



Knight Templar

VOLUME L

MARCH 2004

NUMBER 3



"Sir Knight Karl King: Bandmaster to the World," an article by Sir Knight Peter H. Johnson, Jr., starts on page 9. Pictures clockwise from top left: an old photo shows Karl King waving to the crowds during a parade along Central Avenue in Fort Dodge, Iowa; Karl King, bandmaster; Karl King as a baritone player in Robinson's Famous Circus Band; Karl King (left), Shriner, with Alonzo Leach with flute (1945 photo).

Coming Soon: Drill Team Competitions and Much More! Grand Master's Message for March 2004

With the month of March, Templar activities are beginning to pick up. Several Annual Conclaves will occur, plans are being finalized for the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service in Washington, D.C., and most folks are ready for winter to be over and for spring to emerge.

Of course, the word "March" has another meaning for myself and for others. It reminds us that it is the time when many of our Drill Teams are practicing in preparation for their State Competitions. Field drill brings pride and a sense of accomplishment to all of those Sir Knights and their ladies who participate in that activity. There is a goal to accomplish, a time to be better, a sense of belonging, and fun, which does not seem to be present in some of our Commanderies. In the words of an old commercial: "Try it, you'll like it."




The lessons learned on the drill field can also be translated to our Commanderies. The obvious lesson is teamwork. If you do not march as a "team," you will have little chance of being good enough to win. It is always amazing to me that in a country which is so enamored with team sports, we as Masons tend to run our organizations as though they were closed shops or "one-man shows." The more people who can become involved the better. The problem with that is that it requires **communication and planning**.

The greatest lesson, which I learned as a Captain of a drill team, is that if you treat people with dignity and respect, they will do almost anything you ask.

Templary has a great heritage, and we should be very proud of what we as Templars have accomplished. Wear your uniform proudly, and never apologize for being a Knight Templar or a Christian Mason.

*Join us for the
Knights Templar
Easter Sunrise
Memorial Service
and other events—
April 9–11, 2004!*



Kenneth B. Fischer

Kenneth B. Fischer
Grand Master, KCT, GCT

Knight Templar

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

MARCH: Don't miss the Grand Master's Message this month: Grand Master Kenneth Fischer, whose special interest rests in Knights Templar Drill competition, has general information about how you can get in on the excitement. The 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation is in full swing, and there is still plenty of time to activate your fundraising! General Chairman Goodwin lists the many methods by which a member or nonmember can contribute to the KTEF; often your Commandery can receive credit for the participation. Don't miss the biographical stories of two Sir Knights: Karl King, bandmaster, whose life is celebrated on the cover in pictures and whose story starts on page 9; and "Tex" Williams, country-music and movie star, whose story starts on page 19. Masonic news is plentiful, too, so you'll want to read your magazine from cover to cover! We're hoping to see you at the April Easter Service!

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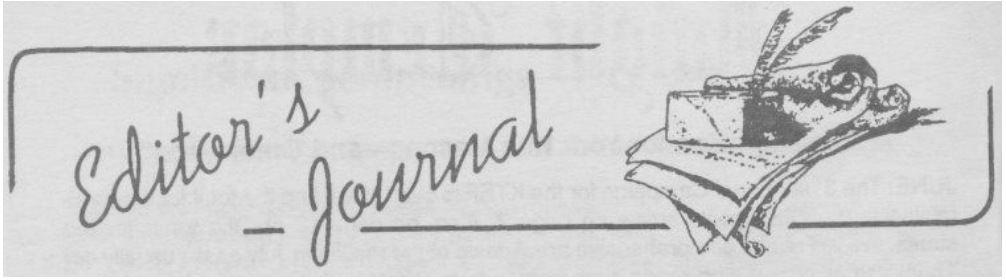
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When you order any of the items below, make check or money order payable to: the Grand Encampment, and send to: Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460

Correction of date of Michigan Annual Conclave (date incorrect in January 2004 issue) as per Recorder P. Fred Lesley: August 14-16, 2004.

Recently 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 (i.e. 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 Knights Templar 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).

Knight Templar Magazine Index, including all previous indexes and covering the years, 1969-1999, is now available at a price of \$5.00, plus \$2.50 postage - total, \$7.50. This is your chance to invest at a bargain price in the index which covers main articles of the magazine from 1969 to the turn of the century.

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.



Message from the General Chairman The 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign

by Sir Knight David Dixon Goodwin, P.D.C. and G.C.G. of the Grand Encampment General Chairman of the Annual Voluntary Campaign

The 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign Continues... Let's make a big push NOW...

Time is passing very quickly, and as you read this message, we will be in the fourth month of our five-month Campaign. This is the time to concentrate our efforts on reaching our goal of one million dollars by next month. We can do it if each and every Sir Knight participates!

As I look at the current figures, we are about ten percent behind the last Campaign. I also note that many Grand Commanderies have per capita figures of less than a dollar at this point. I have every confidence that we will meet our goal, but it will take your efforts. Will you help us now?

I would ask each Grand Commandery Voluntary Campaign Chairman to contact each Commandery Chairman to encourage and assist him where needed. I would ask each Commandery Chairman to contact each Sir Knight in his Commandery and request a donation to the Campaign. If every Sir Knight will contribute, we will be successful.

The Commandery Chairmen should also be leading the fund-raising efforts of the Commanderies. As we said last month, the best type of funds for our Foundation are "OPM," other people's money. There is still plenty of time to have that special event that will raise funds for our Foundation and help us to meet or exceed our goal.

There are many ways in which to contribute to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, some of which are:

Life Sponsor - for Sir Knights donating \$30
Associate Patron - for anyone donating \$50



- Patron - for anyone donating \$100
- Grand Commander's Club - anyone donating \$100
- Grand Master's Club - anyone donating \$1,000 (may be reached by \$1,000 cumulative donation to the Grand Commander's Club)
- Memorial Donations - in memory of a deceased person
- Honorary Donations - in honor of a living person
- Golden Chalice - for a single donation of \$10,000
- Grand Master's Sword of Merit - for a single donation of \$25,000
- Permanent Donor Fund - for single donations of \$10,000 or more to recognize a person or organization
- Wills and Bequests: remember the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in your will.
- Sight Crusader - anyone who notifies the Foundation that it is included in his/her will
- Special "Clubs" - donations of \$33 or more
- The "33° Club" - to recognize Sir Knights

who are recipients of the 33° from the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Honorary contributions are accepted.

The "OPC Club" - to recognize Sir Knights who are recipients of the Order of the Purple Cross from the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. Honorary contributions are accepted.

I have been informed that the Grand Commandery of Minnesota has created a lapel pin to support the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. It also supports our country as it is red, white, and blue. It has a blue eye in the center with "Eye Gave" in red on the top and "KTEF" in blue on the bottom. They are available for \$5 each, including postage and handling, with all of the profits going to the Eye Foundation. Please send checks or money orders payable to the Grand Commandery of Minnesota and send to Sir Knight Richard W. Anderson, Eminent Grand Generalissimo, 7730 Fourth Avenue South, Apt. 206, Richfield, MN 55423-4308.

As always, please feel free to contact the Eye Foundation office or any officer

of the Grand Encampment for any assistance that you might require.

Please remember: through the generosity of our Sir Knights and friends, we provide about five million dollars of patient care per year, as well as \$600,000 for educational research grants. We need the Voluntary Campaign to be successful if we are to continue our service of preventing blindness.

May Almighty GOD bless you as you do HIS work through the Knights Templar Eye Foundation!

Courteously,
Dave

Sir Knight David Dixon Goodwin, GCT, Grand Captain General, P.D.C., and the General Chairman of the 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, is a member of Malta Commandery No. 21, Endicott, New York, and The Empire State Commandery No. 83, Rochester, New York. He resides at 1509 Campus Drive, Vestal, NY 13850-4036

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO KTEF CLUBS

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- No. 4,270—Stephen A. Nemeth (VA)
- No. 4,271—Gary L. Thacker (GA)
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- No. 4,289—in memory of
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- No. 101,927—Ernest H. Smith (IN)
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No. 101,932—James Ralph Anderson (GA)
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HOW TO JOIN THE KTEF GRAND COMMANDER'S AND GRAND MASTER'S CLUBS: Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution of \$100 or more will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the

Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 100; Chicago, IL 60630-2460; (773) 205-3838.

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**Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign**

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending February 6, 2004. The total amount contributed to date is \$254,166.92.

Alabama	\$1,873.00
Arizona	6,148.84
Arkansas	1,065.00
California	15,434.14
Colorado	6,809.00
Connecticut	1,755.00
Delaware	693.00
District of Columbia	2,469.00
Florida	15,713.50
Georgia	25,263.57
Idaho	315.00
Illinois	14,181.00
Indiana	1,719.00
Iowa	3,448.04
Kansas	2,303.00
Kentucky	3,759.49
Louisiana	4,920.60
Maine	798.00
Maryland	6,243.00
Mass./R.I.	3,584.00
Michigan	3,618.00
Minnesota	920.00

Mississippi	1,070.00
Missouri	2,088.00
Montana	1,060.00
Nebraska	1,398.68
Nevada	693.00
New Hampshire	1,824.21
New Jersey	1,090.00
New Mexico	2,168.00
New York	5,202.00
North Carolina	4,512.00
North Dakota	550.00
Ohio	11,091.85
Oklahoma	895.00
Oregon	688.00
Pennsylvania	19,281.33
South Carolina	5,394.10
South Dakota	22,700.00
Tennessee	4,545.00
Texas	12,215.92
Utah	7,605.00
Vermont	771.00
Virginia	8,249.00
Washington	2,814.05
West Virginia	2,247.60
Wisconsin	8,227.00
Wyoming	933.00
Philippines	270.00
Alaska	290.00
Hilo No. 3, Hawaii	30.00
Miscellaneous	1,330.00

Thanks to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation!

The funding you provided for surgery has resulted in reduced pressure, which has made my vision clear. What a difference you have made in my life! Thank you, to the members of the Knights Templar, for what the Knights Templar Eye Foundation is doing for me and for others to improve our vision and our lives. God bless you all with the same peace, hope, and love that you bring to the lives of others!

*Dwight J. Clayton
 Fort Worth, Texas*

Sir Knight Karl King: Bandmaster to the World

by Sir Knight Peter H. Johnson, Jr., P.G.C. of Arizona
petej@cybertrails.com

Karl King's barber quizzed the famous musician: "Karl, how many men play in your band?" "Oh, about half of them," Mr. King pithily retorted. Such banter was typical of the Iowa march master, Karl Lawrence King.

His music was played in every corner of the world, yet he retained his position as conductor of a small town municipal band for over 50 years.

He was the kind of guy that would come to your house on a steamy, Iowa summer day and eat corn on the cob in his undershirt.

He never joined a country club, yet he had time to be a Mason, Elk, Shriner, Knight Templar, Scottish Rite Mason, and supporter of the local Congregational church.

His humor was legendary, and although not mean spirited, it cut to the quick. Once when his band played at a girls' reformatory, he gave them a musical salute by playing "Lady, Be Good."

King's speech was always peppered with mild expletives used for emphasis without any air of blasphemy. He referred to modern composers as "damn temporary composers."

On the podium he was equally wry. When his band was rushing, he once told them, "You guys decide what tempo to play this thing. I can conduct any damn tempo."

He was known as an unassuming man without pretense who treated

the most neophyte school band director with kindness and respect.

Karl Lawrence King was born on February 21, 1891, near Paintersville, Ohio. He grew up in Zenia, Cleveland, and Canton. While a youth in Canton, Karl had a few lessons on the cornet. School music programs were nonexistent at the time.

After switching to euphonium, Karl was proficient enough to play in the Canton Marine Boys Band and later in the Thayer Military Band. About this time, Karl received some meager musical instruction consisting of four piano lessons and one theory lesson.

This was the sum total of his formal musical education. His forthcoming virtuosity on the euphonium and marvelous skills in composition came nearly exclusively from the emulation of others and self-study.

After the completion of the eighth grade, young Karl became an apprentice printer. He also continued to play in bands and began to compose, publishing his first march in 1909 at age 17.

King never set foot in high school, so he cannot be truly referred to as a dropout.

In 1910 King published two marches that are still favorites, "Emblem of Freedom," a battle-royal for the low brass, and a delightful *tour de force* for the baritone horn, "The Melody Shop."

Forsaking the printing business, Karl King now began his "troupin' days," joining the band of the Robinson Famous Circus as a baritone player.

The next decade would be the high-water mark of King's career, providing him with sounds and experiences that would change the world of band music forever. Stints in the bands of Yankee Robinson and Sells-Floto soon followed.

In 1913 King was recruited for the famous Barnum and Bailey Band under the direction of Ned Brill. At Brill's request, the 22-year-old King composed a march that would be his most famous composition, "Barnum and Bailey's Favorite." A true "screamer," the march is three minutes of musical dynamite and ranks with "Entry of the Gladiators" as the world's most popular circus march.

King's career now shifted to director, leading the band of the Sells-Floto and Buffalo Bill Combined Shows from 1914 to 1916. The aging Col. Cody was an idol of the youthful bandmaster.

King's next position was that of conducting the world-class Barnum and Bailey Band.

On June 1, 1917, King was conducting the band for "The Greatest Show on Earth" in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, when a terrific windstorm blew down a section of the "Big Top" during a capacity crowd performance. Two people were killed and many injured in the unfortunate accident. The section of the tent used for the band setup remained in tact, and Bandmaster King and his fellow musicians continued to play as the large crowd, including

many injured spectators, was evacuated. This heroic act calmed the crowd and was in the finest tradition of the American circus.

While with Barnum and Bailey, King fell in the love with the calliope player, Ruth Lovet. The couple married and their union was parted only by death over a half-century later. The Kings had only one child, Karl, Jr.

In 1918 King almost had a second career as an army bandleader during the First World War at the recommendation of John Philip Sousa. However, the war ended before King was supposed to report to Camp Grant in Rockford, Illinois.

Now pressed with family responsibilities, King moved back to Canton where he directed the Grand Army Band, and began self-publishing his own music.

In 1920 an opportunity arose to direct the Fort Dodge Municipal Band in Fort Dodge, Iowa. The Kings soon relocated and also moved their publishing business.

King's tenure with the band was long and highly successful. The band gave countless concerts and was a favorite at the Iowa State Fair for about 40 years. Although only on a one-year contract, King led the band for the next 51 years.

Years later, King commented that he played for "...good people: the real Midwest Americans; the type of people who go to church on Sunday and stay out of jail." Although King considered himself to be merely an entertainer, he loved to perform music by the old masters in addition to his own marches and other compositions.

Karl King composed until 1962, producing over 300 works, at least 188 of which are marches. Sixty of his marches are school band oriented but have all the wonderful melody and charm of his difficult pieces.

King was a genius. He rarely worked from a score. The entire composition was in his head, and he merely transcribed the band parts from memory. Veteran saxophone player, Carl Pray, recalled an occasion in which "King got up at 3 A.M. when we were camping out during a fair, and he had me light a kerosene lantern so he could write down a piece. The band played it the same afternoon."

King's highly imaginative low brass counter melodies caused legendary band director, Dr. William D. Revelli, to comment that "The Iowa March King" was one of the greatest composers of counterpoint that ever lived.

Other King compositions include overtures such as "The Princess of India" and "The Golden Dragon," several gallops and serenades, and a number of lilting waltzes.

There is a very interesting story concerning one of King's waltzes, "In Old Portugal." It was written especially for the incomparable aerialist, Lillian Leitzel. The intoxicating "one, two, three, one two, three" rhythms and beautiful melody of the piece were a perfect complement to her routine.

Tragically, Miss Leitzel fell to her death when the swivel on her rope failed as the band played "In Old Portugal" at a performance in Copenhagen, Denmark, on February 13, 1931.

King's professional career spanned from the heyday of Sousa to Elvis.

Curiously, his musical style never changed or evolved. It can be described as a delightful mixture of minstrel type tunes, conventional harmony, and a hint of European light opera. His melodies are usually simple, catchy, and easy to sing and remember. There is often a prominent line in his arrangements that sounds like a natural or "whiskey" tenor part in a men's quartet.

Unlike Sousa, whose march melodies have a very strong emphasis on the first beat of each measure, King's march tunes frequently accent the second beat as well as beats toward the end of the phrase.

King was also a top ragtime composer and deserves more recognition in this genre. His ragtime pieces such as "The Walking Frog" and "Kentucky Sunrise" are real "toe tappers" and are certainly the equal of similar compositions by such ragtime greats as Joplin, Blake, or Charles Johnson.

Karl King's honors and awards are too numerous to mention in detail. One that stands out, however, was his membership in the prestigious American Bandmaster's Association that included such musical luminaries as Sousa and Goldman.

King once quipped that he was the most uneducated member of the entire organization. During the 1960s King, now a living legend, conducted great, massed bands of young musicians at college football half-time shows, including a band of 13,000 players at the University of Michigan.

On February 20, 1971, the *Fort Dodge Messenger* proclaimed: HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY KARL KING.. .SUNDAY FEB 21 ... BAND-MASTER

TO THE WORLD.. OUR LEADING
CITIZEN.. SUNDAY BAND CONCERT:
3:00 P.M.

The concert was presented as planned even though the band's rehearsal facility at the Knights of Columbus Hall had been destroyed in a devastating fire the previous month. The fire also destroyed the band's extensive music library, uniforms, and a number of instruments. "Mr. King," as he was respectfully referred to, conducted his 80th birthday concert in his usual professional and polished manner. Few knew that the veteran "trouper" took oxygen off stage to make it through the concert.

King, now in failing health, also led the band at the St. Patrick's Day Concert at Corpus Christi Catholic Church on March 14th.

On March 30, 1971, Fort Dodge's most famous citizen was taken to Bethesda General Hospital, and he succumbed the following day.

Mr. King was laid to rest on April 3, 1971, at North Lawn Cemetery. At Mrs. King's insistence, some of husband Karl's marches were played at the funeral.

Karl L. King will be remembered as long as there are bands and band music. His music is a sort of time machine by which the listener is removed from a world gone haywire to gentler times of long ago.

Karl King was a wonderful anachronism. Even as an old man with a weak heart, he was still, at least at a spiritual level, the gawky kid in the Thayer Band back in 1909.. .a time of circuses under canvas, steam locomotives, and the town band concert.



Sir Knight Karl L. King was honored with many prestigious awards: elected in 1962 to the highest honor that can come to a band director, the Academy of Wind and Percussion Arts; elected in 1966 to the Society of European Stage Actors and Composers; given in 1967 the Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity Distinguished Service Award; and in 1971 the Edwin Franco Goldman Award (the first non-school band director to receive this coveted award).

He was an original. He was, to quote a march title from colleague Henry Fillmore, "King Karl King." He brought joy to millions, yet was as common as the proverbial "old shoe."

In a 1966 interview, Mr. King summed up his long career with a few well-chosen words: *"I sang my song. It was a rather simple one. I am happy about it."*

Masonic notes: Karl King composed many fraternal marches for such organizations as the Elks, Shrine, and Grotto. He wrote one Knights Templar march, "Forest City Commandery" in 1915 for Forest City Commandery in Cleveland,



Ohio. It is a difficult march and is perhaps the only Commandery march in circus style. This was also the same year that King became a Master Mason, taking all three degrees in Canton Lodge No. 60 in Canton, Ohio. (His initiation was in 1914.) King also belonged to the York Rite Bodies in Fort Dodge, Iowa, taking his degrees and orders in 1921 and 1922. He received all three Council degrees in 1951 and belonged to Medina Council No. 26 in Eagle Grove, Iowa. King demitted to the newly formed Council in Fort Dodge in 1960. Also a Scottish Rite Mason, King received his 32° in 1951 becoming a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies in Des Moines. King's Shrine membership in Za Ga Zig Shrine Temple was also in Des Moines. Sir Knight King also received the York Rite honor of membership in the Red Cross of Constantine. He was also active in his local Shrine Club and High Twelve Club. King's Blue Lodge record indicates that he received a "50-year medal."

Notes: Much biographical material and "Karl King stories" were found in the

"Karl King" web site. Quotations by Mr. King were taken from "The Karl King Story: A Personal Interview," published in *the Circus Fanfare*, June 20, 1999. The Carl Pray quote was from the "King" entry in *March Music Notes* by Norman Smith. Other King material was found in "The Life Story of Karl King" by Jess L. Gerardi, Jr., in several issues of the *Circus Fanfare*, 2002. Notes on King's style were found in *Hawkeye Glory* by Thomas J. Hatton. Special thanks for Masonic information from Brother Don Lavender, 33°; Sir Knight Ed Johnson; and the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

Sir Knight Peter H. Johnson, Jr., KYGCH, is a Past Commander of Arizona. He has been a public school music teacher at all levels for over 30 years. He enjoys researching Masonic related music topics and also performs with the Northland Pioneer College Symphonic Band, the Windjammers Circus Concert Band, and the United Methodist Church choir in Holbrook. He has composed several marches for band. He resides at 1524 Smith Drive, Holbrook, AZ 86025

JUST RELEASED: A very limited number of the HO model engine and caboose, given at the 62nd Triennial Conclave in St. Louis, are now available from the Grand Encampment office. The engine is \$25.00 PLUS \$5.85 S & H (\$30.85), and the caboose is \$15.00 PLUS \$3.30 S & H (\$18.30). Don't delay because when these are gone, there will be no more!

Alabama York Rite Members and Supporters Involved in Grotto's 2003 Vocabulary Competition

Pictured are Brothers Frank Little, R.W. Senior Grand Warden of the state of Alabama, and Marion P. George, Jr., with the winners of Dinar Grotto's 2003 Vocabulary Competition. Both Brothers are active members of the Birmingham Metro York Rite Bodies.

The winners, left to right seated, are: 1st place, \$500, Ms. Brittany Pratt, who donated half her winnings to charity, representing Pleasant Grove Rainbow Chapter No. 82; 2nd place, \$250, Mr. Cameron Griggs, representing Birmingham DeMolay; and 3rd place, \$125, Ms. Jessica Barnett, representing Pleasant Grove Rainbow Chapter No. 82.

Realizing that youth are our future and doing the same old things usually yields the same old results, Brother George invented, financed, and administered this test through Dinar Grotto. He says: "There are few if any 'in hand' rewards for academic excellence available to high school students, so this

program has CASH rewards to individuals and trophies for the organizations. Yes, I said CASH - not a scholarship where the recipient just passes the money along, but money-in-hand!"

As the pilot, the program was started small, limiting competitors to active DeMolays and Rainbow Girls in Jefferson County, Alabama, 17 and under. The participants were given 6 months to study by announcement to their respective organizations and a formal application process.

This is a photo of the winners, but not the only winners: It will never hurt a student to know the spelling of words. The test is available to all Masonic-family organizations, for an honorarium, with parent (or grandparent parent) bringing his or her child in for examination. (No child can take the same test twice.) For more information, contact: Dinar Grotto, 4511 Avenue P., Birmingham, AL 35208, or call: (205) 616-8658, or patgeorge@bham.rr.com



Brother George states: "All of this is designed to stimulate both the attendance and ambition of our youth through profitable competition, and all contributions are tax-deductible as this is a 501 (c) (3) organization. Thanks must go to: Carl W. Landerholm, Jr., Grand Monarch of the Grottoes of North America, who is active in all bodies of the York Rite in Massachusetts; Anne George, my wife, and Frances George, my mother (both active in the York Rite Ladies' Association); Debbie Yates; Lamar Roy, active in all bodies of the York Rite; Dr. Paula Ballard; and Don Watts, active in all bodies of the York Rite. Without these people's patient support and that of many others, this program would not have been possible."

Knights Templar Sword Returned to Hawaii

from: *Pacific Daily News*, Guam: Honolulu - A sword that was made for King David Kalakaua has been purchased at auction and will be returned to Hawaii. The Friends of Iolani Palace made a successful bid for the Knights Templar Masonic sword at Sotheby's Auction House in New York. The nonprofit group made the winning bid of \$13,000 two days before the 167th anniversary of Kalakaua's birth. Deborah Dunn, executive director of the Friends of Iolani Palace, said her group had financial help from local Masonic groups. Kalakaua was a 32° Mason. (submitted by Sir Knight W. Bruce Pruitt)

10th Annual Winter Clothing Drive of St. Amand, Maine



Sir Knight David J. Billings, KCT and a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Maine, writes: "Due to the hard work and generosity of all we collected 5,093 articles of clothing, including 642 coats, and all were turned over to the Salvation Army."

Sir Knight Billings, shown left in the picture, and his Lady Mary, center, wish to thank all who helped. Also shown at St. Amand's Christmas Observance held in Kennebunk, Maine, is Mr. Ron Terry of the

Salvation Army, Portland, Maine, with a box of mittens, representing part of the 5,093 articles of clothing.

In another presentation the coats were loaded into a large, white Cape Porpoise Lobster truck and presented on Channel 6 TV "Coats for Kids" Drive, where they were presented to the Salvation Army.

The Commandery also thanks the following: Church on the Cape Cargo Shop; Mr. Dan Parish, Dublin, NH; Kennebunkport Nurses; Marier's Men Shop; Bradbury's Market; Maytag Laundromat, Lower Village, and Cape Porpoise Lobster Co. and Shaw's Supermarket personnel.

The following topics were taken from The Building and Sustaining Templar Member Booklet that was published by the Committee on Membership of the Grand Encampment in May 2002.

The Necessity of Action to Strengthen Templar Manpower

No Commandery can rest on its laurels or past accomplishments. We are living in a different era that demands modern techniques. Unless a Commandery is alert and anxious to succeed, it will not attract new members.

The purpose of this publication is to suggest a definite plan:

- Recruit Christian Masons to become Knights Templar
- Reactivate the interest of our present members, and
- Restore and reinstate former members

No institution in all Christendom has any more vital mission than our loyal cadre of Knights Templar. Founded upon the Christian religion and the practices of Christian virtues, Templary should attract all Christian Masons to join our ranks. Too often Templars take for granted that we do very little to attract new members or hold the interest of present members. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is imperative that every Templar takes a personal responsibility for growth and retention. We have a place for Christian Masons, and their best interests lie with us.

The invitation to Christian Masons should come from Templars. We should not be smug or stand idly by and assume that Christian Masons will storm our doors to join, simply because our cause is noble, even though we have something they need. We should be the ones to initiate the selective process, by extending an individual invitation to each Christian Mason. If he becomes sufficiently interested, he will find a way to accomplish it.

The objectives of Templary are the same as they have always been, but times have changed. Our whole approach to the problem of membership must be reviewed to keep abreast of the times. Old clichés such as "we have always done it that way" must yield to up-to-date methods of the 21st century in which we live. Our whole scheme of life has changed, and we must adapt ourselves to the fast-paced age in which we live. We need not sacrifice any of our principles, but we do need to alter our methods if we would attract new recruits and grow.

This necessitates a sense of urgency and a realistic approach to the whole manpower problem. In these times of boundless choice and world-class quality products and services, men need to be continuously "sold" on the most essential things in life, and Templary is no exception. We need to create new ways to win men to our banner. We need not become undignified; we do need to adopt an "approach" that will get successful results. In short, it is vital that we modernize our thinking in recruiting members for Templary. It is also absolutely necessary that we readjust our attitude with respect to holding the interests of our present members.

Accordingly, it is the leadership judgment of the Grand Encampment that now is the time to promote a membership campaign upon a carefully planned, vigorous, sustained and dignified basis in every **Constituent and Subordinate Commandery** across the land. There is no substitute for an all-out campaign to strengthen and build Templar manpower.

The Thrill of "Membership Development" Is Back!

The majority of Knights Templar in the jurisdictions within the Grand Encampment are experiencing an "adrenaline rush" associated with the enthusiasm of the recent Crusade. What a thrill it is to be a part of such a magnanimous order and a participant in the Crusade.

This is Not Your Father's Commandery Anymore. This is because new members are joining of all ages; new programs are being added to include family activities, guest speakers, and community involvement. New members bring new ideas, and this results in healthy growth for the Order. Become a part of this new energy transformation!

Membership Value is Critically Important. Non-York Rite Masons are busy people and need to be convinced that committing time and talent to a new Masonic Organization has value. Be sure to sell the total attributes of your Commandery. Be sure to emphasize the new activities and involvement in your Commandery and promote the positive. Increases in our membership base are critical to sustaining both our future and glorious heritage. You can do it!

Migrating To A "Dot. Com" Fraternity. We continue to be impressed with the many Knights Templar that are connected to the Internet. Many Commanderies are now getting connected to the "net" and building impressive Web Sites to promote their Commandery activities such as festivals, membership programs, and activities. The Internet improves communication and saves postage costs among other things. Being a "dot.com" fraternity might be a differentiating factor in selling this great fraternity to Non-York Rite Masons.

Green Carrots. Many Commanderies have instituted incentives to reward "Top-Line Signers." Membership development is hard work, and those that contribute more than their fair share should be rewarded. Examples of incentives *include: Dues reimbursement, cash, gift certificates, Knights Templar Eye Foundation Life Memberships, and Templar Uniform credits* are incentive programs that have value and are worth testing in all jurisdictions. Give it a try for both restorations and new members.

Happier Troops. A Crusade is both an event and a renewed emphasis on membership development. It is an opportunity for all Sir Knights regardless of rank to become engaged in a program that assures success if each Sir Knight contributes. The excitement of Crusade participation continues to grow. Please get involved. Ask a Masonic friend to join, and do it now!

Promote Your Good Works. Write articles, take pictures, and publish your Crusade program activities. Promote your activities. No one can purchase a product they are unaware of.

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

In Memory of

T. Harry White, Past Grand Master of South Carolina-1983-1985

Brother T Harry White, P.G.M., a 33° of the Scottish Rite, was a member of many Masonic organizations, including the following: Philalethes Society of London; Quatour Coronati Lodge of Research in London, England; Royal Order of Scotland; Allied Masonic Degrees; Grand College of Rites; Masonic Order of Bath; Knight Masons; Grand York Rite College; Red Cross of Constantine; Societas Rosicrusiana; Order of High Priesthood; and the New Zealand Lodge of Research. His wife Katie gave to Sir Knight Don S. Blair, PG. C. of South Carolina, her permission for the following to be printed in the magazine. Says Sir Knight Blair: "I think it has a great message for any Mason, especially a Knight Templar."

To my dear Katie Evelyn:

If you really want to REMEMBER me:

Give my sight to the man who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face
or love in the eyes of a woman.

Give my heart to a person whose own heart
has caused nothing but endless days of pain.

Give my blood to the teenager who was pulled from the wreckage
of his car, so that he might live to see his grandchildren play.

Give my kidneys to the one who depends on a machine
to exist from week to week.

Give my bones, every muscle, every fiber and nerve in my body,
and find a way to make a crippled child walk.

If you want to bury something, let it be my faults, my weakness
and all prejudice against my fellow man.

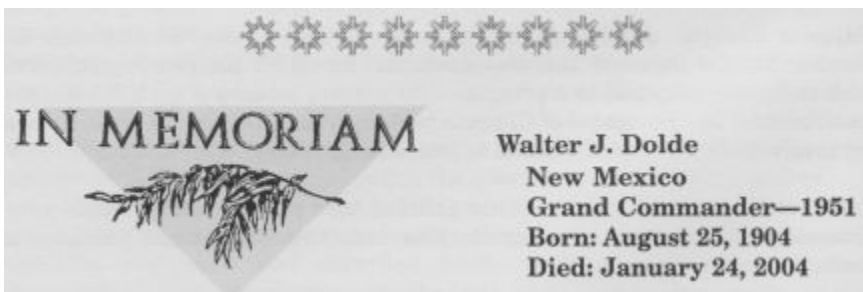
Give my sins to the devil.

Give my soul to God.

If, by chance, you wish to remember me,
do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you.

If you do all I have asked, I will live forever.

Love,
Harry



Sir Knight "Tex" Williams: Capitol Records' First Million-Seller

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 33°

Tex Williams is remembered as the first singer to have a Gold record on the Capitol label in 1947. While his musical career was much more accomplished than that, his biggest claim to fame resulted from the novelty recording of "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke (that Cigarette)."

Williams had other hit records, was an accomplished vocalist, and led a fine swing band, the Western Caravan, for many years, and also starred in a series of Universal-International motion picture "shorts."

Ironically, his biggest record also became a self-fulfilling prophecy because Sir Knight Williams ultimately became a victim of lung cancer.

Tex was born Solie Paul Williams near Ramsey, Illinois, on August 23, 1917. His father, Thomas Williams, operated a blacksmith shop and grist mill. He also played fiddle for local dances and other social events which probably stimulated the numerous Williams children to take an interest in music. Sol and his older brother Earl began playing music together about 1923 and were soon entertaining their neighbors. As a youth, he attended Prairie Mound Grade School and later went to Bigam High.

About 1930, calling himself "Jack" Williams (the nickname "Tex" came along some years later), the aspiring musician made his first radio appearance over WJDL in Decatur, Illinois. About 1934 he joined a group called Peggy West and her Rocky Mountaineers, and they soon shifted from Decatur to WDW in Tuscola.



Making a living was next to impossible in the Depression-racked Midwest, so in 1938 Williams went to Washington State, where he and another older brother, Menifee Williams, worked as apple pickers. In his free moments, he again worked with a variety of local musical groups.

About 1939 he picked and sang on a regular basis for some months in a place called the Silver Dollar Tavern near the construction site of the Grand Coulee Dam.

Playing rhythm guitar and singing vocals in his deep bass voice, Williams first joined a band called the Reno Racketeers and then went to work with the Colorado Hillbillies headed by Walt Shrum. Soon, he and Cal Shrum teamed up, and Thx had the opportunity to appear in a motion picture as a

backup musician. The movie, starring *Tex Ritter, is Rollin' Home to Texas* (1940). Sol's biggest opportunity came in 1942, when he became a key figure in a new band being formed by Foreman Phillips and headed by Spade Cooley, a fiddler that Williams had initially met a couple of years earlier when he was part of the Reno Racketeers. When the Cooley band moved to the Venice Pier Ballroom in late 1942, they became the hottest attraction on the West Coast drawing crowds of 3,000 to 5,000 per night. By that time, the wartime economy had lifted the country out of the Great Depression. The band boasted three lead vocalists (Smokey Rogers, Deuce Spriggins, and Sol Williams), who also performed as the trio of Oakie, Arkie and Tex, the latter giving the Illinois-born vocalist the nickname that he would carry professionally for the rest of his life.

During this period (1943), Tex met and married Dallas Orr, who worked as a vocalist with the Happy Perryman band; the union endured for forty-two years. Later she often worked with Tex's Western Caravan.

The Spade Cooley orchestra didn't invent Western swing as bands like those of Milton Brown and Bob Wills had been playing it in Texas since the early to mid-thirties; however, Cooley soon became known as the "King of Western Swing," and his wartime California band was the first to use the name. With Williams on vocals, the band began recording in 1944, and by late March 1945, their song "Shame on You" with Tex's singing had hit the top on the *Billboard* charts, where it remained number one for nine weeks and on the listings for a total of thirty-one.

Through mid-1946, they had five more top ten hits, with four featuring Tex's lead voice and the other song,

"Detour," being an Oakie-Arkie-Tex trio. Spade Cooley and his Orchestra were indeed riding high.

However, Spade Cooley found it difficult to live with success and became increasingly jealous and quarrelsome. When Capitol Records approached Tex about a solo contract, Cooley said no, so Tex either quit or was fired. About half of the Cooley band, including such key figures as Rogers, Spriggins, and fiddler Cactus Soldi, also, left Cooley and formed the nucleus of Tex Williams and his Western Caravan.

The new band opened at the Redondo Barn on July 4, 1946, and cut their first session for Capitol on July 24. Their release of "The California Polka" made the charts on November 30, 1946.

Capitol executives had spent so much money promoting their pop artists that they were considering dropping their mid-level country-western contractees, but Tex came up with the signature song that gave both him and the label their first Gold record. "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke! (That Cigarette)," which had been primarily composed by Merle Travis, stayed number one on the country charts from mid-July until the end of October 1947 and spent six weeks on top of the pop listings as well.

Tex followed it up with ten more hits on Capitol throughout the remainder of the decade. Many were novelty and talking blues numbers which often tended to obscure Tex's talents as a smooth, deep-voiced vocalist that had characterized his work with the Cooley band.

Tex Williams also entered motion pictures on a regular basis at the end of the forties. In addition to the first film appearance with Cal Shrum in the Ritter film, he had one Charles Starrett



Tex Williams and Donna Martell in a scene from *Coyote Canyon*, 1949

movie, *Outlaws of the Rockies* (1945), as a member of the Cooley band.

But in 1949 Universal-International signed him to a series of musical shorts averaging twenty-five minutes in length. There were sixteen of these films which also featured Smokey Rogers and Deuce Spriggins. They usually had a light plot, three or four musical numbers, and an attractive starlet as leading lady, most notably Donna Martell (in six) or Barbara Payton.

The series began with *Six Gun Music* in January 1949 and concluded with *Ready to Ride* in October 1950. Eight of the films were pieced together to make four feature-length pictures all entitled *Tales of the West*.

Cowboy music historian Douglas Green believes that Tex might have had a bigger career as a film star but for the

fact that a childhood bout with polio left him with a slight limp which impaired his image as an action star.

During his film career, Tex Williams also began his Masonic life becoming an Entered Apprentice in Hollywood Lodge No. 355 on December 8, 1949. Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on January 26, 1950, he was Raised a Master Mason on March 30, 1950. On June 7, 1977, he became a plural member of Old West Lodge No. 813 in Newhall, California, and held membership in both lodges at the time of his death. Thx took his York Rite work in Chapter No. 121 and Hollywood Commandery No. 56, becoming a Noble of Al Malaikah Shrine Temple on April 21, 1951.

Tex took his Masonic and Shrine memberships seriously, perhaps because of his childhood ailment. The



left: Tex Williams and Donna Martell in a movie scene; right: Tex Williams in 1952

1952 edition of the *Scrapbook of Hillbilly & Western Stars* reads: "A great deal of his time is taken up with charity work and benefits; his favorite project is entertaining crippled children, wherever they may be."

By 1951 Tex's Capitol recordings - despite their consistent high quality - were no longer achieving hit status. As a result, he signed with RCA Victor, but the switch still didn't produce any hits, although again they were fine products. The truth was that Western swing no longer sold the way it had in the immediate postwar era.

By 1953 Williams had gone to Decca where he remained for five years recording some thirty-eight single sides and an album in their *Dance-O-Rama* series. A return to Capitol and two years on Liberty had the same results. It would in fact be 1965 before Tex Williams was again on the charts.

Although Sir Knight Williams went for more than a decade with no hit records, he continued to be a popular performer,

particularly in the western states. He had successful television shows on the West Coast, including one broadcast from Knott's Berry Farm.

Roberta Shore, who later became a teenage heart throb and leading lady on *The Virginian* TV series, got her start in show business on this program and also entertained with Tex and his Western Caravan at shopping center and supermarket openings. Her fond memories of Williams include the following:

I...was lucky enough to be put on his weekly television shows that he had from Knott's Berry Farm... I was ten and a half *when I was on The Tex Williams Show..* about 1954. I just loved him. He was just a kind, kind man. He was married [but] had no children. He had a limp. I think he had polio when he was younger.

Ms Shore, now a resident of Salt Lake City, repeated to me at the 2003 Charlotte Film Fair: "He was just a wonderful man," she reminisced.



Left: cover from *Vintage Collections*, Capitol records
 Right: cover from British Archive of Country Music label

In 1957 Tex disbanded the Western Caravan but continued to work as a solo artist. Finally in 1965 Tex signed with Boone Records and again returned to the *Billboard* listings. Over the next decade, he made the charts eleven more times, and while none were of the caliber of "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke," they kept his name before the public, and he kept working. His most notable numbers in the later years were "Too Many Tigers" (1965), "Bottom of a Mountain" (1966), and the tongue-in-cheek, "The Night Miss Nancy Ann's Hotel for Single Girls Burned Down," on Monument in 1971. His last charted number on the Granite label came out in 1974.

By the early eighties, Tex Williams worked much less frequently as health problems began to slow him down. A bout with lung cancer ultimately made his biggest hit a self-fulfilling prophecy. He passed away on October 11, 1985.

Ironically, by the time of his death, interest in Western swing music had begun to resurge. Capitol Records issued a compact disc of his best

recordings in their *Vintage Collections* series, and another is available on the British Archive of Country Music label.

Associates remember him as one of the nicest guys in the entertainment business. He proved himself as a man and a Mason. One can hardly ask for more.

Good articles on Tex Williams include Ken Griffis, "The Tex Williams Story," *J E M F Quarterly* (15:1, 1979), pp. 5-9; and Rich Kienzle, "Tex Williams: Talking His Way to Fame," *The Journal of the American Academy for the Preservation of Old-Time Country Music* (16, August 1993), pp. 18-19. For his Masonic records, I appreciate the assistance of Al Donnici of the Grand Lodge of California, Albert Lewis of the York Rite Grand Bodies of California, and the staff of Al Malaikah Shrine Temple.

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

On the Masonic Newsfront...

**50-Year Member of the Social Order of the Beauceant
Honored by California Assemblies at 100th Birthday Celebration**

The members of California Assemblies, S.O.O.B., helped Pasadena Assembly No. 44, Pasadena, California, celebrate the 100th birthday of (Mrs. Rollo) Marie Adair, a 50-year member of the order who served Pasadena Assembly 6 times as President, the last being in the year 2000. She served Supreme Assembly as a Supreme officer in 1960 for Mrs. Carl Gutwein, in 1985 for Mrs. Paul E. Mihal, and in 1993 for Mrs. William Chant, and she has, also, been a Supreme Committee member many times, the most recent for Mrs. Fred Buxton in 2002.

According to Mrs. William Chant, P.S.W.P. of the S.O.O.B. and Templar magazine correspondent, Mrs. Adair is a dedicated and loving sister and is still active in her Assembly!

Born in Burlingame, Kansas, November 28, 1903, Marie attended schools there and was a member of the debate team, student council, and contributed articles to the student newspaper. She graduated with honors in French from Washburn College in 1927, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. She taught school in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and in California at Brawley and Huntington Park. She married Rollo in 1931, and they had one son Howard.

Marie is a 56-year member of O.E.S., serving as Worthy Matron 5 times; a member of White Shrine of Jerusalem, serving as Worthy High Priestess 4 times; and she presided 3 times in the Order of the Golden Slipper and is active in the Daughters of the Nile and the Order of Amaranth.

Mrs. Chant writes: "Marie has received many honors in her life, but she honors others by her continual positive attitude and good spirits. She told me: 'You know, there is something magic about being 100. You don't get the same attention at age 99, and I won't get it next year at 101!' That's our Marie!"



**Missouri Masonic Family Celebrates
Installation of Daughter/Granddaughter as
Worthy Matron, O.E.S.**

Michele Behrman Orantie, pictured to right, has been installed as the Worthy Matron of the Kansas, Oklahoma, Chapter No. 480 of the Order of Eastern Star. She is a native of New Cambria-Brookfield, Missouri.

Michele's father, Sir Knight Mike Behrman, is a member of Commandery No. 63 and Chapter No. 118. Her grandfather, Sir Knight Tom Behrman, is a Past Master and Past Commander of Commandery No. 63 and a Past High Priest of Chapter No. 118. Her great uncle, George Behrman, and her cousin, Dale Behrman, are both Master Masons. They are all members of Marceline Lodge No. 481, Marceline, Missouri. (submitted by Sir Knight Tom Behrman)



Knights Templar Afghan To Benefit The KTEF

The afghan is a tapestry throw made of 100% cotton with 360 picks per square inch. It has 2 American flags, one from 1776 and one from the present day. It, also, has our national bird, the bald eagle, and nine battle shields for the nine knights of Malta, who founded the Christian Crusaders and led to the Knights Templar period. The shields are from an original design that was taken from historical artwork of the Grand Lodge of England. There is a poem, "A Knight Templar," and four pictures from the past to present of knighthood. On the bottom are five Sir Knights, early to present with the far right showing a Knighting. These make great gifts, or buy one for yourself or to hang on a Commandery wall!

To order send check or money order for \$49.00 to: Stanley C. Buz, PO Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052. \$5.00 from each afghan will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.



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

A Tale of a Tail

by Dr. Stephen R. Greenberg 33°
KYCH

Author's Note: The following story was inspired by the words of my good friend, Illustrious Brother Glen Opp, 33°, 104 South Main St, Rawson, Ohio 45881

Residing in a Midwestern city was a family including a father, a bank teller; a mother, who was an ardent homemaker; and their 9-year-old son, Alexander. Despite a close family relationship, serious problems beset them. Their son, having been afflicted with poliomyelitis during his first years, was hampered greatly in his childhood activities. He could not take part in the games and sports offered at his school, nor engage in after school programs with his classmates.

His mother endeavored to plan things that her son could do around home. His father encouraged him to affiliate with a youth group; being a Mason, his father suggested the Order of DeMolay. The boy made an attempt to join this group, but his lack of social skills again interfered with the fun and recreation that he should have been enjoying.

His parents were alarmingly aware of his desolation and growing unhappiness. They became deeply concerned. Their friends advised them to seek professional help for the boy. The parents, however, believed that with more parental support and time for maturity Alexander would overcome his difficulty.

Unfortunately, the boy continued to withdraw within himself. It was now quite evident that he had become enclosed within a mantle of isolation. His classmates were forming close friendships; fun and games made life exciting for these children, but not for Alexander. He had no friends and no close companions with whom to share each day's events. While his classmates attended parties, he remained at home by himself. Both his parents and his teacher were convinced that his physical illness, which had deprived him of the ability to walk properly, was the root cause of Alexander's problems.

There seemed to be little that could be done for him. The boy had received much medical attention. He had been fitted with leg braces to assist his walking ability, but rejection and desolation had sunk deeply into his developing character.

One day, in the midst of this dire circumstance, Alexander's mother took him with her on a trip to a local department store. She had planned to be inside only for a short time, so she suggested that her son wait outside so he would not have to walk through the crowded shopping isles.

While standing outside, Alexander noticed a pet shop next to the store his mother had entered. The boy pressed his nose against the glass store window when he observed a group of small dogs, a family playing together. He was enthralled. He perceived that one of the puppies was not running or jumping with the others but remained curled up, a small furry ball in the corner of the pen. An attraction between boy and dog had struck!

The boy entered the pet shop and told the shopkeeper that he would like to buy that little dog. He was informed that the price was ten dollars. Filled with dismay, Alexander told the elderly man that he only had two dollars. "But son," replied the shopkeeper, "you would not be happy with this dog. He was born with one of his legs missing. He can't run or jump like the other dogs."

Alexander began to cry. Through his tears, he blurted out, "He will be my friend!" Then he pulled up his trouser legs revealing the braces that sustained his legs. "I can't run or jump either!"

The pet store owner was overcome with emotion. He reached into the store window, gently lifting out the deformed puppy and handed him to Alexander. "Here, son, is your dog. He was destined to be your companion."

The fire of happiness sprang into the boy's eyes. This was the greatest thrill he had ever known. The little dog, too, was aware that something wonderful had transpired. He, too, was no longer alone in this big world. He had found a friend as had Alexander! They were no longer outcasts. A new horizon of happiness was now before them.

Alexander's mother had quietly entered the pet shop and had witnessed this joyous moment. She was overwhelmed with happiness. This little dog had succeeded in bringing her son back to her and to his world. Through her tears of joy, she offered to pay for Alexander's new companion, but the elderly man refused to accept any money. What they had

all seen on that day was payment in the fullest. Before they left the shop, the little dog, now named "Love," was fitted with a little collar and a leash so he could always accompany his new friend on their travels together.

Little Love seemed at once to know that he had somehow received a command to become the friend and companion of a boy who so desperately needed the love they would share through their lives together.

A dog is truly a man's best friend. We should all strive to prove ourselves worthy of such sublime dedication!

Sir Knight Stephen R. Greenberg, 33°, KYCH, is a P.C. of Mizpah Commandery No. 53, Oak Lawn, Illinois, and the Recorder of St. Bernard Commandery No. 35 in Chicago, Illinois. He is an affiliate PC. of St. Elmo Commandery No. 64 in Chicago, Illinois, and Joliet Commandery No. 4 in Joliet, Illinois. Sir Knight Greenberg is a member of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation of the Grand Commandery of Illinois and is the Chairman of the Grand Commandery of Illinois Historian Committee. He resides at 418 Huron St, Park Forest, IL 60466-2204



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 \$135.00. (G.C. and P.G.C. add \$35.00 for gold decoration on cap visor.) The uniform includes white military style cap with insignia, short sleeve shirt, shoulder rank insignia, collar insignia, metal ribbon bar, name plate, plain black tie, tie clasp with cross and crown, and shipping and handling. Send us your cap size, shirt size, rank, Commandery name and number, choice of engraving on the tie clasp (plain/Knight Templary our state/Commandery name and number) to the address below. For further information request an order form for your state (include a stamped, self-addressed envelope) or e-mail: ccwinterhalter@aol.com Make checks payable to: Milford Commandery No. 11. Mail to: Milford Commandery No. 1, C/O Robert P. Winterhalter, P.O. Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Templars: Any of you who have anecdotes (either funny or informational) about a Templar, a group of Templars, a Commandery, a Grand Commandery, or the Grand Encampment, which might be of historical interest; please write it (by hand, if you wish), and send it to me. I will see that it is "laid up among the archives" of the Grand Encampment, to be printed in this magazine at an appropriate time and in any history published in this century: Jacob C. Baird, Chairman of the Committee on Templar History; 1334 Royal Road, Norwood, MO 65717-9466; new e-mail: jcbaird@getgoin.net



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 ladies.

With the high cost of health care today, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance Program is becoming a necessity for more and more of us. That's why it is good to know that you now have a choice of Medicare Supplement coverage under our plan at very affordable rates.

Under the Knights Templar Medicare

Supplement Plan, you will benefit in many ways: You have the freedom of choosing your own doctors and hospitals, there are no health questions or medical exams to qualify; there is no waiting period for pro-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.

DeMolays Across the Country Pay Tribute to DeMolay Founder Frank S. Land

It was a crisp November morning when International Master Councilor Peter Brusoe gathered with a few DeMolay dignitaries at Mt. Moriah Cemetery in Kansas City, Missouri, to pay tribute to our founder, Dad Frank S. Land.

Armed with 550 red and white carnations, Brother Brusoe started the morning with a prayer. Each flower was laid reverently, paying homage to a man whose vision was the beginning of DeMolay, and whose influence is still felt today in the heart of every DeMolay.

The 2003 Frank S. Land Memorial Day Observance brought a new way to honor our founder. Brusoe, along with International Congress Secretary Wendell Haney, raised funds to lay flowers on Dad Land's grave for the Observance.



"Wendell and I wanted to honor Dad Land in a unique way, to pay tribute to a man whose life has affected so many," Brusoe said. "We wanted to have an observance where individuals and chapters could see the impact their donation made. Each flower meant something. The amazing display of flowers spoke to the legacy Dad Land left, that continues with zeal even today."

Chapters and individuals responded enthusiastically. One flower honored founder Dad Land, three flowers represented the three bulwarks of DeMolay, and seven flowers represented the seven cardinal virtues. Pennsylvania made the first donation; they donated 84 flowers – one for each year of DeMolay.

DeMolay will benefit from the amazing display of flowers that were donated; half the proceeds from this endeavor will go to restoring Dad Land's Office in our Service and Leadership Center. The other half will be put directly to programs that will enhance the DeMolay experience.



Service & Leadership Center ♦ 10200 N.W. Ambassador Drive
Kansas City, MO 64153-1367
1-800-DEMOLAY ♦ fax: (816) 891-9062 ♦ www.demolay.org



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.

Needed/wanted: for St. Michaels 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. Neal Mimbs, 708 Jeanette Street, Cochran, GA 31014, (478) 934-4187, e-mail: neal217@higfoot.com

For sale: Knights Templar lapel flag pin has double-hasp American flag with Malta Knights Templar logo superimposed. Sale to benefit Pennsylvania's 154th Conclave Committee. Pins are \$4.00 each (minimum order is 5), postage included. Checks payable to 154th Annual Conclave Committee, and mail to Rev. William D. Hartman, 951 Bridge Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124

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.texasorkrite.org/ties.htm Check payable to San Antonio Commander, 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; O:349-9933; e-mail jnh.kt@hzhzlaw.com

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

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., PC.; 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: slate coaster commemorating the 100th anniversary of Samuel S. Yohe Commandery No. 81, Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, \$3.00 for one or \$2.50 for two or more, plus \$3.00 mailing. William H. Haynes, RR 2, Box 2537, Cresco, PA 18326

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. 10¹/_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 Flatbush 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 shekels for \$10.00 each or 2 for \$15.00, postpaid. Each coin is mounted in a 2x2 coin folder and comes with a sealed certificate of authenticity. Orders to Chuck Smith, 6559 Cypress Drive, Eastman, GA 31023, e-mail: chappy31023@yahoo.com

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 art 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 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, P.M., 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.; PO Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com

Fundraiser: Lodge auto tags with blue vinyl letters on white, 6 x12-inch aluminum, include lodge name and number, square and compass, F & AM (AF & AM, AAFM, etc.), city and state: \$8.00 each plus S & H or 5 at \$5.00, 10 at \$7.00, 20 at \$10.00 shipped to same address in US - minimum order of 5. One free tag with each ten ordered. 25% of proceeds to the Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund. Send info, check or money order to Ernest P Gentry, 893 Brookside Drive, Winder, GA 30680-2848, e-mail tagmaker@att.net

For sale: Syria Temple goblets, Pittsburgh, PA 1894-1917. Price list may be obtained by sending SASE to Charles A. Games, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, or e-mail charles.garnes@verizon.net and list will be returned by e-mail.

I have for sale Masonic square and compass emblems, made of solid aluminum, 3 and 112 inches high by 3 and 114 inches wide at the square. Price is \$5.00 each plus \$1.50 postage. 100% of sale goes to the KTEF or a York Rite charity of your choice. Raymond C. Brown, E.C.; 42 Unity Stage Road, Charlestown, NH 03603, (603) 826-5541

Sprig of Acacia pin: each handcrafted pin is 14 karat gold; it will make a nice gift for the newly raised Brother; price is \$40.00 each, including S & H. Also 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 benefit the KTEF. S. Kenneth Bard, 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., P.O. Box 9759, 3011 Old Dumbarton Rd., Richmond, VA

23228-0759, (804) 262-6551. The price is \$16.95 plus S & H. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.

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

Wanting to purchase: picture of George Washington as Master of the Lodge, not with hat, by Hatti E. Burgells. I have seen it in many lodges. Trent Merical, 2555 County Line Road, New Plymouth, ID 83655.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 30 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 needed are Iowa, Michigan, Hawaii, and Alaska. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 888-7585

For sale: York/Scottish Rite antique ring, dated 1901, with name extensively engraved and embossed, size 10 and 1/2, wt. 14.5 G., width 5/16 inch. Phone (386) 672-5858

Wanted to buy: Masonic cachets and first day covers, and also buying covers and stamp collections. G. B Adkins; Rt. 1, Box 152A; Keyser; WV 26726; (304) 788-3783; e-mail: gadkins@pennswoods.net

For sale: 5 Royal Arch Mason (various Iowa Chapters) sterling antique forks from 1908-1913, beautifully engraved. Photos on request. \$40.00 each or all 5 for \$150.00. Helen Wenger, 805 Eastmour Drive, Iowa City, IA 52246-2908, (319) 354-8551

For sale: Masonic promotional items. Represent Masonry with pride with your own custom, quality-imprinted promotional and presentation items, all reasonably priced to fit any budget. Choose from a variety: lapel pins, die cast coins, coffee mugs, pens, pencils, ornaments, belt buckles, key tags, and wood nickels, just to mention a few. Hand sketch and we will design camera-ready art for your customized promotional items. For a free brochure call or write Frank Looser, (800) 765-1728, 408 Ashlar Circle, Nashville, TN 37211, or e-mail customitemslheninteractive.com or web site www.cnfintracutie.com 3% of profits go to KTEF.

Help! A retired school teacher, Past Master, and grand officer asks your help in attempting to complete a wheat penny collection he has been working on for a number of years. If you wish to get rid of old "wheaties" lying around in your closet or trade duplicates, I'd like to correspond with you. No dealers need write as this is only a hobby. I will answer all letters, e-mails, etc. Warren A. Williams, 258 The Ledges, Craftsbury, VT 05826-9502, (802) 586-2825 or awaw@kingcon.com

Buying all US and foreign coins, paper money, tokens, medals, silver, proof sets. Also selling \$20.00, \$10.00, and \$5.00 gold coins. Call for quotes. Buyer has 40 years experience. Donating a % of profits to the KTEF. Randy Mogren, 8 Gould Street, Millbury, MA 01527, (508) 865-4816

Wanting someone, Please, to make me an afghan throw for a reasonable price using my nine WWII military ribbons for a pattern. Glenn L. Knapp, 14100 W. 90th Terrace, Apt. 412, Lenexa, KS 66215-5427

For sale: Meadowridge Memorial Park, Maryland: in a prime location in the Masonic area are 4 beautiful burial sites with 2 vaults; will sell in parcels of two or all four for \$10,000.00 For information call James Roberts, (757) 490-0974

