

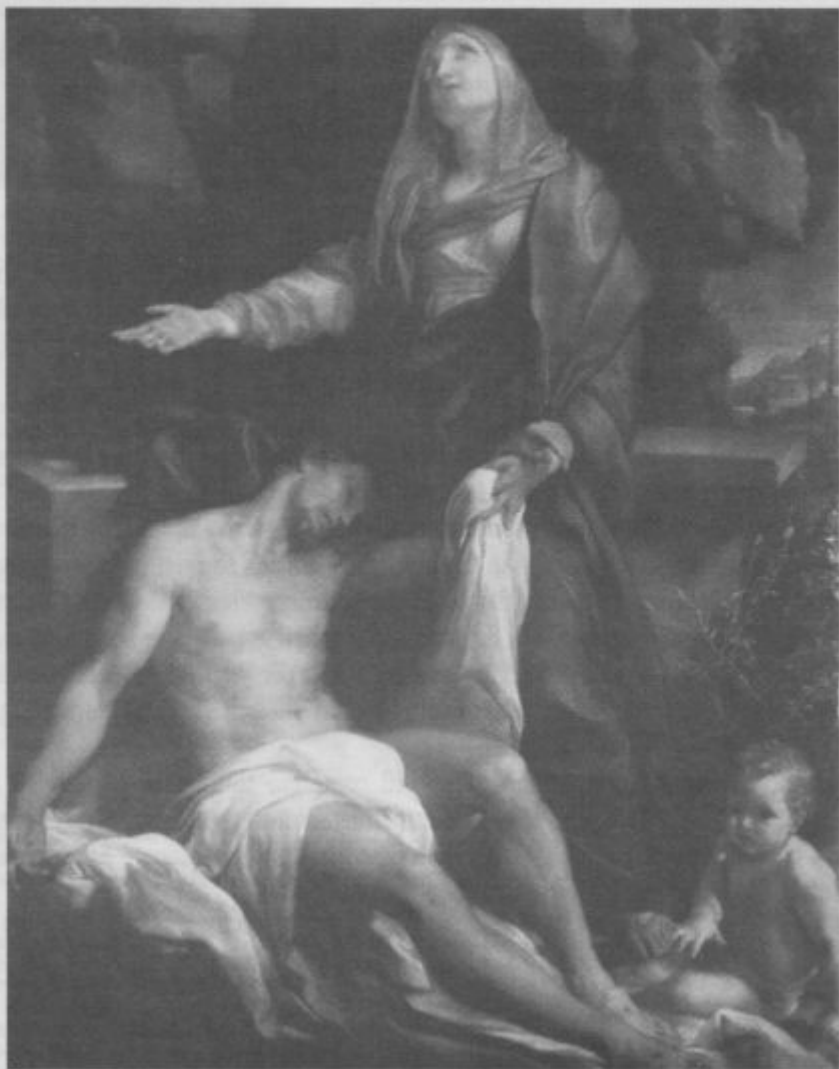


Knight Templar

VOLUME II

MARCH 2005

NUMBER 3



Above is a reproduction of the painting
"The Mourning of Christ" by P. G. Batoni (1708-1787)

Grand Master's Message for March 2005

March roars in like a lion and retreats like a lamb. Well, I am not sure about that, but the wind is blowing and time is moving on. Believe it or not, this triennium is half started or half over, whichever view you choose to take.

Several things to remember include Grand Encampment Easter Services, the 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and preparations for the various Conclaves of the Grand Commanderies.

The Easter weekend program in Washington, D.C., and Easter Services in Alexandria, Virginia, will take place on the 25th through the 27th of this month. Preparations are being made, and details are to be found in the January issue of this magazine. We look forward to greeting each of you at that very meaningful observance in our nation's capital.

The 37th Voluntary Campaign is off to a slow start. I hope that this is because of the work you are doing in your constituent Commanderies in the area of fund-raising. We have about two months left in the Campaign, which is intended to bring our message to the public in addition to raising funds for our work. Ours is a great opportunity to do those things which the Great Captain of Our Salvation charged us to do over 2,000 years ago. We are spending over \$5,000,000 per year on eye surgery and \$600,000 per year for research on diseases of the eye in children. What could be more meaningful and rewarding?

For those Grand Commanders who will complete their year of service to Templary, **Thank You**, and may God continue to bless you for your hard work. It is truly a great experience to serve in that most exalted office. I hope to present the Meritorious Service Award to many of you this year.



A black and white image of the signature of Kenneth B. Fischer. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth B. Fischer
Grand Master, KCT, GCT



Knight Templar

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

MARCH: Our coverage for the 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation begins on page 5. It includes available listings of the new members of the Eye Foundation's clubs. Please make an extra effort to support the KTEF before the April 30 deadline; the activity for the Campaign is sluggish, and there is much to be done before the end of the Campaign. Because Easter arrives so late in the month of March, the Grand Prelate's Easter Message, which will be presented at the Grand Encampment's Easter Sunrise Service in Alexandria, Virginia, will be published in the April 2005 issue. We missed his birthday month, but still we are excited about the George Washington painting you will see pictured on page 23. Read all about how a New York State Commandery was able to save this masterpiece! The story starts on page 19. Part II and the finale of the James K. Polk story starts on page 25.

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March 2005

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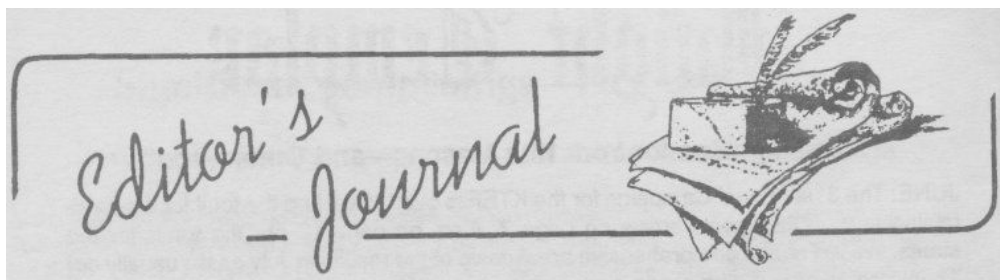
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When you order any of the items below, make check or money order payable to: the Grand Encampment, and send to: Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460.

The Order of Malta is now available on DVDs. Each informative DVD is only \$15.00 each plus \$3.50 for S & H (\$18.50). Also, **the Order of Red Cross** DVD is now really available at \$15.00 each 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 Cress and Crown emblem. The rest 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).

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

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 (\$23.50).

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.

YORK RITE FREEMASONRY ON THE INTERNET - Official Web Site

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



Message from the General Chairman of The 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign

by Dr. James N. Karnegis, Department Commander, North Central and
General Chairman of the 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign

Eyes Across America

Will You See Jesus?

The major philanthropy of the Grand Encampment and Knights Templar is the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. (KTEF). We all know the work of the KTEF is important and that it helps needy people who have serious eye problems. But there is more to this story than simply a Corporation extending a helping hand. That is because it is a Christian helping hand.



The Knights Templar, being a Christian organization, has the privilege and responsibility of helping to further God's work. It is written that Christians have been favored by being called to be "God's fellow workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9). All Sir Knights should be proud to rightfully claim their part in the great work done every day by their KTEF and be proud to be among those who have accepted the invitation to be counted among God's fellow workers.

In the year 2005, Easter Sunday is March 27. The celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord reminds us that our order is founded upon the Christian Religion and the practice of the Christian Virtues.

If you have not yet extended your own helping hand and personally given to this year's Campaign, so as to help the Knights Templar Eye Foundation be able to continue its important work, please send in your contribution TODAY to the:

**Knights Templar Eye Foundation
1000 East State Parkway, Suite 1
Schaumburg, IL 60173**

Make your check payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. All contributions are acknowledged with a receipt and are tax deductible.

Look Here And Then There

Without deviating your gaze, for 30 seconds stare at the four vertical dots near the center of the figure printed below. Then look at a bright white surface, such as a blank sheet of white paper. You will be surprised at the image you will see.



Did you see Jesus? The phenomenon you are experiencing is normal and is called a "negative after-image." It is caused by light and dark adaptation of the visually sensitive part of the eye, the retina.

Sir Knight James N. Karnegis, M.D., Ph.D., KCT, GCT, Right Eminent Department Commander of the North Central Department, Grand

Encampment, is the General Chairman of the 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign. He resides at 20975 Bonanza Boulevard, Elkhorn, NE 68022-1838.

New Contributors to the Grand Master's Club

No. 4,468—Arthur L. Jung, Jr. (LA)
No. 4,469—Gregory E. Hart (OK)
No. 4,470—William G. Evans (OK)
No. 4,471—George Cliff (SD)
No. 4,472—Orsen L. Fallon (WV)
No. 4,473—Thomas R. Dawson (MA/RI)
No. 4,474—Jerry Douglas Moss (GA)
No. 4,475—Steven K. Dunaway (GA)
No. 4,476—Charles R. Shaw (CA)
No. 4,477—David H. Lewis (MO)
No. 4,478—Daniel Ebbighausen (VT)
No. 4,479—James C. Lovig, Jr. (IL)
No. 4,480—Andrew P. Wright (GA)
No. 4,481—John C. Allen (GA)

No. 4,482—A. Neal Mimbs (GA)
No. 4,483—George Williams (GA)
No. 4,484—Daniel L. Bennett (FL)
No. 4,485—Wayne A. Gallion (TX)
No. 4,486—Robert J. Menzie (PA)
No. 4,487—Nelson H. Thomas (GA)
No. 4,488—Harry B. Allen (GA)
No. 4,489—Michael Fendley (GA)
No. 4,490—Edwin R. Carpenter, Jr. (VA)
No. 4,491—Walter E. Schroder (CT)
No. 4,492—A. Richard Baker (PA)
No. 4,493—Charles R. Shaw (CA)
No. 4,494—John L. Logan (OK)

New Contributors to the Grand Commander's Club

No. 102,077—C. Franklin Ebersole (MD)
No. 102,078—Robert I. Boyer (PA)
No. 102,079—J. Ernest Gross, Jr. (CT)
No. 102,080—Glen W. Burttram (NM)
No. 102,081—Benjamin W. Friedman (NM)
No. 102,082—H. R. Wooldridge (NM)
No. 102,083—Raborn L. Reader, Jr. (TX)
No. 102,084—Myrna B. Moore (GA)
No. 102,085—Alan Douglas Pryor (GA)

No. 102,086—Albert Mackay (TX)
No. 102,087—Glen Norris (LA)
No. 102,088—D. William Dean (NE)
No. 102,089—James C. Crawford, Jr. (SC)
No. 102,090—Lewis J. Rizor (KS)
No. 102,091—Terry Gaylord Baker (MI)
No. 102,092—David B. Carter (VA)
No. 102,093—Charles R. Shaw (CA)

— — — — —

How to join the Grand Commander's or 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 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; 1000 East State Parkway, Suite I; Schaumburg, IL 60173. The new phone number is: (847) 490-3838. The new fax number is: (847) 490-3777.

New Contributors to the 33° Club

William J. Williams (TX), 33°
Wayne H. Anderson (VA), 33°
Warren C. Mitchell (WA), 33°
William G. Preston (MT), 33°

Richard L. Weaver (OH), 33°
Russell Eugene Donathan (OK), 33°
Kewanee Commandery No. 71 (IL)
in honor of Keith G. Roesner, 33°

Contributors to the Order of the Purple Cross Club

The following 7 were accidentally run under 33° Club in Feb. 2005

Richard J. Suetterlin (MI)
Larry G. Canada (TX)
in honor of Leonard P. Harvey
Larry G. Canada (TX)
in honor of Ronald D. Park
Larry G. Canada (TX)
in honor of Orville L. O'Neil
Larry G. Canada (TX)
Daniel J. Schultz (NJ)
Harry J. Moosegian (TX)
in honor of James N. Higdon

New Members

Clifford L. Duncan (AR)
in honor of Jack L. Sharp
Goldsboro Commandery No. 26 (NC)
in honor of Willis K. Whichard
Goldsboro Commandery No. 26 (NC)
in honor of George B. Aycok
Goldsboro Commandery No. 26 (NC)
in honor of Raymond B. Casey, Jr.
Goldsboro Commandery No. 26 (NC)
in honor of Wallace F. Scott
Allan E. Kauppi (MN)
Richard L. Weaver (OH)

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending February 4, 2005. The total amount contributed to date is \$191,698.70.

Alabama	\$1,176.00
Alaska	730.00
Arizona	315.00
Arkansas	2,163.00
California	16,848.28
Colorado	2,564.67
Connecticut	2,203.00
Delaware	10.00
District of Columbia	1,297.00
Florida	2,938.50
Georgia	19,567.28
Idaho	719.50
Illinois	11,351.00

Indiana	2,968.00
Iowa	3,590.00
Kansas	1,274.00
Kentucky	2,678.00
Louisiana	3,944.00
Maine	1,770.00
Maryland	2,555.00
Mass./R.I.	5,649.50
Michigan	2,656.00
Minnesota	2,338.00
Mississippi	761.34
Missouri	2,038.00
Montana	626.00
Nebraska	1,245.00
Nevada	1,000.00
New Hampshire	3,577.92
New Jersey	2,160.00
New Mexico	2,475.50
New York	5,566.00
North Carolina	4,024.69
North Dakota	475.00

Ohio.....	5,656.51	Virginia.....	8,853.00
Oklahoma.....	5,743.53	Washington.....	2,558.00
Oregon.....	565.00	West Virginia.....	2,307.00
Pennsylvania.....	15,230.93	Wisconsin.....	4,001.69
South Carolina.....	6,664.59	Wyoming.....	210.00
South Dakota.....	1,345.27	Honolulu No. 1, Hawaii.....	50.00
Tennessee.....	3,398.00	Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico.....	50.00
Texas.....	9,994.00	Tokyo No. 1, Japan.....	30.00
Utah.....	7,450.00	Miscellaneous.....	2,100.00
Vermont.....	236.00		

Words from Grateful Recipients of KTEF Assistance...

Because of your wonderful, humanitarian, Masonic charity, Doctor Harry Rosenthal has been able to both preserve and improve my vision. He was able to correct the retinal bleeding in both eyes.

It was also necessary to reshape the cornea of my right eye in order to restore as much vision as possible.

My vision in both eyes is improving steadily, and needless to say, I am totally delighted with these results!

I never met a more kind and caring person than your Mr. Robert Rodriguez. Many people believe that angels walk among us, and I believe I met one such angel the day I met Robert Rodriguez!

Without the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, none of this could have been possible. Word alone can never express how very grateful I am for your help!

Patricia Gayle Stokes
Springtown, Texas

A sincere thank you for enabling me to have cataract surgery on my right eye. It had gone completely blind, so the difference that I experienced when I could finally see was incredible. A window had opened onto the world. Again, thank you very much for paying for my surgery!

Evangeline Adams
Boise, Idaho

My cataract surgery was a God sent blessing! My right eye was so bad that before the surgery I could not even see my husband sitting in his chair at a close distance. I can even watch T.V. now with a clear view. My left eye was seeing double, and since the surgery, that has all cleared up. Dr. Clark from Waycross is a wonderful physician.

Thank you for all you have done for me. You are a blessing, and it is wonderful to be able to see again.

Ocie Vernell Lee
Waycross, Georgia

I want to thank you for getting my eyesight back for me. I now can see at the 20/20 level. I haven't seen that well in a long time. Without your help I would be blind now.

Thank you very much!

Phillip L. Ray
Columbus, Ohio

Revisions of Annual Conclave Information of January 2005, page 14

Italy: Conclave dates are **May 6-8, 2005**. There will be **no** Grand Encampment representative.

Arkansas: The Grand Encampment **Representative is Clifford L. Duncan**, R.E. Department Commander, South Central Department.

Montana: The Conclave dates are **June 9-11, 2005**.

Washington State: The location is **Mt. Vernon**, not Everett.

Accentuate the Positive

by Dr. William H. Wood, 33°

Listen up, fellow Knights, to this old codger who has been a member of our great Masonic Fraternity for nearly fifty years. As one who has seen many worldwide changes in his nearly eighty years, he has probably seen more variation and modification in Masonry than in any of his other endeavors.

Some will say these alterations are healthy and that if we *don't* change, we shall surely die on the vine. Others say that change will destroy our centuries-old traditions. But passing on these legends to a declining membership becomes less effective with each generation. Young men of today march to a different beat. They generally prefer a night at home before the television to spending their time listening to and observing the same rituals, redundantly repetitious, that once were very meaningful to them. Or they are content being with their boisterous friends at the corner bar or at various sporting events. They are not the "Joiners" so characteristic of the previous generation.

Unfortunately, it looks as though our numbers will continue to decline. There are fewer young men applying for the degrees and we're losing more of our later generation. But let's not bemoan this dilemma. It's time for us to shift gears and accept the facts. Masonry has too much to offer to those of us who retain our membership. We must dwell on the many pleasures and benefits of the Craft. We must show nonmembers, by our just and upright conduct, and with the visible gratitude we have for our fraternity, that they

are missing the boat because they have not joined our ranks.

One does not have to be in a lodge room to behold the harmonious relationship we have with our Brothers. Seeing the misty eyes and the compassionate concern that a fellow Mason has for a bereaving family at a funeral speaks its own language. Additional testimony for our brotherhood is evident when an outsider notices benevolent deeds directed to those in need or distress. And who among these nonmembers has not seen the implicit trust, often exemplified with a handshake or a promise to not "wrong, cheat, or defraud" when making a business deal "on the square." These seemingly intangible illustrations provide testimony and give reason for all Masons to show pride in their membership. They will be recognized as excerpts from words they uttered when receiving the degrees. They give just cause for us to overlook the **negatives** that face us and point the way for us to appreciate the **positives**. It's time for us to **"accentuate the positive"** and for us to enjoy the fruits of our labor and pity those who have not seen fit to cast their lot with us. Let those on the outside look with envy on that which we hold so dear. Perhaps, this will lead them to follow our example of reaping the rewards and pleasures of carrying that little blue card that denotes membership in our order.

Please indulge me a moment now to depart from these serious notations that illustrate several of the many reasons we enjoy our membership. Let's

look at a few humorous, often entertaining instances, where being a Mason has increased my personal pleasure. Surely, our readers will bring to mind many of their own experiences.

Forty-seven years ago I joined a deer hunting lodge in South Georgia. We had forty members, and thirty of them were Masons. Today's 40-man roster shows only fifteen. But today's 15, like yesteryear's 30, take delight in sharing Masonic conversation with their Brothers. When someone says "Call the Craft from labor to refreshment," all the Masons know it's time to eat! And following the customary blessing of our meal, most often offered by a Brother, the non-Masons present know that all who say "So mote it be" are exemplifying, again, their pride in being members of the world's oldest and largest fraternity. Humor is evident in the after dinner poker game when one of the participants, when confronted with an opponent's winning hand, shouts, "Craftsman - what is the meaning of this violence?" And one of the outstanding references to our brotherhood is the three siblings in a pack of beagle hounds named Jubela, Jubelo, and Jubelum!

These examples of Masonic fellowship could go on and on. Golfers sometimes say their putt is the "length of their cable tow." They often joke among their foursomes that the sand traps are not nearly the hazard they faced when crossing the hot sands of a Shrine initiation. We teasingly tell our friends they will "back down" and that they will "ride the goat." Most of these quotations are recognizable only by fellow craftsmen who have heard them time and again in their lodges. The friendly spirit thus generated is to be noticed by nonmembers.

And just think of the many times we have been greeted in a busy rail or air terminal by the words, "I see you're a traveling man." Strangers become immediate friends upon recognition of their common bond. Symbols of our York Rite or any of the other many appendant orders of Masonry worn in a lapel or indicated by a ring invite interest not only by fellow Brethren but by inquisitive others. This frequently precipitates questions that lead to applying for a membership petition. Could this not be a partial solution to our declining numbers?

We have much to offer and much to contribute. My point is that Masons **enjoy** being Masons. Let's not be overwhelmingly discouraged by our declining numbers; let's reap the benefits of that which we have! Even with a minimal increase in our ranks, there are enough of us remaining to make our participation tremendously worthwhile.

Like the lyrics in the song made famous by Brother Johnny Mercer:

"You've got to **accent the positive**;
eliminate the negative;
And latch on to the affirmative;
don't mess with Mister In-Between."

Sir Knight William H. Wood, 33°, is a member of Masonic bodies in Jacksonville, Florida, and has held honors and offices in many. He resides at 5400 Water Oak Lane, No. 206; Jacksonville; FL 32210. His e-mail is: Docwoodroj90@aol.com



News from Minneapolis Assembly No. 46, S.O.O.B., Minnesota



Left: Minneapolis No. 46 initiated 4 candidates spring 2004: (Mrs. Jerrold) Marilyn Nyberg, Ms. Cori Meyer (daughter of a Knight Templar), (Mrs. Douglas) ReVae Nygard, and Mrs. Maxine Koch (mother of a Knight Templar).

To right: Mrs. Joan Kuiper, Recorder, gives (Mrs. Howard) Lorraine Smith, Past President, her 50-year pin. Mrs. Smith has served as Supreme Director of Music twice.



Above: During the Official Visit of the Supreme Worthy President, (Mrs. Elo) Judy Limas, 3 new candidates were initiated in the fall of 2004, all wives of Knights Templar. Left to right are: (Mrs. Elo) Judy Limas, S.W.P.; (Mrs. John) Sandra Munster; (Mrs. Oliver) Janet Boyington; (Mrs. Robert) Mary Delorey; (Mrs. Jay U.) Nancy Ipsen, P.S.W.P.; and (Mrs. Hans) Marjorie Engebretson, Worthy President.

New Commandery Constituted in Arizona

The Grand Commandery; Knights Templar of Arizona, has its *first* and only daylight Commandery, St. Andrew Commandery No. 17 of Peoria, Arizona. It was chartered on August 19, 2004, and constituted on December 11, 2004.

According to Sir Knight James E. Hughes, V.E. Deputy Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Arizona: "This Commandery was a triennium in the making. It began its journey under the direction of Sir Knight Robert Eisner, R.E.G.C. (2002), who was unable to get everything set to grant a dispensation during his stay in office. The Sir Knights wanting to form this daylight Commandery fell short of the documentation necessary to begin a U.D. Commandery. Sir Knight Eisner handed everything over to Sir Knight Frank Edens, R.E.G.C. (2003), and that year all needed to operate under dispensation were successfully presented to the Grand Commander.

"St. Andrew Commandery, U.D., worked tirelessly perfecting its tactics, ritual, and protocol. Success was assured at the Annual Conclave in 2004, where a unanimous vote granted St. Andrew Commandery its charter.

"It was a hectic fall, and it took until December to get all the pieces together, but finally on December 11, 2004, this Commandery became an official member of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Arizona."



"Three Sir Knights traveling from 3 separate Commanderies..." That was the beginning, and on December 11, 2004, Sir Knight John Krom, Eminent Commander at the apex of the triangle, Sir Knight Edward Scott-Ellis, Captain General, to his right and Sir Knight William Mischke, Generalissimo, on his right and 37 others, some of them pictured here, witnessed the constituting of St. Andrew Commandery No. 17, Knights Templar. Sir Knights, left to right, first row: John Acer, Sent. and G.W.; C. J. Smith, P.C.; second row: George Walker, Pipe Major, Gary Carmichael; third row: Chris Smith, Sr. W.; Russell W. Nichols, Gen.; John Krom, E. Commander; Edward Scott-Ellis, Cap. Gen., G. Treasurer; William Mischke, Jr. W.; last row: Mike Stegen, E.C., Apache Commandery No. 16; Harold E. Fritz, G.Sw.B.; Terry Kelly; and Dennis Arend; Pat Hays, G. Sent.; and David Stankow, Prelate, KYGCH, Grand Recorder.



Left: Sir Knight Foy O. Yancey, R.E.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Arizona, begins the festivities by making the Constituting official as he signs the charter that begins the life of St. Andrew No. 17. Middle: Sir Knight John Krom, Eminent Commander, proudly accepts St. Andrew's charter from G.C. Foy O. Yancey, while Sir Knight David G. Stankow, G. Recorder, looks on. Right: Making it official, Sir Knight David Stankow, G.R., adds his signature.



At left is Sir Knight Errol Hawksley, P.G.C. of Pennsylvania, who relocated into the area in time to assist in the development of St. Andrews Commandery, providing his knowledge and leadership; second from left is Sir Knight Paul A. Monroe, Jr., P.G.C., P.D.C., who served as the Grand Marshal for the installing of officers for the new Commandery; second from right is Sir Knight Thomas Brooker, M.W. Grand Master of Masons in Arizona, who is a member of St. Andrew No. 17; on right is Sir Knight Foy O. Yancey, G.C. of Arizona.

Pennsylvania P.C. and Volunteer Receives Jefferson Award

Sir Knight William Vaupel, a Past Commander of Ascalon Commandery No. 59 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which is now merged with Pittsburgh No. 1, has received the Jefferson Award for Public Service. The award is in recognition of his 9,000 hours of good-humored service to his fellow veterans as a hospital volunteer.

Considered the Nobel Prize of volunteering, the awards are given each year by the American Institute for Public Service. The local honors are sponsored by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Comcast, United Way, and the Pittsburgh Foundation.

Twice a week for the past 14 years, Sir Knight Vaupel has faithfully reported for volunteer duty at the gastrointestinal lab of the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System in Oakland.



From 7 .4M. to 3 P.M. on Wednesdays and Fridays, he stocks shelves, deans beds, and jokes with veterans as he escorts them to their procedures.

The VA isn't the only recipient of Vaupel's efforts: he does maintenance work at 2 churches, collects clothes and food for the needy, and delivers soap to a men's shelter.

Several years ago the VA gave Vaupel a plaque in honor of his 7,500 hours of service, and in October 2004 the Syria Shrine's Legion of Honor surprised him at a dinner with an award for outstanding volunteer service.

Sir Knight Vaupel received a medallion at a ceremony in Carnegie Music Hall, Oakland,

on January 27, 2005, as did 6 other awardees. In addition, the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System will get a \$1,000 donation in his honor, underwritten by the Fisa Foundation. (condensed from an article in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*)

Kansas Companion Receives 50-year Council Pin

Companions Jim D. Beye, Past M.I.G.M., and Maurice Craghead, High Priest of Dodge City Chapter No. 75, Dodge City Kansas, went to Dodge City Manor of the Plains and presented I. Companion Raymond H. Heer with his 50-year pin in Dodge City Council No. 16. Left to right in the picture are: Jim D. Beye, Raymond H. Heer, Jean Heer (Past Grand Matron of O.E.S., Grand Chapter of Kansas, 1972), and Maurice Craghead



Kenneeth S. Umbehocker
North Dakota
Grand Commander-1986
Born: September 23, 1934
Died: January 19, 2005

Marvin Lenos Painter
Missouri
Grand Commander-1979
Born: October 29, 1921
Died: January 22, 2005

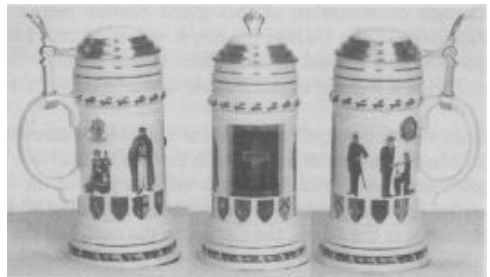


During the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee April 2004, Manchester Commandery No. 40 of Hillsboro, Tennessee, presented a check to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for \$6,000. The primary source for the funds was from the sale of the late 1800's Knight Templar apron lapel pin (pictured third from left above). **The Commandery is very proud of its \$52.37 per capita donation to our worthy cause.**

The Commandery wishes to thank the more than 550 Sir Knights from all 50 states and the Virgin Islands for their generous contributions to these pin sales. They also want to let everyone know that the apron pin, along with five other pins, are still available for a cost of \$6.00 each, postage included. The pins offered are, from left: Mediterranean Pass, Knight Crusader of the Cross, 1800's Apron, Knight Commander's, Malta, and Knights Templar Blue Lodge. Remember, **ALL profits go to KTEF**. Send check or money order payable to Manchester Commandery No. 40, C/O Garry L. Carter, Recorder; 424 Winchester Hwy.; Hillsboro; TN 37342. All 6 pins can also be viewed at the website: www.YorkriteUSA.org

Past Commander's Stein to Benefit Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The stein is made of white ceramic from Brazil, is 8 and 112 inches tall, and has a pewter lid. It is hand-decorated with 22 karat gold and six blended colors. On one side of the stein are 2 crusaders from the early 1900s, and on the other side is a Commander-elect being installed into office. On the top of the lid is a green board the Eminent Commander would wear until he finished his obligations as Commander, and in front is a red board he is given as a symbol of honor for completing his



obligation. The 9 beautiful shields are for the 9 crusaders who founded the Knights Templar, and there are crosses and crowns around the stein and a color band around the bottom. There are 2 pictures of scenes from the early crusaders. The price is \$65.00 each, and from each sale \$10.00 will go to the KTEF. If you are ordering out of the United States, please add \$20.00 additional shipping cost. Send check or MO to: Stanley C. Buz, PO Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052

The Washington Monument

I thought that you and others may like to hear about what is high atop the Washington Monument.

One detail that is not mentioned: In DC there can never be a building of greater height than the Washington Monument.

With all the uproar about removing the Ten Commandments, etc., this is worth a moment or two of your time. I was not aware of the following historical information:

On the aluminum cap, atop the Washington Monument in Washington, DC, are displayed two words, *Laus Deo*. No one can see these words; in fact, most visitors to the monument are totally unaware they are even there and, for that matter, probably couldn't care less.

Once you know *Laus Deo's* history, you will want to share this with everyone you know. But these words have been there for many years; they are 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, perched atop the monument, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the 69 square miles which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

Laus Deo! Two seemingly insignificant, unnoticed words - out of sight and, one might think, out of mind, but very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the most successful nation in the world.

So what do those two words, in Latin and composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say "Praise be to God!"

Though construction of this giant obelisk began in 1848, when James Polk was President of the United States, it was not until 1888 that the monument was inaugurated and opened to the public. It took twenty-five years to finally cap the memorial with a tribute to the Father of our nation, "*Laus Deo*: Praise be to God!"

From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, visitors may take in the beautiful panoramic view of the city with its division into four major segments. From that vantage point, one can also easily see the original plan of the designer, Pierre Charles L'Enfant, a perfect cross imposed upon the landscape; with the White House to the north, the Jefferson Memorial to the South, the Capitol to the east, and the Lincoln Memorial to the west.

A cross you ask? Why a cross? What about separation of church and state? Yes, a cross; separation of church and state was not, is not, in the Constitution. So read on to discover how interesting it is, and, no doubt, it's intended to carry a profound meaning for those who bother to notice.

"Praise be to God!" Within the monument itself are 898 steps and 50 landings. As one climbs the steps and pauses at the landings, the memorial stones share a message. On the 12th Landing is a prayer offered by the City of Baltimore; on the 20th is a memorial presented by some Chinese Christians; on the 24th is a presentation made by Sunday school children from New York and Philadelphia, quoting Proverbs 10:7, Luke 18:16 and Proverbs 22:6. Praise be to God!

When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th, 1848, deposited within it were many items including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. Praise be to God! Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy, "One Nation, Under God."

I am awed by Washington's prayer for America. Have you never read it? Well, now is your unique opportunity, so read on!

"Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Laus Deo! As you probably guessed, over 92 percent of Americans like the idea that our "Pledge of Allegiance" includes the phrase "under God." It is clear when one studies the history of our great nation, that Washington's America was one of the few countries in all the world established under the guidance, direction and banner of Almighty God, to whom was given all praise, honor, and worship by the great men who formed and fashioned her pivotal foundations.

When one stops to observe the inscriptions found in public places all over our nation's capital, he or she will easily find the signature of God, as it is unmistakably inscribed everywhere you look.

Though many try to disprove it and reason it away, their arguments are weak and easily proven to be without basis. Their efforts will forever be in vain; God assures us of that. Have you noticed as of late, how many more people are coming together, affirming the fact that this nation was, from the beginning, built on God? Any nation that is not built upon God will fail. Do you wonder why, when other nations fall into an abyss, does the United States continually prosper? Now you know, but do not let the arrogance of some instill doubt within you. The truth is, we have always been one nation under God! *Laus Deo!* Praise be to God!

You may forget the width and height of *Laus Deo*, its location, or the architects, but no one who reads this will be able to forget its meaning, or these words: "Unless the Lord builds the house its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain." (Psalm 127:1)

It is hoped you will send this to every person you know; to every sister, brother, father, mother or friend. They will not find offense, because you have given them a lesson in history that they probably never learned in school.

Author Unknown

The article on pages 16 and 17 was submitted by Sir Knight Charles A. Games; H.P.D.C., P.G.C. of Pennsylvania, and the Chairman of the of Committee on Public Relations. He is a member Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, Pennsylvania. Write: Charles A. Games, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944 or e-mail: charles.garnes@verizon.net

New York Sir Knights Form Honor Guard for Pastor Hilsenbeck



Reverend Juanita Duryea Hilsenbeck, wife of Past Commander Walt Hilsenbeck of Nassau Commandery No. 73, was installed as the pastor of the Half Hallow Community Church in Dix Hills, New York. Installing her was Past Grand Commander, the Reverend Robert Cave, Patchogue Commandery No. 65, Islip. Some members of the grand line formed an honor guard (arranged by P.C. Charles Mendell). Reverend Juanita was a recipient of a trip to the Holy Land in 1995. She is very active in hospital and nursing home volunteer work.

Denver Assembly No. 1, S.O.O.B., Initiates Five New Members

Late fall 2004 5 new members were initiated, including the wife and daughter of Sir Knight Gerald Heagney, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Commandery of Knights Thmplar of Colorado. New rules enabled the initiation. Denver initiated 15 candidates in 2004 and brought in by affiliation one additional member. Left to right are: Mrs. Horace Varner, Mrs. Fred Ems, Miss Susie Heagney, Mrs. Gerald Heagney, P.S.WP. Mrs. Esther Offen, Mrs. Marcus Hodges, and Mrs. Marvin Peterson, Worthy President. (submitted by Mrs. Mel Thompson, Recorder of Denver No. 1)



Wichita Assembly No. S. Kansas, S.O.O.B.. Installs Officers



Late 2004 the officers of Wichita Assembly installed (Mrs. Richard) Carlene Brown as Worthy President. She is also Supreme Courier of the Supreme Assembly, S.O.O.B. The very proficient installing officer was her mother, Mrs. Carl Hamlin, Past President and a very active member for over 50 years. Mrs. Hamlin recently celebrated her 93rd birthday. Shown are Mrs. Brown (in robe) and Mrs. Hamlin.

Story of a Painting

by Sir Knight Ronald J. Bertie
KCT, KYGCH, P.G.C. of New York

This is the story of a painting that was almost lost to future generations. It is also the story of a group of dedicated Knights Templar. The painting was kept in a dining room for almost 70 years, where the public had access to it. This area had a continual movement of people going by. The room was not climate controlled, and often the temperature was near 45 degrees in the winter, and in the summer the temperature rose to over 90 degrees. The humidity was either very low or near 100%.

The painting was kept in this condition for over 70 years: Chairs and furniture were banged against the painting. At least once someone fell against the painting and damaged it. Some children were throwing balls, and a ball was thrown against the painting.

The colors in the painting had become dull and dark, and the lighter areas began to merge and disappear. The frame that surrounded the painting was chipped and broken in areas. There were several tears in the painting. The oil paint became brittle and flaked off. The canvas itself became frayed and was ready to disintegrate.

There were discussions about what should be done with the painting. Some felt it was beyond repair and thought in its present condition the painting might be ready for the recycling bin. The future of this painting was in the balance. If nothing was done to preserve the painting, it would be beyond help within the next five years.

This painting hung in a dining room in the Masonic Temple on North Broadway in Saratoga Springs. The painting had been donated to Washington Commandery in 1927 by Sir Knight William Gage. He died before he could actually see the painting hung in the building where Washington Commandery met.

Nevertheless, William Gage had a very significant effect on the preservation

of the painting.

The painting had been displayed in the lobby of the old United States Hotel, in the Saratoga Springs area, for almost 70 years. It was first hung in Saratoga Springs in the 1840s. The painting was given a prominent position in the lobby of the hotel. The visitors to the hotel would see the painting when they first entered the hotel.

Mr. Gage came to work at the hotel in the late 1840s. He was very dedicated and soon rose to a management position in the hotel. Mr. Gage was very proud of the hotel and of the famous painting it had of George Washington.

The hotel burned to the ground in June of 1865. It is said that Mr. Gage, with the help of others, carried the painting of George Washington from the burning hotel to safety. Unfortunately, there is no documentation to confirm this, but during the restoration phase of the painting, it was noted that areas appeared to have had smoke damage.

Mr. Gage moved to New York City, where he was employed as part of the management in a hotel in New York City.

Mr. Gage moved back to Saratoga Springs in the 1870s. He was instrumental in rebuilding the United States Hotel. He was able to acquire the painting of George Washington that had been a centerpiece of the original hotel. He had the painting of George Washington displayed again in the new lobby of the new United States Hotel.

Mr. Gage sold the hotel in 1917, and the hotel was operated for several years after that but eventually ran on hard times and was thereby demolished.

Mr. Gage again was able to buy the painting and again saved it from possible destruction. It took several years before the painting was actually in his possession.

Mr. Gage had long been an admirer of George Washington and wanted to preserve the painting for future generations to be able to view it. He was a member of Washington Commandery, Knights Templar in Saratoga Springs. He talked about the possibility of giving the painting to Washington Commandery, so they could

display it again for the public to view. He wanted the father of his nation remembered forever in this painting.

Mr. Gage became very ill before he could actually present the painting to Washington Commandery, and he died in 1925.

Before he died he asked his son to formally present the painting in his name to Washington Commandery, Knights Templar. The Gage family formally presented the painting to Washington Commandery at a gala event in February 1927. The date chosen was the 195th birthday of George Washington. The night of the presentation was a gala affair with many local city, state, and other dignitaries present. There were several hundred people present at the presentation.

The painting is a full size portrait of General George Washington. The painting is approximately eight feet by five feet. The painting shows Washington standing in his study setting with books, documents, and drapery in the background.

The frame around the painting is made of wood with applied composition ornament that simulates high-relief carving. The entire frame is finished in gold leaf. The frame is almost as beautiful as the painting. There are similar paintings that currently hang in The White House in Washington D.C. and in the state capitol building in Rhode Island.

The painting that Washington Commandery had was painted circa 1830 by Cornelius T. Hinckley of Rhode Island. This painting is a copy of a portrait of Washington painted by Gilbert Stuart.

The first documented owner of the painting was the United States Hotel in Saratoga Springs, New York. The actual date the painting was acquired is not recorded. Its frame is thought to be from some time in the 1840s with the painting remaining in the Saratoga Springs area for almost 160 years.

In the early 1990s a group of men who were members of Washington Commandery began to investigate the possible restoration of the Washington painting. No one at that time knew the significance of the painting and the history

of the painting. Many long hours of discussions over the future of the painting were held, and in the meantime the painting continued to deteriorate.

Many letters were written to potential sponsors, but none were found. An art conservator from a private firm, West Lake Conservators, Inc., in Skaneateles, New York, was approached, and it was estimated that emergency restoration work would cost approximately \$20,000.00.

The members considered going to the community for help in raising the funds to begin the initial steps to save the painting. Many of those contacted were interested, but only limited funds were raised.

The painting continued to deteriorate without the needed restoration.

Then in 1995 the Commandery approached the then Grand Commander, Ronald Bertie, about this issue.

Bertie was the owner of a company that helped organizations obtain funds for projects. He offered to volunteer his services to help the Commandery obtain the necessary funds.

The group began with brainstorming sessions, and out of these ideas, the group began to develop their plans. The following plan was formulated from the brainstorming sessions: It was decided to use targeted population techniques to identify which organizations or individual.- might be interested in helping to restore the painting.

The first area to be investigated was the amount of money needed, and the next step was to determine the organization with the expertise for restoring the painting. Hundreds of letters and telephone contacts were made. Some of the replies were encouraging, but only limited funds were contributed.

This process went on for over three years. There was great interest in the project but limited funds. The group (Commandery) and Bertie began to develop the projected cost for the restoration of the painting, and it was also discovered that the painting, when fully restored, would be an art treasure.

The cost to restore the painting was much more than Washington Commandery could afford on their own.

The group continued to meet with and have contact with Ronald Bertie as they began to refine the process of looking for a sponsor. It was found that it would take complete conservation of the painting and its frame and would cost substantially more than the estimated stabilization to restore the painting. There were not many organizations who could afford the cost, nor were there many that had the talent to do the restoration.

Again, many letters and telephone calls were made. There were still very few results, after a period of almost four years. The group began to use networking techniques to search for potential sponsors. A short list was developed. Many corporations, foundations, and government organizations were contacted.

Ronald Bertie, who was working with the Rochester Museum and Science Center, Rochester, New York, learned about the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. He made contact with James Gold and Anne Cassidy of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). They met in Rochester, New York, on a snowy day in February 1998 and began discussions on the project. A written proposal was developed and forwarded to Mr. Gold.

Mr. Bertie had several meetings and telephone conversations with Anne Cassidy, who is the Collections Manager at OPRHP's Collection Care Center on Peebles Island in Waterford, New York, and the group from Washington Commandery (August Lodise, Batreld Gout, Harold Goodrell, Conrad Kupinski, and Gifford Bull) was contacted by Ronald Bertie.

The group from Washington Commandery and Ronald Bertie met at Peebles Island to discuss the future of the painting. It was decided that New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation would take physical possession of the painting.

Mr. Bertie met Anne Cassidy at the studio of West Lake Conservators, Inc., in Skaneateles to pick up the painting and transport it to the Collections Care

Center in Waterford, New York. Staff at OPRHP's Collections Care Center prepared a temporary stand in the moving truck to support the rolled painting while it was moved to Peebles Island. It took over an hour to load the painting into OPRHP's vehicle. It took this amount of time because of the size and tragic condition of the painting.

The painting was transported to New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, Peebles Island, New York. There was made a complete evaluation of the processes needed for restoration of the painting and the frame. A team of experts would painstakingly begin the process. Photographs were taken during the process.

It was found that a coating containing lead had been applied to the backside of the painting. This lead-containing coating would have to be removed. The lead coating was removed very carefully and slowly so the painting itself would not be damaged, using a very sharp knife. The process to remove the lead coating took several months to perform with all the safety precautions that were used to protect the people from the lead.

After the removal of the lead coating, the painting was in the proper condition to begin the process of restoring the proper colors and cleaning the painting. The Art Conservators at OPRHP's Collections Care Center used organic solvents to remove aged and yellowed varnish that obscured the painting's vivid colors. In addition, nine tears and three holes in the canvas were repaired with fibers taken from the painting's tacking edges. (Fabric from the tacking edges was inserted into the holes matching the weight and texture of the original canvas.) To give the painting proper support it was lined with a synthetic fabric and mounted to an aluminum panel. Hundreds of losses in the painting's painted surface were filled with synthetic gesso and carefully in-painted from the front of the canvas to match the surrounding artwork. A final surface coating was applied to the painting to saturate the colors, to provide an even gloss, and to protect the paint surfaces.

The frame for the painting had been stored in the basement of the Masonic Temple. The frame had been severely damaged, and many sections of the composition ornament and gesso substrate were damaged or missing. The entire frame had been coated with a heavy layer of bronze powder paint, which completely obscured the frame's original gilding. The grime and bronze powder paint were removed from the entire frame. Unstable ornament and gesso losses were consolidated, and the gesso losses were filled. Molds were made of existing ornament, and replacements were cast and filled to the areas of loss. All repairs and areas of missing gold leaf were re-gilded and toned to match the existing original finish.

On Saturday of February 20, 2001, the painting was officially dedicated in public ceremonies. The location was the new home of the painting at the refurbished museum of the Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site on the banks of the Hudson River in Newburgh, New York. The state of New York officially recognized the members of Washington Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar, for the gift of the historic treasure to the state of New York. There were over 100 Sir Knights in attendance.

The Masonic Fraternity can be proud of the members of Washington Commandery. Their persistence shows that a dedicated group of individuals can overcome all obstacles. These men lived up to the highest principles of men and Masons. They are true American patriots.

On your next trip to Newburgh, you can see the painting. The museum gallery's temperature and relative humidity are carefully monitored so that a stable environment can be maintained for the preservation of the painting. Modern museum gallery lamps illuminate the painting for visitors' enjoyment.

Footnotes:

(1) Information on Cornelius T. Hinckley and the United States Hotel is based on data from *New York State Preservationist*, Volume 4/ No. 2, Fall/Winter 2000.

(2) Information on Sir Knight William Gates and the presentation of the painting to Washington Commandery were found in the following areas:

The Saratogian Newspaper, Saratoga Springs, New York, dated July 3, 1925, and February 22, 1927. Information provided by Conrad Kupinski, Recorder, Washington Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar

Additional information on Sir Knight William Gates from the archives of Washington Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar, New York

(3) Information on the period the George Washington painting by Cornelius T. Hinckley was in the property of Washington Commandery came from the following sources:

Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, New York

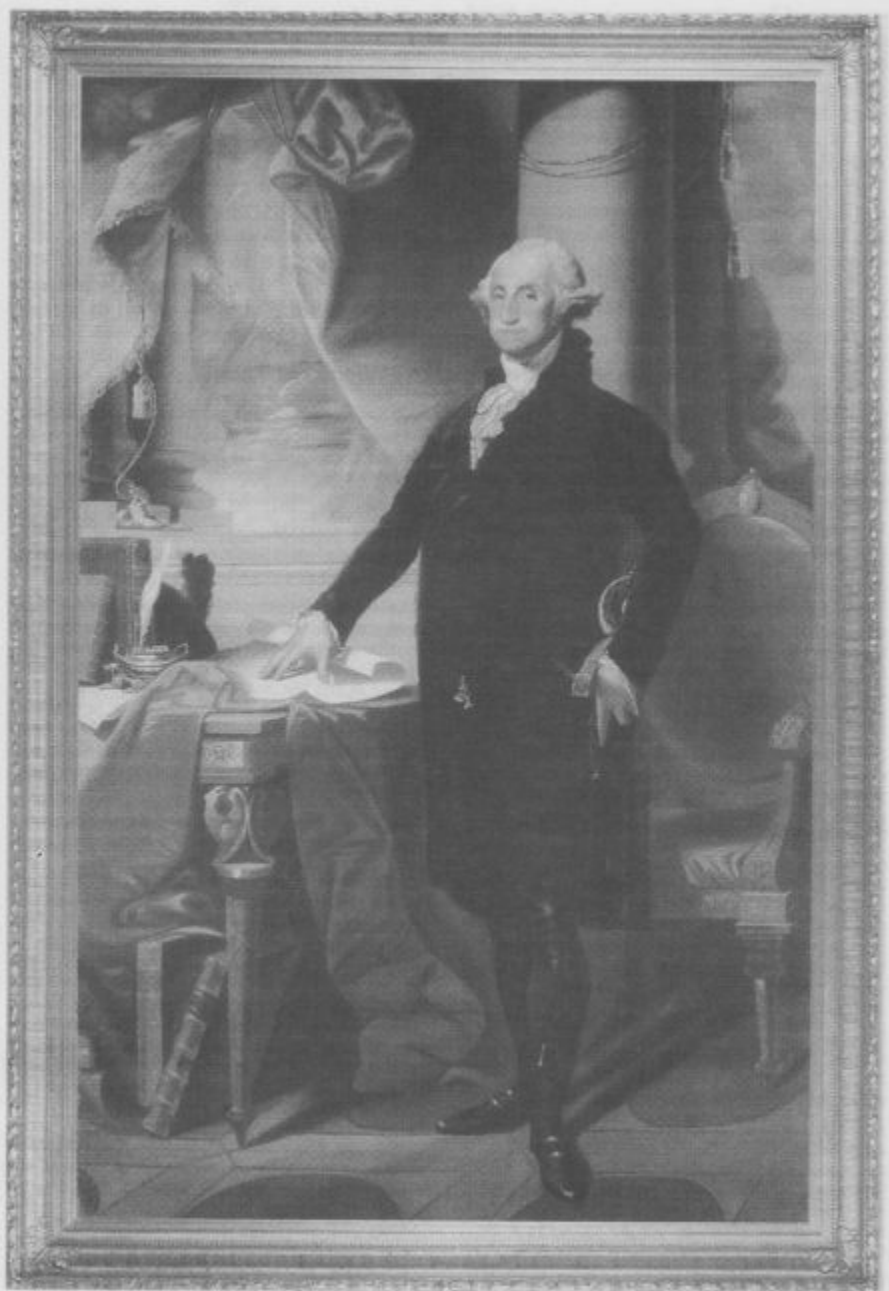
Washington Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar

Conrad Kupinski, P.C., Recorder, Washington Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar

This article was reviewed by: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

Sir Knight Ronald J. Bertie is a Past Grand Commander, Knights Templar, State of New York, KCT, KYGCH, and is the Grand Recorder Emeritus. He is the Recorder of The Empire State Commandery No. 83, Knights Templar, and is an Honorary Member of Washington Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar. He currently is in a University Horticultural Program. He is writing a book on George Washington and can be contacted at Rbertie@aol.com

On page 23, you will find a reproduction of the George Washington painting with appropriate credits.



George Washington
Painted by Cornelius T. Hinckley
Courtesy of Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation



JAMES N. HIGDON
Right Eminent Grand Commander
and the Sir Knights of Texas take pleasure in inviting
you to attend our Sesquicentennial Grand Conclave celebrating
One Hundred Fifty Years of Templary in Texas.

The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas was founded in San Antonio on January 19, 1855, when the representatives of our three existing Commanderies met in San Antonio and formed what has become The Great Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas.

We will conclude our celebration of our Sesquicentennial Year of Templary in Texas from April 15-18. Our 2005 Grand Conclave Committee has planned what we believe will be a grand finale to our Sesquicentennial Year celebration(s). We will experience our Drill Competition at Alzar Shrine Center and our Ritual Competition at the Hotel. The Ladies of the SOOB will have a wonderful Fiesta themed luncheon on Saturday hosted by San Antonio Assembly #159. Attendees at the Awards Banquet on Saturday, in addition to learning the Drill and Ritual Competition winners, and the other awardees, will receive a unique Sesquicentennial Fiesta medal as an attendance memento that we hope you will wear and cherish as a keepsake of your participation in this Sesquicentennial event.

Our Memorial and Worship Service on Sunday will be unique, having a first-ever choir, complementing what we hope will be a true worship experience for you. After all, the central focus of our Templary is the improvement of our relationship with our Lord and Savior, and it is our sincere desire to have you leave this service with a renewed and rejuvenated faith and relationship with and in Him.

Following the spiritual nourishment of the Worship Service, you can be physically nourished at our Fiesta Brunch, enjoying our excellent San Antonio Tex-Mex cuisine, while being serenaded by mariachis.

Although Sunday afternoon is free for many to visit our many historic sites or shop at North Star Mall (across the Loop from the hotel) or Rivercenter Mall (downtown near the Alamo), members of the KYCH and Knight Preceptors may attend their meeting at the hotel. There will always be time for fellowship at the Grand Commander's Hospitality Suite that evening.

Monday, we open the Sesquicentennial Grand Conclave

and formally receive and recognize our many expected Masonic and secular dignitaries in attendance on this memorable occasion. We hope that you will be present to help us properly receive them, including one of our San Antonio Fiesta dignitaries, **EL REY FEO**, the Ugly King. We will then move right into our Grand Conclave business session so that we can hold our elections and then install our new Grand Officers at or near the usual time that afternoon.

That evening, following the installation, you may want to stay over and take in some of the many opportunities to experience our City's Fiesta celebration. Our famous River Parade will happen Monday night, with **NIOS4** (Night in Old San Antonio) at La Villita (the original San Antonio village area) commencing on Tuesday evening and running through Friday night. The Hotel will honor our room rate for as long as you want to stay following the conclusion of our Sesquicentennial event, so take advantage!

We are looking forward to our out-of-state guests helping us celebrate this a great Sesquicentennial event and we want you to be there to enjoy it with us. Hotel Registration or Conclave Registration and Credentials Forms can be downloaded from these websites: www.texasorkrite.org/grcommandery.htm or www.yorkrite.albertpikademolay.org or contact me at the addresses above or our Grand Recorder's office and we will ensure that you get one. **Our Registration and Credentials Committee is handling all room reservations and assignments, so be certain to mail the Hotel Reservation Form to the address indicated at the bottom of the form.** You can also find a letter from our General Chairman, Sir Knight Harry J. "Moose" Moosegian, on the website that more completely details all of the events that will occur during your **Fiesta San Antonio** stay. If you choose to miss this historic event in the life of our Grand Commandery, you will have missed a great time of fellowship and living this facet of our Texas Templar history.

Part II: James Knox Polk: Dedication Redefined

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

Texas had been at war with Mexico since December 1835. There was great pressure on the administration to annex Texas as a state. Jackson opposed it because he did not want the matter to be an issue in the 1836 presidential election; however, Polk and two former political friends from Tennessee, Davy Crockett and Sam Houston, supported annexation. Back in Tennessee, Polk campaigned vigorously for Martin Van Buren, who was heartily disliked in that state. Although Tennessee did not support Van Buren in the election, he won impressively with strong support from New York and New England.

Van Buren began his term of office in a country once again facing financial panic because of lingering problems over the recent U.S. Bank controversy.

Emotions ran so high in Congress that several fistfights broke out on the floor. One Whig representative challenged a Democrat from Maine to a duel and killed him. Back in Columbia, Polk's brother William killed a man in a fight, too. Although acquitted on a plea of self-defense, William contracted tuberculosis and died a year after being expelled from Yale University. It had been a turbulent 1837 for James Polk.

James decided to end his congressional career in 1839 in order to run for governor of Tennessee. He launched the campaign with his usual vigor. He traveled 1,300 miles on horseback, covering 33 of the state's 67 counties and delivering 43 major speeches. Polk gave a "stump" speech whenever the opportunity presented itself.

He remained a strong states' rights advocate, and Sarah campaigned along with her beloved husband. James won the election in August 1839 by a majority of 2,500 votes.

The governor of Tennessee was not provided a residence, so James was obliged to rent one in Nashville for

\$500 per year, one-quarter of his annual salary. With no staff provided for the governor's office, he was obliged to do most of the paperwork personally. During his term as governor, Polk continued to own slaves, as always.

He also supported Martin Van Buren for president in 1840, but the Whigs carried Tennessee and the nation. William Henry Harrison, the hero of the battle of Tippecanoe, was elected the 9th president of the United States.

During his term as governor of Tennessee, Polk remained active and in close contact with the Democratic party on the national level. In 1843 he was facing a reelection bid in Tennessee to retain the governor's chair.

His support of Van Buren in the 1839 election had cost Polk dearly. The Democrats in Tennessee failed to support him as in previous years. In spite of the fact that he campaigned even harder than he had in 1839, Polk lost the gubernatorial election in 1840 to James C. "Lean Jimmy" Jones.

James returned to his private law practice, hoping for a summons as the vice-presidential candidate for the party in 1844. He entered the election campaign in 1843 for reelection as governor of Tennessee campaigning vigorously throughout the state - to no avail. Polk was defeated once more in his bid for the governor's chair. It appeared that his political career was ended.

However, it was not Polk's opinion that his career was over when he attended the Democratic convention in 1844. During the selection of candidates, Polk enjoyed a spectacular resurrection. The first political message ever transmitted over a telegraph wire announced that James Knox Polk had been chosen as the vice-presidential candidate for the Democratic Party on May 29, 1844. The announcement was wired from Baltimore, where the convention was being held, to Washington, D.C.

An even more surprising turn of events occurred later at the convention. The two contenders for the presidential candidacy were Martin Van Buren and John C. Calhoun, two bitter enemies. They represented two opposing factions among Democrat voters; New England, a

section opposed to annexation of Texas as a slave state, and the pro-slavery south. Neither contender could muster enough votes to win the candidacy, so the delegates turned to a compromise choice. James Polk was elected as their presidential candidate on the ninth ballot.

The 1844 presidential election campaign was bitter and dirty. The Whigs flayed Polk as a "loser" and an "unknown"; reviling his grandfather, Ezekiel Polk, as a Tory during the Revolution. They labeled Sarah a poor homemaker, who could not refrain from political meddling.

The Whig candidate was Senator Henry Clay. The election was exceedingly close, but James Polk was elected when he carried New York State by 5,000 votes. The 16,000 abolitionists in New York voted for Polk.

James learned of his election victory from a message scribbled on a package delivered to his home in Columbia on November 14, 1844. The city did not learn the news until the following day.

James was inaugurated on March 4, 1845, in a driving rain. The little lawyer from Columbia, Tennessee, became the president of the United States in the 50th year of his life.

He lost no time in getting down to business in his new role. His Secretary of State was James Buchanan of Pennsylvania, a constituent selected in the interest of party harmony; however, Polk himself intended to be a hands-on president and maintain close contact with every department of the government. Habitually, he arose at dawn, enjoyed a short walk, and then confronted the problems of the daily cabinet conference or meeting official visitors.

The afternoon was filled by appointments with congressmen or other government officials. Dinner was promptly at 5 P.M. The evening was reserved for informal receptions twice a week with no food or liquor served. The balance of weekly evenings were spent in the oval office doing paperwork. Sarah filed mail and attended to clerical duties. Polk was determined to give the presidential office his best efforts.

Polk's four primary goals as president have been mentioned. The first was to

lower tariffs on imports to stimulate trade and help the economy. After several months of debate, Congress passed such a bill.

Polk was determined to set up an independent treasury to handle all government financial affairs. There was a monumental struggle to achieve that goal, but construction on a building to house the Treasury Department was started in 1846. The Treasury Department would conduct the government's financial business until 1913, when the Federal Reserve system was founded.

Polk was dedicated to annexing Oregon as a United States Territory. It had been jointly governed by Great Britain and the U.S. following the War of 1812. The governments could not agree on a northern boundary for the territory. Polk negotiated aggressively with England on the issue and was rewarded with a compromise agreement whereby the northern border for the Oregon Territory was established on the 49th parallel. The agreement was signed on June 15, 1846, and two years later Oregon became an official U.S. territory.

When Polk took office in March 1845, Congress had recently resolved to invite Texas into the union. Polk favored the resolution. Because Mexico had threatened war if the U.S. declared Texas a state, the president decided to make a show of force on the Mexican border. In the summer of 1845, President Polk ordered General Zachary Taylor and 4,000 troops into position on the Nueces River in south Texas. He sent Congressman John Slidell to Mexico City to negotiate a permanent border between Texas and Mexico. When Slidell was refused an audience, Polk ordered General Taylor to advance to the Rio Grande and take up a defensive position. On May 9, 1846, Mexican forces fired on an American military detail, and Congress declared war on Mexico.

President Polk was deeply involved in the day-to-day strategy for conducting the war with Mexico. He approved of General Zachary Taylor's offensive drive southward into Mexico from the Rio Grande River. Polk further approved General Winfield Scott's attack against Vera Cruz from the Gulf of Mexico. The two-pronged attack was aimed at reaching and capturing Mexico City.

California was occupied by the U.S. Army and naval forces without major military action. Settlers in Sacramento took care of the matter themselves by declaring independence from Mexico. In the Gulf coast theater, Scott's invasion fleet was off the coast at Vera Cruz in August 1846. His drive to capture Mexico City ended there on September 14, 1847, with Santa Anna's surrender. California had been secured in January 1847. The Mexican War was over.

James Polk had never approved of General Scott or General Taylor. He had little confidence in either man's tactical ability, and he regarded both as presidential aspirants and political enemies. He was correct in that assumption.

Nevertheless, for the good of the country; Polk suffered the recalcitrant attitudes of both general officers during hostilities. Polk was rewarded with a victory over Mexico for his efforts. Santa Anna was in exile by 1848, and James Polk's four goals as president had become reality.

During his final year in office, Polk's dominant concern was the slavery issue. Although a life-long slave owner, he refused to take sides with either faction. The burning question at the moment was whether California and Oregon would come into the union as free or slave states.

Polk was not required to resolve that issue. He was completing his four-year term and did not intend to run again. A chronic intestinal ailment had degraded his health considerably, and the four years as president had reduced him to a state of exhaustion. In fact, James observed that he would soon "go the way of all flesh." His term complete, James and Sarah returned to a home in Nashville they had purchased a year earlier.

Soon afterward, in early 1849, James and Sarah departed on a lengthy journey to New Orleans and various southern cities. Their return was primarily via steamboat, up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. They made appearances at numerous political rallies along the way. During a visit to Montgomery, Alabama, James had fallen violently ill. He had suffered intensely from severe heat all through the late spring. When they reached Baton Rouge, Louisiana, James was forced

to lay over. He was suffering from severe stomach and intestinal distress, obviously symptoms of Asiatic cholera raging throughout the southern states. Medication failed to relieve the symptoms. Nevertheless, Polk insisted on continuing to Columbia, for a visit with his mother.

The Polks arrived in Nashville in late May 1849, relieved to be home. Although desperately ill, James managed to address a few legal matters for several days. On June 1 he suffered a severe "derangement of the stomach and bowels." By Sunday the conditioned worsened and he could not attend church. His physician, Dr. Robertson, was summoned. Two additional doctors were called in for consultation. They concluded that James Polk was dying and nothing could save him; nevertheless, he lingered on for 12 days before expiring at 4:43 P.M. on June 15, 1849, three months after leaving the White House. His age was 53 years and 225 days. Polk remained lucid to the end.

The official cause of death was listed as Asiatic cholera; however, Polk's exhausted physical condition made it impossible for him to recover from the disease. Cholera claimed 23 citizens in Nashville that day.

Official Washington was shocked and grieved at the unexpected news. Supreme Court Justice Levi Woodbury delivered a memorable eulogy, extolling the virtues of a great man and citizen; perhaps the most moving oration relating to James Polk's passing.

Back in Nashville, there was considerable urgency to perform the funerary rites without delay, because of the contagious nature of the fatal disease. A hasty funeral was arranged for Saturday, June 16 at 3:00 P.M., the day after Polk's passing. The undertaking firm of M. S. McCombs and W. R. Cornelius was in charge of arrangements. The remains were on view at Polk Place, the family residence, during which time a Masonic memorial service was conducted by Columbia Lodge. At 2:30 P.M. the coffin was borne by hearse to the Nashville Methodist Church, where the Bishop James B. McFerrin conducted the funeral sermon.

At 6:00 P.M. the funeral procession, consisting of a throng of city and state

officials, plus hundreds of friends, arrived at the Nashville City Cemetery. There, the remains were interred in a temporary receiving vault. The Brethren of Columbia Lodge assisted Past Grand Master Wilkins Tannehill in delivering the committal service.

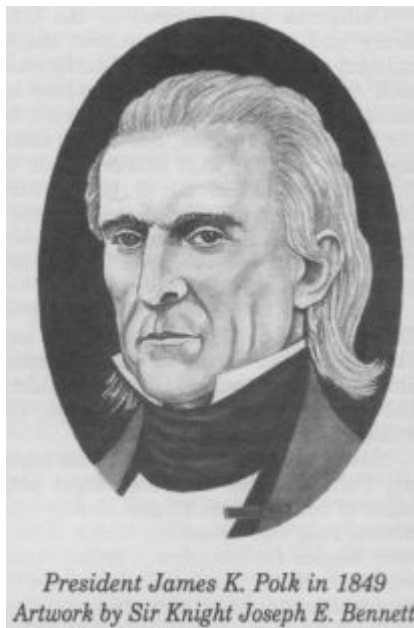
On May 22, 1850, Mrs. Sarah Polk directed the remains of James K Polk disinterred and consigned to a tomb prepared for that purpose in the front lawn of Polk Place. A second elaborate memorial service was offered on that occasion, with the Rev. James H. Otey delivering the sermon and Columbia Lodge again performing a Masonic burial service. A large assembly of officials and private citizens witnessed the ceremony.

Sarah Polk lived a long and fruitful life as the widow of an ex-president, expiring on August 14, 1891. She was laid beside her beloved husband in the tomb at Polk Place.

However, a perpetuity stipulation in James Polk's will was impossible to execute according to his directions, and it was set aside by the court. The assets were distributed among the next of kin, who requested that the remains of James and Sarah be removed from Polk Place. The General Assembly of Tennessee designated an appropriate site for the former president on the Capitol grounds at Nashville. Solemn obsequies, complete with an impressive funeral cortege, were performed during that final interment on September 19, 1893-43 years after the death of James Polk.

The great state of Tennessee has given many distinguished sons to this nation; not the least of whom was James Knox Polk. His dedication to the welfare and common good of our country has never been exceeded - and rarely equaled - by his peers in public service. Polk's sterling record as the head of government is a monument to dedicated performance. Deemed cold and emotionless by a handful of detractors, he was the personable chosen leader of a grateful majority.

As a Freemason, he discharged his obligations in a manner judged exemplary by his fraternal Brethren. We prefer to believe that James Polk made the long journey to his home justified. No man can hope for more. So mote it be.



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MISCELLANEOUS:

American Funeral Director Magazine, September, 2002; biographical feature, "The Death and Funeral of James K Polk"

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.

These Holy Times

by Reverend Donald C. Kerr, Pastor Emeritus

Easter is happiness. It is a time of beauty and hope. It beckons us to the future. It is a time for spring, when we like to see things grow. Everyone likes to see something new.

Easter puts before us a new world. It tells us we belong to a tradition which allows us to think there is more to life than what we know or see. We become recipients of an immortal hope, clinging to a faith that believes there is another side to iniquity and injustice and betrayal. In the resurrection of life is the belief that God overcomes pain and tragedy and even death and can transform darkness into light and misfortune into thankfulness.

In succeeding weeks the time of Passover will tell how from despair and slavery people were reborn to freedom and hope. In this Jewish festival the focus is on the opportunity of a new horizon. Out of dejection and rejection a people look towards a promised land. Such are these seasons of rebirth and renewal.

Many years ago Erich Fromm wrote a book called *The Art of Loving*, in which he described the happy person as one who feels an inner sense of creativity. We are happiest not by making ourselves happy but by bringing happiness to someone else.

So now, let Easter, in this springtime of the year, speak to our souls as it does to nature. Let us hear that glad refrain: "It is time to wake up. It is time to begin doing something for the love of God and the beauty of the earth."

A Happy Easter Time and a Joyful Passover to All!

Sir Knight Donald Craig Kerr is Pastor- Emeritus, Roland Park Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Maryland, a 32° Mason, Chaplain Emeritus of Baltimore Chapter, and a member of Beauseant Commandery No. 8, Baltimore. He resides at Apt. E202 Plymouth Harbor, 700 John Ringling Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34236-1542.

Sale Of Knights Templar Figurine To Benefit The Knights Templar Eye Foundation



Pictured at left is a crusader knight posing with his helmet, sword, and shield. The figure measures twelve inches high and is made of alabastrite. It's a nice gift for any Knight Templar. The price is \$12.00 (US) plus \$5.00 S & H. **A portion of each sale will be set apart for the KTEF.** Please send your check or money order made out to: Iroko Enterprises, and send to: Iroko Enterprises, C/O Alfonso Serrano, 4121 Fort Hamilton Pkwy., Suite 1, Brooklyn, NY 11219. Credit card payments can be received via Paypal. Contact via e-mail: irokoenterprises@aol.com or visit website at www.irokoenterprises.com

Sale Of Noah's Ark Tote Bag To Benefit The KTEF

The Noah's Ark tote bag, at right, measures 15 inches deep by 18 inches long; it is made of upholstery material that is 240 threads per inch. It is double sewn at all open areas and double stitched at the handles. Made in the US with a design on both sides, it is machine washable. Only 500 made! **\$2.00 of each sale will go to the Eye Foundation.** The price is \$25.00 each, including shipping in the US only. Please add \$15.00 more for additional shipping costs outside the US. If interested, please send check or M.O. to: Sandra D. Knotts, PO Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087.





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.

Temple Commandery No. 41, Temple, Texas, celebrated its 100th anniversary in April 2004. Gold-look commemorative coins are being sold as a fundraiser 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, TX 78645, (512) 267-1388

For sale: gold-finish sword lapel pins: men's pin: 1 and 114 inches long, with red stone in the center of the hilt, \$7.00 each, and lathes' pin: 2 and 112 inches long, with clear stone at the top of the hilt and a red stone in the center of the hilt, \$12.00 each; prices include S & H. Check or MO to Meimse Commandery 159th Grand Conclave, 17120 Theiss Mail Road, Spring, TX 77379. E-mail becky@abercrombieanddemy.com The pins are a special project for the 159th Conclave.

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: let item, \$5.00; each additional item, \$1.00. Percentage

to York Rite and Masonic charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., P.C.; 60 Manor Road; Staten Island; NY 10310-2698

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 K'FEF. General Merchandise Company; 13690 Broad Street, SW; Pataskala; OH 43062, (740) 927-7073

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

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 R.A.M. Chapter to be chartered in Georgia in 25 years, is selling their newly minted mark/penny for \$10.00 each or 2 for \$15.00, postpaid. Each coin is accompanied with a certificate of authenticity. Checks or MOs to Middle Georgia York Rite Bodies; Charles E. Smith, Chairman; 6559 Cypress Drive; Eastman; GA 31023; e-mail chuck.e.smith@us.army.mil

Anniversary Lodge of Research No. 175, New Hampshire, celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2004. The lodge was chartered in 1964 on the 175th anniversary of the formation of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, hence the name and number. The lodge has available pewter and enamel commemorative coins for \$6.50 each, including postage in the US. Contact Mark E. Furber, WM., 11 Elwyn Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801-4417, (603) 436-1523; e-mail alor@furber.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 (AF & AM, AAFM, etc.), city and state: \$8.00 each-minimum order of 5. One free tag with each 10 ordered. Shipping for 5 is \$5.00, 10 is \$7.00, 20 is \$10.00 to same address in US. 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

Coin collectors: Newton Lodge No. 59, A.F. & AM., Newton, Iowa, is celebrating its 150th anniversary in June of 2005. In honor of this milestone, we are selling a 150th commemorative coin: \$10.00 each, postpaid. Checks payable to Newton Lodge No. 59. Send to Wads Sheeler, P.M., Secretary; 208 1st Avenue West; Newton; IA 50208-3722

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 Past Master or Shrine decals to fit on your taillights, only \$5.00 per set of 2, postpaid. Also, black vinyl square and compass decals, 3/4 by 3/4 inch, designed to place on the photo or list of your Past Masters who have gone on to that Celestial Lodge Above. 10 decals for only \$5.00, postpaid. All profits go In 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. & 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 boxed 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. 10¹/_c 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 still \$20.00 each with \$6.00 S & H. Check or MO to Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217 and mail to Harry A Bruno, Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & AM.; PO Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfoot.com

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.

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 Tim A Stevens, 5 Old Duxbury Court, Fairfie1d 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 1017c to 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 KTEF. S. Kenneth Baril, 6809 Main Street, Apt. 2 West, Cincinnati, OH 45244-3470, (513) 272-2815, fax (513)272-2830

For sale: The Medal of Honor The Letter G in Valor, a 268-page digest with the names, congressional citations, and Lodge membership of all Masons who have received our nation's highest military award for bravery. Books may be obtained by contacting Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., PO Box 9759, 3011 Old Dumbarton Rd., Richmond, VA 23228-0759, (804) 262-6551. The price is \$16.95 plus S & H. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.

New novelty book available: Pythagoras, This Cross Is for You, by Past Master and Past Commander Jack N. Barricklo-\$7.00 each, postpaid. "For the serious Craftsman with short history, illustrations, and instruction by the Master' himself." % of profits will go to KTEF. (Please write "KTEF" in memo.) Checks payable to Ourland Enterprises, and send to Ourland Enterprises, 8631 McDade, Houston, TX 77080-4321.

For sale: Masonic flashing pins, in small plastic packages. Flashing lights are very bright and can be seen for over 114 mile at night. Pin comes with 2 long-lasting batteries and a magnet. \$6.00 each (minimum order of 4), including postage. % of net profits to KTEF. Julian Arhire, 417 E. Sheridan Street, No. 254; Dania, FL 33004, (954) 298-2515.

Picture at <http://www.dticorp.dns2go.com/poze/mason-pin3.jpg>

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 Hawaiian and Alaskan pennies. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Rd, No. 214; Tucson; AZ (520) 888-7585

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

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

The Resurrection

The day is Easter. Flowers bloom
On every altar. Men retell
The resurrection from the tomb,
The tale of Christ arisen. Well,
And what means all that tale to me,
With my own cross and Calvary?

What means it all? Why, surely this:
That even as the lilies lift
Their blooms above death's dark abyss;
That even as the clouds may drift
From winter skies, the skies of March,
Until the April rainbows arch;

That even as a soul may soar
From out a tomb, however barred,
And take its place forevermore
In God's eternal Afterward,

So men may roll the stone away
That hides their heaven day by day.

We do not need to die to live,
We need not wait for death to rise;
Yes, even now your God will give
You certainty for some surmise
If you but ask, will let you out
From your discouragement and doubt.

The resurrection of the dead.
God grant the resurrection, too,
Of those who live! I pray instead
This day shall bring such faith to you
That you will feel in life, somehow,
Your resurrection even now.

Douglas Malloch