Senator Stephen Benton Elkins, an American Croesus, was a 44-year member of Montezuma Lodge in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His story starts on page 21.
Grand Master's Message for October 2003
Requirements for the Grand Commander's Meritorious Service Award

As promised in the last issue, you will find the requirements for the Grand Commander's Meritorious Service Award as follows:

1. Attend the Department Conference, and get all of your dais officers there (sickness and death alone excusing them).
2. Have a gain (or no loss) of members excluding deaths, or for an alternative, have 6% Knightings based on the membership at the beginning of your year.
3. Show a 50% decrease in suspensions and demits.
4. Have an increase in $ donations over the previous year for the Annual Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye bequests will count toward this point.
5. Have at least one Knighting in every Commandery in your jurisdiction in a one-year period (your term). (The Commandery does not have to actually confer the Order, but it must gain a member.)
6. Send at least one minister to the Holy Land (when it's possible).
7. Support the Grand Master's programs - Show that you have communicated them to your constituent Commanderies.
8. Submit a set of goals for your Grand Commandery and a plan of execution. Show achievements against goals.
9. Develop or improve a long-range financial plan for your Grand Commandery. Develop a budget which supports your plan.
10. Deal with "weak" Commanderies. Submit a plan and show progress.
11. Get your Educational Foundation reports in on time. The Grand Recorder's inaction is not an acceptable excuse.
12. Get all of your constituent Commanderies off of Chuck's list; i.e., at least four reports per year—quarterly.

You should work with your Department Commander on these requirements because he will report on your progress to me.

To all Sir Knights: If your Grand Commander earns one of these awards, it will reflect as much credit upon your Grand Commandery as it does upon him, so in essence, this award is for your Grand Commandery as well.

Kenneth B. Fischer
Grand Master, KCT, GCT
OCTOBER: Grand Master Kenneth B. Fischer informs all Sir Knights of the requirements for his Grand Commander's Meritorious Service Award in his October Message on page 2. Please give this subject your attention and remember it for future reference; it is for every Grand Commandery's benefit that its Grand Commander receive this honor. Starting on page 5 are the biographies of three more grand line officers in the following order: Deputy Grand Master Richard B. Baldwin, Grand Generalissimo William H. Koon II, and Grand Captain General David D. Goodwin. Biographies of Grand Encampment officers will continue in future issues. The 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the KTEF will be starting soon, so read the news concerning KTEF grant recipients in several states, starting on page 11, and prepare your Commandery for the Campaign!

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October 2003

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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.
Contacts for all Masonic organizations listed in our January 2003 issue should have the form for our next listing in January 2004. Please respond immediately as the magazine goes to the printer about December 15, 2003. If your organization has a new contact, please inform him/her of this. We would rather not leave any organization out!

Place mats and paper napkins depicting the Templar Cross and Crown are available from the Grand Encampment office. The cost for napkins is $15.00 per 250 in intervals of 250 only (i.e., 250, 500, etc.) plus shipping and handling - no exceptions. Orders may be sent to: the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630-2460

Now available: 2-volume set of History of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America by Francis J. Scully, M.D., and History of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America - Book II by Lt. Col. Jacob C. Baird, Chairman, the Committee on Knights Templar History One or both are a great gift for that Sir Knight or anyone else who is fascinated by Templar history. As a set, the two books are $25.00 plus $4.00 S. & IL ($29.00). Separately, each book is $15.00 plus $3.00 S. & IL ($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 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 Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

October 2003
Sir Knight Richard Burditt Baldwin, Virginia
Elected Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master

Sir Knight Richard Burditt Baldwin, Past Grand Commander of Virginia, 1989, was elected and installed Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment in St. Louis, Missouri, August 2003, at the 62nd Triennial Conclave. He was elected Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo on August 15, 2000, in Nashville, Tennessee, at the 61st Triennial Conclave and was elected Right Eminent Grand Captain General in August of 1997 at the 60th Triennial Conclave, held in St. Louis, Missouri.

Richard B. Baldwin was born in Concord, Massachusetts, October 28, 1935, the son of David S. and Hope W. Baldwin. He attended the Sudbury, Massachusetts public schools graduating in 1953, was graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1957 with the degree of bachelor of business administration, and received a M.S. degree in 1974 from George Washington University.

He entered active duty on Flag Day, June 14, 1957, served more than thirty years of active federal service, retiring 1987 as a colonel. He has two daughters, one son, four grandsons, and two granddaughters.

His Symbolic Lodge memberships include Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54, A. Douglas Smith Lodge of Research No. 1949, Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777, all in Virginia; and Missouri Lodge of Research in Missouri.

His York Rite affiliations are: Annandale Royal Arch Chapter No. 77, Virginia; Triangle Council No. 3, R. & S.M., DC; Adoniram Council No. 10, R. & S.M., FL; Commandery: Arlington No. 29, Thomas S. Ely No. 30, Penn-Neck No. 33, Grice No. 16 (honorary), all of Virginia; INRI Commandery No. 4, DC; Winchester No. 12, (honorary); Bayard No. 15 (honorary); St. George No. 76, OH. He has honorary memberships in many Grand Commanderies and also in York Rite bodies of Florida, Alabama, South Dakota and New Hampshire; and the KYCH of Texas and Illinois. He was a long-time general chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service.

Masonic offices held: Grand Commander of Virginia, 1989-90; Department Commander (honorary), Grand Encampment; Grand Chaplain, Grand Lodge of VA, 1993-94; District Deputy Grand Master, Grand Royal Patron, Order of Amaranth, VA, 1989-90; High Priest, Annandale Royal Arch Chapter No. 77, VA, 1974-75 and 1979-80; Past Commander, Arlington No. 29, VA, 1983-84; Royal Patron, Potomac Court No. 4, Order of Amaranth, VA, 1982, 1985, 1989; Grand Tall Cedar, NOR-VA Forest No. 163, 1984; P.D.D.G.H.P, Grand Chapter of R.A.M., VA, 1986; Governor, York Rite College, (Charter Governor, honorary member), 1983-84; Sovereign Master,


He is also affiliated with Allied Masonic Degrees, Grand College of Rites, Red Branch of Erie, Masonic Order of the Bath, and Royal Ark Mariners.

**Sir Knight William Howard Koon II, Ohio**

**Elected Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo**

Sir Knight William H. Koon II, Past Grand Commander of Ohio, 1996, and Right Eminent Past Department Commander of the East Central Department, 1997-2000, of the Grand Encampment, was elected Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo at the 62nd Triennial Conclave August 2003 in St. Louis, Missouri. He was elected to the Grand Line of the Grand Encampment as Right Eminent Grand Captain General at the 61st Triennial Conclave in August of 2000 in Nashville, Tennessee

Sir Knight Koon was born in Lima, Ohio, on March 12, 1949 to William H. and Vivian Brown Koon. He is a graduate of Bath High School, and attended the Ohio State University for 3 years. He is married to Elizabeth Jane Thornley, and they reside less than a mile from the family farm where he grew up near Columbus Grove, Ohio. They have a daughter, Andrea Koon Gillespie; son-in-law, Adam Gillespie; and son, William Steven Winebrenner. Bill is the President of Lord’s Enterprises, Inc., and Republic Mills, Inc., both family agribusinesses including: livestock feed manufacturing, swine farrowing complexes, grain elevators, and a farming operation. He is involved in many professional and civic organizations, both locally and statewide.
Legion of Honor, and is a Deputy Member of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay. He was Raised a Master Mason in 1970 in Ada Lodge No. 344 and demitted to Rufus Putnam Lodge No. 364 in Columbus Grove, where he served 3 years as Worshipful Master. He is a Past High Priest of Lima Chapter No. 49, R.A.M., and illustrious Master of Lima Council No. 20, R. & S.M. He was Knighted in Shawnee Commandery No. 14 by his father on March 13, 1971, and was elected Eminent Commander in 1980. He is a member of Shawnee Commandery No. 14 Drill Team for the past 32 years, marching in 7 Triennial Drills beginning in Chicago in 1973 and including twice as Captain. He is a member and Charter Commander of St. George Commandery No. 76, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 54, Van Wert, OH; St. Bernard Commandery No. 41, Denver, CO; and Blaney Commandery No. 5, Tremont, IL. In addition to Ohio, Bill is a member and voting delegate of the Grand Commanderies of Colorado and Illinois.

Sir Knight Koon first served the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio, as an Aide-de-Camp to Sir Knight William J. Faul, KCT, during his term as Grand Commander and received the Meritorious Service Award for his efforts in 1981. Bill served the First Division of the Grand Commandery of Ohio as Deputy Division Commander from 1985-1987 and was appointed Grand Sentinel by Sir Knight Frank W. Crane, KCT, R.E.G.C., in 1987. He was elected Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio on September 13, 1996.

Bill served the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA as a member of the Easter Sunrise Breakfast Committee and an ad-hoc member of the Committee on Drill Regulations from 1991-1994 and was Co-chairman of the Committee on Drill Regulations during the 1994-1997 triennium. He served 8 years as the personal Aide to Sir Knight Ned E. Dull, GCT, M.E.P.G.M. of the Grand Encampment, and as the Affinity Coordinator for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Mastercard program from 1991 to 1999. Bill was invested with the rank and dignity of Knight Commander of the Temple by the Grand Encampment in 1992 and is currently the Co-deputy for the Ohio KCT Program. He was appointed Department Commander of the East Central Department for the 1997-2000 triennium. Bill was elected Right Eminent Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment on August 15, 2000, in Nashville, Tennessee. Upon installation into that office, he was invested with the Knight Grand Cross of the Temple.

Illustrious Brother Koon is a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Toledo, and a dual member of the Valley of Dayton, receiving the 33° from the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, N.M.J., in Grand Rapids on September 23, 1997.

He is a member of appendant organizations including: Zenobia Temple, AAPONMS, of Toledo, OH, their Crusader Unit, and the Lima Shrine Club; Charter Sovereign and current Recorder of Charlemagne Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine in Lima, OH, Dual Member of Holy Grail Conclave, in Dayton, OH, Honorary Member of St. Leonard Conclave, in Jackson MS, and served the United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine as Grand Herald 1999-2000; Prince of Peace Tabernacle X, HRAKTP, and Grand First Pillar of the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; Royal Order of Scotland; Chief Adept, IX*, Ohio College, MSRIFC.

Biography of the new Right Eminent Grand Captain General
Sir Knight David Dixon Goodwin, on page 8
David Dixon Goodwin of New York Elected to Grand Line

Sir Knight David Dixon Goodwin, Past Grand Commander of New York, 1999, and R.E. Past Department Commander of the Northeastern Department of the Grand Encampment (2000-2003), was elected to the grand line of the Grand Encampment as Right Eminent Grand Captain General at the 62nd Triennial Conclave, August 2003, in St. Louis Missouri.

Sir Knight David Dixon Goodwin was born on August 15, 1949, in Johnson City, New York, to the late Mary Isabel and John Walter Goodwin. He was Raised in Binghamton, New York, and confirmed in Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church. He attended the Binghamton Public Schools and graduated from Binghamton Central High School in 1967. He attended Broome Community College and graduated from Union University, Albany (NY) College of Pharmacy in 1972 with a B.S. in Pharmacy.

He was employed by CVS Pharmacy in several locations and was the owner of four retail pharmacies in the Binghamton area from 1977-1988. He has been employed as a pharmacist at Arnot Ogden Medical Center in Elmira, NY, since 1988. His memberships have included local, state, and national pharmaceutical societies as well as health related community organizations and the Endicott Rotary Club.

Sir Knight Goodwin married Marci Lynn Sternberg on July 15, 1979. They have two daughters; Jennifer and Samantha. They currently reside in Vestal, New York.

Sir Knight Goodwin was Raised a Master Mason in Binghamton Lodge No. 177, F. & A.M., Binghamton, NY, in September of 1977. He served through the line and was elected Master in 1982. The following year he was elected Secretary, a position he held until 1999. He was named Mason of the Year by his Lodge in 1988. He has served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Broome-Chenango District Masters Council, District Masonic Brotherhood Fund Chairman, and as a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Related Organizations. He has served as a director of the Masonic Youth Foundation of New York and was commissioned as the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Austria near the Grand Lodge of New York in September of 2000 by the Most Worshipful Carl J. Smith, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

He is a member of Binghamton Chapter No. 139, Royal Arch Masons, having served as High Priest and as Secretary for several years. He served the Grand Chapter of New York as an Assistant Grand Lecturer, District Deputy Grand High Priest, and Custodian of the Work. He is a member of Binghamton Council No. 24, Cryptic Masons, where he served as Illustrious Master and as Treasurer. He is a member of St. George Council, Order of Anointed Kings of New York, where he served as Thrice Illustrious...
Master. He holds a commission from the Grand Council of Delaware as their Grand Representative near the Grand Council of New York.

He was Knighted in Malta Commandery No. 21, Knights Templar, stationed at Binghamton, where he served as Commander in 1988 and served as Recorder. He was Captain of the Zone Drill Team for ten years. He is a member of the Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor.

He served the Grand Commandery of New York as a Zone Commander, Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky near New York, and was elected Grand Warder in 1991. He served through the line and was elected and installed as the 149th Grand Commander at the 186th Annual Conclave at Suffern, New York, on September 18, 1999. Sir Knight James Morris Ward, then Most Eminent Grand Master, awarded him the rank and dignity of Knight Commander of the Temple in 1998 for his service to Templary.

Sir Knight Goodwin was a Charter Member of the Southern Tier York Rite College No. 126 and served as Governor. He was awarded the Order of the Purple Cross in 1993. He holds memberships in the Otseningo Bodies, Valley of Binghamton, A.A.S.R.; Christian Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, elected Sovereign; Crusade Priory No. 57, KYCH, holds KYGCH, 1 quadrant; (Ion. Henry Knox Council No. 139, A.M.D., Master, Red Branch of En; Charles Smith Council No. 324, A.M.D.; Royal Order of Scotland; Star of Bethlehem Tabernacle, IRAKTP; Long Island College, SRICF; Kalurah Temple, A.AONMS; Aahmes Grotto, MOVPER; Lafayette Chapter No. 340, O.E.S. He is also been a Daddy of Endicott Triangle No. 43, Organization of Triangles, Inc., a Masonic youth group for girls in New York. He holds honorary memberships in several Commanderies, Grand Commanderies, and York Rite Grand bodies.

Most Eminent Grand Master William Jackson Jones appointed Sir Knight Goodwin the Right Eminent Department Commander of the Northeastern Department at the 61st Triennial Conclave in Nashville, Tennessee, on August 16, 2000.


DeMolay Hall of Fame Member, Buddy Ebsen, Dies at 95

Buddy Ebsen, best known as Jed Clampett on the TV series The Beverly Hillbillies, died on July 6, 2003, in Torrance, California. He had been hospitalized near his home in Palos Verdes Estates for several weeks. His wife, Dotti; children Alexandra, Susannah, Cathy, Bonnie, Kiki, and Dustin; and 6 grandchildren were by his side at the time of his death.

Ebsen was initiated into John M. Cheney Chapter in Orlando, Florida, in 1926. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame on June 21, 1996.

Ebsen had not planned to become an actor and had studied to become a doctor, but his father, a dance teacher, had taught all his children to dance. Ebsen tried and succeeded on Broadway and then succeeded in movies, with numerous credits in both areas. In 1962 in his mid-fifties he became a star as Jed Clampett in the TV series, after which he starred in the role of Barnaby Jones in the series of the same name. He also wrote 2 books. Ebsen continued to play a part in DeMolay, even after his time as an active DeMolay, and he was present at a Southern California DeMolay function in 1995.
Sir Knight James P. Smith, Right Eminent Grand Commander
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of the State of Texas
Requests the Honor of your Presence at a Banquet in Honor of

Sir Knight Kenneth Bernard Fischer and Lady Arlene
Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment
Of Knights Templar of the United States of America

Saturday, January 3, 2004
Reception at 5:30 P.M. - Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
$30.00 per person

The Scottish Rite Crystal Ballroom
500 South Harwood, Dallas, Texas, 75204

RSVP to Loyd L. Chance, Eminent Grand Recorder
507 South Harwood, Dallas, Texas 75204
214-654-6070 or txgrandrecorder@aol.com

All reservations must be accompanied by a
Check payable to "Grand Commandery of Texas"
In the amount of $30.00 per person

Reservations will close November 15, 2003

Rooms have been blocked at the
Marriott Hotel - DFW Airport North
8440 Freeport Parkway, Irving, Texas 75063
972-929-8800

Attire for this occasion will be after five - No Uniforms please
A Knights Templar Eye Foundation grant was presented to Dr. Charles Hejny of the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Wisconsin Hospital on August 5, 2003. Past Grand Commander Richard Reilly and Sir Knights D. James Childs, P.G.H.P., and Earl Brassington, P.G.H.P., joined Grand Commander of Wisconsin, Lawrence O. Presnelti, for the presentation. They report that Dr. Hejny received the grant with much gratitude and vowed to continue his project on eye cancer. In the picture, left to right, are: Richard Rielly, an assistant to Dr. Hejny, Dr. Hejny, Lawrence O. Presnell, Earl Brassington, and D. James Childs.
The Grand Commandery of Idaho Honors Care Givers

At the Annual Awards Banquet of the York Rite Grand Bodies of Idaho, the Grand Commandery of Idaho honored the care givers who provide the medical facilities and medical care to the recipients of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

They were guests of the Grand Commandery for dinner and were introduced to those present and presented "In Appreciation" plaques (prepared and furnished by the Eye Foundation) and were called on for a few remarks. This program of "Thank You" has been used by the Grand Commandery of Idaho 13 years and has been well received by the medical community. One finds the plaques displayed in prominent places in their medical facilities.

Sir Knight Ernest Teter wishes to thank Sir Knight Marvin Selock and his staff for their continued support of this program, and he highly recommends it to other Grand Commanderies.

Mrs. Sandra Bruce Bennett, the President and C.E.O. of St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, and Sir Knight Ernest I. Teter, R.E.P.D.C., KCT, Chairman of KTEF in Idaho.

Dr. Mark E. Hollingshead, M.D., and his wife Lana and Sir Knight Teter to right.

Right: Mr. Steve Berg, C.R.N.A., and his wife Pam.
Deputy Grand Commander of Ohio Presents Grant to KTEF

Then Deputy Grand Commander of Ohio, Roy C. Ritter, now the Grand Commander, had the honor of presenting a check for $30,000.00, a research grant from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, to Dr. Victor L. Perez of the Cole Eye Institute of the Cleveland Clinic. Accompanying Sir Knight Ritter was Sir Knight David E. Carlson, Eminent Commander of Cache Commandery No. 27. Dr. Joe G. Hollyfield, Director of Ophthalmic Research, and Dr. Hilel Lewis, Director of the Cole Eye Institute, witnessed the presentation. Dr. Perez's research involves the cornea of the eye. In the photo above, left to right, are: Sir Knight Roy C. Ritter, Dr. Victor L. Perez, Dr. Joe G. Hollyfield, and Sir Knight David E. Carlson.

Tennessee Commandery Sells Lapel Pin to Benefit KTEF

Manchester Commandery No. 40, Manchester, Tennessee, is pleased to announce that it has created a new lapel pin. The pin is a replica of an early 1900's Knight Templar apron and is beautifully decorated in black with gold trim and in symbolism that is familiar to every Knight Templar.

This pin is a great way for all Sir Knights to proudly display their membership in the organization when not in uniform. They sell for $6.00 each including shipping and handling, and 100% of the profits from the sale of these pins will go directly to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Manchester No. 40 has received great response from other pin sales. For the first time they have achieved donations of $10.00 per member or more during the 2002-2003 Annual Voluntary Campaign. Their goal is to make that $15.00 per member for the 2003-2004 Campaign starting in December.

Other pins are available at a cost of $6.00 each, and they include a Blue Lodge/Commandery pin, a Knight Crusader of the Cross pin, and a Malta pin. Again, all profits go to KTEF.

Make checks/MO payable to: Manchester Commandery No. 40, and send them to: Garry L. Carter, Recorder; 424 Winchester Hwy; Hillsboro; TN 37342.
Knights Templar e-Cards

New electronic business cards are now available with Knights Templar logos for use in e-mail and desktop rolodex holders. These e-Cards are new and were just announced in September 2003. They include executable internet links for e-mail and website addresses as well as buttons for additional text information, a recorded voice message, video links, flash presentations, and i-book files. A picture of a sample Knights Templar e-Card is shown at www.padrak.com/kt/ and below.

These e-Cards can be used as e-mail signature files and only require 2K to 3K of disk space per e-mail, as they are server based. A link is provided with each e-Card to allow one to copy any e-Card to a rolodex viewer that resides on the desktop, available free. Commanderies can use these links and buttons to point to their website and announce information on their Commandery and present information on their activities, festivals, and events. All changes to the e-Card or to its links are made almost instantaneously - to all of the individuals that have received your e-Card, and on all of your e-Cards, worldwide.

The e-Cards require a one-time setup fee of $19.95 and a monthly fee of $9.95. These fees cover the use of the server disk space, all updates, and processing of the e-Card's database, which is useful for tracking and organizational activities.

Please e-mail me to request any additional information. I foresee that these e-Cards will be extremely popular on the internet very soon and that they can assist all of us to provide a large yearly contribution to the Knights Templar charities each year!

Patrick Bailey, P.C., Palo Alto Commandery No. 47, kt@padrak.com
In anticipation of your questions, I provide the following:

1. 10% of all of the proceeds from these items will be donated to the Knights Templar charities.
2. These are electronic business cards (e-Cards) and appear inside of e-mail messages. They are brand new and were announced worldwide on September 6. A detailed description is located on the internet at: www.padrak.com/kt
3. All of the e-Card graphics, logos, color, and text are user adjustable. However, for use by Knights Templar, I will make a selection of appropriate Knights Templar logos available on the internet for use.
4. The cards are rented from e-World Partners at a cost of $9.95 per month. A onetime set-up fee of $19.95 is required for the first card only. Additional e-Cards can be obtained (with any graphics and text) for an additional $3.00 per month.
5. The monthly rental fees are used to provide the disk space for the e-Card's data files, links and button files, the e-Card's database, tracking, and company operations. The database can also be accessed to see who has received any e-Card and who has accessed any of an e-Card's buttons. This could be especially useful for lead generation of various activities and for membership drives.

Patrick G. Bailey
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Past Master Stein to Benefit
The Knights Templar Eye Foundation

This Past Master stein was produced as a dedication to Brother William Mumpower, Jr. and Brother George Spielman and all Brothers who are Past Masters in the Blue Lodge. The stein is 7 and 112 inches tall, and it is made of white German porcelain and has a pewter lid. On top of the lid is the Holy Bible, in front of the stein is the Past Master's symbol, and other artwork is on each side of the Past Master symbol. The stein has Matthew 7:7 on the bottom of the stein. This stein is very colorful. The price of the stein is $60.00, and for each stein sold through the Knight Templar magazine, there will be a $10.00 donation to the KTEF. If interested, please send check or money order to: Stanley C. Buz, PO Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052
Q: Does Masonry use symbols which are diabolical in nature?
A: No. Masonry uses symbols; it's our primary way of teaching, as it has been the primary way of teaching from ancient times (just try teaching arithmetic without number symbols), but there is nothing satanic about them. Symbols mean what the person uses them to mean. 'X' may be a St. Andrew's Cross, ancient symbol of Scotland, or it may mean 'multiply two numbers together' or "10" in Roman Numerals or 'unknown in algebra' or 'don't do this' or "truce" or "Xenon" in chemistry or 'by' as in 2 x 4 board, or 'this is the spot' or even "railroad crossing." The meaning of the symbol 'IC' depends on the symbol's meaning in the mind of the person using it.

It's the same with Masonic symbols. We sometimes use the five-pointed star, for example; some people choose to see that as a symbol of witchcraft. It's their right to use it that way in their own thinking if they wish. But we use it as a symbol of man, because that is its oldest meaning (the five points refer to the head, the hands, and the feet). The five-point star, with one point downward, is used by the Order of Eastern Star. Some anti-Masons like to see it as a symbol of a devil. But it's also known as the "Star of the Incarnation" with the downward-pointing ray representing that moment when God came down from Heaven and was made incarnate by the Holy Ghost. And it is in that meaning it is used by the Eastern Star. ('We have seen His star in the East, and are come to worship Him.')

Q: But don't some writers say that in the 30th Degree of the Scottish Rite, the room is filled with diabolical symbols and the candidate comes face to face with Lucifer?
A: Some anti-Masonic writers have said that, but it isn't true. First of all, they mistake a stage set for a sanctuary. The degrees of Masonry are plays, some set in a Lodge room and some using full-stage settings. The message of the 30th Degree is that man should think about death (not avoid the thought fearfully) and realize that death is not frightening but a natural process. So the setting contains traditional symbols of death, like black curtains and a drawing of a mausoleum. Putting the Degree's setting aside, the materials anti-Masons usually quote do not come from the 30th Degree. Instead these quotations come from the anti-Masonic book, *Scottish Rite Masonry Illuminated*. The anonymous author of the book wildly changed materials wherever he wished - even some of the names of the degrees are wrong. Although the book is presented as a Ritual of the Masonic Fraternity, you need only read through the author's introductory notes or end notes to realize that he intends it as an attack on Freemasonry which he calls 'a tissue of fearful falsehood." The book is generally quoted by writers who insist that instead of quoting anti-Masonic materials, they are using only material "written by and/or published by Masons for Masons." Perhaps they have not read the notes.

Q: Is Masonry "guilty" of teaching toleration?
A: Yes. And proud of it! It seems a strange accusation, but anti-Masonic writers often charge that we accept people with many different religious viewpoints as Brothers. They are correct. Jesus did not say to us, "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another - as long as he goes to the same church you do, or belongs to the same political party." Yet one anti-Masonic writer claims that this toleration is the blackest sin of Masonry. Toleration, he says, 'springs from the pits of hell and from the father of lies, Lucifer.'

When you consider what intolerance has produced in the world - the Inquisition, the massacre of the inhabitants of Jerusalem by the Crusaders, the burning of Protestants at the stake, the horrors of Hitler, the mass murders of Stalin, the "killing fields" of Cambodia - it is hard to believe that toleration springs from the devil.

Q: Does Freemasonry teach that man can be saved by good works?
A: That charge is sometimes leveled against us by anti-Masons who mistake both the nature of Masonry and the meanings of its Ritual. Salvation is not a grace which Masonry can or does offer. Within their Lodges, Freemasons are not concerned with salvation and conversion, but with taking men as they are and pointing them in the direction of brotherhood and moral improvement. Insofar as the Order is successful in this aim, it is content, and leaves the member to devote himself to his own religious faith to receive the grace of salvation.

In most Masonic Rituals, the candidate is reminded of that even before he steps into the Lodge room for the first time. A typical example reads: You are aware that whatever a man may have gained here on earth, whether of titles, wealth, honors, or even his own merit, it can never serve him as a passport to heaven; but previous to his gaining admission there he
must become poor and destitute, blind and naked, dependent upon the Sovereign Will of God; he must be divested of the rags of his own righteousness, and be clothed in a garment furnished him from on high.

Q: Is a Masonic service a worship service?
A: No. Except, perhaps, in the sense that, for a Christian, EVERY act is an act of worship. Our meetings open and close with prayer. Masons are encouraged to remember that God sees and knows everything we do, and the Bible is always open during a Masonic meeting. But it is a meeting of a fraternity, not a worship service. And that brings up one of the most ridiculous charges sometimes made against us - that our members are "really" worshipping a demon or some pagan god such as Baalim, Baal, Osiris, Mendes, Pan, etc., only they don't know it! But you cannot worship something without knowing it. The act of worship is an act of full concentration, knowledge, and devotion - "with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind." We honor and venerate GOD, not His adversary. One example will serve to show the complete lack of foundation of these kinds of charges. The charge of worshipping a demon usually involves one named "Baphomet." Historians know the origins of the story.

In brief, during the Middle Ages, a military monastic order, known as the Knights Templar, grew very wealthy. King Philip the Fair of France and the Pope, wanting to confiscate the treasure of the Knights Templar, had them thrown into prison in 1307 and accused them of heresy, the only charge which would allow confiscation of their property. Philip, fearing that the Inquisition would be too gentle, had his own commissioners involved. After horrible torture, some of the Knights Templar signed confessions - of anything their torturers wanted. They were then burned at the stake. A standard part of the pre-written confessions was worshipping an idol named Baphomet (language scholars tell us that "Baphomet" was a term for "Mohammed" in the Middle Ages). You can read the full story in any good historical account of the period. So "Baphomet" wasn't the name of a demon, the Knights Templar did not worship him/it, their "confessions" were obtained under torture - and, at any rate, a false charge used to steal from and murder military monks in A.D. 1307 has nothing to do with Freemasonry today.

Q: Did the Masonic scholar Albert Pike really say that all Masons were secret followers of Lucifer?
A: No. In many anti-Masonic books you'll see what is supposed to be a quotation from Pike, saying that all Masons of the "Higher Degrees" are secret worshipers of Lucifer. The historical fact is that those words were written in 1894, three years after Pike's death. They were written by a notorious atheist and pornographer named Gabriel Jogand-Pages, who was better known by his pen name, Leo Taxil. Taxil was engaged in an elaborate hoax to discredit the Church of Rome and made up the Pike quotation out of thin air.

His purpose was to show that the Church had failed to recognize the "threat" posed by Freemasonry and was, therefore, headed by fools and incompetents. Taxil publicly admitted the hoax in 1897, but it had already been published by a man named Abel Clarin de la Rive, who took Taxil's hoax at face value.

Rive's book, La Femme et l'Enfant dans la Franc-Maconnerie Universelle (Woman and Child in Universal Freemasonry), was quoted by Edith Starr Miller in 1933 in her book Occult Theocracy. She translated the "quotation" into English. Since that time, several writers of anti-Masonic books have simply repeated the "quotation" without checking on its source or authenticity. Taxil's public confession notwithstanding, the lie continues to shadow the name of Pike, who was, to his death, an Episcopalian Christian.

Q: Can one learn more about Freemasonry without joining the Fraternity?
A: Yes. The Grand Lodge of almost any state can provide information and lists of books which explain Freemasonry in detail. They are the same books that Freemasons read and study to learn more about the Fraternity. And I hope that this short discussion may help resolve some doubts. Masons have neither horns and tails nor halos and wings. Masons are simply your neighbors, joined together in a fraternity which tries to help men become better people and tries to help the world become a better place through its charities. It is, so to speak, a "support group" for men who are trying to practice ethics and morality in a world which does not always encourage those ideals. Freemasonry's teachings are acceptable to all religions. They uphold the values of faith in a secular world. Freemasonry is, therefore, an organization for thoughtful Christians.

The article on pages 16 and 17 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: charles.garnes@verizon.net The author of the article is unknown.
The Conclave began with the annual meeting of the Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., on Thursday, August 14, 2003. Many Committee meetings were held on Friday and Saturday. These will be reported in a future edition of this magazine. The Field Drill Competition took place on Saturday and will also be reported in detail in the future.

Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M., the Divine Service was conducted by the Grand Prelates, Sir Knights John Davis Jones and Thomas Martin Jones. They occupied two lecterns during the Message, speaking alternately. Their subject was "The Burden, the Beacon, and the Blessing." The Scriptures and Responsive Reading were read by Sir Knights James Karnegis, James Taylor and Robert Cave. Sir Knight W. Bruce Pruitt led the singing of the hymns. Mrs. Shirley Jones was the pianist for the service. Jane Jones Pickett played the "Lord's Prayer" on the flute prior to the Benediction.

From 1:00 to 3:30 P.M., the Grand Master's Reception took place, and long lines of Sir Knights and ladies greeted the officers of the Grand Encampment and enjoyed ice cream and cookies while they waited. Videos of steam locomotives played on the large screens during the afternoon.

Monday, August 18, was very busy with the Grand Opening, Ladies' Luncheon, First Business Session, and State Dinners. All of these and the events of Tuesday and Wednesday will be reported in future articles. The officers elected and installed to serve during the 63rd Triennium are Sir Knights: Kenneth Bernard Fischer, Grand Master; Richard Burditt Baldwin, Deputy Grand Master; William Howard Koon II, Grand Generalissimo; David Dixon Goodwin, Grand Captain General; William Jackson Jones, Grand Treasurer; and Charles Richard Neumann, Grand Recorder.
The head table at the Ladies’ Luncheon on Monday, Lois A. Jones presiding.

A view of the business session on Tuesday. Note the large screens on each side of the head table. They were used during all the meetings and at the Grand Banquet.
At left: Grand Master Jones presiding at the Tuesday business meeting dressed in his Summer Uniform.

There will be more pictures taken at the 62nd Triennial Conclave in the November 2003 issue of Knight Templar.

News Bulletin!

Congratulations to the Newly Installed Officers of the Grand Encampment 2003—2006

Kenneth Bernard Fischer
Richard Burditt Baldwin
William Howard Koon II
David Dixon Goodwin
William Jackson Jones
Charles Richard Neumann
Tom G. Keithly
William Q. Moore

Most Eminent Grand Master
Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master
Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo
Right Eminent Grand Captain General
Right Eminent Grand Treasurer
Right Eminent Grand Recorder
Right Eminent Grand Prelate
Right Eminent Grand Prelate

Right Eminent Department Commanders

Robert P. Winterhalter
Edwin R. Carpenter, Jr.
Sid C. Dorris III
Steven J. Barton
James N. Kargelas
Clifford L. Duncan
Glenn A. Siron
David K. Baba

Northeastern-North Department
Northeastern-South Department
Southeastern Department
East Central Department
North Central Department
South Central Department
Northwestern Department
Southwestern Department
Stephen Benton Elkins:  
The Patron of Halliehurst -  
Part I  
by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett KYCH,  
33°, FPS  
Only in retrospect are we permitted to trace the course of events which shape our lives. Lacking an ability to peer into the future, we are obliged to draw upon wisdom gained from past experiences to resolve the challenges of each day and those of the future. The road map of our continuing life journey is revealed only upon the event of our death. Personal goals are the great variable in temporal life, and our commitment to achieving them is the key to success. In today's lexicon, "No pain, no gain."

In this vetting, we focus briefly upon an interlude in the story of Stephen Benton Elkins and how it impacted the life of one of the most brilliant personalities in the history of the United States. His legacy was enormous, and it was salvaged for posterity through the act of a caring friend, in the face of mortal danger. His odyssey from birth to death was one of historical proportions, the tale of an American Croesus.

Today, only the citizens of Elkins, West Virginia, recall much about the life and times of Steve Elkins. There, the mark of his life left an indelible stamp on the locality, even though some may never read a word about his exploits.

Steve Elkins sprang from good seed. He was a descendent of landed gentry who came to America just five decades after the founding of the Virginia colony at Jamestown. Ralph Elkins inherited the patent for a tract in York County, Virginia, from heraldic English ancestors and immigrated to the new world in 1661. He eventually located in Westmoreland County (now King George County, southeast of Fredericksburg) and devoted his life to raising tobacco. Two centuries later, one of Ralph's descendants, Philip Elkins, was born in Farquier County on July 4, 1841. He was the grandfather of Stephen Benton Elkins.

Tiring of life in Virginia, Philip moved to Ohio's Perry County in the Hocking Valley (southwest of Zanesville) in 1826. His son, Philip Duncan Elkins, was 17 years old when his father settled on his 3,000-acre tract in Ohio. When his father died in 1840, due to the rigors of hard work, Philip Duncan Elkins inherited the large estate. Soon afterward, he married Sarah Pickett Withers, a native of
Culpepper, Virginia, living near the Elkins family in Ohio. Sarah was a relative of the future Confederate general, George E. Pickett.

Stephen Benton Elkins was born to the young couple on September 26, 1841, the eldest of six children. His middle name, "Benton," reflected his father's admiration for Senator Thomas Hart Benton, renowned for a duel with Andrew Jackson. Young Steve was four years old when the Elkins family moved from Ohio to Westport, Missouri, a little beyond the western limit of Kansas City. At that time, Westport was a major jumping-off point for wagon trains bound for the far west via the Santa Fe Trail.

Philip Elkins was a prosperous slave owner and an important citizen of the area. He assumed an active role in both local civic and military affairs and was addressed as "Captain Elkins" in deference to an earlier military rank. Inasmuch as Missouri was a border state, between the pro-slavery South and northern abolitionists, the citizens were obliged to declare their stand on the issue. Philip Elkins was a devout pro-slaver. When the Civil War began, he announced with the Confederacy and signed on with General Sterling Price.

Steve Elkins grew up during a time of bitter turmoil in Missouri. He attended public school in Westport for some time before enrolling in the Masonic School at Lexington, Missouri, where he spent three years. He was a strapping youth with a pleasing disposition and great speaking ability. A born leader, his popularity and academic achievements soon made him the class leader. Steve's best friend at the Masonic School was Thomas Catron, another outstanding student. Blunt and outspoken, Catron was the diametric opposite of Elkins in personality, but the friendship endured in spite of their differences.

Both Steve Elkins and Tom Catron enrolled at the University of Missouri at Jefferson City; the state capital. Steve was a pro-slaver when he entered the university but was persuaded to reverse his conviction after reading the text of the Lincoln-Douglas debates. Elkins became an anti-slavery advocate, even though most of his classmates supported the right to own slaves. In spite of his political position, Steve was elected president of the student body. His great ability as a debater, enhanced by a dynamic personality, won their support.

Elkins was the youngest member of the class and its valedictorian when they graduated on July 4, 1860. Catron, a member of the same class, also received high academic honors. The commencement speaker was General Sterling Price, former governor of Missouri and commander of the state militia. He reminded the graduates that it was their sacred duty to support the South in the war, which would soon be a reality.

After graduation Elkins accepted a teaching assignment in a public school at Harrisonville, Missouri, south of Kansas City. Among his pupils at the one-room school were several Younger brothers. As school boys, they were bright and enthusiastic students with ardent anti-slavery sympathies. In the spring of 1861, a family tragedy turned the Younger family into bitter enemies of the Union. Their father, Harry
Younger, was robbed and murdered for $600 he carried while returning from Kansas City. Neighborhood gossip accused drunken Union soldiers.

Cole Younger, the eldest son, echoed the sentiments of his entire family when he swore revenge against all Yankees for his father's murder. When war was declared, Cole enlisted in a renegade guerrilla band led by William Clarke Quantrill. Their savage crimes terrified Union sympathizers throughout Missouri and Kansas during the War. Cole became an enthusiastic guerrilla.

When the Civil War began in April 1861, Steve Elkins decided to join the Union army. The majority of citizens in Missouri were Union supporters, although a large number enlisted under the Confederate colors. Most of the former state militia, commanded by General Sterling Price, joined the Confederate army en masse. Elkins' friend, Tom Catron, became a lieutenant of artillery in Price's command.

In July 1861 Elkins presented a letter of recommendation from the Reverend Bernard Donnelly, pastor of the Church of Annunciation in Kansas City, to Union General R. C. Vaughn. As a result, Steve was commissioned a captain in the Missouri mounted volunteers and was authorized to recruit a militia company. The Union commander for the area was Major General Thomas Ewing. Their primary activity in the area around Kansas City was not devoted primarily to large battles between opposing armies. They were engaged in occupational duties and defending against the most bitter and deadly type of partisan warfare, much of it conducted by roving guerrilla raiders attacking anti-slavery communities and small Union military units.

Steve Elkins recruited a body of mounted volunteers designated as Company H of the 77th Regiment, Eastern Missouri Militia. They were constantly engaged in fierce skirmishes with Confederate troops and partisan guerrillas throughout Elkins' term of enlistment. Shortly after the battle of Lone Jack, on August 16, 1862, 20 miles southeast of Kansas City, Captain Elkins was granted a short leave. Returning from a visit to a young lady's home in early October, Steve met three men playing cards on the side of the road, well beyond the Union picket line.

The rough-looking civilians turned out to be members of the infamous Quantrill guerrilla raiders. Their camp was nearby. The handsome young Union captain made an attractive victim and was seized as a prisoner. Since he was dressed in an immaculate uniform and riding a splendid horse, the bearded guerrillas immediately spied Steve's new $17 boots. Quantrill's standing order was to kill all prisoners immediately. Two of his captors were inclined to shoot Elkins on the spot, while one insisted he be taken to camp for possible interrogation. They decided that was the best course.

When Elkins rode into the guerrilla camp he was resigned to the fact that he would be shot immediately. He noted the fierce partisan fighters lounging around, repairing equipment, playing cards, and sleeping. One of the group approached him with a cordial greeting and inquired how he came to be in such a situation. It was Cole
Younger, his former student from the Harrisonville school. Taking heart at the sight of a friendly face, Elkins hoped he might be spared. When he was taken to Quantrill, he received a quick dose of reality.

William Quantrill was impatient with the men who brought Elkins to his camp. He inquired angrily why Steve had not been killed immediately, and he ordered the three captors to do so. Cole Younger pleaded with Quantrill to spare Elkins' life, stating that the captain had befriended him in the past. Younger had considerable influence as one of Quantrill's trusted lieutenants. After hearing Cole's plea for clemency, he relented. Quantrill added that it was Younger's responsibility to arrange an "escape" which would not make it appear he had spared Elkins' life, in violation of his standing order.

A little later Quantrill's men began breaking camp upon learning that Union troops were in the area searching for guerrillas. Younger whispered instructions for Elkins to bolt from the column when the line of march reached a familiar fork in the road. He could escape by taking the road back to Kansas City, outdistancing any guerrilla pursuers on his swift horse, Bald Hornet. Younger knew the guerrillas could not pursue Elkins toward Kansas City. The scheme worked according to plan. When Steve spurred Bald Hornet out of the line and fled toward Kansas City, Younger ordered his men not to pursue toward the populated area. A few minutes later the young captain was safely within Union lines.

A story emerged about the incident, which has survived to the present day. It was reported that Stephen Elkins was spared because he gave a Masonic sign to Quantrill during his brief interview with the guerrilla leader. The story persists that the sign saved his life. There is doubt that any measure of truth exists in the legend. At the time, Elkins had not celebrated his twenty-first birthday and was not a Freemason. Likewise, no record exists that Cole Younger or Quantrill were Masons.

A photo of William Quantrill, circulated in 1864, displayed a lapel pin, which some historians claimed to be Masonic. Actually, the photo has never been confirmed to be a likeness of Quantrill. A personal inspection of a copy of the photo persuaded me that the pin closely resembles the emblem of the Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.), a fraternal organization which flourished at that time. Stephen Benton Elkins was Raised on January 2, 1867, and became a member of Montezuma Lodge No. 109 in Santa Fe, New Mexico Territory. The lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, later coming under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico as Montezuma No. 1.

Cole Younger rode with Quantrill's band until it began to disintegrate near the end of the Civil War. After the war, he joined Jesse and Frank James, as a member of their notorious band of outlaws. Younger was involved in their infamous robberies for several years, including the disastrous Northfield, Minnesota, bank robbery on September 21, 1876. The James gang was expected at Northfield and fell into an ambush arranged by the town
folk. The deadly shoot-out took several members of the gang. Cole survived but was captured. Jesse and Frank James escaped. Convicted of the robbery, Cole Younger languished in prison for many years before Secretary of War Stephen B. Elkins was able to arrange his pardon. Nearly two decades would pass before Steve could repay his debt to Cole Younger for saving his life at Quantrill's guerrilla camp.

William Clarke Quantrill was mortally wounded in June 1865 in Kentucky. It marked the end of one of American history's most ruthless criminal careers of the Civil War. Quantrill was a native of Canal Dover, Ohio, and a drifter who migrated to Kansas in the 1850s. He was a petty thief and gambler until attracted by the border depredations occurring along the Kansas-Missouri border. Seizing the opportunity to plunder and kill in the name of the Confederacy, he enjoyed great success early in the war.

The climax of his bloody career came on August 21, 1863, with his murderous raid upon Lawrence, Kansas, at the head of a band of 450 guerrillas. He killed 150 civilians and left much of the town in ashes. His penchant for robbing and killing indiscriminately eventually motivated the South to disavow Quantrill. When the war ended, he was fleeing eastward, fearing he would be hung in Missouri for his crimes. Quantrill was killed by Union troops in Kentucky. He was shrived by a Catholic priest before he died.

Captain Stephen B. Elkins resigned his Union commission on July 3, 1863. He was disillusioned by the war in Missouri and Kansas. It had become a litany of wrongdoing on both sides. The volunteer Union militia
units from both Kansas and Missouri were guilty of lynching Southern sympathizers and confiscating their property. Their outrages paralleled, to a lesser degree, those of William Clarke Quantrill and his raiders. The border war in Kansas and Missouri drew relatively little attention back East, but it was no less deadly. By the time Elkins resigned, the war was virtually over in Missouri. Elkins yearned for a normal life and an opportunity to have a career. He opted to settle in the Territory of New Mexico, where Civil War issues had long since been decided. Steve had made up his mind to become a lawyer.

Elkins traveled 800 miles by wagon train to reach Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was a tedious journey, but it gave the young ex-officer an opportunity to begin the study of the Spanish language. Soon after his arrival, he located in the town of Mesilla in the southeast corner of the territory, not far from El Paso, Texas. Mesilla was the judicial headquarters for that section of the territory and a fine location to study the law. Elkins had no difficulty in becoming a scrivener for Kirby Benedict, a former chief justice of the New Mexico Territory. Benedict became very fond of the personable young man and his dedication to the law. Steve's progress was so rapid that Benedict sponsored him before the New Mexico bar before the end of 1863. He received his license as a full-fledged attorney.

The young attorney had completed his study of Spanish and spoke the language fluently by the time he was admitted to the bar. Elkins was called upon frequently to serve as an interpreter in cases involving legal matters with Spanish-speaking people. He built up a clientele among the Mexican-American citizens and moved his base of operations to Santa Fe. He made a specialty of pleading cases involving land disputes arising out of Spanish land-grant claims. Steve created a wide reputation as an honest attorney, and his case load became overwhelming when the Spanish-speaking community came to trust him completely.

By the end of the Civil War, Steve's net worth was increasing dramatically. He was an astute investor, highly skilled in both legal and business strategy. In the late spring of 1866, he considered himself sufficiently prosperous to consider marriage. With that goal in mind, he made his first visit to Missouri since leaving home in 1863. Obviously, he had maintained correspondence with a young lady in Missouri. In June shortly after his arrival, he married Miss Sarah Jacobs, the daughter of an affluent Lexington, Missouri family.

Elkins made a point of visiting his old friend, Thomas Catron, now a Confederate veteran prospecting for a way to establish himself in business. As an ex-Confederate, he was barred from any official office by the restrictions of the Reconstruction Act, namely the Ironclad Oath, which denied it. Catron wanted to become a lawyer, too. Steve Elkins proposed that Tom relocate to New Mexico, where the Reconstruction Act did not apply. There, Steve promised, he could help Catron become an attorney. Tern was on his way shortly afterward.

Catron spent several months studying in a Mexican village near Santa Fe after his arrival. While
there, he mastered Spanish before confronting his legal training requirements. Within a few months, Elkins sponsored Catron before the territorial bar, and he passed the examination with flying colors. The two friends became partners in Steve's already thriving law office. There was an abundance of legal work, and their practice earned substantial monetary rewards. Both men turned to the acquisition of real estate as the best investment opportunities available.

A great deal of land-grant acreage was for sale at bargain prices. However, most investors avoided it because of the controversy over land-grant titles. The Mexican population trusted Elkins and Catron and were happy to sell them land, much of which was purchased for ten cents an acre. Neither partner was intimidated by the prospect of having to take a disputed deed to court. Both were experts in territorial and land-grant law and invariably obtained an unencumbered deed. Within a few years after arriving in New Mexico, Steve Elkins held title to 1,714,764 acres of land and was the largest land owner in America.

Naturally, he went into politics before long. His first office was a presidential appointment as territorial attorney general in 1867, a post he held until 1873. Elkins' most significant accomplishment as attorney general was to abolish the peonage system in the territory. It was an oppressive practice which kept Mexican-Americans in bondage because of indebtedness. Steve left that office in 1873 to serve as a territorial representative to Congress.

Catron followed closely in Elkins' footsteps, acquiring a great amount of real estate and entering politics. Naturally, their activities attracted political and business enemies, many of whom were envious of their dramatic financial success. The partners were frequently accused of illegal business practices, but no legal grounds existed for either one to be charged with any wrongdoing. Elkins gained wide fame for his oratory in court and for his ability to remain unscathed in a bruising legal confrontation. In recognition of his ability to gain the advantage in any situation, he was christened "Slick Steve" by a host of envious peers.

While representing Lucien Maxwell, a wealthy land owner in the Fort Sumner area, Steve received a fee of $10,000 for successfully pleading a case in court. The trial was over in less than one hour. Elkins remarked that it was "the easiest money I ever earned." It also produced an investor for a banking venture Steve and Tom Catron were planning. With Maxwell's investment in hand, they founded the first bank in Santa Fe with capital stock of $150,000. It became another cash cow for the two young lawyers, enabling them to buy out Maxwell's investment stock after two months - from the profits of the banking venture.

Don't miss Part II of the Elkins' story in the November 2003 issue!

Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 33° FPS, and P.D.D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, is a member of Holy Grail Commandery No. 70, Lakewood, Ohio. He resides at 734 Providence Avenue, Middleton, ID 83644
Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. 11, Milford, Massachusetts, is offering a complete summer uniform and accessories (no pants or shoes) for $125.00. (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 for more information. I intend to get one, and I hope you will, too!

William J. Jones, Past Grand Master

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2 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.
2nd Annual DeMolay Alumni Reunion in San Francisco/Napa Valley

The Second Annual Alumni Reunion will be October 31-November 2, 2003. Alumni members were surveyed to determine the location of the 2003 Alumni Reunion, and an overwhelming majority chose San Francisco/Napa Valley.

DeMolay has scheduled an exciting weekend for our alumni, spouses, and friends. The Alumni Reunion begins as soon as you check into the Hotel Beresford, "The friendliest hotel in San Francisco." The historic hotel is in a prime location; just two blocks to Union Square, the cable cars running to Telegraph Hill, Fisherman's Wharf, and Pier 39. It's an easy walk to fine shops, Chinatown, and the Museum of Modern Art. The charming rooms and intimate 'Victorian Parlor in the lobby set the tone for an unforgettable weekend.

Make arrangements to arrive at Hotel Beresford on Friday. Groups can get together on their own to tour downtown San Francisco, taking in local shops and attractions, and have dinner.

The Napa Valley Wine Tour is the highlight of the Alumni Reunion. Saturday will begin with complimentary breakfast in the hotel lobby, followed by stops at three of Napa Valley's finest wineries. The tour buses will depart from the hotel at 9:15 A.M. with the first stop being the Viansa Winery in Sonoma. After the tour and wine tasting at Viansa, we'll take part in a picnic lunch, including wine, overlooking the scenic countryside. After two more winery tours (and tasting), we'll head back to the San Francisco Bay area for dinner.

You have several options for dinner on Saturday night:

- Join the bus tour of Chinatown with buffet dinner at $45 per person.
- Join the dinner cruise of the San Francisco Bay at $60 per person.
- Make dinner reservations on your own.

The 2003 Alumni Reunion package price includes a two-night hotel stay at the historic Hotel Beresford; breakfast and lunch on Saturday; tours and tasting at all three wineries; and breakfast on Sunday. The package prices are as follows:

- $225 per person (double occupancy) • $325 per person (single occupancy)

The Alumni Reunion is a great place to enjoy the sites, tastes, and sounds of San Francisco, and a tour of the beautiful Napa Valley wine country. Renew some old friendships and make some new ones while you find out why the San Francisco/Bay area is one of the world's most popular destinations. To guarantee a room in the host hotel, reservations must be made by October 1, 2003. Register now online at www.demolay.org or call the DeMolay Alumni Association at 1-800-DEMOLAY.
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.

Needed/wanted for St. Michael's Commandery, a new Commandery being formed in Cochran, Georgia: Knights Templar uniforms, chapeaux, swords, sword belts, and equipment. We have just received our dispensation and are on the rise. Contact Neal Mimbs, 708 Jeanette Street, Cochran, GA 31014, (478) 934-4187 or e-mail neall217@bigfoot.com

For sale: lapel pins. The 64th Triennial Conclave Committee is offering a lapel pin (2 knights on horseback) for $6.00 each, including S & H. Checks payable to 64th Triennial Conclave Committee, C/O E. K. Longworth; 502 Wentworth Avenue, N.E.; Roanoke, VA 24012-3545. This is a fundraiser for the 64th Triennial Conclave.

Knight Templar dress ties: the prefect Templar gift axes and crown on square and compass ($25.00 ends). Help us celebrate 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, April 16-18, 2005. Ties are navy blue with emblem. 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 crowns 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 Hibdon 10122 N Manton, San Antonio, TX 78213. Ties will be sent day following receipt FL (210)344-4300; 0 349-9933.

For sale: G.P.O. coats, poly-wool, summer weight; sizes: 44 short and 46 short. $23.00 includes shipping and handling. For sale: York Rite cap with six-color embroidery showing brick and square, square and compass on the other: $10.00, postage paid. Checks payable to and mail to Jerusalem Chapter No. 3, Royal Arch Masons, sesquicentennial coins with bright silver, half silk on one side and "150 years of Royal Arch Masonry in Grimes County, Texas" on the other: $10.00, postage paid. Checks payable to and mail to Jerusalem Chapter No. 3, PO Box 1448, Navasota, TX 77868.

For sale: York Rite cap with six-color embroidery showing Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems. Specie' 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 Haupert, PO Box 433, Farmington, NM 87499

2008-200th anniversary of Masonry in Ohio: Now, you can help insure that this celebration will be a great success by purchasing a beautiful 200-piece jigsaw puzzle depicting Brother George Washington opening his lodge in 1788. This 18 x22-inch reproduction is an exact copy of the painting that hangs in many Ohio lodges. Help us get ready for the 2008 bicentennial and own a real piece of Masonic history. $15.00 plus $3.00 S & H. Each puzzle is packaged in a round, airtight can. To order call (614) 8554401 or send payment and request to P Pat Davis, 8359 Morse Road, New Albany, OH 43054, or order online at www.ppdavis@earthlinenet. Proceeds to benefit the 2008 Bicentennial Fund.

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.
Also, approx. 4-inch square, reflective-chrome, vinyl square and compass or Shrine decals to fit your tailights, only $5.00 per set of 2, postpaid. All profits go to our Masonic Widows' fund. Joe Allen, P.M., Sec.; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & AM.; 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 x 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 to Masonic charities, a portion directly to the Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund. They are $20.00 each with $6.00 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 & A.M.; PO Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com
Hot Springs Lodge No. 62, F. & A.M., Hot Springs, Arkansas, is celebrating its 150th anniversary. In commemoration they have commissioned a coin in bright bronze. The S & C with a "G", plumb, and level and Lodge name on obverse side and on reverse, 24-inch gauge mallet and trowel and the dates, 1853-2003, and "Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love." It is available for $8.00 ea., pp. Check or money order to Stan Schrader, 135 Peninsula Pt., Hot Springs, AR 71901-9252
Sprig of Acacia lapel pins: Each handmade 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 lifecjackets in order to save the lives of others. The price per pin is $8.00 ea. including S&H 10% of proceeds will benefit the KTEF. New item Sept. 11 Memorial Masonic lapel pin, $8.00 each, including S & H - to commemorate members who lost their lives in terrorist attack - proceeds to New York Grand Lodge WFC Disaster Fund and KTEF S. Kenneth Ban!, 6809 Main Street, Apt. 2 West, Cincinnati, OH 45244-3470, (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 page digest of the Medal of Honor recipients. $5.00 per set of 2, postpaid. All profits go to our Masonic Widows' fund. Joe Allen, P.M., Sec.; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & AM.; PO Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com
For sale: The Celestial Clock, a book about sacred geometry, comparative mythology, and "end times" biblical prophecies looking at from a scientific point of view. GAOTU is the only true scientist, according to Dr. William A. Gaspar, writer and publisher. Price is $20.00, plus $4.00 S & H. Send check or money order in the amount of $34.00 to Paul E. Mix, 13116 Billiem Drive, Austin, TX 78727-3258. 10% of all sales goes to KTEF.
For sale: Masonic promotional and presentation items: Represent Masonry with pride with your own custom quality imprinted items; all items reasonably priced and beautifully customized to fit any Masonic budget and perfect for lodge anniversaries, installations, fundraisers, and other special occasions. Masonic favorites include lapel pins, die cast coins, coffee mugs, pens, pencils, ornaments, belt buckles, key tags, and wooden nickels, just to mention a few. All items are custom imprinted to your specifications in quantity to include but not limited to your Masonic organization's name and logo, or just hand sketch your special ideas or custom designs on a piece of paper and I will turn them into camera-ready art. For a free color brochure, call or write or e-mail Frank Looser, 1-800-765-1728, 408 Ashlar Circle, Nashville, 7W 37211, customitems@cnfinteractivcom , web site, www.cnfinteractive.com. 30% of profits go to KTEF.
For sale: Cutommed gavels from God-given, beautiful hardwoods or four different laminated hardwoods. Excellent gifts and treasured inheritance. All proceeds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. $35.00 each, postpaid. The Gavel Man, 117 Demere Oaks Circle, St. Simons Island, GA 31522, (912) 634-0818.
For sale: Masonic and Shriner decals to fit on your taillights, only $5.00 gold coins. Call for quotes. Buyer has 40 years experience. A percentage of profits to KTEF. Randy Mogren, 8100 Horseman, Hidden Gold, Flaming Guns, Terror Trail, and Rustlers Roundup. The B & W videos are 50 to 60 minutes long, the first 2 are favorites with children. Sale price for each video is $15.00 plus $2.00 S & H. Send check or money order to Paul E. Mix, 13116 Billiem Drive, Austin, TX 78727-3258. 100/c of all sales goes to the KTEF.
For sale: Sword slings, available in 2-inch or 1-inch-wide white or black nylon straps with black fine grade leather sword holder and heavy-duty black clips. They are adjustable to fit all sizes. $19.00 each plus $3.50 shipping. For further details or brochure Tom Starnes, 156 Utica Street, Tonawanda, NY 14150, (716) 693-7226 ore-mail tonawsta@adelphia.net. Checks to KT Enterprizes. % of net profits to KTEF.
For sale: Masonic promotional items: Represent Masonry with pride with your own custom quality imprinted items; all items reasonably priced and beautifully customized to fit any Masonic budget and perfect for lodge anniversaries, installations, fundraisers, and other special occasions. Masonic favorites include lapel pins, die cast coins, coffee mugs, pens, pencils, ornaments, belt buckles, key tags, and wooden nickels, just to mention a few. All items are custom imprinted to your specifications in quantity to include but not limited to your Masonic organization's name and logo, or just hand sketch your special ideas or custom designs on a piece of paper and I will turn them into camera-ready art. For a free color brochure, call or write or e-mail Frank Looser, 1-800-765-1728, 408 Ashlar Circle, Nashville, 7W 37211, customitems@cnfinteractivcom , web site, www.cnfinteractive.com. 30% of profits go to KTEF.
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Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have 539-9932. Order now for Christmas gifts!