



Knight Templar

VOLUME XLV

APRIL 1999

NUMBER 4



Easter-1999

Frankly Squeaking

Wheels have much to teach us.

They make burdens lighter and movement easier. They help bring people together. They rushed our mothers to the hospital, and they will lower us into the grave. Clad with fireworks, they spin to celebrate the 4th of July. They help to form such utilitarian objects as pottery and such ornaments as faceted and polished gems.

And when something goes wrong, they squeak.

When Masons live like Masons, we are like the wheel. We make burdens lighter for others, we bridge gaps and help bring people together, we celebrate birth and give reverend burial to our dead, we proclaim patriotism, we help with the simple cares of daily life, and we support both rituals and charitable institutions which are ornaments of human compassion and caring.

But we fall a little short when it comes to squeaking.

We are proud of the fact that Masons stand for things, and that one of the things for which we stand most firmly is ethics and its cousin, morality. We shake our heads over the ethics and morality of contemporary society. When national figures break every rule of human decency and self-respect and the national reaction is a disinterested ho-hum, when executives of international business concerns are expected to be dishonest, when schools find that many children make no attempt to distinguish between right and wrong and operate only on "I want," and "I don't want"; we need to do more than shake **our heads** in disapproval. **Things have gone wrong - we need to squeak!**

The question is how to squeak effectively.

Preaching doesn't work. It takes action.

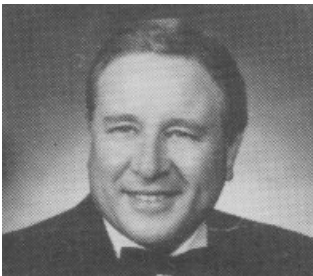
The first, of course, is to make certain that we hold ourselves to the highest standards of ethics and morality. It does little good to take a stand in favor of morality while underpaying workers or telling jokes which attack another's race or gender or lack of intelligence or national origin.

Second, we can support ethics visibly. In Oklahoma, the Masonic Fraternity gives an annual Award for Ethics to professionals who have demonstrated outstanding ethical activity. We plan to expand the program. But the simple fact that such an award is given and given with publicity both rewards the individual and raises public awareness of ethical behavior. Lodges can do the same thing in their own communities.

Lodges can also sponsor contests in local schools. Essay contests in which the students explore such questions as "What makes something the right thing to do?" or "How do I choose?" are one possibility.

Another program would be to hold panel discussions in the schools, with a professional facilitator and students as panelists, to explore the answers to an ethical dilemma - something along the lines of the PBS programs, "Ethics in America."

A little creative thought will suggest other answers and approaches. But the point is we must actually do something. It may make us feel good and self-righteous to stand aside and disapprove. But if we want to change things, we'd best start doing some inspired squeaking.



Joe R. Manning, Jr., Grand Sovereign
United Grand Imperial Council
Red Cross of Constantine
P.O. Box 8; Cushing OK 74023-0008

Knight Templar

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

APRIL: We are nearing the end of the 31st Annual Voluntary Campaign with only about a month to go as you read this. To reach our goal there is still much to be done. Sir Games, Chairman of the campaign, introduces a new program on page 9. Two Easter messages are presented from two distinguished Sir Knights, Grand Prelate Donald Smith and Sir Knight Pace of the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, Fort Jackson, SC. The latter presents his message at the Easier Sunrise Service in Alexandria, Virginia. See page 5. We continue with the story of the Donner Patty and its Masons on page 23, and we offer a story about a newly Raised Mason and accomplished music artist, Brother Jimmy Dickens. There is more from the Grand Encampment Committee on Membership, and of course we have lots of news stories!

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April 1999

Volume XLV Number 4

Published monthly as an official
publication of the Grand
Encampment of Knights Templar of
the United States of America.

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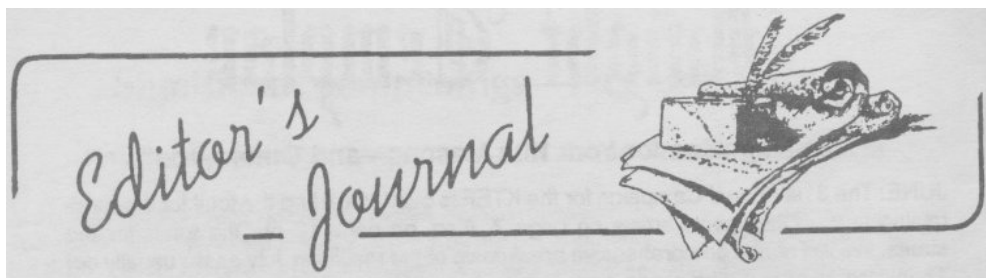
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Material for the Grand
Commandery two-page
supplements is to be directed to
the respective Supplement
editors.

Address corrections from
members are to be sent to the
local Recorders.



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 lots of 10 at \$5.00 apiece, payable to the Grand Encampment, and send to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101 Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

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

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:*** 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 Ave, 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>

He Did It For Us!

By Sir Knight Donald Henslea Smith, M.E.P.G.M
Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment

As we gather on Easter Sunday morning as Christians in our churches and in outdoor services to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, we need to remember the cross on the hill on that dark Friday.

Remember the terrible pain of crucifixion.

Why did Jesus have to suffer so much for us?

It is because people then and people now were and are sinners, and Christ died for those sins to save us, the believers, from that torture.

Look at your hands and your feet. The nails did not mark them. No, it was His hands that bled for you and me. It was His feet that were nailed to that cross, not ours.

But on that beautiful morning when they came to prepare His body, He was gone! He had risen from death! He had shown that He was our Savior, our Lord, the One who commanded us to love one another, to forgive, to help, to aid, and to assist those in need.

And today with our faith we know He is with us as He says:

Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet believed! John 20:29



Grand Prelate Donald H. Smith has served as Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, 1985-1988, and was R.E. Grand Commander of Kentucky, 1974-1975. He is a member of Richmond Commandery No. 19, Richmond, Kentucky. He resides at 1041 Idylwild Drive, Richmond, KY 40475

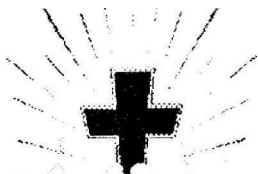
KCT and **GCT** Award Recipients: A 2.5-inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. Emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use for 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



The Day Death Died

1 Corinthians 1:50-58

by Lt Col Arthur C. Pace



It was a day like no other. The worst day in the history of the world was followed by the greatest. Good Friday was followed by Easter. The day God died was followed by the day death died. Creation shook at its foundation, and the heavy curtain of the temple was torn in two. The mystery of God and the fear of death were both overcome when Jesus kept his promise to us on that first Easter morning.

When we examine the empty tomb, we see the evidence that death is not the end. From that empty tomb, from His place at the right hand of the Father; the risen, glorified Christ is pouring forth His Spirit upon all who receive Him. Where the devil thought he had murdered God, he instead finds millions upon millions of born-again believers with the power of the living Christ pulsing through their veins. Where he thought he had achieved the ultimate victory, Satan instead found absolute defeat; his kingdom shattered by wave after wave of God's mighty army charging forth from that empty tomb.

No victory could have been more complete, no question better answered, no doubt better stilled, no light better shown than in our Savior Jesus Christ, resurrected from the dead. Confucius couldn't do it; Buddha didn't do it; Mohammed didn't try it; only Jesus dared to take on the dreaded darkness of death and emerge victorious for all to see. Easter is The Day Death Died."

In spite of this, is there a subject that we avoid more, a subject that troubles us more, and a subject that frightens us more than the thought of death? We live as if we will always have a tomorrow on earth, and yet that is not the reality.

I chuckle at one early American gravestone which had the person's name chiseled across it, and then under the name

was inscribed the phrase, "I expected this, but not just yet."

Reader's Digest carried the following in their story, "Children's Letters to God." It read: Dear God, what is it like when you die? Nobody will tell me. I just want to know, I don't want to do it. Your friend, Mike."

Satan wants us so intimidated by death that we are afraid to look at it! He does not want us to be prepared to die. "Eat, drink, and be merry," he says, "for you will not die until tomorrow." But he is a liar and a father of lies. Satan wants us in his kingdom, and the requirement to get in is the fear of death. Let me ask this, though: "What exactly are we frightened about?"

I think I can address this somewhat with an illustration. The first time the Army assigned me to Germany was a frightening experience. I had never been to Europe before. I had to go alone, leaving my family behind to join me later. I did not know the language, the money, or anyone over there. I did not know the customs, and of course, I didn't know where I would live.

But when I arrived at the German airport, another chaplain was there to meet me. He took me where I had to go, got me checked into a hotel, introduced me to people, taught me some German, taught me how to use the trains, and did all that he could to aid in my transition. Because I had someone with me who was an expert, I was no longer afraid. He had done this all before; I just had to follow him.

Isn't that what our fear of death really is? Aren't we afraid that when it comes our time to pass through the door of death that we will have to go alone and enter a place we have never been before?

Now consider this: Wouldn't it be wonderful if, when we arrived on the other side of eternity, someone would be there to meet us?

- someone who has been through death before? - a friend who takes us by the hand and guides us each step of the way in our passage from this life into the next? Isn't that what we would all desire?

My friends, this is the victory of Easter: that Jesus Christ went on before us, and He is alive to guide us through the valley of death into life eternal. This is why we must not be afraid to look at death!

And what would we see? We would see that in reality death consists of two roads and two doors: One road is wide with many people on it, leading to a huge door that swings easily open. The other road is narrow with only a few people on it, leading to a remarkably small door. In fact, one cannot walk that narrow road, nor enter that small door without help. Jesus said the wide road leads to eternal destruction, while the narrow road leads to eternal life. Painted upon that narrow door, in human blood that knew no sin, is a cross. That rugged door opens into an empty tomb.

Jesus declared, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me." Yes, Jesus has prepared the way for us. He said in my favorite chapter of scripture:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You trust in God; trust in me also. **In** my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you, and I will come back and take you to be with me, that you also may be where I am."

That is why God had to roll the stone away from the tomb. He rolled the stone away **not to let Jesus out, but to let us look In**. Easter was God's ultimate confrontation of our fear of death. He dramatically showed the world both His great love towards us, and His great solution for our sin-wracked lives.

Death is not Lord: Jesus is. Our risen Savior beckons us to the cross and offers us eternal life. Jesus said, "Unless you are born again, you will

not even be allowed to see the kingdom of GOD." The wages of sin are death, and nothing else can be substituted. We cannot pay the penalty for sin with the counterfeit wages of going to church, giving money, or doing good deeds. While these are noble, they cannot take us into God's kingdom. The only way is through the empty tomb.

My friends, what are we afraid of? Death died on Easter, put to death by a Savior who loved us more than his own personal comfort and who chose to suffer so that we would not **have to**.

Jesus offers us eternal life. We must open our hearts to Him. This is called being born again - when we ask Jesus into our lives to be Lord and Savior. There is no other way to personal peace and eternal life. Whatever our problem, whatever our fear, whatever our worry, whatever our affliction; Jesus says: "Come to me - and I will give you rest."

If you have never taken the time to ask Jesus into your heart, this Easter is the day to do it. If you already know Jesus but have wandered away, now is the time to come home. It is not too late to have peace.

An example of this victorious peace is found in the tragic story of Dr. E. Wilson, who was part of an Antarctic expedition team that perished. When rescuers finally located the crew, frozen to death in a tent, Dr. Wilson was found clutching something in his fist. It was a note, written with his last bit of strength and then grasped so that it would not be lost when he died. It was addressed to his wife. It read:

"Don't be unhappy. We are playing a good part in a great scheme arranged by God himself, and all is well. We will all meet after death, and death has no terrors. All is for the best to those that love God, and we have both loved Him with all our lives. Life itself is a small thing to me now, but my love for you is forever, and a part of our love for God. All the things I had hoped to do with you after this expedition are as nothing

now, but there are greater things for us to do in the world to come. All is well."

The serenity of the empty tomb cries out in mockery: 'O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?'"

The great evangelist, Dwight L. Moody, while talking to some friends, put it like this: "Some morning you will read in the papers that D.L.

Moody is dead. Don't believe a word of It! At the moment I shall be more alive than I am now. I was born of the flesh in 1837; I was born of the Spirit in 1856. That which is born of the flesh may die; that which is born of the Spirit shall live forever." Easter is the day death died. May it also be the day that we find new life with our risen Savior.

Sir Knight Arthur C. Pace presents "The Day Death Died" at the 69th Annual Easter Sunrise Service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. on April 4, 1999.

A general invitation was extended by Most Eminent Grand Master James M. Ward to the Sir Knights and their families and friends to join the grand officers and their Brother Christian Masons at this traditional Easter Service. For those who are unable to attend the Easter ceremony in Alexandria or who wish to read the Sir Knights message in addition to being there, here we share it with you. Sir Knight Arthur C. Pace is a member of Trinity Commandery in New Jersey. He was Raised in 1975 and was Knighted in 1976 by his father, Thurman C. Pace, then Grand Commander of the state of New Jersey. He has served as the Associate Grand Prelate for New Jersey. He is now both a Grand Chaplain for the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and the chaplain for the Fort Jackson Chapter of National Sojourners. Sir Knight Pace is an Army chaplain, lieutenant colonel, currently assigned to the United States Army Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson, SC.

TEMPLARS! Any of you who has an anecdote (either funny or informational) about a Templar, group of Templars, a Commandery, a Grand Commandery, or the Grand Encampment, which might be of historical interest; please write it (by hand, if you wish), and send it to me. I will see that it is "laid up among the archives" of the Grand Encampment, to be printed in this magazine at an appropriate time and in any history published in the next century: Jacob C. Baird, Chairman of the Committee on Templar History, 1134 Royal Road, Norwood, MO 65717-9466; e-mail: jbaird@windo.missouri.org



Massachusetts Assemblies, S.O.O.B., Host Visit of Supreme Worthy President

This fall Natick Assembly No. 209 (left above) with Mrs. Herbert Simpson as Worthy President, met with Reading Assembly No. 117 (right above), with Mrs. Harold Judd, Jr., as Worthy President, and hosted the Official Visit of Mrs. Esther K. Offen, Supreme Worthy President. Present was Mrs. Russell Winam, Past President of Reading No. 117 and a member of the Appeals and Grievance Committee for the Supreme Assembly. Mrs. Winam also helped the Assembly celebrate its 50th anniversary in June of 1998. [submitted by (Mrs. Howard A.) Peg Judd, Jr.]

The 31st Annual Voluntary Campaign
A New Way of Supporting Your Charity
Be a Philanthropist
Establish a "Permanent Donor Fund"



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

I am pleased to announce that the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., has established a procedure whereby any individual, organization, foundation, or corporation may become a **PHILANTHROPIST** by donating the sum of \$10,000.00 to the **PERMANENT DONOR FUND**.

Those donors making the initial donation of \$10,000.00 will be presented a Golden Chalice, and those who make an additional donation of \$25,000.00 or more will be presented the Sword of Merit, which is presented only at the time of the initial donation. Previous donations to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., such as the Grand Masters Club, etc., cannot be applied as a part of the initial donation to the **Permanent Donor Fund**.

Any Donor who wishes to have his or her name listed as a Permanent Donor of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., may donate the sum of \$10,000.00 or more to the Foundation for the purpose of generating income for the Endowment Fund. The principal of this **Permanent Donor Fund** will remain permanent with income to be used for the general purposes of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

When the initial donation of \$10,000.00 is received, a receipt will be issued stating how additional donations can be added to the fund as well as Bequests. Additional donations must be in increments of \$1,000.00 or more. The receipt will immediately recognize the donor as Philanthropist," who will be recognized in perpetuity.

The Name of the Fund designated by the Donor shall appear in the Annual Report of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., as long as the Foundation exists, and it will permanently honor the Donor as a member of the **PERMANENT DONOR FUND**. The purpose of including the fund by name is to give permanent recognition to individuals who want to help those who need the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., in the future.

At present two **PERMANENT DONOR FUNDS** have been established. The first was by Sir Knight and Brother John L. McCain, 33°, in memory



his wife, Genevieve McCain. The Scottish Rite of Northern New Jersey established the other one in honor of Sir Knight and Brother Thurman C. Pace, Jr., 33¹.

It is our hope that the 31st Annual Voluntary Campaign will have at least ten donations to the **PERMANENT DONOR FUND**. The value of securities and other properties may be included in the establishing of the fund. If you desire further information or a form for use in becoming a Philanthropist, please contact the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., office in Chicago or e-mail: ktef@knightstemplar.org. The form may also be found on the web site under www.knightstemplar.org/ktef

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: cagarnes@aol.com. For information on the KTEF, e-mail: ktef@knightstemplar.org

In Memoriam



Robert H. Kines, Jr.
Georgia
Grand Commander-1988
Born September 21, 1923
Died February 8, 1999

Moffett David Sensabaugh, Sr.
Virginia
Grand Commander - 1970
Born August 22, 1910
Died February 24, 1999

Grand Commander's Club

No. 100,982-Bud E. Barney (FL)
No. 100,983-Dale J. Sproull (MI)
No. 100,984-William A. Steadley (SC)
No. 100,985-in memory of Robert E. Withers, M.E.P.G.M., by James Withers Wailer (VA)
No. 100,986-Ronald P. Mieir (OK)
No. 100,987-Ronald B. Rakestraw (GA)
No. 100,988-Harold Thomas Mixon (GA)
No. 100,989-Byrd E. Tomlinson (GA)
No. 100,990-John H. Hendricks (GA)
No. 100,991-Leonard H. Bucher (CT)
No. 100,992-Boyd H. Butz (PA)
No. 100,993-L. F. Robertson (PA)
No. 100,994-Charles R. Svensen (OR)
No. 100,996-James B. Vanders, Jr. (FL)
No. 100,997-Donald G. Davison (PA)
No. 100,998-Don C. Hawley (FL)
No. 100,999-Oscar L. Penny (GA)
No. 101,000-Waiter P. Benesch (VA)
No. 101,001-Jack V. Offord (MT)
No. 101,002-Robert E. Greenlaw (FL)

Grand Master's Club

No. 3,228-William H. Underdown (GA)
No. 3,229-Howard "Chick" Bennett (KY)
No. 3,230-Wilfred Dow (WI)
No. 3,231-Gordon E. Sorenson (MT)
No. 3,232-Joseph W. Capone (PA)
No. 3,233-Elizabeth B. Harrison (VA)

No. 3,234-Donald McLean Helton (NC)
No. 3,235-Joseph D. Solieau (AL)
No. 3,236-Forrest D. McKerley (NH)
No. 3,237-Jim Frank Wloczewski (MD)
No. 3,238-James Taylor Williams (TN)
No. 3,239-Robert Howard Brooks (TN)
No. 3,240-Craig A. Haggas (GA)
No. 3,241-John Bitting Hill, Jr. (GA)
No. 3,242-Stephen C. McMurray (VA)
No. 3,243-Malcolm T. Buckner (GA)
No. 3,244-John A. Friedrichsen (OR)
No. 3,245-William G. Frazier (IN)
No. 3,246-Drs. Suit, Jarrard, and Ellis (GA)
No. 3,247-Robert J. Richards (GA)
No. 3,248-James M. Myers, Jr. (PA)
No. 3,249-Bntton Miller (CA)
No. 3,250-Joseph C. Turpin (AZ)
No. 3,251-James Clark Hardy, Jr. (KY)
No. 3,252-Dr. John G. Melley (PA)
No. 3,253-John D. Millicharnp (MI)
No. 3,254-in memory of Mildred Hinds by Earl A. Hinds (TX)
No. 3,255-Robert A. Moore (AL)

How to join: Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution of \$100 or more will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is 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. 31st Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending March 5, 1999. The total amount contributed to date is \$393,415.97.

Alabama	\$11,045.00
Arizona	4,875.50
Arkansas.....	3,831.55
California	17,058.40
Colorado.....	6,736.25
Connecticut.....	7,620.00
Delaware	400.00
District of Columbia	4,136.00
Florida	9,147.09
Georgia	42,591.91
Idaho	1,336.40
Illinois	11,109.00
Indiana	4,853.00
Iowa	10,869.02
Kansas	2,168.00
Kentucky.....	9,113.98
Louisiana	5,640.00
Maine	310.00

Maryland	7185.10
Mass/R.I.	4,679.25
Michigan	7,598.32
Minnesota	900.00
Mississippi	2,370.00
Missouri	4,254.97
Montana	6,068.32
Nebraska	1,122.33
Nevada	3,682.15
New Hampshire.....	2,335.00
New Jersey	7,670.00
New Mexico	2,162.00
New York	14,945.14
North Carolina	5,429.99
North Dakota.....	180.00
Ohio	7,499.00
Oklahoma	1,686.00
Oregon	4,427.72
Pennsylvania.....	30,210.40
South Carolina	11,836.66
South Dakota	6,560.00
Tennessee	9,347.38
Texas	53,424.77
Utah	2,616.50
Vermont.....	1,365.00
Virginia	13,271.87
Washington	3,417.53
West Virginia.....	6,082.50
Wisconsin	4,023.50
Wyoming.....	807.00
Philippines	720.00
Honolulu No. 1	2,383.00
Anchorage No. 2	3,540.00
Tokyo No. 1	260.00
Heidelberg No. 2	1,205.00
Miscellaneous	5,308.47

Hildalgo Commandery No. 94, Texas, Presents Two Scholarships

January 11, 1999, Hildalgo Commandery No. 94, McAllen, Texas, presented two scholarships in the amount of \$1,000.00 each at a called meeting held in the asylum at McAllen Masonic Lodge in McAllen. The presentation was made by Past Commander William M. Gower, who is presently serving as M.W. Grand Master of Masons in Texas. Pictured, from left, are: Edwin L. Smith, honor guard; Wesley Wright, Commander; Heather Fyfe, recipient of scholarship; William M. Gower, Grand Master of Texas Masons and Past Commander; Carla Eckstein, recipient of scholarship; Hector Davila, Past Commander; and Thomas B. Ball, honor guard.



The Necessity Of Personal Involvement In Templary from the Grand Encampment's Committee on Membership

It is strange that the precepts of the religion; which gave us as individuals, freedom of thought, philosophy, and action; could also lead to its downfall, I feel that this is true because, since the forties and fifties, Christian church enrollment has been decreasing, and our organization of Knights Templar, whose mission is 'The Support and Defense of the Christian Religion, has also been declining in membership.

Christ gave us freedom to serve God as we see fit, but He also gave us the responsibility for our own actions. Our responsibility has not been fulfilled. It has been a continuing study of inaction instead of action. With all that we have taken on for ourselves in the manner of time consuming practices, however seemingly necessary, we have not spent the time necessary to promote and protect the Christian philosophy and way of life. The Christian community as a whole has been severely lacking in the support and defense of its primary institutions. Even though many people profess to believe in Christian principles and beliefs, yet they do not take time to get involved in the maintenance and growth of Christianity and thus increase its membership. It seems that we are too busy with items of entertainment or the acquiring and repairing of labor-saving devices.

The energizing force which could reverse this decline in membership is personal involvement. Of course, we were personally involved when we joined Templary and were impressed with the teachings of the Orders. Of course, we were involved when we took offices and proceeded through the lines and conferred the Orders on other Christian Masons. But evidently this is not enough for we are still losing members.

When we as Christians dedicated ourselves to Christ's service and His way of life, we also swore to support the principles involved in the Christian religion. It is evident from its decline that we have not been supporting those principles strongly enough to help it grow.

How, then, can we be involved more than we already are? I am not, in general, speaking of officers of Grand Commanderies who, if they are properly executing their responsibilities, have a full slate of action already on their plates. They must, however, take it upon themselves to see that every Sir Knight in their jurisdictions becomes more personally involved.

Every Sir Knight should be thoroughly educated in our mission, our history, our philosophy, and our philanthropies so that he can be enthusiastically involved in membership acquisition and retention. If he is knowledgeable about the attributes of Templary, he will be much more apt to inspire some other Christian Mason to be a part of this noble cause. Constituent Commanderies can have lectures and present papers which can educate Christian Masons about who we are and why they should be a part of the promotion of our mission. Every state should have workshops to educate all Knights thus increasing knowledge and enthusiasm.

I truly believe that a majority of Christians and Knights Templar do not understand and appreciate the freedoms which Christianity gives us. I do not think that they realize that, worldwide, Christianity is a minority religion. They tend to be complacent about its increase and success because, in America, it is in the majority. Christianity offers freedoms to the individual which other more militaristic religions do not have, and thus we become a threat to them. Christianity and Templary (if they find out about our mission of supporting and defending the Christian religion) are under constant attack by dictators, communists and atheists as well as the "politically correct" people in our government who don't wish to anger anyone and lose a vote even though those principles of freedom formed the basis of our Constitution and should be upheld at any cost. We need organizational support in Templary to uphold those freedoms.

Christ in His life gave us freedom from the law, freedom from sin, and freedom from death. He gave us freedom from the law (or the binding restrictions of it) when He simplified the Jewish law. That law was the most complete and restrictive set of rules ever devised to guide the conduct of man. It encompasses most all of the second through the fifth books of the Old Testament and was given to Gods chosen people by Moses. It started with the Ten Commandments and progressed through every conceivable condition which might be confronted by man and gave him solutions for justice including the punishments for disobedience.

Christ came not to refute the law but to simplify it and show that there are times and places in which God will be served better by not obeying the strict verbiage of the written law and in which one can use his own judgment about what is right according to Gods law. He gave us freedom of action to use concerning how we as individuals can best serve God, but He also gave us the obligation of responsibility for our actions.

Christ gathered food and ate on the Sabbath and He healed on the Sabbath; both were in violation of the strict Jewish law. The Pharisees attempted to trap Jesus by asking "Which is the greatest commandment of all?" Jesus answered by saying "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment." And a second like shall love your neighbor as yourself"

Jesus gave us the freedom to decide how we each shall serve the Lord, and also, he laid upon us the individual responsibility for our actions.

Jesus also gave us freedom from sin when He died for ours, thus relieving us of guilty consciences. Our Savior gave us freedom from death when He proved that there is a life after this life by bodily ascending into heaven. This theory is prevalent throughout all of York Rite Masonry.

Sir Knights, Christianity frees us to serve God as we think He would have us do. Jesus also gave us the obligation to support and defend this most sublime of all religions. In the Great Commission, Jesus told the disciples to "Go therefore into all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost." He did not say **sit there**, He said **go!**

Our mission as Knights Templar, The Support and Defense of the Christian Religion," is not being accomplished as well as it should be. The secret to success in this endeavor is increased **personal involvement** by every Knight Templar. In the past men have died to promote and enhance this beautiful system of religious beliefs. We are only asking for more personal involvement, which can be the salvation of our wonderful Fraternity.

The Committee on Membership:
Stanley O. Simons, P.G.C (MI)
James C. Taylor, P.D.C. (OK)
Paul A. Brehm, P.G.C. (WI)

Wichita Assembly No. 8, Kansas, S.O.O.B., Distributes Christmas Toys



Mrs. Verden Brown (right), President, and Mrs. John Hobbble (left), 1st Vice President, and the members of Wichita Assembly No. 8 gathered bears, toys, and other gifts to be given to those less fortunate at Christmas. They were distributed to two groups: the Women's Crisis Center and the Cystic Fibrosis Children. The children at the Crisis Center Christmas party were very excited as they selected and wrapped gifts to be given to their mothers. Santa left bears and dolls for the children. The cystic fibrosis children received a ditty bag with small gifts and toys to play with while waiting to see the doctor and while waiting for test results. This makes the many trips and the long waits less painful.



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
MASONIC NATIONAL
MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

HONORING
GEORGE WASHINGTON
IN 1999

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE;

Edgar N. Peppier, P.G.M. New
Jersey—President

Donald M. Robey, P.G.J.&
Virginia—Sec./Treas.

Paul E. Ellis, P.G.M. Delaware--
1st V. Pres.

Warren D. Uchty, P.G.M.
Nebraska--2nd V. Pres.

W. Scott Stoner, P.G.M.
Pennsylvania--3rd V. President

Michael D. Brumback, P.G.M.,
Indians

Frank R. Dunaway, Jr., P.M., A—W
No. 22

To Members of Masonic Organizations:

Brother George Washington passed to the Celestial Lodge on December 14, 1799, and our nation has yet to see a leader who can fill his shoes. 1999 marks the 200th anniversary of this solemn occasion. Before we begin a new century, isn't it time we looked back to the character and leadership of this single hero?

As fellow Masons, we need to take the lead in planning activities and events which commemorate Washington's death and celebrate the accomplishments of his life. We must share with the entire nation Washington's devotion to Freemasonry.

We have available a pamphlet which offers a wide variety of ways to honor Washington and to educate others about his character and leadership. Just for the asking, Mount Vernon can send you all the materials you need to plan a memorable event or to make a difference in your local school. We hope that *every single lodge and appendant body will* decide to do something to honor Brother Washington - he certainly deserves nothing less!

At the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, we are erecting the largest Masonic emblem ever created - more than 70 feet long - to commemorate the George Washington Bicentennial. The dedication of this emblem will take place with a huge gathering of Masons on June 26, 1999.

So please, plan your own local tribute to Washington. Where would our nation be without this remarkable man, and who can better speak to his character and importance than his fellow Masons?

Sincerely and fraternally,

Edgar N. Peppier, P.G.M.
President
George Washington Masonic
National Memorial Association

Brother James C. Rees
Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, A.F. & A.M.
Resident Director
Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens

101 Callahan Drive * Alexandria, VA 22301 * 703-683-2007 * Fax 703-519-9270

The George Washington Bicentennial Community Program

Dear Community Leader:

We would like to invite your organization or community to participate in an exciting program honoring George Washington in 1999, the 200th anniversary of this great man's death. The George Washington Bicentennial Community program is open to towns, military organizations, schools, corporations, civic and patriotic organizations, and groups of all descriptions - from coast to coast.

Becoming an official George Washington Bicentennial Community is simple and fun. All you need to do is organize four activities which will focus attention on Washington during this important anniversary year. You and your committee can read a George Washington book to a classroom of students, organize a celebratory picnic featuring Washington's favorite foods, or simply get a letter to the editor published in your local newspaper. Available are materials that describe countless ways you can participate, but you can also come up with your own creative ideas.

The greatest legacy of our first president was the remarkable character and leadership he demonstrated throughout his career. Together, we hope that hundreds of communities, from sea to shining sea, will use Washington's example as a guidepost for future generations.

You can spark the flame In your community - your town, school, military base, or organization - and Mount Vernon will support your efforts. A George Washington Bicentennial Community Celebration Planner is available that will help you take the first steps. Do your part to keep George Washington first in the hearts of his countrymen!

Questions?

Toll Free 877-GWB.1999 • e-mail to: bicentennial@mountvernon.org • www.gwashington1999.org

Sincerely, James C. Rees
Director, Historic Mount Vernon

HONORARY CHAIRS, COMMITTEE OF DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS FOR GEORGE WASHINGTON

The President and Mrs. Clinton * President and Mrs. George Bush * President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford President
and Mrs. Ronald Reagan * President and Mrs. James F. Carter, Jr. * Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson
George Washington's Mount Vernon, P.O. Box 110, Mount Vernon, VA 22121. (703) 780-2000

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

CHAPTER V

Fifty-seventh Conclave, 1988 (continued)

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters had recommended and the Grand Master granted dispensations to the following to form Corn manderies: Santiago Marino No. 1, Caracas, Venezuela; Carabobo No. Valencia, Venezuela; Trinity No. 3, Wilmington, Delaware; Ugo de Payens No. 6, Geneva, Italy; Trinacria No. 5, Messina, Italy; Cilento No. 7, Salerno, Italy; Sannita No. 8, Benevento, Italy; Il Vespro No. 9, Palermo, Italy; San Giorgio No. 10, Perugia, Italy; Finisbusterrae No. 11, Lecce, Italy. The Committee recommended that these dispensations be continued for another three years. The Committee also recommended that the dispensations for Kodiak, Alaska and Sir Galahad, Mexico be continued for another three years; they asked that the dispensation for Skagway, Alaska, be discontinued; they also asked that charters be granted to Medferranae Commandery No. Naples, Italy and Giacomo DeMolay No. Leghorn, Italy. The charter of Hermann von Saiza had been returned to the Grand Encampment with the statement that it was impossible for them to continue as a Chartered Commandery," so the committee recommended that its charter be terminated. The committee reported that it had just received requests from several other cities of foreign countries for dispensations to form Commanderies but had not had time to process them. The request for acceptance and approval for their report and the actions taken was approved.

The Grand Master reported that the funds of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation totaled almost \$27 million; \$8

million of which had been taken in during this triennium; the three voluntary campaigns accounted for \$2,700,000.

An attempt to establish two honorary grades and ranks (Grand Cross of the Temple, GCT and Knight Commander of the Temple, KCT) failed.

The Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage reported that 116 additional ministers had made the Pilgrimage, which brought to a total of 256 Christian Ministers who had made the Pilgrimage as guests of the Sir Knights.

The office of Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment was presented to Most Eminent Knight Donald A. King, then Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, and also to Sir Knight Herbert D. Sledd, P.G.C. of Kentucky, Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee, who had served in that capacity for the past 21 years. Honorary memberships in the Grand Encampment were presented to Most Eminent Knight Gary M. Kollo, Grand Master of the Great Priory of Germany; Most Eminent Knight Edward S. P. Carson, Deputy Grand Master of the Great Priory of Canada; and Right Eminent James W. Gerrard, Grand Chancellor of the Great Priory of Canada.

In the election on Tuesday all grand officers were advanced one station, leaving the chair of Grand Captain General empty. Two candidates ran for the office: Sir Knight William Jackson Jones, North Central Department Commander, and Sir Knight James Morris Ward, Past Southeastern Department Commander and Chairman of the Committee on International York Rite Cooperation. Following the vote, Sir Knight Ward was declared the winner. The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer were reelected.

At the Grand Master's Banquet on Tuesday night, Grand Master Smith presented the National Award of the Grand Encampment to Sir Knight Edmund F. Ball, Past Grand Commander of Indiana and Past Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment. He also honored Past Grand Master Wilbur G. Bell for his distinguished service as Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Wednesday morning was reserved for the conclusion of the business sessions followed by the open installation of the new Grand Encampment officers. Sir Knight Marvin E. Fowler was sworn in as the new Most Eminent Grand Master; Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr., Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master; Sir Knight Blair C. Mayford, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo; Sir Knight James Morris Ward, Right Eminent Grand Captain General; Sir Knight Harold S. Gorman, Right Eminent Grand Treasurer; and Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, Right Eminent Grand Recorder. Reverend and Sir Knight Thomas E. Weir was appointed Right Eminent Grand Prelate. New Department Commanders were appointed as follows: Sir Knights: Gordon J. Brenner, Northeastern; Joseph D. Brackin, Southeastern; H. Courtney Jones, East Central; Morton P. Steyer, North Central; Earl R. Little, South Central; Howard R. Caldwell, Northwestern; and David B. Slayton Southwestern.

Aides to the grand officers were Sir Knights: S. Flory Diehl and Herbert A. Fisher for Grand Master Fowler; Robert E. Newman for Deputy Grand Master Thornley; Marvin L. Painter for Grand Generalissimo Mayford; Earl Douglas Barlow for Grand Captain General Ward; Clarence K. Jones for Grand Treasurer Gorman; William R. Dawkins for Grand Recorder Neumann; Gary D. Hermann for Past Grand Master Bell; David J. Miller for Past Grand Master Avery; William H. Koon II for Past Grand Master Dull; and Carl H. Edwards for Past Grand Master Smith.

After the open installation, the Grand Encampment Triennial sessions were

declared closed for 1988, and it was announced that the 58th Triennial Conclave would be held in Washington, D.C., on August 17-21, 1991.

Fifty-eighth Conclave, 1991

An unusual treat was in store for those at the Fifty-eighth Triennial Conclave if they attended the divine service which was held on Sunday morning, August 18, 1991 at 10 A.M. in the Sheraton Room of the Sheraton Washington Hotel under the direction of Grand Prelate Thomas E. Weir. After the singing of the hymn "God of Our Fathers," recitation of the "Apostle's Creed," and the "Lord's Prayer," and an offering taken for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation; John J. Robinson, author of *Born in Blood*, delivered an inspiring tribute to the crusading Knights of the Temple in commemorating the 700th anniversary of the fall of Acre and their departure from the Holy Land. Mr. Robinson is recognized as an historian and authority on the history of the original Knights Templar. His volume *Dungeon, Fire and Sword* is an extremely interesting and detailed history of the Templars. His fascinating account of the ancient Templars was followed by a meaningful and thought-provoking sermon by the Grand Prelate, the Reverend and Sir Knight Thomas E. Weir, Ph.D., entitled "Deep Calleth Unto Deep." The sermon was followed by the placing of a memorial wreath by Grand Master Fowler and the singing of "Onward Christian Soldiers" by those assembled.

The Editor's meeting was held in the Vermont Room at 2:00 P.M. and was well attended by state supplement editors and Grand Commandery and Grand Encampment officers. Staff representative, Randall W. Becker, explained that the desktop publishing computer equipment purchased by the Grand Encampment was most helpful in producing the magazine, and that almost all of the editors were now submitting monthly material to the office of the magazine on a regular basis.

Chicago Heights No. 78, Illinois, Welcomes R.E. Deputy Grand Master, The Grand Commander Of Illinois And Many Other Dignitaries

The pictures were taken at the Annual Inspection of Chicago Heights Commandery No. 78, Lansing, Illinois. Directly below, left to right: Sir Knight Richard R. Salsbury, R.E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Illinois; Most Worshipful Brother J. Garrie Burr, Grand Master of A.F. & A.M., Illinois; Sir Knight James E. Durbin, E. Commander of Chicago Heights No. 78 and Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of A.F. and A.M., Illinois; Right Worshipful Brother Benny L. Grisham, Treasurer, Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., Illinois; and Sir Knight William Jackson Jones, R.E. Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U.S.A.

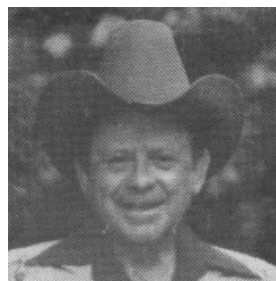
Bottom, left to right: front row: Sir Knight James E. Durbin, E.C., Chicago Heights No. 78 and R.W. Deputy Grand Master, A.F. & A.M., Illinois; R.W. Benny L. Grisham, Treasurer, Grand Lodge, Illinois; M.W. J. Garrie Burr, Grand Master, Grand Lodge, Illinois; Sir Knight Richard R. Salsbury, R.E. Grand Commander, Illinois; Sir Knight William Jackson Jones, R.E.D.G.M., Grand Encampment; Sir Knight Robert K. Cronk, R.E.P.G.C., Illinois; Sir Knight William R. Dawkins, R.E.P.G.C., Illinois. Second row: Illinois Sir Knights: Richard W. Young, V.E. Deputy Grand Commander; Henry J. DeHeer, R.E.P.G.C.; Ronald A. Fraser, E.G.Sw.B.; J. Robert Stockner, R.E.P.G.C.; Bradley L. Baker, E.G.St.B.; James W. Patton, E.G. Prelate; Marvin L. Selock, E.G.Sr.W.; Clifford H. Blatchley, E.G. Color Bearer; and George B. Walsh, E.G. Organist.



Little Jimmy Dickens:

Music City Legend and Newly Raised Master Mason

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°



One of the truly legendary figures in country music is a four-foot, eleven-inch tall vocalist from the mountains of southern West Virginia known as Little Jimmy Dickens. Known for his humorous novelty songs such as "Take an Old Cold Tater and Wait" and "May the Bird of Paradise Fly Up Your Nose," Dickens first joined the Grand Ole Opry a half century ago with the help and encouragement of Brother Roy Acuff. In 1983 Little Jimmy was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. More recently, on January 31, 1998, this remarkable man at the age of seventy-seven was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

James Cecil Dickens was born on December 19, 1920. Jim ranked as the oldest child in a rather large family, and his grandparents, Lewis and Edna Dickens, reared the boy. Music filled an important social role on both sides of Jim's family and in the community as well. The youth grew up hearing traditional ballads such as "John Henry," "Barbara Allen," "Jesse James," and "John Hardy." Dickens, too, began to sing and while in his early teens learned to play chords on his uncle's guitar.

Little Jim made his first public appearance at a talent contest in Pineville, West Virginia, at age fifteen. He sang "Silver Haired Daddy of Mine," a number associated with Brother Gene Autry. To his surprise, Dickens won and subsequently entered other contests. When radio station, WJLS Beckley, went on the air in March 1939; Jim soon became a more or less regular performer. Surprisingly, several of the musicians at this small station enjoyed notable careers in music including Molly O'Day, the Lilly Brothers, Speedy Krise, and

the Bailes Brothers. (Like Jimmy, two of these four brothers, Homer and Kyle, later became Masons.) Another brother, Walter Bailes, gave Dickens his initial nickname "Jimmy the Kid." He also worked with another musician, Mel Steele, and even quit school for a time and journeyed to WMMN Fairmont and worked for Steele. Later Dickens came back home and resumed his education graduating from Trap Hill High School in Surveyor, West Virginia, in 1940. Although only four feet, six inches in height and tipping the scales at eighty-five pounds, Jim played on the basketball team and earned a letter.

Dickens entered West Virginia University at Morgantown and also played on WMMN radio in Fairmont again. In 1941 entertainment won out over academics, and the pint-sized picker went into radio full time. He teamed up with T. Texas Tyler at WIBC Indianapolis, Indiana. Tyler dubbed his partner "The World's Smallest Cowboy Entertainer." Dickens remained in Indianapolis from 1941 until 1945. After Tyler entered military service in 1943, Little Jimmy performed solo. While there, he grew five additional inches after turning twenty-one.

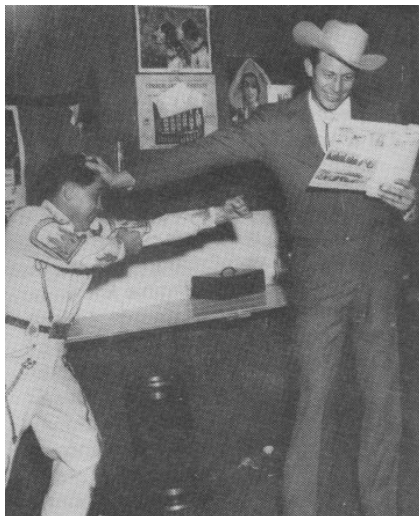
Beginning in 1945 Dickens spent roughly a year at each of these different stations. The first at WLW Cincinnati provided the singer with experience at the nation's most prestigious radio outlet. The second at WIBW Topeka took him to the Kansas plains. The third at WKNX Saginaw, Michigan, saw him at a daytime station in a northern locale. On October 21, 1947, Roy Acuff played a concert in the City Auditorium and renewed his acquaintance with Dickens—the two had shared

the stage at a concert in Cincinnati a couple of years earlier. The veteran Grand Ole Opry star promised to help Jimmy get a guest spot on the Opry. Dickens' initial appearance on this famed show came on February 21, 1948. Returning to his regular program in Michigan, Little Jim received another call to come to Nashville. In August 1948 he became a Grand Ole Opry regular. On September 16 Dickens signed his initial contract with Columbia Records, but because the Petrillo ban was in effect at the time, he did not have his first recording session until January 16, 1949.

That first visit to the studio yielded what became the Dickens' trademark song, "Take an Old Cold later and Wait." This number originally dated from 1921 and was composed by E. M. Bartlett, who also wrote "Victory in Jesus." Little Jimmy had learned it during his days in Indianapolis. It helped create an image of a little fellow who was something of a loser in the game of life. Later Dickens' numbers reinforced this image: (Plain Old) Country Boy, "A-Sleepin' at the Foot of the Road," "I'm Little But I'm Loud," "Cold Feet," and Out Behind the Barn." Ironically, he could also do more serious material with equal effectiveness such as the love ballad, "My Heart's Bouquet" and the tear-jerker, Pennies for Papa," but the comic, novelty numbers generally became the big hits.

The early fifties were good ones for Dickens, and he gained a reputation as one of America's most popular country singers. Fans listened to him zealously on the Opry and turned out to see him on road shows where he worked heavily in this period. In 1957 he left the Opry and WSM and toured nationwide for a year with the highly successful Philip Morris Caravan. Thereafter, he simply worked personal appearances on the strength of the reputation he had built over the years. He continued to record for Columbia during this period although he had no hits from 1955 through late 1962.

In November 1962 a heart song titled "The Violet and a Rose" put Dickens back



Little Jimmy Dickens clowning around with fellow Opiy member, Hawkshaw Hawkins, 6-ft., 6-in., on a TV set, ca. 1956.

in the Billboard top ten. The following year he had a modest hit with "Another Bridge to Burn." In the mid-sixties he scored his biggest success with a new novelty song, "May the Bird of Paradise Fly Up Your Nose," which not only topped the country charts but reached number fifteen in the pop listings. The little guy again reached major celebrity status, and through the rest of the decade his songs appeared on the chart listings. In 1967 he left Columbia and signed with Decca for whom he did three albums and had three minor hits, the last of which, a heart-touching recitation titled "Raggedy Ann," became the number that he would thereafter use to close his show.

In the early seventies Dickens signed with United Artists Records and had a couple of modest hits in "Everyday Family Man" and "Try It, You'll Like It." At various times he also recorded for the Little Gem, Gusto, and later Patch firms. In 1975 Dickens returned to the Opry with another assist from Roy Acuff, and he has been a regular performer there ever since. He



Little Jimmy Dickens, ca. 1982.

Photo courtesy of James C. Dickens,

also continued his touring schedule, although he has relaxed it somewhat in the nineties. Increasingly, Dickens has also made numerous comic quips mostly about his own lack of height and in recent years about aging as he has joined the ranks of senior citizens.

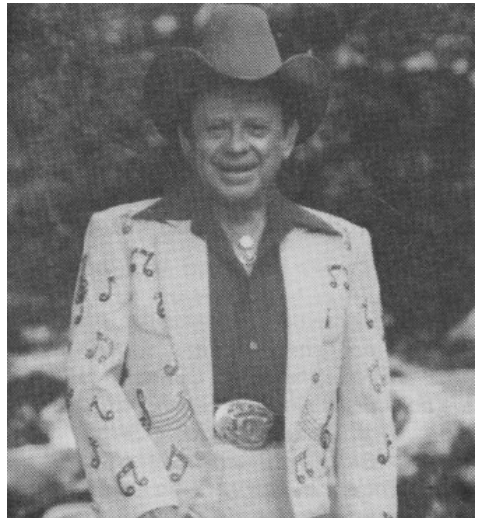
By the eighties, Dickens' stature as a pivotal figure in the industry began to grow. In 1982 when Country Music Association members chose Marty Robbins for the year's Hall of Fame inductee, Robbins complained that older pioneers such as Little Jimmy Dickens had not yet been included. Marty's tragic death two months later made his acceptance speech a virtual campaign for the nomination of Dickens. In October 1983 Jimmy Dickens entered the Hall of Fame on his own. The man known to the world as Ma Dickens' little tater eatin' boy" had reached the pinnacle of success in his profession.

Entry into this hallowed circle did not change Little Jimmy. He continued to be the same humble, polite person he had always been. He continued to work the road and appeared regularly on the Opry. He waxed a new album on Tater Patch Records. Some of his earlier recordings with a boogie and rockabilly flavor were reissued abroad, and in 1984 Columbia re-released some of his best

numbers in their Columbia Historic Edition series. The German company, Bear Family, released two, boxed sets containing his entire Columbia output on compact disc.

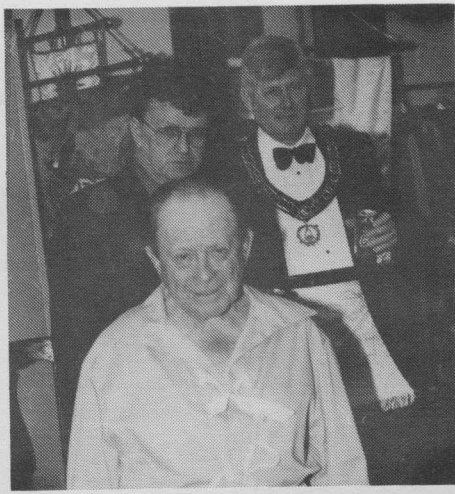
After his first, eleven-year marriage ended in divorce, Jim married Ernestine Jones, and the couple adopted a daughter, Pamela Jean. Ernestine died in a tragic car accident on January 1, 1968. On December 24, 1971, he married a tall blonde named Mona Evans, and they made their home in the Nashville suburb of Brentwood.

Dickens had long desired to become a Mason and petitioned Hiram Lodge No. 7 in Franklin, Tennessee. He received his Entered Apprentice degree on August 5, 1997, and was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on December 2, 1997. In a special meeting on January 31, 1998, held in the auditorium of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, a few blocks from the old Ryman Auditorium where he had debuted on the Opry nearly a half century before; James Cecil Dickens was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. A crowd of some 1,400 Masons from six states witnessed the event. Sir Knight Jim Custer of Lookout Commandery No. 14 in Chattanooga and Limestone Lodge No. 176 in Birchwood





Little Jimmy Dickens with Brother Jim Custer at his raising, Nashville, Tennessee, January 31, 1998. Picture courtesy of Jim Custer.



Jimmy Dickens preparing for the 3", January 31, 1998. Picture courtesy of Jim Custer.

who is Grand Senior Steward, reports that Brother Dickens listened attentively to degree work absorbing the lessons of the work. Sir Knight Custer reports that Jim is anxious to take both the York and Scottish Rite degrees and will be advancing in Masonic knowledge. Past Grand Master Robinson of Kentucky made Dickens a Kentucky Colonel that same night on the Opry, and fellow Opry performer, Brother Charlie Walker, announced to the audience that Jimmy had become a Mason earlier that day. One might conclude, that while this country music legend may have started his Masonic journey at a later age than many of us, he will proceed along "the pilgrim's path" with an enthusiasm that is equal to those with the most dedication among us.

Acknowledgment: The principal biographical material on Jimmy Dickens comes from my prior article in the JFMF Quarterly (1984) and the booklets in the Bear Family boxed sets written by Opiy announcer, Eddie Stubbs. Thanks also to Sir Knight Jim Custer of Lookout Commandery No. 14 in Chattanooga, Tennessee, both for his observations and on-the-spot photos. Thanks also to Brother Charlie



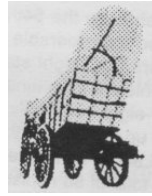
Jimmy Dickens, January 31, 1998. Picture courtesy of Jim Custer.

Louvin of Phoenix Lodge No 131 and Brother Joe Edwards of John B. Garrett Lodge No. 711, both in Nashville, and to the staff of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. As usual, my student assistant, Abby Gail Goodnite, did her superb job at the computer and as editor.

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°, 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 Trace at Donner Pass Part II

by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 33⁰ FPS



After Stanton and McCutcheon departed, the train took the trail once more, and reached Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt River on October 5. A few miles west of Gravelly Ford, the wagons were laboring up a steep incline. Double-teaming of oxen was necessary to haul the heavy wagons up the grade. During the ascent, Milt Elliott, driving the Reed wagon, and John Snyder, another driver, began to argue. Snyder angrily refused help to pull his wagon up the incline, but his oxen were unable to move the heavy load. Snyder began to beat his animals over the head with the butt of his heavy whip. Normally a cheerful and mild young man, the 23-year-old Snyder was in a violent rage.

James Reed was just returning from a hunt when he rode up to his wagon and saw the uproar. He tried to calm Snyder, but he was beyond control. He turned on Reed, violently threatening to use the whip on him if he interfered. Quick to take offense, Reed advanced toward Snyder. The raging teamster raised the whip to strike Reed, who countered with his drawn hunting knife. In an instant, Reed's scalp and face were bleeding profusely from Snyder's first blow, and he had buried his knife in the teamster's chest. Snyder was still on his feet wielding the whip when Elizabeth Reed pushed between the struggling men, trying to separate them. One of Snyder's blows struck Elizabeth, while two more landed on Reed's bleeding head. Reed sank to the ground, and Snyder fell into the arms of Franklin "Uncle Billy" Graves, mortally wounded.

Snyder lived about 15 minutes, murmuring to Patrick Breen, one of the wagon owners, "Uncle Billy, I am dead." A few of Reed's friends claimed Snyder also stated, "I am to blame."

The witnesses pretty much agreed that Reed acted in self defense.

A council of wagon-party members pandered the situation. All the frustrations and emotions of the long and brutal journey had erupted at last. Reed was not allowed to share in the deliberations. His step-daughter Virginia tenderly dressed his wounds, awaiting the verdict. Reed's most dedicated enemy, Lewis Keseberg, was the most vocal in demanding he be hung for murder. The council declared Reed guilty but denied hanging as punishment. Instead, they decreed that Reed be banished from the train without weapons or food. John Snyder had many friends in the Donner Party, and an air of hostility toward Reed prevented an impartial verdict, in spite of conflicting testimony.

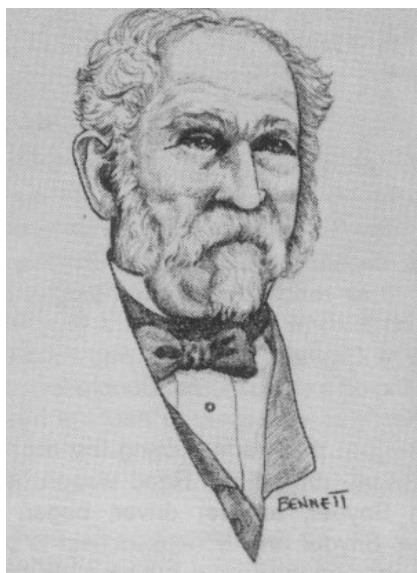
The Reed family embraced in a tearful farewell before James mounted his exhausted gray, Glaucus, and rode slowly away toward the mountains. His family, without a father, was totally dependent on the faithful Milt Elliott to care for them. Soon after James rode off, Virginia and Milt stole out of camp with a rifle and soda crackers. They caught up with Reed and gave him the meager ration and a weapon. James promised to mark the trail to let them know that he was surviving on the trail. A section of wagons was traveling well ahead of those who had banished Reed, and he soon overtook them. One of the teamsters, Walter Herron, joined him there and continued with Reed toward California.

Any pretense of harmony had evaporated within the Donner Party. It was every man for himself. The train moved out soon after Reed left. On the morning of October 7, two members were fired upon by Indians while hunting. The wagon train came upon

a note from Reed warning of hostile Indians near them. Mrs. Elizabeth Reed was convinced James would reach California and send back a relief party. An elderly man was missing from the trail on the morning of October 8. He was a Belgium named Hardkoop, who had been riding in the Keseberg wagon. He had been thrown off the wagon and told to walk. Keseberg refused to return and look for the straggler when the wagon party encamped for the night. Although W. H. Eddy volunteered to return and look for Hardkoop, nobody would lend him a horse or wait for him to return. It seemed that nobody cared about anyone except his own family.

Indians were now skulking near the train, killing their stock or running them off when possible. Early in the morning of October 12, the stock guard returned to camp briefly just after dawn. When he returned twenty-one head of oxen had been stolen. The Donner Party were so short of oxen that everyone had to walk and carry personal belongings to lighten the wagons. When they stopped to make camp in the evening of October 14, two of the wagon party were missing. They were Lewis Keseberg and Mr. Wolfinger, a prosperous elderly man with the train. A search party was sent out to search the back trail. They met Keseberg walking into camp alone. He assured the searchers that Wolfinger was right behind him. Satisfied, they returned to camp.

In the morning, Wolfinger had not arrived, and a small party returned to search for him. No trace was found except Wolfinger's wagon at the side of the trail. The oxen had been unhitched and were grazing peacefully. No trace of Wolfinger was found, and after a time the searchers returned to camp. Keseberg claimed there had been no foul play, and no action was taken. A few weeks later, a dying German named Joseph Rhinehart stated on his deathbed that he had been involved with Keseberg in the murder of Wolfinger. Once more, no charges were made against Lewis Keseberg.



Captain Johann August Sutter, 1880
Artwork by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett.

By October 19, the Donner Party had totally exhausted the last of their food supply, and starvation became a genuine threat. That day, the calamity was averted when C. T. Stanton rode into camp with a string of seven pack mules loaded with provisions from Captain Sutter. With Stanton were two Indian guides, Luis and Salvador, sent to guide them over the mountains to California and help with the stock. The famished wagon party members were delirious with joy at the arrival of food. Stanton also brought joyful news for Mrs. Reed. James and Walter Herron had arrived safely at Fort Sutter. Stanton also had met the Hastings wagon train at Bear Valley, in the upper Sacramento Valley. Although nearly starved, they were safe.

Little Stanton elected to travel with the Reed family. They had stored their meager belongings in one of the Graves' wagons after their own big one was abandoned. Stanton transferred their belongings to the pack mules. The day that Stanton arrived in camp, the emaciated Donner Party was camped at Truckee Meadows, near the present-day city of Reno, Nevada. They had about fifty miles to travel to reach the

summit pass of the Sierra Madres. Normally, the heavy snows did not commence until late November. In 1846, they would be early. It had already started to snow.

The wagon party members decided two volunteers should go ahead to Fort Suffer and return with additional provisions. Two brothers-in-law, William Foster and William Pike, volunteered. They prepared to leave on October 20. During final preparations, a pistol was accidentally discharged when Foster handed it to Pike. Pike was killed instantly. The plan was abandoned for the time being.

After resting the stock for a couple of days, the Donner Party pressed forward. They left in three small sections, bound for Truckee Lake. The two forward sections arrived at the lake on October 31, 1846. The third section of the Donner train stopped and made camp at Alder Creek, not continuing as far as Truckee Lake. Alder Creek was six or seven miles from the advance sections of the train. Both Donner brothers were in the third section. As it turned out, they made their winter quarters at Alder Creek. The party members at Truckee Lake discovered a cabin abandoned by an earlier traveler, who had wintered there.

They established their winter camp, although they did not realize they were destined to be at Truckee Lake for many months. Some of the travelers decided to push forward immediately over the summit pass of the Sierra Mountains looming just ahead. Patrick Dolan, William Eddy, Patrick Breen, and Lewis Keseberg comprised the group. The snow, already five feet deep, proved impassable for the heavy wagons; and they turned back to the abandoned cabin to rejoin the main party. On November 4, 1846, the first major storm of the season hit in full fury. It did not clear up until November 11.

It was painfully clear the immigrants must prepare permanent shelters for protection against the winter now upon them. Patrick Breen commandeered the abandoned cabin, while the others combined forces to construct two other log

structures in the area, all about a quarter mile apart. The two new dwellings became known as the Graves and Murphy cabins, but the three cabins actually housed sixty souls; nineteen men, twelve women, and twenty-nine children. The party began to slaughter their animals for food, knowing they would be of no further use to draw the useless wagons. Some of the hides were spread on the cabin roof tops to serve as a water seal.

To the northeast at Alder Creek, the Donner brothers and their families made winter quarters which were inferior to those at Truckee Lake. The Donners and their

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teamsters were unable physically to cut the trees to make log cabins. They pitched two tents with one open end against a large tree. A crude lean-to was built at the opposite end, and they reinforced the tents with tree branches. These became the winter shelters for the Donner families, George and Jacob. Their four teamsters built an Indian-style wigwam. The rude structures were home for twenty-one people; six men, three women, and twelve children. The Donners maintained communication with the Truckee Lake cabin dwellers.

The meat from the slaughtered oxen was buried in the snow to keep it frozen for use as needed. Before long, the accumulating snow covered it so thoroughly that much of it was lost. The snow eventually

nearly covered the cabins. With most of their food reserve lost, the situation rapidly became critical. William Eddy relieved the problem briefly when he was able to shoot a bear. When all the food was consumed to the last morsel, some of the immigrants began to cut strips from oxen hides and boil them into a mixture which was intended to pass as soup. It was in reality a nauseating, glue-like mess, which the children could not digest. Some of the little ones resorted to roasting bones until they could be chewed and swallowed. Virtually without nutrition, the slow process of starvation began.

A feeble attempt to walk across the summit pass was made on November 12 by a party of fifteen members of the group at the lake. By midnight, all had returned, exhausted and frozen. The aborted attempt to escape had a most depressing effect on all the cabin dwellers. As many now weakened, some to the point that they remained in bed most of the time, it became apparent that the women were bearing up under the hardships better than the males. They became surrogate nurses, ministering to both men and children, as one after another became too weak to function. The men were dropping regularly by December 8. On December 9, another major snowstorm began and continued until the 13th. The first of the cabin dwellers to die was Bayliss Williams, James Reed's handyman. He expired on December 15. It was apparent, when the second major storm of the season ended on December 3, that they must plan a viable expedition across the pass or die of starvation at Truckee Lake.

Early in December, plans were formulated to make the march across the pass to safety. William Graves, assisted by little Charles Stanton, set about constructing crude snowshoes. Graves was a native of the Green Mountain area in Vermont and was familiar with the use of snowshoes. They cut thin strips from the hardwood ox-yokes to form the frame of the shoe and used rawhide made from oxen hides for the

lacings. The two men were able to construct fourteen pair of shoes before it was time to leave. Another storm had ended on December 13, and the best opportunity was at hand. On the morning of December 15, 1846, seventeen souls from the Truckee Lake cabins stretched out in single file, walking on their snowshoes toward the summit pass. Three of the party without snowshoes followed in the rear, stepping in the tracks made by those ahead. The first day they made four miles and could still see the smoke from the lake cabins when they made camp that night. They cut trees to make a platform on the deep snow to build a fire upon. It was a miserable night.

On the second day out they crossed the summit before dark after walking six miles. Charles Stanton was leading the column and cheering everybody on. Even though they were over the pass, the bulk of the journey lay before them, and it was a long one, over torturous terrain and soft, deep snow. They slept the second night on snow twelve feet deep. The next day, they continued the same monotonous pace, inching forward through the snow and becoming more exhausted by the hour. Stanton was weakening faster than the rest and began to fall behind the column. That night, he came into camp an hour after they stopped. The same scenario was played out on the fourth and fifth day on the trail. Stanton fell farther behind each day. At the end of the sixth day, on December 21, he did not appear at the evening camp. Snow-blinded and overcome with exhaustion, gallant little Charles Stanton had finally fallen victim to the cruel wilderness of the Sierra Nevadas.

The following morning, a line of walking skeletons resumed their plodding pace toward the Sacramento Valley. There had been no food for four days, and the party members were sinking into a mental state in which they were barely aware of what was transpiring. All their concentration was focused on the next step forward and the everlasting snow. Only a mile or so out, it

began to snow again, and they were forced to stop. They had strayed off the trail and were uncertain how to proceed. They made camp and tried once more the following morning, opting to walk in a southern course. The weary marchers made three miles before the storm broke in earnest, the fourth major one of the season. It did not abate until Christmas, December 25.

Their fire was extinguished when the platform caught fire and melted the snow. They rekindled it with much difficulty but lost their only ax in the process. William Graves; Antonio, a New Mexico herder; Patrick Dolan; and Lemuel Murphy all died of starvation during the enforced confinement in camp.

To further complicate matters William Eddy had burned his face and hands when his powder horn exploded while he was trying to light the fire. Mad with hunger, the alternative suggestion surfaced that they consume flesh from the bodies in camp. The two Indians from Fort Suffer refused to join in the macabre repast and drew apart from the rest of the party. Before breaking camp, the flesh was stripped from the bodies and dried as trail provisions. The last was gone by January 3, 1847.

The sun had melted the snow and formed a crust on top hard enough to walk without snowshoes. The going became somewhat easier, but the travelers were so weak from malnutrition that every step was difficult. On January 5, William Eddy managed to shoot a starving deer to provide some food for a little while. The Indians were out of sight, ahead of the column. On the morning of January 7, the party dried the venison as well as the flesh from the body of Jay Fosdick, who had expired the night before. Mrs. Fosdick was a horrified witness. About that time William M. Foster became deranged and insisted upon killing one of the women. He was subdued with great difficulty by the others in the party.

The following day they passed Luis and Salvador, the two Indians from Fort Sutter. They had collapsed beside the trail, unable to move. Foster, by then a scheming maniac,

returned shortly and killed both of them. Ahead, the members of the party heard two shots. Toward the end of the day, they staggered upon some human tracks, indicating they might be approaching civilization. A little later, they came upon a village of Digger Indians, who treated them kindly and fed the travelers a bread made from acorn flour. It was meager nourishment, but it helped revive the Donner Party members somewhat.

"The 'Digger' Indians were in reality the Maidu, a large tribe which predated the white man and were native to the Sacramento Valley. The white men named them 'Diggers' because they dug for edible roots. Their main staple was the acorn, which they ground into flour."

The Diggers were sedentary. They settled in the Central Valley area of California. Anthropologists have advanced estimates of their original number, some 47,000 in the Sacramento Valley and 8,500 in the Sierra Nevada foothills. The Donner party members had stumbled into one of their villages.

Only William Eddy had enough strength remaining to make the final five miles to the Johnson Ranch. Half carried by two Digger Indians, he arrived at the ranch. A rescue party departed immediately to the Indian village and brought the rest of the Donner party to the ranch on January 18, 1847. The "Starving Camp" survivors had been on the trail a month.

The reader should be aware that conflicting dates exist in some of the surviving accounts of the tragedy. Even though those slight differences may be noted, they are minor and do not detract from the chronological recitation of the narrative. We have included details of the hardship encountered walking through the mountain snow and rough terrain to provide some understanding of the hardships encountered by the ragged, starving Donner party individuals and the rescue parties who came over the summit pass

from the east later on. It would be redundant to dwell on those hardships at length in the events which follow.

William H. Eddy began immediately after arrival at the Johnson Ranch to secure a rescue party to return to Truckee Lake. The local official for the area, Alcalde John Sinclair, was most helpful to Eddy as he was to all of the rescuers and rescued, alike. The same is true of the magnanimous Captain Johann A. Sutter. He donated many provision, animals, and assistance to the marooned Donner Party, without much prospect of being reimbursed.

On January 4 Mrs. Elizabeth Reed; her daughter Virginia; the hired girl, Eliza Williams and Mitt Elliott left the Truckee Lake cabins in a desperate attempt to walk over the summit pass to safety. Elliott's compass malfunctioned, and they could not keep to the trail. Eliza turned

back the same day, but the other three struggled over the summit before turning back because of the worthless compass, the bitter cold, and deep snow. They staggered into the Patrick Breen cabin at the lake on the morning of January 4, nearly frozen and starved. Breen did not receive them hospitably, giving the Reeds and Mitt only scraps of food left by the others already in the cabin. A total of fifteen now occupied the crude refuge.

Part III and the conclusion of Masonic Trace at Donner Pass" Will Appear in the May Issue of Knight Templar.

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California Minister Receives Holy Land Pilgrimage From Nevada No. 6

The Reverend Christopher Seal, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Nevada City, California, was the recipient of a ten-day tour of the Holy Land. The gift from Nevada Commandery No. 6 of Nevada City is part of the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage program in which ministers are sent to the Holy Land to boost their understanding of the Christian faith. Reverend Seal, a fourth-generation Californian, served churches in California and England before coming to Trinity Episcopal Church. In the picture Reverend Christopher Seal (left) receives a certificate of the gift from Sir Knight Lennon Wright, Nevada Commandery No. 6. (submitted by Clyde A. Hall, Recorder of Nevada No. 6)



Brother Donald H. Knode Installed Supreme Tall Cedar

At a midwinter conference held at the Lancaster Host Hotel and Convention Center in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, January 15-17, 1999, Brother Donald H. Knode was installed Supreme Tall Cedar of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America.

Brother Knode is a member of Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44, A.F. & A.M., Bel Air, Maryland, where he served as Worshipful Master, 1982. He also served on the board of trustees of his Lodge as President and was instrumental in creating an endowment fund that continues to grow yearly. He is a 32° Mason in the Valley of Baltimore Scottish Rite and a member of Hartford Chapter No. 83, Order of Eastern Star, where he served as Worthy Patron, 1989-1990, and he was advisor for Hartford Chapter, Order of DeMolay, for several years.



Joining Har-Ce Forest No. 142 in Perryman, Maryland, in 1976, he served as a member of the Rangers, the Royal Court, as a guide and as Forest Treasurer for two years. In 1986 he was elected and served as Grand Tall Cedar and was named 'Grand Tall Cedar of the Year,' 1986. He is a life member of the Tall Cedar Foundation for Muscular Dystrophy and served as Secretary of the foundation board, as well as serving as District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar of District No. 14, 1993-1995.

Brother Don and wife Jane have two children; Gail and Don, Jr.; and two grandchildren and are members of Bel Air United Methodist Church, where he has served in many capacities.

He retired from AA1 Corporation in Hunt Valley, MD, 1991 and is presently employed by Servicemaster of Bel Air in sales and marketing functions.

The Tall Cedars of Lebanon is a Masonic affiliated organization with over 20,000 members in 110 chapters throughout the U.S. and Canada. Since 1952 the Tall Cedars have provided continuous financial support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, contributing over \$12,000,000 to the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon. They have the distinction of being the first organization to provide financial support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. (Submitted by Brother Albert H. Hensinger, P.S.T.C., chairman, public relations)

1999 Tall Cedars' Goodwill Ambassador



Kevin S. Mahan, Jr., was diagnosed with Duenne muscular dystrophy in 1991. He lives with his grandparents, Alvin and Patricia Mahan, in Havre de Grace, Maryland. Kevin is in fifth grade at Meadowvale Elementary School, where he enjoys and does well in his classes. He likes all types of construction and farm equipment, as well as trucks. He loves insects and animals and has a dog named Heidi. Kevin attends Sunday school at the Hopewell United Methodist Church and participates in the activities with the other children. He has been the guest of Har-Ce Forest No. 142 at the annual convention and various Forest activities for several years. He enjoys riding the Har-Ce float and participating in local parades. Kevin is looking forward to being the 1999 Tall Cedars' Goodwill Ambassador



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.

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: chapeaux 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., PC.; 60 Manor Road; Staten Island; NY 10310-2698.*

U For sale: one complete Templar uniform with all required accessories: coat. 44 long; trousers, 42/32; chapeau, 7/8, complete with case; sword complete with cover and case and belt strap/hook; Sir Knight and Past Commander shoulder straps. *Max E. Simons, 949 Rosewood Drive, Peru, IN 46970, (765) 473-7989.* Reasonable offer accepted.

For sale: C.P.O. coats, poly-wool, summer weight; sizes: 44 short, 44X Tong, 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.; Pafaskala; 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 Meyers, 2120 N., SR. 127, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-8419 or J. William Meyers, 1460 E. U.S. Highway 20, Angola, IN 46703, (219) 665-5686.*

For sale: sword purchased some 20 years ago at an antique sale in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Sword was made by Ames Sword Co., Chicopee, MA. One side of blade is inscribed "St. Johns Commandery No. 1, K.T." The other side has the name "George R. Hussey." Sword and scabbard in excellent condition. *Mem! Waugh, 101 West MacPhee Road, R.R. No. 1, Elmsdale, Nova Scotia, BON 1M0, Canada*

Wanted: a Prelate's cap, size 7 or 8 or points in between, in good condition. I will pay reasonable price and mailing costs. *W K. Heyer, Sr., P.O. Box 4785, Missoula, MT 59806*

Sullivan/Hugh de Payens Commandery No. 6, Claremont, New Hampshire, has received donations from two Sir Knights in Australia, through Right Eminent Past Grand Commander Philip H. White, with their thanks after receipt of used ceremonial Past Commander swords, along with related equipment. We have donated these monies to the Holy Land Pilgrimage in the name of the two Sir Knights and the Commandery. We are informed that there are at least three other Sir Knights in Australia desiring to obtain similar items. Please contact *Philip H. White, P.O. Box 644, Grantham, NH 03753-0644.*

N Wanted: information on mounted Commanderies: location, history, activities, tactics. *James M. Malone, P.O. Box 717, Schenectady, NY 12301-0717.*

Trying to locate Templar sword with scabbard of my late grandfather: Sir Knight Joseph H. Gauthier, originally a member of Oklahoma Commandery No. 3 (1910-1915) and later a member of Illinois Commandery No. 72, which consolidated with Evanston No. 58. Sword may have his name on it or initials and is pre-1921 vintage. His daughter died in 1968 in San Francisco, and it was given by his granddaughter to James Leslie Randolph of Alta Vista Lodge No. 464, which merged with Columbia Lodge No. 461, San Francisco. I have checked with Sec. of that Lodge as well as with Brother Randolph's stepson in Texas. Mr. Randolph moved to North Little Rock, Arkansas, after 1968 and passed away there in 1978. Brother Randolph also resided in Phoenix and Dallas. Any info welcome regardless of how insignificant it may seem. *Sir Knight Joseph H. Gauthier, P.O. Box 12445, Reno, NV 89510-2445.*

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 II, 91-24 86th Street, Woodhaven, NY 11421-2933, (800) 3MASON4.* Checks payable to *Second Queens Officers Association.*

Clarkrange Lodge No. 605, A.F. & AM., Clarkrange, Tennessee, is having a fund-raiser sale: now available history books and commemorative coins celebrating our 100th anniversary. Books sell for \$5.00 each plus \$2.00 postage, and coins are \$5.00 each Plus \$1.00 postage. Checks payable to *Clarkrange Lodge No. 605*, and mail to *Harvey Peters, 6940 S. York Hwy., Clarkrange, TN 38553*.

Beautiful centennial coins are available celebrating 100 years of existence of Matador Masonic Lodge No. 824, A. F. & AM., Matador, Texas. Coins are dollar size and in gold or antique bronze. The cost is \$10.00 each, which includes handling. Both sides were designed by Brothers, and local jewelers at Roaring Springs molded the coins. You will be proud of one of these beautiful, unique centennial coins. Please send stamped, self-addressed envelope and \$10.00 to *Matador Masonic Lodge, P.O. 707, Matador, TX 79244, Attn: Wes Campbell, WM*.

The Edwin J. Kiest Lodge No. 1310, Dallas, Texas, has a limited supply of its 50th anniversary, antique bronze coins for sale. The coin has a picture of the present Lodge with the dates 1948-1998. The reverse of the coin has the square and compass with the working tools of a Master Mason. The price is only \$5.00 and \$1.00 postage. Checks to *Claude G. Miller, Edwin J. Kiest Lodge No. 1310, 10210 Hermosa, Dallas, TX 75218*.

Sprig of Acacia lapel pins: Each handcrafted pin is sterling silver with a 24 karat gold vermeil finish. Price per pin is \$10.00 ea. including S & H. New item available: The Masonic bridge builder pin in sterling silver with antiqued finish. Price per pin is \$10.00 ea. including S & H. Both Pins are available only through *S. Kenneth Rain, 1630 Orchard Hill Road, Cheshire, CT 06410-3728, (203) 272-7579*. 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.

I have copies of *The Royal Arch Mason Magazine*, *The Cryptic Freeman*, *Knight Templar*, and *Scottish Rite Journal* that I want to dispose of. I hate to throw them out if anyone wants them. *Francis L. Dancy, P.O. Box 457, Fort Pierce, FL 34954-0457, (561) 464-0853*. If no one answers, leave message; I will get back to you.

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 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 888-7585*.

Wanted: to buy Case Trapper knife to replace my own, which has been stolen. *Otis Dennie, 8894 Cox Road, Westchester, OH 45069*.

For sale: all kinds of customized specially imprinted items: die cast coins, medallions, lapel pins, wooden nickels, round tufts, pens, pencils, markers, yardsticks, mugs, raps, key tags, knives, belt buckles, aprons, bumper stickers, calendars, business cards, awards, plaques, magnetic items, license plates, ornaments. Celebrate the millennium and use these promotional items in your Blue Lodge, Royal Arch, Council, and Commandery. All 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. 3% goes to KTEF. *Brother Frank Looser, 1(800) 765-1728*. All messages will be answered. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Wanted: information as to where to purchase the book titled *The Meaning of Masonry* by W. L. Wilmshurst, P.M. 275, Past Provincial Grand Registrar, West York, England. *Derek C. Freer, APDO Postal 279, 28000 Colima, Colima, Mexico*.

Wanted: Goebel Masonic figurines: No. FR33 depicting two colonial gentlemen looking at a globe wearing Masonic aprons and dressed with 3-sided colonial hats; and No. FR34 depicting one colonial gentleman standing next to a pedestal also dressed in colonial attire with 3-sided hat. *Gene DeFilippo, 5-34 College Place, College Point, NY 11356-1034 or call (718) 762-3159*.

Wanted: gold, folding, hinged Masonic watch fobs to buy for distinguished historical fob collection. *Marshall Jacobowitz; 159 Madison Avenue, No. 11J; New York; NY 10016; (212) 532-9882*.

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, Millbury, MA 01527, (508) 865-4816*.

For sale: Mount Emblem Cemetery, Elmhurst, Illinois, 2 lots, section J; asking \$700.00 for both or \$400.00 each plus cemetery transfer fee. *Fred Thompson, P.O. Box 981, Eufaula, AL 36072, (334) 687-4835*.

Wanted by fellow Mason: any condition, toy electric trains or sets, Aurora "model motoring" race cars/sets, *US military items*, and *Indian arrowheads*. Call collect or write *um Ricci/heim, (734) 854-3021, 14761 Turwiiclliff Road, Petersburg, MI 49270-9716*.

Reunion: The 50th reunion of the 93rd SEABEES will be held at Clearwater, Florida, Oct. 21-23, 1999. Contact *Bill Woodward, 364 121h Avenue North, Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785, (727) 593-2025*.

