



# Knight Templar

VOLUME XLIX

SEPTEMBER 2002

NUMBER 9



19th century opera composer and Brother Giacomo Meyerbeer as a young man. Don't miss his story, which starts on page 19.

## Grand Master's Message for September 2002

The Board of Trustees for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation met during August and spent many hours discussing the past year and planning for the coming months. A well thought out budget was adopted, and our future looks bright. A new KTEF video is in the works and will help us to explain this great philanthropy to new members and to groups such as Rotary and Lions Clubs. There are many local and national organizations which might work together with us if we can better present what the KTEF does for people in need. We all know that Lions Clubs and their foundation have helped thousands with eye problems. Rotary International has an initiative underway to eliminate preventable blindness by the year 2020. Many other groups are engaged in similar programs. I hope we can all learn to work together and help the future to be good for those whose vision is failing.



This month my travels will begin with the meeting of the Supreme Council of the A.A.S.R., Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, in Boston, Massachusetts. From there I will be going to Binghamton, New York, for the Northeastern York Rite Conference. The South Central York Rite Conference will be held September 14 in Wichita, Kansas. The York Rite of Kentucky will assemble for their Annual Conclave in Louisville, Sunday the 15th through Wednesday the 18th. I then travel East again for the Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of St. John's Commandery in Providence, Rhode Island. The following Wednesday, the 25th, the Social Order of the Beauceant will hold their banquet in Addison, Texas. Then it's on to Vinalhaven, Maine, to attend the Annual Inspection of Devalois Commandery No. 16 on Friday, September 27.

Don't forget that next month our other two national York Rite organizations will have their Triennial Conclave in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and will be electing new leaders for the next three years. I am sure that they will have plans for the continued revitalization of our Rite!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Jackson Jones". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Dr. William Jackson Jones  
Grand Master, KCT, GCT

# **Knight Templar**

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

SEPTEMBER: On page 2 Grand Master William Jackson Jones, fresh from the Board of Trustees' meeting of the KTEF, speaks of future plans for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and other matters. See page 5 for important information regarding a new case application form that you will need for applicants who need help from the KTEF On page 8 you will find a description of a wonderful program, "Project Freedom," sponsored by Detroit Commandery No. 1 of Detroit, Michigan. It is fascinating! On page 18 Sir Knight Glenn A. Siron, P.G.C., has some superb ideas to enhance and increase your Templar commitment! In this issue is an interesting biographical sketch (page 19) of a Brother who was a musical giant by our talented historian, Sir Knight Peter H. Johnson, Jr., and we finish our biography of Brother Burleigh Grimes.

### **Contents**

Grand Master's Message for September 2002  
Grand Master William J. Jones - 2

In Memoriam: William D. Geesey, P.D.C.  
and Gordon J. Brenner, P.D.C. - 6

Detroit Commandery's "Project Freedom" - 8

The PSP Discount Drug Plan - 10

Commitment  
Sir Knight Glenn A. Siron - 18

The Rise and Fall of Brother Meyerbeer  
Sir Knight Peter H. Johnson, Jr. - 19

Last of the Spitballers: Burleigh Grimes: Part II  
Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett - 23

Grand Commander's, Grand Master's Clubs – 5  
Contributors to the 33° Club - 5

September Issue – 3  
Editors Journal – 4  
In Memoriam – 7  
Public Relations – 16  
On the Masonic Newsfront – 13  
Knight Voices - 30

### **September 2002**

Volume XLIX      Number 9

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

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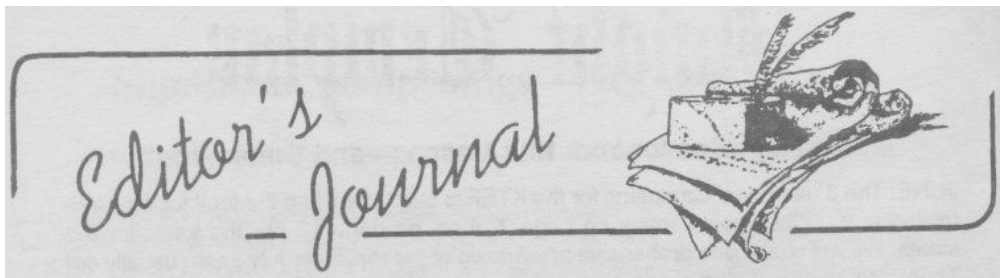
Grand Recorder  
5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101  
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2460

(773) 777-3300  
Fax: (773) 777-8836

Mail magazine materials and  
correspondence to Editor, 5097 N.  
Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago,  
IL 60630-2460.

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

Address corrections from  
members are to be sent to the local  
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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 \$2.25 S & H (while supply lasts); and 61st Triennial program books, \$3.00 each plus \$2.25 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 oldie 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 \$4.00 S. & H. (\$29.00). Separately, each book is \$15.00 plus \$3.00 S. & H. (\$18.00). Make check or M.O. payable to the Grand Encampment and send to: the Grand Recorder; Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, 5097 N. Elston Ave, Suite 101; Chicago, IL 60630-24430

**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 \$2.50 postage - total, \$7.50. 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 Widows 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 a piece, payable to the Grand Encampment. Send to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460

**Sir Knights, Attention!** An important and invaluable booklet entitled *The York Rite of Freemasonry - A History and Handbook* is available. it is authored by Sir Knight Frederick G. Speidel This comprehensive, illustrated, 78-page booklet explains the degrees, history, symbolism, and benevolent programs of the Blue Lodge, the Chapter, the Council, and the Commandery There are illustrations of the jewels of the officers of each body and of the Red Cross, Malta, and Templar banners. There is no limit on orders: \$1.50 each under 100 copies, plus shipping and handling, \$1.00 each over 100 copies, plus shipping and handling. Write your checks to and mail to the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, 5097 N. Elston Ave, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460

YORK RITE FREEMASONRY ON THE INTERNET - Official Web Sites

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

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

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

York Rite Freemasonry . The International Information Site  
[www.YorkRite.com](http://www.YorkRite.com)

### NEW CASE APPLICATIONS REQUIRED

The Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., have announced that **new case application forms** are being prepared and will be available for distribution by October 1, 2002. Thereafter, only applications submitted on the new original forms will be accepted; photocopied and faxed application forms would no longer be accepted.

In a continuation of responsive and timely service to the applicants and health care providers, these new forms will contain additional information regarding the applicant. Contact Marvin L. Selock, KTEF Office Administrator, at (773) 205-3838 for further information.

#### Grand Master's Club

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No. 3,993—Richard M. Hosler (TX)  
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in memory of Samuel M. Smith

#### Grand Commander's Club

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No. 101,720—Ronald L. Konya (AL)  
No. 101,721—W. Malcolm Killingsworth (AL)  
No. 101,722—Kenneth D. Burns (ID)  
No. 101,723—Glenn E. Chandler (FL)

#### CONTRIBUTORS TO THE 33° CLUB

Norman Paul Genkinger (FL), 33°  
Lloyd D. Richardson, Sr. (OH), 33°  
Louis S. Vanslyck (OH), 33°  
in honor of Richard G. Dennis, 33°  
Louis S. Vanslyck (OH), 33°  
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in honor of Ralph Harrison, 33°  
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Steven B. Plass (UT), 33°  
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## Letter To The Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Last year I talked to you about making a gift to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in an effort to give you the funds to help someone else like you helped my father in May 1965-April 1966.

My father-in-law, Edward (Red) Klentzer of 307 South Lincoln Street, Fowler, Indiana, was a Shriner and a Sir Knight of Lafayette Commandery No. 3, Lafayette, Indiana. On May 3, 1965, Mr. Klentzer contacted Wilber N. Roberts, E. Commander, requesting assistance for my father. My father, Lloyd H. Rodgers of Albion, Illinois, had detached retina and needed an operation if there was to ever be any hope of restoring any of his sight.

The second operation was notably more successful than the first operation, and my father was able to see enough to walk around our small hometown of Albion on his own, without assistance. He could walk uptown to the American Legion, where he was a member and could visit with old buddies, could enjoy the food and refreshments at meetings, could go to the barber shop, and in general be independent. There is no doubt the compassion of the Knights Templar enhanced the quality of my dad's health and mental well-being for many of the last years of his life.

As you will note in my letters of 1965, I said I would be eternally grateful, and I am. I am eternally grateful to my father-in-law, Edward R. Klentzer, and to the Knights Templar for the compassion shown to my dad and to our family.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We hope the enclosed gift of \$1,000, in memory of Edward R. Mentzer, will assist you in benefiting others as you did our families.

Sincerely yours,  
Allan W. Rodgers and Joan Mentzer Rodgers  
Roselawn, Indiana

## In Memoriam



William D. Geesey

R.E. Department Commander-1979-1982

Northeastern Department  
December 12, 1916-March 9, 2002

Sir Knight William D. Geesey, a life-long Resident of Carbondale Pennsylvania, was Graduated from Valley Forge Military Academy in 1934, post-graduate in 1935, and continued graduate studies through Pennsylvania State College, 1937-40. He was a lifelong member of First United Methodist Church of Carbondale and served in official positions. He and his wife Betty had two sons and two daughters.

Sir Knight Geesey was employed with Hendrick Manufacturing Company, Perforators of Metals, in Carbondale.

He was a professional musician beginning at age 14 in Vaudeville, and while at Valley Forge Academy he was cadet conductor of the band, subsequently being awarded the highest scholarship for music. He, also, played trumpet with the Scranton Philharmonic Orchestra and with the Wayne County Symphony. As a serviceman he was active as a musician.

Raised a Master Mason on January 10, 1944, in Carbondale Lodge No. 249, he served as Worshipful Master in 1962. He also held the offices of Excellent High Priest, Eureka Royal Arch Chapter No. 179, Carbondale, 1954, and Thrice Illustrious Master of Scranton Council No. 44, 1967. He was Knighted June 29, 1949, in Palestine Commandery No. 14, Carbondale; served as E. Commander in 1956; and served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

in 1970. He also served as Chairman of the Educational Foundation of the Grand Commandery and during the 1973 and 1976 Thermal Conclaves served as special aide to John B. Cottrell, Jr., Past Deputy Grand Master. Other affiliations: Scottish Rite, 32°; Tram Temple, AAONMS; Division Commanders Association; Royal Order of Scotland; Tall Cedars of Lebanon; Philaethes Society; awarded DeMolay Legion of Honor, Active; Sovereign Order Knights Preceptor; Vermont Association, Knights Templar Commanders; and MA/RI Association, Knight Templar Commanders.

Sir Knight Geesey was appointed R.E. Department Commander by Kenneth C. Johnson, Most Eminent Grand Master, on August 15, 1979, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

## In Memoriam



Gordon J. Brenner

R.E. Department Commander-1988-1991  
Northeastern Department  
July 14, 1909-July 11, 2002

Born in Germantown, North Dakota, Sir Knight Gordon J. Brenner attended schools in North Dakota; Pekin, Illinois; and Indianapolis, Indiana. He married Mildred R. Stephens on November 11, 1979, and had one son Frederick. Mildred preceded him in death. He was president of Allied American Corporation and M & M Realty Services of Hackensack, New Jersey.

Sir Knight Brenner served as Magistrate at Carlstadt, New Jersey, from 1940-1950. He was district governor of Lions International and a charter president of the Carlstadt Community Chest..

He was raised in Eclipse Lodge No. 259, East Rutherford, New Jersey, 1945; affiliated

with Hoboken Lodge No. 35, Hoboken, and was Master, 1972; exalted in Lebanon Chapter No. 42, Rutherford, serving as High Priest, 1951; was active with Grand Chapter of New Jersey as Grand Historian; a member of the Order of High Priesthood; member of Zabud Council No. 15, Hackensack, and Zerubbabel Council No. 16, Kearney, serving as Illustrious Master of Zerubbabel Council in 1976; and a member of the Order of the Silver Trowel. Sir Knight Brenner was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of New Jersey, 1980, and acted as Ambassador to the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, International; he was Knighted in Lafayette Commandery No. 22, Rutherford, New Jersey, serving as Commander in 1951, 1973, and 1974. He later affiliated with Bergen Commandery No. 1, Hackensack He served the Grand Commandery of New Jersey as Grand Commander in 1964-1965 and was Recorder, 1966-1977. In the Grand Encampment he chaired the Membership Committee, 1970-1973, and he had been

chairman and chairman emeritus of the Religious Activities Committee since 1973.

Other affiliations: New Jersey Consisthr3, 33°; member of Salaam Temple, AAONMS, Livingston; Royal Order of Jesters; Past Sovereign of St. Quentin Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; dual member of St. Stephens Conclave, Haddonfield, and served as Grand Chaplain of the United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine, 1978; Chief Adept, New Jersey College, SRICF, New Jersey; Allied Masonic Degrees, Past Sovereign Master, Adoniram Council; Knight of the York Grand Cross of Honour; member Sea of Galilee Tabernacle, HRAKTP; Chevaliers Bienfaisants De La Cite Sainte; Royal Order of Scotland; Knight Masons, USA; Mutual Guild; and served as president of the Forty-Fivers.

Sir Knight Brenner was appointed R.E. Northeastern Department Commander on August 9, 1988, by Most Eminent Grand Master Marvin E. Fowler in Lexington, Kentucky.

## IN MEMORIAM



**William D. Geesey**  
 Pennsylvania  
 Grand Commander—1970  
 Department Commander—1979-1982  
 Northeastern Department  
 Born: December 12, 1916  
 Died: March 9, 2002

**Gordon J. Brenner**  
 New Jersey  
 Grand Commander—1964  
 Department Commander—1988-1991  
 Northeastern Department  
 Born: July 14, 1909  
 Died: July 11, 2002

**Charles W. Barkins**  
 Delaware  
 Grand Commander—1995  
 Born: June 11, 1919  
 Died: May 17, 2002

**Richard Campbell Geib**  
 South Dakota  
 Grand Commander—1992  
 Grand Recorder—1993-2002  
 Born: February 4, 1928  
 Died: July 6, 2002

**John Paul Lemmon**  
 Idaho  
 Grand Commander—2002  
 Born: December 3, 1917  
 Died: July 7, 2002

**Earl Douglas Harris**  
 Georgia  
 Grand Commander—2002  
 Born: April 9, 1947  
 Died: July 23, 2002

## **Detroit Commandery's "Project Freedom"**

Meeting the real needs of the disabled in Southeast Michigan is a top priority of the Hospitaler's Committee of Detroit Commandery No. 1, Detroit, Michigan.

In March 2001 the committee launched "Project Freedom, a nonprofit organization that lends home health lifts free to those who meet the program's qualifications of needing a lift and not having the means to secure one through insurance, public assistance, or purchasing one with their own assets.

During its first year, Project Freedom impacted more than fifty individuals, their caregivers, and loved ones. The lifts are loaned to individuals, and when the lift is no longer needed, it is refurbished and installed in a new recipient's home. Getting the returned lifts back into a home quickly has helped manage the waiting list for this very popular program.

"The interest in this program surpassed anything we imagined," said Sir Knight Gilbert A. Rice, P.G.C, president of Project Freedom. "Once this program became known, the referrals began to come in at an incredible pace. We exhausted all of the lifts we had available before September 2001. We didn't begin promoting the program until March."

Lifting devices are critical to families and caregivers in allowing patients to live independently. This lift uses only 8 square inches of floor space for each leg, operates overhead without attachment to the walls, and mechanically lifts the

patient to and from the bed, wheelchair, commode, chair, etc. The lift operates on a rechargeable 12-volt battery, making it safe to use in bathrooms and whirlpools.

In March 2001 Project Freedom provided hospitals, nonprofit organizations, social service agencies, and rehabilitation centers throughout Southeast Michigan with the criteria and referral information for the program.

One of those persons being helped is Sir Knight Russell Livermore, R.E.P.D.C. He has suffered a series of cerebral vascular accidents that have left him bedridden and unable to assist with much of his care. His family takes care of him in their Grosse Pointe Farms home, but lifting and maneuvering Russell can be a difficult chore and one that is potentially dangerous to him and his caregivers. That is where Project Freedom's lift comes in.

"I couldn't be without my lift," says Russell. His wife Mary Louise concurs, "If it wasn't for the lift, we wouldn't go anyplace. We use the lift for a lot of things, such as bathing Russell, changing his bed, getting him into his wheelchair, taking him to the doctor and other appointments. It is a Godsend."

When asked if Russell would still be living at home without the Lift Aid 2000, Mary Louise replies emphatically, "Absolutely not. It takes four people to lift him out of bed, and then it strains their backs. He is not heavy; he just can't help at all with the lifting."



Throughout Michigan there are hundreds of disabled individuals who need this type of equipment but who do not have the means to purchase it. That is why the Hospitaler's Committee of Detroit Commandery No. 1 is expanding the program from just Southeast Michigan to include all of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Project Freedom has an agreement with Lift Aid, headquartered in Wixom, Michigan, to install the lifts.

Project Freedom installed a Lift Aid unit in the hospitality room of the Hospitaler's Committee of Detroit No. 1 during the June 2002 Michigan Conclave to allow Sir Knights from around Michigan to see the unit demonstrated and learn more about how their local Commanderies can join in this program. The large number of visitors to the hospitality room were impressed with the equipment, as well as the media coverage it has garnered for itself and other Masonic philanthropies.

Detroit Commandery No. 1 is interested in talking with other Commanderies about nominating recipients and purchasing gifts to be installed in their local communities. The cost of each lift is approximately \$5,600, including the installation charge. At this point the Hospitaler's Committee has been providing the funds for the program from its own resources, but the demand far outstrips the funding they have available. To meet the demand for this program, they are beginning to look at outside funding sources, such as partnerships with other Commanderies and organizations, direct fundraising, and pursuing grants from public and private foundations.

Commanderies interested in joining with Project Freedom should contact Sir Knight George Loesch, Hospitaler, at (313) 831-6952 or (586) 757-3693. Additional information about Project Freedom is also available on the web site: [www.projectfreedommi.org](http://www.projectfreedommi.org)



To left, above: Sir Knight William H. Koon II, R.E. Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA, is placed in one of the Project Freedom lifts by Terri Hafner, representative of Lift Aid, manufacturer of the units. With this lift, one person can safely raise, lower, and transport an adult without strenuous lifting. To the right, above: Sir Knight Ray M. Gibson, Grand Commander of Michigan, is shown in the lift.

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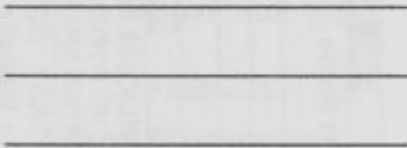
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## GRAND COMMANDER OF MARYLAND JOINS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



Sir Knight Keith A. Brown, R.E. Grand Commander of Maryland, is shown, left, riding in the Memorial Day Parade in Westminster, Maryland. Also pictured is Sir Knight Robert L. Foreman, R.E. Past Northeastern Department Commander of the Grand Encampment, driving his 1956 Ford Skyliner. The morning started off with heavy downpours of rain, but sunny skies prevailed for the parade.

## A DREAM COMES TRUE IN COLORADO



A dream—a plan—came true on July 13, 2002, when 180 Sir Knights and guests gathered at the Larry Blanchard (P.D.C.) ranch in Salida, Colorado, to confer the Orders of Templary.

Sir Knight James A. Henley, when Grand Commander of Colorado, had a plan to hold the Orders at an outdoor festival. He conveyed

*Above: Grand Master Jones (left) Knights David Burrous, one of the class at the Shavano Outdoor Orders; to right: Grand Master Jones addresses the Sir Knights.*



the idea to a couple of Sir Knights prior to his death on April 11, 2002. Sir Knights Larry Blanchard, P.G.C., and David Salberg “picked up the gauntlet,” so to speak, and planned the first annual Outdoor Angel of Shavano Encampment. (Shavano is a nearby mountain peak. Snow fills the crevices in such a manner that an outline of an angel with outstretched wings appears during the winter and early spring.)

Denver Commandery No. 1 conferred the Order of the Red Cross, and Delta Commandery No. 34 presented the Mediterranean Pass, while Pueblo Commandery No. 3 finished with the Order of Malta. After lunch the Order of the Temple was ably conferred by Pikes Peak Commandery No. 6.

Present to Knight each candidate was Sir Knight William Jackson Jones, Most Eminent Grand Master. Following the Knighting, he addressed the 105 *Sir* Knights as to the quality of work that was completed under the beautiful canopy of heaven.

The ladies had a full day of activities: visiting historic places and attending a presentation by the Social Order of the Beauceant for ladies who would be eligible to become members. They joined the *Sir* Knights in a delicious steak dinner.

Sir Knight Robert Elsloo presented a program on the life of Zebulon Pike and John Fremont, who both played an important part in the early settlement of the Territory of Colorado.

### **Minnesota And Wisconsin Commanderies In Joint Effort**



Past Commanders, Alex Winslow and Martin Callaway, of LaCrosse Commandery No. 9, La Crosse, Wisconsin, joined with Eminent Commander John Winslow of Damascus Commandery No. 1, St. Paul, Minnesota, and Grand Jr. Warden Alan Kauppi, Grand Commandery of Minnesota, to present the flag at the installation of Minnesota's Grand Guardian Council of Job's Daughters,

International, at Alexandria, Minnesota. Sir Knight John Winslow's daughter Sarah was installed as Grand Guardian of Minnesota for the 2002-2003 term. In the picture, left to right, are Sir Knights: Al Kauppi, Martin Callaway, John Winslow, and Alex Winslow.

### **Supreme Worthy President And S.O.O.B. Presidents Of California Attend The York Rite Grand Sessions Of California**

The Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, Mrs. Fred H. Buxton, is pictured with four of the five Presidents of the order in California at the York Rite Grand Sessions of California, held in San Ramon, California. Left to right are: Mrs. Joseph Ryland, Pasadena Assembly No. 44; Mrs. Richard T. Cooper, Los Angeles Assembly No. 42; Mrs. Fred H. Buxton, Supreme Worthy President, Los Angeles No. 42; Mrs. O.



Reed Bolin, Long Beach No. 39; and Mrs. Harland Forell, Paradise No. 250. Not shown is Mrs. Robert Gannaway, Santa Ana No. 61. The Social Order of the Beauceant makes a large contribution to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation each year. (submitted by Sir Knight Donald J. Spencer, California Chairman, KTEF)

## **A True Masonic Stein To Benefit The Knights Templar Eye Foundation**

The stein body, 7 and 112 inches tall, is white ceramic. It contains a pewter lid with the Holy Bible on top. It has a fancy thumb lift. On the body is a Masonic altar with the verse of Matthew 7: 7 between the pillars, and on one side there is a poem, 'A True Mason,' and on the other side is a very colorful Masonic picture of the early days of Masonic heritage. Also, there are two gold bands. The price of the stein is \$55.00. A \$7.00 donation from the sale of each stein will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The price of the stein includes shipping and insurance. There is a limited supply of only 125 of these stems in stock, so if interested, please send check or money order to: Sandra D. Knotts, P.O. Box 157, Trexierstown, PA 18087.



## **Grand Master Jones At Imperial Shrine Sessions**

Below is Dr. William Jackson Jones (to right), Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, at the Imperial Session of the Shrine in Vancouver, B.C., Canada. With him are Norman E. Byrne, Sovereign Grand Commander, AAS.R. Canada, and Frank Kell, Grand Master of DeMolay International. More pictures taken by Noble Tom A. Rousseau, Chairman, Imperial Photography Committee, will appear in October.



*From: The York Rite of Freemasonry by Frederick G. Speidel, pages 51-53...*

## **The Commandery Of Knights Templar Chivalric Masonry**

A Commandery of Knights Templar in the United States confers three Orders: The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, The Order of Malta, and The Order of the Temple. The Masonic Orders of the Temple and Malta are founded upon the traditions of the Chivalric Orders of Knighthood of the middle ages, and the Rite has therefore acquired the title of Chivalric Masonry.

When the rival Grand Lodges of England signed the Act of Union in 1813, they stipulated that, 'this article is not intended to prevent any lodge or chapter from holding a meeting in any of the degrees of the Orders of Chivalry, according to the constitution of said orders.' While this historic pronouncement removed the Orders of Chivalry from Ancient Craft Masonry, it gives proof of the relationship which had existed between the Christian Orders and the more universal Ancient Craft degrees prior to the Act of Union.

The Commandery of Knights Templar is founded upon the Christian Religion and the practice of the Christian virtues. The Orders of Malta and The Temple are entirely based upon the ethical, moral, and spiritual concepts for a well governed life.

In the early history of the Rite, these Orders were classed as "degrees." While they are conferred as "Orders" today, they are degrees, or steps in Chivalric Masonry. Therefore, for clarity in this work, they will, at times, be referred to as degrees.

### **The Illustrious Order Of The Red Cross**

The first Order conferred by the Commandery is the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross. The theme upon which this Order is based has quasi-biblical roots, for it is based upon an account found in the book of II Esdras in the Apocrypha and in the writings of Josephus. It teaches reliance upon the inherent values of reverence for Deity, Truth, Justice, and Liberty, with emphasis upon the importance of Truth.

In Hebrew history, the story upon which this degree is based would chronologically follow that of The Super Excellent Master's Degree and properly follows that sequence in the York Rite system. While there is nothing of a Christian nature in the degree, it forms an appropriate link between the teachings of the Old Testament and that of the New Testament.

A number of Red Cross degrees are found in various Masonic systems. Many of these have no relation one with the other, with respect to historical eras, degree content, or moral precepts contained therein. However, the ingredients of our Red Cross degree are today found in degrees conferred by Irish Templars, Scottish Royal Arch Masons, and The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, by other names. While the ingredients are the same, the Templar Red Cross degree has been radically changed in many respects and is therefore unique. This degree does not exist in the British Templar system but is known to many of their members as The Red Cross of Babylon.

This Order was first conferred in the American Colonies in a 'Council of Red Cross Knights,' which was formed for that purpose. The term "knight" as used in this connotation has no reference to chivalric knighthood 'miles,' but rather the old Latin usage of 'eques' meaning of equestrian rank.

Thomas Smith Webb has been credited with placing this degree within the American Templar system and providing for its conferral by Encampments of Knights Templar during the formative period, at the end of the 18th century. During the 19th century several unsuccessful attempts were made to drop the Red Cross from the American system to provide compatibility with British Templary which only recognized the Order of Knight Templar, with Knight of Malta attached as an optional addendum.

A Commandery of Knights Templar will open a 'Council of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross,' and create the candidates 'Companions' of that Order.



## **The Order Of Malta**

The ritual of the Order of Malta is purely Christian and, when conferred in full form, is one of the most striking and impressive of the degrees in the York Rite system.

This "Masonic" degree is supposed to have originated in Scotland in the 18th century. There was originally very little substance to the ritualistic work and the degree consisted primarily of a series of questions and answers and a means of recognition among the members. The degree entered the American Colonies informally toward the end of the 18th century and was usually communicated only to Knights Templar.

As late as 1850, there was no standard ritual for the Order of Malta. American Grand Encampments (Grand Commanderies) conferred the work as they knew it. The degree was revised and expanded and an accepted form of conferral was exemplified at the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment at Boston in 1850; however, no rituals were authorized or printed. At that time the Order of Malta was conferred after the Order of the Temple, not as a higher degree, but rather as an appendant order.

Attempts to standardize the various Templar degrees proceeded within the Grand Encampment but it was not until 1883 that the ritual for the Order of Malta was finalized and printed by the Grand Body. The approved ritual was practically the same as had been conferred in Massachusetts for many years and is almost identical to the Order as conferred in England today.

The Commandery of Knights Templar opens a "Priory of Knights of Malta" for the conferral of this Order. The work includes a pass degree termed "Knight of St. Paul, or the Mediterranean Pass." In accordance with the history of the original Knights of Malta, the degree creates the candidate a Knight Hospitaller of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta.

## **The Order Of The Temple**

The third and last Order conferred by a Commandery of Knights Templar is "The Order of the Temple." This is considered to be the most impressive and inspiring degree to be found in any Masonic system. The moral and spiritual lessons of Christianity that are communicated in the work leave a lasting impression upon the candidate. It is very important that every Christian Mason complete his Masonic education with this valiant and magnanimous Order, thereby equipping himself to advance the programs and teachings of Christian Masonry.

The Order bases its moral and spiritual lessons upon those of medieval chivalry, particularly the Knights of the Temple. While no direct connection with the original Templars can be established, the ritual for this Masonic Order developed in Scotland and England in the 18th century and the degree entered the American colonies in the middle of that century.

The degree was first conferred in America within the symbolic lodges. The first "recorded" conferral of this degree, in America, or England, was in St. Andrews Chapter (under St. Andrews Lodge) in Boston on August 28, 1769. Several British regiments, with military lodges, were in Boston at that time, and it is believed their members provided the ritual.

As the Knight Templar degree became more widely known, Encampments were organized to confer it...so that, by the end of the 18th century, the degree had been loosely incorporated into the Masonic work of many of the American colonies. The General Grand Encampment of Knights Templar was organized in 1816.

It was not until 1883 that the Grand Encampment authorized the printing of a ritual for the Order of the Temple, and until that time there was much diversity in the degree as practiced in many American jurisdictions.

While the Order of Malta is quite similar in the American and British rituals, the Order of the Temple is quite different. The lessons are the same, only the means of conferral differ. All business of a Commandery in the United States is conducted in the Templar Asylum.

The information on pages 16 and 17 was supplied 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

## Commitment

by Sir Knight Glenn A. Siron,  
P.G.C. (WA), KTCH, KCT, KGYCH

*Originally this was Sir Knight Siron's presentation as Grand Orator, Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Washington, 1998 grand sessions in Richland, Washington.*

We have all heard the word 'commitment' used in various forms on a daily basis. We are taught that the duties and obligations in Freemasonry become more extended as we advance in the Fraternity. These ideas are further supported by the teachings of the three cable tows, with which all Masons are familiar.

Webster's dictionary defines the word 'commitment' as an agreement or pledge to do something by oneself. I would like you to consider and think about the word 'commitment.' The word 'commitment' is derived from as many sources as there are reasons for performing functions or acts.

I personally believe the word 'commitment' is synonymous with a phrase used in olden days but seldom heard or used in today's society: "the word of an individual" was his bond to perform or accomplish that which he verbally promised that he would do.

Each of us promised in our obligations as an Entered Apprentice Mason, as a Fellowcraft Mason, and as a Master Mason to perform with a firm and steadfast purpose! No less! As Masons we also solemnly and sincerely promised to perform the same without the least equivocation, mental reservation, or secret evasion whatsoever.

It has been my experience with the Masonic Fraternity that we have some Brethren who have forgotten or have lost sight of what the word 'commitment' implies. Too many times, our Masonic Brethren seek offices in Masonic bodies purely for the purpose of satisfying their own personal egos, giving little or no thought whatsoever to the wholehearted

commitment they owe to those particular bodies in which they have sought office.

The other side of the coin is when our Masonic Brethren are asked to accept offices of responsibility in our Masonic bodies, either appointed or elected; however, through lack of knowledge and/or preparation or both, our Brothers fail to realize and fully understand the responsibilities and obligations they have agreed to assume in accepting the offices that are offered. "Commitment" is the essence of taking and/or accepting any office.

There is the phrase, "find a busy Mason and give him another job to perform." This is all well and good, but many of us fail to realize that we may be placing too heavy a burden on one person.

True, some individuals have the ability to perform a myriad of duties in an outstanding manner; however, many would do well to assume one office at a time and give it their full devotion and commitment. We must always remember that the welfare of Freemasonry comes first and ahead of any personal Masonic honors a Brother may desire to receive.

I leave you with this last thought! The next time you ask for an office or you agree to accept an appointed office or you are elected to serve in an office of a Masonic body, remember the word "commitment": what the word implies and the duties and responsibilities that go with the office.

Finally, I ask all Masonic Brothers to commit themselves fully to whatever they strive for during their lifetimes, whether it be in their personal lives, in their occupations, or in the Masonic Fraternity.

Remember, one's word should always be his bond as both a man and as a Master Mason. Always commit yourself fully to this endeavor. We have all stated in our Masonic obligation: 'so help me God and keep me steadfast.'

Sir Knight Glenn A. Siron, ETCH, KCT, KGYCH, is a Past Grand Commander (1995) of the Grand Commandery of Washington and a member of Washington Commandery No. 1, Walla Walla, Washington. He resides at 542 N.E. Fleetwood Avenue, College Place, WA 99324-2030

## The Rise and Fall of Brother Meyerbeer

by Sir Knight Peter H. Johnson, Jr.  
P.G.C. of Arizona

"*Les Huguénots* closes with a hair-raising finale as the Catholic soldiers blaze away offstage at the Protestants besieged in a chapel; after each fusillade can be heard fragments of *Ein Fests Berg* ("A Mighty Fortress") sung by the decimated Protestants until, after a final withering barrage, the principals lamenting onstage exclaim.. .They sing no more!" Thus concludes Giacomo Meyerbeer's grand opera, *Les Huguénots*, based on the infamous St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre in Paris in the year 1572. Although virtually unknown today, this four and a half-hour epic was probably the greatest box office draw of nineteenth century opera. It was performed at least 1,000 times at the Paris Opera by 1900. In contrast, Puccini's *La Bohème*, considered by *aficionados* to be the most popular opera of all time, only recently hit the 1,000-performance mark at the Met and required an entire century of productions.

Giacomo Meyerbeer (1791-1864) was the most popular international opera composer of his day, in a century that included such titans as Wagner and Verdi. He was once considered the successor to Beethoven and was one of the greatest artistic innovators of all time. His popularity lasted into the early 1900s. Potpourri and fantasies from his many operas were standard fare at band and orchestra concerts, the parlor piano, the circus, and even the carousel for generations. Thousands purchased

'Victor Red Seal Records of Caruso and Schumann-Heink singing his captivating arias.

The nearly complete disappearance of Meyerbeer from the cultural scene is an astounding phenomenon, even for the fickle world of the arts. Indeed, the story of Meyerbeer the man is also quite improbable. He was a German-Jew with a made-up name who studied in Italy and became the greatest exponent of French Grand Opera. He was also a Mason and is sited by Denslow as a member of the French lodge, *Les Freses Unis Inseperables*, (The United, Inseparable Brothers). Meyerbeer's prominent place in music history would certainly qualify him as one of the most prominent Masons of his faith.

Born Yaakov (Jacob) Leibman Beer on September 5, 1791 in Vogelsdorf, Germany, the future composer's background was one of wealth and influence. His grandfather had made a fortune selling supplies to the Prussian Army and also ran the state lottery. Eventually, the family settled in the *Beer Villa* near the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. The Beer family frequently entertained leading members of the court and aristocracy. Jacob's brothers were also noteworthy. Michael Beer became a well-known playwright, and brother Wilhelm became a celebrated amateur astronomer, publishing the first maps of the moon in the 1820s.

Like Mozart and Beethoven, Jacob Beer was a *wunderkind*. He became a piano student of Muzio Clementi and later studied composition with German Romanticist, Carl Maria von Weber. His early attempts at German opera showed some

promise. At the urging of aging classical composer Antonio Salieri, Beer traveled to Italy for further study and to learn the technique of the world's greatest singers.

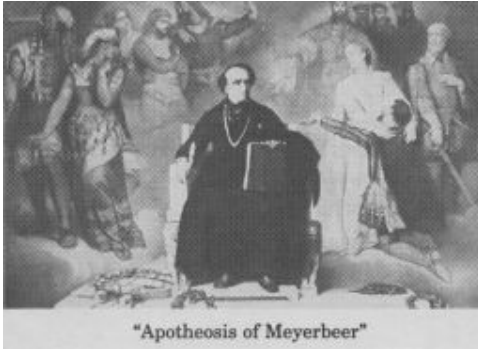
While in Italy, the composer changed his name to the more *urbane Giacomo Meyerbeer*. The *Meyer* was taken from the name of his maternal grandfather. Meyerbeer stayed in Italy for nine years composing six operas in the Italian style. His efforts were well received, and he was considered to be a serious competitor of the renowned Rossini.

In 1825 Meyerbeer's Italian opera, *Il crociato in Egitto*, premiered in Paris and was an immediate success. Meyerbeer was on his way to international stardom. In 1826 the composer married his first cousin, Min Molson. About this time, Meyerbeer also began his association with librettist Eugene Scribe. Together, they took the world of opera by storm. Scribe's stories were not the usual opera fluff. They often contained religious and moral themes drawn from historical situations and were at times even shocking. The two collaborated on operas such as the wildly successful 1831 production of *Robert Le Diable* about the evilly possessed Duke of Normandy. The nearly five-hour epic was performed some 1,843 times in eight years in various European venues. The previously mentioned *Les Huguénots* debuted in 1836. *Le Prophète*, the vivid tale of John of Leyden and the Anabaptist fanaticism prevalent in 16th century Germany and Holland, debuted in 1849. Their last effort, *L' Africaine*, about the life of explorer Vasco Di Gamma, premiered shortly after Meyerbeer's death in 1865.

By nature Meyerbeer was a perfectionist, sometimes missing deadlines by years. The overall effect of his operas was dramatic and spectacular. His mature works have a great feeling of unity; combining beautiful and highly technical arias, elaborate choruses, ballet, fantastic scenery and effects, while under-girded with marvelous orchestrations from an ever-expanding orchestra. Composer Hector Berlioz commented on Meyerbeer's orchestral pallet: "...high C's from every chest, bass drums, snare drums, organs, military bands, antique trumpet, and tubas as big as a locomotive smokestack..."

Meyerbeer's reputation as a composer was so highly acclaimed, that he was appointed Music Director General of Prussia in 1842. He was the first non-Christian to hold such a high position. He maintained dual residences in both Berlin and Paris. Meyerbeer also became a mentor to youthful composer, Richard Wagner, and even lent Wagner money for his production of *Reinzi*. Wagner drew extensively on Meyerbeer's ideas in his "music dramas." Wagner wrote glowingly that Meyerbeer's music was universal and transcended barriers of language and culture.

In an age of somewhat parochial nationalism, Meyerbeer was equally popular in Paris, Prague, Berlin, and Florence. He was honored with The Netherlands' Legion of Honor, France's Royal Academy, and England's Order of the Oak Crown. Accolades and admiration for Meyerbeer seemed endless until his former friend and colleague, Wagner, turned on him in an essay published in 1850, *Das Judenthum in der Music* ("Judaism and Music").



In his essay Wagner severely attacked Jewish musicians as "bereft of all expression, characterized by coldness and indifference, triviality and nonsense." He further went on to say that Jewry was a harmful influence on the "morale of the nation" and posed a threat to the "German psyche."

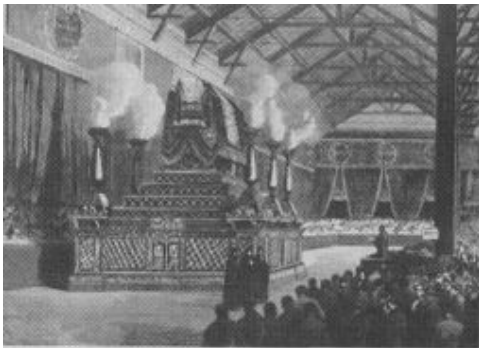
The good-natured Meyerbeer never responded to these harsh attacks. He also remained true to his ancient faith. Many Jewish intellectuals of the nineteenth century such as Mendelssohn and Heine converted to Christianity, but not Meyerbeer. The composer penned a short prayer about a year before his death: "Beseech the eternal God that he keep us on the path of virtue, honour, and justice.. .ennoble and purify my heart and soul ... Preserve my artistic creativity.. .and ennoble my artistic fame."

Meyerbeer died on May 2, 1864. A train carried his remains from Paris to Berlin where he was buried with Orthodox Rites. Thousands turned out to pay homage to the most popular composer of the era. An engraving of one of Meyerbeer's services indicates that his parting was marked with great "pomp and ceremony."

The fall of Meyerbeer from artistic grace is still an enigma. Some critics accused Meyerbeer of being strictly a commercial composer blindly catering to the whims of the public. Others parroted Wagner. Some said that public tastes towards the grand and extravagant had changed. Others observed that singers no longer could be found with the ability to meet the many demands of so technical a composer. In Meyerbeer's defense, it must be said that he certainly had the *chutzpah* to "bring down the house," lacking in others who were not nearly as successful. Since his day, opera has lost its middle class appeal and is now viewed as only for the elite. Perhaps, a dose of "Meyerbeer" would be refreshing, entertaining, and a good way to attract a wider audience for opera. Some recent European productions of Meyerbeer have proved very successful. Giacomo Meyerbeer deserves to be heard again!

Notes: There is a wealth of information concerning Meyerbeer on the Internet located in 'The Meyerbeer Fan Club.' The "Club" has a worldwide membership and enthusiastically promotes the music of Meyerbeer. Anyone may join the organization for \$25.00. All new members also receive a "Meyerbeer Lives" tee shirt at no added charge. The quote concerning *Les Huguenots* was taken from Richard Crocker's *History of Musical Style*. Other information on Meyerbeer's operas was found in a beautifully illustrated copy of *The Victrola Book of the Opera (1917)*, in the author's private collection

Sir Knight Peter H. Johnson, Jr., KYGCH, is a Past Commander of the Grand Commandery of Arizona. He has been a public school music teacher at all levels for over thirty years. He enjoys researching Masonic related music topics and also performs with The Northland Pioneer College Symphonic Band, The Windjammers Circus Concert Band, and The United Methodist Church Choir in Holbrook. He has composed several marches for band. The Show Low High School Band in Show Low, Arizona, recently premiered his latest patriotic march, "The American Fireman."



The engraving says: "Final honors given to Meyerbeer at Paris in the railway station Gare du Nord."

### **A Tradition Continues For St. Graal No. 12 In Missouri**

In May 2002 following the Salute to Veterans Parade, St. Graal Commandery No. 12, Columbia, Missouri, presented a wreath at the Veteran's Memorial at the Boone County courthouse in Columbia for the 23rd consecutive year. This tradition started before 1979 when Sir Knights Marvin Painter and Marion Dey presented the wreath, and it has continued since. The Sir Knights pictured with veterans are, left to right:



Walter D. Straight, E.P.C., St. Graal No. 2; Thomas C. Yunick, V.E. Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Missouri; and Billy J. Boyer, R.E. Department Commander, South Central Department, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States. (photo and story by Sir Knight Marion W. Dey, P.C., St. Graal No. 12, Columbia, Missouri.)

### **Sale Of Beautiful Kneeling Knight To Benefit The Knights Templar Eye Foundation**



This kneeling Knight is hand-cast in ceramic. It is hand-painted in black and silver and has an antique effect. It was produced in Germany, and the size is 15 inches tall by 8 inches wide by 7 inches in diameter. The price of the Knight is \$90.00, including shipping, handling, and insurance. Net proceeds will benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Once you have ordered, please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. If you are interested in ordering, please make check or money order payable to: Stanley C. Buz, and send your order to Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052.

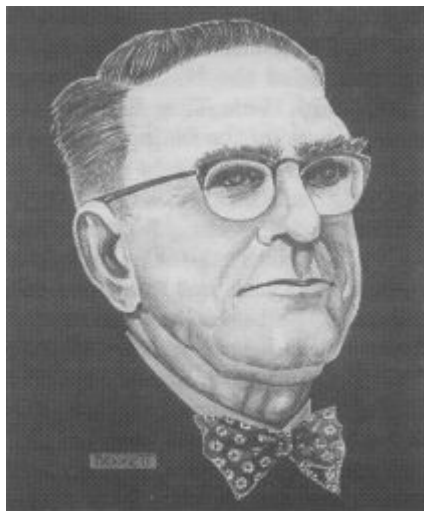
## Last of the Spitballers: Burleigh Grimes - Part II

by Sir Knight

Joseph E. Bennett KYCH, 33<sup>0</sup> FPS

Although the Cardinals finished a disappointing fourth in the 1929 pennant race, President Branch Rickey felt he had a fine chance to win it all in 1930, providing he could pick up another winning pitcher. The financially-strapped Boston Braves could not resist Rickey's offer for Grimes' contract in a mid-season deal. The St. Louis president had a lofty opinion of his friend, even though Burleigh was 37 years old. Rickey was seldom wrong in an evaluation of talent. He was convinced Burleigh had some good years remaining, and he was right. The Cardinals drove to a National League pennant with the valuable assistance of Burleigh in his abbreviated season. He worked in 23 games, winning 13 and losing 6. He helped the Cardinals win the pennant in 1930, even though National League pitching endured a free-hitting year with the introduction of a newly "juiced-up" ball.

St. Louis faced the powerful Philadelphia Athletics, a team with great depth and a brilliant pitching staff, which included Lefty Bob Grove and George Earnshaw, supported by an array of tremendous hitting talent. Among Connie Mack's batting stars were Jimmie Foxx, Al Simmons, Mickey Cochrane, and Bing Miller - an intimidating prospect for any pitcher. Burleigh failed to beat the A's in the



Branch Rickey  
artwork by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett

seven-game series. He lost the first game, 5-2 to Lefty Grove, while yielding only 5 hits. Grimes dropped the fifth game to Grove for his second loss, 2-0. He duelled both Earnshaw and Grove for nine innings before Jimmie Foxx broke up the scoreless game with a home run. The Cardinal batters were limited to three hits by the two Philadelphia aces. Burleigh yielded five. The 1930 World Series was over in six games, with the A's winning four games and St. Louis taking two. Strictly speaking, Grimes didn't lose his games; the Cardinal offense failed to win them. It was a bitter experience for Burleigh Grimes, who loathed losing more than any tribulation.

The "lively" ball of 1930 was somewhat desensitized the following season. Burleigh remarked sarcastically, "It's amazing how the pitching improved in one year."

Regardless of the characteristics of the baseball, the Cardinals would not be denied the National League pennant in 1931. They finished 13 games ahead of the fading New York Giants, thanks to a very productive pitching staff and the batting exploits of Pepper Martin, "The Wild Horse of the Osage." The Indian third base star lived up to his name on the bases and garnered a dazzling series batting mark of .500. The St. Louis Cardinals beat the Philadelphia A's four games to two in a seven-game World Series.

Burleigh won two games, the third game at Philadelphia's Shibe Park, and the final game in St. Louis' Sportsman Park. President Herbert Hoover was among the spectators on October 5, 1931, eager to watch the third game of the World Series. When he entered the box, a spontaneous chant went up among the spectators: "We want beer! We want beer!". They echoed a popular demand to declare an end to prohibition of alcoholic beverage sales.

Burleigh pitched a two-hit masterpiece - a no-hitter until the 7th inning - to beat Lefty Grove in the third game. He revenged his 1930 loss to George Earnshaw in the final game of the 1931 classic. Burleigh's collaborator in the hard-fought series was pitcher "Wild" Bill Hallahan, who also chalked up two victories for the Cardinals. It was sweet retribution for the previous year, and a major portion of the credit went to the hard-boiled spitballer from Clear Lake, Wisconsin. Burleigh was fearsome in that World Series.

Even though he was 38 years old, an age when most players have finished their careers, Burleigh still had

plenty of "stuff" on his wet Sunday pitch. He finished the 1931 regular season with 17 wins and 9 losses in 29 appearances. During the winter of 1931, his contract was sold to the Chicago Cubs. The Cubs had finished high in the first division for several years, and owner Phil Wrigley felt 1932 must be their year to take the pennant. Grimes would be an asset to the pitching staff, even though he was nearing the end of his playing career. Cub Manager Rogers Hornsby heartily agreed. He knew Burleigh as well as anyone alive.

The Cubs won the 1932 National League pennant and earned the dubious pleasure of facing the New York Yankees in the World Series. It had been a down-to-the-wire season for Chicago, and the pennant winner was not determined until the final games of the year. Burleigh worked often for the Cubs in 1932, ending the regular season after 30 appearances and posting a record of 6 wins and 11 losses. The Yankees roared into the World Series 13 games ahead of the second-place Athletics. The Cubs would be facing the awesome offensive power of Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Bill Dickey, Earl Coombs, Tony Lazzeri, and the rest of the Yankee machine in the opening game at New York.

There were other unsettling circumstances. During the season, Rogers Hornsby had been relieved as manager but remained on the playing roster although he was given virtually no opportunity to play. Hornsby's successor was Charlie Grimm, the popular Cub first baseman. He and Hornsby despised each other. The Yankee manager was Joe McCarthy, bitter over being unceremoniously



fired from Chicago in 1930. In addition to those undercurrents, there was bad blood between the two teams because of the treatment of a popular former Yankee player, who finished the 1932 season with the Cubs. He was Mark Koenig, purchased late in the season from Detroit to provide added batting punch to the team and to shore up the infield.

Koenig had been valuable in his short stint with the Cubs, but the team voted him only a half share of World Series money because he had been with them only a few weeks. The Yankees were incensed over what they considered shabby treatment of a fine player. A continuous stream of invectives were hurled from both team benches throughout the entire World Series. The verbal abuse became so odorous that baseball's commissioner, Judge Kenesaw Landis, threatened to declare the World Series forfeit unless the players stopped insulting each other. His order had no deterrent effect.

It was a short, disastrous series for Chicago. The Yankees swept to victory in four straight games. Cub aces, Lon Warneke and Guy Bush, could not turn back the heavy New York guns, and the Chicago fans were livid with frustration by the time the scene shifted to Wrigley Field in Chicago for the third game. The fans joined the Cub players in screaming abuse at Babe Ruth every time he came to bat. Ruth responded in kind .to the stinging remarks from the Cubs' dugout. The uproar was deafening when Ruth came to bat in the fifth inning. Pitcher Charlie Root worked the count to two balls and two strikes without the Babe

lifting the bat from his shoulder. Stepping out of the batter's box, he was reported to have held up one finger, pointing to center field.

Several versions of the incident exist, most of them declaring that Ruth was "calling his shot" on the next pitch. When Babe hit the next throw from Root far into the center field bleachers for a towering home run, he minced around the bases, raising his cap to the roaring crowd. Burleigh Grimes was there and declared it was simply not true, that Ruth signaled he had one strike remaining by holding up his finger. Tough Charlie Root would have "stuck it in his ear" had Babe the audacity to call the next pitch against him - according to Burleigh. Cub catcher Gabby Hartnett agreed with Grimes' version. So did Root.

It was Burleigh's final World Series appearance. He had worked briefly in the 9th inning of the final game but was not the pitcher of record. He remained on the Chicago roster for most of the season in 1933, working less than in former years, but he did see action in 17 games. Late in the season he was signed by the St. Louis Cardinals in time to work in four games. He employed his renowned spitball until the end, but at age 40 he was not Old Stubble-beard of bygone days. He ended his playing career in 1934, playing part of the season with the Cardinals, then the Pittsburgh Pirates, and ending it all that year with the New York Giants. He worked in 10 games during his last major league stop in New York. After leaving the Cubs in 1933, he accumulated a pitching record of 4 wins

and 6 losses. He won his last game on May 1, 1934. The book closed on the spitball era in September.

The end of Burleigh's playing career marked the beginning of another which included coaching, managing, and scouting for major league clubs, plus additional services rendered to the high minor leagues. In 1937-1938 Grimes managed the Brooklyn Dodgers, exhibiting the same aggressive traits he employed throughout his playing career. Those were dismal years for the team, which was wallowing deep in the second division with no place to go. Burleigh worked valiantly but had no chance of improving the Dodgers' fortunes. Perhaps, one of the historic highlights of his two-year managerial reign at Brooklyn was hosting Johnny Vander Meer and the Cincinnati Reds in 1938, when the high-kicking southpaw pitched the second of his back-to-back, no-hit games on June 15th. It was the first night game played at Ebbets Field.

Included in his minor league travels, Burleigh managed Triple-A teams in Louisville, Toronto, Montreal, and Rochester, New York. One of his duties in the post-WWII time frame was acting as a personal emissary for the legendary sports wizard, Branch Rickey; a lawyer, biblical scholar, student of the classics, and a rare judge of baseball talent.

One of Rickey's ventures had been a major investment in the Montreal Royals baseball club in 1939. He sent Grimes to Montreal in 1947 to evaluate Duke Snider as a candidate for promotion to the parent club in Brooklyn. On Grimes' recommendation Duke was brought up to play the final 40 games of the 1947 season.

He became one of the Dodgers' greatest superstars. Burleigh continued in some baseball capacity until his retirement in 1971. His final, active years were primarily devoted to scouting for the New York Yankees and the Baltimore Orioles.

Grimes initially retired to the town of Holcombe, Wisconsin, a village north of Eau Claire. Before long he came home to Clear Lake, the scene of his boyhood triumphs, a place where he could pass his days with the friends of his youth.

Burleigh's married life was marred by reoccurring tragedy, and he fathered no children. He first married Inez Martin in 1940, while managing the minor league club at Grand Rapids, Michigan. She died, a victim of cancer, on August 27, 1964, one month after Burleigh was inducted into Baseball's Hall of Fame.

Some years later Grimes married Zerita Brickell, widow of Fred Brickell, a former outfielder with the St. Louis Cardinals and the Philadelphia Phillies. Zerita also succumbed to cancer. As a golden-ager, Burleigh married Lill Gasser Meyer on October 17, 1974, and became a stepfather of two adult children, Thomas Meyer III and Cynthia (Mrs. Charles) Brandon. His last wife Lill shared their tranquil retirement until Burleigh passed away.

Burleigh Grimes was inducted into Baseball's Hall of Fame on July 27, 1964, elected by the Veterans Committee. Inducted with the Clear Lake spitballer were Urban "Red" Faber, Miller Huggins, Timothy Keefe, Henry "Heinie" Manush, and John Montgomery Ward. The Sports Writers Committee selected Chicago White Sox infielder Luke Appling for

induction the same year. At long last Burleigh assumed his rightful place beside the most exalted figures in the history of our national game.

His qualifying record is worthy of note. During an active career of 19 years, he accumulated a pitching record of 270 games won and 212 lost. He pitched 4,179 innings, completing more than 300 games and working in a total of 632. His record of shut-out games stands at 35. It is an outstanding legacy of endurance and excellence. Grimes' association with professional baseball covered 60 years, from 1912 through 1971.

Burleigh's final illness ended in his death on Friday evening, December 6, 1985, at Clear Lake. He was a victim of cancer at age 92, another battle he fought to the end. His remains were cremated, and a memorial service was offered at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Clear Lake on Wednesday, December 11. The remains were interred at the Clear Lake Cemetery beside his first wife Inez, who had died in 1964. Included among the list of pallbearers for the solemn obsequies were Burleigh's long-time friend, Charles T. Clark, and his three sons, his physician, and Senator Gaylord A. Nelson. Burleigh's parents, Nick and Ruth Grimes, along with sister Hazel and brother Shurleigh, were interred at Riverside Cemetery in the village of Withee, a village some three miles from Owen, Wisconsin.

With the passing of Burleigh Arland Grimes, a colorful and memorable baseball figure disappeared from the American sports scene. He was loved and revered by a legion of friends and Brethren of the Masonic Fraternity and venerated by baseball fans for his accomplishments as a major league

pitcher, in spite of his acerbic demeanor. His drive to win was unexcelled.

Burleigh's claim to fame was never to be the most technically perfect pitcher in baseball, but he was undeniably among the most driven to succeed. The scintillating saga of wet-baseball history ended with his retirement from major league play in 1934. Through it all, Burleigh remained a faithful Freemason for 64 years, demonstrating exemplary support of all we hold dear in the Fraternity. Generations of Masons cherish his memory and celebrate his life. He was truly one of our own.

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Mildred (Mrs. Shurleigh) Grimes, Owen, Wisconsin  
Charles T. Clark, historian, Clear Lake, Wisconsin  
Leslie C. Craven, Secretary, Owen Lodge No. 230, Owen, Wisconsin  
Vern F. Engebretson, Secretary, Clear Lake Lodge No. 230

Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 33°, FPS, and P.D.D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, is a member of Holy Grail Commandery No. 70, Lakewood, Ohio. He resides at: 802 Laura Belle Drive, Kerrville, TX 78028

## **Frank Kell Lives the Legacy of DeMolay Grand Master**

Franklin J. Kell, Jr., native of Shreveport, Louisiana, current resident of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has been elected to the highest adult position in DeMolay International, Grand Master. As Grand Master, Frank will serve as President of the Board of Directors of DeMolay International.

DeMolay, a youth leadership organization for boys between the ages of twelve and twenty-one, has Chapters all over the world. Through DeMolay, boys learn leadership skills, the value of community service, and a respect and love for parents, family and faith. Frank will play a key role in building on the foundation of DeMolay, while keeping the focus on the youth that the organization serves.

Frank was elected Grand Master of DeMolay International on June 15, 2002, at DeMolay's International Supreme Council Session in Houston, Texas.

Frank's affiliation with DeMolay started in Louisiana in 1952. That year, Frank joined Shreveport Chapter, and he has been involved ever since. In his youth, he was a State Master Councilor, the highest position a youth can hold at the state level.

Frank is still very active with DeMolay at the local level, as well as with Rainbow for Girls. He is one of only two who served as both State DeMolay Dad and State Rainbow Dad in Oklahoma. He has received the Advisor of the Year Award and holds DeMolay's Cross of Honor and Legion of Honor, as well as Rainbow's Grand Cross of Color.

Frank's fraternal affiliations include: Past Master of Jenks Lodge No. 497, A.F. & A.M., Jenks, Oklahoma; 33° Scottish Rite Mason; he is a member of Tulsa York Rite Bodies; AKDAR Shrine; Red Cross of Constantine; Past Patron of Red Fork Chapter, Order of Eastern Star; National Sojourners; and Order of Amaranth. Frank will serve as Chairman of the Youth Activities Committee of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, 2002-2003.

Frank and his wife of 37 years, Vicki, are excited about his newest role in DeMolay. Frank's theme for the year is "Live the Legacy." He said, "Working with the youth keeps one hopping and thinking young. Having a positive influence on just one young person's life is a great joy!"

Frank Kell, Jr. can be reached for comment at [fkell@demolay.org](mailto:fkell@demolay.org)

Service & Leadership Center  
10200 NW Ambassador Drive  
Kansas City, MO 64153-1367  
1-800-DEMOLAY  
fax: 816-891-9062  
[www.demolay.org](http://www.demolay.org)

## 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 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, 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](http://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 $\frac{1}{2}$ -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.

New Knight Templar needing all items of dress except the sword: size 48 long. Please call or write Rev, and Sir Knight Ron Fleming, 4800 Bloomfield Road, Cambridge, OH 43725, (740) 439-5100

Knight Templar dress ties: the perfect Templar gift: cross and crown on square and compass (\$25.00 each); fundraiser 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.yorkiite.org/ties.htm](http://www.yorkiite.org/ties.htm) - Check payable to San Antonio Commandery No. 7 and mail to James N. Higdon, 10122 N. Manion, San Antonio, TX 78213. Ties will be sent day following receipt. H: (210) 341 1309; 0: 349-9933; e-mail [jnh.k1@hnhzlaw.com](mailto:jnh.k1@hnhzlaw.com)

For sale: Knights Templar shoulder straps, pairs 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 pair plus \$5.00 S & H. Also: Honorary Past Commander with H.C. in Old English silver lettering at foot of cross, \$50.00; Grand Commandery, Grand Rep. (red), \$50.00 and Past Grand Commander (purple): \$60.00 (all plus \$5.00 S & H). Also: chapeaux crosses: Sir Knight, \$35.00; Commander/Past Commander, \$40.00; Grand Commandery (red), \$45.00; Past Grand Commander (purple), \$50.00-all plus \$5.00 S & H. New: sleeve crosses, all ranks, 35.00 to \$50.00 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 by Park Place Commandery No. 106, Houston, Texas: Knight Templar golf shirts, black or white, with cross and crown logo and pocket: sizes XXL, XL, L, and M. Proceeds of shirt sale to KTEF. \$25.00 per shirt plus \$3.50 S & H. Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. Check or money order and specify color and size to Recorder, PO Box 263430, Houston, TX 77207-3430

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, S. W; Pataskala; OH 43062. (740) 927-7073

They are going fast. 44XL are all gone! C.P.O. sellout. We have some 42 short C.P.O. poly-wool coats we are closing out. We will sell them in groups of 5 for \$50.00 plus shipping, or \$15.00 each plus shipping Stock up for your Commandery now! % to KTEE Phone John Myers, (260) 668-8543 or Bill Meyers, (260) 665-5686

For sale: peel-off vinyl, royal blue square and compass decals designed to fit on your license plate or window: 2 inches high, 1 inch wide. 6 vinyl decals for \$5.00, postpaid. Profits will go to Masonic Widows' Fund. Joe Allen, PM., Sec.; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & A.M.; PO Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014

Cochran Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M., Cochran, Georgia, is continuing its long-term charity project: Masonic jewelry boxes, 6 x5 x2.5 inches in size and 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 a Home Endowment Fund. They are \$20.00 each with \$5.00 shipping in the U.S. Check or money order to Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217 and mail to Harry A Bruno Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No.217, F&AM; PO Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail [harry217@bigfoot.com](mailto:harry217@bigfoot.com)

Rising Sun Lodge No. 13, Kansas City, Missouri, is celebrating 150 years of Freemasonry in Platte County. This Lodge did not shut its doors during the Civil War. For sale are coins, one and a half inches in diameter and in antique bronze satin finish, \$7.00 each, p.p., and books of history, \$6.00; both \$12.00, save a dollar. Marvin G. Shull, 2304 N.E. Shady Lane, Gladstone, MO 64118

Temperance Lodge No. 16, Vandalia, Illinois, has for sale its 160th anniversary coin in shining bronze, \$6.00 each, pp. Face has old Illinois State capitol building, 1820-1839; log cabin; Abe Lincoln; shape of Illinois. Reverse has square and compass, letter G, "Temperance Lodge No. 16, 160th Anniversary 1842-2002." Check or MO to Edward Worthington, Lodge Sec.; 1410 N. &h Street; Vandalin; IL 62471

Chapter penny collectors: Granite Chapter No. 26, Barre, Vermont, has Chapter pennies for sale. Front of coin has keystone symbol; rear has "Granite Chapter No. 26, Barre Vermont, chartered 1892." Send \$5.00 to the attention of James Daniels, Granite Chapter, Masonic Temple, 2 Academy Street, Barre, VT 05641.

Piedmont Lodge No. 447, F. & A.M., Atlanta, Georgia, has had a coin struck to celebrate its 100th anniversary. The coin is available in either antique bronze, or antique silver, \$15.00, including shipping and handling. One face of the coin has the All-seeing Eye, the square and compass, and the working tools of a Mason. The reverse side has "Piedmont Lodge No. 447, F. & A.M. Atlanta, GA, 100 years" and "1902-2002." Send check or MO to Edward A. Radatz, Sr., PM; 2921 Birchwood Way, S. W.; Marietta; GA 30060

Wanted: Outdoor O.E.S. light. Our Masonic Lodge moved into a new Temple and our outdoor light was broken. We have been unable to find a source for a new one. With so many Chapters merging, we thought perhaps we could find a used light. Need the type to be hung on a pole. Parthenia Chapter No. 124, O.E.S.; 1799 W. Market Street; Baltimore; OH 43105; e-mail ginger@avalne.net

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. The price per pin is \$5.00 ea. including S & H 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF. New item Sept. 11 Memorial Masonic lapel pin, \$5.00 each, including S & H - to commemorate members who lost their lives in terrorist attack - proceeds to New York Grand Lodge WTC Disaster Fund and KTEF. S. Kenneth Bard, 6809 Main Street, Apt. 2 West, Cincinnati, OH 452444470, (513) 272-2815, fax (513) 272-2830

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. Books may be obtained by contacting Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., P.O. Box 9759, 3011 Old Dumbarton Rd., Richmond, VA 23228-0759, (804) 262-6551. The price is \$16.95 plus S & H. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 29 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 5torck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 888-7585

For sale: hardbound book on Masonry, A Survey of the History and Mysteries of Freemasonry. The book is 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, which readers have called "the most comprehensive ever published in one source." Nine highly placed Masons gave the manuscript raving reviews! Written, published, and financed by Robert L. Breeding; it can be obtained from him only. Price is \$20.00 plus \$3.00 postage and handling. % to

KTEF. Check or MO to Robert L. Breeding at 405 Ascot Court, Knoxville, TN 37923-5807. E-mail rbreed4217@aol.com. Telephone (865) 539-9932

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: Blue Lodge 14K gold ring with white sold emblem, large G with square and compass and in center of that a 1/2 carat diamond. Masonic symbols on each side in relief and enameled blue. Purchased as an antique and had diamond mounted later. Write for more detail. Estimated price, \$1,600-2000; selling for \$800. Call (815) 672-4225

MASONIC GWI'S AND INCENTIVES FOR SALE: Represent Masonry with pride by stocking up on fraternal gifts and presentation merchandise, all reasonably priced and all beautifully customized to your specifications. Represent your Masonic organization by choosing from a wide variety of custom imprinted items such as lapel pins, custom designed coins, coffee mugs, pens and pencils, complete with your organization's name and logo or whatever designs you would like imprinted. Just hand sketch your design, and we will do the rest for you. Call or send for your free color catalog: 1-800-765-1728, Frank Looser, 408 Ashlar Circle, Nashville, TN 37211; website www.cnfinteractive.com. 3% of profit goes to KTEF.

Retired Sir Knight wants to buy any condition: train sets; American Flyer, Lionel, and Marx - all gages; Aurora 'model motoring' race car sets; German and US military items; old Confederate money and pre-1920 US stamps. Tim Rickheim, 14761 Tunncliff Road, Petersburg, MI 49270-9716; collect: (734) 854-3021 or e-mail vonrueckheim@webTV.net

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

Our model railroad group (the Donner Pass Gandy Dancers) in conjunction with the Kerak Shrine of Northern Nevada will be holding the Second Annual Model Railroad Show and Sale at the Kerak Shrine Temple, located at 4935 Energy Way, Reno, NV 89502, on November 15-17 2002. The proceeds will benefit the Shrine and their efforts to help those in need. Featured are: child ID and finger printing, blood mobile, hourly raffles, food and drink concessions, and Kerak clowns. Admission: adults, \$4.00; seniors (over 55), \$3.00; children 12 and under, free with adult. For info Clyde R. Lippincott, (775) 882-4529, e-mail crldjippincott@msn.com or Don Proud, PP. at Shrine Temple, Mon-Fri., 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at (775) 856-3330

For sale: Three burial plots located in Sunset Memorial Garden, Masonic section, Rockford, Illinois. Plots are selling for \$995.00 each; asking \$750.00 each, all charges paid to transfer. Robert C. Grip, 7767 Alta Cuesta Drive, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-1801, (909) 982-9949; e-mail gpskunk@aol.com

### Ritualist of York

Where have all the ritualists gone,  
Those stalwart Knights of York?  
Many a Knight has carried the lance  
And guarded portals near and far.

Brave were they who ventured forth  
To travel from South to North,  
Carrying light from the East  
To be deposited at rest in the West.

Wisdom and patience they learned well;  
To their fellow travelers they would retell  
The stories told within the lodges of craftsmen who  
Received wages not in gold but in pennies, it is told.

Diligent work has led our Craft from ancient times  
to spaces far,  
Speed has entered into our ranks.  
Oh, how much our ritual has shrunk;  
A shadow falls upon our ritualist of the past.

The grim reaper cuts a swath within our cast.  
Where are those young Knights  
Who are expected to take up lance and  
Guard our portals as in the past?

Is wisdom, patience, and gracing light to be smitten  
from our Rites?  
Rally forth, ye Travelers all;  
From our Brethren, Companions, and Sir Knights,  
come ye all;  
Let not our banners forever fall!

Morris Eldon Ward, P.E.C., KYCH  
member, Quincy/Lassen Commandery No. 13  
Quincy, California  
address: Box 1126, Chester, CA 96020