



Knight Templar

VOLUME II

NOVEMBER 2003

NUMBER 11



At the 62nd Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment: top: Grand Prelates, John Davis Jones and Thomas Martin Jones, confer prior to the Divine Service; bottom left: the officers of the newly chartered Grand Commandery of Alaska are installed by the Grand Master; bottom right: Jane Jones Pickett, daughter of then Grand Master William Jackson Jones, plays "The Lord's Prayer" on her flute at the Sunday morning Divine Service. (Pictures submitted by Sir Knight William J. Jones.)

Grand Master's Message for November 2003 - Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a national holiday which is peculiar to the United States of America and Canada.

It is a time to give thanks for all that God has given to us, for all that we have received this past year and for this great land in which we live. We are blessed in so many ways that we tend to forget and take these blessings for granted. Let's not take God's blessings for granted, else we might forget from whence they come.

As we gather with our families for the traditional Thanksgiving dinner, let us pray for His presence with us and show our gratitude for our blessings by helping someone less fortunate.

Remember, the 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign is right around the corner



36th Annual Voluntary Campaign-2003 to 2004

It is that time again, the time for the Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. This is the 36th, and it is no less important than previous campaigns. In fact, it is more important because of the weak market and poor interest being paid on CDs, bonds, etc.

This is a time when we should get the public involved - a time when we can tell our story to all those non-Templars who can help with their donations, wills, bequests, etc.

I would like to see more "public" fund-raising by all of our Commanderies. Pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, barbecues, golf tournaments, and softball tournaments are only a few suggested activities for this purpose. Please discuss this in your Commandery, and make plans to sponsor such a fund-raising activity.

We do so much good through the Eye Foundation in several different areas. The past few years we have provided 4 to 5 million dollars each year in eye surgery for those less fortunate than ourselves. We have given \$600,000 for several years in grants for research on diseases of the eye in children. We have participated in the Seniors EyeCare Program (formerly the National Eye Care Project) with EyeCare America (formerly the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology) and made eye care available to almost everyone over the age of 65.

And, proudly, we have done this with administrative costs of less than 7%!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth B. Fischer". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Kenneth B. Fischer
Grand Master, KCT, GCT

Knight Templar

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

NOVEMBER: In his Message on page 2, Grand Master Kenneth B. Fischer speaks of Thanksgiving and concludes (continued to page 13) with important information on the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and the 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Foundation. The Campaign begins next month, so it is time to plan your fund-raising activities. Don't miss this message or the grateful letters from recipients, starting on page 13, as all will help with future educational activities concerning our Foundation! Starting on page 10 are the biographies of two more grand line officers in the following order: Grand Treasurer William J Jones and Grand Recorder Charles R. Neumann. For information on the upcoming Easter Sunrise Service in Alexandria, Virginia, and surrounding activities in Washington, D.C., see Sir Knight Hines' article starting on page 18. There's much more for your enjoyment, including the conclusion of the story of Brother Stephen Benton Elkins.

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November 2003

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and Publisher

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Grand Recorder
and Editor

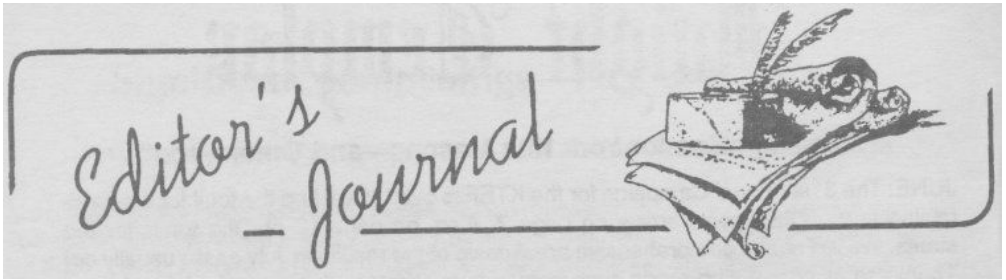
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Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders



When you order any of the items below, make check or money order payable to: the Grand Encampment, and send to: Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

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!

JUST ARRIVED: The Order of Malta is now available on DVD. This informative DVD is only \$15.00 plus \$3.50 for S & H (\$18.50). Send in your order today!

PLACE MATS & NAPKINS: The place mats have pictures of the Masonic Presidents of the USA, and the napkins have the Cross and Crown emblem. The cost of either one is \$15.00 per 250 in intervals of 250 (ie. 250, 500, etc. - NO exceptions) PLUS S & H - UPS charges vary by location.

62nd TRIENNIAL MEMORABILIA A limited number of the badges from St. Louis are available for \$12.00 plus \$3.00 S & H (\$15.00). Also available are the black carrying cases that were given at registration - \$20.00 plus \$6.00 S & H (\$26.00). See above for ordering information.

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS: Available is the 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. 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).

Knights 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.

A Pilgrim's Path. Freemasonry and the Religious Right: This is John J. Robinson's last book, and it is available as a hardbound copy. The book is available for \$15.00 each, plus \$2.50 S & H. **Born in Blood** The exciting book by John J. Robinson is available at the price of \$17.00, including S & H. **Dungeon, Fire, and Sword** This history of the Knights Templar by the late John J. Robinson is available for \$20.00 each, plus \$3.50 S&H

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 is no limit on orders: \$1.50 each under 100 copies, plus S & H; \$1.00 each over 100 copies, plus S & H.

Pins: Malta pins and red or green widow's pins are \$5.00 each. You may order ANY quantity - even just one.

Saluting Our Grand Commanders

Congratulations are extended from our Most Eminent Grand Master, Kenneth Bernard Fischer, and the grand officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., to the *fifty-one* newly elected Grand Commanders of the Grand Commanderies under their jurisdiction. As part of this salute to their dedication and tireless service to Templary, *Knights Templar* magazine is printing the names and pictures available of the Sir Knights who will serve as Grand Commanders for the current Templar year.

These Grand Commanders, whose pictures appear on these pages, will be the guiding hands on the tiller of the ship of Templary, navigating their vessel faithfully through the uncharted waters ahead.





George A. Ingles, Jr.
INDIANA



Thomas James Allen
IOWA



Eldon E. Leitzel
KANSAS



Frank D. Mattingly
KENTUCKY



Roy B. Tuck, Jr.
LOUISIANA



Donald J. Paulsen
MAINE



Philip A. Tilson
MARYLAND



William E. Eltzroth
MASS./R.I.



James E. Hawn
MICHIGAN



Anthony W. Lecakis
MINNESOTA



Kiely D. Walker
MISSISSIPPI



Thomas C. Yunick
MISSOURI



Richard J. Rankin
MONTANA



Edward I. Morrow
NEBRASKA



Mark A. Marsh
NEVADA



Richard F. Cole, Jr.
NEW HAMPSHIRE



Ronald M. Maslo
NEW JERSEY



Dr. Hendrik C. de Bruin
NEW MEXICO



Paul Barrera, Jr.
NEW YORK



M. Gene Lewellyn
NORTH CAROLINA



Dr. Neill C. Burnett
NORTH DAKOTA



Roy C. Ritter, Jr.
OHIO

picture
not
available

Glenn H. Kinsley
OKLAHOMA



Lawrence O. Weaver
OREGON



Patrick J. Connor
PENNSYLVANIA



Donnie E. Richey
SOUTH CAROLINA



Harlan "Pete" Peterson
SOUTH DAKOTA



Terry L. Plemons
TENNESSEE



James P. Smith
TEXAS



Terry L. Nay
UTAH



Howard H. Hatt
VERMONT



Jon Wayne Mayberry
VIRGINIA



Steven L. Guffy
WASHINGTON

picture
not
available

James K. Coleman
WEST VIRGINIA



Lawrence O. Presnell
WISCONSIN



Charles W. Smith
WYOMING

picture
not
available

Augusto Fornaciali
ITALY

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James K. Coleman	205 Echols Lane, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901
Lawrence O. Presnell	3522 Rapids Trail, Waukesha, Wisconsin 53189
Charles W. Smith	441 Highway 20 N., Thermopolis, Wyoming 82443
Augusto Fornaciai	Via Moro 2, 55032 Castelnuovo Garf Lu, Italy

Recipients Of The Grand Encampment Membership Jewel



469. Martin R Starr, St. Bernard Commandery No. 35, Chicago, IL. 11-21-2002.
470. Rodney Allen Mann, Baldwin Commandery No. 2, Shelbyville, IN. 11-21-2002.
471. Harry R. Houston, Malta Commandery No. 18, Bremerton, WA. 11-21-2002.
472. Royal Bertram, Sunrise Commandery No. 34, Lincoln, MI. 12-18-2002.
473. William D. Hartman, Kensington-Kadosh Commandery No. 54, Jenkintown, PA. 2-21-2003.
474. Theodore J. Oliver, Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, Gretna, LA. 3-3-2003.
475. Martin R. Trent, Palestine Commandery No. 33, Springfield, OH. 3-3-2003.
476. Edmund D. Harrison, Morton Commandery No. 4, New York, NY. 3-5-2003.
477. Lynn B. Alexander, Miami Commandery No. 22, Lebanon, OH. 3-12-2003.
478. David W. Slusher, Miami Commandery No. 22, Lebanon, OH. 3-12-2003.
479. H. M. Forrester, Jr., Bowling Green Commandery No. 23, Bowling Green, KY. 6-3-2003.
480. Douglas L. Soltow, New Bern Commandery No. 10, New Bern, NC. 6-3-2003
481. James S. Crosby, Mountain Commandery No. 10, Altoona, PA. 6-3-2003.
482. William Van Zile, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24, Milwaukee, WI. 6-3-2003.
483. William T. Herdman, Salida Commandery No. 17, Salida, CO. 10-1-2003.
484. John Donohoo, Cincinnati Commandery No. 3, Cincinnati, OH. 10-1-2003.
485. Howard C. Bodine, Jr., St. Johns Commandery No. 20, Youngstown, OH. 10-1-2003.
486. William T. McGuire, St. Bernard Commandery No. 51, Dover, OH. 10-1-2003. (jewel and 1 bronze)
487. Robert D. Lambert, Samuel S. Yohe Commandery No. 81, Stroudsburg, OH. 10-1-2003.
488. Tommy C. Kenner, Kingsport Commandery No. 33, Kingsport, IN. 10-1-2003.

KTEF Grant Presented at University of California - San Francisco

A KTEF research grant was presented at the University of California at San Francisco in August 2003 for research in "The Mechanism of Action of Cyclosporin A in Retinoblastoma (CSA)". From left are: Sir Knight W. Bruce Pruitt, R.E.P.G.C. of California; Dr. Joan O'Brien, Director of Ocular Research at the university; Lauren Ann Eckstein, Ph.D. grantee; Sir Knight Elmer B. Curtis, R.E.G.C. of California; and Sir Knight Dan McDaniel, V.E.D.G.C. of California.



Sir Knight William Jackson Jones
Right Eminent Grand Treasurer (2003-2006)
Most Eminent Past Grand Master

William Jackson Jones was born on March 12, 1939, in Tuscola, Illinois. He went to high school at Villa Grove High School, Villa Grove, Illinois; he went on to the University of Illinois for his B.S. in 1961, and he received his D.D.S. there in 1964. He married Lois A. Robinson at Tolono, Illinois, on December 10, 1967, and they have two children, Phillip and Jane. Sir Knight Jones currently resides in Villa Grove, Illinois, where Sir Knight Jones has practiced dentistry for 32 years.

Sir Knight Jones has held numerous civic positions, including serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Villa Grove Chamber of Commerce; Board of Directors, American Heart Association, Illinois Affiliate; Villa Grove Schools Citizens Consulting Committee; Board of Directors for Villa Grove Community Theater; and President, Eastern Illinois Dental Society.

Sir Knight Jones was Raised in Villa Grove Lodge No. 885, Villa Grove, Illinois, in September of 1960. He has served as Worshipful Master of this Lodge. In the York Rite, he is a member of Tuscola Chapter No. 66 in Tuscola, Illinois, where he has served as High Priest. He is a member of the Order of High Priesthood. He is a member of Mattoon Council No. 10, Mattoon, Illinois, where he has been the Thrice Illustrious Master. He was created a Knight Templar on December 1, 1969, in Melita Commandery No. 37, Tuscola, Illinois, where he served as Commander



in 1972 and 1977. He is a member and Past Preceptor of Lily of the Valley Tabernacle XLVI, HRAKTP. He has served in the grand line of the Grand College of America, HRAKTP.

In the Grand Commandery of Illinois, he ascended the grand line, serving as Grand Commander in 1984. In addition to being in the grand line of the Grand Encampment and serving as Most Eminent Grand Master, he is a holder of the Knight Commander of the Temple and the Knight Grand Cross of the Temple.

Appendant Masonic activities include membership in the Scottish Rite, Northern Jurisdiction, the Valley of Danville, Illinois. He was coroneted an Inspector General Honorary of the 330 in 1985. Sir Knight Jones is a member of Ansar Temple, Springfield, Illinois, AAONMS. He belongs to the Knights of the York Cross of Honour and was recipient of the Purple Cross in 1988. He is a member of Saxa

Rubra Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, and the Royal Order of Scotland. He is an Active Member of the DeMolay Legion of Honour, is a recipient of the Order of Chevalier, and is an honorary member of International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay. He is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Knight Masons, and the Order of Amaranth.

Sir Knight Jones was appointed Right Eminent Department Commander of the North Central Department by Donald Hinslea Smith, Most Eminent Grand Master, August 13, 1985, in Cincinnati, Ohio; was elected Right

Eminent Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment on August 20, 1991, in Washington, D.C.; was elected Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment in August 1994 in Denver, Colorado; and was elected Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment on August 12, 1997 in St. Louis, Missouri. He was elected Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment on August 16, 2000, in Nashville, Tennessee, and was elected Right Eminent Grand Treasurer at the 62nd Triennial Conclave in St. Louis, Missouri, in August of 2003.

Sir Knight Charles Richard Neumann
Right Eminent Grand Recorder (2003-2006)
Honorary Past Grand Master

Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann was born December 28, 1940, in Chicago, Illinois. He attended Arlington High School in Arlington Heights, Illinois, and holds the degree of doctor of naprapathy received from the National College of Naprapathy in September 1962.

He was installed in the position of Assistant Grand Recorder by Ned E. Dull, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, in Chicago on July 1, 1984, after being appointed to the position by Grand Master Dull. He was elected to the position of Grand Recorder the following year on August 13, 1985, at the 56th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment held in Cincinnati, Ohio. He has served as Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Commandery of Illinois for almost every year since 1977. He also serves as President and Executive Board Member of the Illinois Knights Templar Home for the Aged Infirm, serving on the Board since 1972.



Sir Knight Charles Neumann is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Arlington Heights, Illinois, and has been married to his wife, Karla, since 1972. Karla holds a degree in education from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

In addition to practicing naprapathy from 1962-1974, he worked as a Systems Coordinator for Waukegan Steel Company, and from 1980-1984 was branch manager, then salesman for Midwest Welding Supply Company.

Masonically, Sir Knight Neumann was Raised in Arlington Heights Lodge No. 1162 in Arlington Heights, Illinois, and served as Worshipful Master in 1972. He received the degrees of the Royal Arch Mason in November of 1963 and is a member of Palatine Chapter No. 206, Palatine, Illinois. He served as Excellent High Priest in 1968 and as a member of the Grand High Priest Address Committee during 1983-1984. He has been a member of the Order of High Priesthood since 1968. He was Greeted a Royal and Select Master in Cryptic Council No. 46, Palatine, Illinois, in 1964 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1969. He received the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree in 1969 and is a member of the Order of the Silver Trowel. He is a Most Illustrious Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Illinois for 1988-1989. He was Knighted in 1963 in Bethel Commandery No. 36, Knights Templar (Palatine, Illinois), serving as Eminent Commander in 1967. In 1975 at the age of 34, he served as Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Illinois. He also served as an aide to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment during 1982-1985. He is a Life Member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Chicago. He was coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General at the Supreme Council Session in Grand Rapids,

Michigan, in September 1988. He became a member of Medinah Temple, AAONMS, in 1963 at Chicago and is a member of the Medinah Fire Unit.

Additional Masonic affiliations include: life member, St. Bridget Council No. 23, Knight Masons of the U.S.A.; life Member, Illinois Priory No. 11, KYCH; Arlington Heights Chapter No. 992, Order of Eastern Star; Heather Court No. 27, Order of Amaranth; dual membership with Austin Commandery No. 84, Glenview, and Drill Team; and Illinois York Rite College No. 15, Life Member, Royal Order of Scotland; Allied Masonic Degrees; Past Sovereign Master of Grand Master's Council and present Secretary; was elected and advanced through the line of the Grand Council, A.M.D. to his current position of Sovereign Grand Master; Past Grand Chancellor of the Grand College of Rites. He also has received the Grand Cross from A.M.D. and the College of Rites; a member of Simon Peter Tabernacle XXII, HRAKTP; and a member of SRICF and CBCS; member of St. Leonard Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Jackson, Mississippi.

Sir Knight Neumann has received the Purple Cross from the Sovereign York Rite College of North America, is a holder of the Knight Commander of the Temple, and the Grand Cross; the Honorary Degree of Legion of Honor, Order of DeMolay; and is an active member of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay. At the 60th Triennial Conclave he was awarded the title of Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

No. 4,202—Terry E. Marler (TN)
No. 4,203—Gary R. Wallace (TX)
No. 4,204—Gregory E. Hart (OK)
No. 4,205—Nathan Harding (TX)

Grand Commander's Club

No. 101,875—Billy T. Kelly (KY)
No. 101,876—Gary R. Wallace (TX)
No. 101,877—David W. Engle (VA)
No. 101,878—Gregory E. Hart (OK)

How To Join The Grand Commander's And Grand Master's Clubs Of The Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution of \$100 or more will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual

contributions of \$100 or more. Once contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 100; Chicago; IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-4838

New Contributor to the 33^o Club

Ronald E. Smale (PA), 33^o

Letters to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation...

Words cannot express my thanks to you for helping me. Because of the cataracts, my eyes were so bad that I was afraid to cross bigger streets except at lights. My left eye was always so bad that I couldn't see much at all.

The left eye was done first, and even though I couldn't read except for big letters, I wasn't afraid to cross streets anywhere and walk down curbs or up the first or down the last step.

After the right eye was done, I could even read most books without glasses. All the colors are so bright and the sky looks so blue that it is still hard for me to believe.

I'm a cosmetic assembler, and before I couldn't see the scratches in the powder or compact. Now, I can see if anything is wrong.

I still thank God almost every day for my sight; even cloudy days don't look so bad! I will never be able to thank you enough for the help you have given me. With your help and that of modern technology, a caring doctor, and God behind it all; I can enjoy life more.

It is wonderful that there are organizations like yours to help people who cannot help themselves to have a better life. May God keep watching over you and helping you to raise funds for helping others. Thanks again to all of you!

*Annemarie Leikurns
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

I was a little bit worried about the surgery, but the staff at East Michigan Eye Center, a friendly and helpful center, got me through it.

Your Eye Foundation has given me my vision back, and now I can do the things I like to do! Once again, I would like to thank Mr. Kelly for coming to my home and helping me with the forms.

Thanks to all of you for caring enough to help with the funds needed. Thanks to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and to all the Masonic members who made it possible for me to regain my eyesight. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Willie Williams
Otisville, Michigan

I want to thank you for the tremendous help you gave me in regard to my cataract surgery. It has been a blessing to us because I could not see anything anymore, and those times were so scary for me.

My surgery turned out to be very successful: My eyesight is almost perfect now. This surgery has made all the difference in my life, and I am very happy with the outcome.

I am very grateful and always will be to this wonderful organization for the tremendous, caring people who made my surgery possible and are responsible for this kind of charity, which helps people through these trying times.

Esmeralda G. Vasquez
Falfurrias, Texas

Thanks to the Eye Foundation and to Abel in San Diego for giving me my eyesight back! When I first went to Dr. Cooper, I was about to go blind, and I was only 52!

I had noticed that I was parking my car about 3 feet from the curb, tripping off curbs, seeing shadows so I could not tell if there were doorways or holes, and could not see long distance so all the people were blurry. Also, I could not read as my new glasses were so unbelievably strong that they hurt my eyes, nor could I watch T.V. Every morning when I woke, I didn't know whether I was going to be able to see or not. I could not drive for fear that I would hit someone, I could not go out at night because the car lights were like gigantic sunbeams, and restaurant lights gave me headaches (with sunglasses on).

Now, my glasses for reading are just the minimum prescription. Everyday I thank God for my vision, I thank the Knights Templar for their help with funding, and I thank Dr. Cooper for his healing energy.

Heather Millard
San Diego, California

Please accept this letter of thanks for the financial assistance you have provided the following patients in getting eye surgery: Veda Mae Ashing and John James Hammon.

We work through Mr. Lewis Polley, a local Knight Templar, in seeking help for our patients who cannot afford eye surgery on their own. We have worked with Mr. Polley for several years, and he has never failed to contact the applicant immediately and get the process started for them. He is consistently pleasant and considerate to our staff and the patients alike.

We receive abundant thanks from the patients who have undergone surgery with your help, and we want to take this opportunity to pass the thanks on to you for making these surgeries a reality for some very appreciative patients.

We look forward to many years of working with the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Nancy J. Lively, Surgical Counselor Center for Sight, Fort Smith, Arkansas

I am writing to express my kind appreciation to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for the successful eye surgery I had. On behalf of myself and my family, we joyfully thank God and the officers, trustees, general council, ophthalmologists, scientific advisory committee, and past presidents of the Foundation for making it possible.

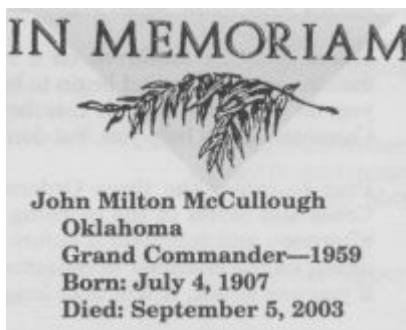
This blessing came at a time when the entire family least expected it. We also would like to

thank everyone for your devotion and commitment on the Foundation, particularly the Knights Templar Atlanta representative and Eye Consultants of Atlanta; Carl W. Dohn, R. Lowman Oglesby, Dr. Stephen Hamilton, and Ms. Carolyn Dandridge; for their care and support.

I am so overwhelmed with joy that I cannot really express how I feel in the deepest part of my heart for all your kindness toward me. This is a singular benefit that I will always remember for the rest of my life.

I pray that God will bless you a hundredfold. Truly, blessed are the hands that give. God bless you and may you and the Eye Consultants of Atlanta prosper.

Jane Emenalo Smyrna, Georgia



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



How to Revive and Restore YOUR Commandery!

In the world today almost every organization that depends on **membership** faces a **challenge**, and the Masonic organizations recognize this challenge. The following suggestions are offered for Commanderies, but most of them could be modified to fit any branch of the Family of Freemasonry.

1. Find a **leader** who is dedicated and who will make your Commandery his number 1 Priority (number 2 Priority will not work). He should be a Past Commander with knowledge of Temp1ary, If you can find TWO of these dedicated Sir Knights, the process of rebuilding will be easier, faster, and most of all **SUCCESSFUL**. Your **leaders MUST** have a positive attitude.
2. These leaders must find four to six Sir Knights who want to save your Commandery. They may be Past Commanders who are willing to serve again as Eminent Commanders if necessary. Each must be willing to do his share of the Ritualistic Work until those with less experience are ready to assume the leadership positions in the Commandery.
3. Masonic organizations exist because of ritual; therefore, ritual must be impressive; otherwise, the new member will not return to become active nor will he bring in any petitions. **Without ritual** we would be a poor match with other social organizations or social clubs.
4. Ritual must be conferred on a regular schedule. Set a conferral date six months in advance and begin to build the class. Start rehearsals promptly. If you do not have enough members for all parts, ask members of another Commandery to help you, but don't expect them to carry the bulk of the load.
5. Plan to confer the three Orders on a Saturday. You can confer the Red Cross and Malta in the morning and start the Order of the Temple in the afternoon and complete it before dinner. If you have more than five candidates, do the chamber of reflection en masse. Determine the starting time; if you use music, it will take longer, but it will be more impressive.
6. If you start in the morning, serve a lunch - **FREE TO ALL**. A couple of the ladies can handle this without much effort, or maybe a couple Sir Knights would be willing to do this service for the Commandery.
7. If the work will not conclude until 5:00 P.M., it would be well to serve a dinner, preferably free to everyone, or put a plate out for voluntary donations. **Never** charge the new member for his dinner.
8. Have coffee and donuts for the candidates and members if you are starting early in the morning. Coffee or tea can occupy the candidates while the room is being set up for the next Order, and it will give them an opportunity to become acquainted.
9. Do not have delays during the conferral. **BE ORGANIZED!!** Assign specific jobs to the officers and members.

10. If at all possible, incorporate some music in the degrees; it helps to keep the degree moving.
11. You must coordinate your conferral with a Chapter. The Commander and the High Priest should plan and schedule the conferrals as a unit working together. One cannot survive without the other.
12. Make a poster to advertise the YORK RITE CONFERRAL. Include information such as: date of conferral, when petitions must be read, time and location, and the name of the Chapter and Commandery. Place this information in Masonic buildings in your area where there are prospective members.
13. Select a Membership Committee consisting of active Blue Lodge Masons who frequently bring in petitions.
14. Name the Class in honor of a "Distinguished Member."
15. Ask the Worshipful Masters of local Lodges to allow you to announce the Class at their meetings.
16. About one month after the conferral, have a dinner party with entertainment in a suitable location. Invite the ladies and Master Masons. This could be an important annual function.
17. Have a summer picnic or outing. Invite members to bring Master Masons and their families. Charge a fee to cover the costs, and consider bringing non-Masons as guests if they are good prospects.
18. The Commandery MUST have a program at every Conclave. Remember: There must be more than the minutes and communications to encourage attendance. The tentative program for the year should be in the May notice. Be realistic; we are living in the 21st century.
19. Total cooperation of the Recorder is necessary because without his cooperation and enthusiasm there will not be much progress.
20. Equipment and robes should be in the best possible condition. Most items can be repaired or painted by the members. (This also gives members who do not want to be officers a chance to contribute something to the organization.) If you are short on equipment, ask another Commandery for assistance.
21. A friendly, positive attitude is necessary for your key people as well as your officers.
22. If your Commandery has not conferred the Orders on a regular basis, your attendance is probably poor and petitions are scarce. A Commandery must do the above, or you will continue to slowly lose your Commandery.
23. DECIDE TO MEET THE CHALLENGE AND MAKE YOUR COMMANDERY A CREDIT TO TEMPLARY AND FREEMASONRY IN GENERAL.

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

Preliminary Easter-2004

by Sir Knight Robert V. Hines

P.G.C. (DC), KTCH, KCT

General Chairman, Committee on the
Easter Sunrise Memorial Service

The 74th Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, will again be held on the steps of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia, on Sunday, April 11, 2004, and will begin at 7:30 A.M. As in previous years, this Service and the breakfast after will complete a memorable weekend of events in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C., including delegation dinners, tours, and Masonic fellowship. For one event, it is to be noted that the cherry blossoms should be in full bloom - a sure sign of spring!

The Hotel Washington Package

The main hotel will again be the Hotel Washington in downtown Washington, D.C. This year the Hotel Washington is again offering a package arrangement as follows: suites \$400.00, double occupancy \$290.00, Friday and Saturday nights; Saturday luncheon for two, and Sunday breakfast for two, including taxes and luggage fees (extra day \$135.00 plus 14.5% tax). For single occupancy the package is \$250.00 (extra day is \$125.00 plus tax). Add \$55.00 extra for each person more than two per room.

This arrangement is good only for the Friday and Saturday preceding Easter. Write the hotel to make your reservations: Hotel Washington, ATTN: Knights Templar Easter Program, 515 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004. Include your check or credit card number.

You may also call the Hotel Washington

at (800) 424-9540, and speak with Sandy Warner to make reservations for rooms and any of the activities, giving your credit card number for billing.

Check with the hotel upon arrival to insure all your reservations are complete.

Other Than The Package

For those not taking the package, the separate charges are \$30.00 each for the Saturday luncheon and \$17.50 each for the breakfast on Sunday. If you are not staying at the Hotel Washington, please make arrangements to attend the breakfast since it is a great event. Make your reservations with the Grand Encampment office: (773) 777-3300.

Grand Commanders and their Ladies

Grand Commanders and their ladies may attend the Saturday luncheon, courtesy of the Grand Encampment. Be sure to identify yourself when dealing with the hotel.

Our Grand Master

The Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America, Sir Knight Kenneth Bernard Fischer, and his officers will greet everyone at the Saturday luncheon. This will be Ken's and Arlene's first Easter as our Grand Master and his lady, so let's get a big crowd out for this fine occasion in Washington.

Tomb Of The Unknowns

On Saturday, April 10, the Grand Commandery of Indiana will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery honoring their members who fell in combat as members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America. They

have again asked that everyone be invited to attend. The details of the trip to Arlington will be announced a little later.

Easter Morning Program

The Hotel Washington will be serving coffee and pastries beginning at 5:30 A.M., Easter morning. The buses will be available to leave at 6:15 A.M. to take members and their ladies to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial for the Sunrise Services. The buses will return to the hotel after the Service at about 9:30 A.M so you can enjoy breakfast and meeting with friends.

Parade Formation

The parade will form on the lane leading up the hill. Delegations will form according to their entry into the Grand Encampment, senior to junior, and markers for each will be in place. As in the last six years, the Maryland delegation in their black plumes will appear before the formal parade with drummers and form a passion cross in the stands. The Grand Commandery of Maryland would also like to invite any of the other Commanderies which wear the black plume to get in touch and participate in the formation of the Cross. The parade will step off at 7:10 A.M., proceed up the hill, render "Eyes Right" on passing the Grand Master and his staff, and then proceed into seats as directed. Formation of three squads each is suggested, as well as at Secure Swords, in order to avoid bunching up on top of the hill. Colors will Right Flank at the podium and column Left and column Right and post the colors as directed. Parking for cars and buses is available at the top of the hill next to the Memorial. However, no vehicles will be permitted up the roadway after 7:00 A.M.

Other Details

Delegations desiring to make any special group arrangements should call Sandy Warner at the Hotel number. Delegations staying at other hotels or motels must provide their own transportation or meet at the Hotel Washington. Recognition is made to the Grand Commandery having the most Sir Knights in uniform in the parade and to the Grand Commandery having the highest percentage of its members in uniform in the parade. Prior to the service, Kena and we hope Portland Commandery No. 2 Gold Band of Maine will provide music beginning at 7:00 A.M. Easter selections will be played as the parade moves out following the Assembly bugle call. Our Right Eminent Grand Prelates, Thomas G. Keithly and William Q. Moore, will conduct the Service.

Reservations should be made for rooms and any other activities by March 21, 2004.

Grand Commanders Are Requested To Appoint A Delegation Chairman And Notify This Committee's General Chairman, Sir Knight Robert V. Hines, 124 Harrison Circle, Locust Grove, VA 22508-5166, Telephone: (540) 972-8066, FAX: (540) 972-8699, e-mail: RobertH333@aol.com in order to receive all mailings concerning this event and to facilitate adequate planning! Forms will be sent in January 2004. please return these forms so that we can adequately plan for this event

Sir Knight Robert V. Hines, General Chairman Of The Committee On Easter Sunrise Memorial Service and P.G.C. of the District of Columbia, is a member of Potomac Commandery No. 3 of the District of Columbia and York Commandery No. 16 of Maryland.

On the Masonic Newsfront...

**Daughter of Past Department Commander Foreman
Installed Honored Queen of Maryland Bethel No. 31, J.D.I.**

April M. Foreman was recently installed as Honored Queen of Bethel No. 31, Job's Daughters International, of Westminster, Maryland. 20 Sir Knights in full Templar uniform were on hand to honor and assist on the occasion. April is pictured with her mother Susan, P.H.Q. and Bethel Guardian, and her father, Sir Knight Robert L. Foreman, P.D.C., Northeastern Department, and Associate Bethel Guardian.



**Wisconsin Grand Commander Lawrence Presnell
Greets Grand Bethel Senior Princess of Indiana, J.D.I.**



Tiffany Ingles, a majority member of Bethel No. 27, La Crosse, Wisconsin, and now Grand Bethel Senior Princess of Indiana, Job's Daughters International, had the pleasure of meeting Sir Knight Lawrence Presnell, R.E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin, during her weekend visit to Wisconsin Job's Daughters' Jamboree, held at Green Lake. Meeting Grand Commander Presnell was very special as Tiffany's father, Sir Knight George Ingles, is the current Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Indiana. (submitted by Mary Callaway, Bethel Guardian, LaCrosse)

**Andrew Olin Drenkhahn Installed
National President, National Sojourners, Incorporated**

Sir Knight Andrew Olin Drenkhahn was installed as the National President of National Sojourners, Incorporated, in the summer of 2003 in ceremonies held during the 83rd Annual Convention.

Born on March 7, 1928, in Danbury Iowa, he attended Danbury Public Schools and the University of Iowa and volunteered and served in the military service, honorably discharged after 18 months as a Private First Class with the 504th Airborne Infantry Regiment. He continued in military service and attended the University of South Dakota. He eventually graduated and received a degree in Business Administration and Banking from Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Sir Knight Drenkhahn continued in military service, including in Korea, and received the Combat Infantry Badge and a Bronze Star. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1973 after earning 3 Bronze Stars, 3 Army Commendation Medals, Meritorious Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit.



He began a second career by forming College Realty, Inc., Fayetteville, North Carolina, where he became principal broker and president and remains so at this time.

Sir Knight Drenkhahn was Raised a Master Mason in Fort Campbell Lodge No. 946 in 1955 and became a member of National Sojourners the same year. Other Masonic affiliations include: Wilmington Valley Scottish Rite (KCCCH), Phoenix Royal Arch Masons No. 2; North Carolina Council No. 27, Royal and Select Masters; Palestine Commandery No. 20, Knights Templar; Sudan Temple, AAONMS; Light from the East Philalethes Research Council; Valley of Cape Fear No. 24, A.M.D., Sovereign Master (2001-02); Royal Order of Scotland; Red Cross of Constantine; Knight Masons, U.S.A., Shamrock Rose Council No. 2; Past Master of Clifford Duell Masonic Lodge No. 756 (1999); Past President of North Carolina Chapter No. 97, National Sojourners, Inc.; Past Commander, Cornelius Harnett Camp, Heroes of '76. He served on several national committees of National Sojourners, Inc., including the Committee of 33.

He has been married to the former Janice McLean since December 1963 and resides in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He has a daughter, Jane Ellen, and a son, Vance Andrew, a major in the US Air Force.

(Mrs. Charles E.) Mary E. Harris of Maine Installed Supreme Worthy President, S.O.O.B.



(Mrs. Charles) Mary Harris was elected Supreme Worthy President, Supreme Assembly, Social Order of the Beauceant, on September 26, 2003, in Norfolk, Virginia, at the 83rd Annual Supreme Assembly. Mrs. Harris will preside at the Supreme Assembly, through October 1, 2004, in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Mrs. Harris made her first official visit to Norfolk Assembly No. 235 on September 27, 2003.

Mrs. Harris was born and raised in Eastbrook, Maine; married her Sir Knight Charles (now deceased) in October 1951, and together they raised 4 nieces and nephews and looked after others.

She has been active in local, county, and state government; as a tax collector, she was chairman of

Planning Board; and she worked for E. S. Herrick Co. as a bookkeeper for 30 years and for NET&T as an operator and in the business office. She has also been a substitute teacher for 30 years.

Mrs. Harris is a Past Matron of Irene Chapter No. 97, O.E.S.; Past District Grand Matron, Past Worthy High Priest of the White Shrine of Jerusalem; and belongs to Daughters of the Nile, Women of the Moose, is a 55-year member of the Subordinate, Pomona, State and National Granges; and Rebecca's and several other local clubs.

Mrs. Harris is a charter member of Auburn Assembly No. 262, Auburn, Maine, and served as its first Recorder and as President in 1997. In 1998-1999 she served as Supreme Standard Bearer and in 2001 as a member of the Supreme Examining Committee. (article submitted by [Mrs. Homer] Janice Hendrickson, P.S.W.P., *Knight Templar* correspondent)

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



Sale of Afghan-Throw to Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation



Tapestry throw is made of 100% cotton and has many advantages over the old triple-weave design because it has 360 picks per square inch, which enhances the color immensely. There are new items in this design, including the 3 steps to Freemasonry. It has a black and white checkered floor leading up to the center column, and the compass and square are larger and enhanced with a cluster of leaves symbolizing Acacia of Freemasonry. The afghan measures 48-in, by 60-in, and is lightweight but weaved very tight for definition.

There are only 1,000 of these afghans made, and each one comes with a beautiful certificate so that you may write your important dates of Freemasonry on it. The price is \$48.00 each, including shipping in the US. A donation of \$5.00 for each one sold will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Send check or money order to: Sandra Knotts, PO Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087

Stephen Benton Elkins:

The Patron of Halliehurst - Part II

by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett
KYCH, 33°, FPS

A new era began for 32-year-old Steve Elkins in 1873, when he was elected as the territorial representative to Congress. While he was making preparations to travel to Washington, D.C., to take up his responsibilities in Congress, his wife Sarah passed away suddenly. Steve was obliged to obtain a trustworthy housekeeper to maintain his home in Santa Fe while he was in Washington and to act as a surrogate parent for Elizabeth and Sallie, his two young daughters. That concluded, he boarded the train to the nation's capital.

Elkins plunged into his new duties with a characteristic flurry of enthusiasm. During his first term in the House of Representatives, he introduced 52 bills. He immediately gained the respect of his constituents for his outstanding speaking ability on the floor of the House and his equally brilliant talent as a negotiator. Steve Elkins was a born statesman.

The freshman congressman did not neglect his social activity in Washington. Before long he became a friend and political ally with powerful Senator Henry Gassaway Davis of West Virginia. Another new and influential friend in the U.S. Senate was Senator James G. Blaine of Maine. With a growing circle of political allies singing his praises, it was no surprise when Elkins was named to the Executive Committee of the Republican party in 1875. With his business holdings expanding dramatically in the New Mexico Territory Steve announced that he would not be a candidate for a second term in

Congress. In spite of his announcement, he was reelected to the House of Representatives by a resounding margin. He accepted with reluctance.

Elkins began to sell off a substantial amount of Western property in 1875. His interests in Washington permitted only infrequent visits to New Mexico. He also began courting Haffie Davis, the daughter of West Virginia senator, Henry G. Davis. The young couple were married at Baltimore, Maryland, on April 14, 1875. They departed immediately for a honeymoon in Europe.

As his second term began in the House of Representatives, Elkins was wearing several hats, all of them demanding his constant attention. As a Congressman, he was obliged to be involved in the day-to-day legislative activities. As a businessman, he was required to monitor his widespread business activities entrusted to on-site supervision by trusted employees. Steve was an astute judge of men and was able to select trustworthy and talented management to protect his interests in real estate, mining, and banking. He was also most effective as a political power, preferring to work behind the scenes as much as possible. His powers of persuasion and logic enabled Elkins to maintain peace and harmony among the powerful factions of the Republican party and to agree upon a unanimous choice of national candidates. Those were usually elected during Steve's active years on the Executive Committee of the party.

By the end of 1875, Steve had combined his financial interests with those of Senator Henry Gassaway Davis, his new father-in-law. Davis was one of the wealthiest men in the East and a dominant influence in business and politics in West Virginia. When Elkins' vast financial strength was combined with that of Senator

Davis, the duo controlled immense venture capital. Elkins systematically liquidated most of his holdings in New Mexico and Colorado, with the exception of several mining properties. The new partners launched a huge natural resource development program in West Virginia, a state with immense coal and timber reserves, barely tapped in 1876.

Elkins opened a law office in New York City to streamline the disposal of his Western assets and to accommodate a growing list of affluent clients. He had maintained a law office in Washington since his election to Congress and served a legal practice in that city as well. He had thousands of acres of real estate tracts to market, as well as public stock in his mining ventures. His capacity for work was amazing, particularly so in light of the invaluable hands-on support he contributed to the election of Rutherford B. Hayes as president in 1876. The political influence he derived from his personal campaigning efforts was enormous.

In 1876 Stephen B. Elkins was in his physical prime at 35 years of age. He stood over six feet and weighed 190 pounds - a picture of rugged health and vitality. Wide-shouldered and handsome, Steve's urbanity and genial, smiling personality projected a positive, trustworthy public image. Religious and scrupulously honest, Elkins was an example of the quintessential business tycoon and congress-man - a national treasure.

Steve refused a third term in Congress. He was too occupied with his expanding West Virginia ventures to devote the time required for daily congressional sessions. He and Senator Davis were moving forward rapidly with a plan to develop the timber and mining industries in West

Virginia. They built a railroad to connect and service every point of their growing state industrial empire. Their West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railroad trackage crisscrossed south and west from Piedmont to the 1rgart River Valley. At the northern end of the valley, Steve and Hallie Elkins built their dream home.

In a beautiful setting on the western slope of the Allegheny Mountains, Steve erected a 31-room mansion which resembled a medieval castle. It was designed by Charles T. Mott, an internationally-acclaimed architect. The extensive grounds were immaculately manicured, landscaped with trees, gardens, orchards, and a herd of 20 deer. Steve christened the castle "Halliehurst" in honor of his beloved wife. A small home on the grounds was built to serve as Elkins' business headquarters. Steve hosted the rich and famous of the entire world at their exotic Randolph County castle, and the town of Elkins, West Virginia, grew up around it. The estate remains today, as part of the tract of land which houses Davis and Elkins College - a gift from their patron, "Slick Steve."

Elkins' charitable donations became legendary. He never failed to consider a petition for financial assistance nor to grant it if legitimate. Steve's traditional prudence prompted him to investigate every request for authenticity. The benefits bestowed upon the citizens of Elkins were endless. The castle and environs were completed in 1886 and included a mansion for Senator Davis, some 600 feet from the Halliehurst residence.

National politics remained a continuing interest for Steve Elkins. His old friend, Senator James Blaine, was constantly in the limelight as a qualified presidential contender, and Elkins

worked hard to help his friend achieve his ambition. In the 1880 Republican Convention, Blaine was in a close contest for the nomination. Eventually, the Republican candidacy went to James A. Garfield. Although disappointed that Blaine had not prevailed, Elkins threw his entire weight behind Garfield when he was asked for support. Both Steve Elkins and Senator Blaine stumped Ohio and Indiana in a major effort to secure Garfield's election. A grateful President Garfield selected James Blaine as his Secretary of State. Elkins was happy to be among the president's most trusted advisors behind the scene.

Again in 1884 Steve repeated his effort to persuade the Republican party to nominate Senator Blaine as their presidential candidate. Elkins was successful in that attempt. However, a serious split developed in the ranks, and Democrat Grover Cleveland won the presidency. Steve blamed himself for Blaine's disappointing loss at the polls.

In 1888 Elkins proved to be the king-maker, when he persuaded the party to back Benjamin Harrison for president. When President Harrison's Secretary of War, Redfield Proctor, resigned to run for the U.S. Senate, Steve Elkins was appointed to replace him. Elkins implemented a number of impressive improvements in the army during his tenure as secretary; including a uniform code of discipline, better record-keeping, and organized weapon maintenance and accountability. As Secretary of War, he negotiated improved veteran benefits, a great personal benefit for the individual soldier.

Steve discharged a long-standing obligation in 1891 when he secured a pardon for Cole Younger, who had been imprisoned for life for his involvement with the James gang during the aborted

Northfield Bank robbery in 1876. Elkins had never forgotten the man who saved his life at Quantrill's guerrilla camp during the Civil War. Cole Younger vindicated Steve's loyalty by demonstrating his rehabilitation. He was an exemplary citizen for the balance of his life. He lived until 1916.

A grass roots movement in West Virginia supported Steve as a candidate for governor in 1892. He declined, knowing the four-year commitment would create a serious conflict with his business obligations. Later, when offered an appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court, he refused for the same reason.

Steve Elkins was the most powerful Republican in West Virginia in 1895 and a patriarch of the national party. He had been a major player in the Republican party's rise to control in West Virginia for the first time in state history. When the election of a senator fell to the West Virginia Legislature in 1895, Steve was their choice virtually by acclamation. At that point in his career, Elkins was ready for the challenge.

Although the name of "Elkins" was prominently mentioned as a Republican candidate for both vice president and president in the 1890s, it was not to be. Fate decreed that Elkins had a more important role to play in the U.S. Senate. He was the sponsor of a number of pieces of landmark legislation. His legislative programs were not always popular with the public at first; however, they provided a dose of financial castor oil necessary to impose strict fiscal control over the office of the president, as well as safeguards against the evils of price-fixing and market domination by huge corporations. Those curbs were accomplished within the framework of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Sherman Anti-Trust

Act. In 1898 Elkins supported the declaration of war, following the sinking of the battleship *Maine* at Havana, Cuba. After the Spanish-American War was over, Elkins' resolution to admit Cuba as a state was defeated.

Reelected to the senate in 1901, Elkins was still able to supervise his West Virginia business enterprises. He and Senator Davis jointly owned 90,000 acres of coal-producing acreage in the state, in addition to a great timbering operation, all serviced by their railroad. In the midst of his own business activities, Elkins was able to take a major role in the acquisition of a long-term agreement with Panama, providing the United States permanent access to the waterway linkup between the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean. Steve continued to seek legislation to curtail oppressive railroad monopolies, even though he was a railroad owner himself.

Steve was so successful in his crusade for fair trade practices that he made a supporter out of President Theodore Roosevelt. Teddy had taken office following the assassination of President McKinley in 1901, and he was not one of Elkins' fans at that time. Roosevelt considered Steve a friend of big business. Senator Elkins demonstrated to everyone that he placed the welfare of the country above personal consideration.

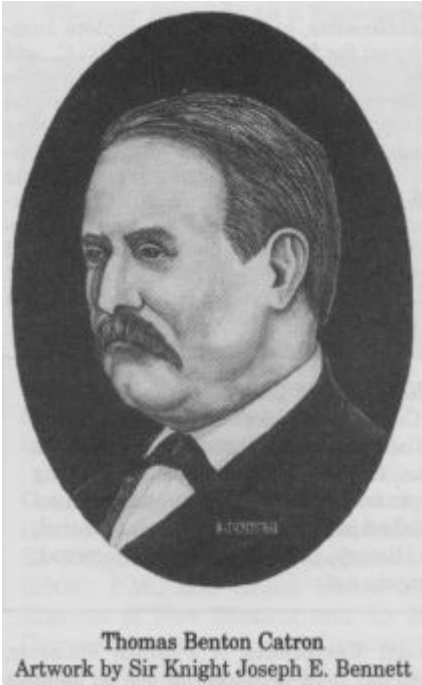
As the presidential campaign began in 1908, Stephen Elkins was a popular choice for the Republican nomination. Nevertheless, he withdrew his name from consideration when President Theodore Roosevelt endorsed William Howard Taft. For unanimity and the greater good, Steve gave his complete and active support to Taft's successful campaign. When Congress reconvened, Steve was back in the senatorial trenches. In the twilight years of his life, Steve continued to work ceaselessly

for statehood for the New Mexico Territory, but that happy event would not become reality until 1912. In 1910 Steve was gratified to see his dream of developing a canal from West Virginia to the Ohio River become a reality. The passage of his rivers and harbor bill made it possible. It was a fitting triumph for his final active days in the U.S. Congress.

The congressional session ended on July 10, 1910, and Steve returned to West Virginia for a long rest. He had suffered deteriorating health for several weeks. During his summer at Halliehurst, he continued to decline. A number of personal appearances were canceled, including the dedication of a new Odd Fellows Home for the indigent in the town of Elkins. It was a charitable event Steve had particularly desired to attend.

Press releases commented daily on the state of Steve's health, reporting his problem to be an acute digestive disorder. His lifelong friend and business partner from Santa Fe was more direct in a personal letter to the senator. Blunt and tactless, as always, Tom Catron wrote, "I hear you are suffering from cancer of the stomach, and are starving to death." He was right. In spite of the grave condition of his health, Elkins insisted upon being present when Congress convened in December 1910.

Steve and Hallie traveled to Washington from Halliehurst in their private railway car on November 8. When they arrived at the capital, Elkins was too weak to walk and was conveyed by ambulance to their home on K Street. He continued to sink rapidly, expiring at his residence just after midnight on January 5, 1911. Following extensive memorial obsequies at the capital, the senator's remains were transported



home to West Virginia for burial. The Reverend Dr. C. H. Barton delivered the funeral oration at Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church at Elkins on January 11, 1911. The book of life for Stephen Benton Elkins was closed in his 69th year. The event was attended by a large throng of his friends and admirers.

A retrospective of the life of Steve Elkins must focus on a career of monumental personal accomplishment, enhanced by a legacy of service to his fellow citizens. One cannot escape the realization that Elkins' celebrated potential would not have achieved full bloom had it not been for the serendipitous act of a Confederate guerrilla fighter in 1863. Truly, Cole Younger thwarted the ethereal Pale Horse that day and saved Steve Elkins for posterity.

Elkins' great wealth was shared with most of those who came to him for relief and succor, and a major portion was donated to enhance the lives of the average citizen. Elkins displayed a perfect perception of his Christian obligation; to devote a just portion of his life to God, family, and country. His fidelity to the Masonic Fraternity was demonstrated during a lifetime of faithful membership and exemplary deportment. No American Mason was more deserving of the judgmental accolade to which we all aspire: "Well done, good and faithful servant."
THE END

Reference And Research Source

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Miscellaneous

Archives of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, A.F. & A.M.

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 2¹/₂-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.

Albuquerque (New Mexico) York Rite Masons Present 75-year Awards to a Sojourning Mason from Lawrence, Kansas



The Albuquerque York Rite Masonic Bodies of New Mexico had the pleasure of presenting 75-year pins and certificates to a sojourning York Rite Mason from Lawrence, Kansas. Companion and Sir Knight Francis Baty was so honored at the September Conclave by Right Eminent Grand Commander of New Mexico, Sir Knight Hendrik C. de Bruin, and the Grand Master of Masons in New Mexico, Brother Jeffrey D. Johnson, esq.

In the picture, left to right, are: Sir Knight Roy W. Fincher, Eminent Commander of Pilgrim Commandery No. 3, Albuquerque; Larry Brownfield, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of New Mexico; Sir Knight Francis Baty, the honoree; Sir Knight Dickerson R. Watkins, P.G.C. (2002), P.M., and Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of New Mexico; and Sir Knight Hendrik C. de Bruin, R. E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of New Mexico. (article written by and photo taken by Sir Knight H. William Hart, member of Pilgrim No. 3)

News from Members of Wichita Assembly No. 8, S.O.O.B., Kansas



In the picture, left above: The ladies are Beauceant sisters having tea at the Riverside Tea Room in Wichita, Kansas: left to right: Mrs. N. L. King, Mrs. Maurice Caywood, Mrs. Bud Potter, Mrs. Ed Freeman, Mrs. Joe N. Randall, Mrs. Everett Mulkey, Mrs. Carral Roberts, and Mrs. Homer Hendrickson. In the picture, right above: Mrs. Edward Bracken, seated, of Wichita Assembly No. 8 is presented her 50-year pin at the Masonic Home, Wichita. [submitted by (Mrs. Homer) Janice Hendrickson, P.S.W.P. and S.O.O.B. correspondent]



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.

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, CIO E. K. Longworth; 502 Wentworth Avenue, N.E.; Roanoke; VA 24012-3545. This is a fund-raiser for the 64th Triennial Conclave.

Wanted: Knight Templar chapeau, any size, or plume for same. Trying to match up for donation to local museum. Bob Gleason, P.M.; (254) 698-2245; rdgjcj@earthlink.net

I Wanted: to purchase or obtain a ceremonial sword for Knights Templar Orders; prefer in good condition with sheath. I'd like to surprise my husband, who is a proud member of the York Rite, with a sword for the Orders he confers on his candidates at ceremonies. Becky Anderson, 1101 Gummy Point Rd, Ville Platte, LA 70586, (337) 523-3251

Knight Templar dress ties: the perfect Templar gift: cross and crown on square and compass (\$25.00 each). 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 cross diagonally across body. Uniquely beautiful ties can be viewed at www.texasryorkrite.org/ties.htm Check payable to San Antonio Commandery No. 7 and mail to James N. Higdon, 10122 N. Manton, San Antonio, TX 78213. Ties will be sent day following receipt. H: (210) 344-4309; 0: 349-9933

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

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; Emeritus ranks: Generalissimo, Captain General and Prelate (red): \$45.00; 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. Also: chapeaux crosses: Sir Knight, \$35.00; Commander/Past Commander, \$40.00; Grand Commandery (red), \$50.00; Past Grand Commander (purple), \$55.00. Embroidered bullion sleeve crosses: Sir Knight (silver) and Commander or P.C. (gold), \$35.00. Metal lapel crosses (a pair) in silver, \$35.00; gold, \$40.00. Grand Commandery lapel

crosses (red): \$45.00 (pair); Past Grand Commander (purple), \$50.00. Cap crosses in metal: silver, \$32.00; gold, \$38.00. Past Commander's jewel (gold plate), \$45.00. All plus shipping, handling, and insurance: 1st item, \$5.00 each additional item, \$1.00. Percentage to York Rite and Masonic charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., P.C.; 60 Manor Road; Staten Island; NY 10310-2698.

Ostrich feathers: Griffin Commandery No. 35, Fayetteville, Georgia, has a fund-raiser to supply new Knights with equipment and provide a portion of the profits to the KTEF. Replace those worn out feathers on your chapeau. The bleached white feathers are a minimum of 23 inches long and 8 inches wide. Price per feather is \$15.00 plus \$5.00 S & H while quantities last. Check or MO and request to Mark Johnson, 291 Buckeye Road, Fayetteville, GA 30214-3139; order online mjfayette@aol.com

For sale: ring, 10 kt., size ten. One side has the square and compass; the other side has the cross and crown. It will hold .50 ct. stone. Like new, \$400.00. Roy Fincher, E.C.; 6409 Prairie Avenue, N.E.; Albuquerque; NM 87109; (505) 292-4025; e-mail rfincher@cybermesa.com

For sale: Symbolic Lodge flags. The Second Arch Officers Association, Royal and Select Masons of Ohio, is selling as a fund-raiser the perfect flagpole companion for our Stars and Stripes-2 x3 feet, medium blue with gold square and compass. No words so they can be flown by everyone. They have metal grommets and are made of the finest nylon glow material. Check or MO for \$23.00 to Howard L. Lambert, 6036 St., Rt. 185, Piqua, OH 45356-9313

Fund-raiser for Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association, District 82, Grand Lodge of Texas: copper horseshoe with square and compass on a lapel pin for \$5.00 each, pp. 10⁰/c of proceeds to KTEF. Checks payable to MW & S Assoc., Dist. 82 and send requests to Neel A. Wright, PO Box 226, Gardendale, TX 79758, (432) 366-3806

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

Middle Georgia Chapter No. 165, RAM., the first R.A.M. Chapter to be chartered in Georgia in 25 years, is selling their newly minted mark/penny for \$10.00 each or 2 for \$15.00, postpaid. Each coin is accompanied with a certificate of authenticity. Check or MO to Middle Georgia York Rite Bodies; Neal Minks, Chairman; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014

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 16 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: price \$15.00 plus \$3.00 S & H. Each puzzle is packaged in a round, airtight can. To order call (614) 855-1401 or send payment and request to P Pat Davis, 8359 Morse Road, New Albany, OH 43054; online at www.ppdavis1@earthlink.net 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 on your taillights, only \$5.00 per set of 2, postpaid. All profits go to our 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 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.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com

I 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, pp. Check or money order to Stan Schrader, 135 Peninsula Pt., Hot Springs, AR 71901-9252

We still have some 175th anniversary celebration medallions left. They bear a likeness of Lafayette on one side and have symbolic emblems on the reverse. Price is \$5.00 plus \$1.50 postage and handling. Send to Lafayette Lodge No. 14, A.F.&A.M.; PO Box 1; Rockland; DE 19732

Available is 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 \$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 WTC Disaster Fund and KTEF. S. Kenneth Baril, 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 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., PO 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.

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. 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, 7W 37923-5807. E-mail rbreed4217@bigfoot.com Telephone (865) 539-9932. Order now for Christmas gifts!

Help! I need a copy of the address that was given, September 1890, at the opening of the Masonic Home of Virginia. This address was published in the book, Great Masonic Addresses. If you have this book or have access to it, please contact me, William B. Gates III, 160 Carroll Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834-3719

For sale: the book, The History of Freemasonry in Tennessee, by Charles Snodgrass and Bobby J Demott. It is 483 pages long and \$30.00, postpaid. Make check payable to and order from Bob Demott, 3501 Equestrian Way, Knoxville, TN 37921. % to KTEF.

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, 7W 77080-4321.

For sale: official fez, Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan, Carl B. Mitchell, Imperial Secretary, manufactured by Kraus & Sons, Inc., 11 East 22nd St., New York, NY. Black-Mahrah 77. Gloria Olson; 4300 Renton Lane, No. 212; Plymouth; MN 55442

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. Especially wanted are Iowa, Michigan, and Alaska. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 888-7585

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 more information, call or write or email Frank Looser, 1-800 765-1728, 408 Ashlar Circle, Nashville, TN 37211, 3% of profits go to KTEF.

For sale: custom-made 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: a gentleman's brand new 14 kt. gold Masonic pin with .50 ct. round diamond. You must see this one-of-a-kind treasure to believe the beauty and the quality. Judge (rt.) Jack Allison, 722 W Smith Street, Gaffney, SC 29340, (864) 489-4640

For sale: huge collection of Shrine, Masonic, Eastern Star items, including glassware, cups and saucers, sterling spoons, decanters and jewelry, pins, badges, and miscellaneous. Call (417) 743-2525; fax (417) 743-2566; e-mail malloneehill@aol.com

For sale: 4 cemetery lots in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lawrence, Kansas, located in the older part. They are high in a beautiful location. Price for 4 lots is \$1,400. Howard Fox, (770) 418-0999 or hfox@mindspring.com

