



Knight Templar

VOLUME LI

APRIL 2005

NUMBER 4



Sir Knight Addie Joss:

On page 25 you'll find "The Tragic Story of a Baseball Great."

Grand Master's Message for April 2005

April is the month for Annual Conclaves, spring celebrations, warmer weather, gardening, outdoor activities, and a general enthusiasm for life. Typically, Easter falls during this month, this year being an exception.

Perhaps, for Christian Masons, that could be a reason for our attitude. For our Northern friends, it probably is just good to get out into warmer weather and see the end of cabin fever. In Texas this is the month when our state flower, the Bluebonnet, is in full bloom. The countryside is truly a riot of color with all of the spring wildflowers. It is truly a great time to be outside.

One word of caution: Don't go out and sit in a field of Bluebonnets without looking closely. Bees and rattlesnakes like the Bluebonnets, also!

The Grand Commandery of Texas will hold its Conclave in San Antonio on April 15-18. They will celebrate their 150th anniversary, and we will be there to celebrate with them. Congratulations to the Sir Knights of Texas and their families on this very special occasion.

Now, if you think that is big, think again. Our good Brother Sir Knights from Massachusetts/Rhode Island are about to celebrate their 200th anniversary! They will hold their celebration on May 6 and 7. On May 6 they will be in Providence, and on May 7 more ceremonies will be held in Boston in the Old North Church. Details of their celebration can be obtained by contacting their Grand Commandery office. Of course, we extend our congratulations to this, the senior Grand Commandery in the Grand Encampment!

Hopefully, we will see you in one or both of these meetings. As one of our celebrated newscasters here in Houston says at the conclusion of his segment of the evening news: "I wish you good golf, good tennis, good gardening, or whatever makes you happy." **Please enjoy the spring.**



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth B. Fischer".

Kenneth B. Fischer
Grand Master, KCT, GCT

Sir Knights: Please keep both of our Grand Prelates in your prayers. Sir Knight and Rev. Thomas G. Keithly had major back surgery on March 14, and Sir Knight William Q. Moore fell and broke his shoulder and is in Memorial Hospital. I will keep you informed.

Knight Templar

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

APRIL: Our coverage for the 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation begins on page 5. It includes available listings of new club members and forms for the 33° and O.P.C. clubs. Read the touching words of KTEF recipients on page 9, and please make an extra effort to support the KTEF before the April 30 deadline! This month your General Chairman Karnegis has information on age-related macular degeneration to enhance our knowledge. Don't miss the article by the members of the Committee on Religious Activities, starting on page 11, and on pages 21 and 22, Sir Knights Marples and Young have written inspirational articles on the Fraternity; you won't want to miss them! Sir Knight Tribe is back with the story of a baseball great, Addie Joss, and it's just in time for that thrilling American pastime - baseball. Enjoy!

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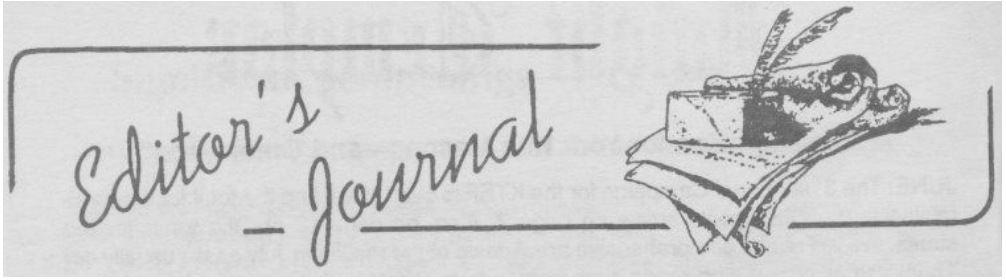
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When you order any of the items below, make check or money order payable to: the Grand Encampment, and send to: Grand Encampment, Knights Templar; 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101; Chicago; IL 60630-2460

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 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 \$20.00 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.

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

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

Does It Hurt To Be On The Cutting Edge?

The 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) will soon be history. (It closes April 30, 2005.) For the last several months we have been reminding you in this column of the many good things that the KTEF does every day, throughout the nation, for all age groups. We have seen how it helps the newborn and children and how it also helps "the old folks."

It is likely that most of those who will read this "last-month-of-the-Campaign" article will not belong to the above-mentioned first group. Perhaps even though you and I

probably would not think of including ourselves in the second mentioned group, we might be persuaded to so designate some of our fellow Sir Knights. If that is so, it seems to me that it would be a good idea to tailor this particular article to our more "mature" members, giving them current information directly pertinent to their age group and showing the ability of the KTEF to function for them. This should clearly demonstrate that **it is good that the KTEF is on the cutting edge. It is your premier private philanthropy nationally recognized for its work in the fight against eye diseases**

Macular degeneration is a specific disease of the eye that is prevalent in the older age group. We asked the Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology of the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine, Jonathan M. Holmes, M.D., to assist us so that we could include in this issue an article about this malady, and he was pleased to ask a retina vitreous specialist in his department, José S. Pulido, M.D., to provide us the information. The KTEF thanks Dr. Pulido, Dr. Holmes, and the Mayo Clinic for helping us bring to you this authoritative message about an important and relevant eye problem. You may want to save this article in your files for your future reference.

Before you read the medical information printed below, please remember that this is the last chance (month) to make a personal contribution to the 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the KTEF. If you have not already done so, would you consider doing it now, and help the Campaign be a success? Make your check payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. All contributions are acknowledged with a receipt and are tax deductible. Send to: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, 1000 East State Parkway, Suite 1, Schaumburg, IL 60173.

James N. Karnegis M.D., Ph.D., KCT, GCT
General Chairman, 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign
Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc



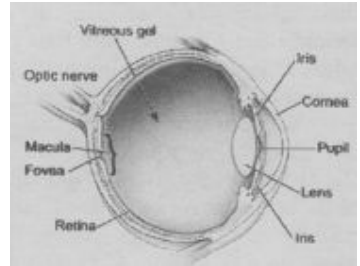
Age-Related Macular Degeneration:

Who, What, When and Where?

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the leading cause of legal blindness among those over the age of 65 years. There are approximately 13 million Americans affected with AMD, and it is estimated that every year another 200,000 Americans develop the wet (i.e., exudative) form of AMD. The World Health Organization has now listed AMD as the third leading worldwide cause of blindness. Because people are living longer, the disease is becoming much more prevalent each year, not only in the United States but also around the world. AMD can be devastating because it takes away the independence of those who are affected, impairing their ability to take care of themselves and making them more dependent on their friends and relatives for daily activities. For example, a person may no longer be able to drive or to read because of the disease. AMD mainly takes away the critically important central vision, which is the vision that is required for reading, driving, and seeing television, but it only rarely causes total blindness.

To understand this disease, it is important to be familiar with the anatomy of the eye. The part of the eye that is sensitive to light, converting the visual stimulus into electrical energy so that the image can be sent to the brain, is called the retina. There is a small central part of the retina, called the macula, which gives the best-focused vision.

There are two forms of AMD, often referred to as the dry and the wet forms. The dry form is also called the non-exudative form, and the wet form is also called the exudative form. The dry, nonexudative form is much more common, comprising 90% of all new cases, and the wet, exudative form accounts for the remaining 10%. The dry form involves central drusen (yellowish spots showing through the retina) and atrophy (loss) of the outer layer of the retina. The wet form involves the growth of abnormal blood vessels beneath the outer layer of the retina. These abnormal blood vessels can bleed or leak fluid and thus cause damage to the overlying retina. The dry form takes away the vision slowly, while the wet form takes away the vision much more quickly.



AMD has a definite genetic basis. It is known that the risk of a person developing AMD is increased if his or her brother, sister, or parent has the disease. The genetics are now starting to be better understood, but it will take a few more years to completely understand the molecular mechanism of the disease.

Interestingly, just as important, or possibly even more important than the genetic risks, are the "modifiable" risk factors. This is because, while genetics cannot be changed easily, the modifiable risk factors may be more amenable to intervention. The most important modifiable risk factor is smoking. The relationship between smoking and AMD is just as strong as the relation between genetics and AMD. Therefore, it is crucial that a person who has AMD and smokes should stop immediately.

Other important risk factors include hypertension (high blood pressure) and abnormally elevated blood cholesterol levels. It is important to be sure that these factors are well controlled. In addition, it appears that cataract surgery may perhaps aggravate AMD. However, the data supporting this relationship are somewhat weak, and if cataract surgery is needed, it should not be withheld.

Certain vitamins, including vitamin A in the beta-carotene form, vitamin C, and vitamin E, as well as the mineral zinc, may be helpful. It is important, however, to discuss the use of these vitamins or other substances with a physician before they are used. In addition, too much of these vitamins may actually cause harm. For instance, vitamin A in the palmitate form can harm the liver, and smokers should not take the beta-carotene form since it can increase the risk of developing cancer or heart attacks. Lutein and zeaxanthin may also be helpful in slowing the development of AMD.

Aside from using the proper vitamins, stopping smoking, and controlling blood pressure and cholesterol; there is very little else to be done at the present time for the dry form of AMD. For the wet form, there are now an increasing number of treatment options available, though the chances are still very strong that if the wet form develops there will be some vision loss. Treatment options include a "hot" form of laser called laser photocoagulation to seal the vessels, a "cold" form of laser called photodynamic therapy to gently seal the vessels, and some medicines that can be injected into the eye that inhibit the abnormal vessels from continuing to grow.

For those patients who have had significant vision loss, an evaluation by a low vision expert can help optimize the remaining vision. It is important that a person using low vision aids be educated in their proper use because, otherwise, even a person with normal sight would find it difficult to learn how to use them.

New advances are being evaluated including gene therapy to treat the underlying genetic cause, stem cell therapy, and "silicone retinas." Although these modalities are not yet developed to the point of clinical application, they are currently under study, and it is likely that, in the not too distant future, one or more of them will be helpful to those who are severely afflicted with age-related macular degeneration.

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

- | | |
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| No. 102,102—Raymond D. Steele (VA) | |

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

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

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending March 11, 2005. The total amount contributed to date is \$303,897.18.

Alabama	\$2,487.00
Alaska	810.00
Arizona	2,765.00
Arkansas	2,651.00
California	19,494.92
Colorado	3,918.67
Connecticut	3,239.00
Delaware	539.25
District of Columbia	2,873.00
Florida	6,965.40
Georgia	28,881.28
Idaho	1,069.50
Illinois	15,408.00
Indiana	5,007.00
Iowa	5,374.00
Kansas	2,904.00
Kentucky	5,453.38
Louisiana	6,368.00
Maine	2,490.00
Maryland	3,348.00
Mass./R.I.	14,833.50
Michigan	4,674.00
Minnesota	3,845.00

Mississippi	1,756.34
Missouri	3,981.00
Montana	964.00
Nebraska	2,815.00
Nevada	1,998.00
New Hampshire	3,940.92
New Jersey	2,573.00
New Mexico	4,530.50
New York	6,804.70
North Carolina	4,802.69
North Dakota	701.00
Ohio	14,753.41
Oklahoma	6,178.53
Oregon	1,170.00
Pennsylvania	26,655.09
South Carolina	9,161.59
South Dakota	1,735.27
Tennessee	7,013.00
Texas	16,809.40
Utah	7,901.00
Vermont	534.00
Virginia	12,776.00
Washington	3,958.00
West Virginia	3,545.00
Wisconsin	5,964.84
Wyoming	3,146.00
Honolulu No. 1, Hawaii	50.00
Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico	150.00
Tokyo No. 1, Japan	30.00
Miscellaneous	2,100.00

Words from Grateful Recipients of KTEF Assistance...

I want to participate in the Grand Master's Club because twenty years ago when I became a Life Sponsor, I didn't realize just how important the Knights Templar Eye Foundation would be. Now, I've had many glaucoma surgeries, and my wife will have a corneal transplant. I very much hope this will be helpful to someone in need!

*Duane C. Norgard
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin*

I am so thankful to all of you Knights Templar for what you have done for Alphonso to get his eyesight back. I thank the Lord for people like you who are so caring. I can never thank you enough in words. God bless all of you!

*Alphonso and Cynthia Delarosa
Attalla, Alabama*

I needed surgery to correct my vision in my left and right eye, but I didn't have any health insurance or any money. My doctor suggested to me that I ask your Foundation for some help, so I did, and I had one surgery on one day and the other one a week later. Today I can see 100% better.

I just wanted to thank you so very much for helping me to see again. It's wonderful to be able to read books and see the computer again. **Thank you!**

*Ericka Smith
Delaware, Ohio*

Use the forms below for 33° Club and Purple Cross Club donations!

Thirty-third Degree Club
Contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Donor _____ Personal, 33°:

Address _____ In honor of:

_____ phone () _____

Donor's Commandery No. _____ (for campaign credit)
State _____

Honoree _____ Enclosed: \$33.00

Scottish Rite Valley _____ Other:

Address: _____

Credit Card: Visa _____ MasterCard _____
Expiration date: _____

Number: _____ Signature: _____

Please send your check and the above form (or credit info on the form) to your Commandery Chairman or to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 1000 East State Parkway, Suite I, Schaumburg, IL 60173.

Order of the Purple Cross Club
Contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Donor _____ Personal, OPC:

Address _____ In honor of:

_____ phone () _____

Donor's Commandery No. _____ (for campaign credit)
State _____

Honoree _____ CK or OPC Enclosed: \$33.00

College No. _____ State _____ Other:

Credit Card: Visa _____ MasterCard _____
Expiration date: _____

Number: _____ Signature: _____

Please send your check and the above form (or credit info on the form) to your Commandery Chairman or to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 1000 East State Parkway, Suite I, Schaumburg, IL 60173.

Templars, Awake!

The Committee on Religious Activities of the **Grand Encampment**

There have been several items in the news lately which show that religion of all kinds is being taken out of many public places and gatherings. If we believe that this nation was founded by people who had a firm conviction that God was *instrumental* in the founding of this nation and if we believe that our laws and constitution confirm this belief, then we must arise and defend that *conviction*. If we believe that the destiny of this *nation* as a beacon of freedom to mankind rests upon maintaining those religious principles, we must defend those beliefs for they are being slowly but surely taken away from us.

The ACLU has been the most visible antagonist against the display of religion in government entities with their continuous attempts to declare that there should be separation of church and state. This mindset by them is a complete misinterpretation of the intentions of our founding fathers' ideas of the basis for this nation's beliefs.

The Constitution of the United States sets forth in the First Amendment the following language: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." How *anyone* can interpret those words into a belief that there should be no religion in any government pronouncement or activity

is very difficult to see, but that is what the ACLU is claiming.

The original intent of our founding fathers was that there should be no mandatory national religion like the Church of England and that any group could practice their own religion as they saw fit. There was no "separation of church and state" in this as the ACLU claims. Unfortunately, we have judges who ruled in their favor in some instances.

This mind-set by the ACLU is aided and abetted by an attitude of "Political Correctness" by several people in governmental positions who would prevent the display of anything religious. I think that many of them do that just to avoid arguments.

Well, my fellow Knights, I feel that "Political Correctness" has gone too far. We citizens in this nation have bent over backward so far in attempts to avoid hurting anyone's feelings that we do not stand for anything anymore. We have abandoned the principles which made this nation great.

Some incidents which happened recently that illustrate the banning of religion follow:

The ACLU vehemently objected to a picture and story of some marines who were all bowing their heads in prayer. The ACLU claimed that these were government soldiers, praying on government property, and that kind of activity should be stopped. I wonder if any of the ACLU members had ever been in battle defending our nation. If they had, I think that they would think differently than that.

The Postmaster General recently sent an e-mail to all post offices stating that their clerks could say "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Hanukkah" but they MAY NOT PRINT these greetings on anything. They could print instead "Seasons Greetings" or "Happy Holidays."

At a Government office building in Denver, the employees there were ordered to take down a large "Merry Christmas" sign which they had placed in the front of the building.

A school in Oklahoma was ordered not to have a Christmas program with the singing of religious songs honoring the birth of Christ.

Another school was prohibited from having a nativity scene depicting the birth of Christ.

On one school calendar, every holiday was listed including Arbor Day, Earth Day, Labor Day, Presidents' Day, New Year's Day and others, but there was no mention of Christmas, Easter, or Hanukkah.

The organization which Madeline Murray O'Hare founded has filed petition No. 2493 with the Federal Communications Commission in an attempt to remove the gospel of our Lord and Saviour from all radio and television.

Sir Knights, these attempts by atheist based organizations aided by "Politically Correct" people are removing all vestiges of God and Christ from our nation's heritage. If we are to perform our mission of "The Support and Defense of the Christian Religion," we must act now or it will be too late and we will never get those beliefs back in our heritage. We must stop them now!

They took prayer out of our schools, and we did nothing. The courts in some states have redefined the scriptural definition of marriage, and we did nothing. They took the Ten Commandments out of the Alabama Supreme Court building, and we did nothing. They will possibly try to take the words "Under God" out of our "Pledge of Allegiance" and "In God We Trust" off of our money next.

Sir Knights, we must arise and defeat these efforts to take God and Christianity out of everything that once was the basis of this nation's beliefs. We must write letters to the editor to protest actions like this. We must write our congressmen expressing our beliefs. We must say what we believe in such volume that our beliefs will not be taken away from us. Can you picture that someday we might be prevented from participating in a public parade in uniform because we believe in the Christian Religion? Think about it, and then act before it is too late.

The Grand Encampment Committee on Religious Activities

James C. Taylor, P.D.C., P.G.C (OK)
Robert J. Cave, P.G.C. (NY),
Chairman Donald W. Monson, P.G.C., (AZ)
William Q. Moore, P.C., Grand Prelate
Rev. Thomas G. Keithly, P.C. Grand Prelate

On the Masonic Newsfront...

**New Exhibition: The Initiated Eye: Secrets, Symbols,
Freemasonry, and the Architecture of Washington, DC
Opening at The Octagon Museum, May 18, 2005**

January 19, 2005, Washington, DC: What do the international best-selling novel *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, the current hit movie *National Treasure*, starring Nicholas Cage, and the upcoming Octagon exhibition *The Initiated Eye* have in common? All three reveal the little known contribution of Freemasonry to American culture and history. In an unprecedented collaboration with the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia and artist Peter Waddell, The Octagon, the Museum of The American Architectural Foundation, is organizing an original exhibition focusing specifically on the interesting and significant contributions of Freemasons to the design and architecture of Washington, DC.

The tradition of Masonic architecture in the United States is grounded in a history far older than the establishment of this country. Many of this nation's founding fathers were themselves Freemasons, and the Masonic stamp is visible throughout the city of Washington, DC, the surrounding metropolitan area, and the entire country.

Featuring 20 original paintings by history painter, Peter Waddell, complemented by original Masonic artifacts, the exhibition will tell the story of the city's design from a new perspective and shed light on the Masonic connections of many historic buildings in the nation's capital. The intention of the exhibition is to demystify the role that Freemasons have played in this nation's architectural history and to provide a different viewpoint of various historic events.

Original artifacts from the rich collections of the metropolitan area's lodges, many never seen before by the public, will accompany the paintings. The three ritual silver cups used at the laying of the Washington Monument's cornerstone will be displayed with a colorful painting depicting that historic event. An exquisite Klismos-inspired chair designed by architect, John Russell Pope, for his architectural masterpiece, the House of the Temple on 16th Street, will be shown with a painting depicting the interior of that magnificent structure. A selection of Masonic ceremonial aprons, ranging from a plain white example to elaborate embroidered versions will also be featured. These paintings and objects will explain some of the secret symbols of Freemasonry and provide an understanding of how Masonic symbols were and are used as powerful symbols of this nation.

The exhibition opens to the public on May 18, 2005, and remains on view through December 31, 2005. Extensive educational programming is planned to accompany the exhibition, including walking tours of area Lodges and Temples, musical performances, lectures, and workshops.

Peter Waddell, well-known for his work as a history painter, has created several series of paintings that have served as the foundation for popular exhibitions at The Octagon, including most recently, *Inside the Temple of Liberty: 19th-Century Interiors of the U.S. Capitol Building (2002)*. A group of Masons is working closely with Mr. Waddell to identify topics for the paintings and assist in the research necessary to ensure the accuracy of the work.

Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest and largest secular fraternal organizations, whose members are concerned with moral and spiritual values. Freemasonry dates to the Middle Ages as an organization for stone masons, very similar to other craft guilds. Implements of architectural craftsmen are used symbolically in the organization's system of instruction. Many American architects and builders have been and are Freemasons, and the ceremonies of Freemasonry are still used at the dedication of the cornerstones of important buildings.

The Octagon, the Museum of the American Architectural Foundation (AAF), is a nationally recognized museum of architecture and design located two blocks from the White House. One of Washington, DC'S earliest residences, the building is a National Historic Landmark (1960) and is accredited by the American Association of Museums (1973). The Octagon's mission is to educate the public about architecture, design, historic preservation, and stewardship of our architectural heritage. These goals are accomplished through on-site exhibitions, traveling exhibitions, collections, and a wide variety of creative public programs.

Images of paintings and interviews with the artist are available upon request.

Contact: Sherry Birk, (202) 626-7571, sbirk@theoctagon.org

Pasadena, California, Sir Knight Receives 75-year Certificate

On Sunday, January 9, at his home in Pasadena, California, Companion and Sir Knight Raymond F. Miller (middle in picture) received official recognition of his 75-year membership in Triple Tau Chapter and Los Angeles Commandery No. 9. Making the presentations were: Gordon Alexander, Grand High Priest; Ken Hope, Grand Secretary; Paul McElwain, Grand Capt. General; and Richard T. Cooper, Past Grand Commander. Also present were Ray's son and daughter-in-law. Ray recalled his days with the Drill Team and showed the assemblage his sword with his name engraved and other mementos of his days with the Crops. It was noted by the G. Sec. that Ray is only the third person in California Knights Templar history to receive the 75-year certificate. (submitted by Donald J. Spencer)



Knoxville York Rite Association Presents Flags at Veteran's Day Program

Under the direction of Sir Knight W. Boyd Crowder, R.E.P.G.C., the Knoxville, Tennessee area York Rite Association formed the lines for the presentation of the United States flag and the flags of each branch of the military at the Tennessee State Guards' Veteran's Day program. The program was conducted by the Tennessee Veteran's Cemetery on November 8, 2004. This was the third consecutive year that the Knoxville Area York Rite Association has formed the lines. Sir Knights, left to right, are: Gene Burke (23), George H. Burgess, Sr., P.C. (23), William O. Newbert, Sr. (23), Joseph Warshawsky, P.C. (22), and W. Boyd Crowder, R.E.P.G.C. (21). (submitted by Sir Knight Joseph Warshawsky, P.R. committee)



Supreme Worthy President (Mrs. Elo) Limas Visits Iowa Assembly, S.O.O.B.

(Mrs. Elo) Limas, S.W.P. of S.O.O.B., made her official visit to Ottumwa Assembly No. 9, Ottumwa, Iowa, in the fall of 2004. With the help of six members of Cedar Rapids Assembly No. 87, the last official visit for Ottumwa No. 9 was a success. After 85 years of Beauceant love and service to the Knights Templar, the members of Ottumwa Assembly have closed and are surrendering their charter, which was issued March 19, 1920. They are proud that one of their members, (Mrs. Benjamin G.) Anna M. On-is, was the 8th Supreme Worthy President, serving 1927-1928. Pictured on page 18 are, left to right: seated: Mrs. Don McLain, Mrs. Elmer Canfield (Ottumwa President), Mrs. Elo Limas (S.W.P.), Mrs. Robert Breckenridge; standing: Mrs. Alan Portzline (C.R.), Mrs. Harold Plate (C.R.), Mrs. Frank Wilson, Mrs. John Kooyman, Mrs. Glenn Marshall (C.R.), Mrs. Roy Thompson (C.R.), Mrs. Delores Sellers, Mrs. Dean Prough, Mrs. Chester Bell (C.R.), Mrs. Eugene Aldrich, and Mrs. Howard MacGowan (C.R.).

continued to page 18

Protocol and Masonic Courtesies

Certain customs have become established throughout the Masonic fraternity regarding the proper use of titles and the procedures to use when introducing distinguished guests, with particular deference to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons and other grand presiding officers.

While all Masons meet on the level, additional honor and respect is rendered to the officers of the fraternity. Members are appropriately addressed as Brother, Companion, or Sir Knight as applicable to the Rite which is working. In the case of an officer, the title of office should follow, such as, Brother Secretary, Companion Secretary, etc. When a member achieves the distinction of presiding over a constituent Lodge, Chapter, etc., that office warrants an additional "honorary title," such as, Worshipful Master, Excellent High Priest, Illustrious Master, and Eminent Commander. In the grand bodies, the same rule applies. The rank and honorary titles are listed in the appropriate sections of this book.

There is one exception to the manner in which officers may be addressed.. .In the Lodge, Chapter, and Council (which are ancient craft Masonry) the honorary title may be applied to the name of the individual, such as Most Worshipful John Doe (if Grand Master of Masons or a Past Grand Master), omitting the office he holds. However, it would be preferable to address him as Most Worshipful Grand Master. This procedure is applicable to all officers of those three Rites. The exception is in the Commandery where the honorary title is always and only applied to the office, such as Sir Knight John Doe, Right Eminent Grand Commander. To address him as Right Eminent John Doe is incorrect.

Another subject is the proper protocol to apply when officially receiving distinguished guests and dignitaries. In most jurisdictions (there are a few exceptions) the dignitaries are received in reverse order to their rank. The lower officers are introduced first, followed by the higher ranks, and the Grand Master of Masons is received, individually and last, regardless of which body is at work. If officers of several Rites are present, the ranking officer of the host body is usually received just prior to the Grand Master.

There is also a proper procedure to apply when extending public and private Grand Honors to visitors. This will not be dealt with in this account as they vary between the Rites, and the presiding officer should have learned them several years prior to his elevation to that office.

When you voluntarily join an organization, whether it be a church, civic club, fraternal association, or a similar group, you are initially and permanently influenced by the manner in which the organization conducted the ceremonies of your reception. You will remember whether the surroundings were neat or cluttered, and wonder why certain events transpired. In short, you will make a critical analysis of the whole proceedings that will have a lasting effect on your attitude to that organization. The conclusions you draw from your analysis are a direct reflection, whether good or bad, upon the caliber of the officers of that group. While we might be reluctant to pass judgment, such an analysis of our personal experiences is a normal human response.

Having passed through the ceremonies, you now wish to meet the other members and will be influenced by the warmth and hospitality which they extend. In the event you have been favorably impressed with the aspects of your reception, up to that point, you will normally desire to establish yourself as a contributing member of the group. To do this, you will have to learn the background, rules, procedures, and programs of the organization. How can this be accomplished...?

When the veils have been removed from this allegory, we find a simple outline upon the tracing board:

- A. **Our Mission—To initiate the candidate in an impressive manner.**
 - 1. A qualified, rehearsed degree cast
 - 2. Hall and equipment, neat and in good repair.
 - 3. A good attendance for inspiration.
- B. **Educate the Candidate**
 - 1. History and background of the organization.
 - 2. Lessons contained in the degrees.
 - 3. The candidate's rights and privileges.
 - 4. Ongoing programs of the organization—Charitable, Fellowship, Educational.
- C. **Integrate the candidate into the activities.**
 - 1. Degree Team
 - 2. Committee assignments
 - a. Charity
 - b. Membership
 - c. Visitation
 - d. Education
 - e. Fellowship
 - f. Special Projects
- D. **Repeat the foregoing.**

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

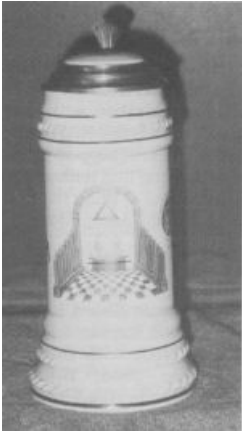


**Tennessee Commandery Sells Lapel Pins to Benefit
the Knights Templar Eye Foundation**



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 pm 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



York Rite Stein to Benefit Knights Templar Eye Foundation and the Special Olympics

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Pennsylvania has a 150th anniversary stein, and from the sale of this stein **50% of the proceeds will benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and 50% will benefit the Special Olympics in Pennsylvania.** The stein is eight inches tall and has seven different colors. The cost of this limited edition stein is \$55.00. (Outside the U.S.A., add \$15.00 for shipping.) If you are interested in ordering, please make check or money order payable to 152nd Grand Assembly Fund, Grand Council of PA, and send your order to Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052. Steins are available now. To keep the same number in the series you previously have; first come, first served.

Brother William R. Bosley Is Supreme Tall Cedar for 2005

At a Midwinter Conference held at the Pocono Manor Golf Resort and Spa in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, January 21-23, Past Supreme Tall Cedar Raymond Vogel installed Brother William Raymond Bosley as Supreme Tall Cedar of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America for the year 2005. The keynote speaker for the evening was Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons for the State of Maryland, Brother Ronald G. Belanger.

Brother Ray Bosley was Raised a Master Mason in Pickering Lodge No. 146, Baltimore, Maryland, in 1952. He served as Worshipful Master in 1979, Secretary in 1993, and Treasurer in 2000. He served the Grand Lodge of Maryland as Grand Inspector from 1986 to 1989 and Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer from 2001 to present. Brother Ray is a member of the Scottish Right Valley of Baltimore Orient of Maryland SMI, a member of the Legion of Honor, and a member of Towson Chapter No. 70, Order of Eastern Star. Brother Ray Bosley joined Baltimore Forest No. 45, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, in 1961 and served as Grand Tall Cedar in 1974, served as Chairman on committees, and was on many committees within the Forest and the Supreme Forest. Brother Bosley served as Supreme Director 1979, District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar No. 14 in 1985, Secretary Tall Cedar Foundation 1996 to 1998, convention chairman 2001, and he received the John S. Broughton Award in 2001 and served as Supreme Treasurer in 2000, 2001 and 2002. He is also a Life Member of many other affiliations.

Brother Ray was born in Baltimore on October 28, 1930. He and his wife Anita have been married since January 5, 1955 and have three daughters and eight grandchildren. He retired from the state of Maryland as Director of the Office of Real Estate. Brother Ray also graduated from the University of Baltimore Law School J.D. in 1954 and School of Business in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting.



In between college, Brother Ray served two years active duty as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve retiring with the rank of Colonel in 1985.

The Tall Cedars of Lebanon is a Masonic affiliated organization with over 15,000 members in 102 Chapters, called Forests, throughout the United States and Canada. Since 1951 the Tall Cedars have provided continuous financial support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, contributing over fourteen and one half million dollars to the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon and have the distinction of being the first organization to provide financial support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Tall Cedar Goodwill Ambassador for 2005



Pictured at left is the Supreme Tall Cedar of North America, Brother William Raymond Bosley from Baltimore, Maryland, along with Goodwill Ambassadors for the year 2005, Brandon Christopher Kalwa and his brother, Dalton Michael Kalwa. Brandon was born April 1, 1990, and Dalton was born on September 29, 1996.

Millersville, Maryland, is home to Brandon and Dalton along with their parents, Christopher and Erica, and a dog, a cat, and a ferret. Brandon, a ninth grader, is a NASCAR fan, loves computers and likes playing cards and board games.

A music lover, he is learning to play the guitar. He loves animals and has expressed some interest in becoming a veterinarian.

Dalton is in third grade, he likes playing video games, riding his bike, swimming and playing with his friends. Both he and Brandon have attended MDA's summer camp, Camp Maria. They especially enjoy spending time with their grandfather at the Moose lodge.

Above press release information on the Supreme Forest of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America was provided by Albert H. Hensinger, Past Supreme Tall Cedar, Chairman of Public Relations.



Wesley Fox
Nebraska
Grand Commander-1986
Born: June 10, 1909
Died: January 3, 2005

James Watt Mollison
Maine
Grand Commander-1989
Born: November 10, 1915
Died: February 24, 2005

Carol R. Buse
Oregon
Grand Commander-1989
Born: November 10, 1929
Died: March 4, 2005

Freemasonry Itself Is a "National Treasure"

by Sir Knight James A. Marples, 32°

Multitudes of people, including myself, have seen the movie, *National Treasure*, starring Nicholas Cage; it is a fast-moving picture depicting a supposed "national treasure" concealed by America's founding fathers, who allegedly utilized Masonic symbols, emblems, signs, and marks to leave a detectable trail by which this fanciful treasure could be found.

I was pleased that characters in the movie spoke the words: "Freemasonry," "Knights Templar," and "Lodge" numerous times, and for the most part, it was done in a fairly positive light.

I was disappointed that the plot contained half-truths and empty notions.

Perhaps, the most disappointing element was that nearly no mention was made that Freemasonry and the Knights Templar **exist** today!

In an opening sequence, a little boy expresses his desire to walk the same path as the Master Masons and Knights Templar. The actor portraying his grandfather supposedly chants an "oath" dubbing the boy as one of them.

How nice it would have been, if for only a few lines of the dialogue, to have had something similar to the dialogue I had with my own dad, when I said to him that I would like to be Shriner. (I was only three years old!)

My dad spoke kindly and fully explained that I would need to join a Masonic Lodge first, and then he explained to me that the Masonic Lodge was located downtown and that it formed the basic foundation on which the York Rite and Scottish Rite were built and that the Shrine was the "Sunshine of Masonry."

That explanation planted the seed, and I fulfilled that dream when I turned age 18.

I am glad that I was born into a Masonic family and that my dad could shed light on the subject.

Unfortunately, some movie-goers

may still be in the dark (even after leaving the theater).

We, as Masons and Knights Templar, need to let our light shine. We, as Masons and Knights Templar, need to show the public that we are not an archaic relic of the dustbin of history but we are alive and well in our communities.

We, as Masons and Knights Templar, need to demonstrate that we are patriotic and law-abiding citizens, that we believe in Almighty God, and that as Knights Templar we profess our faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior.

Somehow, the public has seen too many movies and/or read too many books which inaccurately portray our Fraternity.

For example, there has been an inaccurate focus on the All-Seeing Eye. Many people frown on it as a cult emblem, when, in fact, it has a far more honorable meaning.

Most Christians (and indeed most everyone with a religious faith in one God, one Supreme Being, or a Creator) agree that Almighty God is omnipotent, omnipresent, and All-Seeing. God can see into our hearts and minds, even when we don't think so. Mortal man is finite; God is *infinite*. (Ancient peoples often used hieroglyphics; symbols, pictures, and signs; to convey this special meaning.)

In our Masonic context, I interpret the All-Seeing Eye as denoting the All-Seeing character of God.

If some groups have corrupted the emblem and given it a dark meaning, that is their problem.

As for the idea of the "national treasure," Masons regard the Masonic degrees as a National Treasure. ..indeed as a World Treasure, for the degrees take good men and instruct them to become better men!

Among the Hallmarks of Masonic Virtue that constitute the real National Treasure are: honesty, integrity, respect for chaste and legally sanctified marital relations, wholesome family life, fair dealings in business or occupational life, respect and care for elderly people, mentorship and a helping hand for youth, and a deep concern about helping ourselves and others to improve before the Eyes of God...enabling

us to become better citizens and stewards of the land.

In the movie the above virtues were either not mentioned or were not explored adequately. And, of course, if there were "secrets" on the back side of The Declaration of Independence, one could suppose that the four million Masons would have discovered them years and years ago!

The movie, National Treasure, puts silly, dramatic emphasis on "secrets," yet it omitted to say that millions of men have joined Freemasonry; this secret, like the hidden wealth in gold, couldn't be concealed if four million men know the secret.

The non-Masonic public knows little about the Masonic Fraternity: They get lost in spy novels which concoct fables about secret words and handshakes.

The Fraternity Must Move into the Community

by Sir Knight John A. Young, Jr., O.P.C.,
33^o P.M.W. Grand Master of Maryland

What this fraternity needs is the maximum exposure to the community. While I do not claim to speak for all York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shrine or Blue Lodge Brethren; I can say, and have said, with full knowledge of the membership in my jurisdiction, we need to be out there. We need to tell the profane of the "good works" of this fraternity. Today's modern world does not have a clue concerning our history nor of how this fraternity helped form America.

Let me begin with my introduction to Masonry. My stepfather became a Mason shortly after he married my mother. Once he was a Mason, he joined the York Rite bodies and became a Shriner. We accompanied them to many Shrine events and met men that I knew I wanted to call my friends. This exposure to Masonry was the first time I became aware of the importance of the fraternity and its many philanthropies. In 1970 I took the opportunity to join Masonry

I often am amused when such people do not give their computer-use a second thought. They use passwords for security and to help insure that the genuine person is given access, but they are surprised when I exclaim to them: "That's exactly why we have Masonic passwords.. simply to permit the authentic or genuine persons to enter."

In summary, sometimes peace-of-mind is worth more than gold. Freemasonry is an order which builds Temples of honor in the human heart. That is the true national treasure!

Sir Knight James A. Marples, 32^o, is a member of El Dorado Commandery No. 19, El Dorado, Kansas. He can be reached at P.O. Box 1542, Longview, TX 75606-1542

and petitioned Ionic Lodge No. 145 in Reisterstown, Maryland. I was elected, received the three degrees, and immediately was appointed to serve as a line officer. I continued that journey until 1976, when I served as Worshipful Master of my Lodge, an experience like no other in my life. After I was a Past Master, I then petitioned and received my York Rite degrees and orders and then became a member of Boumi Temple Shrine.

In midsummer 1970, shortly after I received my Master Mason degree, I had the opportunity to be speaking to one of my father's many sisters. She inquired: "Did you know your grandfather was a Mason?" Sad to report, I had to say "No." She then told me, "Well, neither did his wife (my step-grandmother) or children until several weeks after his death. We were going through his effects and came across various dues cards and a Masonic ring."

My grandfather did not receive a Masonic funeral or have any honors that he might have earned. My step-grandmother, father, aunts and uncles never knew what he was doing or where he was going when he went to Lodge. All anyone knew was he went out one night every week or so and

came home after 10:00 P.M. No one ever questioned his activities.

My grandfather was a British veteran of the Boar War, and he took great delight in telling me those war stories.

He never mentioned the word "DeMolay" to me. As much as I loved that old man, if he had said the words, "I want you to join DeMolay," I am sure I would have made the effort.

Now many years later, I must confess DeMolay did not enter my vocabulary until I joined Masonry. I am now very proud of my efforts to assist the Maryland Chapters of DeMolay, and they in turn have recognized my hard work.

We need to spread the word about DeMolay, Rainbow Girls, and Job's Daughters to all our young people. We need to encourage the Brethren that their children and grandchildren are welcome in these fine youth organizations. The children are our future Masons and Eastern Star members, and they should at least have the opportunity to know our story.

I am aware there are many sons and grandsons out there who never became Masons, and some of them are still wondering why their fathers never encouraged them to become a part of the fraternity.

This is not to say we should seek out every man we work with, or go to church with, or live next door to, but when one meets that special someone who he would be proud to sit alongside in his Lodge, one needs to know why he is not a Brother. We must not be afraid to speak about Masonry or to tell others of our great and proud history.

Sometimes the question, "Why are you not a Mason?" will provide the opportunity to enlighten those who through no fault of their own, are unaware. You are not soliciting them to join; they still have to ask.

There are many activities a possible candidate can do to fill his time: He can help at his church, serve as a Little League coach, be a mentor, and the list of good deeds goes on and on. The man who would chose one of these possibilities would seem to me to be an

excellent candidate for our fraternity.

Now the real question: How would he or others like him know anything about this great fraternity if we, its members, remain quiet?

We are great at preaching to the choir (i.e. each other of how great we are).

It is now time others in our community are equally aware of our great history and the major effects it had on the founding of this country. I am of the belief we need to tell our story wherever we can and as often as we can. We have had, through the years, a glorious membership including generals, presidents, governors, jurists, and yes, even the average working citizen is in our order. We are proud of them all, but most Americans do not fully understand nor appreciate our heritage.

We can never have "enough" good men; our portals are always open to the proper seeker!

I am proud to be a Free Mason, a York Rite Mason, a Scottish Rite Mason, and a Shrine Mason. If we need to place our Lodge name, the day of the week, and the time we meet on the community billboard to alert others about Masonry; so be it. We need to do what we need to do!

I for one welcome inquiries as "What is a Mason?" That question opens the door to an opportunity to speak positively about the world's largest and greatest fraternity. Th remain silent is not, in my humble opinion, best for this fraternity and all it represents.

Think about this, my Brethren: We can move forward or we can remain constant. The latter with continued membership loss and more Lodges going dark is not a pretty sight. Think about it, my Brothers; the choice is YOURS! I know the direction I want my Grand Lodge members to set as their goal.

Sir Knight John A. Young, Jr., O.P.C., 33°, and P.M.W. Grand Master of Masons in Maryland, is a member of Carroll Chapter No. 31, Council No. 7, and Commandery No. 17, all of Westminster, Maryland, and is a member of Baltimore Boumi Temple, AAONMS. He resides at 707 West Seminary Avenue, Lutherville, MD 21093.

Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

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

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



KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2¹/₂-inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. The emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use is required for the GCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is \$8.50 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the GCT emblem is \$10.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Contact: Jon Patrick Sweet, 7474 Benton Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001, or phone (303) 430-8483

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

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

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

Under the Knights Templar Medicare

Supplement Plan, you will benefit in many ways: You have the freedom of choosing your own doctors and hospitals, there are no health questions or medical exams to qualify; there is no waiting period for pro-existing conditions if you switch plans or are about to turn 65, and there is hassle-free claims processing in about 7 days!

To make sure you can pay for the expenses Medicare doesn't cover, call (800) 749-6983 for the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance Plan information and enrollment kit.

Sir Knight Addie Joss: The Tragic Story of a Baseball Great

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 33°

A century ago a young Wisconsinite emerged as one of baseball's best pitchers. For the next four seasons, he had twenty or more victories, pitched a perfect game, and had a second no-hitter for good measure. John Holway and Bob Carroll in *Total Baseball* called him "the hardest man in history to reach base against."

Addie Joss seemed destined to rank with the game's all-time greats and was also a model citizen, excellent family man, skilled sportswriter, and an active member of five Masonic bodies. Then, his health went into a tailspin, and he died when barely thirty-one.

Adrian C. Joss was born in Woodland, Wisconsin, on April 12, 1880. His father Jacob Joss had come to America from Switzerland during the Civil War and initially prospered in the cheese making trade. Addie's mother was the daughter of German immigrants.

About 1884 the Joss business fortunes went into decline, probably because Jacob Joss developed a drinking problem, which undoubtedly hastened his death in 1890. The boy's widowed mother opened a millinery shop, and young Addie helped her in a variety of ways and played games with other boys in the small town of Juneau. He excelled in baseball, particularly pitching.

Finishing high school at sixteen, Joss taught school. In the spring he pitched for Wayland Academy and later Sacred Heart College; then he played for local teams in the summer. His blazing fastball attracted widespread attention.



Early in 1900 Addie received a letter from the owner of the minor league, Toledo Mud Hens, offering him a tryout and a salary of \$75.00 per month if he made the team.

Addie Joss spent two seasons with the Mud Hens. Pitching in the Inter-State League in 1900, he compiled a 19-16 record; however, with Toledo in a new League, the Western Association, the next year, he dominated the circuit winning 27 games and accumulated 210 strikeouts while walking only 67 batters. Major league owners including Charles Ebbets of the Brooklyn Dodgers tried to buy the young hurler, but Mud Hens owner, Charles Strobel, refused to sell him.

Eventually, Joss signed with the relatively new American League team, the Cleveland Bluebirds, when

club owner, Charles Somers (a member of Tyrian Lodge No. 370 in Cleveland, Raised on March 3, 1895) promised to handle any legal wrangling that might result from his departure from the Mud Hens.

Ironically, Addie would retain Toledo as his permanent home because his future wife, Lillian Shinavar, hailed from the Glass City.

Addie Joss moved into the starting rotation at Cleveland fairly quickly, posting a 17-13 pitching record including a league-leading five shutouts and a 2.77 earned run average.

When the season ended, he married Lillian on October 11, 1902, and then went on a cross-country barnstorming tour.

Coming back for a second season with a club now known simply as the Blues, the man often referred to in the press as "the Elongated Twirler" had an 18-13 record for the year. He also had his first bout with illness, missing the entire month of September and undoubtedly missing the opportunity to win twenty games.

Recurring health problems plagued him all through 1904, but he still posted a 14-10 record, and his E. R. A. dropped to 1.59.

Charles Somers promised Addie a \$500 bonus if he could win twenty games in 1905, and he made an all-out effort to reach that goal, since by that time he had a child, son Norman, in addition to a wife to support. Besides, his close friend, Napoleon Lajoie, had been named player-manager, and the team now known as the "Naps," gave fans hopes that the popular second baseman could lift the team out of the general mediocrity they often displayed on the field.

The Naps might have reached their goal had not Addie missed several starts in mid-season, and Lajoie missed a

month of play after contracting blood-poisoning from a nasty spike wound; nonetheless, Addie still managed to get his twenty wins, posting a victory on the final game of the season in spite of the Clevelanders committing five errors. He used his bonus to help purchase a home on Fulton Street in Toledo.

The 1906 season started well, and in midyear club owner Somers promised an additional \$5,000 for team members to divide among themselves if they could bring a pennant to Cleveland.

Unfortunately, injuries plagued the team with star third-baseman, Bill Bradley, shattering his wrist, and others were also out of the lineup for days at a time. At one point the weak-hitting Joss had to play center field to keep the Naps on the field.

In spite of occasional arm trouble and taking a few days off when Lillian gave birth to daughter, Ruth Theresa; Addie managed to win 21 games, pitch 9 shutouts, and compile a 1.72 E. R. A. He earned another \$500 bonus.

With a wife and two small children at home, Addie showed less interest in post-season barnstorming. Instead he took a position as Sunday Sports *Editor for the Toledo News-Bee*. He proved adept at this job and looked forward to work as a sportswriter when his playing days ended.

During that same winter of 1906-1907, Adrian C. Joss manifested a serious interest in Masonry by petitioning Sanford L. Collins Lodge No. 396 in Toledo.

Somewhat surprisingly, by the time he took his degrees, the season had started. Joss was initiated on May 16, 1907; passed on May 28, 1907; and Raised on June 25, 1907. Whether he returned to Toledo on these dates or some ledge in Cleveland did courtesy work cannot be determined at this time.



What is more certain is that he took his other Masonic work in the off-season. In the York Rite Joss became a member of Toledo Chapter No. 161, Royal Arch Masons, and Toledo Council No. 33, Royal and Select Masters. He took all the chivalric degrees in Toledo Commandery No. 7 on October 9, 1908. Three months later he took the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Toledo in three days; January 27, 28, and 29, 1909.

According to his biographer, Scott Longert, Addie took great pride in his "hand-carved sword and ring" (probably a 14 degree A.A.S.R. ring).

The same winter that Addie Joss petitioned Sanford L. Collins Lodge he also held out for a \$4,000 annual salary; successfully as events would prove.

The game's premier pitcher responded to his raise by winning his first ten starts, one of them being a near miss on a no-hitter.

He threw two more one-hitters in that season, kept Cleveland in contention through most of the season, and posted his best season at 27-11. He pitched 38 complete games and had a 1.83 E. R. A.; furthermore, he afterwards covered the World Series for the *News-Bee* and the *Cleveland Press*, with the United Press picking up many of his summaries and syndicating them nationwide.

The following season saw the Naps in the thick of the pennant race almost to the end of the season. It also saw Addle Joss pitch what some observers held to be the most perfect mound performance in the history of the game. Near the end of the season on October 2, 1908, Addle retired twenty-seven consecutive batters in defeating the Chicago White Sox and his friendly rival, Ed Walsh, in a friendly pitchers' duel. The Naps, however, narrowly lost on their opportunity for a World Series.

A week later to the day, Joss had the honor of being created as a member of the valiant and magnanimous Order of the Temple.

The following season proved disappointing for Cleveland as they dropped to seventh place in the eight-team league. Joss had only a 14-13 season. While he still had a most respectable 1.71 E. R. A., the team didn't score many runs for him. In fact, had it not been for the nineteen wins posted by the recently acquired veteran hurler, Sir Knight Cy Young (of St. Bernard Commandery No. 71 in Ohio); the team's slide would have been even worse.

Young and Joss had already been friends and became roommates.

In 1910 Addie experienced more health problems and went 5-5 for the season but did have a second no-hitter among his few victories. On July 25 Joss pitched his last game and went home to rest for the remainder of the season.

Little did he know that he would never pitch again in a regular season game. His final win-loss record was 160-97, with a 1.89 E. R. A.

Joss spent the winter resting and relaxing, although he did spend some time greeting friends and customers in the billiard parlor in which he had purchased a half interest.

Going to spring training in 1911, Addie hoped to recover his old form, but it was not to be. On April 1 during the trip north, he collapsed on the ball field in Chattanooga.

After he was sent home to Toledo, several physicians examined the ailing pitcher, but by the time his problem was correctly diagnosed as tubercular meningitis, he was near death. In the words of his biographer, "there was no cure, and no hope." Sir Knight Adrian C. Joss went to his Maker several

hours later, at about 1:45 A.M. on April 14, 1911.

The city of Toledo gave their adopted son one of the biggest funerals in the Glass City's history.

The entire Cleveland team threatened to strike if their game with Detroit was not postponed so the entire squad could attend. League President Brother Ban Johnson (of N. C. Harmony Lodge No. 2 in Cincinnati) first refused but finally relented.

A large delegation of fellow Knights Templar accompanied his remains from the Joss home to the Masonic Temple, where an honor guard of Sir Knights guarded the casket.

Over 15,000 people paid their final respects. Former major league outfielder turned revivalist, Billy Sunday, presided over a service filled with baseball imagery. The event concluded with the Scottish Rite ring ceremony.

Once again the Knights Templar took the body to Woodlawn Cemetery, where it was laid to rest.

It was said to have been "the largest Masonic funeral Toledo had ever seen."

Club owner and Brother, Charles Somers, took steps to stage a benefit game to raise funds for the family of the club's deceased star. Scheduled for July 24, 1911, a group of baseball all-stars, including such Masonic future Hall of Fame members as "Home Run" Baker, Ty Cobb, Eddie Collins, loaned their talents, and Cobb donated \$100 besides. Other donors included two Masons who were National League executives, Brothers Garry Hermann of the Reds and Charles Ebbets of the Dodgers. Even the notoriously tight-fisted Charlie Comiskey of the White Sox chipped in \$100.

More than \$13,000 went to the surprised widow, Lillian Joss. This amount

would be roughly equal to a quarter of a million dollars in modern money.

For more than a half-century, Addie Joss, once called "the Swiss Whiz from Wisconsin," was not considered for the Hall of Fame at Cooperstown. Rules required that a player must play in ten major league seasons, and Joss fell short by a year.

Finally the rules were changed whereby special exceptions could be made for players whose careers were shortened by death or catastrophic illness. In 1978 Adrian C. Joss was finally made a member of Baseball's Hall of Fame.

This was a fitting tribute to a fine man and Mason. Brother Ty Cobb had ranked him with Walter Johnson as the toughest pitcher for him to hit. His roommate and fellow Knight Templar Cy Young was quoted as saying that "I never met a fairer or squarer man than Addie." It seemed like a fitting tribute to a fallen and fellow Brother.

Note: The life of Addie Joss has been chronicled in Scott Longert's *Addie Joss: King of the Pitchers* (Cleveland: Society for American Baseball Research, 1998). Also useful is Michael Coffey, *27 Men Out: Baseball's Perfect Games* (New York: ATRIA Books, 2004). Also useful is Reed Browning, *Cy Young: A Baseball Life* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2000). The staff at the Grand Lodge of Ohio supplied Brother Joss' Blue Lodge records, while Grand Recorder Richard Palm of the Grand Commandery of Ohio supplied his Knights Templar data, and



the staff at the Valley of Toledo, A.A.S.R., supplied Scottish Rite information. Help with the photographs was provided by my Rio Grande colleague, Sam Wilson; the Western Reserve Historical Society; and Brother Peter Westbere of Guelph, Ontario.

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KYCH, 33^o, 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

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, P.O. 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 1 1/4 inches long, with red stone in the center of the hilt, \$7.00 each, and ladies' pin: 2 and 1 1/2 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 Melrose Commandery 159th Grand Conclave, 17120 Theiss Mail Road, Spring, TX 77379. E-mail becky@abercrombieacademy.com 10% to KTEF. The pins are a special project of the Grand Commandery of Texas 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; Emeritus ranks: Generalissimo, Captain General and Prelate (red): \$45; Honorary Past Commander with H.C. at foot of cross, \$50; Grand Commandery, Grand Rep., \$50, Past Grand Commander (purple): \$60; Grand Encampment and special orders, \$95. Also: chapeaux crosses w/Velcro Sir Knight, \$35; Past Commander, \$40; Grand Commandery (red), \$50; Past Grand Commander (purple), \$55; Grand Encampment and special orders, \$75. Embroidered bullion sleeve crosses (pair), Velcro back Sir Knight, \$35; P.C., \$40; Grand Commandery, \$45; PG.C. (purple), \$60; Grand Encampment and special orders, \$75. Metal lapel crosses (pair): Sir Knight or P.C., \$40; Grand Commandery, \$45. Embroidered bullion cap crosses: silver, Sir Knight, \$40; P.C., gold, \$45. Metal cap crosses: silver, \$32; gold, \$38; Past Commander's jewel, gold plate, \$45. All plus shipping, handling, and insurance: 1st item, \$5.00; each additional item, \$1.00. Percentage to York Rite and Masonic charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., PC.; 60 Manor Road; Staten Island, NY 10310-2698

Trying to locate KT sword w/scabbard that belonged to my late grandfather, Sir Knight Joseph H. Gauthier, a member of Oklahoma Commandery No. 3(1910-15), and later a member of Illinois Commandery No. 72,

which consolidated with Evanston No. 58. His daughter died in 1968 in San Francisco, and it was given to James Leslie Randolph of Alta Vista Lodge No. 464, which merged with Columbia Lodge No. 461 in San Francisco. Mr. Randolph moved to North Little Rock, AR, and passed in 1978. Brother Randolph also lived in Phoenix and Dallas. I would welcome any info regardless of how insignificant it may seem. Joseph H Gauthier, P.O. Box 12445, Rena, NV 89510-2445.

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 St, S.W.; 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, 3357 River Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30044-5537, (678) 923-6776 or e-mail tonawsta@bellsouth.net Checks to K.T Enterprises. % of net profits to KTEF.

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.s.nith@us.army.mil 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 tagmakeratt.net

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

Coin collectors: St. John's Lodge No. 1, A.F. & AM., Wilmington, North Carolina, is celebrating its 250th

anniversary (1755-2005). To commemorate this occasion a finely struck coin has been produced (size 1 and 3/4 inches-38.1 mm) with reeded edge and bright gold color. The obverse has a replica of the lodge building, which is still standing and is one of the oldest buildings (1803) in the city of Wilmington. The reverse side has a replica of the original seal of the lodge. This coin will surely be a collector's item. Checks or MOs for \$11.00 each, including S & H, payable to St. John's Lodge No. 1, 4712 Oriole Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403

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 to our Masonic Widows' fund. Joe Allen, P.M., Sec.; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & AM.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014

Cochran Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M., 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 inches in size and the shape of the Shrine logo, constructed of exotic woods from Central America, and hand-crafted with an interlocking design. All profits go directly to Masonic charity with a portion going directly to the Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund and the rest to the charity work of the Lodge. Either the Shrine or Masonic square and compass box is \$20.00 each, plus \$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.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigfool.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 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% 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 Bard, 6809 Main Street, Apt. 2 West, Cincinnati, OH 45244-3470, (513) 272-2815, fax (513) 272-2830

For sale: The Medal of Honor The Letter G in Valor, a 268-page digest with the names, congressional citations,

and Lodge membership of all Masons who have received our nation's highest military award for bravery. Books may be obtained by contacting Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., P.O. Box 9759, 3011 Old Dumbarton Rd., Richmond, VA 23228-0759, (804) 262-6551. The price is \$16.95 plus S & H. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.

New novelty book available: Pythagoras, This Cross Is for You, by Past Master and Past Commander Jack N. Barricklo-\$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: hardbound book on Masonry, A Survey of the History and Mysteries of Freemasonry (revised). The book is 322 pages, indexed, contains a bibliography of 99 sources, and makes liberal use of footnotes. It also contains a 114-page glossary of Masonic words and terms. Written, published, and financed by Robert L. Breeding; it can be obtained from him only. Price is \$22.95 including postage and handling. % to KTEF. Check or MO to Robert L. Breeding at 405 Ascot Court, Knoxville, TN 37923-5807. E-mail breeding6905@bellsouth.net Telephone (865) 539-9932, 599-6335 or 690-7588.

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 Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705, (520) 888-7585

Wanted: bound volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4 of The Royal Arch Magazine. I will answer all correspondence received. Allen L. Formy, 105 Cloud Rest Court, Hot Springs, AR 71901.

I can turn your old Masonic collectibles into cash: alloy power seller since 1997 with 99.7% satisfaction rating. I specialize in law enforcement, military, and Masonic items. Lawrence Baird, PM.; P.O. Box 1459, Moreno Valley, CA 92557.

Knight Templar interested in following: 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: wish to obtain Masonic postal covers including Shrine, Scottish Rite, York Rite, and Grotto, and baseball postal covers. Also wish to know about any present day Masons involved in baseball and football. Peter J. Westbere, 21 (Isrillac Drive, Guelph, Ontario, N1E 2B4, Canada

For sale: custom designed Masonic lapel pins and coins. Be the envy of every Mason when you choose from a wide variety of custom imprinted commemorative favorites such as: belt buckles, coins, lapel pins, tie bars, pins and clips, money clips, key chains, coffee mugs, medals and medallions, embroidered patches, Masonic stationery and envelopes, pens and pencils, car emblems, letter openers, rulers, full color photo business cards, and much more. For quote info: Frank Looser, 408 Ashlar, Nashville, TN 37211, (800) 765-1728 or e-mail filij@comcast.net or website www.cnfinteractive.com. Satisfaction guaranteed. % to KTEF.

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.

Character - Man's Most Precious Possession

We have been endowed by our Creator with a most beautiful gift, two eyes. With one eye we should not merely observe others just to find their faults, but more importantly, to witness their caring virtues.

With the other eye, we should then look inwardly toward ourselves to justify our own virtues, thereby making a sincere effort to rectify our own weaknesses of character, for when a man's character is defective, everything else collapses.

The Supreme Architect did not make man perfect; however, if the Rough Ashlar can be finished with some effort, then so can a man's character be enhanced with the same laborious diligence.

Brother David Kane, P.M.
44 Wyckham Road
Spring Lake, NJ 07762
Olive Branch Lodge No. 16, F. & AM.
Freehold, New Jersey