



Knight Templar

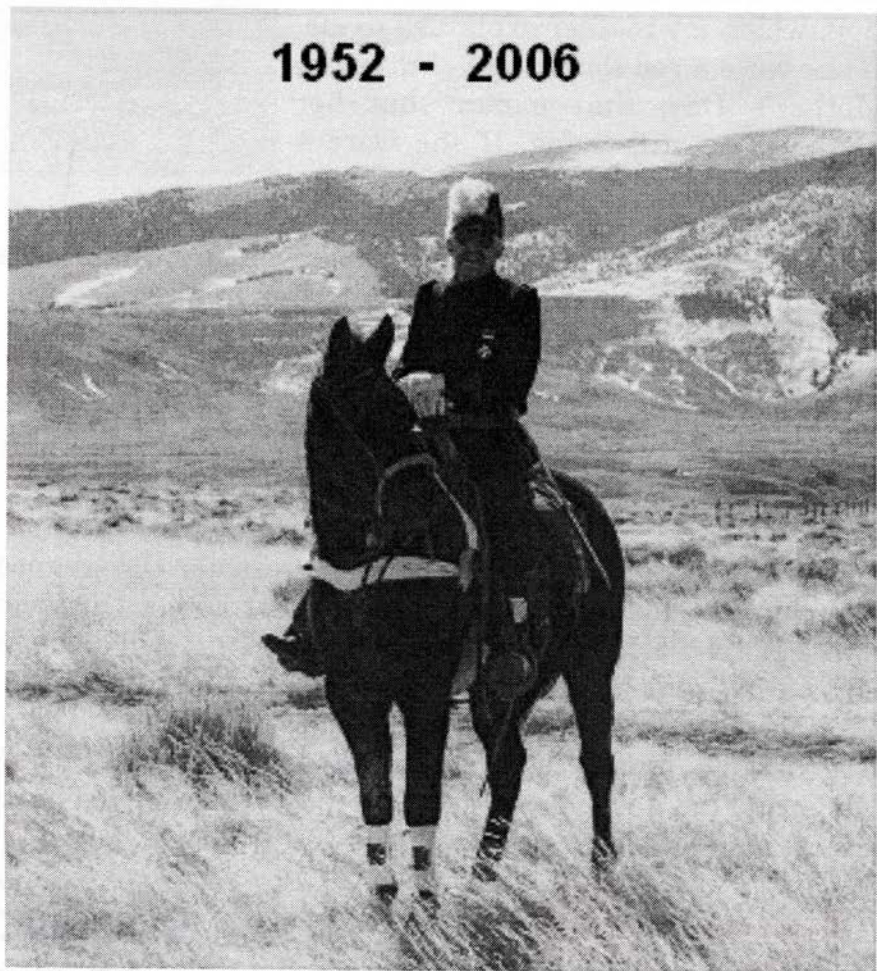
VOLUME LII

MAY 2006

NUMBER 5

DOUGLAS LEE JOHNSON, GCT

1952 - 2006



Sir Knight Douglas Lee Johnson, R.E. Past Department Commander of the Northwestern Department of the Grand Encampment, is remembered on pages 5 to 7. For more on Sir Knight Douglas Lee Johnson, GCT, see pages 19 and 20 of the March 2006 issue.

Grand Master's Message for May 2006

This is my last May as your Grand Master, and again, we must remember our mothers. Mother's Day is the second Sunday in May, and we should all remember our mothers in some way on that day.

In our family there was an old tradition, which my mother explained to me. If she wore a red flower on her dress on Mother's Day, that meant that her mother was still living. If she wore a white flower, her mother had passed on.



No matter which color you might be wearing this Mother's Day, do remember everything that your mother has meant to you and **give thanks**.

It is also the month of Ascension Day and Memorial Day. These are all very important days to us as Templars and as Americans.

I want to thank everyone who made the Easter Observance so meaningful. This might have been the last Easter Observance at the Hotel Washington, as it has been sold and will be upgraded to a five-star hotel. The hotel staff and the volunteers from Virginia, D.C., and Maryland all did a great job. Sir Knight Ron Augenbaugh picked up the position as Chairman from Bob Hines and did a wonderful job. Everyone who attended made it a most memorable Easter for Arlene and I. Thank you all!

Memorial
Day
May 29



Kenneth B. Fischer
Grand Master, GCT

Knight Templar

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

MAY: On page 2 Grand Master Fischer comments on a month that is packed with days to remember those we cherish. Highlights from Sir Knight Douglas Johnson's funeral commemorate the passing of a highly respected Sir Knight, starting on page 5. Wonderful news from the Holy Land Pilgrimage 2006 are brightening the pages of *Knight Templar*. They start on page 8 and include inspiring poems from a Pilgrim minister on page 11. There will be more news from this great Grand Encampment program in future issues! By the time this issue reaches you, the 38th Golden Anniversary Campaign for the KTEF will be over, but listings of contributors and notes from recipients will continue as they do here, pages 12–14. There are writings from inspiring authors in this issue: a poem by Sir Knight Alvin Bohne, information on the jewels of the local Commanderies by Sir Knight Charles Cicero, and musings on early Knights Templar history by Sir Knight John White. Also, enjoy all the news items throughout the issue!

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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 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 *Knights 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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Douglas Lee Johnson—1952–2006

R.E. Department Commander, Northwestern (1997–2000)

by Sir Knight

William H. Koon II, G.G

After a yearlong battle with cancer, Sir Knight Douglas Lee Johnson entered the blessed Asylum above on February 2, 2006. Sir Knight Johnson is survived by his wife Nancy, a son Joshua, two daughters, Morgan and Ali, his parents, Nicholas and Dona Johnson, and a brother Michael.

Doug's funeral was held on February 6, 2006, at the Headwaters Community Center in Dubois, Wyoming. Well over 400 were in attendance with nearly 50 in full Templar uniform. Every officer of the Grand Commandery of Wyoming and all the Past Grand Commanders able to travel were in attendance. A host of Masonic Brethren were present, with some from as far away as Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Colorado.

Pastor John Huntington opened the service with participation by King Brown, Joe Bain, and Ali Jo Johnson. Sir Knight William H. Koon II, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, assisted by Sir Knight Robert O. Finley, R.E.G.C. of Wyoming, and Sir Knight David S. Tanner, P.G.C. of Wyoming, conducted the Templar Service. Two Sir Knights stood guard over Sir Knight Johnson's uniform and equipment, as the entire Black Horse Troop of Dubois, Wyoming, stood at attention in honor of Sir Knight Johnson during the service.

Following the indoor service, the V.F.W. Honor Guard under the command of Vernon LaJeunesse afforded Sir Knight Johnson a "21-Gun" Salute. The Black Horse Troop under the command of Sir Knight Phillip Cross, Eminent Commander, paraded on horseback in the shape of a cross, as Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson (Doug's brother) and Sir Knight Koon led Doug's horse with his boots in the stirrups backwards through the streets of Dubois. It was a most impressive tribute.

→ → → →



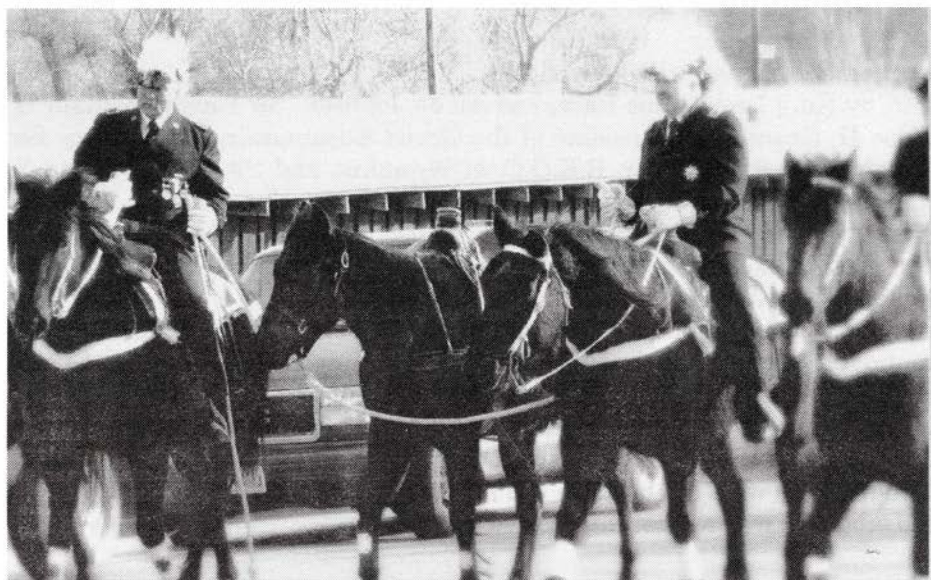
Sir Knight Douglas L. Johnson
at Grand Encampment Easter, 2004

Sir Knight Johnson wished to be cremated and his ashes spread on the Hayes Ranch, which had belonged to his grandfather.

The turnout of family, friends, Masons, and Templars at this service gave testimony to the true character of our Sir Knight. The Grand Encampment in particular and Templary in general has lost one of its most talented officers. Those who knew Doug, and there were many, will never forget the Christian love and dedication to the Masonic Fraternity he exemplified in his life.



Above: Black Horse Troop under the command of Sir Knight Phillip Cross, E.C. (far left). Below: Sir Knight Johnson's horse, led by Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson (left) and Sir Knight William H. Koon II (right).





Sir Knight Douglas Johnson's horse, led by Sir Knights William Koon and Michael Johnson, as the parade passes.

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, and a P.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, 1996. He resides at 7200 Slabtown Road, Columbus Grove, OH 45830.

Note from Recorder Gilbert H. Morrison, Jr., KYCH, concerning Southern Louisiana Commanderies:

"South Louisiana Templary has been hit hard. Jacques de Molay No. 2 met at Andrew Jackson Lodge in Arabi, Louisiana, located in northern St. Bernard Parish. We had 9 feet of salt water, which stayed in the lodge for several days. Our silk banner issued in the early 1800s is falling apart. All of our conferral equipment is lost. We had 14 swords which are mostly rusty rods. We also had a complete set of cap and mantles. All is a mess. We will return; this is a stumble, not a fall."

Any individual, Commandery, company, etc., who can help; contact: Gilbert H. Morrison, Jr., at 547 Jung Blvd., Marrero, LA 70072; home phone: (504) 341-3765. We are aware that there are other areas hard hit, and we will publish information for you. Send to: Joan B. Morton, Grand Encampment, P.O. Box 478448, Chicago, IL 60647-8448.

25th Holy Land Pilgrimage

Message from Sir Knight P. Fred Lesley, KCT, P.G.C.

The Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage

The 25th Holy Land Pilgrimage was completed this year when 43 Christian ministers returned from the Holy Land on March 17, 2006. They were preceded by 59 Christian Pilgrim ministers who completed their Pilgrimage on March 3. The Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage program has sent a total of 1,571 Christian ministers to the Holy Land since the program began in 1977.

Tentative dates for the 26th Holy Land Pilgrimage are February 5–15, February 19–March 1, and March 5–15, 2007.

This program is making a tremendous impact on the lives of the ministers who have an opportunity to make the Pilgrimage. Their Bible comes alive because they were there. They saw the Sea of Galilee; they saw the land around, where Jesus taught and healed; they know because they have walked in the footsteps of Jesus. (See pages 9–10 to see what some have to say.)

From time to time, letters will be printed from returning Pilgrim Ministers telling the impact that this Pilgrimage has made on their lives.

Sir Knight P. Fred Lesley, Cochairman
P.O. Box 498, Battle Creek, MI 49016

Holy Land Pilgrimage—Frederick, Maryland

Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 4, Frederick, Maryland, sponsored Reverend David H. Howell of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Myersville, Maryland, on the 2006 Holy Land Pilgrimage. The R.E. Grand Commander of Maryland, Sir Knight James B. Coker, and Sir Knights from the Grand Commandery and Jacques DeMolay Commandery are pictured here during the presentation at the church on January 15, 2006. → → → →



In the picture on page 8, left to right, front row, are: Sir Knights Ronald Aughenbaugh, Chairman of the Holy Land Pilgrimage in Maryland, and James B. Coker, G.C. of Maryland; Reverend David H. Howell, pastor of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Myersville; and Sir Knights Harold A. Emmons, Commander of Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 4, Frederick, and Oscar D. Johnson, Jr. Left to right, second row: Sir Knights Charles Kennedy, Roland Green, Howard W. Graham, and Richard Mullinex, all members of Jacques DeMolay No. 4. (submitted by Sir Knight Dennis A. Brekhus, Captain General, Jacques DeMolay No. 4)

HERE IS WHAT PILGRIM MINISTERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE...

To the Chairman of the Holy Land Pilgrimage in Virginia...

Dear Mr. Jack Cadden:

It was nice to speak with you last week about my Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, sponsored by the Knights Templar. As I said then, please accept my deep appreciation for the opportunity you provided me to take this wonderful trip.

This Pilgrimage was so many things. I feel like I had an extensive Bible class, a history class, a geography class, and an exercise class (in that we walked so many miles!). The entire experience was wonderful and one that has already transformed me personally and professionally.

I probably would never have been able to personally experience these holy sites without your sponsorship. It is one thing to learn about Jesus' activities and trace his journey, but it is an entirely different thing to stand where he stood. For pastors to have this opportunity during the early to midpoint of their ministry surely could transform their work and the congregations they serve.

Having the chance to spend 10 days with 61 other pastors from many different parts of the country and several different denominations was also exciting. Although we came from different places and had different viewpoints, we were united in a common purpose—allowing the Pilgrimage to transform us spiritually. We were like sponges desiring to soak in every moment of learning. In addition, the accommodations were great, and the tour guide was a real treasure.

I'm sure each of us had a few moments when we felt like the Spirit of God was upon us. For me, one was worshipping with our group by the Sea of Galilee, imagining Jesus walking there calling his disciples. Another was being inside St. Anne's Basilica being led by one pastor as we sang "Amazing Grace" with the sound reverberating gloriously. Chills ran down my spine.

Again, please accept my thanks for allowing me to be a part of this Pilgrimage. I wish your organization all the best and pray that you will continue this important and life transforming ministry.

In Christ,
Dr. Carol C. Fisher, Pastor
Mechanicsville Presbyterian Church
7339 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111

To Sir Knight P. Fred Lesley, Cochairman of the Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage, and to the members of the Grand Encampment:

How can I adequately thank you for the wonderful trip to Israel. To say I had a magnificent time simply would not do justice to how I feel. Someone on our final night together expressed it well: "I used to see the Holy Land in black and white and two dimensions; now I see it in color and in three dimensions." The sights, sounds, smells, tastes, as well as the conversations with our guide Jacob and my fellow travelers, all worked together to provide an unforgettable experience. The trip will certainly have a positive impact on my ministry as it has had on my personal faith.

Please express to the appropriate people my deepest appreciation for your generous gift.

Reverend Michael Orrill
First Presbyterian Church
7 Poncha Blvd., Salida, CO 81201

To Sir Knight P. Fred Lesley:

Words cannot begin to express how grateful I am to God for your tender spirit, kindness, leadership, and direction as you helped 43 pastors experience the Holy Land. Thank you for all you did for us and for making the trip so special! Your patience in adversity, gentleness in trial, and understanding toward all of us will never be forgotten!

I am also so grateful to all the Masons and Knights Templar who made the trip possible. Their contribution to our lives cannot be measured in words.

I want you to know that there will be a website set up in the next few days about the trip, and I will send along the information to you.

In addition, I am considering writing a book about our trip and adventures. It will be a compilation of chapters from various pastors with their impressions and stories. It could be an incredible story, and it would serve to aid your work as well as demonstrate how pastors can appreciate one another, in spite of their religious differences.

Clif Burritt, Pastor
Boon Baptist Church
120 Boon Street, Boon, MI 49618

To Sir Knight Paul Tarr for Jackson Commandery of Jackson, Michigan:

Words cannot truly express my gratitude to Jackson Commandery No. 9 for sending me to Israel on the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage.

The experience was amazing and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel in Jesus' footsteps. The trip was well organized with tremendous tour guides, accommodations, and travel arrangements.

Your generous gift made a dream come true for me and for many others in the ministry. Thank you for your vision in sending clergy to Israel.

It has already impacted my life and ministry in many ways. Thank you for this opportunity. I look forward to sharing my experience with you in the near future.

Reverend Timothy Tuthill, Associate Pastor
Mason First United Methodist Church
201 E. Ash Street, Mason, MI 48854

Reverend Doug Ridley, a recipient of the Holy Land Pilgrimage 2006, is minister at Grace United Methodist Church, 501 Race Street, Cambridge, MD 21613. He wrote several poems (two of them here) while on the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage, one of which we published in the April issue and others to follow.

Mardi Gras

We celebrated
Mardi Gras
in old Jerusalem
a thousand miles away
from friends
and family.

We feast
today
then join in boisterous revelry—
our bold, brash claim
the devil's lost his evil hold
on us,
on life.

Our costumes,
masks of clay,
and spritely dancing
just delay,
betray
the fact
tomorrow
will too soon
unfold.

As Mardi Gras
comes to an end
back home,
we early-risers mark
Ash Wednesday
here,
where Jesus took our frail humanity
upon himself,
reminding us
we come from dust,
and that's where we'll return,
but we're all
all God's dear ones,
his precious family.

Doug Ridley
(written: 2-28-2006)

Lenten Feast

Declare a fast
these forty days—
a fast
in which
you call yourself
into account:
examine
who
and what
you are.

Come,
cast your lot with God—
give him the full amount,
enlist the disciplines
that help to grow your soul.

How shall I fast,
you ask?
What cease,
deny yourself,
that you might find
and know
the better way
to help your soul increase?

Try this:
give up
your selfish pride
(your arrogance);
excess in every form;
the need to be the one
who's always right;
the right
to judge,
condemn,
demean,
deride;
your prejudice
and wastefulness.
Conform to Christ,
not just for Lent,
but life.
Alright?

(written: 3-2-2006)



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

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

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| No. 4,762—David E. Brawner (TN) | No. 4,777—Bob Minatra (TN) |
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|---------------------------------------|--|
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| No. 102,330—John S. Geas (NH) | No. 102,337—James T. Humphries (AL) |
| No. 102,331—Ronald W. Wilkins (MA/RI) | No. 102,338—Linus Anders (AL) |
| No. 102,332—Walter Weisgerber (MA/RI) | No. 102,339—Howard Earl Walden (AL) |

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 annu-

al 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.

Contributors to the 33° Club

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Smokey Ferguson
 Wayne Jordan
 Dennis Peterson
 Bob Park

George Marshall
 James Qualls
 Arthur Lee Campbell

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies
 for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week
 ending April 7, 2006. The total amount con-
 tributed to date is \$606,257.26.

Alabama	\$14,787.00
Alaska	950.00
Arizona	3,692.00
Arkansas.....	5,744.61
California.....	44,276.35
Colorado.....	20,701.52
Connecticut.....	6,923.00
Delaware.....	2,763.60
District of Columbia	4,179.00
Florida	19,413.00
Georgia	46,142.78
Idaho.....	5,963.00
Illinois.....	21,732.14
Indiana	16,547.68
Iowa	9,022.00
Kansas	5,789.00
Kentucky.....	11,838.00
Louisiana.....	6,413.00
Maine.....	4,579.74
Maryland.....	6,070.33
Mass./R.I.....	37,773.00
Michigan.....	7,484.00
Minnesota.....	3,239.00

Mississippi.....	4,889.33
Missouri.....	9,256.44
Montana	1,634.27
Nebraska	1,587.00
Nevada.....	4,047.00
New Hampshire	4,205.25
New Jersey	5,607.80
New Mexico	4,644.66
New York	8,485.10
North Carolina	9,462.89
North Dakota	1,691.00
Ohio	23,739.58
Oklahoma	5,655.66
Oregon.....	5,114.00
Pennsylvania.....	35,193.26
South Carolina	11,843.15
South Dakota	2,724.00
Tennessee	18,149.47
Texas.....	42,168.77
Utah.....	3,997.00
Vermont	2,998.00
Virginia.....	32,357.00
Washington.....	7,980.66
West Virginia.....	3,675.88
Wisconsin.....	7,651.00
Wyoming.....	1,993.00
Honolulu No. 1, Hawaii.....	240.00
Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico.....	200.00
Tokyo No. 1, Japan	30.00
Heidelberg No. 2, Germany.....	100.00
Miscellaneous.....	38,912.34

Thankful Words from Recipients of KTEF Aid...

Thank you for giving me a new, happy life.

Cincinnati, Ohio

I'm writing to tell everybody "Thank You." The surgery was successful, and I can see just as good as new. I've been so happy that I can see! To me it's been a blessing, and I want to thank you so much for what you have done. All this is coming from the bottom of my heart.

Statesboro, Georgia

There are no words to express how thankful I am to your wonderful foundation for restoring my eye sight. I am so very grateful. This is the most precious gift I have ever received. My life has new meaning, my skies are blue again, I can read, I can sew, I can see everything! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Fallbrook, California

My eyes are doing great! May God bless you all. Thank you with all my heart.

Flora Vista, New Mexico

Words cannot express my appreciation for your funding of my surgery. I didn't realize how much I wasn't seeing! Now, I see so much better even without glasses. I thank you so very much for the help.

Wise, Virginia



Gene Miles
Washington
Grand Commander—1989
Born: May 30, 1912
Died: March 2, 2006

Laurence C. Way
Colorado
Grand Commander—1991
Born: January 1, 1923
Died: March 6, 2006

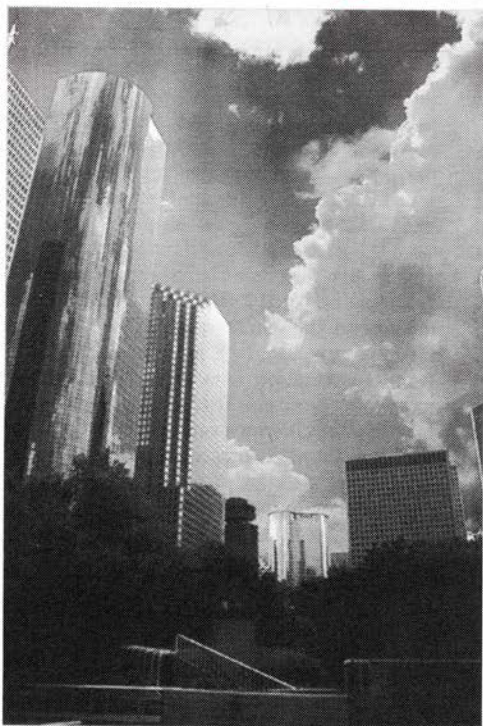
Alfred Allsbrook
South Carolina
Grand Commander—1983
Born: March 17, 1924
Died: March 13, 2006

IN MEMORIAM



Robert E. Newnam
Colorado
Grand Commander—1972
Born: January 14, 1915
Died: December 22, 2005

Come—Greet all the Sir Knights who will be present, August 11–16, 2006, at the 63rd Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar



At left is a view of downtown Houston. Houston, Texas, is the site of the 63rd Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar.

Below is a view from NASA, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, stationed in the Houston area.



Missouri Supplement

RONALD E. WOOD, JR., Editor
1904 N. 36th St., St. Joseph, MO 64506



MAY—2006

GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Sir Knights:

By the time you receive this message, the Grand Commandery Conclave will be on top of us. I want each of you to know that I did very much enjoy being your Grand Commander. Thanks for the privilege of serving you this year. All that is left is the grand session itself. I hope that you will enjoy the new program and that we will all get to know one another better as the session goes on. Hopefully, we have all grown a bit this year and have recognized the need to be involved and to get others involved and interested in our Commandery. Perhaps, we will begin to see growth in the near future. Remember "I'm the Guy," and try to make sure we all have made an effort to meet the needs of all our members as time goes forth.

This year we are to have a real treat as Sir Knight Timothy Munday has just returned from the Holy Land Pilgrimage, and he is going to have a program about his trip with pictures and a power point display. This should be really great, and I hope each of you truly enjoy seeing with the eyes of a Knight Templar what this great charity is all about.

In April I was welcomed by the Grand Amaranth and brought them greetings from the Grand Commandery. We also had an informative Grand Commandery Officers' meeting in preparation for the grand session and the new York Rite Year.

As each of you know, our great charity, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, has found it necessary to limit the amount of services we are able to offer. This is because during the last few years our donations have not kept pace with the services the Eye Foundation has rendered. Sir Knights, please keep this in mind, when we are seeking medical assistance for someone that will enable that person to undergo a necessary surgical procedure that will improve his or her eye sight. We are the last resort. If not for us, persons in need are not going to get these ser-

vices somewhere else. At the end of the month of February, Missouri stood in 19th place, and our cumulative total of contributions in the 38th Voluntary Campaign totaled \$6,575.65. We can do better; please give this some thought and follow your heart.

The last York Rite Conference was held in Columbia on April 1. H'mm, was that a good day to end the conferences on or what? We did have a good crowd and, as usual, much useful information was passed around and many new and old friendships were made and renewed. It was a real pleasure to see all of those in attendance. Hopefully, as the choir, which we were preaching to went away, you were singing a new song.

I am looking forward to greeting and visiting with each of you at our grand session. See you in Jefferson City.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
James E. Snavelly
Grand Commander
Knights Templar of Missouri

SIR KNIGHT MARVIN W. FROST DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Marvin was born in Carthage, Missouri, on May 22, 1936, to Walter D. Frost and Nellie Frances Frost. Marvin was fortunate to have four older sisters. He received his elementary education in a one-room school, and he graduated from Carthage High School in 1953.

Marvin was employed for over 42 years at the Atlas Powder and later ICI Incorporated. He retired in March of 1996.

He was drafted and served two years on active duty and served four more years in the reserves for the United States Army. Marvin attained the rank of Sergeant in the Communication Section of the Combat Engineers.

In 1958 he was united in marriage to Dottie, who was also a country girl and lived about three miles away. They have two children: a son Randy and a daughter Jan. There are now five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Marvin and Dottie and all

their children are members of the Mt. Moriah United Methodist Church, a church his grandfather was instrumental in building and a church in which to raise his family of 11 children. This was during the late 1800s.

Marvin's father was an eighty-year member of the Blue Lodge at the time of his death at the age of—108!

Dottie has been active. She has served as President of Carthage Assembly No. 98; Past State President and Past Supreme Officer of the Social Order of the Beauceant; Past Matron of Eminence Chapter No. 93, Order of Eastern Star; Past Matron and Past Grand Matron, Order of Amaranth; Past Worthy High Priest of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, and Master of the Grand Cross of Color, International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Marvin was Raised a Master Mason in Carthage Lodge No. 197 in 1981 and is a Past Master of his lodge. He is a Past District Deputy Grand Master of 44th Masonic District, now the 45th Masonic District. He was appointed Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Lodge by Most Worshipful Brother Frank Ames Arnold in 1993.

Sir Knight Marvin is a Past Grand High Priest of Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61, Past Illustrious Master of Carthage Council No. 41, and Past Commander of Jasper Commandery No. 31.

He has served as District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, R.A.M.; is a member of the Order of High Priesthood; a member of the Order of the Silver Trowel; and a Past President of the Past Commanders' Association. He is also a member of Missouri Lodge of Research; National Sojourners; Past Sovereign Master, Allied Masonic Degrees; Ray V. Denslow York Rite College; Cell 'Airne Council No.76, Knight Masons; Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; Past Sovereign of St. Andrew Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; KYCH; Past Patron of Eminence Chapter No. 93, Order of Eastern Star; and Past Patron, Past Grand Patron, Past Supreme Royal Patron, Order of the Amaranth. He has received the Lewis and Clark Award and the Grand Cross of Color from the International Order of Rainbow for Girls. Marvin is also the Grand Representative to the Grand Commandery of Mississippi near the Grand Commandery of Missouri.

CHARLIE BROWN

Charlie Brown is a pitiful soul
He seldom does anything right

He tries to win pitching baseball
But his pitches are hit out of sight.

Charlie is plagued by Lucy
Who belittles his every try
She holds the football enticingly
Then pulls back as his foot is let fly.

His sister is no help either,
He tries hard to teach her well,
But the flippant attitude by her
Makes school work a very hard sell.

Charlie's friend is the faithful dog Snoopy,
His companion throughout life.
All Snoopy wants is a cookie
To assist him through troubles and strife.

Charlie's life is but a reflection
Of all our own foibles and woes.
We seldom think of this connection
When directing the way our life goes.

For we seldom exhibit the courage
To talk to that red-headed girl;
Our tongue is a useless appendage
And our mind is lost in a whirl.

Like Woodstock, we deal with adversity
And flit upside down too much,
And someone will snatch our serenity
Like the blanket from Linus' clutch.

We have dreams that don't come to fruition,
The Great Pumpkin, we find is not true
Defeat seems to be a condition
That plagues us but seldom hurts you.

But success is not gained by crying.
"Dark and Stormy Nights" will come
Like Charlie, if we keep on trying
Some day we'll hit a home run.
James C. Taylor, April 25, 2005

JOB FAILURES

1. I became a professional fisherman but discovered that I couldn't live on my net income.
2. I managed to get a good job working for a pool maintenance company, but the work was too draining.
3. So then I got a job in a workout center, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.

HOW MUCH DOES IT REALLY COST?

1. Ocean Spray, 16 oz., \$1.25 \$10.00 per gallon
2. Brake Fluid, 12 oz., \$3.15 \$33.60 per gallon
3. Vicks Nyquil, 6 oz., \$8.35 \$178.13 per gallon
4. Pepto Bismol, 4 oz., \$3.85 \$123.20 per gallon

Welcome to Your Place in History, Jacques; Grand Master Jacques de Molay

by Sir Knight Alvin F. Bohne, H.P.C.

Where once the feudal lords would reign
In the old medieval Duchy, Burgundy,
Between the mountains and the plain
In the year twelve hundred forty three
Was born a son to Nobleman Molay.

Welcome to this world, Baby Jacques,
Baby Jacques de Molay!

Thus born of privileged royalty,
Enjoy thy youth of easy wage,
Life of leisure and tranquility.
Too soon will come your manhood age.
And youth will fade to memories.

Welcome to your childhood, Master Jacques,
Master Jacques de Molay!

Soon comes the time when noble's age
Determines noble lads their task—
Villein, serf, vassal, squire or page.
Serve all the best your lot may ask.
Learn well the lessons your lot demands.

Welcome to the life of squires, Squire Jacques,
Squire Jacques de Molay!

Those years of page's lessons learned,
Those years of vassal's dedication
Brings now that Christian honor earned,
That long sought honored declaration:
"In the name of God, I make thee Knight!"

Welcome to the Templars, Sir Knight Jacques,
Christian Knight, Sir Jacques de Molay!

With knowledge, trust and virtue pure,
Brave, ambitious and power smitten,
Accepted soon the power allure,
The Prior Grand – the Priory seat of Briton.
Now, exercise thy wisdom learned.

Welcome to authority, Grand Prior Jacques,
Grand Prior Jacques de Molay!

Beyond the bounds of Europe land,
To the Holy Land of Christians' call,
The Knights of Christ, the Templar band
Rode guard the path to Jerus'lem's wall.
Wield thy sword for the Christian religion.

Welcome to the fray, Sir Knight Jacques,
Crusader Sir Knight Jacques de Molay!

Holy wars continue; battles lost and won.
Eight crusades; the battles fought.
Alas, the land is lost; crusades are done—
200 years of Holy wars – a mighty fight for naught.
Templar fame and fortune yet lives on.

Welcome to the Heroes' roster, Templar Jacques,
Templar Hero Jacques de Molay!

Philip, King of France, his treasury now spent bare,
Sat Clement Fifth beneath the Papal dome.
Then died Gaudinius, Master of the Templars' care.
New Grand Master de Molay, now is ordered home.
Elected in absentia, now dreams of a new crusade.

Welcome to absolute power, Grand Master Jacques,
Grand Master Jacques de Molay!

Coveting now the Templars' wealth
The King and Pope conjure up a plan
Of envy, deceit and coward's stealth,
At a darkened hour to purge the Templar clan.
And filled the dungeons with the Poor Knights of Christ!

Welcome to chicanery and deceit, Grand Master Jacques,
Deceived Grand Master Jacques de Molay!

Forced to be confessor of heinous canon crime,
To heretic, hideous and lascivious deeds
To save your life, but for the rest of time
Suffer conscience pain from which this "freedom" feeds.
False confession of conjured complaints doth torture thy soul.

Welcome to your dungeon cell, Grand Master Jacques,
Deposed Grand Master Jacques de Molay!

Five years of anguished dungeon dole
That left thy spirit broke and body bent;
Five brutal years of guilt tormented soul;
Five years of true contrition – now recant!
And seal your doom.

Welcome to a guilt free mind, Grand Master Jacques,
Contrite Grand Master Jacques de Molay!

Thy recant earned thee naught but royal ire.
For crimes against the church and King
Be now lashed to stake and die by fire
With Christian shame this death will bring.
God and History will be thy judge.

Welcome now to your reward, convicted Jacques,
Wroglly convicted, Jacques de Molay!

Now standing firm with conscience clear;
Now lashed to fiery stake and without hope.
No Heaven reprieve from thy fiery bier;
Loyalty spurned– betrayed by King and Pope.
Still, look to heaven for your final reward.

Welcome to your doom, Grand Master Jacques,
Doomed, Grand Master Jacques de Molay!

With tortuous final breath thee cast a spell
That “the King and Pope, within the year
Will meet again; you three to meet in hell.”
For King and Pope that vengeful scourge is near.
Within the month then died the King, followed by the Pope!

Welcome to martyrdom, Sir Knight Jacques,
Martyr Sir Knight Jacques de Molay!
Welcome to your rightful place in history!

Sir Knight Alvin F. Bohne, H.P.C.
Copyright: January, 2006

e-mail: albohne@usfamily.net
711 Decorah Lane
Mendota Hts., MN 55120

*This poem is dedicated to Minnesota
Grand Commander apparent, (2006)
Sir Knight Allan F. Kauppi, (Damascus
Commandery No. 1) and to
Damascus Commandery No. 1,
200 E. Plato Boulevard, St. Paul, MN 55107
on its 150th Anniversary (2006) and to Minnesota
Past Grand Commanders, Sir Knights
Harland L. Thomesen and Charles W. Nelson,
both of Damascus Commandery No. 1.*
Alvin F. Bohne

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.

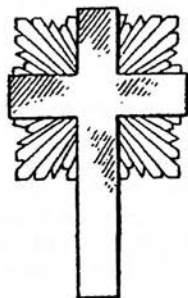
Once again, the primary source of the year's donation was from the sale of a late 1800's Knight Templar apron lapel pin and 5 other pins. All profits go to the KTEF. The pins (above) are still available at a cost of \$6.00 each, postage included. They are, left to right, above: Mediterranean Pass, Knight 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.

Jewels of the Commandery Officers—Part I

by Sir Knight Charles Chic Cicero, E. Grand Standard Bearer
Grand Commandery of Florida

The following, to be continued and completed in the June 2006 issue of Knight Templar, is the original copy and illustrations (reduced sizes) printed in a booklet by Sir Knight Charles Chic Cicero, copyright 2005. Sir Knight Cicero has kindly given his permission for its reprinting by the Grand Encampment. Sir Knight Cicero resides at 4124 Raccoon Loop, New Port Richey, FL 34653-6452; e-mail: sprengel@microd.com

COMMANDER: The jewel of the Commander is a Passion Cross surmounted by rays of light at the point where the shaft and crossbar intersect. The rayed Passion Cross, symbolic of Christ's crucifixion, is also called the *Rayonnant*. The rays of light are symbols meant to suggest the humility, love, and pure benevolence that emanate like rays from the religion of the blessed Emanuel, and which should ever characterize the members of our Christian Order.



GENERALISSIMO: The jewel of the Generalissimo is a Masonic Square surmounted by a Pascal Lamb. The Square is meant to remind us that friendship and love should forever govern Free-masons and particularly Knights Templar.

The *Square* is one of the most important and significant symbols in Masonry. In his monumental work entitled *An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, Brother Albert Mackey says the following concerning the square: "...it is proper that its true form should be preserved. The French Masons have almost universally given it with one leg longer than the other, thus making it a *carpenter's square*. The American Masons, following the [...] delineations of Jeremy L. Cross, have, while generally preserving the equality of length in the legs, unnecessarily marked its surface with inches; thus making it an instrument of measuring length and breadth, which it is not. It is simply the *trying square* of a stonemason, and has a plain surface; the sides or legs embracing an angle of ninety degrees, and it is intended only to test the accuracy of the sides of a stone, and to see that its edges enclose the same angle."

The square is a symbol of morality that inculcates the same lesson of principles, truthfulness, and honesty. The *Pascal Lamb*, sometimes called the *Holy Lamb*, was the lamb offered up by the Jews at the paschal feast. This has been transferred to Christian symbolism, and naturally to Chivalric Masonry, and thus we find it among the symbols of modern Templarism. The Pascal Lamb, also called *Agnus Dei*, or "the Lamb of God" first appeared in Christian art after the 6th century. The lamb is a symbol of Christ, our Lord and Savior. In the jewel of the



Generalissimo, he stands at the top of the square of morality and truth.

CAPTAIN GENERAL: The Captain General's jewel is a Level surmounted by a cock or rooster.



In Masonry, the Level is a symbol of Fraternal equality which points to the brotherhood of man. It teaches us that, in the sight of the Great Architect of the Universe, his creatures, who are at an immeasurable distance from him, move upon the same plane as the fast moving stars, which although millions of miles apart, seem to shine from the same canopy of the sky. In this view, the level teaches us that all men are equal, subject to the same infirmities, hastening to the same goal, and preparing to be judged by the same immutable law.

The ancient pagans made the rooster a symbol of courage and dedicated this animal to Mars and other deities of war. It is supposed by some that this is the reason it is shown on the Captain General's jewel. As the undaunted courage and valor of the rooster motivate him to conquer his enemy and fight to the last extremity, so should the Captain General be stimulated in the discharge of every duty.

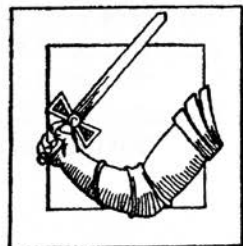
However, the rooster was also an ancient symbol of the sun and of life itself. The ancient Christians symbolically recalled the death of the solar orb in Christ. The rooster, crowing at dawn when the sun rises, recalled the sun's life and resurrection from the darkness of night. The symbol of the rooster was repeatedly used by the Christians of Rome and is a symbol of Christ's resurrection.

SENIOR WARDEN: The Senior Warden's jewel is a Hollow Square with a mailed arm and hand grasping the Sword of Justice.

A *Hollow Square* is a military formation of troops in the shape of a square, with each side consisting of four or five ranks—and the colors, officers, and horses occupying the middle.

The *Sword of Justice* has two edges which signify right and law, strength and liberty, war and peace. The sword in its essence is composed of a blade and a guard; it is therefore a symbol of "conjunction," especially when it takes on the form of a cross and is sometimes considered a symbol of the spirit and the word of God. Much has been said about the relationship between the English words *sword* and *word*. The sword is linked with steel as a symbol of the toughness of the all-conquering spirit.

The Senior Warden's jewel is meant to remind him that as the children of Israel marched in a hollow square in their journey through the wilderness in order to guard and protect the Ark of the Covenant, so should the Senior Warden be vigilant in guarding every avenue from innovation and error. Let the Sword of justice, therefore, be ever drawn to guard the Constitution of the Order.



Continued in the June 2006 issue.

On the Masonic Newsfront

News from the Commanderies in Connecticut

Sir Knight Receives 50-year Pin and Certificate



Above, Sir Knight James Bossidy receives his 50-year pin and certificate from Sir Knight Edward R. Ham, R.E. Grand Commander of Connecticut.

KTEF Report from Connecticut

Washington Commandery No. 1, the oldest extant Commandery in North America, stationed at East Hartford, has just completed its 300% KTEF Campaign and has started on the next level. All 262 members of Washington Commandery are now at least 3-time Life Sponsors of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and 40 are 4-time Life Sponsors!

In addition, all 22 Past Commanders are Patrons, and all three Past Grand Commanders are members of the Grand Master's Club. This represents over \$30,000 in contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation from Washington Commandery, not including the many Life Sponsors who have passed on over the years. (This report was submitted by Sir Knight Charles B. Fowler, P.G.C. and presiding Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut.)

Correction for Albert J. Fountain story in the March and April 2006 issues: We apologize to the members of El Paso Lodge in El Paso, Texas. Apparently the Lodge number for Fountain's lodge was incorrect. It should have been El Paso Lodge No. 130, not No. 10. A member of El Paso Lodge writes:

"The reference in the article to El Paso Lodge No. 10 is mistaken. There has never been a lodge with that number in El Paso. The author obviously meant El Paso Lodge No. 130.

"El Paso Lodge No. 130 was founded in 1854. It was the only lodge in existence in El Paso, Texas, during Albert J. Fountain's lifetime.

"All the members of the Lodge would appreciate a correction."

Sir Knight Ricardo D. Gonzalez, Senior Deacon
El Paso Lodge No. 130, El Paso, Texas

ARLINGTON ASSEMBLY NO. 189, S.O.O.B., HOLDS TEXAS TEA

A tea was held on a Sunday afternoon at the Arlington, Texas, Masonic Lodge for Arlington Assembly No. 189, Social Order of the Beauceant, in celebration of its 50th anniversary. Members honored their five charter members, two of whom are still active within the Assembly today. A beautiful program was presented for the honorees by then Worthy President, (Mrs. M. L.) Terri Blackman. Pictured below are the honorees that were able to attend: (Mrs. T. L.) Martha Allen, (Mrs. H. R.) Thelma Sampson, (Mrs. M. L.) Terri Blackman, (Mrs. R. V.) Verna Blackwell, and (Mrs. S. D.) Peggy Abell. [pictured donated by (Mrs. E. G.) Dorothy Venable]

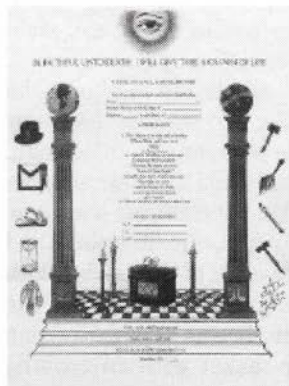


KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2 1/2 inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. The emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same 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 Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001, or phone (303) 430-8483.



MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE TO BENEFIT KTEF

This beautiful membership certificate, left, was designed to keep a record of all 3 degrees of a person who reaches Master Mason. It is 11 x14 inches and is 100-pound, antique white, parchment paper with 8 different colors and 3 blended colors. The price is \$3.00 each, plus \$3.50 for shipping. For every one sold, \$1.00 will go to the KTEF. Send check or money order to: Sandra D. Knotts, P.O. Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087.



The opinions expressed in any article published in Knight Templar are the opinions of the author and are not necessarily those of the Grand Encampment.

The Holy Grail and the Shroud of Turin—Part I

by Sir Knight John W. White

New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven, Connecticut

Dan Brown's best-selling novel, *The Da Vinci Code*, has raised questions about the role of the Knights Templar in regard to certain alleged mysteries about Christianity. Because of that and other factors such as the recent hit movie, *National Treasure*, which also focuses on the Knights Templar and Freemasonry, there is growing public interest in the subject of our order and its relationship to the Holy Grail.

In my opinion as a student of Templar and Grail history, Brown's novel badly misdirects readers about the Grail. I won't critique it here. Rather, I offer a brief summary of what is actually true or highly probable about the situation. I offer it for Masons who want "more light."

The Order of the Temple or Knights Templar, begun in the 12th century, were the ones who first publicized the Holy Grail and initiated the story of the Grail Quest. Now, thanks to dedicated investigators such as Frank Tribbe, author of the recent book, *The Holy Grail Mystery Solved*, and Noel Currer-Briggs' earlier book, *The Holy Grail and the Shroud of Christ*, the Holy Grail can be understood as enlightenment or God-realization and the Grail Quest as the process of growth to enlightenment. But there is an actual physical object—the Shroud of Turin—which likewise merits the term "Holy Grail." What is the connection between a psychological process and a physical object? How can both be the same

thing? Here is the explanation.

The Templars, headquartered in Paris, were violently suppressed and disbanded in 1307 on trumped-up charges by King Philip IV of France and Pope Clement V in order to seize the order's great wealth from its treasury in Paris and elsewhere. But Philip found the treasury empty. (No, that treasure did not end up under Trinity Church in New York City, despite what *National Treasure* portrays, although the location and nature of the treasure is a subject of much investigation and speculation. I personally believe the principal treasure items were copper scrolls, dating from Jesus' time or earlier and recovered by the Templars from beneath Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem, which contained detailed information about the process of higher human development to enlightenment. In the Scottish Rite, there is a degree in which the initiate searches beneath Solomon's Temple for the "lost Word." That "word," in my opinion, was actually written instructions on how to attain the state of holiness exemplified by Jesus.)

The principal charge against the knights was the accusation that they worshipped the head of a bearded man. In an irony totally lost on their accuser, we now know that the charge was true. According to Tribbe, the Templars had come into possession of the burial cloth of Jesus, otherwise known as the Shroud of Turin. It was kept folded in a wooden box or casket with an opening

which allowed the face of the Man in the Shroud to be viewed as a form of worship. The viewing window of the Shroud's wooden container was framed with latticework.

Citing the work of Curren-Briggs, Tribbe explains that the Old French word *greille*, which referred to the lattice frame or grillwork, was transliterated over time into the English "grail." (The transliterated word's meaning was corrupted, however, because "grail" etymologically means "cup or bowl," and the various Grail-story authors wrongly told the public that the Holy Grail is the cup of the Last Supper or a bowl which caught Jesus' blood while he was on the cross.) The wooden frame itself was not holy, of course. Naming it was simply a shorthand way of referring to the tangible evidence of holiness which it displayed—the cloth imprinted with the image of the risen Christ formed at the moment of resurrection and his attainment of the final stage of enlightenment.

The Shroud itself is now the most important religious relic in the world because it has been subjected to such rigorous scientific testing and its authenticity established. The image of the Man in the Shroud was created by a mysterious—call it miraculous—process which science does not understand but which the investigating scientists say involves a form of energy unknown to science. (Tribbe's forthcoming *Portrait of Jesus?* describes this and more about the Shroud.)

The Templars understood it, however. At least, they understood that the Shroud was mute testimony to the fact that Jesus transubstantiated himself in the grave through an act equivalent to a self-controlled nuclear explosion which transformed his flesh, blood and bone into a body of

light—the resurrection body—and thereby conquered death. He attained enlightenment to the ultimate degree; he actually became light and is now known as the Light of the World.

That was Jesus' teaching-demonstration and he intended it for all humanity. He wanted people to understand that the human potential for growth to enlightenment can change the human condition. He wanted people to understand that egoistic hell can become ecstatic heaven through an ascent in consciousness to the realization that "I and the Father are one." He did not claim an exclusive relationship with God, but rather an all-inclusive one. (Remember that the "Lord's Prayer" doesn't begin with "My Father" but with "Our Father.") Nor did he claim to be the Son of God; rather, he spoke of himself most often as the Son of Man, the offspring of humanity.

To the apostle Paul, Jesus was the "second Adam," the progenitor of a new race, the starting point for our higher human development beyond ego on a species-wide basis. To the apostle Peter, the Word became flesh "to make us partakers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1: 4). Other Church fathers similarly understood higher human development: St. Athanasius: "The Son of God became man so that we might become God," and St. Thomas Aquinas: "The Son of God, wanting to make us sharers in his divinity, assumed our nature so that he, made man, might make men gods."

Jesus spoke and acted on the premise that all people have the capacity to attain enlightenment (which he called the kingdom of heaven), and that if a sufficient number of people did that, the world would be transformed into heaven on earth, manifesting outwardly what was already the case inwardly.

“Heaven” means a state of unbroken communion with God, i.e., enlightenment, and is not limited to the post-mortem state. Heaven/enlightenment can be attained in this life. Hence, for Christians, Jesus “opened up the gates of heaven.” That would be a mighty step forward in human evolution.

The Templars sought to do the same thing, following in the Way which Jesus taught. Because of their experience with the corruption of the Old World, however, the Templars apparently set in motion a long-term project for the creation of a new and uncorrupted society in the New World. Over time, the suppressed Order of the

Temple gave rise to modern Freemasonry and to the Freemasons who had such a strong role in the foundation and formation of America.

In my next article, I will elaborate on the idea that America is a secret Templar/Freemasonic effort to create a God-centered society.

*Don't miss Part II by Sir Knight
John W. White in the June 2006 issue.*

Sir Knight John W. White, a literary agent, is a member of New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven, Connecticut. He resides at 60 Pound Ridge Road, Cheshire, CT 06410-3412.

Organ Donation is a True Gift of Life

by Ohio Sir Knight, Henry Dodson

Dear Sir Knights, Brethren, Nobles, and Companions of this GRAND FRATERNITY OF FREE MASONS:

I send this letter to share with you something that is very dear to my heart.

I hope you take time to read this in its entirety, for someday it may help save yours or a loved one's life. You may ask; why such a dramatic opening?

Now that I have your attention, let me take you back in time. Many years ago when I was 4 years old and my little sister was 3, we both developed scarlet fever which in later years had a damaging effect on my heart; in addition, my father had a fatal heart attack at age 66.

With all of this said, I was destined to have major heart problems in later years. I knew I would have to take care of myself and in doing so I became a dedicated runner, did not smoke, was not overweight, and

watched my diet to some extent, but in 1982 at age 47, I had a heart attack which led to open heart surgery.

All went well for 15 years, and then in April 1997 at age 62, I needed another open-heart operation because the arteries were clogged again. This time things did not go well for I spent many days in recovery and was in and out of the hospital all spring and summer.

Finally on September 2, 1997, the doctors told me that I had very extensive heart damage and might have three to four months to live and recommended that I go to Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio, for a possible heart transplant. When I heard this, I fully believed it was the end for me, and during that time the pain, sickness, and not being able eat or sleep was so unbearable that I prayed to GOD to end it all now.

GOD'S answer to my pray at that time was “NO.” I was placed on the

waiting list for a heart transplant, and after 6 long miserable weeks, I received my transplant on October 9, 1997, at Cleveland Clinic.

My heart donor was a young man of 17 years of age. May GOD rest his soul.

What has this done for me? It is hard to explain in this short space, but if it were not for that young donor and the Organ Donation Organization, I would not have received this GIFT OF LIFE and been able to tell my story.

As for my Masonic Journey prior to my heart transplant, I was High Priest of Mt. Moriah Chapter No. 230, R.A.M., in 1996, and when my heart problems started again in 1997, at that time I was Worshipful Master of Solar Lodge No. 730, F. & A. M., but since the transplant in 1997 to the present time, I have served as Illustrious Master of Silver Trowel No. 141, R. & S. M.; functioned in the District Officers' Association, 3rd District; served as District Education Officer, 3rd District; served as District Deputy Grand High Priest, 3rd District, R.A.M.; was Sovereign Master of Lawrence Council, A.M.D.; and served as Eminent Commander of Dayton Commandery No. 68 and recently received the Knights York Cross of Honour. → → → →

Also, I have been able to spend quality time with my family and beautiful wife of over 50 years. Besides my dedication to the Fraternity, I also volunteer at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, Ohio, and for LIFE CONNECTION OF OHIO, which is a very special organization that has helped me and many others to receive a transplant and is helping those who are now waiting to receive transplants.

Please remember, the next time you renew your driver's license, say **YES**, when you are asked if you want to be registered as a **Donor. Be a Hero.**



Fraternally:

Henry Dodson
4901 Archmore Dr.
Dayton, Ohio 45440-1838
hndods@sbcglobal.net

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For further information contact:
Cathi Arends, Community Relations Manager
Life Connection of Ohio
Dayton Regional Office
40 Wyoming St., Dayton, Ohio 45409
telephone: (937) 223-8223 * (800) 535-9206
Fax: (937) 223-8955
www.lifeconnectionofohio.org

*Death be not proud, though some have called thee
Mighty and dreadful, for, thou art not so,
For, those, whom thou think'st, thou dost overthrow,
Die not, poor death.*

John Donne
Holy Sonnets. Annunciation



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

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

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 in-home care someday. With costs on the rise, this kind of care can diminish a lifetime of savings.

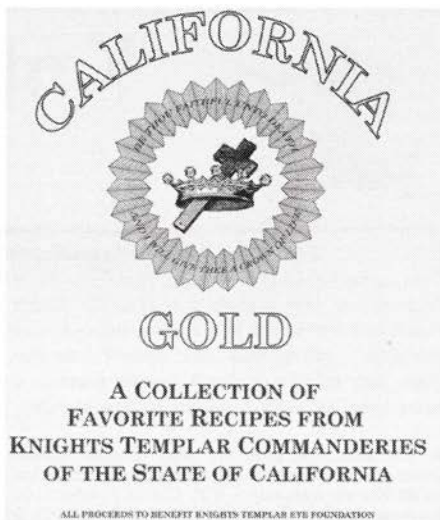
Long-term care insurance helps protect your financial independence and your dignity by giving you the freedom of choice to receive care in your own

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.

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 \$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.**



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 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.

■ 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 fund-raiser 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.

■ 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). These unique items can now be viewed at www.albertpikedemolay.org/yorkrite/index.html. Send your order (include \$1.00 for mailing costs) and your check, payable to 2005 Grand Conclave, to James N. Higdon, 10122 N. Manton, San Antonio, TX 78213. Item(s) will be sent day following receipt by return mail. H: (210) 344-4309, O: (210) 349-9933, e-mail: jnh.kt@hhzlaw.com

■ 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 Edglaun Avenue; Wheeling; WV 26003-6035.

■ 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): all \$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, \$75. Also:

chapeaux crosses in extra fancy gold/silver bullion w/velcro back: Sir Knight, \$35; Past Commander, \$40; Grand Commandery and Grand Rep.; (red), \$55; Past Grand Commander (purple), \$60; Grand Encampment and special orders, \$75. Embroidered extra fancy gold/silver 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. Embroidered gold/silver fatigue hat bullion crosses: Sir Knight, \$35; Past Commander, \$40. Metal cap crosses: silver, \$32; gold, \$38; Past Commander's jewel, \$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: 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: 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 a portion 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, R.A.M., 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 chappy31023@yahoo.com

■ Fund-raiser: Lodge auto tags with blue vinyl letters on white, 6 x12-inch aluminum, include lodge name and number, square and compass, F & AM (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

■ **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.ppdavis@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 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 harry217@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, P.M., Sec.; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M.; P.O. Box 732; Cochran; GA 31014.*

■ **Masonic collectibles—large collection for sale by item or group of items:** Shrine, Commandery, Lodge, and miscellaneous items. Those interested can obtain a list of items by sending SAE to *Charles A. Garnes, 1700 Jamestown Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15235-4944* or e-mail charles.garnes@verizon.net Please specify the list you are wanting.

■ **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, Hawaii, and Alaska pennies.** *Maurice Storch, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705, (520) 888-7585.*

■ 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.

■ **New novelty book available:** *Pythagoras, This Cross Is for You*, by P. Master and P. Commander, Jack N. Barricklo, priced at \$7.00 each, postpaid. It's for the serious craftsman with short history, illustrations, and instruction by the "Master" himself. % of profit to KTEF. (Please write "KTEF" in memo.) Checks payable to *Ourland Enterprises*, and send to *Ourland Enterprises, 8631 McDade, Houston, TX 77080-4321.*

■ **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.

■ **Spring 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 *Macy 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:** 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.*

■ **Wanted to buy:** daggers, swords, and any other German military items; US military items; American Flyer, Lionel, and Marx trains or train sets (in any condition); Confederate or Civil War articles; and pre-1924 US stamps. Retired Sir Knight *Tim Rickheim, 14761 Tunncliffe Road, Petersburg, MI 49270-9716; e-mail vonrueckheim@hotmail.com; call collect (734) 854-3021.*

■ **Brother Masons and Sir Knights:** Brother in Ontario wishes to hear from Brothers who collect or would like to sell baseball, football, and Masonic postal covers. I am also interested in knowing more about Masonic baseball players and football players, Past and especially present. Also, would like to hear from any Masons involved in baseball for Masonic research. I will answer all letters. *Peter J. Westbere, 21 Cadillac Drive, Guelph, Ontario, N1E 2B4 Canada.*

■ **Cabin for sale!** Cabin has 2 bdrms., 1 bath, large garage, and scenic mountain views. This furnished cabin is located in a Masonic Park at South Fork, Colorado (best kept secret in CO!). Must be a Mason with current dues card to buy—\$77,500. Call *Jerry Ashton, (719) 873-5327.*

Knight Templar

**5909 West Loop South, Suite 495
Bellaire, TX 77401-2402**

Somebody Special

Somebody special has held my hand when I've been ill,
touching my fevered forehead on pillow case -
trusting through prayer of long night,
for God to remove the pain.

Somebody special has always listened to my troubles,
giving me strength to look for the promise of sunshine
first...
never search for just the rain.

Somebody special withholds judgment,
showing quiet courage and warm humor in tough situations
while tenderly lifting my spirits higher
than what I even think I'm worth.

Somebody special is you, Mother,
my invisible winged earth angel
who has chosen to stay grounded
to help me learn and love on earth.

*Lee Maloney
1194 N. Shattuck St., A, Orange, CA 92667*

MO

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