James Edward Oglethorpe: a member of the British peerage with symbols of his life in Masonry, his connection to the Southeastern Indian tribes, and his role in founding the Georgia colony.
It's Time to Improve Our Order and Freemasonry!

This is the new millennium! It is time to look forward and improve our order and Freemasonry. Wherever I travel, Masons are working together with a renewed enthusiasm to make our Fraternity better and more relevant to the modern times. We need to retain our traditional values and morals, but new methods need to be examined and used when they are found worthy. If we attempted to rebuild King Solomon's Temple in the manner described in our ritual, we would not be successful. Modern times call for new techniques.

As I write this message, we are preparing to leave for a Templar trip to Turkey. Fifteen members of the original group that had planned to tour the Holy Land are planning to go with us and visit some of the Christian churches founded by the Apostle Paul and the remains of structures built during the Crusades. The sites in Turkey vary from a possible location of the Garden of Eden to Mt. Ararat to the "greatest church in Christendom" (now a mosque). It will be a wonderful trip, and I will tell you some of the highlights next month.

The 21st Century York Rite Odyssey is now underway. Talk to your friends and tell them how much you enjoy being a member of the York Rite of Freemasonry. Sign them up for this historic year. For the first time all the national and international York Rite organizations in the United States have planned a membership program together. The most important leaders in any group are your local High Priest, Thrice Illustrious Master, and Eminent Commander! They should be planning for degrees and orders in your Temple and to attend York Rite Days and activities in your area.

Check the list of Grand Commandery sessions in this issue and try to attend and meet the Grand Encampment officers. We would like to visit with all of you. We are enthusiastic about Masonry and all its bodies!

Dr. William Jackson Jones
Grand Master, KCT, GCT
Knight Templar
"The Magazine for York Rite Masons - and Others, too"

JANUARY: Extensive coverage of the 33rd Annual Voluntary Campaign, including the recent contributors to the 33° Club, starts on page 5. General Chairman Pruitt has words of inspiration on page 5. You can begin watching the progress of your state; see page 8. Grand Master Jones has more to say concerning the 21st Century York Rite Odyssey in his message on page 2, and Membership Chairman Simons adds further information on that project on page 15. There is more from the Committee on Religious Activities on page 14. This month we feature the stories of two Masons who are beloved by their states, David Wooster of Connecticut and James Oglethorpe of Georgia, pages 19 and 23; next month we will continue the story of Georgia's Oglethorpe. For your information the dates of the 2001 meetings of Masonic organizations starts on page 9, and the dates of the state Annual Conclaves is on page 13.

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January 2001

Volume XLVII Number 1

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

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Grand Master
and Publisher
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PO Box 46
Villa Grove, IL 61956-0048

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and Editor

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

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.

Mail magazine materials and correspondence to Editor, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630-2460.
Needlepoint Kits Available: Several years ago the Grand Encampment began offering needlepoint kits for sale. These kits include a printed canvas with the Knight Templar emblem in red, white, yellow, and black on a white background. Kits are still available and include the printed canvas, needle and yarn (finished size is 10 by 10 inches). The cost of a single kit is $11.50 postpaid, or $10.50 each in quantities of three or more. Orders may be sent to: Grand Recorder; Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460

61st Triennial Conclave mementos available: 61st Triennial Conclave plates, $15.00 each plus $5.00 S & H (limited supply); 61st Triennial badges, $5.00 each, gold or silver, plus $2.00 S & H (while supply lasts); 61st Triennial program books, $3.00 each plus $2.00 S & H (limited supply), payable to the Grand Encampment, and send to: 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
The 33rd Annual Voluntary Campaign dedicated to 330 Scottish Rite Brethren is off to a great start. Not only have a goodly number of $33.00 contributions been received (and even some over that amount) in application to the 33° Club, many of them have included comments corroborating that the Brethren appreciate this joint effort between York Rite and Scottish Rite.

For example, Most Worshipful Anthony Wordlow, Past Grand Master of California, sent a note saying that he thought it was a "Grrrreat Idea!" (In case you are not aware of it, M.W. Tony's nickname is "Tony the Tiger.")

Brother Harry Baxter, a member of the Burlingame, California, Scottish Rite Valley as well as Palo Alto Commandery No. 47, wrote: "Great idea, and I'm glad I'm eligible to play a part in its success. Good luck!"

This early response to the dedication of the campaign is encouraging. We did not specify just where these contributions are to be sent, so some of them have come in to the Eye Foundation office, and some have been received by yours truly. Naturally, we are happy to receive them, regardless of location. At this point I will suggest that the most efficient approach will be to send them to Chicago. The address of the Eye Foundation office is: 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 100; Chicago, IL 60630-2460. However, if anyone wants to include a note, either in support or to make suggestions for improvement, I am more than anxious to receive them. Keep those cards and letters coming, folks!

This edition of the magazine contains the names of the special contributors to date. By the time it is published, our lapel pin should be available, and it should be in the mail shortly. Thank you very much, Sir Knights and Brethren!

In addition to the 33° Club, all of you Sir Knights have also had the opportunity to make a special contribution to the Eye Foundation. You received the direct mail solicitation last month. I sincerely hope that you have already sent in a generous contribution. If not, won't you please do it right away? Everyone's participation is needed if we are going to reach our goal of $1.5 million in contributions, exclusive of wills and bequests.

My Lady Shirley joins me in sending each of you and your lady and family a very sincere and heart-felt HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sir Knight W. Bruce Pruitt, Chairman of the 33rd Annual Voluntary Campaign, Past Department Commander, Southwestern, and Past Grand Commander of California; is a member of Palo Alto Commandery No. 47, Palo Alto, California. He resides at 14101 Manuella Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. His personal e-mail address: is wbpruitt@aol.com. For information on the KTEF, send e-mail to ktef@knightstemplar.org or call (773) 205-3838.
### Contributors to the 33° Club—33rd Annual Voluntary Campaign
(through December 6, 2000)

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<td>J. Kevin Johnson (WI)</td>
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<td>Larry G. Hettich (PA)</td>
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<td>Irlie R. Hicks (KY)</td>
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<td>Earl D. Barlow (MS)</td>
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<td>George L. Marshall, Jr. (AL)</td>
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<td>Robert E. Price (IN)</td>
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<td>P. Michael Nielsen (NY)</td>
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<td>John T. Parsons (NE)</td>
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<td>Scottish Rite Almoners’ Fund</td>
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<td>(WA) in honor of Henry F.T.</td>
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<td>Monteiro, 33°</td>
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Use the Form below for the Thirty-third Degree Club! Send to:
The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 100, Chicago, IL 60630–2460.

### Thirty-third Degree Club
Contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Donor ____________________________  
Address ____________________________

In Honor Of: ____________________________

Donor’s Commandery (for Campaign credit) __________

Enclosed: $33.00 __________

Scottish Rite Valley __________  
Address ____________________________

Other: $ ________ __________

Credit Card: Visa _____  
MasterCard _____  
expiration date: __________

Number ____________________________  
Signature ____________________________

### IN MEMORIAM

George J. Toman  
North Dakota  
Grand Commander—1972  
Born: March 26, 1912  
Died: November 8, 2000
HOW TO JOIN THE KTEF GRAND COMMANDER'S AND GRAND MASTER'S CLUBS: Any individual may send a check in the amount of $100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution of $100 or more will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual contributions of $100 or more. Once contributions total $1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 100; Chicago; IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-3838.

Largest Trusts to KTEF as of June 30, 1999

Otto Rinderhagen (WA)
Merrit J. Crawford (NC)
Lenn Magill (ID)
Robert F. Boyler (CA)
Durand Family Trust (FL)
Ora Morris (AZ)

Largest Wills and Bequests to KTEF as of June 30, 1999

Leo G. Ware (OH)
Verna M. Ammons (CA)
Joseph S. Lewis (OK)
Raymond K. Simmons (FL)
Stella Mae Harris (CA)
William H. Niemann (NJ)
Louise M. Youngman (NE)
John W. Waddle (NJ)
Glenn H. Fankhauser (TX)
Willard F. George (PA)
Theodore Underwood (OH)
Jay A. Newman (UT)
Wilhelmine J. Vaughn (AZ)
Dr. J. Clair Donley (PA)
William T. Green, Jr. (NJ)
Doyle Reed Griswold (KS)
Elmer C. Tucker Estate (TX)

Grand Master's Club And Grand Commander's Club Pins

Life Sponsorship Pins Available

This very attractive pin in the shape of a shield is available for a donation of $7.00 each or $5.00 each in lots of twenty. Show your Commandery members that you are a Life Sponsor of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation by ordering yours today. Pins are available to any Knight Templar who already has purchased a Life Sponsorship or who intends to do so. Contact: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; 5097 N. Elston Ave., Suite 100; Chicago; IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-3838.
Kentucky Lodge Receives Plaque From The Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Brother Ray Becknell (right), Master of Robert M. Sirkle Lodge No. 954, F & A.M., Lexington, Kentucky, receives a plaque from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., for a contribution given by the Robert M. Sirkle 954 Club, which is the charity arm of the Lodge. Presenting the plaque is Sir Knight Carl Penske (left), Secretary/Treasurer of the 954 Club. The Lodge hopes that by publishing this news item with photo, other Lodges may be encouraged to make similar contributions.

Here’s Why We Support the KTEF! A Doctor Writes:

As I was doing a laser on Ms. Maria Njoku today, it occurred to me how much good your organization does for the local community.

I can’t tell you the number of patients that I have been able to help, either by improving eyesight or preventing eyes from becoming blind, over the past 20+ years that I have practiced in Austin.

While certainly your financial assistance does not cover all of the cost, it is enough that the majority of the hospitals and physicians that have expenses associated with treating patients are able to cover those expenses and thus provide the care that these patients so desperately need.

I simply wish to thank you for your good intentions and good deeds that you have done over the years.

Lyle D. Koen, M.D., Austin, Texas
# Masonic Conferences—2001

## Meetings Held During “Masonic Week” in Washington, D.C.

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<tr>
<td>February 15–17</td>
<td>The Philalethes Society</td>
<td>Grand College of Rites, U.S.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>(annually)</td>
<td>Grand Master’s Council, A.M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Council of the Nine Muses No. 13, A.M.D.</td>
<td>Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the U.S.A.</td>
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<td>Great Priory of America, Chevaliers Biefaissants de La Cite Sainte</td>
<td>Great Chief’s Council No. 0, Knight Masons, U.S.A.</td>
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<td>Ye Antient Order of Corks</td>
<td>Grand Council, Knight Masons of the U.S.A.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Society of Blue Friars</td>
<td>Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grand College of America, HRAKTP</td>
<td>Masonic Order of the Bath in the U.S.A.</td>
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## Grand College of America, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests

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<td>P.O. Box 685</td>
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<td>Water Valley, MS 38965</td>
<td>1501 W. Laurel</td>
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## Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America

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<td>Phoenix, AZ (annually)</td>
<td>Robert Conley</td>
<td>Albert T. Ames</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>P.O. Box 324</td>
<td>Executive Sec./Treas.</td>
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<td>Harbert, MI 49115</td>
<td>110-R Bacon Street</td>
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## Conference of Grand Secretaries of North America

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<td>February 19–21</td>
<td>Phoenix, AZ (annually)</td>
<td>Stewart W. Miner</td>
<td>Russell W. McClelland</td>
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<td>5428 MacArthur Blvd., N.W.</td>
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<td>Washington, D.C. 20016-2524</td>
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<td>Wallingford, CT 06492</td>
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## George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association

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<td>Paul E. Ellis</td>
<td>George D. Seghers</td>
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<td>529 McKean Street</td>
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<td>Seaford, DE 19973</td>
<td>101 Callahan Drive</td>
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<td>Alexandria, VA 22301–2751</td>
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## The Masonic Service Association of the United States

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<td>A. Harold Small</td>
<td>Richard E. Fletcher</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>305 Small’s Lane</td>
<td>Executive Sec./Treas.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kalispell, MT 59901</td>
<td>8120 Fenton Street</td>
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<td>Silver Spring, MD 20910</td>
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<td>May 15–17</td>
<td>Spokane, WA (annually)</td>
<td>Gail Ann Birch 23640 Tuck Road Farmington Hills, MI 48336 Contact: Barbara C. Eagan Supreme Worthy Scribe 9731 S. Mansfield Ave. Oak Lawn, IL 60453</td>
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<td><strong>GRAND COUNCIL, LADIES ORIENTAL SHRINE OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.</strong></td>
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<td>May 12–19</td>
<td>Alexandria, VA (annually)</td>
<td>Jane M. Owens 602 Kearney Ct., S.W. Vienna, VA 22180-6426 Contact: Marsha Maxwell Grand Recorder 3710 Balboa Place Louisville, KY 40229-3049</td>
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<td><strong>SUPREME FOREST, TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON OF NORTH AMERICA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 31–June 3</td>
<td>Niagara Falls, NY (annually)</td>
<td>Raymond J. Vogel 79 Crystal Ct. Bel Air, MD 21014 Contact: A. Ralph Horlbeck Supreme Scribe 2609 N. Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17110</td>
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<td><strong>UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL, RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE</strong></td>
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<td>May 31–June 3</td>
<td>Hartford, CT (annually)</td>
<td>Frederick H. Lorenson 19 Dayton Road Naugatuck, CT 06770-3801 Contact: Ned E. Dull Grand Recorder P.O. Box 5716 Springfield, IL 62705-5716</td>
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<td><strong>SUPREME TEMPLE, DAUGHTERS OF THE NILE</strong></td>
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<td>June 10–14</td>
<td>Albuquerque, NM (annually)</td>
<td>Sharalyn E. Wininger 1534 Murray Circle Los Angeles, CA 90026-1644 Contact: Karen D. Burk, Supreme Princess Recorder 2001 Broadway Helena, MT 59601</td>
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<td>June 13–16</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO (annually)</td>
<td>Col. Charles E. McNoldy 13519 Brinn Court Manassas, VA 20112-4753 Contact: Nelson O. Newcombe National Secretary/Treas. 8301 East Boulevard Dr. Alexandria, VA 22308–1399–26</td>
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<td><strong>HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL, INC.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 29–July 1</td>
<td>Sioux Falls, SD (annually)</td>
<td>Paul G. Wheeler 1805 W. Sunflower Circle Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2282 Contact: Ike Hoshauer, Jr. International Secretary 3901 Kathleen Avenue Evansville, IN 47714</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF DeMOLAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14–16</td>
<td>Anaheim, CA (annually)</td>
<td>Ross Van Ness Bayer 10200 N. Ambassador Dr. Kansas City, MO 64153 Contact: Carol A. Newman Asst. Executive Director 10200 N. Ambassador Dr. Kansas City, MO 64153</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF THE AMARANTH, INC.
June 25–29
Indianapolis, IN
(annually)
Current Supreme Royal Matron:
Nora Daffin
516 Third Avenue
Destin, FL 32541-1744
Contact:
Gayle V. Adank
Supreme Secretary
P.O. Box 557579
Chicago, IL 60655-7579
IMPERIAL COUNCIL, AASONMS
July 9–13
Las Vegas, NV
(annually)
Current Imperial Potentate:
Robert N. Turnipseed
P.O. Box 1870
Hayden, ID 83835
Contact:
Charles G. Cumpstone, Jr.
Executive Vice President
P.O. Box 31356
Tampa, FL 33631-3356
YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE OF NORTH AMERICA
July 26–29
Rochester, MN
(annually)
Current Governor General:
Wayne E. Turton
500 Temple Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201
Contact:
George C. Sellars
Secretary General
500 Temple Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS
July 21–24, 2002
Orlando, FL
(biennially)
Current Supreme Worthy Advisor:
Mrs. Marjorie Wilson
P.O. Box 1868
McAlester, OK 75402
Contact:
Barbara Russell
Supreme Recorder
P.O. Box 1868
McAlester, OK 75402
SUPREME GUARDIAN COUNCIL, INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF JOB’S DAUGHTERS
August 1–5
Kansas City, MO
(annually)
Current Supreme Guardian:
Judy Masters
8615 W. 61st Street
Merriam, KS 66202
Contact:
Susan M. Goolsby
Executive Manager
233 W. 6th Street
Papillion, NE 68046
GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE U.S.A.
August, 2003
St. Louis, MO
(triennially)
Current Grand Master:
William J. Jones
1 S. Main St., P.O. Box 48
Villa Grove, IL 61956-0048
Contact:
Charles R. Neumann
Grand Recorder
5097 N. Elston Avenue
Suite 101
Chicago, IL 60630-2460
CONVENT GENERAL, KNIGHTS OF THE YORK CROSS OF HONOUR
Aug. 30–Sept. 1
Boise, ID
(annually)
Current Grand Master-General:
David H. Volkman
832 N Street
Lewiston, ID 83501
Contact:
Kenneth D. Buckley
Grand Registrar-General
P.O. Box 656
Beggs, OK 74421-0656
SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°, A.A.S.R., N.M.J., U.S.A.
September 23–25
Indianapolis, IN
(annually)
Current Sovereign Grand Commander:
Robert O. Ralston
P.O. Box 519
Lexington, MA 02420
Contact:
Robert O. Ralston
Grand Commander
P.O. Box 519
Lexington, MA 02420
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event/Group</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International</td>
<td>William Schoene, Jr.</td>
<td>303 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John F. Kirby</td>
<td>General Grand Secretary, P.O. Box 489, Danville, KY 40423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International</td>
<td>Charles E. Van Etten</td>
<td>9836 Van Etten Road, Gowanda, NY 14070</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ronald E. Fullerlove</td>
<td>General Grand Recorder, P.O. Box 310, Sherrard, IL 61281-0310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supreme Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant</td>
<td>Mrs. Homer Hendrickson</td>
<td>901 E. 31st Ave., No. A-21, Hutchinson, KS 67502-4268</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Joseph F. Chalker</td>
<td>Supreme Recorder, 1009 Valen Road, Westminster, MD 21157-5824</td>
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<td></td>
<td>William G. Sizemore</td>
<td>Grand Executive Director, 1733 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20009-3199</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Order of Scotland</td>
<td>Edward H. Fowler, Jr.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 11, Charleroi, PA 15022-0011</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edward H. Fowler, Jr.</td>
<td>Provincial Grand Master, P.O. Box 11, 525 McKean, Charleroi, PA 15022-0011</td>
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<td>Betty J. Briggs</td>
<td>Right Worthy Grand Sec. 1618 New Hampshire Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20009-2549</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supreme Council, Grottoes of North America</td>
<td>Ruby Kalkman</td>
<td>4240 Vernon Ave., N.W., Canton, OH 44709</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sharon K. Carroll</td>
<td>3305 7th Street, East Moline, IL 61244-3258</td>
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<td>DATE</td>
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<td>February 25–27</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
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Religious Activities
by the Committee on Religious Activities

What is a Religious Activity? If we are who we say we are, that is, if we are Christian Masons whose mission is "The Support and Defense of the Christian Religion," then every act we perform; whether as individuals or in a body of Knights Templar and in uniform or not, whether in our asylum or in public; becomes a Religious Activity.

In what ways can we as Knights Templar participate in Religious Activities?:

1. By attempting to be, at all times, as moral persons as we can be, living according to Christian principles and speaking out against the immorality that we encounter in our everyday lives;
2. By being active members of churches of Christian denomination and by informing our fellow church members that we are members of an organization which supports them in their church's mission;
3. By public appearances in uniform as a group:
   a. at Easter services
   b. at Ascension Day services
   c. at a Christmas observance
   d. as funeral honor guards
   e. at Grand Lodge functions such as apron presentations or cornerstone dedications
   f. at approved public parades

What positive effects can Religious Activities have on our Commanderies?

1. They educate the general public and other Masons of our mission of support for the Christian Religion. It is good public relations.
2. They educate our own membership of our mission so that they will be better prepared to solicit members and to be proud of their role in our mission.
3. They help develop Esprit de Corps by giving all our knights a chance to participate with the organization even though they are not ritualists or officers.
4. They increase membership acquisition and retention.

What are the limiting factors which prevent a Commandery from participating in more Religious Activities?

1. the lack of uniforms
2. the lack of training so that the knights do not know how to execute the sword manual and perform basic marching commands
3. The lack of sufficient knights
4. The lack of leadership to organize the Commandery and participate in the activities
5. The lack of education as to what activities could be done and what our mission is.

Sir Knights, Religious Activities are our visibility. If a Commandery does not participate in them, the general public and also potential Knights Templar will seldom know that our mission is "The Support and Defense of the Christian Religion." If we are to survive, we must tell them. Religious Activities are essential to success in our personal dedication as Knights Templar, in our Commanderies, and to our mission.

Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar!

The Committee on Religious Activities:
James C. Taylor, P.D.C., Chairman
James N. Karnegis, P.G.C., member
Robert J. Cave, P.G.C., member
The York Rite family is uniting to promote The 21st Century York Rite Odyssey, a membership development program slated to begin in January of 2001. Following on the tremendous success of the Templary 2000 Crusade; the Grand Encampment, General Grand Council, and Grand Chapter have joined forces to create a win-win-win for membership in the York Rite. 

Drawing on the power of personal involvement and leveraging the assets of all three York Rite bodies, The 21st Century York Rite Odyssey is bound to succeed. Speaking for the Grand Encampment Membership Committee, I am delighted to endorse this "triple play" for membership growth and development. By utilizing the combined strength of the three York Rite bodies, we plan to promote the benefits of membership in York Rite Masonry.

Previously, we have provided detailed methods for membership growth and retention. Through the Grand Encampment Membership Committee and the General Chairman of the Templary 2000 Crusade, Bill R. Clutter, KCT, H.P.D.C.; many tools were provided to assist in planning and delivering a first-class membership development program. The York Rite Membership Development Program, a 16-slide presentation, was distributed through Sir Knight Clutter last year and received very positive feedback. The New Member Packet, published by the Grand Encampment Membership Committee, is now available at no charge to any constituent Commandery through the Grand Encampment office. These tools and techniques will be combined with new methods to enhance the capability of all York Rite bodies to increase membership in the York Rite family.

We learned valuable lessons in promoting and executing the Templary 2000 Crusade. To name just a few: Masonic unity is essential; start the planning process earlier; build a stronger infrastructure to support membership activities; get broader coverage of information and communication; and maintain the momentum. I can assure you that the leadership of the three York Rite bodies will provide the necessary definition and information to facilitate a strong and unified membership process. In subsequent articles within this magazine and in the publications of the General Grand Council and Grand Chapter, you will receive valuable information to establish your plans, set them in action, and deliver a powerful Membership program.

Sir Knight Stanley O. Simons, KCT, H.P.D.C., and the Chairman of the Committee on Membership for the Grand Encampment, is a Past Grand Commander of Michigan and a member of Lansing Commandery No. 25, Lansing, Michigan. He resides at 10031 East San Remo Boulevard, Traverse City, MI 49684.
The banner of the Templars was called "the beauceant." This beauceant, according to the late Masonic author, John J. Robinson, was also a battle cry. The word beaux is now generally conceived to mean beautiful, but it means much more than that. In Medieval French it meant "a lofty state," for which translators have offered such terms as "noble," "glorious," and even "magnificent." As a battle cry, then, the Beau Ceant was a charge to "be noble or be glorious." (from Born in Blood by John J. Robinson)

**Its Look and Its Meaning**

The Knights Templar had two distinct battle standards that they carried into their various battles and campaigns. Both had symbolic meaning, as did many things during the medieval period of history.

The first was simply a square divided vertically into two sections. One section was black depicting the sins of the secular world that the Templar Knights had chosen to leave. The second section was white depicting the purity that the order offered them, a sort of transformation of darkness to light.

The second was a square of white. Centered in this was a Templar Cross or Cross Patte. During battle part of the Templar fighting rules was that no knight could stop fighting so long as the beauceant was flying in the air. In fact, no Templar could retreat unless outnumbered by three to one.

So important was the flying beauceant that before battle the Marshal would select ten Templars to protect him and the banner. If the Marshal was killed during fighting, the Commander of Knights would take the banner that it might fly above battle for all to see. Somewhat of a catch twenty-two was that as long as the beauceant flew, the Templars must fight on, and as long as the Templars fought, the beauceant must fly.
The coming of the Commanderies to Chicago, Illinois, in the summer of 1880 was an event never to be forgotten by an eyewitness. It demonstrated the strength and zeal of Templar Masonry with a force that has put to silence the cavilings of our opponents. The above lines were set to martial music by Frederic W. Root.

Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes; H.P.D.C., P.G.C. of Pennsylvania, and Campaign Chairman of past Annual Voluntary Campaigns for the KTEF, is a member of Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, Pennsylvania. Write: Charles A. Garnes, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944 or e-mail cagarnes@aol.com.
Maryland Doctor Receives Grant From Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Fall 2000 the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., presented a $30,000.00 grant to Peter Gelbach, M.D., of the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Institute, Baltimore, Maryland. The Grand Commandery of Maryland was most proud to make the award. Left to right are: Matthew Racioppa, Grand Sr. Warden; Calvin W. Parker, Grand Commander; Dr. Peter Gelbach, recipient of the grant; Dr. Morton F. Goldberg, director of the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute; and Rodolfo Aparentado, Grand Sentinel.

Grand Master Williams Of Nevada Knighted By Malta Commandery No. 3

Late fall 2000 Eminent Commander James M. Dahl of Malta Commandery No. 3, Las Vegas, Nevada, and Pre-eminent Governor of the York Rite College in Nevada announced the Knighting of George P. (Pat) Williams, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Nevada. Grand Master Williams, middle, is surrounded by, left to right: Robert Gilbert, P.G.C. of Nevada; William G. Wagoner, Generalissimo; and Michael Reinhardt, Jr. Warden. (submitted by Sir Knight Grover White, member of Malta No. 3)

Veterans' Day Services In West Babylon, New York

Above, left: Before Veterans’ Day services, Sir Knight Charles Mendell, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of New York, introduces a veteran to Noah, Yorkshire terrier belonging to Reverend Juanita Hilsenbeck, past Holy Land Pilgrim and wife of Nassau Commandery’s Walt Hilsenbeck. Above, right: Grand Commander Mendell, along with Charles and Mel Hennon, assisted Reverend Hilsenbeck in the service for veterans from Babylon Post No. 2192 held at Berkshire Nursing Center in West Babylon. Charles and Mel have assisted in other programs in Babylon and Northport.
Follow Me!
by Dr. Stephen R. Greenberg,
KYCH, 33°

Listed among the impressive Masonic heroes of the American Revolution were many who labored in Yeomanly ways to effect the great principals espoused by our Gentle Craft for the institution of freedom upon these shores.

Included among these leaders is the name of David Wooster. Here was a man who emerged from the American colonies of the 18th century as a scholar, a merchant, a distinguished military leader, and the Father of Freemasonry in Connecticut.

His narration is quite likely unknown to many; due attention to his life has often been bypassed.

David Wooster's natal day was March 2, 1711. He was the youngest of the six children born to Abraham and Mary Wooster of Stratford, Connecticut.

They were of Puritan stock and were blessed with ample financial resources to provide a good education for their offspring. David attended Yale College in New Haven, graduating in 1738.

He established himself in business as a merchant trader in his home city. Soon, however, he altered the course of his life by entering into military service in the crew of Connecticut's first home-built naval vessel. He served first on the Defense as a lieutenant, but quickly rose to the rank of captain.

It was on board this vessel during the little known "War of Jenkins Ear" that young David first saw active service from 1741 to 1743. In 1745 Wooster was placed in command of a company of infantry troops from Connecticut. He led them to glory during the siege of Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia.

Wooster so distinguished himself in this campaign that he was sent by the British army to escort prisoners back to France. From the continent Wooster traveled to London, England, where he soon became a great favorite at the court and was made a captain in the regular army under Sir William Pepell. He was also awarded half pay for life.

It is believed that his entrance into Masonry began here in England, where he was initiated into a lodge (possibly St. James Lodge) under the aegis of Lord Cranston, who was at the time Grand Master of England. It was Lord Cranston who granted a deputation to Captain Cummings, a British army officer, to form a Provincial Grand Lodge at Cape Breton after the city of Louisbourg had been won from the French.

There are others, however, who believe that David Wooster had actually received his Masonic degrees in a military lodge while serving in the Louisbourg campaign.

He returned to New Haven in 1745 to resume his civilian life. On March 6, 1745, he entered into wedlock with Mary, the 16-year-old daughter of Reverend Thomas Clap, the president of Yale College. Though much younger than her husband, she was devoted, heart and soul, to him from the time of their nuptials until she would follow him to the grave.
In 1750 David Wooster received a warrant from Thomas Oxnard, the Provincial Grand Master of Massachusetts, to establish a Masonic lodge in New Haven. The date of this warrant was November 12, 1750. This would be the first lodge in Connecticut and the seventh in New England; four being located in Boston, one in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and one in Providence, Rhode Island. A warrant was also issued for a lodge in Annapolis, Maryland, at about the same period.

The lodge at New Haven organized by Wooster was called "First Lodge of New Haven"; it was later renamed, "Hiram Lodge No. 1," and it still exists. David Wooster served as the first Worshipful Master. The initial meeting of the lodge, held in December of 1750, included six members with David Wooster as Master and Samuel Mansfield and John Elliot serving as Senior and Junior Wardens.

The fragile peace between England and France had hardly begun when in 1756 David Wooster was called again into military service as a colonel in the Connecticut militia during the French and Indian War. He served from 1756 to 1760, rising to the rank of brigadier general.

He retired in 1760, returning to New Haven with a promise of half pay from the British army, and once home he was appointed as revenue collector for the port of New Haven in addition to resuming his mercantile pursuits.

Revolt against the British Crown loomed large in 1775. David Wooster, now 65 years old, had lost none of his zeal for the defense of his country. He promptly renounced his royal commission with its salary and took to the field with the American force, serving now as a major general with the Connecticut militia. His command was in the vicinity of New York City and Long Island during the summer of 1775.

Later he marched toward Canada under the command of General Phillip Schuyler. While in Canada, Wooster assumed command of the American force with the responsibility for the military government of Canada just before General Montgomery fell, mortally wounded, at the battle of Quebec. The British, in desperation, sent strong reinforcements through the St. Lawrence River in an effort to save the city. The Americans realized that the soil of Canada had to be promptly evacuated to avert a total disaster.

Congress was greatly upset by this defeat, and David Wooster became a scapegoat. A collision with the ideas of the Congressional Commission, sent to investigate the matter, had not improved his reputation; he was relieved of his command and ordered home.

The journey southward back to Washington's headquarters was not a happy one; much confusion reigned on all sides with disaster looming large upon the horizon. Along the road back Wooster and his men passed thousands of reinforcement troops and barges loaded with supplies, but it was all too late to render help in his military campaign. He was permitted to travel to Philadelphia where he was eventually cleared of charges by the committee of investigation, but he was not restored to his Continental command. He did, however, resume his rank as a major general in the Connecticut militia with command of the western defenses of his state.

It was on April 25, 1777, that a group of Tory vessels under the command of General William Tryon landed at Westport harbor. A force, 2,000 strong, marched northward toward Danbury, Connecticut, where intelligence had indicated that military supplies for the Continental army were being stored.

Arriving at Danbury on April 26, the Tories located and carried tons of colonial materiel into the town streets and set it on fire. The news of this distressing event reached General Wooster in New Haven. He and General Benedict Arnold rode on horseback to Fairfield, Connecticut, where intelligence had indicated that military supplies for the Continental army were being stored.

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It was the duty of General Wooster to lead 200 of his undisciplined soldiers in an attempt to harass the rear Tory guard.
with a good knowledge of the countryside, Wooster's men were initially effective, but at Ridgefield the Tories suddenly halted and challenged their pursuers.

Under sharp fire the Connecticut militiamen wavered, but General Wooster rose up upon his mount, and with all his might, the old soldier shouted out, "Come on, my boys, never mind such random shots. Follow me!"

Follow him they did - on to victory! Sadly, on what should have been a day of high celebration for the colonists, a Tory rifleman had recognized General Wooster among his troops and sent a rifle ball through his back at a distance of about 100 yards with an accuracy seemingly impossible in this era.

He fell from his horse at the foot of a clump of trees in a small grove, on this Sunday, April 27, 1777. He was borne in great agony by his men back to Danbury where he died on May 2, 1777. His beloved wife was at his bedside to the very end.

David Wooster was buried in an old cemetery at Danbury, Connecticut. His body rested for decades in an unmarked grave. Many years later his grave was located in the northeast corner beneath a small evergreen tree. His body was exhumed and identified by the metallic frame of his shoulder epaulette. The very bullet which had claimed his life was found in the skeletal remains; the same missile that his attending surgeon could not locate.

Congress, long before, had commissioned a monument in General Wooster's honor, but had failed to set aside funds to pay for it. It was not until 1854 that the state of Connecticut, together with the Masons of that state, provided the necessary funds for the erection of a beautiful monument over David Wooster's final resting place in the new cemetery laid out northwest of the town of Danbury.

This beautiful monument, situated at the highest point in the cemetery, presents a shaft forty feet high standing upon a stone platform of nineteen square feet. The base of the stone pillar is eight feet square bearing the name "Wooster" in raised letters.

Thus will stand forever a lasting tribute to a true patriot, a military leader, a merchant, and the father of Connecticut Masonry - a Mason who loved his Craft!

Around the base of this imposing monolith, there gathered on a warm day in 1854, Brethren from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut and Masons from across that state and, indeed, from across America, 10,000 strong, to dedicate this magnificent memorial to his eternal glory. There, amidst music and military ceremony, appropriate tribute came at last to this great hero of the Revolutionary War.

On a bright sunny day in 1993, a rededication ceremony took place at the same site, led by the Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut, M.W. Brother Kenneth B. Hawkins, accompanied by many Brethren who came to show their pride and respect for the man, who so long before had given his last measure of devotion to his country, his state, and his beloved Craft.

O not for thee the glow, the bloom,
Who changest not in any gale,
Nor branding summer suns avail
to touch thy thousand years of gloom.

In Memoriam
Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Connecticut Masons marching to the Wooster Memorial ceremony in 1993.


KTEF RECEIVES CHECKS AT SUPREME ASSEMBLY BANQUET, S.O.O.B.

At the banquet of the Supreme Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant, held fall 2000 in Omaha, Nebraska; Dr. William J. Jones (at right), M.E. Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, accepted checks for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, totaling $175,136.75. Mrs. Roy Kilough (left below, middle), General Chairman for the KTEF of the S.O.O.B, reported donations of $125,167.64 from the estate of Mrs. Billie Kitchell, and presented a check. Mrs. Stanton Brown (right picture, middle), Worthy President of Independence Assembly No. 150, presented a check and received a plaque from the Grand Master for the Assembly. Mrs. Jay U. Ipsen, then Supreme Worthy President, looks on.

At left: Mrs. Jay U. Ipsen, (left) who was the Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, is shown with Grand Master Jones at the presentation of S.O.O.B. checks to the KTEF.

Photos by Susan Sellers, Special Events Photography, Inc. News item submitted by (Mrs. Charles) Vivian B. Hobby, P.S.W.P.
Advance publicity aired recently on one of the popular television cable channels, announcing an upcoming series. The commercial bites promised biographical profiles of 100 most important individuals in the last thousand years; inasmuch as civilization is at the threshold of a new millennium. The majority of potential candidates mentioned in the commercials were from this century. The question leaps to mind, What happened to the first 900 years?"

History often fails to preserve an adequate record of individuals who made important contributions to civilization. Without such a record, they usually fade into obscurity and are totally forgotten within a few generations. Such historic selection is often captive to the recorder’s personal choice of information he deems worthy. Thus, while popular entertainers become firmly entrenched in the memory of millions of present-day American citizens, the majority of school children learn virtually nothing about our founding fathers. High on that list of unknowns is the name of James Edward Oglethorpe, the father of the great state of Georgia. He has never been a high-priority subject on the Internet.

The Oglethorpe family were landowners and members of English gentry from the time of the Norman conquest. Sutton Oglethorpe, grandfather of our subject, inherited the family estate at Branham, Yorkshire, in 1634. As an avid supporter of Charles I, Sutton defended his English sovereign in a civil war which erupted in 1642. Following the Royalist defeat, Oliver Cromwell became the Lord Protector of England in 1653. Sutton Oglethorpe’s punishment for being a faithful Royalist was a fine of 20,000 pounds. He was obliged to dispose of his real estate and assets to pay the fine, leaving the Oglethorpe clan almost penniless.

Charles II recovered the throne of England for the House of Stuart in 1660. Sutton’s second son, Theophilus, was one of his most faithful military supporters. Enlisting as a private in King Charles’ army, he rose rapidly through the ranks to become a brigadier general. He was knighted for his exemplary service and prospered in a number of private enterprises. With the Oglethorpe fortunes rejuvenated, Theophilus acquired an estate named Westbrook Manor in County Surrey, 35 miles south of London. He married in 1680. His life was affluent and rewarding until King James II was compelled to flee England on December 22, 1688. He managed to establish a court-in-exile in France. Theophilus fled with the king after the revolution, which saw William of Orange emerge victorious and ascend the throne as King William III. Fortunately, the Oglethorpe family was permitted to retain Westbrook Manor in Surrey.

Theophilus and his wife, Eleanor Wall Oglethorpe, an Irish native of Tipperary and seamstress to King James It, became the parents of nine children during their married years. Their ninth youngster, named James Edward Oglethorpe, was born in London on December 22, 1696. Historians have frequently confused the youngest Oglethorpe with an older male sibling, also named James. That infant lived only a year. When Eleanor chose the royal name again for her last child, the confusion resulted. In addition, James Edward’s date of...
birth is often stated incorrectly as December 31, 1696. The baptismal register of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London confirms James' birth to have been on December 22, 1696, and sets the matter to rest.

Lady Eleanor Oglethorpe was an avid Loyalist, actively supporting the Stuart royal family during their years of exile in France. Thus, Westbrook Manor became a hotbed of Loyalist activity. The Loyalists soon became universally known as "Jacobites." A defiant Theophilus returned from exile in 1698, announced as a candidate for a seat in Parliament - and was elected. When Theophilus died on April 10, 1702, at 51 years of age, his son James had not yet reached his fifth birthday. The youngest Oglethorpe was destined to grow up in an atmosphere of Jacobite fervor, with his iron-willed mother leading the charge.

Eleanor supervised the lives of her children during their formative years. She placed James' three older sisters in the service of King James III at the Court of St. Germain, near Paris. Young James Edward remained by her side until she enrolled him in Eton College in 1713. She had already created a military identity for her young son in 1709 by obtaining a "paper commission" for James in the English army as an ensign in the Foot Guards.

When James entered Eton College at age 17, he had advanced on the army rolls to the rank of an unassigned lieutenant, commissioned on November 21, 1713. James' attendance at Eton was brief, just long enough for Lady Eleanor to arrange his admission to Oxford University. He was enrolled in Oxford's Corpus Christi College on July 3, 1714. Oglethorpe was a fervent young Jacobite in a hornet nest of political activity where Loyalists abounded.

Only a few weeks after James began classes at Corpus Christi, Queen Anne, the reigning English sovereign, died. Her demise triggered the Mars Rebellion of 1715. During the uprising, the exiled James III landed in Scotland, in a futile attempt to recapture the English throne for the House of Stuart. After the defeat of the Earl of Mar and his army, several thousand of King James' Scottish followers were exiled to the American colonies. Queen Ann's successor was George I, a German descendent of James I, and a member of the House of Hanover. James Oglethorpe resigned his army commission on November 23, 1715 without having served actively.

The ascension of George I to the English throne was an extremely bitter pill for the Jacobites at Oxford to swallow, and Oglethorpe was among them. When the country was directed to celebrate the new king's birthday, brawls and rioting broke out at Oxford. One can imagine James' keen disapproval of political events. They may have played a part in James' brief tenure at the cloistered confines of Corpus Christi College. He left Oxford in 1716 and went to France with his mother. Late in the year, James enlisted in the army of Prince Eugene of Savoy in his war against the Turks. His distinguished service on the battlefield led the prince to describe Oglethorpe as a "battlefield genius," high praise for an 18-year-old. His service as a foreign mercenary ended with the Battle of Belgrade in August 1717.

Even though James was out of the country in 1717, King George I conferred the title of baronet on him when he reached the age of 21 years. That is a titled rank below a baronage, and England's lowest hereditary title; but it elevated Oglethorpe to the peerage. Apparently, it was a gesture of reconciliation by the the English sovereign to demonstrate his recognition of James as a loyal subject, even though a Jacobite.

The war over and his reputation for bravery under fire well established, Oglethorpe returned to England in 1719. Before going home he made time to visit his older brother, Theophilus, Jr., in Turin, Italy. During the stay in Turin, Oglethorpe was received at the court of James III. The "pretender" to the English throne had been forced to leave Paris and make his residence in Italy. It was
reported that James III found the young Oglethorpe "a pretty youth." After leaving Italy James visited his sisters in Paris, prior to crossing the channel to his English home at Westbrook Manor.

The facts already mentioned are essential details from a sparse record of James Oglethorpe's early life. It was well documented that he was handsome, brave, and highly intelligent. Actions throughout his life testify that he was devoted to philanthropic activity and that he despised oppression and exploitation of mankind in any form. Usually presenting a calm and pleasant personality, James occasionally lost his temper and displayed a potentially violent side to his multi-faceted personality. In the pursuit of a goal, he was stubborn to a fault but capable of negotiating graciously when the occasion demanded. Although in later years critics and detractors frequently condemned his actions, their opposition usually dissipated when they debated with James face-to-face. It was a personal quality which proved invaluable for Oglethorpe in launching and sustaining his colonization project.

James Oglethorpe became a Freemason sometime after the formation of the first Grand Lodge of England. Four London lodges were committed to improving the status of Masonry in 1717 and to creating a system of uniformity in their fraternal activity. Selecting their eldest sitting Worshipful Master to serve as Grand Master, they proceeded to organize the Grand Lodge of England. This milestone in our fraternal history marks the beginning of modern Masonry and the adoption of a uniform code of laws and degree practices. Oglethorpe turned 21 years of age in 1717 and was in the service of the Prince of Savoy at that time. However, sometime later, he embraced Masonic membership well in advance of coming to America.

Upon arriving home, James devoted his time to assuming the duties of resident master of Westbrook Manor in Surrey. He remained an ardent Jacobite for a time after returning to England, but his ardor for the cause began to cool as he became involved in local politics. In 1722 at age 25, Oglethorpe decided to run for a seat in the House of Commons, representing his borough of Haselmere. As a Tory candidate, he had stiff competition from a Whig opponent but won by a narrow margin. However, two unpleasant incidents marred James election; one of them during the heated campaign, before the contest was decided.

On Sunday, March 25, 1722, James was angrily confronted on a public street by a group of four dissident voters with drawn swords. The young Jacobite displayed considerable expertise with the sword in his own defense. James wounded a Mr. Sharp in the stomach and the thigh. Another attacker, a Captain Onslow, sustained wounds on his left hand and thigh. After the altercation ended, James bandaged the captain's hand and sent for a doctor. Inasmuch as it was obviously a case of self defense, no charges were filed.

On April 24, 1722, a short time after the election results were posted, James' elation over his victory prompted an incident which drew considerable publicity when it ended with his arrest. An intoxicated Oglethorpe appeared at a London tavern frequented by a rough clientele; primarily bootblacks,
coachmen, and linkmen (men hired to carry a torch to illuminate the path at night). Shortly after James entered the establishment, he became involved in a violent argument with one of the linkmen whom he accused of having stolen money from him. In the melee, according to the London Daily Journal, James "drew his sword and gave the Link Fellow a mortal wound in the breast." In custody, Oglethorpe claimed the man initiated the attack with his link staff, and he was obliged to defend himself. Although James was taken into custody, the charges were dismissed, and the affair seemed to have been handled quietly. The official record of the tavern incident disappeared. There was considerable gossip over both sword-play incidents at the time, but the damage to Oglethorpe's reputation appeared to be negligible. Thus, his career in Parliament was launched on a rather discordant note. It would continue uninterrupted for 32 years.

His activity was without incident for the next two years, as he worked to shed his image as a newcomer to the House of Commons and a lingering Jacobite stigma. In 1724 James became interested in the plight of impressed sailors and the injustice of the debtor's prison system. Following a visit to the Fleet Prison in London and witnessing the horrors of debtors' imprisonment first-hand, he took an active part in pursuing legislative reform. James' intensive investigation attracted a powerful ally in Sir John Percival, a long-time advocate for prison reform. Together they were able to secure indictments in 1729 against six officials at the Fleet Prison. The primary target was Warden Thomas Bainbridge, convicted of corruption and mistreatment of inmates. During the prison reform activity, the possibility of recruiting debtors as colonists was conceived.

By 1730 the plan to establish a colony on the east coast of America was fully developed. The proposed location was south of the Carolina Colony and north of Spanish Florida. Originally, Oglethorpe intended to populate the colony with convicted debtors, but the plan quickly outdistanced that notion. A formal charter proposal was drafted and presented for ratification to King George II on September 17, 1730. After many amendments, the final draft was again ready for signature on April 21, 1732. James and twenty other trustees were granted authority to establish the Colony of Georgia, with full rights to govern it for 21 years. The colony boundaries were designated as the Savannah River on the north and the Altamaha River on the south, extending east to west from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The governing authority of the trustees over the Colony of Georgia would revert to the English crown in 1753.

Oglethorpe received a great deal of publicity for his philanthropic work on the debtor-prison project and for his efforts to have the impressments of seamen outlawed. One honor recognizing his accomplishments may have been a surprise. On July 31, 1731, an honorary MA degree was conferred on Oglethorpe by Oxford University. He had barely completed one term there.

The colony trustees, with Sir John Persival serving as president of the board, had the responsibility for funding the project through private donations. Parliament authorized a grant of 10,000 pounds to launch the drive, with smaller amounts coming in steadily. The Grand Lodge of England was a prominent contributor, setting up a charity fund for distressed Brethren in the colony. On June 19, 1732, James Oglethorpe was convinced the trustees had sufficient financing to set a date for the voyage. He volunteered to be the individual authorized by the board to accompany the first contingent of settlers and oversee the establishment of the colony.

Great publicity surrounded preparations to sail for the new colony site. The governor of South Carolina was notified to expect the settlers and prepare to welcome them to their new home. The trustees provided a chaplain,
a surgeon, an apothecary, and a civil engineer to attend the colonists in their first year. They also provided provisions for the volunteer settlers, numbering 114 souls. Not a single debtor was in the first group that sailed on the 200-ton frigate Ann on November 15, 1732.

On February 12, 1733, the first settlers for the Georgia colony landed at Beaufort, South Carolina. They were warmly welcomed by Governor Robert Johnson, and presented with 105 cattle, 25 hogs, and a supply of rice, to add to their stores during the first few months. A guard of twenty to endure the hardships of establishing a permanent settlement. Oglethorpe had intended to remain no more than a few months to see the settlement well launched. The endless needs of the colony kept him in Georgia much longer.

James provided strong leadership in those crucial first days. He also proved to be a compassionate leader, deeply concerned with the health, comfort, and welfare of every citizen. He was omnipresent, assuring himself every soul was properly cared for and that every step was taken to protect the colony against attack from any store of tents, arms, building tools, and

"An important Masonic event occurred with the organization of the first lodge in Georgia in February 1734. James Oglethorpe was elected first Worshipful Master and continued to serve in that chair for nine years. The permanent charter for King Solomon's Lodge in Savannah was issued by Provincial Grand Master Robert Lacey in 1735. Some historians claim the date as early as 1730, but that is not the popular view, inasmuch as the colony did not exist at that time."

colonial police were sent along to protect Oglethorpe and his company from Indians and Spaniards.

The site selected for the new settlement of Savannah was on Yamacraw Bluff, 40 feet above the river level. James laid out the town in a group of single-house lots, with his own tent in the center, shaded by a clump of trees. The tent would be his home for four years, long after the permanent cabins were constructed. The lots were 20 by 30 yards, and the cabins 24 feet long by 16 feet wide, with a foundation raising the structure 30 inches above ground level.

The first death in the colony was Dr. William Cox, their surgeon, but there were many more that first year. Scurvy, dysentery, and malaria were the most prolific killers. Ships arrived regularly with an eclectic cargo of citizens, swelling the number to 437 processed by the trustees in London by January 1734. A more accurate head count in the colony was not available. Many drifted north in those first few months, unwilling

Spaniard, Indian, or French enemy. All male colonists were required to submit to rudimentary military drill, and fortifications were set up on the perimeter of Savannah.

An important Masonic event occurred with the organization of the first lodge in Georgia in February 1734. James Oglethorpe was elected first Worshipful Master and continued to serve in that chair for nine years. The permanent charter for King Solomon's Lodge in Savannah was issued by Provincial Grand Master Robert Lacey in 1735. Some historians claim the date as early as 1730, but that is not the popular view, inasmuch as the colony did not exist at that time.

One of the most vital aspects leading to the success of the Georgia colony was Oglethorpe's cordial relationship with neighboring Indians, the Yamacraws. He learned their language and made every possible effort to cultivate them as friends and equals. He became an accomplished woodsman and absorbed the lessons of
survival in a demanding wilderness. James became a trusted and beloved friend of the Yamacraw chief, Tomochichi. Credit for enduring peace between the natives and the Georgia colony must be given entirely to James Oglethorpe. His altruism toward the natives and colonists generated a universal love for their young leader, one that far transcended ordinary affection. He was their surrogate father. It was a unique relationship for a young man of 37 years.

Don't miss "Part II: The King's Man in Georgia: James Edward Oglethorpe" in the February issue.

Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 330, FPS, and P.D.D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, is member of Holy Grail Commandery No. 70, Lakewood, Ohio. For correspondence: PO Box 2735, Bandera, TX 78003

Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation
Milford Commandery No. 11, Milford, Massachusetts, is offering a complete summer uniform and accessories (no pants or shoes) for $125.00. (GO. and P.G.C. add $35.00 for gold on cap visor.) This includes cap and insignia, short sleeve shirt, shoulder rank insignia, collar insignia, metal ribbon bar, name plate, black tie, be 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 fundraising project. All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

This summer uniform was approved by Sir Knight James M. Ward, when he was 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.

Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2½-inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. The 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 is required for the GCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is $8.50 plus $3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the GCT emblem is $10.00 plus $3.00 shipping and handling. Contact: Jon Patrick Sweet, 7474 Benton Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001 or phone (303) 430-8483

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 will benefit in many ways: You have the freedom of choosing your own doctors and hospitals, there are no health questions or medical exams to qualify, there is no waiting period for pre-existing conditions if you switch plans or are about to turn 65, and there is hassle-free claims processing in about 7 days!

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

by Mary Frances (Mrs. Paul) Mihal, P.S.W.P.

The S.O.O.B., now known as the Social Order of the Beauceant, is an organization of Christian women whose membership is limited to the wives and widows of Knights Templar. It was founded in Denver, Colorado, February 20, 1890. The first suggestion for uniting the wives and widows as a society or order was given by several Sir Knights in 1889, after the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar decided to hold its 25th Triennial Conclave in Denver, August 9 to 12, 1892.

There were about 900 Templars in Colorado then and only one Commandery in Denver with a membership of less than 300, and the Templars needed and invited their wives' assistance in entertaining the thousands of Sir Knights and their ladies during the coming Conclave.

On February 20, 1890, the first meeting was held with 23 ladies present. The meetings were held in the homes until the new Masonic Temple was completed, at which time the Temple Trustees invited the S.O.O.B. to move into the Temple, September 18, 1890. The order came into existence at a time when there were few women's clubs or organizations, but their hearts were warm, the members enthusiastic in assisting the Sir Knights and their ladies during the coming Conclave.

Over the years, new Assemblies were constituted. An Assembly may be constituted in a city where there is an active, regular Commandery of Knights Templar that has a large enough membership to warrant a new Assembly. In the year 2000, there were 125 Assemblies, located in 35 of our states, with a membership of 7,490.

Charitable works are an important part of each Assembly life and many benevolent, humanitarian activities are supported. It would be difficult to accurately list them all as each Assembly determines where need exists and the manner in which its members can best give their assistance. The report of the Supreme Benevolent Committee reported that $62,250.50 and 32,366 hours had been volunteered to serve others in need this year.

We will conclude Mrs. Mihal's article on the S.O.O.B. in the February issue. Mrs. Mihal, P.S.W.P., resides at 1821 Hillside Drive, Glendale, CA 91208-2512.
To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send 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 the Grand Encampment. Any submission may be subject to editing. You must submit a written request and check, if applicable, for each time you want your ad to run. Each request must be separate and at monthly intervals, not several at the same time. All other requests for repeat ads will either run just once or will be returned to sender.

For a donation of $10.00, you will receive a lapel-tie tack pin depicting "the Templar seal." The in polished bronze and is a real eye-catcher at 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, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 5235-4944. Include a note: "For a Templar seal pin." Please provide legible mailing address.

For sale: Knights Templar shoulder straps, all ranks, embroidered in gold and silver bullion on velvet with Velcro backs: Past Commander (red); serving Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Prelate(green); Generalissimo, Captain General, and Prelate Emeritus serving 7 or more years in rank (red): $35.00 pair plus $5.00 S & H. Also: Honorary Past Commander with H.C. in Old English, $40.00; Grand Commandery, $45.00; extra fancy Grand Commandery, Past Grand Commander (purple): $50.00(all plus $5.00 S & ). Also: chapeaux crosses: Sir Knight, $35.00; Past Commander, $40.00; Grand Commandery, 45.00-all plus $5.00 S & H. Percentage to Masonic and York Rite charities. Checks to mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., PC.; 23 Gail Court, Staten Island, NY 10301-2698

For sale: Coats, poly-wool, summer light; sizes: 44 short, 44X long, and 46 short. 23.00 includes shipping and handling. 10% of all sales will be donated to KTEE General merchandise Company; 13690 Broad Street, W; Pataskala; OH 43062, (740) 927-7073

I have a gold plated (Past Commander's) sword which I would like to sell. Send offers to Dale E. White, KYCH; 1710 Lafayette Avenue; Suite; MT 59701

For sale: Royal Order of Scotland jewelry, 0th ladies' and men's. Marvin and Roberta Fowler, 1904 White Oaks Drive, Alexandria, VA 22306, (703) 768-6404

Jefferson Lodge No. 15, A.F. & AM., Lewes, Delaware, has bronze coins, limited edition, to celebrate its 150th anniversary in Masonry. They are $8.00 each including S & H. Checks or money orders to Charles E. Goepel, Sec.; M50 White House Beach; Long Neck; DE 19966-8524

Just found: 25th anniversary ceramic plates (from 1971) from Pocono Lodge No. 780, Cresco, PA-$30.00 each including shipping Please send requests to William Haynes; RR 2, Box 2537; Cresco; PA 18326

For sale: bronze coins, round lapel pins, state of Georgia outline lapel pins and a brief history of Lawrenceville Lodge No. 131, Lawrenceville, GA, and Fergus Lodge No. 135, Loganville, GA. Both lodges were chartered in 1850. Coins, $5.00 each; lapel pins, $5.00 each; and histories of both lodges, $8.00 each-all prepaid. Send requests to Ron Denney, 1604 Mill Run Ct., Lawrenceville, GA 30045-2850

Cochran Lodge No. 217, F. & AM., Cochran, Georgia, is continuing its long-term charity project. We are selling Masonic jewelry boxes, 6 x 5 x 2.5 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 charities, 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 or money order to Cochran Lodge No. 217 and mail to Harry A. Bruno, Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F. & AM.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com

Fund-raiser: fine Royal Arch tie, imprinted with the Triple Tau, within a Triangle, within a Circle, $15.00, pp. Chapter needs funds to continue to survive. Check payable to Bay View Flatbush Chapter No. 296, and send to Sal Caradonna, 23 Gail Court, Staten Island, NY 10306-2234, (718) 987-4532

For sale: Royal Arch collector coffee cups. Special 2-color design shows Triple Tau emblems in red and working tools and
embles of the 4 Capitular degrees in black. A must for Masonic cup collectors. Fund-raiser for Union Chapter No. 2, Little Rock, AR. Cost is $8.00 per cup, postage paid. $1.00 per cup will be donated to RARA. Make check or money order payable to Union Chapter No. 2, RAM., and send to Steve Gregory, 3 Arcadia, Bryant, AR 72022, or call (501) 847-2251.

For sale: York Rite cap with six-color embroidery showing Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems. Specify white or dark blue cap $11 each plus $1.00 postage. Also: gold color Knights Templar lapel pin, $4.00. Part of each sale goes to the York Rite charities. Robert Haupert, PO Box 433, Farmington, NM 87499

Donate a Masonic book for a good cause. The postage due you will be paid. The Masonic books will find their way to an approved lodge, and a Masonic library will be greatly enhanced. Send to Bill Wheless, 809 Battle Bend Blvd., Austin, TX 78745

Navel oranges for sale from a local grove. For more information please write to York Rite of DeLand, P.O. Box 681, Deland, FL 32721 or e-mail WNONE5@aol.com

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 four immortal chaplains lapel pin, a pin honoring the chaplains who sacrificed their lives by giving up their lifejackets in order to save the lives others. One of the chaplains, Reverend and Brother George Lansing Fox, was a member of Moose River Lodge No. 82, F & AM., in Concord, Vermont. Price per pin is $8 ea. including S & H. Kenneth Baril, 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 Gin Valor, a 268-page digest with the names, congressional citations, and information please write to York Rite of DeLand, P.O. Box 681, DeLand, FL 32721 or e-mail WNONE5@aol.com

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 four immortal chaplains lapel pin, a pin honoring the chaplains who sacrificed their lives by giving up their lifejackets in order to save the lives others. One of the chaplains, Reverend and Brother George Lansing Fox, was a member of Moose River Lodge No. 82, F & AM., in Concord, Vermont. Price per pin is $8 ea. including S & H. Kenneth Baril, 3747 Westgate Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45208-1122, (513) 731-0737. 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF.

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Wanted: Hobbyist is seeking dies for Chapter, Council, Commandery, and Shrine emblems for a Kingsley one line hot stamp machine. James Partridge, 421 South 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 four immortal chaplains lapel pin, a pin honoring the chaplains who sacrificed their lives by giving up their lifejackets in order to save the lives others. One of the chaplains, Reverend and Brother George Lansing Fox, was a member of Moose River Lodge No. 82, F & AM., in Concord, Vermont. Price per pin is $8 ea. including S & H. Kenneth Baril, 3747 Westgate Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45208-1122, (513) 731-0737. 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF.

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Life is a journey, not a home; a road, not a city of habitation. And the enjoyments and blessings we have along the way are but little inns on the roadside, where we may be refreshed for a moment, that we may with new strength press on to the goal.

You will meet today ten men or women, perhaps twenty, or perhaps a hundred. Every one of them will have his or her day brightened or darkened by the tone and manner of your greeting. You can put a little more spring into the step and a little more joy into the heart of every one of them by a cheerful, confident salutation.

Every worthwhile accomplishment, big or little, has its stages of drudgery and triumph; a beginning, a struggle, and a victory.

A few wise friends with whom to counsel, a few good books to read and absorb, and with courage and faith we are well-equipped for the facing of life's difficulties and disappointments, as well as its pleasures and successes.

Lives are made of chapters. After one is written it cannot be revised, but we can write a new chapter with each new day.

Phillips Brooks