

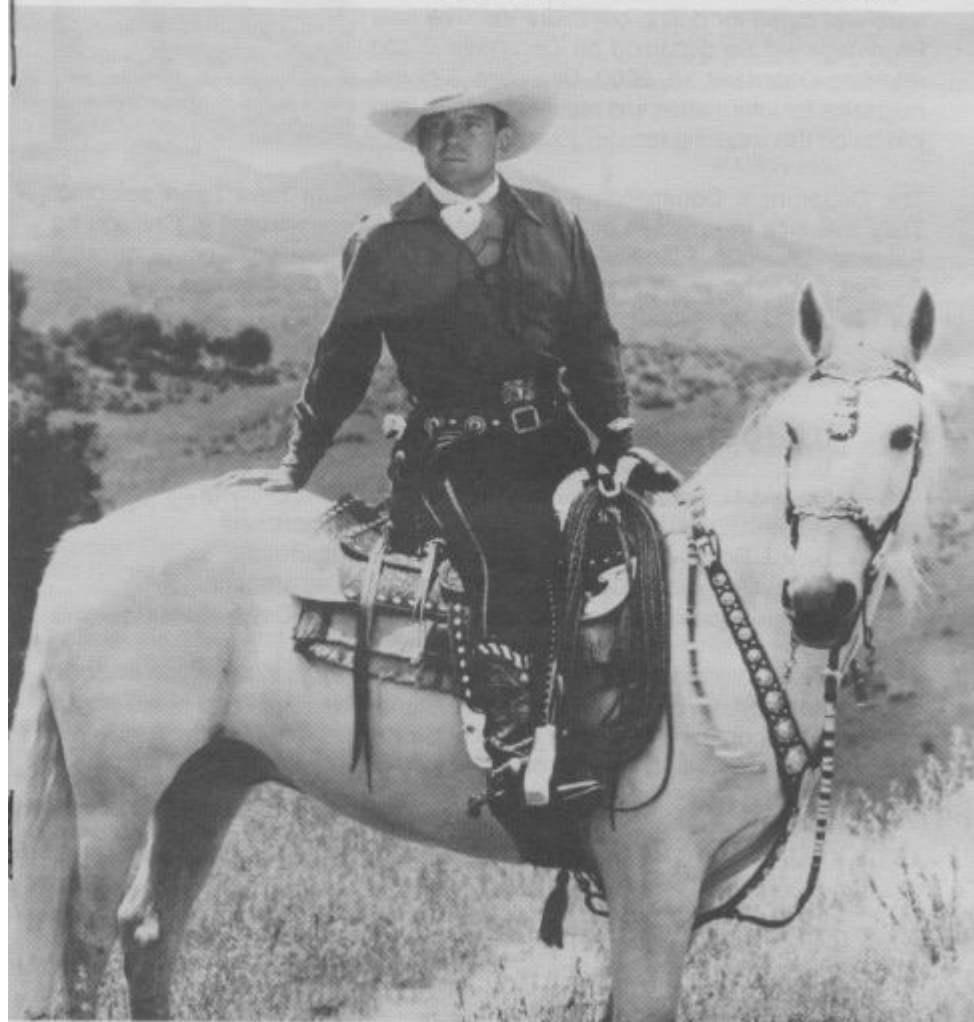


Knight Templar

VOLUME XLVI

MARCH 2000

NUMBER 3



Brother Buck Jones, cowboy film star, with his horse Silver
His story starts on page 21.

A Message from the Deputy Grand Master

From November 30 through December 10, 1999; twenty Sir Knights, ladies, and guests enjoyed a wonderful tour of the Holy Land. Friendly representatives of AMI Travel helped us through the process of preparing for international travel at O'Hare Airport. Others met us at the plane at Ben Gurion Airport and assisted with our entry into Israel. We were well cared for during our entire trip. The next Pilgrimage will be departing on December 9 and returning December 18, 2000. See page 8 of this magazine for information and reservation form, and join us on this inspiring ten-day journey!



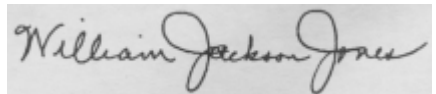
The Department Commanders for the next triennium have been selected. They met with the elected officers of the Grand Encampment in Chicago on February 12, 2000. Plans and goals for the 62nd Triennium were discussed. Special emphasis was placed on regional York Rite Conferences and visitations to Grand Commandery sessions.

The following Sir Knights will be installed as Department Commanders:

David D. Goodwin of New York - Northeastern Department
D. Samuel Tennyson of South Carolina - Southeastern Department
Donald M. Estes of Kentucky - East Central Department
Henry J. DeHeer of Illinois - North Central Department
Billy J. Boyer of Missouri - South Central Department
Gerald A. Ford of Colorado - Northwestern Department
Paul A. Monroe, Jr., of Arizona - Southwestern Department

If you are able to attend the Easter Service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, you should plan to be there. The inspiration of a Templar service in the company of a large group of Sir Knights and their families in this Masonic place is something each of you should experience. It will be a time you will never forget.

Let's Keep The Enthusiasm Of The Templary 2000 Crusade Going!



William Jackson Jones, KGC
Deputy Grand Master

Knight Templar

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

MARCH: The 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign is moving along. Campaign coverage starts on page 5 and includes the states' tally on page 6, so check your state's rank. On page 2, Deputy Grand Master, Sir Knight William J. Jones, sends greetings and information on the special Holy Land Pilgrimage for Sir Knights, families, and friends (details and reservation form on page 8) and news concerning the Easter Service in Alexandria, VA, and the next triennium. The Templary 2000 Crusade is continuing and a success. Check out its progress on page 10-11. The story of Brother John Anthony Quitman continues on page 25, we present the story of Brother Buck Jones on page 21, and introduce a new writer and his story of Sir Knight Samuel Colt on page 19. And there's much, much more!

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March 2000

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and Publisher

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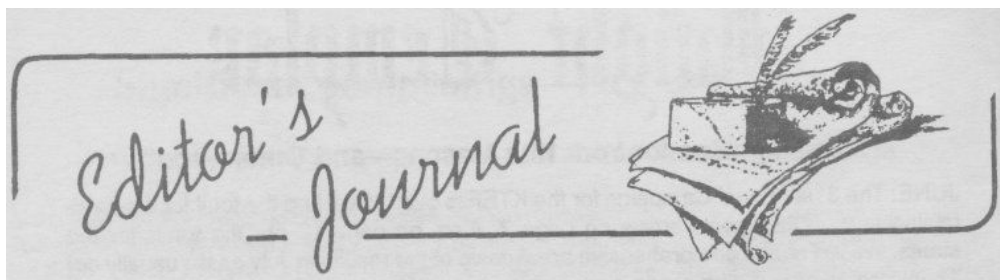
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60630-2460.

Material for the Grand
Commanderies' two-page
supplement is to be directed to the
respective Supplement editors.

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



• **Corrections:** January 2000 issue: The Annual Conclave for Oklahoma is scheduled for April 28-29, 2000, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Annual Conclave for Wisconsin is scheduled for June 16, 2000, in Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

• **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

• **A Pilgrim's Path: Freemasonry and the Religious Right:** This is John J. Robinson's last book, and it is available as a hardbound copy. Every Mason should want this intriguing and educational book in his library. The book is available for \$15.00 each, plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

• **Born in Blood:** The exciting book by John J. Robinson is available at the price of \$16.00, including shipping and handling. • **Dungeon, Fire, and Sword:** This history of the Knights Templar by the late John J. Robinson is available for \$20.00 each, plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Please make checks payable to the Grand Encampment, and send them to the Grand Recorder; Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460

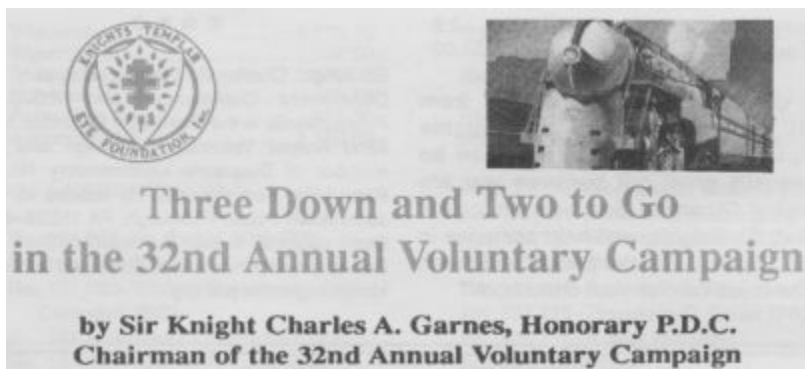
YORK RITE FREEMASONRY ON THE INTERNET - Official Web Sites

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

General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons, international
<http://members.aol.com/GGCOUNCIL/HomePage.html>

General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International
<http://members.aol.com/GGCHAPTER/HomePage.html>

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



The months of the Voluntary Campaign have moved quickly, and so has the big eight-wheeler coming doing the track. (You know it as the Willard M. Avery Train.) The swiftness of the Campaign and the speed of the train are not the really important areas that we should be concerned about, but we need to be aware of time limitations.

The major concern of every Sir Knight in the Grand Encampment, as well as every Commandery, should be How much support have we given to our Charity, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.?" It has been said that "We Lead By Example." The question that must be asked of every Commander and every Sir Knight associated in any way with the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign is: Did you fulfill your obligation and make a donation to the Foundation?

We are living in a time when obligations, responsibilities, promises, truthfulness, and commitment to the strong values of yesterday are taken lightly.

It seems that it would be appropriate for every individual to reassess the qualities that have just been mentioned and think about how you would rate yourself in answer to these questions if you were asked how you fit in a scale of 1 to 10. The high number being the best, assess where you would fall on this scale in regard to the 5 items that I have mentioned; then, sit down with a good friend and ask him to



evaluate you without showing him your answers. His answers will give you a picture of how a friend sees you. If your skin is too thin, don't do it! You will probably lose a friend. Maybe this is why so many things are left undone.

You frequently read in this magazine some of the many notes that are received from those whom the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., has helped, and they express great appreciation in a few words. We can't print every note of appreciation, but I can assure you that your dollar is well spent. If you have any doubt, just look at the breakdown:

Hospital Costs (including anesthesia)	45.7
Doctors Fees (including glasses)	34.2
Grants and National Eye Care	12.6
Administration (salaries, audits, rent, equipment, maintenance and insurance)	5.0
Public Relations (including printing and postage, campaigns, awards, films)	1.6
Patients' Miscellaneous	0.9

Total = \$1.00

The gift of sight is a great gift from God! Your donation to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., can be an equally great gift because you are "Helping Others to See." Reach in your pocket, Sir Knights, and help someone in need. Why not skip the pocket and reach for the credit card or your checkbook?

Let's Ride Through 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. Games, Trustee; 1700 Jamestown Place; Pittsburgh; PA 15235-4944. Include a note "For a Templar Seal Pin." Please provide legible mailing address.

Sir Knight Charles A. Games, Honorary Past Department Commander and P.G.C. of Pennsylvania, is the Campaign Chairman of the 32nd Annual Voluntary Campaign and is a member of Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, Pennsylvania. He resides at 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944. Send personal e-mail to: cagames@aol.com. For information on the KTEF, send e-mail to ktef@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 fledging 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 Blancort, in 1168, it has become synonymous with Templarism.



Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Thirty-second Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending February 11, 2000. The total amount contributed to date is \$409,023.13.

Alabama	\$4,265.00
Arizona	4,490.00
Arkansas	1,595.00
California	19,664.10
Colorado	3,920.50
Connecticut	5,909.00
Delaware	705.00
District of Columbia	1,066.00
Florida	11,819.96
Georgia	28,065.00
Idaho	1,018.00
Illinois	17,222.00
Indiana	7,818.00
Iowa	5,529.75
Kansas	5,281.00
Kentucky	7,240.97
Louisiana	7,391.00
Maine	2,610.00
Maryland	16,305.91

Mass./R.I.	6,973.88
Michigan	31,322.00
Minnesota	4,027.00
Mississippi	4,570.00
Missouri	9,004.50
Montana	3,005.00
Nebraska	2,950.77
Nevada	2,492.00
New Hampshire	1,140.00
New Jersey	13,708.00
New Mexico	3,876.37
New York	6,863.90
North Carolina	9,109.92
North Dakota	510.00
Ohio	16,783.00
Oklahoma	5,576.30
Oregon	5,455.00
Pennsylvania	34,362.22
South Carolina	11,079.00
South Dakota	9,574.00
Tennessee	8,959.98
Texas	22,589.50
Utah	4,014.50
Vermont	2,517.00
Virginia	13,710.06
Washington	4,386.00
West Virginia	4,880.50

Wisconsin	6,773.70
Wyoming	1,934.00
Philippines	180.00
Honolulu No. 1	400.00
Porto Rico No. 1	615.00
Anchorage No. 2	1,190.00

Tokyo No. 1	280.00
Heidelberg No. 2, Germany	900.00
Simon von Utrecht No. 6, Germany	50.00
Kalakaua No. 2, Kailua, HI	200.00
Miscellaneous	1,143.84

Grand Commander's Club

No. 101,086-Dr. Earl H. Kirk (TX)
No. 101,087-Martin J. Kelly (OH)
No. 101,088-William Steadley-Campbell (SC)
No. 101,089-Alex C. Hotchkiss (VT)
No. 101,090-Tommy F. Luce (CA)
No. 101,092-Joseph L. Casson (IL)
No. 101,093-Mike Kendall (SC)
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No. 101,157-Phillip Gale Elam (TN)
No. 101,158-Richard Westergaard (NJ)
No. 101,159-Charles L. Thacker (GA)
No. 101,160-Don Adams (MD)
No. 101,161-James K. Well (ND)
No. 101,162-Philip J. Cahill (NJ)
No. 101,163-David A. Hardy (NY)
No. 101,164-Gregory E. Hart (OK)
No. 101,165-P. C. Bradley (IA)
No. 101,166-Clayton Lokken (IA)
No. 101,167-J. Lewis Lester (GA)
No. 101,168-Wren C. Hurt, Jr. (MD)
No. 101,169-John C. Hembree (KY)
No. 101,170-William B. Brunk (NC)
No. 101,171-Peter Couladis (OH)
No. 101,172-James V. Brackett (VA)
No. 101,173-Charles G. Shelihart (WY)
No. 101,174-Mose Thomas Ramleh (TN)
No. 101,175-Max L. Gouge, Sr. (NC)
No. 101,176-Leland H. Turner (NY)
No. 101,177-Howard C. Faust (PA)

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
Sponsors the Knights Templar
CHRISTIAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND OF ISRAEL
December 9–December 18, 2000

Our next Grand Master, Sir Knight Bill Jones, and his Lady Lois are planning to lead the Pilgrimage. Please come and join them!

PACKAGE PRICE INCLUDES:

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Round-trip airfare New York/Chicago to Tel Aviv, including international departure taxes
- All transfers and luggage handling in Israel
- First class hotel accommodations, double occupancy
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily
- Hotel taxes and service charge
- Sightseeing in a deluxe motorcoach with an English speaking, licensed tour guide
- Entrance fees to sites, per itinerary
- Boat ride across the Sea of Galilee
- St. Peter's fish luncheon in Tiberias
- Special Roman theme lunch in Jerusalem
- Farewell dinner on the last evening in Israel
- **Not included:** Gratuities to guide, bus driver, and hotel staff (app.: \$65 per person)

For further information please contact: Mr. Charles Neumann, (773) 777-3300 or AMI Travel, Inc., at address below; or telephone: (773) 777-4900 or (800) 821-8947; fax: (773) 777-4921.

COST AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Package price per person, double occupancy:

From Newark Airport, NJ (NYC)—\$2,095 From Chicago O'Hare—\$2,175

Single room supplement, if needed, please add: \$425

Senior discounts (age 60+, spouses age 55+): please deduct \$65 per person

Deposit due with reservation: \$250 per person. Balance due: October 20, 2000

Note: All checks should be made payable to: AMI Travel, Inc. and mailed to: Knights Templar Holy Land Program; C/O AMI Travel, Inc.; 6200 N. Hiawatha Avenue, Suite 625; Chicago; IL 60646.

The program is based on a minimum of 25 participants. Schedule and sequence of events are subject to change.

RESERVATION FORM

Knights Templar Pilgrimage to Israel, the Holy Land—Dec. 9–18, 2000

Price per person, based on double occupancy—Please circle your departure city.

From Newark Airport, NJ (NYC): \$2,095

From Chicago O'Hare: \$2,175

NAME (per passport): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Telephone No. () _____ Work Telephone No. () _____

Name of roommate, if known _____

Date of birth _____ Passport No. _____ Issue date _____ Expire date _____

Name preference for name badge: _____

() Please confirm a single room supplement for an additional \$425.

Senior discounts (age 60+, spouses 55+): please deduct \$65 per person.

Enclosed is my payment of \$250 per person. Balance due October 20, 2000. Please make checks payable to AMI Travel, Inc., and mail to: Knights Templar Holy Land Program, C/O AMI Travel, Inc.; 6200 N. Hiawatha Avenue, Suite 625; Chicago; IL 60646.

PLACING ADS IN THE PROGRAM

*61st Triennial of the Grand Encampment
Knights Templar of the U.S.A.
Nashville, Tennessee—August 11–16, 2000*

Below is information for all constituent Commanderies and Grand Commanderies to enable them to place ads in the Program for the 61st Triennial Conclave.

Back Page	\$600.00
Inside of Back Page	400.00
Full Page in Program	95.00
1/2 Page in Program	65.00
1/4 Page in Program	45.00
1/8 Page in Program	35.00

The Sir Knight in charge of the Program is Ronald E. Wood, Jr. All ads to be placed in the Program should be sent to:

Sir Knight Ronald E. Wood, Jr.
P.O. Box 6456
St. Joseph, MO 64506
Phone: (816) 279-9597

These prices are for ads that are **camera-ready**. A surcharge will apply for any ads that are not submitted as such. **All ads must be submitted no later than May 15, 2000.**

IN MEMORIAM

Agnew Geno Walker
New Hampshire
Grand Commander—1975
Born: September 15, 1909
Died: January 13, 2000



Theron Meredith Gregory
Louisiana
Grand Commander—1982
Born: November 6, 1912
Died: January 24, 2000

Robert Evans Shipp
Alabama
Grand Commander—1981
Born: October 6, 1924
Died: January 21, 2000

Robert Fletcher Wagner
Oregon
Grand Commander—1971
Born: September 11, 1918
Died: February 2, 2000

Templary 2000 Crusade. .Let Your Light So Shine!

"Who" Is On First?

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

Many of us recall the famous comedy team of Abbott and Costello and their preposterous baseball-related skit entitled "Who's On First?" It was simple entertainment and brought laughter to all of us. Perhaps you may recall that the entire problem presented was simply a lack of effective communications.

The "Who" Is You!: Yes, the "who" is you, and you are needed to assist in our membership development efforts. If you think that our desired goals will be accomplished by the dedication of Commandery officers and membership committees alone, then, think again.

We have structured a comprehensive, membership campaign and have attempted to communicate it effectively through this magazine, Department Conferences, and numerous memos to our leadership team. But it can only produce the desired results if each of us makes a singular contribution. We need to maximize participation.

Each of us can drive in a game-winning run by hitting "singles"...just one York Rite petition. Please play your part, get involved, and become a Top-line Signer to a friend.

You Are Doing It!... A Few Success Stories: The largest, singular Templary 2000 Crusade event thus far occurred in Oklahoma. On Saturday, February 5, approximately two hundred and fifty (250) were Knighted across three Scottish Rite Valleys. What a wonderful testimony of the cooperation and planning among Masonic leaders!

In addition, Ohio Knighted approximately one hundred in coordinated festivals,

Texas conferred the Orders on approximately one hundred and fifty, and **Colorado** held festivals that resulted in approximately one hundred Knightings.

In Indiana Greenfield Commandery No. 39 *alone* conferred the Order of the Temple upon forty-one candidates.

Restorations Are Important, Too!: Please remember that restoration goals have also been established for the Templary 2000 Crusade as they too are important in our membership development effort. Work with your local Recorders, and develop a list of those Sir Knights that need to be restored to active membership. Tell them that they are missed, and welcome them back.

New Member Packet: The Grand Encampment Committee on Membership recently distributed a "New Member Packet" to each Key Man and requested that it be duplicated, localized, and distributed to each new Sir Knight. It is an outstanding reference document, and a major contributor to its creation is Sir Knight Gerald Gibbons, P.C. and Chairman of the Michigan Grand Commandery Membership Committee.

The implementation of this "Packet" will require some work, but future dividends will be returned in the new members that may become future York Rite leaders. Begin to use this now in your Commandery as the new Sir Knights will appreciate and benefit from it and it will reflect favorably on both Templary and the local leadership. Please remember to invite the new Sir Knights back!

Nothing But Success!: This "Crusade" will be successful because of you and **only** you. Remember the **"Who" Is You** and not another Sir Knight. The future of this Christian order is in each of our hands. Thank you for being a part of this great endeavor.

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

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

Crusade Accomplishment At Greenfield, Indiana!

Forty-one new Sir Knights were created at Greenfield Commandery No. 39, Greenfield, Indiana, on Saturday, February 5. Pictured in front with the class are (left to right): Sir Knights Ronald D. Simpson, KCT, P.G.C. (Indiana); Randy Schutz, E.C. of Greenfield No. 39; Henry LaHurreau, R.E.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Indiana; and Bill Clutter, KCT, P.G.C. (Indiana), and Chairman of the Templary 2000 Crusade. A prime rib dinner followed the ceremony.



LEADERSHIP BY EXAMPLE...THREE INDIANA SIR KNIGHTS RECOGNIZED!



Three Indiana Sir Knights were honored by the Grand Commander of Indiana, Sir Knight Henry LaHurreau, who presented them Grand Encampment Membership Jewels for their efforts during the Templary 2000 Crusade at Greenfield Commandery No. 39, Greenfield, Indiana, on Saturday, February 5. The

recipients were Sir Knights: Charles Merlau, P.C.; Randy Schutz, E.C.; and Dan Hall, Gen. Pictured, left to right, are: Merlau, Schutz, Grand Commander LaHurreau; and Bill Clutter, KCT, P.G.C. Sir Knight Schutz is also the Indiana "Key Man."

On the Masonic Newsfront...

California's Grand Commander Presents KTEF Research Grants

Late 1999 the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the state of California, Sir Knight Wayne J. Stahr, presented Knights Templar Eye Foundation grants to Dr. Xiaiguang Wang and Dr. Reshma Patel at the UCLA Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. An additional grant was presented to Dr. Ashima Madan, Stanford University. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation has made grants for research in their fields for the past several years. The grants for 1999 were a total of \$60,000. In the picture below, left to right, are: Sir Knight Donald J. Spencer, California State Chairman for the KTEF; Grand Commander Stahr; Dr. Xiaoguang Wang; B. Appuktan and Sandy Ott, lab technicians; Sir Knight Richard T. Cooper, Past Grand Commander, California; and Sir Knight Charles E. Williams, Grand Sentinel, California.



New Mexico Sir Knights Participate In Christmas Party



Members and staff of New Mexico Girls Ranch shared Christmas dinner with Sir Knights and members of Sandia Mountain Lodge No. 72 of Albuquerque. This event marks the lodges major charitable event of the year. Brethren not only provided needed operational equipment for the Ranch, but they also presented a monetary gift to each girl to spend as she wished. Seen standing in the dining room of Albuquerque York Rite Temple are the Worshipful Master of Sandia Mountain No. 72, Sir Knight Fred F. Fleming, and the young ladies and staff of New Mexico Girls Ranch. (by H. W. Hart, PR)

News From Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago

Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois, has achieved 3-year accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) as a result of its demonstrated compliance with the Joint Commission's nationally recognized standards for hospitals and health care organizations.

Also, Children with special needs have a new, all-in-one location at Illinois Masonic with the opening of its centrally located Pediatric Developmental Center; more and more children with special needs will enjoy and benefit from the array of programs and services offered.

Officers Of Hugh De Payens No. 1 Serve As Honor Guard For Arkansas Demolay Investiture Of Degree Of Chevalier

For the first time memory, in recent the officers of Hugh dePavens Commandery No. 1, Little Rock, Arkansas, provided an escort at the altar and in the processions for the investiture of the DeMolay Honor Degree of Chevalier.

The DeMolay Degree of Chevalier is the highest honor for distinguished DeMolay service presented by the Supreme Council of DeMolay International. Only the Legion of Honor and/or membership in the Supreme Council outrank this degree. Hugh de Payens officers, visible, left to right: Joseph

Clements, Sr. Warden and Legion of Honor; Sam Ashcraft, Grand Secretary, AR, Grand Court of Chevaliers, Legion of Honor; T. J. Henwood, Eminent Commander, Executive Officer for DeMolay in AR, Legion of Honor, and Senior DeMolay; James Vinson, Generalissimo, Legion of Honor, and Senior DeMolay; Kenneth Story, Sw. Bearer and P.G.C., AR, and Legion of Honor. Participating but not visible: Walter Barnhardt, Treas. and G.Sr. Warden, Legion of Honor and Senior DeMolay; and Robert Spaulding, Recorder and Deputy Grand Commander.



Sir Knight Donald C. Gross, CA, Honored by DeMolay International



At the Scottish Rite auditorium in Stockton, California, Sir Knight Donald C. Gross (center) was honored with the Legion of Honor, the highest honor that can be given by DeMolay International.

To be eligible for this award, the recipient must be a Senior DeMolay and have demonstrated outstanding adult leadership and service to the community.

Sir Knight Gross is the Grand Master of Cryptic Masons in California and a member of the board of directors of the DeMolay Foundation of California. He is an extremely

active Royal Arch Mason and has received the Meritorious Service Award and was named High Priest of the Year. As a California Knight Templar, he has received both the Knight Templar Meritorious Service Medal and recognition as the Commander of the Year for Dept. 5

Also shown in the picture are: Edwin D. Clarke (left), Active Member of the International Supreme Council and Executive Officer for Northern California DeMolay, and Robert Rowan, Treasurer of the DeMolay Foundation of California and member of the Legion of Honor.

PAST PRESIDENTS' CLUB, TOPEKA ASSEMBLY, HONORS MRS. ESTHER OFFEN

Mrs. Esther Offen (center), who was then the Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, was honored at a dinner hosted by the Past Presidents' Club of Topeka Assembly No. 24, Topeka, Kansas. Seated next to Mrs. Offen are Mrs. Dale Anspaugh, President of Past Presidents, and Mrs. Dale Godsey, President of Topeka Assembly. Sixteen Past Presidents and Sir Knights were present.



WESTMINSTER ASSEMBLY NO. 245, S.O.O.B., MARYLAND



To left is Mrs. David E. Alcon, Worthy President, and at right is Mrs. Joseph Chalker, Supreme Recorder. Between, l. to r., initiates: Mrs. Paul Renn, Mrs. Richard Boyce, Mrs. Joseph Delphey, Jr., and Mrs. Walter Deprefontaine.



Memorial Day float—"Our Masonic Families" from Westminster. Pictured in center by the fellow with the top hat is Mrs. David E. Alcon, Worthy President of Westminster Assembly No. 245, Westminster, Maryland.



Westminster Assembly No. 245 celebrated its 25th anniversary, June 1999, with a banquet attended by 97 members and guests. The nine charter members present, left to right: standing: Mrs. Joseph Chalker, P.P.; Mrs. Reginald Grose; Mrs. Paul Jones, P.P.; Mrs. Terry Robbins, P.P.; and Mrs. Carl Wisner, P.P.; seated: Mrs. John Redding, P.P.; Mrs. John Kroh, Mrs. Richard Schnably; and Mrs. Leroy Lamb.

ANNIVERSARY STEIN FOR PENNSYLVANIA'S GRAND COUNCIL TO BENEFIT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

The sale of the 150th anniversary stein for the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Pennsylvania will benefit the KTEF. The stein is 8 inches tall and has seven different colors. The price of this limited edition stein is \$55.00. (Outside the U.S.A. add \$15.00 for shipping.) If you are interested in ordering, make check or money order payable to Stanley C. Buz, and mail your order to him at P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052.



The Holy Land Pilgrimage! - Comments from Pilgrim Ministers

Out of the Tomb: Jesus arrived at the tomb of Lazarus in Bethany. It was a simple cave in a hillside. Jesus then shouted: "Lazarus, come out!" (John 11)

Let me tell you about my experience as a 1999 Knights Templar Pilgrim at the tomb of Lazarus. Bethany is still two miles from Jerusalem. The tomb is a simple cave. Visitors descend deeply down steep stairs cut into a hillside. As I stood in the cave, I listened for the voice of Jesus inviting me to come out.. come out to new life.

However, it is a chore for fellas like me to squeeze into Lazarus' tomb. For a moment I was prepared to yell to Jesus: "Help me, I'm stuck." Therefore, the tomb of Lazarus serves as a picture for me of the value of a Holy Land Pilgrimage.

Sure, pastors are well-educated and well-informed. Sure, pastors are familiar with Bible-time stories. However, my hunch is that many of us pastors are stuck. We are in a tomb of our own making because of our assumptions and our presumptions.

A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land offers pastors the opportunity to step out into new life. New life comes as we experience first-hand the sights and sounds and smells of the Holy Land.

Should we pastors accept the hospitality of the Knights Templar? Yes, of course, because we should want to experience new life. After all, new life is what we preach!

*Robert J. Spurgin, Pastor
Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church, Atkins, Iowa*

I am writing to express my deep appreciation to the Knights Templar for the trip afforded me to the Holy Land. It was more than any of the thirty-four pastors even dared to hope for. It was inspiring and truly a pilgrimage. It was educational as our excellent guide, Ezra Eini, provided information about archaeological finds and remnants. It was a cultural horizon experience as we learned about Israel and saw the great progress that has been made, especially during this last decade. It was politically informing as we had a chance to listen also to Palestinian Christians and learn more about the Oslo agreements, the coming election in Israel, the potential Declaration of Palestinian Statehood near May 1, and the influence of our own government in these negotiations for peace.

We viewed the Holy Land from the Jordan Valley of our Lord's ministry to the area of Judah with Jericho, the wilderness, the Dead Sea, and finally the Holy City.

I know that, without this trip provided by the Knights Templar, I simply would never have gotten to the Holy Land. The experience and knowledge I gained will affect my preaching and teaching for the rest of my ministry. The trip was perfect in every way: the airline, the hotels, the three meals per day, the tour guide, the fellowship of pastors, and Gene, the resident Knight Templar who accompanied our group. Thank you immensely!

*Reverend Dr. Howard E. Fintzen
Lincoln Park Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

I have had the privilege and the pleasure of traveling to the Holy Land as a guest of the Knights Templar. I am indeed grateful for such an opportunity, and mere words cannot express what this trip has given to me. I have had the chance to walk in the path of those who have followed the lead of God and have thus changed the world. I have trod where Jesus walked and have seen the places that were so familiar by name, yet so foreign in appearance. I have been given the opportunity to stand silent upon the Mount of the Beatitudes and hear within my very heart and soul the words uttered so long ago: "Blessed are you..."

*Reverend Martin R. Ankrum
Flushing Presbyterian Church
Flint, Michigan*

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

Chapter VI Features of Triennial Conclaves Forty-ninth-1964

'The 49th Triennial Conclave convening in the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia, was a fitting tribute to one whose many years of activity were based in Pennsylvania, Sir Knight Paul Miller Moore, Most Eminent Grand Master, climaxing his twenty-one years of continuous, conscientious and faithful service in the line of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

"Appointed to the office of Right Eminent Grand Captain of the Guard by the then Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight Charles Noah Orr, at the 42nd Triennial Conclave held in the City of Chicago in May of 1943, Sir Knight Moore during the intervening years has given to Templary, such as few men have the opportunity and the willingness to do, the benefit of his many talents, the wisdom of his sound judgment and an abiding consecration to the teachings of the Master of Men, Jesus Christ."

"As each Sir Knight and lady registered they were given an envelope containing whatever tickets they may have requisitioned for their entertainment at the Conclave including Bus Tours to historic Philadelphia, Fairmont Park, and Colonial Mansions or to the Valley Forge Battleground; a ride on the Showboat plying the waters of the historic Delaware River; visits to such famous and nationally known institutions as the Franklin Institute and Eels Planetarium, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Masonic Temple with its priceless Museum and Library; the United States Mint, Rodin Museum, Atwater Kent Museum or perhaps a theatre party in Central City Theatres."

The 49th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America was called to order at noon on Saturday, August 22, 1964, by Sir Knight Frank Parson Kepler, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. The lines for the reception of the officers of the Grand Encampment and distinguished guests were formed by Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. The Most Eminent Grand Master had suggested and requested the Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master to preside over this and the other business sessions of the Triennial.

The business session was recessed in plenty of time for the parade which began at 7:00 P.M. "Bro. and Sir Knight Earl F Herold, the Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania," rode with the Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight Paul Miller Moore, in official car No. 1. More than 5,000 Sir Knights paraded down Benjamin Franklin Parkway and through downtown streets to the reviewing stand in front of Independence Hall, at which the Grand Master and his entourage arrived as the clock in the tower signaled eight o'clock. "Twelve bands playing martial music enlivened the eight divisions of the parade of Sir Knights interspersed with nine floats depicting Templary and its projects, patriotism to country and the humane interests of Masons. Thousands of Philadelphians and visitors thronged the streets and applauded as the Sir Knights with waving plumes and gleaming swords marched in honor of Templary and their leader, Paul Miller Moore. This, surely, was a great demonstration of Knighthood in action, an inspiring sight for all Philadelphia to witness, as well as listen to the theme hymn of all Templars, Onward, Christian Soldiers."

The Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania tendered a reception to the Most

Eminent Grand Master, grand officers, and guests in the Pink Room of the Bellevue Stratford Hotel following the parade. And again, on Sunday night in the Clover Room, the Grand Commandery was host to a buffet dinner, honoring the Grand Master, his officers, and guests.

At 4:00 P.M. on Sunday the Encampment gathered at Convention Hall in West Philadelphia for Divine Services. To the strains of "Now Thank We All Our God," 1,265 Sir Knights in full Templar uniform.....seated themselves on chairs arranged in the form of three Crosses of Salem.' " This made a wonderfully effective picture to more than 6,000 Sir Knights, their ladies, and friends seated in the balcony! Sir Knight and Reverend G. Mason Cochran, Right Eminent Grand Prelate, rendered the sermon, "The Oldest and Newest Challenge." He emphasized that "we must struggle for freedom everywhere, always."

On Monday morning the Drill Team Competition started; there were twelve "A" teams and eleven "B" teams competing in the auditorium of Convention Hall. Later in the week the eagerly anticipated luncheon was held for the members of the teams and their wives at which awards and prizes were given.

On Monday night in Convention Hall a most enjoyable program was afforded the Sir Knights and their ladies. The program was an exhibition drill by sixteen platoons of Detroit Commandery No. 1, Detroit, Michigan, nationally known for their excellence and precision. Sir Knight Brucker, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master, congratulated the Sir Knights of this, his Commandery, and "called attention to the fact, that for this special occasion he was wearing the jewel of Detroit Commandery No. 1" and that he was proud to be a member of such a distinguished "Commandery with such an excellent drill corps."

One of the highlights of the week was the luncheon in honor of Mrs. J. Harvey Moore, the Grand Master's lady. More than a thousand ladies participated in the patriotic theme of the luncheon.

Several grand jurisdictions opened "reception rooms," inviting Fratres and their ladies of all jurisdictions to fraternize with them. This item seemed to be so successful that it probably would continue and grow.

The formal banquet given in honor of the Grand Master in the main ballroom of the Bellevue Stratford Hotel was attended by more than 900 Sir Knights, their ladies, and guests. It was a beautifully decorated and brilliant event. One of the impressive moments of this event was when Mrs. Frank Talbot, Supreme President of the Supreme Assembly of the Social Order of the Beauceant, presented to Sir Knight Walter Allen DeLamater, acting for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, a check for \$5,000.00. The Most Eminent Past Grand Master stated as he accepted the check that this made almost \$106,000.00 that the Beauceant had donated to the Eye Foundation.

Thursday was the final day of the Conclave and the day for installation of officers.

Fiftieth - 1967

The 'Golden Triennial Conclave' began at noon on Saturday, August 19, 1967. (After this sentence, the rest of this paragraph and the one that follows this one are quoted *from the Proceedings of the Fiftieth Triennial Conclave.*)

"A Special Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Michigan was convened in ritualistic form, with the invocation by Sir Knight Howard A. Towne, in his capacity as Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of Michigan.

"Commander Kirby then declared the special Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Michigan convened and on behalf of the Grand Commandery of Michigan, and the 12,000 Templars of Michigan welcomed the Sir Knights to the Golden Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America."

Recipients Of The Grand Encampment Membership Jewel



367. Glenn R. Weber, Atlanta Commandery No. 9, Atlanta, GA. 7-9-99.
368. Daniel C. Ricketts, Constantine Command" No. 26, Marietta, GA. 7-9-99.
369. John Eberle, Blue Ridge Mountain Commandery No. 37, McCaysville, GA. 7-9-99.
370. Edgar M. Land, Blue Ridge Mountain Commandery No. 37, McCaysville, GA. 7-9-99.
371. John Nichols, Blue Ridge Mountain Commandery No. 37, McCaysville, GA. 7-9-99.
372. Michael Hessel, Coronal-Ascalon Commandery No. 31, Denver, CO. 7-12-99.
373. Joseph W. Lucas, Mt. Pulaski Commandery No. 39, Mt. Pulaski, IL. 7-14-99.
374. H. David Moore, McKinney Commandery No. 34, McKinney, TX. 8-26-99.
375. Guy Walton Bowie, Gulfport Commandery No. 38, Gulfport, MS. 8-27-99.
376. Otis Henry Brown, Elbert H. Gary Commandery No. 57, Hobart, IN. 10-28-99.
377. Russeli L. Thomas, Elbert H. Gary Commandery No. 57, Hobart, IN. 10-28-99.
378. Paul E. Wunsche, Melrose Commandery No. 109, Houston, TX. 10-29-99.
379. Daniel Bruce Mullins, Kingsport Commandery No. 33, Kingsport, TN. 11-9-99.
380. Mark A. Kester, Sr., Terre Haute Commandery No. 16, Terre Haute, IN. 12-15-99. (jewel and 1 bronze cluster)
381. Thomas Randal Nance, DeMolay Commandery No. 6, Sheridan, WY. 12-15-99.
382. Warren J. Krueger, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24, Milwaukee, WI. 1-18-2000. (jewel and 1 bronze cluster)
383. Willie R. Smith, Greenwood Commandery No. 5, Greenwood, SC. 1-20-2000.

New York State Pastor Receives Holy Land Pilgrimage



Reverend Stanley Macholz, pastor of Si. Lukes Lutheran Church in Dix Hills, New York, was presented his Pilgrimage to the Holy Land at the Christmas Observance of Patchogue Commandery No. 65, Islip, New York. Sir Knight David D. Goodwin, KCT, the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of New York, and his family traveled to Long Island for the presentation and the Observance. Pictured, left to right, are Sir Knight Charles Mendell of Pachogue No. 65, who recommended Reverend Macholz for

the Pilgrimage; Reverend Macholz; Reverend Juanita Hilsenbeck, Peoples Church of Long Beach (wife of the Commander of Nassau Commandery); and Grand Commander David D. Goodwin. Reverend Macholz sponsored Reverend Hilsenbeck for seminary. Also, the two worked together at Berkshire Nursing Center, West Babylon, where Reverend Hilsenbeck has volunteered for thirty years. In November 1999 Charles Mendell assisted her at a service for Masonic war veterans. Reverend Hilsenbeck was a Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrim in 1995.

Samuel Colt - Sir Knight and Industrialist

by Sir Knight Gary A. Littlefield

Samuel Colt is a familiar name, known for his manufacturing of firearms. The onion-shaped dome in Hartford, Connecticut, is reminiscent of the remunerative contracts which Colt obtained from the Czar of Russia. This dome is easily seen by anyone traveling on Route 91 through the city of Hartford.

Samuel Colt was born in Hartford in 1814, and at the age of seven, his mother died. His father moved to Ware, Massachusetts, and Sam was an apprentice in a bleaching and dyeing plant. When he burned his hands with an experimental combination of chemicals, it produced both noise and flame. He was sent to a Glastonbury farmer for rehabilitation. Then he attended Amherst Academy, where his affinity for experimental chemicals got him in trouble again. This time it resulted in fireworks, and as a result he was expelled.

Sam was then a reluctant apprentice at the tender age of sixteen on a sea vessel to Calcutta.

A year of sailing was enough for him, but in his time off he whittled himself a wooden model of a revolving pistol with his pocket knife. He returned to New England, spent another year at Ware, and then he was an itinerant lecturer and demonstrator of the effects of laughing gas. With horse and wagon, down the Mississippi on a riverboat, Doctor Colt" found paying audiences and accumulated enough wealth to have his first revolving weapons (a pistol and a rifle) manufactured. They were first used in the war against the Indians in the Southeast (Seminoles) and in the Texas War of Independence.

At first he met with the failure of his original company because of patent disputes and other business disputes."

However, he kept drawing and modeling his firearms, and by 1848, he was able to build his first factory in Hartford, Connecticut, and in 1855 the original Armory. He had accumulated enough money to purchase his original patents and had competent factory managers with names familiar to the Hartford industrial scene like Pratt, Whitney, and Root. Soon the firearms were produced with an assembly line system, had fully interchangeable parts, bore a serial number to facilitate repair and servicing, and were sold in England, Turkey, and France, as well as Russia. Colt spent some time in Europe, hiring craftsmen and securing business contacts, and he even set up a small factory in England.

He became interested in German skilled mechanics who came over and shared liberal employee benefits with Yankee craftsmen. Colt Park was a recreational area, and near the factory complex were housing, social centers, and other liberal employee benefits. The Colt Band performed "Hail Columbia" the day after the famous Connecticut Charter Oak tree fell in 1856.

On January 10, 1862, Samuel Colt was called to his eternal reward and the Colt Band performed with muffled drums and black arm bands in his funeral procession.

Like many Masonic" industrialists, Samuel Colt did not live to become a millionaire because he distributed most of his money. He died during the height of the Civil War when contracts were expanding his factory. The business could not have been better.

Colt never had any military service, but he was known as Colonel Colt." He joined St. Johns Lodge No. 4 and was a member of Pythagoras Chapter No. 17, R.A.M., and Washington Commandery

No. 1, all of Hartford, Connecticut. Little is known about his Masonic service, but his name lives on in Hartford and in Connecticut. The Colt collection of firearms is on permanent display at the Connecticut State Library and Museum.

Sir Knight Gary Andrew Littlefield is the Historian for the Grand Lodge of Connecticut as well as the Royal Arch Masons, Royal and Select Masters, and the Commandery. He is a member of St. Johns Commandery No. 11, Windham, Connecticut. He resides at 123 Pine Street, Columbia, CT 06237.



Masonic Light Shines through the Charity of DeMolay

As the skies cleared following hurricane Floyd, residents of the northeast gazed upon the destruction that it had left in its path. Even after the storm's fury had passed, floodwaters continued to damage homes and belongings. Hundreds of residents were without homes and thousands sought shelter and assistance. In the midst of it all,

DeMolays in New Jersey and throughout the northeast went above and beyond to help those in need.

DeMolay has taken from its Masonic heritage the tradition of charity. DeMolay's Masonic founders knew the importance of charity and the impact that charity can have in the life of a young person. That lesson was reinforced and taken to heart by DeMolays in storm-ravaged communities like Bound Brook, Manville, Lodi and others, where DeMolays came to the relief of many people in need. Elsewhere, DeMolay members took action by gathering much needed nonperishable food and clothing for men, women and children. DeMolay Chapters coordinated collection of the items and transferred them to donation centers.

For the past eighty years, Masons and adult volunteers have been teaching DeMolay youth the importance of charity. The DeMolays who took part in relief efforts helped to shine a little bit of light and hope into the lives of some very deserving people. Perhaps more importantly, though, by taking an active part in their community these leaders of tomorrow have learned a valuable lesson for life.

For more information, please contact:

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Kansas City, MO 64153-1367
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Brother Buck Jones:

Cowboy Film Star of Both the Silent and the Sound Eras

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°

In his authoritative book on motion picture cowboy stars, *Saddle Aces of the Cinema*, Buck Rainey describes actor Buck Jones as *An Idol Nonpareil.*" Sir Knight Norman Lincoln, a knowledgeable motion picture expert in his own right, recalls Buck Jones as the first western picture hero his mother took him to see in a Richmond, Indiana theater, and that Jones left a vivid impression on his memory. Considering that nearly sixty years have elapsed since "old Buck" met his untimely death in a fire, the man must have exhibited a type of charisma that has a lingering effect.

Certainly this silver screen cowboy surpassed his contemporaries in one respect: Jones managed to achieve major stardom in both silent and sound pictures. Whereas Tom Mix, William S. Hart, and Fred Thompson achieved great success in silent flicks, they either did not appear in talkies or were considered near failures in them. Tim McCoy, Hoot Gibson, and Ken Maynard did better, but they never approached the level of stardom they had experienced earlier. Jones, however, excelled in both.

Buck Jones began life as Charles Frederick Gebhart in Vincennes, Indiana, on December 12, 1891. Truth is somewhat difficult to separate from the fiction dreamed up by studio publicists when one researches the lives of movie personalities, and the story is that Gebhart's family moved to Red Rock, Oklahoma, when Buck was quite young. Thus did the future star learn the basic features of cowboy and ranch life in his childhood. It now seems more likely that the future star spent most of his youth at various locations in the Hoosier State; however, he did learn a great deal about how to handle horses.



About 1907 an attack of "wanderlust" struck the teenager, and he enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he remained until October 1913. During two hitches in the military, Charles spent some time along the Mexican border and in the Philippines, where he sustained a leg wound. Recovering, he again enlisted and achieved the rank of sergeant; however, he left the army when thwarted in his desires to become a pilot, being instead relegated to the role of a mechanic.

Unemployed in Texas City, Texas, that October; young Gebhart took a job with the Miller Brothers' 101 Ranch Wild West Show helping take care of the horses. His skills as a rider and bronco buster, however, soon elevated him to star attraction status.

The following year when the 101 Ranch played New York City, Charles met an equally talented young equestrienne named Odille Osborne. On August 11, 1915, the attractive couple married in a show ring ceremony in Lima, Ohio. Their

marriage endured, and in 1919 they had a daughter Maxine.

During World War I, Gebhart worked as a horse breaker in Chicago taming steeds for the cavalry at various times for the British, French, and American armies. As hostilities wound downward, he and Odille returned to the circus life, riding first with Gollmar Brothers and then the famed Ringlings. By the end of 1918, Charles and Odille traveled to California. With a baby on the way, the couple hoped to find a more settled life in the emerging motion picture industry.

People skilled with horses always seemed to be in demand around the sets of western films in Hollywood. After playing bit parts in longer Tom Mix pictures and with Franklyn Farnum in a series of two-reelers, studio head, William Fox, decided to elevate Charles Gebhart to star status first as "Charles Jones" and then as Buck Jones." Fox's original scheme had been to groom Jones for stardom as a way to keep his number one cowboy - Tom Mix - from becoming too independent; however, it soon developed, according to Rainey, that Fox had a second goldmine in Buck Jones."

The original contract for Jones had called for a weekly salary of \$150.00 (a very good wage for 1920), but by the time of his last contract with Fox, Buck's weekly earnings had climbed to \$3,500.00. During his eight years with Fox (1920-1928), Jones starred in sixty-two pictures, mostly but not exclusively westerns. For instance, one his most heralded dramatic roles came in 1925, when he was cast as star in the eight-reel picture *Lazybones* with Madge Bellamy and Virginia Marshall. Meanwhile, back in 1922 Jones obtained his prize horse Silver, who thereafter appeared in most of his films, sometimes sharing screen credits with Buck. According to Buck Rainey, much of Jones' favor with western fans derived from the fact that his portrayals represented a compromise between the "austere" realism

of William S. Hart and the "flamboyant" showmanship associated with the films of Tom Mix.

During the height of his career as a silent movie star, Buck Jones under his real name petitioned Henry S. Orme Lodge No. 458 in Los Angeles. Initiated an Entered Apprentice on January 17, 1924; he was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on February 16, 1924. Five days later on February 21, the Brethren raised Charles F. Gebhart to the degree of Master Mason. Several other significant western film personalities also belonged to this Blue Lodge including an older, character actor, Roy Stewart; sidekick, Raymond Hatton; and leading man, Richard Dix. Film directors, Scott Dunlap and Lambert Hillyer, also ranked among the Orme membership. Somewhat later, Buck also became an active member of the 233 Club, a Masonic group made up of persons in the film industry. For instance, on August 18, 1926, Jones and Roy Stewart led a group of western actors in a parade unit of the club in which more than one thousand members marched down Hollywood Boulevard. Richard Dix also belonged to the 233 Club, as did such Masonic cowboy stars as Tom Mix, Raymond Hatton, Hoot Gibson, and Harry Carey.

Buck left Fox Film Studios in 1928 and formed his own production company. He soon turned out an airplane movie titled *The Big Hop*, but the venture failed and wound up costing Jones a great deal of money. So too did a circus which he subsequently formed in an effort to recover his earlier losses.

Fortunately, he was saved from poverty when his agent landed him a new deal with Columbia Pictures. By now, sound had taken the industry by storm, and although Buck Jones would never again command a salary of \$3,500.00 per week, he became quite successful in talking pictures to a much greater degree than his contemporaries. Through some thirty-five starring roles at Columbia and twenty-two

at Universal, plus four Universal serials, he managed to maintain his star status throughout the Depression decade. Muriel Evans ranked as Buck's favored leading lady in this era, and many critics consider the 1932 Columbia offering *White Eagle* with Barbara Weeks, Ward Bond, and Jim Thorpe to rank as his best single feature.

In 1936 Buck Jones ranked as the top western star in the *Motion Picture Herald* poll. Thereafter, Gene Autry took over the top spot and held it until he entered the service in World War II. However, Jones held on to third place for two more years and then dropped to the eighth position in 1939.

The rise of the singing cowboys; Autry, Roy Rogers, and Tex Ritter; offered a new form of competition to the older, action stars, who also faced the challenge of younger rivals such as Charles Starrett, William Boyd (slightly younger), Bill Elliott, John Wayne, and Johnny Mack Brown. When Buck's contract with Columbia expired at the end of 1938, studio

officials did not renew it.

As a freelancer, Buck made a non-western for Paramount about an aging prize fighter, *Unmarried*, and probably hit his career nadir when he played a villainous role as a corrupt sheriff in *Wagons Westward*, a Republic feature in which both he and Silver died. Shortly afterward, however, his progress rebounded. Initially, he made two successful serials: the first, *White Eagle* (remake of his 1932 classic) for Columbia, proved that he still had box office appeal, and the second, Universal's *Riders of Death Valley*, in which he co-starred with former Warner Brothers', singing cowboy, Dick Foran, did even better. One of the support players in the latter film, Noah Beery, Jr., had recently become Jones' son-in-law having married Buck and Odille's only daughter Maxine on March 30, 1940.

The popularity of the aforementioned serials induced a Monogram Pictures producer



Brother Buck Jones and Dorothy Revier



Advertisement for the 1932 film

and fellow Lodge Brother, Scott Dunlap, to co-star Buck and two other western film veterans in a new "trio" series called the "Rough Riders." Tim McCoy (reputedly a Mason) and sidekick, Raymond Hatton, rounded out the threesome. The series proved successful through eight features made between July 1941 and October 1942, when McCoy left the series to reenter military service. Monogram made one final film with Rex Bell replacing McCoy. Studio officials announced their intentions of giving Jones his own series again with the crusty Hatton as his sidekick.

First, however, Buck went on a bond-selling drive and publicity tour. With war again raging, Hollywood stars did their part for the Allied cause by participating in such fund-raising efforts.

In Boston on November 28, friends held a dinner in Buck's honor at the Cocoanut Grove. Unfortunately, Jones became one of the 491 victims of one of the most tragic fires in American history, passing into the sunset on November 30, 1942. According to Mrs. Jones, Buck managed to initially escape the blaze, but went back into the inferno to search for Brother Scott Dunlap. A few weeks later his last *picture Dawn on the Great Divide* was released in theaters.

In his fifty-one years Brother Charles Frederick Gebhart, who became famous to millions of western movie buffs as Buck Jones, exemplified the highest tenets of his profession. Like the late Brother Roy Rogers, Brother Jones endeavored to be a proper role model for the millions of youth who idolized him. Critics generally agree that he exhibited more acting talents than most of his contemporaries and that he always rendered his best effort.

Quoting again for one final time, his biographer, Buck Rainey, said of Jones that he "loved the genre that made him a star and was loyal to it...the recognition of his contributions to western films is still ever-growing. Time only magnifies his memory." In his chosen field of endeavor, Buck Jones proved himself a standout figure, both as a man and as a Mason.

Acknowledgments: One seeking to learn more about Buck Jones may wish to consult his two-volume biography published by World of Yesterday and authored by Buck Rainey, The Life and Films of Buck Jones: The Silent Era and The Life and Films of Buck Jones: The Sound Era. For a condensed treatment see the chapter on Jones in Buck Rainey, Saddle Aces of the Cinema (A. S. Barnes & Co., 1980). A newer source is the chapter by R. Philip Loy, "Buck Jones: An Old Time Cowboy" in Gary A. Yoggy, editor, Back in the Saddle: Essays on Western Film and Television Actors (McFarland & Co., 1998). For his Masonic record, I appreciate the efforts of Brother Harold Hand, Secretary of South Pasadena Lodge No. 290, which merged with Henry S. Orme Lodge some years ago. I also appreciate the encouragement and suggestions of Sir Knight Norman K. Lincoln of Eaton, Ohio, and the research on the 233 Club, done some years ago by the late Companion Jerry Erickson.

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 32°, a professor of history at the University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio, is Eminent Commander of Athens Commandery No. 15, Athens, Ohio. He resides at 111 East High Street, OH 45651-1111



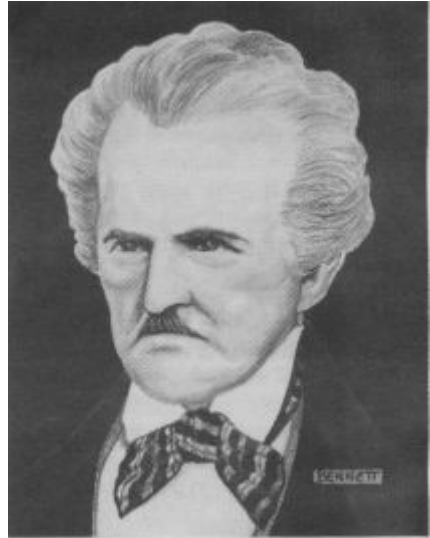
Part II: John Anthony Quitman: The Natchez Hotspur

by Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 33rd FPS

In 1833, Quitman's two young sons died of cholera at Monmouth, two apart; Edward on May 18 and John on May 20. Eliza and John were desolated at their great loss, but normal life resumed after a time. Quitman was elected state senator in 1835. Immediately upon being seated in the senior state governing body, he was elected to preside over it. During the course of that year, Quitman agreed to become president of a public railroad proposed to operate between Natchez and Jackson, Mississippi. It was intended to link the Mississippi River trade route with the Pearl River at Jackson. The enterprise, albeit a worthy one, eventually foundered from lack of funding.

The war tocsin sounded in Texas in March 1836 with the fall of the Alamo. John Quitman heard the call and decided to join the freedom fight. He announced that his volunteer militia company, "The Fencibles," would go to Texas. Quitman had organized the company in April 1824, and he was elected captain at that time. The Fencibles boarded a steamer on April 5, 1836, and arrived in Nacogdoches, Texas, on April 12. They were soon informed that the war in Texas had ended at San Jacinto on April 21. The Fencibles were back in Natchez on May 27. The most notable events related to their activity were the liberal donations Quitman made to families dispossessed during the brief struggle. Those totaled some \$10,000.

At the death of Mississippi Congressman Dickson in 1836, Quitman resigned his seat in the State Senate to become a candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives. Although Martin Van Buren was a Democrat and a candidate for the presidency, he was unpopular in Mississippi because of his position on



General John A. Quitman as a prominent Natchez attorney and legislator. Artwork by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett.

states rights and his support of high tariffs. Opposed to Van Buren's policies but loyal to the Democratic party, Quitman supported the New Englander. The onus attached to his support cost him Congressman Dickson's vacant seat, even though Van Buren's financial policies promised to lead the country out of the deep depression of 1837.

The election defeat hardly created a ripple in Quitman's life. He had military concerns and another yellow fever epidemic to worry about. He was also involved in the lingering financial problems of the Mississippi Railroad Company.

The governor of Mississippi appointed Quitman a brigadier general in command of the state militia in 1837, deeming it advisable in light of the ominous political

problems with Mexico over the question of granting statehood to the Republic of Texas. Quitman immediately turned his attention to preparing the Mississippi Militia for the possibility of active duty. For the time being, General Quitman curtailed his activity in the law office.

On May 25, 1839, Quitman sailed to England for the express purpose of selling obligation bonds for the stalled railroad venture in Europe. His sales presentation, recounting the advantages of investing in a sound public transportation facility, fell on deaf ears. The financial panic of 1837 had paralyzed Europe as well as the United States. Nobody was looking for an investment venture. Quitman returned to Natchez empty-handed. He came home to monumental financial worries of his own, as he picked up the threads of his legal practice.

During the course of the financial panic, Quitman's real estate holdings depreciated dramatically. He found he had a \$95,000 personal debt, plus another amounting to \$40,000 in guaranteed loans he had cosigned for friends and associates. His most valuable unencumbered assets were 160 slaves. Extremely sensitive to the well-being of his slaves, Quitman was adamant in his refusal to sell them off to raise money. He threw himself into his legal and business activities with a burning determination to recoup his financial setback by hard work and long hours. In two years, he was once again on sound financial footing, a testimony to his business acumen and resourcefulness.

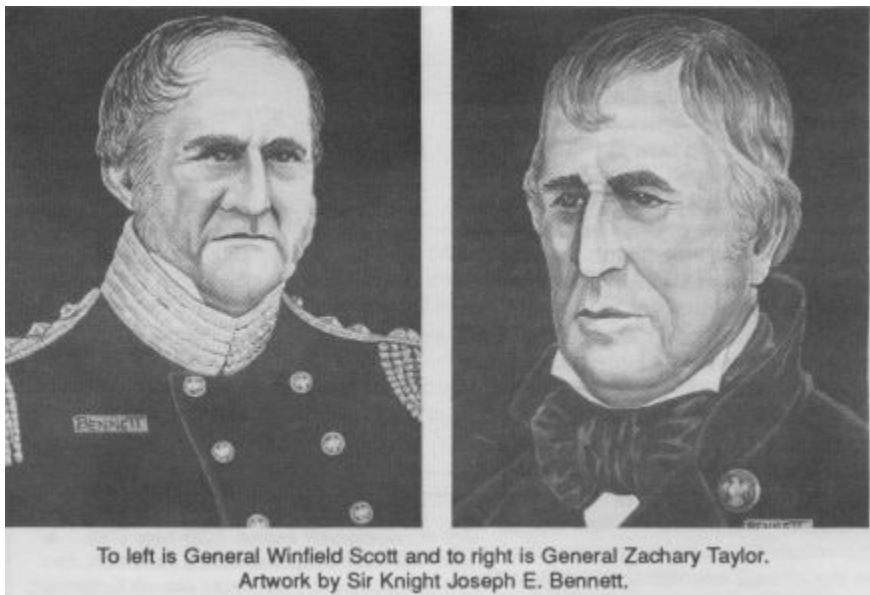
In his role as the Commander of the Mississippi State Militia, Quitman was promoted to the rank of major general in 1841. The situation between the U.S. and Mexico continued to become more ominous as time passed. By the time Mexico declared war on the United States on April 23, 1846, Quitman had the state militia ready to march. A call for Mississippi volunteers failed to come from President James Knox Polk. When Congress authorized calling 50,000 volunteers on May 13 without beckoning to Mississippi, Quitman

went to Washington, D.C. to learn the reason. President Polk had not extended the courtesy of responding to Quitman's letter offering the state's services.

The answer was not complicated. Polk disliked Quitman; in fact, he did not have confidence that military figures could make sound political decisions. Cold and distant with most people he did not know well, Polk was indecisive and prone to seek compromise in a difficult situation. Compelled by necessity to leave military command in the hands of generals Winfield Scott and Zachary Taylor, he disliked both and had little confidence in their ability to conduct the war successfully. That was Polk's frame of mind when Quitman arrived, although he received the Mississippian with courtesy and listened to his arguments. It required all the political pressure senators Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun could muster to persuade Polk to appoint Quitman an officer in the U. S. Army. Every member in Congress from Louisiana and Mississippi joined in the efforts of Clay and Calhoun. Polk finally conceded and appointed Quitman a brigadier general on July 7, 1846.

The way was open for Mississippi to assume a role in the Mexican War. General Quitman would lead her volunteer militia to Mexico. Assigned to General Zachary Taylor's army, Quitman arrived in Camargo, Mexico, on the Rio Grande River, August 17, 1846. He took command of the 3rd U.S. Brigade, consisting of volunteers from Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. The immediate challenge General Taylor confronted was the capture of Monterey and cutting off northern Mexico from the balance of the country.

Quitman's brigade was attached to a division of volunteers under the overall command of General Benjamin F. Butler. The total number of U.S. troops in the the three divisions assembled northeast of Monterey numbered about 6,200. Their artillery was sparse, and the volunteer field equipment was inferior. They were outnumbered by the Mexican defenders at Monterey when they arrived on



September 18, 1846. General Pedro Ampudia had 6,000 seasoned regulars, 1,500 rancheros, and many armed citizens ready and waiting to defend their stone houses. The entire city was a fortress, ringed by impregnable fortifications and natural defenses.

The three-day battle was a bloody one for the U.S. Army. Taylor divided his army by ordering General William Jenkins Worth to deploy his division to the northwest to encircle Monterey. His goal was to cut the supply road from Saltillo, west of the city, and isolate Monterey from reinforcements. Taylor concentrated his other troops northeast of the city to hammer from that direction. Quitman's role in the northeastern assault was an attack on September 21 against Fort Teneria (a fortified tannery) on the eastern outskirts of Monterey, a city of 15,000. Under withering small arms fire from the defenders, Quitman achieved his objective and managed a brief house-by-house incursion into the city streets. He had a horse shot from under him in the day-long engagement. The following morning, Quitman renewed his assault in the streets of Monterey.

Worth had been successful in his mission, as was Quitman. On the morning of September 24, General Ampudia, fearful that the ammunition magazine in the city of Monterey would be detonated by artillery fire, asked for terms. The Mexican army marched out of Monterey on the 25th carrying their colors as a condition of the eight-week armistice granted by General Zachary Taylor. Quitman was livid over the lenient terms per-milled by Taylor. He was convinced nothing less than reducing the city by force and dictating unconditional terms qualified as an honorable peace. Nevertheless, Taylor was handcuffed by Polk's timid policies, and the president's paranoid intent to gain a peaceful solution. Taylor was compelled to conform to his policies. It cost the American forces some 500 men to obtain an armistice.

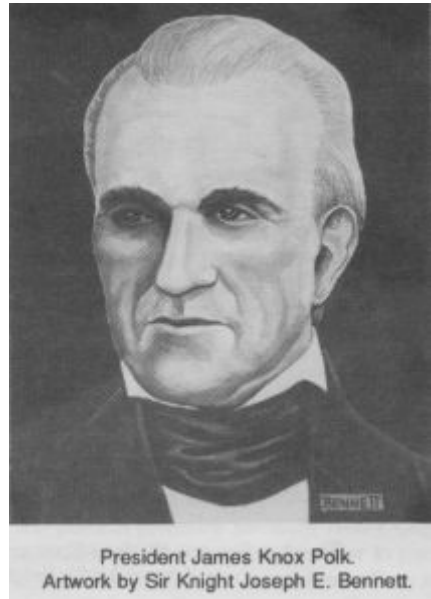
Although virtually all of northern Mexico was in American hands by the end of 1846, President Polk was unhappy with the conduct of the war in the field. He was convinced a civilian commander with the rank of lieutenant general should take command. He desired Senator Thomas H. Benton of Missouri to fill such a role.

Although a fine legislator and a dedicated public servant, Benton had no military experience. He was sufficiently astute to urge Polk to give up the notion. Benton argued that the American people were restive, and losing faith in Polk's policies. Nothing less than an all-out offensive ending with the capitulation of Mexico City would satisfy the public, Benton insisted. Reluctantly, the president agreed, and appointed General Winfield Scott general-in-chief, even though both Scott and Zachary Taylor had known political ambitions. Both would be benefited politically by the publicity they would enjoy from a spectacular victory over Mexico.

General Scott launched an amphibious assault on the beach 12 miles below the Mexican seaport city of Vera Cruz on March 9, 1847. Quitman had arrived with his command on February 9 and took part in the assault and the siege of Vera Cruz, which followed Scott's landing. Cut off from both land and sea and under severe artillery bombardment, the city surrendered to Scott on March 29, 1847. The plan for the offensive assault against Mexico City was planned to utilize the same route used by Cortez and the Spanish conquistadors. On April 8, General David Twiggs's division moved out at the head of the line, and the march was under way.

Even though General Scott was in command, President Polk arranged to have a civilian in the field to function as "a commissioner to attend the army." He dispatched Nicholas P. Trist, the chief clerk in the State Department, to Scott's headquarters with orders to exert all possible influence to assure that presidential policies were implemented. Trist's reception was less than cordial.

Very soon after arriving at Vera Cruz, N. P. Trist began to negotiate a possible peace arrangement. He conferred secretly with General Gideon J. Pillow, Polk's former law partner and close friend. The plotters also met with British and Mexican officials in the effort to arrange a negotiated peace. Eventually, the results of Trist's activities



were shared in secret with General Winfield Scott. He called a meeting of key officers on July 17, 1847. Scott outlined a plan presented to him which indicated that Mexico would make peace for a payment in cash of three million dollars. Scott called for a vote of the officers at the meeting. Of course, General Pillow voted to adopt the plan. Several present opposed. The most outspoken objector was General Quitman. He was outraged that such a perfidious arrangement could be considered. It was, in his opinion, disgraceful and dishonorable. He further proclaimed it a vile plot to ensnare General Scott in a devious scheme, and then discredit him for complicity. The meeting ended without a decision.

The details of the plot to purchase peace in the Mexican War was leaked to the press, and the *Baltimore Sun* broke the story. The uproar in the states generated a board of inquiry almost immediately. Nicholas Trist refused to testify, and General Scott merely issued an informal statement. Quitman refused a direct request by President Polk to issue a written

ten statement. On the second presidential request, Quitman confirmed the meeting and proposed money payment, but his remarks were so sparse that no conclusion was possible. The war continued.

Part III of the John Anthony Quitman story will run in the April 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

TEMPLARS! Any of you who have anecdotes (either funny or informational) about a Templar, a group of Templars, a Commandery, a Grand Commandery, or the Grand Encampment, which might be of historical interest; please write it (by hand, if you wish), and send it to me. I will see that it is "laid up among the archives of the Grand Encampment, to be printed in this magazine at an appropriate time and in any history published in the next century: Jacob C. Baird, Chairman of the Committee on Templar History, 1334 Royal Road, Norwood, MO 65717-9466; e-mail: jcbaird@windo.missouri.org

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are 2 inches in diameter and a full 3/16-inch thick. Each coin comes with an acrylic case and stand. The coins are available on a first-come, first-served basis at a cost of \$25.00 each. The corporation also has for sale a limited number of 200th anniversary coins of Harmony Lodge No. 42 of Waterbury, Connecticut, at a price of \$10.00 each. Call Joe Guisto, (203) 756-2045

Tyler Mason Lodge No. 1233, A.F. & AM., Tyler, Texas, is having a fund-raiser for its Diamond Jubilee Celebration. For sale are 75th anniversary: bronze, shinning bronze, and silver coins. They are \$6.00, \$9.00, and \$21.00, respectively including postage. The face has "Tyler Masonic Lodge #1233 A.F. & AM." with the letter "G" and square and compass on a star. The reverse has the columns, seeing eye, altar, and square and compass. Check or money order to Tyler Masonic Lodge No. 1233; mail to Tyler Masonic Lodge No. 1233, 1329 East Fifth Street, Tyler, TX 75701

For sale: Masonic wall clocks with six-year guaranty. They make a great gift for a Masonic friend or candidate. This is a fundraiser for Chapter, R.A.M. Each is \$10.00, or buy 3 for \$25 00, shipping included. Please indicate: Blue Lodge or Shrine clock face. Waukesha Chapter No. 37, RAM., P.O. Box 322, Waukesha, WI 53187

Hillsboro Chapter No. 40, RAM., Hillsboro, Ohio, has 150th anniversary, commemorative coins for sale. They are antique bronze with 1849-1999 date and Chapter name. \$4.00 each including postage. Hillsboro Chapter No. 40, RAM; and send to Gerald A. Newman, Sec.; Hillsboro Chapter; 821S. High Street Hillsboro, OH 45133

Sprig of Acacia lapel pins: Each handcrafted pin is sterling silver with a 24 karat gold vermeil

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For sale: The Medal of Honor The Letter Gin 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

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For sale: Masonic collectibles, new and old items. I also have Masonic medallions, badges, metal truck banks, all types of afghans from Masonic bones and other collectible 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

Wanted: Past Master and Sir Knight seeks programs, photos, posters, scrapbooks, letters, and other historical items from the field of professional wrestling, particularly former wrestlers who are/were Masons. S. D. Johnson; 2410 S Street, No. 10; Sacramento; CA 95816; (916) 451-8170; e-mail duff@midtown.net. (member CAC)

Buying all U.S. and foreign coins, paper money, tokens, medals, silver, proof sets, etc. Buyer has forty years experience. Also selling U.S. gold. A Percentage of profits to KTEF. Randy Mogren, 8 Gould Street, Milbury, MA 01527, (508) 865-4816.

Wanted: plumb bobs. Yes, Sir Knight collects old, brass plumb bobs and is willing to pay a fair price for unusual ones. Send description and photo if possible to D. C. Hamrick, 2811 13th Avenue, Vienna, WV 26105

For sale: (1) xylophone for Lodge/church accompaniment. Each tone is made from 440 stainless with exquisite tone. Manufacturer is Jen-Co. It's mounted on mobile wood and steel, 3-ft. by 4-ft. by 36-inch carriage. Includes variety of strikes with foot operated tone dampener, about 1940s. Best offer. David L. Burner, P.O. Box 3573, Scranton, PA 18505, (570) 963-9202

For rent: vacation house with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths - Fairfield Mountains, Lake Lure, North Carolina. Call (704) 482-2810 for details.

Wanted: 8-track tapes for family enjoyment in our '67 convertible with factory installed 8-track. We enjoy all varieties of music. Thank you. Kenneth Scott, 42 Fox Run Road, Tops field, MA 01983-1609, (978) 887-2245 after 6 p.m.

Books for sale: The Confederate Monument at Shiloh Battlefield about monument erected in 1917, with dedication in 1916 performed by Masonic ceremonies (Short book details creation of park, the U.D.C. monument, its Masonic dedication and the unveiling.); The Life of a Common Soldier, the personal remembrances of a Civil War private, his trials and hardships; The Fight'n' Parson, General Mark Lowery, C.S.A., a recounting of the life of a Baptist minister turned general from north Mississippi. Each book is \$4.00 plus \$1.00 shipping per order. Joe Gillis, P.O. Box 713, Adamsville, TN 38310-0713

For sale: antique carousel horses. For list contact B. Nelson, 1157 Willow Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

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