



Knight Templar

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Christmas-1999



December 1999-Grand Masters Message



'Unto us a boy is born!
The King of all creation,
Came He to a world forlorn
The Lord of every nation."

(15th century Latin carol)

Jesus Is the Reason For the Season!



A beloved old Christian hymn begins "Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her king." "Joy to the world" is a glorious promise, particularly as we observe this season of advent, the time of the birth or coming of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Christmas time is anticipation, crowds, visiting, sharing, shopping, laughing, sadness, worshipping, celebrating, remembering, and reminiscing. And Christmas, we believe, is alone that time when the spirit of love and giving and receiving that JESUS taught is most universally manifested by mankind. Sir Knights, let us strive to minister to those in need, to uplift the Christian religion, and to glorify our FATHER in heaven.

"And let us not be weary in well doing:
for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9)

My family joins with me in wishing for you, your family, and friends a blessed

Merry Christmas!

The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign started December 1, 1999. This campaign, honoring a truly great man, Mason, and Knight Templar; Most Eminent Past Grand Master, Willard M. Avery; will raise funds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., a Masonic charity. Your generosity and commitment to this endeavor will provide an important part of the funding that is needed for hospital and physicians' care, the research grants program, the co-sponsorship of the National Eye Care Program, etc. Our goal for this campaign is \$2,000,000.

Every Knight Templar In Every Commandery Participates!

To paraphrase an old quotation, "Everything and anything is possible if we don't care who gets the credit." Competitions and rewards are motivating and incentives to do our best in any field of endeavor, and rightfully so, but the main thing is to work together and cooperate toward achieving the common goal for the common good. Sir Knights, the purposes for which we exist as a Masonic Fraternity, and especially as Christian Masons, are well tried and true and worthy of our best efforts. We believe the **TEMPLARY 2000 CRUSADE** is a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate our willingness to work together to promote the welfare of our family of Freemasonry.

Sir Knights, as we are about to begin the final year of the 20th century, it is especially appropriate that we reflect on and give thanks for the bountiful blessings that are ours by the mercy and grace of a loving, almighty GOD through HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST. It is also appropriate that we remember and renew our vows as Christian Masons to serve GOD and our fellow man.

I wish for you and your family the best of all good things.

Make Your Plans Now To Come To Nashville For The Triennial In August 2000.

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

Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar.

James Morris Ward, Grand Master, KGC

Knight Templar

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

DECEMBER: Congratulations to our KTCH honorees for the year 1999! They are listed on page 5-6. December 1 the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign for KTEF began! You are probably already actualizing your Campaign plans; however, Chairman Garnes' Information starting on page 10 will surely help you in all your activities. Templary 2000 Crusade Chairman Clutter's article (page 13) with three more reports from Department Commanders Is a must read" to facilitate your Crusade for membership. Our traditional Christmas message starts on page 7, and all the officers and staff of the Grand Encampment wish you the merriest of Christmases! We finish Sir Knight Bennett's story of President Buchanan and the Mormons this month. We'll publish some readers' comments on that next month. And we offer the story of an accomplished Sir Knight, J. Strom Thurmond, longtime state senator of South Carolina.

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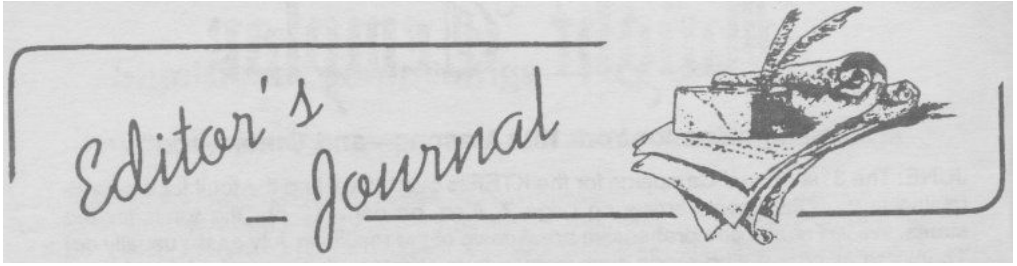
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Contacts for all Masonic organizations listed in our January 1999 issue should have the form for our next listing in January 2000. Please respond immediately as the magazine goes to the printer about December 15, 1999. If your organization has a new 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 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.

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 II* 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/GGCHAPTERIHomePage.html>

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

Templary's highest award...

Our Cross of Honor

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America presents the 1999 recipients of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. These distinguished Sir Knights have demonstrated meritorious service and have been rewarded for it. The Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment state that the Knights Templar Cross of Honor "shall be awarded only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the order far beyond the call of duty and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member."

This year the Grand Commanderies have selected forty-six Sir Knights to receive the coveted Cross of Honor.

Alabama

Henry B. Tyra, Jr., Huntsville No. 7

Arizona

Gus Edward Weeks, Jr., Crusade No. 11

Arkansas

Royce H. Taylor, Damascus No. 8

California

Donald James Spencer

Los Angeles No. 9

Colorado

Gerald F. Baker, Coronal-Ascalon No. 31

Connecticut

Emil Gregory Lido, Washington No. 1

Delaware

William Johnson Littel, Trinity No. 3

Florida

Robert Holden Showers, St. Elmo No. 42

Georgia

Otis Lee Medley, St. Omer No. 2

Idaho

Harry Luverne Huffer, Idaho No. 1

Illinois

Richard T. Carnall, Trinity No. 80

Indiana

William Wallace Roberts

Elbert H. Gary No. 57

Iowa

Jeffrey R. Buchman, Columbian No. 18

Kansas

Ralph Thomas Roberts

El Dorado No. 19

Kentucky

Kurt L. G. Legait

Louisville-DeMolay No. 12

Louisiana

Bill Frank Cable, Rhodes No. 17

Maine

Richard Merton Danforth, Maine No. 1

Michigan

Thomas David Murphy

St. Bernard No. 16

Minnesota

Franklyn E. King, St. Bernard No. 13

Mississippi
Kenneth Eccles Dyer, DeMolay No. 8

Missouri
Wayne E. Wilson, Ivanhoe No. 8

Montana
Arthur Ernest Stevenson
Black Eagle No. 8

Nebraska
Frederick C. Way, Jr., Mt. Nebo No. 11

Nevada
James J. McDonald III
De Witt Clinton No. 1

New Hampshire
Paul Edward Fay, St. George No. 8

New Jersey
Harry K. Boughner, Palestine No. 4

New Mexico
Nesbit Karl Maluf, Shiprock No. 15

New York
Jacob Edward Beardsley, Morton No. 4

North Carolina
James Henry Home, Sr., Palestine No. 20

Ohio
Robert W. Prewitt, Cincinnati No. 3
William E. Comer, Norwalk No. 18

Oklahoma
Earl Lewis Berryman, Jr.
Oklahoma No. 3

Oregon
Charles Richard Svensen, Ivanhoe No. 2

Pennsylvania
Thomas R. Lawall, Allen No. 20

South Carolina
Lucius A. Todd, Anderson No. 11

South Dakota
Floyd Short, Jr., Lemmon No. 25

Tennessee
Ralph Duncan Sage, Kingsport No. 33

Texas
William Luther Berryman, Jr., Dallas No. 6
Carl Ray Woods, Gonzales No. 11

Utah
Jerold Ray Cockran, Utah No. 1

Vermont
Robert S. Boyce, Vermont No. 4

Virginia
James H. Banton, Arlington No. 29

Washington
Warren O. Kidder, Temple No. 5

West Virginia
David Warden Jaco, Jr., DeMolay No. 11

Wisconsin
Schuyler H. Van Gorden, Sr.
Eau Claire No. 8

Wyoming
Edward Charles Brown, Immanuel No. 3



*Merry Christmas and
a Very Happy New Year!*

Another Way of Looking at Christmas

by Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr.

This year Knight Templar's traditional Christmas message was written by Sir Knight Donald H. Smith, Jr., the son of Grand Palate Donald H. Smith, Sr. Sir Knight and Reverend Smith is the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Covington, Kentucky, and is a member of Marshall Commandery No. 17, Marshall, Michigan.

"Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many of you were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing the things that are, so that no one can boast in the presence of God." (1 Corinthians 1:26-29)

Not the expected Bible lesson? No, it isn't; still, it might be the best. It isn't about any angels someone heard on high, nor did Paul mention anything about three kings, or a little town of Bethlehem. He probably didn't know anything about Jesus' origins apart from his stalwart belief that Jesus is the only Son of the living God.

Of course, we know that Paul didn't always believe that. The well known stories in the 'Acts of the Apostles' recall other days, days when he was known as Saul of Tarsus. Those stories disclose a rapidly rising young Pharisee, who seemed anxious to earn a few points from his superiors by guarding the cloaks of the men who had come to put the deacon Stephen to death by stoning. Soon after that, he led a sort of militia through the streets of Jerusalem uncovering nests of participants in the Jesus cult. Then, fresh from that successful venture, he prevailed upon the higher-ups on the pharisaic ladder. He successfully argued that because the apostate followers of the Galilean

carpenter had begun building communities in Damascus that he be permitted to cross the desert to eliminate that problem.

How the thought of 'Christians' must have enraged him. The idea that the Messiah was from Galilee and a mere craftsman was an outrage. Then, as if that were not enough, this "Messiah" was crucified like a common thief. It all made Saul angry just to think about it, so angry he could kill. The memory of Stephen's death infected him with no small joy! But that was only the beginning. There was the grim memory of pain and punishment they had brought upon the Jerusalem Christians. The memory warmed him. Now we find Saul headed for Damascus to root out and punish even more followers of the heretic, Jesus of Nazareth.

He must have felt so *right* about it. It was absolutely the thing to do. He must have seen it as a crusade! Not only would his superiors note his zeal, but God would surely smile upon him. Perhaps Saul saw himself as an instrument of God's judgment on the pathetic little community who called a crucified heretic and blasphemer God! Perhaps Paul saw himself as a warrior in the one God's army.

Have you ever felt that way? Have you ever been absolutely certain that something



thing you were doing or proposed to do was absolutely right? Root out the enemy and bring them to judgment. Make them pay for their wrong doing, get them back on the right track! And if not, well, they asked for it! Sadly, the history of our religion is forced to confess too many examples of that kind of thinking. Still, isn't our religion our highest value? Isn't our faith in God paramount? Then why is it so surprising that we react so violently when our highest values are attacked.

Wait a minute.

What does *any* of this have to do with Christmas?

Just this: once Paul encountered the Lord on the way to Damascus, he discovered that what he had thought was the absolute right turned out to be absolutely the wrong thing to do - and I don't mean that his Judaism was wrong; I'm saying his persecution was wrong. Once he was confronted by the risen Lord, he was forced to reflect upon all of the wrongdoing he had accomplished during his ascent on the pharisaic corporate ladder.

He was forced to remember Stephen's dying words, the vision of his broken body. He would never escape the shame for the feelings of satisfaction he had felt at that time. He had to recall the sick joy he felt while he violated house after house of Christians and while he threw the occupants into the stinking, disease ridden jails of Jerusalem. Now Saul would wonder about

what had happened to those people while before he didn't care. Were they still alive? Had they been tortured? He had to admit that had it not been for him and his damned zeal those people would be home, in one piece, at peace. They would be considerably happier than they were now - and they owed to him all that had happened to them!

It was as though he had mastered all of the facets of guilt which his conversion now awarded him. When he thought about all of the pain he had so righteously dispensed and all the satisfaction he had felt while doing what he believed to be the Almighty's work, it made him sick in his soul.

But the Lord gave him the most marvelous gift. The Lord forgave him. Paul wanted to die and he did. He died to his old self and became a new man in Christ. God in Christ forgave misguided Saul. Saul; the ravager, the cloak holder, the persecutor; became Paul the apostle. The subsequent record speaks for itself. It's foolish, even crazy, but it's true. It's not reasonable. It doesn't make sense. But then, it doesn't make sense that God should forgive you or me either. But God does forgive us! That's the good news, and it is the greatest gift you or I will ever find under the sun, let alone under the tree!

Merry Christmas!

Sorry about no angels



To all the Sir Knights, their ladies,
families, and friends:

***Holiday Greetings and
Best Wishes for the New Year!***

From the Grand Master and all the
grand officers of the Grand Encampment

Enablers!

by Reverend Donald Craig Kerr

What should we think about Christmas? One way that might help us is to think of the word, "enabler." What does that mean? An "enabler" is someone who cares; someone who takes time to listen and to be kind; someone who goes out of his way to be attentive and courteous; someone who likes to give you a pat on the back and say, "you're a good fellow." Do you know anyone like that? Are you like that?

Think of the Christmas scene and those who were there, eager to celebrate. There were shepherds, wise men, angels, and Joseph and Mary. All of them were "enablers," assisting and caring and surrounding the infant Jesus. They were doing something important. They were helping the world to understand this was the Holy One of God.

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 21½-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

There are many charitable organizations to which Christmas inspires us to give. It is a time to think of those in more need than ourselves. Whether it is Christmas or not, isn't it this which is the primary function of a Mason - to be an "enabler"? So many times we hear the lament which goes up within our Masonic Fraternity that there are too few to help, to pay attention, to care about what happens, to participate. Some of us in our Masonic associations can become officers, but officers cannot officiate if they have no "enablers."

Christmas can fall upon us with a dead thump, unless we are where we are needed. The season comes to bring us pleasure but also to spur us on to create for this world a life of beauty and service and glorious reward.

Sir Knight Donald Craig Kerr, Th.D., 32^o, is a member of Beauseant Commandery No. 8, Baltimore, Maryland. He resides at 5168 Mountain Road, Pasadena, MD 21122



Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. 11, Milton, 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 be, 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 be 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.



All Aboard!



The Willard M. Avery Train Is Beginning The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign

by Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes, Honorary P.D.C.
Chairman of the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign

The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign is intended to honor an outstanding Sir Knight who has not only served the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. for many years but has also served Templary and Freemasonry in general with distinction far beyond that expected of a Sir Knight. The honor goes to Sir Knight Willard Meredith Avery, who served as Most Eminent Grand Master, 1976-1979. Let's show our appreciation of this Sir Knight by making this a banner year for the Foundation.

All Sir Knights, their ladies, and friends of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. are invited to be a part of this Campaign. Let's ride the rails into the year 2000 with enthusiasm and vigor to make this the most outstanding campaign in our history. **Show your pride in Templary and its charity by helping to surpass the goal of two million dollars!**

No one questions the value of sight and the work of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., but do we really fulfill the support that we need to give in Helping Others to See"?

As the Willard M. Avery Special Train leaves on an imaginary tour across this great land, let us turn our imagination into reality. The reality is the gathering of funds to support the work of the Foundation.

Where do we begin? Well, it all begins with each of us making a commitment to do something. If you are a KTEF Chairman, you should have some plans in progress. Your first concern should be to have every Commandery in your state make a donation in December. Every Commandery has a Chairman. He should be the first to



contribute, and the second Sir Knight should be the Commander. Isn't this true?

New enhancements have been introduced in this campaign to help the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. move into 2000 and beyond.

1. A Direct Mail process has been implemented to help the Chairmen to reach every Sir Knight in the Grand Encampment.
2. Donations may now be made by Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard or American Express). Please review the enclosed envelope. Donations by credit card are almost painless because the amount is included in the monthly payment on your credit card or your debit card.
3. This magazine contains an envelope for your use. Please be as generous as your finances permit, and if you so desire, you may make additional donations from time to time.

4. Fund if you want to become a Philanthropist and have perpetual recognition in the Annual Report of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Forms are available from the Administration Office in Chicago. In today's financial world \$10,000 is not considered a large donation to charity when compared to the millions and billions given by foundations. If only 50 individuals, Masonic organizations, or foundations would donate \$10,000 to establish a Permanent Donor Fund, the amount then becomes significant in the total picture of this campaign. I appeal to all who are involved in Charitable Donations to give serious consideration to making a \$10,000 donation and being recognized as a Philanthropist. The name of the fund will be listed annually in the Annual Report for perpetual recognition.

Lets Ride Into 2000 Like Knights Of Old!

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. Garnes, Trustee; 1700 Jamestown Place; Pittsburgh; PA 15235-4944. Include a note "For a Templar Seal Pin." Please provide legible mailing address.

The month of December is when we look at our accomplishments and what we will do in the coming year. Something which we need to remember about December is that it is the month of our Savior's Birth, the greatest gift of all, and from this we have Christmas when the spirit of giving abounds throughout the world. In December charity opens the hearts of many who are not so charitable during the year.

Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes, 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: cagarnes@aol.com. For information on the KTEF, send e-mail to ktef@knightstemplar.org

The Templar Seal

The Seal of the Knights Templar Depicted two knights on a single horse. This was a reflection of the impoverished start of the order, when it is said that the fledgling knights were too poor to each own a horse. Later the Knights Templar would grow wealthy, but this seal was to be a reminder of those days. First used by the Grand Master, Bertrand de Blancfort, in 1168, it has become synonymous with Templarism.

Colorado Doctor Recognized For Services to KTEF Recipients



Sir Knights Norman L. Hoff (left), R.E.G.C., Grand Commandery of Colorado, and Donald C. Phillips (2nd from left), Colorado State Chairman, KTEF, presented a plaque to Dr. Mark E. Chrttum and his wife Connie in appreciation of his generous support and services rendered on behalf of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to those individuals who needed surgical treatment to prevent loss of their eyesight. Dr. Chittum is a practicing ophthalmologist in the Colorado Springs area, who recognizes and welcomes the great opportunities the KTEF offers to those suffering eye problems.

In Memoriam



Leo J. Kottas, Sr.

Montana

Grand Commander-1988

Born: 1907

Died: October 7, 1999

B. Jay Twilley

New Mexico

Grand Commander-1993

Born: October 25, 1932

Died: October 16, 1999

William Monroe Roach, Sr.

Georgia

Grand Commander-1992

Born: May 21, 1923

Died: October 21, 1999

Richard C. Elotson

Oregon

Grand Commander-1985

Born: September 16, 1915

Died: October 24, 1999

Gene Caswell

Oregon

Grand Commander-1980

Born: September 11, 1912

Died: October 30, 1999

John Larkin Dowden

Louisiana

Grand Generalissimo-1999

Born: May 8, 1928

Died: October 30, 1999

Grand Master's Club

No. 3,356-James F. Stratton (NC)

No. 3,357-George D. Fleming (WV)

No. 3,358-William J. J. Fleming (WV)

No. 3,359-James and Alma Heap (IN)

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 \$1000, 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.

Ann Ham Of Colorado Receives Golden Chalice!

Sir Knights William H. Koon III (back), R.E.D.C., North Central Department, and Norman L. Hoff (right), R.E.G.C., Colorado, look on as Sir Knight Howard A. Caldwell (holding chalice), R.E.P.D.C., presents Ann Ham with the Golden Chalice. Ann donated \$10,000 to the KTEF in memory of her late husband, Ronald Ham, P.E.C. of Coronal-Ascalon Commandery No. 31, Denver. Ann continues her involvement with the Knights Templar as a Past President of the Denver Beauceant and regularly attends Commandery functions



Templary 2000 Crusade-February 5,2000

"The Trap Door" At the Base of the Triangle *New Membership Retention Is Critical*

by Sir Knight Bill R. Clutter, KCT, P.G.C. (IN) and
Chairman of the Templary 2000 Crusade

Each of us has heard of the old "trap doors" created by building architects of the past. They were requested by monarchs, kings, potentates to surprise unknowing intruders, vandals, and mercenaries who entered their premises. They were hinged platforms hidden in inconspicuous locations within a floor, and with the slightest tug of a pin, chain, or rope the person standing on the "trap door" would disappear from sight and fall into a predestined chamber. They may have become prisoners and faced cruel torture, but generally they were never seen again.

Templary 2000 Crusade Parallel? As we prepare for the anticipated success of the Templary 2000 Crusade, imagine for a moment the thousands of new Knights Templar that will be created in hundreds of Commanderies throughout the Grand Encampment from January through May.

Are the officers of these jurisdictions ready to properly introduce these new Sir Knights to our history and heritage? Will this information stimulate these new Knights Templar to return to the asylum, wanting to become actively engaged in our travels, or will they fall through the "Trap Door" never to be heard from again!?

A Recent "Trap Door" Story: During my Templary 2000 Crusade travels, I heard a personal experience story described by a Most Worshipful Grand Master. He had become a Knight Templar during a York Rite Festival and was favorably impressed with the lessons contained in the degrees and orders. But when the ceremonies had concluded and he had returned home, he had no idea of the name of his Chapter, Council, or Commandery. Further, he did not know when or where they met. He did not know because no one told him ... he fell through the "Trap Door." Was he a new, distinguished York Rite member destined

never to return? How would you feel if this had been your experience?

Avoiding the "Trap Door": Recruiting new members for any fraternity is hard work. It requires time and resources committed to a singular purpose.

But new Sir Knights can be lost in a heartbeat if they are not properly and personally welcomed and assimilated into the fraternity by its leadership.

After the Knighting but before they return home, they need to be given by the Eminent Commander a "new member information package." with their name on it What information should be contained in the information packet?

An Ideal Welcome Package: The answer to what should be contained in this packet of information is endless, but here are a few suggestions that should be mandatory:

- A personal letter of congratulations and welcome to the new Sir Knight signed by the Eminent Commander preferably on Commandery stationery. The letter should contain information on stated meetings and should invite him to attend the next one. A letter from the Grand Commander would be ideal if logistically possible.
- A list of the officers of the local Commandery along with their addresses, both telephone and "cell phone" numbers, and e-mail addresses. Include the names of their spouses or "significant others."
- A summary of the special activities of that Commandery that may have become traditions and part of its local heritage: annual events, quarterly events, special holiday events, *and* planned events. Mention activities like trips, picnics, cookouts, festivals, parades, and celebrations that include the

ladies and the entire family. Encourage them to attend and invite a guest.

4. A history of your local Commandery: the date of its charter, the size of its membership, how many live out-of-state, how long you have met in the current building, interesting stories from your history, public or fraternal leaders (past and present) that are proud members. Include the ladies as they, too, may have assumed key leadership roles in selected organizations. This is a time to promote your long history.
5. List the names of any Masonic Youth Groups that may meet locally and the names of the leaders along with their telephone numbers. Many new Sir Knights may have children or grandchildren who might fit the age criteria for belonging. If not, at least give them a summary of the purpose of the organization. Informational brochures are available locally for DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and the Order of the Rainbow for Girls.
6. A history of the glorious Knights Templar and their evolution into the fraternity to which we now belong. The Grand Encampment office publishes a list of the information that is currently available. It is distributed to each Grand Recorder and to the officers of each Grand Commandery.
7. A summary of the philanthropies of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the U.S.A. This, too, is available from the Grand Encampment office.
8. A description of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation describing the loan program available to qualifying students as well as the terms and conditions.
9. A Commandery or York Rite dues card with the new Sir Knight's name typed on it.
10. The Commander should present the "Templary 2000 Crusade" lapel pin and the signed "Crusade Knighting Certificate" inserted into the packet with his name on it.

Create an Atmosphere of Belonging: As you know, we now live in the "Information Age." People are busy, live in the fast lane, and are pressed for time. They want to participate in organizations if it is worth their time and if they experience a sense of fulfillment by belonging. The sharing of information and knowledge is critical to making new Knights Templar and

their families feel welcomed in a new fraternal order.

"Trap Door" Eliminated by Personalized information: Think about it. It's the right thing to do. You never get a second chance to make a first impression. Perhaps, you'll be starting a new tradition, but you will have eliminated the invisible "trap door." You will also be displaying leadership and retaining new members. Don't talk about it, just do it! Don't take a vote, just do it! Take charge. 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: WRCLU ITER@Prodigy.net

Templary 2000 Report from the South Central Department

The excitement of Templary 2000 is running rampant within the Department. Many Commanderies are scheduling their own work while others are going to use festivals for their Knightings. The work of the Grand Commanders and their key people has generated much enthusiasm throughout the South Central Department.

The flagship of the Department is the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma. Sir Knight Jon Giddings and his key people are leading the way with a spirit of unity and cooperation between York Rite and Scottish Rite. Support for this program is coming from the Grand Master of Masons and the S.G.I.G. of the Scottish Rite.

In Texas and Missouri the Grand Commanders and key people have exciting programs and are implementing them. The Grand Commandery of Kansas is working throughout its jurisdiction. Louisiana and Arkansas are scheduling festivals and should report with a goodly number of Knightings.

Should the feverish tempo continue, the South Central Department will have in excess of 1,300 new Sir Knights! Congratulations are in order to all who are making this program a success!

Many thanks in the Master's name!!!!

Lloyd A. Hebert
Department Commander, South Central

Templary 2000 Report from the Northwestern Department

The Templary 2000 Crusade is underway with much enthusiasm here in the Northwestern Department. The six Grand Commanders and their key men have accepted Grand Master Ward's challenge with enthusiasm and great determination.

In all jurisdictions here in the Department, special Templary 2000 Crusade mailings have been prepared and either sent to those Master Masons who do not belong to the York Rite or they will be presented to them during special York Rite Friendship Nights in the various Craft Lodges. The packets contain brochures that explain the several York Rite bodies, why it is important for the Master Mason to belong, and the philanthropies that are associated with each York Rite body. In addition, several jurisdictions have created special Templary 2000 Crusade petitions, with the Grand Commandery of Colorado producing a joint petition with the Shrine - very positive.

One thing that is very important, I think, and worthy of mention in this report is the fact that in just about all jurisdictions, letters of endorsement from all the York Rite grand leaders, to include the Most Worship Grand Master, have been included in the mailings. Various grand bodies are sharing membership rosters (including the Shrine), and genuinely working together in a Masonic Family Membership Campaign.

The Northwestern Department usually experiences rather unpleasant weather during the winter months, so most jurisdictions have opted to use the broad window of opportunity from February 5-June 1, 2000 to complete their projects. However, in most cases there will be a festival on February 5 as well. For certain the February 5 kickoff date will be a great day for restorations. The total candidate forecast as a result of the Crusade is now 866 new Knights Templar. This number was recently upgraded from 714 during the Northwestern Department Conference, the Subordinate Commanderies of the Grand Encampment from Alaska being included.

In summation, I am very proud of the Grand Commanderies here in the Northwestern Department. The Grand Commanders, their key men, and staff are working hard to bring credit upon themselves and the Grand Encampment. We see positive signs of the entire Masonic family coming together to share in the success, and all will gain as a result. If the Northwestern Department can reach it's objectives, it will come close to a 9 % gain in total membership.

Douglas L. Johnson
Department Commander, Northwestern

Templary 2000 Report from the Northeastern Department

From the northeast corner of Grand Encampment, the Crusade for Templar membership is well underway for the year 2000. Even before the new year's beginning, the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts/Rhode Island is Knighting in excess of 150 candidates in November of 1999, taking advantage of a one-day Blue Lodge Class. The Northeastern Department, as a whole, endeavors to Knight 1,055 members as their goal for the crusade. The state of Connecticut, which hopes to have a gain in membership this year, has several planned events to take place including one- and two-day festivals and special classes on an individual Commandery basis. Delaware, which had a gain in membership last year, plans to repeat its success with a one-day festival and a campaign to tap the non-Templar Royal Arch membership. Their Blue Lodge/York Rite/Shrine classes are quite successful. The District of Columbia, which also had a gain in membership two years ago, has planned a two-day festival with a possible Spanish language conferral. The state of Maine, which prides itself with the lowest losses of membership among the larger jurisdictions in the Northeastern Department, has planned a statewide festival with the Order of the Temple being conferred by past Grand Commanders. Maryland is planning a joint class with the Scottish Rite and a two-day York Rite class. The jurisdiction of Massachusetts and Rhode Island is planning to have four district festivals and another one-day festival after the second Blue Lodge, one-day class. New Hampshire is planning a statewide festival. Their primary goal for the year 2000 is to have every Commandery able to confer all three Orders on their own. New Jersey has planned a one-day festival to be held in their state. The Grand Commandery of New York, which is divided into twelve zones, is planning to conduct festivals or the conferral of Orders on a zone basis, thus having twelve events statewide. Likewise, Pennsylvania, the largest jurisdiction in the Northeastern Department, is divided into divisions with plans underway to schedule festivals or Commandery Orders in each of the ten divisions. Vermont, which had their lowest loss of membership this past year, compared to recent times, looks to a gain in membership with a statewide festival.

The membership goals on a Grand Commandery basis are as follows: Connecticut-75, Delaware-20, District of Columbia-25, Maine-50, Maryland-100, Massachusetts/Rhode Island-100, New Hampshire-40, New Jersey-50, New York-200, Pennsylvania-375, and Vermont-20.

Robert L. Foreman
Department Commander, Northeastern

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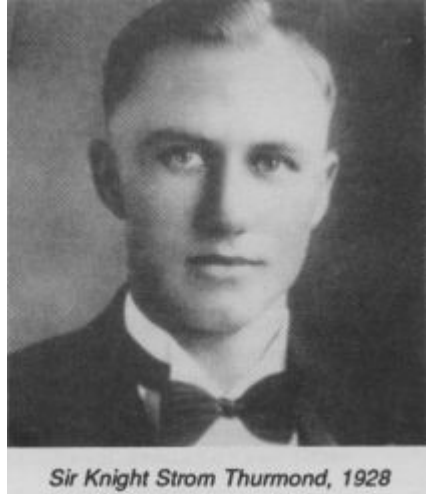
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Sir Knight J. Strom Thurmond: The Ultimate Senior Senator!

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°

While there have been many persons who have sustained lengthy careers in American politics, there have been and are none who can match that of South Carolina's James Strom Thurmond for sheer longevity. Not only has the Southern solon had a lengthy career, but he has had one that stretches to over a half a century in the national spotlight. From his first election as a county school superintendent through a succession of such offices as state senator, judge, governor, and being the longest serving United States Senator in history; Thurmond's public service has been distinguished. More than anything else, his life illustrates an ability to adjust to changing social conditions in the South, while remaining firmly grounded in traditional values and conservative principles. Moreover, Sir Knight Thurmond's Masonic career is actually longer than his political one, and it ranks as equally distinguished.

James Strom Thurmond was born in Edgefield, South Carolina on December 5, 1902. Although one of the Palmetto State's lesser counties in size and population, Edgefield County has had a disproportionately high share of prominent politicians. Sir Knight Johnnie Morris, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of South Carolina, points out that nine governors have called Edgefield home and that the majority, like Thurmond, have belonged to Concordia Lodge No. 50. Thurmond's father was involved on the local political scene and was an associate of Pitchfork Ben Tillman, a colorful (it somewhat of a demagogue), populist oriented governor and senator of the 1890-1918 period. According to one of Thurmond's biographers, Jack Bass, Strom's father never got far in quest for elective office because he had once killed a man in self defense;



however, as a campaign manager for Tillman he attained considerable success. The elder Thurmond is said to have stressed to young Strom that he should avoid killing anyone if he aspired to elective office.

At any rate, Strom grew up in a relatively comfortable, middle class family atmosphere in Edgefield as the son of a small-town lawyer and farmer. At the age of nine, so goes the story, the youngster made a silent vow to himself that he would someday be governor. Meanwhile he had to complete high school, which he did in 1918, after which he entered Clemson College. There the future senator studied agriculture and took a role in a wide variety of extracurricular activities. These included most sports, debate, literary activities, and dancing clubs. He also became a strong exemplar of physical fitness, a characteristic that has distinguished Thurmond throughout his long life.

Graduating from Clemson in 1923, Strom Thurmond took a position that fall teaching agriculture at McCormick High

School and also coaching football and basketball. A year later he returned to his hometown of Edgefield where for the next five years, according to biographer Nadine Cohodas, he "earned a reputation as both a dedicated instructor and a tough coach." In summer he taught English and other subjects at a rural farm school."

During those years as a local teacher, J. Strom Thurmond took his plunge into Masonry by joining Concordia Lodge No. 50 in Edgefield. He received his Entered Apprentice degree on March 6, 1925, was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on April 3, and was raised a Master Mason on May 1, 1925. Some years elapsed before he sought and received additional Masonic light."

In 1928 Thurmond made his initial run for public office when he successfully sought and won the position of Edgefield County School Superintendent. Taking office in mid-1929, the ever-active teacher also began to study law with his father. Passing his bar exams in the fall of 1930, Brother Thurmond combined law and education until the Fall of 1932 when he was elected state senator from his district, ironically defeating the son of Ben Tillman in the August primary by a vote of 2,350 to 538. Shortly after taking office, he attracted much attention and ruffled more than a few political feathers by proposing to cut legislator salaries in half in Depression racked South Carolina. While his bill was tabled, it didn't hurt the young senator with his constituents who sent him back to Columbia for a second term unopposed. In 1936 Strom attended his second Democratic National Convention where he was among the delegates from his home state who remained stationary when racist senior senator, "Cotton Ed" Smith, walked out of the convention to protest an African-American minister giving the opening prayer. This illustrates Thurmond's position as a racial moderate in that era when a segregated South was the accepted order of the day. When the legislature was not in session, the young state senator built a

successful law practice back in Edgefield working with both black and white clients.

In January 1938 the South Carolina legislature chose Thurmond to fill a vacant state judgeship. This position provided the aspiring politician with an opportunity to gain a wider circle of acquaintances. General consensus has it that Thurmond proved himself to be fair and able on the bench. He also attracted wide attention in November 1941, when he courageously faced down a man with a loaded shotgun and talked an accused murderess into giving herself up to the law. In April 1942 the judge took a leave of absence and joined the U.S. Army. Distinguishing himself in combat, Strom returned to his judicial post, but he resigned in a matter of months to seek the governorship.

The 1946 gubernatorial contest in South Carolina featured a crowded field of ten candidates in the Democratic primary. Since nomination was equivalent to election in what was then a one-party state, a run-off took place between the top two vote getters in the initial contest in the event that no one had a majority. James McLeod, a conservative physician from Florence, and Thurmond survived the first contest. In the September 3, 1946 run-off Thurmond defeated McLeod by some 35,000 votes, and his childhood dream soon became a reality.

In his inaugural address on January 21, 1947, the new governor sounded a progressive note. He denounced rule by political cliques or "rings," advocated more safety laws to protect textile workers, and strove for more money for education, especially for black schools which were woefully inadequate in that segregated era. While he had considerable success with his programs, other forces attracted considerable attention as well, including events that would soon challenge the social structure of the South, especially the system of racial segregation. One occurred in February 1947, when Willie Earle a Greenville African-American was taken from jail and lynched. Thurmond condemned mob rule

and pushed hard for bringing the perpetrators of the deed to trial. Unfortunately, an all-white jury acquitted them, but the governor's strong stand for justice ended lynchings in South Carolina. In other respects, however, Thurmond generally adhered to the more traditional Southern states' rights position. This stand would soon place the governor in the national spotlight.

Although official duties kept the governor quite active, he managed to find time to pursue private matters as well. Always busy with politics, Thurmond had never pursued a serious romance until 1947 when he began courting Jean Crouch, a recent graduate of Winthrop College. The two married that November and remained a happy couple until Jean's death from cancer in 1960. In April 1948 the governor received further Masonic light" when he took the Scottish Rite degrees in Columbia, completing them on the 16th.

In 1948 Thurmond, who had nearly always avoided direct use of racial issues in politics, became increasingly alienated from the mainstream of the Democratic Party. Ironically, he had once counted himself as firmly in the Truman camp. But increasing federal support for civil rights alienated not only him but many other white Southerners from their traditional moorings. After the Democratic Party adopted the strong civil rights plank introduced by delegate and Sir Knight Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, the governor and others chose to vote with their feet. In mid-July, he accepted the presidential nomination of the States Rights Democrats (nicknamed Dixiecrats"). In the subsequent contests in which all four main candidates were Masons (Truman, Dewey, Wallace, and Thurmond), the South Carolina governor carried four states and amassed 39 electoral votes (one more than the combined totals for Landon, McGovern, and Mondale).

As his term for governor was expiring in 1950, Thurmond decided to challenge incumbent Democratic U.S. Senator Olin Johnston; however, he failed to defeat Johnson in the primary (the only state race he ever lost). When his term expired in

January 1951, J. Strom Thurmond retired to practice law in Aiken. In November 1952 the ox-governor joined his successor, Brother James Byrnes, in supporting GOP presidential nominee, Dwight Eisenhower. In 1954 when incumbent U.S. Senator Burnet Maybank suffered a fatal heart attack, Thurmond became a write-in candidate to fill the spot, and that November he became the only person elected to the Senate in modern times by a write-in vote. In that contest he bested a long-time party rival, Edgar Brown, and again enjoyed the blessing of Governor Byrnes. Ironically, Strom had promised to resign in 1956 and not run as an incumbent even though no one opposed him. With the exception of that period between April 4 and November 7, 1956, he has been in the Senate continuously since December 1954 and thus has become the longest serving senator in the nation's history.

In his early years in the Senate, Strom Thurmond tended to be most associated with the States' Rights Southern Democrat point of view. This generally took the form of opposition to civil rights bills, southern solons taking the position that such things were prerogatives of individual states and quite unnecessary. While Thurmond clung to the traditional patterns of race relations during the fifties, it would be wrong to categorize him as a racist in the manner of such earlier Southern demagogues as Cole Bleese, Cotton Ed Smith, and Theodore Bilbo. Back in 1948 he had gone out of his way to say: We do not invite and we do not need the support of Gerald L. K. Smith or any other rabble-rousers who use race prejudice and class hatred to inflame the emotions of the people."

Still, Strom had yet to challenge the prevailing assumptions of his culture. Neither had he given in to the prevailing winds of change. The ultimate moment in this phase of his career came when he staged a futile one-man filibuster against a civil rights bill before the Senate. On August 28 and 29, 1957, and continuing for twenty-four hours and eighteen minutes, he gave the longest single speech in

Senate history, beating the earlier record by Brother Wayne Morse of Oregon by nearly two hours. South Carolina voters responded by sending Strom back to Washington for another six years in 1960. They have continued to do so regularly since that time reelecting him in 1966, 1972, 1978, 1984, 1990, and 1996.

The Kennedy and early Johnson years saw Strom Thurmond becoming increasingly alienated from the mainstream of the Democratic Party where New Frontier and Great Society liberalism held sway. On the other hand, GOP conservatives had taken control of their party and nominated Barry Goldwater for President. Thurmond felt quite compatible with the Arizona Senator, and on September 17, 1964, he not only announced his support for Goldwater but also switched parties and became a Republican. Thurmond knew Goldwater had little chance to win, but he correctly believed that he could make inroads into the South. With Thurmond's help, Goldwater carried five Southern states. First with the Dixiecrat movement and then with his dramatic switch of 1964, Strom Thurmond had helped remake the South into a two-party region. Also rather than commit political suicide as some old friends suggested, the Senator seemed much more at ease and equally popular as a Republican. While he moderated his stand on racial issues over the years adjusting to new realities, he remained a staunch conservative and supporter of limited government.

In 1968 Senator Thurmond favored Richard Nixon for President over more conservative possibilities because he believed that Nixon was preferable to the alternatives and that a vote for Independent candidate Wallace would be wasted. Accordingly he campaigned heavily throughout the South on Nixon's behalf and helped him carry South Carolina and other parts of Dixie as well. Not long afterward, the eight-year widower married again to Nancy

Moore, a much younger former Miss South Carolina. The couple went on to have four children over the next decade. For a man to have four children with the first born when he was sixty-eight and live to see all of them reach adulthood is certainly a tribute to his physical fitness and lean living habits.

As a senator in later years, Thurmond fought hard for tougher penalties for federal crimes. He also worked to get more strict constructionist judges in the federal courts. Like West Virginian Robert Byrd, Thurmond labored strenuously to see that South Carolina got its share of federal money. He was as zealous in these endeavors to obtain funding for African-Americans as he was for Caucasians, and this enabled him to get a respectable share of the black vote. As a long-time army reservist, Thurmond provided strong support for the defense build-up of the Reagan era. During the Bush Presidency, the senator once accused of being a racist, provided solid support for Justice Clarence Thomas, although it was obvious at the televised hearings that his own auditory abilities were beginning to fail.

More Masonic honors came to J. Strom Thurmond as the years went by. On October 23, 1969, he received the 33°. After *Knight Templar* magazine published an article in the October 1977 issue entitled 'Our Templar Senators,' it may well have indirectly led to prominent Masons in the Senate who had not taken the York



Strom Thurmond exercising; sometime in the 1980s

Rite degrees to doing just that. In Arizona a class headed by Barry Goldwater and John Rhodes became Sir Knights on April 22, 1978. However, that group was small compared to what transpired in Columbia, South Carolina. To quote portions of a letter from Grand Recorder Morris:

"J. Strom Thurmond was elected to receive his York Rite Degrees in Columbia Chapter No. 5, R.A.M.; Union Council No. 5, R. & S.M.; and Columbia Commandery No. 2, K. T. on February 3, 1978...Senator Thurmond along with over 200 other candidates received their degrees in a one-day festival named The J. Strom Thurmond Class' on February 11, 1978 ... knighted a Knight Templar at approximately 5:30 P.M., Senator Thurmond being the active candidate in the Orders of the Temple."

On October 16, 1987, the A. & A.S.R., S.J. awarded him their highest honor, the Grand Cross. By that time the Senator had earned considerable acclaim within the fraternity for defending Freemasonry from an ill-advised criticism leveled by Senator Patrick Leahy during the confirmation hearings of Federal Judge David Santelie earlier that year.

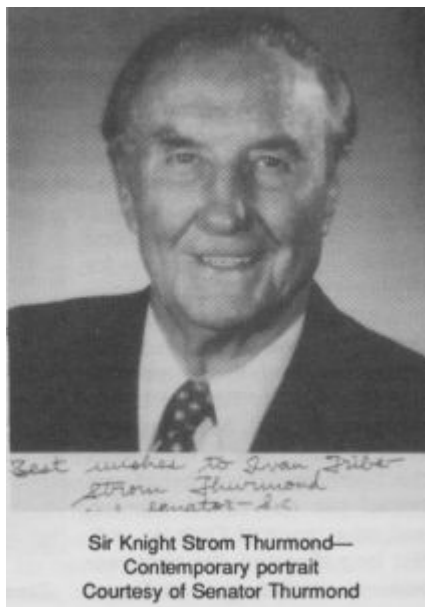
During the years that Republicans controlled the Senate, Thurmond served as chair of the Judiciary Committee and as President Pro Tem of the Senate making him 4th in the presidential succession line. Not only is he the longest serving senator ever, but he is also the oldest senator ever. Each day he breaks his own records. By the time he completes his current term, he will have reached the century mark.

Over his long political career, Thurmond has gone from the horse and buggy era to the space age. He has seen South Carolina progress from a bastion of segregation to a bi-racial society. When I called the Grand Lodge of South Carolina to obtain his Blue Lodge record, the young lady who answered the phone reported that he had already received his seventy-year pin. When I asked if she thought he might seek

another term, she replied without hesitation, "I sure hope so." As biographer Nadine Cohodas has concluded, if Thurmond has not always been in the forefront of change; he managed to adapt once the rules became different. As teacher, legislator, judge, soldier, and Mason, he has served his constituents with honor and dignity.

Note: The best sources of biographical information on Sir Knight Thurmond are Nadine Cohodas, *Strom Thurmond and the Politics of Southern Change* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1993) and Jack Bass and Marilyn W. Thompson, *01' Strom: An Unauthorized Biography of Strom Thurmond* (New York: Longstreet, 1999). For his Masonic record / am indebted to the staff of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, Mrs. Joan Sansbury, Librarian of the A. & A.S.R., S.J. and Johnnie Morris, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of South Carolina. Thanks also, Ms. Shasta Dawn Amos, for manuscript preparation.

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32^o, 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



Buck and the Mormons—Part III

by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 33°, FPS

While the Mormon Church under the capable hand of President Brigham Young was enjoying its glory days, James Buchanan completed his tenure as Secretary of State in 1849 and returned to Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He had only recently purchased a large estate outside the city, a property called Wheatland. He employed a housekeeper, a gardener to tend the grounds, and a driver-coachman. James provided a home at Wheatland for seven nieces and nephews, orphaned when their parents demised - most of them from tuberculosis. Buchanan assigned the task of household hostess to his 19-year-old niece and ward, Harriet Lane, a young lady well schooled in the social graces.

Buchanan was known as 'Old Buck' by everyone at this point in his life. His presidential ambitions surfaced as early as 1844, but time and circumstances had not been right to achieve his final ambition. Buck was against slavery but virulently opposed to the abolitionist movement. His nature recoiled at the thought of armed conflict, and he was sincere in believing that the Constitution did not preclude secession to any state which desired to leave the Union - for any legitimate reason.

President Franklin Pierce surprised Buchanan in the spring of 1853, shortly after taking office, when he requested that Old Buck head a commission to England to negotiate a number of disputed issues between the two countries. Convinced the venture was doomed to fail, James accepted with great reluctance. He was not overly fond of Pierce in any event. The relatively young, new president was on a youth kick, eliminating all members of the "old guard" possible. Pierce had failed to launch his term of office on a high public-relation plane. The mission to England

was as futile as Buchanan feared, and he asked to be recalled in the spring of 1854. His recall was not issued until November that year. In Washington, President Pierce's administration was in deep trouble, and the party did not anticipate nominating him for a second term. Buchanan was requested to consider standing for the nomination in 1856. The convention was scheduled to begin on June 2.

The first John Brown episode occurred at Pottawattamie, Kansas, the night of May 24, 1856, just before the Democratic National Convention. The entire country was enraged, except the most rabid abolitionists. The issue was a hot topic at the convention. James Buchanan was nominated on the 17th ballot, along with John Cabell Breckinridge, U.S. Senator from Kentucky, as a vice president running mate. The Democratic platform adopted highlighted preservation of the Union. Breckinridge was an ardent Southerner, making the presidential team a strange mix. Nevertheless, Buchanan was elected president over John C. Fremont and was inaugurated in January 1857. He announced the outcome of the Dred Scott supreme court decision during his inaugural address. Slave ownership was upheld, even though the slave resided in a free state. The decision was a pro-slavery victory. Before James had an opportunity to sit in the oval office, the crushing matter of slavery fell on his head full-force.

President Buchanan's plate was full during his entire term of office. He announced at inauguration that he would only serve a single term, and fate decreed it would be full of controversy and animosity, and condemnation. A financial panic in 1857 created a great deal of public dissatisfaction. In addition, the Mormon problem in Salt Lake City finally boiled over. The public clamored

for eradication of polygamy and that Buchanan end their cavalier disregard for the law. The Utah territorial legislature voted to reactivate the Nauvoo Legion on January 14, 1857, and were talking openly of withdrawing from the United States. They posed a genuine military threat to the country in the eyes of a great many people. Buchanan responded to public pressure by ordering a punitive force from Fort Leavenworth in Kansas to Utah to restore order and reinforce the Federal judicial system. A complement of 2,500 troops departed Fort Leavenworth under General William S. Harney.

Harney, an abrasive speaker, publicly announced he would "hang old Brigham Young." His aggressive attitude alarmed the Mormon population, and they prepared for an armed invasion. The U.S. troops crossed the Utah territorial border on July 24, 1857. President Young, no longer territorial governor, informed the Mormon community of the invasion and outlined his plan to defend Salt Lake City. Not relying on a confrontation by the Nauvoo Legion, he planned to employ a scorched-earth policy, burning everything in the path of the advancing U.S. troops, including Salt Lake City. The Mormons burned Fort Bridger and Fort Supply, properties they had acquired some time earlier. They also burned crops and any vegetation suitable for grazing. Withdrawing from Salt Lake, the Mormons awaited the approach of the U.S. soldiers before torching the deserted city. An unexpected incident inflamed the Mormon situation before the U.S. force arrived at Salt Lake City. It was tragic and unsanctioned by the church.

A small wagon train far to the south of Salt Lake City was headed west at a elevation of approximately 6,000 feet, when they arrived at an open expanse called Mountain Meadow. On or about September 6, 1857, the train was attacked by a large party of Indians and Mormons. The wagons circled for a siege and fought off the attack for several days. Under a

flag of truce, the immigrants finally agreed to surrender their cattle and wagons to the Indians, give up their arms, and be escorted to safety by the Mormons. They were separated into several groups. The children were loaded in one wagon, the wounded in a second, with the balance of the party walking behind. When the wagons were out of sight, the walking prisoners were halted and killed by the Mormons and Indians. The only survivors were 17 children, deemed too young to give an account of the massacre. The immigrant death count was 120.

The massacre, executed without Brigham Young's knowledge, was conceived and directed by John D. Lee, a Mormon. Although the Mountain Meadows massacre sparked great public outrage and created an unexpected uproar during the approach of army troops moving toward Salt Lake City, it required several years for the incident to play out in the courts. Eventually, John D. Lee was tried and convicted for the crime, the only culprit brought to justice. He was judged guilty after two trials and was executed by a rifle party at Mountain Meadows, the scene of the atrocity, on March 23, 1877. Lee was shot while sitting atop his own coffin at Mountain Meadows. The remains were turned over to his family and buried at Panguitch, Utah, not far from the scene of his execution.

Winter arrived in southern Utah in mid-October in 1857. With all shelter and forage burned along the line of march, the invading U.S. troops made camp for the winter near the ruins of Fort Bridger. By spring, the political climate had changed. Buchanan's punitive expedition into Utah had cost \$15 million, and public support had waned. All participants were eager to end the adventure. Buchanan granted a "full and free pardon" to all Mormons on April 6, 1858. New territorial Governor Alfred Cumming declared "peace in the territory," and the U.S. troops marched symbolically through Salt Lake to a camp well beyond the city limits. Not one of the

30,000 inhabitants of Salt Lake City was in sight. After the soldiers were beyond their city, the Mormon population returned some from their temporary camp at Provo, Utah. The U.S. Army maintained a post near Salt Lake City for three years.

President Buchanan turned his attention to escalating slavery problems and threats of secession. His popularity was at an all-time low. The public judged Buchanan to be waffling on the issues, with many convinced he was a pro-slaver sympathetic to the southern states. When John Brown took the U.S. arsenal at

"Congress marked time until Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated on March 4, 1861. Buchanan greeted his successor with the statement, 'If you are half as happy entering the White House as I feel on returning to Wheatland, you are a happy man indeed.' Old Buck was going home."

Harper's Ferry, Virginia for a few hours, it seemed that war must surely be next. Buchanan was convinced that a number of states would secede, and he opposed armed conflict to prevent it. A congressional report condemned Old Buck as corrupt and treasonable, but failed to lodge a specific charge. When he vetoed a popular Homestead Bill on June 22, 1860, he was charged with threatening the financial stability of the country; with the most strident critics calling it the most stupid act of his residency. Buchanan was only hewing to the letter of the Constitution, in his opinion.

When South Carolina seceded, Buck blamed it on anti-slavery agitators in his initial congressional message. On December 8, 1860, Secretary of the Treasury Howell Cobb resigned, followed soon afterward by Buchanan's entire cabinet. On December 27, Major Robert Anderson at Fort Sumpter spiked the guns n Charleston harbor. Convinced that all attempts at compromise

had failed, Old Buck ordered General Winfield Scott to reinforce Anderson at Fort Sumpter. A supply steamer, *Star of the West*, a side-wheeler bound to Charleston to relieve Anderson, was driven away by shore batteries. Anderson was left to face the rebels alone.

Congress marked time until Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated on March 4, 1861. Buchanan greeted his successor with the statement, "If you are half as happy entering the White House as I feel on returning to Wheatland, you are a happy man indeed." Old Buck was going home.

Brigham Young went about the church's business as usual after the 1857 "invasion." The Mormon Church continued to prosper and grow, and benefit handsomely from efficient missionary activity abroad. The president remained hale and hearty into his sixties. Standing 5 feet 10 inches, he carried his thick-set body easily on a sturdy frame. His auburn hair gradually turned grey, but his steel-grey eyes remained as sharp and cold as always. He was an enthusiastic dancer and music lover; prompting him to construct a huge theater, seating 3,000, in Salt Lake City. Described as elegant as any in London, it was dedicated on March 6, 1862. The grandest edifice in the city was the Mormon Temple, seating 8,000, and constructed at a cost of four million dollars; a monument to all the order had accomplished. The cornerstone was laid in 1853 and completed in 1893, long after Brigham was gone. His last public appearance was shortly before his final illness in 1877. On Thursday, August 23, President Young suffered an attack diagnosed as "cholera morbus," brought about by eating green corn and peaches. Apparently, he was suffering great pain, for morphine was administered. At first, Brigham seemed to be recovering, but his condition suffered a downturn, and he lapsed into a coma on the 27th, and was placed on artificial respiration. He lingered until Wednesday, August 29, 1877, when he expired at 4 p.m.

The immediate cause of death was given as "inflammation of the bowels." The body reposed in state at the Mormon Tabernacle until September 2, in order that 25,000 mourners might view his remains. Amid wailing and lamentations, the mortal remains of President Brigham Young were laid to rest in the Mormon Cemetery, "east of the white house on the hill."

When Brigham Young died in 1877, James Buchanan had been deceased for nearly a decade. After he returned to Wheatland following the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln, Old Buck had time to enjoy the fruits of his labors. He loved convivial company and the opportunity to share a cup, thus he entertained an endless flow of visitors to accommodate his wish. Many of them sought his counsel and advice on political matters. He was amused to read the pro-Republican newspapers assuming the position that "No blood should be shed, unless it is the only way to enforce the law." The statement had a familiar flavor to it. There were detractors, too; many who made threats against his person, and some calling him a traitor.

In concern over the death threats to their beloved elder brother, Lancaster Lodge called a special meeting. Each member present pledged himself to help guard Old Buck's life and property, inasmuch as he refused to hire security guards. They were faithful to the pledge, around the clock, until the danger had passed. One of James' most ardent goals following his presidency was to attempt to refute the lies lodged against him. The interest of the public, however, was directed toward the bloody battlegrounds of the Civil War that Buchanan had dreaded, and which became a horrible reality.

Harriet Lane, his niece and ward, continued to live at Wheatland and serve as hostess. She married in 1866, and Old Buck lived to hold Harriet's baby daughter. Immediately after returning home from Washington in 1861, Buchanan requested to join the Presbyterian Church. He was denied

membership because of his political reputation. The church recanted eventually, and on September 23, 1865, Old Buck received his first communion.

In May 1868 James became seriously ill with a severe cold and the complications of old age. He had been regressing health-wise for some time. Always methodical and dedicated to fiscal prudence, he proceeded to arrange his final details down to the last jot and tittle. It was his wish that the ceremony should remain simple and austere, and undertaker Christian Widmyer made careful note of his instructions. Buck added that the lodge wished to participate in his obsequies, he had no objection. He even dictated the message for the inscription plate attached to the top of his casket, and directed payment of his final medical expense. The undertaking charges were \$520, plus \$33 for barbering, including the haircut for his funeral. James' written instructions were prefaced with the comment, "Now that the day of my death is so near..."

James Buchanan, the 15th President of the United States, passed away in his bedroom on the second floor at Wheatland at 8 A.M., June 1, 1868. His pre-arranged plans were set in motion; however, the austerity James directed was not forthcoming. The outpouring of mourners and spectators made it necessary to delay his interment until June 4 in order to allow all the visitors to pay their respects. A few minutes after 6 P.M., Dr. John W. Nevin, president of Franklin and Marshall College, began his sermon at Woodhill Cemetery.

With the passing of James Buchanan and Brigham Young, a turbulent and historic page of American history turned. Although neither man ever met face to face, they shared a moment in their lives wrestling with the same solutions, attempting to extricate themselves from the difficult circumstances of the times. Both men were scrupulously honest, committed to a set of personal ideals to which they were resolutely dedicated. Both were powerful and persuasive speakers, but

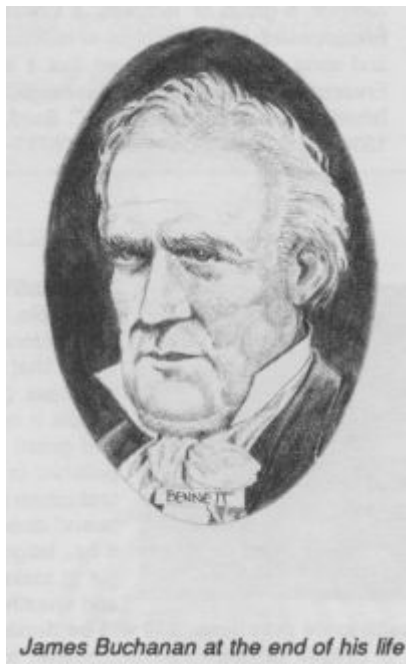
vastly different in personality. The powerful, thundering voice of Brigham Young was equal to any challenge to his authority. James Buchanan was slow to anger, and dedicated to reason and negotiation. They were Americans of great quality.

James Buchanan gave much time, effort, and support to his Masonic lodge and the Fraternity; and his Brethren revered his fidelity. Brigham Young, although generally regarded as a Mason in the Mormon community, is unrecognized in the eyes of the regularly constituted fraternal community. He was a product of the disenfranchised organization Prophet Smith assembled at Nauvoo. All that aside, he was - and is the greatest figure of the Mormon Church. We honor Old Buck for his ethical strength in the face of adversity, and profoundly admire Brigham Young for his monumental accomplishments.

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

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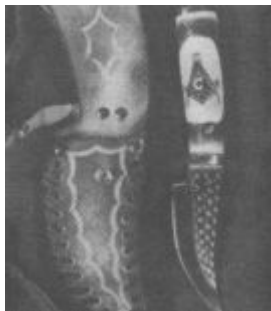
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Don't miss the January Issue of Knight Templar for comments from our readers on "Buck and the Mormons."

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. Bard, Chairman of the Committee on Templar History, 1334 Royal Road, Norwood, MO 65717-9466; e-mail: balrd@windo.missouriorg

Aurora Commandery, Illinois, Sale Of Knives Aids KTEF



The "MASTER MASON" is one of the finest, quality and affordable, handmade knives made in the U.S.A. The 4¹/₂-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.

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 under our plan at very affordable rates.

Under the Knights Templar Medicare

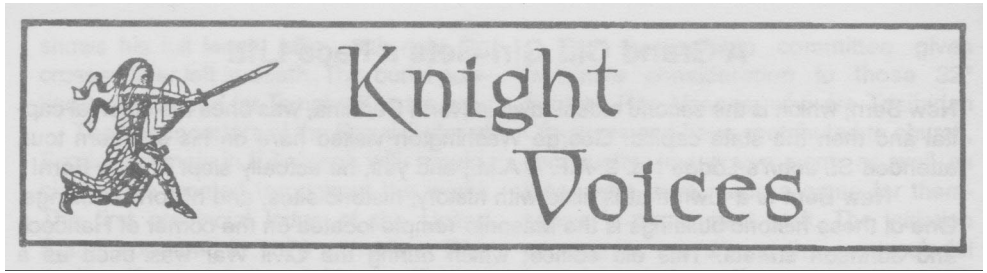
Supplement Plan you have the freedom of choosing your own doctors and hospitals, no health questions or medical exam to qualify, no waiting period for pre-existing conditions if you switch plans or are about to turn age 65, and hassle-free claims processing in about 7 days, are some of the many ways you benefit from the plan.

To make sure you can pay for the expenses that Medicare doesn't cover, call (800) 749-6983 for the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance Plan information and enrollment kit.

*To Each Sir Knight and His Loved Ones...
Our Wishes for Safe and Happy Holidays!
...the Staff of the Grand Encampment*



The Grand Encampment staff persons are, left to right: top: Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, Right Eminent Grand Recorder, and Sir Knight James O. Potter, comptroller; middle: Karla Neumann, accounting and database supervisor, and Sylvia Ericksen, database operator; bottom: Joan Morton, assistant editor, and Bessie Cooper, word processor.



To place your Knight Voices' item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to "Knight Voices." The Grand Recorder, 5097 N. 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.

Looking for family of Basil Edwar Elford, whose name is on a G.M. or P.G.M. sword and scabbard in my possession. Name is also on the white ivory grip, lithe family is not interested in this sword, I will keep it. Rayburn R. Poteet 231 El Prado Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903-3914.

I have over 150 issues of Knight Templar magazine, most in good condition (98% . If interested, contact me. Hugh E. Brown, 10901 E. 700 S., Selma, IN 47383, (765) 774-4502.

Wanted: Knight Templar coat, size 50-52. Please leave message at (931) 268-2813 for Sir Knight Eddie Scott. Please call after 5 p.m.

For sale: Knight Templar short coat (tailor made) w/P.C. sleeve crosses, size 60-64; P.C. chapeau, size 7 1/2, like new; new sword belt to size 64; 32° A.A.S.R. ring w/white gold eagles, size 14; and yellow gold shank, 14° and 32° sides. Masonic Library, (804) 977-3815 or e-mail schpoot@earthlink.net.

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.

Wanted: Proceedings of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., volumes 1874, 1877, 1880, and 1883, in any condition, paperback or hardback. Willing to pay a reasonable price and shipping costs. William H. Koon fl, 7200 Slatown Road, Cols. Grove, OH 45830, (419) 641-5572.

Cochran Lodge No. 217, Cochran, Georgia, has just begun a long-term charity project. We are selling Masonic jewelry boxes, 6x5 x2.5 inches in size and the shape of the square and compass. They are constructed of exotic woods from Central America and hand-crafted with an interlocking design. All profits from these Masonic jewelry boxes will be going to Masonic charity, a portion directly to the Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund. The price is \$20.00 each with \$5.00 shipping in the U.S. and Canada. Check to

Cochran Lodge No. 217 and mail to Harry A. Bruno, Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & A.M.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com

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. Check or money order to Collierville Lodge No. 152, and mail to Howard D. Christian, 397 Taylors Way, Collierville, TN 38017-2354.

For sale: King Solomon Lodge No. 5, Tombstone, Arizona, is offering a one-of-kind souvenir, key holder, made of miner's brass right here in Bisbee, AZ, including a heavy key ring. On the face is the square and compass with the Lodge name above and 'Tombstone AZ' beneath. On the rear of the holder is the phrase, "Practicing Freemasonry in the 'Town Too Tough to Die' since 1881", size, 2 xl and 1/2 inches. Send \$10.00, postpaid, to G. Kanzeg, Secretary; 4578 Monarch Drive; Sierra Vista; AZ 85635.

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 Bard, 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. 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: customized specialty imprinted items from die cast coins, medallions, lapel pins, wooden nickels, round tufts, pens, pencils, markers, yardsticks, mugs, caps, key tags, knives, belt buckles, aprons, bumper stickers, calendars, business cards, awards, plaques, magnetic items, license plates, ornaments. Celebrate the new millennium by using one or all of these very popular promotional items in your Blue Lodge, Royal Arch, Council, and Commandery. All items produced to your specifications using your camera-ready art, or we can create the art from your sketch. Masonic organizations have an automatic \$2,500 line of credit. 3% goes to KTEF. Frank Looser, 1-800 765-1728 or e-mail cnfi@home.com for brochures or catalogs, or web page <http://merrters.tripod.coil~cnfiinteractive>. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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

For sale: a deceased member's small, Masonic library, including Revised Encyclopedia, vol. I, II, and III; Morals and Dogma; Facts for Freemasonry; and six others. I would like to sell as a set and will accept reasonable offers. Kotoles Family. 4086 Irvine Oval, Medina, OH 44256, (330) 725-8353

For sale: Masonic collectibles, new and old items. I also have Masonic medallions, badges, metal truck banks, all types of afghans from Masonic bodies and other collectable items. If interested, send for a four-page list, and I will get it out in the mail to you upon receipt of your request. I am raising funds for the KTEF. Elizabeth S. Buz, P.O. Box 20384, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0384.

For sale: Masonic knives with Masonic emblem in handle. ALL money goes to the KTEF. \$28.00 each or 4 for \$100.00 and \$2.50 S & H. Many sizes and styles. Send S.A.E. for more information. Genuine pearl, \$65.00 each. Michael C. Glawson, 3420 Hilltop Drive, Fulton, MO 65.251, (573) 642-1105 or (573) 642-1115.

For sale: complete computer system. Bring your Lodge into the new age with a fast Internet-ready Cyrix 333Mhz, 32 MB RAM, 4.3 GB hard drive, video card, 40X CD ROM drive, sound card, speakers, floppy drive, 56K V.90 modem, all in a mini-tower case, Win 98 keyboard, PS/2 mouse, 14-inch color monitor. Comes complete with Windows 98 operating system and Microsoft office 97. Great for lodge accounting, creating lodge bulletins, writing letters, and at forms of lodge business and all at the very affordable price of \$599 plus S & H. Subject to availability. Other models available. 3% will be donated to the KTEF. Call 1(800) 765-1728.

For sale: key chains honoring the dedication 01 the Masonic Center in Davenport, Iowa. A picture of the Masonic Center and dedication are portrayed on the key chain. Cost is \$6.00 each, including postage. Checks payable to The Masonic Center and send to Davenport Scottish Rite Bodies, P.O. Box 3627, Davenport, IA 52808.

One of my prized possessions is an antique Masonic watch. I have no one to leave it to, and I prefer that it stay in Masonic des, rather than let it pass to antique jewelers, who have shown an interest and have made me offers for more than I am asking of a Mason. The watch is by Dudley of Lancaster, PA, using Hamilton watch parts. its size 12 in a green-gold case. It is in good condition and keeps good time. I am willing to accept \$1200 from a Masonic source. Harry A Rahm, 1770 N Causeway Blvd, Mandaville LA 70471, (564) 674-343).

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 Tunnick Road, Petersburg, MI 49270-9716. Call collect (734) 854-3021.

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 015.27, (508) 865-4816.

Wanted: pocket watch, railroad type, lever set, in excellent condition. I will consider Dudley or Masonic watch, also. Please furnish information, price, and photo if available to Sal Carrpos, Jr.; P.O. 18542; San Antonio; TX 78218.

For sale: in Masonic residential area on Tablerock Lake, Missouri: 3-bedroom, 3-bath, 2-car garage, cedar 2-story home with lots of extras. It's perfect for retiring or vacation. Asking \$95,000. Call for details (417) 338-5471.

For sale: two cemetery lots, located in Masonic section of Beverly Cemetery of Blue Island, Illinois. The cemetery cost now \$1,150.00 each. will sell for half price. Audrey Antonation, 4340 W. 109th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453, home phone (708) 422-1423.

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.

This may be the last time for ad. This is almost a giveaway and less than 15% of cemetery's charge/cost: Mount Emblem Cemetery, Elmhurst, Illinois: 2 lots - section J. Asking \$500.00 for both or \$300.00 each, plus transfer fee. Fred Thompson, P.O. Box 981, Eufaula, AL 36072, (334) 687-4835.

Following WWII, a book was published similar to a high school annual, that chronicles the activities of the Texas (Oklahoma) 5th Division. The covers embossed with the T5 arrowhead. The division was Ni Africa, Sicily, Italy, and France. I wish to purchase a copy, or if you can, please provide information on where to obtain one. Wayne S. Oil, 24656 Dorothy Drive, Brownstown, MI 48134, (734) 782-5204

