Brother James Buchanan, the National Shield, and the Pennsylvania Keystone and State Flower—the Mountain Laurel. The story starts on page 23. Cover artwork by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett.
The above Sir Knight has accepted the responsibility for preparing the souvenir program book for the 61st Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, scheduled for August 11-16, 2000, in Nashville, Tennessee. Prices and other general information were published on page 10 of the August issue of Knight Templar magazine. A copy of the program book will be distributed to each registered Sir Knight, and a limited number of the books will be for sale. Sir Knight Ron is gifted and experienced in putting together a book of this type. I have no doubt it will be a work of art and a souvenir you will enjoy for years to come.

"Buck a line" sign-on sheets will provide an opportunity for you to have your name, the names of your family members and friends, and any others recorded for posterity for $1.00 per line. For a "buck a line" you can sign on as many times as you want - the more times the better!

A full-page ad or part of a full-page ad is also a wonderful opportunity to become a recorded part of the 61st Triennial Conclave. Pictures of individuals or groups, words of congratulations and/or encouragement, etc., will give you a personal interest and prompt you to recall special memories.

Forms and detailed information on how to put together and submit an ad and "buck a line" sheets are expected to mailed out by October 1, 1999. They must be returned to Sir Knight Ron Woods not later than May 15, 2000. If you don't get this information and want to participate, contact Sir Knight Woods at the address shown above. I encourage you to become a part of this Program Book. You'll like it!

Templary 2000 Crusade

"No negativism" are words that should and do characterize the attitude of our members, especially in this triennium and for time to come. Sir Knight Bill Clutter, KCT, P.G.C., Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee for the Templary 2000 Crusade, wrote a fine article titled "Recipe for a Successful Festival," which was printed on pages 11-12 in the August issue of Knight Templar magazine. "The Recipe" is, in my opinion, a very good outline of what to do and how to do it, and if you follow this "Recipe," making adjustments and substitutions where needed, you can undoubtedly cook up a great Templary 2000 Crusade. Leadership, education, and determination are prime ingredients in this "Recipe." Our Key Men, listed on page 13, are the chefs, and they are stirring up this happening, but they need the help of every Mason.

Membership Programs

Sir Knights, while it is important that we devote our best efforts and resources to the Templary 2000 Crusade, to the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign for the KTEF, to Department Conferences, and to local and state programs; it is equally important that we not lose sight of the objectives of our membership programs. Our Christian Order needs new Knightings and reinstatements in numbers that will exceed our losses due to deaths, demits, and suspensions. The Templary 2000 Crusade is expected to produce large numbers of new members and reinstatements and will be a shot in the arm for membership, but we must not lose sight of our 5/50 and/or other membership programs. Retention of members is still one of our major membership problems. Templary 2000 Crusade and other membership programs will get us new members. We must be doing those things necessary to keep them interested and involved.

EVERY CHRISTIAN MASON SHOULD BE A KNIGHT TEMPLAR!

I'm done pumping. You do make me proud! Godspeed

James Morris Ward, Grand Master, KGC
Knight Templar
"The Magazine for York Rite Masons - and Others, too"

OCTOBER: Grand Master Ward invites you to an exciting year 2000 in his message on page 2, and now is the time to start planning. The 32nd KTEF Annual Campaign is coming up fast! Grand Prelate Smith (page 7) points to the Campaign and has an inspirational message. Chairman Garnes (page 5) takes the reader from start to finish through the process of helping a KTEF recipient. File this information with other KTEF documents for your reference! Chairman Clutter of the Templary 2000 Crusade has timely advice on page 11 to see you through to a successful Crusade, and the Committee on Membership (page 13) ties Templar membership recruitment in with our Christian heritage. Starting on page 19 and continuing to "Knight Voices," we have stories about more illustrious Masons.

Contents
Planning Activities for the Year 2000!
Grand Master James M. Ward - 2

The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign for the KTEF
What Should a Sir Knight Do If Approached for KTEF Help?
Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes - 5

The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign: Grand Prelates Message - Bind Up the Wounds of the Afflicted
Grand Prelate Donald H. Smith - 7

Templary 2000 Crusade:
Ideas for Membership and Reinstatements
Sir Knight Bill A. Clutter - 11

What Does Templary Stand For?
The Committee on Membership - 13

The Holy Land Pilgrimage
and the Awesome Christian Identity
Reverend Joy Rogers - 15

Sir Knights’ Christian Pilgrimage to the Holy Land - 18

Brother Chris Madsen:
Masonic Marshal of the Oklahoma Frontier
Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe - 19

Buck and the Mormons - Part I
Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett - 23

Grand Commander's, Grand Master's Clubs - 7

October Issue – 3
Editor's Journal – 4
In Memoriam – 8
History of the Grand Encampment, Book II – 16
Knightly Voices - 30

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Material for the Grand Commanderies’ two-page supplements is to be directed to the respective Supplement editors.
Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders.
Were sorry' The address for the Royal Order of Scotland that was given in the August issue on page 28 is incorrect. The correct address is: P.O. Box 11, Charleroi, PA 15022-0011.


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. Pins are $5.00 apiece, payable to the Grand Encampment. 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 of 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.

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/GGCOUNCIILJHomePage.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
It is not unusual to receive questions from Sir Knights as to How to Handle a Case." There are probably many cases where a Sir Knight is approached and understandably is not aware of the process. The person gets referred from one person to another and becomes distressed because of what appears to be a "run-around" with no answers. This article is intended to give the Sir Knights some help; even though it may not apply to every case, it will give some direction.

The first thing one must do is determine the problem and age of the person. If the person is 65 years of age or older, he/she should be referred to the National Eye Care Project (N.E.C.P.). The phone number is: 1-800-222-EYES. Many cases can be handled in this manner, and there is very little for the Sir Knight to do. This method of handling may be done with just a phone call. If the N.E.C.P. takes the case, no forms are processed by the KTEF. It is important for the person making the call to tell the N.E.C.P. person that the case was referred to them by a KNIGHT TEMPLAR.

How to sponsor a case that cannot be handled by the N.E.C.P.

No request for financial assistance is to be taken lightly, nor is it a difficult task for the sponsoring Sir Knight, but it does take some time. A SIR KNIGHT AND A COMMANDERY MUST SPONSOR ALL CASES.

Join me as we walk through a case that is being referred to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Please follow in the order listed:

Step 1 Secure the necessary forms from the Recorder or the Administrative Office In Chicago. If e-mail is available, you may use ktef@knightstempler.org to speed up your request.

Step 2 The Sir Knight must personally interview the applicant or the applicant’s family to learn the details of the case and complete the forms as far as possible. The applicant must have a letter of denial from a tax-supported agency to accompany the forms when they are returned to the Foundation for approval.

NO SURGERY CAN BE PERFORMED UNTIL AUTHORIZATION IS RECEIVED FROM THE KTEF OFFICE.

Emergency Cases:

In an emergency a Sir Knight may telephone the KTEF Collect: (773) 205-3838 for verbal approval prior to proceeding with surgery. Emergencies are limited to accidental injuries or those conditions requiring immediate surgery. A written application must then be submitted promptly for final authorization.
When the application is received at the KTEF Office, it will be reviewed for financial eligibility, and if approved, the Administrative Office will proceed to issue written authorization which is necessary before the Foundation can process any statements received pertaining to the case. If the case is denied, the Sir Knight will be notified immediately.

**Forms needed to process the case:**

**FORM 1-2 - INSTRUCTION:** This sheet contains all the instructions and the Sir Knight should familiarize himself with it before he attempts to help the applicant complete the application forms. Instructions must be followed closely.

**FORM 3 - APPLICATION FOR SURGERY AND HOSPITALIZATION:**

The sponsoring Sir Knight during his interview must complete this form with the applicant. All forms must be **legibly completed** and all questions must be answered or draw a line in place of the answer. After completion the sponsoring Sir Knight certifies that the information is correct to the best of his knowledge by inserting his name, address, and Commandery name and number and signing the form.

**FORM 4 - CERTIFICATE OF SURGICAL PROVIDERS**

This form is to be completed by those who will be providing services during the applicant's eye surgery. All information must be supplied and the form signed by the attending ophthalmologist, a person of authority at the facility where the surgery will be performed, and the anesthetist. Fees stated on this form should be in accordance with the KTEF fee schedule, which is printed on the back of this form. This is the Foundation's assurance that all providing services during the applicant's surgery are willing to cooperate with our effort to assist those less fortunate.

**FORM 5 - APPLICANT’S PERMISSION FOR SURGERY AND HOSPITALIZATION**

This form is the Foundation's legal protection and is to be completed by the applicant and witnessed by a responsible person.

**IMPORTANT**

The Sponsoring Knight must review Forms, 3, 4, and 5 for completeness and make sure that all necessary signatures are on the forms and the fees listed are within that which the Foundation will allow for the surgery to be performed. If the forms are not complete, the Foundation will have to return the incomplete forms, resulting in unnecessary delay.

**DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE PATIENT IS NOT TO BE BILLED FOR AMOUNTS IN EXCESS OF THE AMOUNT AUTHORIZED BY THE FOUNDATION.**

**FORM 6 - OFFICIAL AUTHORIZATION:**

The Foundation cannot assume any financial responsibility for treatment given without authorization. This form is issued to the sponsoring Knight Templar when and if the applicant is found eligible for KTEF assistance. This form indicates the amounts the Foundation has authorized for the expenses associated with the surgery to be performed. One copy of the original authorization form is to be retained by the sponsoring Sir Knight with copies distributed to the doctor, anesthetist, and to the hospital upon admission.

Any insurance proceeds should be deducted from the Foundation's allowances prior to billing the Foundation. Guidance and additional information are available by contacting: The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; phone: (773) 205-3838; fax: (773)205-1689.

Sir Knight Charles A. Games, Honorary Past Department Commander and P.G.C. of Pennsylvania, is the Campaign Chairman of the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign and is a member of Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, Pennsylvania. He resides at 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944. Send personal e-mail to cagames@aol.com For information on the KTEF, send e-mail to ktef@knights templar.org
The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign  
Grand Prelate's Message - Bind Up the Wounds of the Afflicted  
by Sir Knight Donald Hinslea Smith, M.E.P.G.M. and Grand Prelate

**During His ministry on earth, the gospel tells of six blind men who received their sight as miracles of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**The Light Of The World**

We, as Christian Masons (Knights Templar), began a special project over forty years ago to bring sight to the blind and others suffering sight problems who were not able to get help for themselves. We have had Jesus’ help all along the way. For two generations we have, with His Love, provided a way for more than 65,000 afflicted people to receive the light out of the darkness.

We have done this by Faith and by our ability to contribute to these ongoing acts of Christian Love. We contribute our time in preparing the necessary paperwork and visiting the afflicted and their doctors; we give through annual dues, through donations, and through wills and bequests; and once a year for the past thirty-one years, we have sponsored an annual voluntary campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

This Campaign begins each year as we begin to celebrate the birth of our Blessed Savior, and it continues until after we have celebrated His Resurrection. It was started thirty-two years ago. It was not designed for just the contributions of Knights Templar but also to give the rest of the people an opportunity to give to our charity. We have done this very successfully over the years through various locally planned and executed activities. We have educated the communities to know about our work for the Lord, and they have attended and contributed.

**This Campaign is not a contest or a game. It is an opportunity for us, as Christian Knights, to enlarge our ability to do more for those in need. Even the smallest Commanderies can contribute by the simple act of "Passing the Chapeau" at each Conclave during the Campaign. Sir Knights, as soldiers of the Lord, let us continue to work to enlarge each Campaign so we may continue the work set before us.**

Jesus said: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my father." (St. John 14: 12 - KJV)

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

Grand Commander's Club

No. 101,075-Gordon C. Pharr (AL)  
No. 101,076-Clarence A. Rice (MI)

Grand Master's Club

No. 3,354-Reynold C. MacDonald (CA)

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.

This Is What They Say About the Knights Templar Eye Foundation!
How many ways are there to say 'thanks'?
Billie, my wife, had the first eye operation December 1998 and the other January 1999, and then she received her glasses. She could see clearly for the first time in about three years. Just to see her looking at the birds feeding outside our window is really something else, plus she is able to ride down the mad and pick out the objects. This spring the sight of dogwood and flowers in bloom meant everything to her. We will be forever indebted to you, and Mr. Larry Flowers of Commandery No. 23 really did a good job in helping.

Al Hudson
Bowling Green, Kentucky

One week after surgery, I went back to the doctor who examined Maria Lmalda Trejo (case no. 61683). He said the little girl had said that she could see outlines of hands in front of her and also light that was applied to the eye, but due to her having been blind in this eye for eight years, it would possibly take some time for the brain to learn again to see. He said he had confidence that she would see but that it would not be as good as the other eye. The little girl is as happy as can be.

Thanks for all you did. The people in this area are very grateful.

Dale C. Stoller, P.G.C., KCT Grand Commandery of Idaho

I am writing this letter to thank each and every one for what you have done for me. I had a cataract in my left eye and was about to lose the eye. I was referred to the Knights Templar, and after surgery, my vision is now very good. I will never forget the Knights Templar as long as I live.

Harrison Bloomfield
Bucyrus, Ohio

In Memoriam

Kenneth Clair Flick
Ohio
Grand Commander-1985
Born: February 14, 1918
Died: February 26, 1999

Fitz Allen Brown
Virginia
Grand Commander-1954
Born: September 15, 1902
Died: July 30, 1999
On June 29, 1999, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation presented a research grant in the amount of $19,980.00 to Dr. Wei Cao, M.D., Ph.D., for his research program at the Dean A. McGee Eye Institute in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Dr. Wei's research program, "Apoptotic Cell Death and Survival of Retinal Neurons," involves studies and research for the correction of various eye diseases such as Glaucoma, Retinal Detachment, Diabetic Retinopathy, and some forms of Retinal Dystrophies.

The Dean A. McGee Eye Institute members that were present are: Richard R. Linn, Jr., Vice President for Development; Melody M. Watson, Director of External Relations and Development; Dr. James F. McGinnis, Senior Scientist; and Dr. Wei Cao, Scientist. All of the members were very impressed with the research grant and the similarity of the indigent patient programs of these two organizations. With the support from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the research members of the Institute are able to address important questions on how the threshold sensitivity of the retinal cells is determined and regulated, and how retinal neurons, under injury/stress conditions, manipulate the proliferation of neighboring supportive cells. They expect that the completion of this project will contribute the knowledge that could bring hope on the horizon to eventually turn incurable diseases into preventable or correctable eye problems and will ultimately impact the care of infants and children.

The Dean A. McGee Eye Institute was founded in 1971 through contributions made by a team of Oklahoma community and business leaders assembled by Dean A. McGee, President and C.E.O. of Kerr-McGee Corporation after he had received successful retinal detachment surgery at Hillcrest Hospital. The Institute was dedicated on December 5, 1975 with the completion of the 60,000 square foot facility occurring ten years later.

The ceremony for the presentation of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation grant was conducted in the main lobby of the Institute and was presented to Dr. Wei by Sir Knight Gary A. Davis, Eminent Grand Standard Bearer of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma and Chairman of the Oklahoma Knights Templar Eye Foundation Committee. Other York Rite members present were: Sir Knight Jon J. Giddings, Right Eminent Grand Commander; Sir Knight Kenneth D. Buckley, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander; Sir Knight John A. Schrawger, Jr., Eminent Grand Generalissimo; Sir Knight Jesse L. Burns, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oklahoma; Sir Knight Glenn Tuttle, Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Cryptic Masons of Oklahoma; and Sir Knight Gary Rodriguez, Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work.

In the picture, left to right, are: Sir Knight Glenn Tuttle, Sir Knight Kenneth Buckley, Sir Knight Jon Giddings, Dr. Wei Cao, Sir Knight Gary Davis, Sir Knight John Schrawger, Sir Knight Jesse Burns, and Dr. James McGinnis.
Spartanburg Commandery No. 3, Spartanburg, South Carolina
Thanks Walmart for Help In KTEF Fund-Raising

Spartanburg Commandery No. 3, Spartanburg, South Carolina, recently held a fund-raising event at the West Gate Walmart store in Spartanburg. This event was very successful, and the Commandery has recognized the Walmart store for its help, according to Sir Knight Don S. Blair, P.G.C. and the Chairman of South Carolina for the Eye Foundation.

Sir Knight Blair continues: "Walmart has a matching grant program, and they match funds raised for charitable purposes, which are spent in the local area."

In the picture Walmart representatives have received a plaque in recognition of the store's participation, help, and donation to this fund-raiser. From left to right are: Sir Knight Walter Johnson, Recorder of Spartanburg; Sir Knight Don Blair, P.G.C. of South Carolina and South Carolina Chairman for the KTEF; Jenny Kearse, assistant manager of Walmart; Robert Smith, Manager of Walmart; and Howard Tucker, York Rite member and Walmart contact.

Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. 11, Milford, Massachusetts, is offering a complete summer uniform and accessories (no pants or shoes) for $125.00. (G.C. and P.G.C. add $35.00 for gold on cap visor.) This includes cap and insignia, short sleeve shirt, shoulder rank insignia, collar insignia, metal ribbon bar, name plate, black tie, tie clasp with cross and crown, and shipping and handling. Send cap size, shirt size, rank, Commandery name and number, choice of engraving on the tie clasp (plain/Knight Templar/your state/Commandery name) to the address below. Make checks payable to Milford Commandery No. 11. This is a fund-raising project. All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

This summer uniform has been approved by Sir Knight James M. Ward, Grand Master of Knights Templar, U.S.A. See the May 1999 issue of Knight Templar magazine.

For further information write to: Milford Commandery No. 11, C/O Robert P. Winterhalter, P.O. Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. This is for our charity.
With just a little over four months remaining for the planning and implementation of your Templary 2000 Crusade on Saturday, February 5, 2000, at your local Commandery; ideas are still needed by some on how to make this prestigious event a success. Are we planning to do the "right things" versus "things right"? The former is what we need to focus our energies and activities on for this national event.

Ideas seemed to be generated by all Sir Knights from time to time, but are they ever implemented? Do "fresh ideas" relative to membership and reinstatement programs ever become transformed into a working plan with a defined objective in your Commandery? Do you need some fresh ideas?

The Northeastern Department Commander, Robert L. Foreman, sent a copy of “Tidbits on Membership and Restorations” that he has distributed to assist local Commanderies in building membership and increasing reinstatements. They have value. Consider implementing at least one of these ideas in planning for your Templary 2000 Crusade.

Ideas for Membership:

1. Name a class in honor of a well-liked or influential local Lodge member.
2. Perform at least one of the degrees or orders in special costumes that are not normally used.
3. Do one of the degrees or orders in a special or historical location.
4. Confer some of the work in a Temple that may not have a York Rite body established there. Bring the mountain to Mohammed!
5. Everyone likes a deal! Consider reducing or eliminating the fee, or include one year's dues free of charge.
6. Honor the first line signers locally! Have a dinner for them, or give them free dues for a year.
7. Establish a joint one-day class with the Shrine, and work to establish new members for each organization.
8. Exchange mailing lists with a nearby Scottish Rite Valley, and work to establish new members for each organization.
9. Provide good speakers for Blue Lodges, but send someone who is not from the local area.
10. Provide a Knights Templar program for Eastern Star and come dressed in Templar uniforms. Let the ladies talk Templary to their husbands.

So What's the Point On Membership Ideas?

Never underestimate the value and power of the ordinary being implemented with extraordinary zeal and diligence.

Ideas for Restorations:

1. Each Commandery appoints a Sir Knight to handle this special project - not the Membership Chairman.
2. The appointed Sir Knight and Recorder work together in a spirit of cooperation.
3. Compile a list of those Sir Knights who have been suspended or have demitted from the Commandery during the past 2-15 years.
4. The Commandery, Chapter, and Council must be willing to jointly consider granting amnesty to all former members before contacting them.

5. If all the York Rite bodies cooperate (Item No. 4 above), the Chairman and an informed team of Sir Knights must make a personal contact with him, preferably in person. (Telephone is second choice.)

6. If personal finances are a problem, ascertain if he can pay the per capita only.

7. If he agrees to be reinstated, make him feel welcome and keep in contact with him.

So What’s the Point On Restoration Ideas?

Avoid knocking your heads against the same brick wall on restoration strategies. Be willing to compromise and change. Try something new. Perhaps a new “personal” approach will yield better results.

Need a “York Rite Overview” Membership Program?

A “York Rite Overview” program has been developed in PowerPoint format for both Windows 97 and 95 formats. This eighteen-slide (18) program is a template, which can be modified to meet the needs of your local York Rite body. It has been designed to support your membership development campaign. If you are interested, send me an e-mail request, and I will send a copy to you electronically.

The “Bigger Picture”--A Reminder

Sir Knights, our Most Eminent Grand Master, James Morris Ward, has issued a “Call” to all Knights Templar to mount a “Crusade” to Knight or restore to good standing a significant number of Freemasons. This should not be interpreted as a personal option particularly among officers of Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies. To the contrary, this is a Grand Master’s mandate that we must execute to the best of our abilities. No other project at this juncture should occupy our time and abilities.

Please, Sir Knights, put this project into high gear for the too few months remaining. Let each one of us demonstrate to the Grand Encampment that we can do the job assigned to us.

Now let’s show everyone that we are as good as we say we are!

Bill Clutter, KCT, P.G.C. (IN) Chairman Templary 2000 Crusade

Sir Knight Clutter is a plural member of Noblesville No. 61 and Greenfield No. 39 Commanderies, Past Grand Commander of Indiana, and recipient of the KCT. He is a member of the Grand Encampment Public Relations Committee. Telephone: (317) 581-0070, and e-mail: wrclutter@Prodigy.net
What Does Templary Stand For?
from the Grand Encampment’s Committee on Membership

Few Masons who are not Knights Templar have any idea of the intimate connection between our noble Orders of knighthood and the Christian religion itself. They may have been told that our order evolves into and is Christian Masonry, but unless we educate ourselves as to the true meaning of our order and its connection with our Blessed Emmanuel, we will seldom convince a Masonic neophyte that his Masonic education has only begun. He has no idea what Templary stands for and its culmination in the Masonic story that began on the ground floor of King Solomon’s temple, and this has left him with unanswered questions about a substitute. He has no idea that the Masonic story parallels the story of the Bible, which tells of a people who sought God but continually fell short of perfection in God’s way. Finally, God then set His Son in the middle of them to give them a living, breathing example of His way of life.

As the Old Testament prepared the way and set the stage for the coming of Jesus and the New Testament, so Ancient Craft Masonry sets the stage and prepares the way for the Orders of Christian Knighthood.

It is probable that we have not educated our own Knights as to this connection of Masonry or that the Masonic story is not complete until one has received the Christian Orders. Without the knowledge of this connection, it is difficult for any Knight to be an enthusiastic salesman for our order; however, this enthusiasm is the secret to success in recruiting and retaining members as Knights Templar.

Having then recognized the importance of the Masonic story, what do we as sworn defenders of Christianity have that sets us apart as servants of our Savior? What is Templary?

In our estimation, Templar Masonry stands for the highest ideals of Christianity. It represents the best and noblest in humanity. It encourages right thinking and right living. It reveals Christianity in action.

The world needs Templary because it is a positive spiritual force for good. If you are a new recruit or a new Sir Knight, the best way to tell you the answer to this question is to tell you the story of our allegiance to protect and defend the Christian religion. As we endeavor to explain to you our commitment to commemorating the birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension of the Great Captain of our salvation, we should be aware of the witness we must display in everyday life for uprightness and for moral precepts that exist in the community in which we live.

We should emulate the goals of our symbolic ancestors, the brave Crusaders of the Middle Ages when Knighthood was in flower. We should, also, through our modern peaceful devotion, adhere to the same noble principles for which they fought. The public parades in which we proudly march, as a mighty host in step with the stirring battle song of “Onward Christian Soldiers,” exhibit our support of civic decency and of patriotic activities. The modern Templar is a Christian gentleman interested in doing his best for mankind, his church, his city, and his country. The lessons and teachings of the order give him a firm foundation upon which to build his life, and they enhance his associations with his fellow men.

As Master Masons, we declare a belief in God. As Templar Masons, we enlisted under the banner of Jesus Christ and joined an active order founded upon the Christian religion and the daily practice of the Christian virtues. As Masons, we took an Obligation on that Great Light which is the guide to happiness and liberty. As Templars, we stood in silence before the most profound and inspiring scene ever presented to man.
We pledged our swords and our lives to the defense of those principles which exalt and embellish human life. As Knights Templar, we passed through several sacred ceremonies which deeply impressed us with the true values of life. Our character has been strengthened by several lessons which allow us to wage war against the vanities and deceits of the world.

Our daily lives can be exemplified by the principles of the order. Charity, which is another name for love, is exemplified in the life of Christ, the Christ of the Cross and Sepulcher. We must live up to the teachings of the order. The man who is esteemed in his community is respected and admired for his principles. Every high honor is bestowed upon the man when he is Knighted as a Christian warrior who pledges allegiance to the Cross and to the flag of our country.

The precious jewel, the Passion Cross, is our badge when we dedicate ourselves to this Order of Christian Knighthood. This cross, when worn proudly upon our uniform or displayed upon our banners, is the emblem of the Templar's faith in the blessed Savior, the Great Captain of our Salvation. This badge represents the shape of the cross upon which Jesus suffered crucifixion. It is also known as the Cross of Calvary or the Latin Cross and is sometimes placed upon the three steps emblematic of Faith, Hope and Charity.

When we go forth to parade upon the streets of any of our cities led by our banner emblazoned with the blood-red Passion Cross, we are declaring our fidelity to Christ and a firm belief in His teachings. The unfurled United States' flag also proclaims our civic duties as American citizens and the deep responsibility we have taken upon ourselves to proclaim our dedication to our republic.

The Sir Knight of today, as well as the Sir Knight of years gone by, realizes that his vows are sacred. The Obligations that he has assumed become the basis of a righteous life. Every true Templar feels that he owes something in gratitude for the peace, consolation, and inspiration which have come to him through this Order of Christian Knighthood. He has also benefited from the pleasant companionship and the inspiring, helpful friendships made possible through the Templar association.

Having thus been inspired by these noble attributes of our order, we should be so filled with the enthusiasm of being a part of the great mission of The Support and Defense of the Christian Religion that we would want to share this knowledge with all those Masons who are not Knighted but who also believe in our Savior, Jesus Christ. We should want to enhance their lives by encouraging them to devote themselves to the ideals and teachings of our Blessed Emmanuel. This, my Brothers, is what Templary stands for. Our mission as Knights Templar is not complete until we have shared this knowledge with every Christian Mason in our acquaintance. We need to create a mighty army which will spread the tenets of Christianity throughout the world.

Every Christian Mason Should be a Knight Templar!

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

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2 1/2-inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. Emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use for the OCT 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 Holy Land Pilgrimage and The Awesome Christian Identity
by Reverend Joy Roger

Lent began for me this year with an Ash Wednesday service in a converted bomb shelter in an Israeli kibbutz on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. My companions were clergy from all over the United States and from all kinds of Christian denominations who shared the extraordinary experience of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land as the gift of the Knights Templar. It was the same liturgy that was offered here in Battle Creek, and in the way of liturgy, it gave me a sense of oneness with my faith community at home.

The setting itself, in the lush, green hills of Galilee by the magnificent lake, gave me a new sense of Jesus, of how he too must have felt the beauty and been shaped in his religious imagination by the abundance of the land and sea that fed a people and by the beauty that filled their souls.

To worship in a structure that had once protected Jewish settlers from Syrian mortar attacks on the nearby Golan Heights was to be reminded that the Good News of Jesus is still the only news that can reconcile a troubled, broken world: Love your enemies; bless those who persecute you; turn the other cheek; forgive as you have been forgiven. It is still news that can get the peacekeepers killed, that allows the innocent to be betrayed, and calls forth denial from well-intentioned people in the interests of their own security and well-being.

It will take a long time for the experience of this journey to settle and for me to organize my impressions and memories into a coherent picture. Christians are a tiny minority in the land where the Gospel was born and where countless churches, ancient and modern, mark the sites of Jesus' life and death. This is still a land of great beauty and promise and of enormous tension and conflict. The very holiness of its history continues to call forth both devotion and destruction in Moslems, Jews, and Christians.

Yet, grace abounded in little encounters, no less than in the great shrines. In Jerusalem a Palestinian Christian woman opened her shop for me on Sunday, her day of rest, at the request of a woman I met at church that morning. Farideh sells church vestments, as well as shawls and purses and other items, all embroidered in the colorful, beautiful Palestinian manner. Women in refugee camps and in poor villages make the lovely things and support families by their work. I picked out some pieces to bring home and then discovered I had left my checks in my hotel.

"Hold these for me, please," I asked my new friend, who had already served this stranger refreshments and introduced me to her family. "I will come back tomorrow night after our day of sightseeing."

"No," said Farideh. "Take them, and when you get back to your home in the United States, send it."

"You don't know me," I protested. "And your people need the money."

I do not need to know more," she said, as she began to wrap the pieces. "You are a Christian."

It is an awesome thing to be accused of such an identity and to be reminded how we so often take it for granted. My prayer for each of us is that someone will call us "Christian" and that we will discover in new and deeper ways what that must mean for our lives.

Reverend Joy Rogers
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Battle Creek, Michigan
CHAPTER V
Sixtieth Triennium, 1994-1997
(Continued)

The report of the Committee on the Knights Templar Chapel in the George Washington Masonic National Memorial noted that an average of 45,000 individuals visited the Memorial each year. It also contained a recommendation that the ‘donation’ for the Chapel be increased because of the increased cost of maintenance of the building. The report closed with: “During the triennium the Halbert was returned to the chapel and a United States flag was presented to the chapel.” The report was made by the Chairman, Sir Knight Robert D. McMarlin, P.G.C. of Virginia.

Sir Knight James J. Willson, Jr., P.G.C. of Texas, Chairman of the Committee on Membership, stated in his report: “The results are in, and our losses are some 6,000 less than last triennium. Congratulations, Grand Master, but we cannot stop there; programs need to be developed to promote membership retention, as well as new Knightings.”

Sir Knight Richard B. Baldwin, P.G.C. of Virginia, General Chairman of the Committee on the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service submitted an extensive report. The report contained the following items: There were “about 1,000 present including Sir Knights in uniform and guests in 1997”; many Sir Knights and ladies took advantage of a “cost effective” offer at the Hotel Washington: “The service begins each Easter morning at 6:30 A.M. at the Memorial with fifteen minutes of Easter music being played by the carillon, then fifteen minutes of prelude by the band. At 7:00 A.M. the band strikes up ‘Onward Christian Soldiers’ as the Sir Knights in uniform step off on their parade to the steps of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial on Shooter's Hill, led by our Most Eminent Grand Master, followed by the Grand Encampment officers, the Grand Commanders, and each state delegation in order of their entry into the Grand Encampment and usually bearing their national color and Grand Commandery beauceant. In this triennium our Grand Master changed the route of march to begin in the parking lot north of the Memorial building.

“Sir Knight George Fullmer, P.G.C. of the District of Columbia and the original organizer when the event was unwillingly moved from Arlington National Cemetery in 1983, was present for the first time in several years.

“For the third year, the Grand Commandery of Indiana hosted the laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns (formerly, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier) at Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. Our Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight Blair Christy Mayford, was invited to join in that ceremony this year. We all hope that this event will continue and will have a growing attendance on Saturday afternoon.” Several paragraphs are shown tracing the beginning of this memorial service in 1929 by the Grand Commandery of the District of Columbia until the present; it was in 1941 that the Grand Encampment “took over” the service.

The report of the Committee on the Easter Sunrise Breakfast was submitted by the Chairman, Sir Knight Marion K. Warner, P.G.C. of the District of Columbia. This is an event which the District of Columbia Grand Commandery established in 1941 and continues to manage after the Grand
"Encampment lake over" of the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service in that year; it is operated "in conjunction" with the Service.

The report of the Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage was proudly pre-seated—and rightly so; it stated that 972 Christian ministers have been sent on the tour of the Holy Land by the Grand Encampment since 1977, 296 of which were sent during this triennium. The 10th Crusade was an item included in the report (see Chapter XVII for details). In the Golani Forest near Nazareth the pilgrim ministers have been planting hundreds of trees. 'In 1995, an official of the Israeli government conducted a ceremony creating the 'Knight Templar Grove' in honor of the visit of the Grand Master, Sir Knight Blair C. Mayford." The Co-chairmen of the Committee were: Sir Knights P. Fred Lesley P.G.C., Michigan, and R. Frank Williams, P.G.C., Indiana.; there are 13 members of the committee.

The Committee on Public Relations chaired by Charles A. Garnes, P.G.C., Pennsylvania, reported "To commemorate the Grand Master's 10th Crusade to the Holy Land, the Chairman of the Committee designed and had produced a lead crystal vase with deep etching on approval of the Grand Master. This being a rare item, the Grand Master directed that one be presented to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial for display in the Templar Chapel. There were a limited number produced based on the orders received. Those who ordered one are in possession of a rare Templar item."

The report of the Committee on Necrology by Chairman Sir Knight Herbert A. Fisher, P.G.C., Virginia, stated: "During this triennium, one hundred and forty-one of our beloved Sir Knights completed their journey and their spirits have returned to the eternal care of the Supreme Architect."

The Chairman of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, Sir Knight Ralph C. Rackliff, Jr., P.G.C., Maine, reported that Santo Domingo Commandery No. 1 had not filed annual returns for 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996, and recommended it be placed on probation until June 30, 1998, at which time, if they have not met their responsibilities, "the Grand Master may take whatever action as he deems necessary." During this triennium the Grand Master issued a dispensation to Lima Commandery, U.D., located at Lima, Peru (Grand Master's Allocution). The Committee recommended: that the dispensation for Kodiak Commandery, U.D., Alaska, be continued for another three years; and that the following be warned that they are close to being placed on probation for untimely submission of annual returns: Anchorage Commandery No. 2, Anchorage, Alaska; Santiago Marino Commandery No. 1, Caracas, Venezuela.

The body of the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations was as follows: "Your Committee on Foreign Relations has received the decision of the Most Eminent Grand Master to reinstate recognition of the Great Priory of Helvetia and it is in agreement with this decision. This decision was based on their withdrawal from Italy, and the fact that they recognize the Grand Encampment as the only Templar body in the United States of America." Chairman of the Committee was Sir Knight Marvin E. Fowler, M.E.P.G.M.

Sir Knight Eugene C. Leao, P.G.C., South Dakota, Chairman of the Committee on National Awards, was equally cryptic in his report, which was: "Your Committee on National Awards, after due deliberation, came up with two names of candidates for the award. But neither was available for the Triennial Conclave, so we decided to withdraw their names for this triennium.

In the report of the Committee on Religious Activities, Sir Knight Gordon J. Brenner, P.G.C., New Jersey, stated that the Committee had complied with Section 101 of the Statutes which sets forth the responsibilities of the Committee, and thanked Sir Knight Donald H. Smith, M.E.P.G.M. and Grand Prelate, for "preparing the toast to the Grand Master" (the Christmas toast).
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Brother Chris Madsen
Masonic Marshal of the Oklahoma Frontier
by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°

In recent years Sir Knight Joseph Bennett has authored numerous articles in this journal and elsewhere detailing the Masonic backgrounds of several noted Texas rangers and New Mexico lawmen who played a significant role in bringing law and order to the Lone Star State and the Land of Enchantment. Other frontier regions also had their men who wore stars on their chests and the square and compass on their lapels, fingers, or watch chains. Among them were Arizona ranger, Captain Burton Mossman, and the subject of this sketch, Christian Madsen, who helped tame the Oklahoma frontier in the waning years of the nineteenth century.

Madsen came to this country from Denmark, and like many old-time frontier characters, he became something of a teller of tall tales in his old age. Some of these yarns included his having a military career in the Danish army as a teenager and somewhat later a stint in the French Foreign Legion. More recent research indicates that he was something of a ne'er-do-well, vagrant, and jailbird in his homeland. What is certain is that Chris Madsen was born on the island of Funen on February 25, 1851, the son of Mads and Maren Christensen. He came to the United States in January 1876 and promptly enlisted in the 5th United States Cavalry.

Madsen spent fifteen years in the cavalry and compiled an honorable if not especially distinguished record. He left his shady past behind him except for an 1881 incident in Wyoming Territory, where he and some army buddies apparently shot some livestock belonging to a civilian; perhaps it was a little prank that got out of hand. Among other incidents, Chris is supposed to have witnessed the famous fight in which Sir Knight Buffalo Bill Cody killed the young Cheyenne warrior, Yellow Hand, on July 17, 1876 (labeled by the press as 'The first scalp for Custer'). He participated in two additional conflicts with Indians: the Battle of Slim Buttes, [South] Dakota in September 1876, and Milk Creek Colorado, on October 5, 1879.

Chris Madsen reenlisted in January 1881, while stationed at Fort Laramie, and in January 1886 at Fort Supply, Indian Territory. He also spent some of his later army years at Fort Riley, Kansas and Fort Reno, Indian Territory. In 1886 he was promoted to the position of quartermaster sergeant. Early in 1888 Chris married Margaret or "Maggie" Morris. The couple had two children, Christian Reno and Marion, who married Frank Derr. Maggie, however, contracted tuberculosis and died in May 1898. Although Chris remained in the army until January 1891, he filed a homestead claim in 1889, during the first Oklahoma land rush, selecting a quarter section some seven miles from the newly founded town of El Reno in Canadian County.

When he left the army at nearly forty years of age, Chris apparently intended to farm his homestead claim, but another occupation soon beckoned. Before that month of January had expired, he accepted an appointment from U.S. Marshal William Grimes as a deputy. While El Reno would be his home for the next several decades, his law enforcement duties would sometimes keep him away from that home for several weeks and even months at a time. It was at El Reno Lodge No. 50, A.F. & A.M., that Christian Madsen took his Masonic degrees. He was initiated an Entered Apprentice on April 8, 1895;
was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on July 15, and was Raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on September 16, 1895. He retained his membership there for some forty-nine years.

In the 1890s Oklahoma Territory and the neighboring Indian Territory harbored an amazing number of outlaw bands of which the Daltons and the Doolin gang ranked as the most notorious. Other bandits of note included Ben Cravens, Ned Christie, Al Jennings, the Bill Cook gang, and the Rufus Buck gang. Three law officers in particular; Chris Madsen, H. A. Heck, and William Tilghman; earned fame as the Three Guardsmen, who did the most to bring law and order out of this chaos. Additional well known officers in the region included Bud Ledbetter and Frank Canton. Of these Madsen, Canton, and probably Tilghman were Masons.

Chris Madsen became a Deputy U.S. Marshal shortly after he left the army in January 1891 and would remain in this job at various posts for the next twenty-five years. During his early months on the job, the Danish born deputy worked primarily as a jailer and/or guard, but early in 1892, he was involved in a crisis that involved serving court injunctions upon [homestead] lot jumpers. Chris performed especially well in the El Reno area, almost single-handedly "trying to keep down trouble." As a reward, he was promoted to the position of chief deputy and put on a monthly salary of $250.00. (Deputies were normally paid only on a fee system in those days.) By that time residents of the territory had become quite alarmed about the robberies attributed to the Dalton gang, and the law - including Madsen - spent quite a bit of time trying to capture them. Ironically, when the outlaws overextended themselves on October 5, 1892, by trying to rob two banks at once in Coffeyville, Kansas, an impromptu party of armed citizens ended their careers on short notice. Bob and Grat Dalton, along with two gang members, were killed, and young Emmet Dalton survived his wounds to serve a long prison sentence.

Madsen and the other officers soon found themselves busy pursuing other outlaws including Tulsa Jack Blake, Bill Dalton, Dick Yeager (alias Zip Wyatt), Oliver 'antis, and George "Red Buck" Waightman. Eventually all of these desperadoes were captured and imprisoned or killed. Chris missed out on some of the action when he found himself transferred to the Kansas City office for a period extending from July 1896 until the end of 1897. During this time, Deputy Heck Thomas killed Bill Doolin. Finally he received a transfer to Ardmore, Indian Territory, which was nearer home. It came at an opportune time for Maggie's health was in rapid decline and she died on May 2, 1898.

Maggie Madsen's death occurred the day after the opening battle at Manila Bay in the Spanish-American War. Before the month ended Chris had reenlisted in the cavalry as a quartermaster sergeant in the Rough Riders. The war proved to be a
short one, and Chris got no closer to Cuba than Tampa, Florida. (Not all the Rough Riders got into the action.) After a brief illness (According to one report Madsen lost so much weight during this second tour of duty that his children failed to recognize him when he came home.), Chris reported for work at the U.S. Marshal's office for the Southern District of Indian Territory in Ardmore. Much of his time was spent at the office in nearby Paul's Valley. He continued as a field deputy until 1902. After that most of his remaining career in law enforcement was spent as an office deputy. Considering that he was past fifty years of age by that time and generally described as being only 5 feet, 7 inches in height and weighing 200 or more pounds, this seems to make a great deal of sense.

Actually by this time much of the marshal's duties tended to be rather routine. Serving court papers; transferring prisoners; arresting vagrants; an the occasional apprehension of horse thieves, whiskey sellers, and gamblers had become the typical work of the marshal and his staff. In 1906 Chris was transferred back to Guthrie, much nearer his farm at El Reno. In that year the U.S. Marshal position became vacant, and Chris hoped for the appointment; however, President Roosevelt appointed a more flamboyant frontier character Catch "Em Alive Jack" Abernathy, although Madsen was retained as chief deputy. Abernathy, whose renown derived from his ability to capture wolves and coyotes with his bare hands, proved to be a total disaster and an incompetent in a position of responsibility. At the end of 1910, Attorney General Wickersham finally forced his resignation, and for the first three months of 1911, Chris, who had been doing Abernathy's work, held the position of U.S. Marshal. The veteran chief deputy hoped for the permanent appointment, but no matter how competent and even well-liked he might be in Guthrie, he seemingly had little pull in Washington, and a man named William S. Cade got the job, again retaining Chris as chief deputy.

During those years in Guthrie, Chris Madsen took additional Masonic work in the Guthrie Scottish Rite bodies beginning in 1911. Whether time conflicts or lack of funds slowed his progress cannot now be determined, but he did not receive the 32° until 1914. Meanwhile, his one-time fellow officer, Heck Thomas, had fallen upon hard times and ill health since losing out as Lawton Police Chief in 1909. Chris tried to help his old friend and secured him some part-time work again as a deputy. By 1912 the man once known as "a terror to outlaws" was reduced to hoping for a state appointment as a deputy game warden. When even this failed to come through, "he just seemed to give up." Thomas died virtually penniless on August 15, 1912. The second "Guardsman" Tilghman died in the line of duty as marshal in Cromwell, Oklahoma, in 1924, leaving his widow deeply in debt and Madsen as the surviving member of the famous threesome.

Chris had continued on as the chief deputy in the marshal's office in Guthrie until November 1913. Then, the new marshal from the incoming Wilson administration demoted the aging Republican back to mere deputy status. In 1916 they replaced him altogether with a Democrat, and Chris went back to his farm at El Reno. After a few months in March 1917, he secured a bookkeeping job as auditor for the Tulsa Police Department until August 1918, when a change of politics sent the old guardsman back to his El Reno homestead again. Fortunately, by this time Madsen had been able to draw a small pension from his military service as a veteran of the Indian Wars. When Warren Harding became President, Chris applied for the U.S. Marshal's position again, but at the age of seventy, he apparently received little serious consideration.

Nonetheless, the aging frontiersman continued to hold part-time or temporary jobs for several more years. These included guard duty at an Oklahoma City branch of the Federal Reserve Bank, a special
investigator on call from the governor's office, and acting superintendent of the Union Soldiers' Home. He also sometimes acted as a bailiff at the Federal Court.

In his old age Chris also traveled a bit on special occasions where he received recognition as a survivor of bygone frontier days. For instance, in 1934 he journeyed to Nebraska where he and an elderly Sioux Indian named White Buffalo posed at the unveiling of a monument marking the site of the Buffalo Bill-Yellow Hand encounter. Three years later Madsen went to Houston, where he posed for pictures with former outlaw, Al Jennings, and E. D. Nix, who had been U.S. Marshal of Oklahoma Territory during part of Grover Cleveland's second term. (Ironically Nix had been removed for malfeasance in office, but that didn't stop him from taking much of the credit for the outlaw cleanup that started before he came into office and ended after his departure.) In 1941 he went to Hollywood and visited the movie lots where he met up-and-coming motion picture hero (and later Sir Knight) Roy Rogers. The year before Chris had been elected to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, an event that must have pleased him a great deal. Mostly, however, Madsen's favorite past-time seems to have been spinning big yarns to naive newspaper reporters about his role in the nation's history - many of them self-contradictory.

Late in 1943 Chris broke his hip and his condition worsened. On January 4, 1944, he was admitted to the Masonic Home in Guthrie. Five days later the old marshal died some six weeks short of his ninety third birthday. According to his biographer, Homer Croy, he received the Rose Croix Rites at his funeral held in the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. He was buried beside his long dead wife Maggie at the Frisco Cemetery in Yukon, Oklahoma. Son Reno and daughter Marion survived him, and both lived to ripe old ages themselves. Son-in-law Frank Derr served the Scottish Rite bodies in Guthrie as Secretary for many years. If Brother Madsen’s real-life achievements were somewhat less than he made them out to be in old age, they were still sufficient to rate him a significant place in the history of the American West. In addition, he more than made up in service to his adopted homeland whatever shortcomings he had demonstrated in a reckless youth.


Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°, a professor of history at the University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio, is Eminent Commander of Athens Commandery No. 15, Athens, Ohio. He resides at 111 East High Street, McArthur, OH 45651-1111.
The sun that late spring afternoon was already low in the west when members of Lancaster Lodge No. 43 formed a circle around the mourning family gathered at a grave in Woodhill Cemetery. The hour was well past six, and long shadows from the waxberry bushes and trees touched the somber figure of Worshipful Master S. H. Reynolds as he recited the Masonic memorial ritual. The lodge was extending a final tribute to their most distinguished member, James Buchanan. A metal casket, painted to simulate rosewood, rested on planks laid across the open grave. Oblique sunlight reflected from the silver mountings on the ornate case containing his mortal remains. Each detail of the accouterments essential to the funeral had been specified by the deceased well in advance of actual need.

The date was June 4, 1868. The citizens of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, swelled by an unexpected throng of mourners, created an assembly estimated at five thousand. Former President Buchanan had not anticipated such a host appearing for his obsequies. His friends and neighbors affectionately called him "Old Buck," but the public and the media harbored little warm regard for Buchanan. The country had not yet digested the exculpatory facts which could erase the onus staining his political reputation. The Lancaster Herald-Examiner carried Buchanan's obituary on June 1. Three columns over, a vicious editorial labeled him "a miserable driveler and political idiot who could not see beyond the end of his nose." Other newspapers simply labeled Buchanan a traitor. Death threats had been so numerous immediately following his return home from Washington, D.C., that the Brethren of Lancaster Lodge mounted an around-the-clock security watch at Wheatland, Buchanan's palatial home.

His final remark, "O, Lord Almighty, as Thou Wilt.\textquotedbl", concluded four years of declining health from the eroding effect of chronic gout and dysentery. Finally, though, pneumonia and congestive heart failure became the immediate cause of death. An illustrious American member of the renowned Clan Buchanan departed this life following a half century of diligent and productive public service.

In the twilight of his career, James Buchanan was elected President of the United States, presiding over an office beset with a number of intractable problems, beyond the power of any single individual to remedy. The all-consuming question of slavery, generating the threat of secession and eventual civil war, was one situation inherited by Buchanan. A solution for "the Mormon problem" was one of equal concern.

The difficulties between the United States and the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints is the focus of this account; specifically, the events breeding a confrontation between Brigham Young and James Buchanan. The "Mormon problem" nearly led to armed conflict.

Clan Buchanan traces its inception to their founder, Anselan O'Kyan, an Irish prince of the eleventh century. He received the lands east of Loch Lomond in Scotland as a reward for military assistance to Malcolm II against invading Danes. The area contiguous to Stirlingshire is the hub of the Buchanan ancestral lands. One of the descendants was James Buchanan, the future president's father, born in County Donegal, Ireland, in 1788.

James sailed to America, landing in Philadelphia aboard the brig Providence on July 4, 1783. James settled down some miles west of Philadelphia, working at John Tom's...
trading post, known as Stony Batter. Within four years, James owned the business. He then proceeded to marry Elizabeth Speer of Cumberland Township, near Gettysburg, on April 16, 1788.

James, the couple's second child, was born on April 23, 1791. Young James was one of twelve Buchanan siblings, one of whom died in infancy. When James was six years old, his father purchased a three hundred acre property near Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, which was called "Dunwoodie Farm." Soon afterward, the elder Buchanan built a large home in the town, to serve as both a residence and business headquarters. James' father became a person of considerable stature in the predominantly Scottish town. A stern and demanding parent, he always treated young James like an adult. With a natural affinity for numbers and record-keeping, James soon became the family bookkeeper. He developed a practice of maintaining meticulous order in every aspect of his personal and financial life, one he carried to the grave.

James enrolled at Dickinson College in Carlyle, Pennsylvania, in September 1807 and began immediately to establish an outstanding academic record. Anxious to be accepted among his more boisterous classmates, James developed a discipline problem, although he maintained his high academic standing. Nevertheless, he was expelled for unacceptable conduct at the end of the school year in 1808. Only through the intercession of the family minister, Dr. John King, was James allowed to return and complete his education at Dickinson College. He graduated on September 25, 1809, determined to become a lawyer but bitterly resentful at not being declared the valedictorian of the class.

His family influence made it possible for Buchanan to study law in the offices of James Hopkins, the leading attorney in Lancaster, the capital city of Pennsylvania. The future appeared bright for James is his preceptorship drew to a close in 1812, although he was known to be a habitué of the local taverns, associating with young men who preferred a bacchanalian life style. Although James enjoyed alcohol in moderation his entire life, he soon abandoned his drinking companions in favor of conservative society.

As he was completing his legal preparation, the state capital was moved to Harrisburg, leaving Lancaster with an overabundance of lawyers. Where should James launch his legal practice?

During the year of 1814, James established a law office in Lancaster, where he purchased a half-ownership in a tavern, the Widow Dutchman's Inn. He established his office on the property. To supplement his income, he served as assistant prosecutor for newly-formed Lebanon County.

In the fall of 1814, James was elected to the Pennsylvania Legislature, his initial elective office. During his election campaign, Buchanan enlisted in the local militia, the Lancaster Dragoons, called to duty at Baltimore to face a British Army which threatened the city briefly at the end of the War of 1812. When the British retired without engaging the American forces, the Dragoons were released from service to return home without tasting the rigors of armed combat.

In 1814 James stood well over six feet in height and was a handsome physical specimen. Fair-haired and with blue eyes, he was the picture of health with two exceptions: He was the victim of "wry neck" (torti-collis), and burdened with a vision problem. Although spared the wry-neck affliction of a muscular contraction that usually twisted the head in an unnatural position, he had to compensate for his vision impairment. One eye was far-sighted, the other nearsighted. Buchanan developed the habit of closing one eye while in conversation, in able to focus on the person to whom he was speaking. That created an impression that James was concentrating intently on the speaker's words. Naturally gifted with fine oratory skills, his conversational habit enhanced his overall personal effectiveness.
when his political fortunes led him to the U.S. Congress in 1821, he employed his oratorical skills to great advantage.

Buchanan was Raised a Master Mason in Lancaster Lodge No. 43 on January 24, 1817, and was unanimously elected Worshipful Master on December 7, 1822. On December 27, 1823, James was appointed the first District Deputy Grand Master of the district. Ultimately, he became a life member of his lodge and a faithful supporter until his death. He attended his final meeting on May 15, 1865.

In 1818 while still in Lancaster, he was regarded as one of the city's most eligible bachelors; handsome, prosperous, and with a promising professional and political future. He met and began courting Ann Coleman, daughter of a wealthy Lancaster manufacturer. They planned to marry, but Ann's parents vehemently opposed it, deeming Buchanan a fortune hunter. James' frequent absences to attend legal duties related to the financial panic of 1819 generated gossip that he was involved with other women. It seemed to confirm the talk that his only interest was in Ann's money.

Already in a delicate mental state, Ann broke off the engagement abruptly and departed for Philadelphia. While visiting there, Ann lapsed into a severe depression which induced a hysterical convulsion and sudden death on December 9, 1819. Buchanan was devastated with grief. He was even more so when refused permission to attend Ann's funeral. The tragedy is considered the primary reason Buchanan never married. He was finally rescued from his deep melancholy through the efforts of his devout, Presbyterian mother.

James was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1821, beginning a decade in Congress in which he became an influential Democratic political figure. He acquired the reputation as a powerful negotiator, particularly active in the improvement of public education and supporting high import tariffs. James was a financial expert, and an advocate for reorganizing Federal banking laws. His powerful support was a major factor in the election of Andrew Jackson as president in 1824. With no candidate winning a majority of electoral votes, the election was decided by a vote of the Congressional House of Representatives. James swung the election victory to Jackson over John Quincy Adams, a virulent anti-Mason.

A rift developed between Buchanan and the turbulent Andrew Jackson, although the congressman continued to support him politically. As a reward for his loyalty and to remove James as a potential political dissenter, Jackson appointed him minister to Russia. He accepted with great reluctance. James had no interest in diplomatic life at the royal court of Czar Nicholas I, an unpredictable and arbitrary head of state.

By the time James Buchanan was assuming his ministerial duties in Russia, a new religious order was reaching full blossom in Kirtland, Ohio. The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints had been founded only a few years before by one Joseph Smith, a powerful and innovative entrepreneur without prior religious training or background. Smith was a native of New England, as was Brigham Young, an early convert who would eventually surpass the accomplishments of Smith himself and lead the Mormon Church into its greatest era of influence.
The founder of the highly controversial and unorthodox sect was born in Sharon, Vermont, on December 23, 1805. Joseph was the son of a senior Joseph and his wife, Lucy Mack Smith. Eventually, the Smith family numbered ten children, the fourth being Joseph, the future Prophet of the Mormon Church. Joseph, Sr., was an indifferent provider with a number of failed ventures to his credit. An agrarian by vocation, he moved his family to a farm between Palmyra and Manchester, south of Rochester, New York, when Joseph was a youngster.

In that western New York community, Joseph grew into a handsome, strapping young man with great physical strength. Intelligent and imaginative, he acquired scant formal education and an aversion to physical labor. Early inhabitants of Palmyra and Manchester remembered seeing Joseph frequently on the streets in a state of intoxication.

Joseph received his initial vision in the spring of 1820, followed by a second which came to him in his bedroom the night of September 21, 1823. He related a series of serendipitous visions later on, all of which revealed to him the history of earlier inhabitants of North America. In order that a seer might be able to recount his story later, two golden plates were buried on a hill near Palmyra, which Smith christened "The Hill of Cumorah." A device for interpreting the cyphers on the golden plates were buried with them. They were two small stones, identified as Urim and Thummin, created to serve as "spiritual spectacles" for the interpretation. The messenger revealing the burial place of the golden plates was an angel named Moroni.

The reader should know that four years elapsed between the visions in 1823 and the excavation of the gold plates. That occurred September 22, 1827, according to the Prophet Joseph Smith.

While he waited for the appointed time to unearth the golden plates, Joseph worked for farmer Josiah Stoal at Harmony Pennsylvania, some thirty-five miles north of Pittsburgh. During his stay he courted and married Emma Hale. The couple traveled to New York State for the nuptials, in order to circumvent the objections of Emma's father.

The newlyweds returned to Harmony to await the command to unearth the gold plates on the Hill of Cumorah. Meanwhile, Smith demonstrated his power of persuasion by enlisting a convert for his religious project. He was Martin Harris, a prosperous local farmer. When Joseph finally retrieved the plates, Martin agreed to help in the translation.

By the time James Buchanan was assuming his ministerial duties in Russia, a new religious order was reaching full blossom in Kirtland, Ohio. The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints had been founded only a few years before by one Joseph Smith, a powerful and innovative entrepreneur without prior religious training or background."
Harris without success. Finally, Harris admitted that he had "lost" the manuscript. Speculation was that Mrs. Harris had burned it. Joseph lapsed into a period of inactivity and depression, and the project languished until a visitor appeared at Stoal's farm.

The newcomer was an itinerant schoolmaster and blacksmith named Oliver Cowdery. After two days of consultation with Joseph, work resumed on the manuscript with Cowdery serving as scrivener. The missing 116 pages were not rewritten. The Prophet and Cowdery received instructions from John the Baptist in a vision during this period. They were ordered to ordain each other into the "Aaron Priesthood" and to begin evangelizing and baptizing. By June 1829 Smith and Cowdery were baptizing in the counties contiguous to Palmyra, winning many converts - among them Joseph Smith's family.

The 588-page *Book of Mormon* was in print on June 11, 1829, with Marlin Harris providing the financing as promised. The validity of the golden plates revealed by Moroni was reinforced by the testimony of "three witnesses" who claimed to have seen them; namely Oliver Cowdery, Martin Harris, and David Whitmer, who provided Prophet Smith a home while he was in the Palmyra area. It is also worthy to note that the new religious order viewed Freemasonry in a most favorable light, ignoring the anti-Masonic activity in the 1820s surrounding the William Morgan incident in nearby Batavia, New York.

Brigham Young's sister gave him a copy of the new *Book of Mormon* on April 6, 1830, his introduction to the Mormon religious doctrine. A while later, Young would be baptized into the faith and become one of Mormonism's most fervent disciples.

Although some small congregations sprung up in the Palmyra area of New York State, the hostility of the citizens toward the new religion caused Prophet Smith to look elsewhere to create a "New Zion." It turned out to be Kirtland, Ohio, after Joseph had another vision directing him to move the mother church there. He formally declared the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints organized on April 6, 1830. Smith received and announced the vision directing him to relocate the church to Kirtland on February 4, 1831.

In Kirtland new converts flocked to the Mormon religion, and the Prophet moved vigorously to set up a system for controlling the assets of the membership, thereby assuring a steady income for the church. The end result of the activity was the instigation of mandatory tithing, a ten percent contribution of a member's income.

Smith selected a council of high priests to assist in the administration of the church. Eventually, a group he called the "Twelve Apostles" became the governing body, and Brigham Young was one of them.

Brigham Young, like Joseph Smith, was a native New Englander, born in Whitingham, Vermont, on June 1, 1801. He was the ninth child born to John and Nabby Howe Young. John was a farmer, the head of a household termed "the poorest family that ever came to Whitingham."

Nabby Young died when Brigham was fourteen, leaving her stern, moralistic husband to raise the children alone. One lesson husky, young Brigham learned from his father was to embrace a hard-work ethic. Add a talent for things mechanical to hard work, and one becomes a productive and resourceful person, an accurate description of Brigham Young. He was, in addition to those attributes, a powerful speaker.

Brigham Young moved to Aurelius County, New York, when he was in his early twenties. He soon met and married Miriam Works there in 1824. Young worked as a skilled joiner, house painter, and glazier. A little later he added carpentry to his vocational skills. Two daughters were born to the young couple in the next few years, and Brigham began to supplement his income by performing farm work during the fall harvest seasons.
He had only a casual interest in religion and joined the Methodist Church to quiet the endless urging of his father. Nevertheless, Brigham had an abiding faith in God. It appears that he had not yet been exposed to a religious philosophy acceptable to himself. When his sister presented the copy of the Book of Mormon in 1830, he pondered the contents for two weeks before attending Mormon services. He was eventually baptized during a Mormon church service at Mendon, New York, on April 15, 1832.

Soon afterward, Brigham traveled to Kirtland, Ohio, to meet Prophet Joseph Smith. After hearing Brigham’s powerful testimony to the Mormon faith at a church service, the Prophet declared, That man will yet preside over this church." Young moved into the inner circle of the Mormon hierarchy immediately.

Religious zealots in Kirtland soon began to harass the Mormons, but in spite of local hostility, the church continued to increase in membership. The practice of plural marriage began unofficially. The church launched a missionary program throughout the eastern states which eventually spread to England and into the Scandinavian countries.

Brigham Young was the most successful missionary the church had and a prolific fund-raiser. He was a pillar of the church from the day he was baptized and Joseph Smith's fiercest defender.

The church's most nagging operational problem was continuing financial difficulty. Nevertheless, they were able to construct an adequate Mormon temple at Kirtland.

When Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon, one of the twelve Apostles, were tarred and feathered; it emphasized that Kirtland was not to be the New Zion after all.

**Part II of “Buck and the Mormons” will be published in the November Issue.**

Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 33°, FPS, and P.D.D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, is a member of Holy Grail Commandery No. 70, Lakewood, Ohio. For correspondence: P.O. Box 2735, Bandera, TX 78003.
The 68th Grand Master for DeMolay International is Dad James C. McGee of Florence, Alabama. Grand Master McGee joined Florence Chapter of DeMolay, Florence, Alabama, on January 7th, 1977. He was elected Master Councilor of his chapter in 1979 and then elected State Master Councilor of the Alabama DeMolay Association in 1981. Grand Master McGee has been honored with the Degree of Chevalier, the Cross of Honor and the Active Legion of Honor. He served on the Executive Officers staff as Membership Director from 1990 to 1992. Grand Master McGee has served as Executive Officer for the jurisdiction of Alabama since 1994. He has held membership or leadership positions on various International Committees, including the Investment, Finance and the Executive Officers Conference Nominating Committee. Grand Master McGee joined Florence Lodge #14, F.&A.M. in September 1982, serving the Grand Lodge of Alabama on the Youth Organizations and Finance Committees since 1995. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Grand Master McGee is also a member, and Past Patron. of Cypress Chapter #195, Order of the Eastern Star. Other Masonic memberships include: Cyrus Chapter 96 R.A.M., Florence Council #74 R.&S.M., Florence Commandery 939 K.T., all of Florence Alabama; Emrys W. Johns Sovereign York Rite College 4179 of Birmingham, Alabama; Cahaba Shrine Temple of Huntsville, Alabama; the Huntsville Scottish Rite Bodies and the Muscle Shoals Scottish Rite Club. Grand Master McGee has been elected to receive the Order of the Purple Cross, from the Sovereign Grand York Rite College. He was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1997 and in 1991 Grand Master McGee was made a Master of the Grand Cross of Color by the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

Grand Master McGee currently serves as a Senior Vice-President and Investment Sales Manager of the Investment Sales Division of Colonial Bank. He has been employed by Colonial Bank since 1993 and holds membership in the International Association for Financial Planning.

If you would like to help Grand Master McGee in creating Tomorrows Leaders Today!, please contact:

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TEMPLARS! Any of you who have anecdotes (either funny or informational) about a Templar, a 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, 1334 Royal Road, Norwood, MO 65717-9466; e-mail: jthaird@windo.missouri.org
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 Ave, 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, finest quality available: 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; extra fancy Grand Commandery, $50.00; Past Grand Commandery (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., P.C.; 60 Manor Road; Staten island; NY 10310-2698.

U For sale: C.P.O. coats, poly-wool, summer weight; sizes: 44 short, 44X long, and 46 short. $23.00 includes shipping and handling. 10% of all sales will be donated to KTEF. General Merchandise Company; 13690 Broad Street, S. W.; Pataskala; OH 43062, (740) 927-7073.

Free (Shipping charges required:): one Commandery uniform: jacket, size 46; pants, 42R, 27 inseam; 1 Grotto (Alta) fez, size 7 1/4 (like new), case included. Mrs. David Bevers; Pt. 5, Box 1725; Nacogdoches; TX 75964; (409) 560-3662.

For sale: Sir Knight sword, 1920 era McLilley Co.: very fine condition. Two blades: end blade has three carved and gilded emblems: new Grand Lodge logo, a square and compass, and a trowel. $100.00 each while supply lasts. A real collector's item. Oklahoma Grand Lodge, P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044.

For sale: Mesa Lodge No. 68 Golden Jubilee lapel pins in color for $5.00 each and for $10.00 volume I (first edition and signed by author), History of Mesa Lodge No. 68, A.F & A.M., Albuquerque, New Mexico. S & H is $1.00 for each order of pins or $3.00 for book (shipped priority mail). Check to Jack Daugherty, P.O. Box 522, Natalia, TX 78059-0522.

Clarkrange Masonic Lodge No. 605, A. F. & A.M., Clarkrange, Tennessee, is having a fund-raiser sale. We now have available history books and commemorative coins celebrating our 100th anniversary. The coins will sell for $5.00 each plus $2.00 postage, and the coins will sell for $5.00 each plus $1.00 postage. Please make checks payable to Clarkrange Lodge No. 605 and mail your requests to Harvey Peters, 6940 South York Highway, Clarkrange, TN 38553.

Cumberland Chapter No. 1, Nashville, Tennessee, recently held its 175th anniversary as the oldest Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Tennessee. We had a special coin struck to celebrate, available at $5.00 each, postpaid. Checks and money orders to Milton Hager, P.H.P., Sec.; Cumberland Chapter No. 1, R.A.M.; 4797 Cascade Drive; Old Hickory; TN 37138.

Books wanted for Masonic memorial library. Moreno Valley Masonic Lodge No. 804, Moreno Valley, California, has established the Fred W. Scurlock Masonic Memorial Library to serve southern California. If you would like to donate books on Masonry and receive recognition in the form of a bookplate, we can reimburse you for book rate postage plus insurance. If you want to sell your books on Masonry, call first (909) 242-9068, Librarian Arthur Philamalee or write Moreno Valley Masonic Lodge No. 804, Librarian, P.O. Box 444, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-0444.

October 1999
I have been appointed to put the libraries in order so the Brothers will use them. Please help by donating books and coins you do not need. Send materials to Bill Wheless, 809 Battle Bend Blvd., Austin, TX 78745-2349.

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

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 Ban!, 3747 Westgate Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45208-1122, (513) 731-0737. 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 Comwall Avenue, Cheshire, CT 06410, or credit card order by calling 1 (800) 783-9654. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been collecting this series 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.

For Sale: aluminum and solid brass, custom designed Masonic merchandise: aluminum tins, all shapes and sizes: event tags; key tags: bookmarks; tokens and cast metal coins; Italian marble paperweights: 2-dimensional metal cast letter openers: solid brass and aluminum badges: full color holiday ornaments; lapel pins: rulers; money clips; bolo ties and neckerchief slides and more. All custom made in bulk for your Masonic organizations. Celebrate the new millennium by using all of these very popular promotional items to make Masonry more visible in the 21st century. As you know any item printed with the year 2000 on it will become an instant collector's item. 3% goes to KTEF. Frank Looser, 1-800 765-1728 or e-mail cnfi@home.com for brochures or catalogs, or web page http://members.tr400d.com/-cnfinteractive. All replies will be answered.

For sale: Past Master and Blue Lodge rings; signet style with PM or BL logo on top, trowel on one side, 2-ball cane on other. Also, Scottish Rite with double eagle on top, trowel on one side and plumb on the other. All are signet style, durable, yet elegant and of solid cast chrome/nickel alloy. Silver color only - $110 plus Ohio tax and $4.00 S&H. Whole sizes only: 7-16. Also, 10K gold for $395. 10% of profits go to KTEF. Check or Master Card Visa into to Aura tech Designs, P.O. Box 119, St. C/airs ville, OH 43950-0119. Money-back satisfaction guaranteed.

Wanted: gold, folding, hinged Masonic watch fobs to buy for distinguished historical fob collection. Marshall Jacobowitz; 159 Madison Avenue, No. 111; New York; NY 10016; (212) 532-9882

I have the Honduras FDC from 1972 with 4 Masonic stamps commemorating Apollo 11 (mint condition). I would like to make an even trade for these 4 stamps in an unused condition. I am looking to buy the 9 stamps minted in 1989 from Dominica with the US Presidents on them that were Masons. I also am always wanting to buy antique Masonic items. Steve Kapp, 301 IS, P.S.C. 76 Box 8285, APO AP 96319-8285. I have the Honduras FDC from 1972 with 4 Masonic stamps commemorating Apollo 11 (mint condition). I would like to make an even trade for these 4 stamps in an unused condition. I am looking to buy the 9 stamps minted in 1989 from Dominica with the US Presidents on them that were Masons. I also am always wanting to buy antique Masonic items. Steve Kapp, 301 IS, P.S.C. 76 Box 8285, APO AP 96319-8285.

Could someone tell me the value of these books or how to find out?: The History of Freemasonry and Masonic Digest, J.W.S. Mitchell, M.D.; pub. author, 1870; leather-bound 2 vol. set; very good condition for 130 years old; Mackey's History of Freemasonry copyright 1898 and 1906 by Masonic History Co.; hard-bound (cloth)-7 vol. set; excellent condition. BP Beckwith, 910 N. Dyer Rd., Greenville, MS 38701-6406.

For sale: 14K gold Shrine ring with 13 diamond chips on top of ring, size 12, in excellent condition - $400.00. C. G. Mills, 1156 North 343, South Hills, NC 27976-9438, (252) 771-2243 after 6 p.m.

Wanted: Dudly watch and also a railroad-type watch in excellent condition. Please mail description and photo it available and price to Sal Campos, P.O. Box 18542, San Antonio, TX 78218, (210) 855-3105.

Wanted: law enforcement patches and badges for my collection. William C. Bennett, 207 E. South Street, Union, SC 29379-2346.

Retired Mason collecting old train sets. Highest money paid for your old American Flyer, Lionel, and Marx train sets. Also, old military items, US stamps, Indian arrowheads and artifacts, Aurora modeling motoring race car sets. Get the most for your items. Tim Rickheim, 14761 Tunnicliff Road, Petersburg, MI 49270-9716. Call collect (734) 854-3021.

Sir Knight wants to purchase US Army Lt. Cot. sterling silver flat-back insignia (WWII type) made by Bailey Banks & Biddle, Phil., Pa. George Van Syckle, PC.; P.O. Box 2140; Branchville; NJ 07826.

Vacation house for rent in Fairfield Mtns./Lake Lure, North Carolina: 4 bedroom/2 bath, guest privileges. Call (704) 482-2810 for details.

For sale: retirement or vacation home in North Fort Myers, Florida, featuring beautiful setting with palm trees, tropical shrubbery, and flowers. Inside are: spacious living room; two large bedrooms with large closets and linen closet; two bathrooms; walk-in closet; large, modern, electrical kitchen, all items included; breakfast nook; dining room with table and 6 chairs. All connected to enclosed garage and laundry. Screened porch off living room looks out over golf course and lake. All ready for living. 2% to KTEF. For more info: (775) 626-1053, Mrs. Meredith Bradshaw.

For sale: 2 burial lots in Blue Bonnet Hills, Colleyville, Texas - $2,500.00 - less than you will pay at cemetery. P. K. Lane, (903) 383-2513.

Thank you to all the Sir Knights who responded to my ad in the August 1999 issue of the Knight Voices." Your response was fantastic, and I got all of the information I wanted on the U.S.S. Midway C.V.A. 41. Once again, my Brothers, thank you so much. So Mote It Be. Sin Knight Gene DeFilippo.