



Knight Templar

VOLUME LXII

MAY 2016

NUMBER 5



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**Cover photo of the Templar town
of La Couvertoirade in France by
the editor.**

Guest Message

from

Sir Knight Robert S. Finley, grand sovereign of The United Grand Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the United States of America, Mexico, and the Philippines

The Cross We Bear!

As Christian knights we are taught to be the first into battle and the last to retreat. Our vows, our prayers, and yes, our lives are based on service to God, our family, and our country. We show the world all of this by using the cross of Christ on our shields of armor. That shield may be a lapel pin or a ring or an emblem on our automobile; nevertheless, it is our red badge of courage.

The Red Cross of Constantine reflects upon a time when a true leader saw the light from heaven, the cross was raised before him, and he brought forth Christianity to a mighty empire.

So, too, the Knight Templar cross is a sign of leadership. It embodies the need to protect and defend the sacred homeland of our savior and keep our Christian beliefs and traditions in the forefront.

In my travels with both Red Cross and Grand Encampment over the past few years, it is very clear to me that we are meeting the challenge head on. The leaders with whom I have become associated are leading and mentoring new followers to pick up the battle flag and raise our beloved fraternity to still greater heights.

The proof of this is in the response to the traditional Easter Sunrise Service now conducted across the United States. The officers of Grand Encampment visit all three venues, and the response by the state Grand Commanderies is outstanding.

You have but to stand at the foot of the hill leading up to the George Washington National Masonic Memorial in Alexandria to realize the majesty of our order or view the sunrise over the World War I Memorial in Kansas City or the bright clear sky in Arizona as we once again celebrate that Jesus Christ is risen this day.

God bless you all.
God bless America.

Yours in faith, unity, and zeal,
Robert S. Finley, grand sovereign



What Time Is It?

By
Sir Knight Kenny Kubach

NASA tweeted an image from the Hubble Space Telescope of a newborn star that looks like “a cosmic lightsaber,” just in time for the release of Star Wars, “The Force Awakens.” As The Force appeared to be awaking precisely in our own galaxy, I received an email from a brother. “What time is practice?” he queried, as to Oriental’s practice for Order of the Temple. I replied by typing the exact time, and at the same time, I worried for it to be accurate. I was running late. I can hardly recall not having a sense of being late or rushed, being behind the time, or thinking that time is running out in my hourglass. Day-dreaming, I rubbed the sand from my eyes and imagined, “Wouldn’t it be wonderful to be a child again, when all is ‘right on time?’” Driving to practice, I noticed birds perched on electric wires. They seem to know when and where to gather, how long to sit, which bird to sit by, and when to go. I wondered how a newbie figures out the interstellar nature of that process. Arriving at the temple, I realized it’s my love of the work that draws me here, and it’s the moments of connection with my brothers, perched like birds shooting the breeze over the wire, that keeps my feet grounded, “light” years from my hectic life. That is community. It begins with one-on-one dialogue and grows with people who have a sense of what matters. People who are ignited and interlaced by His light that glitters from within that appears to be timeless. Though, from time to time (I confess) God seems light years away, His timely might awakened our world to what matters most. God

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A Star is Born

knew exactly when Jesus Christ’s peace star would be born. Christmas time. It is a time of perfection. How so? It’s a time that we learn, as difficult as it is, the lesson of joy for the present. It’s a time to not dwell in the past nor fuss about the future, a flash of birth when there is no push to be somewhere else. We learn that life is marvelous, to be awake in the right now. Like birds on a wire, we connect with each other by our starry-decked “lightsabers” full with hope and love. It’s a time when the birds are singing their song of joy. Jesus was right... on time. You have to be a child to know the kingdom of God. It’s a perfect time to be a young’un..... another time!

Sir Knight **Kenny Kubach** is commander of Oriental Commandery 12 and resides in Cleveland, Ohio. He can be contacted at kenny.kubach@att.net.

Prelate's Chapel

by

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

What a gorgeous month May is, with everything in bloom! It seems that all nature is celebrating the glory of God, and indeed, it is a grand reminder of God's gift to us in his Son and the "explosion" of power God gives to all who believe in Him through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

I can well imagine that the disciples and followers of Jesus were sad when he announced his departure from us, but he mitigated that in the promise of His presence with us always through the Holy Spirit, the divine presence that would be with us in this life to empower us to live and work for the upbuilding of His kingdom among all the kingdoms of this world.

On the day of Pentecost, when 120 disciples were all gathered together in prayer, the sound like that of a mighty wind "blew" in upon them, and tongues of fire descended upon each one of them, filling them with the presence and power of God. From that day to now, God's presence through the Holy Spirit still fills and enlivens

those who believe in Jesus the Christ. It enables us each day to "labor in the vineyard" for Him.

Our world today still needs Christian disciples to go into the world, preaching and teaching to all nations the love of God in Jesus Christ. No, you don't need to go and buy an airplane ticket. You just need to love those you meet and greet each day. It starts with family and friends, a smile and a "hello" to the stranger you pass on the street, an invitation to a new neighbor to come to church with you. There are many ways we can serve the Lord in a world that is weary and laden with sin.

As we do the good work Jesus would have us do, my how the beauty of the Lord can "explode" all over our world, as do the flowers of spring.



Roy Wilford Riegler

52nd Grand Master of the Grand Encampment

(13th in a Series on our Past Grand Masters)

by

George L. Marshall, Jr., PGC, KCT, ADC
Chairman, Knights Templar History Committee, Grand Encampment

Roy Wilford Riegler, who also went by his middle name as Wilford Riegler, was born on a farm in Rice County, Kansas, near the town of Lyons on April 27, 1896. He was one of ten children, eight sons and two daughters, three of the sons dying in infancy, born to Uriah Riegler (1860-1940) and Joanna (Gentzler) Riegler (1861-1928). The family moved to Pennsylvania in 1903 and lived there in the log cabin in which his father was born. He started high school in Pennsylvania and completed it upon the family's return to St. John, Kansas. Struggling to get by on his own in the pursuit of higher education, he worked at a local mortuary in Jetmore, Kansas, as well as attending summer school at Teacher's College at Emporia for several terms and taught school in Stafford County for three terms. In 1922 he entered Washburn College (now University) in Topeka, where he received his A.B. degree in 1924 and his M. A. and LL.B. in 1925. At the time, he was the only graduate of Washburn to whom three degrees had been awarded. While in college, he was elected a Sagamore, the highest scholastic honor conferred by that institution. He was admitted to the bar in June of 1925.

On June 3, 1923, he was united in marriage to Keith Maria Roberts (1902-2000) from Nevada, Missouri, who had been a student at Teacher's College at Emporia. To this union were born four



children. Roy Wilford Riegler, Jr. (1926-1969), like his father, graduated with a degree in law from Washburn University. He partnered with his father at Riegler & Riegler Law for several years. Eventually, however, he left Kansas for a position in Los Angeles as the Chief Counsel of McDonnell Douglas Aviation. Jo Anna Riegler (1930-2011) attended Kansas State Teachers College. By 1951, toward the end of her undergraduate career, she married and moved to New York State where she taught music in school. In 1995, having completed twenty-seven years of musicianship in Bethpage, New York schools, she retired from her career. The other two children were Ardis Gene Riegler and Mary Keith Riegler, about

whom I have been unable to locate any information.

Wilford Rieggle enlisted on May 24, 1917, as part of the United States Army in Company L, 137th Infantry, 35th Division. He served with that Company throughout World War I with the exception of four months, during which time he was attached to the British army at Calais, France, for special duty. He was wounded in the right arm by shrapnel in the Argonne, spent two months in the hospital, and was discharged two days before the Armistice. He returned home with his company in May of 1919. He maintained his presence in the military as a Colonel during World War II.

In 1926 he was elected Probate Judge in Emporia and served with great efficiency and success. By the end of his career in 1986, he was the longest-serving probate judge in the history of Lyon County and quite possibly, the state of Kansas.

He was a republican member of both the Kansas House of Representatives and the Kansas Senate for multiple terms, from 1933-1939; 1941; 1953-1960. In 1957, he became president of the Kansas State Historical Society (he also acted as secretary and historian of the Society at various times). At the Society in Topeka, Kansas, are found his personal papers. Included are records from Company L, 137th Infantry 35th Division reunions after the end of the World War, including meeting minutes, newspaper clippings, photographs, and correspondence; other papers and records related to World War veterans; correspondence, informational bulletins, and meeting materials from the Knights Templar, including materials from when he was on the Drill Team Committee and when he acted as grand master for Kansas; mis-

cellaneous correspondence; insurance information from the Modern Woodmen of America; and other such papers. The collection also includes some records from his legal practice, notably probate and guardianship cases.

Sir Knight Rieggle was a member of several civic and fraternal groups including Modern Woodmen of America, American Legion, Lions Club, and the Outlook Club. In Templary, he was a member of Emporia Commandery 8, serving as eminent commander in 1934. He was an active member and supporter of the Emporia Knights Templar Drill Team. He served as grand commander of Knights Templar of Kansas in 1946 and was most illustrious grand master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Kansas in 1967. He also held memberships and offices in other numerous state and national Masonic organizations.

He was elected as grand master at the 52nd Triennial Conclave in 1973, held in Chicago and presided over the 53rd Triennial in 1976 held in Kansas City, Missouri. During his tenure, new Commanderies under dispensation included those in Germany and Greece. He died in peace, surrounded by his family, on February 2nd, 1988. He was buried in the Leavenworth National Cemetery, Leavenworth, Kansas, on February 5, 2008. His tombstone is shown at left. His wife, Keith Maria Roberts Rieggle, who served as a MSgt in World War II, is listed on the reverse of his tombstone as shown at right.



Sources Used

Riegle photo: "Roy Wilford Riegle - KC - 1976" by Ethan James Scherrer - Own work.
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Michael S. Kaulback and Richard W. Van Doren, *A History of the Knights Templar in America ?? – 2009 A.D.* ©Copyright 2009 All Rights Reserved

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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.



The Templar site at Le Viala du Pas de Jaux, a Templar commune in the Aveyron department in the Midi-Pyrénées region in southern France.

Photos by the editor.

A Chat With The Managing Editor

Sir Knights Rowe and Marshall, members of our Editorial Review Board, have recently compiled a set of guidelines for the production of the individual state supplements you find on pages 18-19 of our magazine each month. These have been sent to our state editors to assist them in selecting materials with a view toward continuing to improve our magazine as a whole. Anyone who would like a copy of them can send me an e-mail at ktmagazine@comcast.net.

Also, Sir Knight Gary White recently suggested that we add a feature to the magazine containing questions from the Sir Knights and answers. He thought this might be of particular value to our newest Knights. While I am certainly not enough of an expert to answer all your questions, maybe I can find someone who is. We will begin the new feature this month and run it when we have enough questions to do so, perhaps every month for a while to see how you like it. We would like to hear from you if you think it is worthwhile. You can send me your opinion as well as any questions you might want answered in the magazine to the e-mail address above. I still don't have answers to all of Sir Knight White's questions, but we will get them.

The ancient Knights Templar were founded in 1118 AD and were officially disbanded by the pope in 1312 AD for a total of 194 years. The Grand Encampment of which you are a member was founded in 1816 AD and still survives. We are already six years older than the original order. We are celebrating our 200th anniversary in July of this year. See the announcement on page 30. This seems like a big deal to me, so I hope many of you will join us in New York City. This will be my first and possibly only trip to the "Big Apple" as a tourist, so I plan to see all that I can see. Wouldn't it be interesting for us to celebrate the 900th anniversary of the founding of the ancient Templars in a couple of years?

On another subject, although our average age is 67-1/2 years old (shockingly, I am younger than average) we seem to be experiencing an influx of young men who are excited about Templary in a way that I have not seen during my forty-four years as a Knight. I don't think it is realistic to assume that these young men will flock to our order faster than the rest of us die off, but maybe the ultimate result will be a small but dedicated group of Knights similar to the ones who organized in 1118. We can hope that this is so and do all we can as more experienced Knights to make it so.

One thing is for sure; the survival and success of our order in the future will be about change; not changing our core values and mission but changing the way we operate. This change thing is not new. The ancient Templars changed from guarding pilgrims to fighting crusades and then to farming, shipping, and finally banking. They changed many times during their 194 year run. I often wonder if they resisted change as much as we do. One thing is for sure; during times of change is when the best leadership is absolutely necessary for success. At the national level, we are in great shape for leadership for several years to come. We need to choose carefully at the state level, too.



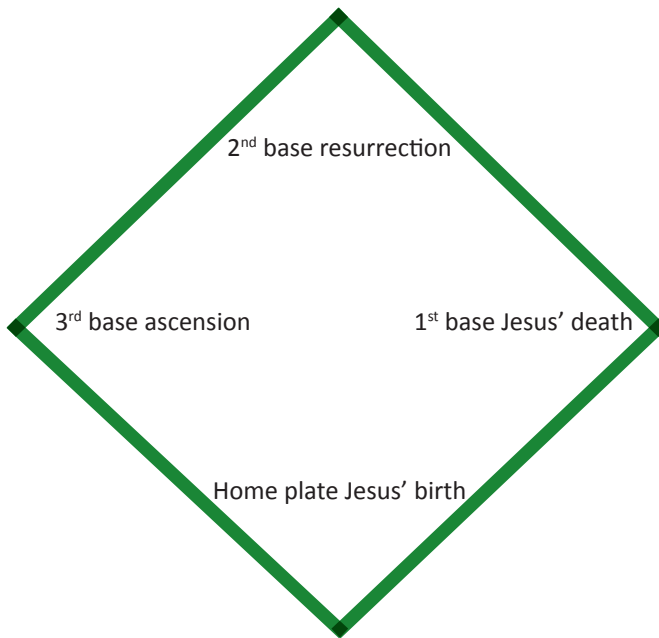
John L. Palmer
Managing Editor

Ascension in Jesus' Quadrilateral

by

Reverend Sir Knight Dr. J. B. Morris

Jesus' quadrilateral involved four major bases in his mission on earth. His quadrilateral may be compared to the shape of a baseball diamond. Home plate would be his time of being born, first base could be his time when he went to the cross to die for our sins, second base would be his time of resurrection from the grave, and third base would be his time of ascension. The following diagram is Jesus' quadrilateral.



Jesus' Birth

Matthew's Gospel begins by showing the genealogy of Jesus and the visit of the prestigious magi. Luke's Gospel tells of Christ's humble birth and the visits of angels and lowly shepherds. John's Gospel begins before time and reaches beyond space. Christ was sent as a human being, and at the same time, he was still divine. The Son came to redeem those under the law by the gift of salvation. God's love is revealed in John 3:16, "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." "God sent his Son, from a woman, born under law, to redeem those under the law, that we might

receive the adoption,” as revealed in Galatians 4:4-7. Mary became Jesus’ mother by the “Holy Conception.”

Jesus’ Death

Jesus was willing to die on the cross for all our sins. While Jesus was suffering on the cross, he still loved the people when he said, “Forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.” When one of the criminals was on his cross, he looked over at Jesus and asked if he could be with him in paradise, and Jesus said “yes.”

Jesus’ Resurrection

Robert Lowry in 1874 expressed Jesus’ resurrection in his song, “Up from the grave he arose with a mighty triumph o’er his foes; he arose a victor from the dark domain and he lives for ever with his saints to reign.” The two evidences of the resurrection (empty tomb and appearances) that the early traditions employ are brought together in John 20:1-18. Mary Magdalene visited the tomb early and found it empty. Then she went to tell Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved (John). Together they ran to the tomb. Later, the risen Christ greeted Mary. “Woman why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for (John 20:15)?” Mary told the disciples, “I have seen the Lord (John 20:18).” Jesus would have forty days after his resurrection to continue his Father’s plan of witnessing to the people and offering the gift of salvation. Jesus’ prayer for his disciples just before leaving them, as revealed in John 17:6-19, was that (1) they would glorify God, (2) they would continue in unity, (3) they would be protected from evil, and (4) they would be sanctified, made holy and righteous, by the truth. They would be left in a world that hated them.

Jesus’ Ascension

Forty days after Jesus’ resurrection, He took his disciples to Mount Olivet, just a mile east of Jerusalem. There, Jesus promised His followers that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, and He instructed them to remain in Jerusalem until the Spirit (Pentecost) had come. Ascension is the passing of Christ from earth to heaven after the resurrection as indicated in Acts 1:9. Jesus’ Ascension had two major themes, first is the enthronement of Christ and his power. The other is his command to spread the gospel throughout the world. As Jesus prepared to leave them, He offered them the “4P’s” of his quadrilateral. The four things they would need were: God’s plan, promise, purpose, and preparation. We have those same things in our lives today.

Jesus’ first P

God’s **plan** is indicated in John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” Jesus followed his Father’s plan and offered the “Golden Rule (Luke 6:31)” to us.

Jesus' second P

Jesus gave us a **promise** of the power of the Holy Spirit, as revealed in Acts 1:8. We can expect to receive power when the promised Holy Spirit arrives. "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God (Romans 8:16)." We must remove our sins to allow the Holy Spirit to have room with our spirit. The problem with some people is that they do not want to give up their old ways of sin and turn their lives over to the Lord.

Jesus' third P

We have a **purpose** in being witnesses for the Lord. When the time comes, there will be power with a specific purpose. When the power of the Holy Spirit arrives, the people will be given power to fulfill God's plans on the earth. "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you ... to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8)." As the disciples heard these last words from the lips of Jesus, He ascended into heaven. As they "were watching" and "were gazing up toward heaven," two angels appeared and said, "Don't just stand there. Do something." These disciples, however, had to be told what to do only once. They knew what they should do next, and they did it.

Jesus' fourth P

Jesus offered us the time and means of **preparation**. "All the followers were constantly devoting themselves to prayer (Act 1:14)." The acts of the Apostles began with prayer. When told not to just stand there but to do something, the apostles obeyed. They prayed. The apostles' response to the encouragement of the angels' instruction to the promise of the Holy Spirit was immediate. They talked to God in prayer, as we should. We should be ready for his sudden return as revealed in 1 Thesalonians 5:2, not by "standing around looking into the sky" but by working hard to share the gospel so that others will be able to share in God's quadrilateral for his son.

Jesus is in heaven with his Father, waiting, and has a room for us, as revealed in John 14:2-3. His ascension marks the beginning of the time for us to communicate the message of Jesus' love and salvation for all. This is His gift of salvation for all, if they will accept his calling.

The Reverend Sir Knight Dr. J. B. Morris is a member of Ascension Commandery 25, Tyler, Texas, and East Texas Commandery 104, Carthage, Texas. His address is P.O. Box 216, Joinerville, TX 75658, and he can be contacted at jbwmmorris@gmail.com.

Loren A. Winn

Department Commander East Central Department

Loren A. Winn was born March 29, 1952, in Detroit, Michigan, and was educated in the South Redford Michigan school system. He graduated from Michigan State University in 1974 with degrees in education and industrial engineering; he also went on to earn post graduate degrees and attended Eastern Michigan University. He then went on to become a teacher of architecture and automotive mechanics. He also worked as an electrical engineer and finished his last twenty-five years teaching in special education. Loren is an eagle scout and during his evenings was very active as a boy scout leader and also taught tae kwon do karate with his wife Gail who is also a black belt master. Sir Knight Winn and his lady of forty-three years, Gail, are the parents of one son, Brian, and a grand-daughter, Anastasia.



Sir Knight Winn was raised a Master Mason in Livingston Lodge 76 and also belongs to Olive Lodge and Civil War Lodge of Research AF&AM. He served as master in 2010. He is a past high priest of Livingston Royal Arch Masons and thrice illustrious master of Livingston Royal and Select Masters. Sir Knight Winn was knighted in Howell Commandery 28 and served as commander in 2002. He is a past grand commander of Michigan and served as grand recorder. He received the Knight Commander of the Temple in 2008.

Sir Knight Winn is a 33rd degree, MSA; member of the Detroit Valley AASR, serving as most wise master; commander in chief; board of directors, Learning Center Board; and local club president. He is a member and past governor of King Athelstan York Rite College, officer of Michigan Priory 22, member of St. Clement Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine, member of Michigan College MSRICF, member and past sovereign master of Thistle & Rose Council 27 AMD, member and officer of Gate of the Tabernacle LXV HRAKTP, member Yeoman of York Angola, and member and past patron of Pinckney Chapter 145 Order of the Eastern Star.

Sir Knight Winn was elected for ten years as a trustee of Hamburg Township, Michigan, and was on their planning commission. He also served for years as local president of Chelsea Education Association and as president of Lakelands Golf & C.C.

Sir Knight Winn was appointed as east central department commander by Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent grand master, at the 66th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment on August 12, 2015, in Buffalo, New York.

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**"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."
2 Timothy 4:7 NIV**

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Jhis will be my final article to you as chairman of the 48th Annual Voluntary Campaign. Serving as chairman and working with you has been a tremendous blessing in my Masonic life.

We accomplished many great things together. With each dollar raised, we progressed forward in our fight against diseases of the eye. We revisited the legacy of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. from its inception via the dream of our first president, Sir Knight Walter A. DeLamater, MEPGM to the present and our current partnerships within the pediatric ophthalmology community.

During this campaign, we have added a second endowed professorship. In August of 2013, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation committee recommended and the board subsequently approved committing \$2 million, matched dollar for dollar, to establish the first endowed professorship to be named:

"Knights Templar Eye Foundation Inc., Professor of Ophthalmology Research" at The Mayo Clinic Campuses in Rochester, Minnesota; Phoenix, Arizona; and Jacksonville, Florida.

In August of 2015, this committee again recommended and the board subsequently approved committing another \$2 million, matched dollar for dollar, to establish the second endowed professorship to be named:

"Knights Templar Eye Foundation Inc., Professor in Ophthalmology" at The Wilmer Eye Institute of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

We continued our partnership with Eye Care America to provide direct patient services to those who qualify from over seven thousand volunteer ophthalmologists. We continued our partnership with "ONE Network." Our support of this global education resource is an important step towards addressing a large and growing number who suffer from vision loss.

Sir Knights, I am extremely proud of your faithfulness in supporting the mission, vision, and goals of the Knights Templar Foundation, Inc. I also thank you for the positive comments you have shared with me regarding my articles during this campaign.

I truly believe that the old general would be very pleased with us as we continued the dream and added yet another chapter to the legacy started some many years ago.

Our legacy continues...

David J. Kussman, GCT
Chairman, 48th Annual Voluntary Campaign

16 Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

may 2016

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Knights Templar Eye Foundation

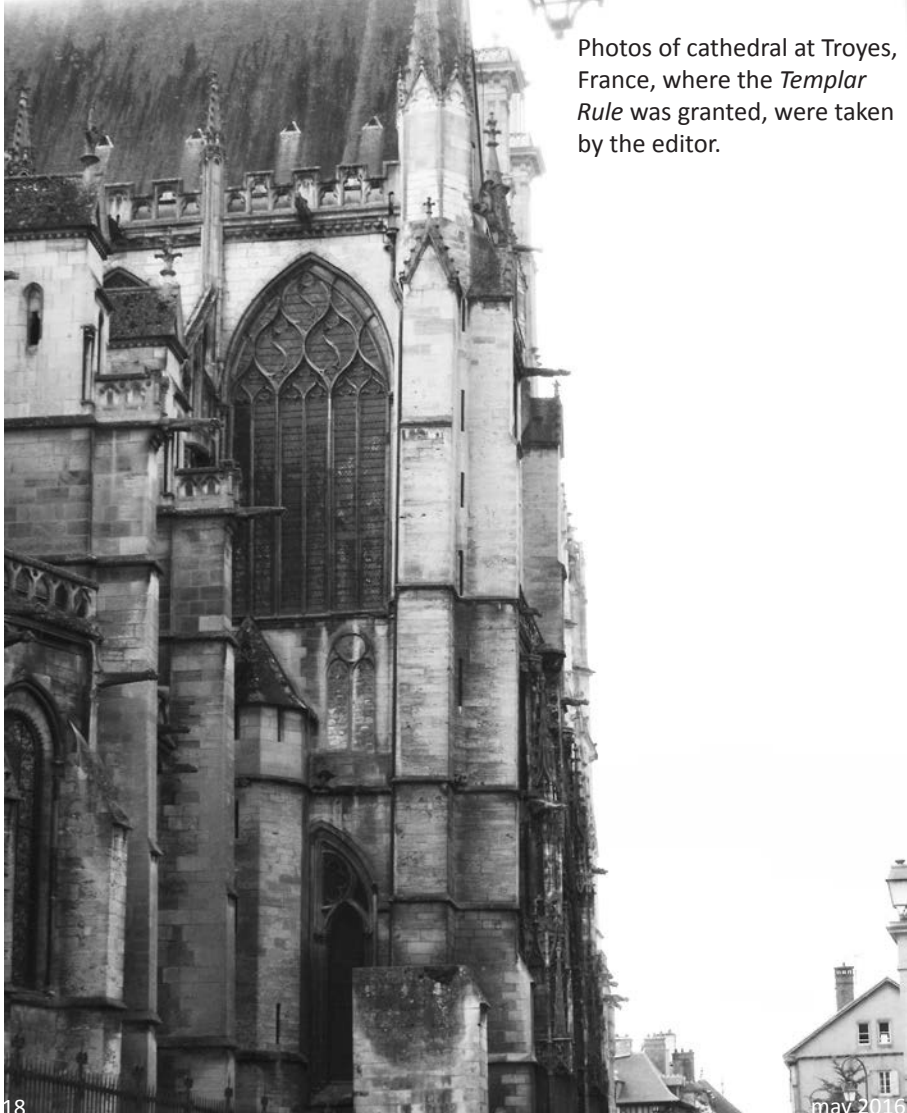
How to join the Grand Commander's or the Grand Master's Clubs

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.

As of 2/1/2015 once 25 Grand Master's Clubs are reached, a Sword of Merit will be awarded.

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 cathedral at Troyes, France, where the *Templar Rule* was granted, were taken by the editor.



? Knightly Questions ?

The questions and answers below are provided as a service to our readers who may have unanswered questions about the law, customs, and traditions of our order. If you have such questions which you want answered in the magazine, please send them by e-mail to ktmagazine@comcast.net, and I will attempt to get you an answer. We won't publish your name if you ask a question, so don't be embarrassed to ask. There might be hundreds of others out there with the same question.

Q: If Grand Encampment law governs uniforms, why are uniforms a little different from state to state?

A: Grand Encampment law sets general standards for uniforms but allows each Grand Commandery to control details about the type of uniform and jewels that may be worn on the coat.

Q: What do the different colors on the uniform shoulder straps represent?

A: The colors of uniform shoulder straps indicate the Sir Knight's permanent rank in Knight Templary. Purple straps represent Grand Encampment permanent membership which is awarded to those who are Past Grand Commanders, Red straps represent Eminent Past Commanders of local Commanderies who are permanent members of their Grand Commandery. The principle officers of a local Commandery wear green shoulder straps if they have never completed a term as a Commander. Rank insignia (the style of cross) on the shoulder straps and elsewhere on the uniform relate to office held rather than the permanent rank.

Q: I have heard that membership in a Council of Royal and Select Masters of Cryptic Masons is not always required to be eligible for Knights Templar. Why is this so?

A: The organization of the Council degrees is not uniform between states. In some states the degrees of Royal and Select Master are given in Royal Arch Chapters and in others by separate Grand Councils. Grand Encampment law requires The Royal Arch degree as a requirement of membership but allows each state (Grand Commandery) to choose for itself whether to require Council membership.

Q: Are the orders of Red Cross, Malta, and Order of the Temple uniform around the world?

A: In some countries there are Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar governed by the Grand Encampment under the same laws and rituals that apply to Grand Commanderies inside the United States. In other places there are Great Pories of Knights Templar, many of which are in amity or fraternal accord with the Grand Encampment. Those great pories create Knights Templar but have significantly different rituals from us.

The Initiatory Experience and Human Nature

Part 1 of 3

By
Sir Knight Daniel D. Hrisko

Editor's Note

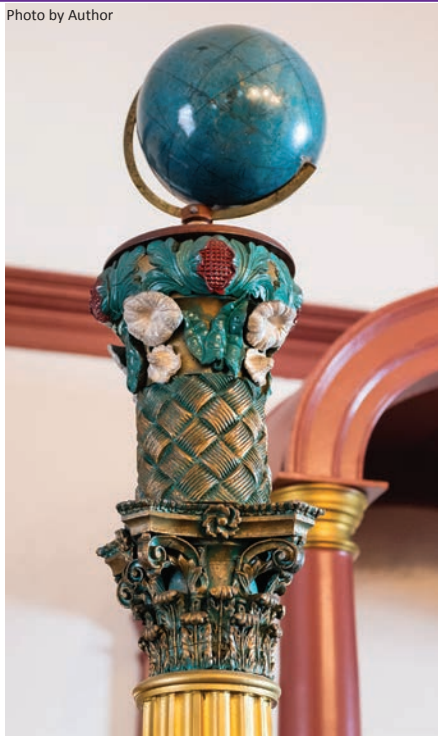
A few months ago, I had opportunity to hear Sir Knight Hrisko speak on this subject at a Masonic symposium and requested that he summarize his message so we could publish it in our magazine. Because of the length, this is the first in a three part series on this subject. The next part will be published in our July issue, because the June issue will be devoted entirely to our bicentennial celebration. A review of Sir Knight Dan's book will be included in the August issue of the *Knight Templar* magazine.

Photo by Author

The Nature of Man

We are all Homo sapiens, have evolved over tens of thousands of years, and have learned that we are far more capable of not only surviving but thriving by relying on each other. Emotions play a vital role in these relationships and are a powerful force in our past and present relationships.

Social relationships have common characteristics and purposes which include a system for assuring protection and security, leadership and authority, the production of food, the raising of children, and the perpetuation of a system of beliefs that provide moral structure to the society. These have existed for millennia and continue to be part of our daily lives. These characteristics allow the entire tribe or society to benefit from the contributions of every member. The warrior fends off enemies to protect the others in his tribe. The farmer produces food to feed not only himself but knight templar



The network on the pillars reminds us of the interdependent relationships we form and are the fabric of our craft.

also the warrior who protects him from those common enemies.

The long-term success of these societies and the interdependent relationships they support rely upon fundamental characteristics of trustworthiness and accountability. The warrior must trust that the farmer will share his bounty, and the farmer must trust that the warrior will exercise his skills to the benefit of the farmer. There must also be a system of accountability, encouraging each member of that society to contribute to the society as a whole, making available the rewards and sanctions. Without trustworthiness and accountability, societies rapidly deteriorate into chaos which is driven by selfishness and permeated with dishonesty.

As part of a system of accountability, individuals are invested with power, authority, and influence over those around them. These individuals are given significant control over decisions about how the society functions, who gets benefits and rewards, and who may be sanctioned. As humans, we find opportunities for power and influence to be attractive. This attractiveness drives our desire to pursue positive actions that will advance the overall welfare of the society in which we live. We will work hard for the betterment of our society, in part because we enjoy the respect, admiration, and benefits we obtain.

However, there is a dark side to this attractiveness. When seduced, we corrupt our power to our own benefit and the benefit of our close associates. This is done at the expense of the society as a whole. The positive desires for power, control, and adulation that drive us to advance society in a positive direction now become toxic to the society and will



The gavel of authority brings with it a great responsibility.

contribute to its destruction.

Thus we see how our inborn drives for comfort, security, success, and adulation, as well as our fears, anxieties, and sadness have contributed to the formation and perpetuation of organized societies. Although we view ourselves as “civilized” and distinctly different from our tribal ancestors, we are all too similar to them. Like it or not, we retain in our DNA the same drives, needs, and temptations as our ancient, tribal ancestors. Although we benefit from greater technology in all aspects of our life, in reality, we are slaves to the same drives for interdependent relationships as were our ancestors over the past 10,000 years.

So how does this apply to Freemasonry? How can we use our knowledge of who we are as men to the benefit of Freemasonry? How do we recognize the opportunities we have to build a better Lodge and fraternity with our knowl-



Freemasonry forges a special bond between brothers and the Lodge.

edge of the emotions that are part of everything we do?

The Initiatic Experience

The initiatic experience of becoming a Freemason is far more than merely a formal ceremony that begins at the opening of the entered apprentice degree. It is, in fact, a process where a special bond or relationship is formed between a man and a Lodge framed by the principles of Speculative Freemasonry.

When a man becomes an enquirer and begins to explore Speculative Freemasonry, he has curiosity, which is an emotion that drives the need to understand. He may experience boredom which drives the need for stimulation. On a deeper level, he is likely experiencing a sense of loneliness or longing which is knight templar

an indicator of the need for a particular kind of relationship. These are the same emotions that drove our tribal ancestors to form their social relationships.

An enquirer exploring Speculative Freemasonry is likely to feel something is missing in his life. He is seeking to add to the quality of his life or develop a particular kind of relationship. The specific reason he seeks light in masonry may be clear to him on a superficial level. However, his curiosity is more likely based on a vague, difficult to describe sense of longing or emptiness. He will have difficulty articulating or even identifying this. Let's face it. In our current society, men are not encouraged, taught, or skilled to explore and articulate their emotional experiences.

To help this enquirer choose the best path for him, our conversations with him should not just focus on employment, career, or recreational activities, but should specifically explore the question "What brings you to the door of Freemasonry?"

Such a conversation is truly the first step in the initiatic experience. As we learn about this man on a factual level, we should pay close attention to those statements that disclose his hopes, goals, and desires. This will assist us in understanding if Speculative Freemasonry can offer the kind of relationship he appears to be seeking.

If we overlook this step of the process, we do ourselves a disservice by failing to learn about this potential Brother and the contribution he can make to our order. We also perform a disservice to this man by assisting him down a path that may not be appropriate for him.

Most explanations of Freemasonry focus on the simple, factual elements of

the fraternity such as describing the process of completing a petition, outlining the three degrees, and other basic information. If we realize that this man is also seeking an emotional experience, a way of fulfilling fundamental psychological needs, then we should share our experiences about how we have been able to connect with the concept of "Speculative Freemasonry" on an emotional level.

To assist him in making this connection, we should share our own emotional experiences with Freemasonry, telling our personal story, sharing what we enjoy about our order, the anxieties we experienced, and the satisfaction we have received. This teaches this potential brother that our Masonic life is more than a set of simple activities and that it includes numerous emotional experiences such as those we have described to him. It teaches him that emotional experiences are part of our order, ultimately adding color and spice to the quality of our life that is lacking in most activities.

Masonic Lodges can make use of important activities that will lay a solid foundation for this growing relationship between man and Lodge. A solid foundation is necessary to improve the success of bringing a man into our midst and having a lasting relationship that

leads to active, contributing Masons in our Lodges.

Our next article will explore how a Lodge can apply what we know about human nature and structure activities to build strong and lasting relationships between brothers and the Lodge.

To be continued in the July issue .



The door of Freemasonry is the beginning of a lifelong journey.

Sir Knight Daniel Hrinko is the author of *The Craft Driven Lodge* which spells out critical principles necessary to enhance the Masonic experience in Lodges and provide a direction for growth. His book is based on the experiences he had as the Charter Master of Arts & Sciences Lodge 792 in Hilliard, Ohio. His book provides principles, guidance, and examples of how a Lodge can chart a course of change for the better or for a group of brothers to explore the formation of a new Lodge. Sir Knight Hrinko is a practicing psychologist, holding a Doctor of Professional Psychology degree from the Wright State University School of Professional Psychology. He specializes in psychological evaluations for the courts as well as assisting organizations in improving their efficacy and efficiency. He is a member of Palestine Commandery 33, resides in Springfield, Ohio, and can be contacted at danhrinko@att.net.

Why Are You A Knight Templar?

By

Sir Knight Michael Blair

How do you answer the question, “Why are you a Knight Templar?” Have you ever thought about the question, why are you a Knight Templar or why are you a York Rite Mason? Notice, I did not ask the easy question which is “How do I become a Knight Templar?” That is a fundamental question and is easy to answer; “here is a petition and come have dinner with us.” I would think that most of us can answer the questions, “What is York Rite and what are the Knights Templar?” We would all answer that with some level of detail about the history, functions, and activities, but I really have to pose the underlying question that most men are actually asking; “Why are you a Knight Templar?”

The question is really addressing multiple ideas; “What is it to you?,” “Why do you give up so much time to be a member?,” “What do you get from it?,” “Why would I want to be member?,” and “Why is it important?” All these are valid questions, and we should all be able to answer them in our own way, but have you really thought about them?

I know that you must be asking, “What is it with all the questions?” Well, I have been thinking on this topic for some time. We all have a story to tell of why we joined and dedicate so much to this great fraternity. It is more than a great meal and fellowship. Sure, some of us do love a fried chicken meal. Don’t get me wrong, but is that what is making us show up?

As younger Sir Knights, we have been asked why we joined. I have an answer, but I do wonder if this is what the ques-

tioner really wants to know. How do we communicate the why? Well, let’s look at what a person might be asking. If I join, what is in it for me? I know that seems one sided, but it is the truth. We join just to be a member or perhaps a ritualist, or maybe we are just a curiosity seeker.

Is the brother really asking something that we as Sir Knights, can only explain in terms of something personal? I became a York Rite Mason because someone asked me to. I stayed because I was engaged or railroaded into working, supporting, and learning. No, that is not the right answer. Maybe, you wanted something more. Maybe you saw some amazing men and wondered why they were doing all that. Why are they also all the workers in my blue Lodge? How can I be more than this? Maybe, just maybe, we all want to have more light and a personal connection with something that only our York Rite Masonry can offer.

I would really ask every Sir Knight to honestly spend a few minutes on this topic and think about why. I think we will all benefit from the outcome and the conversation.

Sir Knight Michael Blair, KCT is a member of Fort Bend Commandery 74 in Texas. He resides in Missouri City, Texas, and can be reached at mblair1@gmail.com.





Beauceant News



Denver Assembly 1 Beauceant sisters and Worthy President Mrs. Michael Rowan, welcomed Supreme Worthy President Mrs. Thomas Derby on the occasion of her official visit. Also present was Supreme Credential Committee member Mrs. Tim Miller. A warm welcome was extended to new sisters, Mrs. Richard Wingate and Mrs. Lynda Wilkes!



Topeka Assembly 24 Worthy President Mrs. Earl Olson hosted Supreme Worthy President Mrs. Thomas Derby for her official visit. Other Supreme family members present were Past Supreme Worthy President Mrs. T. Michael Fegan, Supreme Recorder Mrs. Richard Brown, Supreme Treasurer Emeritus Mrs. Jack Gravatt, Supreme Registration Co-Chairman Mrs. Leo Magnuson, and Supreme Knights Templar Eye Foundation Area 2 Chairman Mrs. Dennis Reed.

Love Thine Enemies

By

Sir Knight Benjamin Williams

"He have heard that it hath been said, thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy, but I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you, that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven, for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust." Matt 5: 43-45

The best measure of the morality of any society is probably in how it treats its enemies. After all, it's easy to treat friends well and obey the moral law in the midst of peace, but how much easier is it to run astray with those you care nothing for and in the midst of war?

As far as nation states are concerned, certainly enemies should be opposed, and forcefully if necessary, but how enemies are treated by a victor on and off the field of battle is certainly telling. To fight with honor, to oppose with valor, and to remain a graceful victor are signs of a worthy opponent. This is the code of chivalry which seems almost completely absent in the modern day.

Perhaps no one more than Saladin (Salah-ad-Din Yusuf ibn Ayyub), that "defender of the faith," the great foe of the Templars, better exemplifies this, to fight fiercely, cagily, and yet purposefully with honor.

Saladin used many tactics in opposing his foes, yet he always treated them, when worthy, with dignity and respect.

knight templar

A famous example occurred at the battle of Arsuf in 1191. Richard the Lionheart was moving his forces south, having won back Acre, en route to the port of Jaffa. Liberating Jaffa was a vital step toward conquering Jerusalem, but in a wooded tract along the coast, Saladin, who had anticipated their journey, lay in wait. It is said that his forces outnumbered the Christians three to one.

After initially being pushed back, the Franks mounted a routing counterattack. King Richard, true to his moniker, bore the vanguard. One Christian account of the battle, *Itinerarium Regis Ricardi*, records Richard's part in the battle thus:

"There the king, the fierce, the extraordinary king, cut down the Turks in every direction, and none could escape the force of his arm, for wherever he turned, brandishing his sword, he carved a wide path for himself, and as he advanced and gave repeated strokes with his sword, cutting them down like a reaper with his sickle, the rest, warned by the sight of the dying, gave him more ample space, for the corpses of the dead Turks which lay on the face of the earth extended over half a mile."

At some point in the battle though, Richard's horse went down, probably stuck with an arrow we might presume. For Saladin to win with grace, it seems, his foe should lose with dignity. Modern accounts (probably embellished) allege that Saladin stopped the battle and had two horses brought to the King.

We don't know if this is entirely true,

but what is documented though, is that Saladin's brother was caused to bring two horses to the King in the midst of battle, in token of his valor. Richard's forces were greatly outnumbered, and no matter what, any horse was a plus. The *Itinerarium Regis Ricardi* records:

"While the king was thus laboring with incredible exertions in the fight, a Turk advanced toward him, mounted on a foaming steed. He had been sent by Saphadin of Archadia, brother to Saladin, a liberal and munificent man if he had not rejected the Christian faith. This man now sent to the king, as a token of his well-known honorable character, two noble horses, requesting him earnestly to accept them and make use of them, and if he returned safe and sound out of that battle, to remember the gift and recompense it in any manner he pleased. The king readily received the present and afterwards nobly recompensed the giver. Such is bravery, cognizable even in an enemy, since a Turk who was our bitter foe, thus honored the king for his distinguished valor. The king, especially at such a moment of need, protested that he would have taken any number of horses equally good from anyone, even more a foe than Saphadin, so necessary were they to him at that moment."

Sources

A History of the Crusades, Rev. W.E. Dutton, page 193

Itinerarium Regis Ricardi, available in original Latin at: <https://archive.org/details/itinerariumregis-00richuoft>

The Chronicle of the Third Crusade, Helen J. Nicholson

On another occasion, it's documented that Saladin saved Richard by sending fresh fruit and water to him and his men when, in privation, they suffered in the desert.

Such chivalry to one's enemy, what the British might term "good sport," is almost unheard of today.

In all the furor of the modern world, it's important to remember this simple fact, Christ taught us to love our enemies, to treat everyone with dignity and respect, even in the midst of battle.

Justice is revealed in humaneness, never in inhumanity. If we are to be exemplars of Christian knighthood, then we must act without hatred, without emotion, and proceed beneath the banner of the cross in rectitude and rightness to bring light to the world.

Sir Knight Ben Williams is past commander of Mintrose-Ouray Commandery 16 in Colorado and is currently serving as the eminent grand generalissimo of the Grand Commandery of Colorado. He publishes the *Rocky Mountain Mason* magazine and serves on the editorial review board of the *Knight Templar* magazine. He can be contacted at orionsg8@mac.com.

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 ten 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 ten. Some past issues are archived on our web site. <http://www.knightstemplar.org>.

Grand Encampment

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Charles Granville McVey
Delaware

Grand Commander 1994
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Died: February 23, 2016

Gerald Alan Ford
Colorado
Grand Commander 1993
Born: September 16, 1939
Died: February 21, 2016
Department Commander
Northwest Department 2000-2003
Trustee of the Knights Templar
Eye Foundation

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



200th
Anniversary

1816 - 2016

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SK Eugene Capobianco

SK John Bridegroom

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SK Jeff Nelson -REDGM

SK Paul Page

SK Chris Hodapp

SK Don Berry

SIR KNIGHTS:

The Bicentennial Committee is organizing a celebration of our origin in New York City on July 22, 23, & 24, 2016.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Night Cocktail reception, (6:00pm – 7:30pm) Cruise on the East River, or other location (details forth coming)

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Morning: Tiled Order of the Temple at Grand Lodge of NY in period costume
(Number of Candidates limited to 100).

Afternoon: Re-enactment of Organizational meeting. Location TBD

GUEST SPEAKERS: Mr. Mike Neville, London, Eng and Mr. Pierrie de Ravel de Esclapon, Vice President of the Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Library in NYC.
Brevities from SK Duane Vaught, MEGM and MWGM Jeffrey Williamson

Ladies and Guests invited

SUNDAY, JULY 24

11:00am Church Service –Church of the Incarnation 35th Street and Madison Ave
(The church of Ted Harrison, PMEGHP) **Class A uniform**

Headquarters Hotel: Martha Washington Hotel (soon to be called the Redbury)
9 E 29th Street at a price of \$221/night includes 14.75% sales tax & \$3.50 occupancy tax, parking
available \$24.00/car & \$36.00/SUV. We have reserved 60 rooms for Friday and 60 rooms for
Saturday night so it is important to reserve your room early to avoid price increases!

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Judi Stern

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or email: GEKT200rez@gmail.com or phone: 917-692-3806.

*Judi Stern is a well -respected travel professional with some 25 years experience in the industry. She's worked
with the Grand Lodge of New York for 20 years , managing Masonic cruises and coordinated other travel
arrangements for Grand Lodge. Judi is the owner of JPS at your Leisure Travel, Inc. located in Brooklyn, NY.*

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR BICENTENNIAL JULY 22, 23, & 24, 2016 REGISTRATION FORM

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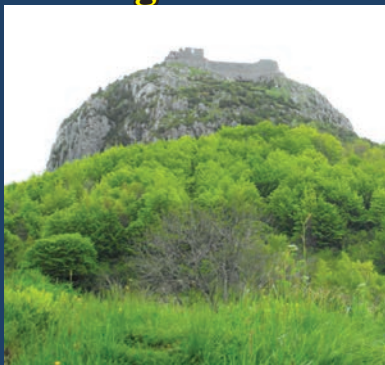
Judi is also supporting getting tickets and excursions to local attractions
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Museum of Natural History | <input type="checkbox"/> Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum | |

Order of the Temple Candidates MUST register with SK Don Berry. PGC-NY KCT
Contact Don Berry's email: DJBERRY58@gmail.com

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 1, 2016

Montségur, located in Southern France, is the site of the last stand of the Cathars against the Albigensian Crusade of Pope Innocent III.



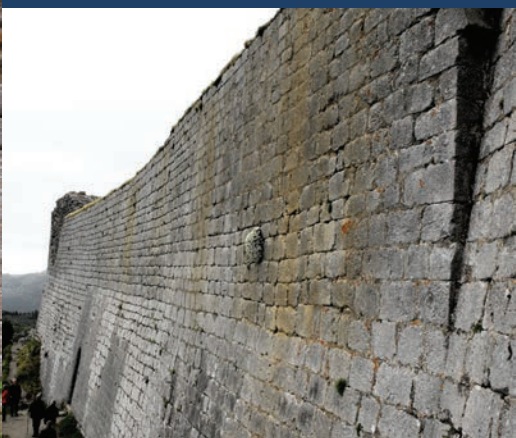
View of the mountain-top fortifications from the foot of the mountain below.



View of a bus parking lot from the mountain-top fortifications above.



Photos taken by the editor during the 2014 *Knight Templar* magazine pilgrimage to Templar sites in Southern France.





Knights



at the Bookshelf

By
Sir Knight George L. Marshall, Jr., PGC, KCT

Roger Dachez & Alain Bauer, *Freemasonry: A French View*, Westphalia Press, Washington, D.C., 2015, ISBN-13: 978-1-63391-154-3, 119 pages.

This book was authored by two eminent French Masons, Alain Bauer, a Past Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France, and Roger Dachez, Secretary-General of the Masonic Institute of France. Dachez, in particular, has been a rather prolific writer on Masonic topics as a search on the Internet will quickly reveal.

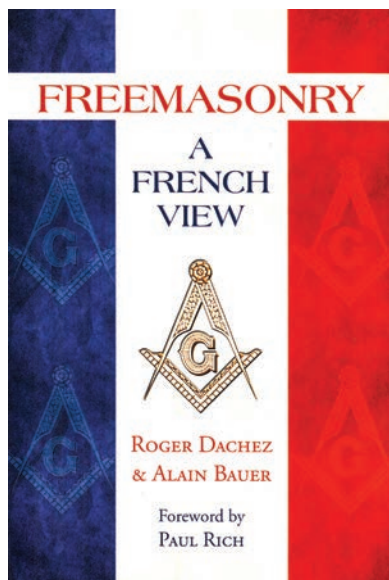
The book is divided into three parts; Historical Overview, The Masonic World, and The Ethics and Spirituality of Freemasonry. Each part consists of chapters treating various topics. The Historical Overview provides a traditional outline of the rise and growth of Freemasonry in Great Britain as well as in France. The history of French Freemasonry is, in the main, one of “compulsive fission.”

(In France, there are some eleven grand lodges, or obediences, few of which officially recognize the legitimacy of the others.) The authors do a nice job, without being tedious, of explaining the historical differences between French Freemasonry, both with respect to the British system as well as within the French obediences.

The second part presents a contrasting view of Masonic symbolism, rituals, legends, degrees, and rites, contrasting the Anglo-American viewpoints on these topics with those of the French.

French Freemasonry has traditionally been more politically active and oriented toward the “rights of man” than has that of Britain and America (according to the authors), and this perspective has in turn influenced the development of French interpretations of symbols and the development of their rituals.

The third part is perhaps the most interesting. Here the authors explain the philosophy of French Freemasonry and the concept of “secular spirituality.” It would appear from the dis-



cussion in this part that French Freemasonry favors the secular aspect due to its emphasis on humanism in the traditional sense as compared to a spiritual or esoteric approach utilized in the Freemasonry of other countries or rites.

Since the mid-20th century, Freemasonry's political activism and influence has lessened, and its historical conflict with France's Roman Catholic Church (now also less politically powerful) if it has not been resolved then at least has been placated to a large extent. Further, in June of 2005, two of the larger obediences, the Grande Loge Nationale Française and the Grande Loge de France took steps to improve their fraternal working relations by signing a "*Protocole Administratif*," allowing them to cooperate with each other at a level below official recognition.

In summary, the book is well-written and provides a nice introduction for more in-depth reading and study. The Anglo-American Masonic student may take issue with some of the remarks regarding our version of Freemasonry, but to me these observations were minor problems. The only thing I wish had been included is an index at the end. Another thing to note is that the bibliography consists of French literature by French authors, including the authors of this book.

Bicentennial Celebration Malta Jewel Now Available From the Grand Encampment

These Malta Jewels maybe ordered in bulk by your Commandery Recorder from the Grand Encampment office. They will be available through December of this year, and the cost is \$25 each plus postage.



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**“God protects
the upright
but destroys
the wicked.”
Proverbs 10:29**

Kauai, Hawaii, photo by editor



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