

Knight Templar

VOLUME LIV

OCTOBER 2008

NUMBER 10

SCOTTISH RITE ACQUIRES
TEMPLAR DOCUMENTS RELEASED BY VATICAN AFTER 700 YEARS
SEE ARTICLE PAGE 8

Grand Master's Message for October 2008

"Conferences and Campaign"

Autumn is perhaps one of the most colorful and beautiful times of the year. The foliage is changing, the temperatures have cooled, and we contemplate a time of coming activity.



Fall is the time when most of the York Rite Conferences are held. The Grand Encampment Officers are looking forward to seeing and meeting with the leadership of our Grand Commanderies during the various Conferences. Communication is a two-way street and essential to our future. Conferences afford a wonderful opportunity to share information, concerns, successes, and to hear what others are doing. While there, you'll be hearing about improvements to this publication, information on our new data processing system, and be updated on how these items will impact our future. We look forward to seeing you. Remember, Conferences are open to all our members, and information of times, dates and places are listed on our website at www.knightstemplar.org.

October kicks off the 41st Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Congratulations go to S.K. T. Jeffery Conquest, Chairman, on leading the 40th Campaign to a total contribution of \$1,344,819.06. Your generosity will enable YOUR Foundation to continue the fight against blindness.

S.K. Duane L. Vaught, GCT, and our Grand Captain General, will be heading up the 41st Campaign. His 'kickoff' article appears in this month's issue. While we enjoy last year's success, let's remember to give generously to the 41st Voluntary Campaign. Please remember the Knights Templar Eye Foundation while doing your estate planning. A major portion of our endowment fund has been provided by untold numbers of Knights Templar who have included the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in their wills.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William H. Koon II." The signature is fluid and cursive.

William H. Koon II, GCT
Grand Master



Knight Templar

OCTOBER:

The front cover is a photo of a Knight Templar Castle in Tomar, Portugal; copyright ultimathule. See the news article about the lawsuit the knights in Portugal have filed against the Vatican and the one about the Scottish Rite's acquisition of documents from the secret archives of the Vatican. You will want to read some of the thank you notes from the patients assisted by your Eye Foundation on page 24. We publish letters and articles from a variety of sources and points of view. The opinions expressed in these articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the Grand Encampment, the *Knight Templar* magazine, or the Editorial Review Board.

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

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knight templar	

OCTOBER 2008

VOLUME LIV

NUMBER 10

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Magazine materials and correspondence to the editor should be sent in electronic form to the managing editor whose contact information is shown above.

Materials and correspondence concerning the Grand Commandry state supplements should be sent to the respective supplement editor.

Address changes or corrections and all membership activity including deaths should be reported to the Recorder of the local Commandery.

A Chat With The Managing Editor

In August, I began introducing the new editorial review board for the magazine. The last two to be introduced this month are serving on the board primarily because of their strategic positions in the Grand Encampment. After all, the *Knight Templar* is the only publication that ensures direct communication between the Grand Encampment and each individual Sir Knight.

Sir Knight Terry Plemons is the chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the Grand Encampment. He is an astute and experienced Masonic and business leader and will ensure that the content of our magazine is aligned with the goals and vision of Grand Encampment.

Sir Knight Sid Dorris is the publisher of the *Knight Templar* magazine and Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment. Sid has been in the publishing business for many years. He recently retired as department head of the photography department of the United Methodist Publishing House and is now a consultant in that field. He has served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. His leadership ability, business acumen, and keen sense for aesthetics have already proved his worth to our team during this period of transition.

I look forward to working with this stellar board and with you as we transform this publication during the next few months. Now it is time to hear from you. The *Knight Templar* magazine has not published letters to the editor in the recent past. I have discussed this with the board, and we have decided to establish a regular "Letters to the Editor" column. We will publish the best letters or e-mails I receive as we have room if we feel that they would be of interest to our readership.

Although I will make the attempt, please do not expect me to be able to respond to every letter either in the magazine or directly by e-mail. Please address all e-mails you are willing to have published to me at the address shown on page three with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line. We look forward to hearing from you!



John L. Palmer
Managing Editor

From the Grand Recorder's Office...

Reminder - The Department Conference schedule for the rest of this year is listed below. During these meetings, there will be a separate session with the managing editor for the state supplement editors and for anyone else interested in contributing to the magazine. State editors, please make plans to attend this informative session and assist in achieving one of our Grand Master's goals for the year! Please see the Grand Encampment web site for detailed information on these meetings: www.knightstemplar.org



Lawrence E. Tucker GCT
Grand Recorder

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

Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming
Right Eminent Department Commander - James C. Herndon Email: dajudge@ida.net

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

Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota
Right Eminent Department Commander:
Jeffrey N. Nelson
Email: jnelson@state.nd.us

Southwestern Department, October 31-November 1, 2008.... Henderson, Nevada

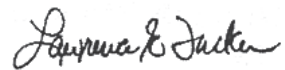
Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah
Right Eminent Department Commander - Robert C. Coe Email: rccoe@aol.com

Data Base Operations

Another one of our Grand Master's goals for this year is the conversion of our data-base system to a state-of-the-art system. Progress is being made in this area, and we hope to have a progress report for you in the next issue of the magazine on this page. Be sure to check it out next month.

Sir Knights,

Corrections to the address where you receive the *Knight Templar* magazine and reports of the death of a Sir Knight should be reported to the local Commandery Recorder who will send the information to the Grand Encampment office. Please do not bypass your local Recorder and go directly to the magazine editor or to the Grand Encampment office.



Lawrence E. Tucker, GCT
Grand Recorder

Prelate's Chapel

The Albigensian Crusade

by

Sir Knight M. Eugene Ellis, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, New York



One of the most unfortunate and unhappy events during the high Middle Ages was an event which we call the Albigensian Crusade. It was truly a Crusade as it was initiated by Pope Innocent III in 1208. The purpose of the Crusade was to stamp out the Cathar branch of the Christian Religion. Let us look for a moment at the beliefs of these peoples. Catharism was fundamentally Christian although it contained a strong element of gnosticism as well as Dualism. It was, at first glance, a reasonable way of looking at God and the hereafter. Dualism, if carried far enough, says that God has a rival and thus exists the eternal quest of good against evil. Gnosticism reaches back into Grecian thought (Plato and Aristotle, etc.). Gnostic concept, at its core, wedded "personal experience and personal union with God in His Heavens." If carried too far, one could ask if there is the need for priests, ministers, or even churches. It was a very personal religion, and I would go so far as to say that aspects of Cathar thought are alive and well in our own age.

Without the structure of church and the hierarchy, however, there is little to hold the body together. I remember, years ago, teaching in Watertown when the parents said "what do we need a PTA for?" So, they dropped out of the national organization and called themselves the PTO. It folded in a few years, and the parents went back to the PTA. If the center does not hold, there is no cohesiveness.

Irinaeus, writing long before the high Middle Ages, was more concerned with the gnostic thinking of an earlier period. By rejecting the Church, Bishops, and Priests he found it necessary to discourage individual speculation and to encourage the people to accept an unquestioning faith in a fixed dogma.

For those who expect this article to tear after Jesus on the Grand Tour to Southern France, they must look elsewhere. "Orthodoxy is my doxy.....hetero is another man's doxy." Having dismissed this not widely accepted thought, perhaps it would be interesting to look into Catharism.

In the guise of holding the established faith through fixed dogma, these peaceful

people posed a threat, and there were those who knew how to handle a threat to the established order. The Cathars' lands were in the south of France and in the Pyrenees foothills of Spain. This land of the Albigenses was the high water mark of intellectual thought in the high Middle Ages. There was a strong influence of Jewish culture in this portion of the world near the Mediterranean.

One needs to be aware of a concept dear to the 20th and 21st Centuries; nationhood. The map of continental Europe during the beginning of this crusade in 1209 was truly a counterpane. We think of Joan of Arc, for instance, as having freed France. Admittedly a French heroine, France was a polyglot of any number of small fiefs or petty kingdoms. William I and Henry II held their home fiefs in parts of France, and when they assumed the English Throne, their French lands were still their fiefs. Catharine, wife of Henry II, brought along nearly a quarter of France into the marriage; all legally and acceptably. The Nation State probably had its beginnings in England because, being a maritime people, they brought the small estates together until there was just one country (with apologies to my Celtic brothers in Wales, Scotland, Brittany, and Ireland). Great feudal estates in Europe slowly accreted together until the map we have today seems normal to us, but it was a long time building.

One of the world's most infamous statements came out of the 30-year war to crush the Cathars and reads as follows: A town in France held by the Cathars was besieged by the French military. When the tide turned against the besieged, the military leader Arnald-Amalric (1208) was told by his first lieutenant that there were some Catholics in the town of Beziers as well as Cathars. Arnald stated: "Kill them all! God will sort out his own." Much of the Cathar war was land accretion by feudal barons, and there was little to do about religion in it. I leave it to the reader to decide if the war had any good in it at all. Roughly, 130,000 Cathars met their deaths during these wars.



Benjamin Franklin Shearwood
Virginia
Grand Commander – 1988
Born: April 12, 1922
Died: August 5, 2008

Roy Christian Ritter
Ohio
Grand Commander – 2003
Born: January 19, 1933
Died: August 12, 2008

Matthew Racioppa
Maryland
Grand Commander – 2004
Born: December 4, 1924
Died: August 25, 2008

The Trial of the Templars Revisited

by

John L. Palmer KTCH, KCT

When I was a young boy, I loved cowboys, baseball, and reading. I read about science fiction, race cars, and mysteries. My aunt was a professional secretary and would make rare trips to the big city of Memphis. When she returned, she would almost always bring me a book. The Hardy Boys Mysteries were my favorite. As soon as I was handed the new book, I would open it and be glued to it until I was told that it was time for bed and that I must put it down and go to sleep. After I thought everyone else was asleep, I would grab a flashlight, pull the blanket up over my head so that no light escaped and dive into the book again until I was found out and had the book confiscated for the night. Some of my friends were inclined to immediately turn to the last few pages of the book, read the ending, and feel proud about saving all that time by not reading the entire book. I never figured out the point in that. It is the discovery of the answer to the mystery, not the answer itself that brings the satisfaction for me. This was reinforced in later life when I was assigned as an intelligence analyst in the Army reserve. The interesting part was not so much what we discovered but the discovery process.

These were the thoughts that were running through my head as I sat in an office on a hot day in August. I was in the House of the Temple, the headquarters of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction in Washington, D.C. I had been invited for a chat about the challenges associated with publishing a large Masonic magazine. I had finally arrived

at the House of the Temple after having gotten lost on the way from my hotel in Alexandria. It occurred to me that it was a good thing that Pierre Charles L'Enfant, the designer of the street layout in the city of Washington, was not a Mason, because had he been alive, I would have been tempted to strangle him. After I finally arrived and had a few moments of pleasant conversation with my host, he announced, with a twinkle in his eye, that he had something he wanted to show me. Smiling, he pushed a small, wheeled utility cart from behind his desk and began to clear the coffee table in his office. On the cart was a large object in a fancy cloth bag. He handed me a pair of cotton gloves as he began to untie the strings on the bag. Even though both gloves appeared to be for the right hand and at least two sizes too small, I quickly pulled the petite gloves onto my thick fingers as my host extracted a large object made of hand-sewn new leather. The leather cover was plain, not like the belt and holster rigs I had received for Christmas more than fifty years before. It reminded me of a huge bi-fold man's wallet. In the compartment that would normally hold currency, were a number of folded documents printed on what appeared to be parchment, vellum, or some other thin leather-like substance. Removing one of them and unfolding it, I discovered it to be a full size facsimile of a much older document approximately two feet square filled with row upon row of meticulous handwritten text, all in Latin.

My mind skipped back forty years to a time when my high school Latin teacher had admonished me to pay attention because some day a time would come when

the ability to read Latin would be important to me. Too late now, I had missed my opportunity over forty years ago! In the left hand pocket of the leather folder was tucked another stack of documents reproduced on the same kind of material and again in Latin. Removing one of these documents, I noticed a seal on the bottom page containing an inscription that I was miraculously able to translate as "The Secret Archives of the Vatican". I asked myself the question, "If the Vatican truly has secret archives, how come I am holding part of it in my hands?"

Replacing the document, I discovered in a pocket on the other side of the case another object that, at first glance, resembled a leather bound, three-ring notebook. It turned out to be a printed, leather bound book. At the top of one of the first few pages was the Latin title which translated into something like "The Prosecution of the Templars".

This whole time I was asking questions like, "Are these just prosecution documents or transcripts of the trial?"; "How many English documents came with this package?"

The answers were fairly consistent;

"I don't know; we don't know that yet."

"Are all these documents translated into English or just some?"

"I don't know; we don't know that yet."

Understand that these answers were coming from my host, Dr. Brent Morris, world famous author, mathematician, editor, and first American Worshipful Master of the prestigious Quatuor Coronati Lodge in London. If he didn't know, who did?

Wow! Here was a truly unsolved mystery, and I was holding it right there in my hands. There was no last page to get the answers from. The full answers had not knight templar

been discovered.

On pages 29 and 30 of this issue, you will find two news stories that will explain some of the events leading up to my good fortune. The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction in a magnanimous fraternal gesture has informed me that they are pleased to make available to their York Rite Brethren, through the *Knight Templar* magazine, full access to the resources of their library and museum including this document recently acquired from the Vatican.

It is our intention to find a way to take advantage of this generous offer and to bring to our readers, ongoing information as we attempt to decipher the contents of this package and to analyze the relevance of these documents to modern Templary and to the Grand Encampment. We will try to publish articles that will establish the context and setting of the historical period beginning on Friday, October 13th, 1307 and culminating with the burning at the stake of Grand Master Jacques DeMolay on March 18th, 1313. We will attempt to discover just how many organizations there are today which claim some sort of relationship to the ancient Templars whether it be direct descendants, a philosophical link, or just a similarity in name. We may even explore the impact that these happenings had on religious and secular culture in Western civilization. I can think of no more appropriate forum in which to pursue this investigation than the *Knight Templar* magazine. Be patient, Sir Knights; this project will take months if not years to complete. I hope you will join us each month as we begin to unfold this mystery of what really happened seven hundred years ago.

Who Are These People Called Knights Templar?

By

Leroy J. Delionbach, P.G.C., KYGCH, KCT

A story published in *The Augusta Chronicle* on July 12, 2008, described a journey to knighthood by a man born in Tehran in a Catholic family. Dr. Ham Shirvani, president of California State University—Stanislaus, is a member of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem. He is also a provisional Knight of Malta, and anticipates attaining full knighthood when he completes his year of "...certain community service work, literally going and helping the sick and poor, trying to do whatever I can." Sounds familiar, doesn't it!

A former chancellor of the local university in my community, along with a couple of other gentlemen of my acquaintance, are members of the Knights Templar – but not the Masonic order. Their organization claims to be the true lineal descendants of the original nine knights who formed the Order on which our Masonic organization is patterned.

I was intrigued! I ran a quick search on Google using the term "Knights Templar". In only 0.24 seconds (I told you it was quick!) the search engine returned 2,110,000 +/- hits. With apologies to Richard P. Heitzenrater (Wesley and the People Called Methodists), I wondered "Who ARE these people called Knights Templar?" The answer to that question will form the basis for a series of articles that will

describe some of the other organizations that are called Knights Templar.

At least one of the organizations prohibits membership by Masons. (Well, there goes one of the popular theories about the origins of Freemasonry!) Some admit women as full and equal partners. At least one has recognition from the United Nations as a charitable organization. One is an educational organization that will take your membership application on-line and then enroll you in a course of study in the mystical arts (for a fee).

The late football coach Erik Russell supposedly told one of his teams just before the opening game of a new season that it was time

to buckle their chin straps, hitch up their britches, and play some football. Grab your chapeaux, My Fraters, and let's go exploring the worlds of knighthood!

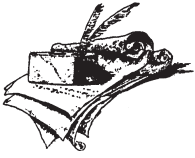


The site of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem where the Knights Templar resided shortly after their organization and from which they derived the name "Knights Templar".

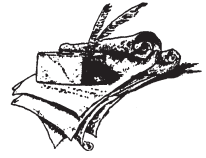


Sir Knight Leroy J. Delionbach is a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of South Carolina. He is currently serving as criminal justice program coordinator on the faculty of Aiken Technical College. He has served in various positions of leadership in public, business, and academic environments, as a Methodist minister, an army officer, and in various law enforcement and criminal justice positions. He is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, Phi Delta Kappa, and Phi Theta Kappa. Sir Knight Delionbach is also serving on the editorial review board of the *Knight Templar* magazine. He currently resides at 221 Hartwell Drive, Aiken, South Carolina 29803.

october 2008



Letters to the Editor



We continue to receive suggestions for the improvement of the magazine and are in the process of trying to implement most of them. Two of the most popular suggestions are to include color on a regular basis and to find a way to deliver the magazine electronically to those who wish to receive it that way. As you can see below, we have a number of readers in addition to those who are members of our subordinate Commanderies. The Ed.

Dear Sir,
 Since you asked for feedback regarding your publication, I will respond. I enjoy every issue. I am a history buff. When my husband passed away, I contacted the KT thinking that I would not receive the magazine any longer. At that time, the person I spoke with said that they would be glad to keep me on the mailing list. That is wonderful. I especially enjoyed the tribute to Eddy Arnold in the last issue. I do send in a small check several times a year. Thanks again for making this available to me.

Mrs. Betty L. Carter, Boise, ID

Thank You, Betty! This is an opportunity for me to remind you that we are pleased to continue to send the magazine to our widows at no charge. All they have to do is to make sure that the Recorder of the local Commandery indicates that the widow would like to continue to receive the Knight Templar magazine when he reports the death of the Sir Knight to the Grand Encampment.

knight templar

Sir Knight John,
 What a pleasant surprise when I received the *Knight Templar* magazine. It is truly a touch of class. Keep up the good work!

John, I have been receiving two (2) magazines. Please cancel one.

Fraternally,
 Jay H. Speck
 Grand Recorder Emeritus
 Plattsmouth, NE

Thanks, Jay, this gives me opportunity to point out that I don't handle the circulation of the magazine. Some are receiving two copies because they belong to two Commanderies. If you are a member in two states, you may want the two copies in order to receive both state supplements. Sir Knights and ladies, please handle any issues you may have with not receiving the magazine, getting two copies, or address corrections with your local Recorder. Using this process will ensure that everyone gets the word.

Dear Sir Knight/Editor:

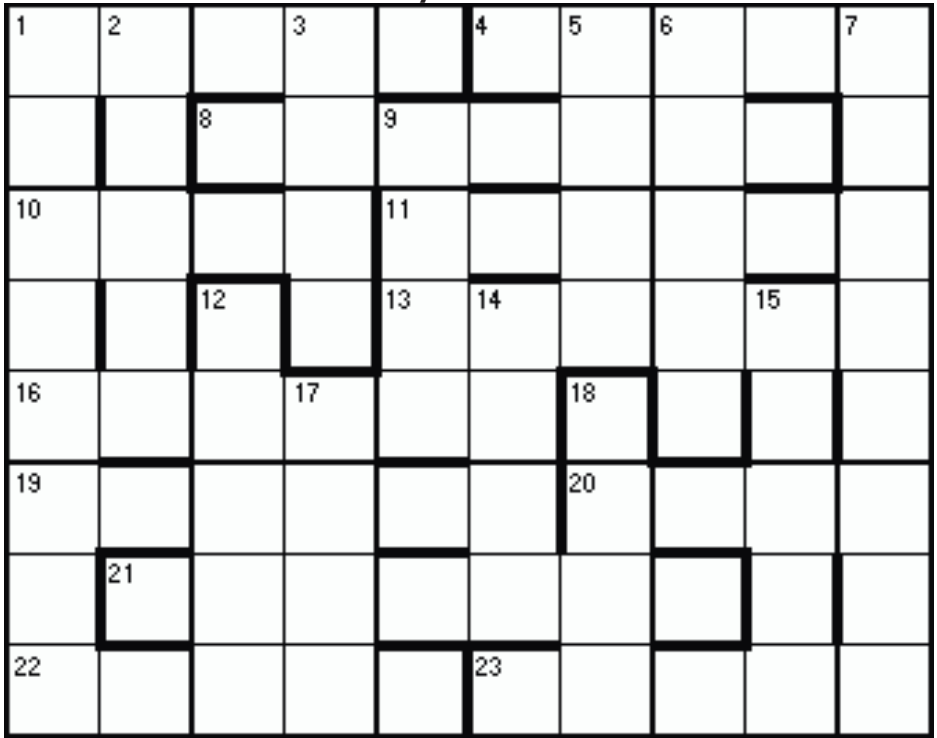
I am the Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar (PHA) for the state of Illinois. I receive and read the *Knight Templar* with regularity and pleasure. I find the content to be interesting as well as enlightening...The "new look" is most appealing; it enhances the quality of the magazine. Keep up the good work.

An avid reader,
 James A. Mitchell, 33, R.E.G.C., KYCH



CRYPTIC (Freemason) PUZZLE

by Loki



ACROSS

- Pipe band leader visited beheaded friar (5)
- A flip-floppy rice dish (5)
- Bad guy in operatic song makes for typical storybook locale (7)
- Harmony in plumbing-fixture rumblings (4)
- Restorer uses a printer's powder (6)
- Gesture to Salvatore, the Salt Lake Indian (6)
- Extinguisher of candles left in bedroom (6)
- Arkansas chop to turn up (6)
- Came the wrong way to the top (4)
- Drunkenly drank at the Beer Mug (7)
- Chicken cake (5)
- Wired strange! (5)

DOWN

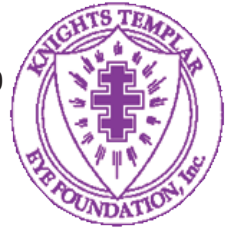
- Vile dance is the National pastime (8)
- & 3. Orbison, Jolson, Campbell; at least two passed through here (5,4)
- Graven image found in study of pyramidology (4)
- Peanuts character is vitamin C pusher (5)
- The prow potty is on the brow (8)
- Lawsuit satchel (4)
- Modus operandi with zap-gun beam to catch an eel (5)
- Plot involved in Far East (4)
- Send money in backwards and watch (5)
- Heard to complain about the Port (4)
- Read all about First European-American baby's family (4)

Answers on page 28

october 2008

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
1000 E. State Parkway
Suite I

Schaumburg, Illinois 60173-2460
Phone: (847) 490-3838
Fax: (847) 490-3777



**Announcing the
41st Annual Voluntary Campaign
October 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009
Contributions for the Voluntary Campaign
are now being accepted.**

Please submit your contributions prior to
April 30, 2009

A message from Duane Lee Vaught, GCT
General Chairman of the 41st Annual Campaign
R.E. Grand Captain General
Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the USA

Greetings Sir Knights,

This year I get to be the Chairman for our Voluntary Campaign. Over the next several months I will attempt to present a series of short articles highlighting the good we are doing for mankind. "We" is a key element here because every Knight Templar is a small contributor through per capita and life sponsorships. Unfortunately, the small per capita amounts don't go as far as we would like. (Not with current gas prices.) Fortunately we have been generous. Last year our campaign raised \$1,344,819 which was \$63,378 more than the year before. As Freemasons we are a generous group of guys.

It is hard to explain how really crucial sight is. Not everyone is blessed with sight. When we can be the difference between light and darkness, how can we lose the opportunity to help?

It's so easy to take sight for granted. While watching television tonight, close or cover your knight templar



eyes for a few minutes. The shows or game may not be quite as easy to follow. Image trying to eat dinner or do your job without seeing. Setting an alarm clock is complicated. Getting around your home can be a chore.

For some people such experiences aren't an experiment. They are life. How many chances do you get to make the kind of difference in a person's life that improving sight represents?

There are a number of ways to contribute. Over the coming months we will highlight some of those many ways to support or participate.

This month's suggestion... Over the next several months most Commander-ies will be billing and collecting annual

dues. You can make a contribution very simply by increasing your required check amount and indicating that the extra dollars are for the Eye Foundation. Your local Recorders all know the process for sending these contributions on to the Foundation. You don't even have to write an extra check.

Don't miss the chance to help. Please be generous.

That Others May See

Duane Lee Vaught, GCT

General Chairman of Campaign

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

No. 5,351 Piers A. Vaughan (NY)

Grand Commander's Club

No. 102,787 Richard W. Crane (CT)

No. 102,788 William J. Stahl (OH)

No. 102,789 Cecil A. Ryder, Jr. (AL)

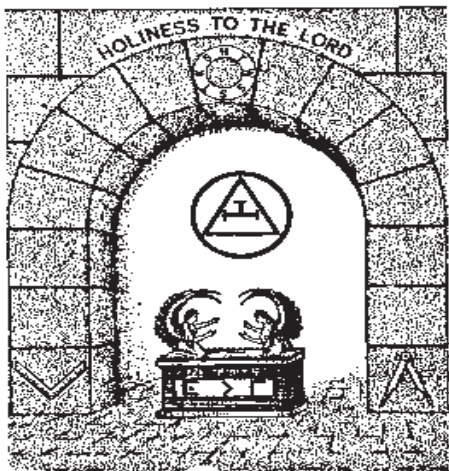
How to Join the Grand Commander's or the Grand Master's Clubs

Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; 1000 E. State Parkway, Suite I, Schaumburg, Illinois 60173-2460. The phone number is: (847) 490-3838. The fax number is (847) 490-3777.

General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, International and General Grand Council Cryptic Masons, International Meet in Triennial Communication in Indianapolis, Indiana

The General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International met in Triennial Communication August 29th, 2008 in Indianapolis, Indiana under the leadership of Most Excellent General Grand High Priest, Larry E. Gray. The following were elected for the ensuing triennium: Most Excellent General Grand High Priest – Emory J. Ferguson; General Grand King - Edmund D. Harrison; General Grand Scribe - Louis E. Bartrand; General Grand Treasurer – Van A. Evans; General Grand Secretary – Larry E. Gray, Past Most Excellent General Grand High Priest. The annual per capita tax rate was set at \$1.00 per member.

The General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons, International met in Triennial Communication August 30th, 2008 in Indianapolis, Indiana under the leadership of Most Puissant General Grand Master, Maurice C. (Bud) Himes. The following were elected for the ensuing triennium: Most Puissant General Grand Master – Joseph J. Vale; Deputy General Grand Master – George C. Sellers; General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work - Lawrence O. Weaver; General Grand Treasurer – Kenneth D. Chandler; General Grand Recorder – David A. Grindle. The annual per capita tax rate was set at \$1.00 per member.



knight templar



Tennyson Receives Honor



The jewel of the Knight Grand Cross of the Temple

Sir Knight D. Samuel Tennyson has been accorded the rare honor of receiving the prestigious designation of Knight Grand Cross of the Temple. He has the distinction of being the first to receive this award from Grand Master Koon during his term of office as Grand Master. There are only 45 living recipients of this distinction.



Sir Knight D. Samuel Tennyson receives the Knight Grand Cross of the Temple from Grand Master William Koon.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT EXPANDS ITS PRESENCE TO AFRICA

During the week of August 24th, an historical event unfolded as the Grand Encampment Officers met with York Rite Masons from the Republic of Togo to establish American style Templarism in that French speaking country. Templary in this nation has formerly been allied most closely with German Templars under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment U.S.A. At the request of the delegation from Togo led by Grand Master of Masons, Most Worshipful Brother Louis Wlè-Mbanewar BATAKA, Grand Master William Koon issued dispensations for three Commanderies in that country with the hope that a Grand Commandery might soon be established under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment as the first on the continent of Africa.



The delegation from Togo meets with the Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar U.S.A.



Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Togo and Grand Master Koon sign dispensations establishing Commanderies in that country.



Knight Voices

To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, send it by e-mail to ktmagazine@comcast.net. Any submission may be subject to editing. Items of a non-commercial nature will be considered first. Items benefitting the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will also have priority. Items will be published at the discretion of the editor based on the perceived relative value to the Sir Knights who are funding the magazine.

■ **Wanted - Family Sword:** Woman is searching for her grandfather's Masonic Sword with the name Jesse S. Mulen engraved on the blade. The Sword has a sheath with two hangers on it. Her grandfather died in 1933 and was a Mason in both the Scottish and York Rites in Mt. Pleasant, PA. Any information regarding this sword would be greatly appreciated. *Please contact Judy Hatchette, 801 Somerset Place, Spartanburg, SC 29301, (864) 439-7667.*

■ **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 any emblem from a Concordant Body you wish. I have also designed a 16" x 20" tooled leather picture entitled "A Master's Journey". This is a landscape that depicts events and symbolism on the way to becoming a Master Mason. There is also a tooled leather belt showing much of what the picture has. *For more information, pricing, and flyer contact Karl Jepsen at P.O. Box 305, Cal-Nev-Ari, NV 89039. Phone (702) 297-1754. Email: KarlJ68@aol.com. 5% of sales to KTEF.*

■ **For Sale:** Gold-finish sword lapel pins. Men's lapel pin is 1-1/4" long with red stone in the center of the hilt, \$7.00 each, and ladies pin is 2-1/2" long with clear stone at the top of the hilt, and red stone in the center of the hilt, \$12.00 each. Prices include shipping and handling. *Send check or money order to: Melrose Commandery 159th Grand Conclave, 17120 Theiss Mail Road, Spring, TX 77379. Email inquiries to pewnsche@sbcglobal.net. 10% of all sales will be donated to KTEF. Sword pins are a special project for the 159th Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas.*

■ **Wanted:** Masonic Chapter pennies by an 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:** Chapeaux 7-5/8, black coat size 50, black belt, white sword sling, gloves, and black case, all for \$500. *For further details write Dean V. White, 1104 Laura Ave., Bucyrus, OH 44820 or cell phone (419) 569-3808.*

■ **Knight Templar Shoulder Strap Pairs** of the finest quality available. All ranks are embroidered in extra fancy real gold and silver bullion on velvet, and all have Velcro backs. Past Commander (red), serving Commander, Generalissimo (specify either traditional or just lamb and square), Captain General, or Prelate (green) @ \$50.00. Emeritus ranks of Generalissimo, Captain General, Prelate (red) @ \$55.00. Honorary Past Commander with silver "HC" at the foot of the cross @ \$90.00. Grand Commandery and Grand Representative @ \$60.00. Past Grand Commander (purple) @ \$70.00. Grand Encampment and special orders @ \$85.00.

Special order Grand Commandery and Grand Encampment special order shoulder straps with the initials of the rank @ \$15.00 per letter. Example: Past Grand Commander with P.G.C. embroidered in silver would add \$45.00 to the original price.

Treasurer and Recorder shoulder straps with crossed keys and quills on green velvet per the 1866 Uniform Regulations of the Grand Encampment.

Chapeaux crosses in extra fancy gold and silver bullion with Velcro back: Sir Knight @ \$45.00. Past Commander @ \$50.00. Grand Commandery and Grand Representative (red) @ \$65.00. Past Grand Commander (purple) - \$70.00. Grand Encampment and special orders - \$80.00.

Embroidered extra fancy quality gold and silver sleeve crosses per pair with Velcro back: Sir Knight - \$45.00; Past Commander - \$45.00. Grand Commandery - \$50.00. Past Grand Commander (purple) - \$70.00. Grand Encampment and special orders - \$85.00.

Embroidered gold and silver **fatigue hat bullion crosses:** Sir Knight @ \$45.00. Past Commander @ \$50.00. **Metal cap crosses:** silver @ \$32.00, gold @ \$38.00. **Past Commander's jewel** @ \$52.00.

All items plus shipping handling and insurance: \$5.00 for the first item; each additional item \$1.00 shipping. Percentage of every order goes to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and other Masonic charities. *Checks and mail to Jacques N. Jacobsen Jr., 3 Oceans West Blvd., #4A4, Daytona Beach, FL 32118. PHONE (386) 304-6157. Cell (386) 871-0842.*

■ **For Sale:** Custom design Masonic die cast coins, lapel pins, and other promotional items. To request a custom quote or a full color brochure, *contact Frank Looser, P.M. 800-765-1728 or send mail to 809 Cobble Cove, Nashville, TN 37211, e-mail fhlj@comcast.net or visit me on-line at www.cnfinteractive.com for ideas and to see what other Masons have to say about my work. % goes to KTEF.*

Continued on Page 20

GENERAL SUPPLEMENT

The space on these two pages is provided by the *Knight Templar* magazine to be used by the Grand Commanderies to communicate with the individual Sir Knights in their jurisdiction on a monthly basis. From time to time and for various reasons, we fail to receive any material from the editor of the state supplement for a given month. When this happens, we take the opportunity to offer you this information provided by the Public Relations Committee of the Grand Encampment. – The Ed.



A Brief Resume on the History of the Knights Templar

Part III

by

Terry Plemons, Chairman
Public Relations Committee
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar USA

With the exception of a few nations in Europe, the Templars were forced to flee or perish. They found refuge in Spain and in England, and there warned of Philip's plans, they were able to flee into Scotland where the order went underground. DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the Templars, had obeyed the orders of his superior the Pope hoping for the final crusade to free the Holy Lands. He was unaware of the political tides that flowed across Europe as each nation strove for dominance over the other.

It was decided that the Grand Master should be brought before public view to admit his guilt and that of his Templars. The nobility, the prelates of the church, and influential commoners were invited to witness the historic event. On March 14, 1314, a high platform had been erected before Notre Dame from which DeMolay would make his confession. The Grand Master was escorted to the platform with Geoffroi de Charney and two other officers of the order.

With the eyes of the world upon him and the blood of his beloved Templars on the hands of his accusers, DeMolay condemned himself to martyrdom. "I think it only right that at so solemn a moment when my life has so little time to run, I should reveal the deception which has been practiced and speak for the truth. Before heaven and earth and all of you here as my witnesses, I admit that I am guilty of the grossest iniquity. But the iniquity is that I have lied in admitting the disgusting charges laid against the order. I declare, and I must declare, that the order is innocent. Its purity and saintliness are beyond question. I have indeed confessed that the order is guilty, but I have done so only to save myself from terrible tortures by saying what my enemies wished

me to say. Other knights who have retracted their confessions have been led to the stake, yet the thought of dying is not so awful that I shall confess to foul crimes which have never been committed. Life is offered to me but at the price of infamy. At such price, life is not worth having. I do not grieve that I must die if life can be bought only by piling one lie upon another.”

The others with DeMolay quickly joined him in proclaiming the innocence of the order. By their own words, they had brought monumental embarrassment to both king and church to which the only answer was the stake. The verdict was announced for that same evening.

The executions were held on a small island in the River Seine, but a crowd still managed to gather by boat to witness the end of the last Templar Grand Master. Legend says that as Jacques DeMolay’s flesh was being burned away he called down a curse upon Philip of France and all of his family, and he called upon both king and pope to meet him within the year for judgment at the throne of God. Clement V died the following month of April, followed by Philip’s unexplained death in November of the same year. As the two nemeses of the Templars faded into history so did the remaining Templars fade into the shrouds of time; perhaps an invisible force protecting the destiny of man.



knight templar

■ **For Sale:** Lloyd L. Gibson Chapter No. 481 R.A.M. is selling their newly minted 50-year commemorative mark/penny for \$10 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 the proceeds will go to KTEF. *Checks or money orders to Lloyd L. Gibson Chapter No. 481 R.A.M., P. O. Box 972, Channelview TX 77530.*

■ **Sword slings** available in 2 " or 1" wide white or black nylon straps with black fine grade leather sword holder and 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 to Tom Starnes, 303 Shawnee Indian Lane, Suwanee, GA 30024, call 678-923-6776, e-mail tonawsta@bellsouth.net. Make checks payable to: K.T. Enterprises. % of net profits will go to KTEF.*

■ **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" 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 plus \$6 shipping and handling. Postage is pro-rated on bulk orders; *please contact e-mail below or call (478) 934-7236 for pro-rated S&H rates. Check or MO to Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217 and mail to Harry A. Bruno, Chairman; Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M., P.O. Box 732, Cochran, GA 31014, or e-mail harrya217@cstel.net.*

■ **For Sale:** peel-off, vinyl, royal blue square and compass decals designed to fit on your license plate or window, 2 " high, 1" wide, 6 vinyl decals for \$5 postpaid. Also, approx. 4" reflective chrome vinyl square and compass. Past Master, O.E.S., or Shrine decals to fit on your taillights only \$5 per set of 2, postpaid. Also black vinyl square and compass decals 3/4"x3/4" 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 postpaid. All profits go to our Masonic Widows' Fund. *Joe Allen, P.M., Sec., Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217, F. & A.M., P.O. Box 732, Cochran, GA 31014.*

■ **For Sale:** Middle Georgia Chapter No. 165, R.A.M., the first chapter to be chartered in Georgia in 25 years, is selling its newly minted shekels for \$7 each or 2 for \$10, postpaid. Each coin is mounted in a 2x2 coin folder and comes with a sealed certificate of authenticity. *Orders to A. Neal Mimbs, 708 Jeanette St., Cochran, GA 31014; e-mail neal217@comsouth.net.*

■ **Display your pride:** Lodge auto tags with blue vinyl letters on white 6"x12" aluminum, include lodge name and number, square and compasses, F&AM (AF&AM, AAFM, etc.), city and state: \$8 each and 1 free tag with every 10 ordered. Shipping 1-5 is \$6, 6-10 is \$8, 11-20 is \$10 to the same address in US. \$2 from each tag donated to The Georgia Masonic Children's Home Endowment Fund. *Send info, check, or MO to Ernest P. Gentry, 893 Brookside Dr., Winder, GA 30680-2848, e-mail tagmaker@windstream.net.*

■ **Be prepared:** Six adjacent cemetery lots; prime location in Primrose section of Acacia Park (Masonic) Cemetery, Chicago, IL - \$1,000 each (1/2 of current cemetery price). Includes title transfer and IL maintenance fees. *Contact Dehinten@earthlink.net or phone (847) 998-8742.*

■ **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, 26.6-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 or e-mail 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.*

■ **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.*

■ **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.*

■ **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 carat 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 life jackets in order to save the lives of others. The price per pin is \$8.00 each 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.*

■ **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 60506-1701.*

Brethren Persecuted

A three-part series on the demise of the Knights Templar

By Sir Knight Stephen Dafoe

Past Grand Historian Sovereign Great Priory of Canada

Part One: The End Is The Beginning Is The End

On 28 May, 1291 the Templars relinquished their fortified compound to the Mamlukes, who had been besieging the port city of Acre for the past six weeks. The Mamlukes had actually breached the city walls ten days earlier, but the Templars were the last to leave the field, a situation that was a long-standing tradition with the order.

The loss of Acre was not merely another crusader defeat, for the port had been home to the Templars and Hospitallers for nearly a century; having been captured by Richard the Lionheart on 12 July, 1191. Although the capture of Acre marked the passing of the era of the Crusader States for Christendom, the Templars suffered as well. Not only had they lost their headquarters in the east, they also lost their grand master, Theobald Gaudin, who was killed during the battle.

Gaudin was replaced by William de Beaujeu, who was elected by his brethren at the Templar fortress at Sidon, 60 miles north of Acre. One of de Beaujeu's first actions as head of the order was to remove himself to the Island of Cyprus to recruit assistance for his brethren. No knight templar

help was to be received and on 12 July, the knights abandoned their last fortress on the mainland, joining their brethren on Cyprus.

When Pope Nicholas IV learned of the Christian defeat at Acre, he immediately made arrangements to take back the Holy Land. Part of his plan was to unite the military orders into one cohesive unit. Of course, the idea was not an original one, having been tossed around as early as 1274. Although Nicholas appointed a committee to investigate the idea, he died before their report was completed. A year later, Jacques de Molay, who had succeeded de Beaujeu as grand master, left the Island of Cyprus on a three-year tour of England, France, Aragon and Italy in the hopes of drumming up support for his own plan to recapture the Holy Land. De Molay wasn't looking for fresh bodies to fight the enemies of Christendom, but he was looking for arms and aid for the cause. Pope Boniface VIII accommodated the Templars by issuing the order a series of papal favors in 1297. The fact that the Holy Church was willing to continue its support of the Templars discredits the notion that after the loss of Acre, the Tem-

plars lost favor with the Holy See.

Although de Molay returned to Cyprus in 1296, the Templars did not involve themselves in many military campaigns; however, they seem to have become immersed in Cyprian political intrigue at the turn of the century, culminating in a change of Cyprian crowns in 1306.

De Molay and the Pope

In the fall of that year, de Molay was once again on the move to France, having been summoned by Pope Clement V, who had resuscitated Nicholas's idea of uniting the military orders. It is at this point in the story that some popular Templar mythology needs to be debunked. Many modern works on the Templars make the claim that the real reason for Clement summoning de Molay to France was to lead him into a trap. This notion is apocryphally based on the unfortunate events that followed de Molay's arrival. To understand the matter, we should understand a bit about Clement V and King Philip IV.

Philip became King of France at the age of 17, was the eleventh in a continuous line of male heirs to occupy the throne and, perhaps most importantly, was the grandson of a saint. But the Capetian Dynasty's rich lineage had left young Philip with far more than big shoes to fill – massive war debt accumulated by his father's battles in Aragon had left the country strapped for cash. Philip tried a variety of remedies – fiddling with the currency and even taxing the clergy, the latter of which created a long-standing riff between the king and Pope Boniface VIII. Philip's remedy for that strife was to have the pope arrested; this was the same man who had proclaimed his grandfather King Louis IX

a saint. It would be no surprise that Philip would turn on the Templars, who had helped bail his grandfather out of Egypt when he was captured during the crusades.

But while much of what has been written about Philip and the Templars is accurate, the story of Bertrand de Got – latterly known as Pope Clement V – is not. Although Bertrand and Philip had been childhood friends, their paths departed considerably in later life, de Got supporting Boniface VIII in his struggles with the French king. Many accounts of this period of Templar history have made the claim that Clement's choosing to fulfil his papal duties from France rather than Rome was directly connected to the marionette strings of his king and master, Philip IV. This is certainly not the case. Clement was a Frenchman by birth and chose Avignon because political conflicts in Rome made Rome an unsafe place to do papal business. This was certainly nothing new, for Pope Urban II, who launched the First Crusade, had experienced similar problems during his reign, forcing him into exile for several years.

Uniting the Orders

From the safety of his Avignon throne, Clement V could focus part of his attention on the concept of uniting the crusading orders into one all-powerful unit. In 1292, a man named Raymond Lull, who had written several treatises on recapturing the Holy Land, had put forth the idea of uniting the orders under a Rex Bellator or war king. It was a position that Philip IV was willing to relinquish his monarchy to obtain, perhaps desiring to live up to the ideals of his crusading grandfather.

RECIPIENTS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT MEMBERSHIP JEWEL

Although Philip, longing for the hot Levantine sun, may have loved the concept, de Molay, who had spent many years in the east, was less positive about the notion. In his report to Clement V, de Molay expressed his doubts on the grounds that the Templars and Hospitallers had existed separate for many years, and the rivalry between the two orders had benefited Christendom. Additionally, uniting the two orders would require a new Rule of Order to be drafted. The Templar master feared that the less strict Hospitaller way of life would pollute that of the Templars.

With such important matters for Christendom being contemplated, it was understandable that the streets of Paris were rife with rumors. But they were not the only rumors involving the Templars – there was also the talk of heresy.

Sir Knight Stephen Dafoe is a freelance writer, author, and publisher who lives in Alberta, Canada. He is Past Grand Historian of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada and is currently serving on the editorial review board of the *Knight Templar* magazine. He is author of *Nobly Born: An Illustrated History of the Knights Templar* and *The Compasses and the Cross: A History of the Masonic Knights Templar*. He also coauthored *The Warriors and the Bankers* and *The Knights Templar Revealed*. He is the publisher of *Templar History Magazine* and founder of *TemplarHistory.com*.

Stephen has appeared in several documentaries on the history of the Templars and related subjects including *Sacred Societies - A&E*, *In Search of Satan - MSNBC*, and *The Prince and the Grail - Vision TV Canada* and served as a consultant in the production of *The Templar Code - History Channel*.

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knight templar



672 James R. Snipes,
Greenwood Commandery No. 5,
Greenwood, SC 8/12/2008
(Bronze Cluster)

673-674 Royce H. Taylor
Damascus Commandery No. 8
Pine Bluff, AR 8/19/2008
(2 Bronze Clusters)

675 Ronnie Dale Dyson
Indivisible Friends Commandery No 1
Gretna, IA 8/21/2008

676 James A. Streeky
St. John's Commandery No 20
Youngstown, OH 8/29/2008

677 Howard C. Bodine, Jr.
St. John's Commandery No 20
Youngstown, OH 8/29/2008
(Bronze Cluster)





Letters to the Eye Foundation



From time to time, we receive letters sent to the Eye Foundation from those we have helped. I thought that you Sir Knights might want to see how your contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation are affecting lives. I am not printing the names and locations in order to ensure the patient's privacy.

The Ed.



Thank you Knights Templar for the help you gave me getting my sight restored. I look forward to the morning to just look outside with thanksgiving to God and to the foundation. I pray my Lord will put many blessings on one and all that made this blessed gift happen. I feel so grateful and blessed. The words "thank you" are not strong enough to express my heartfelt feelings. I pray God will bless you all many times over in all things. My sight is excellent and both surgeries have been completed. God bless you all.

To Knights Templar,



I want to thank everyone for being so thoughtful and helping my husband get the much needed surgery so he can see. He is doing very well, the surgery was a success, and he can see great. He is back to doing his carpenter work and very happy. Thank you again for everything!

Thank You! I would like to thank each

and every one of you for all you have done. Your thoughtfulness reminds me of what Paul said in 1st Thessalonians 5:18: "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." May God continue to bless you all.



To the Knights Templar,

I just wanted you to know that my husband got both eyes operated on at the medical center. Those people are really wonderful! The doctor said that the cataracts should have been removed five years ago, but the VA kept putting them off. You should see my husband. He is so happy. He said "You wouldn't believe what I can see. The colors are bright. I just thank God and the Knights". The best thing is that you are truly Knights! We would just like to thank you for helping pay our bill. We would not have gotten the cataracts removed except for you! Thank you and God bless each of you.



Dear Knights,

I would like to thank you so very much for your help in funding my much needed surgery for cataracts. I could have lost my job and my vision. I drive Special Education children to work and back. I really don't know how to say thank you for giving me the chance to see clearly again.



THE IMPORTANCE OF CHARACTER IN PUBLIC OFFICE

BY
SIR KNIGHT JAMES P. GILMORE

This is a subject which comes up often in casual conversation, is of major concern to all citizens, is vital to our survival as a nation, and is of great importance to us as Freemasons since we are very much concerned with the development of good character. I have heard individuals express the opinion that character means nothing in people who occupy public office. Such statements as, "His personal life means nothing when it comes to performance of his public office duties" are familiar to all of us. It is often said that personal life and morality in public office are not of concern to the citizens of our country; only performance skills in doing his job. Contrary to the foregoing, character is all-important in public service.

We, as Freemasons, are character-builders, and hence we must be diligent in combating this trend of faulty reasoning.

We have all seen or heard a person say, "I don't care what an official does in his private life; I am only interested in his performance on the job." Such comments constitute a defect in basic reasoning which is widespread. We, as Freemasons, are character-builders, and hence we must be diligent in combating this trend of faulty reasoning. As a 54 year Freemason and therefore a member knight templar

of an organization, which has for a major aim, character-building, I take exception to this way of thinking on the part of the American voter. In this, a general election year, it is important that our citizens give consideration to character when voting for candidates. We have all seen cases of persons forced to leave public office because of scandals of various kinds; all manifestations of character defects on the part of persons holding public office.

It has been stated that there could not be corruption in the national government in Washington without there being corruption in all levels of government, i.e. local, county and state levels. If this is true, we should assure that we have men and women of good character in every public office. We have a great weakness in our method of selecting candidates for public office, often leaving the voters with unacceptable alternatives. People are often elected to office based upon popularity or wealth rather than their capabilities. Having money or being a public icon should not be enough to get elected to public office. Both of these are violations of the basic precepts upon which our great nation is based. We need capable people with good character. I have never seen job descriptions for high level national officials which would show both the capabilities required to do the job as well as elements of character required. The voters cannot be left with choosing the lesser of evils.

A character defect is all-pervasive in the sense that it impacts the personal

life and political life as well; you cannot arbitrarily say that a man can be dishonest and immoral in his personal life and honest and moral in the exercise of his official duties as a government official. On the contrary, his character colors all aspects of his thinking and of his life. We cannot permit persons with multiple standards to occupy offices of public trust. We need people in public office who not only have the abilities and skills to perform the duties of that position but whom, we the public they serve, can depend upon to be of strong character. We need people who are honest and who have integrity to represent us in the international interfaces as well as to run our internal affairs.

Some of the major elements of character of concern in public life are: integrity, honesty, virtue, fidelity, loyalty, justice and worth. Integrity includes uprightness of character, probity, soundness of thinking, justice and an unimpaired state. Honesty, among many other aspects, includes trustworthiness, uprightness, freedom from fraud, fairness, equity, morality, and just conduct.

Character is extremely important in persons occupying public office for the following reasons. First, there will be more consistency in government policy. A man of good character cannot be compromised in his decision-making process. He is less likely to be impaired by errant behavior. He can be relied upon for integrity in all his relationships, either inward or outward looking. Honesty and

integrity mean that we will know where a man in office stands at all times, i.e. reliability. The people can rely upon the decisions made and the actions taken as straightforward and in their best interests. People of good character are less likely to yield to pressure from special interest groups and make decisions which will act to the detriment of the majority of our citizens.

The obvious conclusion is that good character is all-important in those holding public office. We must consider character in addition to experience, background and capabilities when voting. It

is extremely important in an election year to be aware of any character defects a candidate running for public office may have and to vote accordingly. Every voter is urged to give character consideration before pulling that le-

ver or marking a ballot for his or her election. All my brother Masons are urged to advise all voters to emphasize the importance of character in public office.

Our nation is the greatest experiment in human relations in the history of mankind. Many of those who established it were Freemasons. It is now deteriorating, and I maintain that this is because we need more men and women of strong character in our government.



Sir Knight Gilmore is a member of Crusade
Commandery No. 23 in Haddonfield,
New Jersey.

october 2008



On the Masonic Newsfront

(Mrs. John A.) Velma A. Kleinfelder of Texas Installed as Supreme Worthy President, S.O.O.B., for 2008–2009

(Mrs. John A.) Velma A. Kleinfelder was installed as Supreme Worthy President on Friday, September 26, 2008, at the 88th Annual Supreme Assembly held in Tampa, Florida. She and her Sir Knight will visit 90 Assemblies in 30 states starting with Kingsport Assembly No. 244, September 29, 2008, in Kingsport, Tennessee.

After the completion of the official visits, Mrs. Kleinfelder will preside in Denver, Colorado, during the 89th Annual Supreme Assembly to be held September 20–26, 2009.

Mrs. Kleinfelder is a Past President of Melrose Assembly No. 204. She joined the Social Order of the Beauceant in 1991 and has served as Worthy President in 1996 and 2004. She has served Supreme Assembly as Supreme Assistant Marshal for (Mrs. Fred H.) Carole Buxton. She was elected Supreme Worthy Preceptress in Eugene, Oregon, in 2005. Her Sir Knight, John A. Kleinfelder, is a Past Commander of Melrose Commandery No. 109 in Houston, Texas.



A native of Texas born in Houston, Mrs. Kleinfelder attended the University of Houston in hopes of further developing her artistic talents and continuing to display her works in Houston's public cultural centers. When she married in 1969, she turned her talents to interior design, working as an interior designer for Sears and J. C. Penney's. She became a stay-at-home mom upon the arrival of her first child. Then came the wonderful opportunity to participate in all the activities that her children participated in as a room mom and helper at her children's schools, including being a band mom and chauffeur for all the football games, band contests, and parades where her children were involved.

She worked as a substitute teacher in elementary and special education in the public school system while her children were small. When they started high school, she worked in the family stevedoring business as a purchasing manager until her mother became ill, and then she retired to care for her mother and to help with her grandchildren. She has two children; daughter (Mrs. Darryl R.) Michele L. Burt, Past President of Melrose Assembly No. 204, and son John A. Kleinfelder, Jr.; and three grandsons; James Austin Kleinfelder, Christopher Ethan Burt, and Thomas Marshall Kleinfelder.

While living in Houston, she was a member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church for over 30 years; then upon moving to Magnolia, she joined Trinity Episcopal Church in 1999.

She is a Past Matron, Order of Eastern Star, of Melrose Chapter No. 920 in Houston, Texas, and Klein Chapter No. 1141 In Spring, Texas.

In her spare time Mrs. Kleinfelder still likes to work at creating new artworks or other kinds of crafts and hand work. She reads all kinds of mystery novels, but she spends most of her spare time doing things with her family and her three grandsons.

Her motto is "Circles of Love," and her symbol is the Hummingbird.

For this year she has chosen two scriptures from the Holy Bible, the first found in Psalms 108: 4: "For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies," and 1 Corinthians 13: 13: "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

As Supreme Worthy President, Mrs. Kleinfelder will stress the importance of supporting the chosen philanthropy of our Sir Knights, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, through your contributions and memorials. She believes that to be able to help in some small way to restore someone's sight is a precious gift you may give yourself.

Solution to Cryptic Puzzle on Page 12

1	B	2	R	3	I	A	4	R	5	P	6	L	A	7	F
	A	8	A	9	R	C	A	D	I	A	O				
10	S	Y	N	C	11	A	T	O	N	E	R				
	E	A	12	M	13	H	14	S	A	L	15	U	T	E	
16	B	L	O	17	W	E	R	18	D	S	I	H			
19	A	R	R	I	V	E	20	A	C	M	E				
	L	21	T	A	N	K	A	R	D	E	A				
22	L	A	Y	E	R	23	W	E	I	R	D				

ACROSS

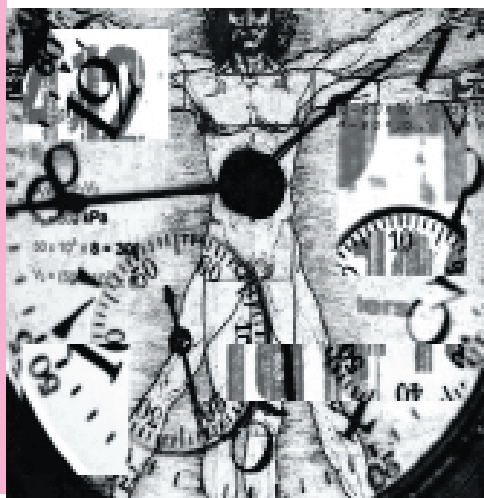
1. BRIAR: B(AND)+(F)RIAR
4. PILAF: (A+FLIP) anagram
8. RCADIA: CAD<ARIA
10. YNC: homophone of SINK
11. ATONER: A+TONER
13. SALUTE: SAL(vatore)+UTE
16. BLOWER: L<BOWER
19. ARRIVE: AR+RIVE
20. ACME: CAME anagram
21. TANKARD: (DRANK+AT) anagram
22. LAYER: double definition
23. WEIRD: WIRED anagram &Lit.

DOWN

1. BASEBALL: double definition
2. & 3. ROYAL ARCH: ROY (Orbison) + AL (Jolson) were Royal Arch Masons, I couldn't verify if ARCH(ie Campbell) was one or not.
5. IDOL: hidden
6. LINUS: (van Pelt & Pauling)
7. FOREHEAD: double definition
9. CASE: double definition
12. MORAY: M.O.+RAY
14. AREA: hidden
15. TIMER: REMIT reversed
17. WINE: WHINE homophone
18. DARE: READ anagram and (Virginia) DARE

The author is a Knight Templar and 32° Scottish Rite Mason who follows Cryptic Crossword tradition by setting puzzles under a crucinym, choosing Loki, the Norse god of mischief. If you would like detailed instructions on how to solve Cryptic clues, Loki would be happy to oblige. Contact him at <okl.loki@gmail.com> or at 2501 W. Zia Rd., #6104; Santa Fe, NM 87505.

He also maintains an e-mail discussion group for Cryptic Puzzlers at <sob_sotly_small_spasm-subscribe@egroups.com>.



BREAKING NEWS

ABOUT THE TRIAL OF THE TEMPLARS 1307-1313

The following story and photo was reported in *The Daily Telegraph* of London on Monday, August 4, 2008:

WWW.KNIGHTSTEMPLAR.ORG

By Fiona Govan, Madrid Correspondent

“Knights Templar Heirs in Legal Battle with the Pope”

The heirs of the Knights Templar have launched a legal battle in Spain to force the Pope to restore the reputation of the disgraced order which was accused of heresy and dissolved seven centuries ago. The Association of the Sovereign Order of the Temple of Christ, whose members claim to be descended from the legendary crusaders, have filed a lawsuit against Benedict XVI calling for him to recognise the seizure of assets worth 100 billion euros (£79 billion).

They claim that when the order was dissolved by his predecessor Pope Clement V in 1307, more than 9,000 properties as well as countless pastures, mills and other commercial ventures belonging to the knights were appropriated by the church. But their motive is not to reclaim damages only to restore the ‘good name’ of the Knights Templar. ‘We are not trying to cause the economic collapse of the Roman Catholic Church, but to illustrate to the court the magnitude of the plot against our Order,’ said a statement issued by the self-proclaimed modern day knight templar

knights. The Templars was a powerful secretive group of warrior monks founded by French knight Hugues de Payens after the First Crusade of 1099 to protect pilgrims en route to Jerusalem. They amassed enormous wealth and helped to finance wars waged by European monarchs, but spectacularly fell from grace after the Muslims reconquered the Holy Land in 1244



Jacques de Molay, the 23rd and Last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, is lead to the stake to burn for heresy. Photo: GETTY

and rumours surfaced of their heretic practices. The Knights were accused of denying Jesus, worshipping icons of the devil in secret initiation ceremonies, and practising sodomy. Many Templars confessed to their crimes under torture and some, including the Grand Master Jacques de Molay, were burned at the stake. The legal move by the Spanish group follows the unprecedented step by the Vatican towards the rehabilitation of the group when last October it released copies of parchments recording the trials of

the Knights between 1307 and 1312. The papers lay hidden for more than three centuries having been “misfiled” within papal archives until they were discovered by an academic in 2001. The Chinon parchment revealed that, contrary to historic belief, Clement V had declared the Templars were not heretics but disbanded the order anyway to maintain peace with their accuser, King Philip IV of France. Over the centuries, various groups have claimed to be descended from the Templars and legend abounds over hidden treasures, secret rituals, and their rumoured guardianship of the Holy

Grail. Most recently the knights have fascinated the modern generation after being featured in the film *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* and Dan Brown’s novel *The Da Vinci Code*.



❧ ❧

SUPREME COUNCIL SOUTHERN JURISDICTION OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE ACQUIRES TEMPLAR TRANSCRIPTS

The following article was reported in the Spring 2008 issue of *The Plumline*, the quarterly publication of the Scottish Rite Research Society.

Pierre G. “Pete” Normand, Jr., 33°, Editor
The Supreme Council
1733 Sixteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009-3103

SUPREME COUNCIL LIBRARY ACQUIRES TEMPLAR TRANSCRIPTS:

The Library of the Supreme Council, S.J., ordered facsimile manuscripts relating to the trials of the medieval Knights Templar, and they arrived July 1. In October 2007, the 700th anniversary of the arrest of the Templars, the Vatican Secret Archive announced that it would publish a limited run of 800 copies of the previously unavailable source material on the Templar trials. Referred to by the Latin title, *Processus Contra Templarios*, the publication is a joint project of the Vatican Secret Archives and Italy’s Scrinium cultural foundation. The Supreme Council’s acquisi-

tion is through a generous gift by Ill. Hoyt O. Samples, 33°, SGIG in Tennessee, and his wife Mitzi. The only other Masonic library that has announced the acquisition of this scarce work is the Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Masonic Library of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The most interesting document in the collection is the “Chinon Parchment.” This long-lost parchment had been misplaced and incorrectly catalogued at some point in history but was found in 2001 when a historian stumbled across it. The Chinon Parchment was a key document that historians had long sought, as it contains Pope Clement V’s absolution of the Templars from charges of heresy. This charge had been the backbone of the French King Philip IV’s attempts to eliminate the Order.

The announcement is of special interest to Scottish Rite Freemasons as the Scottish Rite includes several degrees based upon the Templar legend and symbolism.

october 2008

Sale of Past Commander's Stein to Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation



The stein is made of white ceramic from Brazil, is 8 and 1/2 inches tall, and has a pewter lid. It is hand-decorated with 22 karat gold and six blended colors. On one side are two crusaders from the early 1100s, and on the other side is a Commander-elect being installed into office. On the top of the lid is a green board the Eminent Commander would wear until he finished his obligation as Commander, and in front is a red board he is given as a symbol of honor for completing

his obligation. The 9 beautiful shields are for the 9 crusaders who founded the Knights Templar, and there are crosses and crowns around the stein and a color band around the bottom. There are two pictures of scenes from the early crusaders. The price is \$65.00, including S & H in the US, and \$10.00 of each sale will go to the KTEF. If you are ordering out of the US, please add \$20.00 for additional shipping cost. Send check or money order payable to: Stanley C. Buz, and send to him at P.O. Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052.

Sale of Past Master Afghan To Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The Past Master afghan was designed for the Master of the Lodge, who spent many years in the line to become Master. The afghan features the Masonic working tools, the Past Master symbol, and other Masonic items. It is made of 100% US cotton. The size of the afghan is 65 inches by 43 inches, and it is woven in a German style to bring out the rich colors. It is color-fast and washable in cold water. The price is \$54.99, including shipping and insurance, and a percentage of each sale will go to the KTEF. If interested, send check or money order to: Sandra D. Knotts, P.O. Box 158, Trexlertown, PA. 18087.



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. The web site for the Lodge is www.PeerLessLodge591.com



Grand Commandery of California Sesquicentennial Coins to Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The Grand Commandery of California is selling its Sesquicentennial coins for \$15.00, postage paid, and all profits from the sale will be donated to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Make checks payable to and send to: Charles R. Waterman, Jr., 731 Scottsdale Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687.



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

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 2 1/2 inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. The emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same use is required for the GCT emblem which is bordered with a wreath. The cost of the KCT emblem is \$8.50 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling, and the cost of the GCT emblem is \$10.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Contact: Jon Patrick Sweet, 7474 Benton Street, Westminster, CO 80003-7001, or phone (303) 430-8483.



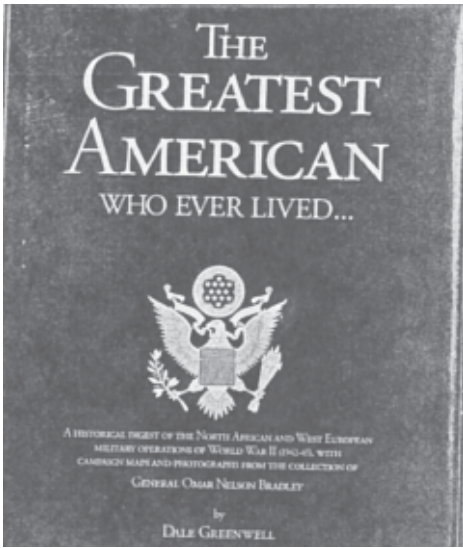
Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. 11, Milford, Massachusetts, is offering a complete summer uniform and accessories (no pants or shoes) for \$165.00. (G.C. and P.G.C. add \$35.00 for gold decoration on cap visor.) The uniform includes white military style cap with insignia, short sleeve shirt, shoulder rank insignia, collar insignia, metal ribbon bar, name plate, plain black tie, tie clasp with cross and crown, and shipping and handling. Send us your cap size, shirt size, rank, Commandery name and number, choice of engraving on the tie clasp (plain/Knight Templar/your state/Commandery name and number) to the address below. For further information or to request an order form for your state (include a stamped, self-addressed envelope), send to Milford as indicated below or e-mail: ccwinterhalter@aol.com. Make checks payable to: Milford Commandery No. 11. Mail to: Milford Commandery No. 11, C/O Robert P. Winterhalter, P.O. Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. **All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.**

Sale of Milford Commandery Polo Shirts Benefits KTEF

Milford Commandery also offers top quality white polo shirts with pocket. These shirts have your choice of embroidered insignia in full color (nonfading). Select from: Templar Cross, Cross and Crown, Royal Arch Mason, Royal and Select Master Mason, Cryptic Mason, York Rite, KYCH, York Rite College, and Masonic Square and Compass. We also offer a lady's shirt with Social Order of the Beauceant or any of the above emblems. Each shirt is \$30.00, plus \$5.00 S & H. You may add your name or nickname to the right side for \$5.00 additional. Royal Arch Mason shirts are also stocked in red, and Masonic Square and Compass may be had on white or royal blue shirts. There are eleven other colors available on special order. We also offer great 3-season jackets and a light weight flannel-lined jacket. Make checks payable to: Milford Commandery No. 11. Send to: P.O. Box 321, Ashland, MA 01721-0321. For further information, write us at this address or e-mail: Ccwinterhalter@aol.com. **All profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.**

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



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

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

**Tennessee Commandery
Continues Sale of Lapel Pins
To Benefit the KTEF**

Manchester Commandery No. 40, Manchester, Tennessee, is pleased to announce that it is continuing its fund-raiser for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and has added a **new Blue Lodge/Knights Templar pin** to their selection of unique **lapel pins!** In the past five years of pin sales, donations to the Campaign have exceeded the \$29,500 mark! Manchester No. 40 would like to thank those who have purchased these pins and encourage you to check out the new Blue Lodge/Knights Templar pin. The entire collection, along with 3 new York Rite pins, can also be viewed in color at www.yorkriteusa.org These pins are available for **\$6.50 each** or any 9 (nine) pins for \$45, with free shipping, and 100% of all profits go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Make check or money order in American funds payable to: **Manchester Commandery No. 40**. Send to Garry L. Carter, Recorder; 530 Winchester Hwy., Hillsboro, TN 37342. Thanks again for your continued support.



1800's Apron



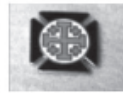
KT/Blue Lodge



KT/Blue Lodge



Malta



Knight Crusader



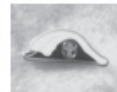
Beauceant Shield



Beauceant Standard



Mediterranean Pass



KT Chapeau



Ark of the Covenant



Ark of the Covenant
Past High Priest



Order of the
Silver Trowel

How Will You Pay for Expenses That Medicare Doesn't Cover?

You owe it to yourself to find out about the Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance designed for Sir Knights and their ladies.

With the high cost of health care today, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Insurance Program is becoming a necessity for more and more of us. That's why it is good to know that you now have a choice of Medicare Supplement coverages under our plan at very affordable rates.

Under the Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Plan, you will

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

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

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

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

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

priate, or at a facility you select. Plan today, so that you can be better prepared to spend tomorrow on your own terms.

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

Sale of York Rite Plaque to Benefit York Rite Charities

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



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

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