

# Knight Templar

VOLUME LV

NOVEMBER 2009

NUMBER 11



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# Knight Templar

VOLUME LV NOVEMBER 2009 NUMBER 11  
 Published monthly as an official publication of the  
 Grand Encampment of Knights Templar  
 of the United States of America.

## Contents

**Grand Master's Message:**  
**Grand Master William H. Koon, II** .....4

*Introducing Vince Cowie*  
*Department Commander*.....7

*Holy Land Pilgrimage*.....8

*The Battle of Arsuf*  
**Sir Knight Stephen Dafoe**.....9

*Duane Lee Vaught*  
*Elected Grand Captain General* .....13

*Eye Foundation Voluntary Campaign Begins*  
**Sir Knight Jeffrey N. Nelson** .....15

*Scenes from the Triennial Conclave*.....22

*The Final Analysis of the Mystery*  
*of the Trials of the Ancient Templars*  
**Sir Knight John L. Palmer** .....29

*A Thanksgiving Message*  
**Sir Knight Donald Craig Kerr** .....34

## Features

A Chat With The Managing Editor .....5

Prelate's Chapel  
 Grand Prelate .....6

Letters to the Editor.....12

Crossword Puzzle Solution from last Month .....16

Knight Voices .....17

Grand Commandery Supplement.....18

Crossword Puzzle.....21

Recipient of the Membership Jewel .....31

Beauceant News.....33

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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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# Grand Master's

## Message

Growing up on a farm in northwest Ohio gives one a very special appreciation of Thanksgiving. By then the crop is in, and the efforts of the entire year have been realized either good or bad. It is a time when you either give thanks for a bountiful harvest or give thanks that you have your health and family to put all of your energy into another year.

As we come to this season, it occurs to me as Grand Master that I have much for which to be thankful. During this year we have had a very successful Triennial Conclave in Roanoke, Virginia. The hospitality of our Virginia Templars was exemplary, and an enjoyable time was had by all who attended.

The changes to the magazine you hold in your hand have been nothing short of revolutionary. It has become the premier Masonic publication. As Grand Master, I'm fortunate to have such talented people working on our behalf.

By the end of the year, YRIS (York Rite Information System), our new data processing system, will be fully operational. Again, we are fortunate to have such gifted people working on a project that will totally change the way our Recorders keep our records.

Through the hard work of our fellow Knights Templar in Romania, Togo, and elsewhere around the world, the Order we love is expanding. The thrill of realizing the dream of a Grand Commandery was something one had to be present to witness as we installed the officers of the Grand Commandery of Romania. Thank God I had the opportunity to see it in their eyes and to be a part of the ceremony last August in Roanoke. Togo will be next, and it has been a special privilege to watch these good men promote and expand the Order.

I am very thankful to be surrounded by outstanding officers, outstanding Department Commanders and committeemen, and outstanding Templar leaders in every Grand Commandery. We as a fraternity have the best people as members that any Grand Master could hope for. Thank you for being you!

Finally, I give thanks for a loving family without whom my life would be empty. I give thanks for them during Thanksgiving as I hope you will give thanks for yours at this special time of the year.

Happy Thanksgiving!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William H. Koon, II". The signature is written in a cursive style.

William H. Koon, II, GCT  
Grand Master



# A Chat With The Managing Editor

We have gotten very favorable comments from many of you about the series on the trials of the ancient Templars. This issue wraps up the year-long series. Because of your positive response, next month we will begin a series on the origins of the third degree and the Grand Lodge system of government written by Dr. David Harrison. We are experimenting to see if we can find just the right mix of articles about the history, symbolism, and philosophy of Templary, Freemasonry, and Christianity. We will only know how we are doing if you continue to provide us feedback. We are not only interested in you submitting articles about these subjects, but would also welcome your comments on what subjects you would like to see.

Marvin over at the Eye Foundation sent me a very nice letter from one of our eye surgery patients. It's not really a letter to the editor, but I thought you would want to see it so you will find it there.

This month we will begin introducing to you our newly appointed Department Commanders, probably including only one per month as space allows. I trust that you will support them and our Grand Officers as they lead us into the twenty-first century. At least you will know who they are and what they look like.

*John*

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# Prelate's Chapel

by  
Robert Cave  
Right Eminent Grand Prelate  
of the  
Grand Encampment

I have pointed out previously that the vow we take in the Order of the Temple states that "I will wield my sword in the defense of ...the Christian religion." This vow has recently led to much discussion both pro and con among members of the Order. For instance, there was a proposal at the last Triennial held in Roanoke, Virginia to amend the Constitution, Statutes and Ritual of the Grand Encampment by adding that "The preeminent mission of this fraternal organization shall be 'the support and defense of the Christian religion'" This certainly would be in tune with our vow, but for various legitimate reasons, the proposal was withdrawn before it could be presented.

Another Sir Knight wrote to me via email pointing out that our faith today is different (more personal) than in the old days where faith was expressed in a particular mission of the Church such as "wresting the Holy City from the Saracens." He then adds "I worry about our vow 'to raise our sword in defense of the Christian religion.' Does God want us to march on Jerusalem again? If not, how do we interpret this promise?"

I agree with the Sir Knight that the days of the Crusades are over, and we would not want to return to them any more than we would want to return to the days of the Inquisition where the perpetrators of that evil probably thought they were defending the Christian faith.

I believe, however, that we can defend the Christian religion and even encase it in militaristic terms. St. Paul states in his epistle to the Ephesians (clergy, please do not write to me that Paul probably did not write Ephesians) "Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit..."

If our faith is more personal today than in the time of the crusades, then Paul gives advice as to how we may wield our sword in defense of the Christian religion. In our actions and our relations with others, if we live and act as disciples of Christ then we are defending the faith as boldly today as any Sir Knights have done in the past. We must, in effect, walk the walk and talk the talk. In this we will wield our sword in defense of the Christian religion and remain faithful to our vow.

I invite your thoughts on this, and if you should want to write an article for the Prelate's Chapel, send it to me, and it will be considered. Please send to Rev. Robert J. Cave at [Jobrjcave@aol.com](mailto:Jobrjcave@aol.com) or mail to 137 Glen Drive, Ridge, New York 11961.

# Meet Our New Department Commanders

## SIR KNIGHT VINCENT ALAN COWIE

### RIGHT EMINENT NORTHEAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER 2009 – 2011

Vince was born in 1953 in Middletown, Connecticut to Alan Cowie and Lorraine Eger. He attended public schools in Middletown and received a GED. He was married to Lori A. Emerson and has one daughter, Jamie M. Cowie, residing in Meriden, Connecticut and two brothers, Ivan and Guy Cowie. Sir Knight Cowie is a member of Holy Trinity Church in Middletown. He served three years in the U.S. army. While stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, with the 17<sup>th</sup> Engineers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division, he attained the rank of specialist E-4 and was honorably discharged in 1974. He then worked in the automotive business for many years becoming a tool and die setter and was employed by North & Judd manufacturing for fourteen years. He is currently employed by ABS Pumps Inc., Meriden, Connecticut as a service and warranty advisor.

Brother Cowie was raised a Master Mason in St. John's lodge No. 2 in 1978, served as Worshipful Master twice, received the Masters Award for

Achievement from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Connecticut, was awarded the Masters Award from his own lodge, and is currently a member of the 7<sup>th</sup> District Past Masters Association. He was exalted in Washington Chapter No. 6 Middletown (now Burning Bush – Washington Chapter No. 6, Deep River, Connecticut), served as Excellent High Priest In 1984 and as Secretary for a number of years, and was instrumental in the merger of Washington and Burning Bush Chapters. Vince was received and greeted in 1979 in Columbia Council No. 9, served as Thrice Illustrious Master for four years, and is a member of the Council of Anointed Kings.

Brother Cowie is a member of Puritan Chapter No. 43 Order of the Eastern Star and is currently a member of Lady Washington Chapter No. 45. He is a member of the valley of New Haven and Lafayette Consistory SPRS, Knight Crusaders of the Cross, and Connecticut York Rite College No. 17. In the Knights of the York Cross of Honor, he belongs to Connecticut priory No. 28, received The Knight York Grand Cross, and served as Eminent Prior in 2007. He was ordained a Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest in 1995 in Apostles Tabernacle No. XXVII, served as Very Eminent Preceptor in 2008, and is currently serving as Registrar/Treasurer. He is a member of St. Andrews Conclave Red Cross of Constantine in Hartford, Connecticut.

In the Commandery, Sir Knight Cowie was knighted in Cyrene Commandery No. 8 in 1979, served as Eminent Commander in 1985, as Treasurer for two years, and currently serves as Recorder. He served as Grand Recorder in 1990 and as Right Eminent Grand Commander in 2001. He was elected Grand Recorder of Connecticut in 2002 and is currently serving in that capacity. In 2003 he received the Knight Commander of the Temple award and was appointed deputy for Connecticut College of Honors, by Sir Knight Kenneth B. Fisher. He has served on the Grand Encampment Committees on Public Relations and Membership. Sir Knight Vince was installed as Right Eminent Northeast Department Commander at the 64<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conclave, Roanoke, Virginia on August 19, 2009.

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of the United States of America  
THE COMMITTEE ON HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

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## The 28<sup>th</sup> Holy Land Pilgrimage

Plans as of August 15, 2009

From Sir Knight Emmett W. Mills

Committee on the Holy Land Pilgrimage

**Our Mission:** To send to the Holy Land ordained Christian ministers on a Biblical study and historical and cultural immersion experience who would not have the opportunity to do so otherwise.

**Our Goal:** To send 90 ordained ministers on the 28<sup>th</sup> Holy Land Pilgrimage in February and March of 2010.

As of this writing, permission has been received from our Grand Master, Sir Knight William Howard Koon, II, to make plans for the 28<sup>th</sup> Holy Land Pilgrimage.

The dates for the two pilgrimages will be February 8-18, 2010 and February 22 – March 4, 2010

Information on the two pilgrimages has been sent to the Grand Recorder and Chairman of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee in each jurisdiction.

If you have any questions regarding this wonderful Christian program, please contact Sir Knight Emmett W. Mills, Jr., PGC at 3106 Ferncliff Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48073.



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<http://www.knightstemplar.org>.

november 2009



# The Battle of Arsuf

By  
Sir Knight Stephen Dafoe

The following article, part two in a series on Templar battles, is adopted from Stephen Dafoe's book *Nobly Born: An Illustrated History of the Knights Templar*, published by Lewis Masonic.

Within a week of the Muslim victory at Hattin on July 4, 1187, the port city of Acre had surrendered to Saladin's army. Within a month Toron, Sidon, Gibelet, and Beirut had also capitulated as the famed warrior made his way down the Palestinian coast before marching on Jerusalem, which surrendered on October 2.

Although it had taken the Muslim army a short time to capture Acre, it would take the Christian armies nearly two years to take it back – from August 28, 1189 until July 12, 1191. The victory was finally earned for Christendom by King Richard I (The Lionheart) who had taken control of the campaign a month earlier after arriving from the west.

Both Saladin and Richard were strong willed military men, a point of stubbornness that led to Richard's execution of 2,700 Muslim prisoners over a ransom dispute.

But the story of the capture of Acre by Richard I is a story for another installment of this series. What we will be dealing with in this edition is the lesser-known Battle of Arsuf, a conflict that both the Templars and the Hospitallers were involved in alongside the English king.

Two days after the massacre at Acre, Richard set off with his army for Jaffa. His goal was Jerusalem, but it would first be necessary to capture the port city as a base of operations. As the army knight templar

marched down the coast, they stayed close to the shoreline to benefit from the cool breeze and the support of the ships that followed the march down the coastline. The army was divided into three columns. The first was comprised of knights and kept to the shore while the remaining two columns, made up of infantrymen, took the landside position. In the vanguard were the Templars whom King Richard relied on throughout his crusade. In fact, it had been through his influence that Robert de Sablé, an Angevin who had travelled east with the king, had been elected to succeed de Ridefort as Master of the Order despite the fact that de Sablé was not a Templar when he left England.

As the crusader army marched down the coast, their movement was shadowed by Saladin's light mounted archers who launched a series of attacks on the Christians, riding in close enough to shoot and then retreating again as quickly as they had come. Despite the torments of Saladin's arrows, the army managed to maintain their discipline, and the crusader infantry, armed with crossbows, took out a number of the Muslim archers.

Although the knights and their heavy charge often receive the bulk of attention in discussions of medieval conflicts, the discipline of the infantry is every

bit as worthy of mention. For while the knights were cooled by the sea breeze and protected by two lines of human targets, the infantrymen in those lines sacrificed their lives to protect their nobly born counterparts and their horses. The medieval war horse was the tank of its day and the loss of even one horse was a great cost to an army. It is for this reason that the Templar Rule went to such lengths to ensure that no harm would come to them.

After two weeks of marching, Richard's army had covered less than half the distance to Jaffa, and on September they passed through a wooded area about 10 miles north of Ar-

suf. Although they had been tormented throughout the march, the Muslims had inflicted little real damage. That would all change the next morning.

On September 7, as the crusaders began their march towards Arsuf, Saladin began his march towards victory. Throughout the morning, the Muslims assaulted the Christians using the tactics they had employed throughout the march. However, just before noon they began a full fledged assault. The crusaders continued

to resist their attacks, once again thanks to the discipline of the common foot soldiers. Between the Muslims and the knights were two rows of infantrymen. The front line knelt with spear and shield, while the crossbowmen returned the attack. When the crossbowmen rearmed, the spearmen stood with their shields to

provide their counterparts with cover.

Meanwhile the knights were aligned in battle formation behind the front line. The Templars were at the southern end of the line forming the right flank along with the Bretons, Angevins, and King Guy of Lusignan and his party. King Richard and his English and Normans



troops made up the center, assisted by Flemish and French troops. In the rear-guard were the Hospitallers. In total the crusader army was made up of approximately twelve hundred knights and ten thousand infantrymen, while the Muslims numbered twenty thousand men equally split between cavalry and infantry.

As the day progressed it became increasingly difficult for the infantrymen to maintain a line. The Muslim attacks came closer and closer, ultimately close enough

to replace their bows and arrows with lances and swords. Soon the Christian infantry were falling in increasing numbers.

Hoping to draw the crusaders into an early charge, Saladin's troops focused their attacks on the Hospitallers' division. The attacks began to take their toll on the Hospitallers, and on several occasions Garnier of Nablus, the Master of the Order, approached King Richard begging him to give the signal to charge, but Richard continued to urge patience. Finally the Muslim assaults proved too much, and the Marshal of the Order and one of his knights broke rank and began the charge. Although the signal had not been given, all the Hospitallers assumed it had and charged after their comrades. Within seconds horses were spurred down the Christian line as knight after knight joined the heavy cavalry charge.

Richard, seeing that there was no choice but to join the battle lest those who were already in it be slaughtered, ordered the Templars, as well as the Bretons and Angevins in their line to attack Saladin's left flank. Finally the Templars were able to release the frustration that the Hospitallers had been unable to contain, and their charge drove the Saracens from the field, stunned by the Hospitallers' impetuosity and mopped up by the Templars' discipline. Although the losses had been relatively light on both sides of the field of battle, the Muslims had been repelled, and following so close on the capture of Acre, the battle must have been a morale-boosting victory for the Christians in general and the Templars in particular. It had been the first open battle since the Battle of Hattin four years earlier, and the Templars would not have forgotten the role their Order played there.

knight templar

In October of 1191, King Richard wrote to the Cistercian abbot of Clairvaux informing him of the success of his crusade:

"With God's guidance we reached Jaffa on 29 September, 1191 and fortified the city with ditches and a wall with the intention of protecting the interests of Christianity to the best of our ability. After his defeat [at Arsuf] Saladin has not dared to face the Christians, but like a lion in his den has been secretly lying in hiding and plotting to kill the friends of the Cross like sheep for slaughter.

So when he heard that we were swiftly heading for Ascalon, he overthrew it and levelled it to the ground. Likewise he had laid waste and trampled on the land of Syria."

Soon after writing to the abbot, Richard entered into negotiations with both the Templars and Saladin; with the former it was over the purchase of Cyprus, while with the latter it was over the surrender of Jerusalem. But those are stories for another time.

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 co-authored *The Warriors and the Bankers* and *The Knights Templar Revealed*. He is the founder of [TemplarHistory.com](http://TemplarHistory.com).  
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## Letters to the Editor



Hello,

Page 5 VOL. LV Number 6 "...the Bedford boys 19 brave men...gave the last full measure at Omaha Beach on June 14, 1944." The correct date is June 6, 1944.

Sincerely David E. Coy  
Holy Grail No. 70 in Lakewood Ohio



To whom it may concern:

In the *Knight Templar* magazine, Volume LV, June 2009, Number 6, page 4, paragraph 3, Sir Knight C. Michael Watson the Grand Master of The Order of DeMolay refers to United States Marine Corps in part as follows: "...and the fact that they are the smallest in number of any branch of our armed forces."

I would like to state that the Marine Corps is not the smallest branch of our armed forces. There are five branches of our armed forces of which the smallest by far is the United States Coast Guard.

One Google search for "us armed forces" provides a link to Wikipedia: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_armed\\_forces](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_armed_forces)

The above link supports my argument.

Respectfully;

SK Leon D Geoghegan

*Leon,*

*The same source also reveals that "The Surgeon General is a commissioned officer in the Public Health Ser-*  
12

*vice Commissioned Corps, one of the seven uniformed services of the United States, and by law holds the rank of vice admiral." I wonder if this is the smallest? What do you suppose the other two uniformed services are?*

*The Ed.*



August 5, 2009 (Received by the Eye Foundation office)

Dear Knights Templar,

I apologize for this being so late. It's been so long you might not even remember. Ha! My printer is broken so I am handwriting this. I had one eye done in December of last year and the other one in February of 2009. I had cataract surgery and a new lens implant.

I can never explain what a new life I have. I could not drive before the surgery. I guess unless you have had this experience, I really can't explain. It is like night and day. I thank God for the Knights Templar.

I have vision implants (so that) one eye sees close and the other (sees) distance. I need NO glasses.

Thank you, for getting this thing in motion and the Knights Templar for paying for it and giving me the gift of sight. I could never thank you all enough! You all were a God send. I tell people all the time about your wonderful organization! God bless the Knights Templar for the wonderful work you do!

God bless all of those people involved in this wonderful organization.

With all the gratefulness in my heart, thank you.  
november 2009

# Duane Lee Vaught of Indiana Elected Grand Captain General



Sir Knight Duane Lee Vaught, Past Grand Commander of Indiana (2001–2002) and serving as Grand Captain General, was elected to remain in the office of Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment at the 64<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conclave, August 2009, in Roanoke Virginia.

Duane L. Vaught was born February 17, 1956 in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He graduated from North Montgomery High School and from Indiana University, the latter with a Bachelors of Science degree in accounting. He was baptized and confirmed as a member of the Methodist Church. In December 2000 he married Georgia Jean Nagai Goode.

Duane Vaught began his professional career with a national accounting firm, during which time he was licensed as a Certified Public Accountant. Since 1995 he has been with Stampfli Associates, CPAs, P.C. in Bloomington, IN. Since October 2008, he has been president of that firm. Professionally, not-for-profit entities are his primary specialty. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Indiana State CPA Society, and the Bloomington Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants.

His Masonic history began on April 30, 1971 when he was initiated into Montgomery Chapter of the Order of DeMolay. In DeMolay he served as Master Councilor of his Chapter, Illustrious Knight Commander of DeMolay Order of Knighthood in Indiana, and two years as an appointed officer of the DeMolay State Council. He has received the DeMolay honors of Representative DeMolay, Chevalier, and Legion of Honor (Active).

Vaught was initiated, passed, and raised a Master Mason in Montgomery Lodge, No. 50, in Crawfordsville, IN. He served as Worshipful Master of Spencer Lodge No. 95 in 1993 receiving the Grand Master's Award with Distinction. He also served as

Worshipful Master of Dwight L. Smith Lodge of Research. He served on several Grand Lodge committees and was appointed as the Grand Representative of Oregon. He was elected the 157<sup>th</sup> Most Worshipful Grand Master of Indiana for 2007 – 2008. In May 2008, he was elected a Trustee of the Grand Lodge and in 2009 became president of the Board of Trustees.

Vaught received the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, Cryptic Masonry, and the Orders of Chivalric Masonry in 1977. He Served as High Priest of Crawfordsville Chapter No. 40 and Illustrious Master of Montgomery Council No. 34 in 1983. In 1995 he was appointed as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Oregon and in 2007 the Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Arkansas.

Sir Knight Vaught served as Eminent Commander of Crawfordsville Commandery No. 25 in 1981 and 1982 and has received the Distinguished Service and Knight Commander of the Temple awards. He is Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Illinois near Indiana and also holds memberships in Bloomington Commandery No. 63 and St. Anselm Commandery UD. He served ten years as an officer of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana culminating in serving as the 140<sup>th</sup> Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana in 2001–2002. Sir Knight Vaught was later appointed to the finance committee of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the USA.

Vaught is a Past Governor of Banks of the Wabash York Rite College No. 72 and has received the Gold Honor Award and Order of the Purple Cross. He is a Past Excellent Chief of Indiana Council No. 15 Knight Masons and Past Director General of Indianapolis Preceptory Yeomen of York. In the Allied Masonic Degrees he is a Past Sovereign Master of St. Bernard de Clairvaux Council 256. He is a Knight Commander of the Red Branch of Eri and has served as Secretary of his council for the last ten years. He is currently chairmen of the Grand Council AMD finance committee.

Duane Vaught is currently serving as Puissant Sovereign of St. Basil Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine and as an officer of St. Andrew Tabernacle XXXV Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests. He is a member, IX degree, Knight Grand Cross, of Indiana College, Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, MSCRIF, and serves as Treasurer General of the High Council, MSCRIF of the United States.

He is a member of J. Herbert Nichols and Robert A. Woods Pories of KYCH, Terre Haute Valley, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Royal Order of Scotland, Murat Shrine AAONMS, Sahara Grotto MOVPER, Knights of Pythias, Grand College of Rites, Order of Knights Preceptor, Indiana Past Commanders Association, and Goose and Tater. In 2005 he was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, NMJ. He is a Grand Cross of the Royal Society of Knights Occidental and an Honorary Kentucky Colonel.

In March 2007 he announced his candidacy for the office of Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment. In August 2007, plans then took a surprising turn while attending the Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite when he was appointed and installed to that office when it became vacant upon the regretted resignation, due to health, of Grand Master Richard B. Baldwin and the advancement of the other members of the Grand Encampment line. After two years service in that office, he now begins a three year term continuing that work.



## **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

**Jeffrey N. Nelson KCT, PDC**

General Chairman

of the

42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Campaign

## **Greetings Sir Knights,**

This year I have the privilege of serving as chairman for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF). During the course of the campaign I will have the opportunity to visit with you each month about the great work the foundation has done, exciting new developments, and how you can help the foundation in accomplishing its mission.

Speaking of missions, as many of you know, the mission of the foundation is to provide assistance to those who face loss of their eyesight without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin. This assistance is provided to individuals who otherwise could not afford needed services because of their lack of insurance or government coverage for treatment of their eye disease or disorder. Our mission is also to provide support for research into curing diseases of the eye. The purpose of the Voluntary Campaign is to raise funds to support the mission of our foundation.

At the just concluded 64<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conclave in Roanoke, Va., we heard the chair of the foundation's Scientific Advisory Committee, J. Bronwyn Bateman, M.D. of the University of Colorado, tell us how research grants are awarded and how important the foundation is to ophthalmology research in the United States. We also received a report on the three tremendous Voluntary Campaigns conducted during the last Triennial, which raised \$3.6 million. With the recent world-wide economic downturn there is, of course, concern about the financial condition of our foundation. As might be expected in this period of economic uncertainty, the total assets of the foundation are down from their peak, but not as much as some had feared and under the stewardship of our Board of Trustees, are recovering. However, our foundation requires continued voluntary support to maintain and increase our research and charitable endeavors.

Over the coming months we'll discuss the ways you can support the foundation, recognition programs, exciting research developments, clinical care, and Seniors EyeCare Program (SEP) and how you can sponsor a case. In fact,

information on how to sponsor a case is available on the KTEF's website, which I encourage you to visit at [www.knightstemplar.org/ktef](http://www.knightstemplar.org/ktef).

Finally, during this season of Thanksgiving I urge each of you who are able to do so to contribute at least \$30.00 to the Foundation. This amount will not only be very beneficial to the accomplishment of our mission but will also entitle you to be recognized as a Life Sponsor.



**Sir Knights, PLEASE BE GENEROUS.**  
**Jeffrey N. Nelson KCT, PDC**  
**Chairman, 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Campaign**

**ACROSS**

1. A FUNK POET anagram
7. S + CRY
12. FAIRWAY double definition
13. PRO TE(a)M - A
14. COLLAR homophone
15. PLAINS anagram
18. AS + K(night)
19. AM. + BASS + A + ROD reversed
21. C homophone
22. SWAP acrostic
23. S.C. + HIST.
24. T + BID IT anagram(6)
25. POT O' MAC(aroni)
26. DOPE double definition
27. ONCE WE MIX anagram

**DOWN**

2. O.S.S. > G.R.E.
3. EXT(inct) + RA
4. RANSOM FEE anagram
5. NAG double definition
6. TRANS + PYRE homophone
8. ALL C BIDS anagram
9. Y(ukon) OR K(odiak) + TIRE anagram
10. U homophone + PRAISED
11. BOO + K(night)S + HOP
16. PAWPAW pun
17. AID < COZ(y) reversed
20. ADD + AX

**Solution to Cryptic Puzzle on Page 21 of October Issue**

1	P	2	O	3	K	4	E	5	F	6	U	7	N	8	A	9	T	10	S	11	C	12	R	13	Y
10	U	G	11	B	X	12	R	13	F	A	I	R	14	W	A	15	Y	O							
13	P	R	O	T	E	M	G	14	C	A	L	L	E	R											
	R	E	O	R	E	15	S	16	P	I	N	A	L	17	Z	K									
18	A	S	K	18	A	M	B	A	S	S	20	A	D	O	R										
	I	S	21	S	E	A	22	S	W	A	P	D	I	D	I										
23	S	C	H	I	S	T	P	24	T	I	D	B	I	T											
	E	25	P	O	T	O	M	A	C	R	A	S	A	E											
26	D	O	P	E	27	N	E	W	M	E	X	I	C	O											



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# Knight

# Voices

Items for this section may be submitted by e-mail to [ktmagazine@comcast.net](mailto:ktmagazine@comcast.net). Items sent by mail will no longer be accepted.

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.

■ **For Sale:** One (1) U.S. Navy CPO/Officer uniform with Sir Knight crosses/black buttons-coat size 44 short, trousers size 44, (snug). Worn six (6) times: \$150.00. One (1) CPO/Officer coat size 44 short with Sir Knight crosses/black buttons, used bought in Navy thrift shop good condition: \$50.00. One Sir Knight Chapeau adjustable size, includes case: \$125.00. One Sir Knight sword belt with metal chains, worn six (6) times: \$75.00. Will ship anywhere in U.S., I will pay shipping. Contact Seabie P. Rucker, (386)-496-2800, P.O. Box 317, Lake Butler, FL 32054, [gunner8@windstream.net](mailto:gunner8@windstream.net)

■ **For Sale:** Book *The Rationale of Freemasonry* includes chapter on relationships to society in general. 240 pages. \$20.00, post paid. **100% of profits to KTEF.** Make check payable to *Bob Demott and send to 3501 Equestrian Way, Knoxville, TN 37921.*

■ **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.*  
knight templar

Please visit the classified section of our website. These and other listings can be found on the Grand Encampment web site at:

<http://knightstemplar.org/knightvoices/>

The Grand Commandery of Tennessee is selling its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin for \$15.00 each, postage paid, with **all profits going to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.** Make check or money order payable to: *Dale E. Loudermilk, 125 Spring Creek Road, Estill Springs, TN 37330-3218*



■ **For Sale:** **KT Gold handled commander's sword** with gold scabbard. Very good condition. No corrosion. Some wear on handle etching. Made by Henderson-Ames Co. between 1893 and 1923. Name on blade is Maurice B. Allen. I researched the name and found that there was a Grand Commander of Michigan by this name in 1959. If interested, *please contact George at [gcwilkins@roadrunner.com](mailto:gcwilkins@roadrunner.com).*

■ **Wanted:** A drill bar from the 1985 and 1988 Triennials held in Cincinnati in 1985 and Lexington in 1988. I attended both triennials and received a drill bar for each one but have lost both of them. If anyone knows of these bars please email me at [dont3579@charter.net](mailto:dont3579@charter.net) or mail at *Donald Trumbull PC, P.O. Box 997, Pinckney, Mi. 48169*

# 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 on the left is of one of the many stone sculptures at Rosslyn Chapel in Scotland and is copyrighted by Marianna Raszowska. The photo above is of the courtyard of the Templar castle in Acre, Israel where they lost the final great battle for the Holy Lands and is copyrighted by Paul Prescott.**

## 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. **All profits go to the KTEF.** Send check or money order to: Sandra Knotts, P.O. Box 158, Trexlertown, PA 18087-0158.



### Knight Templar Summer Uniform

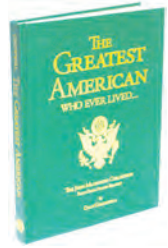


Full uniform includes – Cap, shirt, tie, rank, name plate, metal ribbon bar, and tie clasp for \$175.00 includes shipping (PGC \$200 includes gold cap decoration)

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### Beauseant Commandery No. 86 Masonic Knife

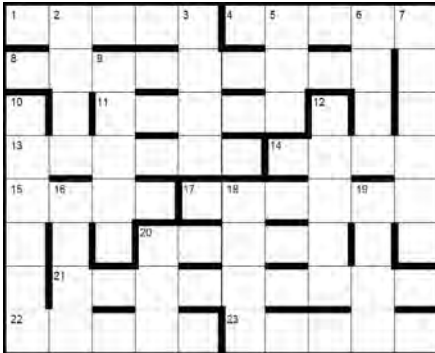
Beauseant Commandery is offering a top quality, handmade, 3 inch skinner blade knife with sheath. The blade is made from SAE 1085 carbon steel (same as a crosscut saw) and tempered to spring hardness. The sheath is made from vegetable-tanned leather and laced with latigo leather. The price is \$50 which includes shipping by USPS priority mail. Make checks or money orders payable to Beauseant Commandery #86. Send to: P.O. Box 513, Valier, IL 62891. ALL PROFITS GO TO THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION. Phone 618-724-5115 or email: jcanup@speednet.com.



## CRYPTIC PUZZLE

by Loki

Solution in Next Month's Issue



### DOWN

2. Why urge on a thief? (4)
3. A sibling with all her faults (2,2)
5. Sole owner of old slang (3)
6. A fellow's so mote it be (4)
7. Sitter changed tea to foremost spirits for nun (6)
9. Frees tangled shoals (5)
10. Jewish mysticism reached by taxi to Alabama (6)
12. Representative semi-Biblical plant, again (5)
16. LaRue retreated endlessly from mountains or river (4)
18. Consumes brewed teas (4)
19. Stitch's girl knows little of contractions (4)
20. Innermost step I envision for circular chart (3)

■ **For sale:** KNIGHTS TEMPLAR SHOULDER STRAPS AND OTHER INSIGNIA, over 20 different patterns available. See Grand Encampment /Knight Voices web site for list or call (386)-304-6157; Cell (386)-871-0842 for details, description, and prices. Sir Knight Jacques Noel Jacobsen, Jr. PC, 3 Oceans West Blvd. #4A4, Daytona Beach, FL 32118. **ALL PROFIT TO KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION.**

### ACROSS

1. Shy dragon has shown many faces to Hercules (5)
4. More money for sodas (5)
8. Contested James' rule of Knights' headquarters (9)
11. Banishment to former French island (5)
13. Rage is meant to encompass old bias (6)
14. One-hundredth of one hundred and ten gallimaufry (4)
15. Polish muscular physique (4)
17. Knights' headquarters temporarily left East (6)
20. Town layout had nothing for philosopher (5)
21. Get up around child, little philosopher (9)
22. Foreigner with a legal claim (5)
23. Retro flower is for computer admin (5)

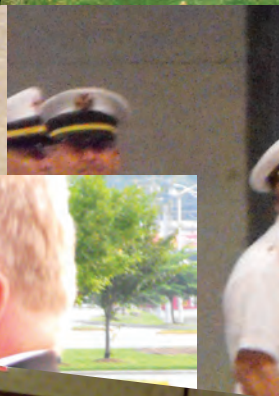
The author is a Knight Templar who follows Cryptic Crossword tradition by setting puzzles under a crucinym, choosing Loki, the Norse god of mischief. If you would like detailed instructions on how to solve Cryptic clues, Loki would be happy to oblige. Contact him at <oki.loki@gmail.com> or at 2501 W.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

### Templar And York Rite Pocket Crests Available From Mt. Moriah Commandery No. 4.

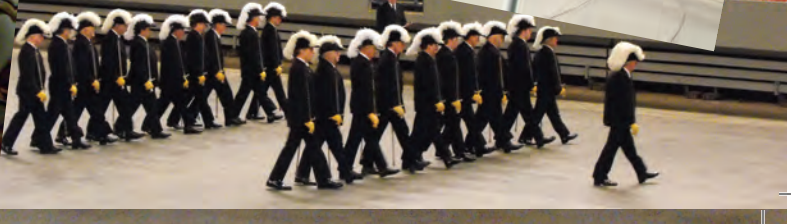
These crests are the bullion embroidered style. They are designed as pocket crests. The the York Rite crests are 3 inches and the Knights Templar crests are 2 inches. They are absolutely beautiful on the Chapter red jacket, or the Council grape jacket. The crests are \$35.00 each plus S&H. Insurance extra on request. *Send check or money order to Sir Knight Thomas Morrissey, 5340 LaSalle, Lincoln, NE 68516. All proceeds go to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation.*



# Memories of the 64th Roanoke



# h Triennial Conclave Virginia















# And in Conclusion...

## The Final Episode of the Mystery of the Trials of the Ancient Templars

by

**Sir Knight John L. Palmer, KCT**

Managing Editor

This article is the final issue of a year-long series on the trials of the ancient Templars. We ran this series because the Vatican had recently released important documents which seemed to shed a slightly different light on the events than many of us had previously heard. As we explored these documents, we became interested not only in the legal rulings of the Pope and the wrangling between the Church and the king but in what the Templar leaders actually said during their trials. They indeed confessed to a number of strange things, probably none of which would be a violation of present day law, but which were surprising to some of us.

In this, the last installment, we will take a look at these confessions and speculate about what they really meant in the context of a 14<sup>th</sup> century religious trial and if they can tell us anything about the nature of the organization as it then existed.

First, there was the matter of homosexual activity of which they were accused. Some believe that this accusation was made because one of the symbols of the Order showed two knights riding on the same horse. The "official" explanation of the symbol was that the knights had taken

a vow of poverty and that at the beginning, they could not, perhaps, afford adequate mounts. Remember that they were the heavy cavalry of the crusaders equivalent to today's armored divisions. The rule of the order, however, limits a knight to three horses and certainly implies that plenty were available by the time the rule was established. The rule also explicitly declared homosexuality to be a grave offense and severe punishment was prescribed. None of the knights testified to any homosexual activity and several testified that they knew only of a very few cases and that the offenders were sentenced to life imprisonment for the offence. I believe that it is safe to say that the charge of homosexual misconduct was trumped up and had no basis in fact.

A closely related charge had to do with indecent "kissing." A close examination of the testimony reveals that much of the kissing was done through the clothing of the individual as a symbol of respect or an affirmation of subordination such as the kissing of a ring or a Bible. The kissing on the mouth puts me in mind of my first friendly encounter with a Frenchman who promptly kissed this old southern boy on both cheeks and left me seriously startled. Remember that most of these

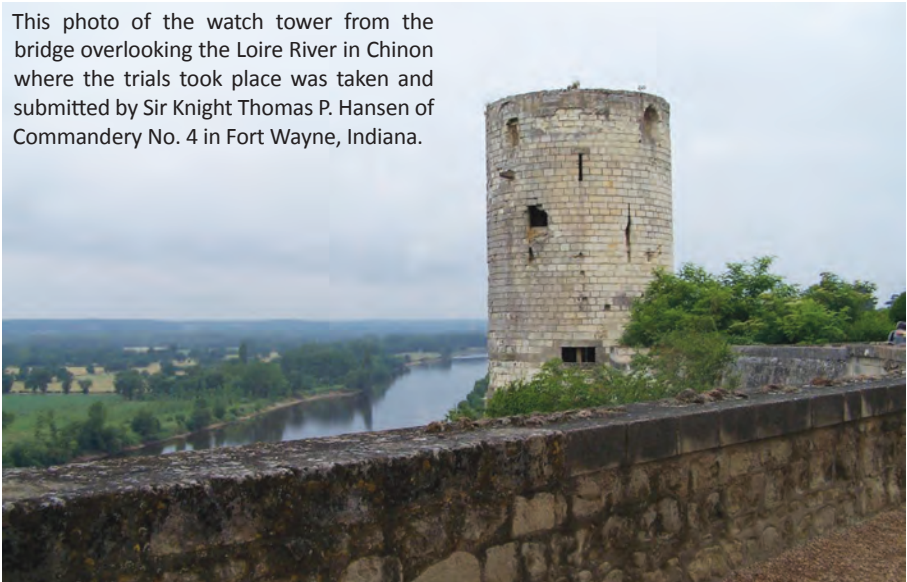
guys were Frenchmen. This charge seems also to be superfluous.

The confessions that interested me most were those of denying Christ or spitting on a cross or crucifix. Almost all of them testified that this was a part of their initiation process. The reason this is surprising is that these men enlisted in this Order, for the express purpose of serving Christ and defending Christianity. Dr. Frale suggests that this might have been some sort of training exercise. Some of the training I received in the military was to assist us in staying alive and escaping in the event we were captured. Although the Templar policy was not to ransom captured Knights, many were a part of prisoner exchanges during the years. They all emphasized that their denial was with the mouth only and not from the heart. Perhaps they were taught to tell the enemy whatever they wanted to hear in order to stay alive and live to fight again. We may never know the significance of this part of the initiation but it seems to have been their practice.

Finally, there was the charge that they had some sort of idol in the form of a head which was worshiped. Most of them testified that they knew nothing of such a head, but at least one indicated that he had seen such a thing. There are two possibilities that come to mind to explain this. In the unlikely event that the ancient Templar's ceremonies bore any resemblance to those we use, one might imagine how someone who knew nothing of the Order or the ceremony might jump to an erroneous conclusion concerning worshipping a head. Another intriguing theory might have to do with the relationship between the Templars and the preservation of the Shroud of Turin, sometimes claimed to be the burial shroud of Christ. The history of this relic and any involvement of the Templars opens up a whole new avenue of study and may well be the basis of a future series of articles.

I hope that this series has been interesting to you and that you will continue to send your comments, positive or negative, about the articles we may run in the future.

This photo of the watch tower from the bridge overlooking the Loire River in Chinon where the trials took place was taken and submitted by Sir Knight Thomas P. Hansen of Commandery No. 4 in Fort Wayne, Indiana.



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## Grand Encampment Membership Awards



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Lady Elizabeth Koon would like to thank all the "Crafty Ladies" who contributed their handiwork to be sold at the Triennial Conclave held last August in Roanoke, VA. Your generosity resulted in well over \$2,000 raised for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Inc. THANK YOU!

Get ready for the next Triennial in  
2012!

If you are having trouble getting your magazine or need to make address changes or to report a deceased Sir Knight, contact your local recorder. If however, you cannot do so, help is available by e-mailing [changes@GEKT.org](mailto:changes@GEKT.org).

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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](http://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.





# Beauceant News

## Natick Assembly No. 209, MA, Celebrates 50th Birthday

**1st row**, l to r: Mrs. Ewen M. Osmond, PP, 1st VP, Charter and 50 years member; Mrs. Roger D. Gardner, PP and WP; Mrs. Russell F. Winham, PP No. 117, and MWO.

**2nd row**, l to r: Mrs. William Eltzroth, DOH; Mrs. William Graham, PP and 2nd VP, Charter and 50 year member; Mrs. Robert P. Winterhalter, Recorder; Mrs. Warren W. Rand, IG; Mrs. John W. Chapin, PP and Chaplain. **3rd row**, l to r:

Mrs. Julian W. Philbrick, PP and MOW; Mrs. Donald R. Small, PP No. 117, and CB; Mrs. Nancy Swan, Asst. Marshal; Mrs. Louis J. Fisher, PP and Marshal/Treasurer.



**S.K.'s from Ascension Commandery No. 6 and Crusader Commandery No. 21, attended Ascension Services at Providence Road Baptist Church, Shreveport, LA, on Sunday, 05/24/09.** Brother Chris Young, Pastor of the Church, was a recipient of the Holy Land Tour sponsored by Ascension Commandery No. 6. Three ladies from Shreveport Assembly No. 60 also attended the services.



Photo to the left - l to r: Sir Knights: Timothy Riley, Sr., Crusade No. 21; John Adams; Pat Dickson, REDGC of Louisiana; Bro. Chris Young; Bill Richards; Jose Oliveras; and Timothy Riley Jr., Eminent Commander, No. 6.

Ladies in the photo below - Mrs. Timothy Riley, Mrs. Pat Dickson and Mrs. Roy May.

Pictured l to r: Mrs. Rife, Mrs. Carle L. Jackson, Mrs. Edward Reine, and Mrs. McClure.



**Shreveport Assembly No. 60 was delighted to welcome Mrs. Jeanette Rife, Supreme Most Worthy Oracle, and Mrs. Howard McClure, Past Supreme Worthy President and Supreme Organizer, to the Grand Council/Chapter of Louisiana, held in Hammond, LA, March 7 - 10, 2009.** Mrs. Jackson and Ms. Reine are the wives of the heads of the knight templar



Council and Chapter, as well as members of Shreveport Assembly No. 60. They hosted a Beauceant luncheon that Sunday.

Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Rife encouraged the ladies to continue trying to get an assembly started in south Louisiana.

# A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

By  
Sir Knight Donald Craig Kerr

**T**hanksgiving draws us to a time of reflection and remembrance.

It is an occasion to “count our blessings”, which may be simple and personal or very extraordinary.

A story which appeared in a Baltimore newspaper many years ago told of a young boy in school, who along with all the other students, was asked by his teacher to draw a picture of what Thanksgiving means.

One girl drew a picture of her mother. Another boy drew a picture of a loaf of bread. Each student had something to tell. One boy drew a picture of a hand. The teacher was puzzled. She asked if anyone could explain what a hand meant. Someone said it was the hand of a policeman or maybe of a farmer. “No”, replied the boy, “that is not what I had in mind.” “Please tell us,” the teacher wanted to know, “whose hand is it?” “It’s your hand”, the boy said. The teacher didn’t know what to say. The boy had remembered the times when the teacher took him by the hand to guide, help, or correct him. The boy was thankful for his teacher.



It is a simple thought but how real it is. Around us are the hands who care, and because of them we feel better. So many hands can ease our pain or help lift the burden. Maybe we take them for granted; but, when we stop to count our blessings, we can remember those who have cheered us on our way. Through the

years the hand of God has protected and directed our footsteps. By God’s hand our nation has been established and has flourished. So, let us give thanks unto the Lord, for His mercy endures forever.



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

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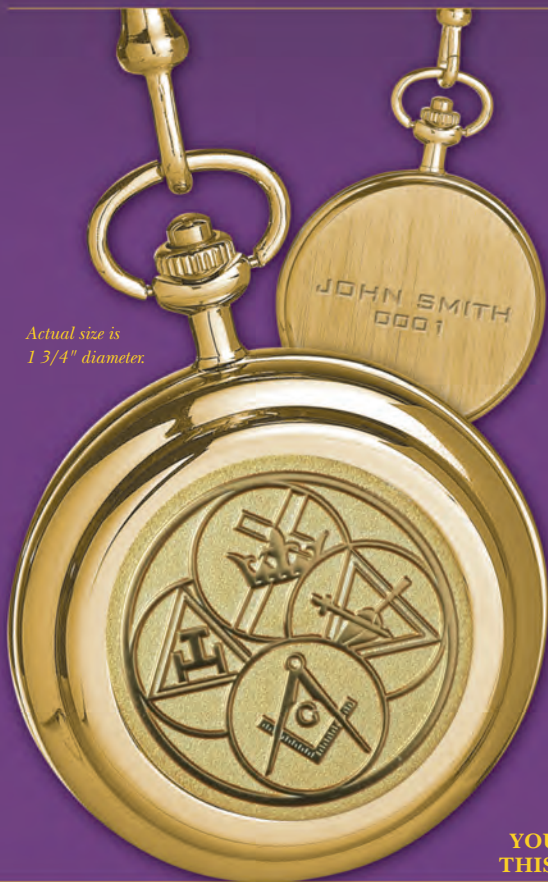
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november 2009

PRESENTING THE OFFICIAL CHAPTER, COUNCIL, COMMANDERY

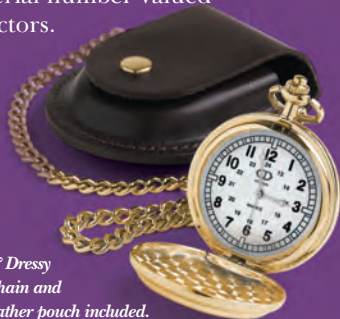
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peace or you can  
have freedom,**



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**but you cannot  
have both all  
the time.**