

Knights Templar

VOLUME IV

APRIL 2009

NUMBER 4



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ET FLAGELLAVIT

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Knights Templar

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

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

The front cover is a photo of a Stained Glass Depiction of the Arrest & Beating of Jesus and is copyrighted by Kenneth V. Pilon.

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Grand Master's Message

Easter and Christmas are the two single most important events in Christianity and for our order. The events occurring between these two dates have animated many men to great deeds in the exemplification of the greatest of all stories.



Sir Knight P. Fred Leslie, KCT, PGC, HPDC was one of those men so animated. Fred believed that Christian ministers who walked where Jesus walked, visited the places he touched, and witnessed where he spent his last days would be inspired to do more in their ministry to inspire others to follow the footsteps of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Untold ministers have done just exactly that because of Fred's, and others' zeal for the Holy Land Pilgrimage.

Last month I talked to you about "Change". The Holy Land Pilgrimage in the early days was a change that many Templar leaders didn't embrace. Yes, even leaders of our great fraternity feared this noble project and did little to assist in promoting it. Those who knew Fred knew him to be a quiet man of immense determination. He never let apathy deter him, and in his inimitable quiet way, he persevered and ultimately triumphed over the naysayers.

What he achieved he did in a quiet, never ending, and determined manner. In all the years I've known Fred, I never knew him to raise his voice. Yet he never stopped. He stood against opposition and never yielded. On February 12, 2009, his long journey ended, and today he rests from his labors. His endeavor will be continued by others whose lives he has touched and inspired. This quiet man will live on in the hearts of those of us who knew him as a glowing example of what a Templar should be.

As I join with the Grand Encampment Officers at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial this Easter for the 79th time in our history, I will remember Fred. On behalf of the officers of Grand Encampment, I wish you a most happy Easter.

Faternally,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William H. Koon, II".

William H. Koon, II, GCT
Grand Master

From the Grand Recorder's Office...



DEPARTMENT CONFERENCES

The 2009 Grand Encampment Department Conferences are open to all Sir Knights. Please make your plans to attend.

Southeastern Department

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee
Robert E. Burleson, Right Eminent Department Commander

The Southeastern Department Conference will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2009, in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, please contact Sir Knight Bob Burleson, 12157 Delaware Woods Lane, Orlando, FL 32824-8611; Residence telephone: (407) 859-4004; Email: bob_burleson@yahoo.com.

YORK RITE INFORMATION SYSTEM

The YORK RITE INFORMATION SYSTEM is up and running! Grand Recorders are being trained on the membership module; constituent Recorders will be trained following Grand Recorder orientation.

MEMBERS: Many members have responded by updating their contact information. If you have not done so already, please do. You are also able to change your address online. Visit the Grand Encampment website <http://www.knightstemplar.org/> for more details. This information is available to your local Commandery Recorder, your state Grand Recorder and the Grand Encampment office. Please be assured that this information is secure and is available for fraternal use only.

RECORDERS: Once you have completed the short training session, constituent Recorders will be able to enter membership changes; i.e. knightings, deaths, suspensions, dimits, reinstatements, and address changes for your Commandery. This will make the current monthly reports obsolete. You will receive updated information as the implementation of the York Rite Information System continues.

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.



Prelate's Chapel

by
Robert Cave
Right Eminent Grand Prelate
of the
Grand Encampment

Shortly after you receive this issue of the *Knight Templar* magazine we will be celebrating Easter. Those of us going to the Easter service in Alexandria, Virginia, will witness the hundreds upon hundreds of Sir Knights assembled according to states stepping off to the strains of "Onward Christian Soldiers" as they proudly march up the hill to the memorial. All present will be filled with hope because we live on this side of Easter morning and the resurrection of Jesus. The hope stems from the knowledge that God has been victorious over death, the last enemy, and therefore, there is nothing in our circumstances that is not subject to his power.

Before the disciples in Luke's Gospel met the resurrected Christ on the first Easter day, they had no such hope. Two of them were on their way to Emmaus, and they confided to a stranger who walked with them that "We had hoped that he (Jesus) was the one to redeem Israel." (Luke 24:20) They had hoped, but after Jesus' crucifixion they no longer did so. They had placed all their hopes in him, but now they believed he was dead. They no longer felt that they had a future.

Sometimes we all feel that way when circumstances beyond our control befall us. Something happens to us physically, economically, or socially, and like the two on the way to Emmaus, we lose hope. "We had hoped" but not anymore. We feel that the future looks bleak.

The two on the way to Emmaus did not recognize that the stranger who walked with them was Jesus. As they approached the village to which they were going, they invited the stranger to spend the evening with them, and he agreed. While they were eating, Jesus revealed himself as the risen Christ, and they said to one another "Did not our heart burn within us while he talked with us on the road, and while he opened the scriptures?" From all that transpired afterward, it is obvious that hope returned to them, and they had a glorious future.

So no matter what our circumstances may be this Easter, we can have hope. The hope rests on the fact that Christ rose from the dead, and we can have the certainty that God who was victorious over the last enemy death has the power to overcome whatever we may be facing. So we rejoice on Easter as we sing the words of the hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, Alleluia!"

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA – A Triennial to Remember!

Last month we described the beautiful scenery and unique surroundings for the 64th Triennial Conclave. But did you know that the Blue Ridge Parkway is located just south of Roanoke?

The Blue Ridge Parkway is nearly 470 miles long beginning at Shenandoah National Park's Skyline Drive in Virginia and ending in the Smoky Mountains near Cherokee, North Carolina. It is a breathtaking drive through some of the most beautiful scenery this country has to offer. The drive provides insight into what our forefathers encountered during westward expansion. More than that, it is FREE!

If you'd like to be "close up and personal" in your sightseeing, and hiking is your calling, the Appalachian Trail is located just north of Roanoke and extends for 2,175 miles through the Appalachian chain of mountains! Those who have hiked the trail say it is a rare experience.

But what about the weather; nobody wants to sightsee in oppressive heat! The average temperature in August runs from a low of 65° to a daily average high of 85° which is certainly moderate for a Triennial held in August!

Sir Knight Baldwin and the 64th Triennial Committee chose well, when they picked Roanoke, Virginia as the site for the 64th Triennial. Why wait; make reservations now. The forms are in the March 2009 *Knight Templar* or are available on-line at www.knightstemplar.org. It will be a Triennial to Remember!



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TRIENNIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAM – ADVERTISING

The 64th Triennial Corporation, Inc. is pleased to announce that it is now accepting advertisements for publication in the *64th Triennial Conclave Souvenir Book*.

All Grand Commanderies, Commanderies, appendant orders, and Sir Knights are invited to purchase an advertisement. The revenue from ads will be used to enhance the enjoyment of those attending the upcoming Triennial Conclave scheduled to be held at Roanoke, Virginia on August 15-19, 2009.

The costs of advertisements are as follows:

Full page:	\$125.00
Half page:	\$80.00
Quarter page:	\$60.00
Business cards:	\$40.00

Please make your check payable to “64th Triennial Corporation,” and mail them to Mrs. Eva K. Longworth, Secretary, 502 Wentworth Drive, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012-3545. Ads may be e-mailed, photo ready, to elongwo106@aol.com, or mailed to her at the Wentworth Avenue address. The deadline for ads is June 1, 2009.

Thank you for your attention to the foregoing. We look forward to welcoming you to Roanoke in August as we conduct the business of the Grand Encampment and celebrate the accomplishments of Sir Knight Richard Burditt Baldwin, GCT, MEPMG.

Jeffrey G. Burcham, KCT

Grand Commander, Grand Commandery KT of Virginia
President, 64th Triennial Corporation, Inc.



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RICHARD BURDETT BALDWIN, GCT

1935-2009

Most Eminent Grand Master 2006–2007

Sir Knight Baldwin began life's journey on October 28, 1935, in Concord, Massachusetts, the son of David S. and Hope W. Baldwin. He was educated in the Sudbury, Massachusetts schools graduating in 1953. He graduated in 1957, from the University of Massachusetts with a Bachelor of Business Administration. He received a Master of Science degree from George Washington University in 1974.

Sir Knight Baldwin began his military service on Flag Day, June 14, 1957 in the United States Army. He retired from the Army with the rank of Colonel. He had one son, Rick, and two daughters, Jodie and Julie. He passed to his eternal reward on February 5, 2009. On February 8, 2009, over 100 uniformed Knights Templar paid their last respects at his Knight Templar service held in Burke, Virginia.

Dick's Masonic resume is extensive and was listed on these pages when he was elected our Grand Master. Templary was his love in the later years of his life. He served our Order as Commander of Arlington Commandery No. 29 and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Virginia in 1989 – 1990. He served many years as the Grand Treasurer of Virginia.

He began his involvement with the Grand Encampment as chairman of the Committee on Easter Sunrise Memorial Service. His efforts in that position continue to be seen each year in Alexandria, VA. He was appointed an Honorary Past Department Commander in 1991, by then Grand Master, William Henry Thornley, Jr., GCT.

In August 1997 he was elected Right Eminent Grand Captain General of our Grand Encampment from a field of 5 very qualified candidates. On August 16, 2006, he was installed as Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA in Houston, Texas. Certainly his Installation was a high point of achievement in his many years of service to our Fraternity.

Unfortunately, due to deteriorating health, he resigned as Grand Master on August 27, 2007. During his one year as Grand Master, his achievements were many. Templary is in his debt as many of the programs and plans he had are just now coming to fruition.

He was a good man and true and always had the best interests of Templary and Fraternity at heart. He will be missed by all who knew him.

A Chat With The Managing Editor

I am pleased to announce that Sir Knight Thomas W. Jackson has agreed to join the Editorial Review Board of the *Knight Templar* magazine. Tom was the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania for twenty years and now serves as the Executive Secretary of the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges having served in this position since its inception in 1998. He is a Past Division Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania and a Knight Commander of the Temple of the Grand Encampment. Sir Knight Thomas began his career as an educator and is active in innumerable Masonic and civic organizations. He holds many awards and honors including the Chancellor Livingston Medal for outstanding contributions in the field of Masonic Literature, Writing and Public Relations from the Grand Lodge of New York and has been published in the fields of Freemasonry, education, and science. Tom is one of the most knowledgeable and experienced Freemasons alive, and we are most fortunate that he has agreed to serve the magazine in this way. Welcome aboard, Tom!

On a truly sad note, we mourn the loss of Past Grand Master Dick Baldwin. We all regret that he was unable to complete his term of office.

We have renamed our news section *Knightly News*. If you wish to submit news articles, please avoid photos of Sir Knights handing each other certificates or group photos. Show us someone in action, and be sure that the news would be interesting to someone completely across the country from you. Local news should be submitted to your state supplement editor. Since most of you only see one of the forty-eight state supplements, I want to tell you that our state supplement editors are doing a great job! We have all come a long way in the last six months. If you appreciate what yours is doing every month, tell him. Our deadlines are mighty regular for these volunteers and it takes a good deal of dedication to meet them month in and month out.

In the March issue on page 21, we published an article by Sir Knight Rex Hutchens entitled "How Old Was Jesus When He Was Crucified?" The last line of the article was inadvertently omitted as well as Sir Knight Rex's e-mail address. The last line should read "An age of forty or a little more would accord with the assumption of His birth during the reign of Herod.", and Rex's e-mail address is rchutchens@comcast.net. The error was mine, not his. Sorry Rex.



Handwritten signature of John L. Palmer.

John L. Palmer
Managing Editor



Letters to the Editor



I have spent 23 years on active duty with the U.S. Navy; retired in JUL 1969. I want to apologize for not having recognized the article on FADM Ernest J. King in your *Knight Templar* of January 2008. It was fantastic. And it is the type of article that I truly enjoyed. Much thanks to you and Dr. Ivan M. Tribe for his fine research. "He shaves with a blow torch"-wonderful!!

I received the August 2008 magazine. I enjoyed your introduction of the Editorial Review Board. Your personal touch really made me continue to read the several articles.

It may be that I want you-- "the new kid on the block"--to do well. To me, you have done good! Thanks for your concern.

Sam Tish



My wife and I, and one other couple traveled to Valley Forge for the dedication of the "Washington at prayer statue", by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. I, and other Sir Knights from Ascalon #59, marched with 140 Knights Templar carrying American flags to the site of the statue. There were 23,000 freemasons and their families present. It was an inspiring sight to behold. That evening 2000 of us were served a delicious dinner in the shelter of a huge circus tent. We toured Valley Forge on Sunday and returned home.

Sir knight Ronald P. Goebel

knight templar

I feel compelled to toss in my six cents. While my preference would be that an entire series of a feature presentation be presented in a single issue to preserve continuity for the reader, I know that doing so would possibly necessitate the exclusion of other facets of the magazine. Let me commend you on the January 2009 issue. What a refreshing change and a totally unexpected pleasure. WOW! All of the feature articles were actually together. I didn't have to flip back and forth through the pages to find the train of thought lost while trying to locate the remainder of the article. Absolutely wonderful arrangement. Fantastic. Keep up the good work as it was a far cry from the next previous issue which was terribly disjointed and disconcerting.

SK Robert Schlichter



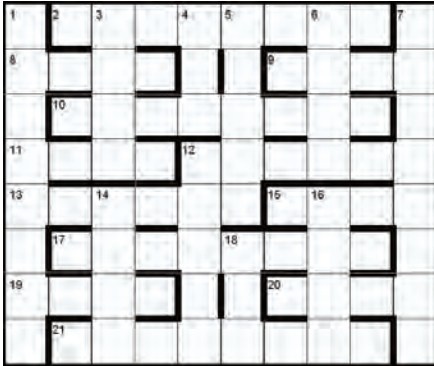
Sir Knight Brothers;
Your magazine layout for the February 2009 KT magazine with its non-contrasting print on reflective pages is indecipherable to my 81 year old eyes. And with the demographics of our membership, I'm sure that I am not alone. I would certainly appreciate a more legible bulletin.

Fraternally,
Art Seddon

Art, I received a number of complaints from senior Sir Knights but could not print them all. I am still learning how to use color effectively. Is this month any better?

CRYPTIC (Freemason) PUZZLE
by Loki

Solution in Next Month's Issue



DOWN

1. Policy of physician's trinity (8)
3. Saint in the can (4)
4. Cartoon clip to sell at auction (3)
5. He fit vandalized miscreant's description (5)
6. Eliminate mantra from information technology (4)
7. Spooner's lowly hand, Templar's home (4,4)
12. Groggy sea-rum is the antidote (5)
14. Laconic activity, opening laughs of lighthearted levity (4)
16. Edgar Allan to a T! (4)
18. He's changed into a girl! (3)

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_softly_small_spasm-subscribe@egroups.com>.

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.

ACROSS

2. Bond's car seat spews no ice jet (8)
8. Swinging door perfume (4)
9. Early Latin method for bullets (4)
10. DeMolay's foe was acidity measure I sass intravenously (6,2)
11. Shelter in an XT (4)
12. On guard duty for what seemed like 100 years without you (6)
13. Charity shown (without PR) to reformed pilferer (6)
15. A pretty stone, but alop, alop (4)
17. Protrusion from wall resulting from stew-pot's odor (8)
19. African river doesn't flow in a straight line (4)
20. Jurassic plant starts furnace roaring (4)
21. DeMolay's foe put mortar around fifty for victory (7,1)



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april 2009

Holy Days

By

Sir Knight Donald Craig Kerr

Easter and Passover are the stories of hope. Alexander Pope once said more than 200 years ago, "Hope springs eternal within the human heart." Without hope there is no reason to expect tomorrow to be any better than today. The resurrection of the Lord of life and the exodus to the Promised Land offer the supreme evidence for believing there is an evolution that pulls us forward.

A long time ago Dr. Endicott Peabody was headmaster of Groton School, and he would say to his students in chapel, reminding them of the strains and stresses with which they would be confronted, "But, remember, trend is always upward." Someone, listening to those words, later became President of the United States. So, when President Roosevelt addressed the nation after the fateful attack at Pearl Harbor, he said, "Remember, the trend is always upward." That is what these Holy Days mean.

To wake up out of our doleful, uncheery attitudes to feel the refreshing glow of hope and confidence is what

Easter and Passover are telling us. Too often we feel caught in a world of opposites - resentment versus forgiveness, jealousy versus love, charity versus selfishness, injustice versus kindness. We don't like these tensions. We need a rebirth of spirit to show us how yesterday's worries can become the opening vista of new beginnings.

Out of the cold and dark and bleak winter emerges something living, wonderful, and beautiful. That is the joy of springtime. It is our Easter hope and Passover promise. Arise, then, and salute the happy morn! May it bring a blessed Easter and memorable Passover to all.

The Reverend Sir Knight Donald C. Kerr, a member of Beauseant Commandery No. 8, Baltimore, MD, is Pastor-emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore. He resides at 700 John Ringling Boulevard, Apt. E202, Sarasota, FL 34236-1586

IN MEMORIAM



Darrell L. Tygart, Sr.
Colorado
Grand Commander 2000
Born: May 10, 1948
Died: November 4, 2008

George David Yale
California
Grand Commander 1981
Born: July 9, 1918
Died: January 31, 2009

P. Fred Lesley
Michigan
Grand Commander 1980
Born: July 10, 1926
Died: February 12, 2009

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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,

Over the last few months I have written quite a bit about the exciting progress of the research end of the Eye Foundation efforts. In the beginning of the campaign I touched upon surgery, and I thought it might be time to return to that subject.

No matter how hard the leaders of our order work, we will never reach the numbers of people that our loyal, but inactive, Sir Knights see as they perform their normal pursuits. You are the people who will discover those who need eye surgery but can't afford it. Every Sir Knight is eligible to sponsor a case, and unlike the paperwork you might imagine, it isn't even hard. Forms and information are available on the Eye Foundation web site, and if in doubt, a call to the Eye Foundation office will get you all the information you need. I have seen cases proceed from start to finish in a week or so. Where else do you expect such immediate results?

The forms? There is a form to determine financial eligibility. Another form allows the eye care providers to agree to our payment schedule. A third form is for permission of the applicant who needs help. It just doesn't sound that hard, does it?

The effort of our Sir Knights is the element that makes us different from an impersonal government office. And a last item, when you look in the mirror, you may see someone you know helped another person.

A recent letter received by the foundation said in part "Without your help my mother would be partially blind. Thanks again for all you help." It's a simple but clear statement that reminds us that it's not numbers on a page but rather a profound difference in people's lives. This is true whether we help one human at a time or fund the research that may preserve the sight of thousands.

And of course it all takes money, too. Over the last several months we have reviewed estates, corporate gifts, Grand Master and Grand Commander Clubs, extra payments with your dues, and life memberships. Others hold fundraisers or take up collections. Of course you could just send a check.

Every year we raise most of our money from the wide foundation of the entire membership. Everyone helps a little even if only the \$1 assessment with your dues. We all know however, that for real results we need more, and we all know that it's those who make a greater effort that allow us all to achieve a greater result.

knight templar

That others may see.

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| No. 5,415 James E. Moseley (GA) | No. 5,416 Charles L. Yeomans, III (SC) |
| No. 5,417 Gary R. Wallace (TN) | No. 5,418 Paul Edwin Crowell (IN) |
| No. 5,419 Garnett R. Bailey (VA) | No. 5,420 Norman Kohlmeyer (MN) |
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| No. 5,435 R. J. Boatman (TX) | No. 5,436 Eric A. Meace (SC) |
| No. 5,437 James A. Sharp (MS) | No. 5,438 Ronald Gayle Parker (KY) |
| No. 5,439 William R. Cobun (CA) | |

Grand Commander's Club

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| No. 102,847 Phillip J. Sherman (AL) | No. 102,848 Craig James Horton (NC) |
| No. 102,849 Gary R. Wallace (TX) | No. 102,850 Alfonse A. Leppok (MI) |
| No. 102,851 William D. French (PA) | No. 102,852 James B. Walsh (DE) |
| No. 102,853 Phillip Maybery (VA) | No. 102,854 Billy J. Boyer (MO) |
| No. 102,855 Homer Edwin Purchis, Jr. (MI) | No. 102,856 Herbert R. Miller (MD) |
| No. 102,857 Christopher E. Chapman (GA) | No. 102,858 Dan C. Rice (NC) |
| No. 102,859 Lewis Edward Shepherd (WY) | No. 102,860 James Sidney Jones, III (VA) |
| No. 102,861 Ray K. Sheaffer (PA) | No. 102,862 Donald J. Willard (VA) |
| No. 102,863 James Michael Watkins (TX) | No. 102,864 George R. Pickard, Jr. (TX) |
| No. 102,865 Raymond M. Vawter (KS) | No. 102,866 Roger A. Kessinger (ID) |
| No. 102,867 Thomas O. Eller (NC) | No. 102,868 Hubert W. Cocklin (AZ) |
| No. 102,869 Garnett R. Bailey (VA) | No. 102,870 Harry R. Brahmstadt (IL) |
| No. 102,871 Kenneth Dee Cotter (TX) | No. 102,872 Connie Mack Drum (SC) |

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 Commandery credit is 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.



Knight

Items for this section may be submitted by e-mail to ktmagazine@comcast.net.

■ **WANTED to BUY:** Daggers, swords and any other military items—U.S., German or others. American Flyer, Lionel or Marx trains or train sets (in any condition). Civil War articles, including, money, stamps (Confederate or Union), and pre-1924 US stamps, German or German (Axis) WW II stamps. Retired Sir Knight Tim Rickheim, 14761 *Tunncliffe Road, Petersburg, MI. 49270-9716/ email: vonRueckheim@hotmail.com or call collect (734)854-3021*— I will answer ALL inquires—THANK YOU !!

■ **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.*

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Voices

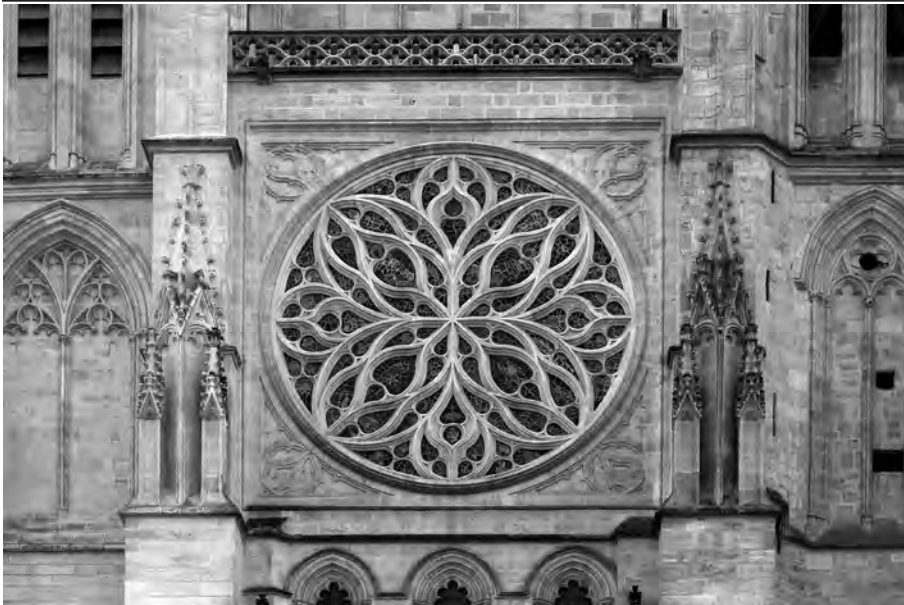
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Grand Representative—\$60.00; Past Grand Commander (purple) \$70.00. Grand Encampment and special orders \$85.00. We now offer special order Grand Commandery and Grand Encampment special order shoulder straps with the initials of the rank @\$15.00 per letter. An example: Past Grand Commander with P.G.C. embroidered in silver would add \$45.00 to the special order price. We have just received Treasurer and Recorder shoulder straps with crossed keys and quills on green velvet per the 1866 Uniform Regulations of Grand Encampment. Cha-peaux 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—\$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. We can now have initials embroidered in silver on a pair of straps @\$15.00 for each initial (for the pair). 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 first item and \$1.00 shipping for each additional item.* **ALL OF PROFIT TO KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION.** *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.*

General Supplement

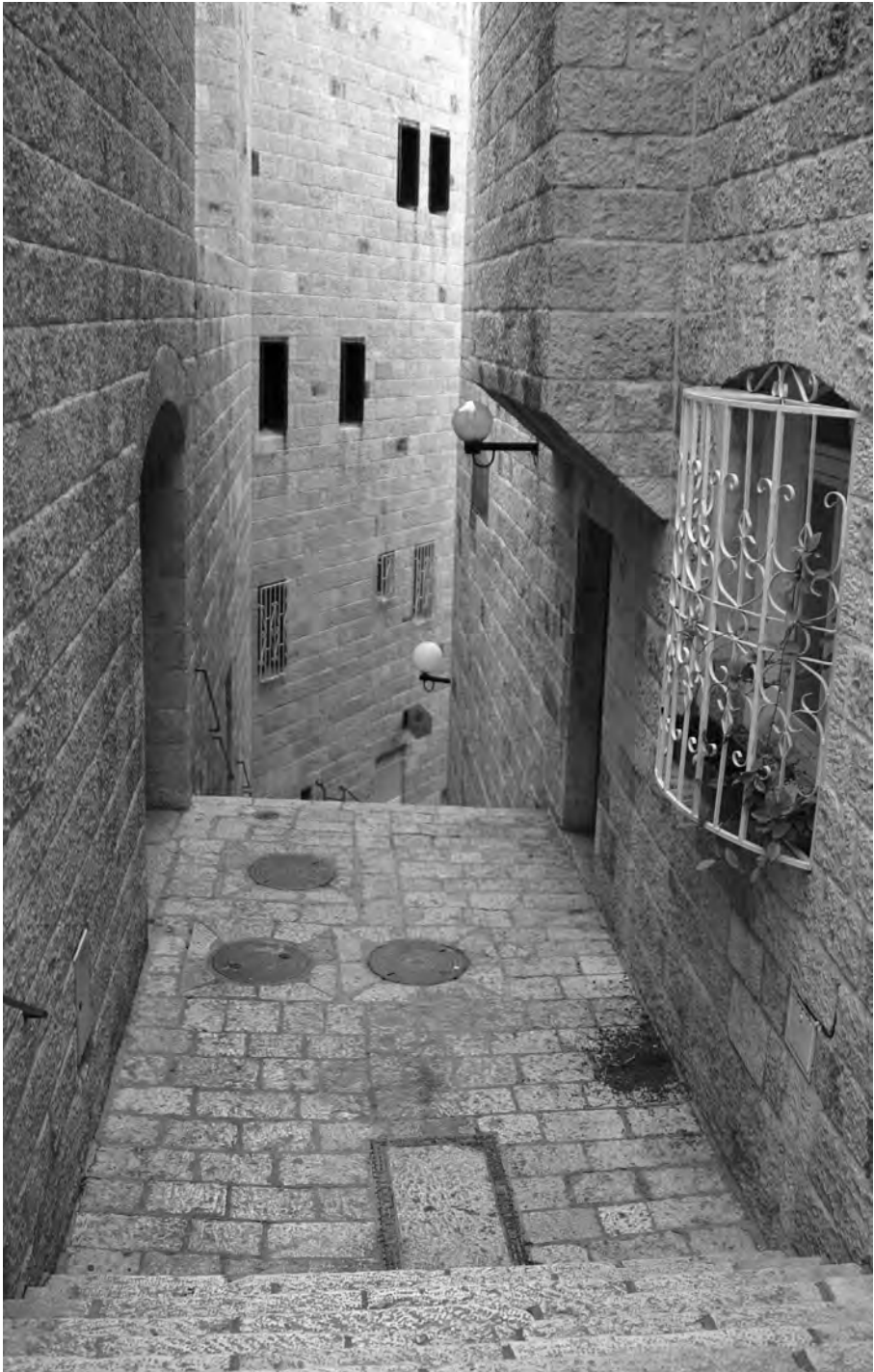
The space on these two pages is provided by the *Knight Templar* magazine to be used by the Grand Commanderies to communicate with the individual Sir Knights in their jurisdictions on a monthly basis. From time to time and for various reasons, we fail to receive any material from the editor of the state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



The photo above is of the rose window in Saint-Andre Cathedral, Bordeaux, Gironde, France and is copyrighted by Lagui. Many of these old churches and cathedrals have beautiful stained glass rose windows like this.



The photo to the right is of a section of the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, said to be the route that Jesus took between his condemnation by Pilate and his crucifixion and burial and is copyrighted by Pavel Bernshtam. Today, the main route of the Via Dolorosa is that of the early Byzantine pilgrims with 14 stations along the way and extends about 500 meters.



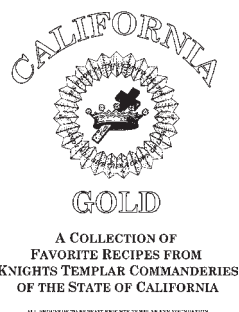
knight templar

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 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.



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, or Masonic Square and Compasses. 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 Compasses may be had on white or royal blue shirts. There are eleven other colors available by 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.**

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.



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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 its 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.



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KT/Blue Lodge



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Ark of the Covenant
Past High Priest



Order of the
Silver Trowel

Knightly

Hospitaller's Committee Awards Grant to Vista Maria: Funds to Provide Therapy to Disadvantaged Young Children

DETROIT-- (January 12) — The Hospitaller's Committee of Detroit Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, a local Masonic organization, has awarded a \$5000 grant to Vista Maria, a private not-for-profit child welfare agency and community resource for disadvantaged children and their families, to fund recreation and art therapy programs.

"The Hospitaller's Committee has a long history of supporting organizations that benefit children and those needing special assistance," said Gilbert A. Rice, Hospitaller's Committee President. "What Vista Maria does for the disadvantaged youth of Metro Detroit is outstanding, and we are proud to support their efforts. It is through the generous donations of our Masonic brothers that we are able to establish a private foundation for this kind of activity."

Vista Maria's Recreation Therapy Department is a goal-orientated program of developmental and therapeutic services designed to increase a child's functioning in self-care, physical and emotional health, socialization, communication, and recreation and leisure education. Recreational therapy services also offered by Vista Maria help children develop and improve physical, cognitive, emotional, and social abilities as they relate to functional independence.

The Hospitaller's Committee grant will fund art and recreational therapy activities such as torn paper collage, mask making/ self-portraits, group dance activities (often led and demonstrated peer to peer), and team sports/games respectively.

"With the generous support of the Hospitaller's Committee grant, more than 1,000 vulnerable children in care this year at Vista Maria can express through therapy what they are often unable to say in words through drawings and paintings. This form of expression helps them heal and ensures their complete recovery," says Vista Maria President and CEO Cameron Hosner.

Celebrating its 125th anniversary, Vista Maria's goal is to end the multi-generational patterns of abuse, neglect, and poverty that face thousands of disadvantaged children, young adults, and families in southeast Michigan. Additional information can be found at www.vistamaria.org.

The Hospitaller's Committee is based in the Detroit Masonic Temple. The group manages a private 501(c)(3) foundation that makes contributions to qualified organizations in support of charitable, educational, and religious activities throughout southeast Michigan.

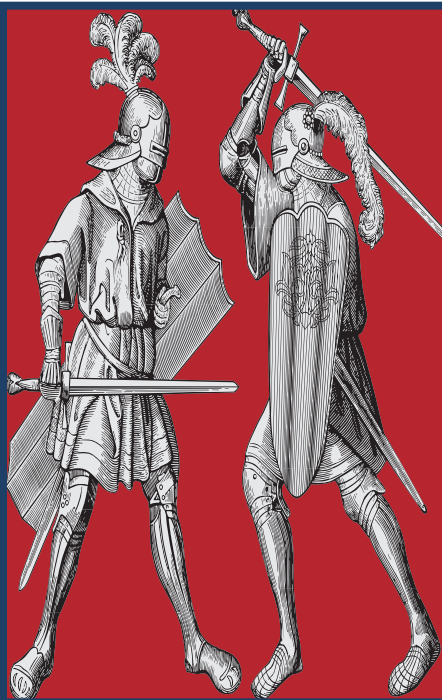
News

GRAND MASTER KNIGHTS FIFTY-SEVEN IN VIRGINIA

On Saturday, January 24, 2009, Sir Knight William H. Koon, II, MEGM, traveled to the Asylum of Richmond Commandery No. 2, stationed at Richmond, Virginia, to personally Knight fifty-seven new Knights Templar as part of a state-wide conferral sponsored by the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia. More than 130 Sir Knights and candidates witnessed this historic event, which included the conferral of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and Order of Malta by members of Appomattox Commandery No. 6 and under the direction of Sir Knight Joseph P. Westfall, KTCH. The Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Virginia, in the person of Sir Knight Jeffrey G. Burcham, KCT, conferred the Order of the Temple, with the assistance of Fratres representing 11 other Virginia Commanderies, and the Grand Master conducted the Knighting and personally greeted each new Knight Templar.

Simultaneous to the conferral in Richmond, eleven other Knights were created in the Asylum of Blacksburg Commandery No. 2, stationed at Christiansburg, VA, under the direction of SK Frederick S. Koziol, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer. The work was performed in exemplary fashion in both locations, and the Grand Commander has reported receiving numerous compliments from the new Fratres.

Virginia thanks the Grand Master for his support and participation, and looks forwarding to hosting him and all Sir Knights to Roanoke, Virginia during the upcoming Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment!



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The Templar's Surprise

A Continuing Analysis of the Mystery of the Trials of the Ancient Templars

by

Sir Knight John L. Palmer, KCT

Managing Editor

We have been printing articles by Stephen Dafoe about the origin and history of the ancient Templars, and we will continue to do so. I will only comment in this series about the events leading up to the trials of the Templars and during their incarceration.

As you know, the Templars were originally presumably founded to protect Christian pilgrims on their pilgrimages to the holy city of Jerusalem. Although the Islamic rulers of Jerusalem as well as the Christians had at that time, a policy that allowed these pilgrimages, the pilgrims were apparently often attacked by bands of robbers as they neared Jerusalem. As the region fell more securely under Christian control and as further crusades were launched, the Templars gradually shifted into the role of Christian warriors and crusaders.

This new role at first created a dilemma because of the conflict between the killing of one's enemies and the long established Christian teaching of passivism or turning the other cheek. Their friend, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, assisted them in this respect by formulating the "doctrine" that killing in defense of the Christian religion was not in conflict with the early Christian teaching and practice of what we now call "non-violence."

Subsequently, they took an active part in most of the crusades in the Holy Land or Outremer. The Hospitalers started out pro-

viding medical care and also evolved into crusaders, but retained a medical mission as well. In order to support their military efforts, the Templars developed a very large network of agricultural and banking businesses. They began to admit personnel with skills in business, agriculture, building, and manufacturing and made a good deal of money. Remember however, that all this was strictly in support of the central mission of conquering and holding the city of Jerusalem and surrounding areas.

In 1291, the crusaders were finally defeated and driven off of the continent. The last stand of the Templars was in Acre (not in Jerusalem as the recent TV special portrayed). Take a look at a map and tell me how you could watch Jerusalem burn from the deck of a ship in the Mediterranean Sea. Sorry – back to the story.

When Acre fell, they lost their last foothold in Palestine and also their Grand Master. The ones who survived took refuge on Cyprus and then elected a new Grand Master Thibaud Gaudin who died within a year and then another Grand Master in the person of Jacques DeMolay. Remember that DeMolay was an older knight from the warrior Templars, not from the banking or business side of the house.

With this catastrophic defeat, the Templars lost their entire reason for being. They had to sit and do nothing, find another war, merge with the Hospitalers, or find another

mission in life. Their boss, the Pope, had been making noises about merging them with the Hospitalers, and neither group much liked that idea, so when the Pope asked DeMolay to come to France to discuss another crusade, DeMolay jumped at the chance. It is speculated that he brought with him 18 galleys loaded with treasure, ready to help finance this new crusade. What do you suppose ever became of that?

King Phillip had been plotting against the Templars for some time before the surprise attack and arrest on Friday, October 13, 1307. He had planted covert spies among them as members who fed him “evidence” to be used in the public campaign against the order.

Last month, I mentioned that DeMolay had expelled the treasurer of the Paris Temple for providing an unauthorized loan to the King of France. The King tried to persuade DeMolay to reverse his decision and having failed, persuaded the Pope to order his reinstatement. This proved that DeMolay was not untouchable.

After the King ordered the raid, he started a public campaign to incite the general population to force the Pope to suppress the order. The “evidence” presented was almost all completely false. It was particularly scandalous and shocking but simply not true. He then used the inquisition to torture the Templars and to extort confessions from the captive knights. The Templars had been subject to the inquisition since the time of the crusade against the Cathars (See article on page 6 of the October issue).

The Pope, realizing that he was losing control of the situation demanded to personally interrogate DeMolay, but the King deliberately kept the Grand Master away from him. The Pope then sent his own lawyers to Notre Dame in Paris to conduct

an interrogation during which DeMolay retracted prior confessions which he insisted were given under torture. After receiving the report from his commission, the Pope ordered an immediate stop to all further action against the Templars and again demanded that the King turn DeMolay over to him at Poitiers.

Finally, Phillip sent a caravan containing seventy prisoners to the Pope. The prisoners were composed of the top Templar leaders in custody and a “select group of Templars and excommunicated fugitives.” No doubt, these were ex-Templars who had been expelled from the order and may even have included some of the spies the King had planted for that purpose. Curiously, when the caravan was only part way there, the wagons containing the top Templar leaders including DeMolay himself were diverted to Chinon and never arrived at the Pope’s location.

The Pope never personally questioned DeMolay, but found the order innocent of nearly all the charges and granted absolution for the others. The trials were concluded on August 20, 1308, but DeMolay was not released.

In another surprise move on March 18, 1314, the King seized DeMolay and had him burned at the stake for heresy, a judgment and sentence he was not empowered to make.

At the time of the trials, the order was only around two hundred years old; almost exactly the same age as our Grand Encampment. The Templars, after a two hundred year tradition of heroic warfare, prosperous business, exemplary honor and chivalry, and devoted service to their religion, had come to an ignominious end—or had they?

Next month, we will look at the infamous Pope Clement V. The Vatican documents tell a quite different story about him than I had heard before. Here is where the mystery really begins to unfold.

The Holiest Days in Christendom

The Triduum

By

Reverend Sir Knight Arthur F. Hebbeler, III, STS, Grand Prelate
of the Grand Commandery of Maryland

When one asks the random man or woman on the street, “What is the holiest day for Christians?”, the two days most frequently mentioned are Easter and Christmas. While these are indeed important, Easter being the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord and Christmas being the Feast of the Incarnation, our deeper tradition rests in other, much more significant days in the Christian year. Specifically, the Triduum, or “Great Three Days” of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter, combine to represent the holiest of days for Christians.

Most of us are very familiar with at least two of these three days. Maundy Thursday, the day on which our Savior gathered with his disciples for a final meal and at which he not only showed himself as servant of the servants through the washing of feet, but also instituted the Eucharist, or Lord’s Supper, as the “meal of the baptized” and foretaste of the feast to come. It is also the night on which he was betrayed by Judas Iscariot and handed over to Pilate for trial, conviction, and sentencing. Good Friday, of course, is the day on which our Lord was nailed to the Cross and died, once and for all times for the forgiveness of all our sins and the sins of the world, and then buried and descended into the place of the dead (or hell, if you will) to confront and defeat sin, death, and the devil so

that we might all be assured that death will have no power over us.

The Vigil of Easter is an event in the Church which served as the primary day in the early Church for baptisms and reception of new people into the Christian faith. As the name suggests, this was a night in which the church stood vigil—on watch—for the coming of the new day and the resurrection of our Lord. In the early days, the Vigil ran deep into the night, and the first Eucharist of the Easter season was celebrated early in the morning—often at sunrise.

For much of the 20th century, the Vigil of Easter was often overlooked, and the Easter Sunrise Service took its place. It wasn’t until the liturgical renewal movement in the 1970s that the Vigil began to be celebrated in churches. The Vigil is marked in different ways, but it is becoming increasingly popular. Truth be told, the time to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord is at the Vigil, rather than on Sunday morning, long after the tomb was found empty.

The Triduum, or Great Three Days, is really one very long “day” of worship. It begins with the Maundy Thursday (and no benediction), continues through the Good Friday liturgy (again, no benediction), and concludes with the Saturday evening/night Vigil, traditionally a two to three-hour service opened with the lighting of the New Fire (often a large

bonfire), Old Testament readings, psalms, prayers, canticles, baptism, and then the first Eucharist of Easter. In some churches, there is a breakfast or “brunch” to break the fast of the Triduum following the Vigil.

What does all this have to do with our common work as Templars? Quite a bit, actually.

In my travels, I have become distressed with the number of Good Friday observances being held, complete with fancy dinners. Good Friday is the most solemn day in Christendom and is historically marked by a fast and not a feast. This is a time when we should be gathered in prayer in our several churches reflecting on the sacrificial act of Jesus on the Cross and the gift of grace which God has bestowed upon us. If we as Templars would like to commemorate our Savior’s death on the Cross, perhaps we would be wiser to do so in the context of a “Holy Week Observance” earlier in Holy Week, inviting the public to join with us, perhaps in the context of a “stations of the cross” devotional? A well-designed asylum offers us a wonderful opportunity to provide Christian witness while quietly disproving the notion of Freemasonry being “anti-church” or “anti-Christian.”

Let me suggest, however, that a better place for Templars to gather during The Triduum is in their home church, or, should a group wish to attend together, the ideal time would be for the Vigil, participating in the service of anticipation. In some areas, where the Vigil might not be commonly celebrated, Templars might opt to gather at one church and offer assistance as readers and worship assistants for the Vigil (and many a pastor would appreciate the help, given that a “full Vigil” has eleven readings from

the Old Testament, and that’s BEFORE the baptism and Eucharist). There are a host of opportunities for us to mark these holy days without impinging on the proper role of our churches by conducting events of our own.

Do not misunderstand me. Events such as our Easter Sunrise Service in Washington, DC, and other similar gatherings across the Grand Encampment are right and proper, especially when we use the opportunity to open our worship to the community as an outreach and Christian witness.

But as for the Great Three Days, our place as Christian Knights is in the fellowship of our home congregations, and not at a Masonic gathering. In doing this, we also help to educate our non-Masonic friends that Freemasons, and Knights Templar especially, are not working against the church and her teachings, but support her with heart, mind, and soul.

Sir Knight Hebbeler can be contacted at
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What's in a Name?

By

Rex R. Hutchens

Past Grand Commander, Knights Templar of Arizona

Among the Hebrews and early Christians, names had a special significance. A name was not merely a means to identify—it was a path to identity. When Moses is directed by God to return to Egypt and free the Hebrew slaves, he asks what is to him the central question, “Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?” God answers directly, “And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM; and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.” No clearer statement of identity through a name could be found. Yet, even the translation of this famous name is not without controversy: other Bibles than the *King James Version* give other suggestions. The *Anchor Bible* gives “I-will-be.” Others have translated it, “I am Who I am.” The very variety begs the question of the truth. Nonetheless, that same variety demonstrates the struggle to discern the meaning of these four Hebrew letters because the name of God is *important*.

Our Lord was born in a place and time where the tradition of naming was still held in high esteem and he was given the relatively common name of *Yeshua*, which means ‘Yah [the Lord] saves’. Thus it was that Jesus never heard the name *Jesus*; this name is nothing but an English and Spanish misspelling of a Latin transliteration of a Greek translation of the Hebrew name. But it gets even more

interesting. The identical Hebrew name is translated in the title of the sixth book of the Bible as ‘Joshua’. One must wonder why we didn’t call Jesus ‘Joshua’ or even Joshua ‘Jesus’.

Actually, this isn’t as silly a suggestion as it seems. The KJV does it. In Acts 7:45 we see the following,

“Which also our fathers which came after brought in with Jesus into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David;....”

This is not the Jesus of New Testament fame; this is the Joshua of Old Testament fame. Evidently the KJV translators thought that the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews did the same, “For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day” (Heb. 4:8). Once again, *Jesus* is Joshua. In one case, the KJV translators actually confused the two:

“I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not” (Jude 5; underline added).

What is translated here as ‘the Lord’ is, in fact, the name *Yeshua*, which they misunderstood to refer to the Jesus of the New Testament; thus, they felt comfortable inserting the synonym ‘the Lord’. The passage should read:

“But I desire to remind you, though once for all you have come to know all things, that Joshua, who saved the people from the land of Egypt, the next time

destroyed those who did not believe.”

Some versions do not accept this and insist on the KJV rendition of the passage; the structural ambiguity of the passage grammatically prevents a definitive translation, so you are under no expectation to accept my choice. Certainly, the Lord (through Joshua) saved the people and later destroyed those who did not believe.

In some ancient manuscripts the Name *Yeshua* (Jesus) is found in connection with the famous Barabbas—the one released instead of Jesus. The rendering of the name as Yeshua bar-Abbas (Yeshua, son of the father; which, coincidentally or not, is the actual designation of Jesus) has engendered much discussion. There is more or less general scholarly agreement that *Yeshua* was deleted by later scribes, offended that the name of their Lord should be associated with a mere robber and revolutionary. As early as the time of origin (ca. AD 240) most manuscripts of Matthew contained the full name.

Right Eminent Sir Knight Rex Hutchens is the editor of *Heredom: The Transactions of the Scottish Rite Research Society* and author of *A Bridge to Light*, *A Glossary To Morals And Dogma*, and *Pillars Of Wisdom - The Writings Of Albert Pike*. He transcribed and annotated Albert Pike's *Lecture on Masonic Symbolism* and *A Second Lecture on Symbolism, The Omkara and Other Ineffable Words* and collaborated in the publishing of *The Book of the Words (Sephir H'Debarim)*. He can be contacted via e-mail at rchutchens@comcast.net

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Grand Encampment Membership Awards



712-713 Spyridon G. Treklas
Monumental Commandery No. 3
Cockeysville, MD 26-Jan-2009
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714 Mario J. Bolanos, Jr.
Trinity Commandery No. 17
Westfield, NJ 23-Feb-2009

715 Lawrence R. Jacobs
Trinity Commandery No. 17
Westfield, NJ 23-Feb-2009



What is a Defender of the Christian Faith?

By

Sir Knight Jay T. King

I vowed to hold myself a “Defender of the Christian Faith” and since that solemn promise, I have heard blasphemous statements from other “Sir Knights” leading me to ask the question: What is a Defender of the Christian Faith? I chose to use the only resource that truly matters: the Holy Bible, the rule and guide of my faith. As I searched the divine scriptures for answers I found “light” as to what my sacred promise actually means. Jesus tells Peter in Matthew 16:18 “... upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”. The “church” that Jesus speaks of is not a building but individuals who profess the gospel of Jesus; that He was god and man, and that He died on a cross, rose from the dead, and is the only mediator between God and man. The use of “gates” is interesting as gates keep danger out and the illustration is that the church is ATTACKING Hell! To be a “Defender of the Christian Faith”, the Knight is to be proactive in the name of Christ and on the offensive against the gates of hell.

The question now becomes, “How do I defend the Christian Faith?” The Merriam-Webster online dictionary defines “Defend: 1 a: to drive danger or attack away from b (1): to maintain or support in the face of argument or hostile criticism 2c: to attempt to prevent an opponent from scoring at.”

Scripture teaches us that the Holy Trinity is comprised of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and mortal man is com-

prised of the mind, body and spirit. To defend our Christian faith, we must do so on three fronts: the mind (God); the body (Jesus); the moral spirit (Holy Spirit).

Can men “defend” God, or does He want us to? First, we do not defend the Christian faith by embracing non-Biblical ideas; we “defend” every word in the scripture with passion and conviction. Titus 3:9 warns us “*But avoid foolish questions...for they are unprofitable and vain*”. “*Maintain or support in the face of argument or hostile criticism*”. (i.e. evolution vs. creation). Jesus told the disciples in the gospel of Luke “*take no thought as to what their answers would be when they were questioned, but that the Holy Spirit would tell them what to say*.” Paul tells us in Colossians 4, to “*Let your speech be always with grace... that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man*.” And in 1 Peter 3:15 “*...be ready always to give an answer...of the hope that is in you*.” God wants us to answer and defend our beliefs, to a world that rejected him. Jesus commands us in Mark 16 to “*go into the entire world preaching the gospel*”. We must argue the gospel verbally with those who teach doctrine that is contrary to the word of God. Paul’s letters demanded that the church reject the teachings of the Gnostics and follow truth. In Matthew 10:32 Jesus promises that “*He who confesses me before man, him will I confess before the Father*”. The Risen Savior will speak my name before the throne of God, and all I have to do is defend him publicly.

The next dictionary definition of defend relates to the body. To defend Jesus is a physical action "*1 a: to drive danger or attack away from.*" Christian men have become non-confrontational when dealing with attacks on their faith; far from James and John who were known as the "Sons of Thunder". From John the Baptist to the Reverend King Jr., outspoken Christian men have been persecuted for Christ...and have changed the world.

Modern Christian men seldom go to church or pray before meals, and avoid drawing attention to themselves. Today's Christian wouldn't dare go to a city council meeting and proclaim "No more!", let alone handcuff themselves to the door in protest. After all, a night in jail may cost us our jobs. What a generation of wimps! Men proclaiming to be defenders of the faith should show more courage. In Luke 22:36 Jesus ordered the disciples to arm themselves: "*...and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one.*" The Son of God who walked among the disciples ordered them to sell their most valuable possessions for swords.

Stephan was stoned for teaching Christ; Paul and James were imprisoned and killed. Early Defenders of the Faith were not passive men, and when we look at how Peter, at night, far outnumbered, drew his sword and cut the ear off the servant, this was a seasoned street fighter with very dangerous skills on the offensive to defend Christ! Matthew 21:12, Mark 11:17 and Luke 19:46 tell that "*Jesus turned over tables...of the money changers...cast them out...and them that bought.*" So Jesus walks in, knocks over tables, gives a thrashing, and throws them into the street while calling them names. Jesus did this to de-

defend the temple (body).

My fellow Knights, Christianity is not passive, and I would dare say that if we are not being abused for our faith, we are doing something wrong. If we are to call ourselves "Defenders of the Christian Faith" then there must be a physical consequence.

Lastly, the Bible teaches that we are to defend Christianity Spiritually. Ephesians warns us that "*we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against rulers, principalities and powers in high places.*" To defend the faith we must battle on the spiritual level with prayer. Our definition describes "*Defend, c: to attempt to prevent an opponent from scoring at.*" Prayer is God's way of stopping evil in our lives.

The Bible tells us how, when, and where to pray. In Matthew Jesus says "*if we ask anything in prayer, believing, we will receive*". Because we fight a spiritual battle, we are instructed to "*pray without ceasing*" in 1 Thessalonians. The original Knights of the Temple plunged their swords through the hearts of Saracen invaders, and through a strict prayer life, also struck a spiritual sword through Lucifer's advancements by calling on the Grand Architect of the Universe. Divine intervention and prayer are synonymous. How can we defend the Faith when our prayer life consists of a poem before dinner? The Bible promises when two or more are gathered in His name, he will be with us. Two men... in agreement, can call down the power of the Living God!

God has given us spiritual armor to use and Ephesians 6 lists how we can be victorious in the spiritual battle. We must "*Pray at all times in the spirit*" and "*with all prayer and supplication* (Hum-

ble request)”; to be “*alert with perseverance*”; “*Make supplication for all saints; and pray that the mouth will boldly proclaim the mystery of the gospel*”.

Through scripture I have outlined my point, that the Holy Bible directs we who call ourselves Defenders of the Faith, to be in a proactive and offensive role. To do this, we must do so with our mind, our body and our spirit. To be defenders of the Christian faith we must adhere to these virtues and not only be willing to take up our cross daily, but to be the first to do so, and to lead others in the example how. Have I boldly argued Gods Word? (the mind). Have I been an ambassador in chains for Christ sake? (the body; not metaphorical). Have I prayed in the spirit for all things? (the spirit).

If so, then you will have fulfilled your vow and the commission of 1 Thessalonians 2:4 “*But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God.*” With this daily sacrifice, you may then call yourselves, “Defenders of the Christian Faith”.

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Subscriptions to the *Knight Templar* magazine are available from the Grand Encampment office at a rate of \$15.00 per year. Individual issues in quantities of less than 10 can be obtained for \$1.50 each from the office of the managing editor if available. Inquire via e-mail to the managing editor for quantities in excess of 10. Some past issues are archived on our web site. <http://www.knightstemplar.org>.

Solution to Cryptic Puzzle on Page 9 of March Issue

1	B	2	B	3	I	4	C	O	5	U	N	C	6	I	L
7	A	L	C	H	E	M	8	I	S	T	9	S			
	P	U	K	A	10	O	B	L	11	A	S	T			
12	T	R	I	P	13	S	R	E	S	14	A	R			
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16	S	17	P	R	E	A	D	T	I	P	E				
	T	18	S	I	R	K	N	I	G	H	T				
19	C	I	P	H	E	R	S	N	A	S					

ACROSS

4. COUNCIL homophone
7. A+L(atin)+CHEMIST
10. O+BLAST
12. T+RIPS
15. A+ISLE
16. SP(elling)+READ
18. SIR KNIGHT anagram
19. CIPHERS dbl.def.

DOWN

1. BAPTIST dbl.def.
2. BLURB = RUBBL(e) anagram
3. IC+K+1+(be)ER
4. CHAPTER dbl.def.
5. UM+BRA
6. (b)ITS (Its don't have certain "bits")
8. IT+IS>LEI
9. ST+RE+E.T.S
11. AS+SIGN
13. SHAKE dbl.def.
14. ALP+HA
17. P.S.+I

Beauceant News



Members of Fredericksburg Assembly #266 along with the Knights Templar participated in the Religious Freedom Day observance commemorating the 232nd anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's writing of the *Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom* which 12 years later became part of the *Constitution* in the *Bill of Rights*, guaranteeing religious freedom. Pictured left to right are Mrs. Walter (Betty) Smith, Mrs. Richard (Leslie) Dey, Mrs. Joseph L. (Barbara) Bongiovi, President, Mrs. Daniel (Di) Thompson, Mrs. William (Delores) Reinhold, and Mrs. C. Jarrett (Mary) Frame.



The newly installed Worthy President, Mrs. Edwin R. (Sharon) Carpenter, Jr. and officers of Fredericksburg Assembly #266 S.O.O.B, Fredericksburg, VA on January 31, 2009. Others also in picture include the Installing Team, plus Sir Knight Jeffrey G. Burcham, Right Eminent Grand Commander of VA (on right), Sir Knight Leslie J. Loomis, Right Eminent Grand Commander of PA, members of Fredericksburg Assembly #266, and visiting Assemblies.



Knights



at the Bookshelf

By
Sir Knight Stephen Dafoe

A review of Michael Spradlin's *The Youngest Templar - Keeper of the Grail*
Paperback: 272 pages
Publisher: Putnam Juvenile
ISBN-13: 978-0399247637

Keeper of the Grail is the first book in a new series of young adult novels by Michael P. Spradlin. If the first book is any indication of what's to come in the rest of the series, readers are in for a treat over the next few years.

It is not uncommon for me to find books that read like they were written by a child. However, it is not often that I get sent a book actually intended for children. But don't let the target audience stop you. This book is better written than most Templar fiction and more historically accurate than most Templar nonfiction—at least the stuff written in the last decade.

The central character in the novel is a young man named Tristan, an orphan living with a group of monks. After being visited by a regiment of Templar knights, Tristan is offered an opportunity to serve one of the knights as a squire.

Spradlin sets his story in 1191 AD, at the dawning of the Third Crusade.

Saladin has recently captured the Holy Land and King Richard the Lionheart is about to set sail to take it back. The adventure truly begins

when Tristan leaves the only home he has ever known to embark on the biggest adventure of his life.

I cannot recommend this book highly enough. In fact the only problem I had with the book was the publisher's decision to refer to Saladin as The Saladin. Apparently this was so that young readers would not confuse Saladin the name with Saracen the term. But this is a small bone of contention that does not take away from the book.

Not only is *The Youngest Templar* a fast-paced and enjoyable read, it is one of those rare books today that hearkens back to a time when books for boys were about masculine things, and unapologetically so.

Whether you have a young adult on your book buying list, or just want an enjoyable read for yourself, this is the start of a promising new series.

Sir Knight Stephen Dafoe is a freelance writer, author, and publisher who lives in Alberta, Canada. 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 founder of TemplarHistory.com. author@stephendafoe.com

Notice the men in the letters on this giant sign erected for the 31st Triennial Conclave held in Chicago in 1910. A photo of this same sign without the men can be found on page 244 in the *History of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America*. This photo was sent in by Sir Knight Chris Hodapp.

The 12 inch hat-pin below was apparently a lady's souvenir of the Indiana delegation to this triennial. This one is in the collection of Glenda Palmer.

Grand Encampment Triennials of the Past.

This sign was 130 feet high and contained over 5,000 colored lights. The grandstand alone accommodated over 50,000 people. There were over 40 bands in the parade.



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An ancient olive tree
in Gethsemane Garden
on the Mount of Ol-
ives; perhaps as old as
2000 years.

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