Sir Knight Teddie Elbert Harrison of Missouri has received the Grand Encampment's Gold Cluster for being the first line signer on the petitions of 135 new or reinstated Sir Knights since September 1, 1991. Read about your honoree on page 5.
A Time for Thanksgiving

“Friends, this month we observe one of the most cherished holidays in the year. Thanksgiving Day is a time for family and friends to gather together to give thanks for all of the blessings that a merciful and all-powerful God has lovingly provided. It is a time filled with joy and a counting of God’s blessings and a remembering where we came from. My prayer is that this will be a special time for all of us.” This was a part of the Grand Master’s Message in November 1997 and 1998. I couldn’t say it better for the message in 1998, and I couldn’t say it better for this message. My prayer is that all of us can observe a wonderful time of Thanksgiving for the blessings a loving God has bountifully bestowed upon us.

32nd Voluntary Campaign

The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign to raise funds to finance the activities of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will begin December 1, 1999, and continue through April 30, 2000. The KTEF continues to provide a great service to those who need our help, and it is truly worthy of our best efforts. It is STILL my fervent hope that every Commandery will participate. I am pleased to again announce that this campaign will honor Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight Willard M. Avery, KGC, for his longtime, knowledgeable, exceptionally fine service to the Eye Foundation and to our Christian order. Sir Knight Charles A. Games, R.E.H.R.D.C., is Chairman for this Campaign and has done outstanding work in developing the Campaign promotional material that has been sent to you. Please, use it to help make this Campaign one of the most successful.

Sir Knights, If You Ask, They Will Come.

"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. Templary is a positive spiritual force for good!" The forgoing quote is from the section titled "Recruiting Christian Masons for Templary" in the Grand Encampment brochure, "Building Templar Manpower," published first in September 1963. Sir Knight Paul Miller Moore was the Grand Master, Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker was the Deputy Grand Master, Sir Knight John L. Crofts was the Grand Generalissimo, and Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell was the Grand Captain General; as the Grand Encampment officers at that time, they approved this brochure and recommended it be followed by the officers and members of the constituent and subordinate Commanderies throughout the Grand Encampment. In the concluding paragraph of this brochure are these words: ‘We believe these suggestions will help you, but no plan, no matter how good, will work unless you will work! We challenge you, as a dedicated Sir Knight, to try these methods, adapting them to local conditions, and watch your Commandery grow.’ This brochure has been updated and is now being republished in its entirety. When printed, it will be made available to every member. I recommend you get a copy, study it, and use it to make your Commandery grow.

EVERY CHRISTIAN MASON SHOULD BE A KNIGHT TEMPLAR!

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

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

NOVEMBER: Congratulations, Sir Knight Teddie E. Harrison! Read about this amazing Sir Knight on page 5. This month our magazine is packed with information you will need to facilitate your work for the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign and the Templary 2000 Crusade. See Chairman Games' article on page 12 and the list of the Campaign Chairmen for the states on page 11. See the Crusade article by Chairman Clutter on page 18 and two Department Commanders' reports following it. This is the month we salute our new Grand Commanders with pictures, pages 7-9, and names and addresses listed on page 10. Advance registration forms for voting and non-voting delegates for the 61st Triennial Conclave in Nashville, Tennessee, are found on page 6. Easter information is on page 21.

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November 1999

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JAMES MORRIS
WARD
Grand Master
and Publisher
P.O. Drawer No. 685
Water Valley, MS 38965

CHARLES R. NEUMANN
Grand Recorder
and Editor

JOAN B. MORTON
Assistant Editor

Grand Recorder
5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2460
(773) 777-3300
Fax: (773) 777-8836

Mail magazine materials and correspondence to Editor, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630–2460.

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.
Contacts for all Masonic organizations listed in our January 1999 issue should have the form for our next listing in January 2000. Please respond immediately as the magazine goes to the printer about December 15, 1999. If your organization has a new contact, please inform him/her of this. We would rather not leave any organization out.

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 program 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.

Now available: 2-volume set of History of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America by Francis J. Scully, M.D., and History of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America - Book 1 by Lt. Col. Jacob C. Baird, Chairman, the Committee on Knights Templar History. One or both are a great gift for that Sir Knight or anyone else who is fascinated by Templar history. As a set, the two books are $25.00 plus $3.50 S. & H. ($28.50). Separately, each book is $15.00 plus $2.50 S. & H. ($17.50). Make check or M.O. payable to the Grand Encampment and send to: the Grand Recorder; Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago, IL 60630-2460.

Complimentary for Widows: Widows of Knights Templar are eligible to continue receiving our magazine as long as they desire. To retain or reinstate the mailing, simply instruct your local Recorder or the Grand Encampment of your wishes.

York Rite Freemasonry On The Internet - Official Web Sites

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

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

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

York Rite Freemasonry - The International Information Site  
http://members.aol.com/YorkRiteFM/HomePage.html
Sir Knight Teddie Elbert Harrison of Missouri Receives Gold Cluster

Teddie Elbert Harrison, who is pictured on this month’s cover of *Knight Templar*, is a member of Oriental Commandery No. 35 of Kansas City, Missouri, and Palestine Commandery No. 17 of Independence, Missouri. He is the first of the holders of the Grand Encampment Membership Jewel to earn a Gold Cluster. Sir Knight Harrison has been the first line signer on the petitions of 135 new or reinstated Sir Knights since the inception of this award September 1, 1991. Even though his original jewel is No. 137, Teddie was able to "out sign" 136 prior holders to reach this outstanding plateau. He is now serving the Grand Council of Missouri as Most Illustrious Grand Master.

He is also active in the Scottish Rite, where he received his Red Hat in 1973 and became a 33^0 in 1985. He is a member of the Shrine, the Order of the Eastern Star, and many appendant bodies. Teddie has signed over 300 petitions for the Scottish Rite and over 400 for the Shrine.

Sir Knight Teddie was born on April 21, 1933 at Mountain Grove, Missouri. He married Edith Marian Sherman in 1955. They are the parents of two sons, Ted William and Richard George, and the proud grandparents of Rick Rick. They are members of Sycamore Hills Baptist Church in Independence, Missouri. Teddie is retired from the military and the TWA overhaul facility in Kansas City, Missouri. He also holds membership in several civic organizations including the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

All the officers of the Grand Encampment join in commending Sir Knight Teddie as the first in the country to reach this plateau and hope that others will be inspired to reach this goal, also.

Biography written by Karla P. Neumann
The Renaissance Nashville Hotel will serve as the headquarters for the Triennial Conclave in Nashville, Tennessee, which starts on Friday, August 11, and concludes on Wednesday, August 16, 2000. Placing your order for tickets with the committee before May 1, 2000, will minimize delays and confusion when you arrive and will save you a $25.00 late charge for receipt of registration after April 30, 2000. Below are official order forms. Complete the correct form (voting delegate or non-voting delegate), and mail it without delay: Make check payable to: 61st Triennial Conclave and mail to: Fred F. Bean, P.O. Box 1030, Meridian, MS 39302-1030

Order Form
Voting Delegate

Name: __________________________
Title: __________________________
Address: _______________________
City: _______ State: _______ Zip: ______
Lady (first name): _______________
Arrival Date: ________________

Registration packet will include the specialty struck badge commemorating the 61st Triennial Conclave, tickets for you and your lady, if attending, to the Grand Master's reception and to the Grand Master's banquet, a souvenir program book, admission to the awards and pass-in-review, and specialty made registration gift. Additional tickets may be purchased as listed below.

Registration fee: $150
After April 30, 2000: $175

Additional tickets may be purchased for the following:

___Grand Master's reception - $15.00
___Ladies' luncheon, Monday - $25.00
___Grand Master's banquet - $45.00
___Honors Breakfast - $18.00

Total with check for: ____________

Order Form
Non-Voting Delegate

Name: __________________________
Title: __________________________
Address: _______________________
City: _______ State: _______ Zip: ______
Lady (first name): _______________
Arrival Date: ________________

Registration packet will include the specialty struck badge commemorating the 61st Triennial Conclave, tickets for you and your lady, if attending, to the Grand Master's reception and to the Grand Master's banquet, a souvenir program book, admission to the awards and pass-in-review, and specialty made registration gift. Additional tickets may be purchased as listed below.

Registration fee: $70
After April 30, 2000: $95

Additional tickets may be purchased for the following:

___Grand Master's reception - $15.00
___Ladies' luncheon, Monday - $25.00
___Grand Master's banquet - $45.00
___Honors Breakfast - $18.00

Total with check for: ____________
Saluting Our Grand Commanders

Congratulations are extended from our Most Eminent Grand Master, James M. Ward, and the grand officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., to the fifty newly elected Grand Commanders of the Grand Commanderies under their jurisdiction. As part of this salute to their dedication and tireless service to Templary, Knight Templar magazine is printing the names and pictures of the Sir Knights who will serve as Grand Commanders for the current Templar year.

These Grand Commanders, whose pictures appear on these pages, will be the guiding hands on the tiller of the ship of Templary, navigating their vessel faithfully through the uncharted waters ahead.
Andrew R. Caylor
NORTH DAKOTA

Charles R. Albertson
OHIO

Jon J. Giddings
OKLAHOMA

John A. Friedrichsen
OREGON

William E. Clepper
PENNSYLVANIA

Richard A. Wesner
SOUTH CAROLINA

Carl D. Pengra
SOUTH DAKOTA

George R. Green
TENNESSEE

Leonard O. Pierce
TEXAS

Richard H. Simons
UTAH

Donald W. Gerrish
VERMONT

John Wigglesworth, Jr.
VIRGINIA

Lloyd R. Linn
WASHINGTON

Vaughn F. Shafer
WEST VIRGINIA

Paul Hersh
WISCONSIN

Virgil V. Teague
WYOMING

picture not available

No Report
PHILIPPINES

Vincenzo Pulvirenti
ITALY
Addresses of Grand Commanders

Joe David Lee
405 Roundabout Drive, Trussville, Alabama 35173

Paul A. Monroe, Jr.
11612 N. 86th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260

Clifford L Duncan
52 Duncan Drive, Floral, Arkansas 72534-5200

Wayne J. Stahr
4034 Hillview Road, Santa Maria, California 93455

Dr. David W. Powell
900 13th Street, Golden, Colorado 80401

Frank W. McNally
P.O. Box 458, Putnam, Connecticut 06260-0458

Mark E. Irwin (DE)
317 Kalorama Road, Sykesville, Maryland 21784

David B. Board (DC)
635 Grand Place, Frederick, Maryland 21702

Edwin B. Moore III
8 Barbara Court, Ormond Beach, Florida 32174-4969

Clarence E. Home
1371 Mount Carmel Road, McDonough, Georgia 30253

James M. Rees
8380 W. Brook View Drive, Boise, Idaho 83709

Richard W. Young
2108 Holland, Alton, Illinois 62002-3338

Henry E. LaHurreau
3308 Clermont, Ft. Wayne, Indiana 46806

D. Michael Bonney
516 Forest Drive, S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403-4235

Arthur W. Keffer
1102 Morphy Street, Great Bend, Kansas 67530

Gary E. Thornberry
1018 Tyron Elm Street, Lawrenceburg, Kentucky 40342

James D. Parker
49 Amelie Avenue, Kenner, Louisiana 70065

Peter P. Bowler
190 Mosher Road, Gorham, Maine 04038

Richard P. Naegle
4210 Overton Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21236

John C. Sutterley (MA/RI)
75 Stephanie Lane, Bridgewater, Massachusetts 02324

Robert C. Ickes
26208 Culver, St. Clair Shore, Michigan 48081

John R. Wentworth
313 Ridge Road, Le Sueur, Minnesota 56058

Jeffie C. Dukes
414 Wynhurst Court, Columbus, Mississippi 39702-6446

Lionel J. Goede
715 Murray Hill Drive, Fenton, Missouri 63026

Donald S. Holland
P.O. Box 148, Forsyth, Montana 59327

Dr. James N. Karnegis
20975 Bonanza Boulevard, Elkhorn, Nebraska 68022-1838

Emile J. Lallement, Jr.
1695 Wren Street, Reno, Nevada 89509

Ronald H. Keyser
P.O. Box 106, East Andover, New Hampshire 03231-0106

Robert W. Hassell
77 Sykes Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08629-1435

Robert J. Keene
8900 2nd Street, N.W., No. 46, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87114

David D. Goodwin
1509 Campus Drive, Vestal, New York 13850-4036

David G. Cronk
1920 Kelly Road, Apex, North Carolina 27502

Andrew R. Caylor
P.O. Box 449, Washburn, North Dakota 58577

Charles R. Albertson
6 January Court, Cincinnati, Ohio 45218

Jon J. Giddings
Box 1340, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

John A. Friedrichsen
432 Calapooia Street, S.W., Albany, Oregon 97321-2382

William E. Clepper
774 Treasure Lake, Du Bois, Pennsylvania 15801-9016

Richard A. Wesner
108 Morton Circle, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29579

Carl D. Pengra
22745 151st Avenue, Box Elder, South Dakota 57719-8002

George R. Green
384 Walnut Trace Drive, Memphis, Tennessee 38018-6807

Leonard O. Pierce
9154 Larston, Houston, Texas 77055

Richard H. Simons
1135 Alton Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

Donald W. Gerrish
27 Ridgewood Drive, Burlington, Vermont 05401-2625

John R. Wigglesworth, Jr.
1930 Leonard Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22043-1322

Lloyd R. Linn
45 N.E. Nunan Loop, Oak Harbor, Washington 98277-4950

Vaughn F. Shafer
2136 Breezy Drive, Charleston, West Virginia 25311

Paul V. Hersh
1026 East Avenue N., Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650-2269

Virgil V. Teague
1212W. Jeffers Drive, Rawlins, Wyoming 82301

Vincenzo Pulvirenti
Via Canalicchio 7, 95125 Catania, Italy
Grand Commandery Chairmen of the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Chairmen</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALABAMA</td>
<td>Charles H. Hampton, Jr</td>
<td>358 Riverside Drive, East Gadsden, AL 35903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARIZONA</td>
<td>James J. Rolle</td>
<td>14018 N Whispering Lake Dr, Sun City, AZ 85351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARKANSAS</td>
<td>Robert B. Mitchell</td>
<td>124 Orchard, Hot Springs, AR 71913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>Donald J. Spencer</td>
<td>8350 Rathburn Avenue, Northridge, CA 91325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLORADO</td>
<td>Donald C. Phillips</td>
<td>112 Trout Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONNECTICUT</td>
<td>Edwin F. Dingus</td>
<td>10 Brannard Road, Branford, CT 06405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DELAWARE</td>
<td>Warren F. Schueler, Sr</td>
<td>16 Maria Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808-4854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIST. of COL</td>
<td>John C. Werner II</td>
<td>8907 Southwick Street, Fairfax, VA 22031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLORIDA</td>
<td>Richard J. Carr</td>
<td>210S. Embrey Street, Casselberry, FL 32707-3314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>Grady T. Bozeman</td>
<td>2444 Highway 53 E., Jasper, GA 30143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDAHO</td>
<td>No Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILLINOIS</td>
<td>William T. Unwin</td>
<td>743 E. 167th Street, South Holland, IL 60473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIANA</td>
<td>Lyndon K. Smith</td>
<td>P.O. Box 293, Mooresville, IN 46158-0293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOWA</td>
<td>Glenn N. Marshall</td>
<td>4617 Pineview Dr, NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-1717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANSAS</td>
<td>Marlin A. Reed</td>
<td>1020 Orient Street, El Dorado, KS 60742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENTUCKY</td>
<td>Kurt Legait</td>
<td>12708 Mackinaw Drive, Louisville, KY 40243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOUISIANA</td>
<td>Darrell L. Aidridge</td>
<td>P.O. Box 890, West Monroe, LA 71294-0890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAINE</td>
<td>Wafer L. Hayes</td>
<td>223 Forest Street, Westbrook, ME 04092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARYLAND</td>
<td>William B. Colburn, Sr.</td>
<td>6501 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, MD 21771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASS./RI</td>
<td>No Report</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICHIGAN</td>
<td>Roy M. Geer</td>
<td>22451 Bayview Street, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINNESOTA</td>
<td>Daniel P. Grambush</td>
<td>15 W. Owatonna Street, Duluth, MN 55803-1740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MISSISSIPPI</td>
<td>Frank E. Hankinson III</td>
<td>815 Spruce Street, Columbus, MS 39702-5427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MISSOURI</td>
<td>Louis L. Monken</td>
<td>430 Fairwicic Drive, St. Louis, MO 63129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTANA</td>
<td>Dean M. Lindahl</td>
<td>1010 E. State Street, Helena, MT 59601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEBRASKA</td>
<td>Fred O. Wyant</td>
<td>404 E. 6th Street, York, NE 68467-3019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW NEVADA</td>
<td>Mark A. Marsh</td>
<td>4253 Spring Drive, Carson City, NV 89701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW HAMPSHIRE</td>
<td>James S. Spence</td>
<td>325 Fox Hollow Way, Manchester, NH 03103-6411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW JERSEY</td>
<td>Edward Seabon</td>
<td>416 Morris Place, Roselle, NJ 07203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW MEXICO</td>
<td>Dennis R. Detrow</td>
<td>705 Cardenas Dr., S. E., Albuquerque, NM 87108-3725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW YORK</td>
<td>Douglas Holbrook</td>
<td>325 Marion Avenue, Endwell, NY 13760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>C. James Weisel</td>
<td>128 Overbrook Drive, Concord, NC 28025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH DAKOTA</td>
<td>Donald J. Laschkewitsch</td>
<td>1810 N. 7th Street, Bismarck, ND 58501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHIO</td>
<td>Robert A. Neff</td>
<td>3615 Stockholm Road, Westerville, OH 43081-4243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OKLAHOMA</td>
<td>Gary A. Davis</td>
<td>620W. Cherry Street, Drumright, OK 74030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OREGON</td>
<td>Charles R. Svensen</td>
<td>24207 Old Peak Road, Philomath, OR 97370-9570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
<td>Bryan L. Berry</td>
<td>31 S. 14th Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>Don Seward Blair</td>
<td>338 Indian Summer Lane, Boiling Springs, SC 29316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH DAKOTA</td>
<td>John W. Schwietert</td>
<td>814 Columbus, Rapid City, SD 57701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TENNESSEE</td>
<td>Philip G. Elam</td>
<td>1852 Forest View Road, Kingsport, TN 37660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEXAS</td>
<td>Thomas C. Snedcor</td>
<td>18210 Nassau Bay, Houston, TX 77058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTAH</td>
<td>David H. Nelson</td>
<td>3227 E. English Way, Sandy, UT 84092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERMONT</td>
<td>NO REPORT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIRGINIA</td>
<td>William W. Longworth</td>
<td>502 Wentworth Ave, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012-3545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASHINGTON</td>
<td>James J. Simon</td>
<td>2221 Eureka Avenue, Centralia, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST VIRGINIA</td>
<td>Charles W. Sinsel</td>
<td>98531 Rt. 2, Box 111, Grafton, WV 26354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WISCONSIN</td>
<td>Roger L. Bloomfield</td>
<td>3985 S. 84th St, No 2, Greenfield, WI 53228-2339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYOMING</td>
<td>Edward C. Brown</td>
<td>1927 E. Garfield, Laramie, WY 82070</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There is no doubt that preparation determines the success of our intentions in everything we do. Someone made preparations for each of us before we arrived in this world, and being prepared for the tasks in our lives is a need that is with us every day. If you have not guessed what this message is intended to convey, please be aware that I am calling your attention to being "well and duly prepared" for the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign. If you have not made any plans for your support of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., you need to begin now.

First, let me remind you that all Sir Knights, having sworn to bind up the wounds of the afflicted, do have an obligation. This means everyone, from the highest-ranking member to those who have just been dubbed and created Knights of the Valiant and Magnanimous Order of the Temple, shares the same responsibility (no less). Every Commandery has been asked to make preparations so that the total contributions from that Commandery will average $10.00 per member. If you have a problem with this request, consider this question that I read on a highway billboard: "If you were arrested for being Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" I would like to change this question to "If you were arrested for being a Knight Templar, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" Sir Knights, this is something to think about when you fail to support the Voluntary Campaign.

There are so many ways to raise funds during the Campaign. If the Sir Knights will use a little imagination and make a little effort in fund-raising, there will be no problem in reaching the two million dollar goal in the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign.

Every Sir Knight needs to become familiar with the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. How can you help someone if you don't know what is available and the process to obtain this help? Sir Knights, Freemasonry/Templary is a learning experience: Each of us needs to be aware of what our Masonic organizations have to offer. How can you help someone if you don't know what you have to offer?

The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign has been designated to honor an outstanding Templar, Sir Knight Willard Meredith Avery, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, whose untiring efforts through the years have guided the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. and helped us "stay the course" to help those in need. In 1979 Sir Knight Avery wrote an article entitled "Needed: Men of Valor and Vision." The same message applies today as it did twenty years ago. The vision that we are seeking today is to have an outstanding Campaign as we honor a great Knight Templar. I ask every Sir Knight to renew
his vows as we prepare for 2000 and make this a banner year for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Sir Knights, we must plan now and follow our plan. You have heard it before: "If you don't know where you are going, any road will take you there." Let's not allow this to happen to a great Order and an outstanding Charity.

For a donation of $10.00, you will receive a lapel/tie tack pin depicting "the Templar Seal" (to right). The pin is polished bronze and is a real eye-catcher that will invite inquiries. It will open the door to discussions of Templary. All net proceeds are given to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Mail your check, payable to: Charles A. Games, Trustee; 1700 Jamestown Place; Pittsburgh; PA 15235-4944. Include a note "For a Templar Seal Pin." Please provide legible mailing address.

The "MASTER MASON" is one of the finest, quality and affordable, handmade knives made in the U.S.A. The 4 1/2 inch "skinner" blade is made from high carbon steel (SAE 1085) that is hardened and draw tempered to a spring hardness (blue-temper) of RC 42 to 46 hardness. The handle is constructed from deer or elk antler. The pommel and guard are made from hard brass that is ground and polished to a high luster. In place of the brass cap, the natural crown of the antler can remain which makes for a "different" concept of cutlery. Accompanying each knife is an 8 oz, latigo laced, leather sheath that is hand tooled and cut to make a tight fit to the blade. The price of the knife and sheath is $84, plus $6 for shipping and handling. For each knife purchase, $10 will be donated to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

HOW to ORDER: Send name, address and phone number and check/money order (no cash please), made payable to Aurora Commandery No. 22, to Aurora Commandery No. 22, 9220 2425 E. St., Tiskilwa, IL 61368. Orders can be called by phoning (815) 659-3133. Please indicate "Brass Cap" or "Crown Cut" handle. If you are not satisfied with your knife within thirty days of receipt, you will be refunded the price minus the shipping and handling charge.
In Memoriam

Stanley Wakefield
New York
Grand Commander-1954
Born: October 7, 1909
Died: July 2, 1999

Vincent J. Dutra
California
Deputy Grand Commander-1999
Born: June 29, 1929
Died: August 24, 1999

James A. Wills
Indiana
Grand Commander-1961
Born: July 11, 1905
Died: August 29, 1999

Grand Commander's Club
No. 101,077-Jack Lewis McNeill, (NC)
No. 101,078-Emmett McCall, Sr. (GA)
No. 101,079-Walter H. Wooding (PA)
No. 101080-Samuel S. Wood (SC)
No. 101,081-Curt M. Anderson (OH)
No. 101,082-Edward A. McGinness (OH)
No. 101,083-Billie and Burrel Urgg (ID)
No. 101,084-Michael Charles Clawson (MO)

Grand Master's Club
No. 3,355-Johnnie Ray Redwine (TN)

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. The 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 $1000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Masters 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.

For those of you who may have missed the opportunity to own a YORK RITE or a MASONIC BELT, we have a supply on hand and would be happy to send you any number that you should want. There is no increase in the cost- still twelve dollars ($12.00) each, postpaid, and delivered as soon as we receive your order. The belts are made of a military style web material, with either the York Rite or Masonic emblems woven on a ribbon sewed to the face of it, black for York Rite and navy blue for the Masonic. Our KTEF, RARA, and CMMRF are the recipients of most of the profits, as well as MSA, and Relief funds in the states. Standard length is fifty-four inches, and sixty-two inches are available in small quantities. They make a great gift! Checks or MOs in U.S. funds to: Frederick H. Heuss, P.G.C; 6 Vernon Avenue; Rochester, NH 03867-2034.
Knights Templar Eye Foundation Contributes to RF Research

Recently, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., presented a $20,000 grant to the Bascom Palmer's retina fellow, Dr. Ingrid Scott, to help underwrite her research in Dr. Murray's oncology laboratory.

This was the second $20,000 grant awarded to Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami School of Medicine, Florida, from the Eye Foundation. The first was in 1992 in support of glaucoma research.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation was established in New York City in 1955, and its purpose is to "provide funding for research, the correction of crossed eyes in children, and surgical treatment and hospitalization for those suffering from diseases or injuries to the eye which, left untreated, might result in blindness." Since its founding, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation has processed over 62,000 applications, expended more than sixty-eight million dollars for eye surgery and hospitalization, and granted over five million dollars for eye research.

Officers of the Grand Commandery of Ohio Present KTEF Grants

$20,000 grants have been presented to the Cleveland Clinic and the Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. Pictured below, left, at the presentation at the Cleveland Clinic to Dr. Shreeta Acharya are: Sir Knight Ronald A. Ebert, G.G, Grand Commandery of Ohio; Dr. Acharya; and then-Grand Commander of Ohio, Sir Knight Edward A. Estep. On the right, below, left to right, pictured at the presentation to Dr. Francisco H. Andrade at Case Western Reserve University are: then-Grand Commander Estep; Dr. Andrade; Dr. Lass, the head of the ophthalmology research department; and Past Grand Commander of Ohio, Sir Knight Wilford A. Grose.

Sir Knight Estep writes: Both doctors were very grateful for the money so they can continue their research in detecting some eye problems in the young. They said they know that if detected early the problems will be easier to correct.”

Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knight 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.
Sixtieth Triennium, 1994-1997  
(Continued)

Sir Knight Marvin L. Painter, P.G.C., Missouri, and Chairman of the Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities, reported that there were "numerous reports of Templar parades, church services, and visitations to rest homes, hospitals and shut-ins. The response has been less than 100%; however, several requests were made for patriotic literature and films."

Reports of the Department Commanders and Committees on the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the Holy Land Pilgrimages, and Knights Templar History are detailed in the appropriate chapters.

Three proposals were submitted to the Conclave. One, proposed by Sir Knight William H. Koon II, G.C., Ohio, was to amend (re-write) Sections 241, 242, 243, 244, 247, 248, and 249 of the Statutes. All of these concerned the uniform. The changes seem to have been to slightly modify the uniform of the Grand Encampment officers; for the other Templars to delete the uniform belt, to change the coat to one with a slit in the left side at the belt-line to allow for the suspension of the sword and scabbard by "two short leather slings with hook snaps at the bottom and a loop at the top to be worn over the trouser belt." Other changes were slight changes in the "accouterments." A "grandfather clause was included"; present uniforms are authorized as long as they are in good shape.

Another was a resolution by Sir Knight Michael H. Shively, P.G.C., Texas, to change Paragraph 1 of the Standing Resolution of 1949 by the Committee on Drill Regulations to provide that the Commander be the only one to use the Officer's Salute; other Sir Knights in attendance use Present Swords.

The third was a proposal by Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, H.P.G.M., Grand Recorder, that the Grand Encampment, Grand Commanderies, Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies, "may extend to all Grand Masters" of Grand Lodges "or their Personal Representatives an Arch of Steel and the Public Grand Honors of Masonry." Grand Master Mayford pointed out that this is "permissive legislation" - not a requirement. All three were accepted and approved without discussion by the Conclave.

At the election of officers, each of the following were duly nominated and elected: Deputy Grand Master Ward, as Most Eminent Grand Master; Grand Generalissimo Jones, as Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master; and Grand Captain General Fischer, as Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo. There were five nominees for the office of Grand Captain General: Sir Knights: Richard B. Baldwin, P.G.C. of Virginia; John O. Bond, Sr., P.G.C. of Maine; Charles A. Games, P.G.C. of Pennsylvania; David L. Hargett Jr., P.G.C. of North Carolina; and W. Bruce Pruitt, P.G.C. of California. It was agreed that the "low man" would drop out after each ballot. On the last ballot, Baldwin received 212 votes and Pruitt received 201 votes; Baldwin was the Grand Captain General Elect.

The business of the Conclave was essentially completed by noon on Tuesday, August 12.

On Wednesday, these officers were installed: Sir Knights: James M. Ward, Most Eminent Grand Master; William Jackson
Jones, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master; Kenneth B. Fischer, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo; Richard B. Baldwin, Right Eminent Grand Captain General; Sam E. Hilburn, Right Eminent Treasurer; Charles R. Neumann, H.P.G.M., Right Eminent Grand Recorder; and Donald Hinslea Smith, Right Eminent Grand Prelate.

The following were appointed Department Commanders: Robert Lake Foreman, P.G.C., Maryland - Northeastern Department; Earl Douglas Barlow, P.G.C., Mississippi - Southeastern Department; William H. Koon II, P.G.C., Ohio - East Central Department; Albert R. Masters, P. G. C., Iowa - North Central Department; Lloyd A. Hebert, P.G.C., Louisiana - South Central Department; Douglas Lee Johnson, P.G.C., Wyoming - Northwestern Department; and Grover T. Haibrooks, P.G.C., California – Southwestern Department.

Some other appointments were: Sir Knights: Robert F. Poyton, P.G.C., Massachusetts/Rhode Island - Grand Master's Banner Bearer;

Aides to the Most Eminent Grand Master: Billy A. McNair, P.G.C., Mississippi; Tracy W. Lusk, P.G.C., Mississippi; A. B. Church, Jr., P.G.C., Tennessee; Sid C. Dorris III, P.G.C., Tennessee, and Herbert A. Fisher, P.G.C., H.P.D.C., Virginia;


Aides to the Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo: Howard M. Purkaple, P.C., Texas; Dozier P. Gossett P.C., Texas;

Aides to the Right Eminent Grand Captain General: John R. Wigglesworth, Jr., G.G., Virginia; Paul R. Purdy, P.G.C., Virginia;

Aide to the Right Eminent Grand Treasurer: R. Furman Vinson, P.G.C., Texas;


Aide for Most Eminent Past Grand Master Willard M. Avery: Robert E. Price, P.G.C., Indiana;

Aide for Most Eminent Past Grand Master Ned Eugene Dull: Jack V. Cooper, P.C., Ohio;

Aides for Most Eminent Past Grand Master Donald Hinslea Smith: Rodney Williams, Jr., P.G.C., Kentucky; G. Michael Miller, D.G.C., Kentucky;

Aide for Most Eminent Past Grand Master Marvin E. Fowler: S. Flory Diehl, P.G.C., District of Columbia;

Aides for Most Eminent Past Grand Master William H. Thornley, Jr., George G. Fields, P.G.C., Colorado; George T. Rosendaul, P.C., Ohio;

Aides for Most Eminent Past Grand Master Blair C. Mayford: Billy J. Boyer, P.G.C., Missouri; William H. Koon, G.C., Ohio;

Aide for Most Eminent Honorary Past Grand Master Edmund F. Ball: Dwight E. Lanman, Jr., P.G.C., Indiana and

Aide for Most Eminent Honorary Past Grand Master Herbert D. Sledd: Donald Estes, P.G.C., Kentucky.

Following the Installation ceremony, congratulations and goodbyes were exchanged by most of those present, for the 60th Triennial Conclave was over following a successful triennium, but the Sir Knights and ladies were ready to return to their homes and prepare for the 61st Triennial Conclave to be held in Nashville, Tennessee, in the year 2000.

Chapter VI
begins in the December issue.
Templary 2000 Crusade – February 5, 2000

A Grand Commander Checklist for Success
by Sir Knight Bill R. Clutter, KCT, P.G.C. (IN) and Chairman of the Templary 2000 Crusade

The Templary 2000 Crusade countdown to Saturday, February 5, 2000 has begun, and in just three months or so, we will be creating or restoring thousands of Sir Knights nationwide. Or will we? The momentum of enthusiasm and creativity continues to grow, and during my travels to four of our Department Conferences, many good ideas have surfaced that I wish to share with you.

Excitement Flourishes: We have no doubt that each jurisdiction will contribute to our membership development goals. It is truly a rewarding experience to listen to the Grand Commanders in numerous jurisdictions unveil their plans to achieve their Crusade goals. A lot of planning and hard work has gone into their plans, and they have no other projects with a higher priority. They are excited about the goal, and so are their officer teams. They cannot wait for February 5, 2000 to arrive.

Hindsight Is Always 20-20: But when the results are tallied, each Grand Commander may ask: "Is there anything else I should have done to attain our vision and goal of Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar?" The answer is unequivocally YES!

Good Ideas From Our Department Commanders: Beginning this month and continuing through January, we will have at least two articles written by the Department Commanders highlighting various Crusade programs that are occurring in their jurisdictions. As you know, we can learn and grow stronger together if we share information with each other. The East Central (Bill Koon) and Southeastern Departments (Earl Barlow) are featured in this issue.

A Good Idea Checklist for Grand Commanders: Successful leaders experience goal attainment for a variety of reasons. One reason is they have challenged and elevated their officer team thinking and prepared a plan that emphasizes effectiveness more than efficiency. The following ideas have been noted while attending numerous Department Conferences, and if implemented they will help each Grand Commander ensure that his plan will increase in effectiveness.

Have You Considered Any Of These?

1. Send a letter on your Grand Commandery stationery to each Eminent Commander expressing your support of the Crusade and to enlist his. Tell him you are proud of him and his officers. Add a sense of urgency to your request.

2. During your next officers’ meeting secure a commitment from each of your elected and appointed Grand Officers to get at least one petition. This sets a good example for officers in the constituent Commanderies. Encourage them to do the same. It also displays commitment to a common purpose among the leadership.

3. Write regular personal endorsements of the Crusade in your monthly Knight Templar magazine supplements. Request the Grand Chapter and Council leaders to do the same.

4. Consider establishing a unique award for the Crusade, i.e., Most Knightings in Home Commandery, Highest Membership Gain, Most Restorations, etc. Offer special incentives, too, like free meals for two at the next Annual Conclave. Be creative!
5. Get more committees involved! Review your committee list, and get some inactive committees active. This spreads the leadership around and offers a chance for other officers to show what they are made of.

6. Consider writing a letter to all of your Past Grand Commanders. Share your plans with them, and enlist their support and participation. They will assist you.

7. Meet regularly with your Grand Chapter and Council leadership. Working together within the "Family of Masonry" increases cooperation exponentially.

8. Call or meet with the Deputy or Actives of the Scottish Rite, and seek their support. They might be willing to support a direct mail campaign for the Crusade, and encourage "non-York Rite" Scottish Rite Masons to join. Perhaps you could arrange a York Rite conferral at their next Convocation in their auditorium?

9. Call or meet with the leadership of the Shrine Temples in your state. Request consideration for a joint "Cold Sands" event with your York Rite Crusade festivals. Request the Shrine help sell the benefits of York Rite just as the York Rite should sell the benefits of Shrine membership.

10. Consider a York Rite festival to honor the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. Perhaps his junior officers would join, too, if they were non-York Rite Masons.

11. Assign each of your elected and appointed officers of the Grand Commandery, as well as Deputies, to become a "Crusade Speakers Bureau." Request that they arrange invitations to Blue Lodges to present "York Rite Overview Programs" to promote our Christian Masonic heritage. Suggest three programs per month each.

12. Listen to your "Key Men." They know what is going on and where you need to focus your energies. Take the time to listen to them.

Focus On Program Effectiveness: Have you ever heard the expression, "It's lonely at the top”? You can't delegate this one up the ladder! Remember that nothing worth having comes easy. You only get one chance at the Templary 2000 Crusade. You can do it! Set a good example. Now, make it happen!

Now let's show everyone that we are as good as we say we are.

Sir Knight Clutter is a plural member of Noblesville No. 61 and Greenfield No. 39 Commanderies, Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, and a 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

Templary 2000 Report from the Southeastern Department

The Southeastern Department has launched its support of the Templary 2000 Crusade with vigor and determination. We have gladly accepted and welcomed Grand Master Ward's challenge to Knight and/or restore 2,000 Sir Knights for the beginning of the next millennium. This is an exciting mission and the Southeastern Department supports it 100 percent.

Our original plan of attack was to have one central festival and attempt to accomplish our mission as a consolidated Department effort at one location, such as Chattanooga or Atlanta. However, the logistics of this plan became too cumbersome to iron out, and after reconsideration we decided to rely on each Grand Commander contributing to the final goal by implementing his own program.

With variations, the eight Grand Commanders of the Southeastern Department are developing plans to have festivals at two, three, or more locations within their states. Originally, some thought they would schedule the festivals simultaneously, on or around the February 5 target date. However, as we examined this plan of attack, most felt the same problem - lack of sufficient ritualists to support the entire effort on the same day. Also, some were concerned it would detract from "sideliner attendance?"
The Department's Grand Commanders and their points of contact are supporting the Crusade with tremendous enthusiasm. They have all adopted the Can Do attitude, and I want to thank them publicly; they are: Right Eminent Grand Commanders Wiggleswoth, Cronk, Home, Wesner, Dukes, Greene, Lee, and Moore. To their Points of Contact: Keep on reloading and shooting and you will get us there. Sir Knights Simmons, Taylor, Dyer, Green, Capps, Burton, Jordan and Carpenter: You have a tremendous job, and on behalf of your Grand Commanders, the Grand Encampment and myself; I thank you for your efforts.

This group of dedicated Christian Leaders believes they will have 1,050 new Sir Knights at the base of the triangle for the Templary 2000 Crusade! God bless them and their efforts!

Sir Knight Earl Douglas Barlow
Southeastern Department

Templary 2000 Report
from the East Central Department

Templary 2000 is underway and building up steam in the East Central Department. Each of the "Key Men" of the five Grand Commanderies in the Department report that plans are in place and are moving forward to make Templary 2000 Crusade a successful celebration of the new millennium.

Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, West Virginia, and Kentucky have Knighting events planned on or about the February 5th date. Some are York Rite reunions taking place on just one day, others are scheduled for two days, and some are conferring only the Templar Orders.

Though the East Central Department normally enjoys cold weather in February, the heat of enthusiasm about Templary 2000 should keep us warm!

1,000 new Knights Templar and an equal number of reinstatements are the goals of the East Central Department. If we are successful in our efforts, the department will show a gain in membership, and the taste of victory will be a sweet one.

Sir Knight William H. Koon II
East Central Department

How Will You Pay for Expenses That Medicare Doesn't Cover

You owe it to yourself to find out about the Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance designed for Sir Knights and their Ladies.

With the high cost of health care today, The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance Program is becoming a necessity for more and more of us. That's why it is good to know that you now have a choice of Medicare Supplement coverage's under our plan at very affordable rates.

Under the Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Plan you have

November 1999
EASTER 2000

By Sir Knight Robert V. Hines, PGC General Chairman, Committee on the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service

The 70th Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, will again be held on the steps of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia, on Sunday, April 23, 2000, beginning at 7:30 AM. As in previous years, this service and the breakfast following will complete a memorable weekend of events in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C., including delegation dinners, tours, and Masonic fellowship. It is to be noted that the cherry blossoms should be in full bloom, a sure sign of spring!

Please remember that this will be Sir Knight Jim's final Easter reception as Grand Master. Let's get a tremendous crowd to honor our Grand Master.

The Hotel Washington Package

The main hotel will again be the Hotel Washington in downtown Washington, D.C. This year the HOTEL WASHINGTON IS AGAIN OFFERING A PACKAGE ARRANGEMENT as follows: $268.00 per couple, double occupancy, Friday and Saturday nights ($47.00 extra for each person more than two per room and $228.00 for singles); Saturday luncheon for two; Sunday breakfast for two. The package includes taxes and luggage fees.

This arrangement is good only for the Friday and Saturday preceding Easter! If you come earlier or stay later, the standard hotel rates of $108.00 singles and $118.00 per couple apply to those other days and are available from the hotel. Write the hotel to make your reservation: Hotel Washington; ATTN: Knights Templar Easter Program; 515 15th Street, N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20004. Include your check or credit card number.

You may also call the hotel at (800) 424-9540 and speak with Sandy Warner to make reservations for rooms and any activities, giving your credit card number for billing.

Check with the hotel upon arrival to insure all your reservations are complete.

Other Than the Package

For those not taking the package, the separate charges are: $25.00 each, for the Saturday luncheon and $15.00 each, for the breakfast on Sunday. If you are not staying at the Hotel Washington, please make arrangements to attend the breakfast, since it is a great event. Make your reservations with Grand Encampment office: (773) 777-3300.

Grand Commanders and Their Ladies

Grand Commanders and their ladies may attend the Saturday luncheon, courtesy of the Grand Encampment. Be sure to identify yourself when dealing with the hotel.

Our Grand Master

The Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America, Sir Knight James Morris Ward, and his officers will greet everyone at the Saturday luncheon. THIS WILL BE JIM'S AND JAN'S LAST EASTER AS OUR GRAND MASTER AND HIS LADY, SO LET'S GET A BIG CROWD OUT FOR THIS FINE OCCASION IN ALEXANDRIA.

Tomb of the Unknowns

On Saturday, April 22, the Grand Commandery of Indiana will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at the Arlington National Cemetery honoring their members who fell in combat as members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America. They have asked that everyone be invited to attend. The bus will leave the hotel at 9:00 A.M.

Easter Morning Program

Coffee and donuts will be available in the Hotel Washington lobby at 5:30 A.M. on Easter morning. The buses will be available at 6:15 A.M. to take members and their ladies to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial for the Sunrise Services. They will return to the hotel after the service, which will begin at 7:30 A.M.
Parade Information

The parade will form on the lane leading up the hill. Delegations will form according to their entry into the Grand Encampment, senior to junior, and markers for each will be in place. The Maryland delegation in their black plumes, as in last year's service, will appear before the formal parade with drummers and form a cross in the stands. The Grand Commandery of Maryland would also like to invite any of the other Commanderies which wear the black plumes to get in touch and participate in the formation of the Cross. The parade will step off a 7:30 A.M., proceed up the hill, render Eyes Right" on passing the Grand Master and his staff, and then proceed into seats as directed. Formations of three squads each are suggested in order to avoid bunching up on topping the hill. Colors will Right Wheel at the podium and post the colors as directed. Parking for cars and buses is available at the top of the hill next to the Memorial. However, no vehicles will be permitted up the roadway after 7:00 A.M.

Other Details

Delegations desiring to make any special group arrangements should also call Sandy Warner at the hotel at the above telephone number. Delegations staying at other hotels or motels must provide their own transportation or meet at the Hotel Washington.

Recognition is made of the Grand Commandery having the most Sir Knights in uniform in the parade and to the Grand Commandery having the highest percentage of its members in uniform in the parade.

Prior to the service, beginning at 6:30 A.M., carillon music will be played over the public address system. Easter selections will be played as the parade moves out following the Assembly bugle call. The service will be conducted by our Right Eminent Grand Prelate and Most Eminent R.G.M., Sir Knight Donald H. Smith.

The breakfast will begin upon our return to the Hotel Washington.

GRAND COMMANDERS ARE REQUESTED TO APPOINT A DELEGATION CHAIRMAN AND NOTIFY THIS COMMITTEE'S GENERAL CHAIRMAN, SIR KNIGHT ROBERT V. HINES; HC 73, BOX 1908, 124 HARRISON CIRCLE, LAKE OF THE WOODS, VA 22508-9579, TELEPHONE, (540) 972-8699. E-MAIL ADDRESS: RobertH333@aol.com in order to receive all mailings concerning this event and to facilitate adequate planning! FORMS WILL BE SENT IN JANUARY 2000.

Attention: Sir Knights and Ladies

In a fund-raising effort for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the committee for Maryland Grand Chapter, Eastern Star, is selling T-shirts, sweatshirts, cardigans, totes, and baseball caps for Knights Templar, Masonic, Beauceant and O.E.S. For more information call or write: Geneva B. Delphrey, 11919 Green Valley Road, Union Bridge, MD 21791, (410) 775-7432, fax: (410) 775-7851. All proceeds to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2/2-inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. Emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use for the GCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is $8.50 plus $3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the OCT 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.
"Let me say once more how grateful I am to the Knights Templar for arranging this Pilgrimage. It is a journey I will never forget, a Pilgrimage that will shape my faith and ministry for years to come."

Reflections on the Holy Land Pilgrimage

Leaving Israel we were reminded of the very gracious welcome given us by our guide, Ezra Eini, at the outset of our pilgrimage. Boarding the bus at Tel Aviv, he said to us, "Welcome home!" Visiting all the places in all the Bible stories we've been told from the time of our youth, our pilgrimage was in many ways very much like coming home. But in other equally important respects, we were, I think, as sojourners in a far and distant land. There was the little town of Bethlehem and Calvary's Hill, to be sure. But there was also the Yad Vashem and the Wailing Wall - places we know very well - places we can never know.

Midway down the path of the Children's Memorial at the Yad Vashem, I became aware of my apparently audible moaning when a nearby mourner looked sharply in my direction. In the flash of an eye, I realized that whatever pain the stories and pictures of that place prompted in me, it really wasn't my pain and it really wasn't my place. The ground on which I stood had been hallowed by someone else's experience. If not for the gracious reception afforded me at the gate, I had no place on that ground at all.

At the Western Wall we watched the sons of Israel, rocking back and forth, praying with all that was within them. Nearby, mothers and sisters cheered at the Bar Mitzvahs of sons and brothers. One white bearded man wept as he touched the only remains of the second Temple. Welcome as I was to watch it all, I can never begin to understand all that the prayers, the joy, and the tears must mean.

So while much about the Holy Land may have been familiar, it was at many stops along the way, for all my stammering around for the right words to say to someone I barely knew, a little like a first date. Thankfully, it was also, finally, a little like a first dance with all its awkwardness covered over by a very graceful and gracious partner. However unfamiliar the landscape or awkward my struggle to put words to the experience, there wasn't a place in all of Israel I didn't feel Esra's welcome.

I was from the outset of my pilgrimage very interested to experience first-hand the land and people of Jesus' formation. Believing that we as human beings become not only in this world but with it, I was curious to discover what kind of world it was that Jesus became with. Walking through Israel from Galilee to Jerusalem, I discovered a God more gracious than I have heretofore imagined - one who will not be stopped by any inability to grasp the mystery that necessarily surrounds his truest identity and who insists on making what is strictly his my own.

Paul Matchan, Associate Pastor
St. John Lutheran Church
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

MSA Appeal for Relief in North Carolina: In the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd, which struck much of the East Coast, North Carolina has suffered extensive flooding; in fact, several towns were almost entirely under water. Lives have been lost, and the property damage is great. Please forward to MSA such funds as you feel will be appropriate to help our devastated Brethren in this jurisdiction. Checks payable to MSA Disaster Relief Fund, 8120 Fenton Street, Suite 203, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4785.
When Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon, one of the Twelve Apostles, were tarred and feathered; it became obvious that Kirtland, Ohio, was not to be the New Zion after all.

That event, compounded by incessant hounding from Smith's creditors, invoked another vision. On January 12, 1839, the message came to the Prophet. He and Rigdon were instructed to travel to their large Mormon concentration in Missouri. They fled without money to make the journey. Soon after departing, Smith and Rigdon rendezvoused with Brigham Young. He provided expense money for the trip to Missouri.

During the first years at Kirtland, while the Mormon Church was gaining stability; James Buchanan was passing an abbreviated tour of duty in Russia at the court of Czar Nicholas. He was able to complete negotiations previously launched to finalize a commerce treaty and was making progress on a maritime agreement with the unpredictable czar during that initial winter of 1832-33.

Nevertheless, James detested the pomp and circumstance of a minister's social agenda. It was also a frightfully expensive lifestyle, something that Buchanan found intolerable. He requested to be relieved, and it was approved. James' final audience took place on August 5, 1833, a meeting which drew lavish praise from Czar Nicholas for Buchanan's outstanding service. Any sense of satisfaction for James was muted by the death of his mother in 1833, along with the demise of his brother George from tuberculosis earlier the same year. His father had died years before, on June 11, 1821, as the result of a carriage accident.

Arriving back in the states on November 24, 1833, James entertained hope that he might be elected to the U.S. Senate. Politics had changed in Pennsylvania during his absence. The state had backed Martin Van Buren as a presidential candidate in 1832, although Jackson had been reelected.

The situation would turn to Buchanan's advantage. Jackson was anxious to have Pennsylvania Governor Wolf and Buchanan join political forces to prevent the state from swinging over to the Anti-Mason Party. Old Hickory informed James that he would appoint Pennsylvania Senator William Wilkens minister to Russia, leaving his seat open. With the governor's support, it was probable that Buchanan would be elected to fill Wilkens' seat in the U.S. Senate and create a solid political front for the 1836 presidential election. James was elected senator and was seated on December 15, 1834.

Family problems were a major concern for James for the next few years. Numerous close relatives became victims of tuberculosis, a disease prevalent in the Buchanan family. A number of deaths left dependent children, many of whom became James' responsibility. A number of the orphans were taken into the large home he maintained in Lancaster, where he employed a full-time housekeeper. Nevertheless, his senatorial duties continued as usual. James was reelected to another six-year term in 1836, and the financial panic of 1837 created many governmental problems involving the senate. During this busy period, James announced his engagement to Mary Kittora Snyder, a longtime acquaintance in Washington. They never married.

Buchanan's skill as a negotiator was well established in the senate, where he was a political power. His help in the campaign to elect James Knox Polk president in 1844 was indispensable to the victory. It was a close race, breaking the hold the White House enjoyed with two prior Whig occupants; the brief term of William Henry Harrison, and his successor, John Tyler.
In February of 1845, President Polk offered James the cabinet post of Secretary of State. He accepted and served until Zachary Taylor, a Whig, was elected president in 1848. Buchanan returned to Lancaster early in 1849, ending thirty years of continuous government service. He was fifty-eight years old.

When Joseph Smith arrived in Missouri in 1839, he found little to rejoice over except an increasing membership. The Prophet caught up with his congregation of 3,000 Mormon converts in Caldwell County at a town called Far West, some fifty miles northeast of Kansas City. A growing number of Mormon faithful had been in the Kansas City vicinity since the early days of the church.

At first they established an enclave in Jackson County. Harassment began as early as 1833, forcing the Mormons to wander from county to county until Prophet Smith joined them in February 1839.

Actually, Smith and Rigdon appeared during their final days in Missouri. By April 15, 1839, Smith and several other Mormon leaders were in jail awaiting trial in Boone County, Missouri. The balance of the Latter-Day Saints were being forcibly herded out of the state with Brigham Young in the lead. Governor Lillburn W. Boggs provided an escort of state militia to see the Mormons safety across the Mississippi River into Illinois. The citizens of the town of Quincy had offered them refuge.

Initially, the Mormons received cordial treatment at Quincy. They were regarded as sober, industrious folks, who appeared to be honest and reliable. Prophet Smith soon bribed his way out of the Boone County jail and joined his flock at Quincy.

Before long the Prophet arranged to purchase the entire town of Commerce, Illinois, some sixty miles upriver from Quincy. He bought it at a bargain-basement price. Commerce was regarded as uninhabitable because of the marshy lowlands and was virtually deserted. The town consisted of a few dwellings, a storage building, and two blockhouses. Joseph re-christened their new home "Nauvoo," a word he claimed meant "beautiful" in ancient Hebrew.

The Mormon odyssey soon drew national attention to Illinois. They would begin a period of achievement and prosperity in Nauvoo that promised to fulfill every prophesy made by Joseph Smith. Unfortunately, two aspects of their doctrine placed the Latter-Day Saints on a collision course with the rest of the United States; their practice of plural marriage and the domination of the church over every aspect of their day-to-day lives.

The land was fertile and productive at Nauvoo, but it was also a place of sickness and death. Malaria was rampant in the Mormon population, with Smith and Brigham Young among the stricken. Malaria provided a propaganda opportunity for the Prophet and Young. Both were credited with demonstrating their supernatural healing powers by the "laying on of hands" during those first months. Smith's claim that the leadership were the chosen of God was reinforced by the survival of so many of the flock.

Brigham Young sailed for England on the Patrick Henry on May 7, 1840. His mission was to head a missionary campaign in England. He performed a magnificent service for the Latter-Day Saints and the Prophet. During the year he spent in the British Isles, Young converted and baptized some 8,000 souls, 1,000 of whom immigrated to Nauvoo, Illinois. He published and distributed 5,000 copies of the Book of Mormon in England and raised a substantial amount of financial donations for the church. Brigham targeted the working class to deliver his powerful sermons, and they had a profound impact. Most of the immigrants to Nauvoo were tradesmen and craftsmen, a type of recruit the Prophet needed in the construction of his New Zion.

One might surmise that the vision Prophet Smith revealed at Nauvoo on January 19, 1841, might have been triggered by the prospect of fresh capital and an influx of converts. Joseph announced that he had been instructed to build a marvelous temple and a palatial home for himself as the head of the
The development of Nauvoo was no less than spectacular. In a matter of months, the Mormons created a prosperous city which would soon become the largest in Illinois and controlled enough votes to be a major influence on state politics.

Both political parties, the Whigs and Democrats, competed for the Mormon vote, and Prophet Joseph seized upon his advantage. He asked for, and was granted, a city charter which would allow Nauvoo to become virtually autonomous; and would permit him to establish a

"Joseph Smith's Masonic history began on March 15, 1842, when he assisted the Grand Master of Illinois at the consecration of Nauvoo Lodge. Smith officiated as Grand Chaplain at the consecration ceremony before becoming a Mason. His own record indicates he received the Entered Apprentice Degree the evening of the consecration with the balance of the work completed the following day."

Mormon militia. Before long, the "Nauvoo Legion" was a military force of 5,000. The city had a mayor, city council, and their own courts - with Joseph Smith and the Twelve Apostles in total control. Ideal for the Mormon movement, the situation at Nauvoo was a recipe for disaster.

The citizens of Illinois watched the Mormon city with jealousy and alarm, particularly those in the vicinity of Nauvoo. They feared Mormonism might be spread by force if missionary work among the uninitiated was to be backed by the powerful Nauvoo Legion. There was also a generous measure of old-fashioned jealousy over the affluence of the Mormon enclave of 12,000 souls at Nauvoo. Effective opposition to the Latter-Day Saints began to take shape in June 1841 with the introduction of a bill in the state legislature to revoke the Nauvoo charter. The writing was on the wall, but Prophet Smith was intent on other matters.

Two of Smith's project areas were Freemasonry and the acceptance of polygamy. Joseph announced a revelation on January 12, 1843, that plural marriage was approved by God, and he provided a litany of reasons why it was right and good. Smith already had twelve wives, in addition to Emma, so he was speaking from personal experience. Regarded as a chronic womanizer, the Prophet found plural marriage a convenient vehicle for his overactive libido. Brigham Young proved to be the Prophet's equal in the multiple-wife derby. However, Prophet Smith stopped short of pronouncing plural marriage formally sanctioned by the Mormon Church. Many of the congregation did not endorse the practice.

Joseph Smith's Masonic history began on March 15, 1842, when he assisted the Grand Master of Illinois at the consecration of Nauvoo Lodge. Smith officiated as Grand Chaplain at the consecration ceremony before becoming a Mason. His own record indicates he received the Entered Apprentice Degree the evening of the consecration with the balance of the work completed the following day. The record states that Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon received the Sublime Degree "at sight." Over the next five months, Nauvoo Lodge raised 243 candidates, prompting a grievance by Brodley Lodge No. 1 on July 15, 1842. The complaint was investigated by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and the Nauvoo charter was upheld.

It was only when two more lodges began working in Nauvoo, along with another in the town of Montrose, Iowa, that a second protest was lodged. Nauvoo Lodge refused to open their records and minutes to the Grand Lodge, and the Mormon bodies were struck from the rolls of Illinois. Unintimidated, they continued to work as clandestine lodges, severing all ties with established Masonic sovereign bodies.
Joseph Smith decided to become a presidential candidate in 1844. He was at the pinnacle of success as the head of the Mormon Church and in his physical prime at thirty-nine years. He stood six feet and two inches tall and was blessed with great physical strength. It was an asset he delighted in demonstrating by offering to wrestle many who visited. To launch his presidential campaign, the Prophet dispatched Brigham Young and 350 drum-beaters to go through the country to publicize his candidacy. Joseph was not able to overcome the aversion of the voting public to a union of church and state. He was never a serious challenger. Before the year was half gone, public opinion locally was turned firmly against the Mormons in Nauvoo.

The final episode began with legal maneuvering to obtain warrants against Joseph Smith and the city council at Nauvoo. Smith countered by declaring martial law and barring entrance or exit from the city. As the situation deteriorated, the Prophet made plans to flee, crossing the Mississippi to Montrose, Iowa. The Mormons at Nauvoo immediately accused Joseph of abandoning them. His brother, Hyrum Smith, prevailed on Joseph to return and face the musk. On June 24, 1844, Joseph Smith, his brother Hyrum, and the Nauvoo council surrendered to answer charges at Carthage, Illinois. All except Joseph and Hyrum were released on bail. The bodies of Joseph and Hyrum Smith were released to Nauvoo citizens, and they were given a spectacular funeral, attended by 8,000 of the faithful. They were buried near the home Joseph had built for himself in his grand city of Nauvoo, Illinois; the scene of his greatest glory as the head of the Mormon Church.

Brigham Young was in Boston when he received word of the Prophet's demise. He set out immediately for Nauvoo. Sidney Rigdon was in Pittsburgh when the tidings came. He also departed for Illinois, intent on taking control of the Mormon Church. Rigdon arranged a congregational conference for August 8, 1844 to make his case. Brigham arrived two days before the meeting. Rigdon spoke eloquently for an hour and a half, but he was eclipsed by the powerful oratory of the masterful Brigham Young. The thrust of Young's argument was that the Twelve Apostles were already in place with a procedure for succession established by their constitution. The congregational vote confirmed the constitution. The selection of a church leader from the Apostles was deferred until October 1844. From that moment on, Brigham Young was the absolute head of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints. He needed only the formality of official ratification at a later date to affirm it.

Immediately following the demise of Joseph Smith, a period of ever-increasing violence against the Mormons began. Widespread destruction of property and even some killings occurred. There was unceasing clamor to drive the Mormons out of Illinois. By the spring of 1846, the Twelve Apostles and Brigham Young were prepared to vacate Nauvoo at enormous financial loss. The first segment of the evacuation was led by Brigham, the Apostles, and 2,000 of their flock. Those still at Nauvoo were compelled to defend themselves from attack until cooler heads restrained the irate Illinois citizens. Young and his party crossed the Mississippi into Iowa on February 15, 1846, and camped
at Sugar Creek. They battled severe hardship, making no more than five or six miles a day through the morass caused by early spring rains and wretched weather. Plague and fever were their constant companions in the mosquito-infested bogs as temperatures moderated. Death became so frequent that the Mormons had problems providing timely burial for the bodies. Tenaciously, the wagon train carried on, finally reaching a site near present-day Council Bluffs where they established a "halfway" settlement for the Mormons who would follow. The Mormons planted crops and constructed shelters at "Winter Quarters," responding to the strong leadership of Brigham Young.

During the winter of 1846, Captain James Allen, of the U.S. Army, arrived at "Winter Quarters" recruiting Mormon volunteers for service in the Mexican War, which had just started. The request was prompted by President James Polk's keen desire to prevent a defection of the Mormons to the Mexican side. Young approved Captain Allen's proposal and called for volunteers. A "Mormon Battalion" was recruited before long, and it marched away to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to be outfitted for service. The army advanced each man $42.00 for clothing. Most of the battalion's army income went into the Mormon Church treasury, for salaries were sent back to their families. The Mormon Battalion eventually marched to California, where they arrived in January 1847. At the end of the war in 1848, they were mustered out there; returning with news of the gold strike in California.

On April 7, 1847, Young and an advance party of 147 Mormons departed winter quarters to locate a permanent home site farther west. Although it was a trying journey over difficult terrain, Brigham and his party reached the valley of the Great Salt Lake on Saturday, July 24, 1847. Young looked down on their new home and proclaimed that they had reached New Zion. Wasting no time, he laid out a plan for their new city, making friends and launching trade with Paiute Indians indigenous to the area. Construction of permanent homes began without delay. Houses were built of adobe brick, inasmuch as wood was extremely scarce in the barren wasteland adjacent to the Great Salt Lake.

Satisfied that construction was progressing satisfactorily, Young and several leaders departed on a return trip to winter quarters to bring all the others to their new home. He had constructed a mileage meter, they called a "roadometer" to measure the distance covered. With the roadometer, they determined the total mileage for the entire trek was 1,031 miles. On the return trip to winter quarters, Brigham met a party of 2,000 Mormons following his marked trail westward. They were directed to the Great Salt Lake site and completed their journey without trouble. Brigham and his small group arrived back at winter quarters on October 31, 1847. In November at winter quarters, Brigham Young was formally elected President of the Mormon Church.

With President Young leading the train, the Mormons at winter quarters departed for the Great Salt Lake at the end of May 1848. The wagon train carried 2,417 men, women, and children. They arrived at Salt Lake in good condition on September 20, 1848, to find a thriving town of 450 houses, three saw mills, and a flour mill. The inhabitants of the settlement had experienced a difficult winter, primarily a scarcity of food, compounded by the unexpected arrival of the wagon train which Brigham met on the trail the previous summer. It increased their population by 2,000, a great many mouths to feed. From that time on, the flow of Mormons into the valley of the Great Salt Lake was endless.

The Mormons conceived and built the first successful irrigation project in the country, an enormous undertaking. Utilizing water flowing in the nearby mountains, they dug a series of 277 carefully engineered canals, totaling in length approximately 1,043 miles. In 1865, the Mormons were irrigating 15,400 acres. By the end of a season, each acre was allotted two feet of water. The greatest crop threat was a perennial grasshopper and cricket infestation, feasting on the only vegetation available.
able. Fortunately, the gulls which abounded in the Great Salt Lake consumed the insects ravenously, giving birth to the legend of gulls saving the Mormon crops in a time of great peril. However, irrigation was only one of the monumental accomplishments of those remarkable people although it provided food for the great immigration which followed. Under Young’s creative hand, the Mormons instituted Deseret University to educate Mormon children in their faith. Heber Kimball became the president’s right-hand man in the educational venture. A philosopher and lecturer, Kimball was the most educated man in the Mormon Church. Although a flowery and articulate preacher, he was no match for Brigham’s powerful oratory. President Young had expansive dreams for the Mormon stronghold in terms of territorial boundaries. He was appointed territorial governor by President Millard Fillmore in 1850, presiding over a population of 11,354. By 1880, it would grow to 120,000, thanks in part to a steady influx of European immigrants.

Brigham insisted the territory should be called "The State of Deseret," including California and reaching to the Columbia River in the north. The name finally adopted was the Utah Territory, in recognition of the Ute Indian tribes in the area. The territory encompassed today’s Utah, Nevada, and a large portion of Arizona and Colorado. Nevertheless, Mormon Utah was the only territory or state in the United States combining church and state leadership in the person of a single territorial governor. The U.S. Government chose to ignore the wide practice of polygamy in Utah, which was sanctified as lawful church practice by President Young’s pronouncement on August 29, 1852. Brigham Young led the plural-marriage charge. During his lifetime, he took twenty-seven wives, who gave him a total of thirty-one daughters, with a grand total of fifty-six offspring. On one occasion at Nauvoo, Brigham married four women simultaneously.

Part III of "Buck and the Mormons" will be published in the December 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.

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, 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 Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630-2460. Items submitted to Knight Templar that refer to Templar or Masonic subjects will continue to be printed free of charge. All other items should be accompanied by a $5.00 remittance made payable to the Grand Encampment. Any submission may be subject to editing. You must submit a written request and check, if applicable, for each time you want your ad to run. Each request must be separate and at monthly intervals, not several at the same time. All other requests for repeat ads will either run just once or will be returned to sender.

For sale: Knights Templar shoulder straps, 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); Emeritus ranks: Generalissimo, Captain General, and Prelate (red): $45.00 pair plus $5.00 S & H. Also: Honorary Past Commander with H.C. in silver, $50.00; Grand Commandery, Grand Rep. (red) and Past Grand Commander (purple), $50.00 (all plus $5.00 S & H). Also: chapeaux crosses: Sir Knight, $35.00; Commander and Past Commander, $40.00; Grand Commandery, $45.00 - all plus $5.00 S & H. Percentage to Masonic and York Rite charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., PC.; 60 Manor Road; Staten Island, NY 10310-269.8.

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.

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


Wanted: Knights Templar license plate, made of pewter. Gene 0. Light, 3118 James Buchanan Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-3101.

For sale: In Memoriam booklet, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2, from Blue Lodge to family of deceased Brother. Card stock cover with 5 parchment-like pages including personal history page. The "Lodge's Memorial" presents Masonic sympathies and convictions in 2 1/2 pages, and a signature page for Brethren. Quality presentation for family, especially if no Masonic service or Brother lived away. $3.75 each including postage or ten (10) for $23.50. Satisfaction or refund. Check to Monument Lodge, P.O. Box 743, Houlton, ME 04730.

U Bruton-Conner Masonic Lodge No. 1322, A.F. & AM., Dallas, Texas, is having a fundraiser sale. We are celebrating our 50th anniversary with history booklets with photos for $5.00 plus $2.00 postage and white ball caps with square and compass and our lodge name and 50th anniversary in blue lettering on front for $8.00 plus $2.00 postage. Checks payable to Br water-Conner Lodge and mail to P.O. Box 170836, Dallas, TX 75217.

For sale: York Rite cap with 6-color embroidery showing Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems, Specify white or dark blue cap, $11.00 each plus $1.00 postage. Also: gold color Knights Templar lapel pin, $4.00. A percentage to York Rite charities. Robert Hatçen', P.O. Box 433, Famagbt, NM 87499.

Wanted: The El Mina Shrine Drum and Bugle Corps of Galveston, Texas, is in need of 3-valve/G flat trumpets. Contact Noble Bill Hee, (409) 762-3595 or write 4411 - Avenue O, Galveston, TX 77550.

Collierville Lodge No. 152, Collierville, Tennessee, has for sale a limited supply of 150th anniversary, antique bronze coins (dollar size). The face has "Collierville Lodge No. 152 F. & A.M. 1848-1998, 150 years." The reverse side has a Past Master's emblem and working tools, etc. $6.00 each or two for $11.00 including postage with 10% donated to the KTEF. Contact or mail to Collierville Lodge No. 152, and mail to Howard D. Christian, 397 Taylors Way, Collierville, TN 38017-2354.

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

Pulaski Royal Arch Chapter No. 39, Pulaski, Virginia, has a supply of 100th anniversary antique bronze coins for sale. Coin measures 1.25 inches in diameter. Face has "Respect for the Past, Confidence in the Future," circled around the outside edge with "100th..."
anniversary” in the middle; reverse has “Pulaski Royal Arch, Pulaski, Virginia,” circled on edge with “Chapter No. 39, 1896-1996” in the middle. $5.40 each including postage, etc. Checks or money order payable to Pulaski Royal Arch Chapter No. 39, and send to A. J. Spradlin, PH.P., P.O. Box 396; Dublin; VA 24084.

The Masonic Postal Chess Club has announced its newly elected officers. Master Masons of recognized lodges are eligible to join the club. Members play chess by mail with Masons in all states (and Canada). We have both beginners and experienced players. Members play as often and with as many opponents as desired for the same low price. Yearly dues only $20.00, no additional charges. For more info Club Secretary Dennis Pymlette, 371 HollyHock Circle, Mountville, PA 17554-1252.

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 Cornwall 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 building this collection for 26 years and still need many pieces as I am collecting all varieties. These one day will end up in a Masonic museum. Why not find a home for your mark? I will gladly send you a check for one piece or will buy your collection. It you collect, I will gladly exchange. I will answer all letters. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 889-7555.

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 dips; 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.

Percentage of profits to KTEF. George Mercer 18/13 Beach Drive, No. 1135; Gulfport, MS 39507.

Retired Mason wants to buy: any age, any condition: U.S. and German military items; train sets: American Flyer, Lionel, and Marx, all gauges; Aurora "model motoring" race cars/sets; old U.S. stamps; and American Indian artifacts. Tim Rickheim, 14761 Tunnicliff Road, Millbury, MA 015.27, (508) 865-4816.

Buying all U.S. and foreign coins, paper money, tokens, medals, silver proof sets 40 years experience. Percentage of profits to KTEF. Randy Mogren, 8 Gould Street, Millbury, MA 01527, (508) 865-4816.

Wanted: old fishing lures and reels, any condition. Highest prices paid by return mail after you accept my offer by phone. I will reimburse your postage and mail back if offer not accepted. Name your price and give me your phone number. Send to Dick Laneau, 19865 N. W. 94 Dr., Okeechobee, FL 34972, (727) 345-4323 or (941) 467-9540.

For sale: two (2) cemetery plots in Dubuque Memorial Gardens in Dubuque, Iowa, in the Masonic section. I will accept $300 for each lot, OBO. Mrs. Nancy Zurcher, 2640 Marquette Place, Dubuque, IA 52001, (319) 583-2489.

For sale: prime lots at Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Detroit & Livonia, Michigan, in Garden of the Psalms, next to Masonic burial area: 2 lots - $1,300; 4 lots - $2,500. Call (517) 349-0836.
Thanksgiving Prayer

We thank Thee, Lord, for skies of blue,  
For mornings silvery with dew,  
The twilight hour, the sun, the rain,  
For bursting bins of golden grain  
With which stark hunger may be stayed  
In other lands, and fear allayed.

We thank Thee for the rocks and rills,  
Vast rolling plains and wooded hills  
Of this, our favored, fruitful land.  
We thank Thee for that Pilgrim band  
That braved the wild uncharted seas  
To worship God in their own way;  
Who held the first Thanksgiving Day

For food and cherished liberty,  
For home and friends and family,  
For starry nights and golden days  
We lift our hearts in grateful praise.  
For Love that overshadows fear,  
For life and light and length of years  
And for Thy Word

We thank Thee Lord.

Maude Woods Plessinger