

# Knight Templar

VOLUME LIV

MAY 2008

NUMBER 5



In the picture above, Sir Knight William H. Koon II, M.E. Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, presents the Sword of Merit to Sir Knight Paxton Mendelssohn, KCT, for his generosity in donating to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Sir Knight Koon also conferred the Knight Commander of the Temple honor on Sir Knight Mendelssohn during the inspection of Middletown Commandery No. 71, Middletown, Ohio, January 26, 2008. Left to right are Sir Knights: Richard M. Holcombe, KCT, V.E.D.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Ohio; Burch E. Zehner, KCT, R.E.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Ohio; Paxton Mendelssohn, KCT; William H. Koon II, GCT, M.E.G.M. of the Grand Encampment; and Bruce D. Basil, KCT, P.G.C., G.R., of the Grand Commandery of Ohio.

## Grand Master's Message for May 2008

May is here, spring has sprung, and summer is just around the corner! What a great time of the year to be alive. For the farmer it's a time of excitement as the busy planting season begins. Hopes and dreams are renewed, and everyone's spirit is high.

Soon our children and grandchildren will be home for the summer, and everyone is looking forward to that special vacation that's been planned for months.

Masonry is full of wonderful and exciting things to look forward to and to plan to attend during this month. Summer Assembly will be coming soon in Maggie Valley; DeMolay will have its annual meeting next month as will the Red Cross of Constantine. These and other exciting events will keep us busy through the warm days of summer.

As we consider the excitement of the spring season, why not think about those of our friends who have not yet become a part of the Masonic Fraternity? Why not consider those of our Masonic Brothers who have not sought further light in the York Rite? Perhaps, now would be a good time to encourage them to join with us in our quest. With the excitement of spring, it is most pleasing to witness the enthusiasm of those who are coming to our ranks. I see a renewed interest in our Fraternity that should excite us all.

However you spend your spring; whether it's planting the garden, mowing the grass, or getting the house spruced up; take a moment and smell the freshness of the season. Take a deep breath, and enjoy the freshness of this time of year. Spring is a great time to be alive! Enjoy it!



*William H. Koon II.*

William H. Koon II, GCT  
Grand Master



# Knight Templar



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

MAY: On page 2 Grand Master Koon looks forward to events of spring and summer, and on page 4 Grand Recorder Tucker brings us up-to-date on Grand Encampment changes that will affect the future. We have some very interesting articles concerning the religious tenets of Templary, including notes on one Sir Knight's understanding of the relationship of Templary to Christianity, notes on the significance of the Ascension to Templary, and notes on the York Rite's lessons in morality. For those Commanderies that are feeling the financial pinch, there is a real success story concerning the endowment fund of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, so Commanderies can get some ideas for improving financial positions. Also, don't miss the news from Commanderies.

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

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

**MORE CHANGE**

In January 2008, Grand Master Koon conveyed the goals of the Grand Encampment Officers for the coming year. In keeping with this theme of *CHANGE*, I am pleased to update you on upcoming changes to the *Knight Templar* magazine.

**MORTON'S RETIREMENT**

Ms. Joan Morton began her employment in the Editorial Department of the *Knight Templar* magazine in 1988. Working for the magazine during the tenure of nine Grand Masters, Joan has been witness to many changes in the operations of the Grand Encampment. During the transition of the Grand Encampment office move from Chicago to Houston, Joan continued to maintain the high standard and quality of the publication.

As Joan announced her plans for retirement later this year, your Grand Encampment Officers interviewed several candidates to serve as Managing Editor of the *Knight Templar*.

**PALMER NAMED MANAGING EDITOR**

Sir Knight John L. Palmer, KTCH, KCT, comes to the Grand Encampment with a diverse background in management. A short bio follows:

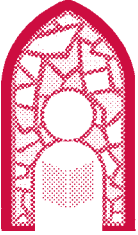


John L. Palmer, KTCH, KCT

Sir Knight John L. Palmer is Past Commander of DePayens Commandery No. 11 in Franklin, Tennessee. A native Tennessean, Palmer served the Grand Lodge of Masons in Tennessee as Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1997 and as Grand Secretary from 2005 until 2007. He is a holder of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor, a Knight Commander of the Temple, an Associate Regent of the York Rite College, a 33° Inspector General Honorary for the Southern Jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and a KYGCH. Sir Knight Palmer holds a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Tennessee Technological University and is retired from both BellSouth and Electronic Data Systems, where he was the Director of Special Projects for a major outsourcing account. Palmer served as the Sentinel of the York Rite Grand Bodies of Tennessee for over fourteen years before being elected to the Grand Lodge line in 1994. He served on

the Commission for Information and Recognition of the Grand Masters Conference of North America, chairing the commission in 2002, and is currently serving on the board of directors of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. John and Lady Glenda, his wife of thirty-eight years, have one grown son, Lawrence, and reside in the small town of Nolensville, Tennessee, a short distance south of Nashville.





# *Prelate's Chapel*

## **Templar Freemasonry and My Personal Relationship with Christianity**

**by Sir Knight Merlinus Goodman Monroe, Esquire, 32°**

I can say confidently that the Order of the Temple has dramatically reinforced my own personal faith in Christianity. I have spent all of my life comfortably as a strong Deist. I was active in my membership in the Boy Scouts of America, where I became an Eagle Scout and earned both the "God and Community" and the "God and Country" awards, and I was active in the Presbyterian Church during my adolescent years, professing a belief in Christ but never subjecting that belief to a more critical examination. Although my faith in God has never wavered, I failed to ever subject my belief system itself to the critical examination it deserves, instead blindly accepting conventional notions of Christianity.

I still have these doubts concerning the commonly accepted, hierarchical view of Jesus of Nazareth and feel a deeper connection to my God without the limitations I feel are imposed by stereotypical "religion," but I have sought greater answers and understanding of the religion of Christianity and have willingly accepted it into my life, as a consequence of my membership in the Order of the Temple and my decision to become a Christian Knight.

On July 3, 2003, I was involved in a single-vehicle automobile accident during a tropical storm, while driving to cover Court for another attorney. I died, but was resuscitated, and spent approximately four months hospitalized, in a coma and then unconscious. When I awoke, I discovered I was paralyzed on the right side of my body, and I could no longer speak. Subsequently, I spent almost seven months of my life relearning how to walk and talk again, before returning to work as a self-employed attorney, having been unable to find work for others due to my speaking and movement difficulties. Throughout the course of my hospitalization and my subsequent therapy, my Masonic Lodge and particularly my good friend, Johnie Garmon, an officer in the Grand Commandery of Georgia, supported me and checked on my progress. After my return to work, I resolved to become a Knight Templar because of the kindness I had been shown by a man I so deeply respected, who was substantially involved with the order.

However, though the organizational aspects were important to me, I found myself bound by an oath I constantly reflect on: to defend the Christian religion with force, if need arises. Having sworn to fulfill this duty, I resolved that I needed a deeper understanding of the faith I had professed, and I realized that I had paid that faith only "lip service" throughout much of my life.

I was depressed by the idea that it might not hold the truth I was searching for, especially after my own close brush with mortality. However, the realization that I had pledged myself wholeheartedly to this order and that my life was of finite duration provided me with a greater zeal to my studies for personal growth and a direction for my own personal researches. To that end, I have bought and read fully many works on the early origins of Christianity, including such books as *Lost Christianities* and *The Nag Hammadi Library*, among others. Subsequently, I have also become a Scottish Rite Mason and have used that expansion of my education to similarly expand my own personal knowledge, having become an active member of that body and having purchased a copy of *Morals and Dogma*, *A Bridge to Light*, and *The Scottish Rite Monitor*, among other publications, all of which touch on deep truths about tolerance, history, and religious truisms in Christianity and Deism, in general.

Without a doubt, my membership in the Masonic Knights Templar has strengthened my Christianity.

Sir Knight Merlinus Goodman Monroe, LLC, is a member of Pilgrim Commandery No. 15, Gainesville, Georgia. Contact at P.O. Box 2686, Gainesville, GA 30503; e-mail: [mmonroe@hallcounty.org](mailto:mmonroe@hallcounty.org)

# The Ascension—Are You Waiting for a Sign?

by Sir Knight James N. Higdon, KCT, P.G.C. of Texas  
and E. Grand Prelate of Texas, 2007–2008

**T**he Ascension was a seminal event in the lives of the remaining eleven disciples and their converts. They saw the resurrected Christ taken up into heaven before their very eyes, until a cloud hid Him from their sight. (Acts 1: 9) They were, also, according to Acts 1: 11, instructed by two angels that Jesus would return in the same way that He departed from them.

Left in shock at what they had seen, they were challenged by these angels to stop gawking at the sky and follow Jesus's instructions to them. Jesus wanted them to be certain that He had left the earth and had left to them the task of carrying out the duties He had assigned to them. They'd been trained and equipped. Though they lacked Jesus's physical presence and guidance, they had a job to do.

He had sent them out in twos before, on a training mission as it were, to intern as teachers, preachers, and healers, making their mistakes along the way while they could come back to their mentor for more instruction. They knew Jesus was still there physically so they could report back to Him; they knew that Jesus was then still their teacher. Now that they had seen with their own eyes His physical ascent into heaven and had been charged by the angels, they knew it was now up to them to carry out that Great Commission (Matthew 28: 19–20) without his physical presence.

Ascension is the last of the obligatory observances of Templary. Given mere lip service in the four gospels and the Acts of the Apostles, it's a footnote to Christian history given the amount of writings that address it, yet it is a very

significant and seminal event in Christian history, in Templar liturgy.

What is the significance of the Ascension? Why did Jesus allow His disciples to witness His Ascension? Why did He, in fact, lead them out away from Jerusalem to a spot near Bethany according to Luke 24: 50 or even farther away from Jerusalem to a mountain in Galilee according to Matthew 28: 16, but in either case, away from the historical center of Jewish religious and political thought and government and away from the Temple to witness His Ascension into heaven? Associated with coming to some answers to these questions is arriving at an answer to the question of why Jesus appeared to the disciples and others in His earthly entourage over a period of forty days before His Ascension.

Although these questions are thought-provoking, we will never know the answer to them in this earthly life. One answer might be that Jesus wanted to prove to them that He had overcome death and was just as alive as was Lazarus, whom they had all seen Jesus command to come forth from the tomb. (John 11: 1–44)

It is also significant that the gospels and the Acts have recorded that Jesus ate fish with His disciples on several different occasions, again proving His humanness, His being alive, thus alleviating their fears that He was just a ghost or a spirit. He walked and talked and taught His disciples on several occasions during this forty-day period to also give them several opportunities to validate for themselves that He was the same Jesus that had lived among them, ate with them, and taught them so short

a time ago, making them “legal” witnesses under the law of His Resurrection and life after death, but, also again, reinforcing to them His humanity.

Throughout this forty days after the Resurrection (Acts 1: 3), Jesus continued to teach them and to talk to them but now more earnestly about the kingdom of God and their role in it on earth, the real significance of the Ascension. Here, at the end of His earthly ministry, He instructed His disciples as to their duties in the furtherance of the Kingdom.

In Matthew 28: 18–20 He tells them, and **us**, that **He has been given authority in heaven and on earth and then commands** that if we are to be His disciples as we are going about living life, **we are to make disciples**—not just of the Jewish nation from which they came—but **of all nations and to baptize them** as John had done Him **“in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”**

But the duty of their lives was not to end with just making and baptizing disciples. He then further instructed them—He further instructed each of us—to teach these newly made disciples to obey everything He commanded the first disciples to do.

Their commission is our commission.

Luke tells us that after Jesus had ascended out of sight, they worshipped Him there on the mountain and then returned to Jerusalem “with great joy” and “stayed continually at the temple, praising God.” (Luke 24: 52) Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem “with great joy” and praised God at the temple, that is our charge as well: to return to our homes, our churches, our work places, “with great joy,” praising God, waiting always for our instructions from the Holy Spirit.

The disciples were following Christ’s instructions by remaining in Jerusalem, waiting to receive the gift promised

them, waiting to be clothed with the Holy Spirit. It came down and empowered the disciples at Pentecost, ten days after the Ascension.

That was their sign and their power. That began their ministry to all nations. Then, they went into “all the world and (preached) the good news to all creation.” We are the fruit of the labor of those original eleven disciples and of many, many other disciples throughout history since. We don’t have to wait for the Holy Spirit to come; it has already come and surrounds each of us if we will simply reach out and be open enough to allowing it to indwell in us.

Our charge today is the same as that given to the eleven, to “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation” (Mark 16: 15, Matthew 28: 19–20), remembering that Our Lord is with us “always, even to the end of the age,” until He returns from heaven just as the angels said He would.

Thus, the significance of the celebration of the Ascension is that it confirms our belief in the Risen Lord; it affirms our challenge of The Great Commission! He is with us today, tomorrow, and forever. If you have been “waiting for a sign,” the record of the Ascension and the gift of the Holy Spirit is that sign, our sign! So as you are going on your way through life, that is, living your life; preach the Good News, preach the Ascension, and preach the gift of the Holy Spirit!

Sir Knight James N. Higdon, KCT, P.G.C. of Texas and E. Grand Prelate of Texas—2007–2008, is a member of San Antonio Commandery No. 7, San Antonio, Texas. He resides at 10122 N. Manton Lane, San Antonio, TX 78213.



**Please note the following corrections on the dates of two Annual Conclaves. These were reported incorrectly in the January issue 2008:**

**June 5–7, 2008**

**September 19, 2008**

**Iowa**

**Kentucky**



**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:

Thank you to all the Sir Knights, ladies, and friends of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. for making the 40th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Eye Foundation a big success! The Campaign officially ended the last day of April, and the Eye Foundation staff are busy calculating the results, which will be reported in this magazine in the June and July issues.



**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. 5,245—William Francis Curtis (MA/RI)  
No. 5,246—William Ernest Eltzroth (MA/RI)  
No. 5,247—Nelson A. Bolduc II (ME)  
No. 5,248—Albert E. Piatt (TN)  
No. 5,249—Norman E. Wood (SC)

No. 5,250—James W. Sligh (MS)  
No. 5,251—Ruben O. Rosas Rodriguez  
(Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico)  
No. 5,252—Jerry Wayne Slocumb (GA)  
No. 5,253—Donald Frank Jones (GA)



No. 5,254—Lee Seagondollar (AK)  
No. 5,255—Richard L. Sandford (TX)  
No. 5,256—David Eugene Helms (NC)  
No. 5,257—Ernest J. Smith (CT)  
No. 5,258—Peter L. Dawson (WA)  
No. 5,259—Ronald F. Keel (GA)  
No. 5,260—Dickie W. Johnson (TN)  
No. 5,261—A. C. Sebastian, Jr. (TX)  
No. 5,262—Leroy E. Harvey, Jr. (CA)  
No. 5,263—Paul H. Broyhill (NC)  
No. 5,264—Lewis E. Shepherd (WY)

No. 5,265—Albert C. Menger (PA)  
No. 5,266—John M. Morrison (CA)  
No. 5,267—I. Dwayne Dixon (OK)  
No. 5,268—C. B. Hester, Jr. (GA)  
No. 5,269—Roger A. Kessinger (ID)  
No. 5,270—Harry M. Bluford (VA)  
No. 5,271—Jesus A. Rodriguez (PA)  
No. 5,272—M. David MacCallum (CA)  
No. 5,273—E. David Martin (NY)  
No. 5,274—Frederick A. Stahl (NY)

### Grand Commander's Club

No. 102,724—Dickie W. Johnson (TN)  
No. 102,725—Charles R. Moats (AL)  
No. 102,726—Clay Chaffee (GA)  
No. 102,727—F. Lamar Pearson (GA)  
No. 102,728—A. C. Sebastian, Jr. (TX)  
No. 102,729—Joe W. Summers (CO)  
No. 102,730—Donald Henry Hinkle (TN)  
No. 102,732—J. B. Gates (IL)

No. 102,733—M. David MacCallum (CA)  
No. 102,734—Lloyd W. Perkins (TX)  
No. 102,735—Michael James Broom (SC)  
No. 102,736—Lynn M. Zehner (OH)  
No. 102,737—Stephen G. Libby (IA)  
No. 102,738—George S. Mabry (SC)  
No. 102,739—Jack W. Marsh (PA)  
No. 102,740—Matt McGee (OK)

### Contributors to the 33° Club

Martin Leonard Borton, 33° (IN)  
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Francis A. Kelsey, 33° (KS)  
Stanley W. Johnston, 33° (NM)  
Robert Darin Strauss, 33° (OH)  
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Claud E. Dutro, 33° (CO)  
Clifford Dean Burdette, 33° (IL)  
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Dennis Wayne Leckbee, 33° (TX)  
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    in honor of Ronald Jack Chambers, 33°  
Robert Eugene Smith, 33° (TN)  
Lawrence Ellis Schoff, 33° (SC)  
Van L. McQueen, 33° (OK)  
    in memory of Jesse H. Burns, 33°  
Danny Calloway, 33° (NM)  
Ernest J. Gazda, Jr., 33° (PA)  
William Paul Bond, 33° (OH)  
Ronald A. Miles, 33° (MN)

### Contributors to the OPC Club

Ronald A. Miles (MN)  
Richard C. Allen (MI)  
Jere R. Swam (PA)  
Jay Ell Jewell (TN)  
Walter A. Collins (NY)  
Phillip D. Goss (VT)  
Joseph I. Koonce (TX)  
Daniel W. Troy (NY)  
    in honor of Burr Phelps

David Philip Johnson (TN)  
Charles E. Hileman, Jr. (IL)  
Richard Wilcox Burow (TN)  
Ronald J. Price (TX)  
    in honor of Leonard O. Pierce  
Ronald J. Price (TX)  
    in honor of Robert A. Foreman, Jr.  
Ronald J. Price (TX)

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

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending April 11, 2008. The total amount contributed to date is \$1,016,377.77.

Alabama .....	\$6,841.00
Alaska .....	655.00
Arizona .....	1,250.00
Arkansas .....	3,668.00
California .....	51,476.78
Colorado .....	6,807.00
Connecticut.....	11,082.00
Delaware .....	1,230.50
District of Columbia.....	2,542.00
Florida .....	6,868.31
Georgia .....	38,134.93
Idaho .....	7,541.00
Illinois .....	20,588.51
Indiana .....	13,558.58
Iowa .....	8,655.00
Kansas .....	4,087.59
Kentucky .....	13,615.93
Louisiana .....	8,578.23
Maine .....	4,209.00
Maryland .....	9,347.28
Mass./R.I. ....	11,866.00
Michigan.....	7,047.00
Minnesota.....	3,442.40
Mississippi.....	2,374.00
Missouri.....	3,517.00
Montana .....	3,268.00
Nebraska .....	1,560.50

Nevada.....	6,663.00
New Hampshire.....	2,393.00
New Jersey .....	13,556.75
New Mexico.....	7,742.57
New York.....	323,887.69
North Carolina .....	11,831.22
North Dakota .....	427.00
Ohio.....	52,859.42
Oklahoma.....	7,635.15
Oregon .....	107,717.93
Pennsylvania.....	55,400.00
South Carolina .....	14,298.88
South Dakota .....	1,198.00
Tennessee.....	10,564.37
Texas .....	44,068.34
Utah.....	8,346.00
Vermont .....	1,242.00
Virginia .....	24,085.25
Washington .....	6,020.25
West Virginia .....	8,804.54
Wisconsin.....	4,797.00
Wyoming .....	4,357.00
Philippines.....	30.00
Hilo No. 3, Hawaii .....	30.00
Panama Canal No. 1 .....	93.00
Honolulu No. 1, Hawaii .....	246.00
Kalakaua No. 2, Hawaii.....	45.00
Porto Rico No. 1.....	70.00
Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico .....	300.00
Tokyo No. 1, Japan .....	30.00
Heidelberg No. 2, Germany .....	200.00
Canaan No. 1, Virgin Islands .....	70.00
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"!

# Pennsylvania Endowment Fund: A Templar Success!

by Sir Knight David L. Kempfer, Sr., P.G.C. of PA and Trustee of the Fund

It is with pride that we relate to you an amazing success story of the Sir Knights and the ladies of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania. It happened over the past eleven and one half years in their quest to fund the Pennsylvania Endowment Fund.

In 1995 the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania was faced with a declining membership, diminished income, and rising costs. The grand officers decided to address these problems by creating an Endowment Fund to supplement the operating budget of the Grand Commandery.

The Grand Commandery at its 1995 Annual Conclave held at Mars, Pennsylvania, and its 1996 Annual Conclave held at Champion, Pennsylvania, did approve amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Commandery establishing an Endowment Fund for the financial security of said Grand Commandery.

In 1995 and 1996 funds for the Endowment Fund were voluntary. Whereas voluntary contributions by the membership were disappointing and insufficient to fund this Endowment Fund to any meaningful level, the grand officers at the 1997 Annual Conclave held at King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, proposed the following resolution:

"That, all Sir Knights who are members of Constituent Commanderies in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania be assessed the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) per annum for a period of ten years. Proceeds to be used for the purpose of funding the Endowment Fund. The first annual installment is to be due and payable on May 1, 1999. The tenth and final installment is to be due and payable on May 1, 2008. An optional method of

payment is for a Sir Knight to make a one-time payment of forty dollars (\$40.00) between June 1, 1997, and May 1, 1999. Such payment will completely satisfy the assessment and exempt the Sir Knight from paying the requirement of five dollars (\$5.00) per annum."

A lively discussion on the pros and cons of the resolution then followed. Many Sir Knights expressed their opinions. Before a vote was taken, the following amendment was offered:

"That, the resolution be amended by adding the following: When the principal of the Fund reaches \$250,000.00, 25% of the fund's income may be transferred to the Grand Commandery General Fund for the programs of the Grand Commandery.

"When the principal reaches \$500,000.00, 50% of the income may be used for support.

"When the principal reaches \$750,000.00, 75% of the income may be used for support.

"When the principal reaches \$1,000,000.00, 90% of the income may be used for support.

"The principal may never be utilized for support. Should the Grand Commandery ever cease to exist, the principal of this fund will be returned to the Constituent Commanderies in proportion to their contributions."

This amendment was approved, and the amended resolution was approved, both by a majority vote of the Conclave.

With the assessments started May 1, 1998, and payment due to the Grand Commandery on May 1, 1999, it was decided that the Endowment Fund and assessment had to be explained to the Constituent Commanderies and to answer any questions the Sir Knights

might have. As I was the first Grand Commander with the assessment, I visited each of the seventy-eight Commanderies and spoke for fifteen to twenty minutes on why the Endowment Fund and assessment were important to the Grand Commandery. I then opened the Conclave for questions and/or opinions and answered all that were asked. There were many spirited discussions.

Our Commanderies and our members have responded much better to the Endowment Fund and assessment than we had anticipated, and we are elated with the response. Ten months after the assessment was passed and one year before the first assessments were due, the Endowment Fund received from the Sir Knights of Pennsylvania, their ladies, and the Constituent Commanderies the amazing sum of \$163,651.00.

At the Annual Conclave in 1998, held at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, donations were called from the Sir Knights in attendance. Over \$25,000.00 was donated.

At the Annual Conclave in 1999, held at Grantville, Pennsylvania, the Trustees reported the Endowment Fund had a market value of \$256,082.00. After one year of the assessment, the Endowment Fund had crossed the first threshold of \$250,000.00, and 25% of the income was paid over to the Grand Commandery.

It took an additional six years to cross the next threshold of \$500,000.00. At the Annual Conclave in 2005, held in Erie, Pennsylvania, the Trustees reported that the Endowment Fund had a market value of \$560,664.00, and for the first time 50% of the income of the Endowment was paid over to the Grand Commandery.

In 2007 at the Annual Conclave, held in Trevoise, Pennsylvania, the Trustees reported that the Endowment Fund had a market value in excess of \$750,000.00, and 75% of the income was paid over to the Grand Commandery.

As we near the end of the ten-year assessment, May 1, 2008, an outstanding event of generosity and support has taken place. On January 28, 2008,

Hutchinson-Jerusalem Commandery No. 15, with a membership of 107 members, presented Sir Knight Bryan L. Berry, Right Eminent Grand Commander, a check for \$200,000.00 for the Endowment Fund. With this check and the final assessment to be paid on May 1, 2008, we are very confident that we will cross the final threshold of \$1,000,000.00 in 2008.

Sir Knights, over the past 11 and 1/2 years, the Sir Knights of Pennsylvania, their ladies, and the Constituent Commanderies have been untiring in their support of the Endowment Fund. Here are a few of the things that have been done: In the first two years a number of Commanderies paid the entire assessment for their members; a number of Commanderies are giving a memorial donation to the Endowment Fund for deceased members and this can be from \$5.00 to \$25.00 per member; a number of our Commanderies give an annual donation to the Endowment Fund; our ladies through the Auxiliaries and the Social Order of the Beauceant have made donations to the Endowment Fund; Sir Knight Lawrence R. Breletic, Past Grand Commander, Grand Treasurer, created the "Illustrious Knight of the Triangle" award, established to recognize Sir Knights for exemplary and dedicated service to Templary, and the net proceeds of this award have been dedicated to the Endowment Fund, giving to date over \$36,000.00 to the Fund; Sir Knight Charles A. Garnes, Past Grand Commander, Honorary Past Department Commander, has written an entire year of appeals for the Constituent Commanderies to put in the Stated Conclave notices, which resulted in extra donations; and the grand officers have been staunch supporters of the Endowment Fund, and each Grand Commander since 1996 has included the Endowment Fund in his program for the year.

This has been an amazing 11 and 1/2 years. Starting with voluntary contributions to a ten-year assessment with zero



dollars in 1996 to over \$1,000,000.00 in 2008. All this was accomplished with a declining membership. We started in 1996 with 11,934 members. At the close of 2007, we had 6,906 members.

The Sir Knights of Pennsylvania, their ladies, and our Constituent Commanderies are to be congratulated for their outstanding dedication, generous giving of their time and money to the

Endowment Fund, and for their support of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. It is an example of what can be accomplished with motivation and dedication. It is truly an amazing success story.

Sir Knight David L. Kempfer, Sr., P.G.C. of Pennsylvania and a Trustee of the Endowment Fund, resides at 614 Drexel Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109.

## Maryland Celebrates Veteran's Day at Fort McHenry

by Sir Knight Patrick A. Curtis, R.E. Grand Commander of Maryland

**O**n a cool, crisp Sunday afternoon this past Veteran's Day, November 11, 2007 (still referred to as Armistice Day by some of our elders), nearly 70 Sir Knights, their ladies, and guests joined the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maryland in celebrating the

life and patriotism of Surgeon/Doctor, Colonel, and Brother James McHenry.

The procession assembled at the Fort, which bears his name, and proceeded by bus to Westminster Presbyterian Church Cemetery, the place at which he was interred 191 years ago.



Maryland and Pennsylvania Sir Knights together



MEPGM Thornley, REGC Berry and REGC Curtis

R.E. Grand Commander, Sir Knight Patrick Arthur Curtis, entered the cemetery beneath the crossed swords of 22 Knights Templar, and after appropriate remarks, laid a wreath on Brother McHenry's grave. Everyone was then given a guided tour of the catacombs and viewed a video about the church and cemetery's history.

As a matter of historical interest, the famed writer, Edgar Allan Poe, General

Sam Smith, and several Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Maryland are also buried here.

The group then returned to Fort Henry for a delicious dinner served by Old World Deli, followed by the formal introductions of dignitaries which included Sir Knights William H. Thornley, Jr., Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment; John M. Lewis, R.E. Department Commander of the Northeastern Department; and



Bryan L. Berry, Grand Commander of Pennsylvania. Several Past Grand Commanders of Maryland were also in attendance.

Sir Knight Louis F. Bandell, Jr., E.P.C., recited "A Toast to the Flag" and gave a brief history of the origin of "Taps." Grand Commander Curtis explained the lyrics of the verses of "The Star Spangled Banner." We were then privileged to hear Past Grand Commander, Sir Knight Steven J. Ponzillo III, speak about the life of "Patriot James McHenry." The day's celebration was concluded with a film titled *The Defense of Fort McHenry*, an emotional unveiling of the illuminated **Star Spangled Banner**, and the singing of our National Anthem, which was written September 13, 1812, by Francis Scott Key while he was aboard a British

frigate in Baltimore harbor during the bombardment of the fort.

This day and the events which took place will long be remembered by those who attended.

On a day when every American should salute and thank all veterans of our Armed Forces and all those who are actively serving to guard and protect, even to death, the many freedoms we enjoy; we the Knights Templar gave thanks and remembered not only them, but "The Patriot James McHenry" for his bravery and service to President George Washington, the Continental Army, and the United States of America.

Sir Knight Patrick A. Curtis, R.E.G.C. of Maryland, is a member of York Commandery No. 16, Camp Springs, Maryland. He resides at 9409 Gwyndale Drive, Clinton, MD 20735-3519.



Old World Deli Feeding Participants



S.K. Bandell & Church Historian

## IN MEMORIAM



**Frank Ervine Hankinson III**  
**Mississippi**  
**Grand Commander—2002**  
**Born: August 15, 1925**  
**Died: February 28, 2008**

**Richard Webb, Jr.**  
**Michigan**  
**Grand Commander—1986**  
**Born: November 24, 1920**  
**Died: March 15, 2008**

**James Parker Davis**  
**Louisiana**  
**Grand Commander—1986**  
**Born: September 5, 1917**  
**Died: March 24, 2008**



# Knight Voices

To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, type or print it and send to Editor, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, Post Office Box 478448, Chicago, IL 60647-8448. Items submitted to Knight Templar that refer to Templar or Masonic subjects will continue to be printed free of charge. All other items should be accompanied by a \$5.00 remittance made payable to the Grand Encampment. Any submission may be subject to editing. **You must submit a written request and check, if applicable, for each time you want your ad to run. Each request must be separate and at monthly intervals, not several at the same time. All other requests for repeat ads will either run just once or will be returned to sender.**

■ For sale: Knights Templar regular uniform, size 42 short, for person 5-ft. 6-in. to 5-ft. 8-in. Uniform, \$300.00; chapeau, \$250.00; Past Commander sword, \$250.00. Call collect if interested: *Morris E. Ward*, (530) 251-5223. I will ship anywhere in the States.

■ 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.albertpikedomolay.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 Stames*, 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 antique, very fine quality sterling silver plated Sir Knight's sword with ivory grip, newly restored, \$300.00, and we have just gotten Treasurer's and Recorder's shoulder straps as per the 1866 Grand Encampment regulations with crossed keys or quills on green velvet, \$60.00. **Percentage to Knights Templar and Masonic charities.** Checks to and mail to *Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr., P.C.*; 3 Oceans West Blvd., No. 4A4; Daytona Beach; FL 32118. Phone (386) 304-6157; cell (386) 871-0842.

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Taken from: *Masonic Americana, Volume II, May 1985...*

"Black Jack" Logan ...

## LEGENDARY SPARK FOR MEMORIAL DAY

by Paul C. Rodenhauer, R.E. Past Grand Recorder and past Editor *Knight Templar*

The descriptive "Black Jack" appellation has been a nickname for more than one American military leader, generally in a complimentary sense. One who received the sobriquet was General John A. Logan, primary founder of Memorial Day in 1868, who, in the period of the Civil War, was characterized as "adept at military maneuvers as in parliamentary tactics."

"Logan was an unusual soldier," wrote Bruce Catton in his *Mainstream of America series, This Hallowed Ground*. He is described as a swarthy man with a shock of black hair, long drooping mustachios—and a very special ability to lead his men on the battlefield, a strange contrast when his seeming lack of military background is considered. In combat his men chanted "Black Jack, Black Jack" in swelling volume as they charged the lines willingly and cheerfully on the orders of a "political appointee."

John Alexander Logan, eldest of 11 children of a peripatetic physician from Northern Ireland, who came to the United States via Maryland, Missouri, and Jackson County, Illinois, was born in 1826 and died in 1886—two years after he had received a highly complimentary vote for president on the first ballot the Republican National Convention in Chicago. Subsequently, James G. Blaine, a former Secretary of State under President and Sir Knight Garfield and President Arthur and scheduled to occupy the same secretarial post under Benjamin Harrison at a later date, was nominated for president. Logan accepted the post of vice president and "campaigning vigorously," even though he realized, correctly, it was in a lost cause.

Blaine, when he received the news of Logan's death in 1886, said: "General Logan was a man of immense force in a legislative body. His will was unbending, his courage, both moral and physical, was of the highest order. I never knew a more fearless man. He did not quail before public opinion when he had once made up his mind more than he did before the guns...when he headed a charge of his enthusiastic troops."

Masonically he was Raised in Mitchell Lodge No. 85, Illinois, in 1851, exalted in Washington Chapter No. 43, R.A.M., and Knighted in Chevalier Bayard Commandery No. 52, Chicago, after the war. He was nominated to receive the degree of Honorary Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, in September of 1886, but died December 26 before the honor could be conferred.

John Logan had what was described as a "broken education," including common schooling, some tutoring and brief attendance at Shiloh College. When he returned from service in the 1st Illinois Infantry as a lieutenant after the 1846–48 Mexican War, in which he received little or no combat experience, he was elected Clerk of the County Court and decided he would pursue a career as a lawyer. He resigned his post and began studies at Louisville University, then continued the study of law with his uncle, Lieutenant-Governor Alexander M. Jenkins, in Jackson County. He was admitted to the bar and became his uncle's partner.

Reports of the era say that John Logan's "forcible style of oratory, pleasing address and fine voice" won his election to the state legislature in 1852 and again for three successive terms. His happy choice of a wife in 1853 was Mary Simerson Cunningham, a "gracious and charming" lady who aided her husband's career. He resumed his practice of law, this time in Benton, Franklin County, Illinois, and was a presidential-elect in 1856 on the Buchanan-Breckinridge ticket.

The Buchanan-Breckinridge ticket won, and Logan was also elected to Congress from Illinois as a Douglas Democrat. In the 1860 election he wholeheartedly supported Stephen A. Douglas. It was the consensus of some that he strongly sympathized with the South, but, when Abraham Lincoln was elected, he declared he would "shoulder his musket to have him inaugurated."

And he did exactly that. In July of 1861, he left his seat in Congress, joined the ranks of soldiers marching out of Washington, and fought in the initial Battle of Bull Run. Reports say "Logan was the last to leave the field." He returned to Illinois, resigned from Congress,

organized the 31st Illinois Infantry, and was appointed Colonel. He was in action by November, led a successful bayonet charge, and had his horse shot from under him. At Fort Henry he distinguished himself, then later at Fort Donelson, "while gallantly leading the assault," he was wounded and put out of action briefly.

In 1862 he reported to General Grant at Pittsburg Landing as Brigadier General of Volunteers. He saw continuous action, advanced to Major General and Commander of the Army of Tennessee, and served as one of President Lincoln's successful "political generals." Illinois constituents urged him to be an 1862 candidate again for Congress, and his response is quotable: "I have entered the field to die, if need be, for the government, and never expect to return to peaceful pursuits until the object of this war of preservation has become a fact established."

After the war President and Sir Knight Andrew Johnson offered Logan appointment as Ambassador to Mexico but he declined. He was elected to the 40th, 41st and 42nd Congress, but before the 42nd Congress was convened, Logan was elected in 1872 as Senator, then in 1879, after ousting R. J. Oglesby, became senator for the second time and was chosen for the third time in 1885.

Beyond and above his record as a military leader, politician, and statesman, the General is remembered especially as a founder of Memorial Day. He conceived it and he inaugurated it on May 30, 1868. In one of his last public utterances, his plea was for "remembrance"—especially for every disabled "Union soldier who served in the army and has an honorable discharge." He helped to organize the Grand Army of the Republic and served three times as president. He consistently associated himself with all matters related to veterans' relief.

In 1875, while senator, he delivered a lengthy and impassioned address on self-government, under the Constitution, in Louisiana—the scene of recent racial upheavals. He was referring to the so-called "Penn Rebellion" in that state against officials duly recognized by President Grant. He was interrupted by "manifestations of applause in the galleries" frequently. Excerpts from that address, one of many indicative of Logan's human and political philosophy, are:

*Does Liberty mean wholesale slaughter? Does republican government mean tyranny and oppression of its citizens? Does an intelligent and enlightened age of civilization mean murder and pillage, bloodshed at the hands of Ku-Klux or White Leagues or anyone else...? I say then the happy days of this republic are gone...Liberty of the citizen means the right to exercise such rights as are prescribed within the limits of the law so that he does not in the exercise of these rights infringe the rights of other citizens.*

*I was told that the old Republican ship was gone; but when I steadied myself on the shores bounding the political ocean of strife and commotion, I looked afar off and there I could see a vessel bounding the boisterous billows with white sails unfurled, marked on her sides, "Freighted with the hopes of mankind," while the great Mariner above, as her helmsman, steered her, navigated her to a haven of rest...*

Senator Logan then referred to President Grant who, said Logan, was "generous to a fault." Although he may have disagreed with him in the past, he has also "disagreed with me." Said Logan: "He is too magnanimous to permit anything of the past to influence his mind or his charity...no one ever appealed to him in vain, for in his composition the elements that mark the North and South are strongly blended..."

*He (speaking of President Grant) attends to more wants of individuals than any man ever in Congress...From every section of the country, from Maine to Mississippi, from the shores of the Atlantic to those of the Pacific; from every state in a Union undivided come letters to him from those who wore the blue and those who wore the gray, and none was ever rejected!*

General John Alexander Logan, who began our tradition of honoring all Soldier Dead in 1868, died in Washington, D.C., in 1886, survived by his widow and two children. A dedication address at his Memorial in Grant Park, Chicago, saluted the founder of Memorial Day with these words: "He was a sincere, earnest friend, a faithful and loving husband and father. He was the idol of his party and demanded the respect and admiration of his political opponents."



*Continued from page 15*

■ 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, 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: 100th anniversary coin, Smith Lodge No. 775, Flatwoods, Kentucky, 1906–2006. Only 100 were made, and we have some left. \$10.00 each plus \$2.50 shipping. *Charles L. Powell III, P.O. Box 7009, Raceland, KY 41169-7009*; e-mail *oa457@roadrunner.com*

■ 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*.

■ 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 prorated 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*.

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

■ For sale: Restland in Masonic area "Acacia", two side-by-side spaces. These lots are the only two available in the Masonic area. Beautifully located and surrounded by huge oak trees. Asking: \$12,000.00 each. Please call *Jo Roberts, (903) 880-3676*, for further information.



# Brother Eppa Rixey: Hall of Fame Southpaw Pitcher

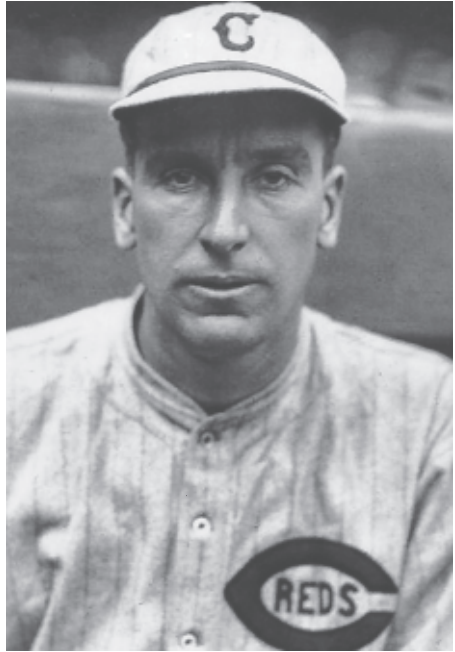
by Dr. Ivan M. Tribe, KCT, KYCH, 33°

**T**he most winning, left-handed pitcher in National League baseball history is Warren Spahn, who toiled for many years for the Boston and Milwaukee Braves prior to ending his career with the New York Mets. In the American League, Sir Knight “Gettysburg” Eddie Plank, who spent most of his playing days with Connie Mack’s old Philadelphia Athletics, holds the honor. Both Spahn and Plank won more than three hundred games.

In between these two individuals, another southpaw hurler chalked up enough wins to make the Hall of Fame, while often taking the mound with second division clubs. Until the advent of Spahn, Eppa Rixey held the National League record for victories by left-handers. This is his story.

Eppa Rixey was, also, the first Virginia native to earn Hall of Fame honors. Born in Culpepper on May 3, 1891, Eppa Rixey, Jr., was the son of a local banker. The Rixey family had originally come from Italy where their name had been spelled “Riccia.” But by the time of Eppa’s birth, it had long been Anglicized. He was the fourth child in a family of six. Eppa’s parents moved to Charlottesville when he was ten. After completing high school, he entered the University of Virginia from whence he was graduated in 1912 with a major in chemistry.

Growing to the impressive height of six feet five inches, the lanky lefty became the mainstay of the Cavaliers’ baseball pitching staff and also proved to be a standout in the then relatively new sport of basketball. Charles Rigler, a major league umpire who worked as a coach at Virginia, thought Rixey had a promising career in the majors and



arranged for a contract for the young lefty with the Philadelphia Phillies. The whole incident led to a ban on umpires scouting for professional teams, but it launched Eppa’s career although neither he nor Rigler ever received the promised \$2,000 cash bonus for signing.

Rixey had initially not wanted a baseball career, preferring to pursue work as a chemist, but fearing an economic downturn and wanting to help his brother with college expenses, he journeyed to the City of Brotherly Love.

Eppa Rixey became one of the first baseball players to go directly from the college campus to the majors. He made his major league debut on June 21, 1912, and pitching for a fifth place team in his rookie year, had a respectable if unspectacular 10-10 record with a 2.50 earned run average.

In the off seasons, the young pitcher completed a master's degree in chemistry back in Charlottesville. One winter he taught Latin at Episcopal High School in Washington, D.C. Atypically well educated for a major league ballplayer, he proved to be something of a "Renaissance man," who enjoyed writing poetry in his spare moments.

In his second year with the Phils, Rixey had a 9-5 record, but his third year proved to be a disaster, going 2-11 while his ERA climbed to 4.37. However, 1915 showed improvement for both Eppa (2.39 ERA) and the Phils, who took their first ever pennant. Scholars of the game credit his comeback to new team manager, Patrick Moran, who had a reputation as a skillful handler of young pitchers.

Still the Virginia lefty had a losing record (11-12), and his performance lagged behind that of Phillie ace, Grover Cleveland Alexander (31-10, 1.22 ERA); Erskine Mayer (21-15); and Al Demaree (14-11). In the World Series, Rixey relieved Mayer in the third inning of the fifth game and took the loss, giving up an uncharacteristic two home runs in the eighth inning. Doing better at the plate, he actually went one for two. Sadly, this was his only opportunity to play in the Fall Classic.

Under Moran's tutelage, Eppa came onto his own in 1916 with a 22-10 season and a 1.85 ERA. The team actually won more games that year than in 1915 but lost out to Brooklyn in the pennant race. Rixey propelled his team into first by winning the first game of a doubleheader over the Brooklyn Robins on September 30, but Alex lost the second game and that was close as Philadelphia got. The Phils fell back into the second division in 1917, and Eppa led the league in losses with 21, despite a good earned run average.

The following year saw Rixey in military service with the Chemical Warfare Division. This unit—in retrospect—seems to have been a haven for Masonic ball players including Ty Cobb, Christy Mathewson, and Branch Rickey, although Rixey was not yet a member of the Craft.

Back with the Phillies, Eppa seemed to have lost his touch experiencing two consecutive poor seasons with a team that sank into the league cellar both times. It has been reported that the tall Virginian did not hit it off well with Manager Gavvy Cravath. In fact, after eight seasons in Philadelphia, Rixey had an 86-103 won-lost record, not exactly one that could be considered Hall of Fame material.

As a result, he was happy to be traded to Cincinnati on January 22, 1921, where he could again be guided by Pat Moran.

Eppa Rixey not only found his niche in the Queen City, but it became his home for the rest of his life. Over the next five years, the tall southpaw blossomed into one of the league's premier hurlers winning 100 games over the next five years including three twenty-win seasons and never less than fifteen. Only once did his ERA go over 3.00 and that was in 1922, the year that he experienced a career high twenty-five wins. Perhaps his keenest achievement—in 1921—was allowing only one home run in 301 innings pitched.

Known as something of a playboy during his early years in town, he soon settled down and as Jan Finkel, who wrote in an authoritative sketch on him, said "enriched his community."

Perhaps his settling down was related to his petitioning Kilwinning Lodge No. 356 in 1922 where he received his Entered Apprentice degree on August 30, 1922. His other two degrees took place that winter as he was passed a Fellowcraft on December 27, 1922, and raised a Master Mason on January 31, 1923. Fellow lodge

members included his longtime roommate Raymond "Rube" Bressler and Ex-President, Chief Justice William Howard Taft. He remained a member of Kilwinning Lodge for twenty-five years.

Another factor in Rixey's change was his October 29, 1924 marriage to Dorothy Meyers in suburban Terrace Park's St. Thomas Church. The Rixeys subsequently had two children, Eppa III and Ann.

Following the death of his favorite manager, Pat Moran, in March 1924, Rixey had an off-year that season going only 15-14 but bounced back to win 21 in 1925.

Although his best days were behind, he still managed to turn in credible pitching for the rest of the decade although as the Reds fell into the second division, his effectiveness also declined. In 1930

"Perhaps his settling down was related to his petitioning Kilwinning Lodge No. 356 in 1922 where he received his Entered Apprentice degree on August 30, 1922. His other two degrees took place that winter as he was passed a Fellowcraft on December 27, 1922, and raised a Master Mason on January 31, 1923. Fellow lodge members included his longtime roommate Raymond "Rube" Bressler and Ex-President, Chief Justice William Howard Taft. He remained a member of Kilwinning Lodge for twenty-five years."

In the off season, Eppa worked for his father-in-law's insurance business of which he ultimately became the owner. In more recent years, this has been operated by Eppa Rixey IV as the Eppa Rixey Insurance Agency.

As a pitcher, Rixey was apparently a master at fooling hitters. His roomie Bressler later related to baseball historian, Lawrence Ritter, that Rixey had once told him that when he was behind on hitters, they invariably expected him to throw a fastball, but that he never did. Rixey, it was said, struck out few batters and walked even fewer.

Known as a mild mannered gentleman most of the time, he could really get angry at himself when he made costly mistakes on the mound and would take it out in the clubhouse afterwards on the furniture. He took the good-natured and not so good-natured kidding from teammates and rival players about his southern background with grace. Nicknamed "Jeptha" by sportswriters because it rhymed with Eppa, he learned to accept it, but never really liked it.

he went 9-13 and had a 5.10 ERA, the worst of his career. With the Reds mired in the league cellar in his last three years, Eppa became a spot starter and accumulated fifteen wins and the same number of losses. He closed with 266 wins and 251 losses often playing for mediocre and weak teams in the second division that scored few runs.

A better examination of Rixey's quality pitching might be his career ERA of 3.15 which compares favorably with contemporary Hall of Fame hurlers; Jess Haines, Ted Lyons, Herb Pennock, and Red Ruffing, all of whom had better won-lost percentages.

After his 6-3 record in 1933, Eppa Rixey hung up his glove and spikes announcing his retirement just prior to spring training on February 16, 1934. Concentrating on the family insurance business, he prospered and eventually passed it on to his descendants.

Some years after his retirement, he visited the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown and humorously wrote postcards back to Cincinnati saying "I finally made it!"

When Warren Spahn broke his record on September 26, 1959, for the most wins by a National League left-hander, Eppa told the press that he was glad his record had been broken because people had forgotten that he had earlier set it. That recollection may have got him into the Reds Hall of Fame that same year.

He still holds the post-1900 record for the most wins by a Cincinnati pitcher with 179. Four years later on January 27, 1963, he was selected for the bigger Hall of Fame in upstate New York. With characteristic modesty, he told

reporters, "They're really scraping the bottom of the barrel, aren't they?" Sadly, he suffered a fatal heart attack a month and a day later on February 28, before his induction. He was buried in Greenlawn Cemetery in suburban Milford, Ohio. The bad news for Eppa Rixey, as John B. Holway and Bob Carroll stated in the second edition of *Total Baseball* (1991), was "he seldom pitched for teams that were likely to make him a household name at World Series time." The good news for the tall Virginia gentleman was that he made it into the Baseball Hall of Fame anyway.



NOTE: The principal sources for the life of Eppa Rixey are the sketch by Jan Finkel on the SABR website and the uncredited sketch on BaseballLibrary.com, plus various histories of the Cincinnati Reds. His baseball records are in *Total Baseball* (1991); Masonic Records were furnished by George O. Braatz, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ohio. The portraits came from my Rio Grande colleague, Prof. Samuel Wilson.

Sir Knight Ivan M. Tribe, KCT, KYCH, 33°, and a professor emeritus of history at the University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio, is a Past Commander of Athens Commandery No. 15, Athens, Ohio. He resides at 111 East High Street, McArthur, OH 45651-1111.

### NEW RECIPIENTS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT MEMBERSHIP JEWEL

- 644.—
- 647. Moises A. Mita, Lima U.D., Lima, Peru. 5-2-2007.  
(original and 1 silver)
- 648. Richard F. Izatt, Amarillo Commandery No. 48,  
Amarillo, TX. 3-27-2008.
- 649. Mark Mancha, Malta Commandery No. 3, Las  
Vegas, NV. 3-15-2008.
- 650.—
- 657. Carson C. Smith, Raper Commandery No. 1,  
Indianapolis. 4-1-2008 (3rd silver and 4 bronze)
- 658. Donald M. Kelley, Hospitaller No. 46, Lock Haven,  
PA. 3-15-2008. (1 bronze cluster)





# A Melancholy Memento of Morality

by Sir Knight Jeff Bennett, P.C.

**A**s I reflect on our ritual symbolism of the melancholy mementos of morality, I meditate on the teaching of darkness, the fallen nature of this world, and the gleaming hope of immortality.

As for the teaching of darkness, the Elements in the Chamber of Reflection and on the Triangle reveal and conceal a very striking theological stance in my mind. Its presentation is stark and looming. This scene overwhelms me by breathing a penetrating fear of Death and of an unknown afterlife. It shows our frailty, our vulnerability, and that Life is given by God and supported by Jesus, built on His Salvation, and communicated through the New Testament and Faith. The Truth of God is the only thing between us and Damnation. In our ritual the Bible holds up this Truth and supports our feeble wasting efforts while holding back eternal judgment. Such dark elements gather the glorious message of God's Grace and Redemption through His Son, Jesus.

As shown in Genesis with summation in the writings of the Apostle Paul, the fallen nature of our world is unmistakable. The Great Architect of the Universe's original plan was tainted by Sin. The Relics in our customs rest upon a divine nature not a created one. Darkness spreads out below it, seemingly without bounds. Yet the Truth needs only to be as wide as needed to support the frail relics. Note, the Bible doesn't cover all the darkness, just that necessary space to save them from the being in darkness. When on the Triangle, it shines from above emblematic of God's Truth, Holiness, Character, Glory. Brilliance shining through the darkness to a terminal being supported by only his Grace. Further in the Rites, we are

admonished to hold truth to service to Christ and His Kingdom. The darkened Asylum represents our imperfect world. Dwell your mind here; the further away from the Bible, the lesser the light of God's Truth is shone or penetrates. The further the distance from the Bible, the more the Darkness of Sin surrounds you. This scene when first revealed usually reaches its aim (to strike fear) of the End. How do I know? Because when my eyes first beheld this "memento of morality," I felt shock and unease. My focus was on the darkness, the finality of death not the Bible or the Light. In the chamber, hope is yet a flickering candle. While the sands of our time are wasting, we are charged with duties and questions that must be answered. We assume a pilgrim's garb, one who is in a foreign country, not one just journeying through and not yet to the final destination.

The Darkness is only removed when the Asylum is reached and our final station is reached. The scenes passed through remind us that we are depraved, helpless creatures who journey toward an accolade there to our new title or name. Along the way, much like in John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, we are assisted by others with food, teachings, and Truth.

The span of time in the execution of the Order of the Temple ceremony is lengthy, yet I ask you to ponder the depth of its lessons that will strengthen your faith, your hope, and your charity which we have as Sir Knights enlisted under the Banner of our Great Captain of our Salvation, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sir Knight Jeff Bennett is a member and P.C. of Arlington Commandery No. 107, Arlington, Texas. He resides at 5501 Tiara Ct., Arlington, TX 76017.



# On the Masonic Newsfront

## NORTHAMPTON COMMANDERY NO. 30 WELCOMES THE TWO GRAND MASTERS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND

Northampton Commandery No. 30 of the Grand Commandery of MA/RI, recently chartered after 11 years in darkness, hosted their two Grand Masters at the first quarterly meeting of 2008 at Joel Prouty Lodge, Auburn, Massachusetts, on February 25. Pictured top row are M.W. Roger W. Pageau, Grand Master of Massachusetts; Robert A. Goewey III, Commander of Northampton No. 30; and M.W. Steven E. Smith, Grand Master of Rhode Island, who



is also a member of Northampton Commandery; 2nd row, left to right: Sir Knights Leland F. Ross, Jr.; Robert E. Hamm; John K. Andrews; Frank K. Tatro; Thomas R. Dawson; and Mark W. Doane; front row, left to right: Sir Knights John H. Day, Jr.; William E. Eltzroth; Ronald W. Wolf; and Charles R. Austin. (submitted by Sir Knight Ronald E. Wolf, Recorder of Northampton)

## WARM TEMPLAR HOSPITALITY ON A COLD WINTER'S NIGHT



Sir Knight Steve Gatton (2nd from left), P.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Oregon, is greeted by the officers of Boston Commandery and the R.E.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts/Rhode Island. Sir Knight Gatton was on a January business trip in the Boston, Massachusetts area. Left to right

are Sir Knights: Richard Van Doren, Generalissimo; Steve Gatton; Kenneth Sallale, Eminent Commander of Boston Commandery; and Michael Kaulback, R.E.G.C. of the Grand Commandery of MA/RI. Sir Knight Gatton is also the State Coordinator for Oregon.

## MARYLAND'S MASONIC HERITAGE TOUR OF GREAT BRITAIN— YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

This tour of England and Scotland will be from September 28–October 12, 2008. The price is \$3,366 (based on 45 passengers, \$3,940 based on 20 passengers. Add 3% for credit cards)—pp/do land only.

Join your host Pat Curtis, Grand Commander, Knights Templar of Maryland, on this fascinating tour of Masonry's history in England and Scotland. Price includes 12 nights accommodations, 4 lunches, 12 dinners, all in-tour transportation, tours and admissions as listed, and visits with your Masonic Brethren in London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

Tour highlights: tour London, including the Temple Church, St. Paul's Cathedral, Masonic Temple, Grand Lodge of England, Westminster Abbey, Tower of London, Windsor Castle, and the Changing of the Guards; train to York, walking tour of York, including the York Minster; tour of Edinburgh and surrounds, including Melrose Abbey, the King David Priory, Edinburgh Castle, the Royal Mile, Holyrood House, Roslyn Chapel, and more; tour Inverness, including Stirling Castle, Glenturret Distillery, Urquhart Castle, Cruise on Loch Ness; tour Glen Coe and Loch Lomond.

**For more information and for reservation form, contact Pat Curtis at (301) 868-7283.**

Only 48 spots available on this fascinating, one-of-a-kind tour! \$250 refundable deposit required to hold your space. Deposit due by 6-20-08; final payment due by 7-15-08.



Knights were treated to the Orders presented in a joint effort. Shown above is a picture of the class and at right is a close-up of a panel in the stained glass window leading to the asylum. (submitted by Sir Knight Bruce R. Howard, P.G.C., Grand Recorder)



## GRAND COMMANDERY OF VERMONT HOLDS PILGRIMAGE

On February 16, 2008, the Grand Commandery of Vermont held a Pilgrimage in the asylum of Killington Commandery No. 6, Rutland, Vermont. Sixteen new Sir

## CONNECTICUT COMMANDERY MEMBERS GREET PILGRIMAGE MINISTER

In the photo are Sir Knights from the Grand Commandery of Connecticut, along with the Sir Knights of Hamilton Commandery No. 5, who sponsored Reverend Judith S. Greene of Christ Episcopal Church of Tashua in Trumbull, Connecticut. The Sir Knights gathered around Reverend Judith on the eve of her departure for



the Holy Land, after they accepted her invitation to worship together. Several Sir Knights participated in the service and made a formal presentation of her trip. Afterwards they enjoyed fellowship with her and her parish. A reception for Reverend Greene after her return from the Holy Land is being planned by Hamilton

Commandery. (submitted by Sir Knight Robert D. Sherrick, editor of the Connecticut Supplement)

## NEWS FROM THE SOCIAL ORDER OF THE BEAUCEANT

### Official Visit of Supreme Worthy President to Topeka No. 24, Kansas, and Initiation

Below left are three new members initiated on the occasion of the Official Visit of Supreme Worthy President, Mrs. Jeanette Rife: Miss Kayce Chilton, daughter of Sir Knight Kirby Chilton and granddaughter of Sir Knight Paul Chilton; Mrs. James Darnall, daughter of Sir Knight Paul Chilton; and Miss Angie Devins, granddaughter of Sir Knight Paul Chilton. With them are Mrs. Kirby Chilton and Mrs. Paul Chilton. At right below: The Assembly welcomed four P.S.W.P.s, six elected officers, six appointed officers and twelve Supreme Committee members, the largest number of P.S.W.P.s and Supreme officers to visit Topeka Assembly at one meeting.



### Official Visit to Anderson No. 108, Indiana and 50-year Pin Presented

Mrs. Alfred Davidson, left, was honored with her 50-year pin by S.W.P. Mrs. Jeanette Rife, right, on the occasion of Mrs. Rife's Official Visit. Mrs. Davidson was then recognized for her many years of loyal service to the Social Order of the Beauceant.



### Official Visit of S.W.P. to Wichita No. 8, Kansas, and 50-year Pin Presented

Wichita Assembly No. 8, Kansas, welcomed Supreme Worthy President, Mrs.



Jeanette Rife, for her Official Visit, and at the meeting Mrs. Rife, right, presented Mrs. Edwin Flower, center, with her 50-year membership pin and citation for many years of dedicated service. Mrs. Richard Brown, left, Supreme Recorder, presented Mrs. Flower with a life membership card.

### **New Members Initiated at Honolulu No. 133, Hawaii**

Pictured left below are Mrs. Cletus M. T. Ching, center, President and Past President of Honolulu No. 133, Hawaii, with new members, Mrs. Arne L. Winters and Mrs. Cecil A. Ryder. Right below are officers and new members of the Assembly.



### **Official Visit of S.W.P. to Newton No. 6, Kansas**

Pictured at left are Supreme Worthy President, Mrs. Jeanette Rife, and the officers and members of Newton Assembly No. 6, S.O.O.B., Kansas, on the occasion of the Official Visit of Mrs. Rife to the Assembly. A delightful meeting was enjoyed by all in attendance.

### **Honor your Members and Support the KTEF with This Masonic Mug**

This Masonic mug with square and compass is 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. Percentage of proceeds to the KTEF.





## 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.





**KCT and GCT Award Recipients:** A 2½ inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. The emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use is required for the GCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is \$8.50 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the GCT emblem is \$10.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Contact: Jon Patrick Sweet, 7474 Benton Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001, or phone (303) 430-8483.

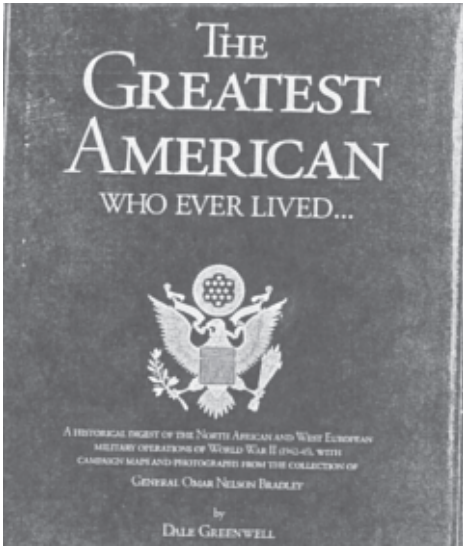


### **Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation**

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**

**The Joy in My Heart Is You!**  
by Lee O'Moloney

Every single tear a mother sheds  
Upon her pillow each night  
Is carefully carried to heaven and  
Labeled as very precious there—  
God's personal treasure kept  
Until Mother's Day, to lovingly sprinkle  
Back on earth as rain ♡ ♡ ♡ ♡  
In faithful answer to a mother's prayer.

***Dedicated to every one-of-a-kind mother on this earth!***

**Ms. Lee O'Moloney  
P.O. Box 711  
Santa Ana, CA 92701  
greatauthorlee@yahoo.com**

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