

THE SCRIBE



Fall Edition Scribe: AMD Quarterly Education & Information.

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Liber ad milites templi de laude novae militiae

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux is a name remembered by only a few in our world today. However, in the early days of the Knights Templar his name, as well as his quill, invoked the same fear as a Templar sword in pontiffs, Kings and Pope. He was known as the “Oracle of Europe”. He was, arguably, more responsible for the success of the Knights Templar than any other man. In this edition of the Scribe we hope to shed light on Bernard, the forgotten Templar, who died on **August 20, 1153**.

In a letter written by Bernard and addressed to Hugh of de Payens, founder of the Knights Templar, prior to 1136. Bernard begins by saying to Hugh, “Not less than **three** times have you requested I write an exhortation of the newly formed Knights.” Bernard would honor the Grand Master de Payens wishes by writing the *Liber ad milites templi de laude novae militiae* or *Book to the Knights of the Temple, in praise of the new knighthood.* This letter was looked upon as a pivotal source of inspiration for the new Knights and serves notice to the world that Bernard was now on the side of the Temple Knights! This letter was especially important to the early Templars who were struggling financially and spiritually. Many were having second thoughts about the validity of the Order and/ or the justness of their cause. On these next pages of the Scribe we will cast light on the efforts of Bernard to secure and promote his beloved Templar Knights. Continue reading about Bernard, The Forgotten Templar on the next page.



Bernard depicted here, showing how the Scribe is connected to the color purple. The hand of God is represented as purple, as is Bernard's desk.

“I have ascended to the highest in me, and look, the Word is towering above that. I have descended to explore my lowest depths, and I found Him deeper still.”

— Bernard of Clairvaux



James Britt & Lee Short with AMD Grand Sovereign Master Douglas S. Moore

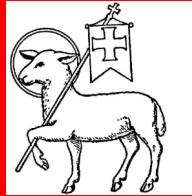
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Sir Knights 2016

“...Thus in a wonderous and unique manner they appear gentler than lambs, yet fiercer than lions. I do not know if it would be more appropriate to refer to them as monks or as soldiers, unless perhaps it would be better to recognize them as being both. Indeed they lack neither monastic meekness nor military might. What can we say of this, except that this has been done by the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes. These are the picked troops of God, whom he has recruited from the ends of the earth; the valiant men of Israel chosen to guard well and faithfully that tomb which is the bed of the true Solomon, each man sword in hand, and superbly trained to war.” *In Praise of the New Knighthood: Bernard of Clairvaux*

The Templar symbol Angus Dei. This symbol was used by Knights Templars to attest to their humbleness and the true nature of their order. It was a statement to the world that the Templar was an order that was as meek as a Lamb, unless defending the word of Christ when they became as ferocious as a Lion.



Referring to the Templars, St. Bernard of Clairvaux coined the phrase “ they are as meek as a Lamb yet as ferocious as a Lion”.

The Seal of Andre de Montbard (1103-1156), who was the 5th Grand Master of the Knights Templar. He was one of the nine founding members of the Knights Templar. He was also the uncle of Bernard of Clairvaux and was considered the spiritual leader of the Templars.



The seal of Count Hugh of Champagne. He was the highly influential and wealthy French Nobleman who was loyal to the Templars. He accompanied Hugh de Payens to the Holy Land at least twice. He studied with the Cistercian Abbot Stephen Harding and he donated the land to build the Cistercian Monastery Clairvaux. He later relinquished his tiltes and wealth to join the Knights Templars.

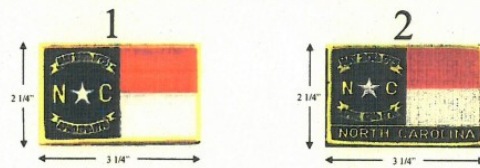


The Commander's Corner



Eminent Commander
2016 James B. Steele

It is hereby ordered that the North Carolina flag patch to be worn on the Class A uniform shall be as picture #1:



A patch measuring 2 ¼” by 3 ¼” blue field to the left, red and white field to the right with red over white. A white star centered on the blue field with “N” to the left and “C” to the right. A gold banner above “NC” inscribed with “May 20th, 1775” and a gold banner below “NC” inscribed with “April 12th, 1776” this being the flag of North Carolina. A North Carolina flag including the words “North Carolina” on the lower portion of the flag, picture #2 above, is not an accurate depiction of the North Carolina flag. While this patch shall no longer be accepted for new use its continued use on existing uniforms will in no way be considered as incorrect. All new uniforms and any uniform being judged in competition shall make use of patch #1 as described above.

Given under my hand,

REGC James B. Steele

Grand Commander
Knights Templar
Of North Carolina

When the battle is at hand, they arm themselves interiorly with faith and exteriorly with steel rather than decorate themselves with gold, since their business is to strike fear in the enemy rather than to incite his cupidity. They seek out horses which are strong and swift, rather than those which are brilliant and well-plumed, they set their minds on fighting to win rather than on parading for show. They think not of glory and seek to be formidable rather than flamboyant. At the same time, they are not quarrelsome, rash, or unduly hasty, but soberly, prudently and providently drawn up into orderly ranks, as we read of the fathers. Indeed, the true Israelite is a man of peace, even when he goes forth to battle. Bernard of Clairvaux “ In Praise of the New Knighthood”



Companions and Sir Knights:

As we head into the last four months of the year I wish to thank our High Priest Tom Rogers and Illustrious Master Kerry Clancy for their leadership and hard work under the Chapter and Council. Next month, starting September 1st, we begin meeting under the Commandery and there are a couple important upcoming events I want to share with you.

It has been our practice to hold a flag retirement ceremony on the first Thursday in September just prior to our meeting. The weather is typically warm this time of year and makes for a rather uncomfortable meeting afterwards. Since most of the flags are dedicated to veterans, I have decided to move the ceremony closer to Veterans Day. By making this an event unto itself, we along with the assistance of the Sojourners, will be able to open it up to the public. If you have a flag needing retirement and wish to dedicate it to a veteran, please come to the Masonic Center on **November 10th at 7:00 PM**. If you do not have a flag but still wish to participate, there will be extra flags available.

Our annual Christmas Observance will be held on Thursday, **December 8th at 7:00 PM**. Father John Frazier, who is a knight in our Commandery, will be the guest speaker. The public is invited. Bring your family or a friend and join with us in commemorating the birth of our Lord and Savior.

Now that summer vacations are coming to an end, I encourage everyone to attend our monthly meetings. They are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM. We all know that once we get in a habit of not going to meetings it becomes easier to not attend. We also know, that once we go we have a good time. So, please make an effort to reestablish your habits of coming to meetings.

Finally, I thank everyone for allowing me this opportunity to serve as Commander of Palestine Commandery No. 20. It is a great honor and one I will cherish forever.

Fraternally,
Michael L. Gould
Commander Palestine # 20

BUT THE KNIGHTS OF CHRIST may safely fight the battles of their Lord, fearing neither sin if they smite the enemy, nor danger at their own death; since to inflict death or to die for Christ is no sin, but rather, an abundant claim to glory. In the first case one gains for Christ, and in the second one gains Christ himself. The Lord freely accepts the death of the foe who has offended him, and yet more freely gives himself for the consolation of his fallen knight. Bernard of Clairvaux “ In Praise of the New Knighthood”.

The Forgotten Templar: by Signet of Zerubbabel Council 36/James Vance

Old World Knights Templars were men of legend. In their quest to defend truth and justice, these men used their swords and unwavering dedication to secure victories in epic battles burned into the pages of our history books. As modern day Knights, we pride ourselves on representing the Order, not with a sword, but as a benevolent and brotherly house whose ultimate goals are charity and the never-ending search for light. We now use symbolic swords. We revel in legends which depict old world Templars being ferocious as the proverbial lions. And they were, indeed. However, there was a duality to their personalities which often goes unmentioned. They had a very complex, self-reflecting and gentle side to them- they could be as meek as a lamb.

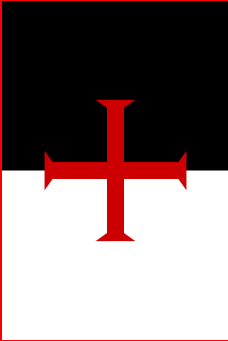
History always repeats itself. The world of the early Templars was in many ways very different from our own modern world; but, as we are witnessing more and more, our worlds are once again becoming eerily similar. Religious extremism, the diluting of Christian morals and unprovoked violence was inflicted upon humanity by radical groups then, just as today where modern day religious extremists, atheism, and “politically correct” bureaucrats are seeking to dilute the values of our world. Sometimes I ponder that perhaps the evil ones are once again testing the resolve of the Templar- with an ancient question. Are we still as meek as a lamb and ferocious as a lion or have we become lamb chops only? The following article is about a sickly Cistercian Monk who would ultimately design and shape a machine that was capable of unthinkable violence and yet display equal kindness. The results of his work would define the Knight Templar and transform the Templar Order into the armor of Christ. **To Read More click on this link:**

<http://www.signetofzerubbabel.com/the-scribe-newsletter.html>



The Templar Flag or the Beasant was

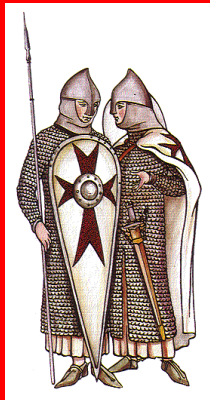
designed to strike fear in the hearts of the heathens. It indicates the duality of God and the order of the Templars and the Cistercians. It reminds us of Templars neverending battle between good and evil.



The Cross was not part of Templar uniforms until Pope Eugenius III wrote the Papal Bull commanding that the Templar wear the Red Cross at all times. Pope Eugenius was a student and friend of Bernard Of Clairvaux. He was like a son to Bernard and was said to be Bernard's own Pope. No doubt Bernard influenced this command!

A Templar was never allowed to retreat unless the Templar flag had fallen and then only after inexhaustible effort was expended to revive it.

Pictured is an artist's depiction of what the original Templars may have looked like, before their legendary uniform of today.



August 20th is celebrated as the feast of St. Bernard

Non nobis Domine, non nobis, sed nomini tuo da gloriam!

"Not to us Lord, not to us, but to Your Name give the glory."



Do you know someone that is a Living Legend! Contact Us!

Check out : Bill Washo & Michael Klack at www.signetofzerubbabel.com

The Living Legends Project

In this segment, Signet of Zerubbabel Council No. 36 A.M.D., would like to emphasize the importance of preserving our Masonic history. We sincerely hope our efforts will help preserve this "light", which are paramount to the success of our future generations. Today, we have the ability to preserve our most valued historical asset. Our "Living Legends" are those Brothers whose strength, wisdom and character have endured the tortures of time and weathered the countless storms of life. With their plight in mind, Signet of Zerubbabel is honored to present "[The Living Legends Project](#)". Within this portion of our Web Site we will use video to record and preserve interviews with our esteemed members. Our hopes and aspirations are simply that their "light", wisdom and character will forever be remembered in their own voices and in their own words.

[See existing interviews at www.signetofzerubbabel.com](http://www.signetofzerubbabel.com)

Looking Back:

Sir Knight James (Jim) Henry Horne



7-13-1919—6-2-2010

His Masonic career began at Creasy Proctor Lodge No.679 A.F.& A.M. He was raised May 15th, 1951 Jim was a Certified Lecture Class A from 1954 until his passing. He was exalted to the Most Sublime Degree of Royal Arch on October 8th 1959 at Phoenix Chapter No. 2. He was greeted a Select Master at Fayetteville Council No. 27 Royal and Select Masters on November 9th, 1959. He was Knighted on December 3, 1959 at Palestine Commandery No.20 and served as the Eminent Commander in 1970. **Jim was a member of Signet of Zerubbabel Council No. 36 AMD and served as our Sovereign Master in 1971.** He also authored the Council Degrees study book we use today.

"By the sheer force of his personality, he developed, organized, designed and sought resources to build the current Masonic Center. He left a beautiful, functional building. He left a wardrobe for every degree and order. He left us the rituals for every occasion. He until just before he died, conducted the Order of the Temple from memory to include the Knights around the Triangle, the sword lecture and especially the obligation. I was blessed to learn how he operated. It was never for selfish gain, only the love of the craft. He was to many "Mr. Mason" in Fayetteville. He could do anything in the Masonic world and we loved him for it." *William (Bill) Washo (Past Sovereign Master Signet of Zerubbabel 36)*

"I was talking with Jim Horne years back and asked why he hasn't traveled more. He said, "He would miss his masonic work too much." Jim Horne was my friend and mentor and I can still hear him giving me advice in many areas. He is missed. " *Bill Neely, PGHP*

“Ignorance is brutal, arrogance is devilish. Pride only, the chief of all iniquities, can make us treat gifts as if they were rightful attributes of our nature, and, while receiving benefits, rob our Benefactor of His due glory.”

– [Bernard of Clairvaux, On Loving God](#)

Fall Event Schedule: York Rite Bodies

Palestine #20 Flag Retirement Ceremony. November 10th, 2016 @ 7:00pm

Palestine #20 Christmas Observance. December 8th, 2016 @ 7:00pm. This is a family event... bring your family and friends.

September 10th, 2016 The Wilmington York Rite will be putting on the Royal Arch (Chapter) degrees, followed by the Royal & Select Masters (Council) degrees. Sir Knight James Britt is requesting help from our York Rite to assist in degree work. **If you would like to help, contact James at jamesebritt@yahoo.com directly**

The mid term Grand Commandery meeting will be held on Wednesday September 28th, 2016, 5:15pm at Castle McCulloch in Jamestown, NC. > 3925 Kivett Drive. Stencil Wilson VEDGC

On the same night the Order of The Temple will be conferred in the castle on 15-20 knights of Malta. It will be one of the largest Knighting's of the year in NC.

www.castlemcculloch.com/



Castle McCulloch

Photos by Stencil Wilson

Templars in Business:

Becoming a Knight Templar changes your life. It changes our personal as well as our business mentality. We often forget that the Knights Templars were accomplished businessmen. They developed what would be known today as a credit card. By issuing letters of credit to travelers journeying to and from the Holy Land they provided source of safe cash. In this section of the Scribe we hope to feature one Templar-owned business per edition. Our question is, “How has your business changed since becoming a Knight Templar?” **If you are a Templar business owner, please tell us about your business! Send your information to james@signetofzerubbabel.com**

“Becoming a Knight Templar has made me a better person and that has made me a better businessman.” Sir Knight William Bernicki



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910-258-2883

willbernicki@gmail.com



Fayetteville York Rite Bodies

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The Templar Abroad

Our AMD education segment in this edition of the Scribe will feature...The Templar Abroad, which is none other than our own Greg Conner. Greg recently made the trip across the pond. He is now a true Highlander!



Read about Greg's adventures and see more pictures of Stonehenge, Freemasons Hall, The Grand Lodge of England Museum, Master Masons exhibit. Read about Greg's adventures and much more at: <http://www.signetofzerubbabel.com/the-scribe-newsletter.html> Greg Conner



Those wishing to receive this news letter via email, please email me and I will add you to the list. james@signetofzerubbabel.com