



Knight Templar

VOLUME LXIV

MARCH 2018

NUMBER 3

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including deaths should be re-
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local Commandery. Please do
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www.knightstemplar.org/KnightTemplar/archive

Grand Master's Message

Update

Ten months ago I wrote a general update on Grand Encampment activities, and it seems a good time to go again.

In July we had our first ever Department Meeting for Southern Americas, and it was well attended, including a number of representatives from our Subordinate Commanderies in the region.

Department meetings in general have gone well as we count down to the final two of this triennium. (Looking forward to seeing everyone at East Central and Southeastern)

In October I attended the Grand Commandery of the Philippines. The enthusiasm there was excellent. From there, David Kussman and I went on to visit with members of our Subordinate Commanderies in Tokyo and Taipei. Like most of these stand-alone Commanderies, they receive little attention from us and this was a chance to share some encouragement.

The DeMolay sword award program has gone terrifically since its announcement in April of last year. Many Grand Commanderies are participating, and DeMolay leadership is as excited as we are about the progress.

One year ago, we announced revised rules for the Educational Foundation. Since then, a number of Grand Commanderies have decided to allow Grand Encampment to handle the investing and administration of the program. Grant or scholarship decisions remain the function of each state.

We continue the operation of our existing programs such as leadership development, and arrangements for a great Triennial in Indianapolis are coming together.

In all, it has been a busy year, but there is always more to do.



✠ *Quene Lee Vaughn*

IN MEMORIAM



Carl Victor Olson
South Dakota
Grand Commander 1984
Born: August 28, 1933
Died: January 15, 2017

Charles Thomas Hart
Delaware
Grand Commander 2009
Born: June 28, 1936
Died: December 17, 2017

Harry Andrew Rosenthal, Jr.
Florida
Grand Commander 1976
Born: January 14, 1935
Died: January 8, 2018

Archived issues of the Knight Templar *magazine* can be accessed on the web at <http://www.knightstemplar.org/>. Then click on the button "Knight Templar" at the bottom of the page and select "Archives." The archives include an index.

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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.

Prelate's Chapel

by

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

We remember this month what Luke tells us of Jesus' determination to do what God had sent him to do. In chapter 9, Luke tells us that Jesus set his face to Jerusalem with purpose. This signifies that Jesus knew of the confrontation he faced in Jerusalem and all that it entailed as part of his inescapable destiny. The wheels that were set in motion had been foreordained by God and could not be stopped.

I don't mean to give the impression that Jesus had no choice. On the contrary, he could have chosen not to go to Jerusalem. However, Jesus himself told us: "No one takes my life from me, but I lay it down of my own accord." (John 10:18) Jesus chose to fulfill the role of savior of the world.

God requires our free choice of participation if we are to be a part of God's story. We, like Jesus, must set our faces steadfastly to follow God's will for our lives. Our obedience to God must be all-encompassing, more important to us than anything else in the world.

Do we have the courage? Can we set our faces steadfastly to loving service and obedient faithfulness for the remainder of our days? God expects no less of us.



Lesser-Known Medieval Orders of Knighthood Founded in the Holy Land

Part 3 of 6: Knights of Saint Blaise

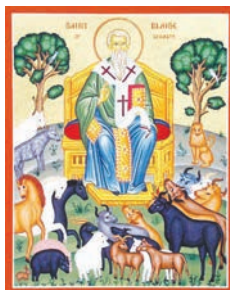
By

Sir Knight George L. Marshall, Jr., PGC

This order presented a true research challenge. I will first present a short history of St. Blaise and then what little I was able to discover about the order of knighthood which bears his name.

St. Blaise (Blasius), the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia, was known for his righteous and devout life. The first reference we have to him is in manuscripts of the medical writings of Aëtius Amidenus, a Byzantine court physician of the very end of the 5th or the beginning of the 6th century. St. Blaise was born into a rich and noble family who raised him as a Christian. He lived during the reign of the Roman emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Licinius (307-324), fierce persecutors of Christians. St. Blaise encouraged his flock, visited the imprisoned, and gave support to the martyrs.¹

From being a healer of bodily ailments, St. Blaise became a physician of souls then retired for a time, by divine inspiration, to a cavern where he remained in prayer surrounded by wild beasts. St. Blaise walked among them unafraid, curing them of their illnesses. As bishop of Sebaste, St. Blaise instructed his people as much by his example as by



his words, and the great virtues and sanctity of the servant of God were attested by many miracles. From all parts, the people came flocking to him for the cure of bodily and spiritual ills.¹ He is said to have healed animals (who came to the saint on their own for his assistance) and to have been assisted by animals.² Saint Blaise is thus the saint of the wild beast.

In 316, the governor of Cappadocia and Lesser Armenia began a persecution



by order of the Emperor Licinius, and St. Blaise was seized. According to the *Acta Sanctorum*, after interrogation and refusing to renounce his faith, he was martyred by being beaten, scourged with iron combs, and finally beheaded. He is the patron saint of wool combers.²

According to legend, while St. Blaise was being taken into custody, a distraught mother, whose only child was choking on a fishbone, threw herself at his feet and implored his intercession. Touched at her grief, he offered up his prayers, and the child was cured. Consequently, St. Blaise is also invoked for protection against injuries and illnesses of the throat.¹ When he had reached the capital and was in prison awaiting ex-



ecution, a grateful woman came to see him, bringing two fine wax candles to dispel the gloom of his dark cell.²

In many places on the day of his feast (February 3) the blessing of St. Blaise is given: two candles are consecrated, generally by a prayer; these are then held in a crossed position by a priest over the heads of the faithful, or the people are touched on the throat with them. At the same time, the following blessing is given: "May Almighty God at the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, preserve you from infections of the throat and from all other afflictions." Then the priest makes the sign of the cross over the faithful.¹

Blaise became one of the most popular saints of the Middle Ages. His cult became widespread in Europe in the 11th and 12th centuries, and his legend is recounted in the 14th-century *Legenda Aurea*. In the West, there was no cult honoring St. Blaise prior to the 8th century.²

The Order of Saint Blaise (and the Virgin Mary) was an order founded in Armenia in the 12th century, soon after the founding of the Knights Templar in 1119.⁷ The order was divided into the religious, who were charged with the holy offices and missionary work among the unbelievers, and the fighters, who defended the country against the attacks

of the Muslims. It rendered great services for a century and only disappeared when Armenia was conquered by the Turks.³ The badge of the order was a red cross, and in its center was an enameled medallion with the image of St. Blaise.

When the knights of this order assembled in chapter or set out on military expeditions, they wore on their breast the same badge embroidered on a white habit.⁷

However, according to Berry,¹² there was an Order of St. Blaise in Armenia, founded about the beginning of the 12th century. The order followed the teachings and Rule of St. Basil. The habit of the order was sky blue, with the badge being a cross of gold with the figure of St. Basil, the patron, in the center, embroidered upon the breast. The knights were officers and servants of the King of Armenia, and the order was at its height when the Armenian kings of the House of Lusignan held their court in the city of Acre.



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

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Grand Encampment

Membership Awards

1133 Ricky Cox
Weatherford Commandery 51
Azle, TX

1134 Chad E. Delp
Ivanhoe Commandery 8
Greensboro, NC
1st Bronz

1135 Carl Ray Hall
Ivanhoe Commandery 8
Greensboro, NC
1st Bronz



*A Message From the Chairman of the Knights Templar Eye
Foundation Annual Campaign*

Greetings!

Spring is a great time of year. In Indiana, the leaves begin to grow again. The flowers begin to grow in all their magnificent colors. Spring is a time of significant optimism. It is a great time to reflect upon what it means to each one of us to be a Knight Templar. Think again of the great lessons we learned in our orders. We were encouraged to be of service to others.

The dream of the Knights Templar of 1955 has been handed down to us as a sacred trust, and this year we are moving towards the end of the 50th Voluntary Campaign. This is a very special year, as it reminds us that we have been faithful to our mission for over fifty years! It is now our privilege to continue to be a part of this great work, providing aid to our research partners as they search for cures for those whose lives can be so drastically changed by restored eyesight.

Imagine waking up each morning and not being able to see across the room. Imagine walking outside and not being able to see the great colors and sights as you look across the landscape. Imagine not being able to use your phone! Imagine you are a child or are elderly and are slowly losing your eyesight. Our mission is to help, aid, and assist those in these types of difficulties.

I am asking each Sir Knight to contribute this year. Help me to help those who need to find access to care and to provide education for our future researchers. If you have contributed in the past, then increase it by 50% for the 50th Voluntary Campaign.

I am also asking each one of you to remember the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in your estate planning.

Have a wonderful Spring.

God Bless!

Faternally,

Rodney A. Mann, KGC
chairman 50th Annual Voluntary Campaign



The Millennial Knight

Part 2

By
Sir Knight Jason Jones

Recently I wrote to the brethren of our fraternity about recruiting the millennial generation and other young men into our Craft, a step that will become ever more important to assure the life and tranquility of Masonry in years to come. Now I write to those young brethren whose Masonic experience has just begun.

My Brother,

First, let me congratulate you on making one of the best decisions of your life. Making the decision to become a Mason is like no other you will ever make. I hope the mysteries that awaited you behind the door of your Lodge excited you the same as they did me and that the experience has created a whole new world of learning, fellowship, and brotherhood for you to partake in. I hope, if you are reading this, I can congratulate you on the second best decision you will make, becoming a Knight Templar. If you are not, I strongly recommend joining your local York Rite bodies for an even more amazing journey.

I'm sure, by now you know that the Masonic fraternity is arguably the greatest fraternity the world has ever known, that throughout history some of the most influential men have been dedicated Masons. One day soon it will be up to you to carry on the great legacy they have created and to walk in the footsteps of the wisest men we could ever know. Today however, it is your duty to learn, to absorb all the wisdom you can. Those old men in the chapeaus with the feathers that aren't so white, the blue

fifty-years caps, or the fading Past-Masters aprons I urge you to go introduce yourself, make a friend, and tell them thank you. Years ago, many of them were landing on the beach at Normandy, parachuting into Korea and Vietnam, fighting for you to be able to live the life you have. Make sure to learn the Masonic ritual from these brothers, but also listen to their amazing stories. As these brothers get older, it is important to assist them anyway you can, offer to take them to lodge, help them up the stairs. A simple gesture as holding the door open for them may assure them that they are leaving their beloved fraternity in the hands of other great men.

It is important to understand that you get out of Masonry what you put into it; you cannot expect to appreciate the Masonic experience if you rarely make it to Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, Scottish Rite, etc. To be able to grow in Masonic knowledge, it is important to attend functions as regularly as possible, if within length of your cable tow. I would argue however, that to truly excel in Masonry you must take the initiative to learn on your own as well. There is enough Masonic literature to last you a lifetime, and I highly recommend not

only studying the ritual monitors but picking up the work of Albert Pike, Albert Mackey, Manly P. Hall, or another Masonic philosopher and discussing what you read with other brethren. If you feel like the learning from a particular body is lacking or the esoteric ritual isn't strong, it's up to you to change it. I highly encourage you to attend floor practice, schools of instruction, festivals, and any other workshops as often as you can. Learn every part of the ritual, strive to be a leader among your home chapter, and visit others. I firmly believe that the intermingling of brethren in Masonry prevents stagnation, malpractice, and disinformation in our ritual.

In your Masonic career, if you are heavily active, you may have brethren that believe you are going to get burnt out and urge you to do less. You must take into consideration what they have to say; they do not do this with harsh feelings in their heart. I too urge caution on this topic, however you are the only one that can know what is too much for you. You must be the judge of this and find a balance in your life. The balance

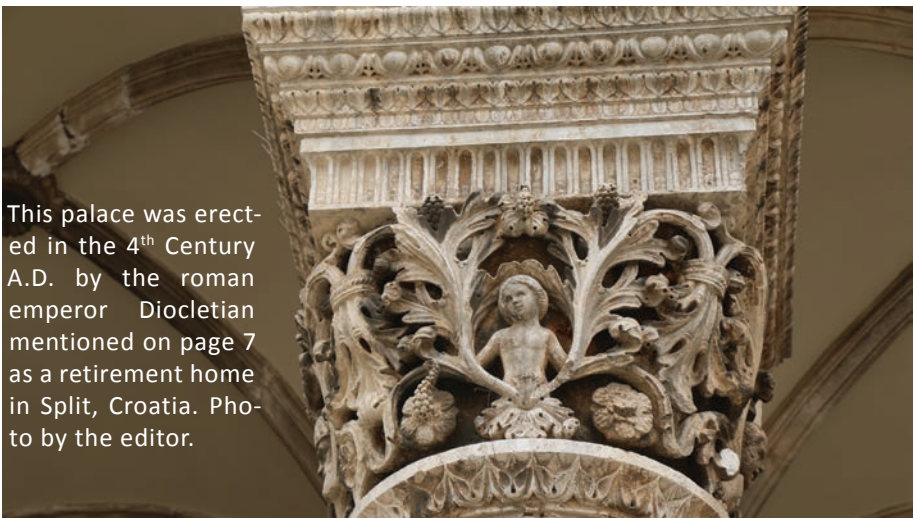
is different for all of us, and I urge you never to let anyone make that decision for you. Never be afraid to share your excitement with Masonry with other brothers. Excitement is contagious and spreads like a wild fire. If you're excited about something, tell everyone; chances are that you will be able to excite others as well, which is very needed in Masonry.

Finally, Masonry is never to interfere with our family, daily vocation, and service to God. For it is these areas where our presence and devotion is necessary, and without them we would not meet the standards of a Mason. I wish you the best of luck in your Masonic journey and sincerely hope it has made an impact upon your life.

In Christ,
Jason Jones

Sir Knight Jason Jones is generalissimo of Lubbock Commanery 60 of Texas and serves as district coordinator for the Grand Commanders Standard Guard in Texas. He can be contacted at jason.l.jones96@gmail.com.

This palace was erected in the 4th Century A.D. by the roman emperor Diocletian mentioned on page 7 as a retirement home in Split, Croatia. Photo by the editor.



MEMORIES OF JOHN J. ROBINSON A MASON'S STORY

By

Sir Knight William J. Lorenz

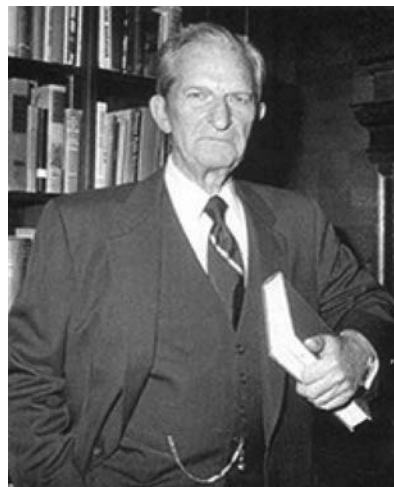
It has been twenty-five years since the passing of John J. Robinson and twenty-eight years since his now highly regarded book, *Born in Blood – The Lost Secrets of Masonry*, was written. The unmatched impact of this book and the two that followed, *Dungeons, Fire and Sword – The Knights Templar and the Crusades* and *A Pilgrims Path – Freemasonry and the Religious Right*, was felt throughout the Masonic world. Both *Born in Blood* and *Pilgrims Path* are included or at least considered to be included in several top ten lists of the most important Masonic books of all time.

I will never forget the day my friend and Brother, Jerry Davis, called. Jerry and I were friends since high school, and he had signed my lodge petition. He was quite excited, saying, "A fellow from Northern Kentucky has written a book and is on radio talking about Masonry." "Oh no!" the thought came to me, "not another anti-mason on the radio." Freemasonry had been experiencing the worst anti-Masonic movement since the "Morgan Affair." After advising Jerry not to listen to that trash, he informed me that this fellow was saying good things about Freemasonry and that I should turn on the radio and listen.

For the first time on radio, a non-Mason was intelligently explaining the Masonic order in a very positive way. He was tough on Masonic critics but also tough on the Masonic membership, whom he chastised for having so little knowledge about Freemasonry and of

their own origin. It was true, as my own instructor had told our Lodge class many years ago, that Freemasonry began at King Solomon's Temple! The radio show had so many "call-ins," that the program was extended for an extra hour. John Robinson had an answer for every caller, whether pro-Mason or critic.

It was announced that John Robinson would speak at the Cincinnati Scottish Rite and Syrian Shrine Temple in Cincinnati, and a group from Covington Scottish Rite decided to attend the Shrine presentation. Again, John answered every question and kindly signed every copy of his book. Impressed with his presentation, Covington Scottish Rite definitely wanted John Robinson to visit. As public relations chairman, it was my responsibility to extend the invitation and make the arrangements on behalf of Fred Bryant, our personal represen-



tative. John graciously accepted, and a large crowd was present to hear his talk. He spoke for about thirty minutes of his fascinating findings on Masonic symbols in Hieronymus Bosch's painting *The Wayfayer* circa 1500. He then spent another thirty minutes answering all questions. His ability to communicate in a straight forward, clear, and concise way again impressed the Craft. I still have the handout copy print of *The Wayfayer* and description of the Masonic symbols.

John was extremely popular with the craft who seemed thirsty for Masonic light, but others found fault in his findings and his Masonic knowledge, as he was not a Mason. Fortunately, those leaders of the Craft began to see what a wonderful impact the *Born in Blood* book and John Robinson's talks were making on Freemasonry, and John was invited to speak before many national Masonic groups across the nation, receiving standing ovations. Both young and old members were returning to their Lodge, with a new sense of pride and understanding of what Freemasonry is and what Freemasonry means.

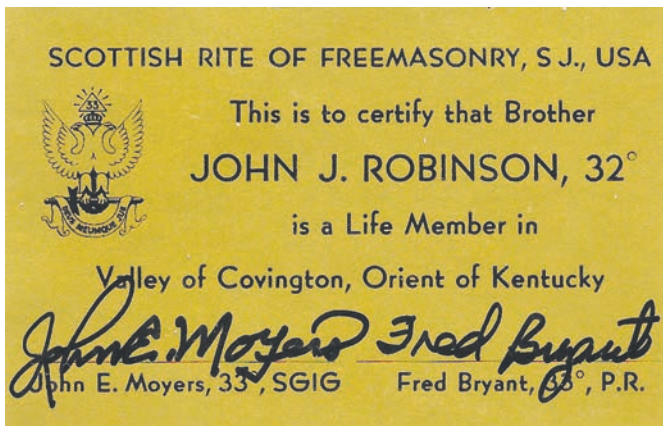
No doubt Allen Roberts, executive secretary of the Philalethes Society, was

an early and important endorsement. John Robinson was presented the Distinguished Service Medal of the Society in 1990, the first ever to a non-Mason. Allen and John developed a lasting friendship.

John Robinson and H. Ray Evans, PGM (Ohio) and secretary of the Valley of Cincinnati, became very close friends. The Cincinnati Masonic Library had been used by John with no restrictions other than "Be fair." Ray and Al Rice, Deputy of Ohio - Grand Lt. Commander N.J., frequently had lunch with Brother Bryant, and Ed Vardiman (secretary/registrar), and I would tag along. On occasion, John would join us, and we would talk Masonry. John had sold his Kentucky farm and at this time, lived in Cincinnati (Mt. Adams). He wished to join Freemasonry as a member but also realized his favorable opinions of Freemasonry would make less impact on public opinion, knowing he was a Mason. His buddy Ray jokingly told him if he wrote any books after becoming a Mason, he would have to have him expelled.

John did join the Fraternity, Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge 2, Ohio's oldest Lodge, on November 25, 1992. John soon became ill, and he continued to

worsen. A throat infection invaded his bloodstream. Things did not look good. Through Allen Roberts' suggestion, John's friend, PGM Ray Evans, made him a Master Mason at sight, conferring both the Fellowship and Master Mason degrees on December 3, 1992.



Only two other Ohio Masons, President Wm. H. Taft and United States Senator John Glenn had received this honor. John recovered enough to receive his 32nd degree in Cincinnati Valley in April of 1993.

John Moyers 33°, sovereign grand inspector general for Kentucky, accompanied Fred, Ed, and me to lunch with Ray Evans and Al Rice, with intention to stop by to visit Brother John who was now home but still bedridden. John Moyers presented John a lifetime dual-membership gold card with Covington Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, signed by Fred Bryant and himself. As Prior of Kentucky Priory KYCH, it was my distinct honor to present John with an honorary membership. Two days before his death, in an unusual emergent session with Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston 33° and Alfred E. Rice 33° presiding, John Robinson was created a 33° Honorary Inspector General. John passed away in September. The John J. Robinson 33° Memorial Class Reunion was held by the Valley of Cincinnati, in April of 1995. Ray Evans continued to be a friend and to help aid and assist John's widow, Bernice. He made sure Bernice was properly looked after and knight templar

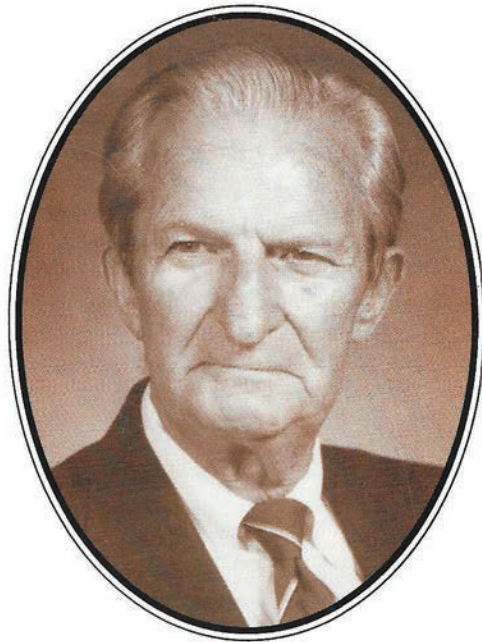
attended anything Masonic she wished.

Shortly before his death, John's final book *A Pilgrim's Path* was published in 1993, which many believe has become the definitive laymen's guide to Freemasonry and is widely used by Masonic

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

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142nd ANNUAL REUNION



**THE ILL.: JOHN J. ROBINSON, 33°
MEMORIAL CLASS**

APRIL 28 & 29, 1995

Lodges as an orientation resource for new members. On the front cover in full color, is Hieronymus Bosch's *The Wayfayer*, the same painting John had presented as a copy print at the Covington Scottish Rite.

John's legacy does still live on. Not only are all three of his books still very popular with the Craft, he is credited with being the "founding visionary" of the Masonic Information Center run by the Masonic Service Association of North America. Never before has anyone traveled so many miles and ap-

peared on so many radio and television talk shows as well as Masonic forums. He was a friend and brother to the Craft, and he changed a lot of public opinions about Freemasonry when Freemasonry needed it so badly!

Sir Knight William J. Lorenz is a past commander of Newport Commandery 13 in Kentucky. He resides in Cold Spring, Kentucky and can be contacted at library.covsr@outlook.com.



NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE KTEF CLUBS

Grand Master's Club

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Hal R. Ray, Jr.	TX	Joel T. Bundy	VA
Steven F. Dowd	VA	Robert L. Ferguson.....	VA
James J. Burton	WI	James L. Sturdevant	WY

Grand Commander's Club

Walter A. Ancheta.....	CA	Daniel R. Jones.....	CA
Robert A. Morrison	CA	James W. Mitchell	DC
Chase M. Chenault.....	FL	Robert C.E. Clarke	FL
Julius G. Nagy, Jr.	FL	Robert L.T. Phillips.....	FL
Maynard W. Robinson	FL	James G. Mashburn	GA
Ronald R. Busby	IL	Craig E. Chapman.....	IL
Robert W. Pierce	IL	Marlin R. Gray.....	IN
Francis S. Tharp.....	IN	Dave B. Beerman	IA
Stephen D. Smith	KY	Paul D. Hamilton	ME
Wayne R. Johnson.....	ME	Terry Royce	MD
Gerald Zierdt.....	MN	Warren E. Dixon	MO
Alan B. Power.....	NV	Brian H. Blades.....	NJ
Theodore H. Jacobsen.....	NY	Michael L. Bibbey.....	OH
Arthur Moore.....	OH	Joseph A. Snyder.....	OH
John D. Armstrong	OR	John D. Bucher.....	PA
Michael L. Glenn	PA	Bruce A. Robinson.....	PA
John L. Wagner	PA	Walter S. Winters, Jr.....	PA
James P. Richardson, Jr.	SC	Benjamin A. Shepperd	TX
Kenneth A. Jacobson.....	VA	Charles R. Trude.....	VA
William R. Knight.....	WV		

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.





These photos are of the cathedral in the city of Troyes in France and 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.

Qualified Charitable Distributions Can Yield Big Tax Savings

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/>

Etiquette

Affixing K.T. Behind Any Sir Knight's Name

by
Sir Knight James A. Marples, K.T.

So many Masons are accustomed to seeing a fellow member sign his name on a Lodge ledger book or Lodge register book. Most Craft Lodges assume a man is a "M.M." (Master Mason), but I have seen many Lodges instruct Fellow Craft Masons or Entered Apprentices to write the initials "F.C." or "E.A." behind their names. A few men who are past masters write "P.M." While this is their prerogative, it is optional.

At meetings of the Scottish Rite most men rightfully sign their name as "John Doe, 32°" but are totally unaware that in greeting cards to hospitalized or home bound members of proper Masonic etiquette in signing such books as a Knight Templar by also affixing "K.T." behind their name. Further, the suffix of "K.T." should be applied on all solely Templar related correspondence.

The two major rites in the United States have a rough measure of "equality" that is not due to happenstance. The rites are unique in that they have had treaties of mutual amity, usually far longer than many other bodies. Furthermore, their "characteristics," an official name for how members are "styled," are nearly identical and almost put both rites on an equal par with each other.

Examples

The top leader of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., our most eminent grand master, bears a knight templar

"saalem cross" consisting of three horizontal or transverse bars.

Similarly, the top leader of the Su-



Red Saalem Cross or Pontifical Cross

preme Council, 33° of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of either The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction or Southern Jurisdiction, likewise bears a "Saalem Cross" but at a slant with crosslets. These are nearly identical at sight, but intentionally identical as far as bailiwick of authority.

A grand commander of a state Grand Commandery of Knights Templar bears a

patriarchal cross, which is a cross with two horizontal or transverse bars.

Likewise, an inspector general honorary of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in either the Northern or Southern Masonic Jurisdiction bears the same insignia but with a likewise slant.

Active members of each Supreme Council have crosslets. Honorary members wear white caps and use red ink if possible, whereas active members wear the purple cap and use purple ink in signing documents.

Finally, a Knight Templar Mason bears a red "passion cross," upright in nature.

Similarly a 32^o member and even a 32^o knight commander of the court of honour of the Scottish Rite utilizes the red "passion cross."

When communicating by letter or signing a Commandery ledger book, it is proper custom to sign your name as "Sir Knight John Doe, K.T." Or, if for a greeting card or even a Masonic periodical you are a member of both rites, it is perfectly permissible to put your name and affix "32^o and a K.T." or a "33^o and a K.T." (whichever the case may be). Of course, some of this etiquette yields to editorial discretion, but it was the custom of The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite's national magazine *The New Age*, now called *The Scottish Rite Journal*, from at

least 1918 forward in time. The practice tapered off in the late 1970s.

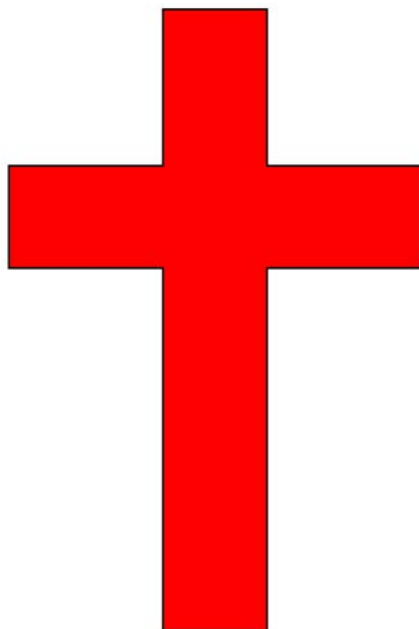
A similar reciprocal practice has been used (at times) in the *Knight Templar* magazine from 1960s to fairly recent years (into the years of the 2000s) as well.

This is not *carte blanche* to put an alphabet soup of initials of any group we may be a member of. This is just a little known aspect of Masonic courtesy and etiquette that existed among both rites, and sadly, our newer candidates are not told how they are to affix the peculiar cross preceding their name and to proudly affix their rank or degree immediately after their signature.

Even the word "signature" on a membership dues card, diploma, or patent certificate is the unique "*Ne Varietur*," which is Latin for "of which see" or "lest it not be varied or changed. This is com-



Red Patriarchal Cross



Red Passion Cross

parable to the action of by affixing your signature upon a membership card; you are re-assuming all the promises and obligations as firmly and steadfastly as if you were signing a document before a notary public "under oath." Of course, Masonry doesn't require far flung notary work just for that purpose. It is written that way, mainly to reinforce to the Mason that his Masonic membership card is important and should be held dear.

In the book: *History of Freemasonry in Norfolk 1724 to 1895*, it notes: "In the list of members of Eleusinian Lodge Mysterie 103 G, printed with their bylaws in 1823, ten out of the twenty-three names have the letters K.T. appended to them."

Most Masons are familiar with the closing "salutation" of formal postal letters or even e-mail salutations as "Fraternally, Bro.: John Q. Public." Most Shriners know of their order's closing salutation of "Yours In The Faith, Noble Walter M. Fleming." However, most Knights Templar are unaware that the closing salutation among Knights Templar is: "Yours In All Knightly Courtesy, Sir Knight Albert G. Mackey, K.T."

I try to follow Sir Knight Mackey's salutation when I close notes with my fellow Templars. It has a nice ring to it. Plus, it is a mutual reminder of our vows. In 1859, a Conclave of Knights Templar in Michigan was opened, and a proposal was made to unite with the "state body." A formal resolution was made, which read in part, "resolved, that we are ever ready to meet all Sir Knights, and bodies of Sir Knights, who approach with Knightly courtesy, with the spirit becoming all true and magnanimous Sir Knights."

Even into the 20th Century, it was the custom to dub, create, and knight a man

as a Knight Templar to follow the ancient admonition that a Knight Templar "should not be a member of any other order of chivalry." Then, the "Order of Malta" was conferred thereafter. A good example of this is the late former Kansas Governor Arthur Capper who was knighted a Knight Templar and soon thereafter dubbed and created a Knight of Malta at a later time.

Sir Knight Albert G. Mackey, K.T., in his *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences* speaks about courtesy. "Politeness of manners, as the result of kindness or disposition, was one of the peculiar characteristics of the knights of old.We find, therefore, in the language of Templarism, the phrase "a true and courteous knight;" and Knights Templar are in the habit of closing their letters to each other with the following expression: "Yours In All Knightly Courtesy." Courtesy is always a Masonic virtue, because it is a product of a feeling of kindness, but is not so specifically spoken of in the symbolic degrees, where brotherly love assumes its place, as it is in the orders of knighthood."

Years ago, the Grand Priory of Knights Templar of Canada gave a review of American templary. In the publication, *The Masonic Review*, Canadian Templars reported that "....our American brethren, addressing each other as 'Sir' prefixed to their names, frequently making the great mistake of leaving out the baptismal name altogether; as the title of 'Sir' can only properly be applied in conjunction with the Christian (name) and surname." The report goes on to say, "We, in Canada, by ritual, doctrine, and compliance with acknowledge attributes, confer the old chivalric Templar order, which we profess to do, knowing it to be

historically a fact.”

The Canadian report wisely condemned innovations. It did praise American Templary for “working up an intensity of zeal, energy, and interest.” The report spoke of the “revival of 1717, Freemasonry as derived from the Christianized guilds had been a society of the most orthodox Christianity, whatever may have been its oriental mystic origin and cosmopolitan religious doctrines.”

The report also has high praise for a distinguished Ohio Templar, Eminent Sir Knight Thomas E. Carson of Cincinnati. The report continues: “Our talented Brother Carson extracts from twenty-one of the *Old Constitutions of Freemasonry*, their dates extending over two hundred and thirty years, down to 1723, which contain unequivocal proof of a belief in the Holy Trinity as part of the Christian creed of the old Craft.”

The Canadian report accurately notes that “The Templar order was added to universal Freemasonry....and it has much to recommend it to the candid Masonic student.” It speaks of “the united orders of The Temple and Malta” and declares that in olden days, it “assured the Christian Mason of the completion of his Masonic career by publicly proclaiming his belief in that faith, comprised in the *Apostles’ Creed*, which formerly constituted the basis of the Masonic character.”

So as Sir Knights in the 21st Century, we might ask ourselves, “Does Knightly Etiquette matter?” “Does Masonic Etiquette matter?” I say, “Yes, it does matter.” In many colorful Masonic charts of the 20th Century were depicted the degrees and orders of the two major Rites, York Rite and Scottish Rite as two ladders or series of steps, with their apex or triangular summit showing a repre-

sentative member of each rite grasping the hand of his counterpart, i.e. a Knight Templar shaking hands with a 32^o Scottish Rite member, as they jointly hold a scroll depicting the square and compasses of the basic craft Lodge. It is that unity of spirit that is shown by Masonic and Templar etiquette. We aren’t men jockeying for titles to impress each other. That would be sheer folly. We continued our journeys in the appendant bodies of Masonry to become more educated inwardly.

By a Sir Knight appending the initials “K.T.” after signing his name, it shows the respect he has for what he is striving to attain. I equally value my status as a 32^o in the Scottish Rite. My main theme is that these two rites have a unique amity that has existed for centuries. Most Consistories educate on Scottish Rite etiquette; yet often not fully. Some Commanderies still educate their new candidates on Templar etiquette, such as this. Sadly, some long time members don’t know it, nor are they in the practice of doing it. It is getting almost as obsolete as some people using a bank checkbook. A person’s signature should be regarded as unique and as their bond of identity. Unfortunately, in our fast paced world, many people shop at retail stores or grocery stores and scan their plastic card, and while the clerk may ask a customer to “please sign your name on the screen,” half the time a person could scribble anyone’s name or a doodle and the impersonal machine would process the transaction by rote.

Today’s modern news headlines often speak of identity theft (of which I have been a victim, myself). Yet, there is less and less pride in the value of seeing a signature and simply taking a second to

compare it with a signature on a photo identification. In our hustle and bustle world, we have almost lost patience, but a far worse loss is the loss of diligence. The attributes of patience and diligence are interrelated to etiquette. It's more than mere politeness. It is the oil that lubricates our civilized culture.

Even in our civilian world, I like to hear people who are strangers or even bare bones acquaintances address each other as "Mister Jones" or "Miss/Ms./Mrs. Smith." That shows grace and cordiality. By contrast, even if in a casual setting or situation, such as at a football game or even at a dinner party, I hate to hear someone holler, "Rosenblatt, get me a cola" or "Newsom, grab that spoon." If they are alone then buddy jocularity is fine. However, when ladies are present, especially, I think an ounce of decorum doesn't hurt. It needn't be stiff, but it shouldn't be demeaning either. There is nothing wrong with saying: "Jim, would you please bring me a cola as you pass the table?" or "John, could you hand me that book on the shelf?" My retired shop teacher in high school is Mr. Dennis Webster. Even to this day. I always call him "Mister Webster" and his wife "Mrs. Webster" some thirty-five years after graduation. In Masonry, po-

liteness and common courtesy never go out of style. Neither does etiquette.

Sir Knight Albert G. Mackey, K.T. encouraged the use of etiquette, and I encourage all my fellow Templars to use it when they can, when appropriate. It is a custom that shouldn't die out. For centuries, this instruction was the norm. Just as cursive handwriting has been losing its luster due to texting with uber-short abbreviations, I certainly hope that as Masonic Brothers, we won't lose the etiquette of writing the salutation "fraternally" in full. So often, I see simply the initials "S&F" on an e-mail. I know the sentiment is there, yet it seems generic, robotic, and stale. Similarly with Templary, I see simple ordinary signing off salutations. In closing this article, I shall do exactly as Mackey and thousands of Sir Knights before him earnestly implored us to express to each other.

Yours In All Knightly Courtesy,
Sir James A. Marples, K.T.

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.

Sources and Recommended Readings:

- *History of Freemasonry in Norfolk 1724 to 1825* By Hamon Le Strange
 - *Freemasons Magazine and Masonic Mirror*, August 13, 1859.
 - *Proceedings of the Regular Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Michigan*. Year 1860. Page 48.
 - *Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences*. Subject Heading: courtesy.
 - *The Masonic Review* Volume 56. Year of Publication 1882. Pages 198-202. "Ancient and Modern Templary."
- knight templar



Knights



at the Bookshelf

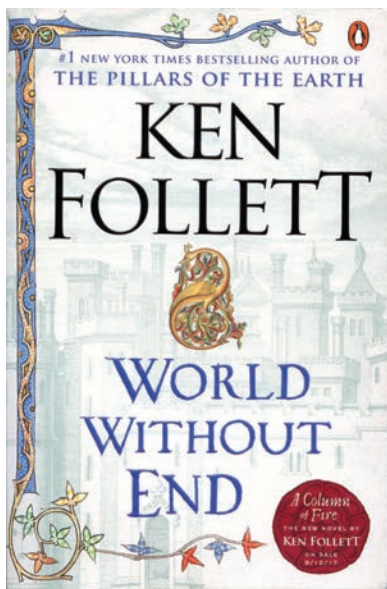
By
Sir Knight John L. Palmer

World Without End, Ken Follett, Penguin Books 2007, 1029 pages, ISBN: 9780451224996.

This is the second in a series of three historical novels, each of which is a good stand-alone read. The first book in the series is *The Pillars of the Earth* and the last is *A Column of Fire*. *World Without End* is about life in a small priory-run village, beginning in 1327. The main character is an apprentice builder named Merthin who is more skilled than his master and his life-long love with a maiden named Caris. It involves building challenges, war, love, corruption, plague, and politics; but most of all, it gives the reader a better understanding of what day to day life was like in England in medieval times. While many of the characters, like the rest of us, have good and bad traits, there are some definite good guys and bad guys. There is a good bit of detail about what life was like in a priory and in a nunnery. The characters feature merchants, craftsmen, noblemen, monks, nuns, outlaws, and of course, knights.

The constant thread throughout the book is character or lack thereof, although the book may not be appropriate for young readers because of its frank sexual content. The book is a tome at over 1000 pages, but well worth the read. There is plenty of action as well as a look at the building practices in the fourteenth century.

It makes a good read while curled up by a fire during a cold winter. While not explicitly about Masonry or Templary, this book weaves a background against which both can be viewed in the tapestry of history.



A Tale of Two Stories

By

Sir Knight Mark G. Mattern

Period-Mid 1920s

The 1920s were an age of dramatic social and political change. For the first time, more Americans lived in cities than on farms. The nation's total wealth more than doubled between 1920 and 1929, and this economic growth swept many Americans into an affluent but unfamiliar "consumer society." People from coast to coast bought the same goods (thanks to nationwide advertising and the spread of chain stores), listened to the same music, did the same dances, and even used the same slang!¹ In the 1920s, railroads were a central part of American life. Railroad lines crisscrossed the country. They carried people, manufactured goods, food, the daily mail, and express packages. Railroads made long-distance travel possible.² The 1920s marked a heyday for Freemasonry, especially in the United States. The Knights Templar flourished also, with marching bands, mounted units, drill teams, and members galore.

A Triennial Conclave

A Triennial Conclave, or Grand Conclave as it was then called, would be held in a large city. Daily Illustrated Conclave souvenirs were produced every day during the conclave. They gave a description and featured engraved illustrations of what had happened the previous day during the Conclave. The Knights Templar had their Grand Parade and Review by the most eminent grand master. In the afternoon, excursions had been arranged.

Later that evening there was a Grand Musical and Dancing Reception. The Daily Illustrated Conclave souvenir also included short articles about the decorations put up by Knights Templar in the city, competitive drilling or marching, and important Knights Templar of the time period, including Albert Pike, Albert Mackey, and Robert Morris. There were also many other illustrations, including the dining room facilities in the Grand Exposition building and various views of the Grand Parade.³

The Accident Story

After the finish of the Triennial, the Templars traveled home to various cities around the country to return to their everyday life. One train bound for New York City was passing through the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania area. The train was involved in an accident in Steelton near the Bethlehem Steel Plant, just south of Harrisburg. One minute, passengers sat aboard a train, laughing and talking, and the next minute, five railroad cars jumped the track. Three cars, including the only two carrying those passengers, landed in the Susquehanna River. Passengers were thrown around violently as the cars rolled over amid anguished screams. One man was decapitated. Some bodies were so mangled they had to be identified with fingerprints. Dozens of victims were trapped in the wreckage; nineteen people died, and 119 were hurt. Rescue crews,



official and unofficial, got to work. Firefighters, police, emergency medical personnel, civilians, and even a twenty-seven-man Navy drill team returning to the Bainbridge, Maryland Naval Station, saw the wreck as their bus passed by. They stopped to help.⁴

Those victims that were hospitalized required long hospital stays and rehabilitation before they were able to return home, not like the quick stays and transfers to home or rehabilitation facilities we are accustomed to today. Knights Templar from the Harrisburg and Carlisle areas heard of the need to assist their fellow Fraters and opened their homes to these brothers that were far from home. After months of recovery, the Fraters were able to return home to New York, not forgetting the courtesy and hospitality that was shown to them by these Pennsylvania Templars and their families. Some of those New York Templars were members of Palestine Commandery 18.

Upon returning to New York, these Fraters decided they wanted to show their appreciation for the care they were given. It was decided to commission the creation of two Eminent Commander jewels, one for Pilgrim Commandery 11 in Harrisburg, and the other for St. John's Commandery 8 in Carlisle, almost identical jewels to be worn by the Eminent Commander of each Commandery for all time. The jewels were delivered to each Commandery in April of 1928. These jewels are beautiful and still worn by each Eminent Commander as requested.

Research Findings

While this is a quite a story, it is just that, a story. This is the way it was originally told to me when I inquired about the origin of one of the Eminent Com-

mander jewels. I'm sure we've all heard of telling the first person in line a message and by the time the message gets to the other end of the line it will be different from the original message.

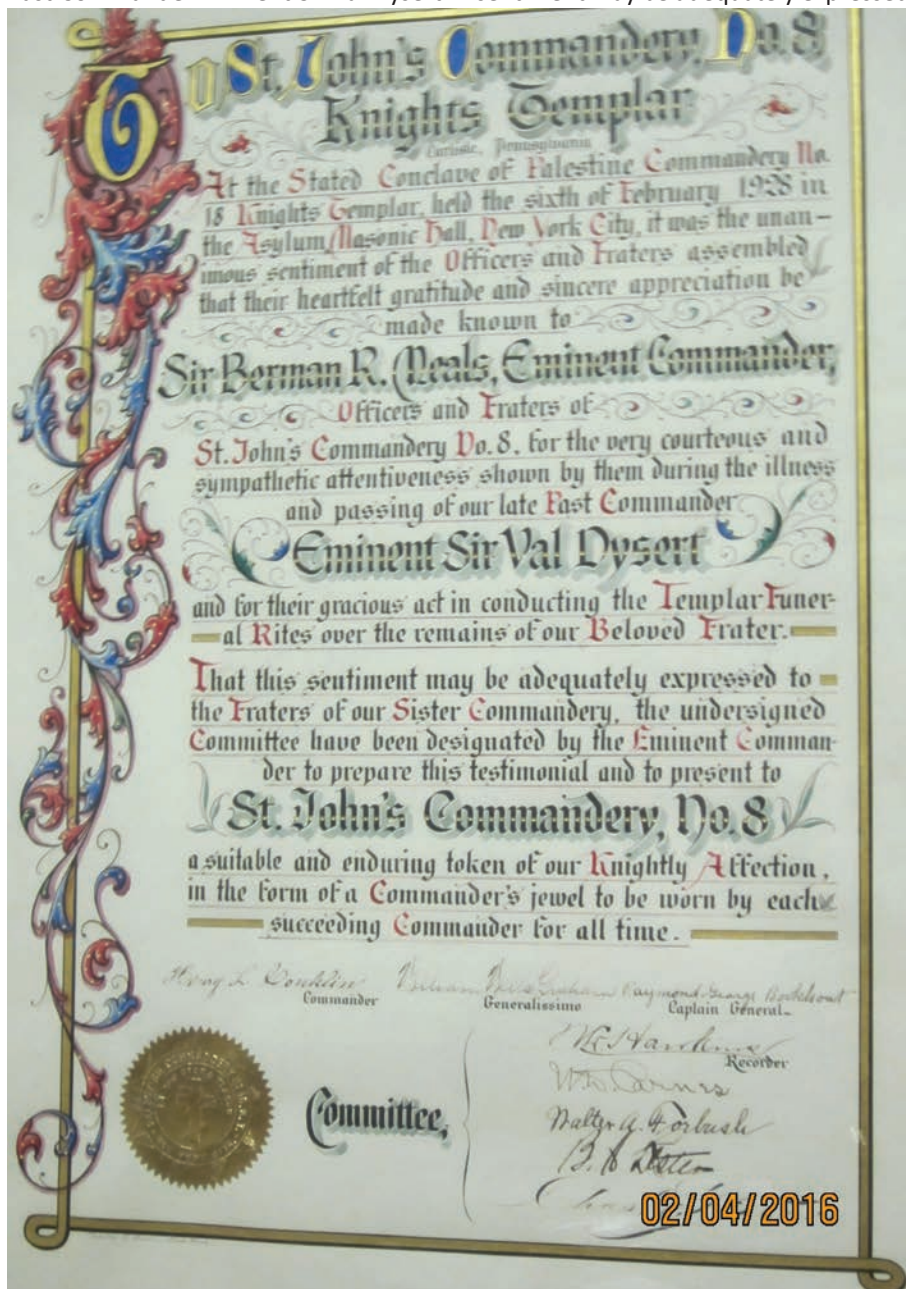
While doing research for this article, I did some checking with a local railroad historian who confirmed there was no train accident in the area described during those years. I believe the train accident was added to the story from a 1962 train crash in Steelton. A Pennsylvania Railroad special loaded with baseball fans jumped the track alongside the Susquehanna River Saturday night. The last three cars rolled down a 40-foot embankment into the water. The baseball special left Harrisburg at 5 p.m. on route for the Philadelphia Phillies - Pittsburgh Pirates game in Philadelphia on Saturday night.⁵ It was a tragic event but a bit different from the original story I was told. While the embellishments to the Templar story excite our mind, it is the actions of others at the real accident and the actions of the Templars for a fellow Frater long before that touch our soul.

The Certificate

I then found out there was a document framed and hanging at St. John's Commandery that had accompanied the jewel. It reads "To St. John's Commandery Knights Templar, Carlisle, Pennsylvania. At the Stated Conclave of Palestine Commandery No. 18 Knights Templar, held the sixth of February 1928 in the Asylum, Masonic Hall, New York City, it was the unanimous sentiment of the Officers and Fraters assembled that their heartfelt gratitude and sincere appreciation be made known to Sir Berman R. Meals, Eminent Commander, Officers and Fraters of St. John's Commandery

No. 8, for the very courteous and sympathetic attentiveness shown by them during the illness and passing of our late Past Commander Eminent Sir Val Dysert

and for their gracious act in conducting the Templar Funeral Rite over the remains of our Beloved Frater. That this sentiment may be adequately expressed



to the Fraters of our Sister Commandery, the undersigned Committee have been designated by the Eminent Commander to prepare this testimonial and to present to St. John's Commandery No. 8 a suitable and enduring token of our Knightly Affection in the form of a Commanders jewel to be worn by each succeeding Commander for all time." The document is signed by the officers and committee of Palestine Commandery. Records show that Eminent Sir Val Dysert died from natural causes.

The Jewels

The jewels that were presented have a top piece that features a round starburst pattern with the emblem of Palestine Commandery surrounded by a wreath. Hanging from two chains is a jeweled crown with crossed swords passing through the middle of the crown. The handles on the swords appear to be separate pieces of ivory or a similar material. Hanging below the crown is a cross with starburst pattern behind it. Each cross bears the name of the individual Commandery, Pilgrim or St. John's and the Commandery number below. There is a Maltese cross in the center with the Cross and Crown design and the words "IN HOC SIGNO VINCES." These jewels are very impressive and

show great craftsmanship.

Thoughts

Courteous and sympathetic attentiveness. When shown in plain words, it's hard to imagine the lengths the local Fraters went to. One would think from the "token" given, it was a great length, but isn't that what we are all about, doing what is needed and not finding it a hardship to go out of our way to help our brethren? In the world we live in today, life is fast paced and hectic. Work weeks are longer and more stressful. Then we throw in natural disasters, violent protests, and random acts of violence. I recently posted a thought that our world is hurting, and the time has never been clearer that what is needed is prayer. I would add that Knightly affection through courteous and sympathetic attentiveness to our fellows is our path. Finding the way to help is the treasure that we should all seek. Maybe the world will follow by our example.

Sir Knight Mark G. Mattern is grand senior warden of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. He is past commander of Hermit Commandery 24, Lebanon, Pennsylvania and resides in Hummelstown, Pennsylvania. He can be contacted at mgmattern@gmail.com.

Notes

- (1) <http://www.history.com/topics/roaring-twenties> ; The Roaring Twenties, 2010
- (2) <http://Amhistory.si.edu> ; America On The Move; Lives On The Railroad
- (3) <http://Nationalheritagemuseum.typepad.com> ; Scottish Rite Museum and Library; What Is A Knight Templar Conclave, September 24, 2008
- (4) http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2012/07/1962_train_wreck_in_steelton_k.html The Patriot-News, Harrisburg, PA; 1962 Steelton Train Wreck; July 26, 2012
- (5) <https://www.gendisasters.com/pennsylvania/3439/steelton,-pa-train-derails-down-embankment,-july-1962> ; GenDisasters.com; Steelton, PA Train Derails Down Embankment, July 1962

Schedule of the Grand Commandery Annual Conclaves for 2018

- The Grand Commandery of Alabama, Birmingham, February 23-25, 2018, Sir Knight Henry A. Adams, right eminent department commander
- The Grand Commandery of Alaska, Fairbanks, March 03, 2018, Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, right eminent grand generalissimo
- The Grand Commandery of Arizona, Mesa, August 10, 2018, Sir Knight William A. Garrard, Jr., right eminent department commander
- The Grand Commandery of Arkansas, Little Rock, March 08-10, 2018, Sir Knight Frank N. duTreil, Jr., right eminent department commander
- The Grand Commandery of Austria, Vienna, April 27-28, 2018, Sir Knight Jeffrey N. Nelson, right eminent deputy grand master
- The Grand Commandery of Brasil, Florianópolis, November 15-17, 2018, Sir Knight Jeffrey N. Nelson, most eminent grand master
- The Grand Commandery of California, Visalia, May 20-23, 2018, Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent grand master
- The Grand Commandery of Colorado, Colorado Springs, September 07-08, 2018, Sir Knight William J. Jones, most eminent past grand master
- The Grand Commandery of Connecticut, Meriden, April 14, 2018, Sir Knight William D. Hartman, right eminent grand prelate
- The Grand Commandery of Croatia, Zagreb, March 16-17, 2018, Sir Knight Gabriel L. Gherasim, right eminent department commander
- The Grand Commandery of Delaware, Wilmington, March 09, 2018, Sir Knight James W. Golladay, Jr., right eminent department commander
- The Grand Commandery District of Columbia, Washington, March 16-18, 2018, Sir Knight William D. Hartman, right eminent grand prelate
- The Grand Commandery of Florida, Lake Mary, May 20-23, 2018, Sir Knight Lawrence E. Tucker, right eminent grand recorder
- The Grand Commandery of Georgia, Macon, May 06-08, 2018, Sir Knight Lawrence E. Tucker, right eminent grand recorder
- The Grand Commandery of Hawaii, Honolulu, February 24, 2018, Sir Knight David J. Kussman, right eminent grand captain general
- The Grand Commandery of Idaho, Hayden, April 21, 2018, Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent grand master
- The Grand Commandery of Illinois, Normal, July 18, 2018, Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, right eminent grand generalissimo
- The Grand Commandery of Indiana, Noblesville, April 27-28, 2018, Sir Knight William J. Jones, most eminent past grand master

The Grand Commandery of Iowa, Ames, May 31 – June 2, 2018, Sir Knight Lon W. Kvasager, right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Italy, Naples, May 04-05, 2018, Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent grand master

The Grand Commandery of Kansas, Topeka, May 05, 2018, Sir Knight Frank N. duTreil, Jr., right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Kentucky, Lexington, September 17, 2018, Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent past grand master

The Grand Commandery of Louisiana, Alexandria, March 02-04, 2018, Sir Knight David J. Kussman, right eminent grand captain general

The Grand Commandery of Maine, Portland, April 28, 2018, Sir Knight Lawrence E. Tucker, right eminent grand recorder

The Grand Commandery of Maryland, Cockeysville, October 27, 2018, right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Massachusetts & Rhode Island, Milford, MA, October 12-13, 2018, Sir Knight William J. Jones, most eminent past grand master

The Grand Commandery of Mexico, TBD, November 09-10, 2018, right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Michigan, Bay City, August 11, 2018, Sir Knight Loren A. Winn, right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Minnesota, St. Cloud, June 21-23, 2018, Sir Knight David D. Goodwin, most eminent past grand master

The Grand Commandery of Mississippi, Meridian, May 17-19, 2018, Sir Knight Henry A. Adams, right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Missouri, Jefferson City, June 09, 2018, Sir Knight Frank N. duTreil, Jr., right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Montana, Billings, June 01, 2018, Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, right eminent grand generalissimo

The Grand Commandery of Nebraska, Kearney, April 06-07, 2018, Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent grand master

The Grand Commandery of Nevada, N. Lake Tahoe, June 10-12, 2018, Sir Knight Lawrence E. Tucker, right eminent grand recorder

The Grand Commandery of New Hampshire, Concord, May 12, 2018, Sir Knight Lawrence E. Tucker, right eminent grand recorder

The Grand Commandery of New Jersey, Toms River, March 03, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, right eminent grand treasurer

The Grand Commandery of New Mexico, Albuquerque, April 19-21, 2018, Sir Knight Lawrence E. Tucker, right eminent grand recorder

The Grand Commandery of New York, Albany, September 14-16, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, right eminent grand treasurer

The Grand Commandery of North Carolina, Greensboro, March 18-20, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, right eminent grand treasurer

The Grand Commandery of North Dakota, Fargo, April 20-21, 2018, Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, right eminent grand generalissimo

The Grand Commandery of Ohio, Columbus, October 18-20, 2018, Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, right eminent deputy grand master

The Grand Commandery of Oklahoma, Midwest City, April 26, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, right eminent grand treasurer

The Grand Commandery of Oregon, North Bend, April 05-06, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, right eminent grand treasurer

The Grand Commandery of Panama, Panama City, January 09, 2018

The Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, Grantville, May 18-20, 2018, Sir Knight David D. Goodwin, most eminent past grand master

The Grand Commandery of Philippines, Manila, October 2018, Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent past grand master

The Grand Commandery of Portugal, Lisbon, March 09-10, 2018, Sir Knight Gabriel L. Gherasim, right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Romania, Bucharest, November 02, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, right eminent grand treasurer

The Grand Commandery of South Carolina, Myrtle Beach, March 11-13, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, right eminent grand treasurer

The Grand Commandery of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, September 20-22, 2018, Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, right eminent deputy grand master

The Grand Commandery of Tennessee, Nashville, March 25-27, 2018, Sir Knight David D. Goodwin, most eminent past grand master

The Grand Commandery of Texas, Waco, April 12-15, 2018, Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, most eminent grand master

The Grand Commandery of Togo, Lomé, July 06-07, 2018, Sir Knight Gabriel L. Gherasim, right eminent department commander

The Grand Commandery of Utah, Salt Lake City, May 11-12, 2018, Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, right eminent grand generalissimo

The Grand Commandery of Vermont, Killington, June 12, 2018, Sir Knight Jeffrey N. Nelson, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master

The Grand Commandery of Virginia, Charlottesville, May 04-05, 2018, Sir Knight William D. Hartman, Right Eminent Grand Prelate

The Grand Commandery of Washington, Shelton, May 12, 2018, Sir Knight Jeffrey N. Nelson, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master

The Grand Commandery of West Virginia, Martinsburg, May 18-20, 2018, Sir Knight James W. Golladay, Jr., Right Eminent Department Commander

The Grand Commandery of Wisconsin, Green Bay, June 16, 2018, Sir Knight Bobby B. Simmons, Right Eminent Grand Treasurer

The Grand Commandery of Wyoming, Casper, September 13-16, 2018, Sir Knight David J. Kussman, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo



Beauceant News



La Crosse Assembly 215 was honored to be a hostess assembly at the 97th Supreme Session held in Bloomington, Minnissota, on September 25th – 29th. They were even more honored to have their newest member, Mrs. Dawn Mainz, initiated at the session. Also initiated was Mrs. Kayihan Seran from Minneapolis Assembly 46.



East Liverpool Assembly 71 honored fifty-year member Mrs. Basil L. Plemons at the official visit of Supreme Worthy President Mrs. Dean D. Rein. Mrs. Plemons has been recorder of her assembly for many years.

From left to right: Supreme Worthy President (Mrs. Dean D.) Edith “Edie” Rein; Past Supreme Worthy President (Mrs. Joseph L.) Barbara Bongiovi; (Mrs. Basil L.) Deanna Plemons, new fifty-Year member of East Liverpool Assembly 71; and Past Supreme Worthy President (Mrs. Howard) Clara McClure.

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“ ...Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord of Hosts:
the whole earth is
full of His glory.”
Isaiah 6:3

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