

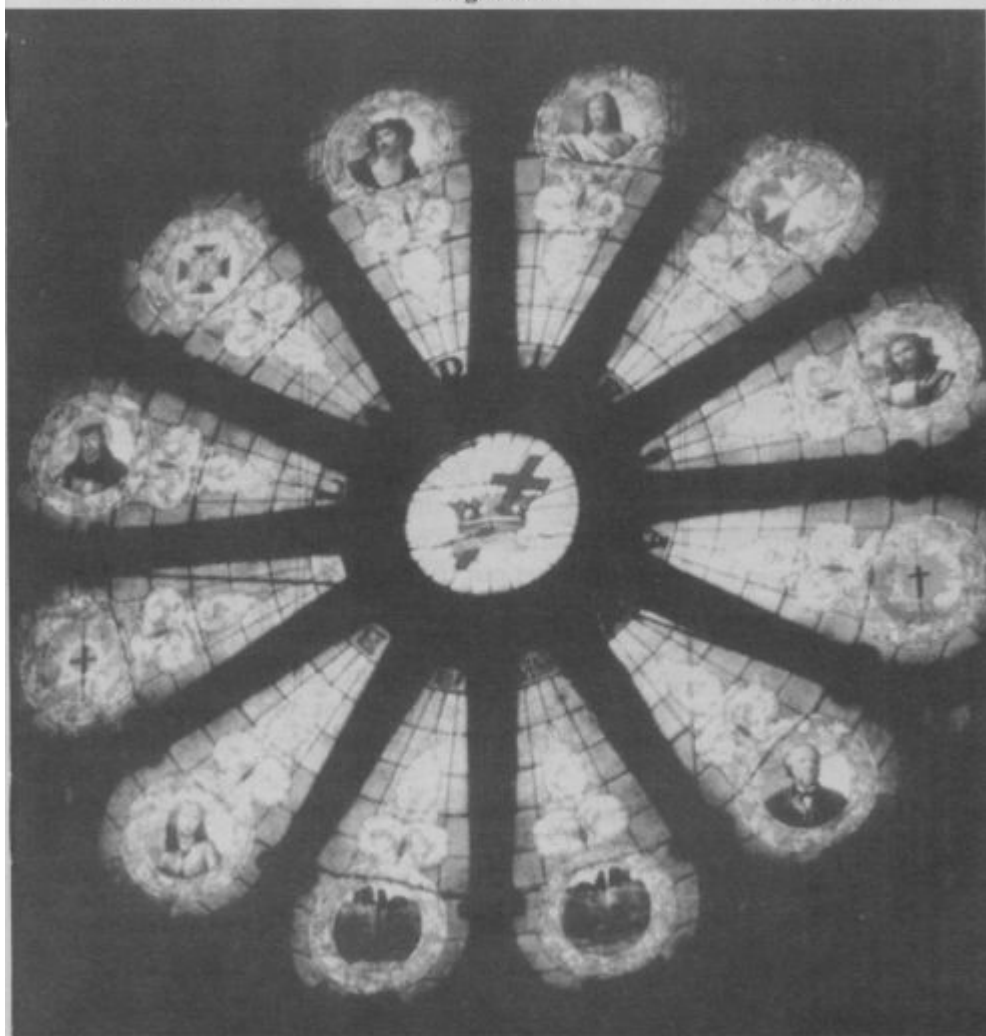


# Knight Templar

VOLUME L

August 2004

NUMBER 8



**The Rose Window in the Temple of the Minneapolis Valley, Scottish Rite is a tribute to Christianity and the Knights Templar.**

**Read all about it and view more pictures, starting on page 21.**

## Grand Master's Message for August 2004

It is hard to believe, but one year has already passed since this corps of officers was installed in St. Louis. It has been a very interesting year, one in which several things have been accomplished. But there is much yet to be done. The Department Conferences have gone well, and we are planning for the next series, which begins next month. There will be several new subjects presented in these conferences, and we look forward to seeing you there. Subjects are listed on the web page, which is [www.knightstemplar.org](http://www.knightstemplar.org)



The Rules and Regulations and the Drill Schedules, which will be used in Houston in 2006, are also on the web page. The "local" Triennial Committee will have met for the second time at this writing, and they are working toward a great Conclave

The Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee has taken the lead in helping us to get out of the loan business and into the scholarship or grant business. The Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania has elected to get out of the loan business. They are to be congratulated for making this decision.

Many Grand Commanderies have elected and installed a new corps of officers, and we wish them well in their endeavors to lead Templar Masonry to new heights. Please call or write if we can be of assistance.

Remember: Every Christian Mason **MUST** have the opportunity to become a Knight Templar.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kenneth B. Fischer".

Kenneth B. Fischer  
Grand Master, KCT, GCT

# Knight Templar

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

AUGUST On page 2 Grand Master Kenneth B. Fischer has important information for the Commanderies, most with a new line of officers, as they begin the fall season that lies directly ahead. Since the Grand Master has renewed his emphasis on drill teams for this triennium, there are more drill teams pictured, starting on page 7. You won't want to miss seeing these wonderful groups, and you certainly will want to join a team; many new ones are arising across the nation! See page 11 for biographies and pictures of the two Grand Prelates of the Grand Encampment, and we are proud to print pictures and information on the Rose Window (cover picture), a celebration of the Templar heritage; it starts on page 21 (but you *must* see the colors at the Temple in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to truly appreciate it). The story of Brother Clyde McCoy concludes in this issue, and country singers and "Brothers" Charlie and Ira Louvin are profiled in a story, starting on page 25. As usual, we bring news and information galore, so enjoy this month's issue!

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### August 2004

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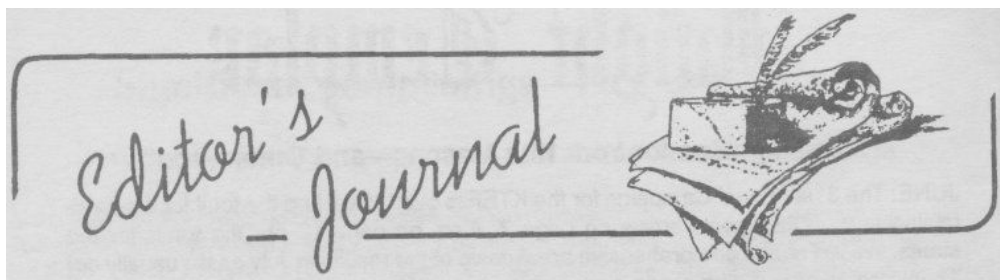
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When you order any of the items below, make check or money order payable to: the Grand Encampment, and send to: Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

**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:** From the 62nd Triennial Conclave, we still have available 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 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 of the 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 is history!*

*The 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign is in the  
planning stages!*

**And the Eye Foundation moves on...**

Sir Knights, we are in the quiet period of fund-raising, between Annual Voluntary Campaigns, but the staff and Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation are working hard on behalf of our great charity.

While the staff of the Foundation is busy tying up loose ends of the previous campaign, they are also busy administering the cases that are sent to them. There is always a lot of activity from answering questions regarding services from our Sir Knights and the public, to determining the

validity of applications, to the approval of cases, to the coordination of services, to the final payment for services rendered. Sir Knight Marvin Selock (P.G.C. Illinois), office administrator, and his fine staff are always on the job making our Foundation work and helping to provide care to those who have nowhere else to turn.

Your Trustees are also busy planning the future direction of the Foundation and determining how we will achieve our goals. By the time you read this article, we will already have met in Chicago for our annual meeting to plan for the future. We will have discussed fund-raising, investments, policies, goals, and the directions in which to take our Foundation in the future.

You are an integral part of our great charity. If you have suggestions or ideas concerning the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, please contact any of the Trustees, which include the elected officers of the Grand Encampment. We are always ready to listen to the advice and ideas of the Sir Knights.

The time is right to start preparing for the 37th Campaign. What will you and your Commandery do to make it even better than the 36th Campaign?

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 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

#### Grand Master's Club

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No. 4,399—John L. Dibrell, Jr. (TX)	No. 4,405—Paul Edwin Crowell (IN)
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Phillip Volsic, Jr. (MI)	Robert A. Colbourn (CT)

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in honor of David Cudd, 33°  
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Carl E. Starkey (TX), 33°  
in honor of Gerald Simpson, 33°  
Carl E. Starkey (TX), 33°  
in honor of Bradley K. Johnson, 33°

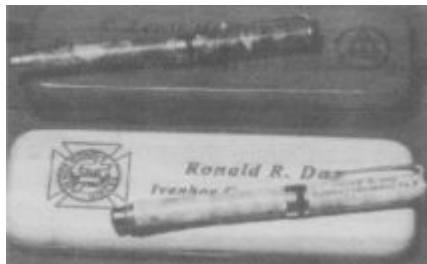
### Commandery Sale of Pocket Watch to Benefit Knights Templar Eye Foundation



Trinity Commandery No. 20, Tulsa, Oklahoma, is offering a pocket watch with a percentage of sales going to the KTEF. The insignias of the Blue Lodge and the 3 bodies of the York Rite are on the face; there are gold hands and red numerals. Features include scratch-resistant crystal, non-fade dial face, long-life silver oxide battery, precision quartz movement, lifetime warranty on movement, and water-resistant case. Price is \$50 each, including S & H. Checks and money orders, payable to Trinity Commandery No. 20. Mail to: Trinity Commandery No. 20, Attn: Dale Braden, P.O. Box 2316, Broken Arrow, OK 74013

### Sale of Masonic Pens Benefits Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Handcrafted in the US, these executive pens are made of quality mechanisms and your choice of natural burl woods. Pen uses Parker roller-ball and gel ink refills. The unique design allows cap to screw in place in both the open and closed positions. The Signature Titanium Gold Roller Ball Pen is \$90.00, and the Signature Titanium Gold Fountain Pen is \$100.00. Both include case with organizational logo, and there will be a donation to the KTEF for each pen sold.



Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery after order is made. **For more information and order form,** contact: Custom Handcrafted Woodwork, Ronald R. Day, 2527 Willow Bend Drive, Bryan, TX 77802-2461; or call: (979) 775-3565; or e-mail: [ronday@cox-internet](mailto:ronday@cox-internet)

**Part II—Drill Teams at the 62nd Triennial Conclave  
Performed on Saturday, August 16, 2003  
at the Adam's Mark Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri**



**Raper Commandery No. 1, Indianapolis, Indiana**



**Greenfield Commandery No. 39, Greenfield, Indiana**





**Miami Commandery No. 22, Lebanon, Ohio**



**Athens Commandery No. 15, Athens, Ohio**



**Marietta Commandery No. 50, Marietta, Ohio**





**Mt. Vernon Commandery No. 1, Columbus, Ohio**



**Dallas Commandery No. 6, Dallas, Texas**

## **Why York Rite Masonry?**

by Sir Knight George J. Harrison  
D.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Iowa

As Knights Templar, it is our responsibility to educate our uninformed Brethren as to what the York Rite is and why it is the logical path to further Light in Masonry for every Christian Mason.

When you were made a Mason, you were informed that two pursuits were recommended to your attention, the pursuit of further light in Masonry and charity toward your fellow man. As a York Rite Mason, both of these pursuits are amply satisfied. Let us first consider furthering Light in Masonry.

During the degrees of Blue Lodge Masonry, we were told that when we completed the third degree we would receive the secrets of a Master Mason that would permit us to travel in foreign countries and receive wages as

such. When we were about to receive the secrets, they were lost and we were given a substitute with the promise that we would receive the true secrets when they were recovered.

As a Royal Arch Mason, you found and received the long-lost Master's *Word*. Therefore, *"The Royal Arch degree is the complement of the Master Mason degree, the unfolding into a second volume the history of that which was lost to its final recovery. Without the Royal Arch, the Master Mason degree is like a song half sung, a tale partly told, or a promise unfulfilled."*

After the Word is recovered, the question then arises: "How was the word preserved, and how came it to be in the place where you found it?" This is the subject of the first two Council degrees. In the first of these degrees, the Royal Master, you were given the assurance that the secret would be preserved and you received a hint as to where it would be hidden. In the Select Master degree you learned how and why it was preserved in the place where you found it in the Royal Arch.

The three Orders of the Commandery of Knights Templar can be summarized by one **word - Continuation**. The Order of the Red Cross emphasizes the almighty force and importance of truth and acts as a conduit between Ancient Craft Masonry and Christianity. The Order of Malta is the first of the Christian Masonic Orders and is based on the crusading Knights of St. Johns Hospitalier, Knights of Rhodes and Knights of Malta, all of which are names used to identify the Knights during different parts of their history. The Order of the Temple, the last of the Commandery Orders, is based on the Poor Fellow Soldiery of the Temple of Solomon and is considered by many to be the most solemn and impressive degree in Masonry.

From a charitable aspect, a York Rite Mason is involved through his membership in a number of very worthwhile philanthropies. The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International and its constituent local and state Chapters support a research grant for Central Auditory problems at Ft. Collins, Colorado. The General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International and its constituencies support a research grant for Arteriosclerosis. Finally, the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar of the USA sponsors research and funding for correctable eye problems. At a state level, the various Grand Commanderies are very active in raising funds for the Eye Foundation and in securing funds for corrective eye surgery for residents of their area of responsibility. Many Grand Commanderies also support a charity within their jurisdiction. For example, the Grand Commandery of Iowa Charity Fund will provide a 50% match for charitable contributions made by local Iowa Commanderies.

So the next time a Master Mason asks why he should become a member of the York Rite, explain to him how the York Rite emphasizes and expands the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, augments its teachings, and that it will provide him with the opportunity to help in important charitable pursuits.

Sir Knight George J. Harrison is the Deputy Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Iowa. He is a member of Columbian Commandery No. 18, Sioux City, Iowa. His address is 4162 Sherwood Terrace, Sioux City, Iowa 51106-4046.

## **Meet Your Right Eminent Grand Prelates of the Grand Encampment-2003-2006**

### **William Q. Moore**

#### **Right Eminent Grand Prelate-2003-2006**

William Q. Moore was born September 27, 1920, in Dallas, Texas. He attended North Texas Agricultural College in Arlington, Texas.

After a short tour of duty at Pensacola Naval Air Station, he returned to make Houston, Texas, his home. Several years later he graduated from the University of Houston, receiving a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting.

He married Carrie Louise Reichardt, and they have a son, Harry Robert, and their grandchildren: Jill Diane, Russell Scott, and Ashley Lynn.

His professional activities include enrollment to practice before the Internal Revenue Service. He is partially retired at the present time.

His Masonic affiliations are: Temple Lodge No. 4, A.F. & A.M. (1943); Washington No. 2, RAM.; Houston Council No. 1, R & S.M. (1944); Park Place Commandery No. 106, Knights Templar (1945); transferred to St. Louis, MO; demitted to St. Louis Commandery No. 1; worked with a group of Sir Knights in St. Charles Commandery U.D., which in 1968 received charter as St. Charles Commandery No. 73; was first elected Commander in 1968; returned to Houston, Texas (1969); demitted to Park Place Commandery No. 106; appointed Honorary Past



Commander; appointed Excellent Prelate (1970), a station maintained for 20 years at which time he was appointed Prelate Emeritus (1991); Gulf Coast York Rite College No. 106 (1988); received Excalibur Award from Park Place Commandery (1996); Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptors (1997); Valley of Houston, AAS.R., S.J. (2001); Royal Order of Scotland (2001); dual membership with Houston Lodge No. 1189 (2002); dual membership with Houston Commandery No. 95; appointed Excellent Prelate (2002); appointed Prelate Scottish Rite (2003); appointed to Resurrection Tabernacle No. 21, HRAKTP (2003).

William Moore was appointed as Right Eminent Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment by Grand Master Kenneth B. Fischer on August 20, 2003 in St. Louis, Missouri.

## **Thomas G. Keithly**

### **Right Eminent Grand Prelate-2003-2006**

"Padre" was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and lived his early years in Springfield, where his father was Bridge Engineer for the FRISCO Railroad. A Reserve Officer, his father was called to active duty in May 1940, and continued through a thirty-two year career in the army, so Tom got to continue his education in various places (he began the seventh grade in Columbia, SC, continued it in Snyder, OK, and finished it in Fayetteville, NC, all in one academic year!). He returned to Springfield, Missouri, to finish high school in 1949. He earned a BA in Philosophy at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA in 1953, and went on to study Theology at the University of Oxford, England, from which he received a BA and MA in Theology.

Padre married the former Virginia Lee Postles of Virginia in 1955. They have three children: Becky, an architect, who lives with her husband, CDR Roy L. Wood, and daughters Kathryne and Sarah in Herndon, VA; Hugh, a civil engineer, who lives with his wife Cynthia, and daughter Grace in Sydney, Australia; and Mark, who lives with his wife Carmen in Austin, TX, where he works with Texas Parks and Wildlife.

He was ordained in the Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri in 1956, and served his first church in a little known Ozark town called Branson (well, it was little known then!). Having Texas family all his life, the Keithlys migrated there (his parents retired in San Antonio, where his sister's family lived), where he has served churches in Fort Worth, Dallas, Brownwood, Paris, Terrell, and back to Dallas. He says he is now retired, but is kept busier than he needs to be. He was President of the Ministerial Alliance in Brownwood and



also in Paris, Texas, and helped organize voluntary chaplaincy services for hospitals in both of those communities.

An Eagle Scout, Padre has served as an adult leader in several capacities. He holds the Vigil Honor in the Order of the Arrow, and was awarded the Silver Beaver in recognition for service in Comanche Trails Council in Brownwood. He served on the Board, and as Chairman of Central Texas Opportunities (a Community Action Agency under the "War on Poverty") and also Chairman of the Brownwood Head Start Board. He served on the boards of shelters for families abused in Brownwood and Paris.

Raised a Master Mason in Brownwood Lodge No. 279 in 1970, Brother Tom served as Worshipful Master in 1981-82. He served as D.D.G.M. in Masonic District No. 76 in 1983, and Masonic District No. 2 in 1989. He was Grand Chaplain of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas in 2000. He is an affiliated member of Edwin J. Kiest Lodge No. 1310 in Dallas, Tranquility Lodge 2000,

and Texas Lodge of Research, of which he is currently Chaplain.

He received the York Rite degrees and orders in 1971. He was High Priest of Brownwood Chapter No. 141 in the Royal Arch in 1980-81, and served the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas as Grand Chaplain in 1982 and D.D.G.H.P. for District 33 in 1984. He is an affiliated member of Dallas Chapter No. 47. He was Thrice Illustrious Master of Brownwood Council No. 86 in 1983-84, served the Grand Council of Texas as Grand Chaplain in 1991, and D.D.G.M. for District 7 in 1993. He is an affiliated member with Dallas Council No. 18.

Sir Knight Keithly served Brownwood Commandery No. 22 as Eminent Commander in 1975. He served Grand Commander Charles Wesbrooks as Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of Texas in 1978, and in 1986 was presented the Knights Templar Cross of Honor by Grand Commander Thomas C. Yantis. He is an affiliated member of Dallas Commandery No. 6, which honored him with the Ex Caliber Award in 2003.

Padre was ordained in Nazareth Tabernacle XXXIV, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests in San Angelo, Texas in 1981, and is a Knight Commander, having served as Preceptor in 1998. He is a member of St. Timothy Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine in Fort Worth, where he is currently in the officers' line as Prelate. He served as Grand High Prelate in 1998. He was inducted in Texas Priory No. 23, KYCH, in Waco in 1985, and served as Prior in 1998.

A charter member of North Texas York Rite College No. 118 in Sherman, he was given the Gold Award in 1994, served as Governor in 1997-98, and is an Associate Regent, having received the Purple Cross in 2000. He is an affiliated member with Lyle Cross York Rite College No. 147 in Dallas. He is also a Knight Mason of Rose of Sharon Council No. 49 in 2001, and is a Knight Preceptor.

Padre received the Scottish Rite degrees in Waco 1977, and demitted to the Valley of Dallas in 1986 where he served as Chaplain in 2000, and is currently Senior Warden of the Rose Croix Chapter. He was honored with the KCCH in 2003. He received the degrees of the Royal Order of Scotland in 1983. He was inducted into the Shrine in San Angelo, TX in 1978 and served Suez Temple as Chaplain. He is currently a member of Hella Temple in Garland, TX.

Tom says that looking back and reflecting on his Masonic history, he is amazed at all the places he has been, and things he has done - things he never dreamed of when he was raised a Master Mason thirty-four years ago. But when all is said and done, the title he is proudest of is to be called a "Brother." And of all the friends he has made, many in high places, the closest to his heart is his Masonic Mentor, Allan I. Sutton, who Raised him a Master Mason, and taught him his proficiency work for the Blue Lodge Degrees. 'I salute him!'

Sir Knight Keithly was appointed Right Eminent Grand Prelate by Grand Master Kenneth B. Fischer at the 62nd Triennial on August 20, 2003 in St. Louis, Missouri.

"No great improvements in the lot of mankind are possible, until a great change takes place in the fundamental constitution of their modes of thought."

John Stuart Mill (1806-1873), *Autobiography*

## Memorial Day Services with Sir Knights and S.O.O.B. in Texas



Memorial Day services were held at Pecan Grove Cemetery, McKinney, Texas, where 203 veterans from the Civil War to the Vietnam conflict are buried, and Knights Templar of McKinney No. 34, Denison No. 24, Dallas No. 6, DeMolay No. 20, Denton No. 45, A. C. Garrett No. 103, and Tancred No. 82 participated in the presenting of the colors (left). Dallas Chapter, R.A.M., contributed water as in past years. S.O.O.B. members who helped distribute the water were: Mrs. Jerrel Jones, Mrs. Lloyd Carpenter, and Mrs. Duane Hosick of McKinney No. 263; Mrs. Thomas Snyder, Oak Cliff No. 145; and Mrs. Rex Lewis and Mrs. Harold Collum, Dallas No. 63.

Two much-loved congressmen were present: Honorable Sam Johnson, a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam conflicts and a POW for 7 years in Hanoi, and Honorable Ralph Hall. Both spoke of keeping America safe and praised our service men and women.



Honorable Sam Johnson and wife Shirley



Honorable Ralph Hall



Left to right, front: Mrs. Brian Ball, Mrs. Clarence Loney, Mrs. Jerrel Jones, Mrs. Thomas Snyder, Mrs. Harold Collum; back: Mrs. Rex Lewis, Mrs. Duane Hosick, Mrs. Lloyd Carpenter.

## Recipients Of The Grand Encampment Membership Jewel

- 489. Robert Charles Peeler, Salisbury Commandery No. 13, Salisbury NC. (Jewel issued on 10-30-2003.)
- 490. Kevin E. Weaver, Ascalon Commandery No. 16, St. Louis, MO. 3-17-2004.
- 491. Donald J. Placko, Holyrood Commandery No. 32, Berea, OH. 3-17-2004.
- 492. James E. Richards, Sr., Warren Commandery No. 39, Warren, OH. 3-17-2004.
- 493. Vader D. Webb, Eu Tah Commandery No. 66, Toledo, OH. 3-17-2004.
- 494. George C. Gensamer, Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, PA. 6-9-2004.
- 495. Raymond De Vault, Goshen Commandery No. 50, Goshen, IN. 6-10-2004.
- 496. Herbert Glenn Beck, Morristown Commandery No. 22 and Kingsport Commandery No. 33, Morristown and Kingsport, TN. 6-10-2004.
- 497. Richard J. Brady, St. Johns Commandery No. 20, Youngstown, OH. 6-30-2004.
- 498. Riley S. Cassell, St. Bernard Commandery No. 51, Dover, OH. 6-30-2004.
- 499. Charles E. Ebright, St. Bernard Commandery No. 51, Dover, OH. 6-30-2004.



## Ascension Day Service at Berkshire Nursing Home in New York

Sir Knights Marty Matlak, Howie Austin, Bob Smith, and Ralph Castro of Patchogue Commandery No. 65, Islip, New York, were awarded certificates by Roberta Young, the activities director of the Berkshire Nursing Home following an Ascension Day service at the home. The Sir Knights assisted Reverend Juanita Hilsenbeck with the service and afterwards awarded gifts to the oldest mom and the mom with the most children/grandchildren. Each lady was given a stuffed animal, and all the residents were given large print reading material. Below left, the four Sir Knights receive their certificates from Ms. Young. Below right, Sir Knights with a resident. To volunteer at Berkshire, call (631) 587-0600, and ask for Roberta Young.



Raymond du Puy succeeded Gerard as Master in 1118. He also conceived of the need for military defense against their warlike Moslem neighbors. Securing the approval of King Baldwin II and of the Patriarch of Jerusalem, du Puy developed a military arm within his organization which soon rivaled the new Templar Order in feats of bravery and skill. In later years, while the Templars defended the right in battle, the Hospitallers maintained the left of the line. However, until the end of their active existence as a fighting force on the Island of Malta in 1798, their initial concern and attention was directed toward their function as a hospital.

When the Order of St. John assumed its military role, Raymond du Puy added a regulation for their conduct, which included the following admonition," . . . and to practice all of the other moral and religious virtues; so that, inflamed with charity, they shall not fear to take the sword in hand, and to expose themselves with prudence, temperance, and energy, to every kind of danger, for the defense of the glory of Jesus Christ and of the sacred cross, in the cause of justice and in that of the widows and orphans." The Chivalric Freemason of today has subscribed to these identical sentiments.

In 1187 Jerusalem was captured by the Saracens. The headquarters of the Knights of St. John was moved to Margate, where they had maintained a hospital, and later to Acre, the last stronghold of the Christian forces in the Holy Land. Finally, in May of 1291, the remnants of the Christian armies were driven from Acre. The Hospitallers, and the Templars took ship to Cyprus where they remained for a number of years.

The Knights of St. John secured reinforcements and financial aid from their Priorities in Europe. They purchased ships and began to patrol the Mediterranean Sea. They very successfully opposed the Moslem pirates and slavers that infested the shipping lanes and opened the sea routes for peaceful trade and pilgrimages.

Desiring a home of their own, the Hospitallers attacked the Island of Rhodes, a pirate haven, and occupied it on August 15, 1310. Improving the fortifications of the island and the harbor facilities, the Order continued to police the sea lanes of the area. At this period of their existence they acquired the name of Knights of Rhodes.

When the Templars were suppressed in 1312, a great amount of their property was turned over to the Knights of Rhodes (Hospitallers), further enriching that organization. It has also been stated, without foundation, that a number of Templars joined the Order of St. John at that time.

In 1320 the Order of St. John was reorganized into 8 divisions, or languages, with one of the principal officers in charge of each country. These



were: The Grand Commander, Provence; The Grand Marshal, Auvergne; The Grand Hospitaller, France; The Grand Admiral, Italy; The Grand Conservator, Aragon; The Grand Bailiff, Germany; The Grand Chancellor, Castile; and The Grand Turcopolier, England. The Grand Master always resided at the headquarters, at this time, Rhodes.

In 1480 the Island of Rhodes was besieged by the Ottoman Turks under the Emperor Mohammed II, who had captured Constantinople in 1453. After a number of bloody battles, wherein the Turks were repulsed by the Knights, the Moslems withdrew with heavy casualties.

The Turkish Sultan, Suleiman II, the Magnificent, attacked the Island in 1522 with 400 ships and 140,000 men. After a valiant defense for 6 months and finally being reduced to starvation, the Knights were compelled to surrender. Because of their valiant and knightly conduct during the hostilities, the Hospitallers were permitted to withdraw from the island with all of the honors of war. The knights sailed to the Island of Candia (Crete) and many returned to their European preceptories.

Emperor Charles V of Spain granted the Island of Malta to the Order in 1530, as a sovereign state, under his dominion. The Order changed its name to "The Sovereign Order of Knights of Malta." They again took up their quest of securing the sea lanes of the Mediterranean. Their activities included attacking Turkish ships and freeing the Christian galley slaves. This was objectionable to Suleiman II, and regretting his former generosity toward the knights, he attacked the Island of Malta. The battle raged for 4 months in 1561 and after half of the knights had been slain and reinforcements reached them from Europe, the Turks withdrew, having lost 25,000 men who were killed in the enterprise.

For the next 200 years the seagoing Knights maintained their patrol of the Mediterranean Sea. When the French Revolution occurred in the 1780's, the Order sided with the French Monarchy. Napoleon took control of Malta in 1798 and ejected the knights. England gained control of the Island in 1814 by the terms of the Treaty of Paris.

The European Pories of the Order had been pursuing their separate interests for decades. With the loss of the Island of Malta the Order of St. John began to disintegrate. The Order had been expelled from England during the Protestant Reformation by Henry VIII. The Republic of France dissolved the Order in that country in 1792. Charles IV of Spain combined the Pories of Aragon and Castile into the Royal Spanish Order of St. John, with himself as Grand Master in 1802. This left only the Pories of Germany and Italy intact.

***to be continued...***

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

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:jcbaird@getgoin.net)



**KCT and GCT Award Recipients:** A 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. The emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use is required for the GCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is \$8.50 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the GCT emblem is \$10.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Contact: Jon Patrick Sweet, 7474 Benton Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001, or phone (303) 430-8483

## How Will You Pay for Expenses That Medicare Doesn't Cover?

You owe it to yourself to find out about the Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance designed for Sir Knights and their 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 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.

## **Part II: Memories of Brother Clyde McCoy**

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

The McCoy's invested heavily in a night club venture in Denver, Colorado, in 1955. Clyde had disbanded his large orchestra and planned to stay active on the musical scene with a scaled-down ensemble, primarily at his own establishment. Unfortunately, the enterprise was a financial disaster. The dinner club failure represented a severe financial loss for Clyde, and he immediately resumed touring to recoup his fortunes.

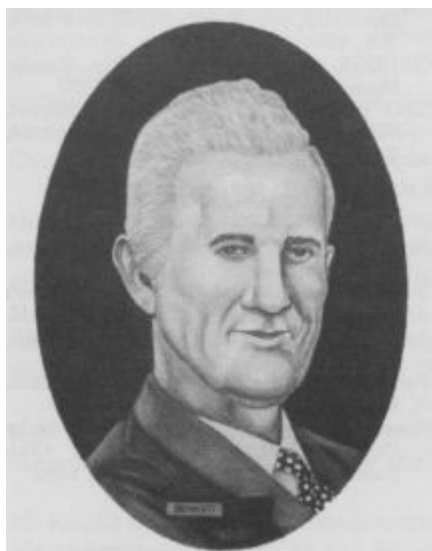
Working constantly with his 7-piece ensemble, he met with an enthusiastic reception at every appearance. He

traveled coast to coast, playing those driving Dixieland arrangements. His brilliant trumpet performances enjoyed undiminished acclaim from enthusiastic audiences. Clyde was on the road again and would never stop.

A number of McCoy alumni moved on to other prominent orchestras over the years, before and after WW II. Prominent among those names were pianist Lou Busch (a.k.a. Joe "Fingers" Carr), trombonist Eddie Kusby, and vocalist Rosalind Marquis - all signing on with the renowned Hal Kemp organization. Another McCoy alumnus, pianist Jack Fina, became an important member of the Freddie Martin Orchestra before organizing his own fine band.

Clyde and the lovely Maxine finally settled in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1978. A luxurious condominium became their musical headquarters between road trips.

Clyde fulfilled appearance commitments, usually with a small Dixieland combo, until the mid-1980s. The quality of his performance never deteriorated, and he willingly played the numbers which his legion of fans had known for so many years - and loved. Who can forget Clyde's rousing solos on numbers like "Black and Tan Fantasy," "Streamline Strut," "Tear It Down," "Wah Wah Lament," "Twelfth Street Rag," his original theme, "A Lonely Gondolier," and Bix Beiderbecke's old favorite, "Jazz Me Blues"? The Kentucky trumpeter had enough evergreen numbers in his repertoire to play an entire evening of requests, without playing a current hit tune.



Clyde McCoy, 1966  
Artwork by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett

Clyde was a dynamo of energy. During his days at home in Memphis, he often tutored young and promising trumpet students. His entire life was music, and he never stopped prospecting for talent. He loved to share his own knowledge and expertise with a deserving protégé.

Unfortunately, the long happy union never produced children for Clyde and Maxine. Possibly, that was one reason the McCoy's continued traveling and performing for audiences as long as Clyde's health would permit.

He played a concert in Sarasota, Florida, in 1985 at age 81, his final public appearance. The delighted audience refused to allow Clyde to leave the stage after playing his old theme, "Sugar Blues." They demanded an encore of the same number, and he was happy to oblige. It was a fitting farewell for the aging trumpeter; ending a professional career which spanned 68 years, from a beginning on the Cincinnati river boats in 1917, a rare achievement for any professional musician.

Clyde went into retirement as his health began to fail. The early stages of Alzheimer's disease were diagnosed, and he steadily lost ground. Maxine adamantly rejected medical advice to admit her beloved Clyde to an extended care facility. She turned their home into a virtual private hospital and became his only caregiver. Her beloved Clyde died in her arms in their home on June 11, 1990, at age 86. That was the way they both wanted it to end.

Private memorial services were offered on Friday, June 14, 1990, at the Memorial Park Rotunda in Memphis, where Clyde McCoy's mortal remains were entombed in

the mausoleum. It was the final curtain call for one of America's musical pioneers and an artist of great ability.

Clyde McCoy's life was a model of good citizenship, exhibited by a Freemason who knew the meaning of "square work, and square work only." He was a credit to his profession and a beacon of inspiration to countless Freemasons who knew him through his music, if not in person. Clyde Lee McCoy exemplified a legacy of everything that is great and good in our Craft, and we rejoice in his life as we revere his memory.

## Reference and Information Source

- VIRGIL JONES CARRINGTON: *The Hatfields and the McCoy's*, pub: University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N.C., 1948  
 DAVE DEXTER, JR.: *Playback*, pub: Billboard Publications, New York, N.Y., 1976  
 JULIUS MATTFELD: *Variety Music Cavalcade*, pub: Prentice-Hall, New York, N.Y., 1952  
 GEORGE T. SIMON: *The Big Bands*, Macmillan Co., New York City, 1967  
 LEO WALKER: *The Big Band Almanac*, Vinewood Enterprises, Hollywood, California, 1978

## Miscellaneous

- Brad McCuen: Biographical annotator notes, Hindsight Records  
 Bregman, Vocco, and Conn, Inc., Music Publishers Archives of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. & AJvL Archives of Kosair Temple, AAONMS, Louisville, Kentucky  
 Family archives and interview with Mrs. Maxine McCoy, Memphis, Tennessee  
*Discography of the Clyde McCoy Orchestra* by Charles Garrod, Joyce Record Club Publication, Zephyrhills, Florida, 1990

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

## **The Rose Window**

by Sir Knight Edgar Blake III, P.C., Naval Commandery No. 19,  
Vallejo, California, and Dept. Inspector

The Rose Window is located in the Temple of Minneapolis Valley, Scottish Rite. The address is: 2011 Dupont Avenue, S.; Minneapolis; MN 55405-2709. The phone number is: (612) 871-1500. If you wish to see the window, call and arrange for a time. They were most cordial to us.

The window was designed by our Grandfather, Dr. Joseph Beaumont Hingeley, a former pastor of the Laurel Methodist Episcopal Church, then serving as the Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota. He designed it in honor of Sir Knight and Bishop Charles Henry Fowler. The window was donated to the church by Zion Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar of Minneapolis. Chosen to draw the drapes for the actual unveiling of the window was Miss Margaret Edmunda Hingeley (Blake), daughter of Dr. Hingeley. She was twelve years old at the time.

The principal gable at the end of Franklin Avenue facade features the 24-foot window divided into 12 divisions or "petals", all beautifully glazed with leaded stained glass in the mode used by European craftsmen of the time: crushed colored glass fused together, then joined by applications of lead. Five of the twelve depict various faces of Christ as taken from great paintings and are illustrative of the Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. Five sections show, as medallions, the Red Cross, Maltese Cross, the Templar Cross, the Passion Cross, and the Nine-pointed Star. The remaining two sections show the medallion of Sir Knight and Bishop Fowler and part of the Wall of Jerusalem, bearing the inscription "Zion Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar, to Sir Knight Bishop Charles Fowler."

When we visited the Scottish Rite Temple this past summer, we gave them a picture of Grandfather Hingeley in his Past Commander's uniform and another in his Grand Prelate robe. We also gave them an original copy of the dedication program of February 8, 1908.

It helped to clear up for them the question of the date of the dedication of the Window. They had thought it was done in 1895. This material will be added to their archives for the history of the building.

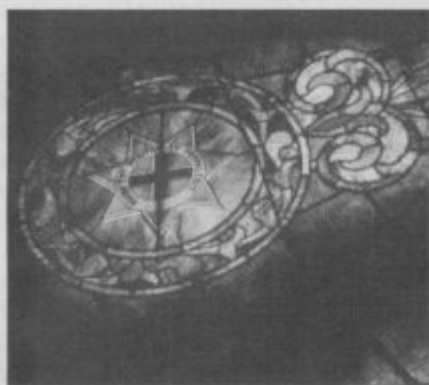
The following pictures give you an idea of the beauty and magnificence of the Rose Window; however, the only way to really appreciate the magnificence of it is to see it in reality. We are still in awe of its beauty.

Sir Knight Edgar Blake III is an Inspector of Dept. V, Div. B, the Grand Commandery of California, and a member and Past Commander of Naval Commandery No. 19, Vallejo, California. He resides at 352 Vista Grande, Pacheco, CA 94553-5277.

**Pictures start on page 22**

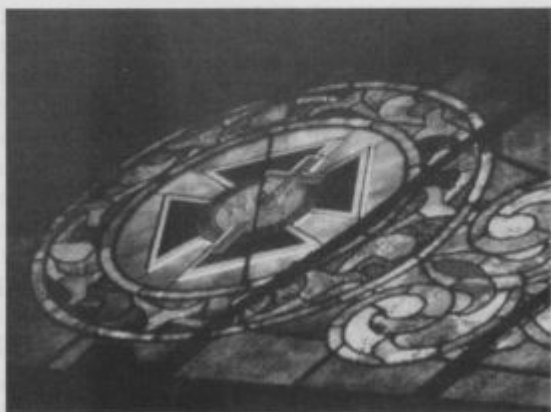


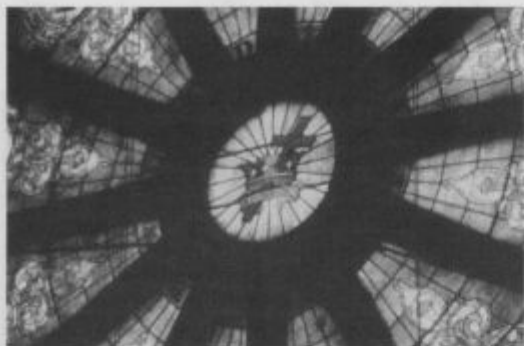
Detail of window medallions: To left is the inscription: "Zion Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar"; to right reads "to Sir Knight Bishop Chas H Fowler."



Above is more detail of the medallions: To left inscription "In hoc signo vinces" on 9-point star and with Templar Cross. To right: "Great is Truth", etc.

To right is detail of the Templar cross and crown on a Malta cross. The inscription reads: "In hoc signo vinces," or "In this sign, you will conquer."





At left: a view of the center cross and crown with stained glass "petals." Above is the center cross and crown by itself.

## On the Masonic Newsfront

### Shreveport Assembly, S.O.O.B., Louisiana, Welcomes S.W.P. Harris

Shreveport Assembly No. 60, Social Order of the Beauceant, was honored to host (Mrs. Charles E.) Mary Harris, Supreme Worthy President, and (Mrs. Harold L.) Lucia Trammell, Supreme Marshal, in spring of 2004. Other visitors were: (Mrs. Walter) Betty Barnhardt, Little Rock No. 260, and (Mrs. Jerrel) Patsy Jones, McKinney No. 263. At right are, left to right: Lucia Trammell, S.M.; (Mrs. Manfred) Thresa Johnscher, W.P., Shreveport No. 60; and Mary Harris, S.W.P. Below are the members and guests.



### Corpus Christi Assembly No. 140, S.O.O.B., Texas, Welcomes S.W.P. Harris

On her Visitation (page 24) to the Assembly, Mrs. Harris is shown at left front, next to l. to r.: Mrs. Barney Bryant, Pres.; Mrs. Marvin Chasteen, P. Pres.; Mrs. Bill West; Mrs.

Drew Terry; Mrs. Garland Adams; and Mrs. Obie Etheridge. Back row, l. to r.: Mrs. Malcolm Alexander, P. Pres; Mrs. John Hedgecoth, Oracle; Mrs. Ed Hanshaw; Mrs. Glenn Fankhauser, P. Pres./Recorder. Seated: Mrs. John Shriver, P. Pres.



### **East Liverpool Assembly No. 71, S.O.O.B., Initiates Daughters of Knights Templar**

In a spring initiation, East Liverpool No. 71, Ohio, gained 7 new members, all daughters of Knights Templar. (In September 2003 Supreme Assembly voted to admit sisters, mothers, and daughters, in addition to the wives and widows of Knights Templar). Also special was having (Mrs. Howard) Clara McClure, Past Supreme Worthy President, serve as Chaplain. In the first picture below, left to right, are: seated daughters: Nancy Welling (Sayre), Tara Shulas (Shulas), Mary Lou King and Carolyn Hoffman (Hoffman), Cynthia Wilson (Hopper), Michelle Angus (Plemons), and Patricia Rodgers (Young). 2nd row, members and the mothers: Eleanor Sayre, Sandra Shulas, Grace Hoffman, Deanna Plemons, and Clara Young. In the 2nd picture below are all the daughters, members, and guests.





## Charlie and Ira Louvin: Masonic Country Harmony Duet

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 33°

During the later 1930s and afterwards, harmony duets often featuring two brothers emerged as a major force in country music. Among the more creative of these early duets were the Delmore Brothers from Alabama, the Monroe Brothers of Kentucky, the Callahan Brothers from North Carolina, and the Blue Sky Boys (Bill and Earl Bolick) also from North Carolina.

The popularity of these teams waned somewhat in the forties, but new teams still gained renown. For instance, the four Bailes Brothers - Kyle, Johnnie, Walter, and Homer - came from West Virginia and often performed with two of them as a duet (two of the Bailes Brothers, Kyle and Homer, subsequently became Masons with Homer being quite active in the York Rite bodies in Louisiana).

The ultimate of these duets, the Louvin Brothers, arrived somewhat later on the scene and to date are the only ones other than the Delmores and one Monroe (Bill) to be enshrined in the Country Music Hall of Fame, being inducted in 2002.

The original surname of the Louvin brothers had been Loudermilk, and they were born near Section, Alabama, in the Sand Mountain region: Ira Lonnie on April 21, 1924, and Charles Elzer on July 7, 1927.

There were also five daughters in the family of C. M. and Georgeanne Loudermilk, and about 1929, they settled near the village of Henager, Alabama, where the entire family



*The Louvin Brothers—Ira (left) and Charlie*

survived through farming some twenty-three acres of cleared ground. It was tough living, but community folks made their own entertainment through playing music. The Loudermilks were part of this lifestyle as their father played the old-time banjo and sang a bit while their mother knew both old traditional ballads and nineteenth-century Tin Pan Alley survivals as well as the old church songs drawn from books like *The Sacred Harp*.

Ira and Charlie absorbed these musical traditions and from the later thirties the harmony stylings of the duet acts, especially the Delmore Brothers and the Blue Sky Boys from their Bluebird Records. The vocal blend on many of the harmony duets

was a high tenor and a lower-pitched lead voice, and the singers usually accompanied themselves on either two guitars or a mandolin and guitar.

As Ira and Charlie developed their skills, the former usually sang the high tenor and played mandolin while the latter sang lead and played guitar. By the time they reached adulthood, the Loudermilk boys had developed a pretty good duet.

In the latter part of 1942, they had their own program at WDEF in Chattanooga as the "Radio Twins," but World War II soon caught up with them. Ira was drafted early in 1943 but injured his back in basic training and received a discharge after 89 days.

The brothers then worked for a time with fiddler Bob Douglas, another Chattanooga radio hillbilly.

In July 1945, Charlie turned eighteen and soon afterward enlisted in the army where he remained until late in 1946. Ira went to Knoxville and not long afterward found a musical job with Charlie Monroe and his Kentucky Partners.

After Charlie got out of the service, the brothers reunited; it was about this time that they shortened their stage name to Louvin. They also made the acquaintance of a fellow musician who was a natural promoter, James Edward Hill, who was known to the entertainment world as "Smilin' Eddie Hill."

The three soon went to Memphis and WMPS radio where Hill secured regular program work for them. With the exception of a year spent back in Knoxville and other spots and a period when Charlie was back in the service, Memphis would be the Louvin Brothers' main home until 1954. During this time, they made a record for the small Apollo label in 1947, a single for Decca in 1949, and the first of a dozen songs for MGM in 1951.

It was also during their Memphis years that the Louvin Brothers became Masons. Petitioning Algerona Lodge No. 168, both Ira and Charlie

took their Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft degrees on February 11 and March 17, 1952.

Since Master Mason degrees take somewhat longer to confer, they were raised to that level on different dates. Ira received his on April 21, 1952, and Charlie on April 28, 1952. With the exception of a six-month period in 1955 and 1956 when Ira was in arrears for dues, he remained a member of Algerona Lodge until March 1, 1965 when he took a demit. Whether he intended to affiliate with another lodge will probably never be known as he met his tragic death not long afterward.

Charlie eventually moved his membership to Phoenix Lodge No. 131 in Nashville where he became a 50-Year member in 2002. He also took the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Nashville and became a Noble of Al Menah Shrine.

Their sometime radio associate Smilin' Eddie Hill also became a Mason, although whether it was at this time or some other period is not currently known.

While the Louvin Brothers were gaining experience as vocalists on Memphis radio, they were also becoming known as songwriters. As early as mid-1949, other artists were putting Louvin compositions on disc and they were earning reputations as some of the best writers contracted to the Acuff-Rose Publishing Company. Still, their own recordings, while technically excellent, had met with only moderate success, with an inspirational Korean War song, "The Weapon of Prayer" doing best.

As a result, they made a label change going to Capitol Records in September 1952. Their first session produced their best-known sacred effort "The Family Who Prays." At first the Louvin Brothers recorded only sacred songs for Capitol. After they had done eight sides for their new contract, Charlie was drafted again but managed to get in ten more numbers - at sessions in

September and November - before being sent to Korea.

When he got back to Memphis in May 1954, he and Ira decided to go to Birmingham, Alabama, and play on WVOK radio.

Things did not go well for them in Alabama, and they were on the edge of starving out when Ken Nelson, their Capitol producer, managed to get them on the Grand Ole Opry in late February 1955.

Not only did Opry membership provide the Louvins with the break they needed, but Nelson finally yielded to their requests to also record secular material. In May 1955 they recorded "When I Stop Dreaming," which became one of their biggest hits. They followed it up with "I Don't Believe You Met My Baby," which went all the way to number one. Ironically, it was one of the few Louvin hits that they did not compose themselves.

By the end of 1956, they had added three more top-ten country hits to their résumés: "Hoping that You're Hoping," "You're Running Wild," and "Cash on the Barrel Head."

That year they also recorded one of the first and best country music concept albums, *Tragic Songs of Life*, made up of a combination of old traditional ballads such as "Knoxville Girl" and "Mary of the Wild Moor" and newer songs that sounded archaic such as "My Brother's Will" and "A Tiny Broken Heart." This album has become one of the true collector's items for those who treasure what original country music is all about.

The Louvins also continued to record ample numbers of sacred songs.

After 1956 the Louvin hits came fewer and farther between. Part of the reason for this slackening resulted from the increasing impact of rock and roll music upon more traditional country sounds. Still,



*The Brothers Louvin (Ira on left) with  
Sir Knight Roy Acuff (center)*

over the next five years the brothers experienced seven more *Billboard*-charted numbers with the most successful being "My Baby's Gone" in the latter part of 1958.

They also continued to turn out classic Capitol albums such as the sacred offering, *Satan Is Real*, in 1958; a set of patriotic numbers, *Weapon of Prayer*, in 1961; and tribute albums to country greats of an earlier generation such as the Delmore Brothers and the Nashville country scene's most celebrated Mason, Sir Knight Roy Acuff.

However, tension began to build within the ranks. Ira, who was more the creative genius of the two, became increasingly temperamental, especially when drinking. Furthermore, his home life was unstable: he had been married four times in a total life-span of forty-one years.

Charlie was the more business like and steady of the brothers and had a peaceful domestic life. (Charlie married Betty Harrison in 1949, and the pair reared three sons).

The brothers finally split up in August 1963, recording a final album together that September, a sacred offering titled *Thank God for My Christian Home*.

Ira, relieved of the pressure of constant touring, moved back to Alabama

and with his fourth wife, Anne Young, began to put his life back together. He also made a solo album for Capitol, and he and Anne began to play a few show dates.

Charlie Louvin continued as a solo artist for Capitol and as a Grand Ole Opry performer. In August 1964 he had the first and most successful of some thirty-charted numbers with "I Don't Love You Anymore," which reached the number four spot. In 1965 he had another top-ten hit with "See the Big Man Cry." In fact, by the end of the sixties, Charlie Louvin had made the *Billboard* listings more times than the Louvin Brothers had done as a team.

In the early seventies, Charlie made several duets with country girl singer, Melba Montgomery (whose husband Jack Solomon is a member of Madison Lodge No. 762) of which "Something to Brag About" and "Did You Ever" did quite well.



Charlie's last charted record in 1989 was a rendition of Roy Acuff's old classic "The Precious Jewel," which included Roy helping out on the chorus and Donna Stoneman playing mandolin. In some ways this seems ironic because Charlie's solo career has never attained quite the legendary status that the brothers did even though he had more hit records.

Ira Louvin's brief career as a solo artist consisted of one mid-level hit, "Yodel, Sweet Molly" in 1965, the year of his death.

In June 1965 Ira and Anne, while returning from a show date in Missouri, were both killed in an automobile crash on Interstate 70 when a car going the wrong way on the four lane struck them head on the early morning of June 20.

Bill Monroe, the legendary "Father of Bluegrass," who once said that country music had produced only two great tenor singers and that Ira was one of them, fulfilled a commitment to sing "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" at his funeral.

Charlie Louvin continued to record and still continues to make appearances on the Grand Ole Opry. He also made some efforts to recreate the Louvin sound with the aid of Louisiana vocalist Charles Whitstein. In October 2002 the Louvin Brothers were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame, an honor many persons believed was long overdue.

A visit and discussion by this writer with Charlie Louvin in 1997 revealed a man who takes his Masonic vows and membership quite seriously. For instance, he discussed other Masonic country music figures as known Brothers only if he had sat in lodge with them. He also demonstrated himself to be a gentleman of the highest order. His fraternal Brothers the world over can take pride in the musical achievements of the Louvin Brothers in general and of Brother Charles E. Louvin as man and Mason in particular.

*Note: As of now the best available work on the Louvin brothers is Charles K Wolfe, Close Harmony: The Story of the Louvin Brothers (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1997), although Charlie Louvin insists that a far superior book is in the works. An eight compact disc boxed set containing all 219 original Louvin Brothers recordings is available as Bear Family Records (BCD 15561). Many other Louvin Brothers and Charlie Louvin compact discs are also in print. For the Louvin Brothers' Masonic records I am indebted to Ms. Stacy Sullivan of the staff at the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, to Joan Sansbury of the Scottish Rite Library in Washington, and lastly to Charlie Louvin himself.*

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





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

Soon-to-be Commander is looking for second-hand gold Commander's sword. Also, I am looking for a size 7 and 118 or 7 and 1/4 chapeau in good condition, and hopefully including a carrying case. James Weekly, 1305 Vale St, Sandwich, IL 60548; e-mail: [jweekly38@yahoo.com](mailto:jweekly38@yahoo.com)

57-year Knight Templar is looking for his uncle's Commandery sword with the name "Frank Alexander Beck," lost in upper-middle New York State. Approx. 1972-1978, law authorities confiscated sword from a mental patient near a mental hospital. The sword has been missing from my address since March 1972. Any info appreciated. At present I am Warder and Sentinel and do not have a sword. William R. Beck, 1005 E. 28th Street, Marion, IN 46953

Temple Commandery No. 41, Temple, Texas, celebrated its 100th anniversary in April 2004. Gold-look commemorative coins are being sold as a fund-raiser for the Commandery. The face has a Sir Knight, dates, and name of the Commandery. Back side has cross and crown. \$10.00 each with a portion to the KTEF. Checks or MOs to Temple Commandery No. 41. Mail to C.O. Jones, 2204 Patriot Drive, Logo Vista, IX 78645, (512) 267-1388

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 B.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), \$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 Rd; Staten Island; NY 10310-2698

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, formed in 1855 in San Antonio, will be commemorating its sesquicentennial in San Antonio, April 16-18, 2005. The ties are a fund-raiser for this event. 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](http://www.texasorkrite.org/ties.htm). Order and check (payable to San Antonio Commandery No. 7) to James N. Higdon, 10122 N. Manton, Son Antonio, IX 78213. Ties will be sent day following receipt. H: (210) 344-4309; O: 349-9933; e-mail [jnh.ktt8hhlzlaw.com](mailto:jnh.ktt8hhlzlaw.com)

For sale: C.P.O. coats, poly-wool, summer weight; size: 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.

Sword slings available in 2-inch or 1-inch wide, white or black nylon straps with black, fine grade leather sword holder and with heavy duty black clips. They are adjustable to fit all sizes - \$19.00 each plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. For further details or brochure, write Tom Starnes, 156 Utica Street, Tonawanda, NY 14150, call (716) 693-7226 or e-mail [tonawsta@adelphia.net](mailto:tonawsta@adelphia.net). Checks to KT Enterprises. % of net profits to KTEF.

Do you have a copy (suitable for hanging) of the print that was on the back cover of Knight Templar magazine, issue Vol. XXXV, Nov. 1989, number 11. This was a picture of Brother Benjamin Franklin. I would very much like to purchase a print of this. Let me know the cost, and I'll reimburse you. Raymond A. Holmes II, 10 Hollingwood Dr, Coram, NY 11727-3028

Fund-raiser for our York Rite bodies offers you a personalized 8 x10-inch Masonic Membership Window, displaying full color emblems of all the bodies in which you are a member. It is suitable for framing and makes a great gift. Choose from any combination of: Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, Scottish Rite, Shrine, and O.E.S. \$10.00 for each print or 3 for \$20.00, postpaid. Requests and checks to Waukesha York Rite, P.O. Box 322, Waukesha, WI 53187

For Sale: Middle Georgia Chapter No. 165, RAM., the first RAM. 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 choppy 31023@yahoo.com

Fund-raiser: Lodge auto tags with blue vinyl letters on white, 6 x12-inch aluminum, include lodge name and number, square and compass, F & AM (AT & AM, AAFM, etc.), city and state: \$8.00 each plus S & H: 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: 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, PM., Sec.; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F&AM; PO Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014

Cochran Lodge No. 217, F. & AM., Cochran, Georgia, is continuing its long-term charity project: In addition to the Masonic square and compass jewelry boxes, we are now offering Shrine jewelry boxes that are 5.5 x5.5 x2.5 inches in size and the shape of the Shrine logo, constructed of exotic woods from Central America, and hand-crafted with an interlocking design. 10% from these Shrine jewelry boxes will be going to the Shrine hospitals of North America, a portion will go directly to the Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund, and the rest will go to the charity work of the Lodge. The Shrine box is \$30.00 each and \$6.00 shipping in US. The Masonic square and compass box is \$20.00 each with \$6.00 S & H. Check or money order to Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217 and mail to Harry A Bruno, Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & AM.; PO. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@higfoot.com

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 \$1.00 postage. 100% of sale goes to the KTEF or a charity of your choice, York Rite or Grand Encampment. Raymond C. Brown, E.C.; 42 Unity Stage Road, Charlestown, NH 03603, (603) 826-5541

Planning a Rusty Nail Degree? We have pins and certificates available at \$35.00 per unit. (A unit consists of 5 pins and 5 certificates, S & H included.) Please include your lodge name and number with your order if you wish to have them printed on your certificates. Make check out to Tom A. Stevens, 5 Old Duxbury Court, Fairfield, OH 45014. Phone (513) 942-2490; fax (513) 272-2830. Proceeds go to the John Hayes Gerard Masonic Scholarship Fund and 10% to KTEF.

Sprig of Acacia pin: each handcrafted pin is sterling silver with a 24K gold vermeil; it will make a nice gift for the newly raised Brother; price is \$10.00 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 Macay 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.

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, and Alaska. Maurice Store/i, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Rd, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (520) 888-7585

Brother Mason and Knight Templar is interested in hearing from his Brother Masons regarding the following interests: I would like to know the Commanderies of baseball Hall of Famers: Rogers Hornsby (Beacon Lodge No. 3, St. Louis, MO) and Joseph Wheeler (Joe) Sewell (Rising Virtue Lodge No. 4, Tuscaloosa, AL). Also, I am interested in obtaining Masonic postal covers including Shrine, Scottish Rite, York Rite, and Grotto. I am also interested in obtaining baseball postal covers. I am doing research on Masonic baseball players, past and present, and would appreciate knowing about any present-day Masons involved in baseball and football. I will answer all letters from my Brother Masons. Peter J. Westbere, 21 Cadillac Drive, Guelph, Ontario, N1E 2B4, Canada.

For sale: Masonic knives, personalized for Past Masters, new members, 50-year members, retiring Worshipful Masters, etc. These are very nice 2-blade trappers with bone handle and inlaid Masonic emblem. Personal information is etched on the blades. These are great gifts for any Mason, a great addition to any collection. To view pictures and see ordering information, go to [www.durrettenterprises.com/webpages/mailform.html](http://www.durrettenterprises.com/webpages/mailform.html). For questions e-mail [masonicknives@durrettenterprises.com](mailto:masonicknives@durrettenterprises.com)

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.

Wanted to buy: Jewels of Masonic Oratory. I will pay a fair price for this book. William B. Gates III, 160 Carroll Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834-3719.

Wanted: Dudley Masonic pocket watch. Contact Jack Campbell, (419) 537-8838 or e-mail [Campbellbt@wl.com](mailto:Campbellbt@wl.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

Templar who has a collection of Winchester slide-action rifles desires communication with others about the subject. Also, looking for trades or purchases of models; 1890, 1906, 61s or 62s (also 63s and 1903s) to enhance collection. Merrill Walters, 131 Mt. Pleasant Road, Pottstown, PA 19465, (610) 469-6302; e-mail [merrbarb@aol.com](mailto:merrbarb@aol.com)

Wanted to buy: daggers, swords, and any other German military items; US military items; trains or train sets - American Flyer, Lionel, and Marx (any condition); Confederate or Civil War articles; and pre-1924 US stamps; retired Sir Knight: 73m Rickheim, 14761 Thnnliff Road, Petersburg, MI 49270-9716; collect: (734) 854-3021 or e-mail [vonrueckheim@hotmail.com](mailto:vonrueckheim@hotmail.com)

## **Friendly Talk**

But after all, the very best thing in good talk, and the thing that helps it most, is friendship. How it dissolves the barriers that divide us and loosens all constraint and diffuses itself like some fine old cordial through all the veins of life - this feeling that we understand and trust each other and wish each other heartily well! Everything into which it really comes is good. It transforms letter-writing from a task into a pleasure. It makes music a thousand times more sweet. The people who play and sing not at us, but to us - how delightful it is to listen to them! Yes, there is a talkability that can express itself even without words. There is an exchange of thought and feeling which is happy alike in speech and in silence. It is quietness pervaded with friendship.

Henry van Dyke