

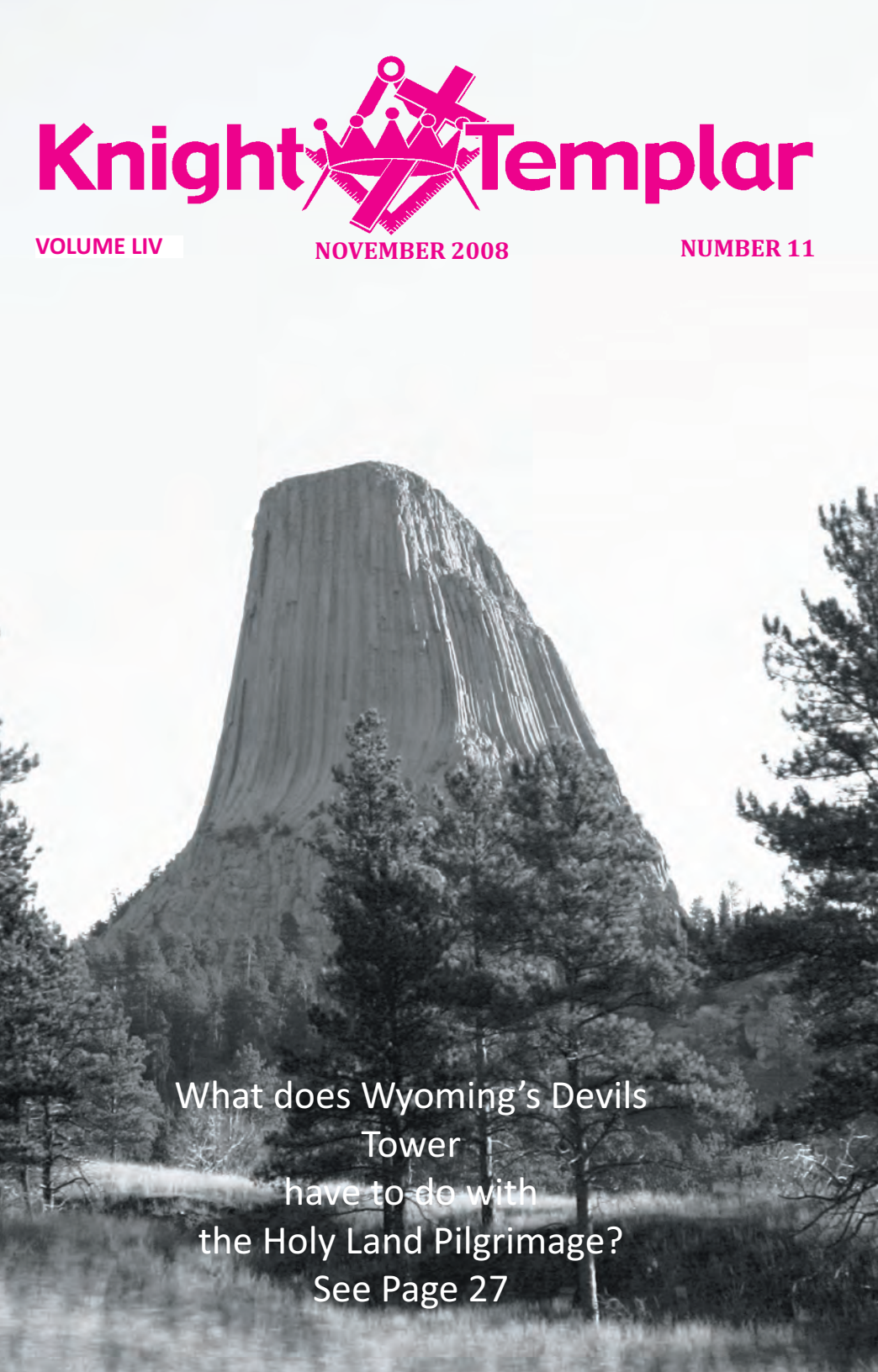
Knight Templar



VOLUME LIV

NOVEMBER 2008

NUMBER 11



What does Wyoming's Devils
Tower
have to do with
the Holy Land Pilgrimage?
See Page 27

Grand Master's Message for November 2008 "THANKSGIVING" – A time to give Thanks

"Vision 64" is the theme of the 64th Triennium. Your Grand Encampment Officers have been working diligently with the Leadership of your Grand Commanderies and they with local Commanderies in order that we might reach our best destiny. We live our lives in the future and must plan together to create a bright future.

While we work at laying plans for the future, November and Thanksgiving provide an opportunity for us to look back for a moment, analyze what we've accomplished during the year and give thanks for the many blessings we've received. We are familiar with our Pilgrim forefathers and the first Thanksgiving and how they, after a fitful year of survival, were thankful for life itself.

During this season, I am thankful for the officers and Department Commanders who actively and daily promote programs for the betterment of Templary. I'm thankful for the Committee Chairmen, who working with their committees, assemble those programs. I give thanks for the Grand Commanders who are actively working to promote Templary in their Jurisdictions.

I am thankful for the success of our charities. We have touched more lives by the improvement of sight through treatment, research, and prevention than we will ever know. Since 1931, we've helped educate people who have improved our civilization in untold ways. Christian ministers, because of our benevolence, have had their lives and careers inspired because we sent them to walk where Jesus walked. And those who have been inspired have inspired others whose lives they've touched. Thank God that he gave us our charities and these opportunities to be of service.

But most of all, at this time of year, I'd like to give thanks for my fellow Sir Knights, who have touched my life since I was 16 years old and continue to do so to this day. I thank God that my life crossed paths with Templary.

Fraternally,



William H. Koon II, GCT
Grand Master



Knight Templar

NOVEMBER:

The front cover is a photo taken by our Grand Master's daughter during his charity hunt near the Devils Tower in Wyoming. Our Grand Commanders are featured beginning on page 8. See part two of Stephen Dafoe's historical summary of the Templar trials on page 21. We are featuring two different views of the Masonic significance of a Medieval painting beginning on page 12. Don't miss the first of a series of articles by Leroy Delionbach on various Templar organizations.

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

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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 Commandery 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

This magazine, in the past, has not been known for publishing controversial articles. You may see that change in the future. The Sir Knights send in all sorts of articles regarding the symbolism, history, and philosophy of our order. The truth in many of these matters is really unknown, and theory is being expressed. The function of the magazine is not to take sides on such issues, but rather to simply present them for your consideration. The opinions expressed in the articles we publish are not necessarily shared by either the magazine or the Grand Encampment.

This month, you will find on pages 12 and 13 two articles presenting different points of view about the symbolism of a painting by Hieronymus Bosch. This painting was first brought to my attention by a publication of the late John J. Robinson in 1993. I hope you enjoy both articles. We appreciate Sir Knights who are willing to step out and help us discover our history. I look forward to hearing from more of you about the direction we are taking with the magazine, or even if you just want to express your opinion about some of the articles we publish.

We may, in the future, try to publish more “paired” articles expressing different points of view on relevant subjects.

On another subject, November always gives us an opportunity to be thankful for all the blessings that our Infinite Creator has bestowed upon us, not the least of which are the freedoms we enjoy in our great country. To be able to own property, to speak our mind, to worship as we please, and to pursue happiness in our own way is not to be taken lightly. These freedoms are enjoyed by virtue of the grace of God and the blood of our soldiers. These may have been our ancestors, our brothers, our friends, or even sometimes our children. Take the opportunity this month to tell a veteran how thankful you are and to encourage an active duty soldier.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John". The signature is enclosed within a thin, light-colored rectangular border.

John L. Palmer
Managing Editor

From the Grand Recorder's Office...

YORK RITE INFORMATION SYSTEM

For several years, your Grand Encampment Officers have been evaluating membership database systems. Your Grand Commandery Officers have been informed of our progress and were introduced to our new YORK RITE INFORMATION SYSTEM at our recent Department Conferences. You now have an opportunity to update your personal contact information. This information will be available to your local Commandery Recorder, your State Grand Recorder and the Grand Encampment Office.



Lawrence E. Tucker, GCT
Grand Recorder

Please be assured that this information is secure and will be available for fraternal use only. Here follows directions for you to update your member profile.

We've added a *new feature* to our website:
the SECURE MEMBER UPDATE LINK.

Use this feature to verify your current contact information.

By following the provided step-by-step instructions (*see sample below*) you can now update your information online.

York Rite Knights Templar

Member Processing Login

Enter Personal Information

First Name Grand Commandery

Last Name Birth Date

Please visit

<http://www.knightstemplar.org>

Click on Membership Update. Enter First Name, Last Name, Birth Date and Grand Commandery to securely confirm, correct and update your information.

If you need any assistance, please contact John Elkinton in the Grand Recorder's Office. He can be reached at (713) 349-8700 or by email at john@gektusa.org.
knight templar



Prelate's Chapel

by
Robert Cave
Right Eminent Grand Prelate
of the
Grand Encampment



I have written in the past about the inextricable relationship between Templary and the Christian Religion suggesting that in the Order of the Temple we find all that is necessary to bind the one to the other, Christianity being the foundation.

For instance, the role of the Hermits, while often looked upon as a prologue to the Order of the Temple and something to be done in order to get to the heart of the Order, is far more than that and really sets the tone for all that is to follow. The three Hermits, as you will recall, all welcome the Pilgrim into their humble abode with the same words. They have nothing to give the Pilgrim of any material worth, but they give him what they have, "bread and pure water – plain fare, but such as Pilgrims need." Isn't this what Jesus said to his followers in Matthew 25:35? He said, "for I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in." The relationship of the Hermit's words to those of Jesus is indisputable.

But the foundation material does not end here. Each of the Hermits reads scripture to the poor and weary Pilgrim. The first Hermit reads from John 6:27 which states that there are two kinds of food, that which perishes and that which endures to eternal life. The one that gives the food which endures unto eternal life is none other than Jesus Christ.

The other two hermits tell what it means to follow Jesus and how to receive the gift of eternal life. The second Hermit reads from Hebrews 13 which suggests that brotherly love and hospitality are to be extended not only to those who are within the fellowship but to all, even strangers. This is precisely what the Hermits were doing with the Pilgrims who approached them and what Jesus says we should do in Matthew 25.

The third Hermit reads from several sources in the New Testament and ends with the most important verse to send the Pilgrim on his way. He reads, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life." (Rev. 2:10) Here is the goal of the faithful life.

Equipped with this knowledge and advice, the Pilgrim is now ready to complete his pilgrimage. He is ready to meet the challenges of life, even warfare, as proof of his courage and constancy of faith so that he may fulfill his desire of entering the asylum. He is ready to take the solemn vow of the order and ultimately to be numbered among the apostles.

If the candidate for the Order of the Temple engages in the ritual from the very beginning, from his experience of meeting the Hermits to the conclusion of being numbered among the apostles, he would have to be so moved that his life as a Christian would be so enriched and his dedication to the Christian Religion so strengthened that he would embark on a new way of life. What a wonderful relationship between Christianity and Templary this outcome is.

Again we encourage members of Knights Templar to submit articles for publication which explore the relationship between Christianity and Templary. Please send the articles to Sir Knight and Rev. Robert J. Cave, 137 Glen Drive, Ridge, New York 11961, or email to Jobrjcave@aol.com.

Everybody knows...

By

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

When a student in one of my classes begins a statement with, "Everybody knows..." I want to screw my hat down tight, back up against a wall, grab my six-gun with one hand, my Winchester with another, and hang on to my wallet! Of course, I run out of hands, so I have to simply wait for the rest of the statement. Often I point the person to a website that checks urban myths and rumors. Sometimes the truth is stranger than fiction.

An example of something widely accepted was the history of the bathtub in the United States as written by H. L. Mencken in 1917. Among other things, he stated that it was not widely accepted in this country because the medical profession believed that bathing caused illness. In 1926 he "fessed up" and admitted that it was not true, but something he had completely made up.

An example of a piece of information that is true, but not widely known is the middle name of MW Harry S. Truman. What does the "S" represent? Actually, nothing. His parents couldn't decide which middle name to give him, and since both his grandfathers had middle names knight templar

beginning with the letter "s", they simply gave him a middle initial.

What does "everybody know" about Knights Templar? They began in the Middle East during the Crusades, and were sanctioned by the Church at the Council of Troyes in 1128. Known originally

as the Poor Knights of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon, they became very famous for their fighting skills. They followed a Rule, which was written for them by St. Bernard of Clairvaux. They developed an international accounting system. They became immensely wealthy and powerful. They ran afoul of King Philip IV and Pope Clement V.

On Friday, the 13th of October, 1307, the Paris Temple was entered by royal bailiffs. Many knights were arrested in a carefully coordinated sweep throughout France and England. Their fleet disappeared just before the authorities were to seize it, as did their treasure. After Jacques de Molay, the last Grand Master of the Order, was executed, the Templars as an order ceased to exist. As he burned to death, he purportedly said he would meet the king and the pope within a year.

In fact, many of the Templars survived the arrests and inquiries that led to de Molay's execution. Some apparently joined the Knights of St. John; some may

Continued on page 11

This is part one in a series of articles about organizations claiming affiliation with or descent from the Knights Templar. Look for part two in next month's issue!

SALUTING OUR GRAND COMMANDERS

Congratulations are extended from our Most Eminent Grand Master, William Howard Koon II, and the grand officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., to the fifty-three newly elected Grand Commanders of the Grand Commanderies under their jurisdiction. As a part of this salute to their dedication and tireless service to Templary, *Knight Templar* magazine is printing the names and the pictures available of the Sir Knights who will serve as Grand Commanders for the current Templar year.

These Grand Commanders, whose pictures appear on these pages, will be the guiding hands on the tiller of the ship of Templary, navigating their vessel faithfully through the uncharted waters ahead.



Billy A. Rikard
ALABAMA



Leonard C. Bibler
ALASKA



Joe Cortez
ARIZONA



Bill Jones
ARKANSAS



Gary D. Miller
CALIFORNIA



Matthew A. Raia
COLORADO



Robert J. DiPasquale
CONNECTICUT



Jay C. Bergstrom
DELAWARE



Michael M. Wertz
DIST. OF COL.



Charles Perez
FLORIDA



Jeff W. Hodges Jr.
GEORGIA



Milton A. Slavin
IDAHO



Jesse Lee Johns Sr.
ILLINOIS



David Maxwell Bertch
INDIANA



David M. Dryer
IOWA



Ernest M. Griffiths
KANSAS



Raleigh C. Foster
KENTUCKY



Daniel F. Thomas
LOUISIANA



Gordon W. Harrington
MAINE



Thomas G. Heimiller
MARYLAND



Eugene Anthony
Capobianco
MASS/RI



David L. Seyferth
MICHIGAN



Bruce V. Brendal
MINNESOTA



Hollis D. Simpson
MISSISSIPPI



James Joseph Hayes
MISSOURI



Phil Blaisdell
MONTANA



Theodore J. Johnson
NEBRASKA



Gerald L. Ogle
NEVADA



Dennis Allan Sheridan
NEW HAMPSHIRE



Michael F. Lakat
NEW JERSEY



Dion A. Newhouse
NEW MEXICO



David L. Lathers
NEW YORK



Richard M. Ripley
NORTH CAROLINA



Lon W. Kavasager
NORTH DAKOTA



Richard M. Holcombe
OHIO



Michael E. Hampton
OKLAHOMA



Thomas B. Goringe
OREGON



Leslie L. Loomis
PENNSYLVANIA



William R. Hall
SOUTH CAROLINA



Richard Decker
SOUTH DAKOTA



Ray Lee Covey
TENNESSEE



William E. Matyastik
TEXAS



William A. Butterfield
UTAH



Donald C. Murray
VERMONT



Jeffery Glenn Burcharm
VIRGINIA



James T. Stephens
WASHINGTON



Samuel J. Price
WEST VIRGINIA



Lauren Handeland
WISCONSIN



Frank D. Kading
WYOMING

*No photos are available of the following
Grand Commanders:*

*Philippines
Italy
Portugal
Mexico*

Everybody knows...

Continued from page 7

have immigrated to the British Isles; many just simply faded from public view. One version of their disappearance holds that many of them fled to the isles off the west coast of Scotland, where they resided peaceably until 1324 when a squadron of heavy cavalry suddenly appeared on the field at Bannockburn and turned the tide of battle against the English. Believed by many to be the remnants of the Templars who were grateful to the Scots for granting them shelter, this unknown group of warriors would have been middle-aged men riding horses that likely had been converted to draft animals. (Incidentally, the Great Priory of Scotland disavows this legend.)

A recently discovered collection of parchments in the Vatican Secret Archive contains a document known as the "Chinon Parchment." It contains Pope Clement V's absolution of the Knights Templar from the charge of heresy that had been brought against them. He restored their Rule or guidelines for living, their distinctive white habit, or mantle, and gave them new duties that were consistent with the needs of the Church in a post-Crusade era.

Throughout the West, many organizations exist today that claim to be descended from the original Knights Templar.

One such organization is the International Order of Gnostic Templars (IOGT). According to their website, this is "...a diverse group of men and women who are committed to assisting in the revival of both the Goddess Tradition (The Path of the Divine Feminine) and the Gnostic path of knowing one's Self fully by experiencing our own inner wisdom." In discussing their "authentic Templar lineage" knight templar

they proclaim they continue the unbroken lineage of Holy Grail Masters from the East, which passed through John the Baptist, Jesus, John the Apostle, Mary Magdalene, the Templar Grand Masters while in the Middle East, and now through the Sinclair Clan of Scotland by means of the Scottish Knight Templars (not affiliated with the Great Priory of Scotland). The North American Grand Prior is Mark Amaru Pinkham, SE KGCTpl, a professional astrologer and writer, who has published books such as *The Return of the Serpents of Wisdom*, *Conversations with the Goddess*, *The Truth Behind the Christ Myth*, and *Guardians of the Holy Grail: The Knights Templar, John the Baptist*, and *the Water of Life*.

The Prince Henry St. Clair Preceptory and Commandery (sic) of Scottish Knight Templars is the parent organization of the IOGT. The Worthy Grand Prior is S.E. Chevalier Ian Sinclair KGCTpl. According to the website, it is "...now established at Noss Head Lighthouse Estate, in Caithness to serve God and Scotland." Apparently this organization is neither affiliated with the Great Priory of Scotland nor with the Supreme Council of Scotland.

Until next time, when we will continue to highlight other organizations not affiliated with the Grand Encampment that style themselves 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.

Masonic Origins—The Wayfarer

by

Sir Knight Michael S. Franck

Masonic scholars continue to research historical documents that provide a glimpse or purpose of the fraternity's true origin. The intention of this discourse is to call attention to a field of research that has (so far) received nominal thought by Masonic scholars: that is, the evidence found in the works of artists from the Middle Ages. Most of the information cited in this paper comes directly from the text, *A Pilgrim's Path*, written by the late John J. Robinson and published in 1993 by M. Evans and Company, Inc.

Given that a secret society did exist in medieval Britain, it would be much simpler for an artist to conceal its symbolism and allegory in his paintings than for a chronicler to attempt to conceal them in his writings. This painting is an outstanding example of such a possibility.

The Wayfarer was painted by Hieronymus Bosch and now resides at the Museum Boymans-van Beuningen in Rotterdam. Bosch was a Flemish painter who was born in 1450 and died in 1516. Those familiar with Bosch's work have come to expect graphic portrayals of a wide range of hideous, distorted demons. *The Wayfarer* is different in that it depicts no demons or monsters, although it is packed with symbolism, much of it Masonic in nature.

Take a good look at this painting. The traveler (wayfarer) has his left trouser leg pushed up to the knee. Some critics may

point out that the trouser leg is up to accommodate a bandage, but no minor calf wound requires a slipper on one foot, with a shoe on the other.

The straps on the wayfarer's backpack are not over his shoulders where they belong. Instead, Bosch painted a strap around his upper arms, binding him like a Masonic cable-tow. The feather we might expect to find in his hat is not there. Bosch has replaced it with a plumb bob, another Masonic symbol.

Why is the man carrying his hat in his hand, rather than conveniently wearing it on his head? Bosch may have wanted his hood ready to pull down over his face to "hoodwink" him, a word that suggests that this is the way a man was blindfolded in ancient Masonic initiation. It was a common practice at that time and was incorporated into the language for future ages in the expression "to pull the wool over his eyes."

Ahead of the traveler is a gate with a strange brace. Everyone who knows anything about wooden farm gates knows that the brace goes from one corner to the diagonally opposite corner, creating immovable triangles. The brace on Bosch's gate rises above the top rail, and then comes back down to the corner. This produces a craftsman's square on top of the gate.

Now consider the painting as a whole.

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november 2008



Another take on *The Wayfarer*

By

Stephen Dafoe

Sigmond Freud has long been connected to the saying, “sometimes a cigar is just a cigar,” although it’s doubtful he ever said it. Regardless of who actually coined the phrases, it is a piece of advice that we Freemasons would do well to keep in mind when trying to find hidden Masonic meaning in things that may not be Masonic at all. As we learned in the previous article, John J. Robinson claimed Hieronymus Bosch’s painting *The Wayfarer* contains elements considered to be Masonic in nature. The mistake we make in making these connections is that we fail to extend our researches outside the world of Freemasonry and its symbolism. Before making the claim that Bosch hid Masonic symbols in his paintings, we must weigh the painting against his other work, work of his contemporaries and iconography and symbolism as it existed at the time the paint was drying.

Let’s assume for a moment that Bosch rolled up the Wayfarer’s pant leg, gave him one slipper, replicated the cable tow around his chest and put a plumb bob in his hat. These are all certainly Masonic in nature and representative of Masonic initiation. Why then did Bosch paint a dagger at his side? Are we to imply that Freemasonry as it existed in Bosch’s time allowed the candidate to bring something offensive or defensive into the lodge room? Or do we come to the crux of the problem in these types of claims, that believing is seeing. As Freemasons, we certainly can’t be faulted for seeing the symbols of Freemasonry in the world around us; and if it briefly reminds us of the lesson of the symbol, then the absorption of Masonic teaching has been effective. However, when we extend that visual and mental connection to a belief that Bosch must have been a Freemason, or knight templar

at least aware of Freemasonry, we must be willing to put the claim to scrutiny. But, we seldom do so. We want to believe that Freemasonry existed before 1717 and the further back the better, so we are willing to accept those elements that confirm the notion, while omitting or glossing over those that do not – the dagger being an absurd example.

Before looking at the supposed Masonic symbolism in further detail, we should understand something about Bosch and his work. Although *The Wayfarer* is well known to Freemasons because of Robinson’s claims, it is actually a later version of Bosch’s *The Path of Life*, which formed the outer panels or shutters of his Haywain Triptych. A triptych panel painting consists of three interior panels that are hinged like a dart board, with a fourth painting on the exterior shutters. Like *The Wayfarer*, Bosch’s *Path of Life* depicts a vagabond being accosted by a dog along a road. Although there is no decrepit pub in the background, Bosch has provided a similar theme of the sinful ways of mankind through other forms of human debauchery and violence. But what remains the same in this earlier rendition is the central character, a man clearly in a state of poverty, although he still owns both his boots in the earlier work. Bosch’s vagabond is similar to the Fool character from the Tarot in that he is an impoverished individual accosted by a dog that has torn his pants. The dog is said to represent either man’s animal nature or the barking distractions of the real world. This is not to say that Bosch was hiding Tarot symbolism any more than he was hiding Masonic symbolism. Rather, it is intended to illustrate that symbolism and iconography were common in a variety of traditions embraced by artists.

Continued on page 30



Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

1000 East State Parkway, Suite I
Schaumburg, IL 60173
Phone (847) 490-3838
Fax (847) 490-3777

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

In this second article for the 41st Annual Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, I would like to say something about eye surgery for children.

For many years the Foundation has published brochures showing young children with crossed eyes or lazy eye. Such children have trouble with school work, sports, reading on their own, and many other activities. They also endure the kind of intense criticism and taunting that comes from other children who just don't realize how cruel such behavior can be. Is it hard to imagine how easily this can result in lifelong disabilities? Poor education, poor self esteem, poor attitude and a lifetime of pain and failure can easily be the path for such a young person.

Imagine that we can change that path. Imagine one single child on that road suddenly finding himself on a positive road. We can make that happen. We have made it happen. In the last forty years our Eye Foundation has provided the necessary surgery for children. These children had severe limitations, in families that couldn't afford treatment, and now have had their lives immeasurably improved.

Now imagine something even better. Imagine that children don't need surgery. Might that be possible?

Next month we will discuss how we can move to that next step.

This month's giving suggestion.... Send a check. It may not be high-tech or sophisticated but sending a check is still a simple and effective way to give. Checks sent to the Eye Foundation office listed above get quickly and directly into the Eye Foundation accounts. Any recognition appropriate to your gift will be promptly made along with any IRS documentation permitting you a tax deduction. Deductions are available for all gifts to the Eye Foundation. Clearly identify your state and Commandery name, and the reports will include you in the cumulative generosity of those groups.

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

That Others May See

Duane Lee Vaught, GCT
General Chairman of Campaign

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Oklahoma	Ivan Dwayne Dixon	5001 Judy Dr., Del City, OK 73115
Oregon	Robert Eugene Worthington	2267 S.E. 38th Ave., Portland, OR 97214
Pennsylvania	S. Timothy Warco	336 Wilson Ave., Washington, PA 15301
South Carolina	Richard Wayne Sealy	204 Arbor Ct., Rock Hill, SC 29732
South Dakota	John W. Schwietert	216 E. Saint Charles St., Rapid City, SD 57701-3836
Tennessee	Gene Meador,	205 Meador Lake Rd., Cleveland, TN 37323
Texas	Michael H. Shively	17114 Theiss Mail Route Rd., Spring, TX 77379-6203
Utah	Douglas J. Backes	11 W. 1350 N., Centerville, UT 84014
Vermont	David H. Bartlett	84 Osterberg Ter., Williamstown, VT 05679-9250
Virginia	John Robert Wigglesworth, Jr.	1930 Leonard Rd., Falls Church, VA 22043-1322
Washington	James J. Simon	2221 Eureka Ave., Centralia, WA 98531
West Virginia	Harry Gene Canfield	Rt. 1, Box 122, Montrose, WV 26283
Wisconsin	Parker W. Dow	360 Mill St., Waterloo, WI 53594
Wyoming	Harry W. C. Oberg, III	Box 427, Evanston, WY 82931

knight templar

Eye Foundation Receives Contribution From Hartswick Fund

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. is privileged to be a recipient of a generous contribution from the Adam H. Hartswick Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation. In 2006, the Foundation and its supporting organizations awarded more than \$36.8 million in grants to a vast array of nonprofit organizations, students through scholarships, and medical researchers, based on donor interests and specific purposes of individual funds. Established in 1945, The Pittsburgh Foundation is comprised of more than 1,000 funds established by organizations and individual donors.

These funds range from \$10,000 to \$40 million, which exist in perpetuity—growing each year—to provide an ever increasing resource. William H. Koon, II, President of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, urges all Templars and other concerned friends to remember the Eye Foundation in their charitable plans. Also, many funds, such as the Adam H. Hartswick Fund, are created for charitable purposes, and the Eye Foundation qualifies as a 501 (3) (c) charity. Please acknowledge this great Masonic charity in your daily dealings with your friends and business associates.

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

- No. 5,352 Roy W. Taylor (AL)
- No. 5,353 Raymond D. Withrow, Jr. (TX)
- No. 5,354 Eugene P. Jorgensen (NE)
- No. 5,355 Herman Elwood Swadener (OH)
- No. 5,356 Matt McGee (OK)

Grand Commander's Club

- No. 102,789 Cecil A. Ryder, Jr. (HI) (correction)
- No. 102,790 George P. Nix (AL)
- No. 102,791 Charles F. Kramsvogel (MI)

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. The phone number is: (847) 490-3838. The fax number is (847) 490-3777.



Knight Voices

To place your "Knight Voices" item on the waiting list for publication, it must be sent in **electronic format 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. These and other listings can be found on the Grand Encampment web site at <http://knightstemplar.org/knightvoices/>.

■ **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.*

■ **Found:** One of my neighbors gave me a sword and scabbard inscribed "Frederick A. Turner, Crawfordsville, Ind." It was manufactured by M.C. Lilley and Co., Columbus, Ohio. It was left in a rental home. I don't know what to do with it, and who wants it can have it for the postage. *Contact Edmund D. Smith, 401 W. Bonita St., Safford, AZ 85546-3015*

■ **Wanted:** New SK in San Diego, CA, is looking for hard size to find KT uniform. New or used. Jacket 38 extra-short (or short). Pants 28-28 or 29-29. Belt 32 (or so). Chapeaux 6-7/8 and sword. I am unable to serve as an officer without it. *Please contact SK Ahmed Jesus Hluz, P.O. Box 19, Jamul, CA 91935, (619) 244-5552.*

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

■ **For sale:** Royal Arch neck-ties; black with R.A. logo (Triple Tau) embroidered. \$20.00 each including shipping. Council ties, purple with embroidered logo are \$22.00 each, shipping included. Bulk orders accepted. *Call for pricing at (904) 797-7659 or e-mail bmagu2003@bellsouth.net. Checks payable to St. Augustine York Rite bodies. Mail to: Burt Maguire, 4241 Oak Lane, St Augustine, FL 32086. % to KTEF.*

■ **Lloyd L. Gibson Chapter** No. 481, R.A.M., has available their newly minted 50-year commemorative mark/penny for a donation of \$10 each postpaid with a certificate of authentication. Penny is made of antique bronze. *10% of donations 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.*

knight templar

■ **For sale: KNIGHTS TEMPLAR SHOULDER STRAPS**, pairs of finest quality available. All ranks embroidered in extra fancy real gold and silver bullion on velvet and all have Velcro backs. Past Commander (red), Serving Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, or Prelate—\$50.00; Emeritus ranks—\$55.00; Honorary Past Commander with a 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 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, special orders—\$80.00. Embroidered extra fancy quality gold and silver sleeve crosses, pair with Velcro back—\$45.00 Grand Commandery—\$50.00, Past Grand Commander (purple)—\$70.00, Grand Encampment and special orders—\$85.00, and 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 first item and \$1.00 shipping for each additional item. 10 Percent of profit on every order to 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. Send SSAE for list.*

■ **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 pewunsche@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.*

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

■ **Free: Knight Templar magazines.** 1999 thru present. You pick up (Central PA) or pay shipping. *Contact Robert Patton, Phone (717) 838-7967 or E-mail: robnan56@comcast.net.*

General Supplement

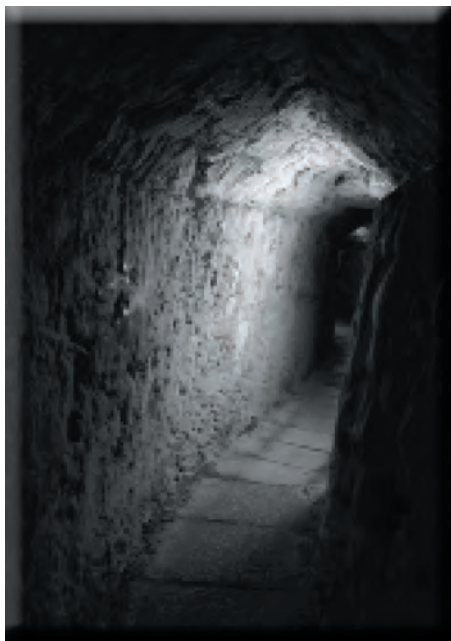
The space on these two pages is provided by the *Knight Templar* magazine to be used by the Grand Commanderies to communicate with the individual Sir Knights in their jurisdiction on a monthly basis. From time to time and for various reasons, we fail to receive any material from the editor of the state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

While searching for images on the internet, I came across this one. It is purported to be circa 1920, but there was no information about the name or Commandery of this Sir Knight. He appears to be a Commander or a Past Commander. Notice also that his plume is black on top. If anyone knows the identity of this Sir Knight, I would be interested to know.



Acre, a small city on the north coast of Israel now sometimes called Acco, was the last stronghold of the Templars in the Holy Land. When they lost the last battle here, they were forced to find another home. There was a Templar castle as well as a castle for the Knights of St. John. After many centuries of being buried and inaccessible, the castles have been rediscovered and are still being excavated. These photos provide a pictorial view of this important Templar site.





The subterranean passageway shown to the left connected the castles of the two orders. It may have been an emergency escape route. Having been in the passage, I can tell you that it is a tight squeeze for a modern Sir Knight!



The vaulted ceilings are classic examples of the gothic architecture used by the Templars when constructing their castles and chapels. These columns have been preserved by binding them together with metal bands.

The Templars who escaped the last siege did so by ship from this Mediterranean port.



■ **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.

■ **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.

■ *The perfect Templar gift: Knight Templar Dress Ties* with cross and crown on square and compasses - \$22.00 each. This is a fund-raiser for the 157th Grand Conclave of Texas. The ties are maroon in color and have a recurring pattern (1/2" high) placed diagonally across the tie. The ties are 60" and are made of silk and polyester. Send order and check payable to the *157th Grand Conclave to Dock F. Dixon, Jr., 232 Edgewood Circle, Bandera, TX 78003*. Ties will be sent day following receipt by return mail. H: (830) 796-4084, C: (210) 274-3133, e-mail: *dockdixon@sbcglobal.net*. See ties at *http://yorkrite.albertpikedemolay.org*. Click on *San Antonio York Rite Bodies*; Click on *Commandery logo*.

■ **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 compasses 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 compasses, 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 # 165, R.A.M., the first chapter started in Georgia in 25 years, is selling its newly minted shekels. They are mounted in a 2x2 coin folder and come with a sealed certificate of authenticity. \$7.00 each or two for \$10.00, postpaid. Orders to: *A. Neal Mimbbs, 708 Jeannette Street, Cochran, GA 31014*. E-mail: *neal217@comsouth.net*.



KTEF Shopping Mall

Purchases made on these web sites benefit the KTEF. Go to www.knightstemplar.org and click on KTEF SHOPPING MALL.

Announcement

It has come to our attention that a number of our Sir Knights and widows of our Sir Knights have received communication from an organization calling themselves by the name of "The Knights Templar Organization." The correspondence indicates that they have been elected to membership in said organization and requests a fee of \$25.00.

Be advised that this organization is not affiliated in any way with the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

These mailings do not originate at the Grand Encampment, and we have no knowledge of this organization.

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 Two: Revenge Destroys Everything



“They spit on the Holy Cross, these Knights Templar. Not only do they deny the divinity of Christ during their reception, they do not even worship God Almighty, but a graven idol instead.”

These accusations, well known to many Templars, were the words of a renegade member of the Order named Esquin de Floryan, who – according to some accounts - had been imprisoned and subsequently made his claims known to his fellow inmates out of revenge. But sharing rumours with cellmates is of little benefit to a man longing for freedom. As such, de Floryan was eager to share the juicy gossip with Philip IV. The French King was not his first choice, for he had previously told the story to the King of Aragon, James II, who dismissed the rumours as the rubbish they were. Whether he actually believed the accusations, Philip was all too willing to make use of them to his full benefit, and immediately informed Clement V of all that had come before his ears.

Clement responded to Philip in a letter of 24 August, 1307 letting the king know that he was planning to launch a formal investigation into the accusations in October.

knight templar

Philip, of course, had no intention of letting the matter wait another two months and issued a letter to his bailiffs on 14 September, authorizing them to arrest the Templars 30 days later.

The Arrest of the Templars

On October 13, Philip's men acted on the arrest orders, launching a series of raids on Templar properties throughout France. One of the more popular myths regarding this period of Templar history is that the Templars learned of the arrest orders early on and escaped in large number. The consensus among modern historians is that the Templars had little to no advance notice, although it is generally agreed that de Molay was aware of the rumours in circulation. Official records record twelve members of the Order who managed to escape, and most of these were ultimately captured. Among them was Gérard de Villiers, the former Master of France and Imbert Blanke, the Master of Auvergne, who crossed over into England with a handful of brethren. Blanke was later captured and went on to play a role in defending the English Templars.

Regardless of just how many French Tem-

plars snuck away in the quiet of the night, no myth regarding their escape has gained more currency than the notion that the Templar fleet set sail from the French port of La Rochelle. According to the popular tale, the Templars loaded 18 galleys with men and treasure and pulled anchor, sailing for points unknown. The source of this myth comes from the testimony of Jean de Châlons, a serving brother, who said that he had heard that de Villiers had set sail with 18 galleys. De Châlons's testimony regarding the Templar galleys was not based on firsthand knowledge; rather it was merely a repeated rumour. Given that the rest of his testimony was damning of the Order, it is doubtful that there was any truth to his claims. The fact remains that the Templars simply did not have that sort of naval presence at the time. After the dissolution of the Templars in 1312, the Hospitallers became more involved in naval warfare as a result of their occupation of Rhodes; however, at that time they are recorded as having only four galleys. As such, the idea that the Templars had so large a fleet stretches credulity.

The Interrogation of the Templars

De Floryan had told Philip but a handful of lies about the Order, but by the time the French King had the Templars in custody, the laundry list of heresies had expanded to some 87 articles of accusation, including sodomy and the worship of a bearded head. In Paris, 138 members of the Order were put through a series of interrogations beginning on 19 October. Even in this Philip showed his cunning, as the depositions were to be sent to the king in sealed envelopes, but the details were to be widely circulated to help sway public opinion. Of course, it was equally important to make sure that the enclosures had just the

right information. The Templars were kept isolated from one another and informed that both king and pope were aware of the scandalous activities of the Order; pardon awaited the confessed, while certain death awaited the unrepentant. Of course, a little medieval torture was thrown in for good measure; for nothing will make a man say things that are untrue like the crack of a whip. It is hard to imagine how a group of knights who had remained on the field of battle despite incredible odds could cave to such measures, but it is important to remember that the majority of incarcerated Templars were not battle toughened warriors, but serving members of the Order. In all, 36 Templars succumbed to the torments of their jailers and died before testifying.

On 27 November, Clement issued the bull (papal edict) *Pastoralis praeminentiae*, authorizing the arrest of the Templars throughout Christendom. The bull was not met with enthusiasm and even in countries that followed the papal orders, torture was not generally used and the arrests were with great reluctance.

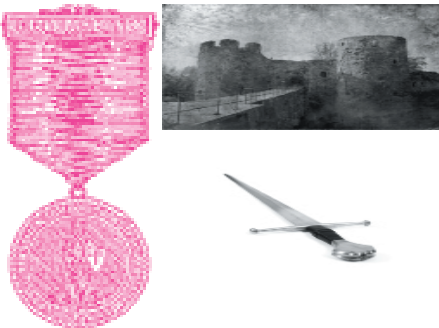
Clement was not at all pleased with Philip's handling of the matter and suspended the trial in February of 1308, demanding that it be handled by the Church. The pope capitulated to the king's pressure and resumed the trials in July; however, he insisted that they remain under the Church's control. In August, Clement issued another bull, *Regnans in coelis*, calling for a general council to be held at Vienne in October of 1310.

To prepare for the council, a new set of interrogations was commenced by the Church with a true desire to get to the bottom of the matter without the use of torture. Among the many interrogations were

those conducted at the castle of Chinon in Tours, which have been made famous with the recent exaggerated claims about the discovery of the “Chinon Parchment.” In actual fact, the document is well known to historians, having been published in *Étienne Baluze’s Lives of the Popes of Avignon* in 1693. The papal commission who interviewed de Molay and other Templar leaders at Chinon absolved them from excommunication, but despite recent claims, did not find the Order innocent.

A call was sent out requesting those Templars who wished to defend the Order to assemble at Paris. By February 1310, 600 Templars came forth with a desire to testify, but in so doing they set up a catch-twenty-two for themselves with respect to Philip. Having previously confessed during the first set of interrogations, Philip argued that any subsequent recantations would mark them as lapsed heretics - an offence punishable by death.

On 12 May, 1310, fifty-four Templars were turned over to the king’s men and burned at the stake in Paris. They would not be the last.



Correction from last month

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

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.

He can be contacted at:
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Morinville, Alberta
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RECIPIENTS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT MEMBERSHIP JEWEL

678, C. S. Walker
Damascus Commandery #8
Pine Bluff, AR 9/23/2008

679-681, Royce H. Taylor
Damascus Commandery No. 8
Pine Bluff, AR 9/23/2008
Silver Cluster

682, Daniel Lee Rhymer
Spartanburg Commandery No. 3
Spartanburg, SC 10/01/2008

683, Charles Voight Horton
Hammond Commandery No. 41
Highland, IN 10/01/2008



Letters to the Editor



Congratulations to those associated with the greatly improved monthly newsletter. It is a significant change and certainly appreciated by the rank and file.

aloha,

George E. Davis



I like everything you are doing. Please do a note about the cover picture. I am not well versed enough to know at what or where I am looking. Keep up the good work.

Sir Knight Samuel Fleming

Dear Sir Knight Fleming,

Thanks for the suggestion! If you don't see an explanation on the front cover itself, look for one on page 3 above the table of contents.

John



Now that an additional month has passed, there are two good examples of the type of information that would be great to read in the magazine. Both examples are on the succeeding page to your editor's comments. The Prelate's Chapel in both July and August is most informative. I would enjoy articles which explain and enlarge upon the meaning of the rituals. Right Eminent Commander Hutchins has a world of knowledge. I have been fortunate to observe him in the Tucson Bodies. I look forward to coming issues.

Bob Brown

This letter was received from one of the pastors, who was sent to Israel through the Holy Land Pilgrimage project in 2008, Philip C. Morris, Jr., Senior Pastor of Parkway Church of God, Tennessee:

"What an amazing experience to go with you to the Holy Land in February! I am still trying to take in everything I saw, heard, and experienced. I cannot think of a more wonderful gift that anyone could give a member of the clergy than his first trip to the Holy Land! My life has been forever changed by walking in the footsteps of Jesus and the Jewish people.

"The Bible has now come alive to me in ways like never before...my first-hand experiences inform everything I think, say, and do. And to experience all of this with you and the other fifty members of the clergy made this pilgrimage not only educational, but spiritual and relational as well. I could never thank the Knights Templar enough for this trip, but I want you to know that you have my greatest appreciation for changing my life in this phenomenal way.

"Not only did Bible history come alive, but my love for the Jewish people has increased immensely. My love has also increased for the Arab Christians in ways that are difficult to explain. And my love for the Muslim people has also grown tremendously thanks to this trip. Please never underestimate the impact you are having by taking these trips.

"May God richly bless you and all those who made this trip possible.

"In Messiah,"
november 2008

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ABOUT THE DISCOVERY OF THE TEMPLAR DOCUMENTS FROM 1307-1313

The following story and photo was reported in *The Daily Telegraph* of London on October 29, 2007:

By Richard Holt and Malcolm Moore

Da Vinci Code fans can pay £4,000 to show innocence of the Knights Templar

The Templars were rumoured to have found the Holy Grail. Fans of *The Da Vinci Code* may think that £4,000 is a small price to pay for an exclusive document that clears the good name of the mysterious Knights Templar. The Vatican is selling a limited edition of life-sized replicas of a giant forgotten parchment that absolves the mysterious knights of their status as heretics. Only 799 copies of the document, which is the size of a small dinner table, will be sold for €5,900 (£3,925) each. An 800th copy will be presented to Pope Benedict XVI. The 300-page *Procesus Contra Templarios* (Trial against the Templars), measuring more than two metres across, records the trial of the knights when they were accused of her-knight templar

esy before Pope Clement V between 1307 and 1312.

Also known as the “Chinon Parchment”, the original artefact was discovered in the Vatican’s secret archives in 2001 after it had been wrongly catalogued for more than 300 years. The reproductions are printed on synthetic parchment with a replica of the original papal wax seal. Enfolded in a soft leather case, each copy also comes with a scholarly commentary.

The Knights Templar were a powerful and secretive group of warrior monks during the Middle Ages. Their secrecy has given birth to endless legends, including one that they discovered the Holy Grail. Recently, they have been featured

in films including *The Da Vinci Code* - based on Dan Brown’s work of fiction - and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. The order was founded by Hugues de Payns, a French knight, after the First Crusade of 1099 to protect pilgrims on the road to Jerusalem. Its headquarters was the captured Al-Aqsa mosque on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount, which lent the order their name. But when Jerusalem fell to Muslim rule in 1244, rumours surfaced that the knights were heretics who



worshipped idols in a secret initiation ceremony. The “Chinon Parchment” reveals that, contrary to historic belief, the pope found that the Templars were not heretics

- even though he still disbanded the order to maintain peace with their accuser, King Philip IV “the Fair” of France.

Jacques de Molay, Grand Master of the Templars, was burned at the stake in 1314 along with his aides on Philip’s orders. Some surviving monks fled. Some were absorbed by other orders, and over the centuries, various groups have claimed to be descended from the Templars. Some of the knights who did not manage to escape were brought before Pope Clement. Their accusers claimed that the Templars’ initiation ceremony, which involved “spitting on the cross”, “denying Jesus” and kissing the lower back, navel and mouth of the man proposing them, was blasphemous. However, the knights explained that the initiation mimicked the humiliation that knights could suffer if they fell into the hands of the Saracens, while the kissing ceremony was a sign of their total obedience. The pope ultimately cleared them of heresy, but found them guilty of lesser infractions of church law.

Barbara Frale, the Vatican historian who discovered the “Chinon Parchment” in a box of other papers, said: “For 700 years we have believed that the Templars died as cursed men, and this absolves them.” She added: “There were a lot of faults in the order - abuses, violence ... a lot of sins - but not heresy.”



Willard Russell Clutter, Jr.
Indiana
Department Commander –2002
Grand Commander–1996
Born: October 7, 1945
Died: September 28, 2008

Willard Russell Clutter, Jr. was born in Licking County, Newark, Ohio, on October 7, 1945, the son of Willard R. and Frances Elizabeth (House) Clutter. He graduated from Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio (Summa Cum Laude), with a B.S. in Business Administration and completed his graduate studies at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana, earning an MBA. In 1990 he married Donna Mae Ostermeyer of Greenfield, Indiana. Bill has two daughters, Holly Anne and Jennifer Lynn (Schmelzer); both residing in Columbus, Ohio, while a sister, JoAnne (Kelly), resides in Pickerington, Ohio. Bill’s entire professional career was in telecommunications, rising to the position of Regional Sales Director. He retired from Lucent Technologies in 1998. He was raised a Master Mason in Guernsey Lodge #632 located in Cambridge, Ohio, on July 21, 1969. He was coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33° at Cincinnati, Ohio, on September 29, 1998. Bill’s Masonic memberships include; Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery of Indiana, York Cross of Honor, St. Basil and St. Hilary Conclaves, Red Cross of Constantine, Royal Order of Scotland, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Indiana College of Societas Rosicruciana, Order of Eastern Star, York Rite Sovereign College, Allied Masonic Degrees, Noble of the Murat Temple AAONMS and served as the Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge in 1997. He served the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., as Department Commander for subordinate Commanderies in 2002.

IN MEMORIAM



Morgan A. Hartman
Nebraska
Grand Commander –1993
Born: August 29, 1916
Died: September 4, 2008

SEND A MINISTER TO THE HOLY LAND ON A BUFFALO!

While many of you will be enjoying the usual Turkey dinner this Thanksgiving, our Grand Master and his family will be enjoying Buffalo Prime Rib as a result of the efforts of the Grand Commandery of Wyoming.

Two years ago, under the direction of S.K. Donald L. York, Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Commandery of Wyoming decided to promote a buffalo hunt as a fundraiser to send a pilgrim minister to the Holy Land. To date, one minister has been sent,



Pictured above, from left to right are S.K. Michael B. Johnson, R.E.P.G.C. - Grand Commandery of Wyoming; S.K. Mihai Bugaru, E.C. - Nicolae Balcescu Commandery U.D.; S.K. Donald L. York, E.G.G. - Grand Commandery of Wyoming; and S.K. William H. Koon II, M.E.G.M. of the Grand Encampment.

one is about to go, and they are currently selling tickets to send a third.

At the Northwest Conference in 2006, S.K. David Dixon Goodwin, GCT, purchased the winning ticket for the hunt. Not being a hunter, S.K. Goodwin asked the Grand Master, S.K. William H. Koon II, to go on the hunt in his stead. The hunt took place on the IPY Ranch, near Sundance, WY, in the shadow of Devils Tower (of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* fame). The hunt took place following the Wyoming Grand Commandery Conclave.

In addition to the buffalo hunt, the winner receives the meat including processing. With the exception of the Thanks-

giving Prime Rib mentioned above, the meat from this hunt was returned to the Grand Commandery of Wyoming to benefit Templar Charities. S.K. Mihai Bugaru, Commander of Nicolae Balcescu Commandery U.D. of Romania, commissioned a hunt of his own, also donating his Buffalo to Templar Charities.

Devils Tower appears on the front cover of this month's *Knight Templar* and was the first National Monument proclaimed by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906. The scenery is beautiful, the hunt enjoyable, and tickets are available at www.knightstemplar.org/gckt/wy/hunt. You too could be enjoying lean, low cholesterol buffalo next year for Thanksgiving!

Beauceant News



Sir Knight Michael Tomascin, new Eminent Commander of Chartiers Commandery No. 78, Carnegie, PA with members of Carnegie Assembly No. 80 S.O.O.B. April 24, 2008. Pictured with the new Eminent Commander are: Mrs. Michael Tomascin-President, Mrs. Thomas Kyle-Oracle, Mrs. Roland Flamgletti-First Vice President, Miss Amy Movie-Second Vice President, Mrs. James Metzger-Preceptress, Mrs. Robert Averell-Recorder, Miss Donna Faub-Treasurer, Mrs. Theodore Bergfelt-Marshal, Mrs. Richard Steinmiller-Assistant Marshal, Ms. Chyrel Klaas-Chaplain, Mrs. Gerald Sutherland-Director of Music, Mrs. William Chishko-Standard Bearer, Mrs. Howard Davis-Inner Guard, Mrs. Paul Uhlemann-Outer Guard, and Mrs. David Esterburg-Member.



Mrs. Michael Tomascin, President of Carnegie Assembly No. 80 S.O.O.B., presents Commander's jewel to her husband on April 24, 2008.

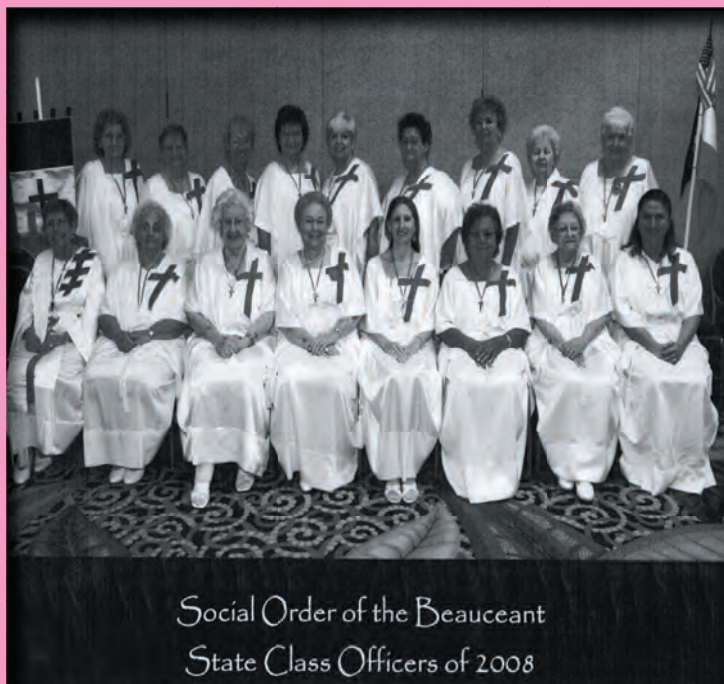




The sewing group from Westminster Assembly No. 245, Maryland, works on handmade stuffed animals, which are donated to the pediatric and emergency rooms at numerous area hospitals and fire department Ambulance Services. They also knit and crochet items for the Neonatal Units, such as hats, blankets and dresses.

The Sewing Group, consisting mostly of members of former Baltimore Assembly No. 222, meets twice a month at the Charlestown Retirement Community. During the past year, they logged in 419 hours and donated 636 stuffed animals and 266 knit/crochet items. Pictured are: Mrs. Remy Boyer, P.P.; Mrs. David Theilman, P.P., and two of her Friends; Mrs. James Morgan, P.P.; Mrs. Edward Thatcher, P.P.; Mrs. Robert Brendle; Mrs. Charles Gleim; Mrs. J. Richard Kearney, P.P.; Mrs. Joseph Chalker, P.P. and Supreme Recorder Emeritus; and Mrs. Norman Williams.

Once again, Ladies from all over the State of Florida gathered at Annual Conclave to hold their "All State Class" for the Beauceant. Pictured are the officers who represent all four Assemblies from Florida. They were pleased to initiate three Ladies that day. In addition, 24 Ladies of the Beauceant, dressed in their red, black and white, served as an Honor Guard for the installation of the Grand High Priest.



Social Order of the Beauceant
State Class Officers of 2008

Masonic Origins—The Wayfarer Continued from page 12

The traveling man is moving from left to right or from west to east, leaving behind a rude, crude world. A serving maid lounges in the doorway of a decrepit tavern, holding a pitcher, while a customer kisses her, holding his hand on her breast. Around the corner, a man is urinating against the wall. In the courtyard, pigs feed at a trough, while an angry dog with a spiked collar is crouched, deciding whether or not to attack.

Within a few steps the wayfarer will pass through the gate of the square and enter a landscape of peace and plenty (beauty), as symbolized by the placid milk cow. With mental fortitude (strength), the traveler walks under a tree with a perched owl, the medieval symbol of wisdom. In a backward or reverse retrospect, the wayfarer is about to enter the realm of wisdom, strength and beauty—known as the triads or “lesser lights” included in the moral teachings of Masonry.

The final question in this discourse is one of motivation. To have known the Masonic symbols before 1717 (if indeed they existed in his time), Bosch would have to have been a Masonic initiate. Therefore, it is likely that the painter was attracted to, and invited into, a secret society dedicated to protecting religious dissidents from the wrath of the church. Also, Bosch was known to have been a member of a religious fraternity frowned upon by the church. His cynical portrayals of drunken, carousing monks and nuns indicate a man angry at the church, especially in view of several condemnations of his work as heretical.

Some critics may argue that the Masonic symbols in this painting are all merely coincidences. If so, this is the most incredible

collection of Masonic coincidences that we may ever expect to see assembled in a single work. If, however, the symbols are not there coincidentally, then this painting provides the very first graphic evidence of the existence of Masonic symbolism over five hundred years ago, in the late fifteenth century.

Within twelve months of Bosch’s death in 1516, the great Protestant religious movement in Europe was launched when the Augustinian monk, Martin Luther, nailed his *Theses* to the great door of the Schlosskirche in Wittenberg.

In conclusion, Masonic research is in many ways an unfinished temple of its own. One can only encourage those Masons who approach the historical mysteries of Masonry with the conviction that the answers must be somewhere and wish them success. We all await that inconceivable, documented proof that will solve the great mystery of how it all began and why.

Sir Knight Michael S. Franck is a member of Detroit Commandery No. 1 and resides at:

935 N. Brys Drive
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236-1289
michael.s.franck@us.army.mil

Another take on The Wayfarer Continued from page 13

For example, the square, compasses, plumbline and beehive all make an appearance in Caesar Ripa’s *Iconologia or Moral Emblems*, first published in 1593; just eight decades after Bosch painted *The Wayfarer*. Ripa’s *Iconologia* was the most influential of the emblem books, used by artists to give visual representations of human virtues. Judgment was represented in *Iconologia* by a man trying to sit on a rainbow while holding the square, rule, compasses and plumbline. In explaining the symbolism, Ripa wrote that “the instruments denote Discourse, and Choice,

november 2008

Ingenuity should make of Methods to understand, and judge of any thing; for he judges not aright, who would measure every thing in one and the same Manner." Although this example could be used as evidence that Ripa must have been a Freemason, or at least in possession of Masonic secrets, the simple fact remains that the symbols that we use in Freemasonry are not exclusive to Freemasonry, nor were they when Freemasonry evolved out of the operative stone mason's guilds.

But let's look at the elements of Bosch's painting claimed to be Masonic that are easily dismissible. Robinson claimed that the backpack could represent the cable tow because the strap is not in the proper place. However, both *The Wayfarer* and *The Path of Life* depict the pack's strap across the chest. In fact, there is a carving of a pilgrim at England's Lincoln Cathedral, which predates either of Bosch's paintings that also has the strap across the chest. If one looks at old painting they will find that Bosch's depiction was hardly unique. Next we have the argument that the man's lack of hat and hood is somehow connected to the idiom "to pull the wool over your eyes." Contrary to Robinson's assertion, the term originated in the United States circa 1839 and related to powdered wigs and not Masonic hoodwinks. Additionally, the term hoodwinked, according to the *Merriam Webster Dictionary* originated in 1562, some years after Bosch's demise. At any rate, a logical look at the painting would suggest that the wayfarer was recently chucked out of the pub, hence his hat in hand. Next we have the assertion that the gate somehow forms a craftsman's square atop the gate. It also forms a triangle, which makes the painting equally Egyptian in nature, if one wants to claim it as such. As we have already seen, the square was a common moral symbol in art in Bosch's time and can be traced back to ancient China, so why would there be a need to conceal the symbol in a fence post? Robinson also claimed that knight templar

the trouser leg was rolled up to the knee. This is a perfect example of the tendency to see what we want to see. The pant leg is barely rolled past the ankle, let alone up to the knee. However, when combined with the slipper on the left foot, it does present a compelling argument for a Masonic connection.

But this does not make it so.

Bosch's work has been analyzed by a number of art historians over the years who have given a variety of interpretations to the painting including a representation of the Prodigal Son. One of the most compelling was put forth by Philip Leider from the Department of Art History of California, Irvine. It was Leider's belief that the painting was a representation of the Wandering Jew. For those unfamiliar with the legend, when Christ was making his way to Calvary, a Jew named Cartaphilus struck him and told him to move quicker. Jesus condemned him to wander the earth until His return. Although the tale originates in the *Gospel of Matthew 16:28*, the story gained currency in the thirteenth century in Roger of Wendover's *Flores Historiarum*, which tells the story of Cartaphilus, a Jewish shoemaker, cursed by Jesus to walk the earth until Christ's return. According to the legend, Cartaphilus converted to Christianity and spent his days wandering and proselytizing the faith.

If Leider is correct, some of the elements of *The Wayfarer*, viewed by Robinson as Masonic take on a new light. The one shoe and one boot symbolism may indicate a wandering impoverished shoemaker, the plumb bob in his hat becomes a shoemaker's awl, and the triangle on the fence a symbol of the Christian Trinity and the new world Cartaphilus entered through his conversion.

Or perhaps a cigar is just a cigar.

Leidler's article The Identity of Hieronymus Bosch's *Wayfarer* can be seen at http://www.tau.ac.il/arts/projects/PUB/assaph-art/assaph6/articles_assaph6/leider.pdf

Sale of California Cookbook to Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The Grand Commandery of California is selling cookbooks, shown right, to benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Entitled *California Gold*, the book is a compilation of recipes submitted by Sir Knights and ladies of the Commanderies of California. It is bound in a 3-ring loose-leaf format and contains 750 recipes. The books sell for \$20.00 each, and **the entire amount goes to the KTEF**. They are able to do this because the publication cost of the books was covered by private donations. Make out checks to: Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Send to: Dan McDaniel, Attn: Cookbooks, 1250 Peterson Court, Los Altos, CA 94024.



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

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

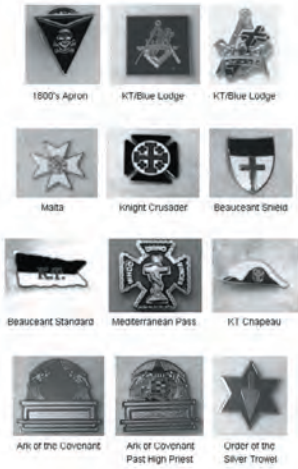
Summer Uniform Sale Aids Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Milford Commandery No. 11, Milford, Massachusetts, is offering a complete summer uniform and accessories (no pants or shoes) for \$165.00. (G.G. 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.**

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.

Sale of Blue Lodge Afghan-Throw to Benefit the KTEF

This Blue Lodge throw is made of 100% cotton and has many advantages over the old triple-weave design because it has 360 picks per square inch, which enhances the color immensely. There are new items in the design, including the 3 steps to Freemasonry. It has a black and white checkered floor leading up to the center column, and the square and compass are larger and enhanced with a cluster of leaves symbolizing Acacia of Freemasonry. The afghan measures 48 inches by 60 inches and is light-weight but weaved very tight for definition. There are only 1,000 of these made, and each one comes with a beautiful certificate so that you may write your important dates of Freemasonry on it. The price is \$48.00 each, including shipping in the US. A donation of \$5.00 for each one sold will go to the KTEF. Send check or money order to: Sandra Knotts, P.O. Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087-0158.

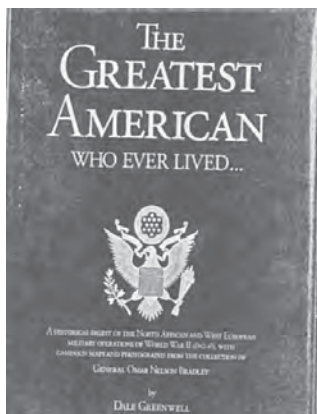


Grand Commandery of California Sesquicentennial Coins to Benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation



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 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.alpha.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

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; email, kbrackens@yahoo.com



Knights Templar Wall Hanging

This beautiful wall hanging is a tapestry made of 100% U.S. cotton, upholstery material with a black upholstery backing; it is 360 picks per square inch. The size is 25" by 33", and it is in multiple colors. It is a very unusual wall hanging because it has two American flags going back from 1776 to the present day. This wall hanging has our national bird on it, the American bald eagle. There are the nine battle shields for the nine Knights of Malta, who founded the Christian Crusaders that led to the Knights Templar period. These battle shields are from the original-design that was taken from the historical artwork of the Grand Lodge of England. It has a beautiful poem on it, "A Knight Templar", with four pictures from the past to the present of Knighthood. On the bottom of the wall hanging there are five Sir Knights from the early crusades representing the Knighting of an officer. The wall hanging is woven in a German style to bring out the rich colors. The price is \$ 49.99, which includes shipping and insurance. A donation of \$7 will go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. If interested, send check or money order to Stanley C. Buz, PO Box 702, Whitehall, PA 18052.

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.

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

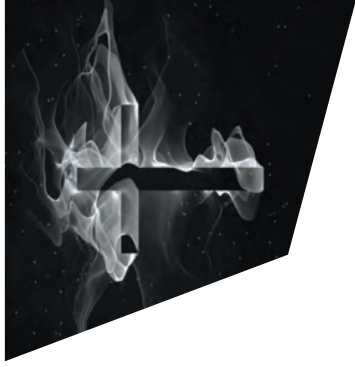


KCT and GCT Award Recipients: A 2-1/2 inch diameter, embroidered emblem has been produced for use on mantles and blazers of KCT recipients. The emblem is to be centered on the Cross that adorns the left side of the mantle or ceremonial robe or on the left side (on pocket) of a dress blazer. The same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



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