Wonderful Times for Knights Templar-Past and Future!

We had a wonderful Templar trip to Greece during the first part of December. It was inspiring to see the ancient ruins and the modern wonders of that country. To actually walk through Corinth, Delphi, and Athens and to sail on the Aegean Sea are thrills which are difficult to describe. The weather was cool and rainy, but the hospitality was warm! Pandelis E. Mastromanolis, Deputy General Grand High Priest of Europe, and his wife Aglaia treated us to a very special lunch while we were in Athens, and they were most gracious hosts.

I made two memorable trips to Indiana during the past month. The first was in December to participate in the Knighting of twelve new members at Greenfield Commandery. The Mayor, Sir Knight Rodney Fleming, took part in the ceremonies and designated Wednesday, December 19, 2001, as Willard Meredith Avery and William Jackson Jones Day in Greenfield. We were presented with suitable certificates to denote the honor. The second occasion was the Newby-Avery Dinner in honor of those two Most Eminent Past Grand Masters. I had the pleasure of naming Lady Virginia Ball, who was present, a Trustee of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation at that time.

February brings the Allied Masonic Degrees, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, and many other organizations to the Hotel Washington for their annual meetings. The Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America follows in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I hope to be able to visit with many of you at one of those places!

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

FEBRUARY: The 34th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation is in its third month. S° Chairman W. Bruce Pruitt's message on page 9 for progress, and check your state's progress on page 11! Get out and support this great cause! You'll find many reasons why in the comments of KTEF recipients on page 12. On page 2 Grand Master Jones speaks of wonderful times past and alerts us to important future events. Don't miss them, and check out the Department Conference Schedule on page 19, too! On page 13 member of the Knights Templar Committee on Religious Activities, Dr. James N. Karnegis, presents an inspiring article on the importance of religious observances and other religious activities in all Commanderies, Brother George Washington is celebrated on page 20, and there are a host of other interesting articles for your attention.

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JOAN B. MORTON
Assistant Editor

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.

There are only a few Needlepoint Kits Available. Get yours before they are discontinued!

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 Ave, 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 H 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.

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 Ave, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

Announcing: The Widow's Pin - to commemorate those who were active Templars. The Grand Encampment continues a program to honor widows of Knights Templar. A green pin is for widows of those below the rank of Commander, and a red Templar Cross pin is for widows of Sir Knights who held office below the rank of Past Grand Commander (this includes Commanders, Past Commanders and grand officers). Honor your widows at regular or special programs of your Commandery. Pins are $5.00 apiece, payable to the Grand Encampment. Send to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

A Pilgrim's Path: Freemasonry and the Religious Right: This is John J. Robinson's last book, and it is available as a hardbound copy. Every Mason should want this intriguing and educational book in his library. The book is available for $15.00 each, plus $2.50 shipping and handling. Born in Blood The exciting book by John J. Robinson is available at the price of $16.00, including shipping and handling. * Dungeon, Fire, and Sword * This history of the Knights Templar by the late John J. Robinson is available for $20.00 each, plus $3.00 shipping and handling. Please make checks payable to the Grand Encampment, and send them to the Grand Recorder; Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

YORK RITE FREEMASONRY ON THE INTERNET - Official Web Sites

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

General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons, international
http://members.aol.com/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 following "Eulogy" was presented by Sir Knight Stewart W. Miner, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, F & A.M., of the District of Columbia, at the Masonic services for Past Grand Master Marvin E. Fowler.

William Shakespeare once wrote that some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them. At the time he penned those words, Shakespeare must have had in mind someone like Marvin Fowler, a man who by word and deed achieved unusual Masonic greatness; in this achievement, he also made the Fraternity great.

To be born great is an act of providence, and it is clearly providential that Marvin Fowler was endowed by his Creator with unusual intellect, physical stamina, an inquisitive mind, a pleasant personality, and an extraordinary appreciation of his personal obligation to use all of these gifts of God properly. Indisputably, Marvin Fowler was born to be great.

Also it is indisputable that Marvin achieved greatness, not because of his endowment but because of his apt application of his God-given talents, always facing the challenges of life with confidence and optimism. For almost 75 years he busied himself by serving every major Masonic body, subordinate or Grand, and always with distinction. In the process he took no short cuts; his was a working sojourn through the quarries of Masonry.

It is equally clear that because of his skill and the superior quality of his performance, greatness was thrust upon him from all quarters: Following his service as Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia, he was called upon to lead significant sectors of the Craft, nationally and internationally, and under his leadership those sectors of the Craft for which he was responsible thrived.

Marvin was in a class by himself, and his death indeed marks the end of a Masonic era, not only in the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia but throughout the Masonic world. Marvin was not known as "Mr. Mason" for nothing. It was a title he never sought, but one that was bestowed upon him by his fellow Masons as a token of their love and respect. His passing leaves a void that will remain as long as the countless Masons who knew him and worked with him have memory.
The affection in which he has been held is indicated, in part, by the honors that have been heaped upon him. He received the Distinguished Service Medal of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, the Henry Price Medal of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the Henry Johnson Medal of New York, the Joshua Hayden Drummond Award of the Grand Lodge of Maine, the Albert Gallatin Mackey Medal of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, the Daniel Cox Medal of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and the Thomas J. Shiroyock Medal of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Throughout the years Marvin's greatness was self achieved, the result, in part, of his inability or rather unwillingness to say no to his contemporaries. One task inevitably led to another, and in consequence, Marvin was never without Masonic employment. And through it all Marvin continuously enunciated what he believed were the essentials of life - concerns about the interrelationships of men; concerns about how man uses or misuses his intellectual resources; concern about how men in the fraternity act; and concerns, particularly, about how people, in general, adapt to change.

The enormity of his concerns was established in his report to the Grand Lodge in 1950 when he stated that: "We are not alarmed about the condition of our craft...but we are fearful for the future of the human race. Only a few short years ago we congratulated ourselves that peace had been restored to the world after its most bloody conflict. Men of great vision and lofty ideals sought to discover the means with which to end warfare for all time, and many believed they were successful in their endeavors. Yet warfare never ceased. Today, as we meet, our nation is in a state of emergency, and we are engaged in what may prove to be our most crucial struggle for freedom. As Masons and loyal citizens of a free land, we are obliged to aid in this struggle against tyranny and oppression.

Let us work and pray for the day when truth and justice will prevail throughout the world."

What Marvin said in 1950 is as apropos today as it was then. He was a man ahead of his time; a giant in the Craft; an organizational genius, and, unfortunately, his equal is at the moment not in sight. But we take solace in the fact that by his labors in hundreds of Masonic bodies, he established a foundation on which his survivors may build in preparation for a new day, a better day, and a day in which greater insight and appreciation of the true meaning of brotherly love and affection may be realized.

Good bye, dear friend, good bye. You have made your mark. It will be remembered. You have satisfied the Chief Overseer and are entitled to your wage. Pass on, my Brother, pass on.

Sir Knight Stewart Wilson Miner is the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, F. & A.M., of the District of Columbia. He is a member of Virginia Commandery No. 29, Arlington, Virginia, and the Knights Templar Committee on Knights Templar History. He is a Past Commander, and a Knight Commander of the Temple. He resides at 3865 N. Upland Street, Arlington, VA 22207-4631
Biography of Marvin E. Fowler

Sir Knight Marvin E. Fowler was born October 12, 1904, in Salisbury, Missouri. He earned an A.B. from Central College, Fayette, Missouri, in 1926 and an M.A. from George Washington University in 1931. He was employed as a plant pathologist for the US Forest Service for 34 and a half years and was the author of about 75 scientific publications. Following that he held the position of Secretary/Treasurer for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial for 22 years. He lived with his wife Roberta in Alexandria, Virginia, and they were the parents of 3 daughters.

Civic offices held include president of the Holindale Citizens Association, president of the International Arborists Association, and president of the Tri. Agri. Federal Credit Union, Pennsylvania.

Sir Knight Fowler was raised in Hebron Lodge No. 354, Mexico, Missouri, 1927, and was Worshipful Master. In recent times he was a member and Past Master of LaFayette Lodge No. 19, D.C., where he served as Lodge trustee. In 1950 he served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District and on the Jurisprudence Committee. He was a Past President of the Masonic Foundation of D.C. He was admitted to the Royal Arch and Chivalric Masonry in Mexico, Missouri, and held membership in the D.C. York Rite, including: Columbia Chapter No. 1, R.A.M.; Adoniram Council No. 2, R. & S.M.; and Columbia Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar. He served as Grand High Priest of D.C.; Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, 1963-1983; and activities in the General Grand Chapter International include terms as: General Grand Principal Sojourner, General Grand High Priest, and Chairman of the Board on International Affairs, 1978-1981. Sir Knight Fowler was Grand Master of the Grand Council, R. & S.M., D.C., 1970, and served as Grand Recorder of Grand Council, 1975-1983. A Past Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of D.C., he also served the Grand Encampment as Chairman of the Committee of the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service, 1967-1979.

In the Scottish Rite he was coronetted Inspector General Honorary of the 33° in October 1943 in Washington. He served as presiding officer of all 4 Scottish Rite bodies. In addition, he was Past Sovereign of St. Simeon Stylites Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine, D.C.; Past Prior, Francis Scott Key Priory No. 14, KYCH; Past Grand Master General, Convent General, KYCH; Past Grand Master, A.M.D.; Past Grand Chancellor, Grand College of Rites; Past Grand Preceptor, Grand College, HRAKTP; and Past Great Chief, Knight Masons of America. He was a Senior DeMolay and an active member of the International Supreme Council of DeMolay. Since 1953 he served as Provincial Grand Master of the Royal Order of Scotland in the US. He held honorary memberships in numerous Masonic bodies.

Sir Knight Marvin E. Fowler was appointed Right Eminent Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, on
March 6, 1980, following the death of William P. Wilson, R.E. Grand Generalissimo; was elected R.E. Grand Generalissimo, August 18, 1982, at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas; was elected R.E. Deputy Grand Master, August 13, 1985, at Cincinnati, Ohio, and was elected Most Eminent Grand Master, August 9, 1988, at Lexington, Kentucky.

Our most sincere condolences are extended to Roberta Fowler and to all the members of Sir Knight Fowler's family.
Message from the General Chairman
The 34th Annual Voluntary Campaign
by Sir Knight W. Bruce Pruitt, P.D.C. and P.G.C. (California)
Chairman of the Annual Voluntary Campaign

Dear Sir Knights and Ladies,

The 34th Campaign is now well under way, and I am extremely pleased to see what a good start we are getting. I am writing this message at the end of the fifth week of the Campaign. As of this time, we are almost $30,000.00 ahead of the same period of the 33rd Campaign. That is really encouraging, and I hope we can keep up the same pace. Of course, just because we are ahead of last year in the fifth week, doesn't mean we will necessarily be that way at the end of the Campaign. Only your continued effort and dedication to the Eye Foundation can ensure that result.

The Grand Commandery of Texas is in the number one position at this time with South Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee coming along in second, third, and fourth positions. At least every Grand Commandery has shown some contribution, no matter how small. Maybe some of you are waiting for the direct mail solicitation before sending in your contribution. If that is true, then no doubt some of the states with small dollars to date will come in strong.

With Texas showing up as number one, I wonder how much of that situation can be credited to Sir Knight Ken Fischer's promotional program. If you will recall, he is awarding a loving cup to the Commandery that raises the most funds through "outside" efforts. That includes fundraising dinners, car washes, etc. I hope that many other Grand Commandery Campaign Chairmen will come up with similar ideas.

Speaking of the direct mail solicitation, it will be in the mail before very long. As I wrote last month, this is an extremely important part of our 34th Campaign. It is an easy and convenient way for you to make your contribution. Funds can be sent directly to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation office, saving work on the part of your Recorder and also saving delays in getting the money credited. Furthermore, you can make contributions with a credit card if you would like to do so.

Did you see the pictures on page seven of the January issue of the Knight Templar magazine? First of all there was a picture of the Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. We owe a great deal of thanks to those Sir Knights for their dedication and hard work on our behalf. Secondly, there were two pictures of the representatives of the Grand Commandery of California making presentation of research grant checks. I am proud of my Grand

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Commander and the others for the manner in which these checks were delivered. Not only did they get good publicity for the Eye Foundation; they also showed that Masonry is a "family affair" by including their wives in the presentation. Thank you, Gwen, Saundra, and Nevon for joining your husbands in the visits to the USC and UC Irvine campuses. I hope other Sir Knights and their ladies will pick up on this idea.

I hope the year 2002 has started off on a favorable note for all of you.

Remember our motto for the 34th Campaign:

"I'm upping my contribution; how about you?"

Sir Knight W. Bruce Pruitt Chairman of the 34th 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 Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. His personal e-mail address: is wbpruitt@aol.com. For information on the KTEF, send e-mail to ktef@knightstempla.org or call (773) 205-3838.
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 Ave, Suite 100; Chicago; IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-3838

Grand Master's Plaque Presented To Deputy Of Wisconsin I.O.R.G. For Rainbow Girls' Gift To KTEF

During the reconstitution ceremony of Stevens Point Assembly No. 1, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, held on December 9, 2001, at the Stevens Point Masonic Center in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, one of the highlights was the presentation by Grand Commander Richard J. Reilly of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Grand Master's Plaque and a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Barbara Foster (left), Supreme Deputy for Wisconsin, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, in recognition of a $2,100.00 gift to the KTEF, as the philanthropy of the Grand Worthy Advisor, Miss Amber Johnson, for her year 2001. Miss Johnson was taking her final exams for school and was unavailable to attend this historic event. She will be honored at a later date.
Comments From Recipients Of The Eye Foundation

José had his surgery, and he is doing well. I want you to know how much we appreciate your help. At a time when we didn't know what we were going to do, God sent us angels, you! I wish there were something I could do besides say: "Thank you." Your thoughtfulness is a Godsend. Once again, with all the love in our hearts, we say Thank You!

José and Misty Armas
Henderson, Texas

I've tried to find words sufficient to thank you, but it is impossible to express my gratitude for the funding for my left eye surgery. Because of very high pressure in my eye, that drops would not bring down, I would soon have gone blind. Mark A. Henry, M.D., implanted a filter in my left eye. Now, the pressure is 9, and my vision is very good. Dr. Henry said he was very happy about how the surgery went.

I'm thankful to God for answering my prayers. I know you'll not go unrewarded for your kind deed and thoughtfulness. I won't ever forget what you've done for me. I love you.

Vearl E. Wells
Somerset, Kentucky

To know that your child can see better is the best feeling I know. Two small words like "thank you" seem so little, but they mean so much, and they come from our hearts. If it were not for Mr. Neff and your wonderful Foundation, Derrick would still be unable to see and his life would still be in limbo. He feels so much better emotionally since the surgery and the restoration of his sight. It is wonderful to see his delight. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your Foundation and your help.

The Ice Family
Sardis, Ohio

I want to thank you for your help! I am a widow, and since my eye has caused me much pain, I haven't had a life outside myself. My husband had lung cancer, which ate up all our savings and more. When I began having eye trouble, I put it off until I could no longer stand the pain. I went blind in my left eye in 1996. Through your help I will be blessed to have the pain relieved by a cornea transplant. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your caring about another's health!

Annie Lee DeLoach
Silver Creek, Georgia

We give thanks to God for your help in this time of financial need. The blessing you have been to us is so greatly appreciated. The surgery was a success, and Russell has had his first return visit to the doctor, who has said things look well. The healing should go very quickly, and then we will know what measure of sight he will have in that eye. We have so much to be thankful to God for, but especially for caring people such as you!

Russell and Gladys Reimnitz
Corsica, South Dakota
Religious Activity—What Does It Mean To You?

by James N. Karnegis, M.D., Ph.D., P.G.C. (NE)
member of the Committee on Religious Activities

"When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in a rather scornful tone, "it means just what I choose it to mean - neither more nor less."

Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking Glass, Chapter 6

Because it has a Christian foundation, Templary provides a looking glass through which its Christian nature and activities can be seen. There is no doubt we have the freedom to choose what images we wish displayed. How, then, are these images formed, and what should they be?

Certainly, we are given great latitude. It is possible to take the position that the individual can, or should, make up all of his own beliefs and rules of conduct. Carried to an extreme, we reach the point where the process of communication between one and another "depends on what the definition of 'is' is." Obviously, this really means that no communication is at all possible, because there is no common ground of language or meaning.

If that happens, Humpty Dumpty's comments in Through the Looking Glass, which are quoted above, won't seem too far-fetched. It is interesting that, sometimes, when we look in the looking glass we may even catch a glimpse of ourselves! If we look closely, we may see that, in fact, we are operating under our own conceptions and that we have set our own definitions of who we are and what we should be about. This is a general phenomenon, and it can be true when we consider the role of the Knight Templar, as well.

Communication, which is the transfer of information from one to another, depends on the involved parties receiving and accepting the same significance and meaning from the tools being used at that moment for that purpose. In the broad sense, the society and the culture in which we happen to live generally determine the tools we use and what they mean, such as written and spoken languages, for example. In a more specific sense, an organization, which is composed of individuals joined together for some common goal or purpose, will define who is qualified to be a member, the meaning of the organization, and the expected conduct and behavior of its constituents. Acting within the organization, the individual does not largely construct his own agenda. Such is the case with our order.

As a starting point in our discussion, it is obvious, of course, that Knights Templar can exemplify their Christian Masonry in two ways: that is, either as individuals, or as part of an organized group. The first way envelopes us twenty-four hours a day every day, because we can never be divorced from ourselves. It matters how we think, look, and behave.
As an individual, the Knight Templar exemplifies his Christian Masonry by independently fulfilling his duties to God, his country, his neighbor, his family, and himself. This individual role is fundamental and of great importance. In addition, however, as a member of the order, the Knight Templar also can take advantage of the collective opportunities offered by the group.

Because a Commandery of Knights Templar is the basic unit of the order, tradition recommends that every constituent Commandery, as a group, should hold at least one religious activity each year. For this purpose, the Commandery is free to choose any appropriate occasion that best suits its needs and desires, and it is encouraged to do so; however, the observance should be well planned and should be smoothly carried out in a dignified manner.

Some of the religious activities that are most commonly observed include Christmas, Easter, Epiphany, Ascension Day, Pentecost, and Memorial Services for deceased members. There are many others as well. The Guidelines for Religious Activities, published by the Grand Encampment, can be referred to and is a helpful resource. Special mention should be made that the Grand Encampment encourages attendance at the annual Easter Sunrise Service at Alexandria, Virginia. The above list of activities can be expanded as desired. But then the question can be asked, "so what? Why should Commanderies plan and hold at least one group religious activity each year?"

The short answer is the fact that Knights Templar is an order founded on the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues. Now, in the normal Masonic progression of things, it is the Chapter that provides the door through which we ascend from the terrestrial to the celestial level and where the lost word is restored to us. Notice, however, that at this Chapter point in progressing through the York Rite, the requisite belief in a Supreme Being is not further specifically defined, and the only requirement is that we believe in One God. Only Templary extends the opportunity to enjoy, experience, and profit from Masonry in a Christian context.

The longer answer as to why Commanderies should have ongoing religious observances is that they produce both inner and outer benefits and result in both personal and public gains.

The swirling winds of our daily lives may tend to blow us off course unless we steer our way by means of the Christian compass. A regular Christian observance reminds Knights Templar to regularly check their compass readings, helps make them confident in their choices, and improves their faith.

Christian observances help Knights Templar remember who they are. It may seem strange, but even within Commanderies the Christian distinctiveness may become blurred. The many routine activities that go on in the Commanderies, such as opening and closing, and running the organization,
may dull the mind to more important things. Recently, a cartoon demonstrated the effects of an anesthetized type of life. A wife was standing in her living room talking to her lady friend. Among the furnishings in the room was a sofa placed opposite a TV set. The wife was saying, "The sofa was here, and the TV was here, but one day I noticed that he was not." It is easy to lose sight of the more important things in life. Christian activities, then, help members focus on the bigger picture, on their abiding belief in the Son of God.

An organized religious activity emphasizes the Christian character of the order, fosters participation of an individual Sir Knight in planning and executing the observance and thus enriches his Christian faith. This helps solidify the identity and strengthens the esprit de corps of Templary. The Christian faith is the distinctive common bond, and joining together in exemplifying this faith unites members as a group and fosters pride in belonging to the order.

Christian observances held by Commanderies can attract those who are not members of the order, but who are of the faith, non-Masons as well as Masons. Clearly, every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar. It is written, "...the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine." There is a power in numbers, in being together, and in sharing. Dignified observances, beautifully done, will tend to draw in like-minded people and can be a positive factor in obtaining new members. Religious observances, by their nature, are, in effect, a good way to advertise what Templary is and for what it stands.

It is evident that it is important that we have and participate in religious activities. We should not be like Humpty Dumpty and form our own definitions and derive our own meanings, but rather we should really understand the purpose of being Knights Templar. It all boils down to our mission, which traditionally is to defend (support) the Christian religion and demonstrate a Christian concern for human needs. If we make use of the many opportunities that are given to us, together we can fulfill our mission.

"Then you should say what you mean," the March Hare went on.
"I do," Alice hastily replied; "at least - at least I mean what I say - that's the same thing, you know."
"Not the same thing a bit!" said the Hatter. "Why you might just as well say that 'I see what I eat' is the same thing as 'I eat what I see!'"
Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Chapter 7

**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.
Robert J. Cave, P.G.C.
The interval between the Second and Third Crusades was tempestuous. The capture of Ascalon by the Latins in 1153 allowed for closer contact with Egypt. Several campaigns to acquire such a powerful country failed, however, and in 1169 the great Moslem leader Saladin became ruler of Egypt.

By 1180 a commercial treaty was made between the Latins and Saladin but was thwarted by Crusading leaders who had recently arrived from Europe and who were therefore less likely to understand a Moslem-Latin truce. The blame for the fall of Jerusalem could very well be placed on one man, Reginald of Chatillon, a thoughtless spokesman for the "newcomer" Crusading group, who broke the treaty twice by attacking a Moslem caravan once in 1181 and another time in 1186. Both incidents resulted in a declaration of war by Saladin on the Latins. In 1182 the Moslem campaigns were inconclusive; but in 1187, the Latins were not so fortunate. The disaster of the Battle of Hattin was followed by the fall of Jerusalem; the Holy Cross, Christendom's most sacred relic, was in Moslem hands, and the Frankish East was torn asunder. Only Tyre remained as a refuge for the Latins.

Western Christendom's response to the disaster of the Battle of Hattin was immediate. On October 29, 1187, even before the news of the collapse of Jerusalem reached Europe, Pope Gregory VIII declared a new Crusade.

Like the Second Crusade, the Third Crusade became an international expedition: The German Emperor, Frederick Barbarossa, the King of France, Philip Augustus, and the King of England, Henry II, agreed to go to the Holy Land. However, Henry II died in July 1189, and his son Richard inherited both England's

throne and the Third Crusade.

Frederick's army, estimated at 100,000, proved to be the largest military force yet to leave for the Holy Land. Despite this force of numbers, the Germans - like their Crusading ancestors - became the victims of fortune's wheel. On June 10, 1190, Frederick drowned in the river Calycadnus near Seleucia. Although the Duke of Swabia took command, the Germans were demoralized. Many died of hunger and sickness, and when the Germans finally arrived at Antioch where food was plentiful, their indulgence reduced the army still further. The old Emperor's body was kept in vinegar in the hopes that at least a part of their leader should arrive in Jerusalem. Serving as perhaps a fateful metaphor, Frederick's remains disintegrated nevertheless.

Fate, however, did not prove unkind to all the Crusaders. In 1189, the recent Latin King of Jerusalem, Guy of Lusignan, thwarted in his desire to rule Tyre, attacked Saladin's great stronghold at Acre in a foolhardy attempt to piece together his kingdom. Never had such a foolish risk resulted in such a favorable outcome for the Franks. Though the battles at Acre were drawn out for two years with little result, Guy's rashness put the
Franks on the military offensive, and a period of fresh conquest was begun.

The news that the kings of France and England had at last reached the Middle East in the spring of 1191 heartened the Latin army at Acre, and their long delay - almost four years had passed since the Third Crusade was proclaimed - was forgiven. The delay was due largely to Richard's conquests in Sicily where Messina was seized in 1190 by the English and negotiations with Philip made for the future management of the Crusade. Then in May 1191, Richard's arrival at the Byzantine island of Cyprus alarmed Emperor Isaac Ducas Comnenus who, hating Latins, unwisely ordered him to leave. Richard could afford to retaliate. He had already sent the cheering news to Acre that he was on his way to Cyprus, and by the time Isaac and Richard met, the major Frankish leaders left Acre to ally with Richard at Cyprus and declare war on Isaac.

From a historical perspective, Richard's capture of Cyprus was to be his greatest achievement. The Franks were able to hold it for two centuries longer than any establishments in Syria; and it enabled them to defend their lands in the Middle East longer than would have been possible otherwise. However, the capture of Cyprus did not augur well for Byzantium. Wouldn't one Frankish victory tempt them to declare a Holy War on the Greeks in the future?

On April 20, 1191, Philip arrived in Acre, and Richard followed suit on June 8. By July, Acre was once more Christian territory, though its manner of attainment was a sorry example of Christian precepts: Richard ordered the massacre of 2,700 Moslem prisoners in cold blood, along with their wives and children.

After the capture of Acre, Philip returned to Europe, and Richard remained to lead the Crusading armies. On September 7, 1191, a major battle with Saladin took place near Arsuf. Although the outcome was inconclusive, the Battle of Arsuf actually became a great moral victory for the Latins, and Jerusalem became a more accessible goal. From Arsuf, the Crusaders marched on Daron and Jaffa, and the year 1192 saw sporadic battles to hold and fortify the latter city.

When Richard inherited his father's Crusade along with the English throne, little did he know that this third holy expedition would be labeled Richard's Crusade by historical chroniclers. Richard Coeur-de-Lion well deserved the name. A lover of adventure, Richard's fierceness in battle motivated his soldiers to capture Messina, Cyprus, Daron, and Jaffa.

Jerusalem, however, was never to be added to Richard's list of victories. Ill health and his obligations as King of England accelerated a peace treaty with Saladin: For five years the Christians would be assured of their coastal cities as far as Jaffa; Moslems and Christians might travel freely through each other's lands; and pilgrims could visit the Holy Places. However, one dark spot remained to blemish Richard's treaty agreement: Ascalon was not allowed immunity from Saladin's armies.

With the departure of Richard Coeur-de-Lion from the Holy Land in October 1192, the Third Crusade came to an end. From the viewpoint of a general Western invasion, the achievements of the Third Crusade were minimal. Seen from the perspective of one man, however, the Crusade brought new life and hope to the Frankish East. It has been said of Richard that he was a "bad king" (He was never in England long enough to rule effectively.) but a "gallant and splendid soldier."

The above information was submitted by Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes; 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. Garnes, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944 or e-mail: cagarnes@aol.com
Sale Of Blue Lodge Tapestry Throw To Benefit The KTEF

Made of 100% cotton and with 360 picks per square inch, this new afghan tapestry throw has advantages like enhanced color. There are new items to this design, for instance the three steps of Freemasonry. There is a black and white checked floor leading to center column, and the compass and square are larger and enhanced with a cluster of leaves symbolizing the Acacia of Freemasonry. The afghan measures 48x60 inches and is lightweight but weaved very tight to give it definition. There are additional features, as for example, a written verse, Matthew 7:7, on 3 steps. Order yours now at $48.00 including shipping for there are only 1,000 made. Each comes with a beautiful degree certificate so you may write your important dates on it. $5.00 will be donated to the KTEF for each afghan sold. Send check or MO to: Sandra D. Knotts, PO Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087.

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
Department Commanders Announce...

**2002 DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

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Note: Please mark your calendars. Each Department Commander will provide the agenda and detailed logistics in advance for each conference.

**PAST GRAND COMMANDER OF NEW YORK SERVES VETERANS**

The picture shows Past Grand Commander (2000) Charles Mendell (right) of the Grand Commandery of New York and Reverend Juanita Hilsenbeck (center), a past Holy Land Pilgrim, at a veterans' service, “serving God and country.” On the left is Brother Bill Wheeler, a member of Babylon Masonic Lodge. Sir Knight Mendell is also a Past Master of Babylon Lodge. Reverend Hilsenbeck is the wife of Walt Hilsenbeck, a trustee of Babylon Lodge.

**MASONIC FAMILY UNITY IN CONNECTICUT**

The picture above was taken at a grand officers’ meeting of Rainbow in Connecticut and shows the unity that exists between the York Rite and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls. Left to right are: Dawn Cassada, Worthy Grand Matron of Connecticut; Companion William L. Greene, Grand High Priest of Connecticut; Lindsey Card, Grand Worthy Advisor of Connecticut, I.O.R.G.; Vincent A. Cowie, R.E. Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Connecticut; and Delores M. Burr, Supreme Deputy of Connecticut, I.O.R.G. The Grand Master of the Council would have been in attendance but he was summoned to active duty for the U.S. Coast Guard after the terrorist attack on America of September 11, 2001.
George Washington (1732-1799)
from 10,000 Famous Freemasons, W. R. Denslow

First President of the United States; supreme commander of Continental forces in American Revolution and "father of his country" b. Feb. 22, 1732 (by present calendar) at Bridges Creek, Westmoreland Co., Va. Inasmuch as his biography is readily available, this sketch will deal only with the Masonic facets of his life. He was initiated in 1752 in the lodge at Fredericksburg, Va., and the records of that lodge, still in existence, show that on the evening of Nov. 4 "Mr. George Washington was initiated as an Entered Apprentice" and the entrance fee of £2 3s was acknowledged. On March 3, 1753 he received the Fellow Craft degree, and on Aug. 4, same year, was raised to Master Mason. Each of the above days fell on Saturday and he was last in the Fredericksburg lodge on Saturday, Sept. 1, 1753. It is possible that he received some additional degree, or was re-obligated during the French War in a military lodge attached to the 46th Regiment. It might have been the Mark Master degree. It is also speculated that he received the Royal Arch degree in Fredericksburg Lodge as it was being worked by that lodge at the time Washington was raised. This claim is aided by the fact that in Aug., 1784 Lafayette presented Washington with a Masonic apron which had been embroidered by Madame Lafayette, and contained emblems of the Royal Arch with the letters H.T.W.S.S.T.K.S. in a circle and a beehive within the circle to indicate that it was the wearer's mark. In 1777 a convention of Virginia lodges recommended Washington to be Grand Master of the Independent grand lodge of that commonwealth. Washington, however, declined. Soon after the start of the Revolution, there was a movement to throw off the authority of the mother country, and several of the provincial grand lodges assumed an independent character. The idea of a grand master for all the colonies also became popular. On Feb. 7, 1780, a convention of delegates from Army lodges met at Morristown, N.J. and suggested to several grand lodges that "one Grand Lodge in America" be established. On Jan. 13, 1780, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held a session, and declaring that Freemasonry would benefit by "a Grand Master of Masons throughout the United States," they elected Washington for the position. They then sent minutes of the election to the different grand lodges, but when Mass. failed to come to any determination on the question, the matter was dropped. The next Masonic record of Washington is in 1788 when Lodge No. 39 of Alexandria, Va., which had previously been working under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, transferred its allegiance to Virginia. On May 29 of that year the lodge adopted the following resolution: "The Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Master and Deputy Master to be recommended to the Grand Lodge of Virginia when George Washington, Esq., was unanimously chosen Master; Robert McCrea, Deputy Master; Wm. Hunter, Jr., Senior Warden; John Allison, Junior Warden. The charter to the lodge was issued by Edmund Randolph, then governor of Virginia and grand master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and named Washington as master. It also designated the lodge as Alexandria Lodge No. 22. In 1805 the lodge was permitted to change its name to that of Washington Alexandria Lodge in honor of its first master. Washington served in the capacity of master until his death. Throughout his career, Washington visited a number of lodges and attended many Masonic functions. His correspondence has many references to Freemasonry. In 1797 he wrote the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, "My attachment to the Society of which we are members will dispose me always to contribute my best endeavors to promote the honor and prosperity of the Craft." In an earlier letter to the same body he expressed his idea that the Craft's "grand object is to promote the happiness of the human race." In answering a letter from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina in 1791, he said: "I recognize with pleasure my relation to the Brethren of your Society," and "I shall be happy, on every occasion, to evince my regard for the Fraternity." He also referred to the fraternity as "an association whose principles lead to purity of morals, and are beneficial of action." Writing to the officers and members of St. David's Lodge at Newport, R.I. in 1791 he stated: "Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic fraternity is founded must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society, and to be considered by them as a deserving Brother." In November, 1798, only 13 months before his death, he wrote to the Grand Lodge of Maryland: "So far as I am acquainted with the doctrines and principles of Freemasonry, I conceive them to be founded in benevolence, and to be exercised only for the good of mankind. I cannot, therefore, upon this ground, withdraw my approbation from it."
A Masonic "911"

by Sir Knight Vernon Tweedie, P.C.

Like most people, I was surprised and horrified by the terrorist attacks on Washington and New York on September 11, 2001. I do not propose to explain the complexities of this still-unfolding story (That task is probably beyond my abilities.), but I would like to offer to my Brethren a perspective based on my own experiences for coping with this national trauma.

I have been a Freemason for just over ten years, and my membership in this fraternity has been a source of pride and satisfaction to me. Before I was Raised, however, I already belonged to another prestigious group which is a kind of fraternity: the fellowship of law enforcement and public safety officers. Although we have for many years admitted women (and some of my most respected colleagues are women), the work gives us a sense of relatedness that can be called brotherhood. It is no accident that one of our largest unions keeps the name "Fraternal Order of Police" even as it represents women members.

Several years ago, I changed careers and became a teacher after fifteen years in various law enforcement jobs, ranging from corrections' officer to prosecutor and coroner. Still, I feel a connection with those who continue to protect and serve rather like the connection I feel with my Brother Masons, even though I am a sojourner many miles away from my mother lodge and I now attend meetings much less often than when I was going through the chairs.

On my last visit to New York a couple of years ago, I asked directions from a young NYPD patrol officer who was working outside a Mariah Carey concert. He was able to tell me what I needed to know, and we had a brief conversation about the job. I do not recall his name, but I remember his courtesy and his manner of speaking which suggested Italian ancestry.

I thought of him again when I heard of the recent heroic acts of so many of his colleagues at the World Trade Center. As in Masonry, work in the profession of law enforcement begins with a solemn promise. Hundreds of police officers and firefighters kept that promise on September 11, maintaining integrity even to death and sealing their pledges with their own blood. Others who lived through the tragedy and its aftermath kept on working because "our brothers are still in there." When a student of mine asked why the people working at rescue and recovery always denied during their media interviews that they were heroes, I answered that most of them probably felt that it was their jobs to take the calls the dispatchers gave them, knowing that any call might be the last one. A saying popular with members of another public safety organization, the old, lifesaving service that became part of the U.S. Coast Guard, is apt here: "You have to go out. You don't have to come back."

As Freemasons, we can look at "Nine Eleven" as an event but also
as a metaphor for a resource for help we can always call upon with confidence. Just as public safety officers "have to go out" when we call 911, an inexhaustible supply of strength and wisdom will be yielded through the power of prayer when we call upon the Almighty Parent of the human family. Masons should ever remember this resource.

Let us also remember the great tenets of our Masonic profession in the sterner days ahead: Brotherly Love, reminding us that our fellow Americans, like our Brothers, are of every country (including Middle Eastern countries), sect (including Islam, a religion aspiring to the tradition of Abraham just as Judaism and Christianity do), and opinion (including opinions that may differ from our own on the proper ways to defeat terrorism); Relief, reminding us to help the distressed and their families and communities (a duty particularly incumbent on Masons); and Truth, reminding us to endeavor or to regulate our conduct by its dictates (not those of prejudice, passion, or unexamined information).

Our Masonic labors did not begin until after the sublime degree of a Master Mason, which has been referred to as a tragedy. It is a tragedy in which the hero's sacrifice to duty makes him our example. The tragedy of September 11 has taken place: To begin the labor as our Craft teaches would be for our own good as individuals, in addition to the benefit our country would receive.

Brothers, let's get to work!

The author is a life member and Past Master of Mid-West Lodge No. 317, A.F. & A.M., in Hastings, Nebraska. He is a member of the York and Scottish Rite bodies of that city and a Past Commander of Mt. Nebo Commandery No. 11. He currently teaches government at Red Mesa High School in rural Apache County, Arizona. For correspondence: HCR 6100, Box 40-4013; Teec Nos Pos; AZ 86514-9702

Illinois Sir Knight Awarded 50-Year Certificate

Pictured is Sir Knight Charles (Chuck) Carlson (center) at a presentation of a certificate recognizing his 50 years as a Mason. The presentation was held at Arlington Heights Lodge No. 1162, where Chuck was Master in 1957. Presenting the certificate are Master Michael Nattinger and Secretary James W. Hechler. Sir Knight Chuck is also Past Excellent High Priest of Palatine Chapter No. 206, R.A.M., Past Master of Council No. 36, and a member of Bethel Commandery No. 36, all of Palatine, Illinois.
Charles Dickens opines in his *great novel, David Copperfield,* that accidents will occur in the best regulated families. Perchance this is a fitting way to begin the story of an historic son of a remarkable father.

William Franklin, the only son of Benjamin Franklin, was not a well-known individual nor a figure of great historic note. He walked always in the shadow of his father's towering frame.

William saw first light in 1731 in Philadelphia. Little is known of his early life, except for an indication from the writings left by his father of a great sense of pride he had in his son and of a strong desire held by him to witness William's success in life - to win for himself a cloak of distinction.

William seems to have inherited an early fondness for reading and for the steady acquisition of knowledge. Much of this, no doubt, was in deference to his strong attachment to his father.

Benjamin Franklin in 1750 said of his son, "Will is now nineteen years of age - a tall proper youth and much of a beau." From this it may be inferred that the son may have walked even too closely in his father's footsteps.

A close bond between the Franklins was evident when in 1752, William greatly assisted his father in carrying out the experiment with a kite that established the relationship of lightning and electricity which gave origin to the lightning rod and earned much scientific recognition here and abroad.

It was said that William received the first shock when he touched the key attached to the kite, which was tethered to a wire bound to a kite flown in a thunderstorm; it was a shock that would eventually impact the world.

William in his youth entertained a desire to join the crew of a privateer being outfitted in the port of Philadelphia for action upon the high seas. His father expressed much opposition to this venture and demanded the contractual release of his son from the captain's ship. However, yielding to his son's adventurous spirit, Benjamin Franklin helped enlist his son with the provincial troops in one of the campaigns near the Canadian frontier. Here, William rose to the rank of captain. Upon his return, Benjamin assisted in securing for him an appointment as a clerk in the Colonial Assembly and as the Postmaster of the City of Philadelphia.

In 1753 William became a Mason in St. John's Lodge in his native city, it was the same lodge in which his distinguished
father also held membership. William advanced to become Worshipful Master.

In 1754 he became a trustee for the Masonic fraternity. At this juncture Masonry was flourishing in Philadelphia with the presence of three lodges. The newly built Masons' Hall was the venue for the first gala celebration of the Feast of St. John the Baptist in 1755; it progressed with great pomp and circumstance under the leadership of William Allen, the Grand Master and Chief Justice of the Province.

It is of interest to note that this festival was accompanied by an impressive parade of dignitaries. The procession was followed by the empty carriages of the Governor, the Grand Master, and other dignitaries; their owners being in the line of march as Masons. Following the parade, the Brethren retired to church for religious services testifying to their great respect for the Holy Bible and its teachings.

In 1757 Benjamin Franklin was appointed by the colony as its representative in London. William traveled with his father to England. Both father and son made a most favorable impression upon the British scene and upon British Masonry. A friend wrote, in part, to William's mother, "Your son, I really think is one of the prettiest young gentlemen I ever knew from America. He seems to me to have solidarity of judgment not very often to be met with in one of his years."

While abroad, young Franklin studied law and was admitted to the English Bar. Both father and son were received with much honor and distinction among those of the highest civil and social orders. When they visited the Grand Lodge in London in 1760, they received much honor and respect. Dr. Franklin was welcomed as Provincial Grand Master, and William as the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Philadelphia.

Academic honors were also forthcoming for both Franklins. Benjamin received a Doctorate in Science from the University at Aberdeen in Scotland and a Doctor of Laws Degree in 1762 from the University of Oxford. William was awarded the Master of Arts Degree from the same university.

William Franklin returned to America in 1763 following his appointment by King George as the Royal Governor of New Jersey. Accompanying him to America was his new wife Elizabeth, whom he had wed in England.

In his new situation, William was now thirty-two years of age. After reaching Philadelphia on February 19, 1763, the Franklins traveled to Perth Amboy, New Jersey, arriving on February 26. William was escorted through the cold winter air to the state house where he was received by the former Governor and members of the council and then inducted into his new office.

Soon afterwards he moved the seat of government from Perth Amboy to Burlington, near Philadelphia. In Burlington he resided for eleven years until 1774, when he brought the seat of government back to Perth Amboy.

William Franklin remained a popular figure among his constituents despite the continued vexations of the British ministry upon all of the colonists. Separation from the mother country loomed across the horizon. Through these times, William Franklin appeared to remain conciliatory with his citizens, yet he held as resolute the royal right of the King to govern his colonies.

Benjamin Franklin, then resident in England as the colonial representative, wrote to his son endeavoring to
persuade him to take the side of the colonies in this controversy and to abandon the British cause. He also visited his son upon his return to America in 1775 with the same message, but it was to no avail; each failed to convince the other of the impropriety of his ideas.

The situation lead undoubtedly to the parting of the way between father and son. Benjamin was a patriot, and William was a Tory.

Never would they join in unison. Until the impending American conflict was resolved, the last Royal Governor of New Jersey would remain a fugitive in a foreign land!

Indeed, in January of 1776, the old Colony Assembly met for a final time in New Jersey. It soon dissolved amid a resolution that the authority of Governor Franklin should no longer be recognized. Under orders from the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, the governor was deposed. In the summer of 1776, he was dispatched under guard to Connecticut, where he was held as a prisoner until 1778. He was later exchanged for an American army officer held by the British in New York.

Upon his departure from New Jersey, William Franklin’s wife was left behind never again to see her husband. She sought British protection in New York, where she died on July 28, 1778. William deeply loved his wife. When the war was over, he had a bronze tablet placed in St. Paul’s Church in New York over her resting place to forever express his fondness for the lady of his life.

William Franklin resided in New York for four years after hostilities had ended. Here he associated himself with a band of die-hard loyalists for the British Crown. He remained an enemy of the new American nation. He sailed from these shores bound for England in August of 1782, never again to return to his native soil.

William Franklin was granted by the Crown an annual pension of 800 pounds for life in recognition of his loyalist service. He was later remarried to an Irish woman. To this union was born William Temple Franklin.

The only son of Benjamin Franklin died in England on November 17, 1813, at the age of eighty-two years.

In epilogue, Doctor Franklin and his son never healed the rift existing between them. William received only a small portion of his father's estate. Though they did exchange correspondence in 1785, Benjamin Franklin continued to regard his son as a Tory, an alien to his country and to himself.

In a letter penned in January of 1788, Benjamin Franklin declared, "My son is estranged from me by the part he took in the late war and keeps aloof, residing in England whose cause he espoused."

Perhaps this narrative may best be concluded with an old and timeless proverb, "My son is my son till he gets him a wife. But a daughter is my daughter all the days of her life."

Sir Knight Dr. Stephen R. Greenberg, KYCH, 33°, is a P.C. of Mizpah Commandery No. 53, Oak Lawn, Illinois, and a P.C. of Joliet Commandery No. 4 in Joliet, Illinois. He is also an affiliate P.C. of St. Bernard Commandery No. 35 in Chicago, Illinois, and St. Elmo Commandery No. 64 in Chicago, Illinois. He is a member of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation of the Grand Commandery of Illinois and the Grand Commandery Historian Committee of Illinois. He is an Associate Professor (Retired) of Pathology at the Chicago Medical School, North Chicago, Illinois. He resides at 418 Huron Street in Park Forest, Illinois 60466-2206.
Marion A. Ross, the Great Locomotive Chase, and the Medal of Honor

by Sir Knight William D. Robertson, P.C.

The Medal of Honor was established by Congress on December 21, 1861, to honor those servicemen who distinguished themselves for bravery in the face of the enemy in conflict with the United States.

The Navy Medal of Honor also included heroism for "other seamanlike qualities." However, the Army did not adopt the Medal until July 12, 1862, and stated that it would be awarded only for gallantry in action with the enemy.

The first recipients of the Army Medal of Honor were a small group of Union soldiers who captured the locomotive, General, during the famous Andrews Raid into Georgia during the Civil War.

One of those recipients was a young twenty-eight-year-old Union soldier from Ohio. He was Marion A. Ross. Ross was a Master Mason from Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 226, Christiansburg, Ohio. He was initiated May 29, 1855, passed July 11, 1855 and Raised August 4, 1855, and appears to have served as Jr. Deacon, 1858-59. On the back of the Grand Lodge Record is a hand written note: "Sgt. Maj. 2nd Ohio, Inf. Posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, member of the Andrews Raiders. Captured and hung by Confederates 18 June 1862."

Ross enlisted on August 20, 1861, at Camp Dennison, Ohio, and was promoted to Sgt. Major toward the end of 1861. According to information from the National Archives that I was able to obtain, he was absent from his regiment from February 28 to May 31, 1862 on detached service to the Secret Service by order of Gen. Ormsby M. Mitchel. Ross; along with nineteen other volunteers from Col. Joshua W. Sills' brigade and two civilians, William H. Campbell and their leader James J. Andrews, who had served as a Union spy on numerous occasions in Tennessee and Georgia; entered into a secret mission into Georgia to wreck the railroad between Atlanta and Chattanooga, Tennessee. The mission was only known to Andrews, and at the time, all the others only knew that it would be behind enemy lines. They proceeded to Shelbyville, Tennessee, where they obtained civilian clothing. By thus wearing civilian clothes, they became classed as spies under military law.

They then moved south to Marietta, Georgia, and due to heavy rain did not meet until April 11, 1862, which was a 24-hour delay. They met in Andrews' room at the Fletcher House; now known as the Kennesaw House, the room now serves as a museum of the raid. At approximately 5:00 A.M. they boarded the train bound for Chattanooga, with tickets for various locations along the way to avoid suspicion.

During a breakfast stop at Big Shanty about 6:00 A.M. on the 12th of April and in full view of the Confederate forces at Camp McDonald, Andrews uncoupled the passenger cars. Then Andrews, William Knight, Wilson W. Brown, and John A. Wilson, all experienced locomotive engineers, climbed into the cab of the locomotive, General. Ross along with the remainder of the men climbed into the three remaining empty box cars, which had been left coupled to the
engine. At Andrews signal, William Knight yanked open the throttle to fast which caused the drivers to spin and loose traction, thus alerting the train crew who was having breakfast. The drivers gained traction and the GREAT LOCOMOTIVE CHASE was on. At Moon's Station about 2 and a half miles after stealing the train, they stopped and obtained a crow bar from a track crew under the pretense that they were Confederates under orders to take the train north. Proceeding north they crossed the Etowah River, and on a siding spotted a yard engine, Yonah, under steam, but they did not stop to disable it. This along with the day's delay would prove to be fatal.

Ross along with all the others was totally unaware of the young conductor, William A. Fuller, who along with Anthony Murphy and Jeff Cain, was in hot pursuit of their stolen train on foot! Luck was not with Ross and his companions that day. The day's delay had caused extra trains to be on the line southbound. Then, Fuller found the track crew that Andrews had found and borrowed their hand car to continue the pursuit. At Kingston they were delayed for sixty-five minutes waiting for one of the extra southbound trains. Then south of Adairsville, Fuller met the southbound locomotive, Texas. The superintendent of the railroad, who was with Fuller in the chase, ordered the Texas's engineer, Pete Bracken, to place his train on the siding and to pursue the raiders. This meant that the Texas would have to run in reverse at speeds at times in excess of 50 m.p.h.

The Raiders attempted to wreck the railroad and to stop Fuller by tearing the track, throwing crossties on the rails, and trying to burn the covered bridge. (Due to the rain the day before it failed to ignite.) After eighty-seven miles and eight hours, the General, out of fuel and steam, came to a stop two miles north of Ringgold, Georgia. Andrews ordered the men to run as it was "every man for himself" and to try to make it back to the Union lines.

Within a few days, twenty of the raiders were captured and imprisoned in Chattanooga in more of a dungeon than a jail. Among those captured was Marion Ross. On page 193 of Pittenger's book, Capturing a Locomotive, written in 1884, he states, "Ross was a Freemason and some of the members of the fraternity visited him and gave him assurances of friendship, together with some small sum of money, which he generously used to procure us all a little and greatly needed addition to our food."

They were moved several times: from Chattanooga to Knoxville, Madison, then to Atlanta. On June 18, 1862, seven of the men who had been tried as spies in Knoxville were hanged near Atlanta's Oakland Cemetery. Approximately 100 yards behind the present monument is where the gallows was located.

Later the remaining were either exchanged or escaped. Marion A. Ross is but a small footnote to our history. But I believe we can obtain a glimpse of him and the type of person this young soldier might have been. We know that he volunteered for a dangerous secret mission behind enemy lines. Pittenger states that he shared his food, and also in his book, he states that their only enjoyment was found in music: "Most of the songs were under the leadership of Marion Ross and were tender and sentimental," and when Ross was condemned to hang "Marion Ross bore himself most firmly of all."
His eyes beamed with an unnatural light and there was no tremor in his voice, "tell them at home if any of you should escape that I died for my country and did not regret it."

Conductor Fuller was present at Ross's execution; as a fellow Mason he had promised Ross that he would mark the spot of his burial and notify Ross's father in Ohio (page 268 Great Locomotive Chase by Angle). Fuller shook hands with Ross, for whom he declared he had come to feel a deep friendship.

Marion Ross now sleeps in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga near the monument to the Andrews Raiders along with the others that were executed.

William Fuller attended the monument dedication in August 1888 to pay his respects to his one-time enemy, and perhaps his special reason for being there was to say "Sleep well, Brother."

References: NATIONAL ARCHIVES GRAND LODGE OF OHIO, F. & A.M. Capturing a Locomotive - Pittenger, 1884 The Great Locomotive Chase - Angle, 1992
ROBERT J. ROBERTSON: CSX Railroad conductor, Master Mason, who took his family to retrace the route of the General and somehow managed to get his dad up into the cab of the General in the museum!

Sir Knight William D. Robertson is a Past Commander and a member of Naval Commandery No. 19, Vallejo, California. He resides at 2130 Hoffman Lane, Napa, CA 94558-9786

Rhode Island Sir Knight Receives Great Honor

Sir Knight Leverett F. Andrews, Jr., a member of Narragansett Commandery No. 27, RI, and a Knight Templar since the 1970s, was presented with the General Grand Chapter, R.A.M., International, Distinguished Service Medal in Bronze for Rhode Island at Warwick, RI, during the annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of RI.

Sir Knight Andrews was installed Jr. Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of RI in May 2001, is a Past Master and current Treasurer of Franklin Lodge No. 20 of Westerly, has been a recipient of the Mason of the Year award of Franklin Lodge and has served on the board of the Grand Lodge of RI's Charities and has been involved in Strategic Planning Committee. He is a member of the Valley of Providence, RI, A.A.S.R., N.M.J. and is a Royal Arch Captain of Chapter No. 12, Wakefield. (submitted by Sir Knight Scott B. Hirst)

Try This Interesting Website: The Political Graveyard

The Political Graveyard is a website that lists those who have been involved in federal, state, and local politics and government. On the local level only mayors are listed. The website can be reached at http://politicalgraveyard.com. Various categories of political and government notables can be searched. Masonic related categories include those that were/are Freemasons, Shriners, Knights Templar, and Eastern Star members. The website is not restricted to any political party, and new information is welcome. Both living and deceased personalities are listed. Lawrence Keutenbaum, who is not a Mason but who operates the web-site, can be reached at (734) 769-7388, P.O. Box 2563, Aria Arbor, MI 48106. (submitted by Sir Knight Scott Bill Hirst, 20 Maple Court, Ashaway, RI 02804-9630, (401) 377-4643, e-mail: scottbillhirst@yahoo.com
Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. ii, Milford, Massachusetts, is offering a 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, name plate, black tie, tie clasp with cross and crown, and shipping and handling. Send cap size, shirt, 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. U. This is a fund-raising 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: Milford Commandery No. 11, c/o Robert P Winterhalter, PO Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. This is for our charity.

Robert L Dluge, Jr., R. W. Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, has a great love for model train collecting, so it is only fitting that he would have created a Pennsylvania Masonic train. The train, manufactured by Weaver Models of Northumberland, PA, is an "O" gauge, three-rail set consisting of an Atlantic C-1 engine with a tender, five cars, and a caboose. Each piece is marked with Masonic symbols representing a majority of the organizations that comprise the Family of Freemasonry. Masonic charities including the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will benefit from profits generated by the sale of these sets.

The engine and cars are available for $375.00 from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2520. A special limited run Pennsylvania M-1 engine may be available. There is also an option for track and a transformer. Telephone 1 800 462-0430, or contact: www.pagrandlodge.org, for more information. I intend to get one, and I hope you will, too!

Grand Master William J. Jones

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2 1/4-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 lathes.

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.
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.

Knight Templar dress ties: the perfect Templar gift: cross and crown on square and compass ($25.00 each): fund-raiser for celebration of 150 years of Templary in Texas. The Grand Commandery of Texas was formed in 1855 in San Antonio, and the sesquicentennial will be commemorated in San Antonio in April 2005. Ties are navy blue with emblem. One large emblem tie (56 inches long) has one emblem of gold crown, red cross, blue square and compass outlined in gold on the body; small emblem tie (60 inches long) has reoccurring pattern of emblem with crown, square and compass in gold with red cross diagonally across body. Uniquely beautiful ties can be viewed at www.texasyorkrite.org/ties.htm. Check payable to San Antonio Commandery No. 7 and mail to James N. Higdon, 10122 N. Manton, San Antonio, TX 78213. Ties will be sent day following receipt. H: (210)341 1309; O:349-9933; e-mail hgdon@stic.net

U For sale: Knights Templar shoulder straps, finest quality available, all ranks, embroidered in extra fancy gold and silver bullion on velvet with Velcro backs: Past Commander (red); serving Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General Prelate (green); $40.00 plus $5.00 S & H; Emeritus ranks: Generalissimo, Captain General and Prelate (red): $45.00 plus $5.00 S & H. Also: Honorary Past Commander with H.C. in silver, $50.00; Grand Commandery, Grand Rep., $50.00 and Past Grand Commandery (purple): $60.00 (all plus $5.00 S & H). Also: chapeaux crosses: Sir Knight, $35.00; Commander and Past Commander, $40.00; Grand Commandery, $45.00; Past Grand Commandery (purple), $50.00-all plus $5.00 S & H. New: sleeve crosses, all ranks, $35.00 pair, plus $5.00 S & H. Percentage to York Rite charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., P.C.; 60 Manor Road; Staten Island; NY 10310-2698.

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, P.C., 23 Gall Court, Staten Island, NY 10306-2234, (718) 987-4532.

C.P.O. sell-out! We have some 44XL and 42 short CR0. poly-wool coats that we are closing out. We will sell them in groups of 5 for $50.00 plus $7.00 shipping. Now is the time to stock up for your Commandery. Phone John Myers, (219) 668-8543 or Bill Meyers, (219) 665-5686.

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 KTF. General Merchandise Company; 13690 Broad Street, S. W.; Patakala; OH 43062, (740) 927-7073.

New Sir Knight looking for chapeau-7 1/2, belt, sword, and cape. Also looking for Consistory 32” sword and belt. If you can donate to new, active Sir Knight or provide at affordable price, may the Almighty reward you! A M. Bey, 3302 East 145 Street, Cleveland OH 44120, (216) 921-5567 or (216) 849-5888

Wanted: Active Sir Knight in need of following Commandery uniform items in used but usable condition: chapeau-7 1/2 Past Commander sword belt (red and gold), sword (any rank), P.C. shoulder straps (red), RC. sleeve crosses (red), coat buttons (black, large and small), P.C. belt and buckle, P.C. chapeau cross (red). Can afford to pay modest amount for any or all items. Donations gratefully accepted and will wear with honor and gratitude on a most regular basis. Also, will pay all cost to ship C.O.D. Al M. Killebrew, 1612 Dorgan Street, Jackson, MS 39204, (601) 373-5412.

For sale: York Rite cap with six-color embroidery showing Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems. Specify white or dark blue cap, $11.00 each plus $1.00 postage. Also: gold color Knights Templar lapel pin, $4.00. Part of each sale goes to the York Rite charities. Robert Hauper, P.O. Box 433, Farmington, NM 87499.

Cochran Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M., Cochran, Georgia, is continuing its long-term charity pro-

Masonic jewelry boxes, 6 x 5 x 2.5 inches in size the shape of the square and compass, constructed of exotic woods from Central America and hand-crafted with an interlocking design. All profits from the Masonic jewelry boxes will be going to Masonic charities, a portion directly to the Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund. They are $20.00 each with $5.00 shipping in the U.S. and Canada. Check or money order to Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217 and mail to Barry A. Bruno, Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com
Masonic coin collectors Meridian Sun Lodge No. 20, Craftsbury, Vermont, has a few remaining special bicentennial coins available for sale. These were struck for our 200th anniversary last year and were sold locally for $6.00 each. Send $5.00 each for a limited number of coins to Treasurer, Meridian Sun Lodge No. 20, Craftsbury, VT 05826-9502. Also: Masonic Philatelist note: Meridian Sun has a few remaining bicentennial cachet envelopes for sale. These were especially and ceremoniously canceled by the U.S.P.O. for our and anniversary last year and sell for $1.25 each. Originally there were 8 pre-1800 flag stamps used. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send your check for the number desired, to same as above.

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. Also available: the four immortal chaplains lapel pin, a beautiful 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. The price per pin is $8.00 ea. including S & H. Kenneth Bard, 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 donated to KTEF.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 28 years and still need many pieces as I am collecting all varieties. These one day will end up in a Masonic museum. Why not find a home for your mark? I will gladly send you a check for one piece or will buy your collection. If you collect, I will gladly exchange. I will answer all letters. Maurice Storck, Sr., 776 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705, (520) 888-7585

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 99 sources, and makes liberal use of footnotes. It also contains a 114-page glossary of Masonic words and terms that many readers say "is the most comprehensive ever published in one source." Nine highly-placed Masons who read it gave it raving reviews. It was 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. 10% of proceeds goes to KTEF. Special attention: any Masonic organization that orders ten or more copies to be shipped in one package, to one address, will pay only $14.00 per copy, postage included; prepayment required. Check or MO to Robert L. Breeding at 405 Ascot Court, Knoxville, TN 37923-5807. E-mail rbbreed4217@kswl.com. Telephone (865) 539-9932

Now available: new book about Royal Arch Masonry The History And Symbolism of Royal Arch Masonry, by Edward R. Graham, Grand Historian of the Grand Chapter, R.A.M., of Indiana. 177-page, illustrated, paperbound book has a 31-page glossary. General Grand Scribe Larry Gray of Grand Chapter, International, states: "...this book is uncomplicated reading, factual and written in layman's terms; as a tool for furthering Masonic knowledge, I recommend it." Order from www.lstbooks.com or from all online booksellers, or order from local bookseller. Also available from author for $18.00 including shipping. $2.00 will be donated to 1AJLA. Edward R. Graham, 2881 Grandma Barnes Road, Nashville, IN 47448, fax (812) 988-1699, and e-mail egraham@kiva.net

New novelty book available: Pythagoras, This Cross is for You, by Past Master and Past Commander Jack N. Barricklo -$6.00 each, pp. "For the serious Craftsman with short history, illustrations, and instruction by the 'Master himself.' % of profits will go to KTEF. (Please write "KTEF" in memo.) Checks payable to Ourland Enterprises, and send to Ourland Enterprises, 8631 McDade, Houston, TX 77080-4321

For sale: stamps, Chapter coins, photographs of the 1900s, lithographs, and other Masonic collectibles. Non-Masonic items are German beer steins, collectible bells, and nutcrackers. Percentage to KTEF. If interested, specify what items, and I will send you a fler. Stanley C. Bus, PO Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052

For sale: customized promotional, imprinted items, gifts, and incentives, such as die cast coins, medallions, lapel pins, wooden nickels, pens, pencils, etc. Celebrate your next Masonic event with these very popular promotional items for the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch, Council, and Commandery. All items produced in bulk quantities to your specifications, using camera-ready art, or we can create the art from scratch using your sketch. 3% of profit goes to KTEF. Call Frank Looser 1-800 765-1728, e-mail masonicpromo@cnfinteractive.com, web page www.cnfinteractive.com

I would like a copy of an article that ran over 15 years ago in Knight Templar. The subject was crosses used by Christians and included pictures. We want to use the pictures to make hardardcr embroidery patterns from them for the stoles of a future pastor. Will pay copying and mail charges. Thomas N. Thomsen, 15177 Hayes 7- all, Apple Valley, MN 55124-7139.

I have a Masonic Shriner's ice cream mold made of pewter for sale. It is about 5 inches wide. I would like $50 for it. Steve Kapp, 704 West 5th Street, Grove, OK 74344, (918) 786-5759, kalbossjebigfoot.com.

Seeking to reestablish contact with Yellow Dogs of the Kennel and potential candidates for membership, who have previously contacted me. Also interested in obtaining more ciphers, as well as corresponding with you on ritual and fun memories. Also wish to learn about: the independent Order of Owls, Knife and Fork dubs, Hiram clubs, and all other Masonic bodies, in addition to Blue Lodge, and other fraternities including those now extinct, such as Royal Fellows of Baghdad. Robert L Thdeschi, P.O. Box 1198, Main Post Office, Ward Street, Paterson, NJ 07509.

Help! A retired school teacher and Past Master needs your help in locating a few wheat pennies for his collection. If you want to get rid of some "wheaties" or trade duplicates, I'd like to hear from you. No dealers need write as this is only a hobby. Warren A. Williams, 258 The Ledges, Craftsbury, VT 05826, (802)586-2825, awau@kingcon.com.

Buying all US and foreign coins, paper money, tokens, medals, silver, proof sets. Also selling $20.00, $10.00, and $5.00 gold coins. Call for quotes. Buyer has 40 years experience. A percentage of profits to KTEF. Randy Mogren, 8 Gould Street, Millbury, MA 01527, (508) 865-4816
Brother George Washington's birthday—February 22