



Knight Templar

VOLUME LXIII

AUGUST 2017

NUMBER 8



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Duane L. Vaught
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**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.**

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in Jeronimos, Portugal, was taken
by Sir Knight Michael Kastle.**

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Online magazine archives and index: <http://www.knightstemplar.org/KnightTemplar/knighttemplar>

Grand Master's Message

August 2017

Summer vacation ending

Most of us came from a school system based around a summer vacation. This idyllic period winds up in August, and it's back to work. Much of Freemasonry cranks up activity in August and September, sometimes after a "dark period" of summer.

In the Grand Encampment, we start the new round of department meetings. These meetings are open to all members, not just state leadership, and if you haven't been to one, consider having a look. The Grand Encampment officers also have an intense schedule of appearances at other Masonic bodies, and the office in Bellaire will be assembling the schedule for 2018 Templar events. In August 2018, the Triennial Conclave will be held in Indianapolis. Along the way, there are Eye Foundation events such as the annual trustee meeting and the annual American Academy of Ophthalmology convention.

Many of our Grand Commanderies will be having annual conclaves and changing leadership for the coming year.

Locally, autumn is also a popular time for the conferral of the orders and an occasional social outing, awards dinner, or other activity.

What does your calendar look like? Templary should be a treat and not a burden, but the opportunity to be with our fellow members is a special one not to be missed. You wouldn't want to have a summer picnic without any dessert. You shouldn't accept membership without the kind of activity that fills you with satisfaction. If these aren't occurring in your Commandery, start one yourself. It's surprising how simple a nice get together can be.



⌘ *Dwaine Lee Vangilder*



Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Crusader's Cross Uniform Placement

The Crusader's Cross jewel represents individual contributions to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, which is one of the Grand Encampment philanthropies. As such, it is a Grand Encampment jewel and may be worn on the right side of the uniform. However, generally all medals are worn on the left of the uniform if space permits. We hope this information is helpful.

IN MEMORIAM



Garrett K. Cooke
Oregon
Grand Commander 2009
Born: September 18, 1946
Died: May 26, 2017

Malcolm R. Holley, Jr.
Virginia
Grand Commander 2015
Born: May 5, 1957
Died: May 9, 2017

August C. (Jerry) Holzer
Ohio
Grand Commander 2011
Born: August 11, 1940
Died: May 16, 2017

Robert Marion Abernathey
New Mexico
Grand Commander 1982
Born: November 7, 1924
Died: May 31, 2017
Southwestern Department Commander – 1991-1994

Prelate's Chapel

by

Rev. William D. Hartman, right
eminent grand prelate of the
Grand Encampment

As Jesus ascended into heaven, he said, "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." Wow! What a promise!

A school teacher from Kitchner, Canada, by the name of Everet Storms, claims that during his 27th reading of the *Bible*, he added up the number of promises God made to us. The number was 7,487, and Mr. Storms added, "God has kept every one."

That's not always the case with us. Promises are easily made and easily broken. Someone once said that promises are like pie crusts, "lightly made and easily broken." A former governor of Louisiana was referred to as one who promised the world to anyone who would give him a vote.

The fact that our society has disintegrated to that low level doesn't mean that we have to. We should be people who are promise-givers and promise-keepers. God has made promises to us that He has kept, and we, as believers and followers of our God in Jesus Christ, should do the same.

Remember, when Jesus told his disciples, as they were on their way to Jerusalem, that he would be given over to the hands of sinful men and would be killed. He promised that on the third day he would rise from the dead, and He did! We celebrate Easter every Sunday, the Lord's Day, the remembrance of Jesus keeping his promise.

Christians are supposed to do the same. We may not be able to prove the promises of God to us in advance, but if we live them, you will find that they are true, every one of them. This is how you know that the promises of God are true; stand on them, live on them, every one of them.



Louis Henry Wieber

39th Grand Master of the Grand Encampment (20th in a Series on our Past Grand Masters)

By
George L. Marshall, Jr., PGC

Sir Knight Wieber was born at Cleveland, Ohio on December 31, 1889, the son of Henry (1862-1952) and Lena (Tielke) Wieber (1865-1946). He also had a sister, Emma L. (Wieber) Becker (1892-1969). After attending local elementary and high schools, he enrolled at Western Reserve University Law School, from which he graduated in June of 1910. He was admitted to the bar in July of 1910 and practiced that profession the rest of his life. He was a member of the Cleveland Bar Association, the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, and the Ohio State Bar Association.



He married Elsie Striebing (1894-1978) of Cleveland, Ohio, on July 12, 1917. One daughter was born to this union, Gloria (Wieber) Newhof (1920-2012). During World War I, he served in the infantry. He graduated from Central Officers' Training School at Camp Gordon, Georgia.

He was a member of Pilgrim Congregational Church in Cleveland. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Public Library and served as its president. During World War II, he was a member of the Selective Service Board. Although he displayed great interest in civic affairs, he was never a candidate for public elective office. He was an honorary member of the United Swiss Societies of Cleveland and a

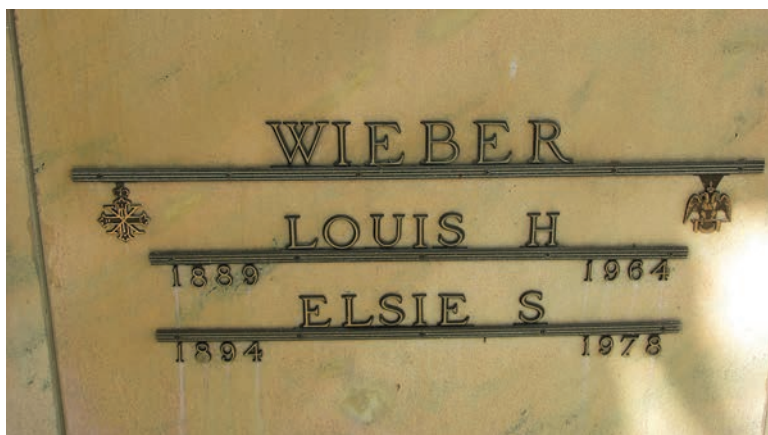
member of the American Turners.

Masonically, he was raised in Concordia Lodge 345 in Cleveland in October of 1911 and was a member of Hillman Chapter 166, Royal Arch Masons in Cleveland; Woodward Council 118, Royal & Select Masters in Cleveland; and Holyrood Commandery 32, Knights Templar in Cleveland. He was elected grand warder of the Grand Commandery of Ohio in 1930 and as grand commander in 1938.

His Scottish Rite bodies were in Cleveland, and he received the 33° in 1936. Other memberships included: member and past potentate of Al Koran Shrine Temple and a member of the Royal Order of Jesters. He was a member and past sovereign of St. Benedict Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine and a member of the National Sojourners, the Heroes of '76, and Our Saviour Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.

At the 41st Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment in 1940, he was appointed grand captain of the guard, and progressed through various appointive and elective offices culminating in his election and installation as most eminent grand master of the Grand Encampment at the 47th Triennial Conclave in 1958.

Most Eminent Past Grand Master Wieber died on May 30, 1964. He and his wife are entombed in Sunset Memorial Park, North Olmstead, Ohio. Their crypt is shown on the next page.



SOURCES

- <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=96677885>
- *Proceedings of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, Forty-Seventh Triennial Conclave, August, 1958*, pages 544-546
- <http://newsindex.cpl.org/show.php?record=782493&type=necrology&searchType=necrology>
- <http://obits.mlive.com/obituaries/grandrapids/obituary.aspx?pid=157055969>
- <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=becker&GSfn=emma&GSbyrel=all&GSdyrel=all&GSst=16&GScntry=4&GSob=n&GRid=166954462&df=all&>

Last Ditch Appeal!

First, I want to thank all of you who have sent me old magazines or offered to do so. We are now only missing copies of the following issues of the *Knight Templar* magazine:

1955 Nov/Dec	1959 May/Jun	1959 Nov/Dec	
1961 Feb/Mar	1961 May/Jun	1961 Aug/Sept	1961 Nov/Dec
1964 Apr			

If you know where I can find any of these, please contact me at ktmagazine@comcast.net

By the time you receive this magazine, all the other issues of the *Knight Templar* magazine should be available in .PDF format on the web at:
<http://www.knightstemplar.org/KnightTemplar/pdfarchive.html>

Masons, Morphine, Coca-Cola, and Cocaine *John Pemberton and His French Wine Cola*

By

Sir Knight P. D. Newman

We realize that “Masons, Morphine, Coca-Cola, and Cocaine” is an odd title for a Masonic article, but if the reader will bear with us, the reason for our choosing it will become readily apparent.

Pythagoras Lodge 41, F. & A. M. in Decatur, Georgia has a number of claims to excellence. Not only is it possessed of one of the most breathtaking Lodge rooms on which we’ve had the pleasure to lay our eyes, but as all of her Brethren well know, Pythagoras Lodge 41 was also the home to many of the famous Clanders, the family responsible for founding the Coca-Cola Company. However, without work the of another important Georgian and Freemason, the world may never have known the name of the remarkable Candler family or their product, Coca-Cola.

John Stith Pemberton (1831–1888) of Columbus Lodge 7, F. & A. M. in Columbus, Georgia was the inventor of the world-famous beverage we now know as Coca-Cola. Born to parents James Pemberton and Martha L. Gant in Knoxville, Georgia on July 8, 1831, Pemberton spent his childhood in Rome, Georgia. As a young man, Pemberton relocated to Macon, Georgia where he studied pharmacy at Reform Medical College, and in 1850, he graduated as a licensed pharmacist. Three years later, Pemberton met and married his wife, Ann Eliza “Cliff” Clifford, of Columbus, Georgia, and the year following, the young couple had a son, Charles “Charlie” Ney Pemberton.

The three lived happily in the famous Pemberton House of Columbus, Georgia.

Eager to serve his country, Pemberton enlisted in the American Civil War and served in the Third Calvary Battalion of the Georgia State Guard, a component of the Confederate Army, where he attained to the rank of lieutenant colonel. After sustaining a chest wound during the Battle of Columbus, like many other wounded veterans at the time, Pemberton became severely addicted to morphine, which he employed to ease the pain of his substantial injury.

In an attempt both to treat his morphine addiction and to find a non-opioid pain reliever that was sufficiently powerful to abate his agony, in 1866, relying on his knowledge as a pharmacist, Pemberton began to experiment with creating a new analgesic tonic. His first attempt resulted in an elixir he labeled Dr. Tuggle’s Compound Syrup of Golden Flower, a tincture which was prepared from buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), a toxic plant that flourished in his native state. Unable to find adequate relief in the compound, Pemberton began his experimentation anew.

Taking a page from Angelo Mariani, a Parisian chemist who made a fortune in 1863 after combining cocaine with wine in an elixir he called Vin Mariani, a concoction that was praised by the likes of Jules Verne, Alexander Dumas, Freemason Arthur Conan Doyle, Pope Leo XIII, and even the chief rabbi of France, the latter of whom is quoted as exclaiming

"Praise be to Mariani's wine!," Pemberton attempted to create his own American spin on the product. The result was Pemberton's French Wine Cola, a powerful tonic which combined Mariani's cocaine and wine blend with known aphrodisiac damiana (*Turnera diffusa*) and the caffeine-rich kola nut of Africa. While it did not provide him with much relief in regard to his painful injury or his morphine addiction, as "the ideal brain tonic," the elixir was marketed primarily to upper class intellectuals as a panacea, cited as being a cure for nervous disorders, dyspepsia, gastroparesis, mental and physical exhaustion, gastric irritability, constipation, headache, impotence, and a whole host of other maladies and disorders. In an 1885 interview with the *Atlanta Journal*, Pemberton touted that the tonic would be valuable to "scientists, scholars, poets, divines, lawyers, physicians, and others devoted to extreme mental exertion."

The following year, in 1886, Atlanta and Fulton County enacted temperance legislation which would prevent Pemberton from producing and selling his French Wine Cola in its then present form. This led Pemberton back to the drawing board in search of a new formula. In this endeavor, he enlisted the assistance of drugstore owner and proprietor Willis E. Venable. During this set of experiments, in an attempt to recreate the tonic sans alcohol (the use of cocaine was not prohibited by the legislation), a fortuitous accident led the pair to combine the base syrup of the tonic with carbonated water. Pemberton was so impressed with the result that he decided to market the product instead as a fountain soda. Pemberton's friend, Frank Mason Robinson, who handwrote

the Spencerian script on the Coca-Cola bottles and advertisements, came up with the final name Coca-Cola as a description of its two main active ingredients, cocaine and kola nut.

The year after Coca-Cola hit the market, Pemberton fell terribly ill with stomach cancer, nearly going bankrupt as his expensive morphine habit rapidly escalated following this malign misfortune. Reluctantly, he and his son decided to sell the rights and patents of the beverage to his business partners in Atlanta, Georgia, the family of Mayor Asa Griggs Candler, for \$1,750. Nearly penniless and hopelessly addicted to morphine, Pemberton sadly succumbed to his cancer. He passed away on August 16, 1888.

Fifteen years following Pemberton's demise, in 1903, due to the social climate of the era and the pressure felt from the public, Asa Griggs Candler made the decision to alter Pemberton's recipe and remove cocaine from the product's ingredients. However, Coca-Cola did not wane in popularity. The current recipe remains "the most guarded trade secret in the world," and Coca-Cola stands as celebrated and iconic today as it was when it hit the market nearly a century and a half ago.

Sir Knight P. D. Newman is a member of New Albany Commandery 29 of New Albany, Mississippi. He can be contacted at: pdnewman@tupelomason.org.



august 2017

Knightly News

Jamaica hosts the Western Hemisphere celebration of the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Lodge of England



On 24th - 28th of May 2017, the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) sponsored the Tercentenary Celebration of 300 years of the United Grand Lodge of England. This was the main event in the Americas and

was held in Montego Bay at the Montego Bay Convention Centre. Freemasons from at least four continents were present.

The festivities began with a reception and registration the first night followed by a full day of top notch academic sessions the next day featuring Brian Price, Afeef Lazarus, John





Stephen Wade, Veront Satchell, and Dr. Jessica Harland-Jacobs. The participants enjoyed Jamaica Night, an all-inclusive party Friday 26th of May with local cuisine & music.

The academic program continued on Saturday morning with S. Brent Morris followed by a panel discussion in which all presenters participated.

Saturday afternoon featured a commemorative meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands with both tyled





and open sessions and appropriate pomp and ceremony. This was conducted by District Grand Master Right Worshipful Brother Walter H. Scott with the deputy grand master of UGLE in attendance. Unfortunately, photography was not allowed at these sessions. The evening was concluded with a gala banquet that celebrated the culmination of the UGLE Tercentenary Celebrations in the Americas. A fitting finale to the celebration!



Knights Templar Eye Foundation

49th Annual Voluntary Campaign Final Report

July 1, 2016 - May 15, 2017

State	Cumulative Total	Total & Rank	Active Members as of: 5/15/2017	Active Member Per Capita Average	Per Capita \$ Rank
Total	\$1,759,795.51		87,075		
Knights Templar	\$17,491.78				
Alabama	\$9,285.00	30	1,227	\$7.57	33
Alaska	\$2,525.00	47	369	\$6.84	38
Arizona	\$10,753.83	28	638	\$16.86	13
Arkansas	\$171,948.54	3	1,039	\$165.49	2
Austria	\$0.00		13	\$0.00	
Brasil	\$0.00		646	\$0.00	
California	\$34,047.85	11	2,948	\$11.55	21
Colorado	\$14,679.00	25	815	\$18.01	12
Connecticut	\$43,974.00	8	776	\$56.67	4
Croatia	\$0.00		48	\$0.00	
Delaware	\$1,620.00	49	261	\$6.21	41
District of Columbia	\$409,271.90	1	259	\$1,580.20	1
Florida	\$17,641.00	20	3,413	\$5.17	44
GE Subordinates	\$1,270.00	51	709	\$1.79	52
Georgia	\$18,631.00	19	2,525	\$7.38	4
Hawaii	\$525.00	52	362	\$1.45	53
Idaho	\$21,478.72	14	283	\$75.90	3
Illinois	\$21,091.00	15	3,710	\$5.68	43
Indiana	\$29,249.26	13	3,147	\$9.29	29
Iowa	\$19,902.25	17	1,457	\$13.66	18
Italy	\$0.00		612	\$0.00	
Kansas	\$4,726.00	40	1,227	\$3.85	47
Kentucky	\$31,807.49	12	2,547	\$12.49	19
Louisiana	\$8,166.00	34	1,327	\$6.15	42
Maine	\$10,512.50	29	1,430	\$7.35	35

State	Cumulative Total	Total & Rank	Active Members as of: 5/15/2017	Active Member Per Capita Average	Per Capita \$ Rank
Maryland	\$17,418.18	22	1,150	\$15.15	15
Mass/Rhode Island	\$76,407.00	7	2,340	\$32.65	6
Mexico	\$0.00		76	\$0.00	
Michigan	\$14,705.62	24	1,773	\$8.29	31
Minnesota	\$8,616.00	33	1,234	\$6.98	36
Mississippi	\$6,377.00	37	2,414	\$2.64	49
Missouri	\$6,341.00	38	2,295	\$2.76	48
Montana	\$15,617.95	23	688	\$22.70	9
Nebraska	\$8,779.82	32	745	\$11.78	20
Nevada	\$4,435.00	41	408	\$10.87	23
New Hampshire	\$6,409.00	36	394	\$16.27	14
New Jersey	\$8,826.75	31	825	\$10.70	24
New Mexico	\$3,395.60	44	346	\$9.81	28
New York	\$17,533.00	21	1,696	\$10.34	26
North Carolina	\$19,382.33	18	2,823	\$6.87	37
North Dakota	\$2,134.00	48	263	\$8.11	32
Ohio	\$188,207.73	2	7,496	\$25.11	8
Oklahoma	\$11,608.00	27	1,357	\$8.55	30
Oregon	\$2,945.00	45	665	\$4.43	46
Panama	\$305.00	53	157	\$1.94	51
Pennsylvania	\$122,309.91	4	4,435	\$27.58	7
Philippines	\$1,390.00	50	600	\$2.32	50
Portugal	\$0.00		98	\$0.00	
Romania	\$0.00		491	\$0.00	
South Carolina	\$20,194.00	16	2,987	\$6.76	39
South Dakota	\$2,886.00	46	567	\$5.09	45
Tennessee	\$36,440.38	10	3,520	\$10.35	25
Texas	\$97,701.74	5	6,863	\$14.24	16
Togo	\$0.00		2	\$0.00	
Utah	\$3,480.00	43	302	\$11.52	22
Vermont	\$3,600.90	42	350	\$10.29	27
Virginia	\$39,686.01	9	1,831	\$21.67	10
Washington	\$4,908.00	39	757	\$6.48	40
West Virginia	\$86,164.90	6	2,097	\$41.09	5
Wisconsin	\$14,019.57	26	732	\$19.15	11
Wyoming	\$6,973.00	35	510	\$13.67	17

100th Anniversary of the Liberation of Jerusalem 1917-2017

From
the Patriotic and Civic Activities Committee
of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar U.S.A.

A special Christian anniversary is this December of 2017. It is the 100th anniversary of the Christian, British Army liberation of Jerusalem.

After 600 years, the Ottoman Turks surrendered Jerusalem on December 9, 1917, and two days later, General Sir Edmund Allenby walked into Jerusalem through the Jaffa Gate at 12 o'clock. He was greeted by local dignitaries; Syrian, Arab, Abyssinia, Coptic, Roman Catholic, Greek, Armenian, Austrian, and others. This was followed by a parade of British soldiers, many of whom had studied the *King James Bible*, the Crusades, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and many of the past battles and wars between Christian Europe and the Moslem Ottoman Empire.

Prior to General Allenby, Jerusalem had been visited by Ramses III, Cambyses, Alexander, Pompey, Titus, King Richard, the Crusaders, Napoleon, and Wilhelm II, among others.

The internet and your local library may provide additional information about the liberation of Jerusalem in December of 1917. Also, the Patriotic and Civic Activities Committee suggests reading the book *Mandate Days* by A.J. Sherman, John Hopkins University Press, paperback 2001.

What might you do in December of 2017? Each Knight Templar Commandery might consider a 100th anniversary program, lecture presentation, or re-enactment, either on Saturday, December 9th or Monday, December 11th of 2017.

Patriotic and Civic Activities Committee
Grand Encampment Knights Templar U.S.A.

NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

Wade E. Sheeler	IA	Donald H. Frenzl.....	IL
Duane L. Vaught	IN	Jeffrey A. Bolstad	MT
Larry W. Mick.....	TN	Nikolaus K. Fehrenbach.....	TX
Steven Cheechov	CA	Simon A. McIlroy.....	CA
Clifford I. Martin	CO	Bill W. Smith	CO
Jaymie Vaughn.....	CO	David M. Dryer	IA
Robert W. Hamilton, Jr.....	IA	Lawrence E. Lathrop, Jr.	ID
Carson C. Smith	IN	Charles Cooper.....	KY
Robert P. Benson	MA/RI	Charles O. Bjorkman	MA/RI
Robert J. Bonasera.....	MA/RI	Alfred P. Censorio.....	MA/RI
Richard W. Van Doren.....	MA/RI	George N. Fountas	MA/RI
Michael D. Grimm	MA/RI	George E. Luttrell	MA/RI
Leonard J. Main	MA/RI	John C. Mulhall	MA/RI
Paul J. Nevins.....	MA/RI	Edward J. Newton, III	MA/RI
Edward J. Newton, Jr.	MA/RI	David M. Nichols	MA/RI
Charles E. Rouleau, Sr.	MA/RI	Kristoffer D. Tronerud	MA/RI
Ellis R. Westcott, Jr.	MA/RI	Sidney F. Putnam.....	ME
Jeffrey A. Bolstad	MT	John S. Geas	NH
Robert N. Stutz	NJ	Steven L. Henderson	NV
Kevin Flannery.....	NY	David A. Hardy	NY
Buddy R. Gentry	OH	James L. Mason.....	OH
Thomas X. Tsirimokos	OH	Richard D. Warren.....	OH
Trasen S. Akers.....	OK	Frederick H. Catanzariti.....	PA
Scott R. Hilsee.....	PA	James A. Huey.....	PA
Dale W. Rogers	PA	Terry C. Shaver	SC
Hoyt B. Palmer.....	SC	G. Daniel Mata	TN
Raymond J. Vinson, II	TX	John R. Warren.....	TX
William E. Rorer, Jr.	VA	David W. Schuler	VT
Robert J. Bigelow	WY		

Grand Commander's Club

Lee R. Gibson.....	AL	Jerry W. Brooks.....	AR
William M. Hecht.....	IN	William K. V. McPhail	MT
W. Henry Butterworth	SC	Billy C. Hall	TN
Bobby G. Pollard	TN	Bruce L. Downs.....	AK
Harry C. Brown	AZ	Al Camacho	AZ
Robert Evans.....	AZ	John D. Lervold.....	AZ
Roy L. Peters	AZ	Robert C. Richards.....	AZ
Emerick J. Zavatsky.....	AZ	Raymond D. Godeke.....	CA
Simon A. McIlroy	CA	Charles R. Rogers.....	GA
Gene R. Hatfield	IA	Rusty L. Hill.....	IA
Donald A. Caldwell	IL	Alan Mackenzie	MN
Arthur L. Patrick.....	MS	Robert A. Miller, Sr.	NY
Frank C. Sundquist.....	OH	Thomas X. Tsirimokos.....	OH
Brian A. Armstrong.....	SC	John A. Johnson	SC
Ralph B. Taylor	TN	James E. Voekel	TN
Robert L. Ferguson	VA	Jonathan A. Giles.....	VA
James L. Sturdevant.....	WY		

knight templar

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 Templar city of La Cavalerie
in France were taken by the editor.



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, e-mail Manager@ktef.us.

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Congress has now made the qualified charitable distribution (QCD) option permanent for those who wish to make direct contributions from their IRA to charity. The tax law allows individuals age 70 ½ or older to transfer up to \$100,000 a year from their IRA to a qualified charity. This distribution counts toward their required minimum distribution but isn't added to their adjusted gross income the way a normal IRA distribution is. This can provide a tax savings of up to 40% depending upon an individual's tax situation.

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



Where Have All the Well-Rounded Masons Gone?

by
Sir Knight James A. Marples

Many states are blessed by excellent Masons, and I'd like to stress that a devoted well-rounded Mason needn't always be a presiding officer. When I became a Mason in 1982, a wise elderly Brother who was raised in my lodge in 1916, Sir Knight S. Ray Miller, 32° and a Knight Templar, gave me the sage advice that "Side-liners have a vital role in Lodges. They give encouragement to the officers; otherwise, it would just be a bunch of men progressing through the chairs, serving nobody except themselves." Sir Knight Miller ran a shoe store directly behind the old Midian Shrine Center in downtown Wichita, Kansas. He said that he always saw something new when he re-witnessed the symbolic degrees, the degrees and orders in both rites, and the Shrine. I agree with his appraisal. I always see something new, even if I visit a Blue Lodge, even the opening or closing may give me new insights into Masonic history and tenets.

Today, our nationwide membership in nearly all the organizations is declining steadily. There are men joining, but all too often, I see men who join a Masonic Lodge purely as a gateway to join the Shrine and wear a red fez. I don't particularly criticize that motive alone by itself if the man comes back to visit his Lodge when he can, but many don't come back, and furthermore, many newly raised Master Masons and many newly created Shriners don't have the foggiest idea of what the York Rite is or what the Scottish Rite is unless they are knight templar



Sir Knight Sam P. Cochran

fortunate enough to come from a Masonic family or to have a Mason friend who can later inform them. Thus, I keep asking myself, "Where have all the well-rounded Masons gone?"

The Masons who fill various officer chairs assume great responsibilities if they perform their duties faithfully. For the purposes of this article, I'd like to focus solely on the presiding officer of each of several Masonic-related groups, and in doing so, I choose to use a stellar example as the "template" of the ideal well-rounded Mason of a bygone era, which I would hope younger Masons of today could emulate, Sir Knight Sam P. Cochran.

Sitting in the chair as a presiding officer of any group takes patience and diligence. It is a position of great responsibility. A person looks with wonder at the

dedication of the many men who have held that distinction. Perhaps one of the most shining examples of a wonderful early 1900s all around Mason was Samuel Poyntz Cochran, who held almost every conceivable Masonic office possible in his lifetime. He didn't do so out of ego or bluster but out of honorable intent to serve, as a servant of the craft at-large instead of building a resume. Sam Cochran jumped into every task with enthusiasm and gusto in order to promote the prosperity and longevity of the groups he served. It is amazing to scrutinize and evaluate his level of energy.

SYMBOLIC DEGREE RECORD

Brother Cochran joined the basic symbolic Lodge at Covington, Kentucky, in Golden Rule Lodge 345. He was a deputy United States marshal for the eastern part of Kentucky.

He later moved to Dallas, Texas and affiliated with Dallas Lodge 760 of which he was master in the year 1902. He became a district deputy grand master in 1903 and attained the highest statewide honor, that of most worshipful grand master of all Texas Masons in 1911. One of his most pleasing travels took place on July 18, 1933, when "The Especial Grand Lodge of England" was convened by the Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H., the Duke of Connaught. It was conducted in the elaborate and strict ritualistic form of The United Grand Lodge of England and took place in the historic Royal Albert Hall. In Texas, after a grand master leaves office, he resumes the title "right worshipful" as a past grand master.

Sam Cochran's progress throughout appendant bodies and related Masonic bodies was almost phenomenal.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

Within a mere three years of joining Dallas Royal Arch Masons Chapter 47, in 1898, he became its presiding officer in 1900. Later, he served as grand high priest of Texas in 1906.

CRYPTIC MASONRY

In Cryptic Masonry, he joined on November 25, 1898. It was then under the jurisdiction of Royal Arch Masons. Companion Cochran helped revitalize the Council degrees in Texas. He served as grand master of Texas Royal and Select Masters in 1912.

COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

He was dubbed and Created a Knight of Malta and Knight Templar in Dallas Commandery 6 on March 12, 1898, and served as its eminent commander in 1901, less than three years after joining.

MYSTIC SHRINE

Noble Sam P. Cochran became a Noble of the Mystic Shrine in Hella Shrine Center of Dallas, now at Garland, Texas, on April 15, 1898. He was installed as chief rabban in 1900 and potentate on January 3, 1902, less than five years after joining.

ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

Sam Cochran received the 4^o to 14^o in the Scottish Rite in Dallas in April and July of 1898. Interestingly, he received the 15^o to 18^o on November 11, 1898, in L. M. Oppenheimer Chapter of Rose Croix in Galveston, Texas. Still later, he received the 19^o to 30^o in Tucker Coun-

august 2017

cil 1 of Knights Kadosh. He later demitted out of all of his Galveston affiliations to become a charter member of Dallas Consistory 2 and was a past presiding officer of all four bodies there. He was elected a K.C.C.H. in 1901 and received the 33^o two years later in 1903. On October 21, 1911, Illustrious Brother Cochran was crowned an active member and thus sovereign grand inspector general for the state of Texas.

WAR ORPHANS, WARDS OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

At the 1916 Grand Encampment Session of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., a special committee was established for members to assume the responsibility for the care and education of orphans who suffered greatly during World War (WWI). Sir Knight Cochran assumed guardianship of Mademoiselle Reine Lanthoinette, and she thereafter took a position at a bank in her home city of Fountainbleau, France. Sir Knight Cochran saw her for the last time in 1932. How many of us (as individual Knights Templar) would readily take in an orphan under our wing financially for a period of years?

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE

Sam P. Cochran was a charter member of Saint Mark Conclave of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, organized at Dallas on March 10, 1906. He was immediately installed as most puissant sovereign and was appointed intendant general for the division of Texas.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND

Brother Cochran received the de-knight templar

degrees of The Provincial Grand Lodge of The Royal Order of Scotland for the U.S.A. at Washington, D.C., on October 19, 1903. At a meeting on Thursday, October 20, 1927, Brother Cochran was chosen for the highest American position of provincial grand master of said order, covering the entire United States.

Texas College, Masonic Rosicrucians (S.R.I.C.F.) was chartered April 4, 1918. Sam Cochran was advanced to the VII and VIII grades on April 4, 1918, received the IX grade on September 17, 1918, and served as chief adept for the state of Texas. The Texas College was set to work February 2, 1919, recessed December 27, 1930, and reactivated (called from recess) on February 20, 1982.

This brings us to the crux of this article, the question, "What duties and responsibilities are embodied in being a presiding officer?" This outline is not intended to be all inclusive but rather to illustrate how wide-ranging his duties are. The traits apply to nearly every group.

First of all, I should additionally state that specifics may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. At the Lodge level, a state grand master has ultimate authority. However, a local master of a Lodge, in most cases, shall have the general superintendence of all affairs pertaining to the Lodge and shall preside at all meetings thereof. He shall appoint all committees and be ex-officio chairman of the same. He shall discharge all of the duties prescribed for him by the Grand Lodge by-laws and the individual Lodge by-laws or constitution.

In the Blue Lodge degrees as well as the rites and Shrine, a presiding officer shall comply with all ordinances, regulations, rituals, and usages of the order. In his absence, (usually) the second-in-command officer shall preside and

thereupon have equal authority, as if he were the regularly elected presiding officer, subject to appeal to the appropriate governing body. In most cases, the presiding officer may issue a "call to labor" as necessary, with appropriate notice given at the required time interval between the notice and the called meeting.

In many Jurisdictions, the grand master of a Grand Lodge, a master of a local Blue Lodge and even heads of York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Shrine bodies have a slate of officers elected by the members present at the annual election meeting. They also usually have a slate of appointive officers, of which some of them, if not all, are appointed by the presiding officer or at least meet with his approval.

Quite often, a presiding officer's duties and responsibilities go above and beyond the call-of-duty such as contacting, organizing, rehearsing, and supervising degree-teams. He and his committees may, on rare occasions, be entrusted with buying or selling real estate or making significant financial appropriations for the Lodge or meeting place such as hiring contractors to repair leaky roofs, etc. The presiding officer should see to it that his group's treasurer is bonded and that regular audits occur. As Masons, the old saying still applies, "trust, but verify."

Additionally, by first-hand experience on the sidelines, I have observed that a good presiding officer is the conduit to his membership. Plus, he is wise to consult his predecessors or counterparts in other corresponding Lodges, rites, or Shrine bodies for advice on unusual matters.

His ultimate aim should be actions taken, not unilaterally unless time requires it, such as in an emergency but actions taken to promote the peace,

tranquility, and harmony of his particular group. Harmony is the strength and support of almost any group. The end result should be the attempt to strive toward goals for the betterment of our order. In a quasi-formal capacity, a presiding officer, and even members on the sidelines, should foster good relations between our various Masonic bodies. Granted, not everybody may wish to join (and perhaps cannot afford to join) every Masonic-related group, but we can do our part to congratulate them, speak well of them, and if we can, do one little thing to help them prosper, such as attending a pancake breakfast fundraiser they are holding. One kind gesture is often reciprocated when we least expect it.

Furthermore, a dedicated presiding officer goes the extra mile by doing unseen or unheralded tasks that many members take for granted, whether it be at meetings, at banquets, at the state or national gatherings, or elsewhere.

I think a good presiding officer doesn't try to compete with other Masonic bodies but to coordinate with other Masonic groups as best as he can to avoid scheduling overlaps in degree-work or ceremonials. Granted, schedule-conflicts are sometimes unavoidable, but quite often with a tiny bit of cooperation and literal communication, they can be minimized. As our membership grows smaller, we need to consider the impact on making it pleasant for visitors to attend our gatherings. Again, a good gesture is often reciprocated. We may find ourselves wishing to visit one of a neighboring town's gatherings of a particular Masonic group.

Knights Templar of the late 1800s to early 1900s loved to take their Commandery drill teams on the road and visit

other Commanderies and parades. They would draw cheers from men, women, and children on the street. Undoubtedly, they gained a lot of new members who said what a lot of young boys dreamed silently, "I want to be like him!"

From about 1880 to the present-day, the Shriners have picked-up the parading facet, although I have noticed that when I was a kid, the Shrine units would have their own parade which might last well over an hour by itself. Now, I attend St. Patrick's Day parades, Mardi Gras parades, Veterans' Day parades, Thanksgiving Day parades, Christmas parades, and perhaps three Shrine units may show-up, if that. Our members are older and cannot march as a drill-team or patrol. I applaud those Lodges and groups whose members ride on floats instead. It is still a presence.

A faithful presiding officer has great weight on his shoulders. He must not be afraid to exercise authority in a diplomatic, tactful manner for the benefit of the body; yet, he simultaneously must be benevolent enough to not crack the whip so hard as to make members skittish about consulting him on vital matters.

This is why I admire the late Sam Cochran so much. He knew that leadership skills arise not from being bossy as a dictator but by encouraging and kindly challenging the members of the varied groups he presided over to do their best, pull-together as a team, take pride in their work, and exemplify the most excellent precepts of all of Freemasonry and related orders and to avoid spurious and illegitimate or clandestine copycat groups which lure men into false or even lurid subject matter by false claims or by falling victim to conspiracy kooks.

Sam Cochran knew that each and knight templar

every Mason's individual character is the billboard for Masonry that the public sees and judges us by. Just one bad apple can ruin the reputation for all of us. Right now, in a jurisdiction I will not name, there is one large city with two Lodges, both rites, and a Shrine Center which are reeling from a man accused of embezzling from multiple Masonic groups. Granted, accusing is not proving. Yet, the man has basically admitted what he was alleged to have done. He held prominent offices and was weeks away from being installed in an even larger presiding chair which would have otherwise made him the leader of thousands of Masons holding membership in that one group. That man is not an isolated case. Some cases have occurred in other states while other cases have gone unreported out of embarrassment. Thankfully, the man in question was caught due to a tip from a non-Mason working in a bank. However, the fact still remains that bonding of officers who deal with fraternal finances; audits, and just common-sense vigilance is crucial. Even sideliners can help by being vigilant and discretely reporting suspicious activity. One virtue in Masonry that is emulated by other organizations is that we have oversight mechanisms such as upper-level or Grand officers or even committee-chairmen, including Masonic Grievance Committees or Unmasonic Conduct Committees to fall back on if a lackluster or corrupt presiding officer should fail in his sworn duty.

In basic Freemasonry, our gentle Fraternity has been much maligned by outsiders with rumors, half-truths, innuendos, fake conspiracy claims, and

even copycat groups which our regular Grand Lodges appropriately condemn as spurious, irregular, and clandestine. Yet, we must continue to be vigilant even with insiders who join for selfish or impure motives. We must scrutinize who we admit for membership. Even if they are a buddy or a neighbor, we can't always read what's inside a man's mind or heart. He may technically pass a background check, yet many men can later be tempted if safeguards aren't in place. If any group is too eager to admit anyone just to gain numeric numbers to pad their membership tally, without those persons being investigated as worthy and well-qualified, that particular group is shirking its duty.

Sam Cochran's biography wasn't presented here lightly or frivolously. Many men have superb Masonic biographies as well. Cochran's biography is presented here to illustrate that he had the strength, zeal, fortitude, and the will to continually press forward for future progress. The word "stagnation" was not in his vocabulary. Plus, he was trustworthy and proved it repeatedly.

Many members think that the role of presiding officer is self-explanatory. To an extent, it is, but the words should be analyzed to grasp the great expansiveness such office holders represent. When a person looks up the word "adept" in the dictionary, it is defined as: "Very skilled or proficient at something." The word "chief" is defined as "a leader; or one accorded highest rank or office as in a chief executive." In our Masonic Rosicrucian Colleges, the combination of "Chief Adept" fits that description.

Worthy endeavors should be the objective of any Masonic body or individual member. A good friend once told

me that the true function of a presiding officer could be summed-up by the phrase, "performs other duties as assigned or required."

I enjoy being a dedicated side-liner when I attend various Masonic meetings or conferrals. However, I have presided over my Odd Fellows Lodge. I know from first-hand experience, it is more than just smiling and rapping a gavel. Oftentimes, if something was left undone, it was up to me to see that it got done.

Let us all be grateful for all of the presiding officers of our respective organizations. In the Commandery, the title "eminent commander" invokes that same spirit of dedication and perseverance, and it is my fervent hope that all members find the amazing leadership of Right Eminent Sir Knight Sam P. Cochran inspiring for our future leaders in all Masonic bodies and related groups for generations to come. We need more men to become well-rounded Masons. As my late dad used to say, "A long Masonic cable tow is a great thing, but the virtue of sincerity gives it strength and support comparable to a sturdy rope or chain. Otherwise, it is a mere thread." He was very wise in his observation. That analogy is very appropriate since it illustrates how we are a family of fraternal groups. A strong chain can be a helpful aid; yet, one weak-link, and it can fail. Let us all strive to be as well-rounded Masons as we can be, in thought, in word, and in deeds.



Acknowledgement

"Biography of Sam P. Cochran" Prepared by Sam P. Cochran Masonic Lodge 1335 in Dallas, Texas.

webpage: <http://www.sampcochran1335.org/biography-of-sam-p-cochran.php>

Sir Knight James Marples is a life member of Mt. Olivet Commandery 12 in Wichita, Kansas, and currently resides in Texas. He can be contacted at rosehillks@yahoo.com or P. O. Box 1542, Longview, TX 75606.

Grand Encampment

Membership Awards



1109 Mark Clifford Lewis
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1110 Jerry E. Whitney
Ranier Commandery 28
Renton, WA, 05/02/17

1111 James Cordell Clifford
Columbia Commandery 2
Columbia, SC, 05/30/17

1112 R. Wesley Webber
Canton Commandery 38
Canton, OH 05/31/17
1st Bronze

1107 Sidney Rey
Lee Commandery 45
Phenix City, AL, 05/01/17

1108 Mitchell Hale Rourbaugh
Prather Commandery 62
Indianapolis, IN 05/02/17

1113-1114 Glenn R. Greenamyer
Canton Commandery 38
Canton, OH 5/31/2017
1st Bronze

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation



My career starter grant from the foundation was a game changer for me.

Dr. Bibiana Jin Reiser, an associate professor of ophthalmology at USC Roski Eye Institute and director of Cornea and Glaucoma Services at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, is a former Knights Templar Eye Foundation grant recipient.



As I was finishing up my last training year on my way to becoming a cornea and refractive surgeon for adults, my mentor suggested that I do a year in pediatrics. In order to be the best, he said that I should be able to work with babies and children. He called it the “final frontier,” where only the few and the brave would dare venture forth. After hearing the “to be the best” comment, I was all in. I jumped in, head first, and never looked back. This extraordinary year was only made possible with

financial support of the KTEF, and today I serve as the director of the Cornea and Glaucoma services at the Vision Center at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, one of the busiest in the country specializing in critical eye care for children.

Growing up a daughter of immigrants, I wanted to dream big in America, and my dream was to be a doctor. My mother, a nurse, strongly discouraged it. She felt that work as a doctor would not let me be a mother to her future multiple grandchildren. Ever-stubborn and driven, I wanted to prove her wrong. I believed that I could do it all, and I have. Today, I have two children, one in college and the other in junior high school. As my children grow older, I have many others, my patients and their parents, for whom I am a caregiver. What a privilege and honor it is to be part of their lives, shepherding care, saving a child's vision.

In these ten years since my year supported by the KTEF educational grant, I have built one of the largest anterior segment practices in the country that serves not only families in Southern California but families across the globe. Today, we are developing techniques and innovations resulting in better clinical outcomes and decreased complications in very rare, blinding eye diseases, such as congenital cataracts, Peter's anomaly, and glaucoma. So, since progress cannot happen in a vacuum, we present our work internationally so others can benefit from our experience.

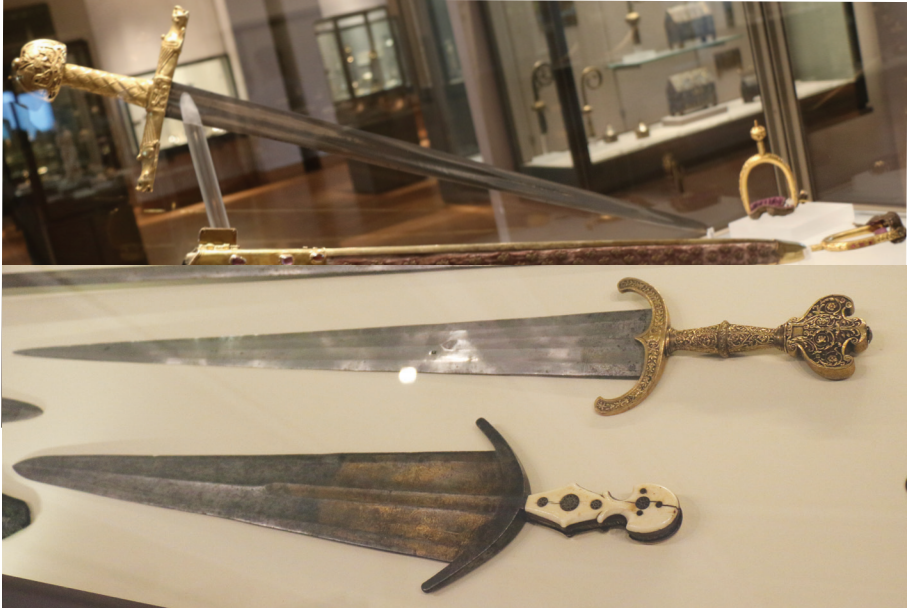
The fight that we fight to preserve a child's vision is not always rewarded by easy success. Sometimes, keeping and not losing vision is a hard-fought victory. Because this is the struggle pediatric eye specialist's face, it is not always the path that is chosen by many. The financial support of the KTEF grant allowed me the breathing room to give this challenging area a hard, close look. Past my gaze, staring back at me, were the eyes of a child. Behind this child stood his parents and, behind them, the will and support of many others. This includes the many who will never be in the exam or operating room but those who are tirelessly fundraising for this noble cause, the fight to prevent childhood blindness.

Thank you for your support; my work today would not have been possible without it.





Medieval weapons found in the collection of the Louvre in Paris France. Photos by the editor.



Knightly News

Latest Volume of *Short Talk Bulletin* Series Now Available.

Volume V Pre-orders Available Until October 1

The Masonic Service Association of North America is now taking pre-orders for Volume V of its famed *Short Talk Bulletin* series. This volume will cover the years 1983-1997. Special pre-order pricing will only be available until October 1, 2017.

With the exception of Volume I, which has sold out, each volume in the series can now be ordered online at msana.com. Anticipated shipping for Volume V is late fall of 2017.

The special pre-order pricing of \$68 for the Master Mason edition, and \$123 for the Grand Master Edition offers significant savings. A lodge can also order the Master Mason edition, when paid by lodge check only, for only \$58. Shipping is included in the United States. Out of country pricing is available at the MSA office, 301-476-7330.

This treasure of Masonic knowledge that no Masonic library should be without is edited by noted Masonic scholar, Dr. S. Brent Morris. The nearly 700 pages in Volume V are edited and re-typeset from the original *Short Talk Bulletins*. Subjects include "Ideas and Leadership," "Forever Conceal and Never Reveal," and "The Boston Tea Party." The 180 topics included in Volume V cover Freemasonry in the Lodge, literature, philosophy, individual Masons, historical Freemasonry, and many others.

The *Short Talk Bulletin* has been printed continuously each month since January 1923. They are acknowledged as the widest distributed Masonic publication in the world, sent to every MSA member lodge and Grand Lodge officer free of charge. Subscriptions are available for \$12 per year at msana.com.

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Beauceant News



To the left are the members of Elizabethtown 265. The worthy president is (Mrs. Donald W.) Brenda Wallen. Others present are (Mrs. David) Sonja Alcon, past supreme worthy president, and (Mrs. Leslie J.) Sandra Loomis, past supreme worthy president, both of whom are members of Elizabethtown Assembly.

Supreme Worthy President Mrs. Joseph L. Bongiovi enjoyed her visit to Auburn Assembly 262, where (Mrs. Darren) Jessica Halford is the worthy president.



At the official visit to Park Place 205, Supreme Worthy President (Mrs. Joseph) Barbara Bongiovi was accompanied by (Mrs. Carl D.) Wunsche, supreme worthy preceptress; (Mrs. Richard B.) Jeannette Cotton, past supreme worthy president; (Mrs. Harry) Phyllis Maddox-Rogers, past supreme worthy president; (Mrs. Carl D.) Milinda McMonnell, president; (Mrs. Milton) Coy Baker, past supreme worthy president; (Mrs. John) Velma Kleinfelder, past supreme worthy president; and (Mrs. Darryl) Michele Burt, supreme treasurer.

knight templar



Knights



at the Bookshelf

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

The Cross: History, Art, and Controversy by Robin M. Jensen, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 2017, 270 pages.

The author, a professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, has authored this book which covers the history of the Latin or crucifixion cross, from earliest times to the present day.

The book was assembled from lecture notes used in a class, *The Cross*, offered to students at Notre Dame. As such, one might expect it to be on a very scholarly or academic level, hard to read, and harder to understand. Happily, such is not the case.

The book begins with a preface which presents the Ground Zero Cross formed during the 9-11 attack on New York City and which lays out the motivation for writing the book. Footnotes for each chapter are collected at the end of the book, and the book is lavishly illustrated with colorful illustrations of artwork and artifacts which are discussed in the accompanying text.

The acceptance of the cross as a symbol of religious veneration and in particular, the crucifix, with the body of Jesus on the cross did not occur immediately after His death and resurrection.

How did the clergy and church members come to accept and ultimately embrace this symbol of death and disgrace? How should Jesus' body be depicted—naked or clothed, dead or alive? How was the "True Cross" discovered? What was the symbol's role in conflicts from the Crusades to wars of colonial conquest? What forms were used to depict it in art and literature? How do Jews and Muslims view this sacred Christian emblem, and what is its role in public life in the West today? All these questions and many more are considered and answered in the pages of this book, in essentially chronological order.

The book is an exceptionally readable and most informative treatment of what is now, certainly, the foremost sign of the Christian faith. This book clearly reveals how, from initially being considered an emblem of scorn and shame, it evolved into a triumphant expression of Christ's sacrificial love and miraculous resurrection.





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we are escaped.
Psalms 24:7*

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