



# **Knight Templar**

**VOLUME LVIII**

**JANUARY 2012**

**NUMBER 1**

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(In case we have questions about your order)

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# Knight Templar

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VOLUME LVIII JANUARY 2012 NUMBER 1  
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 Grand Encampment of Knights Templar  
 of the United States of America.

**William H. Koon, II**  
 Grand Master

**Jeffrey N. Nelson**  
 Grand Captain General and Publisher  
 3112 Tyler Parkway  
 Bismarck, ND 5850

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**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.**

**John L. Palmer**  
 Managing Editor  
 Post Office Box 566  
 Nolensville, TN 37135-0566  
 Phone: (615) 283-8477  
 Fax: (615) 283-8476  
 E-mail: ktmagazine@comcast.net

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Magazine materials and correspondence to the editor should be sent in electronic form to the managing editor whose contact information is shown above.

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

**Lawrence E. Tucker**  
 Grand Recorder

**Grand Encampment Office**  
 5909 West Loop South, Suite 495  
 Bellaire, TX 77401-2402  
 Phone: (713) 349-8700  
 Fax: (713) 349-8710  
 E-mail: larry@gektusa.org

**Cover photo of a red fox in the sun on cold winter day copyrighted by Lee O'Dell.**

# Grand Master's Message

**E**ach January since 2009, your Grand Encampment officers have listed their "Resolutions" for the next year. This will be the last list I will do as Grand Master, but the tradition will continue as we transition into a new triennium this coming August. Teamwork is a concept that once developed will continue so long as it is fostered. The teamwork approach needs to be spread across the leadership spectrum at all levels; Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and the local Commandery. The resolutions:



1. **Make Templary the most prestigious order that one may petition.**
2. **Continue expanding this prestigious order.**
3. **Execute the 65<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conclave in a prestigious manner.**
4. **Membership stabilization during the 66<sup>th</sup> triennium.**
5. **Increase the visibility of the order.**
6. **Improve the quality of the ritualistic work.**

The challenge will continue, only the leadership will change!

The officers of the Grand Encampment wish for you every success on whatever YOUR New Year's resolutions may be for 2012!

Happy New Year!



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

William H. Koon, II, GCT  
Grand Master

january 2012





# *Prelate's Chapel*

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

**A**re you still enjoying the “12 Days of Christmas”, or have you taken the tree down, put the decorations and the gifts away, stacked the Christmas cards somewhere to look at them again (now that you have more time), eaten all the leftovers, and are “hunkered down” for the long days of winter ahead? Many people get depressed after the Christmas holidays with the let-down from all the busyness, multi-tasking preparations and festivities, and only short winter days and long winter nights ahead. Perhaps however, they (and hopefully not you) have missed the whole point of Christmas!

It was my privilege, many years ago, to hear the Reverend Howard Thurman preach. He was a soft-spoken man but a deeply spiritual Christian author, philosopher, and educator. He wrote a poem that, to me, expresses the true nature of Christmas for us, especially for us Knights Templar. I don't think Dr. Thurman was a Knight Templar, but he certainly caught the essence of what we are charged to do.

“When the song of the angel is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the Kings and Princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The real work of Christmas begins.  
To find the lost, To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry, To release the prisoners,  
To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.”

Truly this is the spirit of Christmas kept alive in what we do. It was the Christ of Christmas that came among us to do just what Dr. Thurman wrote, and the great Captain of our Salvation asks us not to “hunker down” and let the world go by but to “love one another as He has loved us.” That love is made manifest in “The Real Work of Christmas.”

# 82<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL EAST COAST EASTER OBSERVANCE – 2012

**T**he 82<sup>nd</sup> 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 8, 2012, and will begin at 8:00 a.m. 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 \$110.00 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](http://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](http://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 77401-2497. 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 10, 2012. No tickets will be sold at the door.

## GRAND COMMANDERS AND THEIR LADIES

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

## TOMB OF THE UNKNOWNNS

On Saturday, April 7, 2012, several delegations will travel to Arlington National Cemetery to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns, honoring their members who have fallen in combat as members of the armed forces of the United States of America.

Grand Commandery Delegations  
As follows:

- Georgia – 9:15 a.m.
- North Carolina – 9:15 a.m.
- Indiana – 10:15 a.m.
- Ohio – 11:15 a.m.

Please contact these delegations for further details.

**EASTER MORNING PROGRAM**

A breakfast buffet will be served beginning at 6:00 a.m. at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center on Easter morning. Buses will be available to leave at 6:30 a.m. 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 a.m.

**OUR GRAND MASTER**

The Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, Sir Knight William H. Koon, II, and other officers will greet everyone at the Sunday breakfast.

**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 knight templar

plume to join them in the formation of the cross.

The parade will step off at 7:40 a.m., proceed up the hill, render “eyes right” on passing the 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 a.m.

**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 10, 2012.**

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 77401-2497; TELEPHONE: 713-349-8700; FAX: 713-349-8710; E-MAIL: [john@gektusa.org](mailto: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!



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## Letters to the Editor



Dear John Palmer:

I used to enjoy *Knight Templar* magazine in the past but not so much anymore. The monthly had articles dealing more with the worldly views about Freemasonry. As a Past Master of Wayfarers Lodge, No. 1001, Evanston, Illinois, I recognize that Freemasonry is so much more in tune with Masons around the planet, not just Christianity. I was brought up as a New England Congregationalist Christian (now UCC) that certainly understands the faith, but we used to hear many more Masonic stories about other religions as well. As a theistic Unitarian-Universalist, any such tales were well-received by me. Is it still possible to have a few non-Christian Masonic stories again?

David N. Woods, PM



*Sir Knight David,*

*Thank you for your feedback. We are always interested in what the Sir Knights would like to see in the magazine. I will share it with the editorial review board. When the board was first established, they adopted a policy of publishing features primarily about the history, philosophy, and symbolism of Templary, Freemasonry, and Christianity. When I got your letter, I thought it might be an opportune moment to just see what we have been publishing. During the last two years, we have published eighty-*  
knight templar

*six feature articles. Fifty-five percent of them have been about Templary, thirty-eight percent about Freemasonry, and only seven percent about Christianity. In reality, if it is about one of these subjects and of sufficient quality, the board publishes it. I believe that this mix of articles is primarily a function of what is being submitted for publication. We always welcome folks to submit articles on any of these subjects.*

*The Ed.*



Dear S.K. Palmer,

I received my copy of the October, 2011 *Knight Templar* magazine on Monday, October 3, 2011. I am pretty sure this issue was in the mail for about a week before delivered to me. I must further assume that the issue was assembled and printed a few weeks prior to that. So please explain to me how article "Silver Trophies of the Grand Encampment" can be reported with such detail when the Illinois Lodge of Research doesn't meet until tomorrow, October 7, 2011?

Thanks very much,  
Michael (Mike) Wolcott  
Pilgrim Commandery No. 15  
Gainesville, Georgia

*It would seem that Sir Knight Scheeler is clairvoyant. Why don't you check with him tomorrow and see if his prediction came true? His e-mail is oldchicagoyorkrite@msn.com.*

*The Ed.*

# Does Your Commandery Have Templar Treasures?

By  
Sir Knight Robert Bettencourt

If your Commandery was established in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, you just may have a treasure trove of history at your fingertips - and a golden opportunity to display the light of Christian Masonry to men of quality within your community.

In 2004 I became a Sir Knight on the central coast of California and have regularly attended our Stated Conclaves ever since. However, until last year I had no idea how many founding men of San Luis Obispo were also members of our unanimous order since the Commandery was established in 1886. In fact, San Luis Obispo Commandery No. 27 has boasted a number of locally well-known pioneers, sea captains, law men, publishers, mayors, and state politicians. Photographs shown here include sea captain James Cass (ca. 1886), California State Treasurer Levi Rackliffe (ca. 1889), local newspaper editor Benjamin Brooks (ca. 1897), longest-serving Grand Secretary in history of California Masonry John Whicher (ca. 1899), Civil War veteran P.F. Ready (ca. 1903), County Sheriff S.D. Ballou (ca. 1904), California Assemblyman J.H. Hollister (ca. 1912), and the annual Easter observance at our historic lodge building in 1914.

We have a photo album with portraits of these men, but I found that our album had fallen into disrepair over the years, so I set about restoring it.

This labor of love, which involved “sleuthing” to put names with loose photos, led me to research the archives in the vault below our 100-year-old lodge building where many priceless yet infrequently viewed documents have lain quietly going back to the very founding of our Commandery in 1886. I have spent happy hours in that vault and also in our county’s History Center which has helped me identify many of these photos and has led to connection with local historians. One of those historians is a professor emeritus of history at our local college, Dr. Dan Krieger of California Polytechnic State University, who recently made a free public presentation at our Lodge about several of our locally famous Knights Templar; his speech brought renewed credit and esteem to our institution.

Several of us have also found that our issued swords are engraved with the names of these esteemed Sir Knights of the past, making our experience of Templary the more meaningful because of this closer connection to our ancient brethren.

If your Commandery dates back to the 1800s, you too may find a connection to such awesome men who can once again serve as an inspiration – this time to a new generation of Sir Knights. You might find younger Knights within your ranks who would consider it an



Sir Knight James Cass, sea captain and “Founding Father of Cayucos” on California’s central coast (ca. 1886).

honor to research one or more of our departed brothers, perhaps to make presentations about the history of those men at a stated conclave, or you could invite a local historian to tell their story. I trust that a little effort on your part will knight templar

greatly benefit you, your Commandery, and your community as a whole.

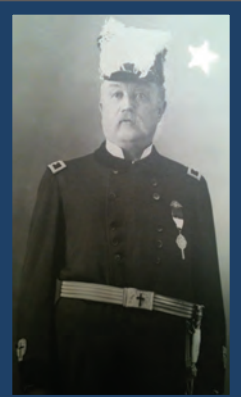
Sir Knight Robert Bettencourt is a member of San Luis Obispo Commandery No. 27, resides at 981 Osos Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, and can be contacted at [robertbettencourtlaw@mac.com](mailto:robertbettencourtlaw@mac.com).



Annual Easter observance of Knights Templar at our f



Longest serving Grand Secretary in history of California Masonry John Whicher (ca. 1899)



County Sheriff S.D. Ballou (ca. 1904)



Civil War veteran Phillip F. Ready (ca. 1903)





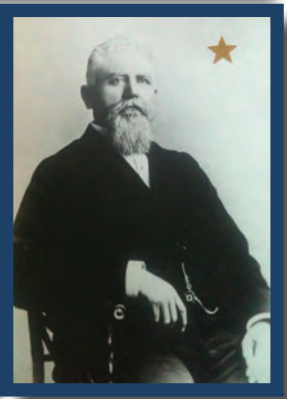
historic lodge building (1914).



California Assemblyman  
J.H. Hollister (ca. 1912)



Local newspaper editor  
Benjamin Brooks (ca. 1897)



California State Treasurer  
Levi Rackliffe (ca. 1889)

*Your invitation to join us on a  
Knight Templar Pilgrimage to Greece and Malta  
May 8-17, 2012*

**10 DAY PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Round Trip Flights - JFK-Malta-Rhodes-Athens-JFK
- Airline fuel surcharges of \$420, subject to change until airline tickets are issued.
- 8 nights accommodations at the following hotels or similar
- 3 nights San Antonio Hotel & Spa, Malta
- 3 nights Semiramis Hotel, Rhodes, Greece
- 2 nights Royal Olympic Hotel, Athens or similar
- 8 Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 4 Dinner
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking escort in each destination.
- Local guides as required
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Portorage of one piece per person on arrival and departure at each hotel

**SPECIAL FEATURES:**

- On-line Reservation: \$25 per person reduction will apply for on-line reservations, use ONLINE25 as the promotion code
- Cash Discount: If you should choose to pay by cash/check your final invoice will reflect a 5% discount.

**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

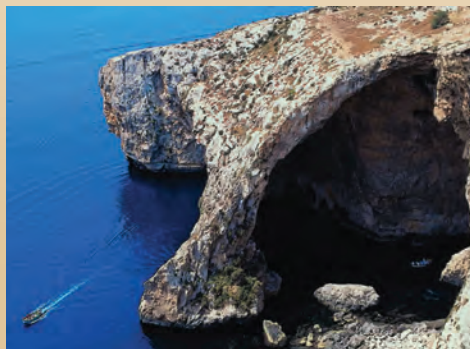
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

**Friday, May 11, 2012**

Group departs hotel accompanied by English speaking guide and drives to the three cities of Vittoriosa, Senglea, and 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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**

Depart on a flight from Malta to Athens  
Late evening arrival in Athens

Overnight: Athens, Greece Meals: Breakfast

### **Sunday, May 13, 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.

Transfer to the airport in Athens

Flight from Athens to Rhodes via Olympic Air

Check into your hotel. Welcome dinner in Rhodes

Overnight: Rhodes, Greece Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

### **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**

Depart by coach with official guide, **Rhodes full-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

### **Wednesday, May 16, 2012**

Mid day transfer to the airport for your flight to Athens

Transfer to your hotel in Athens with the remaining afternoon free to explore Athens on your own.

Farewell Dinner in Athens at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Athens, Greece

Meals: Breakfast and Farewell Dinner

### **Thursday, May 17, 2012**

Depart for home from Athens Meals Breakfast

## **PRELIMINARY RATES**

\$3,567\* pp dbl

+ \$182 current taxes

\*Based on a new projected air allowance of \$1940 pp including air taxes and current fuel \$420.

\*Based on minimum 20 participants.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

John L. Palmer KTCH, KCT, 33°

Managing Editor,

Knight Templar magazine

ktmagazine@comcast.net

Office 615-283-8477

Payment Schedule/Terms and conditions

Air and land deposit: \$300 per person due at time of registration, due no less than 100 days prior to departure (Jan. 28, 2012)

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## Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

1033 Long Prairie Road

Suite 5

Flower Mound, TX 75022-4230

Phone: (214) 888-0220

Fax: (214) 888-0230



Greetings Sir Knights;

**L**et me be one of the first to wish you a Happy New Year! I sincerely hope that 2012 will be a most productive and rewarding year for all Knights Templar. I told you in my campaign letter that I would endeavor to keep you informed with eye care information and about where your money is working to cure eye diseases.

On July 31, 2011, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation presented a grant check of \$40,000 to Dr. Viyullatha Vasireddy at the University of Pennsylvania. This grant will enable Dr. Vasireddy to develop an approach to reverse blindness in a severe childhood onset retinal degeneration called Leber Congenital Amaurosis (LCA). LCA is a rare genetic disorder that causes severe retinal and visual dysfunction at birth and leads to further loss of vision during childhood. Fifteen genes have been found so far that lead to LCA. Data from animal and human studies have demonstrated that gene therapy can successfully restore vision to patients with another form of LCA.

Sir Knights, the above mentioned grant is one of twenty-seven that the Knights Templar Eye Foundation presented this year. You can see how important these grants are in eye research and in developing cures for blindness and other eye problems. Sir Knights, your contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation are so very important, so please remember the Knights Templar Eye Foundation when you contribute to your charities. Remember there may be no greater gift than the gift of sight.

Michael B. Johnson  
Chairman  
44<sup>th</sup> Annual Campaign



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

1	S	2	O	B	3	L	4	O	N	5	G	6	S	7	Q	U	8	A	R	E
9	T	R	Y	Q	U	T	10	L	O	U	V	R	E	11	L					
12	A	I	N	U	S	13	S	A	R	A	J	E	V	O						
	R	14	G	E	N	T	15	B	D	C	R	A	T	E	D					
17	R	I	N	G	S	I	D	E	T	18	C	E	19	S	G					
	Y	N	20	F	E	B	22	G	A	R	23	G	O	Y	L	E				
24	S	O	R	D	I	D	25	P	Y	U	R	S	A	R						
27	K	N	E	E	D	E	E	P	S	28	N	A	T	O						
	Y	29	O	R	D	E	A	L	30	S	T	E	R	E	O					
31	T	R	E	S	T	L	E	B	O	A	R	D	M							

**ACROSS**

2. OBLONG SQUARE = O.B. + LONGS + AR inside QUE
9. TRYOUT = TROUT “streaming” around Y
10. LOUVRE = U & R inside LOVE
12. AINU = AU outside of IN
13. SARAJEVO anagram of ROSE JAVA
14. G(rand) + ENT(erprise)
16. C + RATED
17. RINGSIDE = RING + SID(h)E - H
22. GARGOYLE pun on GARGLE
24. SORDID homophone of “sore did”
26. URSA = R(ight) inside U.S.A.
27. KNEE-DEEP = NEED inside KEEP
28. NATO = N(ot)A(pplicable) + TO
29. OR + DEAL
30. STEREO anagram of TREE SO
31. TRESTLEBOARD double definition

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.

**DOWN**

1. STARRY SKY = TARRY inside SS + KY
2. ORIGIN double definition (beginning of “Origin of the Species” and mathematical term)
3. LOUNGE = (p)LUNGE + O - P
4. (j)OUSTS
5. G(rand)L(odge) + AD
6. SORCERY = interlaced SCRY and ORE
7. QUART(ers)
8. ARE + T(h)E
11. LODGE ROOM anagram of DORM GOOGLE - G
15. BIG DEAL anagram of DIE BAG + L
18. CORN + E.A.
19. SLATE + D(aily)
20. F(ailed) + RE- + RE-
21. BID + E.T.
23. GUST + O
25. PELE anagram of PEEL (a nickname he “slipped on”)

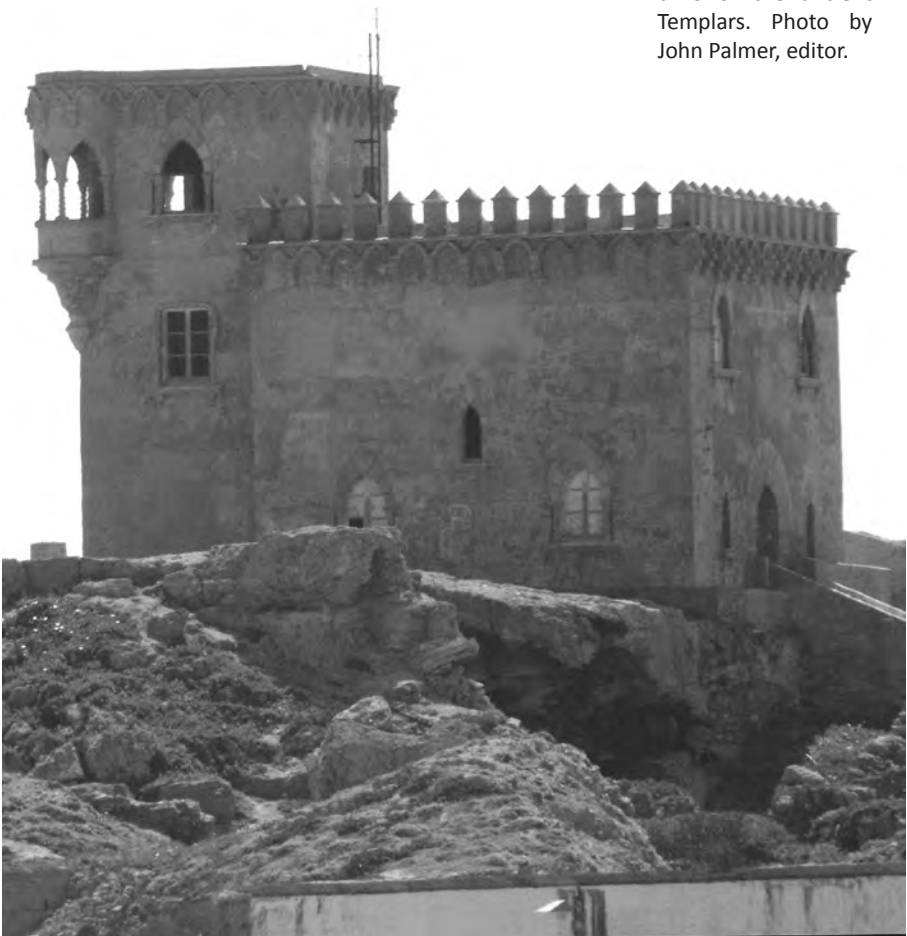
The author is a Knight Templar who follows Cryptic Crossword tradition by setting puzzles under a crucinym, choosing Loki, the Norse god of mischief. If you would like detailed instructions on how to solve Cryptic clues, go to <http://cerrillos.org/cryptic.htm>.



# 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.

A fortress in the city of Tangiers, a Muslem stronghold since the time of the ancient Templars. Photo by John Palmer, editor.



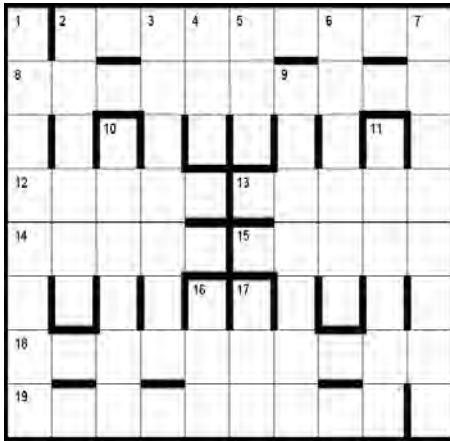
A church in Toledo, Spain where swords have been manufactured since the time of the ancient Templars. Photo by John Palmer, editor



## CRYPTIC PUZZLE

by Loki

Solution in Next Month's Issue



### ACROSS

2. Crypt of German mouse with petroleum tail (9)
8. Soldier, soldier, father and confused, What name for Ursa Major might Confucius have used? (5,5)
12. Spruce trees get a snap-shot each (5)
13. Auto in Southeast should frighten (5)
14. Sub adults enter first in 10s (5)
15. Hot drink with change of address (5)
18. A post rope holds horse in lieu of something missing (10)
19. General McAuliffe's response: "Hell, shoot first, they're cracked!" (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.knightstemplar.org>.

### DOWN

1. Translated tiny page of hieroglyphic language (8)
2. Situation where I got in a mile ahead of you (6)
3. Straightens out bun, send firsts to lasts (7)
4. Eyesore! (3)
5. Shop to select your choice (3)
6. Tie up twisty lane (etc.) without a T (6)
7. Horsemane@er.net has solution to ferocious tiger (3-5)
9. Salmon breed in all liquors (7)
10. Short count whipped in oleo for wildcat (6)
11. Spoiled by cooks and brothers out side of trauma center (6)
16. Another try at getting into ant hive (3)
17. Miner's goal in Pacific Northwest (3)





## NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

# Grand Master's Club

Carl M. Phillips.....AR	Thomas Louis Wimbish .....NC
In Honor of James C. Taylor..... OK	Moton H. Crockett ..... TX
Joel D. Ratliff, Sr..... VA	Jason Loyd Jackson ..... TX
Ralph Taylor Woodrow ..... VA	Eugene P. Jorgensen..... NE
James William Green ..... GA	Claude A Norton, Jr. .... VA
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Richard Donley..... TX	Ralph Taylor Woodrow..... VA

### How to Join the Grand Commander's or the Grand Master's Clubs

Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and Commandery credit is given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 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.

# Masonic Conferences - 2012

## MEETINGS HELD DURING "MASONIC WEEK" IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

February 9-12	Hilton Alexandria Mark Center	Alexandria, VA	(annually)
Grand College of Rites, U.S.A.	Great Chief's Council No. 0, Knight Masons, U.S.A		
The Masonic Society	Royal Society of Knights Occidental		
The Society of Blue Friars	Council of the Nine Muses No. 13, A.M.D.		
Grand Master's Council, A.M.D.	Masonic Order of the Bath in the U.S.A.		
Ye Antient Order of Corks	Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor		
Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests			
Grand Preceptors Council of the Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon			

## THE INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS

<b>July 22-25</b>	<b>Amway Grand in Grand Rapids, Michigan</b>	<b>(biennially)</b>
<u>Supreme Worthy Advisor</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
Mrs. Linda Little	Miss Lynn D. Gebler	(401) 539-9025
315 East Carl Albert Parkway	315 East Carl Albert Parkway	Saoffice@gorainbow.org
McAlester, OK 74501	McAlester, OK 74501	www.gorainbow.org

## THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

<b>November 1-9</b>	<b>Fort Worth, Texas</b>	<b>(triennially)</b>
<u>Most Worthy Grand Matron</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
Rennie Often	Alma Lynn Bane	(202) 667-4737
131 Andricks Drive	1618 New Hampshire Avenue, NW	www.EasternStar.ORG
San Antonio, TX 78223	Washington, DC 20009-2549	rwgsecretary@easternstar.org

## SUPREME ASSEMBLY, SOCIAL ORDER OF THE BEAUCEANT

<b>September 25-30</b>	<b>Fort Worth, Texas</b>	<b>(annually)</b>
<u>Supreme Worthy President</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
(Mrs. John A.) Mary A. Brogan	(Mrs. Richard D.) Carlene Brown	(620) 221-4513
	1526 East 13 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	carleneb246@yahoo.com
	Winfield, KS 67156	

## KNIGHTS OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE

<b>May 31-June 3</b>	<b>Charlotte, North Carolina</b>	<b>(annually)</b>
<u>Grand Sovereign</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
David L Hargett, Jr.	Frederick G. Kleyn, III	(619) 456-4652
406 Harris Ln.	P.O. Box 1606	gdrec@redcrossconstantine.org
Monroe, NC 28112-5764	El Cajon, CA 92022	www.redcrossconstantine.org

## NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.

<b>June 18–23</b>	<b>Burlington, Vermont</b>	<b>(annually)</b>
<u>National President</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
LTC William G. L. Turner	Nelson O. Newcombe	(703) 765-5000
3618 South Place	8301 East Boulevard Drive	nationalsoj@juno.com
Alexandria, VA 22309-2201	Alexandria, VA 22308-1399	

## TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON OF NORTH AMERICA

<b>May 10-13</b>	<b>Wildwood, New Jersey</b>	<b>(annually)</b>
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46 N. Danbury Circle, E.	2609 N. Front St.	tclsf@verizon.net
Fallowfield, PA 19320	Harrisburg, PA 17110	

## THE MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

<b>February 19-21</b>	<b>Atlanta, Georgia</b>	<b>(annually)</b>
<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
William G. Roberts	George O. Braatz	(301) 588-4010
P. O. Box 193	8120 Fenton St.	msana@ix.netcom.com
Tonopah, NV 89049	Silver Spring, MD 20910	

## THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR U.S.A.

<b>August 11-15</b>	<b>Alexandria, Virginia</b>	<b>(triennially)</b>
<u>Grand Master</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
William H. Koon, II	Lawrence Tucker	larry@gektusa.org
7200 Slabtown Road	Grand Encampment, Knights Templar U.S.A.	(713) 349-8700
Columbus Grove, OH 45830	5909 West Loop South	<a href="http://www.knightstemplar.org">http://www.knightstemplar.org</a>
	Suite 495	
	Bellaire, TX 77401-2402	

## SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF THE AMARANTH

<b>June 24-27</b>	<b>Toronto Ontario, Canada</b>	<b>(annually)</b>
<u>Supreme Royal Matron</u>	<u>Contact</u>	
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5819 Highway 6, RR5	6417 Normandy Ln.	amaranthss2@charter.net
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Georgia  
Grand Commander 2009  
Born: September 11, 1924  
Died: October 28, 2011

Norval W. Stewart  
Nebraska  
Grand Commander 1974  
Born: July 10, 1914  
Died: October 29, 2011

John F. Kirby  
Kentucky  
Grand Commander 1995  
Born: November 5, 1926  
Died: October 26, 2011

Harry R. Houston  
Washington  
Grand Commander 1994  
Born: March 2, 1928  
Died: October 1, 2011



# THE QUEST FOR THE HOLY GRAIL AND THE MODERN KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

The last in a series

By

V.Em.Kt. Very Rev. Frederick A. Shade

## SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES ON THE HOLY GRAIL

(Based on the writings of A.E.Waite, especially the Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, pp 368-379.)

The question often posed is whether the quest of the Holy Grail is a version of the soul's quest, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. The answer can be in the affirmative, but the story itself is a mixture of themes, people, events, symbols, and folklore. A number of sources have been interwoven into what we now know as the Grail literature; our task in answering this question is not made any easier. There is no doubt that the quest is a mystical quest as represented by Galahad in particular. First, a brief note on the several sources it uses.

Among things antecedent in folklore is an Irish legend concerning the Cauldron of the Dagda, a magical talisman from which no person ever went away unsatisfied, meaning that it had food giving properties. There are also Cauldrons of different types in Welsh folklore.

And what of the hallows of the Grail legend? There are certain other hallows connected with the sacred vessel:

(1) a lance that bleeds at the point,  
knight templar

(2) a sword which is usually fractured, and

(3) a dish or platter which is other than the vessel called the Grail.

The antecedents of these are to be found in Welsh folklore in particular.

These various elements came into the romance literature of the Holy Grail and were obviously pre-Christian. Apparently their meaning changed when they were incorporated into the Christian faith, and it seems that this was done with little difficulty. Also, the theme of exile and return which is found in folklore traditions and which was incorporated into this cycle was transformed into one with a Christian as well as a mystical meaning.

The *Story of Peredur* is a story of a fool and his folly, but it is much more than this since the valor of a simpleton leads him to a high grade in the chivalry of the world. It has suffered several transformations in later romance cycles, by which he became finally the Perlesvaux of the *High History*, the Parzival of Wolfram von Eschenbach, and the second of the three peers in the *Quest of Galahad*.

## The Sacred Vessel

When the magical cauldron of the Celtic folklore was changed over into Christian symbolism, it became the Holy Grail. There is no pre-Christian Grail, although there are vessels and cups etc. in

folklore. What is actually that holy vessel of the sanctuary? The answer, according to Waite, is that the Cauldron of the Dagda became either that paschal dish in which Christ ate the last supper with his apostles or alternatively the cup or chalice in which He consecrated the wine at the first Eucharist. There seems to be some confusion in the writings of the romances on this subject. In either case it became the Holy of Holies. And the reasons why it is so are recounted as follows.

After the sacramental and other ceremonial offices of Maundy Thursday it was used to receive the precious blood which flowed from the wounds of Christ. The circumstances are recounted variously as follows:

(1) When the centurion pierced the side of Christ, Joseph of Arimathea collected the issue from the wound and preserved it in this vessel.

(2) Alternatively, it received the blood still flowing from the wounds, apparently from the whole body, when this was prepared for burial. Thus the grail became a relic of the Passion.

Also, the other hallows in the castle or temple of the mystery were relics in like manner:

(1) The spear with blood flowing from the point is taken from folklore (but does not explain the issue), and in this Romance it is another miracle connected with the Crucifixion, being the Lance of Longinus.

(2) The sword, which is not the sword of St. Peter but either the weapon used to behead St. John the Baptist, or alternatively, it is the traditional sword of Judas Maccabeus, or one purely mythical and said to have been that of King Solomon.

(3) The dish, which in folklore some-

times carries a head swimming in blood and may be that of the blessed Bran. However, it is transformed in some literature as becoming the vessel in which Christ ate the paschal lamb and sometimes as the cup of the Eucharist.

(4) Subsidiary hallows which appear only in certain texts are the crown of thorns, the nails used at the crucifixion, and the cerements (grave-cloths) which enveloped the sacred body in the rock-hewn sepulcher.

### **The Mass of the Grail**

The Mass and the cup of a super-pontifical Mass in the traditional story concerns Joseph of Arimathea and appears in several places. It has several very significant features and symbolism. According to certain texts, the Grail Mass draws its peculiar virtue from secret words communicated by Christ himself to Joseph of Arimathea, who was the first Bishop of Christendom. (He was of a different line than that of the official priesthood). When Joseph was imprisoned by the Jews, Christ brought him the Sacred Vessel which had passed previously from his hands and "communicated to him certain secret words which were the grace and power thereof." It appears afterward as a vessel of sacramental and inward refreshment, the celebration of which becomes a daily service in commemoration of the Lord's Supper.

### **Texts of Transubstantiation**

The Mass of the Grail is truly a spiritual mystery as if the ritual of a hidden Church were celebrated in the presence of an elect body of believers. There is however, another aspect of the Mass

formula represented by the *High History* and the *Galahad Quest*. These are texts of transubstantiation.

In the first of these texts, the Mass of the Grail is characterized by five changes corresponding to the five wounds which Christ received upon the cross, though behind this there is a deeper meaning which is mentioned but not disclosed; it is called the "Secret of the Sacrament."

At another celebration the sacred vessel seemed to be transformed into the Divine Body. It may be compared with another account in which the Blessed Virgin places her child in the hands of a hermit-priest, but at the Canon of the Mass, the child becomes the Man-Christ crucified. For the Galahad "Quest" the "flesh and blood of God" are present in the Grail.

At another Mass witnessed by Lancelot, the Holy Spirit in the guise of three men are exalted above the head of the officiating priest, and two of them place the youngest in the priest's hands. On another occasion, a child enters the substance of the bread. Again a man is elevated bearing the stigmata of the Passion, and this being passes subsequently from the vessel and communicates to the Knights present.

Galahad experiences the most sublime and spiritual of communions, and this is reported in these words:

"And when he (i.e. the man who was in the likeness of a Bishop and had about a great fellowship of angels) came to the sacrament of the Mass and had done, anon he called Galahad and said to him: 'Come forth, the servant of Jesus Christ, and thou shalt see that thou hast much desired to see.' And then he began to tremble right hard when the deadly flesh began to behold the spiritual things... Therewith the good man took

knight templar

our Lord's body betwixt his hand and proffered it to Galahad, and he received it right gladly and meekly.... And therewith he kneeled down before the table, and made his prayers, and then suddenly his soul departed to Jesus Christ and a great multitude of angels bore his soul up to heaven, that the two fellows might well behold it. Also, the two fellows saw come from heaven a hand, but they saw not the body. And then it came right to the vessel and took it and the spear, and so bore it up to heaven. Sithen (since) was there never man so hardy to say that he has seen the Sancgreal (Holy Grail)."

The mystical aspects of the story reside in a deeper understanding of the Eucharist. Behind all the transubstantiations, on whatever level they be, there lies that doctrine which teaches the communication of Divine Substance to the soul, and this is the doctrine of Divine Union, that term and consummation of all our mystical quests. Herein are the mystic aspects of the Holy Grail. *The Book of the Mass* is the greatest book of initiation, and the literature of the Holy Grail is an inspired commentary thereon.

We can follow and may even attain, like Galahad, a chivalry which is not of this world. It is a path which leads to heaven - that is to say, into the state of mystical and ineffable union with Christ. I mean not only the great human Master Jesus who walked this earth but that mode of Deity which is imminent in all creation. God hidden and revealed under the veils of manifest things is the cosmic Christ, God hidden in the transcendence, beyond those measures which we denominate space and time, is the Eternal Father, with whom we are in communion only through and in Christ by that bond of love between them which is the Holy Spirit. The Divine within us, too

often hidden too deeply in our manifest humanity, yet immanent within us, is Christ Mystical, the Kingdom of Heaven within us - that sanctuary within.

### **The Holy Grail and the Heresies**

The thesis of some writers is that the Holy Grail connects with some early Gnostic and Manichean heresies through later Albigensian heresies. However, these sects were not concerned with passion relics, devotion to the precious blood, or a very high doctrine of the real presence in the Eucharist. Also, one should beware of hypothetical Templar connections. It is true to say that the Grail Legend began to appear in its medieval guise at the time of the suppression of the Templars, but there is no evidence available which suggests any direct connection with the Templars.

### **Beauty of Grail Literature**

There is no romance-literature to compare with that of the Holy Grail. There is no French poem of the period which has a talismanic magic like the *Conte del Graal*. As a book of romance in pageantry there is no collection of episodes like the *High History*, and the glory of all glories, according to Waite, is the book of the quest of Galahad.

Sir Knight Fred Shade is a member of the Order in Victoria, Australia. He has been Chaplain of his Preceptory (Metropolitan No. 2) for many years and holds the rank of Past Great 2<sup>nd</sup> Constable. He was the founding Secretary of the Victorian Knight Templar Study Circle and its second President. He can be contacted on email: fredshade@westnet.com.au

## **Grand Encampment**

## **Membership Awards**



866 David George Klein  
St. Simon of Cyrene Commandery No. 10  
Davenport, IA 24-Oct-2011

867 Robert L. Clemmons  
Lubbock Commandery No. 60  
Lubbock, TX 28-Oct-2011  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bronze

868 David S. Cox  
Beauseant Commandery No. 86  
Murphysboro, IL 24-Oct-2011

869 Thomas R. Robertson, Sr.  
Beauseant Commandery No. 86  
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870-872 Wilmer P. Quick  
Prince of Peace Commandery No. 39  
Ashland, PA 1-Nov-2011  
Original + 2 bronze

873 Patrick C. Carr  
Baldwin Commandery No. 4  
Fayetteville, AR 19-Oct-2011



# Hindrance to Light

## A Freemason Obstacle

By  
Sir Knight Darryl Chapman

**I**n the article “Masonry, Aid or Hindrance to Light” in the September and October issues of the 2010 *Knight Templar* magazine, the question of Freemasonry being a facilitation or an obstacle to light was addressed. Further, it was questioned if Masonic light was more than simple knowledge, and the lack of a clear definition was frustrating.<sup>1,2</sup> When I first learned of the hypothesis, I assumed it was going to be another attempt to justify separation from Symbolic Masonry by the “Higher Degree” Masons, especially because of where I discovered it. The answer to the question can only be reached by first defining light and determining the specific direction being traveled to achieve it. A simple answer can be given and a complex one is equally correct depending on the light seeker himself.

Freemasonry is a medium in which a Master Mason navigates the natural laws of perceptible and veiled obstacles on a path to Light. The amount of light that is achieved directly correlates to the distance traveled, the manner and vehicle in which he arrived, and what he wanted to discover, coupled together with additional unforeseeable unveiling and unraveling along the way. As the traveler becomes more enlightened, his definition of light can and will change. Therefore, we must seek more enlightenment, and failure to do so is a hin-

drance to Light.

A simple response can be that Masonic light can be defined as knowledge, experience, or comprehension. This light can be defined as common ritualistic functions of the Fraternity. Further light on this path can be viewed as merely the facts of the preceding, current, or next degree, whether it is one in the Craft, York and Scottish Rites, or Allied Degrees.

As the newest Entered Apprentice Mason, one should remember where he was placed and why. It is also the beginning of illumination, one stone at a time. The inculcations within the Blue Lodge are instruments for building an internal spiritual temple. Its completion is a vast and sublime accomplishment. However, there begins the next degree of light.

Masonry does not give a concise road map to the ultimate light as this is not its design. It does clearly put one on the correct path that leads to it, because in order to end, you must start with the aid of the Great Architect of the Universe. The correct direction is the Holy Bible, and God is the ultimate light. This is a higher meaning of light.

The higher meaning reveals that God is ultimate light. However, Freemasonry is full of symbolism that has dual meaning. Masonic light can have multiple specific meanings. Sometimes we Masons cannot see the forest because of the

trees.<sup>2</sup> Rosicrucianism, Gnosticism, Hermeticism, and Alchemy are philosophies that are distinguished by degrees with hidden mysteries and higher meanings. Rosicrucianism suggests that the basis for design is “built on esoteric truths of the ancient past,” which “concealed from the average man, provide insight into nature, the physical universe, and the spiritual realm.” Western Christianity is no different. The Holy Bible tells us of God’s divine light He gave to Moses when Moses requested God’s name, “... Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, I Am hath sent me unto you.”<sup>3</sup> We as Knights Templar should understand what God said His name was. He didn’t give a proper name at a drop of the hat. We as Royal Arch Masons discovered it as we searched for further light. Freemasonry is no different; if it was so easy, everyone would possess all the knowledge whether or not they were worthy. Moreover, there would be no reason for our Fraternity to exist. Questioning whether or not the Fraternity teaches more than basic knowledge is simply skimming the surface of the ultimate light. We should not be so presumptuous as to believe that all of the “Hidden Mysteries of Freemasonry” are so easily obtainable. One should remember the second sentence told to him when the door opened the second time as an Entered Apprentice candidate.

A higher meaning can be quite simple. An example is that the sun simply rises in the East every day. It is one of the simple functions of our lives that are taken for granted. The sun rules and maintains all life forms on earth. It governs our solar system; therefore, it is not so simple. The sun is both simple and complex depending on what we are

seeking to understand. It is relevant to one’s perception within time and space. Therefore I must believe that Masonic light is as simple as wisdom and intelligence, knowledge and understanding of our Fraternity, and moral science. I also must believe that Masonic light is God and His word contained in the Volume of Sacred Law bound together with spiritual embodiment to live in harmony within our temple built in the three degrees. Then comes additional light for a Mason to seek.

Freemasonry offers numerous functions that are available nearly seven days week, and the claim that it takes time away from church and worship of God are unjustifiable. It is of our own free will that we choose to go. We are the hindrance, not Masonry. Freemasonry gives light and is readily available on different days and at different times as everyone cannot go at the same time. It is available, not required. We are taught that “knowledge is obtained by degrees.” I believe that one seeks Masonic light from actively participating in the different functions and that after all the knowledgeable light is obtained from them, one should move on to the next degree. You shouldn’t have to attend every meeting AFTER you obtained and retained all the light therein. It becomes a social experience at that point. Therefore more time is available for you to worship God at your church. The amount of knowledge one has received may be all he wants. If so, he does not have to seek more light as he could work in the level of his knowledge.

Ultimate light can be viewed differently from more than one specific time and space. Once we learn the knowledge (light) of all the degrees leading to

God or ultimate light, the end is not near. We plan in steps to achieve a goal, and it can take decades to achieve. When we finally accomplish the goal, another problem occurs. What we are going to do with it once we get it becomes a problem. There lies further light. For example, the followers of Western Christianity spend vast amounts of time praying for a lost soul to be saved. Let us say that the prayers are answered after twenty-five years by the lost receiving light. This would be a major blessing and prayers well answered. Now after twenty-five years of praying, what is next for the saved soul? Does it end? No, it is the beginning for the new Christian as he reaches spiritual salvation. Now the new Christian begins praying for other lost souls. The achievement of obtaining ultimate light is the starting point and another stepping degree for more light for each Christian. The great receiving gift of becoming saved ends one travel and begins another. It doesn't mean that the whole process ends. One cannot say, "Well I'm saved and saw the light so I don't need God anymore."

The medium of Freemasonry is a mode of traveling to ultimate light and beyond. It gets you there symbolically by different vehicles and can only be hindered by the navigating Freemason. This medium is ruled and guided by the Volume of Sacred Law.

Freemasonry is not a hindrance to light but we can be a hindrance to Freemasonry and therefore light. I just simply believe that Masonic light can be defined as two separate entities, one plain fare and one complex of God. Masonic light illuminates differently from wherever one stands gazing upon it at a specific time and space with a certain

degree of understanding. The everlasting search for more light and the reception of it places one closer and closer to God. I believe that light's highest meaning of all is closeness to God.

#### End Notes

<sup>1</sup> *Knight Templar* magazine, October/November 2010, "Masonry: A Hindrance to Light?" By Lindgren, Carl Edwin, "The way of the Rose Cross; A Historical Perception," 1614-1620. *Journal of Religion and Psychical Research*, Volume 18, Number 3:141-48. 1995.

<sup>2</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosicrucianism>

<sup>3</sup> The Holy Bible, King James Version, Exodus 3-14.

<sup>i</sup> "Surely a concept so central to the ideals of the Masonic Fraternity and its members must mean more than this, and the lack of a clearly recognized definition with a higher meaning is somewhat frustrating."

Sir Knight Darryl Chapman is the Junior Warden of Chevalier Commandery No. 21 in Oak Ridge, Tennessee and can be contacted at [ccsd8@comcast.net](mailto:ccsd8@comcast.net).

The Schedule of  
Grand Commandery  
Conclaves is now  
available on the web  
site at:

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

The photos to the right were sent in by one of our lady readers, Sudee Sanders, who says "Inspired by the April 2011 issue of the Knight Templar magazine, I am sending photographs of a Masonic fob, complete with chain, recently purchased at Antiques and Such in Beaufort, SC. It is inscribed as follows: 'Medford Lodge, F.&.A.M. NO. 178, Wm. D. Cowperthwait, Past Master 1908.' I believe that Medford is in southern New Jersey, near Haddonfield, where I used to live."



This fob is owned by Sir Knight Bruce Jackson, Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in Tennessee. It was once owned or presented by Thomas J. Shryock, Past Grand Master of Maryland, General, Treasurer of the state of Maryland, and lumber baron. Note the relation of the mark to his profession.







# Beauceant News



Members of Kingsport Assembly No. 244 prepared the lunch for the spring festival of the Upper East Tennessee York Rite Association. Left to right: Mrs. Tommy C. Kenner; Mrs. Paul Rutledge; Mrs. Robert Blackmar; Mrs. Denny Friday, Worthy President; Mrs. Gary Coats; Mrs. Donald Clayman; Mrs. Douglas Skeens; Mrs. Herbert Kennedy; and Mrs. Charles Thames.



LaCrosse Assembly No. 215, Wisconsin, was pleased to have Mrs. Steven Schwartz join their assembly. Her Sir Knight Steven is the Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin. A special thank you to Mrs. Jay Ipsen, Past Supreme Worthy President, and Mrs. Lyle Broton from Minneapolis Assembly No. 46 for their assistance.



# Knights



## at the Bookshelf

By  
Sir Knight Douglas M. Rowe

*The Boy Who Cried Wolf - The Book That Breaks Masonic Silence* by Richard Thorn, MD, Published by M. Evans, ISBN 0871317605

I never question the right of anyone to write a book about any subject and do not so question Dr. Thorn. I do question why anyone would provide a demagogue like Ron Carlson a platform to express his anti-Masonic venom. This work was published in 1994, several years past the high water mark of TV evangelism, marked by scandals too numerous to mention.

Prior to reading this book, I had never seen or heard of Mr. Carlson. I witnessed the evolution of evangelists from passing the hat on dusty southern back roads to collecting millions via the broadcast solicitations of Jim Bakker, Jimmy Swaggert, et.al. For every Bakker or Swaggert there were dozens of slightly less glib hell-fire and brimstone demagogues ranting from pickup truck beds in the rural Bible Belt. Carlson obviously never reached the TV mogul promised land, and I question Thorn's rationale in granting the importance inherent in a rebuttal.

I have never completely read Albert Pike's monumental Masonic work, *Morals and Dogma*, and cannot offer comments on Thorn's painstaking parsing of Carlson's sermon against Pike's actual words.

Thorn clearly exposes the logical fallacies and demagogic techniques used in anti-Masonic attacks. Assuming Thorn's text accurate, Carlson intentionally uses sentences out of context by adding words to or deleting words from the original work. One often cited example of this technique is to claim that the Bible says, "There is no GOD."; however, the entire passage is "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God."

One critical comment of Thorn's work is his attack on Carlson's academic credentials. It is of no real concern whether he earned seven degrees from seven universities or zero degrees from no university. The salient point is his deliberately inflammatory rhetoric, not his academic resume.

Of Carlson's multitude of charges, his claim that leaders of Freemasonry seek to mislead the average Mason is particularly egregious as our leaders are chosen from the body at large, and this bit of circular logic says that our leaders are seeking to mislead themselves.

In summary, this work is an informative albeit difficult read. I would recommend it to any Mason desirous of preserving our fraternity.

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God that made the  
world and all things  
therin, seeing that he  
is Lord of heaben  
and earth, dwelleth  
not in temples made  
with hands.



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