Knight Templar

VOLUME XLV  FEBRUARY 1999  NUMBER 2

RIGHT EMINENT
DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS
1997–2000

Above: Albert R. Masters
North Central Department

Above: Douglas L. Johnson
Northwestern Department

Above: Lloyd A. Hebert
South Central Department

Right: Grover T. Halbrooks
Southwestern Department
Grand Master's Message - February 1999

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Sir Knight P. Fred Lesley, P.G.C., H.P.D.C., G.R. (Michigan) and Sir Knight R. Frank Williams, P.G.C., H.P.D.C., (Indiana), Co-chairmen of the Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage, will again lead groups of Christian ministers on a tour of the Holy Land, Israel, to walk where Jesus walked. We know that this is a wonderful, exciting, and inspiring experience for these ministers, as evidenced by the enthusiastic testimonies of those who previously participated in this pilgrimage. Sir Knights, I commend you for the commitments that have made this undertaking possible and urge you to continue your generous support of this worthy cause. I also commend the unselfish, dedicated, knowledgeable Christen leadership of Sir Knights P. Fred Lesley and R. Frank Williams, and I know you join with me in expressing our thanks and appreciation for the great work done by these good men.

Easter-1999

The annual Knights Templar Easter weekend activities are planned for April 3-4, 1999, in of District of Columbia and at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. Saturday activities include the public laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery by members of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana and luncheon at the Hotel Washington. Sunday activities include early morning coffee and pastries at the Hotel Washington, sunrise religious services at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, and breakfast at the Hotel Washington. Sir Knight Richard B. Baldwin, R.E.G.C.G.; Sir Knight Bob Hines, P.G.C.; members of this committee; the officers and others from the Grand Commandery of Indiana; and many others have worked hard on the planning and implementing of these activities, and I know this will truly be a special time. I hope you will make a special effort to attend.

31St Annual Voluntary Campaign - Every Commandery Participating $2,000,000 by April 30,1999 - We Can Do It!

Membership

Membership in Grand Encampment continues to be of prime importance. Recent reports indicate that non-death losses in membership continue to be the major problem, in particular, suspensions. Membership retention is imperative. The 5/50 Membership Plan or a similar membership plan works well when it has been implemented and supported. Sir Knights, it is imperative that we devise ways and means to involve and inspire our members to reduce non-death losses, to get new members, to retain our present members, to educate and train leaders, and to provide the environment in our Commanderies that is conducive to our fulfilling the purposes for which we exist as Christian Masons and Knights Templar. Try it! I'm done pumping. GODSPEED!

Every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar

James Morris Ward, KGC, Grand Master
FEBRUARY: On page 9 of this issue you will find the Campaign tally for the Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies. The total is less than that of last year at this time, so please try to get your fundraisers going and all contributions in as soon as possible. We need to change this trend! The biographies of four Department Commanders, who are pictured on this month’s cover, start on page 11. In preparation for Easter activities, an article on the trial of Jesus, presented from a judicial point of view, is featured on pages 21-22, and Sir Knight Ivan Tribe has written a biography of another accomplished Brother, and this starts on page 23. For those who are intrigued by the history of the Craft, Sir Knight Stephen Greenberg’s story on page 27 should be an instant success! Enjoy!

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Correction: There are two corrections to the article on the Easter program as printed in the November issue of the Knight Templar Magazine. The Hotel Washington package for singles is $218.00. For Grand Commanders and their ladies, only, the Saturday luncheon is complimentary. Since this is difficult for the hotel to handle, please pay the full package amount, and the Grand Recorder will reimburse you $25.00 for yourself it alone or $50.00 for you and your lady.

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.

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 kits 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.

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 31st Annual Voluntary Campaign
Which Road Will You Take to Help
In the Preservation of Sight?

by Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes, Honorary P.D.C.
and Chairman of the 31st Annual Voluntary Campaign

Two words that go together are "Caring" and "Sharing," and the cry of those who need the more fortunate to care and share are heard throughout the land. We have just completed the holiday season when many people who have been blessed by God in receiving material items are willing to show that they care by sharing their good fortune. Never forget we came into this world without any possessions, and those that God has given us will stay here when he calls us to return from whence we came.

Some people will say those who give do so only to take advantage of a tax deduction, and this may or may not be so, but the fact remains that they "Care enough to Share" with those who need help. One might consider this giving as "God's Children helping God's Children." Those who receive help receive much more benefit than those who have a savings due to a tax deduction. Think about this: Which is more important, the preservation of sight or not having to pay tax on some amount of money large or small? If there were a vote, preservation of sight would win.

We are thankful for those who care and share with the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., in preparing their wills because without this unknown income we would be more concerned about how we can continue to help those in need. Unfortunately, about half of the Sir Knights will not read this article, so obviously they will not care to share. To those who do read this article and care, I would ask you to share with other Sir Knights, your family, and friends knowledge of the great work being done by your Foundation. There is no greater gift than "The Gift of Sight."

Each month the Knight Templar magazine is mailed to over 200,000 members, yet less than 1/2 of that number are willing to support the Foundation by giving just $10.00 so "That Others May See."

As you come to the end of this message, I hope the spirit of caring and sharing will move you to immediately send a donation to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Don't wait until tomorrow because the spirit will have moved on, and caring and sharing may not be high on your priority list.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., needs and deserves your support. May God continue to bless you and through you help others in need.

Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes, Honorary Past Department Commander and P.G.C. of Pennsylvania, is the Campaign Chairman of the 31st Annual Voluntary Campaign and a member of Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, Pennsylvania. He resides at 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944; Send personal e-mail to: cagarnes@aol.com For information on the KTEF, send e-mail to: ktet@knightstemplar.org
Letter to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The help of the Knights Templar made my Christmas much better this year! Without your help it would have been very difficult.

My doctor says I am doing well, and I hope someday I will be able to pay back the Knights Templar. . .with even more. Again, thank you so very much!

Jeaneti Whatley
Hueytown, Alabama

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the previous and present grant you have given my son Blame to stop his eye deterioration due to glaucoma.

The cost of drops to keep the pressure down has averaged about $90.00 per month, not to mention paying for monthly doctor visits.

I wish I could have financed his surgery, but with Blame having no insurance and my living on Medicare it seemed impossible.

I want to donate this small amount and hope your wonderful organization will continue to help others. You are helping Blame to keep the 10% vision he has left in both eyes.

Vernice J. Staber
Midvale, Utah

My sister was in need of eye surgery, but she had no money for it, and it was a big problem. I just want to send a thank you message to you for giving her this wonderful gift. You have given her so much more, also: You have given her back the independence she so needed, her self worth, and the ability to continue to watch her grandchildren grow.

You have, also, given me a much stronger belief in God. You see, only three years ago our mother passed away. We were both very close to her, and since my sister has been sick most of her life, I believe my mother left me here to take care of her; however, my sister is a strong person, for she consoled me in the darkest times since our Mother has gone.

I just wanted you to know what you have given to our family is much more than you know. My sister is not able to write a letter yet, but we expect she will soon be able to do so.

On behalf of my sister, Betty Sue Elliott, I would like to say: Thank you is not enough for what you have done. God bless you.

Pam Banister
Shallowater, Texas

I am just writing to let you know that my wife's surgery came out fine. Her vision in that eye is 20/40. That is much better than we expected. We sure do thank you from the bottom of our hearts for paying for the surgery as no one else would help us with this. Your Foundation was the last one we could turn to, and you came through for us.

Thomas and Linda Jobs

Thanks to you I had my eye surgery on the tenth of November, and it was successful. I now have 20/30 vision. I have just been fitted with reading glasses. I am so grateful to your organization for the help that you have given us.

Charles Satterfield
Greenwood, Arkansas
Recipients Of The Grand Encampment Membership Jewel

326. Jack Edwin Wylie, Tancred Commandery No. 82, Dallas, TX. 9-10-98. (jewel and one bronze)
327. George M. Davenport, Jr., DeMolay Commandery No. 5, Americus, GA. 9-14-98.
328. Gerald Elwin Parker, Worth Commandery No. 19, Fort Worth, TX. 9-24-98.
329. Alston B. Deering, St. Aldemar Commandery No. 17, Houlton, ME. 10-1-98.
330. Bill D. Bourland, Colorado Commandery No. 4, Austin, TX. 10-5-98.
333. Larry N. Flowers, Sr., Bowling Green Commandery No. 23, Bowling Green, KY. 11-2-98.
334. Jack E. Giles, Ascension Commandery No. 6, Shreveport, LA. 11-2-98. (jewel and two bronze)
335. John W. Walker, Ascension Commandery No. 6, Shreveport, LA. 11-2-98.
337. Claudio Poccia, Tampa-Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8, Tampa, FL. 12-16-98.
339. Carroll I. Goodwin, Jr., St. Aldemar Commandery No. 17, Houlton, ME. 12-16-98. (jewel and one bronze)
343. Curtis Maitlan Jackson, Mt. Vernon Commandery No. 1, Columbus, OH. 12-16-98.
344. William D. Williams, Guthrie Commandery No. 1, Guthrie, OK. 12-16-98. (jewel and two bronze)
345. Donald J. Panichi, Northern Commandery No. 16, Towanda, PA. 12-16-98. William R. Werner, Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills Twp., PA 12-16-98.

Supreme Assembly, S.O.O.B., Presents Check to KTEF

Each year the ladies of Supreme Assembly, S.O.O.B., raise money for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Mrs. W. Dean Porter (left), S.W.P., is shown presenting a check for $26,735.18, which represents a portion of the collections, to the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight James M. Ward. Shortly after, Grand Master Ward presented S.W.P. Gerry with a Companion of the Temple award. (submitted by Mrs. Keith W. Dean, P.S.W.P.)
Herbert Warren Matthews  
New Jersey  
Grand Commander-1979  
Born March 8, 1918  
Died November 21, 1998

Arthur Henry Fancy  
Massachusetts/Rhode Island  
Grand Commander-1977  
Born January 8, 1931  
Died December 15, 1998

Charles B. Stewart  
Louisiana  
Grand Commander-1985  
Born February 5, 1912  
Died December 23, 1998

Wilfred Jack Dover  
Michigan  
Grand Commander-1979  
Born December 26, 1925  
Died December 27, 1998

Grand Commander's Club  
Out of Sequence

No. 100,737-Harvey K. Jackson (FL)  
No. 100,1093-Dr. John G. Melleky (PA)  
No. 100,914-Edwin L. Collishaw, Jr. (NH)  
No. 100,915-W. G. Eissfer (PA)  
No. 100,916-Elbert Lorentz Schoneman (OR)  
No. 100,917-Donald Harrison (NY)  
No. 100,918-Walter A. Jergenson (MN)  
No. 100,919-William G. Schliep (IL)  
No. 100,920-Thomas Clinton Bailey (TX)  
No. 100,921-Richard A. Eppler (CT)  
No. 100,922-DeMarie L. Buckler (IL)  
No. 100,923-Hn honor of Mervin J. Miller by Earl E. Miller (VA)  
No. 100,924-Harold G. Lindale (MD)  
No. 100,925-William G. Marsh (CA)  
No. 100,926-George Knorr (NY)  
No. 100,927-David L. Kempfer, Sr. (PA)  
No. 100,928-Robert E. Rusbatch (PA)  
No. 100,929-John T. Guy, Sr. (GA)  
No. 100,930-Roger Clayton Aspinwall (GA)  
No. 100,931-Frank E. Hadder (AL)  
No. 100,932-George A. Frohlick (CO)  
No. 100,933-Raymond T. Tiso, Sr. (NJ)  
No. 100,934-George W. Shook (KS)  
No. 100,935-Clyde E. Reasland (IA)  
No. 100,936-Lewis S. Janzow (MA/RI)  
No. 100,937-J. Larry Martin, Sr. (IL)  
No. 100,938-Sen. James "Pate" Philip (IL)  
No. 100,939-David Philip Johnson (TN)  
No. 100,940-William L. Self (TX)  
No. 100,941-Bernard E. Rothman (MD)  
No. 100,942-William B. Bunnell (NH)  
No. 100,943-Anthony J. Liccardi (FL)  
No. 100,944-T. Ernie Gislason (TX)  
No. 100,945-Thomas J. Mortimer (MD)  
No. 100,946-John Thomas Miles, Sr. (MS)  
No. 100,947-Harold A. Smith (MI)  
No. 100,948-George W. Pickrell (AZ)  
No. 100,949-Robert J. Richards (GA)  
No. 100,950-Jim Blease (GA)  
No. 100,951-David Shull (CA)  
No. 3,106-Robert Von Werder (IL)  
No. 3,107-Gerald D. Canton (IL)  
No. 3,108-John Henry Brown, Jr. (LA)  
No. 3,109-William M. Earnest (AL)  
No. 3,110-Henry A. Couper (GA)  
No. 3,111-Edith K. Brinkman (MI)  
No. 3,112-in honor of James Morris Ward by Frank E. Hankinson III (MS)  
No. 3,113-Arthur L. Jung, Jr. (LA)  
No. 3,114-William G. Hiles (KY)  
No. 3,115-Ray Walker Smith (TX)  
No. 3,116-Pressly A. Laird (IL)  
No. 3,117-in honor of Lois J. Masters by Albert R. Masters, Jr. (IA)  
No. 3,118-Ellis Fred Riebel (PA)  
No. 3,119-Richard A. Eppler (MD)  
No. 3,120-George B. Senft (SC)  
No. 3,121-Thomas E. J. Heudeck (PA)  
No. 3,122-Lee G. Williams (IL)  
No. 3,123-Edward A. Trosin, Jr. (NY)  
No. 3,124-Michael Douglas Autry (GA)  
No. 3,125-Edmond Howell Shaw (GA)  
No. 3,126-Jimmy Doyle O'Dell (AL)  
No. 3,127-Scott Edmund Duncan (AL)  
No. 3,128-Maurice L. Roach (AL)
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.
31st Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending January 15, 1999. The total amount contributed to date is $190,095.60.

Alabama $6,565.00
Arizona 2,372.50
Arkansas 315.00
California 8,187.85
Colorado 2,758.25
Connecticut 2,390.00
Delaware 400.00
District of Columbia 440.00
Florida 4,447.09
Georgia 27,998.52
Idaho 118.00
Illinois 8,413.00
Indiana 2,863.00
Iowa 8,002.02
Kansas 1,695.00
Kentucky 5,658.98
Louisiana 1,380.00
Maine 170.00
Maryland 3,682.00
Mass/RI 2,720.00
Michigan 5,177.32
Minnesota 605.00
Mississippi 1810.00
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**Grand Commander of Texas, Sir Knight F. Douglas Mitchell Presents KTEF Grants to Doctors Coats and Paysse**

Then, Grand Commander Mitchell "had the honor and pleasure of presenting Doctor David K. Coats and Doctor Evelyn A. Paysse with grants from the KTEF in the amount of $20,000 each."

From left to right are: Lisa Timmons, Director of Developments - Ophthalmology; Doctor Dan B. Jones, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the KTEF; Grand Commander Mitchell; Doctor David K. Coats; and Doctor Evelyn A. Paysse.

**Message From The Southeastern Department Commander**

The 1999 Annual Southeastern Regional York Rite Conference will be held Thursday, June 24 through Saturday, June 26, at the Holiday Inn Airport in Gulfport, Mississippi. The Holiday Inn Express, next door, will serve as our overflow, and rooms will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Registration and an ice cream social on Thursday will be followed with continued registration, the conference program, and a banquet on Friday. All conference business will be concluded by noon Saturday. The Holiday Inn and the Express have recently been renovated, and a new Perkins Restaurant is now serving in the Holiday Inn Airport. I am pleased to report the Holiday Inn Express is a recipient of the Bass Hotel and Resorts 1998 Quality Excellence Award.

The cost will be reasonable, the quality of hotel service high, and hospitality unbeatable! Registration information, program, and other pertinent data will be announced soon. Sir Knight Van A. Evans will chair the committee for this SEYRC, and you can direct questions to him at 2300 McFarland Road, Raymond, MS 39154, (601) 372-2037 or to me.
Albert R. Masters was born on January 20, 1927, in Newton, Iowa, the son of A. Ross and Ella Masters. He was educated in the Newton Public School system graduating in 1944. He entered the United States Navy after graduation and served for two years in the South Pacific. Sir Knight Masters was employed by the Maytag Company for 33 ½ years in the shipping department, advancing to the office of manager of product distribution and later transferring to parts distribution before retiring in 1978 to become Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Iowa. He was married to Lois J. Bergstrom on May 22, 1948. He has two children, Dr. A. Ronald Masters and Patricia A. Sawin, and four grandsons. He is a member of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He is a lifetime member of the Maytag Management Club.

Symbolic Lodge: Newton Lodge No. 59, Raised in 1961; Master 1967; Iowa Masonic Library Association, 1989 to present.

Lloyd A. Hebert was born on October 19, 1933 to Tildon J. Hebert and Amy B. Hebert of Gretna, Louisiana. He graduated from Gretna High School in 1951 and attended Tulane University College prior to entering the U.S. Army, seeing service with Special Services in Alaska. He was discharged as a Staff Sergeant.

Sir Knight Hebert married Connie Kleinpeter on April 11, 1953. They have two children and four grandchildren all residing in Gretna. He has been employed by Avondale Industries as a section leader in the Production Engineering Department. He is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, where he teaches Sunday school.


Sir Knight Hebert has served in the Grand Lodge of Louisiana; Grand Chapter, District Deputy Grand High Priest; Grand Council, District Deputy Grand Illustrious Master; and the Grand Commandery, serving as Grand Commander in 1993 and 1994.


He was appointed Right Eminent Department Commander, South Central Department of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., by Sir Knight James M. Ward, Most Eminent Grand Master, in St. Louis, Missouri, on August 13, 1997.
Sir Knight Douglas L. Johnson was born in Riverton, Wyoming, on June 18, 1952, to Mr. and Mrs. Burke Johnson of Crowheart, Wyoming. He was raised on a cattle ranch in Crowheart and Dubois area and graduated from Dubois High School. Doug was active in high school rodeo competing in saddle bronc riding and daily team roping. He does not ride broncs any more but does rope when time permits, and raises Red Angus cattle.

He and former Nancy Gale Armstrong were married at Fort Hood, Texas, just before Doug was to get out of the service. He is a Vietnam War era veteran and served with the First Cavalry Division and the 1st Aviation Battalion of the U.S. Army. Doug was discharged honorably as a Sergeant E-5 on September 26, 1974.

Doug and Nancy are the parents of a son, Joshua, who is a graduate of the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and is currently assigned to the Pentagon. Two daughters, Morgan and Au, are living at home and attending high school.

Sir Knight Johnson attended Central Texas College for a short time while in the service and then later Casper College in Wyoming. He is currently employed by the High Plains Power Electric Assn., Inc., as a power line construction foreman and resides in the Dubois area with his family. Doug and his family are members of the Wilderness Baptist Church in Dubois.

Sir Knight Johnson was Raised a Master Mason in Dubois Lodge No. 53 on November 21, 1978, and served his Lodge as Worshipful Master. He also holds a dual membership in Riverton Lodge No. 26. He was Exalted in Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6, Royal Arch Masons, and served that Chapter as Excellent High Priest. Sir Knight Johnson was Greeted in Lander Council No. 4 of Royal and Select Masters, and served that Council as Illustrious Master. He was created a Valiant and Magnanimous Knight of the Temple in Hugh do Payen Commandery No. 7, presided over the Commandery as Eminent Commander, and is currently serving his Commandery as the Recorder. Sir Knight Johnson is a Past Commander of the famous Wyoming Knights Templar Black Horse Troop, having headquarters in Dubois.

Sir Knight Johnson was appointed to the Grand Commandery line in Douglas, Wyoming, as the Grand Warder by Sir Knight David S. Tanner and presided over the Grand Commandery of Wyoming in 1995-1996. Sir Knight Johnson is a holder of the Knight Commander of the Temple of the Grand Encampment. He has honorary memberships in several Grand Commanderies in the Northwestern Department of the Grand Encampment and holds dual membership with St. Bernard Commandery No. 41 in Denver, Colorado.

Appendant Masonic activities include membership in the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, Valley of Sheridan, Wyoming. Sir Knight Johnson is a member of Kalif Temple, Sheridan, Wyoming, AAONMS; Red Cross of Constantine, Immanuel Conclave, Past Sovereign; Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, currently serving as the Fifth Pillar, Agnus Dei Tabernacle No. XLIV; Equality York Rite College No. 92, Past Governor and holder of the Order of the Purple Cross presented by the Sovereign York Rite College of North America, and is currently serving as the Deputy Grand Governor of Wyoming; and Past Prior, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Wyoming Priory No. 44.

He was appointed R.E. Northwestern Department Commander on August 13, 1997, at the 60th Triennial Conclave in St. Louis, Missouri, by Most Eminent Grand Master James M. Ward.
Grover Travis Halbrooks was born December 9, 1923, in Birmingham, Alabama. He married Vir Jean Knickelbein on February 23, 1946. They have two children; Edward K. Halbrooks of Dallas, TX and Blair Ann Halbrooks of Chester, CA; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

He attended public school in Cullman, Alabama, graduating from Cullman County High School. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Military Science from the University of Maryland in 1963, and a Master of Arts Degree in Personnel Administration from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. in 1965.

Military Career: served thirty years in U.S. Air Force retiring February 1, 1973 as Lieutenant Colonel. Holds Command Pilot rating accumulating over 5,000 hours in twenty-six years of flying as active military pilot. Served overseas in England, Germany, Morocco, Pakistan, and Thailand. He holds sixteen military awards and decorations including the Bronze Star, Air Medal, and Joint Service Commendation Medal. Authorized to wear Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification badge.

Masonic History: initiated Entered Apprentice on May 16, 1949 in St. Mark's Lodge No. 44, Derry, New Hampshire; Raised to Master Mason on September 10, 1949 in El Paso Lodge No. 13, Colorado Springs, Colorado (courtesy); demitted to Moreno Valley Lodge No. 804, Moreno Valley, California on August 31, 1977. He was Exalted a member of Royal Arch Masons in 1958 and served as High Priest of Redlands Chapter No. 77 in 1972. He was created a Select Master, Cryptic Masons, in 1960 and served as Illustrious Master of Riverside Council No. 59 in 1976. He was created a Knight Templar on November 22, 1958 and served as Commander of Redlands Commandery No. 45 in 1973; served as Inspector in Commandery until appointed as Grand Warder in 1977; and was Grand Commander of California in 1985.

He is of member of Inland Empire Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; served as Charter Sovereign in 1982; and is presently serving as Grand Senior General, United Grand Imperial Council for the United States, Mexico, and the Philippines.

He is a member of St. John the Baptist Tabernacle, HRAKTP in Rosemead, served as Preceptor; Excalibur Council, Allied Masonic Degrees, in Cerritos, served as Sovereign Master and received Red Branch of En; York Rite Sovereign College No. 110, served as Charter Governor and Deputy Grand Governor; Brian Beru Council, Knight Masons; and the Robert the Bruce Association.

He was initiated as a 32° Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of San Bernardino on May 14, 1977; served as Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection, 1992; Knight Commander Court of Honor; and member of Royal Order of Scotland.

He is a member of Al Malaikah Temple, AAONMS, and Riverside Shrine Club, held the title of Ambassador at large in 1998; and is a member of General Robert Travis Chapter No. 590, National Sojourners, and Heroes of ’76.

He is a charter member of Star of the Valley Chapter No. 648, Order of the Eastern Star, and served as Worthy Patron in 1982; charter member Hap Arnold High Twelve Club, at March AFB, CA, in 1958; and now a member of Riverside Hi-12 Club; life member of International Order of DeMolay, having joined in 1940; member of Alumni Association and holder of DeMolay Legion of Honor, active.

He was appointed R.E. Southwestern Department Commander of the Grand Encampment, K.T., by Most Eminent Grand Master James M. Ward on August 13, 1997 in St. Louis, Missouri.
News From Northern California DeMolay

Shown with the 1998 Grand Master's Class, left to right, in front, are: Jannik P. Catalano, the Master Councilor of Northern California DeMolay; Melville H. Nahin, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California; and Edwin D. Clarke, Executive Officer for Northern California DeMolay. The membership class, named to honor Grand Master Nahin, included a set of impressive degrees. Later were held elections, and a Sweetheart's Ball finished the day with a positive note.

Proving that Senior DeMolay can still present excellent ritual work was shown at the 1998 Northern California DeMolay Alumni Association Degrees Day held in Sacramento. Shown left is the team, the new members who were initiated, along with Edwin D. Clarke, the Executive Officer for the jurisdiction.

Also, in September a softball tournament was held in Martinez by this very active DeMolay jurisdiction with an increase in participation.
The Grand Master gave a few words of welcome to all present, and thanks to the officers of the Grand Commandery of Ohio. He then asked the Right Eminent Grand Recorder, Sir Knight Paul C. Rodenhauser, to introduce the distinguished guests (included in the FEATURES of the 56th Triennial Conclave). After calling the Grand Encampment to attention, he introduced the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Ohio, Brother Elmer Newman. Grand Master Dull tendered to the Deputy Grand Master the emblem of authority (a mace) and asked that he preside. Brother Newman expressed his pleasure at being present and representing Most Worshipful Brother Richard M. Wilson, Grand Master of Masons of Ohio, who was unable to attend. After speaking a few words of welcome, he relinquished the mace to the Grand Master, who thanked the escort (Sir Knights of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 54, his home Commandery) and gave them permission to retire. The Right Eminent Grand Prelate, Sir Knight Eugene H. Buxton, was called upon to give the invocation, following which the Grand Recorder called the roll of the Grand Commanderies for the presentation of their state flags, followed by the presentation of the flag of the United States and the Pledge of Allegiance. Several of the distinguished guests who were not Sir Knights were recognized and gave a few words of acknowledgment for such recognition. At 10:30 a recess was called until 10:45 to allow those who were not Sir Knights to leave.

At 10:45 Sir Knight Dull reconvened the Grand Encampment in the first business session. Grand Prelate Buxton again invoked the blessing of Deity, and Grand Master Dull asked Sir Knight Franco Valgattarri, Commander, Carroccio Commandery No. 1, Milan, Italy, and Mrs. Claudia Winrod (his interpreter) to come to the platform for a presentation. Sir Knight Valgattarri explained that the bad publicity that the Masons of Italy had received (referring to the news media's hype of a group of Masons in Italy who were accused of illegal and unsavory acts) was caused by a few undesirables and explained that after weeding out those undesirables, Freemasonry in Italy was again on the rise, and the Commanderies there continued to be subordinate to the Grand Encampment. He then presented the Grand Master with a beautiful silver engraving.

The roll was called and the preliminary report of the Committee on Credentials showed 434 voting members present, representing 48 Grand Commanderies and 3 Subordinate Commanderies.

The Allocution of the Grand Master was the next order of business. In the portion of his report on the Office of the Grand Recorder, he reported on the stroke suffered by Sir Knight Rodenhauser, early in the triennium, and that his hospitalizations and series of operations necessitated that a successor be found. Sir Knight Rodenhauser's aide, Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, had taken over as assistant on July 1, 1984. The Grand Master had granted dispensations for Commanderies to: Kodiak Commandery, U.D., Kodiak, Alaska; Skagway Commandery, U.D., Skagway, Alaska; Giacomo Commandery, U.D., Leghorn, Italy; Mediterranea Commandery, U.D., Naples, Italy; Sir Galahad Commandery, U.D., Guadalajara, Mexico; and Santo Domingo Commandery, U.D., Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Charters were issued to Hilo Commandery No. 3, Hilo, Hawaii; and Kalakaua Commandery No. 2, Kailua, Hawaii. The Report of the Committee on the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service stated that in the month following the 55th Triennial Conclave (1982), the Committee had received notice that the Military District of Washington would no longer be able to allow the Service to continue with its support as in the past. This was about the same thing that had occurred just a few weeks before the service was scheduled in 1974. The Committee decided to move the Service to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial and seek elsewhere for a band, chorus, and whatever equipment was required. During each of the following three years there were about 750 marching Knights who participated and about 1,000 spectators. The cost of each years celebration was about $11,000.00.

As usual, visiting dignitaries were called upon to speak at various times during the proceedings. And as usual, they were always welcomed and applauded.

The Committee on Finance submitted a budget again requiring a $0.45 increase in per capita (from $2.85 to $3.30). As in the past, this caused considerable discussion. Again, the
arguments for the budget: to have the same level of service as in the past, an increase in per capita was necessary, for, although there was no longer rampant inflation, inflation still existed; an increase of 45 cents would mean that each Sir Knight would do without "one can of Coca-Cola" per year, according to Sir Knight John Werner II, P.G.C. of the District of Columbia. Those opposed to the increase wanted to change the monthly issuing of the Knight Templar magazine to either quarterly or once each two months. An amendment was proposed to cut the number of issues to six per year, but the Grand Master ruled it out of order, saying that "You will address the report as it has been given. You can either accept it or refuse it." When the question came, the tellers determined that the proposed Budget passed by a show of hands.

The report of the Committee on the Educational Foundation showed that loans totaling from $1.0 to $1.3 million dollars had been made during each of the three years of this triennium. There was a motion to increase the interest rate from 5% to 7%; it was defeated.

There were nine proposals to change the law; only two passed. The first one passed was a change to Section 114 to read "All officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters, and members of standing committees shall be allowed mileage expense and per diem for attendance at the Triennial Conclave." It also specified how the expense would be calculated, and included meetings called in the interim." The other one which was passed was a change to Section 257 which specified that only Templar jewels could be worn on the uniform and in what order they would be placed on the uniform.

A proposal was made to allow the KYCH jewel to be worn with the uniform suspended from a cordon about the neck"; it was defeated. A change to Section 257 of the Statutes concerning the wearing of jewels on the Templar uniform was made which inserted Jewels of office" at the beginning of the second sentence and deleted all following the last comma of the last sentence; at this writing there has been no further change in this Section. A proposal to withdraw the 1970 Standing Resolution which welcomed Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons and Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters to join the Grand Encampment was withdrawn. As in several past Triennial Conclaves a proposal was made to change the requirements for a Mason to become a Knight Templar; it would require that he be a Blue Lodge Mason only; being a Royal Arch Mason or Cryptic Mason would be optional with each Grand Commandery. Requiring a 2/3 majority, the proposal was defeated by a vote of 283 to 73. Again a proposal was made to require a vote of 2/3 to change the Constitution (instead of a 3/4 majority), and a simple majority to change a Statute (instead of a 2/3 majority); it failed.
Most Eminent Grand Master James Ward and his Lady Jan invite all Knights Templar members and friends to join them on a fabulous tour of the

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On the Masonic News Front
Past Grand Commander Of South Carolina
Greeted By Gran Commenda Del Cavalieri Templari D’ Italia

On a trip to Rome, Italy, Sir Knight Don S. Blair, R.E.P.G.C., South Carolina, and his wife were entertained by the Gran Commendatore Vicario, Vincenzo Pulvirenti. In the picture Sir Knight Puivirenti presents Sir Knight Blair with a commemorative coin from the Grande Orienta of Italia. Also pictured is Sir Knight Giorgia Livi, who is Recorder of the local body.

Cancer Program At Illinois Masonic Medical Center Receives Approval From American College Of Surgeons

The Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) has granted three-year approval to the cancer program at Illinois Masonic Medical Center. This achievement by the Angelo P. Creticos Cancer Center at Illinois Masonic culminates nearly ten years of staff dedication to providing high-quality care to patients who have cancer.

Recognizing that cancer is a complex group of diseases, the ACS program promotes consultation among surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, diagnostic radiologists, pathologists, and other cancer specialists. At IMMC’s Cancer Center this multidisciplinary approach and cooperation results in improved patient care. Further, through its Latino Cancer Institute and its bilingual cancer team, the cancer program at Illinois Masonic is committed to improving the understanding of cancer-related issues in Chicago's Latino community.

An integral part of a cancer program is the tumor registry. All patients diagnosed or treated for cancer are listed in the registry so that the hospital can have contact with them and make sure that they are receiving continuing care and assistance with rehabilitation. Information collected through the registry allows IMMC to participate in national studies that are designed to improve patient care.

News From Supreme Assembly, S.O.O.B. - San Antonio

Mrs. Lester and Mrs. Roth, S.O.O.B.’s only living emeritus officers, attended Supreme Assembly in San Antonio. Mrs. Lester was Supreme Treasurer, 1974-1994, and Mrs. Roth was Supreme Recorder, 1973-1993, a combined total of forty years service to their beloved order. Thank you, ladies! (submitted by Mrs. Keith W. Dean, P.W.S.P)
The ladies of Tampa No. 208, FL, S.O.O.B.; Mrs. Tooma, Mrs. Thompson, and Mrs. Koerner; are shown distributing the hostess gift of knife and penny at Supreme Assembly. The sisters gave back their pennies to prevent the cutting" of friendships to the tune of $517.20, which was donated to KTEF by the Hostess Group Assemblies.

The Annual Bazaar and Turkey Dinner for Tampa No. 208, Florida, was very successful if tiring. Shown are Mrs. Bevlin, President; Mrs. Smedeli, Oracle, and her Sir Knight John; and Mrs. Potter, 1st Vice President. The monies collected are donated to KTEF, RARA, and CMMR. (submitted by Mrs. Keith W. Dean, PS.W.P.)

10TH Anniversary of Little Rock Assembly No. 260, S.O.O.B., AR
Fall 1998 Little Rock Assembly No. 260 celebrated its 10th anniversary with a picnic. They were honored to have the Supreme Worthy Second Vice President, (Mrs. Homer) Janice Hendrickson, and her Sir Knight Homer join them. Mrs. Hendrickson (picture left below) was presented an Arkansas Traveler certificate by (Mrs. Walter C.) Betty Barnhardt (left), P.P. and President. Greetings were read from friends across the US. Those shown having a wonderful time from right (picture below right): (Mrs. Walter) Betty Barnhardt; (Mrs. Robert) Hellen Young, P.P.; (Mrs. Ernie) Jenny Biery, P.P.; (Mrs. Phillip) Freddie Tackett, P.P., Recorder; (Mrs. Wayne) Roselyn St. John; (Mrs. Homer) Janice Hendrickson; and (Mrs. J. O.) Katie Marie Clark. (submitted by Betty Barnhardt)

Topeka Assembly No. 24, S.O.O.B., KS, Honors Members
Topeka, Kansas, S.O.O.B. members have been honored for their long membership in the Assembly. In the picture Mrs. Wayne Starkey (middle), President of Topeka Assembly No. 24, presents Mrs. Emory Adkison (left) her 25-year citation and Mrs. Norman Walrafen (right) her 50-year pin. (submitted by [Mrs. Paul] Rosie Chilten)
The Illegal Trial of Jesus
The Christ - Part I
by Sir Knight Charles A. Wofford
Senior Judge Superior Courts

Preface

This article was inspired by a speech, "The Illegal Trial and Crucifixion of Christ" given by the Honorable Harold R. Banke, Judge, the Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia. Much was drawn from his speech as well as from the works on this subject by Walter M. Chandler and David K. Breed.

The main record of the events prior to, during the course of, and following the arrest, trial, conviction, and crucifixion of Jesus is that contained in the New Testament books of Matthew, chapter 26, verse 47 through chapter 27, verse 26; Mark, chapter 14, verse 43 through chapter 15, verse 15; Luke, chapter 22, verse 47 through Chapter 23, verse 24; John, chapter 18, verse 3, through chapter 19, verse 16.

To properly set the scene of history's most infamous trial, it is necessary to review the scenario of events and the principal characters.

Tableau

Time: 30 A.D.
Setting: Jerusalem
Occasion: Passover
Dramatis Personae: Jesus, The “Christ”
    The twelve disciples, in general
    In particular:
        A. Judas Iscariot
        B. James)
        C. John) Sons of Zebedee
        D. Peter
        Pontius Pilate, Procurator of Judea Herod Antipas, Tetrarch of Galilee and Perea
        Sanhedrin, Jewish Supreme Court Caiaphas, High Priest
        Arinas, President of the Sanhedrin

Prologue

Jesus of Nazareth was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty, and then, for three years, he was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held office. He never married, had a family, or owned a home. He never went to college. He never visited a big city. He never traveled more than two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness and never had credentials other than himself.

While still a young man, the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away and one even denied him. He was turned over to his enemies. He went through the mockery of a so-called "trial." He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his coat, which was the only piece of property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was taken down, prepared, and laid in a borrowed grave through the love of two friends.

Record of Facts

Sunset ushered in the eventful, fateful, prophetic 14th day of Nisen, 3790 A.L. (Anno Lucis - year of light), 784 A.U.C. (Anno Urbis Conditoe - year of Rome), approximately our Thursday and Friday, April 6 and 7, 30 A.D. (Anno Domini - year of our Lord).

Before supper with his disciples in the Upper Room, Jesus taught them a most profound lesson in humility - He washed their feet. He also startled them with his two prophecies: his betrayal by Judas Iscariot, who left almost immediately after his identification as the betrayer, and following the Last Supper Jesus gave His “New Commandment”: That ye love one another.”
He then gave his second prophecy that Peter would deny him thrice before the cock crowed.

From the "Upper Room" Jesus and the eleven remaining disciples went to a peaceful garden, covered by olive trees, called "Gethsemane." Jesus prayed three times, and each time he found his disciples sleeping. The third time He said: "The hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hand of sinners. Rise let us be going; behold he is at hand that doth betray me." Judas and his mob came walking through the darkness, their way lit by torches and lanterns. Judas walked up to Jesus and according to the prearranged signal said, "Hail, Master, and kissed him." Jesus was arrested by the Temple guard and a small detachment of Roman soldiers. While this was happening, impulsive Peter drew his sword, and cut off the ear of Malchus, the High Priest's servant.

Jesus was arrested at midnight and was tried six times before he was crucified.

The chronology of these trials was as follows.

1:00 A.M. to 5:00 A.M.
1. Annas
2. Caiaphas
3. Sanhedrin

5:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M.
4. Pilate
5. Herod (Antipas)
6. Pilate (again)

Annas, a former high priest, was president of the Sanhedrin.

Caiaphas, son-in-law of Annas, was high priest. Jesus was taken before Annas for a preliminary hearing to secure evidence to submit to the Sanhedrin. The subsequent hearing before Caiaphas was for the same purpose. Caiaphas went further and attempted to wrest a confession.

The Sanhedrin, Hebrew Supreme Court, called together by Caiaphas at his palace, tried Jesus on the testimony of two false witnesses. Jesus had denounced the greed and corruption of the priests and their practices in the temple, resulting in their enmity. The Sanhedrin had actually plotted the destruction of Jesus before his arrest. The Sanhedrin was composed of seventy-one members: a president, vice president, and twenty-three each of priests, scribes, and elders. The Sanhedrin met in that portion of the temple known as the "Lishkhath Haggazith" or "Hall of Hewn Stones."

The judges sat in a half circle with the president and vice president in the center and at each end sat a secretary (reporter). One secretary took all prosecution evidence and recorded all votes for conviction; the other took all defense evidence and recorded all votes for exoneration. The judges voted by ballot. There were two charges against Jesus, sedition and blasphemy. The charge of sedition was abandoned, Jesus was convicted on the charge of blasphemy. This was a capital offense under Hebrew law, punishable with death by stoning. Crucifixion was never prescribed under Hebrew law. Roman law had divested the Jews of the power to execute; therefore, it was necessary for Jesus to be taken before the Roman procurator, Pilate.

The Sanhedrin procession reached the Praetorium before daylight. They did not enter because Passover preparation had begun and Levitic contamination would have ensued; therefore, this trial took place on the palace portico.

Pilate asked "What accusation bring ye against this man?" Since Pilate had always confirmed their sentences without question the Sanhedrin Judges were surprised. When he heard the charges, especially Jesus' claim of kingship, Pilate led Jesus into the judgment hall, to examine him privately. This interrogation satisfied Pilate that the claim was spiritual, not political. He returned with Jesus to the door of the Praetorium, and pronounced his acquittal with, "I find no fault in this man." This verdict infuriated the mob, and they supplemented the charges by saying, "He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning with Galilee to this place."

Part II of "The Illegal Trial of Jesus" will appear in the March issue!

Sir Knight Charles A. Wofford is a member of Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 4, College Park, Georgia. He resides at 636 Virginia Avenue, N. E.; Atlanta; GA 30306
Brother Cecil H. Underwood:
The Youngest and the Oldest Governor!

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°

Twentieth century America has had many noted state governors who were also Masons. They have ranged from such significant figures as Kentucky's A. B. "Happy" Chandler, who became baseball commissioner, to Louisiana's Jimmie Davis, who became a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame. George Wallace and James Rhodes both set a record for serving a total of sixteen years in their respective states of Alabama and Ohio. Earl Warren of California went on to become a distinguished Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Current Masonic governors include the chief executives of Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin, and West Virginia. The latter, Cecil Harland Underwood, perhaps ranks as unique in that thirty-six years elapsed between his first and second term. Back in 1957, Underwood became the nation's youngest governor at thirty-four. On his seventy-fourth birthday in 1996, this same man became America's oldest governor-elect.

Cecil Harland Underwood was born in Joseph Mill in Tyler County, West Virginia, on November 5, 1922. His parents, Silas and Della Forrester Underwood, operated a family farm. Young Cecil received plenty of agricultural work experience at home, particularly during the Great Depression when his father took cash paying jobs away from home. He attended elementary school in a one-room, rural locale. In high school at the county seat of Middlebourne, the youth participated in such activities as the speech club and the Future Farmers of America. As a senior, he became a member of the National Honor Society and graduated in 1940, fifth in his class. He also delivered the Gettysburg Address at a local Lincoln Day dinner, which paved the way for his later entry into politics.

The young farm youth received a tuition scholarship to Salem College, where he managed to graduate in three years. He majored in political science, speech, and history while minoring in biology. A busy student, Underwood also had a part-time job, participated in debates, and served as president of his senior class. He also served briefly in the Army Reserves but was discharged because of an abnormal heart beat.

Following graduation, Cecil Underwood took a position as a high school biology teacher in St. Mary's, West Virginia, where he spent three years. Meanwhile, he also embarked on his entry into politics by successfully seeking a seat in the lower house of the West Virginia legislature as a Republican. He went on to serve six consecutive terms in the House of Delegates, becoming a minority floor leader from 1949. Since being a legislator in West Virginia ranked only as a part-time position (at a $500.00 annual salary), Cecil left his teaching position in 1946 to become an assistant to the president of Marietta College in nearby Cross River, Ohio. Although this job had more flexible hours during legislative sessions, Underwood wore a variety of hats including recruiting students, alumni fundraising, and helping with student activities, and coaching the debate team. In 1950 he accepted the vice-presidency at his alma mater of Salem College, where he performed somewhat similar duties plus being in charge of public relations.

Cecil H. Underwood began his Masonic journey on March 16, 1954, when he received his Entered Apprentice degree in Phoenix Lodge No. 73 in Sistersville, West Virginia, on March 16, 1954. Advancing quickly, he was passed on April 6, 1954, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 28, 1954. Three years later when in his first term as governor, Underwood took the Scottish Rite degrees, completing them in John W. Morris Consistory in Charleston on August 24, 1957. He became a Noble of Beni Kedem Shrine Temple.
on May 15, 1959. In his second term as governor on October 6, 1997, the A.A.S.R.,S.J. elected him a KCCH. Not limiting his fraternal associations exclusively to Masonic ones, Underwood also affiliated with the Elks.

Although the Republican Party had been strong and influential in the Mountain State from 1896 through 1929, the impact of the Great Depression and the decline of the coal industry had left the GOP in a weakened position. However, by the mid-1950s, times seemed ripe for a modest comeback. During the controversial administration of then governor William Marland, the Democrats had become torn by schism; one of their senators, Brother Harley Kilgore, had died; and the usual unifier, Brother Matthew M. Neely, who was in advancing age, had begun to slow down. Furthermore, the incumbent President Dwight Eisenhower's popularity cut across party lines. All this plus his own broad appeal combined to give Cecil Underwood atypical strength for a Republican. As a result, the young minority leader made a strong candidate, and with some help from the Eisenhower coattail effect, Brother Cecil H. Underwood was propelled into the statehouse by a 63,000 vote majority, 440,502 to 377,121.

As governor, Underwood proved to be both a capable and honest chief executive. In his first year in office he enjoyed a fairly harmonious relationship with the legislature despite strong Democratic majorities. Thereafter, partisanship became increasingly strong as Democrats sought to rebound from their 1956 losses, and with the economy in recession during much of 1958, their chances did indeed improve. Another 16,000 coal mining jobs went by the wayside between 1955 and 1961. While Underwood neither started nor could alter this long-time economic trend, it did not bode well for his political success in the short run.

Nonetheless, history tended kindly toward Cecil's initial term in the State Capitol. As the Mountain State's pre-eminent historian, Otis K. Rice, phrased it:

"When Underwood left office, there was general agreement that he had given the state dignified and responsible leadership. He was held in high esteem ... in both the state and nation, and his political future seemed bright."

Delays occurred in Underwood's political future, however. With his term as governor expiring in January 1961, Cecil sought a seat in the U.S. Senate but lost to the incumbent, Jennings Randolph. In 1964 he made his first effort to regain the governorship but lost to Brother Hulett C. Smith by some 77,000 votes. In 1968 he lost the GOP primary to Arch Moore. In 1976 he suffered his worst defeat, when the immensely wealthy John D. Rockefeller IV defeated the badly outspent former governor by a margin of more than 242,000.

Although Cecil Underwood had no political successes in this period, he did prosper in the private economic sector.
Brother Underwood initially took a position as vice president for the Island Creek Coal and later worked as director of Civic Affairs for Monsanto Chemical. From 1972 to 1975 he was president of Bethany College in the "northern panhandle" and later worked for Franswood, New York Life, and Princess Coal.

Active as a volunteer, Underwood served on the board of his alma mater, Salem College, from 1978. (After 1989 the school was known as Salem Teikyo U.) He also served on the state boards of the Cancer Society and the Boy Scouts. Between 1960 and 1988, the former governor served as a delegate at large to every GOP National Convention in each year except 1968.

In 1996 at an age when many career officeholders retire, Cecil Underwood decided to make one more run for governor. As in 1956, disarray among Democrats worked to the advantage of the outnumbered Republicans. In 1992 State Senator Charlotte Pritt had nearly ousted incumbent Democratic governor, Gaston Caperton, in a hotly contested primary battle. When Pritt won the 1996 Democratic nomination, many Capertonites ranged from cool to hostile in their attitude toward the outspoken feminist. While most West Virginia Democrats favor liberal positions on economic and labor questions, many are also socially conservative, and these folks gravitated toward Underwood. As a result, Cecil won a 36,000 vote victory. This time Underwood won by a smaller margin because there were no Eisenhower coattails (Clinton carried the state handily.), but the governor managed to have enough victory margin to bring seven new state senators and five new house members into office with him. (The West Virginia legislature remains solidly Democratic.)

Inaugurated in mid-January 1997, Governor Underwood has fulfilled his duties with a quiet dignity as West Virginia's 32nd chief executive. One can not yet predict whether or not he will seek another term. According to one close observer, Underwood said that he was keeping his options open and might seek a third term if his health remains good and the condition of the Mountain State stays on an even keel. However, even if Brother Cecil Underwood chooses never to run for office again, it would seem unlikely that his feat of twice serving his state as governor in two eras separated by nearly four decades of time will be duplicated too often. Also, few are likely to have experienced being both America's youngest and oldest governor in the same lifetime.

Note: I wish to express my appreciation to the staff of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, Ms. Joan Sansbury of the A.A.S.R. Library in Washington D.C. and the Secretary of Beni Kedem Shrine Temple for the data on Governor Underwood's Masonic record. Thanks also to my student assistant, Miss Abby Gail Goodnite.

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Our Passion - Our Love for the Craft - This is our pride!

by Sir Knight Joseph A. Boni, Sr. Warden
St. Elmo Commandery No. 64, Chicago, Illinois

Last spring I had the opportunity to visit the Illinois Knights Templar Home in Paxton, Illinois. The Templar Home is not only for people with York Rite ties. It is for anyone who is sponsored by a Knight Templar. The person can be a relative, friend, or even an acquaintance. There is no distinction.

The day started out with lunch and a few laughs with some of my fellow Sir Knights and our Commandery "Mom," Caroline Von Werder. Then, we drove to the Home.

I was thoroughly impressed by the cleanliness of this home. Also, the Home was very cheerful, including the staff and residents. I was given a tour by Sir Knight Robert Von Werder, who also serves on the Templar Home Committee. After the tour, we served dinner to all the residents of the Home. This was a gala affair for all. The residents were so happy, as if it was their senior prom all over again. Some spend the day in the beauty shop to make sure they keep up with appearances. Each enjoyed the special menu that was prepared for them. I received more thanks and praise this day than on any other. It was a feeling of appreciation.

After the tables were cleared off and the residents were back in their rooms, the staff served us dinner, and we enjoyed an evening of fellowship with fellow Sir Knights, some wives, and the staff.

Once again, Brethren, Masonry has given me a feeling of pride and accomplishment. This day taught me a great lesson. First, I was reassured about brotherhood (while having lunch on the way to the Templar Home). Next, I learned humility (being a servant of others), and finally, when we were served dinner by the Templar Home staff, I was taught dignity. It was a great lesson in Humble Pride.

We as Masons do not argue to defend ourselves under the public eye; we are willing to give to those in need, and we even serve those who cannot help themselves, which means we remain humble. But each of us has a bright glow deep inside that is our passion, our love for the Craft. This is our pride! This is also why Masonry is so powerful to those who embrace its tenets. I will always be thankful for this lesson that I have learned from Masonry.

For more information on the Illinois Knights Templar Home, drop me an e-mail at zahab3@aol.com
The French and Indian War erupted across the eastern shores of North America during the 18th century extending over a vast area southward from Lake George and Lake Champlain; eastward from Lake Erie and to the reaches of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Into this great expanse entered the French from Canada, desirous of reaching New Orleans and the British who came from the northeast across Nova Scotia and the upper Atlantic seaboard. Several eastern Indian tribes also appeared; the Ottawas, the Ojibways, the Iroquois, and the Mohawks from New York.

At first, the Indians were passive observers. Soon, however, the several tribes sent warriors into the conflict, initially on the French side, and then, by the influence of trinkets and firewater generously supplied by the British, to their side. Many of the military leaders of that time were embroiled in the conflict. Famous names in history; Amherst, Braddock, Wolfe, Montcalm and a then obscure American colonel by the name of George Washington; all were involved in glory and defeat in battles at such places as Fort William Henry, Fort Oswego, Ticonderoga, Louisbourg and Quebec. Out of this first strife was forged the crucible in which were many of the officers and soldiers who fought for the colonial cause in the American Revolution, just over the horizon. Washington, Putnam, Stark, and Pomeroy were numbered among those gallant Americans who received their first military experience during the French and Indian War. Indeed, it was here that Americans first learned how to fight; a lesson that would profoundly serve to end, for all time, the rule of England over the shores of North America.

Between 1688 and 1783, England was engaged in a series of five wars with France and its allies. The first three began in Europe and spread across the sea to the shores of America to involve the French and British colonists. The fourth conflict during the years of 1754 to 1763 started in America between the French and English colonists but subsequently assumed global aspects with fighting also in both Europe and Asia.

The fifth conflict extending from 1775 to 1781 is well recognized as the Revolutionary War. The French and Indian War was so named because its participants were initially the French colonists and their Indian allies resident between the great lakes and the Ohio River. The British colonists looked also to this territory as a potential home for their expanding population.

One of the most impressive victories of the French and Indian wars was the capture of Quebec in 1759 by the British. It was a battle which cost the lives of two great leaders on both sides, General Wolfe of England and General Montcalm from France, and it was a conflict which terminated French desires in North America.

The French and Indian War ended in North America in 1763. The British colonists, along with some American allies, succeeded in removing France as a colonial power on these shores. Even in these first years of belligerency in North America, Masonry had begun to establish a foothold on this continent when a charter was issued by the Grand Lodge of Ireland to form a lodge in Nova Scotia. Lord George Sackville, a colonel in the 20th Irish Foot Regiment, was designated to serve as the Worshipful Master; Lt. Colonel Edward Cornwallis and Captain John Milburn became the Senior and Junior Wardens of the lodge. Edward Cornwallis was subsequently elected as the Grand Master of Ireland.
In Europe, the Seven Years War was being waged between the armies of England and France near the old German town of Minden. In this battle was the notable appearance of the 20th Irish Foot Regiment serving gallantly in the British lines. The bravery and discipline shown by the members of this regiment have never been exceeded in the annals of British military service. The final victory of the British force at Minden brought the 20th Irish Foot Regiment much honor. In memory of this triumph the name and colors of this regiment were given to a military lodge composed of its members; it assumed the name of Minden Lodge No. 63.

"Even in these first years of belligerency in North America, Masonry had begun to establish a foothold on this continent when a charter was issued by the Grand Lodge of Ireland to form a lodge in Nova Scotia."

Masonic Brethren serving in the 20th Irish Foot Regiment continued its Masonic Labors, even under these severe circumstances. Four candidates were initiated on January 4, 1780. Among them was Johannes Herrick and Carl von Bernewitz. On February 22, 1780, three additional candidates were initiated. It is quite possible that only a few of the Germans present at these ceremonies understood English well enough to follow the work with competence; it, therefore, became desirable to work also in German.

A meeting was held on February 22, 1780, to consider if the constitution of the fraternity would allow the members to meet for the purposes of Masonic labor and election of officers. The minutes of this meeting were preserved by Brother von Bernewitz and later returned by him to Brunswick Lodge, a lodge chartered in 1741 at the cessation of hostilities.

It is of interest to observe that thirteen Brethren were in attendance at this meeting, including three candidates who had just been elected to membership.
A Worshipful Master was elected, but he accepted this office only with the provision that German would be the language that would be used in all lodges of instruction. No Masonic work would be permitted. In his acceptance address, the new Master recommended that secrecy, morality, uprightness, faithfulness, and fraternal love be the ultimate fraternal goals. At the close of this meeting, a table lodge was conducted much as such lodges are convened to this day.

The German officers of Minden Lodge No. 63 rejoined the army in Canada in October of 1780, returning once more to Brunswick in Germany in 1783 when the signing of a treaty in Paris brought an end to hostilities.

Minden Lodge No. 63 remained intact until about 1786. It was eventually included in a list of erased warrants in 1801 because no word of this lodge had been received by the Grand Lodge of Ireland for over five years. Minden Lodge did survive, however, for on February 25 of 1812, its charter was renewed. It was further recorded that on September 25, 1847, the Brethren of this lodge arrived with the 20th Foot Regiment in Kingston, Ontario. On December 27, 1848, the Brethren of this lodge joined with the local Brethren of Kingston in celebration of St. John the Evangelist and to commemorate the centenary of the re-issuing of the charter of Minden Lodge No. 63.

By 1851 the lodge roster held the names of 192 Master Masons. Unfortunately, the termination of this lodge is also recorded in a letter directed to the Grand Lodge of Ireland on December 8 of 1868. In it is noted that the warrant, jewels, and equipment of Minden Lodge were lost somewhere in India during an uprising.

There is yet something more to be related concerning General Riedesel and his Lady Fritz," who had slept upon the regimental colors in Virginia. Upon his release the General took up residence in Canada. It was here, in the town of Sorel on Christmas Eve of 1779, that "Lady Fritz," espying a pine tree in her garden outlined against the cobalt winter sky, conceived the idea of puffing small lighted candles upon its branches, thereby creating a new page in Canadian history by giving this nation its very first illuminated Christmas tree.

The author wishes to express appreciation to Most Worshipful Brother John Patience, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, for providing valuable assistance in the preparation of this paper.

Addition reference sources include:


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To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to "Knight Voices," The Grand Recorder, 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.

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

For sale: Knights Templar triangular aprons, black with silver and silver bullion thread for embroidered crossed swords on flap, skull and crossbones on the apron. These 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 S & H. Part of each sale goes to York Rite charities. Sal Caradonna, PC., D.Z.O.; 23 Gail Court; Staten Island; NY 10306-2234; (718) 987-4532.

For sale: from the regalia of R.E. Past Grand Commander William F. Haythorn, 1979-80, Florida: Commander's chapeau and case; Past Grand Commander of Florida's belt and buckle (gold and purple), shoulder straps (gold bullion), sleeve crosses (2) with center stone (2), chapeau bullion cross with stone; coat, size 42; trousers, size 38, inseam 30; stainless steel electric York Rite watch, Pulsar in original case; York Rite insignia, petit point in frame, 101/2 by 101/2 inches. The uniform has been cleaned and the chapeau has a Commander's emblem. Make reasonable, generous offer. Shipping extra. All funds will be donated to KTEF. Robert Herrault, 116-14th Street, South; Sebring; FL 33870-9644, (941) 655-1401.

Wanted: second hand Knight Templar sword in excellent condition with etched blade and scabbard, ivory hilt and helmet pommel, etc. John Peverill, 107 Lansdowne Road, Canley Vale, New South Wales 2166, Australia.

I have approximately 120 Knight Templar magazines dating to March 1988, yours for shipping costs. Robert Patton; R.R. No. 2, Box 337; Palmyra; PA 17078-3749.

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, SW; Pataskala; OH 43062, (614) 927-7073.

The Grand Lodge, F. & AM., state of New York, will be hosting the Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Team on June 5, 1999, held at Grand Lodge building, 71 West 23rd Street, New York and beginning at noon. This will be a 3° with the Degree Team exemplifying the Drama in full dress. Tickets are $15.00 each and can be purchased from Stewart C. McCloud It, 91-24 86th Street, Woodhaven, NY 11421-2933,(800) 3MASON4. Checks payable to Second Queens Officers Association.

Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 719, F. & AM., Hamilton, Ohio, has a supply of 50th anniversary copper coins for sale. The working tools are on one side and the other side has "Benjamin Franklin Lodge, 1948-1998." Price is $5.00 including postage. Checks or money orders to Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 719, 732 Mark Avenue, Hamilton, OH 45013-1739.

For sale: York Rite cap with six-color embroidery showing Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems, $10.00 each plus $1.00 postage. Also: gold color Knights Templar lapel pin, $4.00. Part of each sale goes to the York Rite charities. Robert Haupert, P.O. Box 433, Farmington, NM 87499.
Sprig of Acacia Lapel pins: Each handcrafted On is sterling silver with a 24 karat gold vermeil finish. Price per pp is $10.00 ea. including S & H. New item available: The Masonic bridge builder pin in sterling silver with antiqued finish. Price per pp is $10.00 ea. including S & H. Both pins are available only through S. Kenneth Bard, 1630 Orchard Hill Road, Cheshire, CT 06410-3728, (203) 722-7579. 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF.

For sale: The Medal of Honor The Letter G in Valor, a 268-page digest with the names, congressional citations, and Lodge membership of all Masons who have received our nation's highest military award for bravery. Check or money order for $21.95 (CT residents, $23.27) to Weidner Publishing Group, Dept. K., 490 Cornwall Avenue, Cheshire, CT 06410, or credit card order by calling 1 (800) 783-9654. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.

Emblematic jewelry of Chapter, Council, Commandery designs displayed on exclusive Masonic Oxford ties and other Masonic applications upon request. My specialty is reproductions of ancient and antique Masonic jewelry pieces, and I'm capable of working from clear photographs. A percentage of the proceeds of each sale will go to the Albuquerque York Rite Bodies' Temple building fund. All inquiries welcome and will be answered. Ron Horsley Designsmsmith of Albuquerque, New Mexico; telephone: (505) 271-8886, fax: (505) 294-8911, e-mail: goldtree@designsmith.com

Wanted for cash: all 10k and 14k, Past Master, Past High Priest, Past Commander jewels, older items preferred, for my personal collection and for needy Sri Knights and Companions. Above gold prices paid. Ron York, PC.; 124 Topaz Drive; Franklin Park; NJ 08823-1617; evenings, (732) 297-2030; e-mail budyork@eclipse.net

N For sale: In Memoriam booklet, 5½ by 8½, from Blue Lodge to family of deceased Brother. Card stock cover with 5 parchment-like pages including personal history page. The “Lodge’s Memorial” presents Masonic sympathies and convocations in 2½ pages, and 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 (10) for $23.50. Satisfaction or refund. Check to Monument Lodge, P.O. Box 743, Houlton, ME 04730.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 26 years, and still need many pieces as I am collecting all varieties. These one day will end up in a Masonic museum. Why not find a home for your mark? I will gladly send you a check for one piece or will buy your collection. If you collect, I will gladly exchange. I will answer all letters. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 Vi Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 888-7585.

Wanted: posters, playbills, letters, manuscripts, etc. of Masonic magicians Houdini, Kellar, Thurston, Hermann, and others. Out/Johnson, 2410 “S” Street, No. 10; Sacramento; CA 95816-7248, (916) 451-8170; e-mail duff@midtown.net


N Found in Oxford, Ohio, vicinity of Miami University, gold Scottish Rite ring. To redeem, call (740) 774-2625 in order to identify leading to its return. Caller must describe ring in detail.

For sale: all kinds of customized specialty imprinted items: die cast coins, medallions, lapel pins, wooden nickels, round tufts, pens, pencils, markers, yardsticks, mugs, caps, key tags, knives, belt buckles, aprons, bumper stickers, calendars, business cards, awards, plaques, magnetic items, license plates, ornaments. Use these promotional items in your Blue Lodge, Royal Arch, Council, and Commandery. Al items reproduced to your specifications using your camera-ready art, or we can create the art from your sketch. Masonic organizations have an automatic $2,500 line of credit. Brother Frank Looser, 1(800) 765-1728 or e-mail cnf@hotmail.com. All messages will be answered. Satisfaction guaranteed.


For sale in Florida: 70-trot mobilehome with expanded living room and Florida room, completely remodeled. Wishing to retire?-55+ in a beautiful community south of Tampa, north of St. Pete in Pinellas Park, Florida. P.G.C. lost his wife in Dec. ’98; my loss could be your gain. No reasonable offer will be refused. Arthur J. Levesque, 52 Rest Way, Springfield, MA 01119-1722, (413) 783-1305. Take strip, look it over, make an offer. I will arrange for you to see inside.

a Buying all U.S. and foreign coins, paper money, tokens, medals, silver, proof sets, etc. Buyer has 40 years experience. Randy Mogren, 8 Gould Street, Milburn, MA 01527, (508) 865-4816.

Collecting hot air balloon related items and coffee cups or mugs with military emblems on them. Also, wanting post cards with hot air balloons on them for a French friend who wants one from each state in USA. I will be glad to pay reasonable cost and shipping. Please help us in our search to add to our collections. John W. Fanning, 40 Siesta Drive, Jackson, TN 38305.

I am trying to locate a picture book of the 105 Inf. Regt. 27th Division, New York National Guard, WWII. It was hard back and full of pictures of soldiers whom I knew. I will pay reasonable price. Ed Wagner, 160 Simmons Avenue, Cohoes, NY 12047, (518) 235-6531