, the Sir Knights of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, thank Illustrious Noble and Sir Knight Burton E. Ravellette, Jr., Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas and Imperial Potentate of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine for North America, for his many efforts in our Masonic Unanimity Program and for taking the time from his busy schedule to present the above editorial.

Blair C. Mayford
Grand Master

June 1995
Knight Templar
"The Magazine for York Rite Masons - and Others, too"

JUNE: On page 2, Grand Master Mayford's usual page, guest writer Burton Ravellette, Jr., Imperial Potentate of the Imperial Council, A.AONMS, presents an inspirational message about the unanimity that has developed between Masonic-related organizations. The biographies of the Department Commanders are concluded in this issue, and they start on page 7. Don't forget that June is a time to honor fathers, and our congratulations and best wishes go to all of you. Included in this issue are provocative articles by Sir Knights Gist and Dorward and information on computerizing your Recorder's duties by Sir Knight Chaput on page 12.

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June 1995

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

Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders
The Tenth Crusade to the Holy Land Closed: Reservations are filled for the Grand Encampment and Grand Master Maytord's Tenth Crusade to the Holy Land, scheduled for this fall. Another trip at a similar time will be planned for 1996 and will be announced as soon as details are available.

Wanted: The Grand Encampment is in need of a copy of History of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America by Francis J. Scully, M.D. for its library. If you have a copy to donate or sell, please contact the Grand Recorder; Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; 11-60630-2460.

Attention: All Grand Commanders and all Deputy Grand Commanders who will be In office as Grand Commanders on November 1, 1995; and Grand Recorders: in the upcoming November issue, Knight Templar magazine will again present pictures of those Sir Knights who are Grand Commanders on November 1. Please provide us with a photograph of yourself In uniform by September 10. If your Installation will be In late September or October, order your photo NOW or it will arrive too late for Inclusion In the November Issue.

Photos may be of any size (they will be reduced as in previous years), preferably black and white of good, clear quality. Color is acceptable. Do not send Polaroid prints as they do not reproduce well. We only use head shots and jewels of office do not appear.

Indicate your name and state on the back of the photograph. Photos are requested by September 10. After that date, It may not be possible to Include them in the November magazine.

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 Widows 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.

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

27th Annual Voluntary Campaign
Knights Templar Eye Foundation

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

I speak in advance for the thousands of people who will be healed because of your contributions in both time and money to the 27th Annual Voluntary Campaign of your Eye Foundation when I say loudly and sincerely:

Thank You

In my articles that have appeared here this year, I have quoted the words of our Savior many times. I have quoted statistics of the number of people with lost or failing sight whom we have helped in the past. I have urged all of you to take a special part in this effort to bring light into darkened lives, and I know that many have read these challenges.

It is obvious from the amounts that have been donated that you have felt the same wonderful feelings of well doing that I have found over these many years as a giving Templar.

All Commanderies should start planning for the 28th Annual Voluntary Campaign as soon as possible. Set higher goals and prepare bigger plans, remembering always our duty to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted.

And "Let your light so shine before men that they will see your good works and glorify your father which is in heaven."

(Matthew 5:16)

May God bless you all - as he has blessed those whom you have helped!

Gift total for the 27th Voluntary Campaign: $993,673.01

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 for the 27th Annual Voluntary Campaign. He is a member of Richmond Commandery No. 19, Richmond, Kentucky. He resides at 1041 Idylwild Drive, Richmond, KY 40475
Youthful Spring Festival In New Mexico

Twenty-six Master Masons took the degrees and orders of York Rite Masonry during the Spring Festival held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Since the age to petition a Lodge of Masons in New Mexico was lowered from twenty-one to nineteen, Pilgrim Commandery No. 3 now boasts its youngest Sir Knight ever. Sir Knight Josh Lightle will turn twenty-one when he completes his term as State Master Councilor, Order of DeMolay; he is also a full time student at the University of New Mexico.

In the picture are, from left to right: first row: Earl Mount, David Nowlin, Victor Perez, Dick Butterfield, and Howard Archilles; second row: John Laubenthal, Hugh Formhals, John Nelson, Tom Payne, Dan Irick, Ed Shouffer, and Tod Ireland; third row: John Bitner, Elvis Draughon, Robert Wayne, Josh Lightle, and James Roach. (Photo by Sir Knight Walter D. Wyche, W.M. of Sandia Mountain Lodge No. 72, Albuquerque, NM.)

Sale Of Aprons And Bags To Benefit Eye Foundation
Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8 (100% Life Sponsors for three years) of Greensboro, North Carolina, are selling bags and aprons, and all the profits will benefit the Eye Foundation. The aprons are in either smock style (left) for ladies or regular adjustable bib style (center) for men. Made of sturdy but soft material, the items have the Unity York Rite emblem (Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems) screen printed on front. The aprons are $10.00 each, the shopping bag is $6.00 each, and any combination of apron and bag is only $15.00. Commanderies wishing to purchase in quantity for projects of their own may deduct 10%, and the order will be shipped pre-paid. For additional information or to place an order, please address your request to: Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8, Knights Templar; Greensboro York Rite Bodies; P.O. Box 1043; Greensboro; NC 27402; phone: (910) 292-8564.
James C. Taylor was born on October 20, 1929, to John I. and Joy W. Taylor of Elk City, Oklahoma. He graduated from Cooperton High School in 1947 and from Oklahoma A & M College in 1951 with a B.S. in Animal Husbandry. He served two years in the United States Army, seeing duty with the Third Infantry Division in Korea and was discharged a first lieutenant.

Sir Knight Taylor married Earlene Johnson on June 5, 1952. They have three children and five grandchildren. They moved to a ranch northwest of Elk City in 1953 and are engaged in raising registered Simmental and Gelbvieh cattle. He has been active in the Oklahoma Farm Bureau and served as a director of the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association and the Oklahoma Simmental Association. He is an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Elk City, where he is a Sunday school teacher and fills the pulpit on occasion. His hobby is writing poetry.

Sir Knight Taylor's father, John I. Taylor, served as Grand Commander of Oklahoma in 1939-40. His son Jimmy is a Knight Templar, a Past Master of Elk City Lodge, and a partner in the ranching operation. Daughter Jane is married to a computer programmer and is a writer of prose and poetry. Son John is a dentist and also a Knight Templar.

Sir Knight Taylor was Raised in Roosevelt Lodge No. 398 on July 19, 1951; was Exalted in Elk City Chapter No. 50 on September 15, 1953; received the Council degrees on September 29, 1953, in Elk City Council No. 25; and was Knighted in Elk City Commandery No. 22 on July 5, 1956. He served as Worshipful Master of Elk City Lodge No. 182 in 1958 and 1976, High Priest in 1960 and 1962, Illustrious Master in 1960 and 1962, and Eminent Commander of Elk City Commandery No. 22 in 1965 and 1966. He has been a certificate lecturer in his Lodge and a drill team captain for Elk City Commandery No. 22. He has also captained four Triennial drill teams and served as a Triennial drill team judge.

In the Grand Chapter, R.A.M., Sir Knight Taylor has served as Grand Scribe and Grand Chaplain. He has also served many years as a District Deputy G.H.P and as a Custodian of the Work. In the Grand Council, he has served as District Deputy,
Grand Conductor of the Council, and Custodian of the Work. He was elected to the Grand Commandery line as Grand Warder in 1968 and progressed through the line to serve as Grand Commander in 1974-75. He has served on the Work and Tactics Committee since that time and served as chairman for several years.

Appendant body memberships include: Joseph of Arimathea Tabernacle No. 4, HRAKTP (Past Preceptor), Order of Sword and Trowel (Past TIM), Order of High Priesthood, India Temple Shrine, Scottish Rite (Valley of Guthrie), Philalethes Society, Oklahoma York Rite College No. 75, SRICF, Oklahoma Priory No. 9, KYCH (Past Prior), Prince of Peace Conclave, R.C.C. (Past Sovereign), and Past Commanders’ Association.

He was appointed R.E. South Central Department Commander in August 1994 by Most Eminent Grand Master Blair C. Mayford.

Ernest I. Teter was born August 17, 1928, in Limon, Colorado. He moved to Idaho in 1933, graduated from Boise High School in 1946, and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.

In 1950 Ernie and his Black Sheep Squadron VMF-214 were assigned to Korea as part of the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade.

After being reassigned to the Marine Detachment NAS in Niagara Falls, NY, he met and married Palma “Pam” Del Monte on July 12, 1952. They are the proud parents of Patrick, Cathy, and Michele; and the proud grandparents of Rachael, John, Bryan, and Peter.

Discharged from the Marine Corps in 1957, Sir Knight Ernie enlisted in the United States Air Force, first being stationed at Long Beach and Hamilton Field. In 1960 he was assigned to the Strategic Air Command's 384th Refueling Squadron as a flight engineer on KC-97 aircraft, which was used for in-flight refueling. In 1965 he was transferred to Travis Air Force Base and served as flight engineer on C141 Starlifter transports.

Retiring from the Air Force November 30, 1969, he returned to Boise and was employed as a Deputy Sheriff for Skaggs Drug Centers. He retired again in August of 1988.

Ernest I. Teter was Raised in Mount Orthodox Lodge, A.F. & A.M., West Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1962. He was Exalted a Royal Arch Mason, Greeted a Cryptic Mason, and Dubbed and Created a Knight of the Temple in the York Rite Bodies of Boise, Idaho, in 1975.

Ernie served as Eminent Commander in 1981, High Priest in 1982, and Illustrious Master in 1985. Ernie is also Past Royal Patron and Past Grand Warder of the
Order of Amaranth; Past Associate Guardian of Job’s Daughters and a member with Honor of Bethel No. 13; Past Preceptor of Redemption Tabernacle XL, HRAKTP, and current Registrar; Past Sovereign of St. Michael Conclave, R.C.C. He also is a member of the Order of High Priesthood, Thrice Illustrious Masters, Clearwater York Rite College No. 135, and El Korah, AAONMS. He’s been the State Chairman of the KTEF Voluntary Campaign since 1984, and is Past Grand Commander, 1991; Past Grand High Priest, 1993; and currently is R.I. Grand Principal Conductor of the Work in the Grand Council of Idaho.

Ernie has been arrangements chairman for the Northwestern Department Conference for the past twelve years.

He was appointed R.E. Northwestern Department Commander in August 1994 by Most Eminent Grand Master Blair C. Mayford.

Sir Knight Pruitt moved to California in 1958. His professional career had been in the electronics and aerospace industries. He was an engineering manager and sales manager in microwave tubes and components for Huggins Laboratories, Inc., and Varian Associates, Inc. He was an owner in Parks & Pruitt Associates, a manufacturing representative firm. He retired from Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. in 1993 after serving as manager in engineering, new product development, manufacturing, and various military and NASA programs. He was involved in such programs as MILSTAR, Hubble Space Telescope, and the manned space station FREEDOM.

Sir Knight Pruitt has received the designation of Certified Manager from the Institute of Certified Professional Managers. He is now a consultant in business and management, and a member of the Adjunct Faculty at National University. He is a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Business Administration at Golden Gate University, San Francisco.

Bruce and Shirley Elisabeth Arnott were married at Menlo Park, California, on
June 23, 1956. They have three daughters: Kristina Nystrom of Chicago, Illinois; Elisabeth Johnson of Los Altos, California; and Sandra Ney of Franklin, Tennessee. They have two grandsons, Karl Johnson and Hunter Ney. Both Shirley and Bruce are active in the Foothill Covenant Church of Los Altos. Both have served as deacons and Bible teachers; Bruce is a past chairman and trustee. He is a past chapter president of the Sons of the American Revolution and recipient of the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal.

Sir Knight Bruce's Masonic career began with the DeMolay Chapter in Anderson, South Carolina, where he was the charter Chaplain. He was Raised in Hiram Lodge No. 68, Anderson, in May 1953. He is a dual member of Los Altos Lodge No. 712, Los Altos, California, where he was Master in 1981. Bruce has served the Grand Lodge of California as: member of the Masonic Information Speakers Bureau, member of Masonic Education Committee, director of the Nob Hill Masonic Management Corporation, and chairman of the Masonic Homes Endowment Board. He was appointed and installed in October 1994 as the Grand Bible Bearer of the Grand Lodge of California.

His concordant body affiliations include: Palo Alto York Rite Bodies: Exalted, Passed and Knighted in 1979, and serving as High Priest, 1985; III. Master, 1988; and Commander, 1986. He is a member of Valley of San Jose, Scottish Rite; San Francisco Priory No. 38, Knights of the York Grand Cross of Honour; Islam Temple of the Shrine; Northern Santa Clara Chapter, High Twelve Club (charter member and past director); Sovereign, St. Francis Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; New Covenant Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; Britannia Chapter, Allied Masonic Degrees; Robert the Bruce Association, Royal Order of Scotland; and California College Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. He belongs to the Philalethes Society and South Carolina, El Camino, and Southern California Research Lodges. Bruce was made a member of the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1992.

Sir Knight Pruitt served as Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of California in 1992-93.

He was appointed R.E. Southwestern Department Commander in August 1994 by Most Eminent Grand Master Blair C. Mayford.

On March 6, 1995, Senior DeMolay Don Williams was Knighted in Detroit Commandery No. 1, Detroit, MI, by then-Commander and Senior DeMolay John Andy Jackson. Acting as Eminent Commander for the first part of the Order of the Temple and assisting in the Knighting was then-Generalissimo, now Commander, Russel C. Wells, Past Grand Master of Masons of Michigan, and Past Grand Master, International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay.

New Sir Knight Don Williams has long been an active supporter of the Masonic youth groups. He is currently a member of the Dearborn, Michigan Assembly, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, advisory board.

Shown, left to right, are: Russel C. Wells, Don Williams, and John Andy Jackson.
"They built this software just for Masonic Lodges. And they did a great job."

As a Masonic Secretary in Bangor, Maine, Bob Chaput tracks records for 800 Lodge members. Listen to his comments on MemberFlex:

"I use it to maintain my membership, to collect dues, for various reports. It lets me do a lot more in a lot less time—and do a whole lot better job. With MemberFlex I don’t have to spend all day getting my member mailings out. I can spend a few hours at night or on the weekend and do the whole job. And it’s easy: I can sit down in front of the computer and get out what I need without being a programmer or a computer expert. Acadia Software designed it specifically for Masonic Secretaries and Recorders, and they’ve done a great job. I’d recommend it for any Masonic Lodge or Commandery."

Bob Chaput, Grand Captain General
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Computerizing Your Membership Records: The Right Choice Can Benefit Your Organization

by Sir Knight Robert Chaput, G.C.G. of Maine

As member-based organizations, Masonic Lodges depend on accurate, up-to-date membership records. Without them, even basic activities like dues billings and annual reports can be time consuming and complicated. To solve the problem, many Lodges are now turning to computers to manage their membership records.

Using a computer to maintain and update membership records can be a time and money-saving option. And with the right software, a computerized membership system can give a Lodge a great degree of control and flexibility in handling its membership data. But as our Lodge discovered in our own attempts to computerize our membership records, there are potential pitfalls, too. This article looks at our own experience and examines some of the basic points to consider as you search for the right software for your Lodge's membership records needs.

The first and most important step for any Lodge considering computerizing its membership records is to decide exactly what it wants from the software. For most Masonic Lodges, membership tracking needs boil down to a few key areas: being able to keep and quickly update records; being able to extract lists of members using criteria like their zip codes or the dates they joined the Lodge; and being able to print out dues notices and other items using the data contained in the member records.

Considering the variety of software programs currently on the market, it is easy to end up with a program that "sort of" meets your needs. For example, many popular word processors and spreadsheet programs let you keep lists of members and set up other data you want to track, like birth dates and any number of other categories. However, these programs require extensive knowledge of their capabilities and limitations. You must first master the program and then design your own membership tracking system. If you're not a programmer, this can be a frustrating and time-consuming task.

In our case, we tried both a popular word processing package and then a spreadsheet program. Neither were well suited to our needs.

Our next step in the search for a computerized solution was the purchase...
of a nationally advertised membership package. Unfortunately, the program was very expensive. Not "user friendly" and actually turned out to contain several "bugs" or problems in the software. After exhausting all these options, we finally found an answer to our needs.

It was at this time that I met Paul Murray, the founder of Acadia Software Group, a software developer based here in Maine. Paul was a good listener.

He took the time to learn what my specific Masonic secretary needs were, and then he developed a program that meets those needs. It's the Masonic edition of Acadia's MemberFlex software (advertised on page 11), and it is very powerful, yet easy to use.

Many programs limit your member records to certain preset information like name, address, etc. With MemberFlex, you can define your own member information, specifying exactly what kind of data you want to be contained in the records - anything from date of birth to a member's favorite color. You control the way reports are formatted and the information you wish to track, without having to be a computer expert. I have found MemberFlex very easy and efficient to use because the program has been designed specifically to meet Masonic reporting requirements.

While software is the major consideration in computerizing your records, you should also make sure that you have the computer system you will need to run the software. MemberFlex, for example, runs on Windows and non-Windows equipped IBM compatible computers operating with 286 or higher processors. Make sure to check into the system requirements before you purchase any software.

As the member base that makes up Masonry continues to evolve, Masonic bodies around the country will continue to look towards computerization. Taking the leap into computers and software is much more enjoyable when you find the software that can solve your reporting needs.

Sir Knight Robert Chaput, G.C.G. of the Grand Commandery of Maine, is a member of St John's Commandery No. 3, Bangor, Maine, and he resides at 29 Hillside Drive, Hampden, ME 04444

Virginia's Eye Pin Benefits the KTEF

Sir Knights and pin collectors, Paul L. Purdy, R.E.P.G.C. of Virginia (1994-backs, 1995), has acquired a new pin to sell to boost donations for the upcoming Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. It is an unique and quite pretty "Eye", and the colors are blue, white, gold and a limited number have clutch but most have pin backs. The price, $6.00, includes postage. Make checks payable to the K.T. Eye Foundation and mail to William W. Longworth, 502 Wentworth Avenue, N. E.; Roanoke; VA 24012-3545

Black Color Is Gold
In Memoriam

R. Thomas Tennant
Oregon
Grand Commander-1981
Born August 2, 1916
Died March 25, 1995

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
New Club Memberships

Grand Commander’s Club

Correction:
No. 100,250--Glenn B. Shunk (PA)

New:
No. 100,282-George E. Meck (PA)
No. 100,283-J. Kenneth Blair (TN)
No. 100,284-L. Richard Dietz (TN)
No. 100,285-Sid C. Dorris III (TN)
No. 100,286-Philip Morris Simmons (TN)
No. 100,287-Howard F. Davis, Jr. (PA)
No. 100,288-Marion Kirby Matthews, Jr. (NC)
No. 100,289-Donald A. Adams (MD)
No. 100,290-William B. Van Sant (MD)
No. 2391-Josie Bentley (GA)
No. 2,392-Paul D. Warren (TX)
No. 2,393-Louis D. Hudgings (TN)
No. 2,394-Charles L. Taylor, Jr. (GA)
No. 2,395-in memory of Palma (Pam) Teter
by Idaho Commandery No. 1 (ID)
by Harold C. Jamison
No. 2,396-Earl R. Little (LA)
No. 2,397-in memory of Carlton Elwood
Eanes by Roy Cleo Murdock (TN)
No. 2,398-Roy Cleo Murdock (TN)
No. 2,399-Donald Warren Blair (GA)
No. 2,400-Royal M. Schott (MT)
No. 2,401-Alonzo Hartwig (MT)
No. 2,402-James C. Clark (GA)
No. 2,403-Luther Monroe Turner (GA)
No. 2,404-Ernest Charlie Kelley, Sr. (GA)
No. 2,405-Thomas Harold Wilson (GA)
No. 2,406-E. Don Coolidge (MT)
No. 2,408-David W. Tipton (TN)
No. 2,409-John E. Stallings, Jr. (PA)
No. 2,410-Stanley A. King (PA)
No. 2,411-John S. Stanton III (PA)
No. 2,412-Dana W. Richards (GA)
No. 2,413-James E. Salter (GA)
No. 2,414-Norman C. Perry (GA)
No. 2,415-William E. Holloman (GA)
No. 2,416-John H. Sohl, Jr. (GA)

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 Commanders 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

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.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc Twenty-seventh Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending May 5, 1995. The total amount contributed to date is $819,680.35.

<table>
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<th>State</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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100% Life Sponsorship Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Sterling Commandery No. 35
Sterling, CO

Noblesville Commandery No. 61
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Lansing Commandery No. 25
Lansing, MI

Highland Commandery No. 31
Hillsboro, OH
Chapter XXIII
biographies of
the grand masters
(continued)

Harry Gilmore Pollard
Thirty-Third Grand Master
1940-1943
(continued)
He was Greeted in Ahaseurus Council on June 21, 1897, and was Thrice Illustrious Master in 1914. He served as Grand Principal Conductor of the Work in the Grand Council of Massachusetts in 1918.
He took an active interest in the Scottish Rite. He served as Thrice Potent Master of Lowell Lodge of Perfection in 1906 and as Most Wise Master of Mount Calvary Chapter Rose Croix in 1917. Starting 1933 he served the Supreme Council as Grand Sword Bearer for the Northern Jurisdiction. He was Potentate of Allepo Temple AAONMS of Boston in 1937.
Sir Knight Pollard was Knighted in Pilgrim Commandery No. 9 on February 9, 1898 and served as Eminent Commander in 1907. He was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island in 1920. At the Conclave of the Grand Encampment in 1925, he was appointed Grand Sword Bearer, and in 1940 was elected Grand Master.

Charles Noah Orr
Thirty-Fourth Grand Master
1943-1946
Charles N. Orr was born in Princeton, Minnesota, on June 7, 1877. After completing high school he entered Hamline University at St. Paul and then St. Paul College of Law. He established his practice in St. Paul and became the senior member of the firm of Orr, Stark and Redder, one of the leading law firms of the state. In 1906 he married Miss Ellen May Adams, and two daughters were born to them. Mrs. Orr died in 1938. Sir Knight Orr was a member of the Methodist Church and an active advocate of education and of the need of a spiritual renaissance.
He was elected to the Minnesota Legislature in 1911, and served two terms in the House of Representatives. In 1915 he was elected to the State Senate, and was reelected for four successive terms.
Orr passed away suddenly of a heart
Sir Charles Noah Orr was killed by an automobile on January 10, 1949, while on his way to the State Senate in St. Paul, Minnesota. The funeral was held in the Masonic Temple on January 12th. The services were conducted by Damascus Commandery No. 1 of St. Paul, and brief religious services were carried out by Sir Knight Robert J. Rice, Superintendent of the Minnesota District of the Methodist Church. The funeral was attended by many of the Grand Encampment officers and members of the other Masonic bodies, as well as by representatives of the House, Senate and Supreme Court, and by members of the Bar Associations. Interment was in Oakland Cemetery, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Sir Knight Orr was made a Master Mason in Midway Lodge No. 185 on March 1, 1904, and served as Worshipful Master in 1908 and 1909. He was Exalted in Palmyra Chapter No. 55 on April 11, 1905, and served as High Priest in 1910. He was Greeted a Royal and Select Master in St. Paul Council No. 1 on May 24, 1905.

He was very active in the Scottish Rite, and was Commander of St. Paul Council of Kadosh in 1930. In 1925 he was elected a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor and was coroneted a 33° Honorary Inspector General in 1929. He was a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, the Royal Order of Scotland and the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Sir Knight Orr was Knighted in Damascus Commandery No. 1 on June 25, 1907, and served as Eminent Commander in 1920. He was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota in 1928.

At the Conclave of the Grand Encampment held in Minnesota in 1931 he was appointed Grand Standard Bearer and in 1943 was elected Grand Master. At the Annual Assembly of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, the rare distinction of Honorary Past Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Priory was conferred upon him by that body.

John Temple Rice
Thirty-Fifth Grand Master
1946-1949

John Temple Rice was born in Danville, Virginia, on December 9, 1888. The family moved to Greensboro, N.C., in 1892 and in 1901, to Spencer, N.C. He received his elementary education in the public schools of Greensboro and Spencer. In March, 1904, the family moved to El Paso, Texas.

Due to the death of his father in 1901, he assumed the responsibility of supporting and educating his sisters and caring for his mother. For many years he operated one of the leading drug stores in El Paso. In 1927 he was able to retire from business and devoted himself to Masonic and civic interests. He was an active member of Saint Clement Episcopal Church in El Paso, serving as vestryman and senior warden beginning in 1937. He never married.
Highlights

Florida Ladles "Love a Parade"

February 11, 1995, 2,500 Florida Masons celebrated their Homecoming at the Masonic Home with a great parade, complete with bands, motorcycles, pretty girls - even a camel - according to Mrs. Keith W. Dean, RS.W.P. of the S.O.O.B. She also informed us that the parade was only six blocks long but lasted for over an hour because of the number of the participants.

Included among the marchers were members of the Blue Lodge, Shrine, Scottish Rite, Amaranth, DeMolay, Rainbow, Job's Daughters, Eastern Star, Grotto, York Rite, and Beauceant.

Nine ladies represented three of Florida's Assemblies of the S.O.O.B. They were privileged to provide escort to the vehicle of Florida's Grand Commander. They are, left to right: Mrs. Harold Thompson - Tampa No. 208; Mrs. Richard Carr, P.P. and wife of the Grand Commander - Orlando No. 256; Mrs. John Robinson - Tampa No. 208; Mrs. Richard Young, President - Tampa No. 208; Mrs. Raul Reyes - Tampa No. 208; Mrs. Fred Piasecki - Ocala No. 249; Mrs. Daniel Dale - Tampa No. 208; Mrs. Roger Myers, P.P. - Tampa No. 208; and Mrs. Keith Dean, P.S.W.P. - Tampa No. 208.

The officers of Liberty Lodge No. 51 of Santa Rosa, New Mexico, recently had the distinct pleasure of assisting Sir Knight Tom E. Payne, junior Past Grand Master of Masons of New Mexico, in Raising both of his sons to the sublime degree of Master Mason. This unique Masonic event took place at Temple Lodge No. 6 in Albuquerque due to the large attendance of Brethren from around the Southwest. In the picture, left to right, are: Brother David Payne, 30; Sir Knight Tom E. Payne, P.G.M.; and Brother Glen Payne, 30.

The Reverend Juanita Duryea Hilsenbeck; pastor of the Peoples Church of Long beach and wife of Walt Hilsenbeck, District Deputy of the Royal Arch Masons, 3rd District; was one of the clergy selected to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land this year. Reverend Juanita, who volunteers at a nursing center with her Yorkie for pet therapy and dresses as a clown to visit patients at Nassau County Medical Center, received the Gov. De Witt Clinton award a number of years ago for her volunteer work. Her Lenten services this year were based on her trip to the Holy Land, and she has shown films at church and at the nursing center. In the picture at top of page 21, left to right, are Charles Mendell, P.G.C. of Indiana; Frank Williams; Reverend Juanita; and Sir Knight Robert Dockweiler at JFK before departure. Sir Knights Dockweiler and Chet Webb proposed the reverend for the Holy Land Pilgrimage.
Sir Knight Thomas C. Snedecor, P.C. of Melrose Commandery No. 109, Houston, Texas, states that the picture is of members of the Commandery as they participated in the Go-Texan Parade in Conroe on February 4, 1995. Participation in parades and the resulting publicity have electrified the Sir Knights, resulting in a new sense of pride.

A number of scholarships are given yearly by the Dick Horton Memorial Endowment Fund through the National Sojourners Americanism Committee. This year a sophomore from El Dorado High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, was selected by Kit Carson Chapter No. 447, National Sojourners, to attend the Freedom and Leadership Youth Conference. Presenting the Master Councilor and a Chapter Advisor of Metro DeMolay Chapter with airline tickets to Valley Forge are, left to right: Sir Knight Robert W. Zarn, Southwest Area Representative of National Sojourners, Secretary of New Mexico York Rite College No. 145 and holder of the Purple Cross; Josef A. Hart, Master Councilor; Sir Knight H. William Hart, Chapter Advisor, member of New Mexico Grand Lodge Committee for Public Relations.

Picture taken by Sir Knight Josh Lightie.

The Women's Auxiliary of Austin Commandery No. 84, Glenview, Illinois, has cut, sewed, stuffed, and hand packed a large box of dolls, which have been distributed to the Glenview Department of Police.

These dolls, reports Police Chief David J. Kelly in a letter to the ladies, will be provided to children "in times of stress, conflict and/or trauma," so the children have something to "hug, hold and carry during those needy moments."

The Grand Encampment adds its thanks to those of the Village of Glenview police for the caring and sensitivity of the ladies of the Women's Auxiliary of Austin Commandery No. 84.
A Knightly Installation for DeMolay

The Albuquerque Masonic community showed their support for DeMolay by attending a recent public installation of officers. It was of special interest that so many New Mexico Knights Templar were present for this youth event. In the picture, left to right: Row 1: James M. Hubbard, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lodge, NM; Sir Knight James H. Black, active member, Supreme Council, International Order of DeMolay; and Josef A. Hart, Master Councilor of Metro Chapter. Row 2: Josh Lightle, candidate for Spring Festival; Sir Knight Danny Lucero, Master, Lodge No. 60, Albuquerque; Christopher J. Davis, Sr. Councilor; Mike Davis, Jr. Councilor; Sir Knight Hillard Lewis, Master, Temple Lodge No. 6; and Sir Knight Danny R. Calloway, St. Sophia Conclave, R.C.C., and Executive Officer of DeMolay in NM. Row 3: Sir Knight Wesley Thorton, Director of Knighthood in NM for DeMolay and Deputy member, Supreme Council, International Order of DeMolay; John Kirk, candidate for Spring Festival; John Denslow; Sir Knight George Wright, P.G.M.; and Sir Knight Irvin L. Emmons. (Photo by Sir Knight Maurice Gilmer.)

Grand Commandery Of Arkansas Supports New Arkansas DeMolay Alumni Association

On Saturday, March 18, 1995, the 76th anniversary of the Order of DeMolay, a new organization to promote Masonic youth in Arkansas was officially born.

As part of the annual DeMolay Week activities in Arkansas, Chris Suneson (right in picture), State Master Councilor of DeMolay in Arkansas, presented the charter for the new Arkansas DeMolay Alumni Association to Sir Knight T. J. Henwood (left in picture), the first President of the Association.

The Grand Commandery of Arkansas and Sir Knights from across the state have shown a remarkable level of support for this new organization.

Four of the required twenty-five charter members were Grand Commandery officers, including the Grand Commander at the time and his Deputy Grand Commander. In addition, seventeen of those twenty-five charter members were Sir Knights.

The Arkansas DeMolay Alumni Association is already actively supporting the activities of the young men who have taken the name of our last active Grand Master as the name for their organization. Among other programs already in place, the group is offering to confer the DeMolay Majority Service, they are meeting with several Masonic Lodges interested in forming new DeMolay Chapters, and the association hopes to sponsor the presentation of the Ceremony of Light at various Masonic gatherings.
My neighbor died last Saturday evening. I had talked to him on the phone in the morning, and his last words to me were, "I will see you in a few days." That evening, he sat in his chair, watching TV, and died.

He was not a Mason, but a good man nevertheless. He was a man whom I would consider to have been contented with his life and lot. He was seventy-nine years old and was content to plant his garden, tend to his livestock, enjoy his family, and spend a little time each day petting his dog. He had lived on the same farm for sixty-one years and never ceased to marvel at the coming of spring. The fruit trees he had planted were gnarled and twisty, but he still gave them loving care.

His son found in his billfold the following homily, which he had apparently copied from somewhere, and carried for a long time:

If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music he hears, however measured or far away. Henry David Thoreau

We who are members of the Craft would do well to heed this advice. I know of no other social activity that can offer the genuine opportunity for the personal freedom of thought and activity enjoined in this brief message than the Masonic Fraternity.

Most churches require at least some unanimity of adherence to dogma and creed. Political parties demand basic conformance to certain courses of action. Most service clubs have in their being a singleness of purpose that requires some conformity among the members. Most people seek out others of a like mind or purpose in forming their social alliances and friendships.

True Masonry offers a place of comfort for those who may step to different music, so long as they do not demand that all others step to their music. Freemasonry professes to demand only that its initiates profess a belief in a Supreme Being, and that they live honest and upright lives, according to the Judaic traditions (or according to the basic traditions of most religions).

In practice, we often get so involved in striving for ritualistic perfection, maintaining some area of self importance, or promoting some charitable activity that we forget the tremendous influence for good that can come into our lives just because we can meet our Brothers on the level.

In our Fraternity, we can and should be prepared to step to the music we hear, and also permit others to do likewise. Only in this way can we realize the full potential for personal growth and satisfaction that is inherent in our teachings.

Every society has within it the basic requirement for conformance to certain practices. Since the beginning of recorded history, societies have arisen and fallen, according to the success with which they have been able to either convince or coerce their members to join in the group effort to achieve whatever goals were sought.

There is nothing inherently wrong with this system, except that invariably every great "civilization" has eventually come to naught, because the rules of conformity become so oppressive and ridiculous that
constructive and original thought is disdained and far too much energy is consumed in just following the rules.

Witness in our times the rise and fall of the Soviet empire, the tragedy of Bosnia and Iraq and Iran, and the continued reliance upon borrowed money in the United States of America. More energy is devoted to the "letter" than to the "spirit."

Our Masonic Fraternity is not immune to the frailties of other entities. Most Lodges and appendant orders find it difficult to avoid falling into patterns of Masonic Form, rather than Masonic Substance. I think, perhaps, we all are seeking the same goal, but it is difficult for modern man to think of things of the Spirit.

I believe it is time we directed our attention to this aspect of life.

Somewhere in our society of these United States, as well as in other countries of the world, an example of true Masonic Spirituality must be set. Where is a more obvious place than within the Fraternity? Before this can happen in the order at large, however, it must begin in the hearts of the individual members.

It is clear that this spiritual example is lacking in today's world. For instance, a local newspaper just published a study, viewing with righteous indignation the habit of a few high school students to gamble. Where on earth would they get such an idea?: In all our recent elections, the winning candidates have won more on image than because of basic beliefs. We tolerate within our homes the graphic sex and violence brought there by our newspapers, television sets, and magazines, and then wonder why unwed mothers and inattentive fathers are so prevalent. Our corporate culture runs by fostering discontent with the things we have and by trying to create an insatiable demand for things that few of us really need and that most of us cannot afford.

The real message of Freemasonry, of course, is much more subtle than any of this. It speaks differently to every member, and this is one of our greatest mysteries. It is most difficult to maintain an even keel while having either large or small differences with our Brethren, yet to be truly Masonic, we must do just that. We must start making these differences into opportunities to enlarge our own horizons, not vehicles to illustrate our own superiority or strength. Many of our rituals teach us that agreements must be mutual, and this lays an equal burden upon every member.

We must make a conscious effort to first get our own spiritual and moral houses in order and then, quietly and with fraternal love, encourage our brother/ sister to do likewise, always without being judgmental, and realizing that his/her drum may be playing a little different tune than is ours. I didn't say it would be easy, but it is essential to the well being of the world and the Fraternity.

Sir Knight Kent W. Gist is the editor of the Idaho Supplement for Knight Templar and a member of Idaho Commandery No. 1, Boise, Idaho. He resides at 6625 Denver Road, Fruitland, ID 83619
Truly Exciting Events in Indiana!

by Sir Knight Michael D. Gillard, P.C., P.D.B.C.

Occasionally in Freemasonry, something truly exciting happens. The Annual Indiana Grand Master's York Rite Class was such an event.


Our Grand Master, wearing the uniform of a Past Commander of Anderson Commandery No. 32, assisted the Grand Commander of Indiana Templars in Knighting the class. Grand Master Brumback conferred the Obligation of the Past Master (Virtual) Degree for the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and aided the Grand High Priest in Exalting the class. Grand Master Brumback is a Past High Priest of Anderson Chapter No. 52, R.A.M.

The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Indiana, wearing black tuxedos with purple accessories, conferred the Select Master Degree of the Cryptic Council. Grand Master Brumback is a Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Anderson Council No. 69, and he assisted Most Illustrious Grand Master Robert E. Durham, Jr., in Greeting the class of new Cryptic Masons.

Marvin L. Isley York Rite College No. 129 and Banks of the Wabash York Rite College No. 72, assisted by Companion Knights of the other Indiana York Rite Colleges, aided in the work and conferred the Most Excellent Master Degree and the Order of Malta. Our Grand Master is a member of College No. 129 and was recently awarded the Gold Honor Award of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. He is also a member of Robert A. Woods Priory No. 62, Knights of the York Cross of Honour (KYCH).

Occasionally in Freemasonry, something exciting happens. The 1995 Grand Master's York Rite Class honoring Michael D. Brumback, Grand Master of
Masons in Indiana, was an exciting event. But that class was only a prelude to another truly exciting York Rite event.

The Imperial Potentate's York Rite Class, scheduled for July 1, 1995, at Murat Shrine Temple In Indianapolis, will be a FIRST EVER for York Rite Freemasonry In Indiana.

This special York Rite event, held to honor the imperial Potentate of the Shrine of North America, Burton E. Ravellette, Jr., will witness the first ever conferral in Indiana of the degrees and orders of the York Rite in historical sequence.

Seven thousand Nobles of the Mystic Shrine are expected to be in the capital city of Indianapolis during the holiday weekend of July 1 through July 5. The Indiana State York Rite Association will host the Burton E. Ravellette, Jr., Imperial Potentate's York Rite Class on July 1. Shriners from throughout North America, who are not yet York Rite Masons, are encouraged to become York Rite members in this class.

Shrine members interested in participating should contact: Duane L. Vaught, Registrations Chairman; 3209 E. 10th St., D-7; Bloomington; Indiana 47408; phone: (812) 333-5011.

Registration desks will be established at Indianapolis area hotels and at Murat Shrine Temple. To better facilitate large number of participants expected for this York Rite Class, advance enrollment, through the registrations chairman listed above, is requested.

Imperial Potentate Ravellette is a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas. He has been awarded the honor of Knight Grand Cross of the Temple (KGC) by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A.

Sir Knight Michael D. Gillard, P.C., P.D.B.C. (IN), is a member of Muncie Commandery No. 18, Muncie, Indiana. His mailing address is P.O. Box 227, Gaston, IN 47342-0277

June 1995
The history of motion pictures is filled with mystery, intrigue, and patent fights. It was March 1895. Auguste and Louis Lumiere had just given the first successful motion picture exhibition in Paris. From the excitement of the crowd, it was obvious that the two brothers and their cinématographe projector had just changed the way the world was entertained.

Dozens of prominent scientists and as many basement inventors had been working feverishly to win patent rights on a device to photograph and project a moving image. These inventors knew that three essential ingredients must come together: an understanding of the persistence of vision (a biological concept in which an image persists for a fraction of a second after viewing it), the invention of flexible film (credited to John Carbutt and George Eastman), and the development of an intermittent mechanism and shutter to drive the film with the above requirements in mind.

The legendary inventor, Thomas A. Edison, is usually given credit for the creation of a motion picture system. Actually, Edison standardized the 35 mm film width and developed a peep-hole device that he called the kinetoscope.

Although the conception of motion pictures may have been Edison's, most of the contributions were made by his employees. In June 1889, William Kennedy Laurie Dickson and several assistants were assigned by Edison to work on a system of motion photography. This resulted in Edison unveiling his first peep-hole viewing machine on May 20, 1891. Blacksmith Scene and Edison Kinetoscopic Record of a Sneeze (Fred Ott's Sneeze) were among the earliest films made for publicity purposes.

Throughout the 1890s, Edison tried to discourage the development of the motion picture projector. He was convinced that his greatest profits lay with the kinetoscope device. When he finally realized the public wanted to see a larger projected image, Edison was left behind with an unsatisfactory machine.

Thomas Armat had developed a projection system far superior to Edison's. The great tinkerer and his bank of lawyers approached Armat and convinced him that without the Edison name he could never successfully market his machine. An agreement was reached, and in 1897 Armat licensed Edison to market his projector as an Edison product.

Louis Aime Augustin Le Prince was born in Metz, France, in 1841. He attended various European schools studying chemistry, mathematics and optics. In 1875, Le Prince, who was living in England, joined Leeds Fidelity Lodge where his friend, Richard Wilson, was Treasurer.

During the spring of 1889, a long fascination with the idea of motion pictures resulted in a single lens camera. That summer, his single lens projector was apparently nearly completed, but numerous problems including financial ones had slowed his progress.

In September 1890, Le Prince took a vacation with the Wilsons in France, and...
on the 16th of September, Le Prince’s brother saw him get on the Paris train at Dijon. Augustin Le Prince was never seen again.

No satisfactory explanation has ever been found for his disappearance. Some suggested his financial problems led him to suicide. Others felt he may have left his wife and didn’t wish to be found. Still others suggest foul play may have been involved.

The patent papers for his projectors were probably in his briefcase. Le Prince’s paranoia over the possible theft of his invention and the resulting secrecy of his work led to few eyewitness accounts of his achievements.

To this day, Great Britain considers Le Prince to be the inventor of motion pictures, and he was honored in Leeds, England, in 1930 and in 1988 for his contributions to the motion picture industry.

Throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s, various court decisions allowed and disallowed Edison’s claim to be the inventor of motion pictures. in 1908 the formation of the Motion Picture Patents Company put so many big names behind Edison that the patent wars came to an end.

By the early 1900s, about fifty thousand nickelodeons existed in the United States. Flicks, or flickers, had become the popular entertainment.

Improvements in color photography and the development of various wide-screen formats including CinemaScope and VistaVision kept television at bay throughout the 1960s.

Today the use of motion picture film is rapidly declining. The camcorder has replaced the movie camera for the amateur film maker. Modern video and digital processing have replaced industrial and educational movies. Eight millimeter and sixteen millimeter film formats are essentially gone, and the 35 mm film, the first developed, has been relegated primarily to commercial uses.

However, Lumiere’s cinematographe has had an unabashed, one-hundred-year legacy. It has given us new ways to see the world and more importantly, countless hours of fear, anger, tears, and laughter.

Sir Knight Jeffrey L. Nale is a member and a Past Commander of Lewistown Commandery No. 26, Lewistown, Pennsylvania. He is a collector of early motion picture equipment and operates a small theater (using antique equipment) in his barn. He resides at R.R. 2, Box 540; Mifflintown; PA 17059-9650

Further Reading
More Musings on Masonic Membership

by Donald L. Dorward, KYCH

Yesterday (as I dictate), I received a letter from a Brother who fills one of the most highly respected government positions in the Masonic Fraternity. As is quite common these days, the communication was accompanied by material, that with computer printing, can be prepared at a very nominal cost and is designed to be at least useful to the sender, particularly if the sender sends a large volume of mail.

The letter was the usual plea for additional support to meet the constantly increasing costs of overhead and for the effort to acquire new members to provide a more solid financial basis.

In the past, I have dealt, principally, with suggestions for improving the survivability of local Masonic bodies. However, since the current malaise seems to pervade all Masonic-related organizations, I would like to take a look at the Fraternity as a whole and see if the problem might be a virus, the effectiveness of which could be directly related to the size of the organization.

The nearly fifty (50) years of my Masonic membership include that period in which Masonic membership hit astronomical heights following the end of World War II. Since then there has been, in spite of all efforts, a steady and seemingly inexorable decline in that same membership. Since that period also encompasses my personal affiliation with the Fraternity, it is reasonable to ask Why?"

To a large extent, the Lodge represents the tie between the two oldest social structures created by man, the extended family and the small town. In the beginning, the Lodge, together with the school and the church, provided the arena for social intercourse and entertainment. In a very real sense, men became Brothers and were respected for the contributions they could make to the group. Their failings were understood and accepted.

The Lodge, particularly in the larger communities, could still fulfill this function, but events have been overtaken by the change in the social atmosphere in the last fifty (50) years. Today, encouraged by media and politicians, too many people are looking for the quick buck, the quick thrill, the quick satisfaction of wants, and the way to avoid responsibility for the costs.

Every Mason has heard, at least once, three very vital questions and their answers. These are: (1) "How should Masons meet?", (2) "How should they act?", (3) "How should they part?"

A very careful study of how we, as Masons, answer those questions in our own lives will help us to understand why we no longer are looked upon by many younger members of the society as a desirable status to be achieved.

Masons have no problems in reconciling the hierarchy of "line officers" being the temporary leaders of the Lodge for their terms of office. They always assumed that ultimately, except for the change of formal address, they would meet on the level in the lodge room.

However, particularly in this country, things have changed in that respect.

Through the years the number of Masonic-related organizations have multiplied to the point where I doubt if any person or organization could identify all of the Masonic-related organizations. Almost without exception, organizations, regardless of their original purpose, have created new orders and degrees with
elaborate rituals for impressing candidates. This requires local, state, and national governing bodies with evermore elaborate titles for the officers filling those bodies. There is also the problem of support for those officers and offices requiring dues to meet the expenses. If a man were to be active in all of the bodies, he would need at least a six-figure annual income and no family. The latter would be necessary because there would be no time left for a family if the person were to actively pursue the objective of the bodies of which he is a member. This is bound to be disconcerting to a member who simply wants to meet his Brother on the level.

If, as Masons, we could always remember to meet "on the level," the other two answers would usually provide no problem; however, we are human beings first before we became Masons. There are certain human beings who actively seek, however temporarily, positions of authority over their fellows. We meet them most frequently in the halls of politicians. To paraphrase a certain famous band leader, "The sweetest music this side of heaven" is a person's own name being properly pronounced in public. In some Masonic-related organizations, the introduction of "distinguished" visitors with their more and more elaborate titles can take many minutes. In Annual Conclaves because of their numerous titles and activities, some individuals may be introduced many times. This is in complete disregard of the fact that all men are created equal." The whole purpose of Freemasonry is to emphasize the equality of men as Brothers.

Sir Knight Donald L. Dorward, KYCH, is a member of Peoria Commandery No. 3, Peoria, Illinois, and resides at 1602 Woodbine Drive, Washington, IL 61571

Knights Templar Stein To Benefit Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Good news for Knights Templar Brothers! I just located 405 stein bodies to finish off the first limited edition of the Masonic Knights Templar stains to benefit the Eye Foundation. This stein is the first in a series representing different Masonic bodies that will be produced over the next eight years. Each stain is 26-oz. with custom-made blue and brown body, a bell-shaped lid and shield thumb-lift, and each includes ten pieces of artwork on the body. Each is hand painted in 22c gold and platinum and fired for seven days. Then, two other colors (black and brown) are added to make up the beautiful four-color effect of this Masonic stein. Each stein is numbered for this limited edition; this series contains one thousand pieces total from the previous sales of 1993 and these 405 pieces. The cost of the stein is $45.00, which includes shipping and handling, and of this amount $10.00 goes to the Eye Foundation. Each contains a certificate of authenticity. It will make a great gift for a Sir Knight for any occasion. (The stein for sale is very much like the one in the picture; however, the lid is different and the body is bigger.) To order, please send check or money order to: Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052. Shipment will be in approximately 4 weeks after receipt of order.
D-DAY RECALLED

by Sir Knight Walter F. Cook, P.C.

June 6 is the anniversary of one of the greatest events in history, the D-Day invasion of Nazi occupied Europe by the Allies in World War II. Besides troops from the U.S., there were British, Canadian, and Australian troops, and troops from New Zealand, as well as forty-four thousand French, Polish, Belgian, Czech, and Dutch soldiers.

The Allies took a gamble that they would be strong enough to maintain a beachhead on the Normandy beaches to drive inland, and eventually to Germany and Berlin. If Hitler had used his panzers or mechanized units more effectively, the Allies might have been driven into the sea. But they were not.

The war was a good and necessary one. The Axis powers - Germany, Japan, and Italy - were known for their deeds of cruelty and terror, especially toward the civilian population. Hitler and the Japanese warlords had to be stopped.

While this battle was going on, I was eleven years old and living in Elverson. I was a lot more interested in learning to hit a fast ball than in hearing about the war.

The battle had great cost in lives. The American Heritage Magazine in one of its issues had the letters written by Corporal Frank M. Elliott to his wife Polly and their baby daughter. At the end of the article, his wife and daughter received the dreaded telegram which said, "The Secretary of War desires me to express his deep regret that your husband, Corporal Frank M. Elliott, was killed in action on June 6, in France."

In my hometown of little Elverson, the parents of Jack Dengler, a pilot and one of our brightest and best, received a similar telegram that their son was missing over Italy. He was never found.

Irvy Hoffman of the Coatesville YMCA came to Elverson and participated in a memorial service for Jack. I remember my mother being very impressed with his part in the service, especially his beautiful prayer.

At that time in Elverson, the railroad agent received these telegrams. Howard Oswald was the agent, and being a one-man operation, he delivered the telegrams himself. He delivered one to my parents. Fortunately, my oldest brother, although seriously wounded, survived and after several operations went on to lead a normal life.

D-Day was a great victory. In this war and in this battle in particular, one sees the hand of God helping to remove the twisted thinking of a man like Hitler. When we think of his persecution of those who worked against him, his efforts to eliminate the Jews (the Holocaust), his medical experiments on innocent people, and his persecution of church leaders, we are thankful for his defeat.

In the words of the great hymn:

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices.

But today let us give thanks both to God and to the people of the armed forces, who did their duty in one of the greatest battles of history.

Far from the beaches of Normandy, in the jungle town of Kohima, India, there is a monument honoring British soldiers who died checking the Japanese advance into India. On it is a short verse:

When you go home,
Tell them of us, and say:
For your tomorrow,
We gave our today.

Sir Knight Walter F. Cook, P.C., is a member of Centennial Commandery No. 55, Coatesville, Pennsylvania. His address is R.D. 6, Box 397; Coatesville, PA 19320

To celebrate 200 years of TerTiary in Pennsylvania, the 144th Annual Conclave Committee is selling Knight Templar key fobs for a donation of $1.25 each or $1.00 each, quantities of ten or more. The key tugs are white with Cross and Crown emblem and in Hoc Sigrio Vinces' imprinted in red. They measure three Inches long and two inches wide with a one-inch split key ring. Send orders payable to 144th Conclave to George Matz, 138 Spiriton Lake Road Media, PA 19063-1826.

Two beautiful Knights Templar certificates to benefit the Eye Foundation. The costs are: "What Is a Knight"—U.00, and "What Is a Templar—U.00. The certificates have 5 colors with golden archways embossed on 80-lb. parchment paper. Also to benefit the Eye Foundation Is a Masonic Knights Templar stein honoring DeMolay for their 75 years. Purchase price, $47.00, including S & H. A picture of stems Is in Knight Tempclar, January 1995. Make check payable to Stanley C. Buz and mail to P.O. Bar 702, Whitehall, PA 18052.

Sir Knight artwork available, 11"x14". Pen and ink drawing is of a knight in armor, suitable for framing. It was prepared by award winning Sir Knight to benefit the Eye Foundation, Check or money order for $50.00, including S & H, to James Hansen, 6105 N. 76th Circle, Omaha, NE 68134.

Ukiah Commandery No. 33, Ukiah, CA, has corrisporlalve centennial coins, 1992-19, of antiqued silver—limited supply, special price. $3.50 each. Herb Wentworth, Recorder; 1039 Deepiina Drive, Llisiah, CA 95482-3203.

Wanted by newly appointed Grand Warder: Knight’s uniform coat, size 48; chapeau, 7 118; sword; belt; and accessories. James C. Rowland; Rl 3, Box 151a; Hones Path; SC 29654; (803) 575-3241.

Wanted: K.T. uniform, chapeau, and sword in good condition; coat, 42L; pants, 34W, 34L; chapeau, 7 1/2. Also want info on Knights Templar and Masonic supply companies. In U.S. and overseas call or write Kevin Cinnamon; 14454 Lee I-M’y., Box 163; GainsviIes, VA 22065; (703) 754-0176.

For sale: new C.P.O. uniform coats, polyester/wool, summer weight—sizes: 42S, 44S, 44XL. $20.00 plus & H. We also have some chapeaux and belts in very good condition. Partial proceeds to KTEF or H.LP. John Myers, 2120 N. State Road 127, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-2797 or J. William Meyers, 1460 Earl U.S. I-iglwey20, Angola, IN 46703,(219) 665-5686.

Fund-Raiser for new van for Shrine Kids Van Club; $100.00 donations receive a special pin and certificate. Any donation deeply appreciated. Make checks payable to Shrine Kids Van Club. Mail to Edward D. Foster, 4540 Ireland Drive, E.ensboro, KY 4230-1 Phone (502)684-5336.

Damasce Lodge No. 10, F. & A.M., Provo, UT, is celebrating its 100th birthday in 1996. A silver-lice medallion/key chain is available to commemorate this anniversary. On one side Is a Masonic emblem, and on obverse side is special commemorative text. $7.00 includes postage and handling. Owen Orton, P.M.; 4222 South 4900 West; West Valley City; UT84 120.

For sale: Suffolk Lodge No. 60, F. & AM., Port Jefferson, Long Island, NY, is offering its 200th anniversary commemorative medallion cola. This is not a stock coin but is custom-designed on both sides in high relief, finished in antique bronze. Will be a treasured addition to any collection at only $10.00 each. Checks payable to Suffolk Lodge Bicentennial, P.O. Box 101, Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776.

Bellville Lodge No. 376, F. & AM., of Bellville, Ohio, has a limited supply of 125th anniversary bronze coins available at $3.50 each, including postage. Write checks or money orders payable to BelIville Lodge No. 376, C'O Paul L. Frantz, 356 Main Street, Beliville, OH 44413.

You can help the KTEF! Aviano Lodge No. 643, F. & AM., in Aviano, Italy, is offering a beautifully enchanting "praying hands" plate, 7" diameter, featuring 2 praying hands in front of a peaceful, flowered setting. It is made of genuine porcelain with lovely 'Copenhagen' finish and has loop on back and comes with easel for wall or table display. All proceeds will benefit the KTEF. Send $10.95 plus $2.50 S & H to Frank Farrar, PSC 54, Box 701; APO AE 09601.

Spritg of Acacia lapel pins: Each handcrafted pin is of sterling silver with a 24k gold vermeil. Price is only $9.00 per pin, including S and H. 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF. These unique pins are available only through Professional Creators Unlimited 1630 Orchard Hill Road, Cheshtere CT 06410-3728.

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.

Please note: Because of demand for space In the "Knight Voices" section of the magazine, starting April 20, 1995, we will no longer honor requests for the repetition of ads. You must submit a written request and check, If applicable, for each time you want your ad to run. We will finish the repeat ads we already have, but starting April 20, 1995, all other requests of this nature will be returned to the senders.
Unique Masonic mementos for Blue Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Shrine with entrierra on elongated pennies. Please send $2.00 with self-addressed, stamped envelope for sample coins. Percentage of proceeds will benefit KTEF. John Yates, P.O. Box 3496, Wichita Falls, TX 76309.

Masonic dip an for IBM compatible computers. Artwork includes Blue Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shrine, O.E.S., Rainbow, and several others. Over 100 images available in your choice of PCX, T IF, or WPG graphics formats. Also available Masonic wallpaper for Windows. Please send self-addressed, stamped envelope for more info and printed samples. Percentage of proceeds will benefit KTEF. John Yates, P.O. Box 3496, Wichita Falls, TX 76309.

New Hampshire York Rite and Freemason belts are available again. The York Rite belt is on black military web with a ribbon sewed to the belt that has various emblems and names of the York Rite in silver, gold, and red, repeated several times. The Freemason belt is on navy blue with a blue ribbon and the working tool and Freemason* in gold and silver and brown thread, also repeated. A brass plated buckle completes the belt. The cost is still $12.00 for 100, in U.S. funds. Quantities can be shipped it desired. The length is 51 Inches, and it may be shortened if you wish. All profits go to the York Rite charities and the M.S.A. from the Freemason belts. Over $5,000 has been donated so far from the sale of these belts. Send orders to: Frederick H. Heuss, P.G.C., 6 Vernon Ave., Rochester, NH 03607-2034.

For sale: Amaranth gold finished emblem on 18 chain. Coat $15.00, including S & H. Proceeds go to the Amaranth Diabetic Foundation. A good fund-raiser for your court. Price quote on quantities of 50 or more. Men or women can wear. Checks payable to Maryland Court, Order of the Amaranth. Mail checks to Donald A. Adams, 6304 Fair Oaks Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21214-1120.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 23 years, and still need many pieces as I'm 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. I will answer all letters. Maurice Stordc, Sr., 775 W Roger Rd., No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (802) 888-7585.

Harry S. Truman antique 23 karat gold stamps printed in 1976. U.S.A. bicentennial commemorative, the remainder of this 1976 limited edition of 8,000 serially-numbered stamps. The engraving pictures the 33rd president wearing the Master's jewels as shown on the cover of the June 1994 issue of this magazine. Send $12.95 for one stamp mounted and ready to frame or in the original commemorative envelope (includes S & H). Part of proceeds to be used for Masonic work. Truman stamp, Suite 120, 3601 Noland Road, Independence, MO 64055-3341 or call 1-800-279-4703.

We have a few of these old-time, Masonic, mechanical American pocket watches left. Elgin, Illinois, Waltham, and Hamilton, value priced at only $250.00. Postage, insurance, and handling are on met Masonic symbols instead of numbers on the dial; clean-running timepiece in either yellow or white gold finish. A percentage to benefit KTEF. Call the professor at (512) 882-5974. Check or money order for $250.00 to H. C. Albucke 111, P. O. Box 3026, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3026.

Wanted: Tennessee Masonic Chapter pennies and other related medals. Working on book listing Tennessee tokens used by drug stores, general stores, bakers, confectionaries, lumber and coal companies, etc., and aiding Chapter pennies. Jon Copeland, P. O. Box 4221, Oak Re, TN 37831. (615) 482-4215.

For sale: Two York and one Scottish Rite rings, In excellent condition: sterling silver Royal Arch w/onyx effect background top and mounted RA Triple Tax emblem, $50; sterling band with Commandery cross/crown in red/black (Chapter/Council on sides), $25; silver color, heavy durability (stronger than silver), 32 with yellow double eagle, blue square and compass, blade yod, $75. Size 9; includes postage. Rev. Charles Roberts, 229 Wikwood Drive, Sumter, SC 29154. All sales final!

For sale: white and yellow gold, diamond Masonic ring with Blue Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Shrine symbols; appraised for $1,300.00 but will sell for $750.00. Tommy N. Thompson, 4133 Lakeway Circle, Benton, LA 71006.

For sale: beautiful Masonic ring In good condition-32 with blue setting of a double eagle. Must sell; asking $525.00. Ed Hat, P.O. Box 479 Genesei, MI 48437, 1-(810) 736-5619.

For sale: Masonic ring, Gothic Gents, of 1t yellow and white solid gold. Has ruby Scottish Rite and Shrine side panels, Blue Lodge and York Cross on front and bade. Cluster top of diamonds, approx. 60 Pt., and size 10 1/2. Appraised at $2,300.00; will sell for $1,500.00. For Wanted: Masonic pins, books, letters, pennies, jewelry. Mr. An Chair., 141-04 Northern Blvd., Rushing, NY 11354.

Finnish brother of Knight Templar wants to buy various Masonic related collection terra: first day covers, stamps and postcards, coins, medals, lapel marks and pins, rings, swords, and so on. Juhan Vourl, 3391 Lebanon Drive No. 304, San Diego, CA 92172. Fax: (619) 622-1142.

For sale: 2 spaces In wooded area of Memorial Oaks Cemetery, Box 479 Geneva, MI 48437, 1-(810) 736-5619.

For sale: beautiful Masonic ring In good condition -32 with blue setting of a double eagle. Must sell; asking $525.00. Ed Hat, P.O. Box 479 Genesei, MI 48437, 1-(810) 736-5619.

I want to correspond with Brother Masons who may know of any sources for 1-inch to 14000 scale miniatures of Masonic terra. Especially interested in appropriately designed entrance pillars, officer station podium and symbols of office, Masonic paintings, working tools, officer staffs, gavels, aprons, top hat, etc. James A Kirin', 805 West Lane Circle, MAWd, DE 1990, home phone: (304) 422-5992 or work phone: (3w) 629-1543.

WWII, 241c gold-plated Lame Dude insignia tie bar, and a 1982 proof, 11-oz .996 pure silver Eagle and Liberty Bell coin, dollar size, sealed in airproof holder, and 1995 calendar, $12.95 P.P. Art Joel, PM., 3259A San Amadeo; Laguna HIs.; CA 92653.

Have your full name written in Egyptian Neroglyptticsl Computer produced on genuine Egyptian papyrus, matted and framed and $1x10 overall. $24.95 includes shipping, west gilti G. D. Kingore, P.O. Box 2073, Arlington HIs., IL 60009-2073. Please specify name.

Korean war vets. 1st Cay. Div., 5th Regiment. E. Co.: Please contact me if you know of the whereabouts of fellow troopers and commanding officers: Hartman, 1st sgt.; Southerland; Schroder; Cecili; Connly; 2 Perry cousins, Ed and James; Curry; Guidry; and Ziegler, W H Crump, 50517 Athens Quincy Road, Aberdeen, MD 21708.

Brother Mason is avid baseball collector. Your old baseball glove is my treasure. Photos, bats, balls, etc—I collect it all. Mike G.onsclin, 242 La Pare Circle, Danville, CA 94526, (510) 838-0361.

Mount Emblem Cemetery, Elmhurst, Twilight section-3 lots, $2,585 value for $1,200 or best offer. Call collect (704) 891-8962 after 5p.m.

For sale: the 33rd president wearing the Master's jewels as shown pictures the 33rd president wearing the Master's jewels as shown on the cover of the June 1994 issue of this magazine. Send $12.95 for one stamp mounted and ready to frame or in the original commemorative envelope (includes S & H). Part of proceeds to be used for Masonic work. Truman stamp, Suite 120, 3601 Noland Road, Independence, MO 64055-3341 or call 1-800-279-4703.

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