



Knight Templar

VOLUME XLIV

JANUARY 1998

NUMBER 1

**Brother Gene Autry:
The Original
Singing Cowboy—
Story on page 21**



Happy New Year

"Happy" means "characterized by good luck, fortunate; enjoying, showing or marked by pleasure or joy; cheerful, willing." "New" means "different from the former; changed for the better, rejuvenated; recently obtained or acquired; never used or worn." "Year" means "a period of time divided into 12 months, fifty-two weeks, and 365 or 366 days." *Happy New Year* is a wonderful, joyous, challenging expression, and in the fullest context of its finest meanings, I extend to all my best wishes for a happy, healthy, and prosperous 1998. My prayer is that GOD through his Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ, will give us the wisdom, inspiration, and strength to further His Kingdom on earth.



January 1998: *Tempus Fugit*: "Time flies.": Times a 'wastin'; "Auld Lang Syne - The good old days long past." The beginning of a new year is a time for reminiscing, for precious memories of special times and events and friends and family. It is also a time for looking ahead, for planning and implementing for the future, for sincere resolutions to do something and/or do better. I am aware of a strengthening among our membership in our Masonic Fraternity of a commitment to excellence, of a willingness to try. I am convinced we are overcoming negativism, and I believe this points to a bright future for all areas of Freemasonry.

Friends, the trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation approved a proposal by Sir Knight Ed Ball, M.E.H.P.G.M., R.E.P.G.T. of the Grand Encampment and Trustee, to recognize those benefactors who designate the Knights Templar Eye Foundation as a beneficiary in a will, insurance policy, or by some other means. The details of a plan and program to provide this recognition are being finalized now and should be published in the very near future. This will be an exciting program. Look for it!

I appreciate your loyalty and contributions to our beloved order. Remember to support the 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the KTEF and the programs to get new members, to retain our membership, to educate and train leaders, and to build moral and spiritual character.

Sir Knights, I'm done pumping this issue. Best to all.

The 5/50 Program Works!

Sir Knights, if you ask, they wilt come.

Every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar!

James Morris Ward, KGC
Grand Master

Knight Templar

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

JANUARY: As the new year begins, good luck in all your Templar endeavors, especially for the 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign. Read Chairman Charles Games' article on page 5 for more on how you can help our outstanding philanthropy continue and expand in the future. Our coverage of the Campaign totals begins this month on page 18. Our cover and our feature story, starting on page 21, celebrate the career of Brother Gene Autry. Sir Knight Tribe has written another compelling story. All the Masonic related organizations have their day with a listing of their sessions and contacts, starting on page 7, and pertinent information about the Annual Conclaves of the Grand Commanderies is listed on page 11. There's much, much more, so enjoy!

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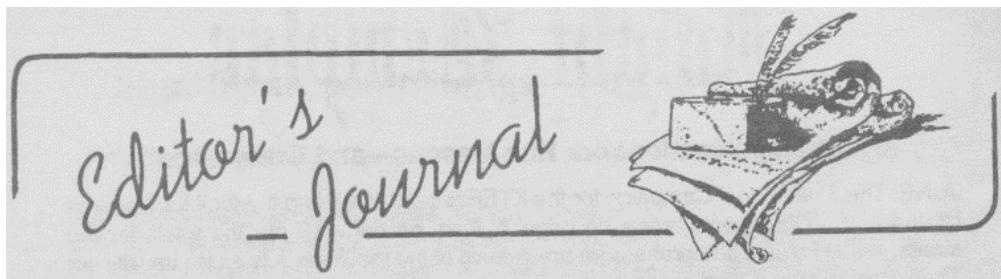
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Material for the Grand Commanderies' two-page supplements is to be directed to the respective Supplement editors.

Address corrections from mentors we to be sell to the local Records.



Announcement: Knight Commander of the Temple Award: All nominations for the Knight Commander of the Temple award should be made to a HOLDER of the award in the state of the nominee. These nominations will be reviewed by the holders and then forwarded to the Grand Encampment. NO nominations will be accepted if sent directly to the Grand Encampment office. Any further questions should be directed to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment.

Sir Knights, Attention!: An important and invaluable booklet entitled *The York Rite of Freemasonry - A History and Handbook* is available. It is authored by Sir Knight Frederick G. Speidel. 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. There are 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, plus shipping and handling; \$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.

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.

A Pilgrim's Path: Freemasonry and the Religious Right This is John J. Robinson's last book, and it is 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 shipping and handling. • **Dungeon, Fire, and Sword: The Knights Templar In the Crusades:** This history of the Knights Templar by the late John J. Robinson is 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.

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.

YORK RITE FREEMASONRY ON THE INTERNET - Official Web Sites

Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America
<http://www.knightstemplar.org>

General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons, international
<http://members.aol.com/GGCOUNCILJHomePage.html>

General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International
<http://members.aol.com/GGCHAPTERIHomePage.html>

York Rite Freemasonry . The International Information Site
<http://members.aol.com/YorkRiteFM/HomePage.html>



The 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign will reach its goal if all Sir Knights...

CARE and GIVE (Four-letter Words That Help Others to See!)

by Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes, Honorary P.D.C.
and Chairman of the 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign

The word "care" is used frequently in different ways, but most of the time it is a word of concern. We have all heard the phrase: 'when you care enough to send the very best!' These few words probably best describe "care." As Knights Templar we should CARE about the well being of others who may need our help. Somewhere along the road of life, we will meet someone in the Journey for Sight, and the care we show will not only benefit that individual but also others through the world of research.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., as a co-sponsor of the National Eye Care Project, certainly is a part of CARING for those less fortunate. WHO CARES - In our case it is the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and every Sir Knight shares in caring for others in the preservation of sight. Never forget that without our help through the Knights Templar Eye Foundation there are many Individuals who would not be enjoying the gift of sight today. We, as Knights Templar, should be proud to do whatever we can to keep the Journey for Sight moving forward.

The 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign has just completed its first month, and every Sir Knight is to be congratulated for his efforts in CARING. If you were not able to support the foundation in the past month, please consider doing something now. Remember - Blindness does not take a holiday, and we need to be one step ahead of darkness in our commitment to the prevention of blindness. We have a long way to go, but if we care enough to do our very best, we will be successful and reach the \$2 million goal for this campaign. The success of all voluntary campaigns is in the hands of every Sir Knight.



This is one instance in which no one should say, "I couldn't care less." At the Judgment we will all be asked: "Did you care enough to help someone less fortunate?" Let's be prepared with the positive answer so that He who greets us will say: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"

When I would ask a friend "How are you doing?", he always responded, "Thank you for caring." Until I heard that response the first time, I never thought that asking someone "How are you doing?" was an expression of CARE on my part. The next time a friend asks you, "How are you doing?", thank him for CARING, and you will probably get a smile or a surprised look.

If we care enough and give enough, the 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign will be successful. I believe every Sir Knight wants the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to grow, and if you share my belief that it can happen, IT WILL HAPPEN.

Take A Little Time For The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Show your support by wearing a watch with the KTEF logo. All watches are gold electroplated, and have precision metal quartz movement, scratchproof mineral crystal, long-life silver oxide battery, stainless steel case back, and genuine leather band. Your donation of \$25.00 per watch includes shipping and handling. Each Sir Knight will receive credit for at least a \$10.00 donation for each watch (the goal per member in the 30th Voluntary Campaign). His Commandery will receive credit in the 30th Voluntary Campaign. (The writer has worn one for four years without repair, and like the Energizer Bunny it's still going!)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip Code: ____

Commandery Name: _____ No. _____ State: ____

Men's _____ Ladies: _____

Send check to: Charles A. Garnes, Trustee; 1700 Jamestown Place; Pittsburgh; PA 15235-4944. Allow three weeks for delivery.

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. Emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use for the GCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is \$8.50 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the GCT emblem is \$10.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Contact Jon Patrick Sweet, 7474 Benton Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001, or phone at (303) 430-8483



Masonic Conferences 1999

Meetings Held During "Masonic Week" in Washington, D.C.

February 19-21 Washington, D.C. (annually)	The Phlaethes Society Grand College of Rites, U.S.A. Grand Master's Council, A.M.D. Council of the Nine Muses No. 13, A.M.D. Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the U.S.A. Great Priory of America, Chevaliers Biefaisants de La Cite Sainte Great Chief's Council No. 0, Knight Masons, U.S.A. Grand Council, Knight Masons of the U.S.A. Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis Masonic Order of the Bath In the U.S.A. Ye Ancient Order of Corks The Society of Blue Friars Grand College of America, HRAKTP
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Grand College Of America, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests

February 20 Washington, D.C. (annually)	Current Grand Preceptor: Donald Lynn Smith Route 6, Box 610 Lubbock, TX 79423	Contact: Norman G. Williams Grand Registrar/Treas 1447 Fannie Dorsey Rd Sykesville, MD 21784-8212
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Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America

February 22-24 Philadelphia, PA (annually)	Current Conference Chairman: William Jeffers, Jr. P.O. Box 715 Holbrook, AZ 86025-0715	Contact: Albert T. Ames Executive Sec./Treas. 110-A Bacon Street Natick, MA 01760
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Conference Of Grand Secretaries of North America

February 22-24 Philadelphia, PA (annually)	Current President: Robert F. Henderson 345 W. Monroe Street Phoenix, AZ 85003-1684	Contact: Stewart W. Miner Secretary/Treasurer 5428 MacArthur Blvd., N.W. Washington, DC 20016
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George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association

February 23 Philadelphia, PA (annually)	Current President: Edgar N. Pepler 101 Callahan Drive Alexandria, VA 22301	Contact: Donald M. Robey Executive Sec./Treas. 101 Callahan Drive Alexandria, VA 22301
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The Masonic Service Association of the United States

February 23 Philadelphia, PA (annually)	Current Chairman, Exec. Comm.: A. Harold Small 305 Smalls Lane Kalispell, MT 59901	Contact: Richard E. Fletcher Executive Secretary 8120 Fenton Street Silver Spring, MD 20910
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Supreme Shrine, Order of the White Shrine Of Jerusalem
NO REPORT

Grand Council, Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, Inc.
May 17-23
Norfolk, Virginia
(annually)
Current High Priestess:
Dorothy A. Foxwell
117 S. Parliament Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Contact:
Edna Wairaven
Grand Recorder
4208 S. Cottage
Independence, MO 64065

Supreme Forest, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America
May 28-31
Wildwood, New Jersey
(annually)
Current Supreme Tall Cedar:
Perry R. Strauss
163 Rennard Street
Philadelphia, PA 19116

Contact:
John L. Gahres
Supreme Scribe
2609 N. Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine
June 4-6
Fort Worth, Texas
(annually)
Current Grand Sovereign:
Thomas C. Yantis
P.O. Box 1312
Brownwood, TX 76804

Contact:
Ned E. Dull
Grand Recorder
P.O. Box 5716
Springfield, IL 62705

Supreme Temple, Daughters of the Nile
June 7-11
Las Vegas, Nevada
(annually)
Current Supreme Queen:
Kathleen Turner
2547 Landeau Circle
Tucker, GA 30084-3214

Contact:
Karen D. Burk, Supreme
Princess Recorder
2001 Broadway
Helena, MT 59601-4803

National Sojourners, Inc.
June 23-27
Seattle, Washington
(annually)
Current National President:
Benjamin T. Sutherlin
10181 Kings Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Contact:
Nelson O. Newcombe,
National Secretary/Treas.
8301 East Boulevard Dr.
Alexandria, VA 22308

High Twelve International, Inc.
June 20-24
Arlington, Virginia
(annually)
Current International President:
Ernest Berry
22416 Van Horn
Woodhaven, MI 48183-
3763

Contact:
Ike Hoshauer, Jr.
International Secretary
3901 Kathleen Avenue
Evansville, IN 47714

International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay
June 17-20
Kansas City, Missouri
(annually)
Current Grand Master:
Tony R. Krall
10200 N Executive Hills Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64153

Contact:
Jeffery L. Speaker
Executive Director
10200 N. Exec. Hills Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64153

Supreme Council Order of the Amaranth, Inc.

July 5-9
Nashville, Tennessee
(annually)

Current Supreme Royal Matron:
Barbara M. Hall
382 Emory River Road
Harriman, TN 37748

Contact:
Ethel B. Fry
Supreme Secretary
2303 Murdoch Avenue
Parkersburg WV 26101

Imperial Council AAOONS

June 28-July 2
Orlando, Florida
(annually)

Current Imperial Potentate:
Lewis B. Brantley
4435 Ortega Farms Circle
Jacksonville, FL 32210

Contact:
Charles G. Cumpstone, Jr.
Executive Vice President
P.O. Box 31356
Tampa, FL 33631-3356

York Rite Sovereign College of North America

July 23-26
Grand Rapids, MI
(annually)

Current Governor General:
Donald A. King
P.O. Box 2250
Picton, ON K0K 2T0
Canada

Contact:
Henry A. Montague
Secretary General
500 Temple Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201

International Order of the Rainbow For Girls

July 26-29, 1998
St. Louis, Missouri
(biennially)

Current Supreme Worthy Advisor:
Linda Freimann
32256 Eastway
Roseville, MI 48066

Contact:
Marie A. Renda
Supreme Recorder
27 Marilyn Terrace
Addison, IL 60101

Supreme Guardian Council, International Order of Job's Daughters

August 5-8
Vancouver, BC Canada
(annually)

Current Supreme Guardian:
Miriam Lamont
8617 11th Avenue
Burnaby, BC V3N 2P9
Canada

Contact:
Brenda D. Hansel
98 N. Country Way
Fruit Heights, UT 84037

Grand Encampment Of Knights Templar of the U.S.A.

August 13-16, 2000
Nashville, Tennessee
(triennially)

Current Grand Master:
James M. Ward
1265 Breckinridge Road
Jackson, MS 39204

Contact:
Charles R. Neumann
Grand Recorder
5097 N. Elston Ave Suite 101
Chicago, IL 60630-2460

Convent General, Knights of the York Cross Of Honour

October 2-3
Oklahoma City, OK
(annually)

Current Grand Master-General:
Kenneth D. Buckley
P.O. Box 656
Beggs, OK 74421

Contact:
Rev. Olin E. Lehman
Grand Registrar-General
7635 East Glade Ave
Mesa, AZ 85208-3409

Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J., U.S.A.

September 27-29
Cincinnati, OH
(annually)

Current Sovereign Grand Commander:
Robert O. Ralston
P.O. Box 519
Lexington, MA 02173

Contact:
Winthrop L. Hall
Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 519
Lexington, MA 02173

General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International Oct. 30 - Nov. 3, 1999 Wichita, Kansas (triennially)	Current General Grand High Priest: Murray E. Cooke 1345 Pacific Street Santa Monica, CA 90405	Contact: John F. Kirby General Grand Secretary P.O. Box 489 Danville, KY 40423
General Grand Council Of Cryptic Masons International Oct. 30 - Nov. 3, 1999 Wichita, Kansas (triennially)	Current General Grand Master: Orville E. Wesseler 1742 N. Sabin Wichita, KS 67212	Contact: Ronald E. Fullerlove General Grand Recorder P.O. Box 310 Sherrard, IL 61281-0310
Supreme Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant Sept. 20-25 San Antonio, Texas (annually)	Current Supreme Worthy President: Mrs. W. Dean Porter 3907 S. Country Road 1187 Midland, Texas 79701	Contact: Mrs. Joseph F. Chalker Supreme Recorder 1009 Valen Road Westminster, MD 21157
Supreme Council, 33°, A. & A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction October 4-5, 1999 Washington, D.C. (biennially)	Sovereign Grand Commander: C. Fred Kleinknecht 1733 16th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20009-3199	Contact: William G. Sizemore Grand Executive Director 1733 16th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20009-3199
Royal Order of Scotland September 30 Cincinnati, Ohio (annually)	Current Provincial Grand Master: Edward H. Fowler, Jr. 317 First Avenue Belle Vernon, PA 15012	Contact: Richard B. Baldwin Provincial Grand Sec. P.O. Box 125 Annandale, VA 22003
General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star Oct. 30 - Nov. 2, 2000 Detroit, Michigan (triennially)	Most Worthy Grand Matron: Florence A. Adair 35979 Castlemeadow Dr Farmington, MI 48335	Contact: Betty J. Briggs Right Worthy Grand Sec 1618 New Hampshire Ave., N.W. Washington, DC 20009
Supreme Council, Grottoes of North America June 3-6 Louisville, Kentucky (annually)	Presiding Grand Monarch: Conrad Swartz 390 Main Street, Suite 926 Worcester, MA 01608	Contact: Jerry Walker, P.G.M. 201 Walker Road Travelers Rest, SC 29690
Supreme Caldron, Daughters of Mokanna September 16-19 Peoria, Illinois (annually)	Presiding Chosen One: Florence Howlett 304 Helen Dr Chillicothe, IL 61523	Contact: Sharon Carroll 3305 7th Street East Moline, IL 61244

1998 Annual Conclaves

DATE	GRAND COMMANDERY	LOCATION	CONCLAVE REPRESENTATIVE
February 22-24	Alabama	Birmingham	Richard B. Baldwin
March 6-8	New Jersey	Somerset	James M. Ward
March 8-10	South Carolina	Myrtle Beach	Charles R. Neumann
March 12-14	Arkansas	North Little Rock	Lloyd A. Hebert
March 13	Delaware	Wilmington	Robert L. Foreman
March 13-14	North Carolina	Raleigh	Earl D. Barlow
March 21	District of Columbia	Hotel Washington	Robert L. Foreman
March 27-28	Mississippi	Meridian	William J. Jones
April 3	Kansas	Sauna	Blair C. Mayford
April 3-4	North Dakota	Bismarck	Albert R. Masters
April 6-7	Louisiana	Lafayette	Earl D. Barlow
April 11	Oregon	Cottage Grove	Douglas L. Johnson
April 16	Idaho	Moscow	Douglas L. Johnson
April 16	New Mexico	Roswell	Grover T. Halbrooks
April 17-20	Texas	San Angelo	James M. Ward
April 18	Connecticut	Rocky Hill	Richard B. Baldwin
April 18	Nebraska	Columbus	Albert R. Masters
April 23-25	Oklahoma	Tulsa	Charles R. Neumann
April 24	Indiana	Indianapolis	Kenneth B. Fischer
April 25	Tennessee	Nashville	James M. Ward
April 29	California	Fremont	Charles R. Neumann
May 2	Italy	Genoa	T/B/A
May	Maine	Bangor	William J. Jones
May 8-9	Virginia	Williamsburg	Richard B. Baldwin
May 12-13	Georgia	Waycross	James M. Ward
May 13	Maryland	Ocean City	Charles R. Neumann
May 15-16	Missouri	Jefferson City	Richard B. Baldwin
May 15-16	Utah	Salt Lake City	Grover T. Halbrooks
May 15-16	West Virginia	Martinsburg	James M. Ward
May 17-20	Florida	Tampa	Kenneth B. Fischer
May 21	Washington	Richland	Charles R. Neumann
May 22-24	Pennsylvania	Harrisburg	James M. Ward
June 4	Montana	Missoula	Douglas L. Johnson
June 4-6	Michigan	Lansing	James M. Ward
June 4-6	Iowa	Ames	Albert R. Masters
June 7-8	Vermont	Colchester	Charles R. Neumann
June 10	Nevada	Carson City	William J. Jones
June 17-20	Wisconsin	Stevens Point	Albert R. Masters
June 25-27	Minnesota	North Mankato	Albert R. Masters
July 18	Illinois	Decatur	James M. Ward
August 20	Arizona	Tucson	Grover T. Halbrooks
September 10	Colorado	Grand Junction	Kenneth B. Fischer
September 18-20	New York	Buffalo	Robert L. Foreman
September 19	Wyoming	Cody	Douglas L. Johnson
September 19-21	Kentucky	Louisville	Richard B. Baldwin
September 26	South Dakota	Pierre	Albert R. Masters
October 2-4	New Hampshire	Merrimack	William J. Jones
October 8-10	Ohio	Dayton	James M. Ward
October 16-18	Mass/R.I.	Sturbridge, Mass.	Kenneth B. Fischer

Visitation of Lodges: Scotland- Part I

by Sir Knight
James L. Sieber

Scottish Freemasonry is the oldest organized Freemasonry in the world'. Its basic principles are the same as Freemasonry around the world but it has many unique qualities. These are discussed from the author's viewpoint as a Pennsylvania Freemason who has some experiences visiting in other jurisdictions in the United States. The purpose is to look at some of the positive contrasts and if they are worthwhile to evaluate for other jurisdictions as the Fraternity plans for the twenty first century. The author spent a sabbatical leave in mathematics at Edinburgh University and that gave him a wonderful opportunity to spend many evenings attending Edinburgh Masonic Lodges and to meet many wonderful Freemasons. The paper will consider history and factors that gave Scottish Freemasonry its unique personality and some possible reasons for the development of its current structure. Changes based on these differences are not recommended, but rather it is suggested that the differences be looked at for ideas. Scottish Freemasonry, like the rest of the Fraternity, has some problems. Some of them are similar to those in other jurisdictions and some are unique. This paper will not focus on problems but on how their successes can give ideas to other Masons for innovations and improvements.

The early operative masons moved across Europe, and many traveled to Scotland to help build the great cathedrals. As the Reformation moved into Scotland and the large church projects stopped, the masons had to look for other work in the towns and cities. Craft guilds organized in each area to control their profession and entrance into it. The history of the many craft guilds in Scotland is recorded, but it is not clear why the masons' guilds added to their craft guilds another structure. This additional structure that developed into the current Lodge system was different but often worked side by side with Masonic craft guilds, had a large overlap of members, and often met in the same facilities. The Masonic ritual possibly replaced the desires of men for ceremony and ritual that the Calvinist

Presbyterians had removed from the churches². By the end of the sixteenth century there were Lodges that included both operative and non-operative masons and had ritual and initiation among their purposes. There were at least seven Lodges in Scotland by 1600. When the strong emphasis on moral lessons and characteristics of the Enlightenment molded the Fraternity is not clear and Robinson⁴ and Baigent⁵ give credit to groups such as the Knights Templar contributing to that molding.

The early lodges were secret organizations and did not include many who could read or write and so they did not keep much as records. In 1583 King James VI of Scotland appointed William Schaw as Master of Works and Schaw gave the Fraternity structure⁶. Since he did not have a long career thereafter it is not known if he can be credited with giving Freemasonry its unique character or just bringing it out of the darkness. He did identify many of the Lodges existing at that time and gave a set of guidelines in the Schaw Statutes that required the Lodges to start keeping records and set down some of the characteristics of the Fraternity. He also approved the Masons adopting William Sinclair (or St Clair), Baron of Rosslyn, and his heirs as Patrons of the Masonic craft for all time. If Sinclair had been given a Grand Master's jewel, Scotland would have had the first Grand Lodge. This William Sinclair is credited with ties to the descendants of chivalric organizations such as the Knights Templar and some of the mystic groups such as the Rosicrucians⁷. His ancestor, Prince Henry Sinclair, traveled to America⁸ long before Columbus. Some of the philosophical foundations of Freemasonry likely came through that channel. There is a lot of controversy on the ancient history of individual Lodges and the dates when they started. The Grand Lodge of Scotland, to avoid taking sides on which Lodges are the oldest, lists three No. 1 Lodges, one No. 2 Lodge and two No. 3 Lodges. There are some other Lodges with significantly larger roll numbers that claim to be older but which have only informal data to support their claims. The incomplete records suggest that there were seven Lodges operating before the end of the sixteenth century and twenty by the end of the seventeenth century. As an example of this lack of records, a member of Dalkeith Kilwinning No. 10 told the author that his Lodge

met in the current Lodge room in 1736 when they joined Grand Lodge. They have no earlier records on where the Lodge met, when the building was built, or where they met earlier. The building, owned by the Royal Order of Scotland and where No. 2 meets in Edinburgh, is considered to be the oldest building in the world built for Masonic purposes. Dalkeith's lack of records gives them no grounds to challenge.

In 1736 the Scottish Lodges officially formed the current Grand Lodge. There were over a hundred Lodges then operating, and those Lodges insisted on retaining their own ritual and traditions. When visiting Scotland, one will immediately discover that every Lodge has its own characteristics, and many have their own ritual, apron designs, officer titles, meeting schedules, etc. Some Lodges meet four times per year, some meet biweekly during the winter, some meet only in the summer, and others in almost any format appropriate. Some that do not usually meet in the summer will hold special meetings to coincide with the summer festivals so visitors in the summer should investigate if meetings are scheduled. Some Lodges use the ancient penalties, and some use modern ones. In some Lodges the Substitute Master is the person second in command and who will move to the chair as the next Right Worshipful Master. In other Lodges the Substitute Master is an appointed aid to the R.W.M. Every Lodge does have a Right Worshipful Master, two Worshipful Wardens, two Deacons, and Inner and Outer Guards, but the other offices and line vary. Tales that show up in some or many Lodges include Master of Ceremony, Director of Music, Bible Bearer, Organist, Architect, Bard, Piper, Almoner, and Jeweler. The system of having many junior officers is great for getting young members involved, and the system of conferring degrees permits many of the junior officers and other members to confer small parts of the degrees. Even if they only have a minor part, it gives them another reason to attend, especially when wearing an officer jewel or slash. It was explained that, when the Grand Lodge in England formed, there were few Lodges, and so it was able to tightly structure the requirements for Lodges. When the Grand Lodge of Scotland formed because of the large number of Lodges, they

insisted on keeping their own traditions. These traditions even carry to the signs as one of the first things one sees at a meeting is that Masons are standing side by side giving somewhat different signs. Another sign of the loose structure is that when the author checked with the office at Grand Lodge about an extra meeting that he planned to attend, they explained that they do not always know about extra and special meetings.

The Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges in Scotland practice democracy. The decision making body of Grand Lodge is the Grand Committee⁹ consisting of forty-eight elected members in addition to some elected Grand and Provincial officers. These elected Grand Committee members serve for three-year, rotating terms. For 1996, twenty-nine highly qualified Brethren stood for the seventeen open positions, so election is not automatic. These elected persons form most of the Grand Lodge Standing Committees. Members of the Grand Committee after their term of office must again stand for reelection if they wish to continue. Those Masons who are standing for election for the committee will visit many Lodges, participate actively, and show concern for the interests of the individual members to improve their chances for election. Similarly each Provincial Grand Lodge has an elected committee in addition to the elected and appointed officers. Each subordinate Lodge has a General Committee which meets regularly to conduct most of the Lodge business. Although it includes most of the elected officers and all Past Masters, a number of regular members are elected to it. Candidates are investigated by the local Lodge Enquiry Committee which includes some elected representatives. Each candidate and his sponsors must meet with the Enquiry Committee to decide the candidate's fitness to be a Mason. This committee reports to the Lodge which votes, with three black balls rejecting, but the Enquiry Committee seems to be the decision making body on candidates. The idea of the sponsors being required to come with the candidate to the Enquiry Committee is an attractive requirement.

To attend any Lodge a visitor must first find where and when a Lodge meets. Many Scottish Lodges advertise their meetings in

the newspapers. In Edinburgh Masons know to check the Friday evening issue of the Evening News to get a listing of most of the area meetings. The Grand Lodge Office on George Street has a list of the city Lodges including their location and stated meetings. The Yearbook lists the regular meeting times of all Scottish Lodges worldwide. In addition each Lodge has a number of special meetings including the specially scheduled installations. Since there are about forty lodges in Edinburgh and likely double that within the city bus area, one has no problem in finding a meeting almost every night and most Saturdays during the winter months. However, word of mouth works best. When the author first visited Freemasons' Hall, he was told by one of the employees that there was a meeting in a nearby town that same day. However, it was the only meeting they knew of soon. Upon attending it, he was told about three or four more special meetings that were planned to coincide with summer festivals. All visitors are treated very welcome, especially Past Masters. The author was asked some test questions once or twice but having his Past Masters apron and jewel he was treated like royalty. Guests, especially Past Masters, are introduced early in the meetings and are usually seated in the East with the Right Worshipful Master. Since Past Masters do a lot of visiting in Scottish Lodges, a forth of those attending may be sitting in the East. Most Scottish Lodges do ritual at almost all meetings if a candidate is available. There are several research Lodges that usually only affiliate new members and present papers. A few Lodges plan some speakers, but that is the exception. A wonderful characteristic of Scottish Lodges is the singing. "So mote it be" is usually sung, and most of the Lodges have opening, closing, and degree songs and the sound of fifty men singing adds great significance to the ritual. In most of the Lodges the R.W.M. delegates parts of the ritual so that there may be eight or ten Brothers who do small parts of the degree ritual. This involvement helps attendance and gets young members involved. Membership consists of three types of members; regular members who were initiated and consider that Lodge to be their Mother Lodge, members of other Lodges who affiliated, and honorary members. The author talked to Brothers who had two or three

affiliations and a half dozen or more honorary memberships. Usually affiliate and honorary members are more dedicated than the average member. Because there is an abundance of visiting, a Brother will often visit several Lodges regularly and be involved in their working and maybe even becomes an officer again. One friend was Tyler for several Lodges and another was currently R.W.M. of his second Lodge.

Affiliate members pay dues, called test fees, while honorary members do not pay dues but still show dedication to the Lodge by attending and helping. Guests are usually not expected to contribute to the cost of the harmony meal. The typical honorary member is a Past Master who visited when Master, made a number of good friends, started attending the other Lodge regularly and it offered him honorary membership. Seeing the number of persons taking the short obligation of honorary membership, the author would not be surprised if some Lodges have almost as many honorary members as regular members.

Continued in the February issue.'

Stevenson, Professor David. 'Confessions of a Cowan,' paper presented to the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, 12 May 1994

2 Flynn, Dr. Ira, lecture presented to the Loretto Centenary Lodge No. 1373 (Scotland) on Oct. 6, 1995

Stevenson, David, *The First Freemasons*, Aberdeen University Press, 1988.

Robinson, John J., *Born in Blood*, Arrow Books, 1993.

*Baigent, Michael and Richard Leigh, *The Temple and the Lodge*, Arcade, New York, 1998.

*Stevenson, David, *The Origins of Freemasonry*, Cambridge University Press, 1988.

*Wallace-Murphy, Tim, *The Templar Legacy and the Masonic Inheritance within Rosslyn Chapel*. The Friends of Rosslyn, Midlothian, Scotland.

*Wallace-Murphy, Tim, *An Illustrated Guide-Book to Rosslyn Chapel*, The Friends of Rosslyn, Midlothian, Scotland, pp. 11.

*Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Sir Knight James L. Sieber, a professor of mathematics and computer science at Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA, is a P.M. and also a member and Generalissimo of Continental Commandery No. 56, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania Home address: P.O. Box 356, Shippensburg, PA 17257.

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Choose your color: black, navy, dark green, purple, maroon, red, or white (The KTEF logo is purple on white items, white on dark colors.)

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Please circle color and size required; if necessary use separate sheet or photo copy this form.

<u>Golf shirts with pocket</u>	\$28.00 each—size:	S	M	L	XL	XXL
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<u>Windbreakers</u>	\$33.00 each—size:	S	M	L	XL	XXL

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 City/State/Zip _____

Every Sir Knight should be proud to wear the emblem of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. SUPPORT YOUR CHARITY, SUPPORT TEMPLAR.

History of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America: Book II

Chapter II

Period of Consolidation, 1949-1961

Forty-fifth Conclave, 1952

(continued)

The roll was called and the Grand Master began his report, and when he came to his Decision 9 as he read his address, it became obvious to all present that the "problem of the uniform" had not yet been settled. Decision 9 concerned the Sir Knights of Missouri, who believed that they had the right to wear the "fatigue cap" (billed cap similar to the military service cap) as part of the uniform and approved by the Grand Commandery of Missouri. The Grand Master's decision was that the chapeau was the necessary headgear to make the uniform a "Templar Uniform."

At the close of the Monday morning session a recess was called until Tuesday morning so that all could attend the Parade scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

On the following day when the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence made its report, the Majority Report was to approve Grand Master Gaylord's Decision 9 that the term "Templar Uniform" was understood to include the chapeau. This committee report, however, was a majority report; there was dissension and a minority report of one member of the committee, Sir Knight William E. Crowe, P.G.C. of Oklahoma, was submitted. He maintained that there was no "understanding" that the Templar uniform included the chapeau, and since Section 41 which sets forth the powers and duties of the Grand Commanderies, in subsection (I), stated "It may require each member of its Constituent Commanderies to be provided with a Templar uniform, and to that end, it may prescribe such uniform and change the same from time to time.", that it was within the power of the Grand Commandery of Missouri to approve the wearing of the fatigue cap as a part of the uniform. His report ended with "...I recommend that this decision be disapproved." There was considerable discussion for both sides (42 pages, P. 185-227 of the *Proceedings*) and when the question was finally called, there were 152 votes for the Minority Report 138 against. The Minority Report was

approved and the Grand Master's Decision No. 9 was disapproved.

On Thursday morning the uniform question came up again, in the report of the Committee on Policy and General Purposes. The committee proposed an amendment to Section 41(I), which made the chapeau an essential part of the uniform for conferring the Order of the Temple, but allowed the fatigue caps which had already been purchased for all other functions. (See Chapter XII, Uniforms.) The amendment passed an 80% vote and very little discussion.

Recommendation No. 10 of the Grand Master was presented for approval by the Committee on Policy and General Purposes to emphasize the fact that the Grand Master has the POWER and the DUTY to interpret the law between Triennial Conclaves, and the Conclave over which he presides shall have the opportunity to approve or disapprove of his decisions. This recommendation (merely a reassertion of the law) was accepted with little or no opposition.

A proposal to make membership in a Council of Royal and Select Masters a requirement for receiving the Orders of Knighthood was rejected. But the "handwriting was on the wall," and it would appear again.

The Committee on Templar Jurisprudence recommended no action be taken on the proposal for a Distinguished Service Cross or Medal which had been introduced too late for action at the Forty-fourth Conclave and had been given over to that committee. The committee members felt that more time was needed to "digest" the proposal. Their recommendation was approved.

Attendance at the Easter Sunrise Services had continued to decline (only 383 uniformed Knights were present in 1952) with only limited distribution of the broadcast. Knights Templar services elsewhere were held with greater attendance and at no cost to the Grand Encampment.

Fifteen teams had entered the Drill Competition in 1949; fourteen competed in 1952.

The Educational Loan Foundation continued to make loans to fewer and fewer students

(due to competition from the G.I. Bill of Congress?).

Four very well known and active Sir Knights died during this triennium: Sir Knight William Leslie Sharp, senior Most Eminent Past Grand Master, had died on December 22, 1950, and the Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo, Sir Knight Walter Stover, had died on the same day. Sir Knight Andrew Davison Agnew, acting Grand Master, 1932-1934, and Most Eminent Grand Master, 1934-1937, died December 20, 1951, and Sir Knight Robert Lester Strong, Right Eminent Department Commander, Southeastern Department, died on May 18, 1952.

Some of the officers installed for the forthcoming Forty-sixth Triennium were Sir Knights: William Catron Gordon of Missouri as Most Eminent Grand Master; Walter Alien DeLamater as Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master; Louis Henry Wieber as Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo; Paul Miller Moore as Right Eminent Grand Captain General, and John Temple Rice as Right Eminent Grand Recorder.

Forty-sixth Conclave, 1955

Sir Knight James C. Corbett, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the State of New York, at 9:00 a.m., Monday, August 22, 1955, declared the Grand Commandery of the State of New York convened. Lines were formed by the Sir Knights of Monroe Commandery No. 12 for the reception of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight William Catron Gordon, and the other officers of the Grand Encampment. Sir Knight Corbett then ordered his officers to relinquish their stations to the officers of the Grand Encampment, and Grand Master Gordon asked if there was a constitutional number present and was assured by Sir Knight John Temple Rice, Grand Recorder, that such a number was present. He asked Sir Knight Chester B. Emerson, Grand Prelate, to pronounce the Invocation. After declaring the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America duly convened, the Grand Master asked for a roll call of "the Officers and Standing, Special and Conclave Committees" and the Forty-sixth Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, held in the Grand Ball Room of the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria in New York City, New York, was in business. The Grand Master then declared a recess for the

purpose of introducing distinguished guests.

Some of the distinguished guests were: Sir Knight Harry Oscar Schroeder, Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, Grand Imperial Council of the Imperial, Ecclesiastical and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine for the United States, Mexico, and the Philippines; Sir Knight Frederick A. Nicholson, Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, Grand Imperial Council of Imperial, Ecclesiastical and Military Order of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine for the United States of America, Empire of the East; Sir Knight Frank S. Land, the Founder and Secretary General of the Order of DeMolay; Sir Knight Thomas C. Law, Active Member and Second Equerry of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite; Most Worshipful Brother Whitfield Johnson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts; Sir Knight Melvin Maynard Johnson, Past Sovereign Commander of the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite and Past Grand Master of Massachusetts; Most Worshipful Brother Claude Leroy Alien, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and Deputy of the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite; Sir Knight Robert Gardiner Wilson, Past Imperial Potentate and personal representative of Illustrious Waiter C. Guy, Imperial Potentate of the Imperial Council of the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America; Sir Knight Thomas Quitman Ellis, General Grand High Priest, General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Sir Knight Thomas Eari Doss, Most Puissant General Grand Master, General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters; Sir Knight Frederick George Mann, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada and of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta; Sir Knight John Henry Eydt, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta; Sir Knight Charles Edward Wells, Right Eminent Knight and Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta; and His Honor, Robert F. Wagner, Mayor of the City of New York.

In Memoriam



James G. Frey
Indiana
Grand Commander-1965
Born June 17, 1917
Died October 5, 1997

Clifford J. Brainerd
Wisconsin
Grand Commander-1952
Born May 21, 1895
Died November 22, 1997

Grand Commander's Club

No. 100,694-Herman Elwood Swadener (OH)
 No. 100,695-Robert W. Williams (NC)

Grand Master's Club

NONE

How to join: Any Individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more sped-fled 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 Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 100; Chicago; IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-3838.



Grand Master's Club and Grand Commander's Club Pins

Since July 1, 1992, all new members of the Grand Master's and Grand Commander's clubs have been Issued pins 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 Chicago, 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.; 5097 N. Elston Ave., Suite 100; Chicago; IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-3838.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Thirtieth Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending December 5, 1997. The total amount contributed to date is \$19,582.01.

Alabama	\$200.00
Arizona	30.00
Arkansas	220.00
California	355.00
Connecticut	150.00
Florida.....	1,147.00
Georgia	100.00
Idaho.....	30.00
Illinois	3,941.82
Indiana.....	260.00
Iowa	2,684.21
Kansas	1,200.00
Kentucky.....	825.00

Louisiana	\$55.00		
Maryland	200.00		
MassJR.I	125.00		
Michigan	3,110.00		
Missouri	200.00		
Montana	70.00		
Nebraska	124.50		
New Jersey	660.00		
New Voit	37.00		
North Carolina	1,000.00		
Ohio	110.00		
		Oregon	210.00
		Pennsylvania	1,320.00
		South Dakota	10.00
		Tennessee	231.38
		Texas.....	287.00
		Washington.....	60.00
		West Virginia.....	30.00
		Wisconsin.....	15.00
		Wyoming	16.66
		Heidelberg No. 2, Germany	300.00
		Miscellaneous.....	267.44

Brief Thoughts on the 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

by Sir Knight Glenn N. Marshall, P.G.C., KCT
Iowa State Chairman, KTEF

Perhaps, as a friend suggested during our conversation of a few days ago.. .perhaps, we are all growing tired of being constantly asked for contributions. Almost every day, someone has his hand out. We can hardly pick up a newspaper or open our mail, and.. .God knows... we are certain to be solicited by a phone call! There are telethons on TV and auctions and all sorts of personal pleas. Someone, always, is asking us to "open our hearts" through our billfolds. I think we can all agree that this is a fact of life, nowadays.

Perhaps, we should cancel the newspaper, "block" our mail, quit answering the telephone, and shut off the TV What would be next?: drawing the curtains and refusing to speak to anyone connected with soliciting for any cause whatsoever? There can be no doubt it would save us money!

But what then? What of our beliefs as Masons? What about our obligations we took to "bind the wounds of the afflicted"?

Well really, just what are they all about, anyway? Who cares? Who cares that there are those out there who are in need of assistance because they are facing the loss of sight and who are unable to pay for the cost of treatment? Who cares that some little child may have to go through life never being able to see our beautiful country, or that someone, perhaps someone close to us, may never read without the miracle of Braille?

What would the loss of sight mean to you or to your loved ones? Sir Knights, think about it! Isn't this reason enough why these annual campaigns are so very necessary?: to build funds to assist the unfortunate and to carry on research which may, someday, make their lives just a little bit better?

This is why as a state chairman I continue to "bombard" you with pleas and reminders to contribute to OUR philanthropy. I took an obligation when I accepted this position to lead OUR efforts. I cannot ignore the needs; therefore, I must continue to ask. Whether your participation be by Life Sponsorship, Patron, Associate Patron, memorial, Grand Commander's or Grand Master's Club, or a Commandery fund-raiser, my friend and Sir Knight, for me to solicit is not thankless. It is a privilege!

The 30th Annual Voluntary Campaign Is underway! Won't you please help!

Sir Knight Glenn N. Marshall, P.G.C., KCT
4617 Pine Drive, N.E.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-1717

Visitation In Ukiah, California Promotes Unity

Fall 1997, an event occurred in the city of Ukiah, California, which defies the usual trends toward apathy. The event was a visitation held at the historic Porno Shrine Club at Lake Mendocino.

The visitation was hosted by Ukiah Commandery No. 33 under the leadership of Sir Knight Art Riegel, Eminent Commander, who invited the leaders and presiding officers of virtually every northern California Masonic organization and a few more. Noteworthy was the unanimous feeling of unity, good fellowship, and acknowledgment of a common purpose togetherness.

In these busy and fast changing times, little attention has been paid to civic duty and involvement. Membership in civic and fraternal organizations, informal socializing and visiting are down by as much as fifty percent, reflecting, perhaps, a trend toward allowing the television to provide for most of our collective involvement in the world around us. Such diverse groups as churches, labor unions, PTAs, and bowling leagues have felt this pinch and experienced a drop in membership.

Among those working to change these trends is Sir Knight Art Riegel, who resides in the small town of Bloomfield in western Sonoma County and was the organizer of this event.

Present for the evening's festivities were the High Priest and Prophet of the Aahmes Shrine Temple, John Simmons; the Grand King of the



Eminent Commander Art Riegel, organizer of the event; 13-year-old Marshal of Jobs Daughters, Morgan LaBelle; and kitchen workers, Chefs extraordinaire Art Wade and Robert Hurt.

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California, Right Excellent Don Reid; the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of California, Harry LeBleu; the Most Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of California, Donaldo Robinson; the personal representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Scottish Rite of America, Southern Jurisdiction, Dick Delsi; the Past Worthy Matron of the Order of Eastern Star, Eleanor Kotila; and representatives of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughters, and the Order of DeMolay for Boys.

The gathering of such a diverse group of people by itself would be a daunting task, but to combine all of these magnanimous organizations for a night of informal socializing and visitation around a grand feast was exceptional. The feast itself was an eight-course meal prepared with the talents of Art Wade and associates, all volunteer.

Interspersed between courses were individual and honorable toasts, made by various prominent and well-respected persons, all well thought and very well given. Perhaps, the spirit of such glorious words of appreciation and admiration contributed to the general well-being felt among persons gathered, but certainly there was felt a blessing of good will and friendship that is rarely experienced.



Grand King Don Reid and Grand Commander Donaldo Robinson present a 50-year certificate to Harry LeBleu, Most Illustrious Master; 93-year-old Winford Owen; Sovereign Dick Delsi; and Robert Hurt of California No. 1.

Guy M. Chalmers
50 Lohrman Lane
Petaluma, CA 94952-3609

Brother Gene Autry: The Original Singing Cowboy

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH



Over the past four years, this writer has presented a series of articles concerning singers who are members of the Country Music Hall of Fame and who are Masons. Not without some forethought have I saved the best known, most successful, and perhaps the most influential of these artists for the last.

Gene Autry, who started his career as a telegrapher on the Frisco Railroad, spent many later years as the multi-millionaire sportsman-principal owner of the California Angels baseball team. However, during the in-between era of 1930-1960, this same Autry earned his premier fame as a radio and recording star, who also became the man who first made the singing motion picture cowboy an American cultural symbol.

The original singing cowboy was born Orvon Gene Autry in Tioga, Texas, on September 29, 1907, the eldest son of Delbert and Elnora Ozmont Autry. The elder Autry dealt in livestock and horseflesh while Gene's mother instilled in him a love of singing and music. The youngster paid \$8.00 for his first guitar - obtained at age twelve - and soon found himself helping out at community and neighborhood entertainments.

Rather than aspiring to become either a cowboy or an entertainer in his youth, the young Gene Autry looked to the railroad and a knowledge of the Morse Code as the key to his economic future. It didn't take the fifteen-year-old boy long to finagle a \$35.00 a month, part-time job at the local depot, and by 1927 he had turned into a full-fledged \$150.00 per month telegrapher. In Oklahoma in those years, this was a position that had

both local prestige and a steady income.

That same summer, a chance happening, a visit to the Chelsea, Oklahoma station where Gene worked, by the nationally known humorist Brother Will Rogers (of Claremore Lodge No. 53), would change the young telegrapher's career outlook. Rogers came in to send a telegram and took note of Autry's singing and guitar playing to pass the time. The older man suggested that Autry might benefit by a singing job on radio or for recordings.

It took a couple of years for Gene to get serious about a musical career. In the meantime, he went to New York for a tryout, where it was suggested that he get more experience. This prompted him to obtain a small radio program at KVOO radio in Tulsa, while he continued with his railroad position.

Orvon Gene Autry still worked as a telegrapher when he petitioned Catoosa Lodge No. 185 in Catoosa, Oklahoma, a stop on the Frisco main line fourteen miles out of Tulsa. The future star received his Entered Apprentice Degree on June 6, 1929; was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on July 4; and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on August 2, 1929 (not 1927 as has been reported in earlier publications). Some years later Gene continued his Masonic work, but in the meantime his career interests went through some changes.

Autry went back to New York in the fall of 1929 to pursue a recording contract. With the help of two Oklahomans who had started to record earlier, Johnny and

Frankie Marvin, he finally secured a session with the Victor Talking Machine Company and had his first successful one on October 9, 1929. Another railroader named Jimmy Long, who had accompanied him to New York, joined him in a pair of duets: "My Alabama Home" and "My Dreaming of You." The Marvin boys provided instrumental accompaniment, and Frankie did a bit of yodeling. Frankie Marvin would thereafter play steel guitar on many of Gene's recordings, but Autry soon learned to do his own yodeling. Jimmy Long would often sing duet on many of the early recordings as well, including his big hit of 1932 "Silver Haired Daddy of Mine," and Gene would subsequently marry Long's niece Mae Spivey.

In his early days, Autry did sessions for several companies such as Grey Gull, Gennett, Okeh, and Victor, but eventually he contracted to record exclusively for Art Satherly of the American Record Corporation (the precursor of Columbia). In those early days as a recording artist, Gene covered the songs of Victor's leading country star: Jimmie Rodgers, the Mississippi Blue Yodeler (also a Mason), and did numerous other songs in the white blues style. He also did some topical numbers such as "The Death of Mother Jones" and "The Gangster's Warning."

In 1930, Gene secured a radio position at WLS in Chicago. There he became a star on their "National Barn Dance" show and had another program of his own as well. The success of "That Silver Haired Daddy of Mine," recorded on October 29, 1931, propelled the twenty-four-year-old former telegrapher to the front ranks of country recording artists.

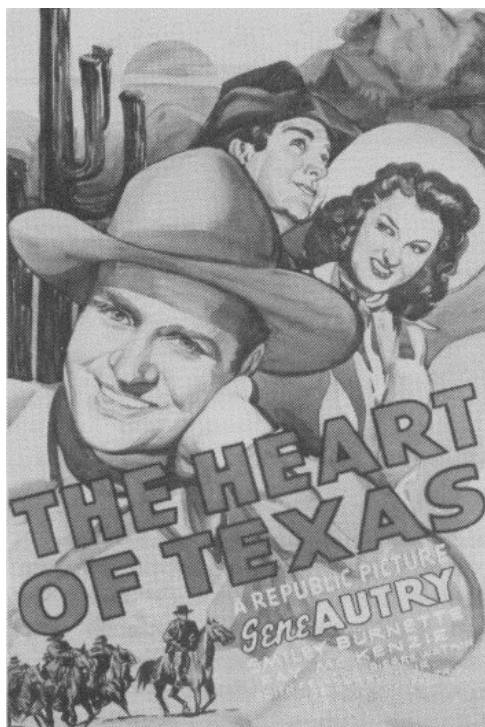
The next few years saw Autry assume more and more a cowboy image that had not been particularly strong in his earlier days on record and radio. Sears, Roebuck and Company began marketing a Gene Autry "Roundup" model guitar (this writer owns one) that sold thousands of copies, and his recordings by 1933 and 1934 contained a higher proportion of songs with cowboy and western themes.

In 1934, a motion picture career beckoned. Ken Maynard (also reputed to have been a Mason) had sung an occasional song in his movies from 1930 onward, and Gene made an early appearance in one of his 1934 films, *In Old Santa Fe*, followed by a science fiction-western serial, *The Phantom Empire*. Both met with sufficient popularity for producer Herbert Yates to decide to introduce a new type of cowboy hero to movie fans, the singing cowboy.

Yates and his newly formed Republic Pictures Corporation released *Tumbling Tumbleweeds* in September 1935, and the singing cowboy fad caught on quickly. Republic cameras ground out three more Autry movies by the end of that year, and rival corporations sought out other singing cowboys - Dick Foran, Tex Ritter, Bob Baker, Smith Ballew, James Newill, and Jack Randall - among others. Ironically, the only one whose popularity ever came to seriously rival Autry was the one Republic signed to keep him from becoming too independent at contract renewal time, Roy Rogers. It is generally agreed among film historians that the arrival of Autry on the scene gave cowboy



Gene Autry early in his movie star career, Ca. 1940.



movies a much needed shot in the arm, as some of the older stars had begun to slip in fan appeal, and the singing cowboys helped give B-Westerns a whole new lease on life.

Gene Autry's tough negotiating position at contract time constituted but one indication of the tremendous popularity he enjoyed in the 1936-1942 era. In 1936 he ranked behind only Brother Charles "Buck" Jones (of Henry S. Orme Lodge No. 458 in California) and George O'Brien in esteem among western stars, and from 1937 he held the number one spot. For three of those years, he ranked among the top ten movie stars in the entire industry. In addition to his forty-eight starring films for Republic in those years, Autry starred in another film on loan for Twentieth Century Fox, continued to have hit records, and in 1939 inaugurated his CBS network radio program "Melody Ranch," which ran for seventeen years. Among his hit records in the late thirties were such

Hispanic flavored songs as "South of the Border (Down Mexico Way)," "Mexicali Rose," and the number which became his long-time theme "Back in the Saddle Again." His films typically included not only music and adventure but a generous dose of comedy usually supplied by Smiley "Frog Millhouse" Burnette. Except for the Fox film, *Shooting High*, Gene became virtually the only star of his time to always use his own name for the character he played. In 1941, he became a comic book hero when Fawcett and later Dell initiated a series that continued for eighteen years.

It was also during these years that Orvon Gene Autry furthered his light in Masonry by taking the Scottish Rite Degrees in Long Beach, receiving his 32° on April 2, 1938, and joining Al Malaikah Shrine Temple.

The original singing cowboy's popularity continued unabated until July 1942 when he chose to enter military service. Although promised a commission, Autry wound up getting his promotions the hard way before becoming a pilot in the Air Transport Service. Gene flew cargo planes in locales as far apart as North Africa, the China-Burma-India Theater, and points in between. Discharged in the late summer of 1945, the western hero returned to Hollywood to resume his movie career. (His radio program had continued and he managed to squeeze in at least one recording session every year except 1943).

Although Roy Rogers had moved into the top spot among B-western stars, Gene held on to number two for as long as the polls continued to be taken.

He soon became embroiled in another squabble with Republic Studios and Herbert Yates. After only five more films for Republic, Autry moved to Columbia and finished his movie career there. Gene made thirty-two films in his series at Columbia which began with *The Lost Roundup* in November 1947 and continued through *Last of the Pony Riders* in November 1953. Pat Buttram, who had been a regular on the



Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette and unidentified lady in a scene from one of Gene's films



Gene Autry with leading lady Peggy Stewart in 1947 film, *Trail to San Antonio*.

radio series, served as comic sidekick in several of the films, although Smiley Burnette returned for the final six pictures. The late Gail Davis (who later starred in her own *Annie Oakley* TV series) was his leading lady in many of these films.

In this period Autry had his biggest record hit, a children's Christmas song, "Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer," which, although first introduced in 1949, still ranks as one of the all-time best sellers. Not far behind was another holiday favorite, "Frosty the Snowman." In addition, he also had a million seller with the Easter season favorite "Peter Cottontail." Meanwhile, he also kept recording for the adult market as well. Gene remained with Columbia through 1957 and later recorded for Challenge, a company he owned.

By the early fifties it had become increasingly obvious that television was becoming a major factor in the entertainment world and that the B-Westerns were beginning to fade in fan appeal.

Gene Autry moved into the newer medium - while still making movies - and formed **Flying A Productions**. Between 1950 and 1956 he made some 104 thirty-minute TV shows, supported by Pat Buttram and Gail Davis. In addition, Flying A created four other TV westerns: *Annie Oakley* starred Ms. Davis and is historically significant as the first western with a female lead; *The Range Rider*

starred Jack Mahoney and helped elevate this one-time stunt man to movie stardom; *Buffalo Bill, Jr.*, starred Dick Jones and had another well-known character actor and Mason, Harry "Pappy" Cheshire in a support role; and *The Adventures of Champion* featured Gene's long-time faithful horse. Unlike Roy Rogers' faithful steed Trigger, there were actually three different horses who were Champion at various times. In 1964, Gene revived the "Melody Ranch" program for local television, and although he seldom appeared on it, most of the old gang from network radio days were there including Pat Buttram, Johnny Bond, Carl Coflner, and Frankie Marvin.

Gene, himself, played fewer and fewer live shows in this period and engaged in a variety of business pursuits, having wisely invested his earnings from his years as a top star.

Since the early 1960s, Gene Autry has become best known as a baseball executive. After the Dodgers relocated from Brooklyn to Los Angeles, the American League reacted by expanding to ten teams including a new team on the West Coast. The Los Angeles Angels with Autry as chief executive took their name from the old Pacific Coast League team, and in fact played the 1961 season in the old PCL Park, Wrigley Field. Like most expansion teams, the Angels, who from 1965 played in Anaheim as the California Angels



Pat Buttram, Gail Davis, and Gene Autry in a scene from one of the later Autry movies, Ca. 1951-1952.

took their share of defeats in the early years, but Gene invested in the team and they eventually gained respectability on the diamond. In 1962, they had a respectable third place finish and found a quality pitcher in Dean Chance and later had another stellar hurler in strikeout king Nolan Ryan. While a world championship has not yet come to Anaheim Stadium, they have won three division titles. Finally, in 1996 Gene relinquished his control of the Angels to the Disney Corporation.

Now nearing ninety as this article is written, Gene Autry's place in the history of American entertainment seems secure. Long ago he was invested with such honors as membership in the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville in 1969 and the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City in 1972. In 1941 the citizens of Berwyn, Oklahoma, renamed their town Gene Autry in his honor.

Numerous Masonic honors have come his way, too. Gene was already a 50-year Mason by October 15, 1979, when he received the KCCH and on December 17, 1983, when he received the 33°. In July

1988 he received his 50-year pin in the Scottish Rite and capped off another honor by being awarded the Grand Cross.

Now in his twilight years the original singing cowboy lives comfortably from his many investments. One of Pat Buttram's jokes in later years was that his old boss "Mr. Artery used to ride off into the sunset. now he owns it." His long-time wife ma passed away some years ago, and in 1981 he was remarried to the lady at his bank, who handled his accounts, Jacqueline Ellam.

In the later eighties, Gene, Pat, and sometimes Jacqueline hosted the rerunning of many of his old films on the Nashville Network. *The Melody Ranch Theater* provided younger watchers with an opportunity to see these old classics again. Many of his films are available on videocassette, and numerous recordings have been reissued on compact disc.

Some years ago he opened a fine museum in Los Angeles, the Gene Autry Western Heritage Center, ably directed by the wife of another cowboy star, Mrs. Monte Hale.

In addition, Gene has said some fine things in public concerning the Fraternity to which he has belonged for nearly seventy years. Regarding Masonry, Autry was quoted as follows in a June 1987 article in *The Scottish Rite Journal*:

Fortunately for me, I was accepted into Masonry when I was 21.... It has been a most rewarding experience.... I advise all young men to take the first stop in Masonry as soon as they become eligible. Throughout my life, I have been inspired and guided by the lessons of Freemasonry. I fervently wish more people could understand and appreciate how idealistic and impressive these lessons are! What a wonderful world this would be if everyone practiced the idealism of Freemasonry!

*Note: Those wishing to learn more about Gene Autty may wish to consult his autobiography, **Back in the Saddle Again with Mickey Herskowitz** (Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Co., 1978). For his **Masonic History**, I am indebted to the staff at the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma and **At. Joan Kleinknecht** of the Scottish Rite Library and TV* Museum in Washington, DC. See also the above quoted article and **Bobby J. Cope** and, 'Masonic Cowboys, Favorite Westerns and Serial World.*

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, a professor of history at the University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio, is a P.C. and a member of Athens Commandery No. 15, Athens, Ohio. He resides at 111 East High Street, McArthur, OH 45651-1111.



Masonic Unity Prevails in South Carolina



At a Grand Commanders' York Rite Class held in Spartanburg, South Carolina, five York Rite bodies; Rock Hill, Gaffney, Spartanburg, Greenville and Clemson; participated in the conferring of the degrees and orders. Fifty-six candidates were Knighted. In attendance were all five grand officers of the South Carolina Masonic bodies plus the Potentate of Hejaz Shrine Temple, who also was the active candidate in the Order of the Temple. Pictured, left to right, are: Phillip G. Russell, Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons; Sam D. McJunkin, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter; Don S. Blair, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery; Illustrious H. Wallace Reid, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in South Carolina Scottish Rite; and Most Worshipful Samuel E. Tennyson, Grand Master of Masons in South Carolina; and Noble Claudis (Champ) Champion, Potentate of Hejaz Temple.

Connecticut Templar News

At right Sir Knight Charles B. Fowler, Jr., R.E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut, and his Lady Muff are received under an arch of steel at the Grand Commander's reception in his home Commandery, Washington No. 1 of East Hartford, Connecticut.



At left Sir Knight Charles B. Fowler, Jr., R.E. Grand Commander of Connecticut, presents the Grand Encampment Membership Jewel to Sir Knight William Albert for his efforts in sponsoring more than ten Sir Knights for the Knights Templar of Connecticut. (Submitted by Robert D. Sherrick, Connecticut editor.)

Three New Mexico Knights Templar and a Mexican Fiesta

Three Knights Templar met in the Land of Enchantment for a Mexican fiesta. The Potentate of New Mexico's Ballut Abyad Shrine, Sir Knight William S. "Bill" Lord, hosted a traditional southwestern dinner to honor Sir Knight John D. VerMaas, the chairman of the board of trustees for Shriners' Hospitals and Junior Past Imperial Potentate, and his Lady Jan and Sir Knight John C. Nobles, Deputy Imperial Potentate, and his Lady Charlotte. Seen standing in front of Albuquerque's Shrine Temple with the Sandia Mountains in the distance, from left to right, are: Sir Knights VerMaas and Lord. (News item by Harry Hart; picture by H. William Hart.)



Honorary Drill Team Captain of Bayard No. 15, Virginia



Pictured are Sir Knight Robert M. Ohman (left), Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, and Sir Knight John M. Chambliss, Jr. (right), Generalissimo of Bayard Commandery No. 15 and Captain of the drill team. They are offering their congratulations to Sir Knight F. Allen Brown (middle), R.E.R.G.C., on the occasion of his being elected Honorary Drill

Team Captain. Sir Knight Brown at age ninety-five is the oldest and senior Past Grand Commander (1954) of the Grand Commandery of Virginia. In addition, he was a member of Bayard's original drill team. Sir Knight Brown remembers that during his stint on the team they "took the cup" (Virginia's Rotating Cup) three times. This event took place in the ball room of Kezim Temple in Roanoke as part of the Grand Commander's official visit to Bayard. After inspecting the drill team and receiving their pass in review, the Grand Commander and party enjoyed an excellent dinner and then proceeded with the formalities of the visit. (By Sir Knight Paul L. Purdy, R.E.P.G.C.)

Grand Encampment Officers And Grand Commanders At The South Central Department Conference



The South Central Department Conference was held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, September 20, 1997. In back, left to right, are past and present Grand Encampment officers: Earl R. Little, P.D.C.; James C. Taylor, P.D.C.; Lloyd A. Hebert, Department Commander, South Central Department; James M. Ward, M.E. Grand Master; William J. Jones, R.E. Deputy Grand Master; Kenneth B. Fischer, R.E. Generalissimo; and Charles R. Neumann, H.P.G.M. and R.E. Grand Recorder. In front, left to right, are the Grand Commanders of five of the states in the Department: Lillard E. Payne, Louisiana; Edward W. Hart, Oklahoma; H. Corvon Carpenter, Kansas; Harold J. Richardson, Missouri; and Kenneth E. Story, Arkansas.

Holy Land Pilgrim Speaks At New York Conclave

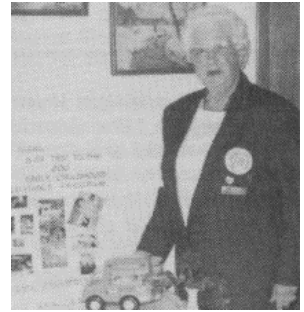
In 1995, Nassau Commandery No. 73, Hicksville, New York, sent the Reverend Juanita Hilsenbeck, pastor of People's Church, Long Beach, and wife of Walter Hilsenbeck, on the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Then-Grand Commander Walter Drake invited her to be the speaker for the ladies at the New York Conclave in Suffern. Members of her church and friends contributed crafts to sell, and she donated a generous check to the Eye Foundation. Reverend Hilsenbeck spoke of her unusual ministry; for instance, she dresses as a clown, Amazing Grace, to visit the sick and takes her Yorkie Noah to nursing centers and shutins for pet therapy. Her church is small but the spirit is big, and in conjunction with Catholic charities, they supply food and clothes to the needy. In the



picture, left to right, are: Sir Knight Steven Wing, Past Commander; Reverend Juanita Hilsenbeck; and Sir Knight Walter Drake, then Grand Commander of New York.

Beauceant Ingenuity At Work Once Again

The picture shows Mrs. Leslie Cadieu, Worthy President of Tacoma Assembly No. 168, Tacoma, Washington, with the lit-tie bus she purchased at the Goodwill to use as a prop for collecting money to send children from Early Childhood Assistance programs to the zoo. The funds were raised by donations, bake sales, and white elephant sales. The children at the school are taught how to deal with eating, manners, and living with others. They enjoyed the special day and so did the ladies of Tacoma Assembly because Mrs. James Forrest, Benevolent Chairman, convinced them to donate to the fund. (Submitted by Mrs. Charles D. Hobby, P.S.W.P.)



Wisconsin Assembly Hosts Visit of Supreme Worthy President

La Crosse Assembly No. 215, S.O.O.B., was honored to host the official visit of the Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, Mrs. Gerry Porter of Texas, and her Sir Knight Dean. Mrs. Nancy Ipsen, Supreme Worthy 2nd Vice President, and her Sir Knight Jay from Minneapolis, Minnesota, were also guests of the Assembly for the day. At the same affair the Assembly presented Sir Knight Earland Sagen with a Life Sponsorship in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. In the picture to left below, Sir Knight Sagen receives the honor from Mrs. (Martin) Mary Callaway (right), Worthy President of La Crosse Assembly. Sir Knight Sagen's wife Joyce is on the left. Earland was the seventh Sir Knight to receive this special gift from the Beauceant this year.

Also, the Assembly remembered the veterans at the Mosher Veterans' Home with homemade cookies and a monetary gift for Veteran's Day, and they sponsored a "mitten tree" at the Masonic Center with mittens donated to the Salvation Army for Christmas. In addition, the ladies have continued their collection of beverage can tabs to be sent to the Ronald McDonald Home. Their annual Christmas party with the Sir Knights was on December 14 at the New Villa Restaurant in La Crosse.

Below, right, are members of the Assembly and guests: front row, left to right: Dorothy Weidman, Nancy Ipsen, Gerry Porter, Mary Callaway, Ruby McBain, and Elaine Hunter; second row: Marge Bush, Joyce Sagen, Marion Neprud, Luccile Chase, Janice Clark, and Bernice Klehm; back row: Betty Winslow, Tamera Amador, Hazel Tyler, Norma Denny, Mary Lou Reilly, and Susie Davis.





Knight Voices

To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to "Knight Voices," The Grand Recorder, 5097N. 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. You must submit a written request and check, if applicable, for each time you want your ad to run. Each request must be separate and at monthly intervals, not several at the same time. All other requests for repeat ads will either run just once or will be returned to sender.

A request to all Sir Knights across our great country: Empire-De Wilt Clinton Commandery No. 14 of Staten Island, New York, has been given permission to mount a plaque on the gravestone of M.E. Grand Master De Wilt Clinton, highlighting his political and Masonic career. We are accepting donations to help us pay for the plaque, which will be cast in bronze and measure 49 1/2 inches by 24 inches. If every Sir Knight who reads this were to donate \$1.00, we would have more than enough to pay for the plaque; any monies left over will be donated to the KTEF. Please send donations made payable to Empire-De Wilt Clinton Commandery No. 14, CIO Alfonso Serrano, 4413 New Utrecht Avenue, NY 11219, earmarked for the De Wilt Clinton Memorial Plaque Fund.

For sale: Knights Templar shoulder straps, at ranks, embroidered in gold and silver bullion on velvet with Velcro backs: Past Commander (red); sitting Commander; Generalissimo, Captain General, Prelate (green); Generalissimo, Captain General, and Prelate Emeritus serving 7 or more years in rank (rod): \$35.00 pair plus \$5.00 S & K Also: Honorary Past Commander with H.C. in Old English, \$40.00; Grand Commander \$45.00; extra fancy Grand Commander \$50.00; Past Grand Commander (purple), \$50.00 (all plus \$5.00 S & H). Also: the peacock crosses: Sir Knight, \$35.00; Past Commander, \$40.00; Grand Commander \$45.00- ad plus \$5.00 S & H. Part of monies go to Masonic and York Rite charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N Jarredaren, Jr., PC.; 60 Manor Fbact Stanton, Island, NY 10310-2698.

Knights Templar triangular aprons, black with silver and silver bullion thread embroidered crossed swords on flap and skull and crossbones on the apron, are identical to those worn by all Sir Knights in the last century and still worn in some jurisdictions: brand new, \$75.00 plus \$5.00 U.P.S. Part of each sale goes to York Rite charities. Sal Caradonna, P.C., D.Z.O.; 23 Gail Court; Staten Island; NY 10306-2234, (718).987-4532.

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

For sale: new C. P.O. coats, polyester/wool, summer weight, sizes: 42S and 44XL. \$20.00 each plus S & H. Also, used chapeaux, size 7 with new plumes. A percentage will be donated to KTEF or HLP. John Myers, 2120 N. SR. 127, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-2797.

Wanted to buy: used Knights Templar swords, scabbards, and belts, needed by local Commandery to equip property room. Howard Brown, P.O. Box 164, Kellerton, IA 50133, (515) 783-2621.

For sale: York Rite cap with six-color embroidery showing Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems. Specify white or dark blue cap. Donation to the three York Rite charities. \$11.00 each plus \$1.00 postage. Robed Hauped, P.O. Box 433, Farmington, NM 87499.

Fate Masonic Lodge No. 802, A.F. & A.M., Fate, Texas, has 100th anniversary antique bronze coins for sale. Coin is 1.585 inches diameter with reeded edge, 3 mm thick or nearly 3/8 inch. Face of coin has "Fate Masonic Lodge No. 802, A.F. & A.M. on border, very center has a star, very center of star has square and compass, with wreaths outside of coin and banners 1896-1996." Bottom of coin below on border has the word "centennial." Reverse has square and compass in center with working tools around. Price is \$5.00 and \$1.00 postage. Checks or money orders payable to Joseph Ray Moran, Sea and send to him at P.O. Box 293, Rockwall, PC 75087.

Aurora Grata-Day Star Lodge is accepting donations for the M.W. Raymond C. Ellis/MW. Gary A. Henningsen Scholarship Trust, established in 1995 by Aurora Grata-Day Star Lodge in honor of her two Past Grand Masters. Any donation over \$25.00 will receive a commemorative medal which is suspended from a purple ribbon that you can wear around the neck. The medal comes in a protective case. Any donation will receive a certificate. Please send checks or money orders payable to Ellis-Henningsen Scholarship Trust, C/O Aurora Grata-Day Star Lodge No. 647, Masonic Hall, 71 W. 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010.

Do you have books pertaining to Masonry that are lying in your home gathering dust? Austin Lodge No. 12,

Aesiki. Texas, WI pay your shipping charge for books an Masonry. Allow three weeks. We are lithe process of building a Library second to none. Our library is being designed to preserve for posterity historic Masonic books and relics which otherwise might be forgotten. We are interested in volumes and single copies. Send to *Liberian. Austin Lodge No. 12, AP & AM.. P.O. Box 5150, Austhi 1X 78763.*

For sale: In Memoriam booklet, 5'12 x 8¹/₂, from Blue Lodge to family of deceased Brother. It has card stock cover with Spaivhment-like pages Including personal history page. The "Lodge's Memoriar presents Masonic sympathies and convictions In 2'h pages, and there is a signature page for Brethren. Quality presentation for family, especially it no Masonic service or Brother lived away. \$3.75 each Including postage or ten for \$23.50. Satisfaction or refund. Check to *Monument Lodge, P.O. Box 743, Houton, ME 04730.*

Masonic bumper slickers, "To Be One Ask One," make great mementos for newly made members or potential candidates. \$1.00 each or twenty for \$10.00. Larry Nines, Secretary; *Waukesha Lodge No. 37; P.O. Box 322; Waukesha, WI 53187.*

Crescent Court No. 3, the third oldest Amaranth Court in California. celebrated its 100th anniversary November 1997. For sale is a limited supply of antiqued bronze coke at \$550 each and a few antiqued brass (gold color) at \$7.50, Including S & H The coins are 125 Indies In diameter. Face has "Crescent Court No. 3 - So. San Francisco" circled around edge, lithe center is a wreath and scroll that says 100 Years" with the dates November 1897-1997" at the bottom. Reverse has or-dad around edge "Order of the Amaranth - State of California," in center a crescent moon with 3 stars and the number 3. Portions of proceeds will go to the Eye Foundation and the Amaranth Diabetes Research Foundation. Check or money order payable to *Crescent Court No. 3 to Roy Mathews, 1225-642 Vienna Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 9409-1863.*

Spring of Acacia lapel pins: Each handcrafted pin is sterling silver with a 24K gold vemieil. Also available In an antiqued silver finish. Price is only \$9.00 per pin Including S & H. 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEE These unique pins are available only through *Pretesslnei Creations Unlimited, 1630 Orchard Hit Road, Cheshire, CT 06410-3728, (203) 272-7579.*

Newt Scottish Rite ring with double eagle on top, trowel on one side and plumb on other. Also, available are Past Master and Blue Lodge rings with PM or BL logo on top, trowel on one side, 23all cane on other. All three are signet style, durable, yet elegant in solid chromehilckel alloy. Silver color only, \$99.00 plus Ohio tax and \$4.00 S & H. Whole sizes only, 7-16. Also, 101< gold for \$395.00, any size. 10% of profits to KTEE Check or MasterCard/Visa info to *Auratech Designs, P.O. Box 119, St. ClaJrsvLJJe, OH 43950.*

For sale: Masonic dip art in color for IBM compatible computers. Artwork includes Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, Knights Templar, Shrine, and several others. These are colorful images for your correspondence and trestleboard publications. Please send \$6.95 for the disk which includes postage. Percentage of proceeds will benefit KTEF. *John Yates, P.O. Box 3496, Wichita Falls, TX 76301-0496*

U Warded: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 24 years, and still need many pieces as lam 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 coiled, I will gladly exchange. I will answer all letters. Maurice Stord; Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214: Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 888-7585

Wanted: Penny Press machines, the type used to make elongated tokens out of pennies for Masonic bodies and events. Any Info on new or used machines will be helpful. Hand cranked or electric powered, they were also used at fairs and amusement parks. *Robert A. Snyder, 108 Second Avenue, Baraboo, WI 53913, (508) 356-4636* evenings.

For sale: Masonic ring, TIT 141< with 5 diamonds, 'Is Cf. twt. Appraisal call. \$1,500. One side has Scottish Rite, the other has York Rite. Asking \$900. *Eugene French, 1587 Venice Ct., Kissimmee, FL 34746-7238. Or call (407) 933-1717 or e-mail elfrench2@juno.com*

For sale: size 7 Osiris Temple fez with legion of honor on it. *James A. Harter I Stratford Drive, Apt. 102 Wheeling; WV 26003; (304) 232-3119.*

U Masonic books for sale from my personal library: 35 titles, most hard cover in very good condition, some very old. Call or write for free list of titles, or leave message on answering machine. All books sell together, \$300.00 plus postage. *John Wolf; HCR 65, Box 14; Crossroads; NM 88114; (505) 675-2333.*

Wanted: book on Scotsman named Bruce who was on a quest to locate the source of the Nile and found a lost settlement of fundamental Jews who had In their possession original scrolls and writings from ancient times. *Herb Knox, 453 Raleigh Chapel Road, Centerville, TN 37033-4302.*

U For sale: In Kankakee, Illinois, Memorial Gardens; two lots, 2 vaults and 2 interment fees plus transfer fees; a \$3,950.00 value for \$2,750.00 or best offer. In Christus Garden, lot 76-A unit 3 and 4. *Danny Lee, (941) 646-8783; fax (941)687-0874.*

Wailed: amateur (ham) radio equipment: radios, transceivers, meters, etc. *Wham B. Paimer 629 Harvey Street, West 11azleton4 PA 11-1507, (717) 455-6754.*

Wanted by new sword collector: Japanese swords or daggers or whatnots. I will buy or have many great items to trade. *Dale Atkins, Box 431, Logan, WV 25601, (304)752-7294.*

Collecting Hopalong Cassidy, International Harvester, Sinclair, Belknap Items. Would appreciate hearing from you concerning the above. *William Best, 1230 W. 20th Street, Bloomington, IN 47404, (812)332-1275.*

Wanted: Oklahoma Sir Knight is collecting Lionel trains. Look in your attic or your storage and call or write *John Alexander, 7617 E. 66th Street; Tulsa, OK 73133, (918) 252-4981.*

