October 2001 - Grand Master's Message

At the annual meeting of the Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, reports indicated that the year 2000-2001 broke all records for the amount of money spent providing eye surgery for people who would not otherwise be able to afford it. The total expended for cases was $5,250,784.51 Only through your generosity, fund-raising events, planned giving, and wills were we able to provide these services. The 33rd Annual Voluntary Campaign raised nearly one million dollars.

The 21st Century York Rite Odyssey was conceived one year ago to provide a program to follow the Templary 2000 Crusade. New member pins and certificates are available from the Grand Encampment office. The General Grand High Priest, William Schoene, Jr.; the General Grand Master of Cryptic Masons, Charles E. Van Etten; and the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar have signed these certificates. Also available from the office are pins for the top line signers of every new member Knighted during this program. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to honor our new Sir Knights and their sponsors. A new York Rite brochure is being printed to give a more complete description of the 21st Century York Rite Odyssey.

The month of October begins for me in Charleston, South Carolina, with the Supreme Council, A. & A.S.R., S.J. The annual session of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Illinois will be October 5 and 6 in Springfield. Boise, Idaho will host the Northwestern York Rite Conference on the 19th and 20th, and the North Central Conference will take place October 27 in South Sioux City, Nebraska. I may get to spend a few days this month helping to train our new dog Spike!

Dr. William Jackson Jones
Grand Master, KCT, GCT

William Jackson Jones
OCTOBER: As we go to press, the terrorist tragedy is heavy on our minds. May God comfort all those who grieve and guide and protect the American people as we struggle to cope with this burden. Our cover features the Grand Encampment's Holy Land Pilgrimage program by showing the ministers of one of this year's sections. Information concerning this wonderful program starts on page 5 and ends with glowing comments from past ministers who have traveled with the Pilgrimage. Now is the time to make nominations and support the program. News from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation begins on page 9. The start of a new campaign is right around the corner! We have news and articles galore for your enjoyment and understanding of Templar history, past and present.

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Correction: The copy on the cover of the August issue says Elden Auker was a U. of Kansas hero. In fact, he was a Kansas State University hero. These are two different universities. Thanks to Sir Knight Gary W. Van Cleave of Kansas for the correction.

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

61st Triennial Conclave mementos available: 61st Triennial badges, $5.00 each, gold or silver, plus $2.00 S & H (while supply lasts); and 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

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 Knight Templar magazine index, including all previous indexes and covering the years, 1969-1999, is now available at a price of $5.00, plus $2.00 postage total $7.00. This is your chance to invest at a bargain price in the index which covers main articles of the magazine from 1969 to the turn of the century. Make check or money order payable to: the Grand Recorder, 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 Sworth 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/GGCOUNClL/HomePage.html

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

York Rite Freemasonry. The International Information Site
www.YorkRite.com
The Grand Encampment's Holy Land Pilgrimage

The following excerpts are from Grand Encampment brochures prepared by the Grand Encampment's Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage and entitiled "A Holy Land Pilgrimage." They are available from the Grand Encampment office in Chicago: Grand Recorder; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

The idea of sending Christian ministers to the Holy Land to enrich and deepen the spiritual lives of Christian ministers was conceived in 1974 by Sir Knight Harry Smit, then an officer of Damascus Commandery No. 42, Knights Templar of Detroit, Michigan. The first Pilgrimage was made in February 1977, when six ministers from Michigan and one from Kentucky left Kennedy International Airport for the Holy Land to spend ten days in the land where our Lord and Savior walked and spoke His message of peace and love. From the humble beginning in 1977 through February 2001, a total of 1,467 Christian ministers have been sent to the Holy Land as guests of the Knights Templar from forty-eight states and District of Columbia.

Every Sunday, thousands of Christian pastors across the country mount the pulpit and begin to teach about Christ and the land where He taught. The great lessons of the Bible and the time-honored Truths have become part of our Christian lives as we grow in our faith.

Names like Jericho, Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, and others trigger special memories for some. The pastors who teach about them, no matter how much they have studied about the region called Israel, find it difficult to make the region alive, unless they have traveled there.

Most pastors would love the opportunity to go to Israel, to walk where Christ walked and taught, but simply cannot afford the trip, nor can most congregations afford to send them.

**Would such a trip really make a difference in ministry?** Yes! For the pastors who have participated in the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage, there has been a marked improvement in their preaching, teaching, and their relationship to God as a result of the trip.

Why? Once pastors have been to the Holy Land, the places they have studied about become alive. They walk where Jesus and the Patriarchs walked, see the geography with their own eyes, smell the desert air, and travel across the Sea of Galilee in a fishing boat, a replica of one from the time of Jesus. Their teaching becomes alive because it is based on real experiences. It's one thing to look at pictures of a far away place; it's entirely different to have been there!

The experience in Israel is one that brings a visitor, especially a
pastor, closer to God. As one meditates and prays where the events of the Bible actually took place, one cannot help but be drawn closer to the Great Architect of the Universe, who sent His Son to redeem the world. It is a mountaintop experience where a pastor is renewed for God's holy work.

**Why should Knights Templar support this effort?** The original Knights Templar began in 1118 A.D. to protect pilgrims traveling in the Holy Land. The founders recognized the importance of making the journey, and they took the responsibility of safeguarding those travelers.

As Christian Masons, the Knights Templar have made their own Holy Pilgrimage, through the Order of the Temple, and have sworn to defend the Christian religion.

When we support the Holy Land Pilgrimage we are doing more than just supporting a pastor on a trip. We are investing in the future of Christianity, Freemasonry, and more importantly, Templar Masonry.

**How?** For the pastors we are providing support for their teaching. The pastors will be teaching literally thousands of people over the length of their ministries. Pastors are influential in their congregations and will be better teachers for Christ through our efforts.

Pastors will become acquainted with Freemasonry and Templar Masonry through the trip. As trips are led by a Sir Knight and oftentimes there are pastors who are Masons on the trip, questions about Masonry will be answered. It is a good opportunity to promote Masonry's positive image to religious leaders.

**How can I help?** One way is to recommend to your Commandery's Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee, pastors who would make good candidates for this spiritual trip. Each Commandery is asked to make a recommendation to the Grand Commandery, and from these recommendations a few pastors are chosen each year to make the trip.

The trip itself is a most worthwhile investment in the leaders of our Christian community. Your financial support will be one of the most important contributions you can make to our Christian Order.

How much you contribute to the Holy Land Pilgrimage is a decision between you and God. Reflect on the many blessings God has given you in your life, pray about what you can give, and then send your contribution through your Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee or contact your Recorder for information.

Your commitment will bless a worthy pastor, Christ's holy church, and our fraternity.

Thank you for your help.

As Knights Templar, let us remember: he walks in the Holy Land for us; he carries our love and our faith; and the shoes he walks in represent every Knight Templar.

**Fratres, let us remember:**
*When we send his shoes to the Holy Land,*

*We are walking along His way, For He sends us back*

*The hope and faith by our friend we sent today.*
Remarks from 2001 Pilgrim Ministers...

I did not understand the generosity of the Knights Templar in providing this opportunity for us. It seems to me, however, that no gift or trinket that we bring away from the Holy Land could measure up to more effective preaching, renewed spirit, and connection to the saints who have gone before us. That is one of the best ways to spread and preserve the Good News of the gospel! The Knights Templar continue to do what they did in history. Praise God!

Roger Templeton
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

I want to thank you for all your efforts in the clergy's Holy Land Pilgrimages. It was a life-changing, spiritually renewing, ministry-energizing experience for me! Words cannot express the gratitude I feel at having had the opportunity to participate in the March Pilgrimage. It was well-organized, fast-paced, and so educationally enriching. It was wonderful!

Bernadette Bruner
Wausau, Wisconsin

The events and experiences of this Holy Land Pilgrimage are life-changing events. From the start I have been the happy recipient of God's good grace. It only gets better each day!

At the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth, I was greatly moved by the powerful personal presence of the Holy Spirit, and then at each step - the house of Joseph, the Grotto Church, the synagogue church - the joyful experience only increased.

As my roommate and I have said to each other repeatedly: "This is an awesome spiritual experience..." I am sure that all of the participants felt the same. They have expressed it openly and repeatedly, and today we expressed our gratitude by planting 67 trees in the Knights Templar Forest, under the Plant a Tree in Israel Program.

The mountaintop experiences of Mount Carmel were followed by equally spirit-filled experiences at Capernaum, the Mount of Beatitudes, the Sea of Galilee, Mount Tabor of the Transfiguration, and a renewal of baptism at the Jordan River.

Thank you for providing a new and dynamic perspective to the ministry I have been called to pursue.

Frederick H. Schoenfeld
Englewood, New Jersey
A Minister of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Recalls His Trip...

From the Pastor

by Pastor Gus Nussdorfer Hartland Presbyterian Church Hartland, Michigan

I returned from the Holy Land safe and tired. We saw so many places in our long days of traveling around Israel. It was a wonderful experience, and I am grateful to the Howell Eastern Star Lodge for providing this opportunity. We felt safe at all times, even when we listened from our hotel in Jerusalem to some tank and automatic weapons fire.

My favorite area was Galilee. It was overwhelming to be in this center of Jesus' ministry. Of course, I liked the lake and the peaceful shoreline surrounded by the immense hills (mountains) and the rich agricultural land. As for the visit to Capernaum (Peter's town and where Jesus stayed), the places of the feeding of the multitude at Tabgha, the hill of Beatitudes, and so many other places where we would read the biblical accounts and then just take time to be quiet and alone; I will never forget the feelings and experiences. Of course, the boat trip on the Sea of Galilee was unforgettable. We stayed at a kibbutz hotel along the Sea of Galilee and saw the "Jesus boat" they recovered from the lake, one that was from the time of Jesus and is now on display in a museum at the kibbutz.

Our visits to Caesarea and Beth Shean were a reminder of the Romans and their fantastic cities and culture (and power) as was Herod's palace at Massada, overlooking the Dead Sea, later used by the Jewish zealots in the rebellion as their last stand against the Romans. The caves of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls, along with the Essene community ruins in that desert area, were special moments. A dip in the Dead Sea covered with the mineral-rich mud on a cool day showed that some of us were up for a little fun as well.

I was also moved by our trip through the West Bank and the Palestinian villages and settlements in the Jordan River Valley. We had to drive around Jericho as it was closed and now is surrounded by a tank trench (as many Palestinian cities are right now).

And Jerusalem... What can I say! Lent and Easter were a new experience for me this year after having walked the Mount of Olives and the old city as we followed the events from Palm Sunday to Easter. I think this made a difference in the worship experience of my congregation this year as I shared the meaning of Easter with a renewed spirit. I know that the characters in the portrayals took on new life this Lent. On Palm Sunday and Easter as we return to Jerusalem, we are the Easter people who rejoice once again proclaiming: "The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen!"

Thank you for the opportunity to travel to the Holy Land. Please join with me in praying for the peace of Jerusalem and that land that is filled with tension and violence as we celebrate the Prince of Peace alive within us.

Shalom,
Pastor Gus
Greetings, Sir Knights and Ladies:

I am going to begin this message with a short quiz. It may well stretch your thinking quite a bit, so I encourage you to read it carefully, think about it, and see if you can come up with the answer before continuing reading. The answer is at the end, so don’t cheat! Here is the quiz:

What is it that is greater than God and more evil than the Devil?

Poor people have too much of it, rich people need more of it, and if you eat it you will die.

What is it?

After you have thought about that question for a while, let me now share another set of questions that have an interesting implication. Can you do the following?

Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
Name the last decade’s worth of World Series winners.

How did you do? The point is that none of us remember the headlines of yesterday. These are not second-rate achievers; they are the best in their fields. However, the applause dies; awards tarnish; achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners. Now, how about this set of questions:

List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Was that easier? Of course, it was. The lesson here is that the people who make a difference in your life and in the world are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones who care.

What does that have to do with the Knights Templar Eye Foundation? I think the answer to that question is probably obvious. The Eye
Foundation is a success because of the ones who care for others less fortunate than they. It is a success because of YOU. You don’t have to be super wealthy. You don’t have to be a person of national recognition. You just have to be willing to do your part and contribute the most you can under the circumstances.

The 34th Annual Voluntary Campaign will begin in a couple of months. Now is the time to make plans for what you and your Commandery are going to do to make that campaign a rousing success. We are working on a key idea for some special kind of incentive for giving. It will be announced in our next message. Get ready; this year will be fun.

Thank you.

Oh yes, I almost forgot. I promised you an answer to the first quiz.

What is greater than God and more evil than the Devil?

Poor people have too much of it, rich people need more of it, and if you eat it you die?

The answer is: "NOTHING!"

So long and God bless you all.

Bruce

Sir Knight W. Bruce Pruitt; Chairman of the 33rd and 34th Annual Voluntary Campaigns, 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 Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. His personal e-mail address: is wbpruitt@aol.com For information on the KTEF, send e-mail to ktei@knightstemplar.org or call (773) 205-3838

Report of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Grand Master's Club
No. 3,775-Gordon C. Pharr (AL)
No. 3,776-W. G. Eissler (PA)

Correction:
David Schroder (OH), 32° in honor of Allen French, 33°

Phillic C. Boley (TX), 33° in honor of L. A. "Pete" Peters, 33°

Contributors To The 33° Club
New:
Frank L. Blades, Sr. (NJ), 33° Daniel F. Iceman (OH), 33°
David Deane Alibright (TX) in honor of Oran W. Bigby, 33°
LeRoy T. Coleman (VA), 33°
Robert W. Hassell (NJ), 33°

Permanent Donor Fund List - New Donors
No. 15 Excelsior Charity Fund, Inc. in honor of Sir Knight Frank Paul Rapp Fund
No. 16 The Charles S. McIntyre, Jr., Endowment Fund
No. 17 Arthur and Florence Davis Fund
No. 18 The Walter J. Hott Fund
Largest Wills And Bequests To KTEF
as of June 28, 2001

Estate of Gaines S. Greene (CO)
Estate of Camille F. Goldsmith (WY)
Estate of Clair L. Hall (PA) Estate of Clarence Mann, Jr. (OH)
Estate of Harold H. Penhale (CA)
Estate of Blair W. Ranck (VA)
Estate of Mary Adde Beck (MN)
Estate of Dorothy H. Stein (OH)
Estate of William H. Niemann (NJ)
Estate of Ethel Mae Gurback (FL)
Estate of Faye E. Beane (OH)
Estate of S. K. Howe (IL)
Estate of Joseph J. Mann (VA)
Estate of Norma I. Stringos (MI)

Largest Trusts To KTEF
(as of August 29, 2001)

Walter P. and Ada Henderson Trust (TX)
Frank L. Herriot Trust (OH) Clarence and Mary Kirkpatrick Trust (MO)
Clara M. Hoetzel Trust (CA)
Madeline Wolfe Trust (FL)
Gilda I. Niness Trust (MI)
Anthony J. Liccardi Trust (MN)
Charles J. Baker Trust (PA)
Elizabeth C. Patterson Trust (MI)
Louise and George Rehmer Trust (UT)

How to join the Grand Commander's or 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 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 now Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, IL 62705, (217) 523-3838.

Since July 1, 1992, all new members of the Grand Master's and Grand Commander's dubs have been issued pins at no charge to the recipient. If you became a member of either club before that date and would like a pin for yourself, send a $10.00 donation to the Eye Foundation in Chicago, and you will receive one.

Life Sponsorship pins available: A 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 KTEF 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 Avenue, Suite 100; Chicago; IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-3838.

Nancy Roussakis Nelson of San Diego, CA, writes: I want to thank you very sincerely for helping me recover my eyesight. I have thanked you in my prayers every single day, because without your help I would have continued to be very depressed and hopeless. I was nearly blind and did not have a desire to live!

Since my surgery, I can drive, read, see what I am writing, and cook! I actually feel like living again. Again, my heart-felt gratitude to your great humanitarian charity!
KENTUCKY LODGE PRESENTS GIFT TO KTEF

The photo shows Master Charles Probus, left front, of Robert M. Sirkle Lodge No. 954, F. & A.M., Lexington, Kentucky, presenting a check for $500.00 for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to Sir Knight William Hiles, Commander of Webb Commandery No. 1, Lexington. The presentation was made at the annual country ham and egg breakfast held each year by Webb Commandery for the benefit of the KTEF. In the background are members of Webb Commandery who worked to make the fund-raise a success. (submitted by Sir Knight Carl A. Penske)

MASSACHUSETTS COMMANDERY HOLDS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

Springfield Commandery No. 6, Springfield, Massachusetts, held its 175th anniversary in June 2001 at the Storrowton Carriage House in West Springfield, MA, where 118 Sir Knights and their ladies dined and danced to the music of a 16-piece orchestra. The program consisted of the recognition of the several groups present, greetings by Commander Mark C. Mueller, and an introduction to the history of the Commandery by the Historian. Gifts specially designed by Anne Mueller, consisting of Lancaster commemorative plates (pictured above right) for the Sir Knights and brooches for their ladies, were distributed along with an historical booklet of the Commandery. In addition each lady received a white rose of York. Pictured are, front, left to right: Mark C. Mueller, E.C.; Arthur J. Levesque, P.G.C., MA/RI; and Ronald E. Wolf, D.G.C., MA/RI. In back, left to right: Richard M. Page, Chairman and Prelate; Stanley J. LaBrecque, Sr. Warden; Ektor H. Trubounis, Generalissimo; Donald Cherry, Jr. Warden; Robert A. Paixao, Capt. General; and William G. Richards, Treasurer. (submitted by Sir Knight Richard M. Page)
Arizona's Maurice A. Storck, Sr., Honored For 12,500 Hours Volunteer Service

Maurice A. Storck, Sr., president of the Veteran's National Stamp and Coin Club, is shown here at his desk after being honored at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System in Tucson, Arizona. Storck was one of two volunteers who received the Blue Rocker pin for 12,500 hours of volunteer service. The Veteran's National Stamp and Coin Club and "Project Outreach" were organized and sponsored by the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System more than 28 years ago. It is a nationwide distribution center to other VA medical facilities which may have their own active in-patient stamp and coin clubs. The membership includes over 600 individual men and women veteran patients who are active collectors located throughout the United States and several foreign countries. The primary sources of stamps and coins are from donations by military/organizations, military auxiliaries, stamp and coin dealers, private collectors, office mail from business firms, service clubs, and private citizens.

Connecticut - Another Historic Milestone

The Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut and the Holy Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut, Prince Hall Affiliate, have held a joint Table Chapter in East Hartford. It was well attended by many of the leaders of both the York Rite and the Scottish Rite bodies of Masonry. The profits were designated for the educational funds of each body. It is expected that this will become an annual event. (This information was provided to the Connecticut Supplement editor, Sir Knight Bob Sherrick, by Sir Knight Frank W. McNally, P.G.C. and PG. High Priest of CT.)

News From Baldwyn No. 12, Gallup, New Mexico

Baldwyn Commandery No. 12, Gallup, New Mexico, recently sponsored a Spring Faire for arts, crafts, and gift vendors. This faire, along with a holiday faire to be held on December 1, 2001, during the annual Red Rock Hot Air Balloon Rally, helps to provide funding to five York Rite charities: RARA, CMMRF KTEF, the Holy Land Pilgrimage, and a local fund for support of worthwhile charities in the Gallup area.

Baldwyn Commandery No. 12 also hosted their first annual Clergy Dinner on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. All area clergy, regardless of denomination, were invited to attend with their wives. It was an opportunity for them to relax a bit,
Along with the local Shrine Club, the York Rite Masons of Gallup, New Mexico, participated in a community health fair. The York Rite provided information on the Shrine hospitals and the various health related charities of the York Rite, as well as Blue Lodge and Eastern Star charities. Shown is Sir Knight Hendrik "Hank" deBruin, Grand Sr. Warden of the Grand Commandery of New Mexico. (submitted by Sir Knight Robert Keene, P.G.C., Recorder of Baldwyn No. 12)

Enjoy a nice meal and good fellowship, and to learn more about Masonry without any demands on them. Shown with the Reverend Dr. E. L. Sanderson of St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church is Sir Knight Robert Keene (left), P.G.C. of New Mexico and a member of Baldwyn No. 12.

Rhode Island’s Sir Knight Duhamel Recognized By Grand Lodge

Sir Knight Jerry I. Duhamel, Charlestown, Rhode Island, who served 6 terms as Eminent Commander of Narragansett Commandery No. 27, Westerly, Rhode Island, was recognized by the Grand Lodge of Masons in Rhode Island. Sir Knight Duhamel was one of a handful of Masons presented with the Exemplary Service Medal of the Grand Lodge. Duhamel, a dedicated Mason, has been committed to the York Rite. A KYCH, he has served as Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Rhode Island and Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Rhode Island. Currently he is Worshipful Master of Franklin Lodge No. 20, F. & A.M., in Westerly. He holds the record for the most terms served in its history.

(Mrs. Fred H.) Carole Buxton Installed 81st Supreme Worthy President, Social Order Of The Beauceant

The 81st Annual Supreme Assembly of the Social Order of the Beauceant was held at the Double Tree Hotel in Ontario, California, concluding on Friday evening at 8:00 P.M., September 28, 2001, with the installation of Supreme officers for the year 2001-2002. (Mrs. Fred H.) Carole Buxton was installed the Supreme Worthy President. Mrs. Buxton will be inspecting each of the 120-plus Assemblies throughout 33 of our United States.

In 1984 Carole and Sir Knight Fred, Past Commander of Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, were married in Valencia, California, and a few months later she was welcomed into Los Angeles Assembly No. 42. Carole was Worthy President, 1994, was Supreme Color Bearer, 1996-97, and was Supreme Worthy Preceptress, 1998-99. In addition to holding a station every year, being involved in all the happenings of her Assembly, and visiting other local Assemblies; Carole actively supports her Sir Knight in all his Masonic endeavors. Mrs. Buxton is especially proud of the support given by the S.O.O.B. and Commandery to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.
Originally from Chicago, Illinois, Carole was born the night before Christmas and has an older brother Donald and an older sister Joyce. Their caring and devoted father, a widower who lived by the Golden Rule and provided a nurturing home, also taught them the fine art of fishing and camping when he was not working as a Chicago policeman. Carole moved to southern California after attending J. Sterling Morton High School in Cicero, Illinois, and began a career in the property and casualty insurance industry, where she worked her way up from personal lines underwriter to agent and broker, achieving Certified Insurance Counselor status in 1978. With 32 years of insurance experience, Mrs. Buxton retired in 1988 to assist her husband in his kitchen cabinetry and contracting corporation.

From previous marriages the couple has six children, and altogether there are 13 grandchildren.

Carole enjoys gardening, dabbling with craft items, and playing with her pets. Traveling and adding to her collection of hand-crafted and unique Christmas ornaments and decorations are fun leisure interests that supply many pleasant memories. Spending time with her family will be her first priority after she completes her responsibilities as Supreme Worthy President.

In Memoriam - Dorothy E. Meek
Supreme Worthy President, S.O.O.B.-1966

Born January 11, 1915 and died July 7, 2001: (Mrs. Charles J.) Dorothy was a talented musician, active as a pianist, violinist, and cornetist; supervisor of instrumental music in the Steuben County Schools, and teacher in public schools of Lorain and Sheffield Lake, Ohio; director of church choirs, handball groups, and women's vocal groups and a member of Green Valley Band, Beaver Band of Tucson, and Chamber Music Society, and founding member of Good Shepherd UCC Church.

In Eastern Star, she was a member of Lorain, Ohio, 1945, and served as Worthy Matron of the Mount Lebanon Chapter, Pennsylvania, 1976. She became a charter member of the Lorain, Ohio, Assembly, S.O.O.B., and served on national level as Supreme Director of Music and rose to S.W.P. in 1966-1967.

She married Charles Jackson Meek, 1939. Surviving are 4 sons, 2 daughters, 20 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.
Pope Urban II was not the only preacher of the Crusade. A number of popular enthusiasts stirred up the imagination of Western Europe's lower classes. One of the most famous of these was a French monk, Peter the Hermit. As proof of his religious fervor, he was filthy and fanatic and walked barefoot, wearing the hermit's cloak that gave him his name. He was lean and swarthy and always rode his donkey which was said to bear a remarkable likeness to the rider. Despite appearances, he was an eloquent speaker, and his earnest sincerity moved those who listened to him. The peasantry, women, children, tradesmen, members of the lower nobility, and even criminals and brigands followed him. By the time he reached Cologne, an estimated 15,000 people had joined his cause.

There were several reasons for Peter's success. He was a persuasive speaker, and emigration meant an escape from poverty. It must also be emphasized that the Middle Ages was an era of visions. In April 1095, a shower of meteorites was interpreted as a large-scale emigration of people in the near future. Then, too, the Old Jerusalem was confused with the New Jerusalem flowing with "milk and honey." The Second Coming was also believed to be near at hand. The Church granted spiritual remission if a pilgrimage was undertaken and taught that Christ could not return unless the Holy Land was restored to Christianity.

Peter the Hermit arrived in Cologne in April 1096. Taking advantage of the rich countryside, he decided to stay there and preach to the Germans, which proved successful. However, Walter Sans-Avoir, a follower of Peter and leader of a French group, was impatient and decided to pass through Hungary. When news reached Constantinople that Walter's army arrived in Belgrade in May 1096, Emperor Alexius was taken by surprise. The official date of the expedition was set for August 15, and Alexius had therefore made his preparations to meet the crusaders without hurry. Gathering of the harvests had not yet begun, there was not enough food, and Walter retaliated by pillaging the countryside. Walter had further reason for a frayed temper. In Semlin (in Hungary) 16 of his men robbed a bazaar, and the Hungarians retaliated by robbing them of their clothes and forcing them to return naked to their army. Nicetas, the governor of Belgrade, nevertheless treated Walter and his army well, and by the middle of July, Walter reached Constantinople.

Peter left Cologne on April 20 and succeeded in getting a solid German following. By this time, his group must have numbered close to 20,000 men and women. Peter passed through Hungary peaceably until he reached Semlin. Hearing rumors of the bazaar-incident, Peter's army killed 4,000 Hungarians and collected a large store of provisions. Nicetas then ordered that Peter's group be restricted in their passage across the river Save to Belgrade. Peter's followers retaliated by setting fire to Belgrade and pillaging it. Patience gave way and Nicetas at his headquarters at Nish ordered his troops to attack and many crusaders were scattered or slain.

Peter finally arrived in Constantinople on August 1 where he joined Walter Sans-Avoir and his men. It was apparent to Peter that he was fast losing his authority, and he decided to remain in Constantinople. As the crusading army marched toward Nicomedia, the Italian, German, and French factions of the expedition quarreled among themselves and wantonly pillaged Turkish territory, robbing the villagers who were Christian Greeks.
By the middle of September several thousand Frenchmen were sacking the neighborhood of Nicaea, the capital of the Seidjuk Sultan Kiliç Arslan, and massacring the Christian inhabitants. The Germans, eager to emulate the French, marched with 6,000 men to the Turkish castle Xerigordon and captured it. The Sultan sent a large army to recapture the castle, and those refusing to renounce their Christian faith were slaughtered.

Meanwhile, all the crusaders, a force of about 20,000, met up at Civetot. It was now apparent that there was no discipline or strong leadership among the various factions. Not heeding Alexius' advice to wait for the official crusading forces under Pope Urban's sanction to arrive at Civetot, the crusaders advanced toward the Turkish armies. It was disastrous. Thousands scattered, were sold into slavery, or were massacred, among them Walter Sans-Avoir and many German knights.

The Popular Crusade was at an end. As the historian of the Crusades, Steven Runciman, wrote: 'It had taught that faith alone, without wisdom and discipline, would not open the road to Jerusalem.'

**The German Crusade**

When Peter the Hermit headed for the East, he left a strong German following behind him, placing one of his disciples, Gottschalk, in charge of gathering a larger army. However, unlike the French faction of Peter's group, the Germans were more inclined to take care of business in Europe before hurrying to the Holy Land.

Unfortunately, this "business" involved the Jewish settlements established along the major trade routes in Western Europe. Since usury was prohibited among Christians, the Jews were able to set up a lucrative money-lending business, charging high rates of interest. To join the Crusade was expensive. Many people were forced to borrow from the Jews in order to pay their expenses entailed by journeying East. Resentment was thus high. The Jews were alarmed by this mood, and they provided Peter and his followers with money in the hopes that the crusaders would pass through peacefully.

The attempt to "buy" peace was wasted. In April 1096, a man named Volkmar marched with 10,000 men through Hungary to join Peter in the East. Meanwhile, Peter's follower, Gottschalk, marched through Bavaria. A third group, headed by Count Emich, included an assortment of simplistic enthusiasts, some of whom followed a goose which was said to be "inspired" by God.

Taking the example of Peter's profitable maneuvers with the Jews, Emich attacked the towns of Spier, Worms, and Mainz where thousands of Jews were slaughtered. The purge continued in Neuss, Wevelinghofen, Eller, and Xanten before the army dispersed.

Volkmar and Gottschalk took up Emich's example. Volkmar attacked the Jews in Prague, but he was checked by the Hungarians when his army reached Nitra. The Hungarians were shocked at the crusaders' behavior and scattered them. Gottschalk and his army, meanwhile, massacred the Jews in Ratisbon. However, when Gottschalk and his men reached Wiesselberg in Hungary, they too were restrained by the Hungarians.

Finally, when Emich's formidable army reached the Hungarian frontier, King Coloman of Hungary was sufficiently alarmed to refuse Emich passage through his country. A battle ensued and many of Emich's men were killed.

The wanton destruction of the German crusades shocked Western Christendom. Would the official First Crusade learn from such grotesqueries?

**Next - The First Crusade**

The above information was submitted by Sir Knight Charles A. Games; H.P.D.C., P.G.C. of Pennsylvania, and the Chairman of the Committee on Public Relations. He is a member of Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, Pennsylvania. Write: Charles A. Games, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944 or e-mail: cagarnes@aol.com
The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar
Christian Pilgrimage to the Holy Land of Israel
Itinerary For December 5-14,2001

It will be led by our Grand Master, Sir Knight William J. Jones, and his Lady Lois
(More information and a reservation form are printed on page 19)

December 5, Day 1 - Depart USA on your way to Tel-Aviv, Israel.

December 6, Day 2 - Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport where your representative greets you and gives you an introduction about our forthcoming tour. Proceed to our hotel in the Galilee for the overnight stay.

December 7, Day 3 - Today we tour the Sea of Galilee; visit Capernaum and Simon Peter's house; the Mount of the Beatitudes and Tabgha, the site of the feeding of the multitudes; take a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee; and enjoy a St. Peter's fish lunch in Tiberias. Then, it's back to our hotel for the overnight stay.

December 8, Day 4 - This morning we drive to visit Cana, the site of Jesus' first miracle; on to Nazareth to visit the magnificent Church of the Annunciation, built on top of the Virgin Mary's house; continue along the coast to Caesarea, where St. Paul was imprisoned and Cornelius baptized; visit the Roman Theatre, Aqueduct, and the Crusader ruins; and ascend to Jerusalem for the overnight stay.

December 9, Day 5 - Walk into the Old City of Jerusalem; experience the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Armenian quarters of the Old City; see the Temple ruins and the Temple Mount; on to our procession of the Fourteen Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa to the sacred Church of the Holy Sepulchre; stroll through the many bazaars of the Old City; visit King Solomon's quarry located next to the Damascus gate; on to Mt. Zion to see David's tomb, the room of the Last Supper, and Dormition Abbey. Overnight stay is in Jerusalem.

December 10, Day 6 - In Jerusalem we visit the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Garden Tomb, and the Church of Peter in Gallicantu, built over the palace of the high priest Caiaphas. We drive to Bethlehem to visit the ancient Church of Nativity, Manger Square, and view the beautiful Shepherds' Fields. And it's back to Jerusalem for the overnight stay.

December 11, Day 7 - This is a day of leisure. Your guide directs you to places you may visit at your own pace with an overnight stay in Jerusalem.

December 12, Day 8 - Today we drive to the lowest point on earth, the Dead Sea area. Then, we tour Masada, site of the Jewish zealots' last stand against the Romans, and we drive to Ein Gedi to experience the salty water of the Dead Sea and continue our journey to the Qumran Caves, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Our overnight stay is in Jerusalem.

December 13, Day 9 - Today we visit the Israel Museum; the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed; and Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. Later we drive to Jaffa to visit St. Peter's Church and the house of Simon the Tanner. We enjoy our farewell dinner and transfer to the airport for our flight home.

December 14, Day 10 - We arrive back in the USA.
THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
SPONSORS THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
CHRISTIAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND OF ISRAEL
DECEMBER 5–DECEMBER 14, 2001

Grand Master William Jackson Jones and his Lady Lois are planning to lead the Pilgrimage. Please come and join!

PACKAGE PRICE INCLUDES:

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS
• Round-trip airfare, Newark or 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, hotel staff, and items of a personal nature, such as sodas, other beverages, laundry, etc.

For further information please contact: AMI Travel, Inc., at address below; or telephone: (773) 777–4900 or outside Illinois: (800) 821–8947; fax: (773) 777–4921.

COST AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Package price per person, double occupancy:
From Newark Airport (NYC)—$2,145
From Chicago O’Hare—$2,255
Single room supplement, if needed, please add: $435

For payment by credit card, add 3.25% of total. Senior discounts (age 60+, spouses age 55+): please deduct $60 per person. Deposit due with reservation: $250 per person. Balance due: October 20, 2001. 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.

RESERVATION FORM

Please circle your choice—Price per person, based on double occupancy:
Newark Airport (NYC): $2,145
Chicago—$2,255

NAME (as appears on 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 to be used on identification badge: ______________________

( ) Please confirm a single room supplement for an additional $435.

( ) Senior discounts—age 60+ and spouses age 55+—please deduct $60 per person.
Enclosed is my payment of $250 per person. Balance due October 20, 2001. Please make checks payable to AMI Travel, Inc., and mail to: Knights Templar, C/O AMI Travel, Inc.; 6200 N. Hiawatha Avenue, Suite 625; Chicago; IL 60646.
Long Lost - Now Found!
by Sir Knight
Lawrence B. Smith, P.C.

From July 25-27, 2001, I had the privilege of attending the 44th General Assembly of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. As with most conventions, a couple of vendors were present to offer the attendees a variety of Masonic related items and regalia. After registering on Thursday morning, Sir Knight Jackie Harrison, also of Virginia, and I decided to see what the vendors had to offer.

The room where they were set up was small, and each had set up two tables on either side of the room. I started on the right side of the room and began working my way to the left. Both vendors had several nice items; however, when I got to the last display case, a jewel with a familiar shape caught my eye. It appeared to be a Past Commander's jewel similar to the one I had received from my home Commandery.

I asked the vendor, Sir Knight Bill Fromman (Peninsular Commandery No. 8, Kalamazoo, Michigan), if I might look at the jewel. I was immediately struck when I read the front of the jewel: "Appomattox Commandery No. 6, Petersburg, Virginia." No wonder the jewel looked so familiar! As with most Commanderies, we are always on the lookout for Past Commander jewels to present as the Sir Knights progress out of the elective line. The price was very fair. For me, here was another jewel for us to use.

Then, I turned the jewel over to see if there was anything on the back. The hair on the back of my neck stood up. Engraved on the back was: "Em. F. S. Bristow, 1950." It took me a few seconds to think of what had just happened.

Following my year as Commander, I had looked for a used Past Commander's gold sword to carry. Sir Knight Joseph P. Westfall, Jr., then the Commander of Appomattox Commandery; had acquired for our Commandery just such a sword. It was from the estate of a widow who had recently passed away. The sword was in very good shape, and I readily signed the Commandery receipt for its loan. I have carried that sword on all Commandery occasions since March of 1999. The name on the sword is "F. S. Bristow."

I immediately questioned Sir Knight Fromman as to where he got the jewel. He remembered that he bought it from a gentleman in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, some time ago, but he knew nothing further of its history. Of course, I immediately paid him for the jewel and it is now in place on my uniform.

So now we have a Past Commander's jewel from Petersburg, Virginia, traveling to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; being sold to a vendor from Mattawan, Michigan; who brings it to Rochester, Minnesota, where it is found by a Sir Knight who is able to marry it up again with the original owner's sword.

Long Lost - Now Found!

Sir Knight Lawrence B. Smith, Past Commander (1998-1999), Appomattox Commandery No. 6, Petersburg, Virginia, resides at 13811 Greyledge Terrace, Chester, VA 23836-5788, e-mail: lodelane@home.com
Alchemy, Fraternalism, and Christianity
by Sir Knight James A. Marples, 32°

Alchemy is an age-old philosophy of the conversion of base metals into precious metals, such as gold, or the discovery of cure-ails for evils or the elixir of longevity. Various people have sought ways and means to achieve the hoped-for alchemical results.

When our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ preached on this earth, He was converting souls. Indeed, He did also convert water into wine; however, His main successes were the conversions of human hearts.

Fraternalism and brotherhood are virtues revered in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The twelve apostles of Jesus were themselves converted in heart to His gospel. They in turn attempted to spread that gospel to others. It is one thing to spread a message; it is quite another story how well that message is received. Not all people who merely hear about Christianity actually accept the Christian faith.

Friendship, for instance, can exist among new acquaintances; however for a friendship to turn into genuine brotherhood is another alchemical process: First of all, it takes a time for it to transmute or convert to trust, bonding, and belonging. In Masonry we refer to that special type of deeper fraternal ties of friendship as "the mystic tie" of brotherhood.

Similarly, with the conversion of metals, we recognize the useful value of turning iron and carbon into steel. Both iron and steel have clear usefulness of a related nature. Correspondingly, in Masonry we have the Symbolic Lodge and the Commandery. The latter would not exist without the former.

The teachings of Jesus Christ were of a holy nature. He instilled a faith that must remain in our hearts. We are fortunate that by His life, death, and resurrection our base human mistakes are forgiven, if we follow His teachings and the Commandments of the holy Father in heaven. We must remember that all of the saints were once mortals who walked this earth; for instance, the holy saints; John, Paul, and Peter; were all once sinners, too. Their conversion from sinners to saints was akin to an alchemical process: the actions and intervention of the Holy Spirit. As Christian Masons, may we ever adhere to that spiritual transformation arising from the Holy Trinity.

Sir Knight James A. Marples, 32°, is a member of El Dorado Commandery No. 19, El Dorado, Kansas. He resides at 223 East Brownie Street, Rose Hill, KS 67133-9706.

Great Priory Of Western Australia

The Sixteenth Annual Assembly and Installation of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master-elect, Right Eminent Knight Ernest Malcolm Adams, GCT, Past Grand Seneschal, will be held at the Masonic Centre, Chalmers Street, Fremantle Western Australia, on Saturday, March 24, 2001, at 3:00 P.M. Distinguished visitors and the various delegations will be received at approximately 3:30 P.M.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master Charles L. Power, GCT, extends a fraternal invitation to all the grand officers and Sir Knights of the Grand Encampment. The contact is: Grand Chancellor Rt. Em Kt. W. J. Greenaway, KCT, 98 Coode Street; Maylands 6051.
2001 Knights Templar Afghan To Benefit The KTEF

Available November 1, 2001, is this beautiful afghan that is being sold to benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The afghan is a tapestry throw made of 100% cotton with 360 picks per square inch. It is very unusual because it has two American flags, one from 1776 and one from the present day. This afghan has our national bird, the bald eagle, on it, and there are nine battle shields for the nine Knights of Malta, who founded the Christian Crusaders and led to the Knights Templar period. These battle shields are from the original design that was taken from historical artwork of the Grand Lodge of England. It has a beautiful poem, "A Knight Templar,," and four pictures from the past to the present of knighthood. On the bottom of the afghan are five Sir Knights - early to present with the far right showing a Knighting.

These afghans will make great Christmas gifts or other gifts including gifts for outgoing Grand Commanders at Annual Conclaves, merit awards for individuals who bring in many new Knights to the Commandery, or a gift for yourself. An afghan would also look great mounted on a fining strip and hung on the Commandery wall.

If interested, please send check or money order for $49.00 to: Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052. $5.00 from every afghan will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Flags, Flags - and More Flags!

The American flag is displayed in a grand array at the Grand Encampment Easter Sunrise Service April 15, 2001, at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia.
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 this century: Jacob C. Baird, Chairman of the Committee on Templar History, 1334 Royal Road, Norwood, MO 65717-9466; e-mail: jcbaird@getgoin.net

"So Long Until Tomorrow"
by Sir Knight
Norman G. Lincoln, KYCH

If one drives northwest from Greenville, Ohio, on Route 49, after five minutes one comes to the tiny crossroads of Woodington. There is nothing to distinguish it from thousands of other rural communities; yet here was the birthplace of one of the last great adventurers of our time.

Although his travels took him to the far corners of the world, Lowell Jackson Thomas never forgot Darke County, where he was born April 6, 1892. From his father, Dr. Harry George Thomas, and his mother, Harriet Wagner Thomas, a schoolteacher, he learned the value of education and the discipline which enabled him to endure countless hardships.

In 1911 he received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Northern Indiana, and he began his career as a reporter in Cripple Creek, Colorado. A year later he had earned a Master's degree from the University of Denver and had moved to Chicago where he lectured on oratory at Kent College of Law and wrote for the Chicago Journal.

At 22 Lowell was an instructor in English at Princeton, where he obtained another Master's degree and made the first of his many trips to Alaska. On August 4, 1917, he married Frances Ryan, and shortly after the country became involved in WWI, President Woodrow Wilson appointed him chief of a mission to record its history. As a foreign correspondent, he traveled throughout Europe and the Middle East and met an even greater adventurer, T. E. Lawrence, whose exploits Thomas reported to the world. After the war, he lectured to large audiences throughout the country on Lawrence of Arabia.

Becoming associate editor of Asia magazine, he accompanied the Prince of Wales on a tour of India. In 1924 the first of his more than 60 books, With Lawrence in Arabia, was published. The next year he wrote Beyond the Khyber Pass and The First World Flight.

While continuing his journeys to exotic places, Lowell Thomas traveled another rugged path on February 2, 1927, when he was raised in St. Johns Lodge, Boston, Massachusetts. He later affiliated with Kane Lodge No. 454, New York City, New York, the "Explorer's Lodge." He became a 33°, Scottish Rite Mason, N.M.J.

Brother Thomas will be remembered most for his nightly news
broadcast, the longest in radio history. One evening in 1929 he was a substitute for Floyd Gibbons. Soon he was opening his CBS program with the familiar "Good evening, everybody." 46 years later he bid his audience a fond farewell for the last time.

During this period he also appeared in Movietone Newsreels, pioneered television news-casting in 1939, produced 2 movies in the Cinerama process, Seven Wonders of the World and Search for Adventure, produced a TV documentary series, High Adventure, and received 15 honorary degrees and many other awards.

"Find a Grave" Web Site
An interesting web site, "Find a Grave," doesn't have a known Masonic connection but has the burial sites of both the famous and the infamous. In addition, it has the resting places of notable animals. Part of the web site allows one to list the burial places of family members. I have listed a number of my deceased family members. One can also do a search by events and people somehow connected in posthumous reunions. Masonic emblems or references can be seen on the gravesites of Edgar Buchanan, Carl "Alfalfa" Switzer, Ray Collins, Roy Rogers, Saba Dastigar, and Gene Autry. This listing of Masonic emblems and references is not limited to those above. I plan to suggest a listing of notable Freemasons; whether it is done is, of course, up to those responsible for the web site. The web site can be reached at http://www.findagrave.com

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Westerly, RI

Sir Knight Norman G. Lincoln is a Past Commander and a member of Middletown Commandery No. 71, Middletown, Ohio. For correspondence write: P.O. Box 454, Eaton, OH 45320-0454

Arnold Harold Lundquist, Sr.
Maine
Grand Commander-1984
Born: September 2, 1915
Died: June 23, 2001

Donald W. Gerrish
Vermont
Grand Commander-1999
Born: September 2, 1926
Died: August 12, 2001

Leonard John Paterson
Michigan
Grand Commander-1948
Born: April 20, 1897
Died: August 24, 2001

Earl M. Albritton
Louisiana
Grand Commander-1987
Born: April 28, 1924
Died: August 30, 2001
Brother Bob Baker: A Nearly Forgotten Hollywood Singing Cowboy
by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 33º

While Bob Baker never quite attained the level of fame of such Masonic movie singing cowboys as Gene Autry and Roy Rogers or the action heroes typified by Tom Mix and Buck Jones, he nonetheless managed to leave his boot-prints on the pages of western film history. As Universal Pictures' first singing cowboy, Baker actually had the distinction of beating out Roy Rogers for this position a few months before the latter signed with Republic. Although his period of stardom was relatively brief, he did make the top ten western star listings in 1939. Bob also had real life experience, not only as a working cowboy but also as a law officer. Finally, he joined a Masonic Lodge at an earlier age than any of his fellow movie cowboys with the exception of Gene Autry.

Baker was born with the name Stanley Leland Weed in Forest City, Iowa, on November 8, 1910, the son of a salesman, Guy Weed, and his wife Ethel. The Weeds had another son Robert and three daughters: Miriam, Margaret, and Gretchen. When Gretchen encountered health problems, the Weed family physicians advised the family to relocate in a drier climate. As a result, in 1924 the Weeds migrated to a small town near Denver and then in 1926 to Arizona. Young Stanley adapted to the wide open spaces rather easily and soon went to work as a ranch hand. He also acquired the nickname "rumble" and soon stopped using his first name Stanley and began signing his name Leland Weed. "Tumble" also worked as a guide for a dude ranch and plied the rodeo circuit. In 1929 Weed joined the U.S. Cavalry.

During his five years as a soldier, Leland was stationed in Fort Bliss, Texas, where he learned to sing and play the guitar. Peacetime army duty in the early thirties was not so strenuous as to prevent Weed from having a regular radio program at KTSM in El Paso. Back in civilian life, he went to work as a guide at the Grand Canyon. There he met Miss Evelyn McCauly, and the two married on September 17, 1935. The couple subsequently had three sons; Kenneth, Tom, and Walter; as well as a daughter Barbara.

Some weeks after his marriage "Tumble" Weed became serious about a career as a radio singer and took such a position at WLS Chicago. There he had his own 15-minute daily program and also appeared on a morning show, "Smile-A-While," and on the Saturday night "National
Barn Dance." Gene Autry had already gone from WLS to Hollywood, and comedians Pat Buttram and Max Terhuue would soon follow. Weed did, too, except that after a year in Chicago, he returned first to Arizona and his old job at the Grand Canyon. When word came that Universal Studios wanted a singing cowboy, Tumble's mother contacted him and arranged for an audition. Other contenders for the job included Leonard Ayle (later known as Roy Rogers) and Stuart Hamblen (both later members of Hollywood Lodge No. 355). Weed won the contract, and studio officials wanted to call him "Tex Baker" but eventually settled for "Bob Baker." His first, Courage of the West, came out late in 1937 to favorable reviews.

Bob Baker starred in a dozen pictures. In five of them, Marjorie Reynolds, who was best known in later years as the wife of Chester Riley in the TV sitcom, The Life of Riley, was his leading lady and added a bit of romance to the films. Other leading ladies included Constance Moore, Joan Barclay, Dorothy Fay (who later became the wife of Sir Knight Tex Ritter) and Marjorie Bell, who went on to win greater fame as dancer, "Marge Champion." Sidekicks included Fuzzy Knight, Hal Taliaferro, and George Cleveland, later famous as "Gramps" on TV's Lassie.

Midway through his period as a film hero, Bob Baker (under his real name) became a Mason in El Sereno Lodge No. 588 in Los Angeles. As Leland Weed he was initiated an Entered Apprentice on July 12, 1938. A heavy filming schedule delayed his advancement for several weeks, but on October 31, 1938, while filming a stage coach runaway scene, the vehicle wrecked and the star suffered injuries that sidelined him for a time. However, Baker took advantage of the lull to be passed a Fellowcraft on November 15, 1938, and to be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on November 29, 1938. He remained a member of El Sereno until 1948 when he took a demit and affiliated with an Arizona Lodge.

After recovering Baker completed filming of The Phantom Stage. He then found himself demoted to the level of co-star with Fuzzy Knight in a series of Johnny Mack Brown films at Universal. According to most reports, Bob was not happy with this situation and was hoping for a contract with another studio when Uncle Sam recalled him to active duty as part of the pre-World War II defense buildup. The army discharged him on January 16, 1941, and Leland Weed joined the police force in Flagstaff, Arizona.

In February 1942, Bob Baker went back to Hollywood and over the next two years had small parts in
other pictures, most notably the 1942 Universal serial, *Overland Mail*, and the 1943 Monogram Trail Blazer feature, *Wild Horse Stampede*. His last film appearance came in a 1944 Hopalong Cassidy film, *Mystery Man*. After that Bob sold his trained horse Apache to Monte Montana and returned to Flagstaff and the police force. During that time - in 1948 - he affiliated with Flagstaff Lodge No. 7. He remained a member of that body until his death except for a brief time period when he was dues delinquent. He had remained in the Army Reserves and in 1950 and 1951 spent a third stint on active duty in the Korean War. Returning again to Flagstaff, Leland T. Weed resumed his position as a police officer where he remained until 1954.

During lulls between films back in 1939 and 1940, Bob had become proficient in leather craft and saddle making and had thereafter supplemented his income thusly. In 1954 he moved to Wickenberg and opened his own saddle shop, which he operated until 1957. At that time Tumble joined the staff at Beaver Creek Guest Ranch. In 1959 he opened another saddle shop in Camp Verde, Arizona. He pursued this trade for a decade, but in 1969 he suffered the first of three heart attacks and experienced severe heart problems for the rest of his life. By 1972 he was retired and had sold his shop. Baker apparently was quite good at his craft. One-time Western leading lady, Jennifer Holt, reported some of her husband's most prized leather collectibles had been handcrafted by Bob Baker.

Leland T. Weed (alias Bob Baker) died in the Whipple V.A. Hospital at Prescott on August 30, 1975. The Brethren of Flagstaff Lodge conducted Masonic services on September 3 and the Fort Verde Chapter of the D.A.V. conducted graveside rites the following day. Evelyn Weed outlived her husband by eighteen years passing away on July 12, 1993, fifty-five years to the day after Bob had first knelt at the altar as an Entered Apprentice. Some years earlier, she described
her late husband thusly: "Tumble was an honest, loving, friendly, proud outgoing man who was self-motivated, and would do without to help a friend in need." In conclusion, although his period of stardom may have been short, Brother Bob Baker nonetheless managed to distinguish himself as a man and as a Mason.

Note: In writing this article, I appreciate the counsel and research work of Brother Bobby J. Copeland in The Bob Baker Story (Oak Ridge, TN: Bobby J Enterprises, 1998). Thanks also to the Grand Lodge of Arizona for supplying his Masonic record. Although Baker made no commercial recording, a cassette of songs from his movie soundtracks is available. For information, contact Bill Russell, 404 Hermitage Drive, Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701. Thanks also to Miss Shasta Dawn Amos for preparing the typescript.

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 33°, a professor of history at the University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio, is Past Commander of Athens Commandery No. 15, Athens, Ohio. He resides at 111 East High Street, McArthur, OH 45651-1111

Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. 11, Milford, Massachusetts, is complete summer uniform and accessories (no pants or shoes) for $125.00. (G.C. and PG.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, nameplate, black tie, tie clasp with cross and crown, and shipping and handling. Send cap size, shirt size, rank, Commandery name and number, choice of engraving on the tie clasp (plain/Knight Templar/your state/Commandery name) to the address below Make checks payable to Milford Commandery No. 11. This is a fundraising project. All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

This summer uniform was approved by Sir Knight James M. Ward, Past 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, CA) Robert P. Winterhalter, P.O. Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. This is for our charity.

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 OCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is $8.50 plus $3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the GCT emblem is $10.00 plus $3.00 shipping and handling. Contact: Jon Patrick Sweet, 7474 Benton Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001, or phone (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.
DeMolay is celebrating its 82nd Birthday as the premier youth organization dedicated to teaching young men to be better persons and leaders.

Today, as always, DeMolay is teaching young men basic life principles and leadership skills. Principles and skills the young men of DeMolay will use all their lives. DeMolay will continue to provide a positive environment for young men. By teaching love of God, home, and country, DeMolay remains a constant and positive force in the youth of our nation.

By offering a special opportunity for young men to grow, to learn, to lead today DeMolay stands at the forefront of youth development.

Preparing the young men of DeMolay to be Tomorrow's Leaders Today!, is a rewarding and wonderful experience for many Freemasons.

DeMolay sponsorship is an opportunity to make a difference. Each DeMolay Chapter must be sponsored by a group of Freemasons. Masonic sponsorship enables DeMolay Chapters to have dependable, dedicated, and devoted adult volunteer "advisors."

As a Mason you can help in many ways. Offer your time and talents as a DeMolay Advisor or adult volunteer. See if a Masonic organization you are a member of would sponsor a DeMolay Chapter, or provide financial support to DeMolay. (DeMolay is a 501(c)3 organization, so contributions are tax-deductible.) If you would like to be a part of creating Tomorrow's Leaders Today!, please contact:

DeMolay International
10200 N. Ambassador Drive
Kansas City, MO 64153
Or call 1-800-DEMOLAY
Email development@demolay.org
Or check out our website at www.demolay.org
For sale: Knights Templar triangular aprons, black with silver and silver bullion thread, embroidered crossed swords on flap and skull and crossbones on the apron. These are identical to those worn by all Sir Knights in the last century and still worn in some jurisdictions; brand new: $75.00 plus $5.00 U.P.S. A percentage to York Rite charities. Sal Caradonna, PC., 23 Gail Court, Staten Island, NY 10306-2234, (718) 987-4532

For sale: One beautiful K.T. chapeau, size 7 and 5/8, worn less than 5 times! Has very heavy plumage and includes storage case with handle that is red felt-lined. $400.00 or best offer. Fred Lowstetter, (724) 843-5088 or write 105 St. Tropez Circle, Beaver Falls, PA 15010

Handsome lapel pins are being offered to help support RAM Medical Research Foundation. The cost of each is $10.00, postpaid. Check payable to RAM Medical Research Foundation and send to Walter J. Hilsenbeck, Chairman Royal Arch Charities; 32 New York Avenue; Massapequa; NY 11758-4818

The Supreme Council, 33', A. & A.S.R., S.J., is offering a postal commemorative for the Bicentennial, Biennial Session on Oct. 1, 2001, in Charleston, SC. Produced by Artmaster, Inc., the cacheted envelope features a view of Shepheard's Tavern in Charleston, where the Supreme Council was formed in 1801 and the House of the Temple in Washington, DC. A special USPS cancellation will be used with the 34c "Honoring Veterans-Continuing to Serve" postage stamp. A limited number of the commemoratives are available at $5.00 each, plus a self-addressed, 55-cent, stamped envelope. The Supreme Council, 1733 16th Street, NW; Washington; DC 20009-3103

Fund-raiser: fine, Royal Arch tie, imprinted with the Triple Thu within a triangle within a circle-$15.00 pp. Chapter needs funds to continue to survive. Checks to Bay View Flatbush Chapter No. 298, and send to Sal Caradonna, 23 Gail Court, Staten Island, NY 10306-2234, (718) 987-4532

Cochran Ledge No. 217, F.&A.M., 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 are 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 a self-addressed, 55-cent, stamped envelope. The Supreme Council was formed in 1801 and the House of the Temple in Washington, DC. A special USPS cancellation will be used with the 34c "Honoring Veterans-Continuing to Serve" postage stamp. A limited number of the commemoratives are available at $5.00 each, plus a self-addressed, 55-cent, stamped envelope. The Supreme Council, 1733 16th Street, NW; Washington; DC 20009-3103

For sale by Park Place Commandery No. 106, Houston, Texas: Knight Templar caps, black with cross and crown logo. Available are baseball and golf (mesh) styles. Proceeds of cap sale go to KTEF. Price is $15.00 per cap plus $2.00 S & H. Send check or MO and specify style to Recorder, P.O. Box 263430, Houston, TX 77207-3430

For sale: Knights Templar shoulder straps, all ranks, embroidered in gold and silver bullion on velvet with Velcro barks: 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, extra fancy Grand Commander) Past Grand Commander (purple)- $50.00 (all plus $5.00 S & H). Also: chapeaux crosses: Sir Knight. $35.00; Past Commander, $40.00; Grand Commandery, $45.00-all plus $5.00 S & H. Percentage to Masonic and York Rite charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N Jacobson, Jr., PC.; 60 Manor Rd Staten Island NY 10310-2698

Proceeds of cap sale go to KTEF. The price is $15.00 each with $5.00 UPS. The Supreme Council was formed in 1801 and the House of the Temple in Washington, DC. A special USPS cancellation will be used with the 34c "Honoring Veterans-Continuing to Serve" postage stamp. A limited number of the commemoratives are available at $5.00 each, plus a self-addressed, 55-cent, stamped envelope. The Supreme Council, 1733 16th Street, NW; Washington; DC 20009-3103

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

To place your 'Knight Voices' item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to "Knight Voices," The Grand Recorder, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630-2460. Items submitted to Knight Templar that refer to Templar or Masonic subjects will continue to be printed free of charge. All other items should be accompanied by a $5.00 remittance made payable to the Grand Encampment. Any submission may be subject to editing. You must submit a written request and check, if applicable, for each time you want your ad to run. Each request must be separate and at monthly intervals, not several at the same time. All other requests for repeat ads will either run just once or will be returned to sender.
Celebrate the 150th anniversary of Star Lodge No. 187, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, with the purchase of a commemorative coin. They are beautiful, cast in bronze and 1 and 112 inches in diameter. The front has symbols of Masonry, and the back contains a star and “Star Lodge” and the anniversary dates. These coins can be purchased by sending $6.00 each in check or money order payable to Star Lodge No. 187. Mail to Tim A Gottschalk, 2629 Northampton Road, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

For sale: coins to celebrate the 150th anniversary of San Diego Lodge No. 35, San Diego, California. Coin has “150th Anniversary” above the square and compass with the dispensation date inscribed around the perimeter. On the reverse side is the Lodge name on the perimeter with several Masonic working tools in the center. Cost is $6.00 each including postage. Secretary, San Diego Lodge No. 35, F & AM.; 1895 Camino del Rio South; San Diego; CA 92108-3863

For Sale: Yukon-Alaska 100th anniversary items for the combined celebration of White Pass Lodge No. 1, Skagway, and Yukon Lodge No. 45, Dawson City: 100-year history (186 HC), $30.00; bronze medallion, $10.00; gold-plated medallion, $20.00; coffee mug. $10.00; baseball cap, $15.00. All items include S & H. Tom Mickey, WM.; Yukon Lodge No. 45; Box 45; Dawson City, Yukon; AK YOB 1GO.

Master Masons of recognized lodges are eligible to join the Masonic Postal Chess Club. Members play chess by mail with Brother Masons in all states (and Canada). Membership includes both beginners and experienced players. Members play as often and with as many opponents as desired for the same low price. Some members prefer to play with only one opponent while some play seven or eight (or more) games simultaneously. Yearly dues are only $20.00, and there is no additional charges for game assignments, etc. For more info write to club secretary Brother Dennis Plymette, 371 Holly Heck Circle, Mountville, PA 17554-1252.

Sprig of Acacia lapel pins: Each handcrafted pin is sterling silver with a 24 karat gold vermeil finish. Price per pin is $10.00 ea. including S & H. New item available: the 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 of others. One of the chaplains, Reverend and Brother George Lansing Fox, was a member of Moose River Lodge No. 82, F. & A.M., in Concord, Vermont. Price per pin is $8.00 ea. including S & H. S. Kenneth Ban!, 6922 Royal Green Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244, (513) 232-6989. 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF.

For sale: The Medal of Honor The Letter G in Valor, a 268-page digest with the names, congressional citations, and Lodge membership of all Masons who have received our nation’s highest military award for bravery. Check or money order for $21.95 (CT residents, $23.27) to Weidner Publishing Group, Dept. K, 490 Cornwall Avenue, Cheshire, CT 06410, or credit card order by calling 1(800) 783-9654. Author’s portion of profits separates, all sizes, new, and limited sizes, used. % to KTEF. Tell free 1 (800) 426-5225 to order or receive catalog.

For sale: new book on Masonry, A Survey of the History and Mysteries of Freemasonry. The book is hardbound, 322 pages, indexed, contains a bibliography of more than 100 sources, and makes liberal use of footnotes. It also contains a 114-page glossary of Masonic words and terms that one reader says “is the most comprehensive ever published in one source.” Nine highly-placed Masons who read it gave it raving reviews. It is written, published, and financed by Robert L. Breeding and can be obtained from him only. Price is $20.00 plus $3.00 postage and handling. Attention: all Masonic organizations: Effective October 1, 2001, any Masonic organization that orders ten or more books to be shipped in one package, the cost is $14.00 per copy, postage included. At % to KTEF. Check or MO to him at 405 Awx4 Court, Knoxville, ‘IN 37923-5807. E-mail rbreed4217@jig .com. Telephone (865) 539-9932; fax (865) 690-7588.

For sale: 15+ carat diamond, white gold Shrine pin with 3 other prominent diamonds. Asking $250. Also: Job's Daughters Queen doll (18 inches, slim, brown hair, blue eyes) in regalia: robe, taffeta-lined purple velvet cape with silk cords, tassels, and perfect Greek Key edge embroidery; adjustable metal crown with purple and rhinestones; stand; $75.00 plus $5.00 insurance and postage. Also: Job’s Daughters’ 10K pin with horn guard, $20.00. Byrd and Dianne Dehinten; 2000 Chestnut Avenue, Apt. 308; Glenview; IL 60025; (847) 996-8742; dehinten@juno.com.

Retired Mason and Sir Knight wants to buy, any condition train sets - American Flyer, Lionel, and Marx, all gauges; Aurora ‘model motoring’ race ear sets; U.S. and General military items; and old U.S. stamps (pre-1940) Tim Rickheim, 14761 Tunnicliff Rd, Petersburg, MI 49270-3580. E-mail timbreed4217@jig .com. Telephone (865) 539-9932; fax (865) 690-7588.

Wanted to buy: Masonic first day covers and cachets. Also buying cover collections. G. B. Adkins, Rt. 1, Box 152A, Keyser, WV 26726, (304) 788-3783, gadkins@pennswoods.net.
In A Masonic Way

I sit here in a Masonic way wondering
what good deed should I do today.
There is help needed in every place;
I just wonder how to set the pace.

Maybe there’s a little guy
that would like to catch a ball
Or maybe a little gal playing with a makeup kit
that would like to use it all.

Maybe there’s a brother who would just like to talk
Or even a once active sister in a wheelchair
who would just like to walk.

I’m sure one way or another
I will offer my heart to give
Because I know that there is someone out there
who just wants to live.

Florida Sir Knight
Ken Killings
198 Tucker Ln
North Ft. Myers, FL 33917