

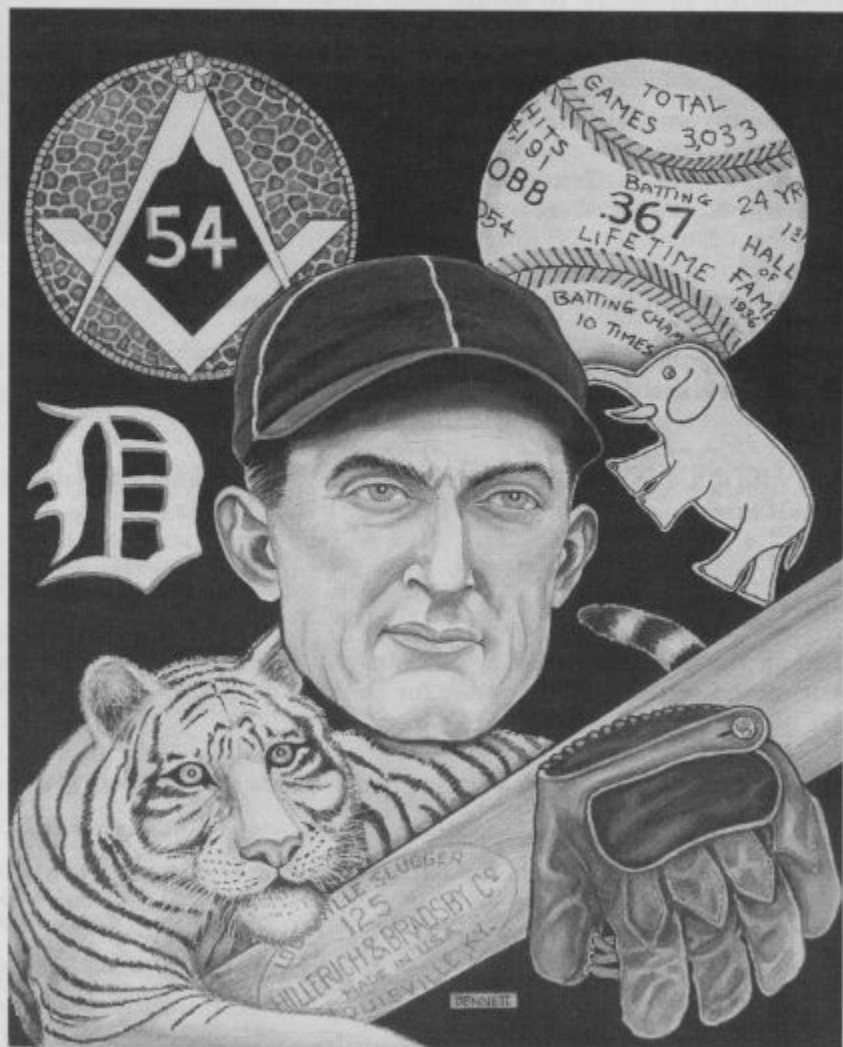


Knight Templar

VOLUME LI

NOVEMBER 2005

NUMBER 11



Ty Cobb with the symbols of his fabulous career, including the old-time white elephant logo of the Philadelphia Athletics. His story starts on page 23.

Grand Master's Message for November 2005

At this most pleasant time of year, we celebrate the recent harvest and give thanks for all of God's blessings. This year should be no different. We are truly blessed in so many ways.

It was my pleasure to award two Grand Master's Meritorious Service Awards to Past Grand Commanders and their Grand Commanderies, which have met the requirements for that award. The first was to Sir Knight George A. Hulsinger of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. Next, an award went to Sir Knight Eugene Wright of Oregon. Congratulations to both of them for their dedicated service and efforts on behalf of their Grand Commanderies.



On a sad note, I regret the loss of Sir Knight William Q. Moore, Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America.

Bill was a great friend and one of the finest Prelates I have heard speak. For quite a few years, I thought that he was a minister. In fact, he was an accountant. His delivery was so good that he fooled a number of us. Every time I heard him do the Prelate's part, he touched my heart.

I have never met a kinder Sir Knight than Bill. We who were associated with him are richer for that association. He truly lived his Masonry, and we will miss him.

You will find Sir Knight Moore's In Memoriam and biography on page 9 of this issue.

We extend to the family of Sir Knight Moore our deepest sympathy.

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

Kenneth B. Fischer
Grand Master, GCT

Knight Templar

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

NOVEMBER: November is the month we Salute our Grand Commanders. Starting on page 5 are pictures of the Grand Commanders of the Grand Commanderies for 2005-2006, and on page 8 are names and addresses. Read about the 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign, starting on page 10 with a Message from Sir Knight Douglas L. Johnson, P.D.C. and Trustee of the KTEF. The Campaign, named the Golden Anniversary Campaign, started on October 1, 2005, and continues through April 30, 2006. Coverage of Knights Templar Eye Foundation clubs is on pages 11 and 12, followed by news about a KTEF grant and notes of gratitude from KTEF recipients. The feature story of our cover personality, baseball's Ty Cobb, starts on page 23, and this month's issue is packed with articles and news that will interest Sir Knights across the nation!

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November 2005

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the United States of America.

Kenneth Bernard Fischer

Grand Master
and Publisher

5138 Shady Oaks
Friendswood, TX 77546

Charles R. Neumann

Grand Recorder
and Editor

Joan B. Morton

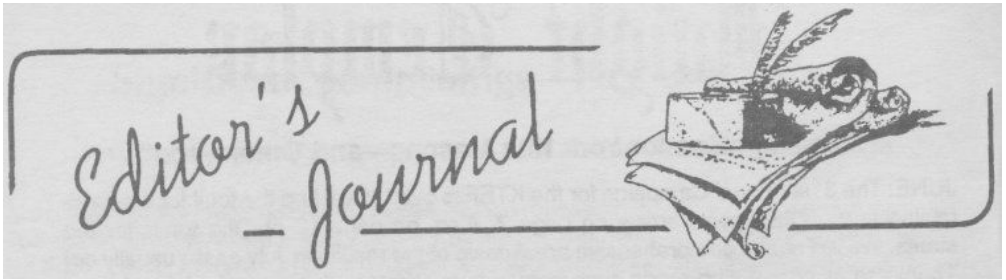
Assistant Editor

Grand Recorder
5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2460
(773) 777-3300
Fax: (773) 777-8836

Mail magazine materials and
correspondence to Editor, 5097 N.
Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago,
IL 60630-2460.

Material for the Grand
Commanderies' two-page
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Address corrections from
members are to be sent to the local
Recorders



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

Contacts for all Masonic organizations listed in our January 2005 issue should have the form for our next listing in January 2006. Please respond immediately as the magazine goes to the printer about December 12, 2005. If your organization has a new contact, please inform him/her of this. We would rather not leave any organization out!

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).

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.

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

Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America:

Web Site: <http://www.knightstemplar.org>
Office E-mail: letucker@sbcglobal.net

Saluting Our Grand Commanders

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

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



**Thomas F. Craig
ALABAMA**



**Stanley R. Foulke
ALASKA**



**James E. Hughes
ARIZONA**



**D. Olney White
ARKANSAS**



**Milton M. Abbott, Jr.
CALIFORNIA**



**James E. Erickson
COLORADO**



**Edward R. Ham
CONNECTICUT**



**Arthur A. Loveless, Jr.
DELAWARE**



**Charles W. Wagner
DIST. OF COL.**



**William G. Ellis
FLORIDA**



**Charles B. Stephens
GEORGIA**



**Merle S. Hill
IDAHO**



Pressly A. Laird
ILLINOIS



Lawrence V. Kaminsky
INDIANA



George J. Harrison
IOWA



Phillip W. Keffer
KANSAS



R. B. Hooks, Jr.
KENTUCKY



Larry B. Ledbetter, Sr.
LOUISIANA



Thomas A. Emery
MAINE



James B. Coker
MARYLAND



John H. Day, Jr.
MASS./R.I.



Vernon T. Barnhart
MICHIGAN



Richard W. Anderson
MINNESOTA



Kenneth E. Dyer
MISSISSIPPI



James M. Snavelly
MISSOURI



Theodore T. Williams
MONTANA



Fred C. Way, Jr.
NEBRASKA



Gerry Cunningham
NEVADA



Nathaniel H. Sawyer
NEW HAMPSHIRE



William C. Godfrey
NEW JERSEY



Larry J. Brownfield
NEW MEXICO



George A. Harrison
NEW YORK



Dennis K. Mikeal
NORTH CAROLINA



Nathaniel E. Knudson
NORTH DAKOTA



David M. Snyder, Sr.
OHIO



Robert G. Davis
OKLAHOMA



Steven L. Gatton
OREGON



Kenneth J. Faub
PENNSYLVANIA



Richard W. Sealy
SOUTH CAROLINA



Gerald A. Johnson
SOUTH DAKOTA



Everett E. Young
TENNESSEE



Lawrence E. Tucker
TEXAS



B. Carl Lalrson
UTAH



Alexis J. Parent, Jr.
VERMONT



Paul J. Reardon
VIRGINIA



Michael R. Pursey
WASHINGTON



Roger D. Linger
WEST VIRGINIA



Charles D. Kolbe
WISCONSIN




Robert O. Finley
WYOMING



Augusto Fornacial
ITALY

ADDRESSES OF GRAND COMMANDERS

Thomas F. Craig	1000 Lexington Street, S.E., Huntsville, Alabama 35801-2533
Stanley R. Foulke	P.O. Box 203087, Anchorage, Alaska 99520-3087
James E. Hughes	2131 North Shannon Way, Mesa, Arizona 85215-2729
D. Olney White	2506 Eidson, Springdale, Arkansas 72762
Milton M. Abbott, Jr.	2974 Eagle Lane, McKinleyville, California 95519-9459
James E. Erickson	1031 2150 Road, Austin, Colorado 81410
Edward R. Ham	43 Crescent Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06430
Arthur A. Loveless, Jr.	615 South Street, New Castle, Delaware 19720
Charles W. Wagner (DC)	6833 Averbach Court, Warrenton, Virginia 20187
William G. Ellis	1420 Mercury Street, Merritt Island, Florida 32953
Charles B. Stephens	2678 MacLand Road, Dallas, Georgia 30157-9303
Merle S. Hill	775 N., 1150 E., Richfield, Idaho 83349-5323
Pressly A. Laird	R. R. 1, Box 215A, Griggsville, Illinois 62340-9773
Lawrence V. Kaminsky	3516 Duluth Place, Highland, Indiana 46322-1304
George J. Harrison	4162 Sherwood Terrace, Sioux City, Iowa 51106-4046
Phillip W. Keffer	2138 Mitchell Road, Lawrence, Kansas 66046
R. B. Hooks, Jr.	800 Blue Level Road, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101-9001
Larry B. Ledbetter, Sr.	1710 Dilg League Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana 71109-1905
Thomas A. Emery	9 Loring Avenue, Auburn, Maine 04210
James B. Coker	5109 Durham Road W., Columbia, Maryland 21044-1416
John H. Day, Jr. (MA/RI)	222 Asbury Street, South Hamilton, Massachusetts 01982
Vernon T. Barnhart	9617 Riverside Drive, Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837
Richard W. Anderson	7730 4th Avenue S., No. 206, Richfield, Minnesota 55423-4308
Kenneth E. Dyer	20 Shady Vale Lane, Columbus, Mississippi 39705-3341
James M. Snively	567 Oak Terrace, Farmington, Missouri 63640
Theodore T. Williams	1757 Highland Blvd., Unit 2, Bozeman, Montana 59715-7404
Fred C. Way, Jr.	P.O. Box 11, Trumbull, Nebraska 68980-0011
Gerry Cunningham	1731 Charnut Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89115-6318
Nathaniel H. Sawyer	P.O. Box 92, Newton, New Hampshire 03858-0092
William C. Godfrey	339 White Horse Pike, Lawnside, New Jersey 08045
Larry J. Brownfield	4615 Brookwood St., N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
George A. Harrison	18705 Williamson Avenue, Springfield Gardens, New York 11413-1426
Dennis K. Mikeal, Sr.	P.O. Box 2520, Lenoir, North Carolina 28645
Nathaniel E. Knudson	P.O. Box 266, Killdeer, North Dakota 58640-0266
David M. Snyder, Sr.	244 North Pardee Street, Wadsworth, Ohio 44281-1542
Robert G. Davis	411 E. Noble, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044
Steven L. Gatton	18990 S.W. Pilkington Road, Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035
Kenneth J. Faub	1204 Davis Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212
Richard W. Sealy	204 Arbor Court, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29732
Gerald A. Johnson	1051 W. Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501
Everette E. Young	10130 Ramada Lane, Atoka, Tennessee 38004
Lawrence E. Tucker	P.O. Box 877, Bellaire, Texas 77402-0877
B. Carl Lairson	957 E., 180 N., Lindon, Utah 84042-2203
Alexis J. Parent, Jr.	1506 Jericho Road, Richmond, Vermont 05477-9188
Paul J. Reardon	Box 816, Mathews, Virginia 23109
Michael R. Pursey	3975 Hyak Way, Bremerton, Washington 98311-9683
Roger D. Linger	910 34th Street, Vienna, West Virginia 26105
Charles D. Kolbe	9709 Packer Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin 54401
Robert O. Finley	P.O. Box 1171, Dubois, Wyoming 82513-1171
Augusto Fornaciai	Via Moro 2, 55032 Castelnuovo Garf Lu, Italy



In Memoriam

William Q. Moore, R.E. Grand Prelate—2003–2005

Born: September 27, 1920

Died: September 21, 2005



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

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

He married Carrie Louise Reichardt (who predeceased him), and they had a son, Harry Robert, and their grandchildren: Jill Diane, Russell Scott, and Ashley Lynn.

His professional activities included enrollment to practice before the Internal Revenue Service. He was partially retired at the time.

His Masonic affiliations were: Temple Lodge No. 4, A.F. & A.M. (1943); Washington No. 2, R.A.M.; Houston Council No. 1, R. & S.M. (1944); Park Place Commandery No. 106, Knights Templar (1945); transferred to St. Louis, MO; demitted to St. Louis Commandery No. 1; worked with a group of Sir Knights in St. Charles Commandery U.D., which in 1968 received charter as St. Charles Commandery No. 73; was first elected Commander in 1968; returned to Houston, Texas (1969); demitted to Park Place Commandery No. 106; appointed Honorary Past Commander; appointed Excellent Prelate (1970), a station maintained for 20 years at which time he was appointed Prelate Emeritus (1991); Gulf Coast York Rite College No. 106 (1988); received Excalibur Award from Park Place Commandery (1996); Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptors (1997); Valley of Houston, A. & A.S.R., S.J. (2001); Royal Order of Scotland (2001); dual membership with Houston Lodge No. 1189 (2002); dual membership with Houston Commandery No. 95; appointed Excellent Prelate (2002); appointed Prelate Scottish Rite (2003); appointed to Resurrection Tabernacle No. 21, HRAKTP (2003).

William Moore was appointed as Right Eminent Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment on August 20, 2003, in St. Louis, Missouri. At the time of his death, Sir Knight Bill was serving his third year as Prelate of Houston Commandery No. 95, Houston, Texas.

IN MEMORIAM



William Quigg Moore
Texas

R.E. Grand Prelate—2003–2005
Born: September 27, 1920
Died: September 21, 2005

James Marion Laughter
Mississippi

Grand Commander—1984
Born: November 20, 1926
Died: July 2, 2005

G. M. "Drew" Davenport, Jr.
Georgia

Grand Commander—1983
Born: May 4, 1930
Died: September 1, 2005



**Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
1000 East State Parkway, Suite I
Schaumburg, IL 60173-2460
Phone: (847) 490-3838
Fax: (847) 490-3777**

Your Charity has been dedicated to the **Gift of Sight** for **50 years**. What better way to demonstrate your continued Knightly benevolence and generosity than by making a contribution of **\$50** during this **Golden Anniversary Jubilee Campaign!**

The 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign- 50th Anniversary of the KTEF

Message by Sir Knight Douglas L. Johnson, P.D.C., Northwestern
Trustee of the Committee on Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Hello, Sir Knights:

Some of our members may not be aware of it, but fifty years ago the Grand Encampment began a very special project to help those less fortunate than ourselves by preserving sight. In addition, money is set aside each year for grants, which have aided in the process of discovering cures for sight-related illnesses and eye disease. For many years your generosity has provided a way for more than 78,000 people to receive care that could not come to them but through Christ's love and our generosity. Sir Knights, these are tremendous

achievements, and we should be very proud of our past accomplishments, but more hard work is needed to continue this great Christian act of kindness.

You have done this by your faith as Christian Masons and your willingness and ability to make meaningful contributions to our ongoing acts of charity, demonstrating willingness to help our fellow man. We make these contributions through our annual dues, donations, wills and bequests, several clubs, and the list goes on. We also contribute our time visiting prospective patients and doctors as we set about processing cases. For the past 38 years,



the Grand Encampment has sponsored an annual campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, providing a way for every Commandery and Sir Knight to contribute to this most worthwhile Christian act of kindness.

The Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation have elected to start the 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign the first of October this year rather than the first of December to allow Commanderies and Sir Knights additional time to be better prepared. This extra time will allow us to get the message out to corporate business and other non-Masonic groups in order that they may contribute. We have been very successful over the years through the various locally planned events in raising charity dollars, but there is an area we really need to work on, and that is making the general public (non-Masonic population) more aware of our great philanthropy.

The 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign is very important, especially since this is also our 50th Anniversary. We, as Knights Templar, need to treat this as a high calling, worthy of our best efforts. Sir Knights, let's make the 50th Anniversary truly a banner year in terms of fund-raising. What a tremendous opportunity for us to strengthen our ability to care for those less fortunate than ourselves. Sir Knights, my hope is that each Commandery and every Sir Knight will contribute to the 38th Campaign to the very best of their ability.

Sir Knight Douglas L. Johnson is a Past Department Commander, (1997-2000), of the Grand Encampment, a Trustee of the Committee on Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and a Northwestern P.G.C. of Wyoming. He is a member of Hugh de Payen Commandery No. 7, Lander, Wyoming. He resides at 5711 U.S. Highway 26, Dubois, Wyoming 82513

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

No. 4,635—William B. Colburn (MD)
No. 4,636—Dozier P. Gossett (TX)
No. 4,637—Thomas B. Shumaker (TN)

No. 4,638—W. Bruce Pruitt (CA)
No. 4,639—Patrick A. Curtis (MD)
No. 4,640—Paul C. Holbrook (NC)

Grand Commander's Club

No. 102,219—Robert B. Sathe (KY)
No. 102,220—Burney Dent Morris (TN)

No. 102,221—Patrick A. Curtis (MD)
No. 102,222—Nelson C. Trinkle (VA)
No. 102,223—Mark W. Underwood (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 60173-2460. The phone number is: (847) 490-3838. The fax number is: (847) 490-3777.

Contributor to the OPC Club
Michael Montgomery (IN)

***This is why we support the
Knights Templar Eye Foundation...***

**KTEF Research Grant Presented At
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee**

In August of 2005 the Knights Templar Eye Foundation awarded a \$30,000 research grant to Dr. Franco Recchia (center in picture). Dr. Recchia is a doctor of ophthalmology with the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. The grant is a Knights Templar Eye Foundation Pediatric Ophthalmology research grant, and Dr. Recchia's study is entitled: "A Study of the Collagen-Binding Protein Hsp47 in an Experimental Model of ROP: Its Role in Retinal Angiogenesis and its Potential as a Therapeutic Target."

The presentation of the grant was made at the Grand Lodge building in Nashville, Tennessee, by Grand Commander Everette E. Young (right), Deputy Grand Commander James Hafner (left), and Grand Recorder Harold Scott (left back).



KTEF Recipients Write...

I am writing in regard to the financial help I received from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. I would like to say with my utmost appreciation a heartfelt thank you from the bottom of my heart! Without your financial help, I undoubtedly would have been blind. When my recent surgeries began, my right eye was diagnosed as 200/400. After lasik and implant, Dr. Hall of Marshall, Texas, said it had improved to 20/50. With lasik and removal of cataracts, the sight in my left eye had improved significantly. Your financial help has restored my eyesight. Thank you for your wonderful organization. I am deeply indebted. From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank the Knights!

*Case Nos. 76393 and 77171
Carthage, Texas*

I had a very successful operation – cataracts - on both my eyes. Your loving help was unbelievable to me. I could never have afforded the operations. I waited a while to see if I had any problems, and I did not, thanks to Dr. Wright.

I must tell you a small story. The next morning after one operation, I woke up and looked out the big window in my bedroom: The colors were so bright I had to sit up to believe what I saw. I never knew green leaves were *so green*. I could see the tiny branches on the trees, also, and the sky was a glorious blue. I went around the house looking at everything. Then, I made calls to whomever would listen to me speak of my transformation!

I am to this day still amazed. I never knew my eyes were so bad. Now, I tell everyone about my new eyes and about you! Your loving kindness is much appreciated.

*Case No. 75706
Colorado Springs, Colorado*

To everyone in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation: I am writing to thank you for the assistance with my eye surgery. I could not afford it, and I am so very grateful that your organization agreed to pay for it

The surgery was successful, and within the next three months, my eye will be fully healed, so that I may be able to get new glasses and "see" again. Thank you for helping me preserve my sight!

I had not heard of the Foundation until the day I was told about my detached retina. I guarantee that everyone I know now is aware of the great help that your organization does for others.

Bob and Jane Devore are such nice people, too. It had been such an emotional day when I met them. They made me comfortable and showed their kindness. They represent the Knights Templar Eye Foundation so well.

Again, I thank you. Words cannot truly express my gratitude!

*Case No. 77450
Bolivar, Missouri*

Tri-State Royal Arch Festival Held In Wisconsin



Every year brings a new meeting and gathering of old friends and Companions together for the Annual Royal Arch degrees carried out by the host state. Degrees were performed in full costume.

This year the Wisconsin team was under the leadership of Brian Hudy, M.E.G.H.P. of

Wisconsin. Each year the host state rotates the degrees and location. The Minnesota team was under the direction of Ron Miles, M.E.G.H.P., and the team portrayed the Past Master and Most Excellent Master degrees, while the Michigan team under the direction of William Fairchild, Grand Royal Arch Captain, and Harry Walbridge, Grand King, portrayed the Mark Master degree. Pictured, left to right: Jim White, P.M.J.G.M. of New Mexico; Donald Crist, P.D.D.I.; Ex. Comp. Harry Walbridge, G.K; Ex. Comp. William Fairchild, G.R.A.C.; Clarence Shiner, P.D.D.I.; and George Maule, P.H.P.

This year the festival was held in Wausau, Wisconsin. Next year 2006 it will meet in Duluth, Minnesota. The Wisconsin delegation, lead by President Richard Reilly, prepared and served a great meal. (article and photo by Jim White)

Shreveport Assembly, Louisiana S.O.O.B. Welcomes New Members

At a special meeting held mid-August 2005 at the Creswell Masonic Temple in Shreveport, Louisiana, Shreveport Assembly No. 60, Social Order of the Beauceant, initiated and welcomed four new members. They are: Mrs. Wallace M. House, Ginger L. (Mrs. Tony) French, Marcy (Mrs. Richard)



Boyce, and Miss Anita C. Tuck. Miss Tuck is the daughter of Sir Knight Roy B. Tuck, Jr., P.G.M. and P.G.C. of Louisiana, and Mrs. French and Mrs. Boyce are the daughters of Sir Knight Larry B. Ledbetter, Sr., Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Louisiana. Pictured, left to right: front: Paula (Mrs. Larry) Plaisance, Mrs. Wallace M. House, Ginger L. (Mrs. Tony) French, Miss Anita C. Tuck, Marcy (Mrs. Richard) Boyce; back: Trellis L. (Mrs. Larry) Ledbetter, Theresa (Mrs. Manfred) Johnscher, Romona (Mrs. Roy) Tuck. (submitted by Grand Commander Larry Ledbetter, Sr.)

Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., N.M.J., Meets In Massachusetts

LEXINGTON, MA A group of more than 2,100 33° Masons and their wives heard an update on Masonic charitable endeavors during the recent meeting of the Supreme Council for the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

The charities are supported by voluntary contributions from the 240,000 32° Masons throughout the 15-state jurisdiction. The National Heritage Museum in Lexington, Massachusetts, was built in 1975 through their efforts to provide changing exhibits on American history.

Learning Centers for children with dyslexia have been providing free one-on-one tutoring at 53 locations. Within the next few years, the number of centers will increase to 59. Other charities include scholarships for college students and fellowships for schizophrenia research.

During the course of the meeting, which was held this year in Grand Rapids, Michigan, five new members were elected to the governing board of the Supreme Council. They are: Mark C. Roth of Canterbury, New Hampshire; Edward R. Trosin of Tonawanda, New York; James R. Filliez of Minerva, Ohio; Benny L. Grisham of Springfield, Illinois; and Michael A. DeWoif of Wausau, Wisconsin. New Deputies include: Richard W. Elliot for New Hampshire, Donald G. Hicks, Jr., for Massachusetts, William L. McCarrier for Pennsylvania, Neil M. Smalley for Ohio, and Lawrence D. Inglis for Illinois. New officers include: John W. McNaughton as Grand Lieutenant Commander, James L. Tungate as Grand Treasurer General, and Stephen E. Carpenter as Grand Master General of Ceremonies.

Retiring as Active Members are Robert E. Hansen of Laconia, New Hampshire; Robert W. Clarke of East Longmeadow, Massachusetts; Martin R. Schuller of Youngstown, Ohio; Phillip C. Kenney of Eureka, Illinois; and Donald J. Soberg of Monona, Wisconsin.

Each of the 15 Grand Lodges within the Northern Jurisdiction was represented. Also attending were officers from allied Masonic organizations across the country as well as representatives from eight Scottish Rite Supreme Councils around the world.

The week-long meeting concluded with the conferral of the 33° upon 236 members who were selected for dedicated service to Scottish Rite Freemasonry or service reflecting credit upon the fraternity.

The names of 237 nominees were announced to receive the 33° at next year's meeting in Chicago on August 29, 2006.

Attention, All Pin Collectors Illinois Anniversary Pin

The Grand Commandery of Illinois is in the process of planning its 150th anniversary to be held in 2007. A part of the program is the issuance of a commemorative pin. These pins are available at a cost of \$5.00 and can be obtained by sending \$5.00 per pin to: William H. Brown, V.E.D.G.C., 4100 North LeClaire, Chicago, IL 60641

Reprinted from Masonic Americana, January 1, 1976

A Look at "Old Hickory"...

Brother Andrew Jackson, 7th President

by C. L. Rothwell

The seventh President of the United States was born March 15, 1767, near Waxhaw Creek in Lancaster County, South Carolina. His father and mother had emigrated from Ireland in 1765. Shortly before the birth of Andrew Jackson, his father died. His mother died in a British prison nursing American soldiers during the Revolutionary War. Orphaned at a young age, he was basically uneducated. However, he read law and was admitted to the bar in North Carolina before he was 20.

Moving to Tennessee, he was soon elected to Congress. There he distinguished himself by his strong opposition to President Washington. At 31 he was elected to the Senate, a post he resigned the next year to take a Judgeship. Inclined to gambling and often in duels as a result of his "hair-trigger temper" - especially over the slightest reflection upon his wife Rachel - he spent the next 12 years in the Tennessee Judgeship.

The War of 1812 broke out, and the man from Tennessee was to become a national hero when it ended. In March of 1813, he led the Tennessee troops on a march to the south. In Mississippi he received an order to disband troops and send them home. Angered at the order, which would mean leaving his troops stranded with no money or provisions some eight hundred miles from home to find their own way back, he refused to disband and lead his troops home. Thus he gained the name "Old Hickory" for defying an order.

Jackson continued in the Army and again marched south. Arriving in New Orleans he found the British in control. There, on January 8, 1815, he fought the Battle of New Orleans and won against overwhelming British forces. What he did not know, what no one in New Orleans knew, was the war had been over for two weeks. Nonetheless, he became a national hero. The people viewed his victory as ending the war in a decisive defeat of the British.

The Seminoles in the Florida Territory, owned by Spain, were being stirred up by the British. Jackson was sent to Florida with troops. His conduct there was questionable, and an incident which involved the murder of two British officers brought his conduct before Congress. However, all was forgotten when Jackson defeated the Seminoles and Spain ceded Florida to the United States in 1819. Jackson was appointed Military Governor of the new Territory and stayed there one year.

Jackson's Masonic record is hazy due to some lost records and some lost charters, but there is no doubt he was a Mason. He was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee for two terms, 1822-1824.

By 1823 Andrew Jackson was back in the Senate. In 1824 he was nominated for President and received a plurality in the three-way race. Since no candidate received a majority, the election was thrown into the House of Representatives. In the ensuing contest, following what Jackson was to forever bitterly consider "a deal" between Clay and Adams, the election went to John Quincy Adams as sixth President.

Jackson began working on the campaign of 1828 immediately. Convinced that the people's will had been denied, he rallied everyone behind him to insure a complete victory in the next election.

In 1828 Jackson easily became the seventh President of the United States. He termed it 'a victory of the people,' and his inauguration was truly a celebration of the people. They came to Washington in throngs. The streets were so crowded Jackson could hardly get through. The doors of the White House were thrown open, and the people poured in. Jackson's foes were horrified by the muddy boots on the White House carpet.

Jackson's victory was tarnished by the death of his beloved Rachel after the election. A favorite target of criticism by foes, her death left him especially bitter. Every person who had condemned her was immediately replaced in the Jackson government.

Feeling that long years of service did not make one any more qualified than another, Jackson set about reforming the government and replacing old government employees with new men and new ideas. His intentions were good, but jobs rapidly became political. "To the victor belongs the spoils," Jackson had said at his inauguration, and his system of employment of government workers became known as the 'Spoils System.'

A bitter states rights battle was raging in Congress. Jackson, a Southerner, was assumed to be in sympathy with the southern states righters. At a Democratic banquet in 1830 honoring the party's founder, Jackson raised the toast which is still remembered: "Our Federal Union - it must be preserved." The Southerners were shocked and saw their hopes of establishing a firm policy of states rights shattered.

In 1832 South Carolina decided to nullify a tariff which it opposed, claiming states rights. When denied this right, they threatened to secede from the Union. Jackson immediately sent Federal troops to South Carolina.

Jackson had engaged himself in the battle over the Bank of the United States. All federal funds were kept in this bank. Jackson felt it was unconstitutional even though Justice Marshall's decision in the famous *McCulloch v. Maryland* case had indirectly upheld the constitutionality of the Bank. Elected to a second term in 1832 by an overwhelming margin over Clay, a backer of the Bank, Jackson saw his election as a mandate from the people to fight the Bank. He withdrew government funds from it, and shortly thereafter the Bank failed.

In 1835 the national debt was paid off for the first time, and there was a surplus of \$35 million in the Treasury. Speculation in western lands was high, and there was a general over-investment of money in business.

The Indians were fighting for their land as Georgia forced the Cherokee out, and the Black Hawk War was fought with the Sauk. The Seminoles in Florida fought until 1842. The frontiersmen wanted the Indians driven west of the Mississippi so they could have more land. Jackson, a frontiersman with no sympathy for the Indians, agreed, and the Indians were driven off their lands.

In 1836 Arkansas was admitted to the Union, and Texas gained its independence after a long struggle. Michigan was admitted in 1837. It was the era of the first penny newspaper (1833), and Sir Knight Samuel Colt devised a new handgun which he called the Colt (1835).

In his Farewell Address on March 4, 1837, Andrew Jackson warned the people against sectionalism and disunion. The states rights issue was already causing strong division in the Senate. Then, he retired to the Hermitage near Nashville, Tennessee, where he died June 8, 1845.

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 152354944 or e-mail: charles.garneverizon.net

Tennessee Commandery Sells Lapel Pins To Benefit The Knights Templar Eye Foundation



This year at the 144th Annual Conclave of Tennessee, Manchester Commandery No. 40 of Hillsboro, Tennessee, topped their donation of \$6,000 for the 36th Annual Voluntary Campaign of the KTEF by donating \$6,500 to the 37th Annual Voluntary Campaign.

Once again, the primary source of this year's donation was from the sale of a late 1800's Knight Templar apron lapel pin and 5 other pins. All profits go to the KTEF.

The pins are still available at a cost of \$6.00 each, postage included. They are, left to right, above: Mediterranean Pass, Knight Crusader of the Cross, 1800's Apron, Beauceant Shield, 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 be viewed at the website: www.YorkriteUSA.org

True Masonic Stein To Benefit The Knights Templar Eye Foundation



The stein body, 7 and 1/2 inches tall, is white ceramic. It contains a pewter lid with the Holy Bible on top. It has a fancy thumb lift. On the body is a Masonic altar with the verse of Matthew 7:7 between the pillars, and on one side there is a poem, "A True Mason," and on the other side is a very colorful Masonic picture of the early days of Masonic heritage. Also, there are two gold bands. The price of the stein, including shipping and insurance, is \$55.00. **A \$10.00 donation from the sale of each stein will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.** There is a limited supply of the steins, so if interested, please send check or money order to: Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052.

The Lesson of the Plumbline

by Sir Knight Lawrence D. Wade M.D., KYCH

In 1717, at the beginning of Speculative Freemasonry as we know it, the terminal degree was the Fellow Craft degree. For the essential lesson of the Fellow Craft degree, we must, in my opinion, focus on the humble plumbline and its symbolic meaning.

To understand the profound lesson of the plumbline, we may begin with its Masonic definition as, "The criterion of rectitude and TRUTH." Please note that the plumbline is not "A criterion" - it is "THE criterion," i.e., the only criterion of rectitude and TRUTH.

TRUTH is, of course, one of the three "Principal Tenets" of Freemasonry; they being, of course, BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, and TRUTH. So, as the only measure by which we are able to know TRUTH, the Plumbline is of vital importance.

Without TRUTH, we are hopelessly lost. In order to understand what kind of society we may expect for our children and for their children, should men cease to order their lives by the plumbline of TRUTH, we need only picture a fence or a house built without benefit of plumbline.

Consider, then, the humble plumbline. It is of no intrinsic value, whatsoever. To state the case most crudely, the plumbline is nothing more than a piece of string and a rock - perhaps a small shard that the craftsman has chiseled away from the ashlar, in shaping it for use in the construction of the temple.

What, then, converts this worthless string and stone into the sublimely important "criterion of TRUTH"? Two factors intervene. First, it is suspended in Heaven. Second, it is otherwise entirely free. Nothing more is necessary; nothing less will suffice.

Why wouldn't freedom alone suffice? Consider a plumbline that is entirely free but is not anchored in heaven. This is easy. Simply toss the whole thing into the air. It is then totally free, but it is useless. It would be foolish to try to know TRUTH by means of a plumbline that is sailing through the air, let alone by one that has fallen to the ground and lies coiled upon itself. Here, with complete freedom but without the requisite anchoring in heaven, the plumbline remains worthless - perhaps even litter and a nuisance.

The Masonic "heaven" on which we may anchor our life's plumbline is that "beautiful system of morality" that Masonry embodies - the morality of "The Fatherhood of God" and "The Brotherhood of Man." If the plumbline by which our society knows TRUTH - by which the lives of our citizens are ordered - is anchored in that Masonic morality and is otherwise free, then we need have no fear.

But even this anchoring in the morality of Freemasonry leaves the plumbline useless unless it is otherwise entirely free. Picture a properly anchored plumbline with its plumbbob somehow constrained - held, for example, in your grasp - so that it cannot find its own level. Such a plumbline cannot be trusted to show TRUTH.

So, the plumbline must be both anchored in proper morality and otherwise entirely free.

Furthermore, this plumbline must be "in the midst of my people" - not hidden under a bushel, not off on some distant hill, and not practiced exclusively in "secret" rituals, behind doors that are closed and tyled. The plumbline of TRUTH must always be so prominently on display - so conspicuous - that it will at all times serve as a continuous, "real time" index of TRUTH, clearly displayed for all to see.

It behooves us as Masons to strive to be that plumbline for humanity. Your Lodge and mine need to be that plumbline for our respective communities. We as individuals need to be that plumbline for our peers. First and foremost, though, within the Lodge, we must each strive to be that plumbline for our brother Masons, modeling Masonic conduct for each other, so as to provide continuous feedback - the needed role model of a "criterion of rectitude and TRUTH."

Did You Wear Your Ring Today?

by Sir Knight W. Brad Bemby 32°,
KYCH, KCCH

When I was a child of about four, my family moved from the big city to the country to live with my grandparents.

My grandfather, Paul Davis, was very down to earth and known for his expert fishing, raising of fox hounds, and growing of the best and biggest tomatoes in the county. While I was growing up, when we could, we would listen to the radio while the Kansas City Royals played baseball, and when I got home from school, he

Perhaps it follows, then, that each of us can find his or her own greatest value as a human being only by striving to meet the same criteria that convert the humble string and rock into the sublimely worthy plumbline. We must be anchored in morality, we must always insist on remaining otherwise entirely free, and we must be known to our fellowmen - an open book, to be known and read by all.

Knight Templar magazine thanks "The Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard" and Brother Steve Pence, Editor, for permission to reprint this article (with the author's modifications), which ran in the "Trestleboard," vol. 4, no. 2, March 2002.

Sir Knight Lawrence D. Wade is a P.C. of Plains Commandery No. 11, a P.I.M. and P.H.P. of Chapter and Council, and a P.M. of St. James Lodge, all in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His mailing address is PO Box 80780, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0780

would tell me who was playing that night, calling the players by first name as if he knew them personally and had drafted the lineup himself.

Although he was only educated through the eighth grade, my grandfather was very aware of civic affairs and active in partisan politics, leaning far toward the right on most issues. He had very little to do with anyone who didn't fit in with his conservative viewpoints.

He considered government to be everyone's responsibility, and he never once shirked that duty. Although my grandfather never held an elected office, he helped with campaigns, served as an election official, and attended the political rallies or

public meetings that should concern every tax-paying citizen.

He was fiercely loyal to several very close friends from his political affiliations; however, he also had some friends who were on the other side of the political fence. You could count this group on one hand and still have a thumb and a finger left over, but strangely, he remained closest to them than all of the others combined. This remained a mystery to me for several years.

One of these particularly close friends, Ben Corder, would come to our farm to deer hunt each year. On one of Ben's visits, I noticed a ring with a Square and Compass on it. Afterwards, I asked my grandfather what it meant, and he described the Masonic Fraternity in such a way that, even at the age of four, it piqued my curiosity.

Over the years of my youth, I would think of that ring and what it might mean to me. Finally, when I was of age, I obtained a petition for the fraternity. Remembering the conversation that I had with my grandfather about the ring, I consulted with my grandfather about what to do.

During the time that my grandfather had the opportunity in his life to join the Fraternity, he had several serious hospitalizations that prevented him from petitioning and participating in Freemasonry. He described to me what he knew about it from his observations of the character and accountability of a couple of his friends who were Masons. One could tell from my grandfather's opinion of the Fraternity and the men who belonged to it that he held the Craft in high regard, even though he wasn't a member himself.

The small group of friends that I mentioned earlier, the ones that were held in highest esteem in his

eyes even though they were polar opposites of his politics, were Masons. He told me, "Ben Corder is a Mason, so I know it would be the right thing to do." Ben was the one wearing the ring that I had noticed when I was four years old.

I turned in my petition the following morning.

On September 16, 2003, my grandfather's friend, Ben Corder, was installed as Worshipful Master of Windsor Lodge No. 29 in Windsor, Missouri. My grandfather had passed away in 2001 and couldn't congratulate Ben, but I was able to attend Brother Ben's installation and thank him for wearing his ring that fall day in 1971.

Since joining the Fraternity in 1992, I have had the opportunity to meet many men like the ones that were so highly regarded by my grandfather, men who had the character and accountability that made such an impression on my grandfather that he could overlook his own standards by which he measured a friend and see the true character of what they stood for. I have met men who actively participate in all branches of the Fraternity - the Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, and other Masonic bodies.

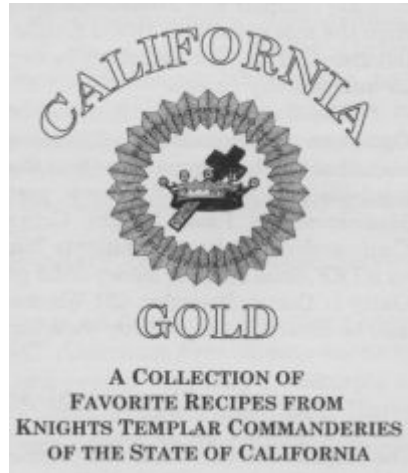
Each member brings something different to offer the Craft, but they all have one thing in common, a Masonic ring.

Did you wear your ring today? You might be surprised at who notices it.

Sir Knight W Brad Bemby is a member and P.M. of Laclede Lodge No. 83, Lebanon, Missouri; a member of the Lebanon, Missouri York Rite, where he is a KYCH; and a member of the Joplin, Missouri Scottish Rite Bodies. For correspondence write him at P.O. Box 633, Buffalo, Missouri 65622-0633.

Sale Of California Cookbook To Benefit The KTEF

The Grand Commandery of California is selling cookbooks, shown right, to benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Entitled "California Gold," the book is a compilation of recipes submitted by Sir Knights and ladies of the Commanderies of California. It is bound in a 3-ring loose-leaf format and contains 750 recipes. The books sell for \$20.00 each, and **the entire amount goes to the KTEF.** They are able to do this because the publication cost of the books was covered by private donations. Make out checks to: Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Send to: Dan McDaniel, Attn: Cookbooks, 1250 Peterson Court, Los Altos, CA 94024



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 Templar/your 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. 11, C/O Robert P. Winterhalter, P.O. Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. **All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Please order soon to avoid the price increase March 1, 2006.**

Milford Commandery Polo Shirts Benefit KTEF

Milford Commandery also offers top quality white polo shirts with pocket. These shirts have your choice of embroidered insignia in full color (non-fading). Select from: Templar Cross, Cross and Crown, Royal Arch Mason, Royal and Select Master Mason, Cryptic Mason, York Rite, KYCH, York Rite College, and Masonic Square and Compass. We also offer a lady's shirt with Social Order of the Beauceant or any of the above emblems. Each shirt is \$30.00, plus \$5.00 S & H. You may add your name or nickname to the right side for \$5.00 additional. Royal Arch Mason shirts are also stocked in red, and Masonic Square and Compass may be had on white or royal blue shirts. There are eleven other colors available on special order. We also offer great 3-season jackets and a light weight flannel-lined jacket. Make checks payable to: Milford Commandery No. 11. Send to: PO Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. For further information, write us at this address or e-mail: Ccwinterhalter@aol.com **All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.**

Part I: Ty Cobb: Baseball's Unpopular Icon

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

One constantly hears the question, "Who was the greatest player in the history of baseball?" That invariably opens a floodgate of opinion yielding at least a half dozen names. It is natural for a fan to nominate a player within the time frame of his own memory as the candidate for the vaunted crown of "greatest." However, in all fairness, one must concede that physical accommodations, equipment, and quality competition are vital elements in the comparison mix. Today, it is not easy to make a case for any player who emerged early in the 20th century. However, such a choice was made in 1936, when the first inductee was announced at the dedication of baseball's Hall of Fame, in Cooperstown, New York. That name was Tyrus Raymond Cobb.

The Baseball Writer's Association of America elected one of their least beloved players when they chose the name of Cobb over four immortal names of America's favorite sport. His accomplishments, in every category of the game during a 24-year career, could not be denied - even by his worst enemy. The competition for greatest was fierce. The Writer's Association agonized over the names of the first five players to be inducted. After Cobb they chose Babe Ruth, Honus Wagner, Christy Mathewson, and Walter Johnson. Any fan today with a modicum of historic knowledge recognizes the achievements of those immortals. A vast legion of other great players failed to make the cut in the first selection.



No man ever performed in the major leagues with as much determination, acquired skill, and single-minded focus as Ty Cobb. During the early years of his big league career, he evolved into a icy, relentless baseball machine, possessed with a demonic drive to win. The awesome statistics confirm his success and place him on the highest pedestal of baseball's Valhalla.

Ty Cobb was born on December 18, 1886, at Narrows, Banks County,

Georgia. He was the eldest child of William Herschel Cobb and Amanda Chitwood. Tyrus Raymond had two other siblings: John Paul and Florence Leslie Cobb. The family enjoyed the distinction of being one of the most respected in Banks County with their Cobb ancestry numbered among the earliest settlers in the Virginia Colony. Their first paternal ancestor in America was Joseph Cobb. He arrived from England in 1611 and settled on the banks of the James River, only five years after Jamestown became the first successful English colony in America.

William H. Cobb became a distinguished and affluent citizen of Royston, Georgia; listing among his accomplishments that of school principal, mayor of Royston, and respected state senator, as well as being a successful farm owner. William Cobb was also a devoted Mason, serving as Worshipful Master of Royston Lodge No. 426 (now No. 52) from 1899 through 1903. In addition, he was the organizer of an excellent Fellowcraft team which traveled and performed throughout the state. A strict disciplinarian, William demanded the highest degree of obedience and industrious effort from his son Ty. To assure proper humility and appreciation for the value of hard work, '1r was assigned a few acres of land to farm. It was a successful experiment. The boy learned to farm diligently and mastered the rudiments of cotton marketing.

By age eleven Ty was fascinated with baseball and playing in pickup games. He improved rapidly. In his early teens he was a member of a local sandlot

team known as the Royston Reds, although his father strongly disapproved of his son playing baseball. William's ambition was that 1r prepare for a military career, beginning with an appointment to the West Point Military Academy. However, the manager of the Royston team, Bob McCreary, prevailed on the elder Cobb to allow his son to play. McCreary was employed in the local bank and was a lodge brother of William Cobb. That was enough to persuade William to relent. Ty, the youngest player on the team, soon became their star performer. By the time he reached age 17, Ty was totally convinced he had a future in baseball.

With the reluctant permission of his father, Cobb traveled to Augusta in the spring of 1904, to try out for a professional contract with the newly-formed South Atlantic Baseball League (a.k.a. the Sally League). Ty was armed with six checks for \$15 each to pay his expenses for the Augusta venture. His father's motive was to assure that his son would ration his funds prudently during his stay. William also lectured Ty at length about the low class of people who played baseball for a living.

The 17-year-old performed well during the tryout but was not offered a contract. Advised by his father not to give up, Ty joined a semipro team in Anniston, Alabama, and played during the 1904 season. His outstanding performance and a .370 batting average generated a summons from the Augusta team to rejoin the club. Ty was offered a contract for the 1905 season, at a salary of \$125 per month.

Cobb credited the Augusta manager, George Leidy, for his success in major league baseball. Leidy tutored young Ty intensely during the 1905 season. The instruction enabled Cobb to improve his batting skills dramatically, enough to generate an offer from the Detroit Tigers. They paid \$500 for Cobb's contract, plus \$250 for his immediate appearance, in order that he finish the season in Detroit. The day he received the telegram to report to Detroit, Cobb learned the tragic news that his father had been accidentally shot to death by his mother on August 11, 1905.

It was a sorrowful train ride to Detroit for a youngster of 18 years. Cobb was a polite, churchgoing lad, who loved his parents, and was deeply committed to the traditions of respectable family life. The death of his father was a traumatic event, not calculated to prepare him mentally for a debut in major league baseball. However, Ty was determined to set his personal tragedy aside and succeed in Detroit.

During the journey, he met another passenger on the train, who provided a welcome respite from his sorrow. He was Oliver Hardy, an obese youngster from Milledgeville, Georgia. Oliver would become half of the famous comedy twosome of movie fame, Laurel and Hardy. Ty and Oliver became lifelong friends.

In August 1905 Detroit was a city of approximately 300,000 citizens, boasting Bennett Field, a baseball park with a capacity of 8,500 souls. It was named for Charles Wesley Bennett, an old-time Tiger catcher from New Castle, Pennsylvania.

Young Ty Cobb had been summoned to the Michigan city to fill the position of Jimmy Barrett, a veteran outfielder in the twilight of his career, sidelined by an ailing knee. The Georgia rookie was met by a wall of hostility from teammates determined to save Jimmy Barrett's job. The only friendly face was Herman "Germany" Schaeffer, the team second baseman.

Soon after joining the Tigers, the team was playing an exhibition game in Toledo, Ohio. Cobb was suffering intensely from infected tonsils. Fearing he would lose his tenuous position on the team by seeking medical attention, Cobb persuaded the house doctor of the Boodie House to remove his tonsils without benefit of anesthetics. The doctor was not a surgeon, and his ability was questionable. Nevertheless, he undertook the operation, which required several attempts before he succeeded in severing the diseased tonsils. Cobb was nearly unconscious from loss of blood but managed to show up for the game next day and play seven innings. The rookie's powerful determination to play overcame the effects of the barbaric operation. The Boodie House doctor was committed to a mental institution that winter.

The hostility continued unabated while the lonesome youngster struggled to make the team. Cobb's collection of bats were broken by an unknown culprit. The young rookie had made them personally in a friend's woodworking shop in Royston. When suspicion fell on the team's first baseman, "Wahoo" Sam Crawford, he denied the charge. Later, Cobb was

assaulted by the team catcher, Charlie Schmidt. The rookie began to carry a gun, fearing that his life might be in danger. He rapidly became a silent, pokerfaced loner. He made no friends and wanted none.

He took his meals in solitude and concentrated on learning every nuance of the game of baseball through intense concentration. Later in his life, Cobb claimed that he had no natural ability beyond good eyesight and reflexes. However, his determination to succeed became a personal crusade to prevail over all obstacles and to achieve excellence in his chosen profession. He had appeared in 41 games at the end of the 1905 season with a batting mark of .241. He retained his new job with the Tigers.

Cobb played the 1906 season in a continuing hostile dugout environment. He was mastering the art of baseball rapidly, in spite of meager encouragement from the team's manager, Bill Armour. Ty played in a total of 97 games and batted a handsome .320 during his first full year with the Tigers. Physically, he eventually stood six-foot, one inch tall, and weighed in at 175 pounds. Cobb was a fleet base runner, quickly recognized for his aggressive, base-stealing habits. His left-hand batting stance was unusual, choking up on the handle slightly with hands about four inches apart. He learned early in life that the grip enabled him to control the bat, time his swing, and select the precise spot he wanted the ball to go, all with great accuracy.

Eventually, Cobb used a 40-ounce bat, which he would reduce to 36

ounces by the end of the season. He became a lifelong student of the game and developed into the best hitter the game ever knew. He would come into full bloom in 1907 with his trial by fire behind him. During 1906 Cobb developed a chronic eye infection, which caused occasional blurred vision. The problem never visibly effected his batting skills.

The 1907 season began with Hughie Jennings as the Tigers' new manager. Cobb was earning a \$2,400 annual salary and was unaware that Jennings was negotiating to trade him to the Washington Senators. Jennings felt Cobb's frequent fights with teammates were generating general discontent in the club. Happily for Detroit, the trade did not materialize because 1907 saw Ty Cobb develop into an awesome and inspiring performer, one who would lead them to three American League pennants. At long last, the hostility of his teammates melted away.

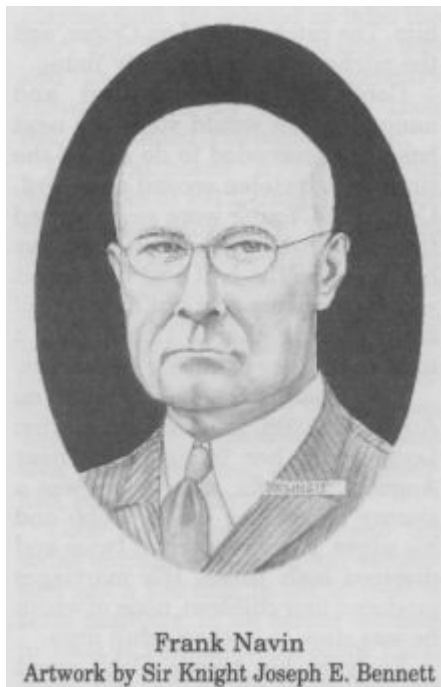
The Tigers nosed out the Philadelphia Athletics in the 1907 pennant race by the narrowest of margins. The catalyst was Ty Cobb. His .350 batting average won the American League championship. His hitting, daring base-running, and sparkling defensive play inspired the team to great effort. The World Series with the Chicago Cubs was a disappointment when Cobb slumped to a .200 average and the team lost its momentum. The Cubs took the series in straight victories, three games to none. The first game was a 12-inning draw, called due to darkness.

After the close of the 1907 season, Ty became a Freemason in his Georgia home town. He was Raised

in his father's lodge, Royston No. 426, beginning a lifelong membership in the Craft, which included membership in the Valley of Detroit, A.A.S.R. in 1912. He also joined Moslem Temple of the Detroit Shrine in 1912. Later, he received the Honorary 33^o in Detroit on May 7, 1921. He was immensely proud of the Fraternity all his life.

Ty Cobb almost left baseball forever in 1907 over a salary dispute with owner Frank Navin. That launched a skein of salary holdouts which became an annual ritual. Cobb demanded a raise to \$4,800 in 1908, an increase over his meager \$2,400 in 1907. Navin refused, and Cobb threatened to quit the game. When Cobb held out during the entire spring training period, Navin finally relented. He agreed to pay Cobb \$4,800 if he hit over .300 and \$4,000 if he failed. The reluctant agreement only served to exacerbate relations between Cobb and Navin. Cobb regarded Navin as a stingy, unsympathetic, and untrustworthy person, an appraisal that remained unchanged throughout his years in Detroit.

In 1908 sportswriter Grantland Rice coined a pseudonym for Ty Cobb that became his public identification forevermore, when he christened him, "The Georgia Peach." Even today, the name quickly calls to mind the vaunted baseball immortal. Rice was the only newsman Cobb called a friend. He suffered so much negative press from sportswriters that he universally despised them all. By 1908 Cobb was a dominant figure in baseball and one of the most feared players the game ever produced.



His aggressive base-running and hook slides made him a terror on the base paths. More than one opponent was accidentally injured when he interfered with Cobb hurtling toward or sliding into a base. Opposing pitchers were hard-pressed to remain calm and focused as Cobb tantalized them with huge leadoffs and false dashes to the next base - all staged to force a pick-off throw to the base. More often than not, it allowed Cobb to make a wild dash to the next base and beat the throw by a wide margin.

Cobb was equally famous for announcing his intention to steal a base on the next pitch. One classic legend of this amazing feat occurred in Boston in 1908, when he intended to disprove the Red Sox catcher's claim that Cobb could not steal on

him. The catcher was Lou Criger, and the pitcher was the great Cy Young.

Cobb hit safely to first and announced he would steal the next base. He proceeded to do so. By the time he had stolen second and third, Criger and Young were so unnerved that Cobb was more than half way home before the ball was thrown. It was an amazing feat but only one of many daring thefts. Cobb stole a total of 892 bases during his career.

The Georgia Peach married on August 7, 1908, to Charlotte Marion Lombard at her family home near Augusta, Georgia. Matrimony was a stormy experience for Ty Cobb and his wives. He was married twice and divorced both times. His marriages produced four children, none of whom he was close to in their adult lives.

Early in his career, Cobb spent his leisure time at Detroit's venerable Ponchartrain Hotel. Without friends among his teammates, he sought out men his own age in downtown Detroit who were among the city's young elite, well launched on brilliant business careers. Among his early friends at the Ponchartrain were Louis Chevrolet, Walter Briggs, Ranson E. Olds, John Dodge, J. W. Packard, and Billy Durant, to name a few. All were future automobile empire builders and only a portion of the long list of Cobb's business friends. From those associations Cobb gleaned the wisdom to invest wisely and accumulate wealth. Over the years he became immensely wealthy from his investments in stocks, the cotton market, and the Coca Cola Corporation. Often, baseball players squandered their modest

salaries on alcohol and easy living off the field with no thought of the future. Many of them died as indigents. Cobb was an exception.

Cobb garnered a huge accumulation of baseball honors which, collectively, have never been seriously threatened. He was a player who did everything well, in addition to being the greatest hitter who ever lived. His lifetime batting average of .367 has never been equaled. He won 12 batting championships in the American League, 10 of them consecutively, and had a career-high .420 average in 1911. In Cobb's final season, his 24th career year, he posted an average of .328, with the remark that anyone who couldn't hit over that average might as well retire. That's what he did.

In 1913 Cobb met with the financial backers of a rival baseball league, planning to field teams in all the country's major cities. They called it the Federal Baseball League. Two of the major investors; Harry Sinclair, the oil giant, and James Gilmore, the coal and paper magnate, offered Cobb three million dollars to sign a three-year contract to play. That was a magnificent fortune at the time. Cobb declined because he astutely discerned that the venture would inevitably fail. It did, even though many established major league stars defected to the Federal League for a year or two.

During his baseball career, Cobb was victimized in illegal schemes which involved his good name. In 1910 Cobb and Cleveland Indian star, Napoleon Lojoie, were neck-and-neck in a battle for the league batting championship, near the end

of the season. In a game between the Indians and the St. Louis Browns, John J. O'Connor, the Browns' catcher-manager, and pitcher, Harry Howell, conspired to allow Lajoie to make an inordinate number of hits in a double-header on October 9, 1910. The reason was to increase his average and deny Cobb the championship. Lajoie was ignorant of the plot. A subsequent investigation established the guilt of the two St. Louis players. Cobb won the championship and a Chalmers automobile, in spite of the collusion.

Cobb and superstar Tris Speaker of the Cleveland Indians were falsely accused of throwing a game in 1919. It was leveled at the end of the 1926 season. A bitter rejection of the claim from the news media and the principals accused prompted a massive investigation, which cleared Ty Cobb and Speaker of all charges. Frank Navin was widely suspected of being involved in the conspiracy with American League President, Bancroft Johnson. Johnson was forced to resign the presidency for his complicity.

Cobb's many confrontations on the playing field and off were constant fodder for the hostile press. Many stories were patently false, a claim Cobb defended until his dying day. He disclaimed the story that he intentionally spiked anybody or even threatened to do so, unless illegally and intentionally blocked on the playing field. He labeled

as false the story that he threatened to steal second base against the legendary Honus Wagner by shouting, "Look out, Krauthead, I'm coming down."

Cobb attacked a Philadelphia Athletic fan in 1912, charging into the stands and beating him. The fan had denigrated Cobb outrageously during the entire game. Press accounts later expanded the incident to allege the fan was black and a quadriplegic. Cobb was suspended over the incident, and the entire Detroit team went on strike to protest his suspension. They considered the strike justified, considering Ty's penalty.

Cobb asked the team to end the strike and agreed to a ten-day suspension and a \$50 fine, in the interest of team harmony. In an earlier incident in 1909 at Philadelphia's Shibe Park, Cobb was the object of severe fan abuse. There was great anxiety that he might be attacked after the game. A group of six or seven men who identified themselves as Freemasons came forward and informed Ty they would escort him safely from the park.

Don't Miss Part II of "Ty Cobb: Baseball's Unpopular Icon" in the December 2005 issue!

Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 330 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.



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



Place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to "Knight Voices," The Grand Recorder, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630-2460. Items submitted to Knight Templar that refer to Templar or Masonic subjects will continue to be printed free of charge. All other items should be accompanied by a \$5.00 remittance made payable to the Grand Encampment. Any submission may be subject to editing. You must submit a written request and check, if applicable, for each time you want your ad to run. Each request must be separate and at monthly intervals, not several at the same time. All other requests for repeat ads will either run just once or will be returned to sender.

For sale: lapel pins. The 64th Triennial Conclave Committee is offering a lapel pin (2 knights on horseback) for \$6.00 each, including S & H. Checks payable to 64th Triennial Conclave Committee, C/O E. K. Longworth; 502 Wentworth Avenue, N.E.; Roanoke; VA 24012-3545. This is a fund-raiser for the 64th Triennial Conclave.

For sale: 150-year history book of the Grand Commandery of Indiana. This 228-page history of the Knights Templar of Indiana was printed in observation of its sesquicentennial birthday. It contains the history of the Indiana Knights Templar, biographies of all Past Grand Commanders, and a record of the establishment of all Indiana Commanderies. It is \$1800, which includes S & H. Order through John Stevens, Grand Recorder; P.O. Box 1221, Kokomo, IN 46903-1221

For sale by Wheeling Commandery No. 1, Wheeling, West Virginia: Knights Templar license plates (aluminum) with KT logo, \$7.00 each, S & H included, USA. All profits to the KTEF. Check or MO to C. H. Wyatt, Jr.; 18 Edglawn Avenue; Wheeling; WV 26003-6035

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 KT Enterprises. % of net profits to KTEF.

Texas Sesquicentennial Conclave Memorabilia: medal (Conclave logo on front, "San Antonio Cdry #7" surrounding cross/crown on reverse) is suspended from white/black "beauceant" ribbon suitable for wearing with uniform or coat (\$7.00); canvas bag (13-in. x 15-in, 1-in, with straps 10 inches at apex) bearing Sesquicentennial logo (\$5.00); baseball style hat bearing Sesquicentennial logo (\$10.00). All proceeds from hat sales to KTEF These unique items can be viewed at www.albertpikdemolay.org/yorkrite/index.html. Send your order (include \$2.00 for mailing costs) and your check, payable to 2005 Grand Conclave, to James N. Higdon, 10122 N. Manton, San Antonio, TX 78213. Items will be sent day following receipt by return mail. H: (210) 344-4309, 0: (210) 349-9933, e-mail jnh.kt@hhzlaw.com

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 back: 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; P.G.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, \$50. All plus shipping, handling, and insurance: 1 item, \$500 each additional item, \$1.00. Percentage to Knights Templar and Masonic charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., PC.; 60 Manor Rd; Staten Island; NY 10310-2698

For sale: C.P.O. costs, poly-wool, summer weight; call for available sizes: (740) 927-3586. \$23.00, includes shipping and handling. 10% of all sales will be donated to KTEF. General Merchandise Company; 13690 Broad Street, SW.; Pataskala; OH 43062.

Is your beauceant worn and ragged? Custom-made, fully lined, beauceant for the asylum. Made of heavy satin, with lettering done in heavy embroidery. Your Commandery name and number above and your city and state below. Banner made to Texas specifications unless otherwise requested. \$400.00 - Grand Standard quote upon request. References available. % to KTEF. Ruth Andrews, 11630 CR 2248, 231er, IX 75707, (903)566-1163, e-mailjja88@peoplepc.com.

For sale: antique Knights Templar plates: 64th Annual Conclave, Toledo, Ohio, 1906 (axon on front) - \$40.00; 64th Annual Conclave, Toledo, Ohio, 1906 (girl with sheep on front) - \$40.00; 28th Triennial, Louisville, Kentucky, 1901 (Marechan Lefebvre on front) - \$55.00; 28th Triennial, Louisville, Kentucky, 1901 (Madame Sans-Genie on front) - \$55.00; and 27th Triennial, Pittsburgh No. 1, 1896 - \$10.00. All prices, plus S & H. Call Ted Welch, (517) 676-5941.

For sale: 3 watch fobs: One has Commandery emblem on front and keystone on back with diamond chips on front, one has Commandery emblem on front and keystone on back with diamond and ruby chips on front, and one has 32" eagle on front that lifts up and has keystone inside, Commandery emblem on back, and 10K gold with garnet and diamond chips on front. I also have 4 silver swords for sale. Call (419)227-0908 between 4:00 and 7:00p.m., or e-mail vicrod@wcoil.com

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

Fund-raiser for Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association, District 82, Grand Lodge of Texas: copper horse-shoe with square and compass on a lapel pin for \$5.00 each, pp. 10% of proceeds to KTEF. Checks payable to MW & S Assoc., Diet. 82 and send to Neel A. Wright, 1211 E. 43rd, Odessa, TX 79762, (432) 366-3806.

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.

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 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. 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.; PO. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail harry217@bigf6t.com

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, PM., Sec.; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F & AM.; PO. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014.

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

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, 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.

For sale: The Medal of Honor The Letter Gin 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 shinned by contacting Maccry 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.

For sale: hardbound book on Masonry, A Survey of the History and Mysteries of Freemasonry (revised-2nd printing). The book is 322 pages, indexed, contains a bibliography of 99 sources, and makes liberal use of footnotes. It also contains a 114-page glossary of Masonic words and terms. Written, published, and financed by Robert L. Breeding, it can be obtained from him only. Price is \$20.00 plus \$3.00 for postage and handling. % to KTEF. Check or MO to Robert L. Breeding at 405 Ascot Court, Knoxville, TN 37923-5807. View info at buyyourownbook.blogspot.com E-mail breeding6905@bellsouth.net telephone (865) 599-6335

For sale: custom-made gavels from God-given, beautiful hardwoods of four different, laminated hardwoods. Excellent gifts and treasured inheritance. All proceeds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. \$35.00 each, postpaid. The Gavel Man, 117 Demere Oaks Circle, St. Simons Island, GA 31522, (912) 634-0818

Wanted; Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 33 years and still need many pieces as I am collecting all varieties. These one day will end up in a Masonic museum. Why not find a home for your mark? I will gladly send you a check for one piece or will buy your collection. If you collect, I will gladly exchange. I will answer all letters. Especially needed are Iowa, Michigan, and Alaska pennies. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705, (520) 888-7585

I'm once again accepting consignment items to sell on eBay. Because of the tremendous response from my last ad, I had to stop accepting new items and catch up. I can turn your old Masonic collectibles into cash. eBay power seller since 1997, 99.8% satisfaction rating. Sellers Assistant. I've helped many Brothers and many widows improve their cash flow. I specialize in law enforcement, military, and Masonic items, including DeMolay. Don't throw it away! Contact Lawrence, and he'll turn it into \$\$ on eBay! Lawrence Baird, PM.; PO Box 1459; Moreno Valley, CA 92557

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 favorites such as: belt buckles, commemorative 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, much more! Great for anniversaries, installations, fund-raisers, and promotions. For quote info, call or write Frank Looser, 809 Cobble Cove, Nashville, TN 37211, (800) 765-1728 or e-mail flilj@comcast.net; web site www.cnfn1reactive.com 100% satisfaction guaranteed or your money back, % to KTEF.

For a free listing of VHS videos, DVDs, and radio program CDs related to Sir Knight Tom Mix and the Tern Mix of radio, please send a postcard or note with your name and complete mailing address to Paul E. Mix, 13116 Billiem Drive, Austin, TX 78727

For sale in Cadillac Memorial Gardens East, 38425 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp., Michigan 48038:4 plots, lot No. 22-B, units 1, 2, 3, and 4; 2 garden cryptoriums, current value \$1,800.00. Make offer; would like to sell as a package. James Rooks, 11744 Algonquin Drive, Pinckney, MI 48169; home: (734)426-2735, cell: (313)530-6367; fax: (734) 426-3622

Providence has showered on this favored land blessings without number, and has chosen you as the guardians of Freedom, to preserve it for the benefit of the human race. May He enable you to guard and defend to the end of time the great charge He has committed to your keeping.

President and Brother Andrew Jackson