

# Knight Templar

VOLUME LIV

APRIL 2008

NUMBER 4



Above is a picture of the historic signing of the Agreement between the Grand College of America, HRAKTP, and the Grand College of HRAKTP situate in York, England. M.E. William H. Koon II, Grand Preceptor of the Grand College of America, HRAKTP, is on the left, and M.I. E. Peter Donnison, Grand High Priest, Grand College of the HRAKTP situate in York, England, is on the right.

## Guest Message for April 2008

by Sir Knight Fred G. Kleyn III, KGC  
Grand Sovereign of the United Grand Imperial Council  
of the Red Cross of Constantine

My Fellow Sir Knights:

The earliest Easter in almost a hundred years is behind us, but Easter is an event we should remember all year. As Christian Masons, Easter is vital to our belief system. Without the reality of Easter, the glory of Christmas would not be. Easter is a clear and present reminder to us of the great sacrifice our Savior made for us and the example He provided.

We all take a great comfort from our religion as Christians, and we all learn when we attend church services, listening to a pastor who has spent many years studying to help us to understand the ramifications of Christianity as a religion and how it affects us—and we should also affect it. As Knights Templar, we have another periodic opportunity, in addition to our attendance at church, to be reminded of the presence of Christ and Christianity in our lives. In the Entered Apprentice degree, we say we want to “...receive and have a part...” in what Freemasonry has to offer. In our Commandery the situation is similar. We, as Knights Templar, Christian Masons, need never pass up an opportunity to learn, to deepen our understanding and appreciation for Christianity and for our fellow Knights. Practicing anything makes us better at it, and in the Commandery, we can practice our Christian virtues and develop knightly appreciation and love for our fellow man...our fellow Sir Knights.

What a great opportunity we have to offer other Christian Masons, to join with us in the fellowship of Templary and promote not only Christ's teachings but also the teachings of Freemasonry. They are similar one to the other, and mutually supportive...some of them are the same! Let's build our Commanderies so we are proud of them and make them attractive and worthwhile, so those we invite to become Knights Templar will find a challenging and growing experience.

Christ warned us about lighting a candle and putting it under a bushel. It is so with Christianity and with Templary. Let us as Sir Knights take not only our Christian virtues but also our Templar virtues with us into the community so that others may see our goodness and we may glorify our Father who is in Heaven.

Yours in Templary,  
Frederick G. Kleyn III, KGC  
Grand Sovereign  
Red Cross of Constantine



# Knight Templar

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

APRIL: There's still time to contribute to the 40th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the KTEF; the Campaign ends the end of this month! Catch up on all the news from the 40th Campaign for KTEF, starting on page 12. We have an inspirational message from the head of the Red Cross of Constantine, guest writer Grand Sovereign Fred G. Kleyn III, page 2, and another inspirational message from Grand Prelate Robert J. Cave, page 6; it's the Easter Message from the Easter Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008. Don't miss the coverage of a key event from Masonic Week in February, page 10! Also, this month we have a host of great articles by Brothers and Sir Knights, and the future is bright as we are receiving many worthy articles!

**Grand Encampment Web Site: <http://www.knightstemplar.org>**

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## **From the Grand Recorder's Office...**

Greetings, Sir Knights:

As we become more dependent on the internet, the Grand Encampment Office Staff is available to respond to your requests and to assist you in various ways—mail, telephone, electronic.



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Monday – Friday  
Central Time

### **REMINDER — SOUTHEASTERN DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE**

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee  
Robert E. Bursleson, RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
Friday, June 13, 2008 — Saturday, June 14, 2008.....Orlando, Florida

*ALL SIR KNIGHTS*, not just Grand Commandery Officers, are invited to attend the Southeastern Department Conference:

Rosen Plaza Hotel, 9700 International Drive, Orlando, Florida  
The Conference room rate of \$104 (single or double) is available three days before and three days after the Conference. Call (800) 627-8258, and reference "YORK RITE" for the preferred rate.

See the Grand Encampment web site for additional information.

Lawrence E. Tucker, GCT  
Grand Recorder

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## *Prelate's Chapel*

### **The Relationship of Templary to Christianity**

**by Sir Knight Larry V. Tidwell**

As I reflect upon the idea of “the relationship of Templary to Christianity,” I immediately think of parallels between Christian origins and modern Templar origins. For example, our Lord’s death, burial, and resurrection is the foundation of our faith. The ultimate goal of Christ’s tormentors was his annihilation and the permanent silencing of his message. In like manner, the Templars were rounded up, tortured, and killed with the ultimate goal being the permanent elimination of the order.

In both cases a resurrection took place. Jesus Christ triumphantly broke the chains of death and forever left us with the joyous expression of faith: “death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?...thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:55–57).

The Knights Templar were resurrected within the ranks of the organization we know and love as the Masonic Fraternity. As Grand Master Jacques DeMolay breathed his last breath in a fiery conflagration, he never dreamed that his beloved Knights would still be alive and well 700 years later.

The interesting connection in Templarism and Christianity is their common bond. Both have their foundation based on the Lord Jesus Christ. Both have a message of hope for the future of mankind. Both try to bring the lost soul into a living personal relationship with the risen Lord. Both will endure to see the Savior’s return because it is He that empowers these organizations with His Holy Spirit for the eternal glory of God the Father.

Sir Knight Larry V. Tidwell is a member of Longview Commandery No. 86, Knights Templar of Texas, and Longview Lodge No. 404 of the Grand Lodge of Texas. He resides at 1608 N. 7th Street, No. 40, Longview, TX 75601–4043.

# Grand Prelate's Easter Message—2008



## “Needed—A Miracle”

(Mark 16: 1–8, 1 Corinthians 15: 19–26, 57)

by Sir Knight and Reverend Robert J. Cave, KGC  
Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment

*Sir Knight and Reverend Robert J. Cave, Right Eminent Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America, presented the message below at the 78th Annual Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, on March 23, 2008.*

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

*Reverend Cave resides at 137 Glen Drive, Ridge, NY 11961.*

In the mid-1980s a parishioner in the church I was serving in New York died at the age of 101. The interment of her body was to be at the Mountain Grove Cemetery in Bridgeport, Connecticut. I rode up to Bridgeport in the hearse, from New York where I was living, and we arrived at the cemetery before most of the other mourners. As we had to wait for them, the superintendent of the cemetery began talking to me and then invited me to take a tour of the grounds of the cemetery as several well known personalities were buried there. He took me first to the grave of the well known hymn writer, Fanny Crosby. On her tombstone were carved the names of some of her famous hymns, including “Blessed Assurance,” “Jesus Is Tenderly Calling,” “To God Be the Glory,” and others. But this was not the grave he was eager to show me.

The one that was uppermost in his mind was that of General Tom Thumb of Barnum Circus fame. The grave of Tom Thumb contained a 40-foot shaft with a life-size statue of Tom Thumb, who was only 42 inches tall, on top of it. This monument rested on a gigantic slab of concrete covering the whole area of the oversized grave. The superintendent told me that the reason for the slab of concrete was not to hold the statue, but it was placed there because Tom Thumb had left instructions to do so before he died. It seems that Barnum, who lies in the grave adjacent, and Tom Thumb hated each other, and whenever they fought, Barnum threatened that when Tom died and was buried he would dig up his body. Thumb wanted to prevent this from happening.

Part of the thinking in culture suggests that death is the end, that the grave is the last stop, and the finality of life is sealed with concrete, a rock, a boulder, or some other impenetrable substance, so the body should never come out of its resting place.

Surely the disciples and the women who watched the crucifixion of Jesus thought this way on that first Easter morning. They were perhaps familiar with Genesis Five where the family of Adam is listed. A little of each of the family

members is told and then it ends for each with the words "and he died." Unquestionably, at this point they thought that Jesus was just another person to add to the list and to give the epitaph "and he died." So they were heart sick, discouraged, fearful, and doubtful about what they thought Jesus had said and done. They were despairing about the future. If ever any group of people needed a miracle to change their lives, it was this group.

And so as the women walked to the grave that morning to perform the one last duty of anointing Jesus' body with oil and spices, they expected to see the stone covering the entrance to the tomb. They said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?"

It was then they received their miracle. The stone had already been rolled away. The body was gone, and the announcement came that He had risen. The risen Christ then appeared to them. He later appeared to the disciples. Their lives were changed for God was with them.

They needed a miracle and they got a miracle. And the good news for this Easter morning is that this miracle is for all who have faith in Christ. It is there for you and me. And if we are to be honest with ourselves, many of us need a miracle today. We may need a miracle concerning our health. We may need a new vision of hope. We may need a miracle to restore the excitement in our marriage. In a world as confused and convoluted as ours, we need a miracle that tells us God is present with us and that He will give us strength and power, so that we will live life with the assurance that we can live victoriously. The Resurrection is God's gift to us, and it tells us three things we desperately need to hear this morning.

**The Resurrection of Jesus assures us that God is with us.** He is loose in the world. He is not shut out in some terrestrial dream world as the deists claim. In John Masefield's drama, *The Trial of Jesus*, Procula, the wife of Pilate, receives a report that Jesus rose from the tomb. She excitedly asks Longinus, a Roman soldier, "Do you think he is dead?" "No, I don't," Longinus replies. "Where then is he?" Procula asks. Longinus replies, "Loose in the world, Lady, where neither Jews nor Romans nor anyone else can stop him."

That is the very essence of Christianity. The saddest thing I can think of is when Christians think that faith is only about dying and preparation for heaven. Christianity is about living and about God walking our daily pilgrimage with us. He knows our needs, our hurts, our fears, and our sorrows, as well as our joys, because He walks our walk and talks our talk.

In Luke's Gospel Jesus appears to the disciples after the Resurrection and says to them, "Peace to you...why are you troubled?" Jesus knew that they were terrified and beside themselves with fear, and so He offers them peace and calms them down as He did the sea on a previous occasion. He is now with them and shows them so by offering to let them touch Him. What a wonderful thing to have the assurance that God is with us in Christ when our lives are storm-tossed and we are afraid.

About five years ago my wife had to go into the hospital as an outpatient for a difficult, painful, and fearful test. The first thing you have to do when you go to the hospital is check in with the receptionist, who is more concerned with your insurance coverage than your name and the test you are there for. While we were doing this, I was assuring my wife that she would be OK, reminding her we had prayed about it and that God would be with her. It was obvious to the receptionist that we were Christians. As we were about to leave her office for the next step in the procedure, the woman got out of her chair, went over to

a file cabinet, removed a sheet of paper, and gave it to my wife. She then hugged her and said "God will bless you."

The words on the paper read:

Good morning!  
This is God.  
I will be handling  
all of your problems today.  
I will not need any help,  
So, relax and have a great day.

What a difference that made. God was with us in the love and embrace of that woman. He was with us in the words on the paper. His presence was in our lives.

How many times have you stood before an abyss in life and been scared and terrified wishing God was with you? Well, He always is, and when we turn to Him, we will know it. How comforting it is when standing on that abyss to know that He is standing with us, holding our hand to prevent us from falling into it. The Resurrection of Jesus assures us of this.

**Secondly, the Resurrection of Jesus enables us to live life on a higher plane because we are strengthened by Him.** In Luke's Gospel Jesus gives the disciples the assurance that He would send the promise of the Father upon them. And in John's Gospel He gives them the Holy Spirit which is the promise. Because Jesus left, the Holy Spirit came. The Holy Spirit enables us to have that inner certainty, the ability to rise above our self-imposed limitations, to have an assurance about the future, and to have an unquenchable hope.

Receiving the Holy Spirit changes our lives dramatically. Our negatives are removed. We see life differently. We rise to heights never dreamed of. This certainly was the case with the disciples. Look at the change that came over them. Peter is an excellent example. The fearful Peter who denied Christ three times became the fearless Peter who endured martyrdom.

Norman Vincent Peale who wrote the book, *The Power of Positive Thinking*, and who was pastor of the renowned Marble Collegiate Church in New York City and who, incidentally, was Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment many years ago, told this story. A man often came to his church in a wheelchair. He said the man was more agile in handling that chair than many people are on their feet. He had been in the chair since he was 17 years old, when he had been disabled by rheumatic fever. His family was poor. His mother and father both worked, leaving him all alone all day sitting in his chair saying to himself, "useless, useless, useless."

Then one day he said to himself, "I am not useless." He picked up his bible and began to read in earnest. Finally, he was saying to himself, "So what if I have no leg power. I have a sound mind. There is nothing crippled in my mind." He continued to read his bible, and it told him he had soul power. He thought, "I can't run like other guys. I can't use my hands well, but I can use my mind and my soul with the best of them."

He finally figured out what he could do. He decided that he could make greeting cards. With his gnarled and crippled hands it took him a week to make the first card, and he suffered indescribable pain. But he sold the card at a profit. When Peale told the story, the man owned a company that made cards by the thousands. Peale concluded, "You can do anything with your mind, if you want to."



And it is true. But first of all we need a change on the inside and that comes through the gift of the Holy Spirit which the resurrected Christ promised.

And we wonder: is there anything that is limiting our lives, yours and mine, this morning? Easter is the ideal time, as we celebrate Christ's Resurrection, to receive the promise of the Holy Spirit and let our lives be changed, to be all that we can be and more than we would be by ourselves.

Of course, the gift is not to be hoarded for ourselves. It must be used ultimately in service to God and others. But first we must be changed by the promised Holy Spirit.

**Finally, Christ's Resurrection means that no matter how dark the situation in life seems we can be victorious, for death, the last enemy, has been defeated.** St. Paul states in First Corinthians 15: 57, "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

The United Methodist Church is comprised of Annual Conferences, in other words, area dioceses. Each Annual Conference has a yearly meeting. At the meeting the resident bishop makes a report of the state of the church in his area. My bishop told this story at the 2007 meeting.

He said that a minister in our area, a colleague of mine, died in May at the age of 62. Before he died, the bishop met with him just after he was diagnosed with liver cancer. The bishop said that they had a time of conversation, scripture reading, and prayer together. The bishop continued by saying that the conversation turned to a personal testimony by the dying minister and what his faith journey with God in Christ Jesus meant to him. The minister concluded by telling the bishop, "Bishop, God has been so good and gracious to me beyond measure. Whatever happens to me, with this God I cannot lose." This man was victorious because he knew that Christ had conquered death. His impending death was not the end of life.

One of the great preachers of the city of Washington was Peter Marshall, pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and chaplain of the Senate from 1947 to 1949, when he died of a sudden heart attack at the age of 47. He had the heart attack at home, and as the attendants carried him from his home to the ambulance he said to his wife, "I will see you in the morning." By this he meant the morning of a new day in God's presence beyond this life. He too knew that his impending death was not the end of life. Both ministers lived victoriously.

Someone once said, "Hope is hearing the tune of the song of a brighter tomorrow. Faith is singing the tune today."

That is what Easter is all about. And that is why we are here today. God in Christ is loose in the world, walking with us in our pilgrimage of life so that we are never alone to face life's fears and disappointments. God in Christ fills us with the Holy Spirit enabling us to be all that we can be. And God in Christ has conquered death giving us the assurance of victory and the assurance that life continues beyond the grave.

Thanks be to God as we sing the tunes of glory this morning.

Amen



## A MOMENT IN TIME

by Sir Knight Sid C. Dorris III, GCT, R.E. Grand Generalissimo

The festivities of this year's Masonic Week, held in February, contained many "Firsts."

The Order of Knights Templar has a close relative known as Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, made up exclusively of Past Commanders of a Commandery. The membership is limited to 33 Knight Priests per Tabernacle, and only one Tabernacle may exist for every 20 Commanderies of Knights Templar or major portion thereof, or one per Grand Commandery.

The Grand College of America of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests was first organized in 1935 with warrants and Patents from the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests situate in York, England.

Over the years, the association between the Grand College of America and the Grand College of York, England, the only two Knight Templar Priest orders in the world, was sporadic. Occasional trips were made by leadership of these two orders through the years, but nothing was done on a regular basis. Neglect caused miscommunication and misunderstanding, and over time relations became distant and strained. Communication was lacking, which never is good for strong relationships.

This year; as a result of many phone calls and e-mail exchanges initiated by M.E. Knight Priest William H. Koon II, Grand Preceptor, with the Grand College situate in York, England; an historic Agreement was reached. The agreement calls for a commitment to maintain strong communications between these prestigious orders and defines a procedure whereby the orders may be expanded. As a sign of unanimity, both Grand Colleges, after signing the Agreement, together Chartered a new Grand College for France.

The signing of the Agreement is celebrated on the April cover, and other pictures of these events are on page 11.

Truly, a new day has dawned for the Order of Knight Templar Priests, and the leadership of all three Grand Colleges have committed themselves to building a strong relationship for the future.

Central to the achievement of anything is a lot of hard work by many on both sides of the Atlantic. Sir Knight F. Douglas Draker, Past Sovereign Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada and an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, acted in a capacity of intermediary to get discussions started. Right Illustrious Ian Fithian-Franks, Grand Recorder of the Grand College in York, and M.E. William H. Koon II, Grand Preceptor of the Grand College of America, were in almost daily communications via e-mail and telephone until a rough draft of the Agreement was reached. After all the officers of both orders were informed and it was approved, the final draft was printed and signed on February 8, 2008, in Alexandria, Virginia, during the Annual Meeting of the Grand College of America.

Sir Knight Sid C. Dorris III, GCT and Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, resides at 2007 Brenthaven Drive, Mount Juliet, TN 37112-8244.



Joint presentation of the Patent to the Grand College of France, HRAKTP: left to right: R.E. Lawrence E. Tucker, Grand Recorder, GCA; M.E. William H. Koon II, Grand Preceptor, GCA; M.E. Patrick J. Jaillet, Grand Preceptor, GCF; M.I. E. Peter Donnison, Grand High Priest, GCY; and R.I. Ian Fithian-Franks, Grand Recorder, GCY.



Presentation of Memorial Cubes by the M.E. Patrick J. Jaillet, Grand Preceptor of GCF, HRAKTP: left to right: Ian Fithian-Franks, E. Peter Donnison, Patrick J. Jaillet, William H. Koon II, and Lawrence E. Tucker.



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**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 an article, "How to Sponsor a Case Through Your Foundation," and continued it in January, February, and in the March issue. Although it is completed, the article in its entirety can be obtained from the office of the KTEF.*



*The following is a good example of a successful sponsorship from Niagra Commandery No. 64 in New York State. **There is still time to contribute to the Campaign, which continues through April 30, 2008!***

***Letter from Sir Knight David E. Shire, E.G.Sr.W., KTEF Sponsor for Niagra Commandery No. 64 of Niagara Falls, New York (copy appeared in Masonic Times, Rochester, NY, in January 2008)***

I am pleased to make the following progress report about Kim Baugh's cataract eye surgery that Niagra Commandery No. 64 helped sponsor through the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

This is my first experience with a sponsorship process. I personally found it a rewarding experience, but I now know that I will do some things differently if I get another to do.

On May 29, 2007, I received a phone call from Brad Baker at the Knights Templar Eye Foundation offices in Schaumburg, Illinois, asking me to contact a lady, Kim Baugh, who had e-mailed him asking for help with cataract eye surgery.

After I phoned her on June 4, 2007, Sir Knight David Martin and I found out where Kim lived, and my wife Carol and I then phoned Kim and went to her home in Niagara Falls, New York. We met her husband and filled out the necessary papers. I, then, took the papers to her eye care facility, Fitka Eye Care, for them to fill out their part and return to me.

After numerous phone calls between Fitka Eye Care, Brad Baker at the Eye Foundation, and Kim Baugh; we finally got the papers signed and sent to Schaumburg, Illinois, for approval. After their approval, I took Kim for her pre-op

exam. The doctor said she had high blood pressure and needed to make an appointment with her clinic doctor to get this checked out before he would do the surgery. She got this done and took medication for a week to get her pressure down.

We finally got her left eye operated on on November 19, 2007. I took Kim the next morning for the post-op checkup. All went well, and now Kim goes for surgery on her right eye. So far Kim has had no complications and is elated with her new-found sight.

Kim is employed at a fast food establishment and had a dangerous crossing of a busy road in order to go from the bus stop to work. She was fearful of needing to quit her job because of her sight.

She and her husband are not on welfare and did not want to go that route, but she had been turned down for assistance from social services.

Her relatives helped her get on the internet and found the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, so they are thrilled at her progress and don't have to worry about her work problems.

We have been blessed for the opportunity to assist her as the representative for our Knights Templar Eye Foundation and to get her the aid she needed! We hope the next surgery continues to see her sight renewed without any problems.

She is so grateful for our help and has said the same many times while enduring the trials of getting this surgery completed. She weathered the difficulties and complications with getting the papers signed, etc., and is pleased to receive our help! (*This report was received at the KTEF office on January 10, 2008.*)

THANK YOU, SIR KNIGHT DAVID E. SHIRE, E.G.Sr.W.!

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

## NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO KTEF CLUBS

### Grand Master's Club

No. 5,215—Charles N. Cahoon (MA/RI)  
No. 5,216—Ralph T. Woodrow (VA)  
No. 5,217—Forrest D. McKerley (NH)  
No. 5,218—John D. Millichamp (MI)  
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*Eye Foundation coverage continued on page 23 ...*



# 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 fundraiser for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, sponsored by the Grand Commandery of Minnesota: \$5.00 each including S & H. **All proceeds to KTEF.** Checks payable to *Minnesota Grand Commandery*, and send to *Allan Kauppi, 10508 Redwood Street, N.W., Coon Rapids, MN 55433.*

■ 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: Mercy Sword and Scabbard, 13.5-inch blade, \$25.00 each plus shipping, and full length swords and scabbards, 26.5-inch blade, \$75.00 each plus shipping, for your collection or for your Commandery's division members. Shipping and handling is \$11.25 for the first item and \$5.00 each additional item. For more info call (781) 322-1123 or visit [www.mercysword.com](http://www.mercysword.com) or e-mail [cappy@mercysword.com](mailto:cappy@mercysword.com) Send checks payable to E. Cappy, P.O. Box 403, Malden, MA 02148. Proceeds for the Grand Commandery of MA/RI Greece 2009 pilgrimage.

■ **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](mailto:dfdixon@beecreek.net) See ties at

<http://yorkrite.albertpikedemolay.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@bellsouth.net](mailto:tonawsta@bellsouth.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: 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, 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 Oceans West Blvd., No. 44A; Daytona Beach; FL 32118.* Phone (386) 304-6157; cell (386) 871-0842.

*Continued to page 18*

## LOVE OF COUNTRY

Be faithful to your country, and prefer its dignity and honor to any degree of popularity and honor for yourself; consulting its interest rather than your own, and rather than the pleasure and gratification of the people, which are often at variance with their welfare.

The true Mason identifies the honor of his country with his own. Nothing more conduces to the beauty and glory of one's country than the preservation against all enemies of its civil and religious liberty. The world will never willingly let die the names of those patriots who in her different ages have received upon their own breasts the blows aimed by insolent enemies at the bosom of their country.

But it also conduces, in no small measure, to the beauty and glory of one's country, that justice should be always administered there to all alike, and neither denied, sold, or delayed to anyone.

And he who labors, often against reproach and obloquy, and oftener against indifference and apathy, to bring about that fortunate condition of things when that great code of divine law shall be everywhere and punctually obeyed, is no less a patriot than he who bares his bosom to the hostile steel in the ranks of his country's soldiery.

For Fortitude is not only seen resplendent on the field of battle and amid the clash of arms, but he displays its energy under every difficulty and against every assailant. He who wars against cruelty, oppression, and hoary abuses, fights for his country's honor, which these things soil; and her honor is as important as her existence. Often, indeed, the warfare against those abuses which disgrace one's country is quite as hazardous and more discouraging than that against her enemies in the field; and merits equal, if not greater, reward.

Defend weakness against strength, the friendless against the great, the oppressed against the Oppressor! Be ever vigilant and watchful of the interests and honor of your country! and may the Grand Architect of the Universe give you that strength and wisdom which shall enable you well and faithfully to perform these high duties!

*— Albert Pike*



## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Three by three in line they come  
Courteous men of Templardom!  
Christian men who've bowed the knee  
At the cross of Calvary,  
Each with dedicated sword  
To the glory of the Lord,  
Guarding still the faith they hold  
As was done in days of old.

Far their history trails away  
To the dark and bloody day  
When the Christians made their stand  
In the troubled Holy Land  
And the followers of the Christ  
Ruthlessly were sacrificed.  
There amid the inky gloom  
Shone the Templars' spotless plume.

Now the need for strife has gone,  
Still the Templars follow on,  
Though their swords in silence sleep,  
Still the faith of old they keep,  
Still beneath their glittering arch  
Candidates for knighthood march  
And by taper and by sword  
Pledge allegiance to the Lord.

Templars all, my hand I wave,  
Be you steadfast, be you brave!  
Old the order! Old the need  
For the valiant Christian's deed.  
Bigotry no more holds sway,  
But for valiant knights today  
And for Christian gentlemen,  
Still the need is now, as then.

– *Edgar A. Guest*

**Continued from page 15**

■ For sale: York Rite cap with six-color embroidery showing Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery emblems. Specify white or dark blue cap. \$11.00 each plus \$1.00 postage. Also: gold color Knights Templar lapel pin, \$4.00. **Part of each sale goes to the York Rite charities.** Robert Hauptert, P.O. Box 433, Farmington, NM 87499.

■ 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 \$.40 each. *York Rite Bodies, 4483 Summerlin Place, Rock Hill, SC 29732; e-mail lindseyjon@comporium.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.*

■ For sale: commemorative coffee mugs of the 2007 33<sup>rd</sup> Coronation in the Orient of Florida. Mug is white with gold 33<sup>rd</sup> double headed eagle and notation of date and location in gold. It is microwavable. \$10.00 per mug includes shipping. Send check to *Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 5500 Memorial Highway, Tampa, FL 33634.*

■ For sale: tooled leather items for Masons and their ladies, hand-made by a Master Mason. Items include: 6-ring notebooks, checkbook covers, wallets, and clutch purses. The square, compass, and letter G are tooled on the front or you can get any emblem from a concordant body that you wish. I have also designed a 16 x20-inch tooled leather picture enti-

led "A Master's Journey." This is a landscape that depicts events and symbolism on the way to becoming a Master Mason. Also, have a tooled leather belt with much of the picture. *Karl Jepsen, P.O. Box 305, Cal-Nev-Ari, NV 89039; (702) 297-1754; KarlJ68@aol.com % to KTEF.*

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

■ For sale: 2 full trapper CASE collector pocket knives, commissioned in celebration of 150 years of Masonry in Bath Co., Kentucky—1845-1995: 1 stag, 1 blue bone, housed in hinged case display box, each numbered "37 of only 250 made." Includes a brief history of Bath Lodge No. 55, F. & A.M., Owingsville, KY. (only two) will sell as pair, \$300.00, or separately at \$175.00, plus \$7.00 S & H. Contact *Bob G. Ray, P.M.; 182 John Stan Street; Owingsville; KY 40360; cell (606) 336-0367 or (606) 674-6097.*

■ Planning a Rusty Nail Degree? We have pins and certificates available at \$35.00 per unit. (A unit consists of 5 pins and 5 certificates, S & H included.) Please include your lodge name and number with your order if you wish to have them printed on your certificates. Make check out to *Tom A. Stevens, 5 Old Duxbury Court, Fairfield, OH 45014. Phone (513) 942-2490; fax (513) 272-2830. Proceeds go to the John Hayes Gerard Masonic Scholarship Fund and 10% to KTEF.*

■ Sprig of Acacia pin: each handcrafted pin is 24 karat gold vermeil finished; it will make a nice gift for the newly raised Brother; price is \$10.00 each, including S & H. Also available is the four immortal chaplains lapel pin, a beautiful pin honoring the chaplains who sacrificed their lives by giving up their lifejackets in order to save the lives of others. The price per pin is \$8.00 ea. including S & H. 10% to KTEF. **New Item:** Sept. 11 Memorial Masonic lapel pin, \$8.00 each, including S & H—to commemorate members who lost their lives in terrorist attack—**proceeds to KTEF.** *S. Kenneth Baril, 6809 Main Street, Apt. 2 West, Cincinnati, OH 45244-3470, (513) 272-2815, fax (513) 272-2830.*

■ For sale: *The Medal of Honor The Letter G in Valor*, a 268-page digest with the names, congressional citations, and Lodge membership of all Masons who have received our nation's highest military award for bravery. Books may be obtained by contacting *Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., P.O. Box 9759, 3011 Old Dumbarton Rd., Richmond, VA 23228-0759, (804) 262-6551. The price is \$16.95 plus S & H. Author's portion of profits donated to KTEF.*

■ 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 Billium Drive, Austin, TX 78727-3258.**

■ Wanted: Boy Scout patches: Were you a Boy Scout as a boy, and do you have a box of patches sitting in the closet that you would like to donate? Or are you an adult leader who would like to donate one of your OA flaps or CSPs? If so, please contact *Charles L. Powell III, P.O. Box 7009, Raceland, KY 41169-7009; email oa457@roadrunner.com.*

# What Does “Freemason” Really Mean?

by Brother C. Bruce Hunter

**W**hen and where did the word “Freemason” originate? And what does it really mean? These are among the Craft’s most enduring questions, and several answers have been proposed.

The word has been in use since the 14th century, but until the modern fraternity arose in the 18th century, we find it only in a scattering of documents. And it seems no one felt the need to leave us a proper definition.

Of course, the second part is easy. It comes from the French *masoun*, which refers to a craftsman who works in stone, in other words a stonemason. Since the modern fraternity supposedly descended from medieval stonemasons, there’s no problem here.

It’s the first part of the word that causes confusion. It apparently served as an adjective to tell something about the stonemason. But what does it tell us?

## Possible origins

There are several possibilities. One is that it originally denoted a person who was at liberty. This usually meant anyone who was not a serf (i.e. bound to a master or feudal lord) and was, therefore, free to do what he wanted to do.

A good example of this is the “freelance,” originally a knight at liberty to carry his lance anywhere and fight for any feudal lord willing to hire him. But the term had a special meaning for stonemasons.

Since erecting massive structures like Gothic cathedrals required more craftsmen than were available locally, these projects attracted workers from far and wide. It was primarily stonemasons who traveled from place to place

to find this kind of work, and as a concession to the practical needs of their profession, they were exempted from many of the regulations and taxes local workers had to deal with. So they really did have more freedom than most craftsmen, and this may be why they were called “free masons.”

But nowadays most historians favor another possibility: that “free mason” was short for “freestone mason.” Freestone was the high quality stone used for decorative work, and carving it required considerable skill. Masons who worked with freestone were elite members of the profession, and today’s Freemasons like to think they were the ones from whom the fraternity descended.

On the other hand, it is just possible that we can find the source of the term in more recent history.

## From operative to speculative

For the most part, today’s lodges trace their pedigree to the Grand Lodge of England, which was organized in London in 1717 to oversee the affairs of several lodges that had existed there for many years.

Although no one knows the pedigree of those lodges, they most likely arose in the wake of the Great Fire of London, which devastated the city in 1666. A massive rebuilding effort was necessary to restore the hundreds of structures the fire had destroyed. And to prevent another fire from devastating the city in the future, Parliament passed a law—the Rebuilding Act—requiring that all new buildings be made of brick or stone instead of wood.

This meant that large numbers of masons had to be brought in from elsewhere, because there weren’t enough locals to rebuild everything the fire had destroyed. So the city was desperate to attract as many skilled masons as possible.

To do this, Parliament added a clause to the Rebuilding Act offering workers the freedom of the city for seven years. This simply meant they could come to London and work without joining the local "companies," organizations that amounted to labor unions, which all workers normally had to join to work within the city limits.

### **The "freedom of the city"**

The freedom of the city was a status that had existed in London since 1237. At first it was granted to persons who were free in a sense we have already seen. They were not bound to a feudal lord and were, therefore, "free" to do as they pleased. They could engage in commercial activities, own land, and were originally allowed such quaint privileges as herding sheep, carrying a sword, and acting drunk and disorderly in public without fear of being arrested.

Of course, after the Great Fire the freedom of the city was a little more practical. It was mostly a matter of making it easy for craftsmen to come to London and join the rebuilding effort.

But the Rebuilding Act contained another provision as well. Workers who came and stayed for seven years were granted the freedom of the city for life. Thus they were designated "Freemen of the City" of London.

### **The *real* origin of the term?**

The lodges that organized the Grand Lodge of England were probably formed to serve stonemasons who came to London and earned the freedom of the city in this way. But everyone knew the building boom wouldn't go on forever. Its last major project was St. Paul's cathedral, which was completed in 1710.

After that the city had little need for visiting workers, including all the masons who had come to rebuild the city. And

this is probably why the lodges that served them ceased to be craft organizations and evolved into social clubs.

Could this really be the origin of the term "free mason"? Quite possibly, and we see a clue in a document called *Masonry Dissected*, which shows what the lodges' workings were like just after the Grand Lodge was formed.

This document tells us that "if any Working Masons are at Work, and you have a desire to distinguish Accepted Masons from the rest...by asking him, how old he is, he replies above Seven, which denotes he has pass'd Master."

Are we to believe that a person could be a master mason when he was seven years old? Of course not. But a man could be a "free" mason of the city of London after he had worked there for seven years.

Thus while the words "free" and "mason" had been used together for centuries and often described men who traveled to find work, their use by the modern lodge may have a special meaning. It may recall the men who rebuilt London after the Great Fire and who, after their work was finished, settled down to enjoy the freedom of a grateful city.

Brother C. Bruce Hunter has been a student of Masonic history and symbolism for more than thirty years. His research has included affiliation with the Royal Order of Scotland and such research organizations as the Dormer Study Circle, St. Alban's Research Society, Missouri Lodge of Research, and Quatuor Coronati Lodge, and he is a former editor of *The North Carolina Mason*. His books include *Inner Workings* (Macy, 2002), *The Masques of Solomon* (Macy, 2003), and *More Inner Workings* (Macy, 2004), all of which deal with the history and symbolism of the Masonic degrees.

For correspondence with Brother Hunter: P.O. Box 2038, Chapel Hill, NC 27515; e-mail: cbhunt@bellsouth.net

# Reflections of a Knight Templar

by Sir Knight Tom Janysek

I was recently given a business card from Sir Knight Frederick H. Whitty, the R.E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of North Carolina. On the back of his card is this formula: the Christian Cross plus the Square and Compass equals Knights Templar. I really took to heart the message that the card displayed and its general intent.

Knights Templar are Freemasons who practice a belief in Christianity. In the eighteenth century Commanderies were formed specifically for Christian Masons and were founded upon the legends of the Medieval Knights Templar of the twelfth century.

All of this reminds me of many years ago when I took the Orders and my time in the room of reflection. We answered the question, "If called upon to draw your sword in a religious cause, will you give preference to the Christian Religion?" And in the conferring of the Knight of Malta, we are told, "Awake! Be not asleep to your duty, but watchful in the faith of Jesus Christ" and of course, the most prominent question of all, "My Brother, do you believe that the Savior died on the Cross for the remission of sin?" These are questions I took seriously, and while taking the Orders, I remember proudly hearing during the course of the day the title "Christian Knight." These were just a few of the inspirational memories of all I encountered that day.

So what is a Christian? Webster's dictionary says that a Christian is a believer in Christianity. Christianity is a religion founded on the teachings of Jesus Christ. A Christian is someone who gives his or her life over to Christ and practices

His teachings from God's inspired Word. You were created to become like Christ. From the very beginning God's plan has been to make you like his Son, Jesus. So are we a reflection of Christ in our actions and practices, or is being a Knight Templar a vain attempt to satisfy our egos and to be socially accepted in recognition alone? Do our actions in public mirror those of Christ?

T. W. Hunt has devoted his life to such studies. In his book, *The Mind of Christ*, he discusses what the characteristics of a Christ-like mind should contain. He said "the natural spiritual state—one that is filled with God's Spirit and growing in Christ—is difficult to maintain. One reason is the constant assault of information on our senses. Tempters have opportunities to take us into realms of thought never known before." Has this happened to us?

As a whole society of friends and Brothers, we seem to have a tendency to look away when it comes to the very existence of our fraternal responsibilities. We start by compromising that our input at a meeting or our time spent at the lodge is sufficient. We hear that Masonry is a way of life, but is it really or have we turned it into our own personal and private club?

We are accountable to a higher level because we chose to be Knights Templar. The Orders have built a bridge between man and his Savior. The title of Sir Knight is one of privilege and should not be taken lightly. The practice of the Christian virtues, as well as the moral and spiritual lessons, pave the way for our lives.

I think back to the life of Jacques DeMolay who was the 23rd Grand

Master of the Order of the Temple or Knights Templar. The order was created in the aftermath of the First Crusade of the year 1096 to ensure safe passage of European pilgrims to Jerusalem, and here was a man who was tortured for years and finally burned at the stake for his beliefs and actions in the name of Christ. Reports say Jacques requested that his hands were not to be bound so that he could pray in his final moments as they burned him at the stake. This was a true servant of Christ who represents what being a true Knight is all about.

Rick Warren in his book, *A Purpose Driven Life*, says "We serve God by serving others." He says "The world defines greatness in terms of power, possessions, prestige, and position. If you can demand service from others, you've arrived. In our self-serving culture with its me-first mentality, acting like a servant is not a popular concept. Jesus, however, measured greatness in terms of service, not status." How do you measure on the scale of being a servant? Better yet, do you show a "humble" servant spirit? Is it one that is serving our fraternity or one that is only looking for acolytes and awards?

Staying focused on what the true meaning of being a Knight Templar is about is entirely up to you! We can

stand by with plausibility that we represent Knights Templar and continue to carry on as we have, or we can make a decision that we want and need to practice Christ's teachings and uphold our obligation. The actions, attitudes, and our mannerisms will prevail in our lives if we just embrace Christianity. By the way we live, we have so many opportunities as Knights Templar to show our fellow neighbors and friends just what makes us different.

We have something in Masonry that no other organization can offer. As Knights Templar, we have something no other Masonic organization can offer, and it is up to us to live up to what it represents and the challenges that lie ahead.

Reference:

Rick Warren *The Purpose Driven Life*, 2002

T. W. Hunt and Claude V. King, *The Mind of Christ*, 1994

Webster's II Dictionary, 1984

\* \* \* \*

Sir Knight Thomas Janysek is a member of St. John's Commandery No. 10, New Bern, North Carolina. He resides at 403 Rustic Ct., Pollocksville, NC 28573.

### NEW RECIPIENTS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT MEMBERSHIP JEWEL

- 640. J. Larry Martin, Patton Commandery No. 69, Mt. Vernon, IL. 7-18-2007. (original and 1 bronze cluster)
- 641. Arthur Lee Campbell III, Montgomery Commandery No. 4, Montgomery, AL.
- 642. Rex S. Lewis, Dallas Commandery No. 6, Dallas, TX. 1-19-2008.
- 643. James R. Snipes, Greenwood Commandery No. 5, Greenwood, SC. 2-14-2008.



Continued from page 14...

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

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending March 7, 2008. The total amount contributed to date is \$557,022.06.

Alabama .....	\$3,718.00
Alaska .....	410.00
Arizona .....	609.00
Arkansas .....	2,732.00
California .....	45,088.10
Colorado .....	4,663.00
Connecticut .....	1,813.00
Delaware .....	1,072.50
District of Columbia .....	2,225.00
Florida .....	4,696.31
Georgia .....	29,511.93
Idaho .....	5,955.00
Illinois .....	11,274.20
Indiana .....	11,327.58
Iowa .....	6,630.00
Kansas .....	3,655.29
Kentucky .....	10,419.93
Louisiana .....	6,905.23
Maine .....	3,154.00
Maryland .....	6,935.28
Mass./R.I. ....	6,816.00
Michigan .....	4,842.00
Minnesota .....	2,661.40
Mississippi .....	1,526.00

Missouri .....	2,358.00
Montana .....	2,743.00
Nebraska .....	1,037.50
Nevada .....	6,173.00
New Hampshire .....	1,850.00
New Jersey .....	12,567.75
New Mexico .....	4,937.00
New York .....	5,175.01
North Carolina .....	8,810.22
North Dakota .....	387.00
Ohio .....	43,974.42
Oklahoma .....	4,295.15
Oregon .....	107,007.93
Pennsylvania .....	36,312.97
South Carolina .....	11,293.00
South Dakota .....	940.00
Tennessee .....	7,833.37
Texas .....	33,956.33
Utah .....	8,086.00
Vermont .....	921.00
Virginia .....	19,189.25
Washington .....	2,236.00
West Virginia .....	7,535.54
Wisconsin .....	4,122.00
Wyoming .....	643.00
Hilo No. 3, Hawaii .....	30.00
Panama Canal No. 1 .....	40.00
Honolulu No. 1, Hawaii .....	10.00
Porto Rico No. 1 .....	20.00
Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico .....	200.00
Heidelberg No. 2, Germany .....	140.00
Miscellaneous .....	43,556.87



## ► 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](http://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"!

# On the Masonic Newsfront

## TEXAS GRAND OFFICERS CONFER ORDER OF THE TEMPLE

On December 8, 2007, the officers of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas, conferred the Order of the Temple on six Knights of Malta in Palestine Commandery. Located among the piney woods of east Texas, Palestine No. 3 is one of the oldest Commanderies in Texas.

All the grand line officers filled their stations, except for the Standard Bearer, done by Sir Knight Jack Harper. The current M.E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, Sir Knight Clarence J. Laney, KTCH, was the Prelate.



In the picture are, left to right: front row: J. Alvin Coleman, P.C. of Palestine; Charles Holt, P.C. of Amarillo No. 48; Joy Glen Hassell, candidate; Matthew Toby Hodges, candidate; Jimmy Don Henderson, Sr., candidate; James Kenneth Sansom, candidate; Andrew James Ashley, candidate; Michael Terrell Tedder, candidate; Albert R. Bunt, Jr., E.C. of San Angelo No. 28; Charles Miller of Brady No. 68; James C. Burgess, P.C. of Palestine No. 3; back row: Larry B. Jung, E.C. of Palestine No. 3; Dock F. Dixon, Jr., G.G.; W. David Malear, G.C.G.; Roland L. Tessier, P.C. of Llano No. 54; Clarence J. Laney, G.H.P.; Don Wunsche, P.C. of Melrose No. 109; Tom Snyder, G.C.; Paul Wunsche, G.Sr.W.; Jerry Pingle, G.Sw.B.; H. David Moore, G.Jr.W.; Jack M. Harper II, P.C. of Sweetwater No. 89; and Bill Rogers, P.C. of Palestine No. 3.

## SUPREME TALL CEDAR INSTALLED

Brother George A. Morgan, Jr., was installed as Supreme Tall Cedar of the Tall Cedars of North America for 2008 at the Midwinter Conference January 18–20, 2008. Brother George was installed by P.S. Tall Cedar Barry R. Stocker.

Born April 6, 1937 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, Brother George graduated from Allentown High School, 1955, and served in the US Marine Corps, 1955–1959. He worked as a photo-technician for the *Call-Chronicle* newspaper, 1959–1968, and for Bethlehem Steel, 1968–1983. He was a partner, → → → →



secretary, and treasurer of Lehigh Valley Photographic Services, 1983–1999, retiring in 1999. He was married to wife Judy in 1961, and they have three children and four grandchildren. He has been active in his church, in the Boy Scouts, and in Little League.

Brother George became a Mason in 1988 in Bethlehem Lodge No. 283, Master in 1994 and 1995, and served as representative to Grand Lodge, 1996–present. He became a Tall Cedar in 1989 in Bethlehem Forest No. 61; Forest Trustee, 1990–1995; Grand Tall Cedar, 1997; Tall Cedar Foundation Trustee, District No. 8, 1999–2001; aide to Jr.D.S. Tall Cedar, 2002; aide to Sr.D.S. Tall Cedar, 2003; and aide to the S. Tall Cedar, 2004. He was also President of the Officers and Past Officers, District No. 8, 2003, and he received the Tall Cedar Foundation Trustee of the Year Award for 2000. He served as Jr. Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar in 2006, Sr. Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, 2007, and was installed Supreme Tall Cedar, 2008.

Brother George became a 32° Mason in the Valley of Allentown and was a member of the 15th degree team from 1991–2003.

Tall Cedars of Lebanon is a Masonic affiliated organization with over 13,000 members in 102 chapters called Forests in the US and Canada. Since 1951 they have provided continuous support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, contributing over 14 and one half million dollars to the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon.



## TALL CEDAR GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR 2008



Pictured at left is the Supreme Tall Cedar of North America, Brother George A. Morgan, Jr., from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, along with Goodwill Ambassador for the year 2008, E. Claire Menke. Claire was born in Greenville, North Carolina, on May 15, 1995, and was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy, SMA III, at the age of nine at Johns Hopkins.

Claire lives in Middletown, Maryland, with her parents, Jay and Daean, and her sisters, Emily and Amanda, and a brother Alex. The family has two cats and two dogs, one being Claire's service dog Xavier.

Claire is a seventh grader and enjoys art, music, swimming, and spending time with her friends and family. Other activities include her church, MDA Camp, and fund-raising for MDA and 4Paws for Ability.

Claire is very excited about being chosen to represent the Tall Cedar Foundation as Goodwill Ambassador for 2008 and is looking forward to meeting many people and traveling.

## **A HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE MINISTER WRITES...**

I am writing to thank all of the Knights Templar for my recent Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. February 5–15, 2008, I traveled with 48 other Christian ministers from all over the United States. This was a dream fulfilled and absolutely the trip of a lifetime. Our host, Sir Knight Duane Kemerly of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, was very helpful. The itinerary, accommodations, and guides were the very best.

Being able to walk where our Savior Jesus walked, to see the places He saw, to share with pilgrims from all over this world the most sacred of places, will enhance my ministry and bring to life a more vivid picture of the biblical lands.

As a child, when other boys were playing with their various toys, I played with toy knights and dreamed of the crusades and the age of chivalry. When I became old enough to petition a lodge and join my father, grandfathers, and two great-grandfathers as a Mason, it was a happy day for me. When I became a Knight Templar in Cuyahoga Falls Commandery No. 83 of Ohio, it was a dream come true. Now, being able to make an actual pilgrimage to the Holy Land and to walk where Jesus walked was truly connecting not only with our biblical forebears but also connecting with those crusaders of long ago who walked those same streets and worshiped at those same holy sites. A true highlight for me was being in St. Anne's Church, a crusader church. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you!

Reverend Patrick James Southam  
Big Creek Presbyterian Church  
Rensselaer, Missouri

## **NEWS FROM THE SOCIAL ORDER OF THE BEAUCEANT**

### **Official Visit of Supreme Worthy President to Billings Assembly No. 194, Montana**



At the official visit, left, Mrs. Jeanette Rife, to left, Supreme Worthy President of the S.O.O.B., presented a 50-year membership pin to Mrs. Robert E. Danskin, to right, Past Supreme Worthy President, for her many years of dedicated service to the Social Order of the Beauceant.



At right members pictured with the Supreme Worthy President, second from right, are: Mrs. John E. Johnson, P.P.; Mrs. Esther Offen, P.S.W.P.; Mrs. Robert Eckhardt, P.P.; Mrs. Lewis Hammermeister, President and P.P.; Mrs. James Burrows; Mrs. Robert E. Danskin, P.S.W.P.; Mrs. Earl Rosell; Mrs. Grover Rickman; Mrs. Clinton Cox, P.P.; Mrs. Arloa Weiss, P.P.; Mrs. John Daugherty, P.P.; Mrs. Lowell Butler; and Mrs. Jack Humphrey.

## Official Visit of Supreme Worthy President to LaCrosse Assembly No. 215

The members of LaCrosse No. 215, LaCrosse, Wisconsin, welcomed the Supreme Worthy President, Mrs. Jeanette Rife, and were pleased to have as guests: Mrs. Jay Ipsen, P.S.W.P., and Past Presidents of Minneapolis No. 64, Mrs. Howard Smith and Mrs. Hans Engebretson. Also, they were honored to have Past Grand Commanders in attendance. Pictured left below are Mrs. Rife, center front, with the officers of the Assembly and the two guests, who served as pro tem officers. Right below are: P.G.C. Jay Ipsen of Minnesota, P.G.C. Burnell Roble of Wisconsin; Worthy President Mrs. Martin Callaway; S.W.P. Mrs. Jeanette Rife; P.S.W.P. Mrs. Jay Ipsen; and P.G.C.s Charles Kolbe and Richard Reilly, both of Wisconsin.



## Shreveport Assembly No. 60, Louisiana

Below Shreveport No. 60's "Givers with Big Hearts" are shown with Captain Huddleston and other firemen and with a table of gifts. The 59 members of the Assembly give generously to the Assembly's three designated charities: KTEF, Toys for Tots, and the Shrine Hospital Transportation Fund.



**Longtime member honored:** Mrs. Dwight Brown, a loyal member who is now serving as Chaplain of the Assembly, was escorted to the altar where Worthy President, Mrs. Pat Dickson, thanked her for her 25 years of loyal service to Kansas City Assembly No. 7 and Shreveport Assembly No. 60. Mrs. Brown was presented with her 25-year pin and a lovely potted plant by Mrs. Dickson, W.P. Pictured at right is Mrs. Brown with Mrs. Roy May, Recorder of Shreveport No. 60.



## 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 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](mailto:mjbswb@aol.com).



**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.

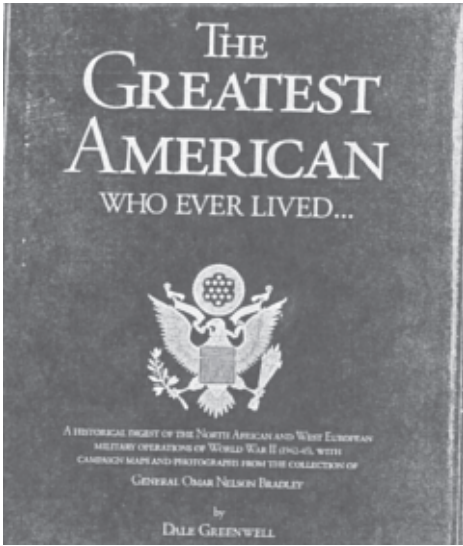


### Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto:kbrackens@yahoo.com)



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



***April Showers Bring May Flowers!***

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