


Knight Templar



VOLUME LVII

February 2011

NUMBER 2



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Knight Templar

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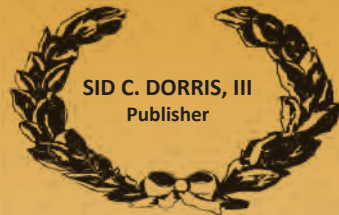
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Grand Encampment Web Site: <http://www.knightstemplar.org>

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William H. Koon, II
Grand Master



SID C. DORRIS, III
Publisher

Address changes or corrections and all membership activity including deaths should be reported to the Recorder of the local Commandery. Please do not report them to the editor.

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Cover Photo is the facial image on the Shroud of Turin as it appears on a photographic negative. Accordingly, it has been flipped left to right. (c) 1978 Barrie M. Schwartz Collection - STERA, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Grand Master's Message

February not only provides us with Valentine's Day to celebrate, but perhaps more importantly, President's Day. This year it will be celebrated on February 21, 2011. Originally celebrated on February 22nd, the date of Washington's Birthday, it was moved to the third Monday in February in 1971 as a result of an act of Congress in 1968. While the official designation is "Washington's Birthday," it has come to celebrate Abraham Lincoln's date of birth of February 12th as well.



In thinking of George Washington, we remember his personal sacrifices in order to win our freedom. In reading much that has been written about Washington's life, it becomes apparent that his strong ties to Masonry were intertwined with the destiny he fulfilled. For his sacrifices and service he has been affectionately remembered as the "Father of his Country."

If George Washington were the only "Father of his Country" who had been a Mason, it might be considered an odd curiosity. But such is not the case. Simon Bolivar, "El Liberator," is considered to be the "George Washington" of South America and the "Father" of several countries. Born into a wealthy family of Spanish descent, he entered Masonry in France and was responsible for driving out the Spanish and liberating Bolivia, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela; thus the term "El Liberator" (The Liberator). A study of his life will find the same intertwining of Masonic values set to work in his accomplishments.

While we celebrate George Washington this month, let us remember our beloved fraternity and the influence it has had in making good men free. What influence will Freemasonry have on us such that mankind will benefit in the future by our actions today?

Fraternally,



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...



The following will update you on the Grand Encampment office operations.

Database Operations – York Rite Information System (YRIS)

The Grand Encampment database has been converted to a state-of-the-art operating system and the **Dues Processing Module** is in full implementation. Although you will continue to receive your dues notice from your local Recorder and remit your dues payments to your local Recorder, this module allows Constituent Recorders to maintain an accounting at the Commandery level.

Uniform dues cards for all Sir Knights under our jurisdiction have been sent to each Commandery Recorder who has completed the Commandery profile. If you have not received a dues card with the Grand Encampment attestation, please notify your Grand Recorder or the Grand Encampment office.

► Membership Update

Members may continue to update their contact information by visiting the Grand Encampment website, www.knightstemplar.org. Please be assured that this information is secure and is available for fraternal use only.

Online Order Processing

An Online Order Form is accessible through the Grand Encampment website for those items available through the Grand Recorder's Office. **We now accept credit cards.**

Available items include the *History of the Grand Encampment* in two volumes by Francis J. Scully and Jacob C. Baird, *Born in Blood* by John J. Robinson, *Dungeon, Fire and Sword* by John J. Robinson, *A Pilgrim's Path* by John J. Robinson, *The York Rite of Freemasonry* by Frederick G. Speidel, and *Highlights of Templar History* by William Moseley Brown. In addition to being nice additions to your personal library, these make great gifts.

Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment

Digest of the Approved Decisions of the Grand Masters

Our *Constitution and Statutes* and the *Approved Decisions of the Grand Masters* have been merged and are available on-line.

Easter 2011 – East Coast Observance in Alexandria, VA ... West Coast Observance in Los Angeles, CA

Information on the two Easter Services is contained in the magazine and on the Grand Encampment website. The registration deadline is rapidly approaching.

The goal of your Grand Encampment Office Staff is to provide excellent service in an accurate and efficient manner. And, as always, the Office Staff is available to assist you.

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America
5909 West Loop South, Suite 495
Bellaire, TX 77401-2497

EAST COAST EASTER OBSERVANCE - 2011

The 81st Annual Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, will again be held on the steps of the George Washington Masonic Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia, on Sunday, April 24, 2011, and will begin at 8:00 AM. This service will complete a memorable weekend of events in our Nation's Capital including delegation dinners, tours, and Masonic fellowship. The Right Eminent Grand Prelate, Sir Knight William D. Hartman, will conduct the Service.

HILTON ALEXANDRIA MARK CENTER

The headquarters hotel will again be the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia, located approximately four miles from the memorial. Our special Knight Templar rate will be \$105.00 per room, based on double occupancy. Please make your reservations directly with the hotel by calling 703-845-1010 or 800-HILTONS, (mention Knights Templar). A hotel reservation link is available at www.knightstemplar.org

MEALS

A meal package is available for \$50.00 per person which includes Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast buffet. Order your meal tickets from the Grand Encampment office.

Registration forms are available online at www.knightstemplar.org for credit

card processing, or you may mail your check, payable to the Grand Encampment, to 5909 West Loop South, Suite 495, Bellaire, TX 77401-2402. Additional tickets may be ordered separately: Saturday dinner, \$35.00; Sunday breakfast buffet, \$20.00. Reserved seating at the Saturday night dinner will be assigned on a first come first served basis. If you would like to be seated together, please send in your payment as a group.

Note: The hotel and meal ticket cutoff date is March 25, 2011. No tickets will be sold at the door.

GRAND COMMANDERS AND THEIR LADIES

Grand Commanders and their ladies are invited to attend the Saturday dinner, courtesy of the Grand Encampment. Prior reservations are required with the Grand Encampment office.

OUR DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

The Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, Sir Knight David Dixon Goodwin, and other officers will greet everyone at the Sunday breakfast.

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWNNS

On Saturday, April 23, 2011, at 10:15 AM, the Grand Commandery of Indiana will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Un-

february 2011

knowns at Arlington National Cemetery honoring their members who fell in combat as members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Additionally, the Grand Commandery of Georgia will lay a wreath at 11:15 AM. Everyone is invited to attend these events. Buses will leave the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center for Arlington National Cemetery at 8:45 AM. Buses will unload at the visitors center for the short walk to the Tomb of the Unknowns. Trams will be available for those unable to walk to the Tomb. Buses will leave from the visitors center to return to the hotel immediately following the Georgia ceremony.

EASTER MORNING PROGRAM

A breakfast buffet will be served beginning at 6:00 AM at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center on Easter morning. Buses will be available to leave at 6:30 AM to take the Sir Knights and their ladies to the George Washington Masonic Memorial for the Sunrise Service. The buses will return to the hotel after the service at approximately 9:30 AM.

PARADE INFORMATION

The parade will form on the lane leading up the hill. Delegations will form according to their entry into the Grand Encampment, senior to junior, and markers for each will be in place. As in past years, the Maryland delegation in their black plumes will appear before the formal parade with drummers and form a passion cross in the stands. The Grand Commandery of Maryland would also like to invite any Sir Knights who wear the black plume to join them in the formation of the Cross.
knight templar

The parade will step off at 7:40 AM, proceed up the hill, render "Eyes Right" on passing the Deputy Grand Master and his staff, and then proceed into seats as directed. Colors will Right Flank at the podium and Column Left and Column Right and post the colors as directed. Parking for cars and buses is available at the top of the hill next to the Memorial. No vehicles will be permitted up the roadway after 7:30 AM.

OTHER DETAILS

Delegations desiring to make any special group arrangements should call the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. Delegations staying at other locations must provide their own transportation.

Recognition is made to the Grand Commandery having the most Sir Knights in uniform in the parade and to the Grand Commandery having the highest percentage of its members in uniform in the parade.

Reservations must be made for rooms, meals and any other activities by March 25, 2011.

GRAND COMMANDERS ARE REQUESTED TO APPOINT A DELEGATION CHAIRMAN AND NOTIFY SIR KNIGHT LAWRENCE E. TUCKER, RIGHT EMINENT GRAND RECORDER, 5909 WEST LOOP SOUTH, SUITE 495, BELLAIRE, TX 77401-2402; TELEPHONE: 713-349-8700; FAX: 713-349-8710; E-MAIL: john@gektusa.org IN ORDER TO RECEIVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS EVENT AND TO FACILITATE ADEQUATE PLANNING!

Your Grand Encampment Officers are looking forward to greeting you in Alexandria!



WEST COAST EASTER OBSERVANCE 2011



Tour No. 1 - Shrine Auditorium

The Shrine Auditorium comprises the single largest proscenium style stage in North America with a free standing balcony, providing over 6,300 seats and an adjoining 54,000 square foot Exposition Center. Over the years, the Shrine Auditorium and Expo Center has been selected as the West Coast location for the American Music Awards, BET Awards, the Grammys, Screen Actors Guild Awards, NAACP Image Awards, and the Academy Awards. Over 60 years old, the Auditorium is recognized as a historical monument. The Shrine is privately owned and operated by the Al Malaikah Auditorium Company. The original Shrine Auditorium was completed in 1906. On January 11, 1920, the Auditorium burned to the ground. It took six years of planning and fundraising before the new Auditorium was completed. Once rebuilt on the same site of the original Auditorium, the facility was unique among the theatre structures because of its size, versatility and unique interior and exterior design. Lunch will be included.

Tour No. 2 - The Getty Center

The Getty Center in Los Angeles presents J. Paul Getty's collection of Western art from the Middle Ages to the present against a backdrop of dramatic architecture, tranquil gardens, and breathtaking views. Enjoy lunch at one of their two cafés that offer affordable and healthy options.

Itinerary

Thursday- April 21st

Registration: 5:00 p.m.

Friday - April 22nd

Good Friday Breakfast: 7:00 a.m.

Registration: 9:00 a.m.

Tour No. 1: 11:00 a.m.
(Shrine Auditorium)

Saturday - April 23rd

Breakfast on your own

Registration: 9:00 a.m.

Tour No. 2: 10:00 a.m.
(The Getty Center)

Photos: 4:00 p.m.

Banquet Line Up: 6:00 p.m.

Formal Banquet: 7:00 p.m.

Sunday - April 24th

March to Shrine : 6:00 a.m.

Breakfast: 7:00 a.m.

Easter Service: 9:00 a.m.

Grand Encampment Knights Templar



WEST COAST EASTER OBSERVANCE
 APRIL 22 – APRIL 24, 2011
 Hosted by Grand Commandery of California

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Commandery Name: _____ No.: _____

State: _____ Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Spouse / Escort: _____

Beauceant Assembly: _____ No.: _____

Beauceant Title: _____

Phone (H): _____ (W): _____ (Email): _____

RESERVATIONS DEADLINE **JANUARY 31, 2011**
 No Refunds AFTER **February 28, 2011**

DATE / TIME	EVENTS	PRICE PER PERSON	NUMBER ATTENDING	TOTAL
	Registration (for York Rite Members only): Includes Commemorative Coin, Lapel Pin and Souvenir Book.	\$45.00	\$	0.00
After January 31, 2011	Late Registration (for York Rite Members only): Includes Commemorative Coin, Lapel Pin and Souvenir Book.	\$55.00	\$	0.00
04/22/11 – 7:00 AM Friday	"Good Friday" Breakfast	\$20.00	\$	0.00
04/22/11 – 11:00 AM Friday	Tour 1: The Shrine Auditorium with lunch provided (Donation will be sent to the Shiners' Children's Hospital).	\$15.00	\$	0.00
04/23/11 – 7:00 AM Saturday	Breakfast	\$20.00	\$	0.00
04/23/11 – 10:00 AM Saturday	Tour 2: The Getty Museum with lunch on your own	\$30.00	\$	0.00
04/23/11 – 7:00 PM Saturday	Formal Banquet: Sir Knights in full dress uniform; ladies and guests in evening attire.	\$40.00	\$	0.00
04/24/11 – 7:00 AM Sunday	Breakfast	\$20.00	\$	0.00
04/24/11 – 9:00 AM Sunday	Easter Observance at Shrine Auditorium	\$0.00	\$	0.00
TOTALS		0	\$	0.00

Make checks or money orders payable to: **"Knight Templar Easter Observance"** – Memo: 2011 West Coast Easter Observance

Mail check and Reservation Form to:

(Mrs. Thomas) Lynda Derby
 23015 Ashwood

Lake Forest, CA 92630-5409 Home: (949) 829-6802; Mobile: (949) 439-1480

For Hotel Reservations: Radisson Hotel at USC
 3540 S Figueroa St, Los Angeles, CA 90007
 (213) 748-4141 Ext: 1395

Jeffrey N. Nelson, Grand Captain General

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of The U.S.A.

Sir Knight Jeffrey N. Nelson was born in Tioga, North Dakota, on November 25, 1957, to the late Dr. Norman M. and Patricia C. Nelson. He is a graduate of Tioga High School, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of North Dakota with degrees in history and political science, and a graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Law. He is a member of Zion Lutheran Church. He is currently legal counsel and Assistant Code Revisor for the North Dakota Legislative Council.

Sir Knight Nelson is a member, past master, and past chairman of the Board of Trustees of Bismarck Lodge No. 5. He has been active in local and statewide Masonic activities. He is currently the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of North Dakota and is a past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Rite Masons of North Dakota.

Sir Knight Nelson is a past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Dakota and a past North Central Department Commander.

Sir Knight Nelson is a member of the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence and the Grand Master's Advisory Committee. He served as the chairman for the 42nd Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and is serving as the chairman for the 43rd Voluntary Campaign.

Sir Knight Nelson is a 33^o Inspector General Honorary in the Scottish Rite. He is a member of the York Rite Sovereign College, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Knight Masons, Allied Masonic Degrees, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Royal Order of Scotland, Grand College of Rites, and the Universal Craftsmen Council of Engineers. He is the Intendant General for the Division of North Dakota, Red Cross of Constantine and Chief Adept of North Dakota College, SRICF. He holds honorary memberships in several Grand Commanderies and York Rite Grand Bodies. He is also a member of several Masonic research lodges and organizations.

Sir Knight William H. Koon, II, Most Eminent Grand Master, appointed Sir Knight Nelson to the office of Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar on Monday, November 22, 2010, in Nashville, Tennessee.



The Revival of a Patriotic Order: Knights Templars in England and New York

The last in a series about the origin and development of Masonic Templary

By

Dr. Susan Mitchell Sommers

Isaac Moseley died in London in 1806—it really isn't clear whether he returned to New York in person in 1803 or not—and his obituary, appearing in a New York paper read in part, "A philosopher, Samaritan, and an Israelite indeed—he was benevolent and humane towards the whole Family of mankind, a sincere and valuable friend."⁴⁷ The implication is that Moseley was Jewish though none of the other records, sparse though they are, indicate his religious affiliation. While there were some Jewish settlers early in Connecticut's colonial history, there was no established community there until after the Revolution when some wartime refugees from New York decided to settle in the state permanently. Historian Jacob Marcus notes that many, perhaps even a majority, of the early Jewish settlers assimilated within a generation or two of coming into Connecticut, making them very difficult to trace.⁴⁸ If the earliest Moseleys were Jewish, intermarriage with the Roote, Newberry, Lyman, and Lawrence families seems to have hastened the path to assimilation. If Isaac Moseley was not a Christian in life, he finally became one in death, as he was buried in St. George's Fields burying ground, attached to St. George's Church, Hanover Square in London.

Samuel Peters and Stephen Thorn knight templar

present similarly complicated biographies. Rev. Samuel Andrew Peters (1735-1826) of Hebron, Connecticut was a prominent Anglican clergyman who wrote the infamously unflattering and not terribly accurate, *A General History of Connecticut*.⁴⁹ In addition to earning a B.A. and M.A. from Yale, he claimed an L.L.D. from the University of Cortona in Tuscany—an institution which didn't actually exist.⁵⁰ In 1756 he went to England to be ordained in the Anglican Church, and he was made a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts—namely, Connecticut. He was married, briefly, three times, each wife in succession dying shortly after being married to the clergyman.

Of the 153 Connecticut loyalists who made claims with the British government for indemnification of wartime losses, Peters leads the pack with £40,000 in losses, compared to almost half of the claimants who request £500 or less.⁵¹ Peters is the best-documented of the founders of the Granville Encampment, and history does him no favors. Described by one biographer as a "Yankee Munchausen," because of his propensity for exaggeration, Peters seems to have genuinely believed many of his embellishments, leading to several public embarrassments.

Like Isaac Moseley, Peters was a loy-

alist and fled to London in 1774, where he was one of Moseley's neighbors in Pimlico, living at No. 1 Charlotte Street.⁵² Peters was a member of Lodge No. 4 (later Royal York Lodge of Perseverance No. 7) in London. He was exalted in the Royal Arch in Royal Grove Lodge No. 240 in London in 1792.⁵³ Peters was also father-in-law to William Jarvis, Provincial Grand Master of Masons in Upper Canada. Peters returned to New York by 1803, when his love for England soured upon the loss of his government pension, and greener pastures beckoned.⁵⁴

The last of our trio, Stephen Thorn (1771-1813), was from a prominent Granville, New York family, some of whom were loyalists who fled to Nova Scotia during the Revolution. He was a child during the war and seems to have been infected with the spirit of revolution early on. Thorn first shows up in the records in the early 1790s as "Stephen Thorn, Philomath," involved in the publication of three frankly inferior almanacs, Haswell's *Vermont Almanac and Webster's Calendar: or The Albany Almanack* both from 1792, and *Lyon's Vermont Almanac* of 1794.⁵⁵ These are unusually slim volumes of sixteen to thirty-six pages containing barely more than monthly calendars, moon phases, and lists of state officers and other notables. Thorn became engaged to marry Martha Bishop (1771-1830) about this time as well, probably in 1794, though it seems unlikely that they actually married until 1801. Their son Stephen was born in 1808 and died in 1831.

In addition to dabbling in publishing, Thorn was described as a merchant-trader and surveyor.⁵⁶ His twin passions, however, were the military and intrigue. Thorn was captain of a "troop of horse"

in the New York militia for Washington County in 1794, when he left, ostensibly for business, on a tour of southern Canada. The rather permanent nature of his departure is marked by the appointment of Silvester Rowley in his place in 1795.⁵⁷ Thorn was actually making an assessment of the mood of French speaking Canadians to ascertain whether they would welcome an army of liberation. He was acting of his own accord, prompting his biographer to argue that Thorn's freelance intrigues demonstrate, "that it was possible for a young American to think of himself as a participant in a revolutionary movement that transcended political boundaries. To him, the North Atlantic area was one large theatre in which a democratic revolution was taking place, and he moved about in that theater supporting the cause of freedom."⁵⁸

Like many Americans, Thorn was thrilled by the outbreak of the French Revolution and responded enthusiastically when French minister plenipotentiary to the United States, Edmond Charles Genet, made an official visit in 1793, in hope of winning the United States to the side of revolutionary France in its war against Britain. Genet's heavy-handed dealings with the American government led to his recall, and he was replaced in 1794 by Jean Fauchet. Shortly after the new minister arrived in the country, Fauchet was contacted by Stephen Thorn who had promising intelligence. Thorn had not only reconnoitered the French-Canadians, but had organized a small network of English speaking radicals in lower Canada, New York, and Vermont, who were interested in promoting a rebellion against Britain in the region.⁵⁹ Thorn suggested to Fau-

chet that French Canada might be made a department of France putting little more at risk than a small expeditionary force aimed at the capture of Quebec.⁶⁰ If successful, such plan would liberate the French-Canadians, enrich France, and most importantly, distract the British from the European war.

The young man was persuasive, and before the end of the year, Thorn was in Paris actively working for the liberation of French-Canadians and contemplating a trip to Poland to help liberate the Poles as well. By August, 1795, Thorn had laid his Canadian plans before the Committee of Public Safety. In the brief, he suggested that his friend Ebenezer Allen (1743-1806), a Vermont pioneer and cousin of Ira Allen, be named adjutant general in charge of the Montreal arm of the expedition. Thorn's plan interested at least some members of the Committee, and he was put under the direction of Richard Pellevé, an intelligence agent with experience in Francophone Canada.⁶¹ In late August, 1795, Pellevé sent Thorn to England to gather information on British troop strength and movements armed with a list of towns to visit and pubs to frequent. Thorn's apprenticeship in espionage had begun.

While Stephen Thorn was focused on liberating French Canadians, another American arrived in Paris to pursue another sort of revolution in the same region. Webster asserts that Ira Allen and Stephen Thorn knew each other before they met in Paris, and it may well be that they met during Thorn's tour through the North Country in 1794. Allen had been in England since January, 1796, in what proved to be fruitless negotiations with the Home Secretary, the Duke of Portland. In Britain, Allen solicited Brit-

ish endorsement of a plan to build a canal that would open trade between the St. Lawrence and Vermont's Champlain Valley offering untold commercial benefits to both Vermont and the Empire.⁶² While in London, Allen relied on the Rev. Samuel Peters, an old friend, fellow Connecticut native, and sometime Allen family agent. Peters was not merely a disinterested friend, however. For his efforts, Allen promised him everything short of the moon including vast lands in the new republic, presidency of the University of Vermont, and backing in Peters' bid to become the bishop of a new Episcopal diocese based in Vermont.⁶³ Letters between Peters, Allen, and Thorn between 1796 and 1802, reveal the extent of Peters' involvement in the evolving conspiracy to liberate Vermont and may ultimately have been its undoing as his indiscreet correspondence was likely intercepted by the government.⁶⁴ With or without Peters' indiscretions, the government was ultimately unimpressed, and after being kept on a string for several months, Allen abandoned the project and turned his face toward Paris.

Ira Allen arrived in France in June 1796, and quickly joined forces with Stephen Thorn. The two adventurers cooperated in wooing French sponsorship of a venture to liberate both French speaking Canada from the British and Vermont from the United States. This was an interesting twist, and it brought a new goal. The area was now to be created as an independent republic, United Columbia, a firm friend of the French, who would help guarantee its security from the United States to the south and the British Empire to the north and west. With Allen working as chief strategist, the plan was tweaked and developed

until it finally met with French approval. In July, 1796, the Directory provided Allen with Batavian notes with which he paid for 20,000 muskets and bayonets, twenty-four brass four-pound cannon, six cannon carriages, and six cannon wagons. The contracts specified that the weapons were for the Vermont state militia, a legitimate if not plausible purchase. Thorn went to Ostend and there chartered an American ship, the Olive Branch, to take the goods home. There were delays, and the ship did not sail until November, 1796. By then the British had become suspicious, and the Olive Branch was seized. The plot was essentially over, though what became known as the Olive Branch Affair dragged on until 1800, as Allen challenged the seizure in British courts.⁶⁵

As the planned Vermont revolution fizzled, each member of the plot made his way as best he could. Allen faced political and financial ruin and eventually died a pauper in Philadelphia in 1814.⁶⁶ By 1801 Stephen Thorn returned to Granville, New York, married his sweetheart (he had complained to his parents that Martha didn't write to him when he was abroad), fathered children, served as a judge and member of the state Senate, took up a place in the militia, distinguished himself in the War of 1812, and died young in 1813.⁶⁷ The Rev. "Dr." Samuel Peters became bitter as his promised Vermont bishopric failed to materialize, but he returned to the United States anyway pursuing an equally elusive claim to ten thousand square miles of land in what is now Wisconsin which he was convinced would make him fabulously rich. He died in 1826 in Newark, New Jersey, having long outlived all his tormentors back in revolutionary He-

bron but without realizing his dreams of real fame and astounding wealth. Isaac Moseley, as we have seen, died in London in 1806.

A diverting tale, but the subplot that connects them to Thomas Dunckerley's Masonic circle is even more intriguing. Allen, Thorn, Peters, and Moseley were united by more than their interests in Vermont and their involvement in the Olive Branch Affair. They were also Freemasons and were connected through lodge memberships and the development of high degree Masonry in England and the United States between 1790 and 1803. Traces of Freemasonry appear and disappear throughout the personal histories of these Olive Branch conspirators. Ira Allen was made a Mason in June, 1782, in the Vermont Lodge No. 1 which had been established in 1781 by a warrant from St. Andrews Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.⁶⁸ However tempting it is to think that he met the other conspirators through the lodge, there is absolutely no supporting evidence. Curiously, none of the other men in this story—Moseley, Peters, or Thorn—appear in American Masonic records until the issuance of the 1803 Knights Templar warrant mentioned above. Thus their respective Masonic histories do not begin until they leave America though it is entirely possible that this is merely an accident of the haphazard survival of records.

Thorn's case is particularly intriguing and elusive. As we have seen, he was in France during their Revolution and at the time of his involvement with the Olive Branch Affair, was described by the British Lieutenant-Governor Sir Robert Milnes of Lower Canada as a Major in the French Army and as being part of a

conspiracy “proceeding on the principles of Jacobinism and Illuminism.”⁶⁹ While this might be a standard contemporary insult, the Jacobinism is not far off the mark—both Thorn and Allen had made extravagant claims of loyalty to republicanism in order to secure the support of the French Directory. There were no Masonic lodges in Thorn’s part of New York State until 1793, and he left shortly thereafter.⁷⁰ It is likely therefore, though entirely unproven, that Thorn became a Freemason in France. Unfortunately, even Freemasons found it imprudent to keep records during the height of the French Revolution, so it is unlikely that we will discover any record of Thorn joining a lodge in Paris—though it is possible that he joined in England or the Netherlands during one of his junkets. Still, the reference to “Illuminism” is tantalizing given Thorn’s involvement only a few years later with the Knights Templar. Finally, we have already noted the various known Masonic connections of both Peters and Moseley.

Our story comes full circle in 1803, with the survival of the warrant described above, authorizing the formation of a lodge working in the high degrees in Granville, New York, September 4, 1803.⁷¹ Masonic scholars in New York identify this warrant with the Granville Encampment which met from 1803 until about 1823.⁷² It declined to join Grand Encampment of New York in 1814, when other Encampments around the state organized.⁷³ Another warrant was issued by the same authorities on September 5, 1803, for an Encampment in New London, Connecticut.⁷⁴ Like the apron described above, the certificates were printed by “Isaac Moseley, Ebenezer Sibly, Charles Sinclair, and William Hannam.”⁷⁵ The knight templar

Granville Encampment was one of the earliest known Knight Templar bodies in New York outside of New York City.⁷⁶ Thus, curiously, it appears that amongst the earliest brethren to introduce Chivalric Freemasonry in upstate New York were two ardent loyalists and a Jacobin, all fresh from a genuine, if failed, “Masonic” conspiracy. Strange company for a Masonic body steeped in patriotism. Though in time of revolution, one man’s

Notes

⁴⁷ Dexter, v.2, 765; *New York Spectator*, May 21, 1806.

⁴⁸ Jeffrey Gurock, ed., Jacob Rader Marcus, “Light on Early Connecticut Jewry,” *American Jewish History*, 1654-1840, 1 (New York: Routledge, 1998) 169-218.

⁴⁹ Samuel Peters (pseudo), *General History of Connecticut, from its first settlement under George Fenwick, to its latest period of amity with Great Britain prior to the Revolution; including a description of the country, and many curious and interesting anecdotes. With an appendix, pointing out the causes of the rebellion in America; together with the particular part taken by the people of Connecticut in its promotion. By a Gentleman of the Province* (London, 1781).

⁵⁰ Isabel M. Calder, “Samuel Peters,” *Dictionary of American Biography*, (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1934) v. 14, 511.

⁵¹ Brown, 59, 61.

⁵² Ira Allen, *Twenty thousand muskets!!! Particulars of the capture of the ship Olive Branch, in November, 1796, laden with cannon, ...* (London, 1797), 23.

⁵³ Robertson, *The History of Freemasonry in Canada*, v. 1, 463. Moseley also appears in the minutes of the Royal Grove lodge.

⁵⁴ Calder, “Samuel Peters,” *Dictionary of American Biography*, (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1934) v. 14, 512.

⁵⁵ Stepehn Thorn, *Haswell’s Vermont almanac, for the year of our Lord 1792* (Bennington, VT: Anthony Haswell, 1791), *Webster’s calendar: or, The Albany almanack*, (Albany,

NY: Charles R. & George Webster, 1791), *Lyon's Vermont Calendar*, (Rutland, VT: J. Lyon, 1793).

⁵⁶ John J. Duffy, ed., *Ethan Allen and his kin: correspondence, 1772-1819*, (University Press of New England, 1998) v. 2, 502.

⁵⁷ *Military minutes of the Council of Appointment for the State of New York, 1783-1821*. (New York, 1901-02) 308. T.S. Webster, "A New Yorker in the Era of the French Revolution: Stephen Thorn, Conspirator for a Canadian Revolution," *New York Historical Society Quarterly* (New York: New York Historical Society, 1969) 251-72.

⁵⁸ Webster, 272.

⁵⁹ Webster, 253.

⁶⁰ Letter. Stephen Thorn to Jean A. J. Fauchet, Philadelphia, 12 November, 1794. Archives Canada: *Archives du ministère des affaires étrangères, correspondance politique, Etats-Unis*, supplement vol. xxviii, ff 445-46v.

⁶¹ Webster, 257.

⁶² Graffagnino, 415.

⁶³ Graffagnino, 416.

⁶⁴ Allen Family Papers, Special Collections, University of Vermont. Correspondence between Samuel Peters and: Levi Allen, John Williams, Stephen Thorn, Nathan Smith, John Graham, John Hitch, Andrew Peters, and Ira Allen, 1796-1802. Webster, 270.

⁶⁵ Graffagnino, 422-26.

⁶⁶ Graffagnino, 430.

⁶⁷ Webster, 272, 267. *Military minutes of the Council of Appointment for the State of New York, 1783-1821*. (New York, 1901-02) 722, 760, 1232, 1404.

⁶⁸ Lee Tillotson, *Ancient Craft Masonry in Vermont*, (Montpelier, Vermont: Capital City Press, 1920) 5-7, 11-12, 16.

⁶⁹ Douglas Brymner, archivist, *Report on Canadian Archives*, (Ottawa: S.E. Dawson, 1893) xlvii-xlviii.

⁷⁰ John Brooke, *The Refiner's Fire: The Making of Mormon Cosmology, 1644-1844*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996) 140.

⁷¹ Washington Commandery No. 1, *Washington Commandery Centennial, 1796-1896*, (Hartford, Connecticut: R.S. Peck & Co, 1896) 21-22.

⁷² Peter Ross, *A Standard History of Freemasonry in the State of New York*, (New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1899) 802. Other early encampments include Morton's Encampment, St. Peter's Encampment, and the Rising Sun Encampment, all of which predate the formation of the Grand Encampment of New York in 1814.

⁷¹ Washington Commandery No. 1, *Washington Commandery Centennial, 1796-1896*, (Hartford, Connecticut: R.S. Peck & Co, 1896) 21-22.

⁷² Peter Ross, *A Standard History of Freemasonry in the State of New York*, (New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1899) 802. Other early encampments include Morton's Encampment, St. Peter's Encampment, and the Rising Sun Encampment, all of which predate the formation of the Grand Encampment of New York in 1814.

⁷³ Washington Commandery No. 1, *Washington Commandery Centennial, 1796-1896*, (Hartford, Connecticut: R.S. Peck & Co, 1896) 21-22.

⁷⁴ Ward St. Clair, "More Notes on Ebenezer Sibly," *AQC*, 71 (1958), 127. Certificate now lost, but described by the editor of the *Masonic Review of Cincinnati*, Ohio, in 1861.

⁷⁵ St. Clair, *AQC*, 71 (1958), 126-127.

⁷⁶ There are references to Knights Templar masons in New York City as early as 1785. *Independent Journal*, 28 December, 1785 account of St. John the Evangelist Masonic Procession. They may have been from the Morton Encampment, the earliest known KT organization in the state. Ross, 801-2.

Dr. Susan Mitchell Sommers is a scholar of Masonic history and a professor of history at Saint Vincent College in Pennsylvania. She can be reached by e-mail at susan.sommers@email.stvincent.edu, and her mailing address is Dr. Susan Mitchell Sommers, Professor of History, Saint Vincent College, 300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe, PA 15650.

**Solution to Cryptic Puzzle on Page 20
of January Issue**

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

DOWN

1. AU+TO+BAH+N
2. L+AR+GO(ld)
3. ALPS anag. of LAPS
4. PEAKS homophone of PIQUES
5. REAL+M(ason)
6. SHE BE ENS(conced)
10. FRE(R)E
11. S(APP)Y
12. ALTER homophone of word at across-1
14. TAIL dbl.def.

ACROSS

1. ALT+AR
4. PARIS homophone of PAIR IS
7. AL(LEG)E+D
8. T+ROPE
9. (feedlo)TARE(a)
11. S+KY+LAB
13. BORE+AS
15. ACES dbl.definition
16. SA(I)UTE-L
17. CRY+P+TIC
18. NEE+DY
19. SLURS R changed from T in SLUTS

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, go to <http://cerrillos.org/cryptic.htm>.



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.



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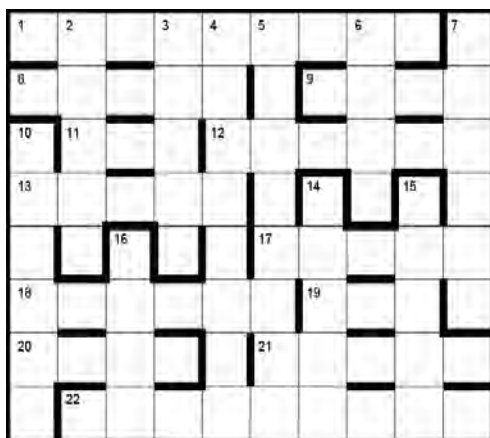


Photo of The Sphinx and Great Pyramid in Egypt copyrighted by Katja Kodba. knight templar 19

CRYPTIC PUZZLE

by Loki

Solution in Next Month's Issue



DOWN

2. Inculcate badly, i.e., bum (5)
3. Cloth and the pirates strip (5)
4. British "Z" leads English king in a hunt for Judean king during the destruction of Solomon's Temple (8)
5. Mythical bird came between science and commanding officer, producing a lot of hot air (8)
6. Greet foul weather (4)
7. Humphrey Hog (6)
10. Unknown planes are one below standard (6)
14. Breastplate e-Pod had head in heart (5)
15. "I'm sad," retracted the greedy king (5)
16. Sixth Downs twin sound and healthy (4)

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

1. German philosopher had diversified zest in his area of specialty (9)
8. Wide shoe fit on son of Scottish Master of Ceremonies (5)
9. Nimbus cipher, after 2001 model computer (4)
11. Block the power indicator (3)
12. De-icing except for leading edge, is gambling (6)
13. Convoluted route was bizarre (5)
17. Oh, fur is hawked to King Solomon's mining town (5)
18. Left it a license and a letter with a list (6)
19. Hood with only one wheel for mortar implement (3)
20. Doglegs for 90 or 135 inches (4)
21. Together with pale, uninitiated mason (5)
22. Metropolitan half of home district for Wesleyan (9)



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.knight-templar.org>.

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Died: November 26, 2010

Raymond C. Fouts
Colorado
Grand Commander 1997
Born: December 11, 1924
Died: November 30, 2010

Spencer Pickering Johnson
Tennessee
Grand Commander 1974
Born: June 5, 1920
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Greetings Sir Knights,

Do you know that somewhere in the world someone goes blind every five seconds, that a child goes blind every minute, but that eighty percent of all blindness is preventable or curable? Do you know that by age 65, one in three Americans has some form of vision impairing eye disease; that of 119 million people in the United States who are age 40 or over, 3.4 million are visually impaired or blind; and that this level of blindness and visual impairment costs more than \$4 billion annually in benefits and lost income? These are some of the startling statistics about blindness and eye health compiled by EyeCare America, the public service foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

February brings EyeCare America's "Best Things in Life are Free Campaign" which promotes medical eye exams for eligible seniors at no out-of-pocket cost. Under the Seniors EyeCare Program, cosponsored by your Knights Templar Eye Foundation, individuals who are U.S. citizens or legal residents age 65 or older, who have not seen an ophthalmologist in the last three years or more, and who do not belong to an HMO or have Veterans' vision care can call a toll-free number for the name of a volunteer ophthalmologist in their area. Volunteer ophthalmologists accept Medicare or other insurance as full payment with no additional payments required from the individual receiving services. If the individual doesn't have insurance, the eye care is free. The greatest benefit of the Seniors EyeCare Program is that it encourages financially disadvantaged seniors to take care of vision problems before they worsen.

This year, the Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation have budgeted \$250,000 to cosponsor this wonderful program. As I've said previously, this is a tremendous win-win for our Foundation. It helps us to fulfill our mission of providing assistance to those who face loss of their eyesight while enhancing the visibility of Templary. This is one way in which your trustees are ensuring that the resources of your Foundation are spent in the wisest possible manner.

I call upon each of you to spread the word about this program and encourage those you believe to be eligible to call 1-800-222-EYES(3937) to see if they qualify for a free exam.

Sir Knights, PLEASE BE GENEROUS.

Jeffrey N. Nelson, GCT
Chairman, 43rd Annual Campaign

22



february 2011

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

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“Blessed by the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while you suffer trials so that the genuineness of your faith may prove itself worthy at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Without having seen him, yet you love him; though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy. As the harvest of your faith you reap the salvation of your souls.” (1 Peter 1: 3-9)

As we watch the lengthening light of day return to our hemisphere, I would remind you of what I spoke of last month about walking in the light, as Christ is the Light of the world, so we need not stumble in spiritual darkness but walk in the light of life. And we are to show forth that light that others may see and glorify God.

How true that was of our friend Sid Dorris. He rejoiced in the knowledge of his Lord Jesus Christ. We know the trials he suffered in these past years with his own health and then with the loss of his wife, Sherry. But we can also be assured that his faith in God through his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ proved him worthy so that now he rejoices in the presence of his Lord “with unutterable and exalted joy.”

Let us redouble our efforts to let the light of Christ shine in our darkness that our faith in the living Christ may be our shield and protection until we too, at last, lay down our swords and hear those cherished words,

“Well done, good and faithful servant; enter into the joy of your Master ... Come, you blessed of my Father; receive the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

Gracious God, we thank you for those we love but see no more. We thank you for receiving into your arms our departed Frater, Sid Cornelius Dorris, III. We pray that you will raise us from sin into love and goodness, that when we depart this life, we too may rest in Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, the great Captain of our Salvation, we pray. Amen.

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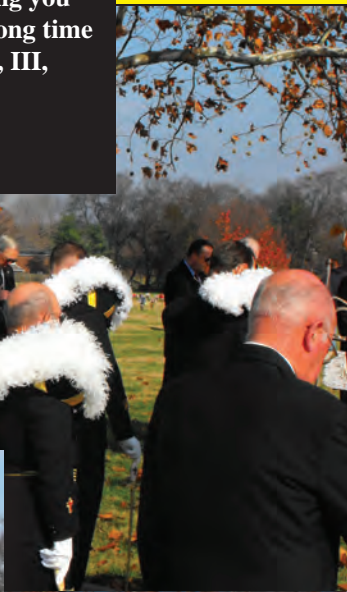
On May 24, 2010, Grand Master Koon issued the following decision:

Koon Decision No. 2: *The Great Priory of America is an unrecognized Templar Order operating within the United States of America, in direct conflict with Section 3 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. Accordingly, membership in the Great Priory of America is incompatible with membership in the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and any Grand, Subordinate, or Constituent Commandery under its jurisdiction or owing allegiance to the same.*

To the average Knight Templar this decision will have little, if any effect. While this decision addresses a specific problem described at www.knightstemplar.org it has always been contrary to your Templar vows to join any Masonic Templar Order operating within the United States of America. Certainly we all intend to keep sacred the vows we assume, but this notice will serve as a reminder that anyone accepting an invitation to join the Great Priory of America, or any similar Order will be doing so in violation of their vows of Knighthood and will be subjected to the laws of Templar Masonry as described in the Constitution per Section 209 and the Disciplinary Rules of the Order.

Knightly

It is with deep sadness that we bring you these images of the interment of our long time friend and brother, Sid C. Dorris, III, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, November 23, 2010



News



Pursuant to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, with the passing of Grand Generalissimo, Sid C. Dorris, III, Sir Knight Duane Vaught, then Grand Captain General, advanced to the office of Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment. Sir Knight Jeffrey N. Nelson was appointed by the Grand Master to the office of Grand Captain General for the remainder of the triennium. These photos document the installation of these two Knights on November 22, 2010, Nashville, Tennessee.



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The Templars and the Shroud

The Mystery Unfolds

The fifth in a series exploring the Shroud of Turin and a possible connection with the Ancient Templars.

By
Sir Knight John L. Palmer

So far we have explored the physical characteristics of the shroud and the appearance of the various images on the cloth. This month, I will try to share with you some of the theories about how the image of the man might have been formed. A scientific team, known as the Shroud of Turin Research Project (STURP) obtained permission to examine the shroud in 1978 and did so using the most modern equipment and methods available at that time regarding physical, chemical, and optical properties. A variety of imaging methods were used including the three dimensional imaging processes used by NASA. There are four broad categories of theories about how the image might have been formed. First, it could have been painted or drawn on the material. Second, it could have been formed by

a rubbing process where the material is placed in contact with an object and color transferred from the object to the material. Third, it may involved some sort of chemical process associated with a dead body. Finally, that it could have been formed by some sort of radiation process including heat, light, or other forms of radiation.

Some have taken the position that the object was painted on the cloth. This would have involved the transfer of paint or some other pigment being brushed, sprayed, or rubbed onto the cloth. Microscopic examination of the fibers in the cloth and chemical analysis revealed that no foreign pigment penetrated or soaked into the fibers of the cloth. The image is strictly superficial and on one side. Although there are traces of several pigments on the cloth, they



Researcher Mark Evans examines the Shroud of Turin with a special photographic microscope during the 1978 scientific examination of the cloth. (c) 1978 Barrie M. Schwartz Collection, STERA, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

are not concentrated in the places where the image appears and are not in amounts sufficient to have formed the image. The pigments are thought to have been deposited on the cloth by the many objects which have been pressed to it over the ages with the hope that the shroud might magically impart a blessing to a painting or sacred art object. More convincingly, the fibrils of the yarn (the smallest fibers making up the thread which is wound into yarn) are colored only on the front side of the surface. The back side of each fibril is not stained or colored. If a liquid paint were used, the liquid color would have presumably soaked into the fibril and colored the entire thread front and back. The threads which go under the front threads are not colored in the places that they were behind the front

thread thus exhibiting a pattern like a shadow or a strap mark on an overly tanned lady wearing a swimsuit. Few if any scientists still cling to the paint theory. Also, an artist would have had to paint the image in the negative and at a distance of six feet in order to produce the image found on the shroud. The image is really not discernable closer than six feet away. The STURP team came to the general conclusion that the image was not formed by painting.

Some have concluded that the image was formed by placing the cloth over a statue of some sort containing pigment and rubbing the cloth in contact with the statue to transfer a dry pigment which would not soak into the fabric. They conclude that iron oxide (rust) may have been used as the pigment. Iron is found as a part of the chemical makeup of the



Photo of the Raes sample weft thread R7. 28X Magnification (c)2005 John Brown Collection, STERA, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

cloth, but the method used to wash and set linen in ancient times resulted in relatively high levels of iron being absorbed by the cloth. Also, the levels of iron do not vary between the areas where the image appears and where there is no image with the exception of the bloodstain areas where the presence of increased amounts of iron would be consistent with the presence of blood. The STURP team also ruled out the rubbing theory. The use of heat to form an image or scorching it into the cloth is consistent with this theory except that there are areas on the cloth where it was indeed scorched by the molten silver during the fire and what is sometimes referred to as the “poker burn holes” and are more accurately called “L shaped burn holes”, and these areas are nothing like the areas where the image appears.

One scientist has claimed to be able to produce a similar image on cloth. This required the use of a fourteen foot by four foot piece of clear plate glass which did not exist, because the technology was not sufficiently advanced when the image was formed. Another constructed a camera obscura the size of a building and photographed a hanging dummy using chemicals and materials which would have been available at that time. He did produce a somewhat similar image. However, his cloth contained an amount of silver residue left behind in the photographic process which is not present in the shroud. Also, the edges of his image were much sharper and well defined than the ones on the Shroud. In addition and perhaps most importantly, the STURP team, using the three dimensional image analyzer, determined that the image has three dimensional characteristics which are not present in photo-

knight templar

graphs. This one is a little complex, so I would refer you to one of the books on the subject for a more detailed explanation; *The Shroud Of Turin: An Adventure Of Discovery* by Mary Whanger, Alan Whagner, and Alan D. Whanger. It has to do with the fact that the intensity of the image is inversely proportional to the distance from the body. This phenomenon is consistent with a chemical reaction to substances being outgassed by a decaying body. It is also consistent with a field of some sort, perhaps an electromagnetic field such as light or heat radiation, however the distances one would expect between the body and the cloth are too small to completely explain radiation producing the image.

Some believe that the image is consistent with the cloth having “fallen through” the body as it dematerialized and emitted some sort of radiation that “aged” the surface threads of the cloth. No one has been able to reproduce anything like this phenomenon as yet. There has been one documented instance of a dying cancer patient leaving an imprint of a hand and other parts of the body on a sheet in modern times, but this image did not exhibit the same three dimensional properties of the shroud even though it was possibly formed chemically.

Next month we will look at the results of carbon 14 dating of the linen.

Again we express our appreciation to Barrie Schwartz of STERA, Inc. for allowing us to use their enormous collection of photographs in sharing this story with you. STERA is a non-profit corporation dedicated to providing information to the public about the Shroud of Turin, and their web site is www.shroud.com. They do accept tax



Letters to the Editor



Sir Knight,

I just wanted to pass along a note of appreciation to the editor of the magazine. The article "The Masonic Enlightenment" by Dr. David Harrison was outstanding. I mine a thousand magazines for "nuggets", those few valuable gems of information that have long lasting impact and significance. This article was one such "nugget".

Thank you for including it in the magazine. I will look forward to the next issue; for the next installment.

Great job.

Fraternally,
Joe Atkinson
PEC Maine-Trinity Commandery
No. 1, Augusta, Maine



To the Managing Editor,

I would like to comment on your article from the June 2010 issue, on the act of chivalry. You might say the article aroused my interest. Even before I was in Masonry I was brought up to be courteous and gentlemanly. I read where you asked how many of us still open the door for our wife; well I for one still do for 24 years before my wife passed away and now again for my new bride; it was the way I was reared. Since I joined Masonry (endowed member of a Texas Lodge and Commandery), everything I do is with the thought of how it will affect the way others look upon our organization. I also feel that we should all be proud enough

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to dress accordingly; nonetheless, we are still brothers. Personally I dressed in a suit as Worshipful Master for every meeting as to show respect for the position and our Fraternal Organization. Each Knight must decide for himself what is important in the manner of dress, including but not limited to the element of chivalry he deems appropriate.

Fraternally,
Sir Knight Steve Moravits
Colorado Commandery No. 4
Austin, Texas



Dear Sir Knight,

Thank you for many excellent articles on the history of the Knights Templar. I especially enjoyed the enlightening short article by Eminent Knight Stephen W. Gorman. Is this Sir Knight a "would be" Templar in another land? I visited a Scottish Knight Templar Chapter. The opening was completely different from ours but the name of the Trinity was invoked often and reverently. There was a profound sense of the presence of Christ in the ritual and in the fellowship.

Sir Knight James A. Beverley

*Sir Knight James,
Thank you for your encouragement!
Sir Knight Gorman is a Knight Templar
in Oklahoma and a Past Grand Officer
in England.*

*The Ed.
february 2011*



Beauceant News



2010 Reciprocity for Los Angeles Assembly No. 42

(Mrs. Joseph) Katie Ryland is 3rd from the left in the first row. First row from the left are Mrs. Fred Buxton, Past Supreme Worthy President; Mrs. James Burkett, Supreme Chaplain; Mrs. Joe Ryland, Supreme Worthy President; Mrs. Vincent Bell, Benevolent Chairman; Mrs. William Chant, Past Supreme Worthy President; and Mrs. Donald Spencer, Recorder. Other members are from Long Beach Assembly No. 39, Los Angeles Assembly No. 42, and Santa Ana Assembly No. 61.



Supreme Worthy President, Mrs. W. Joe Ryland, made her official visit to Eugene Assembly No. 198 on Friday, October 8, 2010. The Worthy President is Mrs. Tom Jones. Newly initiated sisters are Mrs. Meler and Miss Holly Bich.



Knights at the Bookshelf

By
Sir Knight Leroy Delionbach

The Masonic Myth: Unlocking the Truth About The Symbols, The Secret Rites, and the History of Freemasonry by Jay Kinney. ISBN-10: 0060822562; published by HarperOne; 288 pages.

“Oh, no! Not another exposé!” That was my reaction when I opened the package and found Kinney’s book. I was delighted to find that this is a book with good scholarship and substance, and that it is a good read.

In the first ten chapters, Bro. Kinney addresses myths that have grown up around the Craft beginning in the 16th century. Some, like the Illuminati, died out in the late 19th century, only to be resurrected in the 20th century. The eleventh chapter is a futuristic look at the prospects for Freemasonry in the 21st century and beyond.

An interesting anecdote in the introduction recounts Bro. Kinney’s visit to Freemasons’ Hall in London shortly after receiving his Entered Apprentice degree. The quarterly meeting of the United Grand Lodge was scheduled for that day, and the usual public tours were not being held. As he left the building, he encountered a string of black London taxis disgorging a group of “Men in Black” – black suits, black neckties, carrying black “briefcases” (actually, apron cases) who were running up the steps into the building, and he asked himself, “What had I gotten myself into, exactly?” [My own visit to Freemasons’ Hall came some forty-five years after my initiation and left me as awestruck as Bro. Kinney.]

A part of the answer to that question is in the present work. To the dismay of those who might anticipate a reply to Dan Brown, Bro. Kinney does not refute specific allegations nor does he offer wildly exhilarating revelations of matters that take place in Lodge meetings. He does, however, present documented commentary and logical analysis of events that have been linked to Freemasonry by various charlatans and Anti-Masonic groups.

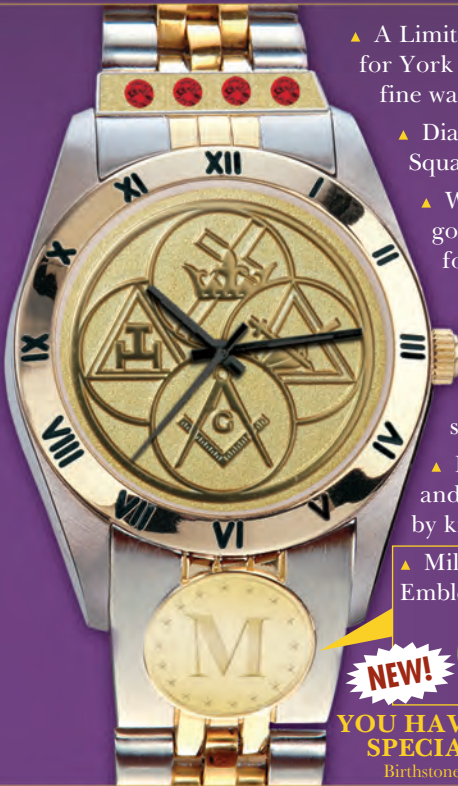
Chapter 8, “Veiled in Symbol and Allegory,” is particularly useful to the Masonic student who is trying to pull together the symbols used in the Blue Lodge degrees and to integrate them into a deeper understanding of the teachings of Freemasonry. The charts at the end of the chapter are clear and useful.

Finally, Appendix A provides a good, though not exhaustive, list of resources for the serious student’s use in conducting further research into Freemasonry. The notes following the appendices are more than just bibliographic documentation; the comments and explanations are often valuable expansions of the text.

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1 Cor. 4:1

Statue of Leonardo Da Vinci in Milano, Italy

