

# Knight Templar

VOLUME LXI

FEBRUARY 2015

NUMBER 2



# A UNIQUE WATCH FOR ACTIVE YORK RITE MASONS THE YORK RITE TACTICAL COMPASS WATCH



Actual Size of  
Watch Dial is 1.5"  
in Diameter

- OFFICIAL YORK RITE MASONIC WATCH DIAL minted in high-relief against a background of gleaming black enamel.
- Strategically placed large date window.
- 45mm gun metal black-plated alloy with pebbled bezel & stainless steel case back.
- Military-style canvas band with inset compass – to guide your Masonic Travels.
- Shock & water resistant to 3ATM (100 FT.).
- Scratch-resistant, optically clear, mineral crystal.
- Quartz movement - split second accuracy!
- Luminous hands for night vision.
- Assembled and customized in America by Selco of Oklahoma.
- Case back engraved with your Initials and the year you became a York Rite Mason.
- York Rite emblem on custom Tin Gift & Storage Box.
- Thank you priced at just \$79.95\*.
- 100% satisfaction guaranteed or return within 30 days for refund or replacement.

TJS  
2005

## NEW FOR 2015 – Master Mason & Shrine Dials



YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO WEAR THIS SPECIAL YORK RITE WATCH.

**FREE FLAG PIN  
WITH EACH ORDER!**



**FOR FASTEST SERVICE  
CALL TOLL FREE TO ORDER:**

**1-800-437-0804**

Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm EST. Have Credit Card ready when ordering.

OR, MAIL TO: York Rite Masonic Watch Order Center  
Two Radnor Corporate Center, Suite 120, Radnor, PA 19087-4599

☐ **YES.** I wish to order a Masonic Tactical Compass  
Watch personalized as follows:

**DIAL CHOICE(s):** ☐ YORK RITE ☐ Master Mason ☐ Shrine

**ENGRAVING: INITIALS (3):** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEAR I BECAME A MASON:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I WISH TO PAY AS FOLLOWS:**

☐ Enclosed is my check or money order  
for \$79.95\* per watch payable to  
"York Rite Masonic Watch", OR

☐ Charge my credit card \$79.95\* per watch.

\*Plus \$14.95 per watch for shipping & handling.  
PA res. add 6% (\$7.60) sales tax.

**INCLUDES HANDSOME  
TIN GIFT BOX WITH  
MASONIC EMBLEM!**



**CREDIT CARD:**

☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

CC#: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp.: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CSC# (Card Security Code): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHIPPING ADDRESS**

(We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes) Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

©2015 ICM

MNPWAT-KTM-0215

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.MASONICPARTNERS.COM](http://WWW.MASONICPARTNERS.COM)



VOLUME LXI FEBRUARY 2015 NUMBER 2  
Published monthly as an official publication of the  
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar  
of the United States of America.

**David Dixon Goodwin**  
Grand Master

## Contents

### Grand Master's Message

Grand Master David Dixon Goodwin..... 4

### When the Templars Were Excommunicated

Sir Knight George L. Marshall, Jr..... 7

### The Purpose of Templary

Most Eminent Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucher.. 10

### A Masonic Time Machine

Sir Knight Kenneth W. Davis..... 12

### Paul Revere - Grand Master

Sir Knight Dan Pushee..... 21

**Address changes or corrections  
and all membership activity  
including deaths should be re-  
ported 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](mailto:ktmagazine@comcast.net)

Magazine materials and correspon-  
dence to the editor should be sent in elec-  
tronic form to the managing editor whose  
contact information is shown above.

Materials and correspondence concern-  
ing the Grand Commandery state supple-  
ments should be sent to the respective  
supplement editor.

## Features

From the Grand Recorder ..... 5

Prelate's Chapel ..... 6

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation ..... 17, 20, 31

Grand Commandery Supplement..... 18

In Memoriam ..... 32

Beauceant News..... 33

A Chat With The Managing Editor..... 34

**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](mailto:larry@gektusa.org)

Cover photo of the clock tower of the  
Templar Commandery at Bure-Les-  
Templiers, France taken by the editor.

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

knight templar



# Grand Master's Message

**A**s I look at my calendar, I find it hard to believe that there is only a little more than six months left in the 66<sup>th</sup> Triennium of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. Where does the time go? It seems like only yesterday we were beginning this journey.

We still have a lot of work to be done in the next several months. After a little time to rest in the slow Templar month of January, we will have ramped up our schedules, starting with Masonic Week in Reston, Virginia during the last week of January. This month will see some Annual Conclaves as well as the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Your officers are looking forward to attending and supporting our Masonic Grand Lodges.



We must continue to strive for excellence in our Commanderies. Better programs at our Conclaves, participation within the family of Freemasonry, public ceremonies, community involvement, improvement in the performance of our ritual, membership retention, and recruitment are important aspects in moving Templary forward. May we count on your assistance and support to help your Commandery?

We will celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14<sup>th</sup> as a time to share our love. This includes love of our spouses, romantic partners, family, and friends. May each of you share the love of Valentine's Day with those closest to you!

**Mark the date now!**

**The 66<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar  
Adam's Mark Hotel, Buffalo, NY  
August 8-12, 2015**

Reservations may be made online from our website at:

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

David Dixon Goodwin, GCT

  
A stylized signature of David Dixon Goodwin in black ink.

Grand Master

**The future is ours! We must seize the moment!**

**Every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar.**      february 2015

# From the Grand Recorder's Office...



**East Central Department Conference**  
Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio  
March 13-14, 2015 - Indianapolis, Indiana

**Southeastern Department Conference**  
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South  
Carolina, and Tennessee  
Friday, June 12, 2015 - Saturday, June 13, 2015  
Tampa, Florida

## MANCHESTER COMMANDERY PINS

All pins are \$5 ea. \$2.50 S/H/Order

Send Check of M.O. to:  
Manchester Commandery No. 40

Garry L. Carter, Treasurer  
530 Winchester Hwy.  
Hillsboro, TN 37342



KT RELICS

To see more pins [WWW.YORKRITEUSA.ORG](http://WWW.YORKRITEUSA.ORG)

All Profits go to Knights Templar Eye Foundation

“One of the most striking  
differences between a cat  
and a lie is that the cat  
has only nine lives.”

Mark Twain

# Prelate's Chapel

by

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

**F**ebruary is the traditional "Love" month, especially focusing on St. Valentine's Day. February is special for me, for Nancy and I were married on St. Valentine's Day. It was a wonderful day, a highpoint in life, but it was only the beginning! Looking back on the birth and growth of children and grandchildren, watching love expand and grow within our family, teaches me that what was a "high" moment in life years ago was just the seed for an unending harvest of love.

St. Paul, in the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of I Corinthians, also expands on what love is. He reminds us that through all the vicissitudes of life, faith, hope, and love abide, "but the greatest of these is love." I think that Paul may have been influenced by John, who in his first letter, tells us to "love one another, for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God." (vs.7) John saw the gift of Jesus as the incarnation of love, and he plainly tells us in verse 16, "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

In a world so filled with hate and violence, we need to live love every day of our lives so that others may "see our good works and give glory to our Father in heaven." Read I Corinthians 13 again and take Paul's dissertation seriously. Read John's first letter and learn of God's incarnation in our Lord Jesus. Never forget that love is of God, indeed, is God. When Jesus comes into our hearts, God's love is in us and abides with us forever.



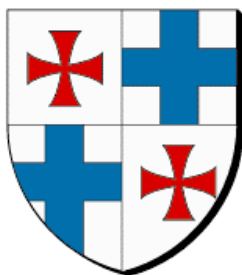
# When the Templars Were Excommunicated

by

Sir Knight George L. Marshall, Jr.

**A**s incredible as it may seem, for a short time in the late 12<sup>th</sup> Century, the Knights Templar and their Grand Master were excommunicated. The very idea that these Knights of Christ should or could be excommunicated seems incredible, but it did happen, and it shows that some people, in particular the clergy in Outremer, had by then mixed feelings if not downright hostility toward the Templars. This article will present the three main characters and the circumstances involved

in that excommunication.



Gilbert Erail (or Erill or Horal) was born at Aragon in Spain about 1152 and had joined the order in his teens. He served as

Grand Preceptor of the Temple in Jerusalem in 1183-84, and in 1185 he was created Master of the Temple in Spain and Provence and thus had seen action in the Reconquista as well as in the Holy Land. Then in 1190, he was made Deputy Master of the Temple in the West. Each country had its own Master, and the Masters reported to the Grand Master. Following the death of Grand Master Robert de Sabie, he became the twelfth

Grand Master of the Templars in 1193. Unlike his predecessors, Erail was known for wanting peace between the Christians and the Moslems, though some disagreed and thought that this showed treason and collusion with the enemy. His pacifist attitude caused friction between the Templars and the Hospitallers who at this time were the more militant party. It also set him at odds with Pope Innocent III and the more militant of the Catholic clergy who desired perpetual war against the infidel. Unfortunately, no contemporary portrait of Erail exists, but his coat of arms is shown to the left.

Another player in this drama was Pope Innocent III, pictured at right. When he became Pope in 1198, he was just thirty-seven years old. Well versed in Roman and canon law and a firm adherent of papal supremacy, he was also imbued with the crusading spirit against the Saracens. Upon his accession to the papal throne, he confirmed the privileges of the Templars. They were exempt from the payment of taxes, tolls, and tithes and ecclesiastical imposts. The latter quickly brought them into collision with the clergy. Considering the Templars as his private army, he saw exactly how he could use them as a tool in his planned Fourth Crusade. In the first seven years of his papacy, he again con-



firmed eight times the bull *Omne Datum Optimum* (1139) of Innocent II. In this remarkable document, the Templar Rule was officially approved and papal protection given. Additionally, it promised all spoils from Muslim conquest to the order, and made the order exempt from tithes and taxes.

The final person involved in the spectacle was the "Bishop of Sidon." In my research I could not find a biography for him in any sources or references. However, there is one noted Melkite Bishop of Sidon who wrote around 1200 an apology (defense) of Christianity intended for a Muslim audience, and that is Paul of Antioch. The people who followed the lead of the Byzantine emperor and accepted the decrees of the Council of Chalcedon held in 451 were called "Melkites" or "King's Men." The great strain between the Melkite Church and Rome happened because of the actions of some of the Crusaders, but the Melkites never broke off relations with Rome and the Pope. The question is: did the crusaders and the Templars accept the ecclesiastical authority of a Melkite bishop, or was there a separate Roman Catholic bishop of Sidon? I believe the latter to be true, but these questions remain unanswered.

At any event, the excommunication came about because of the Templars' reputation for handling money for other people and their reputation for pride and arrogance. Because of their skill at safeguarding monies, a Bishop of Tiberias lodged the sum of 1300 gold bezants from his diocese with the Templars for safekeeping. (At the current rate of about \$1200 for an ounce of gold, this sum in today's money would be roughly \$240,000.) In 1199 the succeeding

Bishop of Tiberias sent notice to Grand Master Erail that he wanted the money returned to him. Either by a convenient lapse of memory or because of a misplacement or loss of records during the wars with Saladin, the Templars refused to pay. The Bishop of Tiberias then complained to Pope Innocent III who chose the Bishops of Sidon and Gibelet as mediators, and Erail sent two trusted knights as his representatives. Eventually the patriarch settled the matter, but the Bishop of Sidon was not satisfied with the terms of the settlement, and summarily demanded that the money be returned within three days to the diocese of Tiberias or he would excommunicate every Knight Templar. Although unperturbed by the bishop's illegal threat, the Templars did make good on the debt and returned the money, but for whatever reason, the bishop carried out his threat anyway and publicly excommunicated all Knights Templar.

Erail and the Knights were both amazed and completely incredulous upon hearing the news. He speedily sent envoys to Rome with the message that if the Templars were excommunicated, then they were no longer bound by their vows and would disband, leave the Holy Land, and return to their homes and do as they wished. Upon hearing of the action by the bishop, Innocent III was furious, particularly because a minor cleric in an inconsequential diocese would be so bold as to usurp a privilege and power reserved to the pope alone. Innocent took swift measures supporting the Knights and removed the Bishop of Sidon from his bishopric, accusing him of ignorance and malice. He also ordered the Patriarch, the Archbishop of Tyre, and the Bishop of Acre to an-



nul the excommunication immediately, which was done. In addition, the pope sent a warning to clerics everywhere that the same action would be taken against any man who had the temerity to interfere with a holy order responsible to the Pope alone.

Swift action by the Pope in the matter confirmed the Templars' powers and privileges, but it also enlarged the widening gap between them and the clergy in the crusader states. Gilbert died on

December 21, 1200, and he was eventually succeeded by Philip de Plessiez.

Right Eminent Sir Knight Marshall, KYGCH(3), KCT, 33°, is a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Alabama. He is a member of the Editorial Review Board of the *Knight Templar* magazine and has published several articles in that magazine as well as in the *Royal Arch Mason* magazine. He can be reached at [geomarsh@yahoo.com](mailto:geomarsh@yahoo.com).

### SOURCES USED

- Napier, Gordon, *The A to Z of the Knights Templar: A Guide to Their History and Legacy*, The History Press, Gloucestershire, England, 2008.
- Malcolm Barber, *The New Knighthood: A History of the Order of the Temple*, Cambridge University Press, NY, 1994.
- Robinson, John, *Dungeon, Fire and Sword*, Rowman & Littlefield, Lanham, MD, 1991.
- *Freemasons Magazine and Masonic Mirror*, May 23, 1866.
- <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/10157b.htm>
- Ebied, Rifaat and Thomas David (Editors), *Muslim-Christian Polemic During the Crusades: The Letter from the People of Cyprus and Ibn Abi Talib al-Dimashqi's Response*, Koninklijke Brill, Leiden, Netherlands, 2005.
- Thomas, David, "Idealism and Intransigence: A Christian-Muslim Encounter in Early Mamluk Times", online at [http://mamluk.uchicago.edu/MSR\\_XIII-2\\_2009-Thomas\\_pp85-103.pdf](http://mamluk.uchicago.edu/MSR_XIII-2_2009-Thomas_pp85-103.pdf).
- Howarth, Stephen, *The Knights Templar*, Dorset Press, New York, 1991.
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilbert\\_Horal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilbert_Horal)
- <http://www.templiers.net/maitres/index.php?page=gilbert-erail>
- Newman, Sharan, *The Real History behind the Templars*, Berkley Books, NY, 2007

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>.

**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.**

# THE PURPOSE OF TEMPLARY

By

Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucher, Most Eminent Past Grand Master Knights Templar, U.S.A.

The following article is an excerpt from a pamphlet entitled *Charting The Course* written by Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucher, Most Eminent Past Grand Master, Knights Templar, U.S.A., and published February 15, 1965. The content is still extremely relevant to our Commanderies today. I hope you will take a moment to read and think about it. The pamphlets are still available from the Grand Encampment office.

The Ed.

**T**emplary is founded upon the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues. It is a fraternal light that has illumined the world since the Crusades of 1099 to 1187 A.D. when stouthearted Knights of the Temple rescued and held Jerusalem and the holy places from the infidel and protected poor unarmed pilgrims who came all the way from Europe to worship at the Holy Shrine. The world has never witnessed any more unselfish service for God and humanity than that which was exemplified by those intrepid Crusaders. Nine centuries have rolled along, and modern Knights Templar are the symbolic offspring of those fearless Crusaders. Today's Templars are likewise committed to tasks of exalted usefulness, just as were their illustrious forebears many centuries ago.

The principles upon which the orders of Knighthood are founded are expressed in ritual and symbolism and are founded upon the teachings of the Christian religion. Templary is based upon the *Holy Bible* and extols the doctrine of human brotherhood and benevolence toward all mankind. It commends the reign of peace and glorifies the search for Divine Truth. It vows to draw its sword in defense of innocent maid-

ens, destitute widows, helpless orphans, and the Christian religion. It despises communism and magnifies freedom under law and constitutional government. It stands unswervingly for good morals and right living by each Knight Templar as an example of good citizenship in every community. Each Knight Templar has voluntarily professed the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and love of country. The Grand Standard of Templary contains a blood-red passion cross as the emblem which inspires every Templar to the highest ideals of the Christian faith.

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar is just embarking upon another three year tour of duty at a time when precious old landmarks are being demolished by the on-rush of worldly change and when moral and spiritual values are at low ebb. Templary is Masonry's answer to the call for Christian virtues in a world that needs a moral and religious renaissance. Templary is the resurrection of the spirit of the Crusaders. Templary is America's hope of stimulating the community conscience to stand up for God at a time when righteousness is desperately needed.

Let no Knight Templar underestimate the task that lies ahead nor shrink from

playing his part manfully. Let each of us recognize that it will be an uphill battle with worldly strife along the way. This should only add zest to acceptance of the challenge by red-blooded warriors.

However, in order to win, we must get back to first principles! We must reconsecrate our cause to Christ and the Christian religion with all the sincerity we possess! There is no problem of our order that cannot be solved by practicing our Christian profession more vigorously every day, all over the Templar world. Horizons must be raised, and perspectives must be lifted. When we do so, we shall put God back where He belongs in Templary, and we shall put Templary back where it belongs in the life of our day. In this spirit, we summon every officer and Sir Knight to put on the whole armor of God as we march forth into this new triennium.

Templary is not solely a fraternal brotherhood. It is vastly more than that. When Masonry crosses the threshold of the Commandery, it becomes Christian, and we support the Christian Church in everyday life. We are endowed with a sense of mission which transcends all ordinary fraternal objectives. It is not enough to say that we "favor" ethics and good morals. The orders of Knighthood require that we live up to the high calling of Christ in our lives, that we take our stand as Christian warriors in the fierce struggle against evil in everyday life, and that we support the Christian Church with all the zeal we possess. It is important at the outset that we put first things first!

Templary is Christian to the core, and we must never allow this fact to escape us for one instant. Our very reason for existence as an organization depends upon our observance of this central fact.

knight templar

Nothing is important in our order that does not relate itself to Christ, the Christian religion, and the Christian Church. Once we get that fact solidly planted in our minds and hearts, we can plan our future. Until we become so immersed in our Christian cause that it becomes a part of our daily character as well as our very way of life, we are not ready to start the journey. Unless Commandery leaders at all levels really take our allegiance to Christ seriously, they will find a trail of indifference, unconcern, and poor attendance, followed by a multitude of demits and even suspensions.

Our pledge of warfare against the deceptions of the world is not allegorical but is very real and for our lifetime! Let it be proclaimed that this warfare is not defensive but aggressive. The righteous and benevolent influence of Templars and of our Commanderies is needed everywhere. Our influence in the form of our programs and projects is limited only by the devotion and resources of our members.

## MILFORD COMMANDERY

No. II

Full Sir Knight  
**SUMMER  
UNIFORM**  
**\$185**

Caps, brass &  
accessories available  
separately



*All proceeds go to the  
Knight Templar Eye Foundation*

visit

**[www.milfordcommandery.com](http://www.milfordcommandery.com)**

[store@milfordcommandery.com](mailto:store@milfordcommandery.com)

**508-482-0006**

155 Main St., Milford, MA 01757

# A Masonic Time Machine

By

Sir Knight Kenneth W. Davis, Ph.D.

Several years ago, at the Colorado River Fall Festival in Laughlin, Nevada, I found myself in the hotel bar, sitting next to a brother whose name and state I've promised to always hael. As we talked, we discovered each other's interest in both the western esoteric tradition and contemporary science.

After a couple of glasses of a very good rye, he said, "Brother Ken, I am going to tell you something I have never told anyone else. I am working on a Masonic time machine."

My first reaction was that the rye was talking, but the brother was compelling, and I thought it would be amusing to keep listening.

"I have discovered," he said, "that ritual magic really works at the quantum level and that Masonic ritual contains enough authentic magic that it opens up a time portal whenever a lodge is opened. At this end of the portal, the ritual magic isn't enough, so some subatomic technology is required. I am working on that right now, but I expect soon to be able to observe—without interfering and without being seen—any Masonic lodge meeting in the past."

"Brother Ken," he continued, "you seem to know more about Masonic history than I do." "It can't be much more," I replied. "Masonic history isn't my specialty."

"Still, I trust you," he said. "Could you put together a list of, say, ten past lodge meetings that would be interest-

ing to visit?"

Hmm, I thought. This brother is clearly a crackpot, but as an intellectual exercise, his question fascinated me. "Ok," I said. "I'll work on that."

I've kept in touch with the brother, and he keeps saying he's close to solving the technological problem. When I spoke to him last week, he claimed to be just weeks away from a solution. I've heard that before, but I've had fun making the list for him.

## 1. The Lodge of Edinburgh, July 3, 1634

The Lodge of Edinburgh, also called "Mary's Chapel," is the oldest Masonic Lodge still meeting. At the time of its first known minutes, July 1599, it was a Lodge of operative Masons, but on July 3, 1634, it admitted the first three known speculative Masons, all members of the Scots nobility.

## 2. Warrington, England, October 16, 1646

On this date, Elias Ashmole, the first known English speculative Mason, was initiated. A scholar, Ashmole may have been interested in the esoteric elements of the craft, elements that may have already been in place in operative Lodges.

Ashmole had a large library and collection of curios that he donated to Oxford University. This donation provided the basis for Oxford's Ashmolean Mu-

seum, perhaps Europe's first public museum. It is still in use.



Elias Ashmole

### **3. The Goose and Gridiron, London, June 24, 1717**

Any list of important Lodge meetings would have to include this one. On Saint John's Day of 1717, four London Lodges—three mostly operative, one mostly speculative—gathered at the Goose and Gridiron



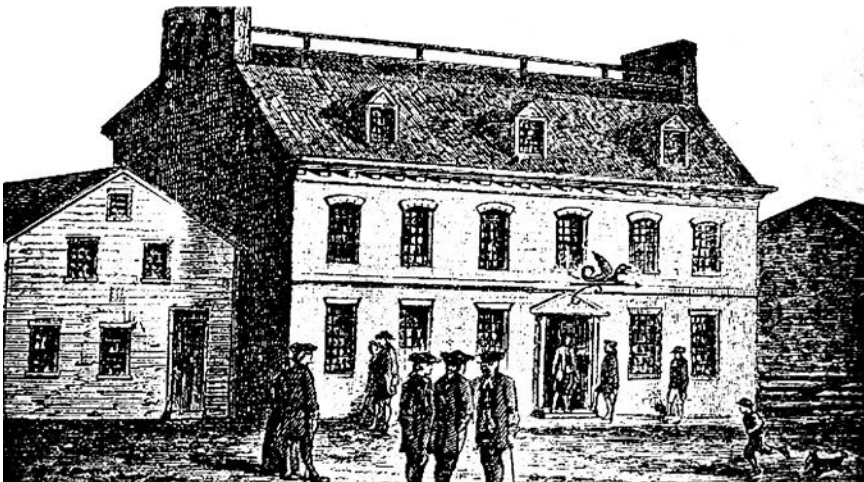
The Goose and Gridiron, London

and formed the world's first Grand Lodge, the Lodge of London and Westminster.

The four Lodges were named after the pubs where they met: the Goose and Gridiron, the Crown, the Apple Tree Tavern, and the Rummer and Grapes.

### **4. St. Andrew Lodge, Boston, December 16, 1773**

The minutes of this meeting, held at



knight templar

The Green Dragon, Boston



the Green Dragon Tavern, state that it closed early for low attendance. Tradition has it that Masons left the meeting to participate in the Boston Tea Party that night, boarding British ships and dumping their cargo of heavily taxed tea into Boston Harbor.

This assumption raises at least two questions: How did the anti-British Masons square their actions with their obligation to not commit treason? And how well did the lodge observe the landmark rule of not discussing politics? Some members of St. Andrew were Tories, supporters of British rule in North America.

A few members of St. Andrew likely did participate in the Boston Tea Party that night, but it's doubtful that plans were made there.

#### **5. The Irish Military Lodge 441, Boston, March 6, 1775**

At this meeting, also in Boston, Prince Hall became the first known African American Mason. A former slave, he was



Prince Hall

freed by 1770. Turned down by a British colonial Lodge, he was initiated by an Irish military Lodge.

#### **6. La Loge des Neuf Sœurs, Paris, April 4, 1778**

British rule was, of course, overthrown, and the new country was struggling to create a government and define its place in the world. Benjamin Franklin, one of the most learned of the Founding Fathers, spoke French and was named ambassador to France, the country that had given the most support to the American Revolution.

In Paris, Franklin joined the Lodge of the Nine Sisters (named for the nine Muses) and began making the acquaintance of the country's intelligentsia. On April 4, 1778, he escorted France's leading writer, Voltaire, to a Lodge meeting, where he was made a Mason. Voltaire died the following month. In 1779, Franklin became the Lodge's master.



Voltaire



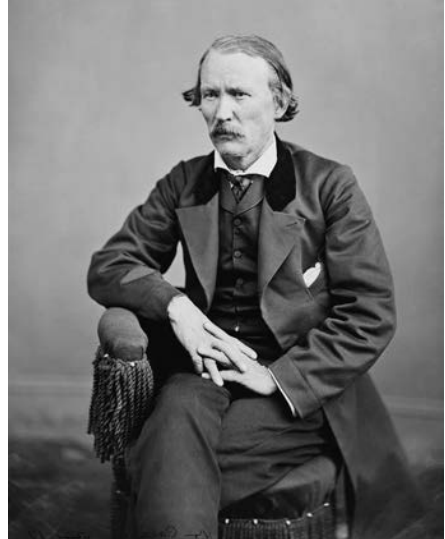
Benjamin Franklin

**7. Three Lodges in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, September 18, 1793**

On this date, Masons from three Lodges in the area—Maryland’s Lodge 9, Virginia’s Alexandria Lodge 22, and Washington’s Federal Lodge 15—processed to a rise variously called “Jenkins Hill” and “New Troy” to Masonically lay

the cornerstone of a Capitol building. Presiding in full Masonic regalia was President George Washington.

The cornerstone itself has been lost in two hundred years of remodeling.



Christopher “Kit” Carson

**8. Montezuma Lodge 109, Santa Fe, New Mexico, December 26, 1854**

As a New Mexican, I have to include on my list the raising of pioneer and army scout, Christopher “Kit” Carson, to the degree of Master Mason. In 1854, the New Mexico Territory had been part of the United States for just four years. No Grand Lodge had been established in New Mexico (that wouldn’t happen until 1877), and Monte-



Laying of the Capitol Cornerstone  
knight templar

zuma Lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Today this Lodge is Montezuma Lodge 1.

Carson's home, in Taos, New Mexico, is now owned by Bent Lodge No. 42 and operated as a museum.

#### **9. Absalom zu den drei Nesseln, Hamburg, Germany, May 26, 1945**

Along with Jews, Catholics, homosexuals, the disabled, and others, an estimated 80,000 to 200,000 Masons were murdered in the Holocaust. The number is difficult to determine since many Masons also fell into other categories.

Hamburg fell to the Allies on May 4, 1945, and the war in Europe ended four days later. The first Lodge meeting after the war took place less than three weeks after that, on May 26. It's hard to imagine the mix of grief and celebration that must have been shared by the members.

#### **10. Beech Grove Lodge, Indiana, October 15, 1948**

In 1945, Vice President Harry S. Truman, Past Grand Master of Masons in Missouri, succeeded President Franklin D. Roosevelt, also a Mason, upon his death. In 1948, now-President Truman ran for that office for the first time.

A whistle-stop campaign tour brought Truman to Indiana. One version of that visit recounts that when the president finished an afternoon speech, he recognized a young Navy sailor, Donald Earl Bauermeister, who served on the presidential yacht. Truman asked Bauermeister what had brought him to Indiana, and the young man answered that he was from Indiana and that evening was being raised to Master Mason in Beech Grove, a small town at the edge of Indianapolis.



President Harry S Truman Visiting Beech Grove Lodge for the Raising of Donald Earl Bauermeister (standing far left)

The president offered Bauermeister and his father a ride to Indianapolis on the presidential train and that night attended the meeting of Beech Grove Lodge with the young sailor. Like any other first-time guest, Truman had to establish his credentials and was, of course, addressed in Lodge not as “Mr. President” but as “Most Worshipful Brother.”

It’s said that when Truman’s Secret Service detail protested not being able to enter the Lodge room, the president replied, “I am safer there than in the White House.”

That’s my list. I’ve sent it to my inventor brother. I wonder if we’ll ever get to use it. As for this account, that’s my story, and I’m sticking to it.

What lodge meetings would you add to the list? Send your nominations to [kennethwdavis@mac.com](mailto:kennethwdavis@mac.com).

Dr. Kenneth W. Davis is a Fellow of the Masonic Society and review editor of the *Journal of the Masonic Society*. Past Master of Lodge Vitruvian 767, Indiana, Sir Knight Ken is currently chaplain of both Albuquerque Lodge No. 60 and the Lodge of Research of New Mexico. He is professor emeritus of English at Indiana University and an independent researcher and author. He can be contacted at [kennethwdavis@mac.com](mailto:kennethwdavis@mac.com).

## NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

### Grand Master’s Club

Alfred B. Carroll .....	AL	Hugh T. Hoskins.....	CA
Tuoc K. Pham.....	CA	Alexander H. Betts, II.....	GA
Robert W. Bigley.....	IL	Joseph S. Russo.....	MA/RI
Richard S. Butterfield.....	NM	Joseph A. Raubar .....	NY
Richard E. Suneson .....	NY	Newman W. Benson.....	PA
James H. Brooks .....	TN	Jason L. Jackson .....	TX
Nikolaus K. Fehrenback .....	TX	Benny E. Gurley.....	WV

### Grand Commander’s Club

Richard W. Williamson .....	CA	Donald R. Sardeson .....	IA
Rodney L. Quincy .....	KS	Wayne L. Warren .....	OH
Richard A. McBride .....	SD	Buddy C. Leach, II .....	TN
Ray S. Myatt, Jr. ....	TN	William K. Umstead .....	TN
Jason L. Jackson .....	TX	Nikolaus K. Fehrenback .....	TX
Robert B. Cook .....	TX	Martin C. Juul .....	VA

## *Knights Templar Eye Foundation*

See information on page 31 about how to become a member of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Grand Commander’s Club and Grand Master’s club.

# 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.

Photos of Templar city of Sarlat,  
France were taken by the editor.







knight templar

*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,

**T**his is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Sir Knights, how often do we forget that each day is a gift from God? Each one is ours to do with as we please. As such, I

have often thought about one of the lines from our Craft, where we look forward to the day we will hear the welcome words, "well done good and faithful servant."

I think the heart of this will be measured not in what we do for ourselves but what we do for others, what we do in the service of the Lord. I remember my Grandmother often said, "Maybe it's the things we fail to do and should have that we should be most worried about." She would encourage us to be quick to forgive, to be understanding when we are faced with disappointment from others, to be like the apostle John who is said to have given as his last sermon the simple phrase, "little children, love one another." When asked why so short a sermon, he is said to have commented, because it is what the Master has commanded.

I am thankful for what I am hearing from across the country as I see the reports for the current Voluntary Campaign. Each of you are putting your words into actions; every dollar we raise is a step closer to funding the critical research that is being done by our wonderful doctors all across this nation. You are proving daily the power of "we."

Sir Knights, I want to encourage you to attend your Department Conferences. Our Grand Encampment officers are there, along with other Trustees and members of the Scientific Advisory Committee to share with you our goals, successes, and vision for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. I promise you will not be disappointed and will come away with a much greater appreciation of what we have accomplished and will accomplish.

Let's put our hand to the plow; the field is ready. It only remains for us to determine and then to do. Sir Knights you make me proud!

Terry L. Plemons

# MOST WORSHIPFUL PAUL REVERE GRAND MASTER, GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS A.F. & A.M. 1795 - 1797

By

Sir Knight Dan Pushee, KCT

The poem, "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" was written in 1860 by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, forty-two years after Revere's death. Longfellow's poem made Revere "a famous patriot;" however, he was also a man of varied talents, a Mason, artisan, businessman, and family man. Paul Revere served as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts from December 12, 1794 to December 27, 1797.

Paul Revere was born in Boston, Massachusetts in late December of 1734 and was the second of twelve children born to Apollos Rivoire, a French Huguenot immigrant who came to Massachusetts in 1715 and apprenticed with a Boston goldsmith, and Deborah Hitchborn, a native Bostonian descended from New England seafarers and artisans. At age twelve he was apprenticed to his father as a silver-smith and earned extra money as a bell ringer at the Old North Church in Boston. At age nineteen, as the eldest son, he became the supporter of the family when his father died in 1753. He married Sarah Orne in 1757. They had one son, Paul, Jr. (who was also an active Freemason), and seven daughters. Sarah died in May of 1773, and in September he married Rachel Walker to help him care for his large family. Their union produced eight more children, four of whom died before their

father. Paul Revere died at age eighty-three on Sunday, May 10, 1818.

At age twenty-five, Paul Revere was initiated in St. Andrew's Lodge on September 4, 1760. He was the first candidate received after their charter dated 1756 was received from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. He was raised on January 27, 1761. The records of St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, functioning as part of St. Andrew's Lodge, indicate that Paul Revere became a Royal Arch Mason and Knight Templar on December 11, 1769. Brother Revere was very active in his Lodge by his attendance and serving as Junior Deacon, Junior Warden, and Secretary before being installed at age thirty-five as Worshipful Master on November 30, 1770. At that time, he was already serving as Senior Grand Deacon of the Massachusetts (Provincial) Grand Lodge. This was the beginning of his "very active Masonic career" in which he served nine terms as Worshipful Master, five with St. Andrew's Lodge and four with Rising States Lodge and, with the exception of the Revolutionary war years, served continuously as a Grand Lodge officer from 1769 to 1797.

The culmination of Paul Revere's thirty-four years as a Freemason came in 1794 when he was elected as the second Grand Master of the newly-formed Grand

Lodge of Massachusetts A.F. & A.M.

By 1784, ten years earlier, Revere had already risen as high as Deputy Grand Master, Massachusetts (Independent) Grand Lodge, with his appointment under John Warren. He again served as Deputy Grand Master under Moses M. Hayes in 1791-1792.

Revere at age sixty was finally chosen as Grand Master at the annual election of officers on December 8, 1794, a position he held through December 27, 1797. According to the *Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts* at that time, the Grand Master was to be elected by a ballot at large with "every voter writing the candidate he thinks best qualified." The brother who had two-thirds of the votes cast was elected Grand Master. Ironically, Paul Revere was not the first choice of the assembled brethren for Grand Master in 1794. Right Worshipful John Warren, brother of the late Most Worshipful Joseph Warren, the first Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts under Scotland who died at the Battle of Bunker Hill (Breeds Hill), was again chosen, but he "declined accepting the Chair." The Grand Lodge then proceeded to another choice, and it appeared that the Right Worshipful Paul Revere was chosen, not being present, a committee of three was appointed to wait on Brother Revere to know whether he would accept the appointment, and the committee reported his acceptance.

Paul Revere's installation as Grand Master took place on December 12, 1794, at Concert Hall, where "the Most Worshipful John Cutler, then in 'ample form,' installed the Grand Master and placed him in the chair of Solomon and invested him with his proper jewels." Duly installed, Revere appointed

his Deputy, Deacons, Stewards, Grand Marshal, and Sword Bearer, and invested them with their jewels. According to Grand Lodge minutes, "a procession was then formed, and the Brethren, in their proper order, paid their usual salutes and congratulations."

During the three years that Revere was Grand Master, the Grand Lodge held twelve quarterly communications on the second Mondays of December, March, June, and September and seven special communications. According to the "Proceedings," total attendance averaged twenty-six; however, this information may not completely reflect the actual members present as indicated by additional comments in the "Proceedings." Paul Revere presided over every meeting held during his three years as Grand Master, and the fraternity in Massachusetts expanded energetically under his direction.

Revere was the first to wear the tri-corn hat as Grand Master. Later discarded, the tradition was revived by John T. Heard in December of 1856 and continues to this day.

The celebration of feast days also continued. On June 24, 1795, the Feast of St. John the Baptist was celebrated at Concert Hall with a Masonic procession to and from the Chapel Church.

Revere was the first Grand Master to appoint a Grand Chaplain. On December 12, 1796, Grand Lodge voted that "the Most Worshipful Grand Master be authorized at every annual meeting to nominate and appoint a Grand Chaplain whose duty it shall be to attend the Grand Lodge and perform such clerical duties as shall be assigned him."

Since the primary responsibilities of the Grand Lodge were to charter new

Lodges and to supervise the Lodges within its jurisdiction, the Grand Lodge under Revere devoted a significant amount of time to seeing that the Lodges were properly organized and legally conducted. As Grand Master, Paul Revere chartered twenty-three new Lodges within Massachusetts and Maine which established a record for more than one hundred years.

While Grand Master, Paul Revere also continued the distribution of the volume of *Constitutions*. The book was originally compiled in 1792 as a result of the union between the Massachusetts Grand Lodge and St. John's Grand Lodge. The book of *Constitutions* was a compilation of masonic history, charges, addresses, constitutions, laws, and songs entitled *The Constitutions of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons*. Paul Revere was one of the thirteen masons who served on the original committee under the direction of the Reverend Thaddeus Mason Harris. The Grand Lodge intended to send a copy of the book to every Lodge in the State as well as to present the volume to all new Lodges chartered. According to Revere, the *Constitutions* were "calculated with so much pain for the benefit of the Craft, having upon all occasions recourse to their charges and regulations therein contained." Revere obviously had a sincere interest in the rules and regulations which were designed to keep the fraternity running smoothly, as he often served on committees to revise Masonic rules and bylaws. He also wrote the "charges" which were used in the installation of officers while he was Grand Master.

During the years that Paul Revere presided as Grand Master, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was still in the knight templar

initial stages of formation as indicated by the various problems it encountered and the resolutions it passed at Quarterly Communications. At the September Quarterly, it resolved "That when any Lodge is not presented in Grand Lodge and is in arrears for a longer period than twelve months, it shall be considered as having relinquished its connection with the Grand Lodge and not having a regular standing in the Commonwealth."

At the March 1797 Quarterly, a com-



Paul Revere portrait courtesy of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts.

mittee was appointed to write to the Lodge at Nantucket in regard to that resolution. Several months later, on August 27, Revere wrote a personal letter to Samuel Barrett at the Union Lodge in Nantucket, informing him that "except your Lodge send their Charter to, and paid their dues to the Massachusetts



Grand Lodge, you would not be received by them, or acknowledged as a regular, constituted Lodge." Revere informed him of the resolution passed in Grand Lodge on September 9, 1795, relating to this matter, indicating that as Grand Master, he felt it was his "duty to represent to you your situation as a Lodge, not doubting you will take such steps as Free and Accepted Masons ought to." The Lodge replied in early September that they had raised a committee to look into the matter.

Paul Revere was concerned not only with the proper conduct of the Lodges but also with the quality of Masonic candidates. While Grand Master, he wrote the ceremony for constituting a new Lodge in which he instructed the officers to "carefully enquire into the character of all candidates and recommend none to the Master who in your opinion are unworthy of the privileges and advantages of Masonry, keeping the cynic far from the antient fraternity where harmony is obstructed by the superstitious and morose."

Ten years after he served as Grand Master, Paul Revere's concern about candidates was still clear. He wrote that "it is too much the practice of Lodges to admit the "worthless and profane," to pollute our "hallowed Temple." "Caution and jealousy with respect to Candidates cannot be too much impressed on all Lodges."

In February of 1797, Revere chaired a committee of three to draft a resolution against the improper admission of candidates when it came to his attention that persons who were rejected in one Lodge would "afterwards apply to another Lodge within the jurisdiction and gain admittance." As Grand Master, Revere

had the authority to prevent the "worthless and profane" from joining Masonic Lodges within his jurisdiction. In June of 1797, Revere brought charges against Harmonic Lodge for directly violating his authority in this respect. According to the charges, the Lodge made "a number of persons Masons without handing their names to the Grand Master for his approbation" and made a number of persons Masons "all of them persons to whom the Grand Master had refused his approbation." On the same evening, they made "nine persons Masons, some of whom had not stood the usual time on the books and without having first obtained a dispensation from the Grand Master for that purpose," and "several times made a man an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and a Master Mason, the same evening, contrary to the usages of Masonry."

On June 28, 1797, Grand Lodge voted fifteen to nine to "vacate" the charter of Harmonic Lodge. Four men who had been made Masons were "prohibited from visiting any Lodge."

This issues and problems relating to candidates appear to have contributed to the need for the following resolution passed at the December 11, Quarterly Communication in 1797:

"It is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that every Lodge under this Jurisdiction, before they proceed to ballot for any person to be made a Mason---it shall be their duty to make a strict enquiry, what town in the State such candidate belongs to; and if appears that he is a citizen of any town in this Commonwealth, where a regular Lodge

is constituted, or if he lives within five miles of a constituted Lodge other than the one to which he is proposed, it shall operate as an exclusion without a recommendation of the Master and Wardens of the nearest Lodge where he belongs; for no person's character can be so well known as in the town or neighborhood where he belongs. And it shall be the duty of Masters of Lodges, when a character is rejected for the want of such a recommendation as a free Mason ought to have, to direct their respective secretaries to acquaint the Masters of the adjacent Lodges with the name and circumstances of the person rejected and also the like information to the Grand Lodge."

Other matters dealing with communications and charters were passed at the September 13, 1797, Quarterly Communication:

"1<sup>st</sup> The Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, after the choice of officers each year, shall transmit a list of the new officers chosen or re-elected and also an attested copy of all new general regulations adopted to the Grand Lodge of every state in the union."

"2<sup>nd</sup> No charter of erection or dispensation shall be granted to any number of Masons residing out of this state except when the Grand Lodge of the

state in which the petitioners reside shall acquiesce therein in writing."

"3<sup>rd</sup> The Grand Lodge will not hold communication or correspondence with, or admit as visitors, any Masons residing in this state who hold authority under and acknowledge the supremacy of any Foreign Grand Lodge or who do not by their representatives communicate and pay their dues to this Grand Lodge."

The Grand Lodge at the December Quarterly also passed the following resolution relating to voting:

"That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that the construction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the second section of the *Constitution* is and ought to be that every Lodge, represented in Grand Lodge shall have one vote and no more, whether they have one or more representatives."

In reviewing the correspondence recorded in the "Proceedings," numerous letters were noted; however, the exchange of letters between Paul Revere and George Washington in early 1797 are of particular interest.

Ref: Correspondence recorded in the minutes. Quarterly communication - June 12, 1797.

From: The East, the West and the South, of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

"To their most worthy

George Washington:

Wishing ever to be foremost in testimonials of respect and admiration for those virtues and services with which you have so long adorned and benefited our common country, and not the least to regret the cessation of them in the public councils of the Union, your brethren of the Grand Lodge embrace the earliest opportunity of greeting you in the calm retirement you have contemplated to yourself. Though as citizens they lose you in the active labors of political life, they hope, as Masons, to find you in the pleasing sphere of fraternal engagement.

From the cares of state and the fatigues of public business, our institution opens a recess affording all the relief of tranquility, the harmony of peace, and the refreshment of pleasure. Of these may you partake in all their purity and satisfaction, and we will assure ourselves that your attachment to this social plan will increase and that under the auspices of your encouragement, assistance, and patronage, the Craft will attain its highest ornament, perfection, and praise. It is our ardent prayer that when your light shall be no more visible in this earthly temple, you may be raised to the All Perfect Lodge above, be seated on the right of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, and there receive the refreshment your la-

bors have merited.

In behalf of the Grand Lodge, we subscribe ourselves with the highest esteem,

Your affectionate Brethren  
Paul Revere, Grand Master  
Isiah Thomas, S. Grand Warden  
Joseph Laughton, J. Grand Warden  
Daniel Oliver  
Boston, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 1797”

(ANSWER)

“To the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Brothers:

It was not until within these few days that I have been favored with your affectionate letter, dated Boston, 21<sup>st</sup> March, for the favorable sentiments you have been pleased to express on the occasion of my past services and for the regrets with which they are accompanied for the cessation of my public functions. I pray you accept my best acknowledgments and gratitude.

No pleasure, except that which results from the consciousness of having to the utmost of my abilities discharged the trusts which have been reposed in me by my country, can equal the satisfaction I feel for the unequivocal proofs I continually receive of its approbation of my public conduct, and

I beg you to be assured that the evidence thereof, which is exhibited by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, is not among the least pleasing or grateful to my feelings.

In that retirement which declining years induced me to seek and which repose, to a mind long employed in public concerns, rendered necessary, my wishes that bounteous Providence will continue to bless and preserve our country in peace and in the prosperity it has enjoyed, will be warm and sincere, and my attachment to the society of which we are members will dispose me always to contribute my best endeavors to promote the honor and interest of the Craft.

For the prayer you offer in my behalf, I entreat you to accept the thanks of a grateful heart, with assurances of fraternal regard and best wishes for the honor, happiness and prosperity of the Craft, and of all the members of ye Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

George Washington"

The most memorable event during Revere's term as Grand Master and a high point for Massachusetts Freemasonry was the laying of the cornerstone of the new State House on Boston Common, July 4, 1795. In the great tradition of the ancient stonemasons and master builders, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was invited by Governor Samuel Adams to assist in the ceremony which knight templar

was also conducted with a full Masonic procession. The new State House was designed by Charles Bulfinch, erected by master builder Amos Lincoln, and before long had its dome sheathed with sheet copper rolled in Paul Revere's copper mill. The event was commemorated by an inscribed silver plate placed beneath the cornerstone.

The inscription read:

"This corner-stone intended for the use of the legislature and executive branches of government of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was laid by His Excellency Samuel Adams, Esquire Governor of said Commonwealth assisted by the Most Worshipful Paul Revere, Grand Master; the Right Worshipful William Scollay, Deputy Grand Master; and the Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of July 1795, being the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American independence."

The procession was lengthy and must have been an impressive one. After gathering at the representative's chamber, the participants proceeded to the Old South Meeting House to hear an oration, after which they proceeded to the new State House site.

To this assembled crowd, Paul Revere delivered the following brief address:

"Worshipful Brethren, I congratulate you on this auspicious day when the arts and sciences are establishing themselves in our happy country, a country

distinguished from the rest of the world, by being a government of laws where liberty has found a safe and secure abode and where her sons are determined to support and protect her. Brethren, we are called this day by our venerable and patriotic Governor, his Excellency Samuel Adams, to assist him in laying the cornerstone of a building to be erected for the use of the legislature and executive branches of government of this commonwealth. May we, my Brethren, so square our actions through life as to show to the world of mankind that we mean to live within the compass of good citizens and that we wish to stand upon a level with them, that when we part, we may be admitted into that temple where reigns silence and peace."

After the operative masons prepared the cornerstone, it was laid into place by Governor Samuel Adams assisted by Grand Master Paul Revere and the Deputy Grand Master. Beneath the stone, Revere had placed "a number of gold, silver, and copper coins and a silver plate" which bore the inscription. The ceremony was concluded to the roar of cannon and the cheering crowd.

On July 4, 1995, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, under the direction of Most Worshipful David W. Lovering, conducted a re-enactment of this event at the invitation of the Department of Tourism. The event was not attended by the current Governor or Lt. Governor.

The ceremony on Boston Common in

1795 was reminiscent of a similar event which took place only two years earlier in Washington. On September 18, 1793, George Washington, in a full Masonic ceremony, laid the cornerstone for the national Capitol building.

Paul Revere's public life as a Freemason was coming to an end by late 1797. Revere had served as Grand Master for three years. It was the last major Masonic office he would hold. As new officers were chosen on December 11, 1797, Revere "was then please to address the Grand Lodge in a fraternal manner in which his abilities in the Masonic art were eminently displayed." Revere viewed this Masonic election as a farewell. He knew that having served as Grand Master for three years, he was ineligible for re-election according to the *Constitution*, but he could say with pride that there were "upwards of forty" Lodges within the jurisdiction, most of which were represented and paid dues. This nearly doubled the number of twenty-two Lodges which were in the jurisdiction after the two Grand Lodges united in 1792, each Grand Lodge having brought eleven Lodges to the union.

After three productive years, Paul Revere's address reveals his contentment with the past as well as the issues which concerned him for the future of Masonry. The Union Lodge at Nantucket still had not complied with the regulations, but he was confident that it would do so if his successor "provided a little attention."

Revere also encouraged a "free correspondence" between Masonic Lodges in the United States and abroad. The Lodges of England and Nova Scotia had already extended a cordial correspondence with America, and Revere thought the same should be done with



"Quebeck," as a means of "securing the friendship of that body of Masons against those persons who may wish to make innovations in Masonry." With just a little attention to correspondence, Revere was certain "that we shall soon have the pleasure to communicate with every Grand Lodge thro' the Globe."

Revere was also concerned with the "necessity of subordination among Masons," hoping that the Lodges would conduct themselves according to the old traditions. He encouraged "a careful attention to our *Constitution* that you never suffer the antient land-marks to be removed that a strict attention be paid to every Lodge under this jurisdiction" so that "they be not suffered to break through or, treat with neglect any of the regulations of the Grand Lodge."

Revere also recommended that "a committee be raised to form regulations for the disposal of charity or any other thing that will add to the happiness of Masons." A committee was immediately appointed "to take into consideration the recommendations made by the Most Worshipful Grand Master" during his final address.

As Paul Revere left the highest Masonic office in the state, he professed great hopes for the future. According to Revere, Freemasonry "is now in a more flourishing situation than it has been for ages," and there is "no quarter of the globe but acknowledges its philanthropy." He felt it was "the greatest happiness" of his life "to have presided in the Grand Lodge at a time when Freemasonry has attained so great a height that its benign influence has spread itself to every part of the Globe and shines with more resplendent rays than it hath since the days when King Solomon implored our immortal Grand

Master to build the temple."

Revere began his address with an apology, assuring his Masonic brethren that he "endeavored to pay every attention to what I esteemed my duty," adding that "I have ever omitted to do one act that appeared to be for the good of the Craft" but "if I have done what I ought not to have done, you must impute it to my head and not to my heart."

Revere closed his address by extending to his fellow Masons "my most sincere and hearty thanks for your candor and assistance," since it was owing to your kind attention and assistance that I have been enabled to do the little good which has been done." He encouraged his brethren to "continue the same kindness to all my successors in office."

On December 27, 1797, Revere installed the new Grand Master and officially ended his three year term. The Lodge voted that thanks be given "to our most Worshipful Master Paul Revere for his eminent service rendered this Grand Lodge while in the chair of Solomon."

The "Masonic Years" of Paul Revere were the glorious age of Masonry prior to the anti-masonic crusade of the 1820's when the society grew unhindered and flourished in public processions and ceremonies, laid cornerstones, and attracted men of influence in every community. He must have enjoyed the pomp and ceremony of the aged traditions, particularly when he filled the chair of Solomon as Grand Master.

In 1796, fellow Mason William Bentley noted simply that "Col. Revere enters into the spirit of it and enjoys it." Two hundred years later, these words should represent the concept that all of us should strive to accomplish in Masonry today.

## Bibliography

1. Steblecki, Edith J., *Paul Revere and Freemasonry*, printed by Richter Associates Copyright 1985 by Paul Revere Memorial Association
2. *Proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in Union with the Most Ancient and Honorable Grand lodge in Europe and America, According to the Old Constitutions 1792-1815*. Cambridge: Press of Caustic-Clafin Company, 1905
3. MUSEUM OF OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE EXHIBITS "PAUL REVERE the Man Behind the Myth," *The TROWEL*, Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, page 14, Summer 1988
4. Kaulback, Michael S., "The First Knight Templars Created in the United States" *Knight Templar* magazine, September 1995, Vol. XLI, No. 9, page 9
5. Watson, James T., Jr., *FROM WATSON'S CORNER*
6. "Paul Revere: Mason, Patriot, Businessman, 1735-1818" *The TROWEL*, Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, page 29, Spring 1996
7. *Abstract of Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts*, page 244 & 245, September 10, 1804

Sir Knight Dan Pushee, KCT is chairman of the Electronic Communications Committee of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U.S.A. and its Webmaster. The web site can be found at [www.knightstemplar.org](http://www.knightstemplar.org), and Sir Knight Pushee can be contacted at [kych52fl@gmail.com](mailto:kych52fl@gmail.com).



# York & Scottish Rite Superstore

Visit Our Website & Online Store: [fratline.net](http://fratline.net)

While at our website, sign-up for our FREE Leadership e-letter.



Sir Knight Chapeau  
Velvet Body w/Ostrich Plume  
**Only \$289 + S&H**



Malta Jewel  
**Only \$89.95/dz.**



Red Cross  
**Only \$99.95/dz.**



P.E.C. Jewel  
**Only \$59.95/ea.**

**fratline™**

EMBLEMATICS

by M. Warren & Co.

**1-877-459-1440, ext. 0**

P.O. Box 9258

Louisville, KY 40209



Scottish Rite  
14th Degree Ring  
Stainless Steel  
**Only \$49.95**



Scottish Rite  
33rd Degree Ring  
Stainless Steel  
**Only \$89.95**



## *Knights Templar Eye Foundation*

### **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, Phone (214) 888-0220, Fax (214) 888-0230.

NEW LONDON

# REGALIA & SWORD COMPANY

One Harmony Place • New London, OH 44851  
1-800-634-8253 • FAX 419-929-0122

Call to request your free catalog.

We also do refurbishing - Contact us for more information

BELTS



CHAPEAU

SWORDS



For all your KT and Regalia needs  
[www.newlondonregalia.com](http://www.newlondonregalia.com)

## MAYO'S

1121 Broad St - Wesmark Plaza  
Sumter, SC 29150

\* Knights Templar Uniform - \$130

\*Red Chapter Blazer - 3BTN \$80 /  
2BTN \$150

\*Purple Council Coat - \$80

\*Tuxedos - \$130

Shoes - \$50



S&H \$15



By Phone: (803) 773-2262

Online: [Mayosdiscountsuits.com](http://Mayosdiscountsuits.com)

## IN MEMORIAM



Eugene "Gene" Aldrich  
Iowa

Grand Commander 1985

Born: October 1, 1934

Died: October 25, 2014







# Beauceant News

## *Elizabethtown Assembly Supports Ronald McDonald House*



Left to right: Sir Knight Jerry J. Hamilton, Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania; (Mrs. Jerry) Janet Hamilton, Past President of Elizabethtown No. 265; (Mrs. Albert) Kathy Miller; (Mrs. Leslie J.) Sandy Loomis, Supreme Worthy President; (Mrs. Stephen) Mary Ann Koonrad; and Sir Knight Leslie J. Loomis, Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania.

Elizabethtown Assembly No. 265 is very active in making donations to the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Games, books, puzzles, and toys are donated for the children. Families often have little time to prepare for visits to the medical facilities. As a result, personal care items such as small shampoos, soaps, and shaving lotions are welcome. As there are two full kitchens in the house, cereals and fast food items assist families during their stay. Games and magazines in the living room areas help the families feel more "at home." Items are also made and donated to the Ronald McDonald Hospitality Cart and family lounges at the nearby Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital.



Mrs. Leslie J. Loomis, Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, presented a twenty-five year pin and certificate to Mrs. Marvin E. Fowler at her official visit to Fredericksburg Assembly No. 266, Virginia, on October 16. Mrs. Fowler, a member of Fredericksburg, was initiated twenty-five years ago into Hyattsville Assembly No. 221 in Maryland, and is a Past President. Pictured are Mrs. Loomis, Supreme Worthy President; Mrs. Fowler, Past President; and Mrs. William F. Reinhold, Worthy President of Fredericksburg.



# A Chat With The Managing Editor

**I**n December, I was critical in this column of my generation and the one or two before me for their parsimonious attitude and the actions they have taken to deteriorate our fraternity over the years. I got a good deal of feedback on that column, and surprisingly, all of it was positive, even from the old guys like me. I expressed my confident expectation that these bright new Masons who are coming into our fraternity will rebuild Freemasonry into what it once was and even more. I am, however, concerned about one thing. I'm not sure that all of our young guys understand the most important thing.

This month, the message is to you young guys who are rebuilding our fraternity. Freemasonry is fellowship, charity, philosophy, and even a bit like a puzzle, built on symbolism, but most importantly and fundamentally, Freemasonry is a system of morality. It even tells us that right up front. So what is morality? Morality is not doing whatever feels good. Morality is not making sure we get our fair share or get our turn. Morality is not defined by our society or what everybody else is doing. It is not going by commonly accepted practice. Morality is not defined by society or government or the media. Morality is defined by the Great Architect of the Universe alone and is revealed to us through the *Great Light of Freemasonry*. That's what Freemasonry is and what Freemasonry teaches. Make no mistake. Morality is either being celibate or being married to and faithful to one woman. Morality is paying your debts, including your student loans, and providing for your own family. Morality is accepting nothing which you haven't earned and being generous to others who are in need. Morality is being polite and respectful to others, even to your brethren within the Lodge when you don't agree with them.

Remember that the main thing is the main thing and that the main thing about Freemasonry is that we are a "beautiful system of morality," not theoretical morality but active morality. When you forget the main thing, it doesn't matter how smart you are or how much you know about the symbolism. It doesn't matter how much you give to charity or how fancy your buildings are. It doesn't matter how sophisticated you are or what office you hold. Without morality, Freemasonry is like sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal - much ado about nothing.

While you rebuild our Fraternity and lead us into the centuries to come, remember that in Freemasonry character counts. Without that sound foundation, the temple will collapse. I'm sure you already knew this, but I thought it wouldn't hurt to remind you.



John L. Palmer  
Managing Editor





## Knights Templar Budget-Priced Uniforms

**NEW! \$329.95**

Jacket Only.... \$259.95

Trousers Only... \$79.95

Comparable  
Pricing  
\$500.00

New, lightweight tropical wool and dacron blend uniform with your knights templar buttons and sword slit.

Men's High Gloss

**\$59.95**

(Slightly Blemished)



**ONLY \$159.95**

Size 48 & up  
Add - \$25.00



**LIGHTHOUSE UNIFORM CO.**

1532 15th Avenue West, Seattle, Washington 98119

Flaps on pockets are \$19.95 extra if needed  
Sword Slits are \$14.95 extra if needed

visit [www.lighthouseuniform.com](http://www.lighthouseuniform.com)

We Now Have

## Purple, Red & Blue Blazers

**Only \$99.95**

Add \$25 For 48+



Limited  
sizes available

## Reconditioned Jackets

Jacket completely  
reconditioned with your  
knight templar buttons.



*I respectfully submit my distinction between a real Templar and a member; the main part of our oath is the defense of the Christian faith. If you are not active in this and you tolerate the rhetoric from those who have sworn to destroy it, then I say that you are but a member, nothing more than a wanna be of a fine group of a select few, and I say to you, sit back, enjoy your membership and observe what it means to be a real Knight Templar.*

Alan Majeski

*Be thankful for the bad things in life. They open your eyes to the good things you weren't paying attention to before.*

Knight Templar

5909 West Loop South, Suite 495  
Bellaire, TX 77401-2402

*L*ove is patient and kind; love  
is not jealous or boastful; it  
is not arrogant or rude. Love  
does not insist on its own way;  
it is not irritable or resentful.  
*I*t does not rejoice at wrong  
but rejoices in the right.  
*1* Cor. 13:4-6

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Knightsstown, IN  
Permit No. 8

