

# Knight Templar

VOLUME LII APRIL 2006 NUMBER 4

Sir Knights and Ladies:

Have a Wonderful Easter—2006

#### Happy Easter—HE LIVES!

Easter 2006 will be the last for this triennium. We have had two great services and are looking forward to another. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate this year. We hope to greet you in Washington, D.C., on the weekend of the 16th.

This is a great time for us to share in celebration of Jesus' this annual Resurrection.

The Grand Commanders and their wives who come to Washington will be our guests at the luncheon on Saturday. (Be sure to make your reservations with the Grand Encampment, prior to the luncheon.)



We always look forward to the breakfast on Sunday after the service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Also, the Grand Commandery of Indiana will again lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and we will observe that very moving ceremony on Saturday morning at 9:15 A.M.

I want to thank all of the volunteers in the D.C. area who work so hard to make this observance happen. There are too many to list here, but we do appreciate your efforts. We also appreciate the officers and staff of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial for allowing us to meet there. It is a truly inspiring location.

If you cannot come to Washington, please hold an appropriate Easter Service in your Commandery or go to church as a group to let everyone know that we believe that HE LIVES and is the Great Captain of Our Salvation.

I hope that you are enjoying a magnificent spring!



Kenneth B. Fischer

Kenneth Bruik

Grand Master, GCT

## Knight Templar

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

APRIL: Easter greetings to everyone! We welcome Easter with words from Grand Master Kenneth B. Fischer on page 2 and with our Easter Message on page 6 from the Grand Prelate Thomas G. Keithly, as it will be presented at the 76th Annual Easter Sunrise Memorial Service in Alexandria, Virginia, on April 16, 2006. In commemoration of this great Christian celebration, we also include two more writings on page 8, the second one a poem from a Holy Land Pilgrimage minister. Don't miss any of it, and don't miss Generalissimo William H. Koon's inspirational message about the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and the 38th Annual Campaign on page 9. On page 5 is a tentative schedule for the 63rd Triennial Conclave to be held in Houston, Texas, on August 11–16. Of course, there are news items galore, and we end with the conclusion of the story about Brother Albert Fountain, continued from last month, and of great interest to many, a story about a young Mason and country music star, Brad Paisley.

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#### APRIL 2006 VOLUME LII NUMBER 4

Published monthly as an official publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

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Mail magazine materials and correspondence to Editor, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, P.O. Box 478448, Chicago IL 60647-8448. Material for the Grand Commanderies'

two-page supplements is to be directed to the respective Supplement editors. Address corrections from members are

to be sent to the local Recorders.

# Editor's Journal



When you order any of the items below, make check or money order payable to: the Grand Encampment, and send to: Grand Encampment of Knights Templar; 5909 West Loop South, Suite 495, Bellaire, TX 77401–2402.

- 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 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 (ie. 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 Encampment Knights Grand Templar of the United States of America by Francis J. Scully, M.D., and History of Encampment Knights the Grand 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.
- Complimentary for Widows: Widows of Knights Templar are eligible to continue receiving our magazine as long as they desire. To retain or reinstate the mailing, simply instruct your local Recorder or the Grand Encampment of your wishes.

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

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#### 63rd TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE—AUGUST 11-16, 2006 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS—TENTATIVE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE) HYATT REGENCY HOUSTON—HOUSTON, TEXAS (All activities are at the hotel unless otherwise noted.)

TIME	EVENT	PLACE
	FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2006	3
	Committee Meetings	See Hotel
5:00 P.M.	Field Drill Committee	
	and Captains	See Hotel
8	SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 20	06
	Committee Meetings	See Hotel
6:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.	Field Drill Competition	George R. Brown
		Convention Center
		and Hyatt Ballroom
7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M.	Field Drill Awards	
	Barbecue and Dance	Location to be
		determined
	SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 200	6
9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.	Parade and Devine Service	Hyatt Ballroom
	Committee Meetings	See Hotel
8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.	Reception	Hyatt Ballroom
	MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 200	6
8:00 a.m. to noon	Opening Ceremonies	Hyatt Ballroom
NOON—remainder		
of the day	Business Session	Hyatt Ballroom
Monday evening	State Dinners	See your state's plans
	TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 200	06
8:00 a.m.—	Business Sessions	Hyatt Ballroom
Afternoon	Election of Officers	Hyatt Ballroom
6:00 р.м.	Social Hour	Prefunction area—
		Hyatt Ballroom
7:00 p.m. Till ?	Grand Master's Banquet	Hyatt Ballroom
W	EDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2	006
9:00 A.M.	Resume Business	
	Installation of Officers	
	for 64th Triennium	Hyatt Ballroom
NOON	Adjourn 63rd Triennial	Hyatt Ballroom
NOON	Eye Foundation	
	Trustees' Meeting	See Hotel
Note: Other traditional	functions will be held, such as	the Southern Breakfast

Note: Other traditional functions will be held, such as the Southern Breakfast, the 45ers' Breakfast, the Texas Breakfast, etc., but those details are not final at this time. Those groups will send out their notices as details are worked out.

#### Easter Message—2006

#### by Sir Knight and Reverend Thomas G. Keithly Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment

Sir Knight Thomas G. Keithly, Right Eminent Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America, presents the message below at the 76th Annual Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, on April 16, 2006.

A general invitation was extended by Most Eminent Grand Master, Kenneth B. Fischer, to the Sir Knights and their families and friends to join the grand officers and their Brother Christian Masons at the traditional Easter Service. For those who are unable to attend the Easter ceremony in Alexandria or who wish to read the message in addition to being there, here we share it with you.

Reverend Keithly resides at 1612 Kiltartan Drive, Dallas, Texas 75228.



"Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us. Therefore, let us keep the Festival, not with the old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

(1 Corinthians 5: 7-8)

The Festival that St. Paul is referring to is, of course, the Christian keeping of Passover, or Easter. The Jewish Passover celebrates the Chosen People's freeing from the physical bondage of slavery in Egypt. However great that event was to the Jews, St. Paul saw it as but a foreshadowing of freedom from the bondage of sin. Year after year the priests offered sacrifices for the sins of the people in the earthly temple. And year after year faithful people, moral people, being sensitive to their own sinfulness, brought their offerings to the temple to atone for their sins.

In the Gospel according to St. John, Our Lord was crucified on the "Day of Preparation" (i.e. The Eve of Passover – John 19: 31), and we do not miss the significance that John the Evangelist is making that Christ died on the cross at the exact time that the Passover lambs were being slaughtered in the forecourt of the Temple. Only three years before, when Jesus appeared at the Jordan River, where his cousin was baptizing, John the Baptist proclaimed "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1: 29). Already, at the beginning of His earthly ministry, Jesus is identified with the Passover Sacrifice! But the difference is that God is making the offering, and the gift is His only begotten Son. Jesus, in sharing our humanity, assumed the guilt of all our sins, though he

alone was without sin. "The price was paid in precious blood, as it were of a lamb without mark or blemish" (Peter 1: 19).

Of course, all this would be a "downer" if the story ended on Good Friday. But then Easter would not be the greatest of all Festivals, if it were not for what went before. There is a Latin phrase, quia victima victor—"he who is the victim is the victor." We must remember that the road that leads to the Empty Tomb goes by the way of Calvary! Christ Jesus could not be raised from the dead without first suffering the "cruel and ignominious death of the cross."

Not only was our Lord the embodiment of the "perfect sacrificial lamb," as none of the Old Testament sacrifices could be adequate, he also was the embodiment of the perfect High Priest, as none of the Old Testament Priests could offer the perfect sacrifice. "Therefore, since we have a great High Priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us firmly hold to the Faith we profess" (Hebrews 4: 14). The author of the "Letter to the Hebrews" likens Jesus to Melchizedek, the mysterious Priest-King of ancient Salem: "Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life..." (Hebrews 7: 3). And he quotes from Psalm 110: 4, and applies to our Lord the phrase, "Thou art a Priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

So there we have it; the Christian keeping of Passover! The sacrificial victim is also the Great High Priest making the offering. And he has become the victor. The Perfect Priest, offering the Perfect Sacrifice, has fulfilled all the hopes and expectations of the People of Israel. "Therefore let us keep the Feast."

The day of Resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky, Our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin, The round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein; Let all things seen and unseen their notes together blend, For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.

> from John of Damascus, 8th century translated by John Mason Neale

#### SPRINGTIME

#### by Pastor Emeritus and Sir Knight Donald C. Kerr

Alexander Pope said it a long time ago: "Hope springs eternal" within the human heart, and it is forever true. Where would we be without hope? If there were no hope, there'd be no tomorrow.

So we come to this holy season, which is all about hope. Easter shows us the sign of resurrection, which is the hope for eternity. Passover is the sign of God's faithfulness, bringing a bondaged people into the hope of a Promised Land.

Many years ago, Dr. Endicott Peabody was headmaster of the Groton School. He would remind his students of the strains and stresses which they need to endure. "But," he said, "remember the trend is always upward."

A young student, listening to those words, would later become the President of the United States. When that fateful attack on Pearl Harbor became "the day of infamy," President Roosevelt reminded the nation: "Remember, the trend is always upward."

That is the message for this special season, which speaks of new horizons and rebirth—springtime! So often we get caught in the web of opposites, such as: jealousy versus love, resentment versus good will, injustice versus forgiveness. When we feel uneasy with these tensions, look for that renewal of hope which comes with the opening of new vistas.

Arise, then; salute the happy morn and say "Alleluia! God is with us"—and so it is springtime!

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

#### VERONICA

#### by Doug Ridley

As Jesus struggled
up the rough, stone street—
the "Via Dolorosa"
of the church,
he staggered
'neath the cross he bore.
His feet,
awash with his own blood,
had slipped.
A lurch—
he fell,
his strength was drained,
his balance gone.

They made another
take his load,
and he dragged
slowly
up the hill.
A female pawn
rushed out
and wiped his face,
so he could see.

That pawn,
a woman from the crowd,
we've named Veronica,
and made a saint of her.
She's "vera"—true,
and "icon"—image,
too:
the true image of God
in us,
inflamed,
inspirited,
by Christ himself,
to blur our sinfulness,
and make us
love that's true.

Doug Ridley was a participant in the Holy Land Pilgrimage. He wrote poetry while on the trip, which we had just received near magazine deadline. We will run more poems in the future and hope then to know more about the poet to pass on to our readers.



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#### The 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign— Golden Anniversary of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

A Message from Sir Knight William H. Koon II, GCT Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, Past Department Commander, East Central, and Trustee of the Board of the KTEF

My first remembrances of Templary were in 1965 when I attended an Ice Cream Social, sponsored by Shawnee Commandery No. 14 and held to raise money for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The night before the "Big Event," all the members of Shawnee Commandery Drill Team assembled at our home and began "hand cranking" ice cream mixers to make homemade ice cream for the Saturday event. I'll never forget that they let me, a scrawny 16-year-old kid, crank the 6-quart mixer. That was "Big Stuff"! It was hard work, but everyone had a great time doing it.



Five years later when my Dad was Commander, we began sponsoring a Pancake Day instead of the Ice Cream Social. It was a whole lot less work and a lot more profitable. Again, we had fun doing it! Though I've worked at all but three, over the years, Pancake Day has always been something I've looked forward to with anticipation. Working with your fellow Templars, giving sight to the blind, it really doesn't get any better than that.

Early in March, we held our 36th Pancake Day. Our Commandery is approaching 700% Life Sponsor participation, and though the faces have changed over the years, it's never ceased to be fun. My travels for Grand Encampment have taken me twice to Wyoming, where the Black Horse Troop of Dubois holds a Pancake Day at their Grand Commandery Conclave to benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. I've worked in the kitchen both times, and I needed to just close my eyes, and the laughter and good times were the same as if I'd been at our own Pancake Day here in Ohio.

When you trim away all the words and hype, it boils down to one thing. Working for a good cause with your friends is one of the most  $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$ 

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rewarding things a man can do. I once saw a sign defining success in one of those restaurants that have a plethora of old things hanging from the walls. The last item on the list was: "To know that even one life has breathed a little easier because you have lived." When we work for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, whether through our donations or through working together in fund-raising events, we are giving the gift of sight. Close your eyes for a moment, and think about how valuable YOUR sight is to YOU! I can assure you the one person whose sight is restored through your help will breathe a lot easier, and you will have been a success.

Sir Knight William H. Koon II, GCT and R.E. Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, is a Past Department Commander of the East Central Department, a trustee of the Board of the KTEF, and a P.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Ohio,

1996. He has served as a drill captain and competed in at least 7 Triennial Drill competitions and also served as co-chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on Drill Regulations. He resides at 7200 Slabtown Road, Columbus Grove, OH 45830.

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in honor of the following:
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#### Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending March 10, 2006. The total amount contributed to date is \$508,248.04.

Alabama	\$5,633.00
Alaska	
Arizona	3,482.00
Arkansas	4,714.61
California	38,313.54
Colorado	
Connecticut	
Delaware	
District of Columbia	3,389.00
Florida	16,862.00
Georgia	33,485.00
Idaho	
Illinois	18,862.14
Indiana	15,817.68
Iowa	
Kansas	
Kentucky	10,684.50
Louisiana	
Maine	2,708.74
Maryland	6,025.52
Mass./R.I	27,040.00
Michigan	7,184.00
Minnesota	
Mississippi	4,251.33

Missouri	6,608.65
Montana	1,504.27
Nebraska	1,517.00
Nevada	3,547.00
New Hampshire	2,685.25
New Jersey	
New Mexico	4,349.66
New York	8,325.10
North Carolina	
North Dakota	
Ohio	
Oklahoma	
Oregon	
Pennsylvania	
South Carolina	
South Dakota	
Tennessee	
Texas	
Utah	
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Tokyo No. 1, Japan	
Heidelberg No. 2, Germany	
Miscellaneous	

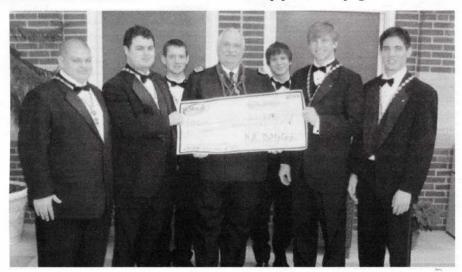
## On the Masonic Newsfront

#### Pennsylvania Grand Commander Honored in Grand Fashion

Pennsylvania DeMolay members, advisors, and candidates gathered at the Masonic Conference Center-Patton Campus in Elizabethtown on the weekend of December 3, 2005, to honor one of their own. "Dad" Kenneth J. Faub, Senior DeMolay of North Boroughs Chapter, is currently serving as the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, and he was honored guest for the weekend. "Dad" Faub spent the whole weekend with Pennsylvania DeMolay, enjoying the quality degree work along with fun and fellowship with those who attended.

In addition to welcoming 18 new members with top-notch degree conferrals, the weekend included a "Winter Wonderland" themed dance and plenty of "Brotherhood Evolved" themed video gaming competition. "Brotherhood Evolved" is the name of the current membership recruitment program for Pennsylvania DeMolay, and it rewards Chapters and first-line signers with a variety of exciting prizes and awards, including the top prize of an X-Box 360 Gaming System.

During the weekend, the DeMolay presented "Dad" Faub with a check in support of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (pictured below), representing a contribution to the Templar official charity made in his honor.





Above in the group picture are all the new members of Pennsylvania DeMolay along with "Dad" Kenneth Faub in center and Executive Officer Thomas Labagh (left) and State Master Councilor Fizz (right).

#### Past Grand Commanders and Sir Knights of Maine Form Line for Assembly Installation, Order of Rainbow for Girls

At a recent installation of Pleasant River Assembly No. 45, Order of Rainbow for Girls, of Buxton, Maine, Miss Sarah Thompson was installed as Worthy Advisor. A total of ten Sir Knights, including three Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery of Maine, formed the lines, and Sir Knight L. Richard Duross, Past Grand Commander of Maine and grandfather of Sarah, escorted her through the line, pictured below. A portion of the collection was donated to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.



#### Installation of Officers at Westminster Assembly No. 245, Maryland

At the Installation of Westminster Assembly No. 245, Social Order of the Beauceant in Westminster, Maryland, Supreme officers of the S.O.O.B. and a Past Grand

Commander and present Commander took part. Below are pictures from the occasion.



Left to right above: Sir Knight Joseph F. Chalker, Past Grand Commander of Maryland and present Commander of Carroll Commandery No. 17; Mrs. Nancy C. Rogers, Director of Music, daughter of Sir Knight Joseph Chalker; Mrs. Eric L. Woolman, Oracle, sister-in-law of Mrs. Rogers; and



Joseph F. Chalker, Mrs. Supreme Recorder and wife of Sir Knight Joseph Chalker, At left, left to right, are the Supreme officers attending: Mrs. E. Ed Brown, Supreme Inner Guard, Indianapolis No. 90/Columbus No. 226, IN; Mrs. David E. Alcon, Supreme First Vice President, Westminster No. 245/Elizabethtown No. 265, PA; Mrs. Howard L. McClure, Past Supreme Worthy President, Steubenville No. 57; Mrs. Joseph F. Chalker, S.

Recorder, Westminster No. 245. At right, left to right, are Westminster officers installed: row 1: Mrs. Nancy E. Hann, Preceptress; Mrs. Howard E. Roe, 1st Vice President; Mrs. David E. Alcon, President; Mrs. J. Michael Robbins, 2nd Vice President; row 2: Mrs. Carl J. Wisner, Treasurer; Mrs. Eric L. Woolman, Oracle; Mrs. Cynthia Long, Color Bearer; Mrs. Kathryn B. Graf, Outer Guard; Miss Anna Craig, Assistant Marshal: Mrs. Joseph Chalker, Recorder; row 3: Mrs. William J. Baldwin, Marshal;

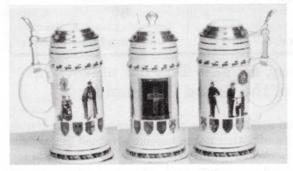


Mrs. Reginald E. Grose, Standard Bearer; row 4: Mrs. Albert D. Grimes, Mistress of the Wardrobe; Mrs. Nancy C. Rogers, Director of Music; Mrs. Clinton D. Dodson, Chaplain.

#### PAST COMMANDER'S STEIN TO BENEFIT THE KTEF

The stein is made of white ceramic from Brazil, is 8 and 1/2 inches tall, and has a pewter lid. It is hand-decorated with 22 karat gold and six blended colors. On one side

of the stain are two crusaders from the early 1100s, and on the other side is a Commander-elect being installed into office. On the top of the lid is a green board the Eminent Commander would wear until he finished his obligation as Commander, and in front is a red board he is given as a symbol of honor for completing his obligation. The 9 beautiful shields are for the 9 crusaders who founded the Knights Templar, and



there are crosses and crowns around the stein and a color band around the bottom. There are two pictures of scenes from the early crusaders. The price is \$65.00 each, and from each sale \$10.00 will go to the KTEF. If you are ordering out of the US, please add \$20.00 additional shipping cost. Send check or MO to: Stanley C. Buz, P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052.

#### TENNESSEE COMMANDERY SELLS LAPEL PINS TO BENEFIT THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION













In 2005 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 the 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 (above) 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.

#### IN MEMORIAM



Alan John Pollard New Hampshire Grand Commander—1987

Grand Recorder—to 2006 Born: May 14, 1937

Died: January 17, 2006

#### NEVADA SUPPLEMENT

Edward E. Davis, Editor 300 Galena Pines Rd., Reno, NV 89521



Lewis A. Rist Grand Commander

#### Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Nevada Department of the Grand Commander

An amazing story was once told about a young boy on a farm who was sternly advised by his very religious grandmother not to become attached to any "sinful amusement on the Sabbath." When Sunday came, the boy felt sort of lost and lonely. Strolling along the field by the barn fence on a joyful, bright, spring, Sunday afternoon; the boy saw a mule amble over the field towards the fence rail. The boy waited, and in a few minutes, the mule was beside him, nuzzling its head into the boy's body. Running his hands along the mule's neck, the boy stroked the sad and weary face of his forlorn friend. "I guess, poor fellow," the boy said in sympathetic love, "you must be a Christian, too."

All of us need to be awakened to the beauty of life and time. That is what Easter does for us. It wakes us up out of our doleful selves. It is wonderful to see the hand of God change the seasons, as the shadows of winter fade and the birth of spring appears before our eyes. The birds begin to sing, and the flowers begin to bloom; there is harmony throughout God's kingdom. What a glorious and wonderful month to be alive. The fresh, eager glow of reborn radiance in the Easter gift washes away the long, sad faces of unhappy despair. The rebirth of life, the hopes of tomorrow, the horizon that carries yesterday's worries into an opening vista of new beginnings—all of that belongs to the song of Easter.

To be a part of the whole cosmic cycle is to feel a humble, yet a vital, part of God's grand design. Important to that grand design is the miracle of Easter, which lifts our spirits beyond the realm of today and into the circle of eternal tomorrow. In our Masonic creed, we are cast down only to be "raised" to a higher level of light and truth. We are in darkness only to be led into the chamber of the exalted world. So we sing with exaltation, "Alleluia, Christ is Risen."

L. A. "Tony" Rist Grand Commander

#### REPORT NO. 10—JUNIOR WARDEN MEMBERSHIP REPORT—MARCH 2006

In February I attended the Grand Masters of North America Conference and want to share comments for your consideration.

"Membership is not a problem. Participation is the problem." The symptoms of problems revolve around Masonic Awareness and Masonic Identity.

A look at proceedings of Grand Lodges from 1960-2003 shows a drop of over 50%, mostly due to Demits and NPD.

We, as Masons, are responsible for insuring Masonic information to all bodies is factual and easily accessible. I will be touching on this later. For now, I stress the purpose of this column: to share positive activities throughout Nevada and, when necessary, to share ideas to stimulate membership growth for all York Rite Masonry. Based on the above, Clark County bodies are making major strides; utilizing identity, awareness, and participation as follows:

Melita Commandery No. 9 had the privilege of performing a great service to four (4) Lodges in the Henderson/Boulder City area this early winter when they posted the United States Flag for the Installation of the Officers of Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 39, Silver Cord Lodge No. 51, Dhaharan Lodge No. 55, and Boulder City Lodge No. 37. The officers in the picture (left to right) are Sir Knight Richard Zimpfer, Sir Knight Larry



Kesler, Sir Knight Paul Seyler (with flag), and Sir Knight Essam Naim, Commander of Melita Commandery No. 9. This is a great way to share with the public who we are and what we do in a room with words so inspirational.

On March 29 Boulder City Lodge No. 37 hosted the Las Vegas York Rite College program (with Bob Kaltenbach as moderator) titled "A Conclave of Templar Christian Masonry yesterday and today." It was also open to the public; these programs are held every month on a 5th Wednesday and have resulted in four new members the past four months.

On March 9 Keystone Chapter had a novel Table Chapter before their meeting and also hosted G.H.P. Mark Marsh, a great way to gain support for funding of R.A.R.A. (funds supporting central auditory disorders). And there is more: March 13, Boulder Chapter exalted six or seven candidates with one from Zabud Chapter, and in May Joint Commandery Orders will be conferred on candidates. Activities such as the above mean participation, awareness, and identity is high, and hopefully, all State Bodies will share their success stories for all to read; the alternative is more philosophical writing from me.

As one can see, there can be plenty of work, fun, and camaraderie to do, so put your members to work with a sideliner backing up every presenter; better yet, let an NPD know you need him and have something for him to feel he is a part of—something special, just like when he entered York Rite Masonry.

Nevada State Commandery Membership Committee Carl "Bud" Banks



#### SALE OF BLUE LODGE AFGHAN-THROW TO BENEFIT THE KTEF



This Blue Lodge throw is made of 100% cotton and has many advantages over the old triple-weave design because it has 360 picks per square inch, which enhances the color immensely. There are new items in the design, including the 3 steps to Freemasonry. It has a black and white checkered floor leading up to the center column, and the square and compass are larger and enhanced with a cluster of leaves symbolizing Acacia of Freemasonry. The afghan measures 48-in. by 60-in. and is light-weight but weaved very tight for definition.

There are only 1,000 of these made, and each one comes with a beautiful certificate so that you may write your important dates of Freemasonry on it. The price is \$48.00 each, including shipping in the US. A donation of \$5.00 for each one sold will go to the KTEF. Send check or money order to: Sandra Knotts, P.O. Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087–0158.

#### 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 coverages under our plan at very affordable rates.

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

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

#### How Long-Term Care Insurance Can Help Protect Your Financial Independence

Chances are that you or someone you love will need nursing home or inhome care someday. With costs on the rise, this kind of care can diminish a lifetime of savings.

Long-term care insurance helps protect your financial independence and your dignity by giving you the freedom of choice to receive care in your own home, if medically appropriate, or at a facility you select. Plan today, so that you can be better prepared to spend tomorrow on your own terms.

For more information about the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar endorsed Long-Term Care Insurance Program, call toll free of charge: (800) 336-3316.

## Brother Brad Paisley: Contemporary Country Music Star

by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KCT, KYCH, 33°

M odern Masons often look to the past for examples of successful persons in their fields of endeavor. In the field of music, for instance, such individuals as John Philip Sousa and Lauritz Melchior are often cited. In more vernacular forms of the art, one might choose such persons as Tony Martin, Roy Acuff, or Jimmie Rodgers, and Gene Autry might well come to mind, vet there are more recent persons who could be named. A contemporary member of the Craft who is currently making a name for himself is Brother Brad Paisley, a Grand Ole Opry star and Country Music Association award winner His songs are especially effective in striking a chord with what one person called "snapshots of everyday life, and life lived with a smile."

Brad Paisley was born in Glen Dale. West Virginia, on October 28, 1972. Glen Dale is a town along the Ohio River, a few miles south of Wheeling, long famed as the home of radio station WWVA and Jamboree, U.S.A., a properhaps second only Nashville's Grand Ole Oprev as a live country music show. At four his grandfather asked him what his favorite type of music was, but the youngster was not sure what he meant, so when grandpa told him he preferred country, the boy said he liked country best, too. When Brad was eight, his grandfather gave him a guitar, and from this modest beginning a career would be born. The youth formed a band and began to play for such local events as became available in churches and Rotary clubs. This led to an invitation to play on Jamboree, U. S. A., where he soon became a regular. By the nineties, the Jamboree had become a virtual venue where the regular performers were subordinate to the Nashville-based guest stars who dominated the stage at the Capitol Theater. Nonetheless, the show provided young Paisley with the opportunity to mingle and rub elbows with the stars, including such figures as Brother Roy Clark and Brother Jimmy Dickens. He also listened frequently to the Grand Ole Opry.

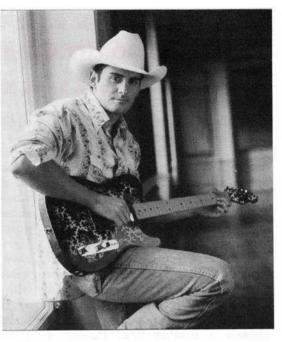
A Nashville trip to attend a wedding also led to a visit to Belmont University, a school becoming increasingly known for its major in Music Business. Paisley decided to transfer to Belmont and complete a degree there. He also worked at writing songs and recording demos, the latter having provided an entry into the big time for fellow West Virginian, Kathy Mattea, a few years earlier. Soon he had a song writing contract with EMI Music Publishing and a recording contract with Arista Records. His first album release in 1999 bore the title. "Who Needs Pictures." Having done his Belmont internship Nashville ASCAP office, it followed that Brad became an ASCAP writer.

Meanwhile, Brad Paisley also began his Masonic life. His father had been an active Mason in the Northern Panhandle region of West Virginia, including membership in the Scottish Rite Valley of Wheeling and Osiris Shrine Temple. Fellow Mountain State native Little Jimmy Dickens had recently been Raised in Hiram Lodge No. 7 in Franklin, Tennessee. Brad also petitioned this lodge and received his degrees on June 2, September 1, and October 27, 1998. Somewhat later Brad also became a member of Osiris Shrine in Wheeling.

Paisley's first song, the title cut from "Who Needs Pictures," had entered the Billboard country chart listings on February 6, 1999 and peaked at number twelve a few weeks later. "He Didn't Have to Be" went all the way to the top on December 11, 1999. Brad did his first guest appearance on the Grand Ole

Opry in May. That first compact disc ultimately provided the emerging star with four chart entries with the others being "Me Neither" and "We Danced." The latter provided Brad with his second number one hit in December 2000. Meanwhile, the rising performer took the Academy of Country Music's New Male Artist Award in May 2000 and the Country Music Association's Horizon Award that October. That same month he also scored a minor hit in a duet with country songstress, Chely Wright. "Hard to Be a Husband, Hard to Be a Wife." In December when he made another guest appearance on the Opry, he was asked to join the cast as a regular member. He accepted.

With the release of Brother Paisley's second album and his February 17, 2001 induction as a Grand Ole Opry cast member, his string of hits continued. Five songs from Part II registered on the



Billboard listings with four of them being in the top ten. "Wrapped Around" peaked at number two but remained on the charts for thirty-one weeks. "I'm Gonna Miss Her (The Fishin' Song)" did best being number one for two weeks in July 2002. An unusual facet of Brad's hit songs is that he either composed or coauthored most of them. Another is that he doesn't totally rely on band members but is an excellent lead guitarist in his own right.

A third album *Mud on the Tires*, released in 2003 yielded four hits, all of them in the top five. Only the title song made number one, but two others rate special mention. "Celebrity" pokes gentle fun at famous people who get into personal difficulties and who then blame it all on their fame and status. One of the few Paisley hits in which he had no hand in the composing was Bill Anderson's and Jon Randall's "Whiskey Lullaby," which

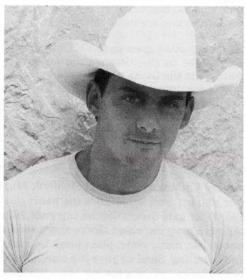
he did as a duet with female songstress, Allison Krauss. This lyric about two broken-hearted lovers who commit suicide won Country Music Association Awards and remained at the third position for three weeks out of the twenty-four spent on the Billboard listings.

Arista Records released a fourth album in mid-2005 entitled *Time Well Wasted*. The first hit from it, "Alcohol," entered in May, peaked at the fourth spot, and remained on the charts through September. A notable characteristic of Paisley's album releases is that each contains a tastefully delivered sacred song standard. His earlier albums included "In the Garden," "The Old Rugged Cross," and "Farther Along." His current release contains "The Unclouded Day."

Matrimony entered Brother Paisley's life on March 15, 2003, when he was married to Hollywood film actress, Kimberly Williams. The young bride had been in a number of notable pictures of which the remake of Father of the Bride may be the best known. Kimberly played the bride, a part that a young Elizabeth Taylor had played in the 1950 original. Steve Martin and Diane Keaton reprise the roles early played by Spencer Tracy and Myrna Loy.

Although Brother Brad Paisley is a relative newcomer compared to other country music figures previously featured on these pages, his future appears bright. When he became a regular *Opry* member, a letter read from the legendary George Jones stated that he was "counting on [Brad] to carry on the tradition and make folks sit up and listen to what good country music should sound like." Following in the footsteps of such noted Masons

and musicians at the Grand Ole Opry as Roy Acuff, Charlie Walker, Charlie Louvin, and his own particular mentor, Little Jimmy Dickens, Paisley replied "I will try my best...one song, one performance at a time." It appears he is doing just that.

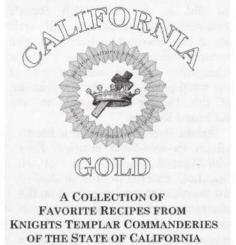


Bibliography: Since Brother Paisley is fairly young, a great deal of published information is not readily available; however, there is a brief sketch in the 2001 edition of the *Grand Ole Opry Picture History Book* (Gaylord Entertainment, 2001), p. 90–91. Data on his recordings is in Joel Whitburn, *Top Country Songs*, 1944–2005 (Record Research Inc., 2005), p. 283. Also worth checking is his website: www.brad paisley.com. For his Masonic records I am indebted to the staff of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee and the Secretary of Osiris Shrine Temple in Wheeling, West Virginia.

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KCT, KYCH, 33°, and 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 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 looseleaf 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.



ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT KNIGHTN TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

#### 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 \$150.00. (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 so you will have your uniform for the Triennial in Houston, Texas.

#### 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 (nonfading). 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: P.O. 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.

#### Albert J. Fountain: Buckboard to Eternity—Part II

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

n 1887 Albert and Mariana Fountain celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with the birth of Henry, their ninth and last child. As the baby of the family, Henry became the particular favorite of his famous father and the darling of his older siblings. All of the Fountain children were raised in the Catholic faith. The Colonel was an Episcopalian.

Fountain was finally persuaded to run for political office in 1887. Although a resolute Republican supporter, he had avoided office for years, remembering the devastating experiences in Texas politics. Nevertheless, he agreed to run for the Territorial Legislature. His Democratic opponent was a newcomer to the territory, Albert Bacon Fall. The two Alberts would become mortal enemies in the political race and during the years that followed.

Albert Fall was a newcomer to the Territory of New Mexico, arriving in the Kingston area early in 1887, where he staked a mining claim with his wife's brother, Joe Morgan. Fall was a native of Frankfort, Kentucky, born in 1861 on the family farm. After attending several private schools, where his father was a teacher, Fall took a teaching job himself at age 18. He was an avid reader, particularly interested in law. He supplemented his income by working as a bookkeeper, in addition to teaching school.

In 1880 Fall signed on as a cattle drover with a herd bound for Dodge City, Kansas. He was an excellent horseman, but he was developing early signs of tuberculosis. He soon gave up his drover duties and hired out as a cow camp cook. Living in Clarksville, Texas, in 1883, he worked as a bookkeeper. It was there he met and married Emma Morgan, before

deciding to try his hand at mining in Mexico. Working as a mine laborer, he soon mastered the Spanish language, a definite asset in future activities.

Failing to prosper in old Mexico, Fall moved on to Kingston, New Mexico Territory in 1883 with his brother-in-law. There he staked out several claims and acquired a new friend in Edward L. Doheny, a man who would have a great influence on Fall's life in future years. Failing to prosper to his own satisfaction in mining, Fall moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico, in 1887. He had decided to try something new.

Fall moved his ailing wife Emma to Las Cruces. She had awaited him in Clarksville, Texas, until he was permanently settled. Fall initially attempted to sell real estate in Las Cruces. Soon he found a position in the law office of N. M. Lowry. When Lowry died, Fall took over his practice. He was not admitted to the New Mexico bar until 1889.

In 1887 Fall decided to run for a seat in the territorial legislature on the Democratic ticket. He promoted the launching of a political newspaper to promote the interests of the Democrat Party, an enterprise he named the Independent Democrat. Although a new arrival in the territory. Fall worked diligently to defeat Albert Fountain as the legislative representative for Dona Ana County. Although Fall lost by a 2-1 margin, the Democratic Party dominated the territorial election. Grover Cleveland had been elected President in 1884, and all Federal appointees were Democrats. Even though a Republican, Fountain's popularity won the election for him. His reputation as a great lawyer, soldier, and Indian fighter, and his personal popularity were the deciding factors. Fall did not give up. There were other elections.

Fall was a determined and talented opponent for Fountain in Las Cruces. He was also completely ruthless and willing to do anything to spread his political influence throughout the territory. The

Independent Democrat became one of his most potent weapons to discredit Fountain and win voters. The Independent Democrat ran numerous accounts of Fountain's attempts to disenfranchise the Mexican population and scuttle the territorial constitution being prepared for a popular vote scheduled on October 7, 1890. It was essential before statehood could be granted to the New Mexico Territory. The issue lost with only two counties voting for adoption.

In the elections of November 4, 1890, Fall and Fountain were again candidates for the legislature. This time, Fall was elected by 45 votes. He had successfully lured the Mexican vote away from Fountain. Free whiskey was one of his most potent tools at the polling places, according to reports. The most ardent Democratic supporters were primarily small ranchers from the mountain country north and east of Las Cruces. Many of them were former Texans.

In April 1893 Fall was appointed Federal District Judge for Dona Ana County. A mountain of objections and complaints about Fall's character failed to sidetrack the appointment. One of Fall's first acts was to secure the appointment of three former Texans as Deputy U.S. Marshals. They were Oliver Lee, James Gilliland, and William McNew. All were from the mountainous Tularosa area, north of Las Cruces, and hardcase gunmen. Fall had added muscle to his organization. Fountain had been reappointed a Federal U.S. Attorney, in spite of Fall.

Fountain's legal load remained heavy in both Dona Ana and Lincoln counties, following the elections of 1890, and he prospered substantially. The price of beef escalated in the East during the 1890s and so did the rustling in southern New Mexico. Fountain prosecuted many apprehended rustlers as a U.S. Attorney. In spite of Fall's judicial duties, he continued to work ceaselessly to neutralize all Republican influence in

the area. His cohorts; Lee, Gilliland, and McNew; intimidated, threatened, and strong-armed voters at the polling places and on the streets of Las Cruces. Sheriff Guadalupe Ascarate of Dona Ana County was a crony of Fall's, and he turned a blind eye to the activities of Lee and his bullies. In fact, they were deputies of the Dona Ana sheriff, in addition to their U. S. Marshal duties.

Fountain took on a new job, in addition to his government duties, in 1894. He became chief prosecutor and investigator for the newly-formed Southeastern New Mexico Stock Growers' Association. Oliver Lee was deeply involved in the rustling activity which prompted the formation of the stockmens' association. Fountain had already prosecuted Lee for murder, but Lee was spared a guilty sentence because of Fall's intervention. Judge A. B. Nevertheless. Fountain continued to hound Lee and the suspected rustlers relentlessly. In the first six months of 1884, over 2,000 head of cattle were rustled from Association ranchers.

Events were closing in on Albert Fall. Repeated charges of malfeasance on the bench and election tampering had reached Washington, D.C. It seemed inevitable that President Cleveland would have to remove Fall from the bench. Rather than be dismissed, Fall resigned his judgeship on January 7, 1895. He continued his usual opposition to all things Republican and was extremely active, as defense counsel for many of his constituents. Nothing had changed much in Las Cruces.

Naturally, Fountain was a prime target for an assassination attempt. He was a major impediment for the illegal activities. By the end of 1895, Fountain had sent 15 rustlers to prison, in spite of Fall's legal opposition. He had tied Oliver, McNew, and Gilliland to rustling activity, also. Fountain was sure he had enough proof to bring down all of Fall's associates involved with cattle rustling

and deal a severe blow to his stranglehold on Dona Ana County. Indictments were to be handed down in Lincoln County in January 1896.

Fountain departed for the town of Lincoln early in January as scheduled. He took his youngest son Henry as a passenger in his buckboard. It was a great adventure for the nine-year-old youngster. The grand jury in Lincoln consumed nearly a month before concluding their deliberations. When the session ended on January 30, 1896. Albert Fountain was eager to depart for Las Cruces with 32 indictments in his briefcase. Among them were indictments naming Oliver Lee and Jim Gilliland. Bill McNew had already been indicted for rustling and was awaiting trial. Albert and young Henry departed Lincoln on January 30. Henry was suffering from a cold when they stopped for the night at the village of Mescalero.

On Friday, January 31, the Fountains continued their journey. Albert noted two horsemen trailing them at a distance throughout the day. The travelers spent the night at the village of La Luz. By noon the following day, they were far along the road which ran between Tularosa and Las Cruces. At the halfway point, they met a stage from Las Cruces, just past Luna's Wells. The driver, Saturino Barela, informed Fountain that three riders were waiting down the road and urged them to return with him to Luna's Wells for the night.

Anxious to get Henry home, Fountain declined, continuing his journey toward Las Cruces. He saw the three riders, one of whom was riding a white horse. They stayed on the horizon, as they had done the day before. By 3:00 p.m. Albert and Henry were approaching the cut through Chalk Hill in the White Sands. Albert rode with his rifle ready. Back in Las Cruces the Fountain youngsters waited to begin a welcoming celebration with their father and youngest sibling. The travelers failed to arrive on Saturday, February 1,

as planned. The latest expected arrival estimate was noon, Sunday, February 2. That evening the stage driver Barela stopped at the Fountain home to inquire if Albert and Henry had arrived safely. Mariana fainted at his inquiry. Something had gone dreadfully wrong.

Barela told of meeting and talking to Albert and Henry and about the three riders he had encountered. He added that he had seen wagon tracks turning off the road into the White Sands, along with many horse tracks.

Two posses departed from Las Cruces immediately. They located the wagon tracks at dawn and found empty cartridge cases where the wagon turned off. They also located a place of concealment near the road, where someone had lain in wait. Nearby, they found signs where horses had been concealed. There were blood stains where the wagon veered off the road and other signs of an ambush. They trailed the wagon and horse tracks into the White Sands and found the abandoned buckboard 12 miles east of the road.

The buckboard had been looted, and Fountain's personal effects and his papers were scattered about. There were signs where two bloody bodies were wrapped in blankets and tied to the backs of the buckboard horses. The combined posses continued to follow the trail of the ambushers' horses until they were near Oliver Lee's Dog Canyon Ranch. A herd of cattle had been driven across the trail. obliterating the horse tracks. West of the main road they found one of the buckboard horses with dried blood on its back and sore from carrying a heavy burden. In addition, they identified the tracks of Oliver Lee's horse leading to Wildy Wells, another of his small ranches. The tracks began at the ambush site. At a dead end, they gathered up all the evidence carefully and returned to Las Cruces.

The entire Territory of New Mexico was in an uproar over the news of Albert Fountain's disappearance and the evidence of foul play. Further efforts to locate the bodies in the White Sands yielded no additional evidence. The Masonic lodges of New Mexico offered a \$10,000 reward for arrest and conviction of the killers. Dona Ana County added another \$500, and Governor Thornton added a territorial reward of \$5,000, with a full pardon to any involved party, other than the principals, who would turn state's evidence. Additional rewards, including that of the Stockmens' Association, swelled the total to \$20,000.

Albert Fall quickly volunteered an alibi for the time of the murders. His cohorts, including Oliver Lee, floated rumors that Fountain had absconded with another woman. None of Lee's gang would assist in the wide-reaching investigation. Fall screamed that the disappearance was a political plot to implicate the Democratic Party. His Independent Democrat circulated many false stories in the major eastern cities, implicating Fountain in a foul plot to deceive his family and friends, adding that he was actually on his way to join Cuban revolutionaries. Everything possible was done to impede the investigation.

Sheriff Ascarate of Dona Ana County did nothing. The investigation became moribund.

In March 1896, Governor Thornton summoned Pat Garrett, the legendary sheriff who killed Billy the Kid in 1881. Garrett was living on his small ranch in Uvalde, Texas. He was hired as a private detective to solve the disappearance of Albert and Henry Fountain. The governor also hired the Pinkerton Detective Agency to work with Garrett. Over the next few months, the Pinkerton agent collected evidence which pointed to Oliver Lee, Gilliland, and McNew. It confirmed only what was already known. Garrett, a taciturn individual, had few comments on his own progress.

The Pinkerton detective finished his investigation in early May 1896 and withdrew. Garrett announced his intention to run for sheriff of Dona Ana

County in the fall elections. He was elected by a comfortable margin and continued his investigation, cloaked with the authority of the sheriff's office. A new governor, Miguel Otero, was elected governor in 1897, and the investigation dragged on without a significant break, while Albert Fall impeded proceedings with every legal tool at his command.

The Spanish-American War in 1898 removed Fall from the scene for some months. He organized a volunteer company in the Las Cruces area and went on active duty as its captain. Lee and Gilliland disappeared into the mountains. McNew, free on bail, awaited his trial for rustling.

With Albert Fall returned from military service, Lee and Gilliland surrendered voluntarily on March 13, 1899. Three days later they were indicted for the Fountain murders, with the trial set for the last week in May 1899. Acting as Lee and Gilliland's defense counsel, Fall secured a change of venue to the town of Hillsboro. Representing Bill McNew against a rustling indictment, Fall had his trial transferred to Silver City. Fall then unleashed a strategy which was obviously well planned and blatantly unethical.

A carnival atmosphere prevailed in the small village of Hillsboro in May 1899, a social event hosted by Albert Fall, Oliver Lee, and James Gilliland. The town was inundated with reporters from all over the country: all of them wined, dined, and courted shamelessly by the defendants and counsel. Lee and Gilliland, held without bail, were free to come and go as they pleased. They partied publicly with the news reporters. Along with Albert Fall, they granted countless interviews and traveled as far as El Paso, Texas, without any objection from authorities. The Fountain case was tried in the media well before and during the formal proceedings, which began on May 25, 1899. The press was overwhelming in its opinion that the defendants were innocent. The verdict was in before the case was tried in the courtroom.

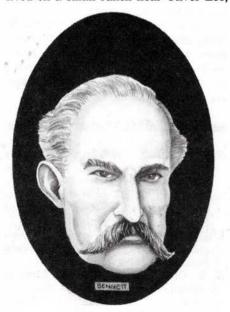
The prosecution, led by Thomas B. Catron, required 18 days to present their case before an overflowing audience. Catron's eloquence could not stem the flood of negative events which handcuffed his presentation. A total of 15 important prosecution witnesses failed to appear. Much of the physical evidence and testimony, which had built a powerful circumstantial case against the defendants, disappeared or was totally discredited by the crafty Albert Fall. The defense rested after a brief summation. Fall repeated his claim that no murder had been proven. thus no guilty verdict could be justified. He demanded that the jury retire immediately and consider their verdict. The jury was out seven minutes before returning to pronounce Oliver Lee and James Gilliland "Not Guilty."

The aftermath of the bazaar trial was as depressing as the crime. Sheriff Pat Garrett was ruined publicly by the results at Hillsboro. He left Dona Ana County but eventually came back and lived on a small ranch near Oliver Lee,

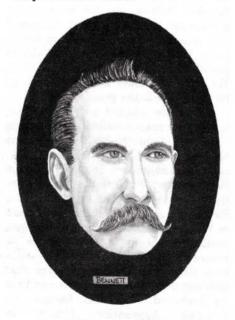
not far from Tularosa. He was assassinated from an ambush in 1908, creating another mystery much like that of Albert J. Fountain and his son Henry. The murder of Garrett has never been solved.

In 1902 Albert Fall, believing statehood was about to be granted to the Territory of New Mexico, turned Republican. When statehood became a reality in 1912, Fall went to Washington, D.C., with Thomas B. Catron, as one of New Mexico's first two senators.

Fall began a career of national politics that was marred by corruption and turmoil and found himself the target in a number of embarrassing situations. A furor arose in 1919 when he was alleged to have entered the bedroom of a desperately ill President Woodrow Wilson to determine for himself if Wilson was mentally competent. Fall became the Secretary of Interior for President Warren G. Harding in 1921. He was the central figure in the most malignant incident of a corrupt administration, the "Teapot Dome Scandal."



Albert B. Fall, 1912 Artwork by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett



Oliver Lee, 1922 Artwork by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett

Harry Sinclair, Albert Fall, and Fall's old friend from the Kingston, New Mexico mining days, Edward L. Dohenv. were indicted for conspiracy relating to illegal transactions involving the Tea Pot Dome government oil reserves in Wyoming. All were found not guilty of the conspiracy charge, but Fall was indicted on June 30, 1924, for accepting a \$100,000 bribe from Doheny. After many delays, the bribery trial began on October 2, 1929. Fall was found guilty and sentenced to a year and a day, plus a fine of \$100,000. The sentence was appealed through the legal system to the Supreme Court, where the original verdict was upheld.

Albert Fall was transported to the New Mexico State Penitentiary in an ambulance on July 20, 1931, to begin his imprisonment. He was in such debilitated condition that he was admitted directly to the prison hospital, where he served his time. The medical examination at the prison yielded the fact that Fall suffered from impaired memory and general mental degeneration, plus an assortment of physical deficiencies. He served nine months and ten days of his sentence and was returned to his home in an ambulance. Fall was never financially able to pay his \$100,000 fine. He died at El Paso, Texas, on December 1, 1944, protesting his innocence to the grave.

Oliver Lee adopted a cloak of public and civic responsibility after being acquitted of murdering the Fountains and eventually ran for public office himself. His neighbors in the Tularosa Basin elected Oliver to the New Mexico State Senate in 1922 and again in 1924. He became a director of the Land Bank in Wichita, Kansas, and one of the most wealthy ranchers in New Mexico on mountainous terrain-one of his neigh-"so damned sorry that bors claimed. they could live there a long time and not be bothered." He also became an Apprentice Entered Mason in Sacramento Lodge No. 24 in Alamagordo, New Mexico, on December 19, 1907. The record is silent about why he never advanced. In retrospect, it appears that Oliver Lee had a personable side to his character, as well as being a topnotch gun hand, and lifelong friend of Albert Bacon Fall.

However, the central character in this account, Albert Jennings Fountain, disappeared on that cold afternoon of February 1, 1896, into history and oblivion. The mystery surrounding his passing and final resting place has intrigued mystery buffs for over a century and has generated unending theories. None of them have been proven.

The descendants of Albert Fountain still live in and around the historic little town of Mesilla, along Interstate I-10. They have preserved his memory and much of his memorabilia in a museum created by Albert Jennings Fountain, Jr. Landmarks of his journey through that little corner of the universe abound in Mesilla for all to world to see and remember one of New Mexico's great citizens of the 19th century.

The name of Fountain is revered by many generations of Masons who never knew him but who recognize the honor he brought to the Fraternity and to his country. So has it ever been with patriots and Freemasons.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS

Archives of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, A.F. & A.M.

Archives of the Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.

Archives of El Paso Lodge No. 10, El Paso, Texas

Archives of the Gadsden Museum, Mesilla, New Mexico

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Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, KYCH, 33°, FPS, and P.D.D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, is a member of Holy Grail Commandery No. 70, Lakewood, Ohio. He resides at: 1001 South Diamond, Nampa, ID 83686.

KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2½ 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.

#### Member of North Carolina Commandery and Wife Celebrate 70th

Sir Knight Robert W. Morphis of Oxford, North Carolina, and Louise Johnson of Youngsville, North Carolina, were married on August 1, 1935, by Rev. W. E. Harrop, a minister of the Presbyterian Church. They went to Carolina Beach. near Wilmington and White Lake, North Carolina, for their honeymoon.



Sir Knight Morphis was a high school football coach until 1941 when he

joined Allied Chemical Corp., now Honeywell. He retired in 1966.

Although Sir Knight Robert and Lady Louise now reside in New Jersey, Sir Knight Morphis is a member of Henderson Commandery No. 15 in Henderson, North Carolina.



### Knight Voices

To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to Editor, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, Post Office Box 478448, Chicago, IL 60647-8448. 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 \$5 & 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.
- The Grand Commandery of Illinois is planning its 150th anniversary to be held in 2007. Part of the program is the issuance of a commemorative pin, available at \$5.00. Send to William H. Brown, V.E.D.G.C., 4100 North LeClaire, Chicago, IL 60641.
- For sale: red, white, and blue "EYE GAVE" pin, a fundraiser for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, sponsored by the Grand Commandery of Minnesota: \$5.00 each including S & H. All proceeds to KTEF. Checks payable to Minnesota Grand Commandery, and send to Allan Kauppi, 10508 Redwood Street, N.W., Coon Rapids, MN 55433.
- I have a sword that was given to me by people who are not of the Masonic community and did not want it. It is inscribed with: "Royce W. Bingeman—The Pettisone Bros. Manufacturing Co, Cinti OH." The sword is in good shape. Perhaps a family member would want it. Everett Taylor, 8161 Kimberlin Drive, So.; Mobile; AL 36695; (251) 633–5186.
- Trying to locate Knight Templar sword with scabbard that belonged to my late grandfather, Sir Knight Joseph H. Gauthier, originally a member of Oklahoma No. 3 (1910–1915) and later a member of Illinois No. 72, which consolidated with Evanston No. 58. Sword may be inscribed with his name or initials and is pre-1921 vintage. His daughter died in 1968 in San Francisco, and it was given by his granddaughter to James Leslie Randolph of Alta Vista Lodge No. 464, which merged with Columbia Lodge No. 461 in San Francisco. I have checked with that lodge and with Randolph's stepson. Mr. Randolph moved to North Little Rock, Arkansas, after 1968 and passed away there in 1978. He also resided in Phoenix and Dallas. Any info send to Joseph H. Gauthier, P.O. Box 12445, Reno, NV 89510–2445.
- 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. x 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.albertpikede molay.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, O: (210) 349-9933, e-mail: jnh.k@hblauv.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: 1st item, \$5.00; each additional item, \$1.00. Percentage to Knights Templar and Masonic charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., P.C.; 3 Oceans West Blvd., Suite 4A4; Daytona Beach; FL 32118; (386) 304-6157.
- For sale by Wheeling Commandery No. 1, Wheeling, West Virginia: KNIGHTS TEMPLAR license plates (aluminum) with Knights Templar logo, \$7.00 each, S& H included, USA. All profit to KTEF. Check or money order to C. H. Wyatt, Jr.; 18 Edglawn Avenue; Wheeling, WV 26003-6035.
- For sale: C.P.O. coats, 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, S.W.; Pataskala; OH 43062.
- For sale: gold-finish sword lapel pins: men's pin: 1 and 1/4 inches long, with red stone in the center of the hilt, \$7.00 each, and ladies' pin: 2 and 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@abercrombieacade my.com. 10% to KTEF. The pins are a special project of the Grand Commandery of Texas 159th Annual Conclave.
- For sale: Lloyd L. Gibson Chapter No. 481, R.A.M., Channelview, Texas, is selling their newly minted, 50-year

commemorative mark/penny for \$10.00 each, postpaid. Penny is made of antique bronze (looks like gold). This is a fund-raiser for our 50th anniversary, and 10% of proceeds will go to KTEF. Checks or MOs to Lloyd L. Gibson Chapter No. 481, R.A.M., and send to Lloyd L. Gibson Chapter No. 481, P.O. Box 972, Channelview, TX 77530.

- For Sale: Middle Georgia Chapter No. 165, R.A.M., the first R.A.M. Chapter to be chartered in Georgia in 25 years, is selling its newly minted shekels for \$10.00 each or 2 for \$15.00, postpaid. Each is mounted in a 2x2 coin folder and comes with a sealed certificate of authenticity. Orders to Chuck Smith, 6559 Cypress Drive; Eastman; GA 31023; e-mail chappy 31023@yahoo.com
- For sale: two beautiful gold Past Master Jewels, one dated 1895 and the other dated 1920—\$300.00 each. Call Harvey Mize, (501) 525–6603.
- For sale: Santa Fe Lodge No. 226, Jackson, Alabama, is selling newly minted coins, celebrating 150 years. Coins are \$10.00 each or two for \$15.00, postpaid. A history of the lodge is included. Checks or MOs to Santa Fe No. 226, P.O. Box 51, Jackson, AL 36545. Call Brother John Gaddis, (251) 246-5246 or e-mail gadd3883@bellsouth.net
- 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
- Cochran Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M., Cochran, Georgia, is continuing its long-term charity project: In addition to the Masonic and Shrine jewelry boxes, we are now offering O.E.S. jewelry boxes: all are approx. 5.5 x5.5 x2.5 inches in size, constructed of exotic woods from Central America, and hand-crafted with an interlocking design. All profits go to Masonic charity with a portion going directly to the Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund. The price for each box is \$20.00, plus \$6.00 S & H. Postage is pro-rated on bulk orders; please contact e-mail below or call (478) 934–7236 for pro-rated S & H rates. Check or MO to Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217 and mail to Harry A. Bruno, Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014; or e-mail-charry 217@bigfoot.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. & A.M.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014.
- 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 24 karat gold vermeil finished; 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 Baril, 6809 Main Street, Apt. 2 West, Cincinnati, OH 45244-3470, (513) 272-2815, fax (513) 272-2830.
- For sale: The Medal of Honor The Letter G in Valor, a 268-page digest with the names, congressional citations, and Lodge membership of all Masons who have received our nation's highest military award for bravery. Books may be obtained by contacting Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., 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.
- Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 35 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.
- For sale: customized Masonic gifts and promotional items. Represent Masonry with pride with beautifully custom imprinted and reasonably priced fraternal gifts and promotional items, such as: lapel pins, coffee mugs, ink pens, die cast coins, and belt buckles and much, much more! Simply hand sketch your design idea and send it to me. I will create camera-ready art to produce your imprinted items. For a free color brochure loaded with ideas, call or write Frank Looser, P.M., 809 Cobble Cove, Nashville, TN 37211, (800) 765-1728 or e-mail mason@cnfinter active.com., web site www.cnfinteractive.com % to KTEF.
- Wanted: Oklahoma Sir Knight is collecting Lionel trains. Please look in your attic or your storage closet and call or write John Alexander, 7617 E. 66th Street, Tulsa, OK 74133–1802, phone: (918) 252–4981.
- Buying all US and foreign coins, paper money, tokens, medals, silver, proof sets. Also selling gold coins. Call for quotes. Buyer has 40 years experience. A percentage of profits to KTEF. Randy Mogren, 8 Gould Street, Millbury, MA 01527, (508) 865-4816.
- I am a 32°, a Knight Templar, and a former Space Shuttle ScO that worked at Cape Canaveral and the Kennedy Space Center from 1958 to 1992. I collected space memorabilia, US flags (small) that were taken to the moon during Apollo missions and attached to an official NASA certificate, mission patches that I designed for Apollo 10 and 11 first landing on the moon with Neil Armstrong and Brother Buzz Aldrin, a very rare US presidential patch that President Kennedy personally gave me, and other memorabilia. Write or e-mail for more detail. I wish to sell some of these valuable keepsakes to trustworthy people who will respect them. Contact Clark C. McClelland, ScO; P.O. Box 233; Tavares; FL 32778. E-mail clark0003@gmail.com
- For a free listing of VHS videos, DVDs, and radio program CDs related to Sir Knight Tom Mix and the Tom 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.

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