

## HISTORY

### ANN ARBOR COMMANDERY NO. 13 K.T. 1965-1990

Ann Arbor Commandery received their Charter, June 19, 1865

The 100th. Anniversary was celebrated in 1965, Saturday, June 19th, in the dining room of the First Methodist Church of Ann Arbor. An appropriate program to commemorate the passing of the first one hundred years of the life of our Commandery was presented for the nearly three hundred in attendance, including Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders, Officers and Sir Knights of Sister Commanderies, representatives of the various York and Scottish Rite Bodies and Sir Knights, ladies and friends of Ann Arbor Commandery. S.K. Harry J. St. Louis was Eminent Commander and the General Chairman of this event.

The first 100 year history of Ann Arbor Commandery was compiled and written by S.K. Harrison Caswell, P.C. and Prelate of Ann Arbor Commandery. This history was published in a book and distributed to the Sir Knights, Grand Commandery, Public Library and other interested persons. S.K. Caswell is now deceased and there is no one as prolific a writer as he was, so the next 25 year history of Ann Arbor Commandery has been gleaned from the Minutes of the Recorder(s).

There have been changes, accomplishments and interesting facts during these 25 years and the following are the highlights covering this period.

Ann Arbor Commandery was well known for a super Malta Team during the 1960's and was invited by many of the Commanderies in the surrounding area to confer the Order of Malta on candidates. They participated in many parades in the area, were very well known for their fine Hospitaler work and attendance at Inspections over the State. Ann Arbor Commandery observed all the Observances outlined by the Grand Commandery as well as participating in the Battalion Observances. There are many references in the Minutes to fine programs and good attendances at these Observances. Ascension Sunday was usually held at the grave site of a Past Commander. The last recorded Ascension Sunday Observance of Ann Arbor Commandery was held at the grave site of S.K. Robert Inskip, P.C. at Forest Hill Cemetery. Brigadier Edwin Garrett of The Salvation Army was the speaker and the local Salvation Army band provided music. 39 Sir Knights were in attendance. They marched from the entrance of the Cemetery to the grave-site.

In the early 1970's Ann Arbor ceased having their own Observances. They host one Observance for the Battalion as assigned to them and participate in the other Battalion observances. However, there is a record that in 1975 the Commandery held their own Christmas Observance at Calvary United

Methodist Church, attending Church in a body. 23 Sir Knights with their ladies attended. Our own S.K. Tom Jameson was the Lay Liturgist for this service. S.K. Clinton Collyer was the Eminent Commander.

In 1974 the By-Laws were changed to allow the Officers in the West, Sentinel, and Prelate to be appointed. The Elected Officer line will start with the Junior Warden. This change was approved by the Grand Commandery

In 1965 an Annual Fund Raiser (Ice Cream Social) was started. This Fund Raiser continues today. The first fourteen years the Ice Cream Social was held at the home of S.K. Arthur Trevithick. These were times of wonderful fellowship as well as a fund raiser. The Committee would meet on Friday night and set up for the Social, putting up yard lights, getting tables and chairs, and other supplies ready. Following the work detail the Sir Knights would have a time of refreshment and fellowship at S.K. Trevithick's home. With the building of a new Masonic Temple the location of the Ice Cream Social was moved to the Temple Picnic Shelter.

One of the changes that occurred during these 25 years was the sale of the Masonic Temple on Fourth Avenue, to the Federal Government for the purpose of building a new Federal Building. All Masonic bodies were forced to find other locations to meet while a new Masonic Temple could be erected. A committee was appointed from Ann Arbor Commandery to find a suitable place for the Commandery to meet. The date for vacating the Temple was 1974. Final action by the Commandery was January 7, 1975. At this meeting it was moved, supported and passed that Ann Arbor Commandery meet at Calvary United Methodist Church 1415 Miller. Day and time of meeting to remain as same. The place of meeting was approved by the Grand Commandery. However, it was necessary for the Commandery to find another location for the purpose of Inspections, Installations, and conferring of the Order of the Temple. Ypsilanti Masonic Temple offered the use of their Temple for these events and this was approved by the Grand Commandery.

It was a sad day for all Ann Arbor Masons as we watched the wrecker's ball destroy in a few days the beautiful edifice that had been the home of the Masonic bodies since 1925 and the scene of many community dances and dinners and meetings which had been held in the Temple through the years.

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July 15, 1978 was the date of the Cornerstone laying of the new Masonic Temple. Ground had been purchased at 2875 W. Liberty Rd. and a new Masonic Temple was being constructed on that site. Ann Arbor Commandery formed an escort for the Grand Lodge Officers. The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother and Sir Knight Holm Swenson escorted through an Arch of Steel by the R.E. Grand Commander, Arthur Trevithick. Twenty Sir Knights were in the Escort.

The Commandery moved back into the Temple and their first meeting was held there on December 5, 1978.

Over the last twenty-five years several Sir Knights of Ann Arbor Commandery have been honored. These honors also brought honor to our Commandery.

S.K. Harrison Caswell, P.C. and Prelate was coroneted a 33rd. Degree Mason. In June, 1968 at the Grand Conclave held in Redford, Michigan, S.K. Caswell received the Knight Templar Cross of Honor.

At the Grand Conclave held in Howell, Michigan, June, 1976, Sir Knight David Williams received the Meritorious Service Award. Sir Knight David and his dear wife, Helen, gave yeoman service for many years as David was the Hospitaler and they spent many hours visiting the sick and bereaved. David took charge of the Commandery Emblem and made sure it was displayed at the Funeral Home when a Sir Knight passed away. Sir Knight David also served on the Grand Commandery Hospitaler Committee for a number of years.

In 1976 Sir Knight Harold Blaess, Treasurer of Ann Arbor Commandery, served as the Most Illustrious <sup>Grand</sup> Master, Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of Michigan, having gone through the line of the Grand Council.

At the Grand Conclave held in Ann Arbor, June, 1979, Sir Knight Robert Maten received the Meritorious Service Award. Sir Knight Maten had served the Commandery well over a number of years.

In 1978 Sir Knight Arthur Trevithick was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Michigan. Sir Knight Trevithick was a Past Commander of Ann Arbor Commandery and had gone through the line of Grand Commandery.

In 1978 Sir Knight "Skip" Vehrenkamp, a Dual member of Ann Arbor Commandery served as Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan.

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In 1990 Sir Knight Ralph Raiford Jr. was elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Michigan. Sir Knight Ralph is a Past Commander of Ann Arbor Commandery and has been a faithful and committed member of the Commandery since he joined. His Grand Convocation will be held in Ann Arbor in October, 1991

In 1980 S.K. Masao Kon was elected Prior of Michigan Priorary #22. Knight York Cross of Honor. Sir Knight "Konnie" has given many years of faithful, dedicated service to the York Rite bodies. He served as Eminent Commander of Ann Arbor Commandery, 1960, served for many years as Captain General of Ann Arbor Commandery, was retired from that Station with an Emeritus rank and when a short time later there was a vacancy in that Station he again assumed the Station of Captain General and is still in that position. "Hats Off" to you, we salute you for your dedication.

## OUR THIRD GRAND COMMANDER

Masonic Background

Golden Rule Lodge No. 159 F. & A.M.  
Master Mason, 1947

Washtenaw Chapter No. 6, R.A.M.  
Royal Arch Mason, 1957

Ann Arbor Council No. 86, R. & S.M.  
Super Excellent Master, 1961  
Thrice Illustrious Master, 1967

Ann Arbor Commandery No. 13 K.T.  
Knighthood, 1961  
Eminent Commander, 1969  
Prelate 1969-1973

Zal Gaz Grotto No. 34, A.A. Chapter O.E.S.  
#122,, Arbor Shrine No. 54, W.S.O.J., Detroit  
York Rite College No. 1, Detroit Consistory,  
Moslem Temple Shrine.



**Arthur B. Trevithick**

In December, 1971 Sir Knight Arthur Trevithick. P.C. met with the Past Commanders of Ann Arbor and informed them of his desire to run for the Grand Commandery line at the Annual Conclave in Muskegon, June, 1972. S.K. Trevithick had served on the Grand Commandery Membership Committee and was presently serving his second year as a Deputy Instructor on the Grand Commandery Instruction Board. The Past Commanders and the Sir Knights of Michigan felt that Sir Knight Trevithick was well qualified for the office he sought and would possess the executive ability and leadership that was needed in the Grand Commandery. The Past Commanders were 100% supportive of his decision. The recommendation of the Past Commander's Association was given unanimous approval by Ann Arbor Commandery No. 13 at their stated Conclave, December 7, 1971.

Sir Knight Trevithick was elected Grand Warder of the Grand Commandery, June, 1972 on the first ballot. He was nominated by Ralph Raiford, E.C. of Ann Arbor Commandery. He was the last Grand Warder to be elected as that year the Grand Commandery voted that in the future the Elected Grand Line would start with the Junior Warden, with the Officers in the West, Prelate and Sentinel being appointed each year to serve for the Conclave only. S.K. Trevithick advanced to E. Grand Standard Bearer in 1972 due to the resignation of S.K. Delbert Waters, from the line, then to E.G. Jr. Warden in 1974. In 1975 just prior to the Conclave, S.K. Glen Knox, E.G. Capt. General passed away suddenly with a heart attack. All Grand Line Officers below that rank were advanced one station for the Conclave, then advanced another station at the election. This advanced Sir Knight Trevithick

to the Station of E.G. Captain General and moved the date of his Conclave to June, 1979. Sir Knight Trevithick was elected and installed as R.E. Grand Commander at the Conclave in Bay City , June, 1978.

A Testimonial Dinner was held to honor Sir Knight Trevithick at Webers Inn, Ann Arbor by Ann Arbor Commandery. There were 411 Sir Knights, ladies and friends present. The entertainment for the evening was presented by "The Living Circle" of Calvary United Methodist Church. The Testimonial Dinner was held August 5, 1978.

On September 12th., 1978 a Testimonial Dinner was held in his honor at Iron Mountain, Michigan by the Commanderies of the Upper Peninsula.

The Grand Conclave was held at Ann Arbor, May 31, June 1 and 2 with Headquarters at Webers Inn. Business Meetings were held at Holiday Inn. The Round Table Dinner, the Ladies Luncheon, and the Banquet and Divine Service was held at Webers. Drill Competition and Exhibition Drills were held at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School Athletic Field. A wonderful Street Parade was held. Hundreds of people lined the streets to watch the colorful event. Ann Arbor had not had any street parades in a number of years and S.K. Gilbert Rice, E.G. Captain General spent many hours working with the City Officials, Police Dept., etc. to get permission to hold this Parade. The Ann Arbor News gave splendid coverage for the Parade. A post-Parade dinner was held at the Holiday Inn following the Parade. Sir Knight Ned E. Dull and Sir Knight K. Edwin Applegate, Department Commander of the East Central Department were the representatives from the Grand Encampment, representing S.K. Willard Avery, Most Eminent Grand Master.

Quoting from the report by S.K. Applegate: "There were 13 Grand Commandery Officers present, 12 Past Grand Commanders, 192 Past Commanders, 34 Commanders, 24 Generalissimos, 27 Capt Generals present. At the Divine Service and Banquet there were 290 Sir Knights in uniform (12 not in uniform) with a total attendance of 559. This was one of the most attended services since I have been Department Commander. There were 11 distinguished guests in uniform at all functions, and the meetings were the best attended of any in my department. At the Saturday afternoon Drill Competition and exhibition there were 41 Drill

Corps present with 692 Sir Knights in uniform. At the Parade there were 302 in Bands and musical groups, 543 Knights in uniform, 53 in youth groups, 222 Shriners and a total of 1120 in the Parade. It was an honor for me to have served the Grand Commandery of Michigan. I received the impression Templary in Michigan is on the upswing. This was just an excellent meeting and Conclave and enjoyable from the standpoint of the manner in which it was handled from start to finish."

The Conclave Committee consisting of John C. Haeussler, P.C., Chairman, Thomas A. Jameson, P.C., Robert Maten, Masao Kon, P.C, Ralph W. Raiford, P.C., Gary L. Willoughby, Jack W. Travillian, Eminent Commander, did an outstanding job with all the arrangements for this Conclave.

The Ladies Luncheon was held at Webers. Theme of the Luncheon was "Christmas in June". The room was decorated with Christmas decorations, and the program of Christmas music was presented by Captain and Mrs. Albert Rowland from The Salvation Army in Royal Oak, followed by a planned tour of the Bentley Library where the papers of Wilbur Brucker M.E. Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment are stored. The Chairman of the Ladies Luncheon was Priscilla Travillian, wife of the E.C. assisted by all the ladies of the Auxiliary. There were 227 ladies in attendance at the luncheon.

Sir Knight Trevithick's theme for his year as Grand Commander was PRIDE. Pride in Ritual and work, pride in uniform appearance, pride in attendance but most of all, pride in Christian living.

Sir Knight Trevithick continued active in all Knights Templar activities until his death, March 3, 1984. Funeral Services were held at Calvary United Methodist Church. S.K. Gilbert Rice, R.E. Past Grand Commander, conducted the Knights Templar Service and the religious service was conducted by Reverend Dwight Murphy, Pastor of Calvary United Methodist Church. There were 159 Sir Knights in uniform at the funeral service. Pallbearers were Past Commanders of Ann Arbor Commandery and Honorary Pallbearers were Past Grand Commanders. Burial was at Bethlehem Cemetery in Ann Arbor.

Servant of God, well done;  
Rest from your loved employ;  
The battles fought, the victory's won,  
Enter your Master's joy.



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MICHIGAN • 6761 5.8  
ANN ARBOR • JUNE 7.8.9  
123RD. CONCLAVE •

ARTHUR B. TREVITHICK •  
1978-79  
Grand Commander



# Knights planning a colorful parade

By Pamela Klein

BUSINESS-LABOR REPORTER

The Knights are coming, the Knights are coming!

In one of the largest conventions held in Ann Arbor, 1,200 to 1,500 members of the Knights Templar of Michigan will convene in the city beginning Thursday.

And the highlight of their three-day conclave will be a parade Saturday featuring floats, clowns, bands, Shrine units and Arabian horse troops.

The Knights Templar, a branch of the Masonic fraternal order, will hold that hour-long parade beginning at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

Participants will meet at the Farmer's Market area downtown travel west on Catherine Street to Main Street, then march south on Main Street, through the central business district, and disperse at Packard Street.

While the actual convention will be headquartered at Weber's Inn, Parade Grand Marshall Gilbert A. Rice said most community interest will be generated by the parade itself.

He estimated 400 to 500 persons would participate in the spectacle and urged citizens to line Main Street to watch the event.

PARTICIPANTS of local interest will include the Dexter Vintage Antique Car Club, the clown unit from Ann Arbor's Zal Gaz Grotto, the Redford Union and Brooklyn high school bands and area Knights Templar command units, Rice said.

The Moslem Shrine will present its oriental band, Keystone Kops, cycle patrol and drum and bugle corps in the parade, he added.

Rice said the state conclave is being held in Ann Arbor this year because the group's grand commander is an Ann Arbor native.



TREVITHICK

Arthur Trevithick, a retired city employee, said he is eager to show the city to the Knights "and to show off the Knights to the city too."

Trevithick and the national leader of the Knights Templar, Willard M. Avery, will review Saturday's parade from a viewing stand near the Main Street-E. William Street intersection.

The Knights Templar, which began in the United States in 1816, is best known for its eye foundation, established in 1957, according to Rice.

He said the group's charitable organization has provided more than \$12 million for surgical treatment and hospitalization for blind and sight-impaired persons and has contributed to eye research.

The Knights also operate an education fund that provides low-interest loans to college and technical school students, Rice added.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

The idea of sending Christian Ministers to the Holy Land to enrich and deepen the spiritual lives of Christian Ministers was conceived in 1974 by S. K. Harry Smit, then an officer of Damascus Commandery No. 42 of Detroit, Michigan. The first Pilgrimage was made in Feb. 1977 when six ministers from Michigan and one from Kentucky left from Kennedy International Airport for the Holy Land, to spend ten days in the land where our Lord and Saviour walked and spoke his message of love. The project was adopted by the Grand Encampment in 1978 and today there are 35 States that are participating in the project. At the 1990 Holy Land trip, Michigan had sent 79 ministers and a total of 390 from all the States had made the trip.

In Michigan each Commandery is urged to make a Nomination of a Minister for this trip. The Nominations are then sent to the Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee where the Ministers that are to make the trip are selected. The number of Ministers each year depends on the amount of money the Holy Land Pilgrimage has. There is no budget for this project and the Committee depends on the donations each year of Commanderies and friends in order to keep the project going.

Ann Arbor Commandery has had five Ministers they nominated chosen to make the trip. Each one has expressed their appreciation for this opportunity to walk where Jesus walked and have experienced a real spiritual growth and deep inspiration as a result of their visit to the Holy Land.

The Ministers Sponsored by Ann Arbor Commandery are:

Reverend Dwight Murphy, Calvary United Methodist Church-- 1977  
 Reverend David Strang, St. Phillips Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti--1981  
 Reverend Orval L.E. Williman, Bethlehem United Church of Christ--1985  
 Reverend John Roberts, St. Phillips Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti-- 1987  
 Reverend Jasper Pennington, St. Lukes Episcopal Church, Ypsilanti--1989

MEMBERSHIP

At the close of 1965, the 100th. year of Ann Arbor Commandery, the membership stood at 255. During the past twenty-five years Ann Arbor Commandery has taken in 108 new members, by petition, transfers and dual memberships. Of this number 9 are now Past Commanders and one is serving this year as Eminent Commander. 64 are still on the membership roll. Due to many-deaths, demits, transfers and suspensions, our Membership at the close of 1990 stands at 124.

Interesting Facts and Accomplishments

March 1, 1966 A New Grand Standard was presented to Ann Arbor Commandery by the Drill Corps.

In 1967 a new State flag was presented to the Commandery by S.K. Gerald Knickerbocker, and his wife, Evelyn.

Sept. 9, 1969 Ann Arbor Commandery conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree at Ann Arbor Lodge #544.

At the Grand Conclave held in Lansing Michigan, June, 1969 there were 24 Sir Knights from Ann Arbor marching in the Parade with the S.E. Battalion.

At the 1969 Inspection there were 218 present-50 shoulder straps-42 Sir Knights and ladies from Detroit Commandery No. 1

November 4, 1969 A pair of Altar Swords were presented to S.K. Harrison <sup>CASWELL</sup> for his long and faithful service to Ann Arbor Commandery.

January 20, 1970 Tom Jameson was Knighted in Ann Arbor Commandery. His father, a P.C. and Prelate of Ironton Commandery, Ironton, Ohio, was present and took part in the Prelates work and Knighted Tom. S.K. Tom remains a faithful member of Ann Arbor Commandery, serving as Eminent Commander in 1974 and as Treasurer since 1975.

In 1974 the By-Laws were changed to allow the Officers in the West, Sentinel and Prelate to be appointed. The Elected Officers will start with the Junior Warden.

April 27, 1974 a Silk Screened Commandery Emblem to be used for funerals was presented to Ann Arbor Commandery by S.K. Arthur and Virginia Trevithick. It had been voted in 1966 to stop buying flowers for funerals and the metal cross used on gravesites had been used as the emblem to be displayed at funerals during the intervening years.

Prior to the Inspection of Nov. 1, 1975, S.K. Fred Lesley, E.G. Junior Warden, Inspecting Officer, went to the home of P.C. Ralph Lutz and presented him with his 50 year certificate as S.K. Ralph was confined to his home and not able to be out.

Ann Arbor Commandery has participated financially to the Eye Foundation, the Educational Foundation and the Holy Land Pilgrimage, the three Philanthropies of the Grand Commandery. Special mention should be made of the yearly donations to these by the Ladies Auxiliary, and the tireless efforts of P.C. Stauch, now deceased, to raise money and promote Life Sponsors for the Eye Foundation. S.K. Jim Peters, P.C. has had a special interest in the Educational Foundation, by conducting paper drives, pop can drives and contributing many dollars from his monies received playing Santa Claus and doing Clown entertainments.

#### LADIES AUXILIARY

In 1968 a Ladies Auxiliary was formed. The purpose of the Auxiliary was to assist the Eminent Commander in carrying out the pot-lucks, and social events of the Commandery. The wife of every Sir Knight is automatically a member of the Auxiliary. There are no set dues, but a voluntary contribution of \$1.00 a year is suggested. During the time that S.K. Trevithick was in the Grand Line they voted to assess each lady attending 25¢ per meeting. It was voted at the end of his term to continue the 25¢ assessment. The Auxiliary, though small in active members, has been a real asset to the Commandery. Each year, through money making projects they have made sizeable donations to the Eye Foundation, the Educational Foundation and the Holy Land Pilgrimage. The Auxiliary was very active and worked very hard to raise money for the 1979 Grand Conclave. They raised an amount of \$1763.18, and financed the ladies luncheon gifts, and the bus tour to Bentley Library for the ladies, the room gifts for distinguished guests, provided box lunches for the Tent men at the Drill Field. From this money they also purchased a new triangle cloth and relic cover. The wife of the Eminent Commander serves as President of the Auxiliary, with the Generalissimo's wife as Vice President, and a Secretary and Treasurer elected from the active membership.

Eminent Commanders: 1966-1990

1966	Santiago Victorio *
1967	Gerald Knickerbocker *
1968	Bernard Keaton *
1969	Arthur B. Trevithick *
1970	Erwin Salisbury
1971	George Stauch *
1972	Ralph W. Raiford Jr.
1973	John Haeussler **
1974	Thomas A. Jameson
1975	Clinton Collyer *
1976	James L. Peters
1977	James L. Amermon
1978	Jack W. Travillian
1979	Jack W. Travillian
1980	Vincent Goodnuff
1981	Earl C. Quackenbush
1982	Franklin D. Wellman
1983	George H. Powell
1984	Arthur T. Hughes
1985	Milton H. Pool
1986	William H. Lamb *
1987	William H. Lamb *
1988	Douglas Taylor
1989	Paul Howell
1990	Victor H. Barnaby

\* Deceased

\*\* Demit

Captain Generals:

S.K. Masao Kon, P.C. has served continuously as Captain General of Ann Arbor Commandery during this period with the exception of the years of 1985-1988 when this Station was filled by Sir Knight Arthur Hughes, P.C.

Prelates:

Harrison Caswell \*  
Arthur Trevithick \*  
George Stauch \*  
George H. Powell

ANN ARBOR COMMANDERY NO. 13 K.T.

HONORARY MEMBERS

NAME

PRESENTED

S.K. Douglas E. Briggs Prelate-Detroit Commandery No. 1 K.T.	
S.K. Fred England Jr. P.G.C.-1952	
S.K. Charles S. McIntyre Jr. PGC-1958	
S.K. Frederick S. Kirby P.G.C.-1967	
S.K. Abner C. Sager P.G.C.-1964	
S.K. Richard M. Strauss P.G.C.-1976	April 27, 1974
S.K. Maurice L. Johnson P.G.C.-1972	November 1, 1974
S.K. Gilbert A. Rice P.G.C.- 1981	February 19, 1978
S.K. Harold G. Copp Grand Recorder and Honorary Past Grand Commander	February 17, 1981
S.K.P. Fred Lesley P.G.C.-1980	February 17, 1981
S.K. Jack Shimonishi, P.C. Redford Commandery No. 55 K.T.	March 15, 1987
S.K. Grover Alber, P.C. Ypsilanti Commandery No. 54 K.T.	April 25, 1987
S.K. Russell P. Livermore, V.E. Deputy Grand Commander	December 8, 1990

This twenty-five year history has been compiled by Virginia Trevithick from the Minutes of the Recorder's who have served Ann Arbor Commandery during these years.

Albert Beauch

LaVerne Rose

Edward O. Johnson

John Haeussler

James L Peters

Jack W. Travillian

William Lamb

Lawrence Hooper

The Sir Knights and Officers of Ann Arbor Commandery during this twenty-five year period are to be commended for their faithful and dedicated service to the Commandery. As we go forward into the future years, may we see progress and growth and continued dedicated service to our beloved Order.