



Knight Templar

VOLUME LVII

September 2011

NUMBER 9

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(In case we have questions about your order)

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† April/Diamond Birthstones add \$150* to first payment.
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Knights Templar

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

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Lawrence E. Tucker
 Grand Recorder

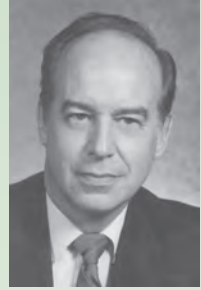
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 knight templar

Guest Message

Thank you Grand Master of Grand Encampment for granting this space to me to share these words with you.



This next Triennium offers us all a new road to walk under the banner of unanimity and harmony. We are the YORK RITE, and I believe that the leadership of our components has that great plan in mind. We of the General Grand Chapter, are committed to opening our eyes to the needs of our members by recognizing the obligation to welcome our new younger members and to use their expertise. We have established an under 40s group to provide us with introduction to their needs and interests and a forum for idea interchange. They will work with our Ambassadors to fill the pages of our electronic newsletter that can speed our good news stories around the world. Our Royal Arch Advancement Committee will provide education, training, and programs to announce our story in the lodges. We are grateful for the invitation of the Grand Encampment to participate in the inspiring emerging Leaders training program. We are prepared to present our message in the lodges to make available the further education which so many newly raised masons seek – so they can take their new found inspiration and illumination back to their lodge.

All of this will be accomplished with a vision to offer the further light that is available in Councils and Commanderies. Shall we not also encourage the invitational orders to open their minds and eyes to the great growth and leadership opportunity that exists for them through these new younger members?

Your General Grand Chapter officers have been working closely over the past year to develop the TEAM to offer you the service that you merit. We will demonstrate the effectiveness of unity and harmony that we hope will be exemplified in our sister bodies so that together we will reflect the power of the whole to everyone's benefit.

Sir Knights and Companions, may we all join together to demonstrate to our newly raised brethren and the world the great joy and reward that comes from being known by those invigorating words: Companion and Sir Knight! – “and finally brethren, be ye all of one mind, live in peace and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you.”

With fervency and zeal,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund D. Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'E'.

General Grand High Priest

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 \$99.50* promptly when billed.
- Charge my Credit Card as indicated at right:
- \$199.00* as payment in full OR,
 - \$99.50* as the first of two monthly payments
 totalling \$199*. Charge the balance in one
 additional payment of \$99.50*.

CREDIT CARD: (check choice)

Visa MasterCard Amex Discover

CC#: _____ Exp. Date: ____ / ____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: We Cannot Ship To P.O. Boxes.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____
 (In case we have questions about your order)

Email: _____

Signature: _____

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Prelate's Chapel

by
Rev. William D. Hartman
Right Eminent Grand Prelate
of the
Grand Encampment

“But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus so that if he found any belonging to the Way ... he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he journeyed, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed about him. And he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’” (The Acts of the Apostles 9:1-4)

Saul, who had watched the stoning of Stephen, felt reviled by this new Christian apostasy and felt he had to work to stamp it out. So he journeyed to Damascus to do just that. But God had a different plan! He knew the heart of Saul was attuned to His Word and the passion of Saul for righteousness and the mind of Saul set on preserving God’s religion. But Saul’s plan was not God’s. And so God caused blindness to fall upon Saul until his eyes could be opened unto God’s way and not unto Saul’s way. And so begins the marvelous journey of the man we know as St. Paul who gave himself completely to God’s plan of salvation through Jesus Christ and brought that saving knowledge to thousands of his day.

Yes, sometimes it takes an “awakening moment” to put us in the right direction. Many a person has survived a tragedy such as an automobile or plane accident to realize that God still has a purpose for them, still has something for them to do, His plan to fulfill. Oftentimes we are so intent on following our way that we lose sight of God’s way. We are too intent on accomplishing our objectives rather than following God’s plan. God has made plain to us what He wants to accomplish, using us as his witnesses to all those around us. He wants the whole world to know that He loves each and every one so much that He sent His only-begotten Son into the world, that **WHOEVER** believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life. This is the Gospel we need to share with all the world so that none shall perish. Each day, we need to pray:

“Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.”
(Psalm 5:8)

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Templar cross carved into a stone wall. Location unknown.

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A Chat With The Managing Editor

Many of you have been concerned that with the shift of focus of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation toward research, you will have lost your opportunity to personally assist those in need of eye care. I want you to take a look at pages 12 and 13. Betty Lucas sends us an article about how you as a Templar can assist those who qualify for assistance from EyeCare America. You should know that the Eye Foundation's partnership with EyeCare America is as strong as ever. We need to shift our efforts in this direction.

"Harmony is the chief strength and support of all well governed institutions, especially this of ours." Our chief business is to "learn to subdue our passions." It saddens me to see my brethren forget this, especially when they are the leaders of our fraternity. Let us resolve anew to put brotherly love at the top of our priority list.

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Letters to the Editor



Sir Knight Palmer,

I was disappointed to read in the March 2011 "Letters to the Editor" that another Sir Knight believes that those Brothers who do not conform to the beliefs of "fervent Christianity" should demit not only from their Templar Commanderies, but also from all York Rite bodies.

The belief that a Brother must be a Christian, perhaps a fervent Christian as suggested in the letter, to petition a York Rite body is entirely incorrect and is a persistent mischaracterization of the nature of two of the three Masonic bodies that fall under the York Rite.

Neither Capitular Masonry nor Cryptic Masonry requires a Brother to be a Christian. Neither body claims to be a Christian organization or to be based on Christianity. Although many of the values espoused and taught in both bodies have much in common with Christian teachings, a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and a Council of Select Masters are more similar in membership and teachings to our Blue Lodges than Commanderies.

Perhaps I should say that Chapters and Councils "could" be more similar in membership and teachings to our Blue Lodges, but many Brothers perpetuate the myth that one must be a Christian to be a York Rite Mason. This myth wreaks havoc on our efforts to bring good and true Brothers to our Chapters and Councils.

Many times I have had to explain to Brothers that the structure of the York Rite is not like the Scottish Rite, which is a coherent and structured series of degrees that build upon each other. The York Rite

knight templar

is a loose confederation of three bodies that could operate independently, and have, in fact, operated independently in the past. Templar Orders are not the "capstone" or "completion" of the York Rite. A Brother can derive much value from the lessons and beautiful degrees of Capitular and Cryptic Masonry without taking the Templar Orders.

We in the York Rite need to let the strength of Chapters and Councils stand on their own and stop suggesting that one is not a "complete" or "good" York Rite Mason unless one is a fervent Christian and a Sir Knight.

Regards,
Jack Roberts
Damascus Commandery No. 1
Saint Paul, Minnesota



Greetings Sir Knights,

The magazine is great, keep 'em coming! One suggestion to improve it and make space for more real information is this. In order to be "politically correct" with the literary world, you have included two pages of references for the symbolic interpretations of the Commandery jewels. At the end of any article, simply state that anyone interested in the list of references, can go to the magazine web site.

Fraternally,

Sir Knight Ronald P. Goebell .K.T.
Pittsburgh No. 1
Beaver Valley No. 84



Letters to the Editor



SK William H. Koon, II,

I am so impressed with our new format *Knight Templar* magazine and the news of our April 2011 edition on page 10 of being accepted as the 11th Provence.

Every page is full of ideas and subjects in which I am very much interested from the Shroud of Turin to Knights at the Bookshelf!

Years ago, I was approached about joining the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem after becoming interested in learning more about Rosslyn Chapel and possibly making a trip to Scotland to visit the site. I wasn't sure I should join them because, being a Michigan Freemason, it might be in conflict in some way. I think I was wrong about that now.

I am interested in the Traditional Observance Lodge movement. However, until my Grand Lodge permits their existence in Michigan, I probably cannot attend one. I can see a great benefit to Freemasonry if Traditional Observance Lodges were permitted in my state.

FYI, Battle Creek Commandery No. 33 and Peninsular Commandery No. 8 are hosting their 30th consecutive Annual Community Easter Sunrise Memorial Service at Fort Custer National Cemetery at 7:00 a.m.

Fraternally,
Gerald B. Gibbons, PC of No. 33



Sir Knight Palmer,

I wanted to thank you for the positive tone in the article entitled "A Chat With the Managing Editor." Institutions such as ours all too often bend over backward to psychoanalyze their flaws. While that is an excellent exercise for leadership during ex-

ecutive sessions when developing strategic plans, it actually becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy about reasons why the institution should be avoided. Of course, no Mason in his right mind would ever intentionally set out to undermine the Craft he holds so dear, but during my 43 years in Masonry wherein I have served the Craft as a Master, Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection, Sovereign of the San Diego Conclave of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, California Grand Lodge Inspector, Trustee of the California Masonic Homes, and published Masonic author, I have too often read pieces in various Masonic publications proclaiming everything that is wrong with Masonry. I personally don't subscribe to burying our collective heads in the sand – for we all know there is work to do – but there is a tremendous amount of good to be written about.

Recently, I was contacted by a young writer who is preparing an article on "secrecy" for our California Freemason magazine. While she was well intentioned, her planned scope was to write about the negative aspects of Masonic secrecy. We spent at least an hour talking and I am still not certain if I convinced her that Masons have heard all of that before and really don't need to read it in their own magazines. With the hopefully fresh approach advice and specifics I provided her, the article will be uplifting. We shall see.

Again, thanks for your leadership on this very important issue. Let's continue to tell our friends and community about why Masonry is a powerful force for good in the world.

S&F

John R. Heisner



Letters to the Editor



Dear Sir

I would like to see the *Knight Templar* magazine give the readers a choice of what they would rather read, the two pages that are wasted on the cryptic puzzle or the Knight Voices pages where members can buy, sell or donate items. In just the last month, I did my own survey of members that get the monthly magazine and did not find one sir knight that bothers to read the two pages now dedicated to the cryptic puzzle.

Many older members do not have a computer to look up Knight Voices on the internet, and I personally have donated many Masonic items over the years to very appreciative members. I had my complete Commandery uniform including a like new chapeau that I wanted to give to a sir knight, but when I could not find a local member it would fit, I put it in an auction and was appalled when it sold for only \$30 for the entire like new uniform that some brother in another state could have used.

The very first pages I read when I received my magazine were the Knight Voices pages, and I am very disappointed that the popular pages were dropped and replaced with the cryptic puzzle that maybe 2 or 3 people out of 100 may understand and only one out of 100 ever look at. The only way to prove this point is by letting the members decide which should be in our magazine.

Richard E. Laneau

Past Commander, So Shore Commandery
Weymouth, Massachusetts
now retired to Florida

Sir Knight Richard, we didn't replace the "Knight Voices" section with the puzzle. We ran both for a while. I suppose we actually have four choices; Knight Voices, Cryptic Crossword, both, or neither. One of the reasons that we stopped the Knight voices is that we had several who were using it more or less as supplementary income. Each magazine page costs about \$1,400 per month and we were providing free advertising for those folks. Those pages are always black and white. Looking back over the year before we discontinued "Knight Voices", I found that only eleven different people had placed advertisements in it. Most of these were the same advertisements month after month. Also, since we were accepting commercial advertisement to pay for the color in the magazine, we could not offer advertising free for those selling the same items in the classified section. It would not be impossible to bring back the "Knight Voices" section again. We would have to put some rules around it, though.

I am always happy to know what the Sir Knights would like to see in the magazine. If you have an opinion, I will offer you an e-mail poll. Just send me an e-mail to ktmagazine@comcast.net with one of the four words "Voices", "Puzzle", "Neither", or "Both" as the subject line, and I will tally the results and share it with the editorial review board. One vote per customer, please. The deadline for voting is October 15th 2011. Also, if there is some other kind of monthly feature you would like to see, send me your ideas.

EyeCare America's New Online Referral Center Offers Easier Access

KTEF members are now only a click away from helping their friends or family members see if they qualify for a free eye exam through EyeCare America.

For the last 15 years, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. and EyeCare America (Seniors Program) have successfully partnered together providing direct patient care through volunteer ophthalmologists at no out-of-pocket cost for the physician services to those who qualify.

In three easy steps you can now obtain a referral for your friends, family, or members of the community served by your Commandery directly through EyeCare America's new online referral center at www.eyecareamerica.org.

1. Accept the program guidelines
2. Answer the questionnaire
3. Write down or print the confirmation number

Knights Templar Eye Foundation members, family members, and friends can help those without computers find the medical eye care they need in just minutes. Libraries, senior centers, and clinics often offer computer access across the country.

As health care costs rise in the United States, more individuals are not receiving essential, preventive eye care. Medically underserved seniors with limited income to pay their out-of-pocket co-payments often forgo eye care until it is too late.

In addition to providing easier and faster access to referrals, this new online service also enables the KTEF to see how many people they have been able to help!

Take the KTEF-ECA 15th Anniversary Partnership Challenge:

In honor of our 15th year of partnership with EyeCare America, I challenge every Knights Templar Eye Foundation member and Commandery to use this powerful new online tool and see how many people you can help.

If every Knights Templar Eye Foundation member in each Commandery helped only one person, that would be helping 125,000 people. Imagine the impact we could have in our communities, states, and nation.

Help someone in need of eye care today by using the Online Referral Center www.eyecareamerica.org. If you do not have a computer, volunteer to help at your local senior center, library, or clinic where there are often computer terminals.

Thank you for taking the KTEF-ECA 15th Anniversary Partnership Challenge and helping those in need.

William Howard Koon



The Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology

EyeCare America Eligibility

EyeCare America facilitates eye care for United States citizens or legal residents, who are without an EyeMD and who do not belong to an HMO or have eye care through the Veteran's Administration. **To be eligible for the program an individual should fall into one of the two categories below:**

1. **Those who are age 65 or older and have not seen an ophthalmologist (EyeMD) in three or more years. These patients may be eligible to receive a comprehensive, medical eye exam and up to one year of care at no out-of-pocket cost for any disease diagnosed during the initial exam.** Volunteer ophthalmologists will waive co-payments and unmet deductibles and accept Medicare and/or other insurance reimbursement as payment in full; patients without insurance receive this care at no charge.

Or

2. If you are not eligible for the above care, those determined to be at increased risk for glaucoma (by age, race, and family history) and have not had an eye exam in 12 months or more **may be eligible to receive a free glaucoma eye exam if they are uninsured.** Those who are eligible and covered by insurance will be billed for the exam and are responsible for any co-payments.

Whether or not visitors are eligible for a referral, EyeCare America also offers other resources and medication assistance information at www.eyecareamerica.org.

43rd Annual Voluntary Campaign Report
July 1, 2010 - May 15, 2011

State	Cumulative Total	Total \$ Rank	Active Members as of 5/14/2011	Active Member Per Capita Average
Total	\$1,208,202.66			
Knights Templar	\$262,065.56		115,464	
Alabama	\$11,215.00	16	2,035	\$5.51
Alaska	\$1,410.00	44	540	\$2.61
Arizona	\$5,209.00	31	832	\$6.26
Arkansas	\$3,461.94	35	1,205	\$2.87
California	\$91,252.45	2	3,930	\$23.22
Colorado	\$5,314.44	30	1,172	\$4.53
Connecticut	\$10,475.00	17	998	\$10.50
Delaware	\$482.00	49	244	\$1.98
District Of Columbia	\$6,467.00	27	320	\$20.21
Florida	\$7,117.68	25	4,533	\$1.57
GE Subordinate	\$540.00		1,118	\$0.48
Georgia	\$54,648.00	8	4,132	\$13.23
Idaho	\$8,232.38	20	427	\$19.28
Illinois	\$15,064.00	13	4,887	\$3.08
Indiana	\$33,699.16	10	4,027	\$8.37
Iowa	\$9,515.75	19	2,311	\$4.12
Italy	\$0.00		349	\$0.00
Kansas	\$2,017.57	41	2,207	\$0.91
Kentucky	\$30,757.32	11	3,474	\$8.85
Louisiana	\$8,085.15	21	1,800	\$4.49
Maine	\$2,431.00	38	2,038	\$1.19
Maryland	\$7,858.00	23	1,324	\$5.94
Mass/Rhode Island	\$45,143.03	9	3,004	\$15.03
Mexico	\$200.00	51	185	\$1.08
Michigan	\$3,693.00	34	2,375	\$1.55
Minnesota	\$1,963.82	42	1,779	\$1.10
Miscellaneous	\$20.00			\$0.00
Mississippi	\$1,090.00	46	3,224	\$0.34
Missouri	\$74,894.97	4	3,344	\$22.40
Montana	\$2,397.57	39	910	\$2.63
Nebraska	\$3,460.75	36	1,081	\$3.20
Nevada	\$13,503.29	15	512	\$26.37

43rd Annual Voluntary Campaign Report
July 1, 2010 - May 15, 2011

State	Cumulative Total	Total \$ Rank	Active Members as of 5/14/2011	Active Member Per Capita Average
Total	\$1,208,202.66			
Knights Templar	\$262,065.56		115,464	
New Hampshire	\$995.00	47	523	\$1.90
New Jersey	\$4,620.00	33	913	\$5.06
New Mexico	\$65,367.50	6	553	\$118.21
New York	\$7,147.00	24	1,965	\$3.64
North Carolina	\$9,698.63	18	3,892	\$2.49
North Dakota	\$813.00	48	315	\$2.58
Ohio	\$114,463.28	1	9,898	\$11.56
Oklahoma	\$5,806.15	28	1,409	\$4.12
Oregon	\$2,898.00	37	862	\$3.36
Pennsylvania	\$68,176.89	5	5,678	\$12.01
Philippines	\$270.00	50	391	\$0.69
Portugal	\$0.00		97	\$0.00
Romania	\$0.00		166	\$0.00
South Carolina	\$14,641.36	14	4,566	\$3.21
South Dakota	\$6,764.50	26	753	\$8.98
Tennessee	\$58,604.22	7	5,061	\$11.58
Texas	\$80,350.48	3	9,397	\$8.55
Togo	\$0.00			\$0.00
Utah	\$1,859.00	43	380	\$4.89
Vermont	\$1,251.00	45	555	\$2.25
Virginia	\$20,096.67	12	2,222	\$9.04
Washington	\$2,185.40	40	944	\$2.32
West Virginia	\$7,928.00	22	2,743	\$2.89
Wisconsin	\$5,451.00	29	1,176	\$4.64
Wyoming	\$5,130.75	32	688	\$7.46

Note: Subordiantes are included

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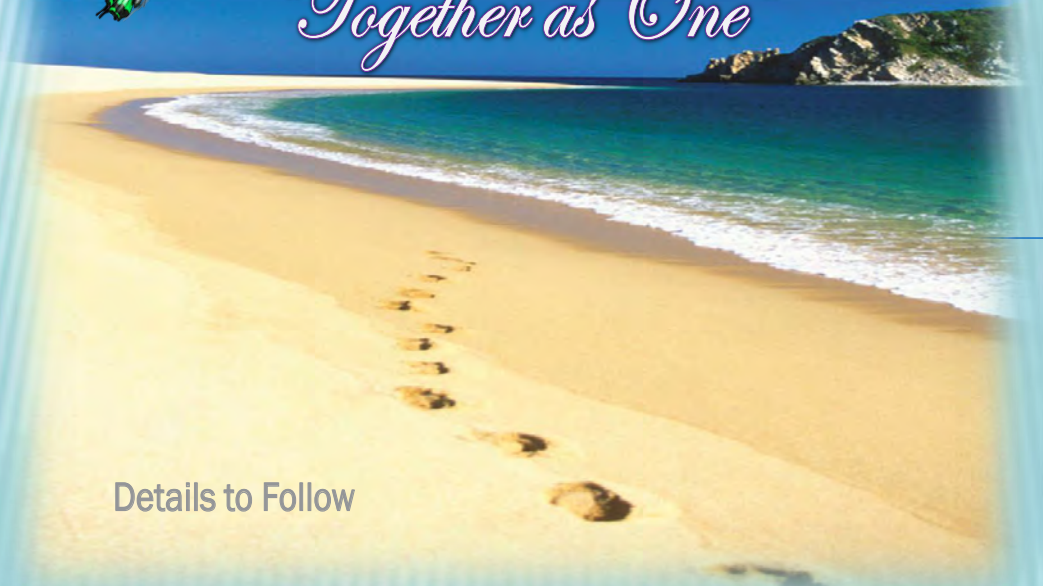
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and
California Beauceant Association



"Together as One"



Details to Follow



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

DOWN

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

1. ALMS: anagram of SAL(e)M - E
2. BRASS HAT: double definition
3. A + GREE(t)ING - T
4. DANTE: DE around ANT
5. FROW(n) + (chee)SIER
6. POGO: double definition
7. PLUM + PEST
8. N(orth) + E(ast) + W(est)
12. N(ot) A(vailable) + STY
15. L(ef) + OUT
17. ARCH: double definition
18. (im)AGE

ACROSS

1. ABRAM: A + Bram (stoker)
9. RIG + MA + ROLE
10. MA + TRON
11. S + TENT
13. WOMB(at) - AT
14. hidden in (th)IS LE(ads)
16. AESOP: anagram of POE AS
19. SHINER: SH(r)INER - R
20. GAUNTLETS: LET'S after GAUNT
21. hidden in (jus)T RUTH(less)

IN MEMORIAM



Seba T. Anderson
West Virginia
Grand Commander 1993
Born: August 21, 1933
Died: March 2, 2011

James P. Allen
West Virginia
Grand Commander 1982
Born: March 16, 1921
Died: February 16, 2011

Herbert J. Miller
Washington
Grand Commander 1990
Born: August 8, 1929
Died: April 24, 2011

Gerard Story Burkhart
Montana
Grand Commander 1981
Born: September 8, 1927
Died: May 13, 2010

K. Edwin Applegate
Indiana
Grand Commander 1969
Born: July 21, 1923
Died: July 9, 2011

Robert E. Danskin
Montana
Grand Commander 1975
Born: May 22, 1924
Died: April 14, 2010

Warren Coleman Wilson
Massachusetts and Rhode Island
Grand Commander 1999
Born: October 2, 1931
Died: July 12, 2011

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.



Photo of a Corinthian column
in Pompeii circa A.D. 70.

Photo by John Palmer
september 2011

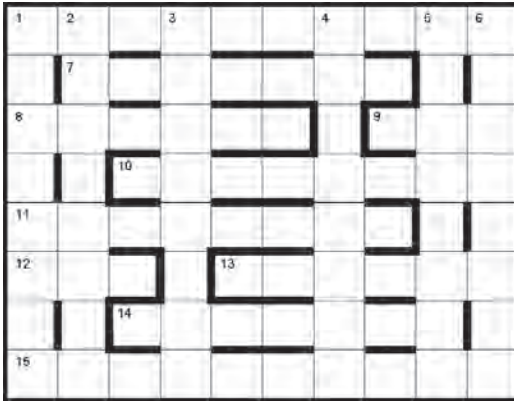
Michelangelo's sculpture, Pieta, in
Saint Peter's Cathedral in Rome.



CRYPTIC PUZZLE

DOWN

Solution in Next Month's Issue



ACROSS

1. Mafia leader has Puccini's tail cut off for an Italian drink (10)
7. Lost Templar to tread heavily (7)
8. Overseer of Templar scribes is pilgrim who frondly remembers visit to Holy Land (6)
9. "SpAsM!!," the leading word in games for kids (3)
10. Air hole reveals broken replicas (8)
11. Flying on yachts, they move faster than light (8)
12. George Washington seen in capitals of old New England (3)
13. Grand Encampment Recorder, with out, is weary (6)
14. Yogi loses right, gets bad name from perilous triangle (7)
15. Right on map, confused dieter finds holy season for Templars (10)

1. Explosive device's style is what finishes off the Temple (8)
2. Southern City built around a loser of mythic race (8)
3. Without poles, hemp plants confused flyer (8)
4. Disheveled clan? Cute and well groomed! (5-3)
5. Alien had alien site for driving (4,4)
6. After its beginning, Roncet Street in Paris is straight — but in the past (4,4)

This puzzle is from a guest constructor and Sir Knight from Albuquerque, NM, and an apprentice of our regular puzzle master. If you enjoyed this puzzle, please drop him a line at <ken@casa1800.com>. For detailed instructions on solving cryptic clues, go to <http://cerrillos.org/cryptic.htm>.

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.

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

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Nelson E. Kay MA/RI	Kenneth B. Baker.....AL	Oran NelsonMD
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Charles H. Willett MA/RI	Lance T. Howell PA	Barbara Bowie TN
Rowland E. Hill MA/RI	Barry E. Newell..... ID	Royce Peterson TN
Robert J. Allen..... MA/RI	Paul Stephenson.... OH	Linus A Anders AL
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David T. Doeringsfeld SD	Kenneth K. Krause ... SD	James A. Sauls TN
James T. Humphries AL	Herbert G. Beck, Jr. . TN	James E. Harber ... TN
Clarence F. Alexander..... TN	Sandra Kay Carrier... TN	Robert O. Finley ... WY
Malcolm R. Holley, Jr. VA	Barney L. Newman ...AL	Robert L. Peay..... TN
James Wesley Howell.....NC	Paul W. Sherwood ...NH	Luther J. Gafford ... TN
Charles R. Moats, Jr..... AL	Nicholas E. Abreu CA	Jason L. Jackson TX
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Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and Commandery credit is given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 1033 Long Prairie Road, Suite 5, Flower Mound, TX 75022-4230 The phone number is: (214) 888-0220. The fax number is (214) 888-0230.



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A Nest of Vipers The Great Siege of Malta, 1565

The First in a Series.

By

R.E. Sir Knight George L. Marshall, Jr.

Introduction

This article concerns the “Great Siege” of Malta in 1565 by the combined land and sea forces of the Ottoman Empire and the defense of that island by the Knights of St. John, also known as the Knights of Malta. As Christian Masons of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, we confer the Masonic Order of Malta just before the Order of the Temple. In that ceremony a brief historical synopsis of the order is presented and reference is made to the siege of Rhodes in 1522, but reference to the possibly more important siege of Malta and its defense by those valiant Knights is missing. This article will attempt to fill in that gap. However, in order to understand more fully the siege of Malta, we need to first consider the siege of Rhodes some forty-three years earlier.

Siege of Rhodes

The Ottoman Turk Sultan, Suleiman, had just attained his victory over Hungary at the siege of Belgrade. The Ottoman Empire had practically mastered the Eastern Mediterranean area. However, one thing impeded its complete domi-
nation, namely the garrison of Knights of St. John (Hospitallers) on the Island of Rhodes. Suleiman decided to remove this hindrance by the conquest of Rhodes. The sultan sent two letters to the Grand Master, L’Isle Adam, in essence inviting his complete surrender. In response to the first, L’Isle Adam respectfully declined in view of the order’s vow to always defend its possessions. The second, the Grand Master ignored as he improved his defenses. The Sultan countered by declaring war.

The Sultan assembled his fleet of over 700 galleys and an army of more than 200,000 trained troops and sappers (men who burrowed under fortifications and set off explosives). Like most estimates of manpower and materiel cited for ancient battles, these numbers are likely inflated. This formidable host arrived at Rhodes on June 26, 1522. After the armada had sailed past the city in an attempt to strike panic and fear into the hearts of the defenders, a remote area was chosen for disembarkation. It took almost two weeks to unload the army, the supplies, and the armaments.

The defense of Rhodes was entrusted to about 500 Knights and their men of arms, with approximately 1,500 mercenaries and perhaps 4,000 native Rhoknight templar

dian troops. There were several thousand inhabitants of Rhodes, who when the Turks arrived entered the walled city for protection. Few of these had any military training, and many were women and children. However, these noncombatants could aid by helping rebuild the walls, carrying water, delivering supplies, and performing other essential support tasks. The city was strong, surrounded by a double wall with thirteen towers, plentiful bastions, special fortifications, and a deep wide trench around all, and the entire area was commanded by cannon positioned to provide both frontal assault defense and crossfire.

In the early days of the siege, the Turks suffered great losses due to the weaponry and stout resolution of the defenders. So heavy were the losses that the invaders talked of abandoning the siege. However, the Turks had failed in the past to subdue Rhodes, and this time, determined not to fail, the Sultan himself arrived on July 28th to command the siege. The battle raged day and night for five months. During the day the walls would be battered into rubble, while combat occurred all around the city as thousands of Turks assaulted various fortified positions. Then, during the night, even during bombardment, the walls were rebuilt. Buildings throughout the city would be torn down and the stone used to rebuild the fortifications.

The battle continued, with fanatical bravery and heroism on both sides, attended by almost unthinkable carnage. But the prolonged siege took its toll. By mid-December, only a few Knights were still alive. Tens of thousands of Turks were dead. The stench of rotting bodies of men and animals hung all over the island. Unsanitary conditions contributed

to rampant disease. The suffering and dying of the thousands of wounded was almost unbearable. Finally, with winter approaching, the Sultan offered a truce. He had no idea how many Knights remained, and if a considerable number were still alive, and if they continued to fight as they had done, the siege would be too costly for him to continue. Similarly, the Grand Master, de L'Isle Adam, was faced with rebellion by the civilian Rhodians and Greek citizens and demands by the clergy for a truce. With few Knights still able to resist, he agreed to negotiations. The truce was signed on December 20th.

Filled with awe for the Knights, and in contradistinction to the usual cruel Muslim behavior, Suleiman was magnanimous. In return for the surrender of Rhodes, the Sultan promised that the churches would not be desecrated, the citizenry would not be molested or enslaved, any residents of Rhodes who so desired would be free to leave the island with the Knights, those remaining would pay no tribute for five years, and the Knights could depart in their own galleys and be supplied by the Turks with additional ships if needed. In addition, the order could depart with all its property, relics, consecrated vessels, and records on board its warships. Suleiman himself came into the city on December 26th to salute the Grand Master and addressed him by the respectful title of "Father." On the first day of January 1523, L'Isle Adam and some 180 intrepid Knights put to sea on fifty ships loaded with the order's property together with all those who had fought alongside the order and all Christians who had opted to accompany them. However, the memory of this siege persisted in the mind of both

Turk and Knight and would be remembered by both sides forty-three years later at Malta.

From Rhodes to Malta 1523 - 1530

As the historical lecture in our Order of Malta tells us, "During the period from 1523 to 1530 the order ceased to exist as a sovereign power, and the remnants of it wandered from place to place without a home. They went first to Castro in the Island of Candia (Crete), thence successively to Venice, Viturbo, Villa Franca, Syracuse, and Messina. On the 24th of March, 1530, the Emperor Charles V ceded the Island of Malta to the order, on condition they would defend it and repress the ravages of the Moorish rovers. Accordingly, under L'Isle Adam, the then Grand Master, they took possession of the Island and thenceforth acquired the additional title of "Knights of Malta."

Malta and Its Geography



Malta is an archipelago located in the Mediterranean Sea approximately 93 km (58 miles) south of Sicily, Italy and knight templar

nearly 300 km (188 miles) north of Africa. Only the three largest islands; Malta, Gozo, and Comino; are inhabited. The country is approximately 316 square kilometers (125 square miles) in area. By comparison, the area occupied by Malta is slightly less than twice the size of Washington, D.C.

Numerous bays along the indented coastline of the islands provide good harbors. The landscape of the islands is characterized by high hills with terraced fields. The present capital is Valletta. Phoenician traders who settled Malta



called it *Maleth*, meaning "haven." The Greeks corrupted the name to *Melita*, meaning "honey," from which the name Malta is derived.

From its location, Malta was the key to the control of the Western Mediterranean Sea in the 16th century, a fact of which the Turks were acutely aware. The Knights of St. John quartered on Malta possessed galleys and manpower to harass and limit the predations of the corsairs of the North African coast (vassals of the Sultan) and to thwart the Sultan's grand ambition to make the entire Mediterranean an Ottoman lake. By 1565, Suleiman had decided that Malta must

be taken and that the power of Knights of St. John, that “nest of vipers,” must be decisively broken.

The Opponents in the Drama

The Sultan, Suleiman I (1494-1566) became a prominent monarch of 16th century Europe, presiding over the apex of the Ottoman Empire’s military, political, and economic power. He also became a great patron of culture, overseeing the golden age of the Ottoman Empire’s artistic, literary, and architectural development. In the West, he was referred to as “Suleiman the Magnificent.” He was a formidable warrior as well. In August of 1526, he defeated the Hungarian army at the Battle of Mohàcs. The Ottoman Empire thus became the pre-eminent power in Eastern Europe. Under Charles V and his brother Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria, the Habsburgs reoccupied Buda and took Hungary. As a result, in 1529, Suleiman once again marched through the valley of the Danube and regained control of Buda and in the following autumn, laid siege to Vienna. It was to be the Ottoman Empire’s most ambitious expedition and the high point of its drive towards the West. With a reinforced garrison of



Suleiman the Magnificent



Jean Parisot de La Valette

16,000 men, the Austrians inflicted upon Suleiman his first defeat, sowing the seeds of a bitter Ottoman-Habsburg rivalry that lasted until the 20th century. On September 6, 1566, Suleiman, who had set out from Constantinople to command an expedition to Hungary, died prior to an Ottoman victory at the Battle of Szigetvár in Hungary.

The Grand Master of the Knights of St. John, Jean Parisot de La Valette (1494-1568), was the 48th Grand Master of the order, elected in 1557. When still young he entered the Order of St. John as a Knight of the region of Provence in France. He had witnessed the siege of Rhodes. He ardently devoted himself to fighting the Moslems. Thanks to La Valette’s fearless leadership, the galleys of the order were able to save several Christian ships and to capture many corsairs. At his own private expense, La Valette had two galleys built, and the wealthier commanders followed his example. The vessels of the order were commanded by experienced navigators who knew all the ports and even the smallest bays of the Mediterranean. This naval crusading strength soon made itself feared by the Moors of Barbary and even by the Turks. Before long, the Maltese squadron gained a bloody victory between the islands of Zante and Cephalonia and captured a Turkish galleon manned by two hundred janissaries and laden with precious merchandise, and within five years they had taken fifty Turkish vessels.

Accounts of the Siege

Most historical accounts of the Siege draw on the diary kept by Francisco Balbi de Correggio (1505-1589) who served as an arquebusier with the Spanish contingent during the Siege. In 1567 he published the diary in Alcalá de Henares, Spain. It proved so popular that a second printing was done in 1568 in Barcelona. Balbi's is the best-known eyewitness account of the siege (there is at least one other, in the form of a long poem by the Knight Hipolito Sans), and all subsequent histories rely heavily upon it. (For those interested in reading its translation, book reference number 1 is an excellent translation.)

To be continued

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Sir Knight Marshall is a Past Grand Commander and Past Grand High Priest of Alabama and serves as an Aide-de-Camp to the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment. He is a member of the Editorial Review Board of the *Knight Templar* magazine. He is also a Knight Commander of the Temple of the Grand Encampment and has published articles in the *Royal Arch Mason*, *Knight Templar*, and *Philalethes* magazines. He resides at 161 Anna Kathryn Drive, Gurley, AL 35748 and can be reached at geomarsh@yahoo.com.

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DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

Tuesday, May 08, 2012

Depart New York, JFK for your flight to Valletta, Malta

Wednesday, May 09, 2012

Arrival Malta and transfer to your hotel

Overnight: MALTA

Meals: Welcome Dinner

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Depart hotel with a guide and drive to Valletta - the capital city, a living, working city. The grid of narrow streets houses some of Europe's finest art works, churches and palaces.

Visit to St. John's Co-cathedral and Caravaggio: It was commissioned in 1572 by Grand Master Jean de la Cassière as the conventual church of the Order of the Knights Hospitaller of St. John.

Visit of the Upper Barracca Gardens: From these gardens guests can enjoy unrivalled views across one of the world's largest and deepest natural harbors, Grand Harbour, and over to the three cities.

Visit the Palace state rooms and the Palace Armoury: Dominating Palace Square, the Grand Master's Palace has always been the house of government in Malta, first by the knights, then the British, and now hosts the President's office. The Palace Armoury is one of the most visible and tangible symbols of the past glories of the Sovereign Hospitaller Military Order of Malta (The Knights of St. John).
Lunch in Valletta

After lunch, guests will walk to the Mediterranean Conference Centre: This venue is the former "Sacra Infermeria" of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, located adjacent to Fort St. Elmo and overlooking the Grand Harbor. It was built by the Knights of St. John in 1574 to serve as a hospital capable of treating 1000 patients. Finally walk to the Malta Experience for a 45 minute multimedia spectacular about Maltese history.

Transfer of group back to hotel. Timings 9AM to 5PM

Overnight: MALTA

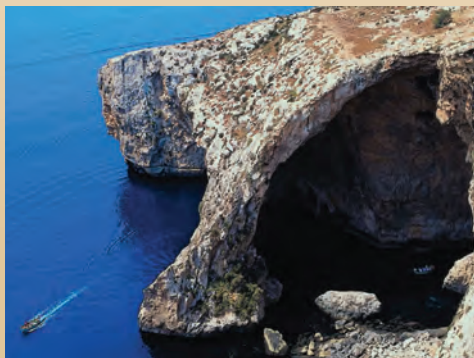
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Friday, May 11, 2012

Group departs hotel accompanied by English speaking guide and drives to the three cities of Vittoriosa, Senglea, and and Cospicua, known as Cottonera. This is where the Knights of St. John settled before Valletta was built, leaving a number of treasures in the form of art and architecture. Its waterfront was the main base for the order's galleys and boasts some of the finest harbor architecture found in Mediterranean ports. All three cities carry a second name, an honor which the knights felt should remind mankind of their valor during the 1565 siege.

Enjoy a short walk in Senglea, before stopping in Vittoriosa. See Fort St. Angelo from the outside, which was built around 12th century AD and was the headquarters of the Knights until Valletta was built. In Vittoriosa (better known as Birgu), you will find the residences of many well known Knights.

Visit of the Inquisitor's Palace. It was erected in the 1530s as the civil law courts of the Order of St. John soon after the Knights arrived in Malta. It continued to serve as law courts



until 1571 when the order transferred its headquarters to Valletta after the siege of 1565. Timings 9AM to 1PM
Overnight: MALTA Meals: Breakfast and Farewell Dinner

Saturday, May 12, 2012

Transfer to Malta Airport.
Flight between Malta and Rhodes
Overnight: Rhodes, Greece
Meals: Breakfast, Welcome Dinner in Rhodes

Sunday, May 13, 2012

Depart by coach with official guide, Rhodes half-day tour. Don't miss the three windmills near St. Nicolas Fort, the New Market, the buildings of the Public Administration, the entrance of Mandraki's Harbor, the sub-marine aquarium, and the two deer, where the Colossus of Rhodes is supposed to have stood.

Moving forward to Mount Smith, enjoy several picturesque views of the city and the coast. You have the opportunity to visit the ruins of Appolon's Temple, the open-air antic stadium, as well as the amphitheatre.

The visit ends at one of the doors of the famous Medieval Town of Rhodes, better known as the Old Town, classified as historical monument by UNICCO.

Wander freely through the street of St. John's Knights in front of the archaeological museum and the Palace of the Grand Master. You will be surprised by the number of small shops selling everything, including handmade jewelry, leather, ceramics and rugs, wooden objects, and clothing. Entrance fees for Castello, the Archeological Museum, and the Palace of the Grand Master is included.
Overnight: Rhodes, Greece Meals: Breakfast

Monday, May 14, 2012

Lindos half day: On your arrival in Lindos, you will be captivated by the magnificent view of Lindos Bay, with its traditional houses of a sparkling white surrounded by bright blue and crystalline waters. The stunning beauty of the castle, the Acropolis of Athena Lindia on the top of the hill with its wonderful view, St. Paul's Bay (the apostle arrived in 58 BC), and the pebbled streets of the village fascinate visitors. Visit the acropolis on foot or by a special kind of cab "Taxi Lindos" driven by monkeys (supplementary cost.) Entrance fees for Acropolis of Lindos is included.
Overnight: Rhodes, Greece Meals: Breakfast

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Transfer from Rhodes to Athens
Overnight: Athens, Greece Meals: Breakfast

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Half-day tour of Athens: The tour begins with a panoramic drive through the city center of Athens. View Panathenian Stadium, the Presidential Residence, the ruins of the Temple of Zeus and Hadrian's Arch. Visit the Acropolis, the ancient architectural masterpiece built during the Golden Age of Athens. Finally, visit the new Acropolis Museum, built at the base of the monument where many of the original statues from the Acropolis are now displayed.
Overnight: Athens, Greece
Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner in Athens at a local restaurant

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Return flight to JFK-USA

PRELIMINARY RATES

\$3,239* pp dbl + \$160 air taxes

*Based on a projected \$1,590 R/T benchmark group air estimate from JFK including all taxes and current fuel surcharges.

*Based on minimum 20 participants.

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The Royal Arch

and the Pathway to the Search for Lost Knowledge

Part IV and last of the Series

by

Dr. David Harrison

Besides the “degree” of the Royal Arch, the Wigan Grand Lodge also practised the “*Sublime Degree of Knights Templars.*”³⁹

The Knights Templar as a Masonic order can be traced back to the mid-late eighteenth century⁴⁰ and is described as a “Masonic Order of Chivalry” by Carlile in his *Manual of Freemasonry*, the ritual discussing the resurrection of Christ and taking place within a “well guarded grand Christian encampment.” The candidate has a number of questions put to him and is asked about “The Sign and Word of a Royal Arch Mason” and if he has worked on the second Temple. The Christian encampment is, like the Temple, a sacred space, and the candidate is asked if he has received a Christian Baptism and is willing to protect the Christian faith. The candidate who is described as “a poor weary pilgrim,” offers to devote his life to Christ and the service of the poor and sick and thus becomes a Knight Templar.⁴¹ The “pretended” link between Freemasonry and the medieval order of the Knights Templar was discussed as early as 1864 in the *Boston Freemasons’ Monthly*; the confusion in regard to the history of the Masonic order was already beginning to blur.⁴²

The search for lost knowledge within Freemasonry during the nine-

teenth century continued, with the industrialists and professionals yearning for a deeper insight into the secrets of Freemasonry and the hidden mysteries of nature and science. As in the eighteenth century, knowledge of science was still sought after, and Freemasonry offered an intellectual pathway to the understanding of natural philosophy. Further degrees could assist with this journey, and the Royal Arch was the beginning of a new voyage of discovery for the Master Mason, the Craft offering a road to the discovery of lost knowledge with further rituals such as the Master Mark degree and the Knights Templar revealing new mysteries. As the American Masonic writer Albert G. Mackey once put it, Royal Arch Masonry was “that division of Speculative Freemasonry which is engaged in the investigation of the mysteries connected with the Royal Arch, no matter under what name or what Rite.”⁴³

End Notes

³⁹ Ibid., pp.102-3.

⁴⁰ Seemungal, ‘The Rise of Additional Degrees’ in *AQC*, Vol. 84, pp.310-311.

⁴¹ Carlile, pp.137-146.

⁴² Charles W. Moore, Grand Secretary of The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, ‘Order of Knights Templars: Its Pretended Continuation and Connection with Freemasonry’

in *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*, Vol. XXIII, (Boston: printed by Hugh H. Tuttle, 1864), December 1, 1863, No. 2, p.41.

⁴³ Albert G. Mackey, *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* Vol. II, (Chicago: The Masonic History Company, 2003), p.884.



Dr. David Harrison is a history lecturer, having completed his Ph.D. on the history of Freemasonry in 2008 at the University of Liverpool. The thesis was published by Lewis Masonic titled *The Genesis of Freemasonry* and is available at all good book outlets. His second book is *The Transformation of Freemasonry* published by Arima whose web site is www.arimapublishing.co.uk The author can be contacted via the Lewis Masonic website: www.lewisimasonic.co.uk

To the left is a Masonic monument from St. James' Cemetery in Liverpool revealing the story of Captain Elisha Lindsay Halsey from Charlestown, South Carolina, USA, who died unexpectedly on his ship "Thomas Bennett" while on the Bay of Biscay off the coast of Spain. The ship arrived in Liverpool, and the Captain, a Freemason, was buried and the very elaborate monument erected "by American ship masters and a few friends in Liverpool" indicating it was a local lodge which assisted in the arrangements and the funeral. The American flag appears on one side of the monument while the Masonic symbols of the setsquare and compass and the 'All-Seeing Eye' set within two inverted triangles dominate another side. Again this monument testifies to the trans-Atlantic relationship of Freemasonry at this time. The photograph is by Marie Shaw and from the book *The Genesis of Freemasonry* by David Harrison.



Grand Encampment

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844-846 Terry C. Shaver
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2011 DEPARTMENT CONFERENCES

Make your plans to attend one of the 2011 Grand Encampment Department Conferences. The format for the 2011 Department Conferences is designed to encourage interaction and participation by all attendees. Information is sent to all Grand Commandery Officers and Past Grand Commanders sixty days prior to the conference date. ALL SIR KNIGHTS ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. Visit the Grand Encampment website for registration information and additional conference details.

Northeastern Department

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts/Rhode Island, New Hampshire,
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont
Vincent A. Cowie, RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
September 9-10, 2011.....Rocky Hill, Connecticut

South Central Department

Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas
Howard F. Entwistle, RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
September 16-17, 2011.....Kansas City, Missouri

Mid-Atlantic Department

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina,
Virginia, and West Virginia
Paul S. Newhall, RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
September 23-24, 2011.....Alexandria, Virginia

Northwestern Department

Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming
Michael B. Johnson, RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
October 14-15, 2011.....Boise, Idaho

North Central Department

Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota
David M. Dryer, RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
October 21-22, 2011.....Des Moines, Iowa

Southwestern Department

Arizona, California, Mexico, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah
Richard S. Butterfield, RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
October 28-29, 2011.....Phoenix, Arizona



Beauceant News



Reno Assembly No. 257 welcomed the Supreme Worthy President, Mrs. W. Joe Ryland, on March 27, 2011, for the Official Visit. Pictured on the front row is Mrs. Robert Berzins, Supreme Worthy Mistress of the Wardrobe; Mrs. W. Dalton LaRue, Worthy President; and Mrs. W. Joe Ryland, Supreme Worthy President.



Phoenix Assembly No. 213 enjoyed the Supreme Worthy President, Mrs. W. Joe Ryland, on her Official Visit on March 14, 2011. Pictured in the front row is Mrs. Joe Cortez, Supreme Worthy Preceptress; Mrs. F. Wayne Bowman, Worthy President; and Mrs. W. Joe Ryland, Supreme Worthy President.



Knights



at the Bookshelf

By
Sir Knight John Palmer

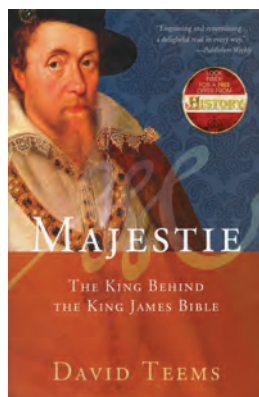
Majestie – The King Behind the King James Bible by David Teems, Published by Thomas Nelson 2010, ISBN 987-1-59555-220-4.

It may seem odd to you that we would publish a book about a British King in this magazine until you remember that this particular King, James VI and I, was the man who commissioned the King James Bible, the most popular version since the Bible has been in print. The first half of the book is essentially a biography of this unusual man and an explanation of the times in which he lived, including the circumstances which must have influenced his development.

For someone like me who is not well versed in British history, it was an enjoyable education. Protected and educated as a future King; caught up in the middle of a feud between Catholicism and Protestantism; son of, but really never acquainted with the controversial Mary, Queen of Scots; constantly under the scrutiny of Queen Elizabeth I; and used as a political lever by almost everyone who surrounded him from birth; this boy's social and intellectual development is extremely intriguing, and it is no wonder that he turned out to be a bit of an odd duck.

The last half of the book is an examination of the process used to create this version of the Bible. It explains in great detail how the work was accomplished, upon what it was based, the rules set down by the King, and the personalities involved. Finally, there is an intriguing revelation that at least one message may have been cleverly encrypted by the translators into the translation of one of the Psalms.

You will not want to skip to the end of this book to read only the part about the actual translation. The historical and biographical part is essential to a true understanding of why certain words were chosen by the translators. I have always preferred more modern translations in my Bible studies, but this book gave me a much greater appreciation for the King James version and the excruciating detail with which it was translated. At first blush, you might be tempted to anticipate that this book would be boring, but for anyone interested in that period of history or in the translation of this Biblical standard, this is a must read.



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