



Knight Templar

VOLUME LXII

OCTOBER 2016

NUMBER 10

TO HONOR YORK RITE MASONS & MILITARY VETERANS

THE YORK RITE MASONIC MA-1 "BRAVO" JACKET

**PERSONALIZED WITH A YORK RITE FULL COLOR WOVEN PATCH
- PLUS OPTIONAL MASONIC AND MILITARY PATCHES ADDED TO SLEEVE -**

FROM THE MAKER OF
NASA'S MA-1 JACKET
FOR KENNEDY SPACE
CENTER GIFT SHOP



**AVAILABLE WITH CONCEAL CARRY
TWIN HOLSTER FEATURE!**

(Just \$30 extra)



OUR YORK RITE MA-1 BRAVO JACKET is created exclusively for Masonic Partners by the company selected to make the NASA MA-1 for its Kennedy Space Center gift shop. It's personalized to honor York Rite Masons and those who proudly served our country, smartly reflecting today's active lifestyles:



- **TAILORED TO MEET NASA SPECS**, in wind & water-resistant "gun metal black" polyester - comfort rated at temperatures between 25-40 degrees Fahrenheit for three season wear.
- Quality features include "fell stitching" for superior fit, knit collar, cuffs and waistband, official NASA orange lining, heavy duty front zipper with storm flap, multiple snap closure pockets - plus utility pocket on sleeve.
- **EXCLUSIVE CONCEAL CARRY OPTION** - two inner pockets to secure valuables, which are fitted with holster straps for those licensed to carry a firearm.
- Available in sizes Small through 3XL.
- Thank You Introductory price starting at just \$99 - **SAVE OVER \$40!** (See order form for details & available options)

**PERSONALIZED TO HONOR YOU AS A YORK RITE MASON
AND THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY**

- **FREE** - A York Rite woven patch is affixed to the chest
- You may choose to add a full color woven Masonic or Military Service Patch to the right sleeve of your jacket for just \$20 extra (see choices below).



**United States Marine Corps patch provided by Sgt. Grit Marine Specialties.*

**TO ORDER CALL TOLL FREE: 1-800-437-0804
OR VISIT US ONLINE AT MASONICPARTNERS.COM**

**ORDER TODAY
AND RECEIVE A
FREE
MASONIC
ZIPPER PULL!**



SIZING

IF YOU WEAR THIS SIZE: 34-36 38-40 42-44 46-48 50-52 54-56

ORDER THIS SIZE: S M L XL 2XL† 3XL†

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

☐ **YES.** I wish to order my York Rite MA1 "Bravo" Jacket customized as follows:

SIZE: (See chart above) ☐ S ☐ M ☐ LG ☐ XL ☐ 2XL† ☐ 3XL†

YORK RITE MA1 "BRAVO" JACKET: \$ 99.00

☐ Conceal Carry Feature (add \$30) \$

☐ Masonic or Military Patch (add \$20) \$

☐ Masonic ☐ Vietnam Veteran ☐ Army ☐ Navy
☐ Air Force ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Coast Guard

☐ †Sizes 2XL to 3XL (add \$20) \$

Plus Shipping & Handling \$ 19.95

TOTAL DUE: \$

I PREFER TO PAY AS FOLLOWS:

- ☐ Enclosed is my check for the Total Due
- ☐ Charge my credit card for the Total Due
- ☐ Charge my credit card in two equal monthly payments

CREDIT CARD: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: ____/____/____ Card Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: (We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes) Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # (____) _____

Email _____

In case we have questions with your order

© ICM 2016

MA1JKT-KTM-1016

Knight Templar

Contents

Grand Master's Message

Grand Master Duane L. Vaught 5

The Magian Who Would Be King

George L. Marshall, Jr., PGC 7

In the Footsteps of Jesus - A Pilgrim's Journey

for Sir Knights, Ladies, Friends, and Guests ... 10

Three Distinct Classes of Masons

Sir Knight Philip G. Buchholz, PGC..... 13

Stand Firm and Hold Fast

Sir Knight Stephen E. Alderete
R.E.G.C., California..... 20

Knightly News

Bicentennial Celebration of the
founding of the Grand Encampment 21

Features

Prelate's Chapel 6

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation 16

Grand Commandery Supplement..... 18

Beauceant News..... 33

Knights at the Bookshelf..... 34

VOLUME LXII OCTOBER 2016 NUMBER 10
Published monthly as an official publication of the
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar
of the United States of America.

Duane L. Vaught
Grand Master

Jeffrey N. Nelson
Deputy Grand Master and Publisher
3112 Tyler Parkway
Bismarck, ND 58503-0192

**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

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.

Lawrence E. Tucker
Grand Recorder

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

**Cover photo of Church of the
Incarnation in New York City
taken by the editor.**

Grand Master's Message

One of the things we stress at department meetings is to set a plan and, win or lose, to report the results. At department meetings, we routinely report Grand Encampment progress on our goals. What have we accomplished in the first year of the triennium?

Bicentennial

- a) We had a terrific Bicentennial party in New York City. Other bicentennial events have occurred around the country or will occur yet this year.
- b) Bicentennial jewels are included in new member packets. Existing members have been buying up that version as souvenirs.

Eye Foundation

- a) We executed our second Endowed Professorship, Wilmer Eye Institute of Johns Hopkins University.
- b) Members of the Grand Commandery of the Philippines attended the grand opening of an eye clinic. We funded essential diagnostic equipment to assist this economically weak area.
- c) At the American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting, we were present for the unveiling of the pediatric section that we supported.
- d) We continued our starter grant program and for the second year, funded travel grants to The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, Inc.

Department Meetings

We conducted a full series of department meetings that were well attended and included breakout sessions.

Education Foundation

We are working on a revision of the program rules.

Grand Commandery Coordinators

We have provided more specific guidance, and they have responded with more concrete results.

Governance

An updated edition of the *Grand Encampment Law* is available on the website.

Continuity

All our other programs, Leadership training, annual conclave visits, etc. continue.

On to the second year.

⚔️ *Armine Lee Vangilder*



Prelate's Chapel

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

It was on Friday, October 13, 1307, that the order of Knights Templar was “put out of business” by King Philip IV (the Fair) of France. Its grand master, Jacques deMolay, was arrested, thrown into prison, tortured, and finally put to death 6 1/2 years later. As I surmised last month, had deMolay labored in vain for a knightly order that had survived for almost 200 years and now seemed to have perished?

We now know that the order was not lost but was re-formed through Freemasonry and has continued to exist down through the years to the present moment. We will celebrate the 900th anniversary of the original founding of the order in 2018. We have just celebrated the 200th anniversary of the forming of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar in the United States of America. These are constant reminders that Jesus encourages us to labor for that which endures.

Did those first followers of Jesus believe that all was lost at Jesus' crucifixion? Had they “labored in vain” for a kingdom that did not exist? The resurrection of Jesus from the dead showed them — and all who have believed in Jesus as Lord and Savior — that our labors for God's kingdom is not in vain. Over 20 centuries of laboring “in the vineyards” have brought millions of lives into God's kingdom. We too must labor on that others may come to know the Great Captain of our Salvation until our labors are ended, and we hear those wondrous words: “Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into my joy!”



The Magian Who Would Be King

By

George L. Marshall, Jr., PGC

In the Historical Lecture of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, we read, "...the Magian usurper, Smerdis, had been driven from the throne, to give place to Darius..." Now, several degrees and orders in Freemasonry are centered around Darius as a central character, but this is the only place I know of in Freemasonry that mention is made of the man from whom Darius apparently wrested the Persian throne. I thought it might be interesting to learn more about the history of this somewhat mysterious man.

He is named "Gaumata" in the Mount Behistun inscription of Darius I, named "(false) Smerdis" in Herodotus' *Histories*, and is named "Sphendadates" in the surviving fragments of the book *Persica* by the Greek historian Ctesias. Other sources have other names. While these primary sources do not agree on the names and many other details, the three oldest surviving sources (Darius himself, Herodotus, and Ctesias) all portray Gaumata/False-Smerdis/Sphendadates as an imposter who usurped the throne by posing as one of the sons of Cyrus II, that is as one of the brothers of Cambyses. This story was immensely popular in antiquity and later in Hellenistic times, and many versions of the tale circulated around the rim of the western Mediterranean.

Smerdis the Magi was a usurper, who took over the government of the Persian Empire while Cambyses (depicted above), the true king, was on an extended campaign in Egypt. The trouble had knight templar



Cambyses

been brought on by Cambyses himself, who had killed his brother, the "real" Smerdis, in order to prevent him from taking over the government during his absence. This murder, however, had been kept secret, and a clever palace minister, whose true name was Gaumata, set up the hoax by relocating the seat of government to Media in 522 BC. He shut his brother up in the palace Harem, referred to him as Smerdis, and administered the government in his name. Although some suspected treachery, Gaumata took measures to assure that his government would have support. Gaumata, as a Magian priest from Me-

dia and by moving the government to Media, had secured the alliance of the Medes, who resented their submissive state relative to the Persians. He also reduced taxes for three years for any province that supported him. In spite of these precautions, after seven months into his "reign" in 521 BC, Darius Hystaspes and six other conspirators were able to gain entry to the palace, murder the false Smerdis by stabbing him with a sword in a dark room, and claim the throne for themselves. In Greek and Latin sources, Darius subsequently gained kingship by cheating in a contest, related by Herodotus as follows: "And as to the kingdom, they agreed among themselves upon this sign, that they should all ride together before the city the next morning, and that he should be king whose horse should first neigh. Now Darius had for a groom a cunning fellow, whose name was Ebare. This man had a device by which he could make a horse neigh, and this he did the next morning when the seven rode together before the city. It also befell that when the horse of Darius neighed, there came lightning and thunder from a clear sky, and when the others [conspirators] saw this, they leaped from their horses and did obeisance to Darius."

The evaluation of the primary sources has been cause for much disagreement among modern historians. While there is agreement that Darius seized the throne through a coup d'état, there is dissension over whether Gaumata/Pseudo-Smerdis/Sphendadates was in fact an imposter, or whether Darius merely made him out to be one. The main argu-

ment against a fabrication is that there is no evidence for it. The main argument for a fabrication is that Darius had reason to invent the story since he had no particular rights to the throne.

At some time between his coronation and his death, Darius left a tri-lingual monumental relief on Mount Behistun, which was written in Elamite, Old Persian, and Babylonian. The inscription begins with a brief autobiography including his ancestry and lineage. To aid the presentation of his ancestry, Darius wrote down the sequence of events that occurred after the death of Cyrus the Great. Darius mentions several



Gaumata under Darius' boot
engraved at Behistun
Inscription in Kermanshah.

times that he is the rightful king by the grace of Ahura Mazda, the Zoroastrian god. In addition, further texts and monuments from Persepolis have been found, including a fragmentary old Iranian inscription from Gherla, Romania, and a letter from Darius preserved in a Greek text of the Roman period. The photo above depicts Gaumata under Darius' boot as part of the Behistun inscription.

Herodotus, a Greek historian and author of *The Histories*, provided an account of many Persian kings and the Greco-Persian Wars. He wrote extensively on Darius, occupying half of Book 3 along with Books 4, 5 and 6. It begins with the removal of the alleged usurper Gaumata and continues to the end of Darius' reign.

The Biblical book of *Ezra* (chapter 6, verses 1:11) describes the decree to continue reconstruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, specifying financial support and supplies for the temple services. This decree is dated approximately

519 BC. Between Cyrus and Darius, an exchange of letters with King Ahasuerus and Artaxerxes, the grandson of Darius I, during whose reign Ezra and Nehemiah came to Jerusalem is described (chapter 4, verse 7). The generous funding of the temple gave Darius and his successors the support of the Jewish priesthood.

In closing, it appears that the Order of the Red Cross lecture is in error in that it tells us that Smerdis (i.e., Gaumata) was merely "driven" from the throne by Darius; apparently, he was in fact murdered by Darius in his quest for supremacy in the Persian Empire.

Sir Knight Marshall, PGC, KCT, ADC, 33° is a past grand commander of the Grand Commandery of Alabama and serves on the Editorial Board of the *Knight Templar* magazine. He is a frequent contributor to that magazine as well as the *Royal Arch Mason* magazine. He also serves the Grand Encampment as the chairman, Grand Encampment Knights Templar History Committee and can be reached at geomarsh@yahoo.com.

Bicentennial Celebration Malta Jewel Now Available From the Grand Encampment

These Malta Jewels with a solid black ribbon for those not receiving the Order of Malta this year 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. The one shown below with the black and white ribbon is reserved for those who receive the Order of Malta this year.



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.

MILFORD COMMANDERY No. II

Complete
**SUMMER
UNIFORM**

\$195

Caps, brass &
accessories available
separately



All proceeds go to the
Knight Templar Eye Foundation

visit

www.milfordcommandery.com

store@milfordcommandery.com

508-482-0006

155 Main St., Milford, MA 01757



The Star of Bethlehem

"In the Footsteps of Jesus"

**a Pilgrim's Journey
for Sir Knights, Ladies,
Friends, and Guests**

November 6 – 16, 2017

- This pilgrim's journey is sponsored by the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee of the Grand Encampment.
- The itinerary will be similar to the annual pilgrimage for ministers (somewhat less physically challenging).



Church of the Holy Sepulcher

Estimated Cost*:

\$3700 per person

Based on double occupancy

30 minimum participants

50 maximum participants

\$500 deposit to reserve your place

Based on receipt of deposit

\$1500 - payment due

Spring 2017

Balance payment due*

by August 1, 2017

**Final cost will be determined by
number of participants, airline and
airport charges.*

Make checks payable to:

Holy Land Pilgrimage, Inc.

Mail to:

Sir Knight Emmett Mills, Jr.

1713 Bettrillo Ct

The Villiages, FL 32162

Cost includes:

Round trip air - NYC-TLV-NYC

Airline fuel surcharges

Airport taxes

9 Hotel nights

8 Breakfasts, 7 lunches, 9 dinners

Arrival & Departure transfers

Air-conditioned motor coach

All pilgrimage entrance fees

Ezra Eini, Tour guide (*the best!*)

Knights Templar travel hosts

Tips to guide, driver, hotel staff

Travel Insurance with TripMate

For more information, contact:

Rev. & Sir Knight Duane Kemerley

DKemerley@gmail.com

567.376.9741 Mobile & Text

Or see our information attached to the

Pilgrimage site, see Activities -

www.knightstemplar.org



Prayers at the Wailing Wall



Dome of the Rock



Sea of Galilee



Scale Model of the 2nd Temple



Garden of Gethsemane



Masada



Baptismal Renewal, Jordan River



Jaffa Gate at Dusk, Jerusalem

York & Scottish Rite Superstore

Visit Our Website & Online Store: 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

The Templar city of La Couvertoirade in southern France.
Photo by the editor.



THREE DISTINCT CLASSES OF MASONS

By
Sir Knight Philip G. Buchholz, PGC

Editor's Note

The following article is adapted from a speech delivered by Sir Knight Buchholz when he was grand master of Masons in Wyoming in 2004. I think we all need to hear what he had to say. He assures me that his views have not changed.

During the year I was grand master, I talked some, listened some, read some, and traveled some. The experiences of that year were enjoyable and educational. They led to some thoughts and conclusions about our fraternity which I will share with you. Remember these are my thoughts, submitted for your consideration, they are not intended to offend or demean, only to inform. They are shared for your reflection.

I believe that we often confuse Freemasonry and the acts of Freemasons. I submit that we make Freemasonry far more complicated than it really is. Following his initiation, the new brother is charged by the Worshipful Master with this definition, "Freemasonry is truly a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols."

Freemasonry is a system of morality. I often hear that Freemasonry must change. I submit that our system of morality does not need to change. Freemasons may need to change, to improve their methods of teaching and exemplifying our lessons, but I believe that the lessons are sound. I believe the moral and ethical values of our lessons need no improvement. My limited reading of Masonic history leads me to believe that the actions of Freemasons may have changed for the worse over the last 150

years. We as Freemasons may have allowed the deteriorating moral and ethical values generally accepted in society today to be a stronger influence than those taught in our system of morality. Which do you believe needs to change, Freemasonry or Freemasons?

Our ritual teaches that "at the building of King Solomon's Temple there were "three principal classes of Masons who were known by the peculiar manner in which they wore their aprons." I submit that today in our fraternity we have three principal classes of members who may be identified by their actions. I have assigned names to the classes only to help separate them; their actions identify them.

Builders

Builders are those brothers with vision, energy, and enthusiasm; those who have plans to grow as Freemasons, to erect a Masonic edifice in their heart; those focused on the value of Freemasonry, the building of our fraternity from within; those truly concerned about making themselves better men morally, ethically, and spiritually; those brothers who truly believe and understand that our fraternity must first be "value" based; those brothers who exhibit pride

in their work within this fraternity; those who demand the best from themselves and expect no less from others; those brothers who have a real desire to share with others, to pass on their knowledge and experiences, and to teach and to enroll others into our great fraternity. Those my brothers are **Builders!**

Caretakers

Caretakers are those members who spend most of their time and energy focused on survival; those who ask no more of themselves or of others than that which is required to get by. Their love for this fraternity is for its past social standing and the constant recitation of the past accomplishments of our departed brothers, those who have little or no real interest in Freemasonry, those who demand little of themselves and settle for less from their brothers. These caretakers spend little or no time attempting to improve in Masonic knowledge or in the practice and exemplification of the principals and teachings of Freemasonry. To them Freemasonry is a member based organization; size is their primary concern. These my brothers are **Caretakers!**

Drones

He who will demean himself as not to endeavor to add to the common stock of knowledge and understanding may be deemed a drone in the hive of nature, a useless member of society. Drones are those members who are Freemasons only for personal gain; those who constantly bemoan the demands the fraternity places upon them spiritually, morally, ethically, and physically; those who are constantly consumed with and

who spend the majority of their time and energy debating the escalating cost of Freemasonry; those who want to be connected to the fraternity in name only, to be able to flash a Masonic ring or pin in the hope it will garner some personal gain. These my brothers are **Drones!**

I am a firm believer in the "choice/consequence phenomena." We only have control of our choices; the consequences are tied to the choices. If we are not satisfied with the consequence, we must modify the choice. Individual choices and collective choices as Lodges will dictate the consequences that will define the future of our fraternity. One of the books I read this past year left me with a powerful observation. The author allowed that one must spend only a minimal amount of time watching television, in the halls of the local high school, or on the playground of the local elementary school to learn that there are only two dirty words left in the English language. Those words must be used together; they are "**personal responsibility.**" Our society has accepted the notion that someone or something else is responsible for everything that happens to us. My brothers, I charge you to accept responsibility for your choices! The consequences dictated by the choices of each and every one of you will define the future of our great fraternity.

The potential future success of our fraternity is only limited by the attitude of our brothers today. There is no magic solution, and nothing worthwhile comes without effort. I believe the only thing that works consistently is hard work! I do not pretend to have the answer; however, I do believe that it will take dedication, commitment, energy, and enthusiasm. It will require builders!



Simpson Jewelry & Uniforms

327 E. Main St.

Greentown, IN 46936-1219

765-628-7674

www.simpsonsjewelry.com

RSim780194@sbcglobal.net

In an attempt to conclude these thoughts I will share with you a couple of quotes and a thought of my own. Bishop Carl J. Sanders said of our fraternity at the 200th anniversary of the laying of the corner stone of the White House in 1992, "we are now drinking from wells we didn't dig and eating fruit from trees we didn't plant." My brothers I submit that in our fraternity today we have a shortage of builders, too many caretakers, and yes, my brothers, we have drones in this great fraternity. In the words of Dwight L. Smith some forty years ago "when all else fails, let's try Freemasonry."

Phil Buchholz is past Grand Master and Past Grand Commander of Wyoming. He currently serves on the Editorial Review Board of the Knight Templar magazine and can be contacted at phil@pnjb.net.



The Templar city of La Couvertorade in southern France.
Photo by the editor.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
1033 Long Prairie Road, Suite 5
Flower Mound, TX 75022-4230
Phone (214) 888-0220
Fax (214) 888-0230.

Sir Knights of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, I bid you a fraternal and respectful salute.

This month I begin by quoting a famous and revered historic figure – Sitting Bull. This Hunkpapa Lakota Sioux holy man served as a leader of his people in the 19th century. He was admired for his integrity, moral fiber, strength of character, and wisdom. He was not esteemed because of his great wealth – he did not have great wealth. He is remembered for many astute comments that I think we should consider and keep in mind in the 21st century.

“(He) knows how to make everything but he does not know how to distribute it.”
“Inside of me there are two dogs. One is mean and evil and the other is good, and they fight each other all the time. When asked which one wins, I answer, ‘the one I feed the most.’”

Sir Knights, examine your stations and positions in life. Count your blessings. If you have experienced success and attained some material assets, holdings, and resources – I am happy for you and your family. I do not believe people are “mean and evil” when they want to keep what they have earned. They are entitled to do with their own personal assets any way they desire.

I merely ask you to consider distributing a portion of what you have made to help, aid, and assist the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in its great work. I ask you to “feed the good dog inside of you.”

There are a number of ways to contribute. You can be a Life Sponsor for \$30.00. A contribution of \$50.00 makes you an Associate Patron; \$100.00 makes you a Patron. If you would like to enroll in the Grand Commander’s Club you may do so for as little as \$100 as an initial contribution with a pledge of \$100 for the next nine years, at which point you will then be elevated to the Grand Master’s Club. Also available for \$10,000 is the Golden Chalice or \$25,000.00 for the Sword of Merit. You can also give to KTEF through estates and planned giving.

Fraternally & Respectfully



David M. Dryer, KGC , Chairman, 49th Annual Volunteer Campaign



NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master’s Club

David J. Kussman	CA	Samuel R. Smith, III	DE
William W. Jones	FL	Rick Baccus.....	MA/RI
Jeffrey A. Bolstad	MT	Buddy R. Gentry.....	OH

Grand Commander’s Club

Thomas X. Tsirimokos	NH	Dexter L. Ng.....	Philippines
Allan R. Sombito	Philippines		

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.

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>.

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.

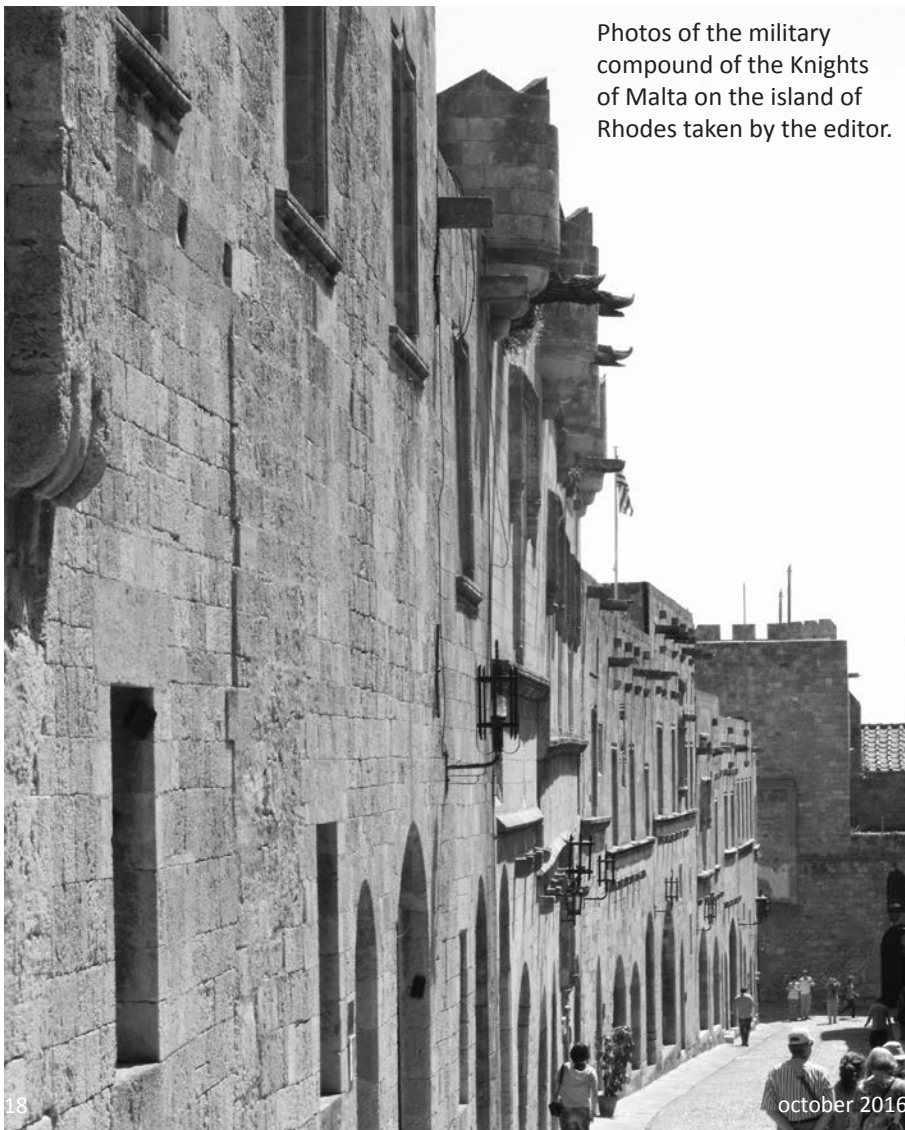


The Templar city of La Couvertoirade in southern France. Photo by the editor.

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 the military compound of the Knights of Malta on the island of Rhodes taken by the editor.



Photos of temple ruins on the Acropolis on
the island of Rhodes taken by the editor.



Stand Firm and Hold Fast

By

Sir Knight Stephen E. Alderete, Right Eminent Grand Commander of California

Sir Knights, whether we like it or not, we are walking billboards for our fraternity, and we usually get only one chance to make a good impression. Templary might get someone's attention through its membership programs, a movie, or even a book, but the one sure way a Lodge Brother will be encouraged to become a Templar is if he observes us living our traditions and wants to be "like us." Over the years, my Lady Susan and I have had conversations on various issues of the day. Occasionally she has asked me, "Is that very Masonic of you?" meaning, of course, does my position or attitude about the issue or the person agree with what our Masonic ideals in general or Templars' in particular are. So am I "standing firm" in my Masonic or Templar traditions?

Brethren, if we don't stand firm, it won't matter what membership program we use; no one will want to be one of us. Let's be serious, who is going to think that we as Masons are something special if they see one of us in our truck with our Masonic decals driving like a loon or worse, giving that all-too-famous one finger wave because someone accidentally cut us off, or worse yet, having one of us being accused of being less than honest or not being a man of his word.

Our strategy for membership should be to teach people how to see us by holding fast to our Masonic and Templar traditions. Our Templar traditions teach us to hold to the virtues of honesty, loyalty, faith, charity, humility, hope, and

honor. We should take those traditions seriously and hold each other accountable as one ancient Templars creed cited: "Each day we must help our brethren for whom we are responsible, for one day God will say, 'where is thy Brother?'" This is in contrast to much of today's society with people moving from place to place and from relationship to relationship, all based on selfishness.

We either teach people to treat our fraternity with dignity and respect or we don't. We shape others' beliefs when we teach them through our actions far more than through what we say or write. If we treat people in a negative way, we are reinforcing their belief that our fraternity is the same as the rest of society and that we really have nothing different or unique to offer.

The worst thing we can do is to make a lot of noise about what Templars are and what we believe, only to have people see by our actions that we are not who we claim to be. To talk about what Templar traditions are and then not follow them is to have people take our fraternity's statements and beliefs lightly.

So today I am offering you the challenge of being different. Ask yourself how you act around other people within your church or society, whether young or old, Mason or not. Do you conduct yourself in a manner that sets you apart from the world and causes others to see something different in you?

Sir Knight Alderete can be contacted at sealderete@aol.com.



Knightly News

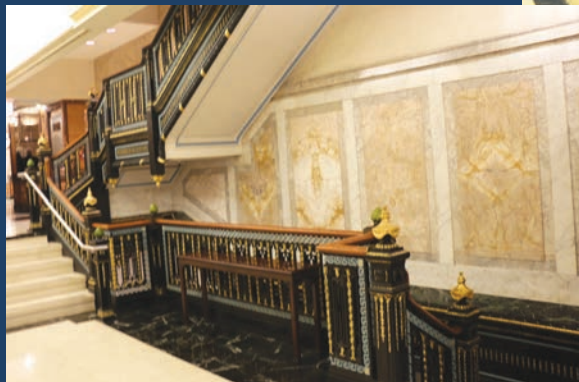
We just returned from the Bicentennial celebration of the founding of the

Grand Encampment in New York City. If you weren't there, you missed an epic Templar event!

The main event was held in one of the large Lodge rooms at the Grand Lodge of New York. This is a beautiful building, and if you ever have the opportunity to visit New York City, it should be on your list as a must to visit. An Order of the Temple was conferred with most of the cast dressed in period Templar costume including chain mail. The work was simply outstanding, and the candidates were dubbed by the grand mas-

ter of the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight Duane Vaught. What an honor for those candidates!

One of the highlights of the entire session was a play entitled *The First Man Knighted* which depicted not only the first Templar dubbed in the United States but also the several scenes of the formation of the



Grand Encampment in 1816. The play was written especially for the occasion by Brian R. Marsh and directed by Sir Knight Eugene Anthony Capobianco, past grand commander of Massachusetts and Rhode



Island who also played in one of the main roles. The play was extremely well done and costumed and included a cast of at least 23 Sir Knights and Ladies. I understand that there might be repeat performances in other venues. Contact Cappy Capobianco at

Cappy322@aol.com for further information about these opportunities.

Most interesting addresses were heard from Pierre F. de Ravel d'Esclapon, first vice president of the Chancellor Livingston Masonic Library of the Grand Lodge of New





York, on the relationships of the Vatican and Freemasonry and from Sir Knight Mike Neville, a detective chief inspector at New Scotland Yard, on the sacred secrets of Freemasonry and Knights Templar in the *Bible*.

On the evening prior to the event, the participants and their ladies were afforded the opportunity to sail on a dinner cruise around the island



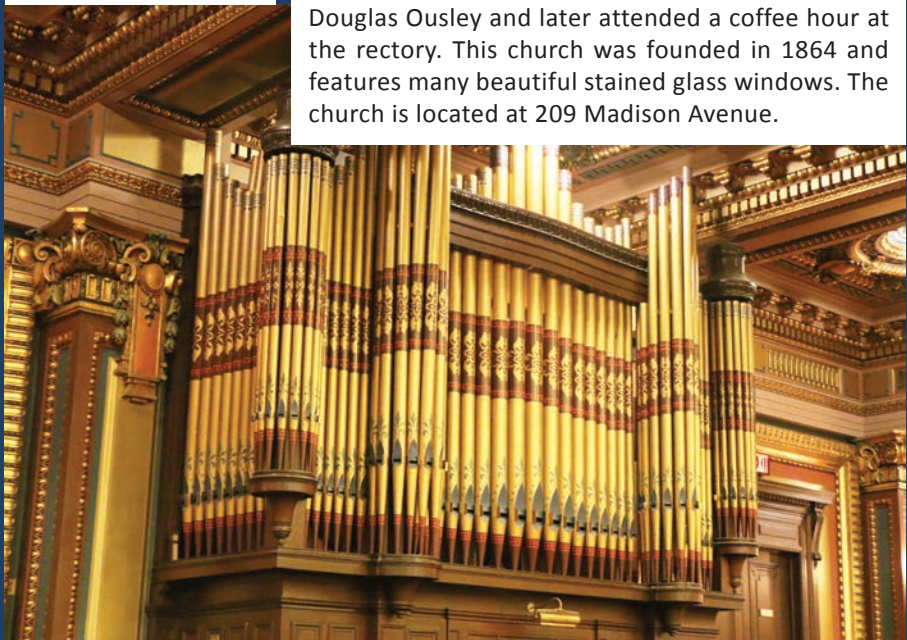


of Manhattan with a wonderful view of the Statue of Liberty. Many of the Sir Knights took the opportunity to visit some of the many sites around the city such as the Empire State Building, Ground Zero, or Central Park.

On Sunday morning, the Sir Knights



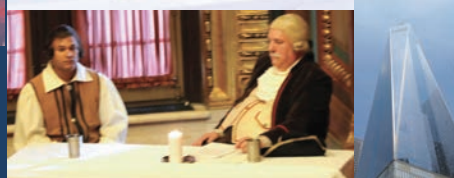
and their ladies were the guests of The Church of the Incarnation where they participated in the morning worship service led by the Reverend J. Douglas Ousley and later attended a coffee hour at the rectory. This church was founded in 1864 and features many beautiful stained glass windows. The church is located at 209 Madison Avenue.





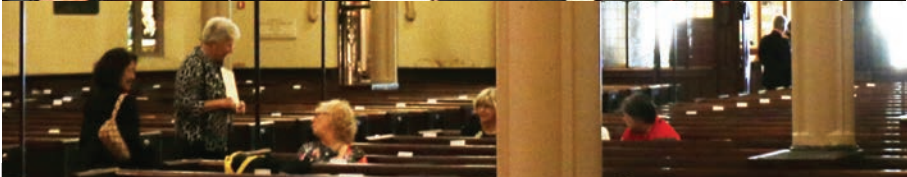












NEW LONDON

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

MAYO'S

* **Knights Templar Uniform - \$130**



Red and Purple Blazers
Starting at \$80

Tuxedos - \$130

Drill Shoes - \$50

Ties - \$15



1121 Broad St - Wesmark Plaza
Sumter, SC 29150

By Phone: (803) 773-2262

Online: Mayosdiscountsuits.com



(Mrs. Joseph L.) Barbara Bongiovi Supreme Worthy President 2016-2017 Social Order of the Beauceant

(Mrs. Joseph L.) Barbara Bongiovi was installed as supreme worthy president of the Social Order of the Beauceant on Friday, September 23, 2016, at the 96th Annual Supreme Assembly held in Topeka Kansas. She will preside at the 97th Annual Supreme Assembly on September 25-29, 2017, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mrs. Bongiovi became interested in the Social Order of the Beauceant when her Sir Knight, Joe, was the commander of Fredericksburg Commandery 1 and was approached about the Commandery sponsoring a new Beauceant Assembly. She became a charter member of Fredericksburg Assembly 266 when it was constituted at the George Washington Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, on January 20, 2007. Her love for the order continued to grow.



Mrs. Bongiovi was born and raised in College Point, Queens, New York. She has two sisters. Mrs. Bongiovi graduated from Mary Byers Business School and worked as an administrative assistant for a publishing company. After living in Reading, Massachusetts, and Denver, Colorado, with her three children, she settled in Buffalo, New York. She worked in the Buffalo General Health System in administration for 14 years. She met her Sir Knight, Joe, while serving Lenten meals at Calvary Episcopal Church. They married in 2001, adding three more children to the fold.

After retiring, they moved to Fredericksburg, Virginia, where they now reside. They have six children and 11 grandchildren.

Mrs. Bongiovi and Sir Knight Joe are excited about their upcoming travels and meeting new friends as well as reconnecting with past friends. She will emphasize our main charity, The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, as well as her theme, "Spreading the Joy and Beauty of Beauceant Love."



Knights



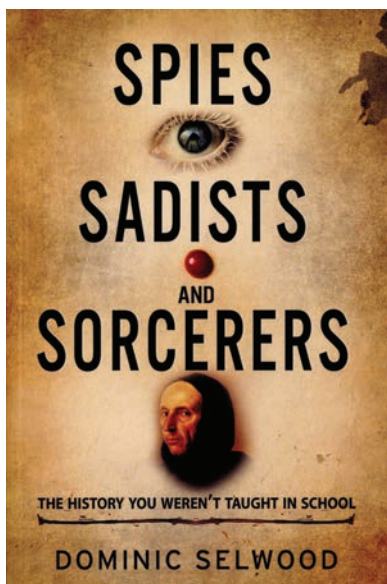
at the Bookshelf

By
Sir Knight John L. Palmer

Spies, Sadists, and Sorcerers: *The History You Weren't Taught in School*, Dominic Selwood, 2015, Crux Publishing Ltd., ISBN 978-1-909979-34-5, also available as an ebook ISBN 978-1-909979-33-8.

This book is a collection of thirty-seven historical essays, ranging in time from before Christ to World War II, in content from the Roman destruction of Jerusalem to Nazi spies, and in setting from Israel to the Caribbean. Some of these essays are about obscure historical subjects such as “Theodosius I: the forgotten man who turned Christianity into a global religion” and “Agent Garbo: the amazing Spanish spy who took on Hitler and saved D-day.” Others are better characterized as myth busters such as “The cult of the *Magna Carta* is historical nonsense” and “New Year’s Day is too soon after Christmas: Let’s move it back to its proper place — in March.” In the latter case, it must be noted that the author, in his foreword, states that “...history is not a hard science. It is much more soft and yielding, capable of being defined and shaped—or distorted and falsified—by those who live it, or those who tell it.” He provides no footnotes or references to reinforce his myth busting, although he does provide many references within the texts. Who knows whether they are all true, but all are certainly interesting.

It is definately written from a British perspective, and some of the subjects such as “Save the Statute of Marlborough (1267): our oldest law” or “Guy Fawkes, Islamists, converts, and terrorism: some things never change” are unknown to many of our readers. The author has managed to avoid that style of British history which I sometimes find mind numbing, and even his essays on British royalty and politics I found interesting — a feat within itself. Our readers will





Reconditioned Jackets with Templar buttons

Only \$169.95

- Flaps on Pockets are \$19.95 extra if needed.
- Sword Slits are \$14.95 extra if needed.
- Limited sizes available.
- Add \$25.00 for sizes 48+

Men's High Gloss Dress Shoes (slightly blemished)

Only \$64.95



We now have
Purple, Red & Blue
Blazers Only \$99.95
Add \$25.00 for sizes 48+

www.lighthouseuniform.com

1-206-282-5600

be particularly interested in the essays on the Turin Shroud, Jacques DeMolay, Lord Elgin, Moses, and Columbus. He dwells at length on the Magna Carta, the Elgin Marbles, and the protestant reformation.

Although there are parts that are somewhat controversial, and you may even strongly disagree with the author's conclusions, differences of opinion are always interesting, and I found the book to be educational and very entertaining.

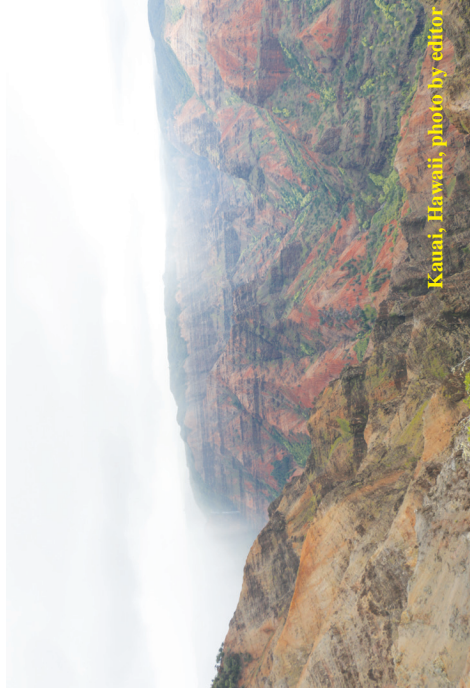


The Templar city of
La Couvertoirade
in southern France.
Photo by the editor.

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

“Then heavens declare
the glory of God, and
the firmament sheweth
his handiwork.”
Psalms 19:1

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



Kauai, Hawaii, photo by editor