

Knights Templar

VOLUME LIV

FEBRUARY 2008

NUMBER 2



The Heroic Bronze Statue depicting our Illustrious Brother, George Washington, as Worshipful Master of his Lodge, was unveiled February 22, 1950, with elaborate ceremonies conducted under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Virginia, assisted by President and Most Worshipful Brother Harry S Truman. Bryant Baker of New York was the sculptor of this magnificent statue, which is 17 feet 3 inches high and weighs eight tons. The Order of DeMolay was instrumental in securing this statue for Memorial Hall, the George Washington Masonic Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia.

Guest Message for February 2008

Sir Knight D. Allen Surratt, KGC

Grand Master of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America

Dear Fellow Sir Knights:

It has most certainly been my honor and a distinct pleasure to serve you this past year. The year has produced many opportunities to strengthen the Allied Masonic Degrees through visiting subordinate Councils, establishing new Councils, and attending state association meetings of A.M.D. It was especially gratifying to visit our sister Grand Councils of A.M.D. jurisdictions in Canada and England.



Looking back over this past year, the largest surprise was the numerous opportunities to strengthen ties between our various Masonic organizations. Working with and in other Masonic organizations has furthered the favorable perception of A.M.D. Although membership in A.M.D. is predicated on membership in the Royal Arch, it is receiving support and interest from Brethren active in various Masonic organizations.

Why is there so much interest in A.M.D.? There are three principal areas to which the Allied Masonic Degrees owes its success, resulting in it being one of the few Masonic organizations that has continued to grow despite a smaller pool from which to draw members. Most A.M.D. Councils limit the amount of time spent on business matters providing their members with quality time for other pursuits. The Degrees are exemplified on occasion, not in the pursuit of perfection, but to remind us from whence we came. Relatively short papers are presented on topics of interest to the membership. These are not intended to be exhaustive on the subject matter, but to stimulate the membership to seek out new truths. Finally, the social aspect of the meeting is emphasized by not placing a higher importance to the business, degrees, or the subject matter of the evening. Quality social time is the most important aspect of all fraternities.

This month we celebrate Presidents' Day, and I cannot think of a better way to celebrate than to renew our support of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. The Memorial has laid out its plans, but it will not be a success without each of us doing our part. This endeavor should be the constant care of every Mason and Masonic organization for our Masonic Heritage is on display for the world to view.

As Grand Master and on behalf of all the officers of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America, we thank you for your support and look forward to working with you in the future. It has been a pleasure to work with all the officers of Grand Encampment for the betterment of our fraternity.

Fraternally Yours,
D. Allen Surratt, KGC
Sovereign Grand Master of the A.M.D.
of the United States of America

Knights Templar



“The Magazine for York Rite Masons—and Others, too”

FEBRUARY: We have a wonderful Guest Message on page 2 from Sir Knight D. Allen Surratt, who is the Grand Master of A.M.D. of the United States of America. M.E. Grand Master Koon will return with an Easter Message in March 2008. See page 4 for the Grand Recorder's list of Department Conferences, and plan on attending! In celebration of President and Brother George Washington's birthday, Sir Knight Mark A. Tabbert has written an inspiring article starting on page 7, and its also about acquiring new members! Don't forget to shop the KTEF Shopping Mall—info about it is on page 12—and catch up on all the news from the 40th Campaign for KTEF, starting on page 9. Sir Knight David C. Mercer's article on page 24 is truly food for thought, so don't overlook it!

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Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders.

From the Grand Recorder's Office...

Greetings, Sir Knights:

The new year is well underway, and we are busier than ever. You can take advantage of the online order form for all Grand Encampment publications and public relations materials. Guidelines are available by downloading.



EASTER 2008

Information was sent to all Grand Commanders and Deputy Grand Commanders. A reminder...**The cutoff date for reservations is February 10!**

2008 DEPARTMENT CONFERENCES

Make your plans to attend the 2008 Grand Encampment Department Conferences. Information is sent to all Grand Commandery officers and Past Grand Commanders sixty days prior to the Conference date.

East Central Department

Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin

Franklin C. Boner

Right Eminent Department Commander

March 8, 2008.....Fort Wayne, Indiana

Southeastern Department

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee

Robert E. Burleson

Right Eminent Department Commander

June 13-14, 2008....Location to be determined

Northeastern Department

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts/Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont

John M. Lewis

Right Eminent Department Commander

September 5-6, 2008.....Albany, New York

South Central Department

Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas

F. Douglas Mitchell

Right Eminent Department Commander

September 19-20, 2008.....Manhattan, Kansas

Mid-Atlantic Department

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia

Vaughn F. Shafer

Right Eminent Department Commander

October 3-4, 2008.....Roanoke, Virginia

Northwestern Department

Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming

James C. Herndon

Right Eminent Department Commander

October 16-18, 2008.....Boise, Idaho

North Central Department

Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota

Jeffrey N. Nelson

Right Eminent Department Commander

October 24-25, 2008.....Fargo, North Dakota

Southwestern Department

Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah

Robert C. Coe

Right Eminent Department Commander

October 31-November 1, 2008

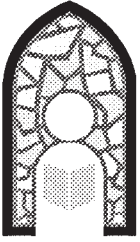
Location to be determined

Lawrence E. Tucker, GCT
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Prelate's Chapel

*by Reverend Robert J. Cave, KGC, P.G.C.
Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment*

A number of years ago when I was Commander of Columbian Commandery No. 1, stationed at Twenty Third Street and Sixth Avenue, New York City (a Commandery, incidentally, which predates the formation of the Grand Encampment); we used the tri-cornered apron, which is no longer permitted. On the apron is the skull and cross bones, such as is found on the triangular table used in the conferral of the Order of the Temple, which has an allusion to our Christian Faith. It speaks of our mortality but more importantly it alludes to the place where Christ was crucified. In the scripture read in the conferral of the Order of the Temple, it is stated: "And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross. And when they came unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull...they crucified him." (Matthew 27:32-35)



Golgotha, according to the *Interpreters Dictionary of the Bible* and other sources, was a small hill immediately outside the walls of the ancient city of Jerusalem. Church tradition has it that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre now occupies the area. However, some other authorities dispute this location. The Gospels do not say why Golgotha was called the place of a skull. It has been suggested that the site was on a hill or near a rock that had the shape of a skull. Origen, a third century scholar, suggested that the name referred to the burial place of Adam's skull. Because of the upheavals in Jerusalem during the period after the time of Christ, the location was lost. However, there is interesting material concerning its location associated with Constantine the Great, but this must be left to future writings.

It is obvious that one cannot avoid seeing the relics (skull and cross bones) on the apron and triangular table without remembering the sacrifice Christ made for humanity. How important it is that we keep this relationship between Christianity and Knights Templar ever before us for it reminds us that we are not only defenders of the faith but should also be promoters of the faith engaged in bringing candidates for membership into a closer relationship with Christ and the Church. To do less is to take for granted the sacrifice Christ made at Golgotha, the place of the skull.

Again, we invite all Knights to submit an article sharing their thoughts on the relationship of Templary to Christianity. Please send it to the Grand Prelate, Rev. Robert J. Cave, at 137 Glen Drive, Ridge, New York 11961 or email to jobrcave@aol.com for possible publication in the *Knight Templar* magazine.

77th EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

March 23, 2008

HOTEL

Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22311

Make your hotel reservations directly with the hotel at:

Direct: 1 (703) 845-1010 or call 1 (800) Hiltons.

\$100.00 room rate (mention *Knights Templar*)

MEAL TICKETS

Meal package, \$40 per person

Includes Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast buffet

Order your meal tickets from the Grand Encampment office.

Mail your check payable to *Grand Encampment* to:

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

Individual tickets may be ordered separately.

Saturday dinner, \$35; Sunday breakfast buffet, \$15

Hotel and meal ticket cutoff date is February 10, 2008.

There will be no tickets sold at the door.

Direct questions to: The Grand Encampment Office: (713) 349-8700

RECIPIENTS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT MEMBERSHIP JEWEL

CORRECTIONS:

- 569. Irving Brassie, Crawfordsville Commandery No. 25, Crawfordsville, IN. 11-24-2006. (original jewel)
- 574. Irving Brassie, Crawfordsville Commandery No. 25, Crawfordsville, IN. 1-8-2007. (bronze cluster)
- 596. G. Leon Weber, Crawfordsville Commandery No. 25, Crawfordsville, IN. 4-20-2007. (original jewel)

NEW:

- 627. Michael J. Smith, Trinity Commandery No. 62, Indianapolis, IN. 11-27-2007.
- 628. Eric E. Gutridge, Hammond Commandery No. 41, Highland, IN. 12-7-2007.
- 629. Clarence Robert Schultz, Hammond Commandery No. 41, Highland, IN. 12-7-2007.
- 630. Scott G. Inman, Hammond Commandery No. 41, Highland, IN. 12-7-2007.
- 631. & Pat Collier, Southeast Texas Commandery No. 112, Kirbyville, TX. 11-28-2007. (jewel and 1 bronze cluster)
- 632. Rufus Conner, Southeast Texas Commandery No. 112, Kirbyville, TX. 11-28-2007.
- 633. Onnie Weaver, Southeast Texas Commandery No. 112, Kirbyville, TX. 11-28-2007. (jewel and 2 bronze clusters)
- 634. -
- 636.



Was George Washington a Knight Templar?

by Sir Knight Mark A. Tabbert, Director of Collections
George Washington Masonic Memorial

Was George Washington a Masonic Knight Templar? Occasionally, a young visitor to the George Washington Masonic Memorial will pose this question. Simply and literally, the answer is “no,” but it can become complicated by Royal Arch history and Washington’s early military career.

It is a fact that the first recorded evidence of a Royal Arch degree conferral occurred in Fredericksburg Lodge, Virginia, in 1753, only a few months after young Washington was raised to the third degree. It is, therefore, possible that Washington might have received those degrees later in his life. And if the Royal Arch, why could he not have received the Order of the Temple? The first Knights Templar Commandery in Pennsylvania was organized in Philadelphia during Washington’s presidency. So the story could go.

Outside the Lodge, young Washington’s greatest aspiration was a king’s commission in the English army. Had the young Washington distinguished himself during his six years of active military service, he might have been knighted in “The Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath,” not the Masonic Order of the Temple!

Such conjecture about Sir George Washington, KCB, disappears when he joins the Rebellion in 1775. Independence from Great Britain in 1783 brought an end to American aristocracy, and the U.S. Constitution established a democratic republic with no monarchy. With such egalitarian

aspirations, it becomes highly unlikely that Washington would be a Royal Arch Mason. How could he explain belonging to a Chapter presided over by a High Priest, King, and Scribe? Furthermore, how could Washington accept Knights Templar’s spurs, if he had already refused a crown?

That Washington would not be king in the 1780s begs the question how could any American presume to be a knight—let alone a member of an order based on the medieval order of Catholic monks? Yet there existed Commanderies during Washington’s life. Within three years of Washington’s death, Knights Templar Commanderies at Providence, Rhode Island; Boston; and Newburyport, Massachusetts, formed the first Grand Encampment in 1802.

From these local beginnings and despite the anti-Masonic period and the Civil War, the Knights Templar was the most successful Masonic organization in the 19th century. Rising from an estimated 100 Knights in 1808, there were nearly 200,000 Knights in over 1,200 local Commanderies in 1908.

Such success was largely because America in the 19th century lived in an age of adventures and crusades. From Stephen Decatur on the Barbary Coast to Theodore Roosevelt on San Juan Hill, America was “manifest destiny,” abolition, temperance, “rags to riches,” muscular Christianity, and the Wild West. The Knights Templar served two primary needs in

those times. First, Knights Templar parades were demonstrative of the Christian piety that marked the Victorian Age. Second, Knights Templar, like many other paramilitary fraternal orders, provided security in an age of labor strikes and riots, social upheaval, and economic misfortunes.

What then separates us in 2008 from the Templars of 1808 or 1908? Simply, it is the machine slaughter of World War I, the brutality of the Great Depression, and the scientific mass murder of World War II. It is the difference between a cavalry charge and a laser-guided missile, a melodramatic General MacArthur and a logistical General Eisenhower. It is the difference between 1870s "Onward, Christian Soldiers" and 1970s "Do Ya Think I'm Sexy?".

Now that we are in the Digital Age, Victorian piety is gone, but also gone is lifetime employment with one corporation. In this age of instant information and communication, social mobility, and job jumping; is there still hope for the Poor Knights, the virtuous Washington, or even the Widow's Son?

Take a good look through the Internet; the popular video games, the hit movies, and the best selling books; and you will see a younger generation obsessed with *Star Wars*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter* and *National Treasure* movies. You will see a popular culture focused on adventure and honor.

Lo and behold! The grandsons of 1950s engineers and the sons of 1970s cynics dream of becoming Jedi, Knights of Gondor, members of the Order of the Phoenix, and seekers of the lost Templar treasure. These are the generations who are leading and fighting the war on terror.

These younger men are romantics. Unlike past generations, they are not motivated by piety or conformity but by discipline directed toward honor and sacrifice. They were raised with instant gratification but desire stability. They want the morality of Freemasonry, the chivalry of the Knights Templar, and the virtues of Washington, but they do not want to simply maintain the status quo or play as historic reenactors. They are eager to rejuvenate old traditions while building something uniquely their own.

Across the country this younger generation is beginning to join Freemasonry in numbers not seen in 40 years. Inspired, in part, by Washington's membership, these young Freemasons are now asking if Washington was also a Knight Templar. Our answer should not simply be "no."

How we greet these Knight aspirants will determine the future of the order. Are we as Sir Knights living testaments of our obligations? Are we leading lives dedicated to God and chivalry? Are we properly trained to reverently confer the Orders? Are we initiating young Freemasons with the finest regalia and polished silver? And are we bestowing on these young Knights a sharpened sword or the same old dusty rules and regulations? Are we indeed building an order ready for a young George Washington to join?

Sir Knight Mark A. Tabbert is the Director of Collections at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia, and a member of Boston Commandery No. 2, Boston, Massachusetts. He can be contacted at the George Washington Masonic Memorial at 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA 22301-2751, or e-mail at mtabbert@gwmmemorial.org



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

A Message from Sir Knight T. Jeffery Conquest, KGC
General Chairman of the 40th Annual Campaign for the KTEF,
Trustee of the Board of the KTEF, and P.G.C. of Indiana

Greetings, Sir Knights:

At a couple of Department Conferences, it was brought to my attention that many Sir Knights are unaware of how to sponsor patients for eye care. In response to several requests, I began in December this article, "How to Sponsor a Case Through Your Foundation," and have continued it in January and now in the February issue. The article in its entirety can be obtained from the office of the KTEF.

I want to thank all those who have supported the Voluntary Campaign with their generous contributions and passion for curing eye disease. Please continue to support your Eye Foundation.



Procedure for Authorization (continued from January 2008)

Form 5, Applicant's Permission for Surgery and Hospitalization and Certificate of U.S. Citizenship: This form is our legal protection and is to be completed by the applicant and witnessed by a responsible person. A copy of the birth certificate or naturalization must be enclosed.

IMPORTANT—PLEASE NOTE! Before forwarding forms 3, 4, and 5 of the application, the sponsoring Knight Templar should review the forms to ascertain that all necessary information is provided, that all necessary signatures are on the forms and the fees listed are within that which we allow for the surgery to be performed. If the necessary information or signatures are not supplied and/or those providing services have not completed Form 4 or have listed a fee in excess of that which is shown on our fee schedule, we will have to return the forms not completed, resulting in unnecessary delay. Applicants are not to be charged for surgical or hospital expenses. **THE FOUNDATION CANNOT ASSUME ANY FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR TREATMENT GIVEN WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION.**

Form 6, Official Authorization: This form is issued to the sponsoring Knight Templar when and if the applicant is found to be eligible for our assistance. This form indicates the amounts we have authorized for the various expenses associated with the surgery to be performed. One copy of the original authorization form is to be retained by the sponsoring Sir Knight with the copies being distributed to the doctor, anesthesiologist, and to the hospital upon admission. This Form 6 reiterates

that the applicant is not to be billed for amount in excess of our authorization. Any insurance proceeds should be deducted from our allowances prior to billing the Foundation. *(continued in the March 2008 issue)*

T. Jeffery Conquest, P.G.C.
General Chairman of the Campaign
Trustee of the Board of KTEF

Sir Knight Conquest resides at 1903 Somersworth Drive, San Jose, CA 95124.

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

- | | |
|---|--|
| No. 5,165—Leopold R. Lariviere, Jr. (ME) | No. 5,183—George H. Taylor (PA) |
| No. 5,166—Wallace D. Mays (GA) | No. 5,184—Clayton M. Lokken (IA) |
| No. 5,167—Wallace D. Mays (GA) | No. 5,185—Charles E. Stewart, Jr. (TX) |
| No. 5,168—John S. Masarik (OR) | No. 5,186—John K. March (PA) |
| No. 5,169—Edward Lyle Freeman (KS) | No. 5,187—Earl E. Miller (VA) |
| No. 5,170—Hubert W. Kleasen (OH) | No. 5,188—Joe Ed Tracy (KY) |
| No. 5,171—Mizpah Commandery No. 96 (PA)
in honor of Bryan L. Berry, R.E.G.C. | No. 5,189—James E. Hardy (GA) |
| No. 5,172—W. Bruce Pruitt (CA) | No. 5,190—Carson C. Smith (IN) |
| No. 5,173—Robert F. Henderson (TN) | No. 5,191—Robert T. Howle (AL) |
| No. 5,174—F. Richard Carlson (IL) | No. 5,192—Paul E. Crowell (IN) |
| No. 5,175—Richard A. Eppler (CT) | No. 5,193—Harold N. Barker (CA) |
| No. 5,176—Boyd H. Butz (PA) | No. 5,194–5,198—James N. Higdon (TX)
in honor of the following: |
| No. 5,177—Douglas H. Wood (VA) | No. 5,194—Gary Charles Jordan |
| No. 5,178—Lee G. Williams (IL) | No. 5,195—Kent Bradley Crickard |
| No. 5,179—James M. Stevenson (VA) | No. 5,196—Thomas Eugene Carnes |
| No. 5,180—Charles Raymond Moats (AL) | No. 5,197—James Robert McConnell |
| No. 5,181—Ezekiel Fluty, Jr. (MO) | No. 5,198—Elliott Bertram Samuels |
| No. 5,182—John C. Parker (NM) | |

Grand Commander's Club

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| No. 102,661—F. Richard Carlson (IL) | No. 102,675—Thomas A. Moore (OH) |
| No. 102,662—Burch E. Zehner (OH) | No. 102,676—Byron Gene Fish (WA) |
| No. 102,663—Bradley L. Baker (IL) | No. 102,677—Harold N. Barker (CA) |
| No. 102,664—Bruce R. Howard (VT) | No. 102,678—William F. Reinhold (VA) |
| No. 102,665—Thomas H. McCandless (TN) | No. 102,679—James W. Patton (IL) |
| No. 102,666—Jeffery L. Fox (PA) | No. 102,680—(Mrs. Dock F.) Virginia Dixon
Pres. San Antonio No. 159, S.O.O.B. (TX) |
| No. 102,667—Sidney F. Putnam (ME) | No. 102,681—Ralph D. Pritchard (TN) |
| No. 102,668—Clayton M. Lokken (IA) | No. 102,682—James T. Hays, Jr. (PA) |
| No. 102,669—Bill E. Covin (OK) | No. 102,683—Richard P. Stokes (NJ) |
| No. 102,670—Richard E. Saunders (VA) | No. 102,684—George C. Adam, Jr. (CO) |
| No. 102,671—Walter R. Beatty (IL) | No. 102,685—Howard C. Faust (PA) |
| No. 102,672—Billy N. Biggs (TX) | No. 102,686—John K. March (PA) |
| No. 102,673—Robert T. Howle (AL) | |
| No. 102,674—H. Gene Markos (IL) | |

Contributors to the 33° Club

- | | |
|---|---|
| William D. Chisholm, 33° (OH)
in honor of the following:
Steven E. Cokonougher, 33°
Douglas R. McCready, 33° | Edward W. Erfurt III, 33°
Ronald H. Leonard, 33°
Chester W. Hammond, 33°
Dow T. Voelker, 33° |
|---|---|

Donald J. Beck, 33° (WA)
 Eric A. Meace, 33° (SC)
 John W. Hein, 33° (WI)

Anonymous (AL)
 in honor of Clarence Ballard, 33°
 Carl C. Rueter, 33° (PA)

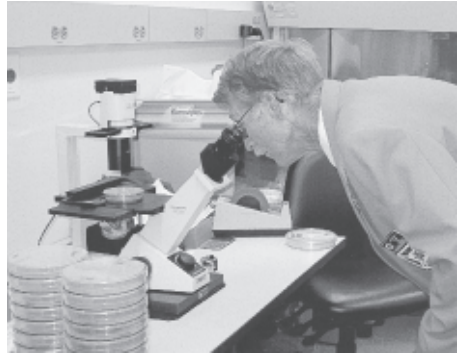
**Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
 40th Annual Voluntary Campaign**

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending January 4, 2008. The total amount contributed to date is \$380,896.59.

Alabama	\$2,588.00
Alaska	100.00
Arizona	30.00
Arkansas	1,526.00
California	33,786.45
Colorado	418.00
Connecticut	467.00
Delaware	121.50
District of Columbia	100.00
Florida	2,451.48
Georgia	5,608.00
Idaho	100.00
Illinois	7,835.20
Indiana	7,308.58
Iowa	4,010.00
Kansas	2,025.00
Kentucky	6,999.22
Louisiana	4,685.00
Maine	2,418.00
Maryland	5,289.28
Mass./R.I.	630.00

Michigan	2,096.00
Minnesota	157.40
Mississippi	165.00
Missouri	1,430.00
Montana	1,300.00
Nebraska	430.00
New Hampshire	35.00
New Jersey	11,059.75
New Mexico	1,362.00
New York	2,373.01
North Carolina	2,965.80
North Dakota	200.00
Ohio	38,280.00
Oklahoma	2,045.15
Oregon	104,969.05
Pennsylvania	18,179.00
South Carolina	6,953.00
South Dakota	80.00
Tennessee	3,456.47
Texas	22,956.09
Utah	5,454.00
Vermont	493.00
Virginia	10,655.00
Washington	1,846.00
West Virginia	6,078.54
Wisconsin	3,308.00
Wyoming	540.00
Heidelberg No. 2, Germany	100.00
Miscellaneous	43,432.62

KTEF Grant Presented to Doctor at the University of Iowa



Left above: Sir Knight James N. Carnegis (to right), M.D., Ph.D., a member of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Board of Trustees, presents the KTEF check funding his research project to Michael G. Anderson, Ph.D., Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Howard Hughes Medical Institute at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, Iowa. Kevin P.

Campbell, Ph.D., Investigator, looks on. Right, page 11: Sir Knight Stephen G. Libby, R.E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Iowa, peers through a microscope at some of the mouse cells being cultured for use in the research project. The KTEF grant recipient, Michael G. Anderson, Ph.D., took his visitors and their wives on a tour of his laboratory and the eye research facilities at the University of Iowa College of Medicine. His research project is entitled "New genetic pathways of congenital glaucoma."

Sir Knight James N. Karnegis, who is also a Past Department Commander of the Grand Encampment, states: "The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., continues to march forward as it supports the fight against eye diseases, ranging all the way from basic laboratory research to patient care."

There is additional coverage of this presentation in the January 2008 issue.



➤ KTEF SHOPPING MALL

DID YOU KNOW?

Every time you make a purchase on the KTEF Shopping Mall, the Eye Foundation receives about 3% of your charge purchase.

When you shop on the KTEF Shopping Mall, you access each individual store's own website.

There are about 1,800 stores that can be accessed from the Mall.

It takes but 2 clicks to access all these locations.

Now that you know, why not shop there? Simply go to: www.knightstemplar.org and click on "**KTEF SHOPPING MALL**" on the left side of the page, and you're there helping those less fortunate to see!

Now you can shop and at the same time provide sight! We could call it "Click & See"!

Golden Chalice Award Presented in Memory of Knights Templar Eye Foundation Benefactor

On Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at Damascus Commandery No. 2, Jacksonville, Florida; a Golden Chalice award was presented by Sir Knight Jerry R. Morgan, Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Florida, on behalf of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the U.S.A., and the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Florida, to Mr. Paul Buxton, in memory of Ms. Hazel Mae Brown, whose estate provided \$50,000 to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Ms. Hazel Mae Brown had been the recipient of Knights Templar Eye Foundation assistance when she was a young woman and needed a corneal transplant. She was sponsored then by Damascus Commandery No. 2 for the operation and received the operation free through the courtesy of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. She was astounded and amazed at the time that there was absolutely no charge.

Ms. Brown worked as household help for the Buxton family and took care of Mr. Paul Buxton from the time when he was four years old until she passed away. When his parents passed away, Ms. Hazel Brown remained with Mr. Buxton in the household. Mr. Buxton never married and now 84 years of age, looked upon Ms. Brown as a second mother. Ms. Brown carefully saved her money, and her estate grew, as evidenced by the amount she willed to the Eye Foundation in appreciation of its charitable care for her many years ago.

Also present at the presentation ceremony were: Sir Knights Billy Collier, Eminent Grand Sentinel of the Grand Commandery of Florida, and Leland E. Stanford III, Commander of Damascus Commandery No. 2, plus members of Damascus No. 2 and other Commanderies, and ladies of the Social Order of the Beauseant, as well as Ms. Judith Yeaton, Royal Grand Matron of the Grand Court of Florida, Order of the Amaranth.



Pictured left at the presentation were, from the left: Sir Knight Billy Collier, E. Grand Sentinel of the Grand Commandery; Mr. Paul Buxton; and Sir Knight Jerry R. Morgan, R.E. Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Florida, who presented the award.

In the picture below are a number of the Sir Knights surrounding Sir Knights Billy Collier, Grand Sentinel; Paul Buxton; and Jerry R. Morgan, Past Grand Commander, during the ceremony.

ny. Shown from left to right are: Ralph A. Jones, Jr., P.G.P.; Corbin P. Elliott, P.C.; Walter M. Hammond, Recorder, Damascus Commandery No. 2; William H. McClean, P.C.; Billy Collier, P.C., E.G.S.; Samuel D. Hope, C.G.; Michael Pete Trent, Generalissimo; Mr. Paul Buxton; Jerry R. Morgan, R.E.P.G.C.; Paul H. Gegenheimer, Sentinel; Jim Dorsey; Daniel Somma, P.C.; and Leland E. Stanford III, Commander of Damascus Commandery No. 2. (submitted by Sir Knight Corbin P. Elliott, KYCH, KCT, P.C.)



Man Sees Clearly After Help from Knights Templar Eye Foundation

This edited version was taken from an article by Erika Neldner, Cherokee Ledger-News, P.O. Box 2369, 103 E. Main Street, Woodstock, GA 30188.

Ronnie Brown received the sweetest gift—the gift of sight. At 50 years old, he was legally blind.

A few years ago, he was told he had cataracts developing in his eyes. His eyesight began to diminish, and the musician was having a hard time reading music and words to songs.

“They told me I had the first inklings of cataracts about three years prior,” said Brown, 52, of Woodstock, Georgia. “I noticed over time, my vision kept getting worse.”

Cataracts turn the natural lenses in the human eye opaque, causing the vision to be hazy, which can lead to blindness.

After trying times, including the death of his wife, he found himself without sight, without insurance and struggling.

That’s when his eye doctor told him about the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The foundation is the Knights Templar charitable organization—much like the Shriners have the children’s hospital. The goal of the foundation is to provide services, without any charge to the patient, to help preserve eyesight.

“We help save the sight of those individuals not eligible for any other service,” said Marvin Selock, office administrator for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, located in Illinois. “We provide assistance to receive the eye care necessary to save their sight.”

The foundation provides the eye care as a last resort for people who can’t get help elsewhere, and that’s where Brown found himself. No money, no insurance and terrified.

“I was scared to death,” Brown said. “I never would have been able to have it done. It’s so expensive. They covered everything.”

He applied for Medicaid and received a dreadful response: a letter of rejection.

So he called the headquarters of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in Illinois, and they referred Brown to a sponsor at Constantine Commandery in Marietta, Georgia. Brown’s sponsor, Lloyd

Leinbaugh, and his wife interviewed Brown at his home.

Brown had to show legal residence and that he had been rejected by Medicaid.

About four to six weeks later, he underwent the surgery. First, the doctors operated on his left eye.

“I went in for my first surgery,” he said. “The next day I had 20/20 vision in my left eye. It’s amazing.”

He said when he first went to the doctor before his surgery, he couldn’t read the large “E” on the eye chart. Then he went in for his second surgery. The next day, Brown said he had 20/20 vision in his right eye.

“I didn’t know white was so white. I didn’t know the sky was so blue,” Brown said. “They gave me back my vision and my life.”

Leinbaugh of Marietta said usually there isn’t much contact between the patient and the sponsor after the surgery. But Brown contacted him to thank him and even sent Leinbaugh and his wife thank you gifts.

“His father made two wooden gavels for my wife...who is involved in Eastern Star,” Leinbaugh said, adding Brown also sent him a tubal cane, something of significance to Masons.

Leinbaugh, who has worked with about 35 patients, said it’s the first time a patient has ever sent a gift. “It was nice to get the recognition for the time it takes. I thought that was really a sweet gesture.”

Brown said he’s forever grateful to the Knights Templar for the gift they gave him.

“God bless you,” he said, directed at those who helped him. “I’ll never forget what you have done for me.”

Brown said he can see the music to play with no problem and has standing gigs every Friday night at The Place in Woodstock. Brown, who is a father of two and grandfather of two, also plays regularly at Little River Grille on Bells Ferry Road, he said.

Since the Eye Foundation’s inception, it has spent close to \$100 million on eye care and handled more than 80,000 cases.

“Besides providing services for patients, we have programs where we award research grant money to researchers in pediatric ophthalmology to the tune of about \$600,000 per year,” Sir Knight Marvin Selock said. “So far we’ve spent over \$9 million for pediatric ophthalmology research.”



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.

■ The Grand Commandery of Illinois has prepared a 2-volume set of its history to commemorate its 150th anniversary. Included in these books is the biographical sketch of all of the presiding officers of the York Rite bodies in Illinois from their formation; Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery. The 2-volume paperback set of 1,200 pages is available for \$35.00, plus shipping from Robert Baker Fisher, 2151 Baker Street, Aurora, IL 60506-1707.

■ 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.

■ 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: Knights Templar jewel, 14 kt., hand-engraved with onyx inlays—collector's item, not currently available. First used as a pocket watch fob and more recently as a necklace. 1982 appraisal, \$975.00. W. Jackson, 609 N.W. 4th Avenue, Apt. 213; Aledo; IL 61231.

■ For sale: Knights Templar triangular aprons, black with silver trim and silver bullion thread for embroidered crossed swords on flap, skull and crossbones on the apron. These are identical to those worn by all Sir Knights in the last century and still worn in some jurisdictions: brand new: \$80.00 plus \$7.00 U.P.S. A percentage to York Rite charities. Sai Caradonna, P.C., 23 Gail Court, Staten Island, NY 10306-2234; (718) 987-4532.

■ The perfect Templar gift: Knights Templar dress ties with cross and crown on square and compass—\$22.00 each. It's a fund-raiser for the 157th Annual Conclave of Texas. The ties are black or maroon in color. The black tie has a single emblem (3/4 inch high crown, square and compass in gold with a red cross), 4 inches from tip. The maroon tie has a recurring pattern of the same emblem (1/2 inch high) placed diagonally across the tie. Both ties are 60 inches and are made of silk and polyester. Send order and check payable to 157th Grand Conclave to Dock F. Dixon, Jr., 117 U.S. Highway 87, Comfort, TX 78013. Ties will be sent day following receipt by return mail. H: (830) 995-3133, C: (210) 274-3133, e-mail: dfdixon@beecreek.net See ties at <http://yorkrite.albertpikedeology.org>. Click on San Antonio York Rite Bodies; click on Commandery logo.

■ Sword slings available in 2-inch or 1-inch wide, white or black nylon straps with black, fine grade leather sword holder and with heavy duty black clips. They are adjustable to fit all sizes—\$19.00 each plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. For further details or brochure, write Tom Starnes, 303 Shawnee Indian Lane, Suwanee, GA 30024, call (678) 923-6776 or e-mail tonawsta@comcast.net Checks to K.T. Enterprises. % of net profits to KTEF.

■ For sale: Knights Templar shoulder straps, pairs, finest quality available, all ranks, embroidered in extra fancy real gold and silver bullion on velvet with velcro backs: Due to the high price of gold and silver, the manufacturer has raised his prices again: Past Commander (red); serving Commander, Generalissimo (specify either traditional or just lamb and square), Captain General, Prelate (green): all \$50; Emeritus ranks: Generalissimo, Captain General and Prelate (red): \$55; Honorary Past Commander with silver H.C. at foot of cross, \$90; Grand Commandery, Grand Rep., \$60; Past Grand Commander (purple): \$70; Grand Encampment and special orders, \$85. (We now offer special order Grand Commandery and Grand Encampment shoulder straps with the initials of the rank at \$15.00 per letter; i.e., P.G.C. embroidered in silver would add \$45.00 to the special order price.) Also: chapeaux crosses in extra fancy gold/silver bullion w/velcro back: Sir Knight, \$45; Past Commander, \$50; Grand Commandery and Grand Rep. (red), \$65; Past Grand Commander (purple), \$70; Grand Encampment and special orders, \$80. Embroidered extra fancy gold/silver sleeve crosses (pair), velcro back: Sir Knight, \$45; P.C., \$45; Grand Commandery, \$50; P.G.C. (purple), \$70; Grand Encampment and special orders, \$85. We can now have initials embroidered in silver on a pair of straps at \$15 for each initial (for the pair). Embroidered gold/silver fatigue hat bullion crosses: Sir Knight, \$45; Past Commander, \$50. Metal cap crosses: silver, \$32; gold, \$38; Past Commander's jewel, \$52. All items plus shipping, handling, and insurance: 1st item, \$5.00; each additional item, \$1.00. ALSO, we have a Royal Arch Mason sword, 2 Sir Knight's silver colored fancy swords, and a 32" sword, all antique and of extremely fine quality, \$245 each plus \$25 shipping. Percentage to Knights Templar and Masonic charities. Checks to and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., P.C.; 3 Ocean West Blvd., No. 444; Daytona Beach; FL 32118. Phone (386) 304-6157; cell (386) 871-0842.

■ 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, with a certificate of authentication. Penny is made of antique bronze (looks like gold). This is a fund-raiser for our 50th anniversary,

Continued to page 18

James Monroe: Mason, Soldier, Statesman—Part II

by Gilbert H. Hill

The British invaded and burned Washington in 1812. Congress was homeless for five years, meeting here and there in structures still standing after that staggering blow dealt by the mother country. Reconstructed, the Monroes opened the White House on New Year's Day 1818 with a great fete and celebration.

The elegant taste of the Monroes is on display today in the Green Room of the executive mansion. The charming Italian mantel was purchased by them. In the Monroe Room, established by Mrs. Herbert Hoover, are copies of all the Monroe furniture. To this was added, in the Eisenhowers' tenancy, an original sofa. On a wall facing an entrance hang splendid portraits of James and Elizabeth Monroe. It was the Monroes who started the supreme White House gold collection in French flatware for the dinner set.

Monroe, having served in the administrations of Washington, Jefferson and Madison, only once encountered a lack of confidence in his ability to ably represent the interests of his country. The Jay Treaty was unpopular both in France and the United States and was grudgingly adopted by a bare two-thirds majority, largely at Washington's insistence.

Monroe had "promised" the French that Congress would not accept it. The outcry in France was such that Monroe was recalled. Upon his return, he published a 500-page treatise in defense of his policy. It is said Washington never forgave him for this.

Monroe's two elections to the Presidency were easily won victories. In fact, the 1820 election was the only one since Washington's in which there was no opposing candidate. This period in American politics came to be known as the "Era of Good Feeling."

Having helped settle disputes between America, France, Spain and England, and thereby reducing the danger of hostilities and conflict, it was natural that American foreign policy should bear his name, and the rest of the world began to understand the western hemisphere was not open to conquest and domination.

The annual message to Congress, December 1823, carried the gist of the doctrine which has since born his name: "The American Continents...are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers."

The first inaugural address, March 4, 1817, contained this state-

ment: "National honor is national property of the highest value." When Britain, then "mistress of the waves," suggested that the United States join her in a "hands-off" proclamation as to Latin America, Monroe chose the advice of John Quincy Adams, his Secretary of State, and warned that not only Latin America must be left alone but Russia must not encroach southward on the Pacific Coast.

Monroe sided with the South on the slavery issue, but he made no effort to influence Congress. The Missouri Compromise settled largely by Henry Clay resolved temporarily the clash between the North and South. Discarding sectional bias of previous years, Monroe appointed Calhoun, a Southerner, for Secretary of War, and Northerner Adams, Secretary of State.

According to the John A. Hertel *Masonic Bible and Encyclopedia*, 1951 Edition, the records of Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 provide the information that James Monroe's petition for membership in the Fraternity was favorably received November 6, 1775. On November 9 of the same year he was accepted an Entered Apprentice. This would indicate that the first Degree in Masonry was conferred before he was quite 18 years of age. At that time the stipulation of the minimum age of 21 years had not become a rigid regulation. Since no record has survived indicating that the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason was ever conferred upon him in Lodge No. 6, it is generally accepted that the additional degrees were received in a military Lodge during the Revolution. Records of the Williamsburg Lodge indicate that payments of dues were made through October 1780. At one time Monroe held membership in the Kilwinning Cross Lodge No. 2 of Port Royal, Virginia. This record was discovered by George W. Baird.

While Monroe was President, he visited Cumberland Lodge No. 8, of Nashville, Tennessee, and was extended the honor of a private reception by the Lodge. He was greeted by Worshipful Master Wilkins Tannehill, who headed the procession to receive him. Tannehill later became Grand Master of Tennessee.

Memorial services were held by Randolph Lodge No. 19 when death brought an end to this great patriot and loyal Mason.

Surrounded by an influence of Masonic Brotherhood in the military Lodges of the Revolutionary War and working with such personalities as Washington, John Marshall, General Lafayette, Robert Livingston, all Grand Masters except Washington, must have been an experience unparalleled in sober and wise guidance. One may also fancy the potency of the philosophy of Benjamin Franklin; inventor, scientist, statesman and Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania under the English Constitution.

THE END

Continued from page 15

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 same at P.O. Box 972, Channelview, TX 77530.

■ For Sale: Middle Georgia Chapter No. 165, R.A.M., the first Chapter to be chartered in Georgia in 25 years, is selling its newly minted mark/penny for \$10.00 each or 2 for \$15.00, postpaid. Each coin accompanied with a certificate of authenticity. Checks or MOs to *Middle Georgia York Rite Bodies* and mail to A. Neal Mimbs, Chairman; 121 Jeanette Street, Cochran, GA 31014; e-mail anealmimbs@bellsouth.net

■ For sale: refrigerator magnets to benefit York Rite charities: The magnet allows you to write the meeting time and day of the month for Blue Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Shrine, as well as having a note space for each body. They are \$2.61 with USPS postage included, or if you would like 100 pieces, they will be \$160.00, postage included. That would allow you to sell them for \$2.00 and make \$4.00 each. *York Rite Bodies*, 4483 Summerlin Place, Rock Hill, SC 29732; e-mail lindseyjon@compurium.net; Verison (803) 517-4956. All profits to the York Rite charities.

■ Help the children: 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 and one free tag with every 10 ordered. Shipping for 1 to 5 is \$6.00, 6 to 10 is \$8.00, 11 to 20 is \$10.00 to same address in US. \$2.00 from each tag donated 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@windstream.net

■ Northeastern Lodge No. 210, Fremont, Indiana, celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2007. Part of the program is the issuance of a commemorative coin with the likeness of General Lewis B. Hershey on one side. General Hershey supervised the selective service for over three decades. He was also a 50-year member of Northeastern Lodge No. 210. The coins are 1 and 9/16 inch, antique bronze, and sell for \$10.00, plus \$1.00 shipping. (Special finish, gold or silver plated available at \$50.00 each.) This is a fund-raiser for our new lodge. Check or MOs to *Northeastern Lodge No. 210*, and send to John Myers, 20 South John Court, Angola, IN 46703.

■ For sale: Masonic mug with square and compass and personalized with your Lodge's name, number and the member's name. It is microwave and dishwasher safe and made in Crooksville, Ohio, by Heritage Stoneware, one of the few remaining ceramic potteries from the rich tradition of the Southeast Ohio area. It is hand-crafted exclusively for Peerless Lodge No. 591. Send payment of \$20.00, shipping included, via check or MO, along with Lodge name and number and the member's name plus the return address to *Tim Danielson, Sec.; Peerless Lodge No. 591; 12834 Twp. Rd. 1001; Crooksville; OH 43731*.

■ 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 harrya217@cstel.net

■ 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, O.E.S., 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.

■ For sale: book, *The Rationale of Freemasonry*: Includes the meaning of allegories, the influence of social changes and trends. 280 pages, \$20.00 postpaid. % to KTEF. Checks to and order from Bob Demott, 3501 Equestrian Way, Knoxville, TN 37921.

■ For sale: Hummel Masonic figurines, Franklin and Washington: \$500.00 firm. (607) 563-3530.

■ Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector. I have been building this collection for 36 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 Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705, (520) 888-7585.

■ 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 *Macey Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., P.O. Box 9759, 3011 Old Dumbarton Rd., Richmond, VA 23228-0759, (804) 262-6551*. The price is \$16.95 plus S & H. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.

■ For 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 78727-3258.

In Memoriam



Clifford Lee Duncan
Grand Commander of Arkansas—1999
Department Commander
South Central—2003–2006
December 17, 1929–December 5, 2007



In addition to serving as Grand Commander of Arkansas, 1999, and South Central Department Commander of the Grand



Encampment, 2003–2006; Sir Knight Duncan served as Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Arkansas, 2001, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Arkansas, 1995, and Intendant General for Arkansas, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine. He also was a Past Prior of Albert Pike Priory, Knights York Cross of Honour; a Past Governor of Arkansas York Rite College (Order of the Purple Cross); a Past Sovereign of St. Giles Conclave, R.C.C.; a Past Eminent Preceptor, HRAKTP; and a member of Cornerstone Lodge No. 511 and of the National Sojourners.

Sir Knight Clifford was born December 17, 1929, near Durant, Oklahoma, was educated in the public schools of Atoka, Oklahoma, and San Francisco, California. While stationed at McClellan Air Force Base, California, he attended American River College in Sacramento.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1948 and served in the administrative field and later in the Air Force in electronics and advanced to Airborne Electronic

Technician-Superintendent and served around the world, retiring in 1974. He was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. of America, Post No. 10472, Desha, Arkansas.

He married Nelcean Bales, and they had two daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Nelcean resides at 52 Duncan Drive, Floral, AR 72534.

Sir Knight Duncan was extremely active in Symbolic Lodge, Capitular Masonry, Cryptic Masonry, and Chivalric Masonry, and will be missed by all.

In addition to other memberships mentioned, he was a member of Scottish Rite, Allied Masonic Degrees, Knight Masons, MSRICF, and the Order of Eastern Star.

He was appointed R.E. South Central Department Commander by M.E. Grand Master Kenneth B. Fischer at the 62nd Triennial Conclave on August 20, 2003, in St. Louis, Missouri.

In Memoriam



John Charles Werner II
Grand Commander of D.C.—1982
Department Commander
Northeastern—1985–1988
July 20, 1928–December 21, 2007



Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Sir Knight Werner was educated at Valley Forge Military Academy, Junior College in

Wayne, Pennsylvania, and the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

He married Beatrice May Henshaw, December 27, 1952.

He was commissioned in the U.S. Army Artillery, February 23, 1952, and served 4 and 1/2 years active duty, one year in the Korean Conflict, and was recalled to active duty during the Cuban crisis.

Sir Knight Werner was retired from U.S. Government service.

The couple resided in Fairfax, Virginia, and were members of the Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church, Virginia.

Sir Knight Werner was raised in Kemper Lodge No. 64, Falls Church, Virginia; dual membership in Sharon Lodge No. 327, McLean. He was a member of Triangle Chapter No. 73, R.A.M., Arlington, and a member of Triangle Council No. 3, Washington, D.C., and was created a Knight Templar in Arlington Commandery No. 29, Arlington, Virginia, and held dual membership in Potomac Commandery No. 3, Washington, D.C.

He served as Grand Commander of the District of Columbia, 1982, and held numerous committee chairmanships. He was a member of the Past Commanders' Association and was a member of INRI Tabernacle XXXVII, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.

Additional Masonic memberships included the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction; Kena Temple, Alexandria, Virginia, AAONMS; the Allied Masonic Degrees; the Grand College of Rites; Knight Masons; National Sojourners; the Royal Order of Scotland; and honorary member of Grand Commanderies of Kentucky and Pennsylvania.

He also belonged to the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

Sir Knight Werner was appointed R.E. Northeastern Department

Commander by M.E. Grand Master Donald Hinslea Smith on August 14, 1985, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

IN MEMORIAM



Charles R. Albertson
Ohio
Grand Commander—1999
Born: October 20, 1930
Died: November 27, 2007

Clifford Lee Duncan
Arkansas
South Central Department
Commander—2003—2006
Grand Commander—1999
Born: December 17, 1929
Died: December 5, 2007

Gerald D. Sorensen
Nebraska
Grand Commander—1998
Born: December 22, 1926
Died: December 15, 2007

John Charles Werner II
District of Columbia
Northeastern Department
Commander—1985—1988
Grand Commander—1982
Born: July 20, 1928
Died: December 21, 2007

George F. Frank
California
Grand Commander—1987
Born: March 25, 1924
Died: December 25, 2007

This article presents the author's views which are not necessarily those of the Grand Encampment or any person representing the Grand Encampment.

The Jesus Connection—Part II

by Sir Knight Jeffrey L. Kuntz, Sr. Warden, 32°

Many Bible scholars agree that the Scriptures are meant to be much more a collection of writings about life's moral lessons than a precise history. Some, also, believe there is much symbolism in the form of metaphor and allegory in the canonical books as well as in the *Apocrypha*. In fact, some will go so far as to say that real personages are sometimes used in allegory.

For those who have especially open and pondering minds and a love for allegory and hidden meaning in the Scriptures, one could take the reference of Jesus as a carpenter's son to have a cryptic meaning—with a Masonic tie-in at that! After all, don't Masons use carpenter tools as symbols to teach character building? Of course, the biblical literalists have a definite problem with such interpretations—as they would with the Nazarene claim—and even many casual Bible readers would consider that a stretch! At any rate, some contemplation of the idea might be good exercise for the mind, if nothing else.

It is interesting to note that in Arthur Edward Waite's *A New Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry* similarities between the Essenes and the Freemasons are stated: a) women were not admitted into the inner workings; b) they used certain signs of recognition; and c) their rituals were followed by a meal in common.

Perhaps more important, however,

is the evidence in records, including the writings of such ancient authors as Plato, Josephus, Eusebius, and others, that some of the teachings and symbols we use in Freemasonry were also inculcated upon the members and candidates of the Essenes. Some of these symbols were also found in identical form in Egypt, China, and in all parts of the ancient world, including, strangely enough, Mexico and Central America.

Maybe here it is well to emphasize the importance of the use of symbols in spiritual and mental development. Symbols and ritual *mean* something, and their meanings have been ingrained into the subconsciousness of man for thousands of years. Careful contemplation of these symbols, according to occultists and students of mysticism, can aid in the development of wisdom, understanding, and even mental powers.

The development of spiritual and mental powers by the ancient esoteric societies such as the Essenes is, some believe, one of the main reasons such communities and sects met or even lived in secret. If their ceremonies and teachings had been freely given out, they not only would have set themselves up for ridicule, but they would have risked the dangerous misuse of their special knowledge by the unenlightened.

Some Christian mystic scholars believe this was what Christ was referring to when, according to Matthew 7: 6, He said: "Give not that which is holy unto dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet and turn again and rend you."

Students of the occult believe that in remote periods of history there were civilizations that, after learning and developing the powers of the universe that are intertwined with the human mind, eventually lost touch with their spiritual nature and began using these powers for evil purposes, ultimately leading to their own destruction. This, they believe, is the main reason that an initiation system was created, placing candidates into levels or degrees of instruction and testing them as they advance to higher grades of knowledge and abilities.

If Jesus did live in seclusion with the Essenes until his thirtieth year, it was then time for him to begin his very special ministry in the outside world. He then formed His own band of followers. His innermost followers were the twelve disciples, who became known as the "apostles."

There are fairly strong indications in the four gospels that Jesus shared certain knowledge with His inner circle of these twelve specially chosen disciples that, at least for a time, was to be kept secret. After Jesus told the parable of the sower to a crowd, His disciples came to Him asking why He spoke in parables. He answered: "Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries (secrets) of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given." (Matthew 13: 11) This incident is also recorded in the fourth chapter of Mark and in the eighth chapter of Luke, but

in the account of Matthew, Jesus gives a fuller explanation of His parables.

Paul spoke of the secret teachings in several of his epistles. In his first letter to the Corinthians, he wrote: "You should think of us as Christ's servants who have been put in charge of God's secret truths." In the third chapter of his letter to the Ephesians, Paul wrote: "How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery;...which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit." (verses 3 and 5)

Perhaps, Paul divulged the basis of the greatest truth in his letter to the Colossians, "...and the secret is that Christ is in you..." (Col. 1: 27) Was Paul telling us that the way to total inner peace while on earth, as well as to eternal salvation, is learning to be attuned to the Christ within?

When the time neared for Christ to be crucified, He spoke to the disciples about why He had to suffer such an end, but those things not even they were prepared to understand. "I have used figures of speech to tell you these things," He told them in John 16: 25, "but the time will come when I will not use figures of speech, but will speak to you plainly about the Father."

As recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, after Christ's Ascension, the apostles performed miracles and healed many sick people. Before the Crucifixion, they had finished their training under Jesus the Christ, learning to master the forces of God which enabled them to perform such works.

In the fourteenth chapter of the Gospel of John, Jesus said: "Verily, verily I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do

also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." (verses 12–14)

This is one passage where Jesus was speaking quite plainly. There really can be little doubt what He meant. Most Christians today, however, either misunderstand, misinterpret, or simply ignore the passage. Yes, Christ's message was one of love and faith, but as He also clearly taught, through strong and truly spiritual love and faith, we are able to do great and marvelous things!

Perhaps, most Freemasons today would think it unthinkable that Jesus Christ would have been a member of a fraternal order similar to our present-day Masonic order. Maybe we should ask ourselves, however, what exactly Freemasonry is. From the study of ancient symbology and mysticism could we conclude that modern Freemasonry is a vestige of or a kind of diluted variant in the line of ancient esoteric mystery schools which go back thousands of years? From a perusal of certain passages of Scripture, can we conclude that the great prophets, Jesus Christ, and his apostles, and even some of the saints of the early Church were highly advanced initiates of ancient mystery schools?

The question here that would naturally come to the minds of some is why this higher knowledge was not passed on through the Christian Church. According to some scholars, some of these teachings were, indeed, held by the very early Church fathers. Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, who was Imperator for the Rosicrucian Order in America, in his book, *The Mystical Life of Jesus*,

explained that there are records in the archives of the Roman Catholic Church in the Vatican containing much of these teachings and unknown information about the life of Jesus, but that these records were suppressed by later Church leaders.

After the conversion of Constantine in the early fourth century, Christianity became the established official religion of the Roman empire. In his very interesting book, *The Hidden Bible*, William Leary explains how the Church leaders of that time modified the Christian religion to meet their political needs. This was done, for the most part, in order to appeal to the illiterate masses who could not comprehend the loftier teachings of Christianity. Leary wrote: "The deeper knowledge of the Christian teaching gradually disappeared, and became the Lost Word."

Freemasonry can certainly not take the place of the Church. It must, in fact, support the Church. Perhaps, we can see, however, that there is, to some extent at least, a connection, a kinship, between the more mystical teachings of Jesus and our beloved fraternal order of Freemasonry, even if it be an attenuated vessel of the higher knowledge. Can we as Freemasons, as Knights Templar, perhaps someday find the Lost Word? Masonic membership has declined in recent years, as has church attendance, but one thing for sure is that our work as Freemasons, as well as Christians, is of the utmost importance now at a time when it is, without any doubt, needed as much as ever.

* * * *

Sir Knight Jeffrey Kuntz is Sr. Warden of Baldwin II Commandery No. 22, Williamsport, Pennsylvania. He resides at 179 OCR, A15, Montoursville, PA 17754.

What Is the York Rite!

by Sir Knight David C. Mercer

What is the Commandery? Many feel that the Commandery is the building in which we meet—to them this is first and foremost. Others feel the members are the Commandery.

However, I feel that, in reality, we the members are only part of the Commandery: Since we are a **charitable** organization, humanity is also indirectly our Commandery, and since we are a **Christian** section of Masonry, we should not forget the teachings of the Lord—foremost **charity!**

But at some Conclaves, I have noticed there are heated debates over giving a charitable donation to provide presents at Christmas for poor children or a donation to help children with learning disabilities. When there is a suggestion to do a fund-raiser to pay for these things, there can also be opposition and a negative, “we can’t do it” attitude.

Why are we losing members? **It is our own fault!** We must be our brothers’ keeper. We must try to show those less fortunate that we care. We must be visible to the public, and we must show a genuine concern for others and not pay lip service only at our meetings. People want and demand results, not stagnation.

We must begin to work progressively to build not only our image but to assist mankind. We must change to meet the times. Perhaps a child helped by our programs will one day be a future Grand Commander, or given the status quo, it is possible that this ignored child could drop out of school and even turn to crime, because he never heard of us, because we hide in our buildings conducting the same tired, meaningless rituals.

It is time for progressive ideas, new thoughts, and new standards. I’d rather have a Conclave attended by

the mandatory nine who are willing to work than have a houseful of negative thinkers, do-nothings who want nothing more than to pay the bills.

Our Lord taught us that our family is mankind. We not only have a duty, but as Christian Masons, we have an obligation to assist the defenseless and the downtrodden.

If we do not change our views soon, our Fraternity will die and rot away. People will ask (they do now): “What was/is the York Rite?” How would you answer? Would you say: “We are a charitable organization.”? Would you say: “We are involved in the betterment of the community.”? **Would you have to say:** “We meet, pay the bills, collect dues, and close our meetings.”?

Remember: “To thine own self be true.” You can ignore an illness, but it will not go away! The York Rite is ailing, and in order for it to recover, it will take a change in our current ways of doing things. It will take something that I feel we lack: It will take one of the many virtues of our Lord, **compassion.**

I say let’s have a revival of the York Rite. Let’s recommit ourselves to the true principle of the Fraternity. Let’s follow the hermit: Share and care! Without this I see the York Rite falling into a state of decay, I see the consolidation of Commanderies, and I see us finally falling into complete ruin.

As for the fund-raisers, they will pay for themselves. Many will donate if they know the money is going back to the community, to solve its problems; however, it takes work to be a success. I ask: Are we an organization of doers or an organization that is in a coma, never to be awakened? Be honest with yourself. If you love the York Rite, strive for change and save its life.

Sir Knight David C. Mercer is a member of Waco Commandery No. 10, Waco, Texas. He resides at 316 Joanne Drive, Waco, TX 76705.

On the Masonic Newsfront

APPEAL FOR RELIEF—WASHINGTON STATE

The Grand Lodge of Washington State is asking for assistance to help them to recover from the devastating storm that occurred on December 3, 2007. Hurricane force winds of more than 90 miles per hour battered the coast, and more than 11 inches of rain fell in a 48-hour period causing severe flooding and mudslides. Largely ignored in the media, nevertheless, the devastating results of the storm led to a declaration of a major disaster by both the state and national authorities. The need for help is urgent.

Please forward to The Masonic Service Association such funds as you feel appropriate to help our devastated Brethren and their families in this stricken jurisdiction. Please make checks payable to *The MSA Disaster Relief Fund*, and send to The MSA at 8120 Fenton Street, Suite 203, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4785.

Most Sincerely and Fraternally,
Richard E. Fletcher, P.G.M.
Executive Secretary

OKLAHOMA COMMANDERY CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY



Elk City Commandery No. 22, Elk City, Oklahoma, celebrated its 100th anniversary on September 28, 2007. The celebration was in conjunction with the conferral of the Commandery Orders in Elk City on the following day to 21 candidates. It was the culmination of the York Rite Field Day, honoring Most Worshipful Grand Master Charles L. Dick. These Orders, including the full-form Red Cross and full-form Malta, were conferred by the Sir Knights of Elk City No. 22 with some help from others. → → → →

Elk City Commandery was founded March 20, 1907, a date that preceded the founding of the state of Oklahoma. The banquet was attended by local Sir Knights and well-wishers from all over the state. A very inspiring address was given by the principal speaker for the evening, Sir Knight Kenneth B. Fischer, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the US.

The Sir Knights in the picture (page 25) are, left to right: John L. Logan, R.E. Grand Commander of Oklahoma; Tim Israel, E. Commander of Elk City No. 22; M.W. Charles L. Dick, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Oklahoma; James C. Taylor, Past Department Commander, South Central, 1994–1997; and Kenneth B. Fischer, M.E.P.G.M. (submitted by James C. Taylor, R.E.P.D.C.)

OKLAHOMA CENTENNIAL PARADE IN GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA



At the Oklahoma Centennial Parade in Guthrie, Oklahoma, on November 16, 2007, 31 Knights Templar marched the 1.8 mile route through Guthrie with Right Eminent Grand Commander of Oklahoma, John L. Logan, marching between the color guard and the divisions. The event was covered by all three major networks, OETA, and several cable channels. It was an exhilarating experience for both the huge crowd and the Sir Knights.

NASSAU COMMANDERY OF NEW YORK STATE HOLDS 3RD ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE



Nassau Commandery No. 73 of New York State held its 3rd Annual Service of Thanksgiving at the Half Hollow Community Church in Dix Hills, New York. Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of New York (2006), Sir Knight George Harrison, was present for the service, and the Sir Knights participated in the service. The pastor, Reverend Juanita D. Hilsenbeck, was sent to the Holy Land a number of years ago by Nassau Commandery, and she often uses illustrations from her pilgrimage for her services. Her husband, Sir Knight Walter Hilsenbeck, is a Past Commander of Nassau Commandery and the past head of the Royal Arch Masons of New York State. The Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, Reverend Robert Cave, fills the pulpit when Reverend Hilsenbeck travels as she is very active in volunteer work around the state.

SALE OF MASONIC BEAR TO BENEFIT KTEF



Meet SAM, the Masonic bear. He measures nine inches tall, is blue and white in color, has a gold bow around his neck, and is crafted by Holy Bear, Inc. This bear was created for the purpose of raising funds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and the Scottish Rite Centers of South Carolina. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation helps fund eye surgery for those in need and supports research into eye diseases. The Scottish Rite Centers provide care, free of charge, to preschool-aged children with the inability to properly communicate efficiently and effectively. The proceeds from the sale of the bears will benefit these organizations. The price of each bear is

\$10.00, plus \$4.95 shipping in the USA. Make checks payable to Michael Broom, and please send your order to: Michael J. Broom, P.E.C.; 201 North Ridge Road; Columbia; SC 29223. E-mail: mjbswb@aol.com.

California Gold Recipe Book

The California Gold recipe book, **advertised below**, has gone through three printings since the project was conceived three years ago, and we recently ordered the fourth and final printing. The printings haven't been large, due to the limited size of the target population, but so far we have sold just over 1,500 copies of the book, resulting in a little over \$30,000.00 in contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The response from the Sir Knights and their ladies from all over the country has been gratifying, to say the least. This has been due in part to those of you who ordered a book spreading the word to others about its quality and practicality. We were able to order the fourth printing of 200 books due to contributions that underwrite the publication costs from these Commanderies: California No. 1, Los Angeles No. 9, and Golden Gate No. 16. To them we are grateful, in that we are still able to offer the book for a \$20.00 donation to the Eye Foundation. Remember, when this new printing is exhausted, there will be no more books printed. Again, our sincere thanks for your support of this project and the Eye Foundation.

Helen J. McDaniel, Project Chair, and Dan R. McDaniel, P.G.C., California

Sale of California Cookbook to Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation



A COLLECTION OF
FAVORITE RECIPES FROM
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR COMMANDERIES
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

The Grand Commandery of California is selling cookbooks, shown left, 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.

Sale of Blue Lodge Wall Hanging to Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The wall hanging is 27 inches wide by 36 inches long. It is made of 100% US cotton, and it has 380 picks per square inch to give it the beautiful color and the detail. It should be dry cleaned only. With the sale of each wall hanging through the *Knights Templar* magazine, a \$5.00 donation will be given to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The cost of the wall hanging is \$49.95, which includes the shipping and insurance. If interested, please send check or money order to Sandra D. Knotts, P.O. Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087.



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.

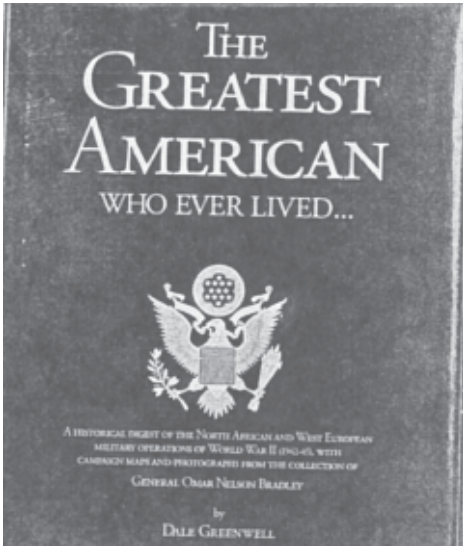


Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. 11, Milford, Massachusetts, is offering a complete summer uniform and accessories (no pants or shoes) for \$165.00. (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 or to request an order form for your state (include a stamped, self-addressed envelope), send to Milford as indicated below 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.**

Sale of Milford Commandery Polo Shirts Benefits 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.**



**Sale of Book to Benefit
the Knights Templar
Eye Foundation**

The Greatest American Who Ever Lived, by Sir Knight Dale Greenwell, is a historical digest of the North African and West European military campaigns of World War II, 1942–1945, with operation maps and 210 selected photos from General Omar N. Bradley's personal collection. It is best quality, army green and gold cover and jacket, 216 pages and 9.5 x 12.5 inches. You can view at www.amalpha.info and a purchase there guarantees a donation to the KTEF or order directly from author

Dale Greenwell, P.O. Box 426, Biloxi, MS 39533 for a \$5.00 donation of each sale to KTEF, for a \$2.00 donation to the Commandery Katrina recovery fund, and for free S & H. For the latter, price is only \$39.95.

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

Manchester Commandery No. 40, Manchester, Tennessee, is pleased to announce that it is continuing a fundraiser for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. They have added to their selection of unique **lapel pins**, especially for Sir Knights and Commandery appendant bodies. During the four years of pin sales, donations to the Voluntary Campaign have exceeded the \$22,000 mark! Again our thanks to those who have purchased these pins. We hope to make the 40th Annual Campaign donations even better! These pins can also be viewed in color at www.yorkriteusa.org These pins are available for **\$6.00 each or all nine for \$45.00**, postage paid. Make check or money order payable to: **Manchester Commandery No. 40**. Send to Garry L. Carter, Recorder; 424 Winchester Hwy., Hillsboro, TN 37342. Thanks again for your continued support.



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 appro-

priate, 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 York Rite Plaque to Benefit York Rite Charities

The plaque is scrolled out of wood and framed, and it represents all the bodies of the York Rite: Master Mason to Commandery. All proceeds from the sale of these plaques will go to the York Rite philanthropies: RARA, Cryptic Mason, the Eye Foundation, and the Holy Land Pilgrimage. They are \$50.00 each, including shipping and handling anywhere in the United States. Check to Conway York Rite Bodies, and send to: Kenneth Brackens, 2742 Cultra Road, Conway, SC 29526-3702; e-mail, kbrackens@yahoo.com



**Knight Templar
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**President and Brother
George Washington's
Birthday Anniversary
is February 22, 2008.
Don't miss the article
starting on page 7.**

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