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ISSUE 1



THE BYZANTIUM

UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL · RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE



THE GRAND SOVEREIGN
DOUGLAS F. HEGYI, D.O., KGC

UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL

- Douglas F. Hegyi, KGC,
Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign
- D. Allen Surratt,
Most Eminent Grand Viceroy
- Marcos D. Ostrander,
Very Illustrious Grand Senior General
- Richard V. Travis, KCC,
Very Illustrious Grand Junior General
- Joe R. Manning, Jr., KGC, KCC,
Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer
- R. Stephen Doan, KGC,
Right Illustrious Grand Recorder
- Charles L. Stuckey, KGC,
Illustrious Grand Trustee (2021)
- Brian R. Dodson,
Illustrious Grand Trustee (2022)
- Bryce B. Hildreth,
Illustrious Grand Trustee (2023)
- David D. Goodwin,
Illustrious Grand Chancellor
- Stanton T. Brown II,
Illustrious Grand Almoner

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS

- Raymond E. Fowler,
Illustrious Grand Chamberlain
- Christopher J. Fildes,
Illustrious Grand Orator
- Mark A. Manning,
Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer
- Richard D. Erspamer,
Illustrious Grand Marshal
- Richard D. Wisley,
Illustrious Grand Herald
- William E. LeVeque,
Illustrious Grand Sentinel
- Rev. William D. Hartman,
Illustrious Grand High Prelate
- Rev. Ronald E. Wood, Jr., KGC,
Illustrious Grand Chaplain
- Theodore B. Korn,
Illustrious Grand Chaplain
- John A. Bridegroom
Byzantium Assistant Editor

Table of Contents

Pg. 3.....Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign
Douglas F. Hegyi, KGC

Pg. 5.....Report on the 148th Annual Assembly

Pg. 6.....Grand Officers

Pg. 8.....2021 Annual Assembly

Pg. 10Empire of the East
by Thomas W. Jackson, KGC

Pg. 13Empire of the West
by R. Stephen Doan, KGC, Grand Recorder

Pg. 23.....35th Annual All Missouri Conclave



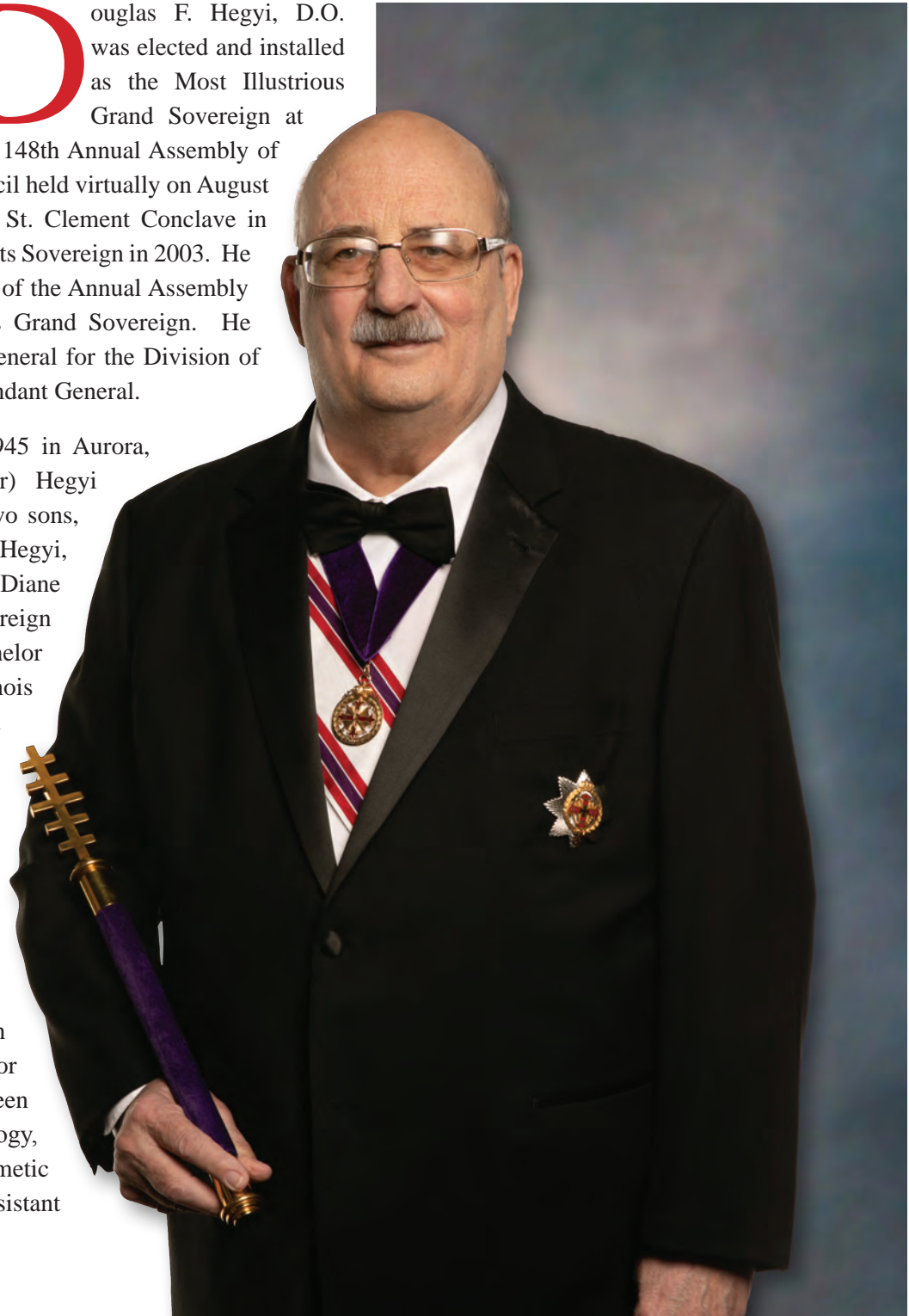


Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign Douglas F. Hegyi, KGC

Douglas F. Hegyi, D.O. was elected and installed as the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign at the 148th Annual Assembly of

the United Grand Imperial Council held virtually on August 25, 2020. He is a member of St. Clement Conclave in Detroit, Michigan and served as its Sovereign in 2003. He served as the General Chairman of the Annual Assembly when Erwin O'Dell, KGC was Grand Sovereign. He served ten years as Intendant General for the Division of Michigan and now is a Past Intendant General.

He was born on March 13, 1945 in Aurora, Illinois to Grace I (Dziewior) Hegyi and Frank J. Hegyi. He has two sons, Justin D. Hegyi and Jeffrey D. Hegyi, and is married to the former Diane H. Baldwin. Our Grand Sovereign graduated in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science Degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. He then attended Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, earning a Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine in 1976. Upon finishing medical school, he moved to Michigan for his post graduate specialty training where he continued to practice until his retirement in 2018. He has been published for his specialty work and has been certified in Otorhinolaryngology, Facial Plastic Surgery and Cosmetic Surgery. He has been an Assistant



Clinical Professor at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine as well as other institutions. He served his Specialty Certifying Board by being its Secretary in 1997 and Chairman in 2002 and 2003. He served his Specialty College as the Program Chairman for the 1996 and 1997 Annual Clinical Assemblies.

In the community, our Grand Sovereign was a Reserve Police Officer with the Lapeer Police Department for three years and then a Reserve Deputy Sheriff with the Lapeer County Sheriff's Department for fifteen years, the last three years being a member of its Special Response Team. He has received recognition from the Lapeer County Board of Commissioners as well as the Veterans Association of Lapeer County for his professional work for veterans.

While in medical school, our Grand Sovereign joined Kenwood Lodge No. 800 A.F.& A.M. in Illinois and rose through the ranks. He was its Senior Warden at the time of his move to Michigan. He then affiliated with Vedic – Temple Lodge F.&A.M. No. 496 (now Wolverine Lodge F.&A.M. No. 484) and was Master in 1982. He was Grand Master of Masons in Michigan in 1998 – 1999. He is a Past High Priest of Fairview Chapter No. 161 R.A.M. in Illinois as well as a member of the Order of High Priesthood, a Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Imperial Woodlawn Council R.&S.M. No. 85 in Illinois and received the Silver Trowel,

and a Past Commander of Romeo Commandery No. 6 in Michigan, as well as the Commander of the Eastern Michigan Battalion in 1982. He is currently Surgeon General of the Grand Commandery of Michigan. He has been recognized as a Knight Commander of the Temple by the Grand Encampment.

He became a member of Michigan Priory No. 22 K.Y.C.H. in 1989 and became a K.Y.G.C.H. in 1998. He is an officer of the Grand College of America, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests. He is a Past Governor of Detroit York Rite College and has received the Distinguished Service Award in 1984 as well as the Purple Cross in 1996. He is Chief Adept IX° Emeritus in S.R.I.C.F. He is also a Past Most Wise Master and a Past Commander in Chief in the Valley of Detroit, Scottish Rite, a 33° and an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. He is Past Sovereign Master of Thistle and Rose Council No. 27 and has served as Grand Superintendent of Michigan. He is a Past Excellent Chief of Knight Masons and is a Charter Member of the Council in Michigan. The Grand Sovereign is a Life Member of the Royal Order of Scotland. He was the Grand Governor of DeMolay and was awarded the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor in 1980. He is a member of many other bodies and associations both professionally and Masonic.



Report on the 148th Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council

The 148th Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council was held virtually using Zoom Webinar on August 25th of this year. A complete report on the 148th Annual Assembly will be included in the Transactions for the just completed Constantinian year.

Grand Viceroy Douglas F. Hegyi, a Past Grand Master of Masons of Michigan, was installed Grand Sovereign and invested with the dignity and decorations of a Knight Grand Cross. Knight Companion Stanton T. Brown II, Grand Master of Masons in Missouri, was installed Grand Almoner.

The following new Intendants General were appointed:

Arizona:	William A. Garrard, Jr.
Georgia Northern:	C. Danny Wofford
Illinois Northern:	Lee Bradley
Illinois Southern:	David E. Young
Indiana:	Neal V. Welch
Maryland:	Thomas M. Chagouris
Oregon:	Peter J. Stidd
South Dakota:	Stanley H. Schwellenbach
Vermont:	David W. Schuler
Virginia:	Joe G. Broce, Sr.
Washington:	John M. Brett
Wyoming:	Richard N. Lewis

A complete list of the officers selected for the 2020 – 2021 Constantinian year may be found at

www.redcrossconstantine.org/RCC_officers.html

A complete list of the committees appointed for the 2020 – 2021 Constantinian year may be found at

www.redcrossconstantine.org/RCC_committees.html

Knights Companions Gordon A. Davids, Andre E. Lovas and Joe R. Manning, Jr., KGC, received the Order of Knight Commander of Constantine.

The UGIC budgets for the current Constantinian year were adopted.

A copy of the Constitution and Statutes and Regulations of the United Grand Imperial Council as amended through the close of the 148th Annual Assembly may be found at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/4ezofz2aynhc0ml/RCC%20Constitution%20Statutes%20and%20Regulations%20-%202020%20Edition.pdf?dl=0>.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder delivered their reports. The Board of Control accounted for its receipts and disbursements, together with an inventory covering all of its investments and funds.

The 149th Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council will be held on June 3rd to 5th of 2021 at the Detroit Marriott Troy, 200 West Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI 48084. Registration forms will be available on the UGIC website in early 2021.





Douglas F. Hegyi, KGC
Most Illustrious
Grand Sovereign



Elected Officers of the United Grand Imperial Council



D. Allen Surratt
Most Eminent
Grand Viceroy



Marcos D. Ostrander
Very Illustrious Grand
Senior General



Richard V. Travis, KCC
Very Illustrious Grand
Junior General



Joe R. Manning, Jr. KGC
Right Illustrious
Grand Treasurer



R. Stephen Doan, KGC
Right Illustrious
Grand Recorder



Charles L. Stuckey, KGC
Illustrious Grand Trustee
(2021)



Brian R. Dodson
Illustrious Grand Trustee
(2022)



Bryce B. Hildreth
Illustrious Grand Trustee
(2023)



David D. Goodwin
Illustrious Grand
Chancellor



Stanton T. Brown, II
Illustrious Grand
Almoner

Appointed Officers of the United Grand Imperial Council



Raymond E. Fowler
Illustrious Grand
Chamberlain



Christopher J. Fildes
Illustrious Grand
Orator



Mark A. Manning
Illustrious Grand
Standard Bearer



Richard D. Erspamer
Illustrious Grand
Marshal



Richard D. Wisley
Illustrious Grand
Herald



William E. LeVeque
Illustrious Grand
Sentinel



Rev. William D. Hartman
Illustrious Grand
High Prelate



Rev. Ronald E. Wood, Jr., KGC
Illustrious Grand
Chaplain



Theodore B. Korn
Illustrious Grand
Chaplain

149th Annual Assembly Troy, Michigan June 3rd through June 5th, 2021

The 149th Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council will be held on June 3rd to 5th, 2021 at:

Detroit Marriott Troy
200 West Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI 48084
(248) 680-9797

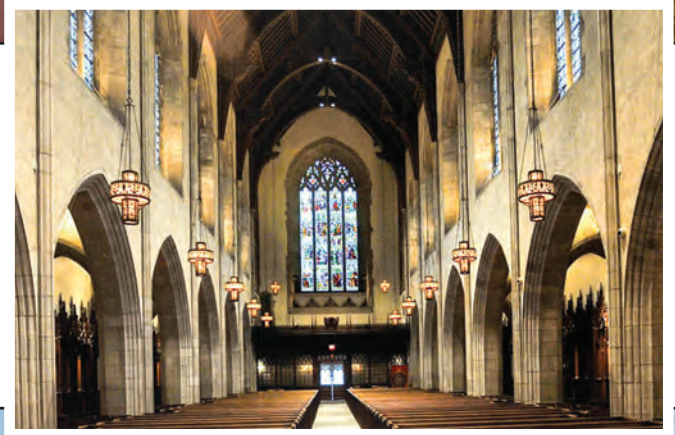
Detroit Marriott Troy was also the host hotel for the 138th Annual Assembly held in June of 2010 when Dr. Erwin W. O'Dell was the presiding Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign. The Marriott Troy is thirty-five minutes from Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW).

The 2021 Annual Assembly will include tours of the Cranbrook House and Garden and neighboring Christ Church Cranbrook. In 1904, Detroit newspaper publisher and philanthropist George Gough Booth and his wife, Ellen Scripps Booth, purchased a 174-acre run down farm in Bloomfield Hills, and named it Cranbrook after the English town whence the Booth family emigrated. (Mrs. Booth was the oldest child of James Edmund Scripps, the founder of the Scripps family's publishing empire.) Their English-Tudor estate, a true Arts & Crafts style masterpiece designed by renowned Detroit architect, Albert Kahn, served as the active home for their family of seven for 40 years. It is metro-Detroit's oldest surviving historic manor.

The Booth's also built Christ Church Cranbrook, the Episcopal parish adjoining the Cranbrook estate. The church is rich in architectural detail and full of historic paintings, tapestries, and other appointments by world-renowned artists and craftsmen.

Registration forms will be available in early 2021.





Empire of the East

By Thomas W. Jackson, KGC¹

Knights Companions, I made a discovery when I began researching for this paper that it was exactly 50 years ago in 1971 that I attended my first Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council. It was also held in Pennsylvania when William E. Yeager KGC was Grand Sovereign.

When the Grand Sovereign asked me last year if I would be willing to present a paper at his Annual Assembly on the subject of the “*Empire of the East*,” it was certainly not due to the vast knowledge I had on the subject. Indeed, about the only knowledge on this subject that I had was that at one time the organizations which became the *United Grand Imperial Council* were known as the *Empire the East* and the *Empire of the West*.

Therefore, let it be known that this paper could be used as a classic example of plagiarism. However, I give due credit for the information contained herein to Herbert Ewing Duncan, Past Grand High Prelate, for his *Historical Sketch of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the United States of America, Mexico and the Philippines* that he presented at the United Grand Imperial Council Centennial Assembly in 1972.

I would suspect that most of the information presented by Knight Companion Duncan was taken from the printing of the *Statutes of the Imperial Ecclesiastical, Military and Masonic Order of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders of the Grand Council of the State of Pennsylvania* including a *Sketch of the History of the Order and Its Introduction into the United States* printed in 1872. I also credit this publication for confirming the writings of Duncan. The Grand Council of Pennsylvania had a name change in 1935 to Grand Imperial Council of the Imperial, Ecclesiastical and Military Order of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine for the United States of America, Empire of the East.

Brother Duncan stated that his history was an anthology of the writings of many outstanding men who preceded him, including (appropriately since we were to have met in Pittsburgh) those of Charles E. Chalmers, Past Grand Sovereign of the Grand Council of Pennsylvania. And since an anthology is defined as a collection of passages from other authors, this writing becomes an anthology of anthologies.

Our ritual suggests that the order can be traced back to 313 A. D. when according to fact or legend Flavius Valerius Constantine (Constantine the Great) observed a “flaming vision and a cross in the evening sky” with the words *In Hoc Signo Vincas* to guide him.

The Red Cross of Constantine as we know it was organized by Robert Wentworth Little in London in 1865. The Order was officially introduced into Canada and the United States in 1870 by Colonel W. J. B. MacLeod Moore who was appointed Chief Inspector General of the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine of the Dominion of Canada by the Grand Conclave of England.

On September 30, 1870, Moore commissioned Sir Knight Alfred Creigh, 33°, L.L.D., of Washington, Pennsylvania, as Divisional Inspector General to establish the Order in the State of Pennsylvania. It was under this commission that the United States Premiere Conclave No. 1 was created at Washington, Pennsylvania on December 14, 1870 under an English charter. For that reason, we celebrate the 150th anniversary of Premiere Conclave No. 1 by meeting (virtually) in Pittsburgh today.

On June 14, 1872 the Grand Council of Pennsylvania was organized at Reading, Pennsylvania. At that time there were fourteen conclaves in the State of Pennsylvania working under English charters (six of which are still in existence). This was followed by the creation of the Grand Imperial Council of Illinois

on August 30, 1872. From these two initial Grand Councils emerged the Empire of the East and the so-called Empire of the West.

Over the next three years eight additional state Grand Imperial Councils were chartered in New York, Massachusetts, Michigan, Kentucky, Indiana, Vermont, Maine and New Jersey.

In 1875 all of the state Grand Councils met and established a Sovereign Grand Council of the United States of America with limited jurisdiction over the state Grand Councils. On March 10, 1877, the Sovereign Grand Council entered into a treaty acknowledging the power and authority of the Mother Grand Council of England, uniting into one grand body all Grand and Subordinate Bodies of the United States, “preserving the work of the ritual in every respect along with perpetual friendship based upon Christian principles.”

In 1891 an attempt was made to vest absolute control in the Sovereign Grand Council over the various state Grand Councils. This attempt was met with “instant opposition.” The Grand Council of Pennsylvania withdrew from the Sovereign Grand Council. The Grand Imperial Council of Illinois followed. The Sovereign Grand Council dissolved shortly thereafter.

Another organization, the Supreme Grand Chapter of the Grand Cross of Constantine of the United States of America, was created in 1877 to control the conferring of Knight Grand Cross of the Order. However, the Grand Imperial Council of Illinois withdrew from this Supreme Grand Chapter in 1911, and the organization closed in 1921. Grand Councils were reticent to cede authority to a national body.

On October 16, 1935, the Grand Council of Pennsylvania, in anticipation of expanding its jurisdiction along the Atlantic Coast, changed its name to Grand Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine (and Appendant Orders) for the United States of America, Empire of the East, to give itself broader appeal than just to Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania.

The Grand Imperial Council of Illinois had already

expanded across America and overseas and had been changing its name as it grew. It had been known as the Grand Imperial Council of the Western Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States (1899 to 1911) and the Grand Imperial Council for the United States of America (1911 to 1946). In 1946, it became the Grand Imperial Council of the Imperial, Ecclesiastical and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders, for the United States of America, Mexico and the Philippines (“Empire of the West”).

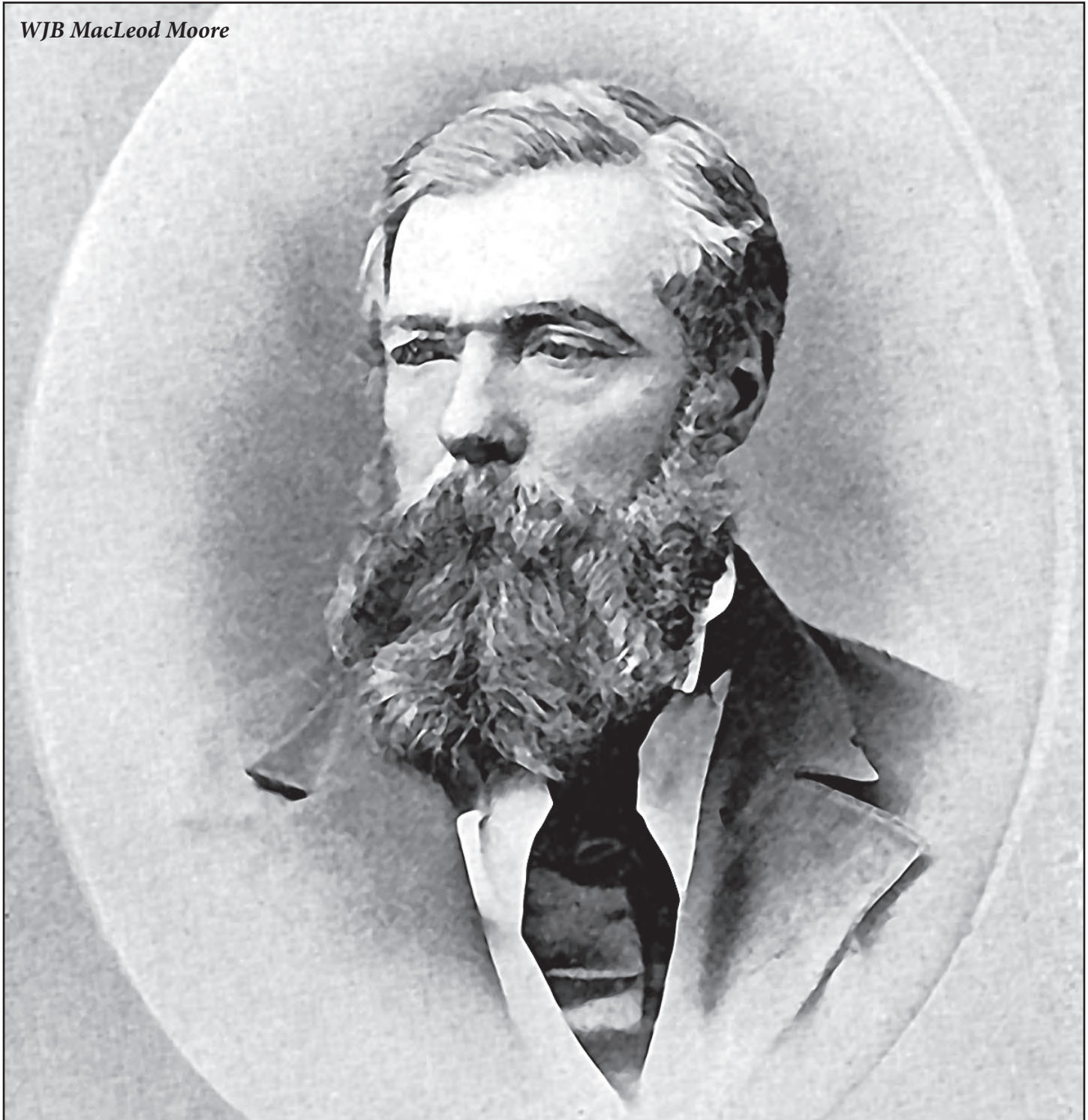
With the passage of time, newer generations failed to understand the old differences and controversial issues that resulted in the two Empires, instead of a unified national organization. Interjurisdictional visitations had become commonplace, and honorary memberships were conferred by each Empire on the members of the other as early as the late 1930’s.

In 1954 a letter was sent to the Grand Sovereign, Officers and Members of the Empire of the East by representatives of the Empire of the West stating in part, “It has been said that, In Unity There is Strength.” In the letter was presented the proposition that the two empires be consolidated under one governing head and to be known as the Grand Imperial Council of the Imperial, Ecclesiastical and Military Order of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the United States of America, Mexico, and the Philippines.

Following several years of negotiation regarding how the merger could be effected involving the officers of the two empires, the merging of the funds and the names of conclaves, the merger was completed on February 18, 1958 in Washington, D.C. during the annual meeting of the Conference of Grand Masters. Thus, the two separate Empires ceased to exist and all of their constituent conclaves became united under one authority.

At the time of merger the Empire of the West was composed of 95 conclaves while the Empire of the East had 24 conclaves. Vermont and Maine remained independent, each with its own Grand Imperial Council. The Grand Imperial Council of Vermont

WJB MacLeod Moore



became part of the United Grand Imperial Council on June 7, 1997. As of this date, the Grand Imperial Council of Maine remains the only Grand Council in the United States that is not part of the United Grand Imperial Council.

NOTES:

¹This paper was written for delivery at the 148th Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council but its presentation was deferred because that session was held virtually.

Empire of the West

By R. Stephen Doan, KGC¹

Robert Wentworth Little, a clerk on the Grand Secretary's staff at Freemasons' Hall in London, the headquarters of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE), formed the Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, Original or Premier Conclave No. 1 and Plantagenet Conclave No. 2 on May 31, 1865. Within five years, his Grand Imperial Council had chartered a total of thirty-seven conclaves. Over the next five years, beginning with United States Premier Conclave on December 14, 1870, Little's Grand Imperial Council issued forty-seven charters to form conclaves in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, New York, Nebraska, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Vermont, Indiana, Tennessee and Texas.² By 1875, all but seven of these conclaves had joined a state Grand Council and received new charters. These new state Grand Councils then began forming new conclaves and issuing charters. Even the Sovereign Grand Council of the United States of America (mentioned by Tom Jackson in his preceding paper on the *Empire of the East* and formed in 1875) issued charters to form new conclaves in Georgia, Alabama, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Washington, D.C. and Maryland. Michigan chartered conclaves in Kentucky and Maine which formed their own state Grand Councils in 1875. By 1879, there were 1,635 Sir Knights in ninety-three American conclaves.³ To have been considered regular and eligible for recognition, a state Grand Council's and unaffiliated conclave's membership must have been limited to Knights Templar.⁴

Despite this fast start, interest waned quickly. Chart A shows all of the conclaves that would eventually be part of the old Empire of the East which grew out of the Grand Council of Pennsylvania.⁵ All of its first fourteen conclaves had been chartered by England before the Grand Council of Pennsylvania was formed on June 14, 1872. (The numbers in parentheses after the conclave names are the English charter numbers.) No new charters were issued until June 9, 1916. By 1879, six of the first fourteen charters had been revoked and four more conclaves would disappear, leaving four.⁶

The circumstances were more dire in Illinois. Chart B shows the conclaves which had been part of the Grand

Council of Illinois through January 14, 1879.⁷ Its first six conclaves had all been chartered by England before the Grand Council of Illinois was formed on August 30, 1872. (Again, the numbers in parentheses after the conclave names are the English charter numbers.) By 1879, Illinois had added ten more conclaves. However, by its 1881 annual meeting, only four conclaves had paid their 1880 per capita, "the other Conclaves not responding at all, claiming no funds on hand and no prospect of paying back dues." Between October 24, 1881 and July 11, 1892, this Grand Council met just once. All of Illinois's conclaves were gone by July 11, 1892, except for one: St. John Conclave No. 1.

By 1880 all state Grand Councils were gone except for those in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Vermont and Maine.⁸

What caused this near death experience? In my view, it was the world-wide Long Depression which began in the United States with the Panic of 1873. The economic contraction following the panic lasted from October 1873 to March 1879, a total of sixty-five months. It was our nation's longest-lasting contraction, eclipsing the Great Depression's forty-three month contraction. During the 1877 Triennial of the Grand Encampment, its members then being a source for Constantine membership, Knight Templar membership declined also. The cost to join Constantine in 1872 was \$535 in 2020 dollars. This was on top of the cost of maintaining prerequisite memberships. Some say that the ill effects of the Long Depression lasted until the early 1890's.

Constantine began its rebound in Illinois in the early 1890's as the last effects of the Long Depression disappeared. Chart C shows all of the conclaves that would eventually be part of the old Empire of the West which grew out of the Grand Council of Illinois.⁹ The reader will note that this amazing growth started at the October 5, 1893 Illinois Annual Assembly when a second conclave, Saxa Rubra in Champaign, was chartered. Two more Illinois conclaves were added by 1898. However, starting in 1899 and continuing for the next twenty-three years, another thirty-seven conclaves were chartered across America before another Illinois conclave was formed. The expanding Illinois Grand

Council eventually chartered conclaves in states where the Empire of the East already had conclaves.

Why did Illinois's growth explode? I would argue that it all started with George W. Warvelle of St. John Conclave, a noted legal and Masonic scholar who organized Saxa Rubra Conclave in Champaign, Illinois in 1893 and later that year began the first of three consecutive one year terms as Grand Sovereign of Illinois, serving until October 30, 1896. After serving as Grand Sovereign, Warvelle became the Chief Intendant General of the Illinois Grand Council. The annual proceedings of the Grand Council evidence Warvelle's travels to form the first new conclaves outside Illinois. Warvelle was a prolific and well-regarded writer on the history and Masonic significance of the Red Cross of Constantine. When Warvelle spoke or wrote, people listened or read. At the 1900 Annual Assembly, the Grand Sovereign remarked:

Especially in this jurisdiction are we indebted to that other unwearied Sir Knight, George W. Warvelle, who roused the Companions from their lethargy, and breathed new life and spirit into the Order at home by his inspiration and splendid-example. All honor to them both; they have their reward in an approving conscience and the grateful emotions of their brethren.

“Them both” referred also to John Corson Smith. He was the Deputy for Illinois for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and then an officer of its Supreme Council until his death in 1910. He was a Past Grand Commander and then served as Grand Scribe of the Grand Commandery of Illinois for twenty-five years. He was a Past Grand Master of Masons of Illinois. About him the Grand Sovereign reported in 1900:

Too much credit cannot be accorded to that accomplished and earnest Knight of our Jurisdiction, John Corson Smith, who has earned the commendation of all loyal Sir Knights of the Order for his able and zealous efforts in the preservation of the Order in its integrity in this country, and securing rightful recognition of this and other Grand Imperial Councils of the United States from those of the mother country and its dependencies.

Illinois broadened its appeal and positioned itself for expansion by changing its name periodically to

show its growing American presence. At the 1899 Annual Assembly when charters were granted to the first conclaves outside of Illinois, Illinois changed its name to Grand Imperial Council of the Western Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States, dropping any reference to Illinois. The next year, it held its first Annual Assembly outside of Illinois.

Another key figure in the Empire of the West's growth was Bester G. Brown, the Grand Sovereign from June 14, 1905 to June 14, 1906. In his 1906 Allocution, Bestor reported with pride that during his one year in office he had personally traveled to each of Washington, D.C., Dallas, San Francisco and Los Angeles, apparently in that order, and had instituted a new Conclave in each of these cities. The dates of his nationwide tour are not given but he does imply that he was in San Francisco before the April 18, 1906 earthquake. It seems likely that Bestor was in San Francisco before he was in Los Angeles and instituted St. Gabriel Conclave on April 16, 1906. Bestor thus brought Constantine to the West Coast, Texas and Washington, D.C., making the Empire of the West truly national in scope. During his term, membership in the Empire of the West increased from 331 to 425.

Why was Bestor traveling all over America? Bestor lived in Wichita, Kansas but he was a traveling salesman for M. C. Lilley of Columbus, Ohio. Lilley sold theatrical scenery. Bestor with two other men, Charles E. Rosenbaum and Joseph S. Sosman, are credited with leading the Scottish Rite in its change of initiatory practices, from the traditional darkened Lodge room to the stage with scenery, lighting and visual effects. His products were in demand. It just so happened that the Hope Street Cathedral was completed in Los Angeles and dedicated on June 6, 1906. The Cathedral was the first Scottish Rite edifice in Los Angeles dedicated exclusively to Scottish Rite activities, and it had a full stage which needed scenery. At about the same time, the California Bodies of the Scottish Rite in San Francisco and the Dallas Bodies were also building similar cathedrals with stages needing scenery. Bestor's cross-country trip had as a secondary purpose only the spreading of Constantine. His true mission was to sell scenery. Buy some scenery, and he would throw in Constantine as a thank you to the people placing the order. It also just so happened that the men involved in building these cathedrals were the movers and shakers in Freemasonry in their cities and states. Using only St.

Gabriel Conclave in Los Angeles as an example, one of the two leading figures in the Los Angeles Scottish Rite was then Perry Weidner who would subsequently become Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, the SGIG in California and Grand Secretary General of the Supreme Council, SMJ. The other was Rhodes Hervey, arguably one of the most powerful California Past Grand Masters during his lifetime. These two prominent Masons were the charter Sovereign and Viceroy of St. Gabriel. Other charter members of St. Gabriel were leaders of the local Shrine temple and Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, both of which had stages and needed scenery.

In his Allocution, Brown also reported:

Our Conclaves now extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and the organization has reached a condition of importance where its privileges are viewed with favor and it no longer craves indulgence for its existence. In the face of this trend of affairs, it is meet that consideration be given to the changing of the organic title of this Imperial Council, so that it shall be known as the Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine of the United States of America, or of North America, as the wisdom and judgment of this Imperial Council may determine.

Because of the potential conflict that this name change might have created with the Empire of the East, its consideration was deferred. In 1911, however, after having added Atlanta, the Empire of the West was ready to act. It then changed its name to the Grand Imperial Council for the United States of America, as Brown had proposed five years before.

Pennsylvania did not add a conclave after its 1872 formation until 1916 when St. Paul Conclave was chartered in New York City. It was not until 1935 that the Grand Council of Pennsylvania sought to broaden its appeal by changing its name to Grand Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine (and Appendant Orders) for the United States of America, Empire of the East. But, by then, the Pennsylvania Grand Council had only eight conclaves, just three of which were outside Pennsylvania. By 1935, the Empire of the West had sixty-eight chartered conclaves in thirty-seven states, plus the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Panama and the Philippines. As reported by Tom, by the time of the 1958 merger to form the United Grand Imperial Council, the Empire of the West had

grown to ninety-five conclaves, almost four times the twenty-four conclaves then in the Empire of the East.

Constantinian Masonry has been successful for reasons beyond our founding on the legend of Constantine the Great. Constantine's inspiration and the unique place our rituals occupy in a Mason's journey of self-improvement have attracted men of a caliber who have made it the premier organization we treasure today.

NOTES:

1. This paper was written for delivery at the 148th Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council but its presentation was deferred because that session was held virtually.
2. See page 91 of the 1876 *Proceedings* of the Grand Imperial Council of Illinois.
3. Harold V. B. Voorhis, *Masonic Organizations and Allied Orders and Degrees* (Red Bank NJ: Press of Henry Emerson, 1952), 31 et seq.
4. In 1876, Illinois changed this membership prerequisite rule to Master Mason for the Order of Red Cross and Royal Arch Mason for Orders of Holy Sepulchre and St. John. By 1895, the membership prerequisite rule was simplified to Royal Arch Mason only as every candidate was expected to progress through all three orders. See the *Proceedings* of the Grand Imperial Council of Illinois for the years 1872, 1876 and 1895. However, many conclaves retained informally a Knight Templar requirement and many of those added a 32^o Scottish Rite Mason requirement. That has been the rule in my conclave, St. Gabriel, since its founding in 1906. The same was true for many years at St. Francis.
5. Harold V. B. Voorhis, *Masonic Organizations and Allied Orders and Degrees* (Red Bank NJ: Press of Henry Emerson, 1952), 33. See also the 1957 *Proceedings* of the Empire of the East.
6. Harold V. B. Voorhis, *Masonic Organizations and Allied Orders and Degrees* (Red Bank NJ: Press of Henry Emerson, 1952), 33. According to the 2019 *Transactions* of the United Grand Imperial Council, Constantine Conclave and Trinity Conclave had become dormant until opened again as of November 21, 1936 and January 22, 1958, respectively.
7. This chart was constructed from the *Proceedings* of the Grand Imperial Council of Illinois for the years 1872, 1873, 1876, 1877, 1881 and 1893.
8. Harold V. B. Voorhis, *Masonic Organizations and Allied Orders and Degrees* (Red Bank NJ: Press of Henry Emerson, 1952), 31 et seq.
9. Harold V. B. Voorhis, *Masonic Organizations and Allied Orders and Degrees* (Red Bank NJ: Press of Henry Emerson, 1952), 35 et seq. See also the 1957 *Proceedings* of the Empire of the West.

Chart A
Empire of the East

State	City	Name	Empire of the East Conclave Number	Charter Date	Notes
PA	Pittsburgh	US Premier (38)	1	12/14/1870	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Chartered in Washington PA but later moved to Pittsburgh.
PA	Bloomsburg	Orient (45)	2	2/16/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter.
PA	Reading	Constantine (46)	3	2/16/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked on an unknown date. Restored on 10/19/1957.
PA	Harrisburg	Trinity (47)	4	2/16/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked on an unknown date. Restored on 11/22/1936.
PA	Allentown	Mary (48)	5	2/16/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter.
PA	Bellefonte	Bellefonte (51)	6	5/3/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked in 1879.
PA	Allegheny	Allegheny (53)	7	5/9/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked in 1879.
PA	Philadelphia	Philadelphia (57)	8	5/30/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter.
PA	Towanda	Earl of Bective (58)	9	6/14/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked in 1879.
PA	Columbia	Red Rose (59)	10	6/15/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked on an unknown date.
PA	Rouseville	Rose of Sharon (60)	11	6/23/1871	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked on an unknown date.
PA	Corry	Corry (71)	12	3/7/1872	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked in 1879.
NY	New York City	St. Paul	12	6/9/1916	St. Paul received the lowest unassigned Conclave number.
PA	Franklin	Sage (74)	13	4/10/1872	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked in 1879.
PA	Titusville	Lily of the Valley (75)	14	4/10/1872	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter. Charter revoked in 1879.
PA	Johnstown	Constans	15		The Empire of the East never used Conclave number 15.
PA			17	10/21/1925	

Chart A
Empire of the East

State	City	Name	Empire of the East Conclave Number	Charter Date	Notes
NY	Albany	Albany	18	10/19/1927	
NJ	Haddonfield	St. Stephen	19	11/19/1936	
PA	Williamsport	Williamsport	20	10/21/1936	
PA	York	York	21	10/22/1936	
DE	Wilmington	Delaware	22	10/21/1936	
PA	Shamokin	St. James	23	10/20/1937	
PA	Erie	St. John	24	10/20/1937	
FL	Miami	Miami	25	10/18/1939	
PA	New Castle	Antioch	26	10/16/1940	
NY	Buffalo	St. Mark	27	3/25/1944	
CT	Hartford	St. Andrew	28	10/18/1947	
MA	Boston	Bay State	29	10/25/1952	
RI	Providence	Plantations	30	12/17/1952	
MA	Springfield	St. Matthew	31	9/17/1954	
NY	Utica	Utica	32	2/4/1956	
NH	Concord	Granite State	33	10/21/1956	

Chart B
Grand Imperial Council - 1872-1892

State	City	Name	Conclave Number	Charter Date	IL Charter Date
IL	Chicago	St. John (69)	1	2/3/1872	8/30/1872
IL	Augusta	Accolade (70)	2	3/7/1872	8/30/1872
IL	Freeport	Freeport (72)	3	4/1/1872	8/30/1872
IL	Cairo	Kadosh (78)	4	6/5/1872	8/30/1872
IL	Dixon	Rose Croix (79)	5	6/5/1872	8/30/1872
IL	Fairbury	Orient (80)	6	6/5/1872	8/30/1872
MA	Athol	Coeur De Lion	7		11/29/1873
RI	Woonsocket	St. Paul's	8		12/5/1873
RI	Providence	St. Andrew's	9		12/12/1873
IL	Alton	Constantine	10		10/26/1874 or 10/25/1875
IL	Paw Paw	Veda	11		10/22/1877
IL	Sullivan	DeMolay	12		10/22/1877
IL	North Chicago	Lincoln Park	13		10/22/1877
IL	Greenfield	St. George	14		10/22/1877
IL	Waverly	St. Elmo	15		10/21/1878
IL	Beardstown	St. Andrews	16		1/15/1879

All but St. John Conclave No. 1 were gone by July 11, 1872.

Chart C
Empire of the West

State	City	Name	Empire of the West Conclave Number	Charter Date	Notes
IL	Chicago	St. John (69)	1	2/3/1872	Number in parenthetical represents conclave number on the original English charter.
IL	Champaign	Saxa Rubra	2	10/5/1893	
IL	Peoria	St. Helena	3	10/25/1895	
IL	Jacksonville	St. Paul	4	12/23/1898	Charter revoked on 5/22/1914.
MO	Kansas City	Mary	5	10/13/1899	
MN	Duluth	St. George	6	10/13/1899	
KS	Topeka	St. Augustine	7	6/6/1900	
MT	Helena	St. Peter	8	7/16/1901	
MO	St. Joseph	St. Joseph	9	5/8/1903	
NE	Omaha	Coeur de Lion	10	5/8/1903	
MO	Joplin	St. Andrew	11	5/8/1903	
DC	Washington	St. Thomas	12	6/14/1906	Charter revoked on 5/21/1926
TX	Dallas	St. Mark	13	6/14/1906	
CA	Los Angeles	St. Gabriel	14	6/14/1906	
CA	San Francisco	St. Francis	15	6/14/1906	
IN	Indianapolis	St. James	16	5/15/1908	
GA	Atlanta	St. Justin	17	6/11/1909	Charter revoked on 6/2/1921
WA	Seattle	St. Alban	18	6/16/1910	
OK	McAlester	St. Luke	19	6/16/1910	
TN	Memphis	St. Stephen	20	6/16/1911	
TN	Knoxville	St. Mathias	21	6/16/1911	
ID	Boise	St. Michael	22	6/16/1911	
CA	Oakland	St. Philip	23	5/9/1913	
LA	Bossier City	St. Matthew	24	5/22/1914	
UT	Salt Lake City	St. Bernard	25	5/22/1914	Charter revoked on 5/27/1939.
UT	Salt Lake City	Bonneville	25	5/27/1939	
OR	Portland	St. Laurence	26	6/4/1915	
MS	Jackson	St. Felix	27	6/4/1915	Charter revoked on 6/2/1922.
FL	Tampa	St. Sebastian	27	5/27/1939	Formerly Florida No. 16, Empire of the East.
CO	Denver	Mount of the Holy Cross	28	6/4/1915	
AR	Little Rock	St. Giles	29	6/4/1915	
RP	Manila	Asoka	30	6/4/1915	

Chart C
Empire of the West

State	City	Name	Empire of the West Conclave Number	Charter Date	Notes
KY	Louisville	St. Barnabas	31	6/2/1916	
OH	Columbus	St. Jerome	32	6/2/1916	
MI	Grand Rapids	St. Vincent	33	6/2/1916	
OH	Cleveland	St. Benedict	34	6/2/1916	
LA	New Orleans	St. Paul	35	8/3/1917	
MO	Columbia	St. Chrysostom	36	8/3/1917	
IA	Des Moines	St. Bartholomew	37	8/3/1917	
NV	Reno	Joan of Arc	38	6/1/1918	
MI	Detroit	St. Clement	39	6/1/1918	
WY	Sheridan	St. Denys	40	6/6/1919	
MD	Baltimore	St. Cyprian	41	6/18/1920	
MO	St. Louis	St. Louis	42	6/2/1921	
NC	Wilmington	St. Nicholas	43	6/2/1922	Consolidated with St. John of Patmos No. 67 on 5/22/1943.
WA	Spokane	St. Raphael	44	6/2/1922	
ND	Fargo	St. Felix	45	4/27/1923	
OK	Oklahoma City	St. Omer	46	4/27/1923	
KS	Kansas City	St. Justin	47	4/27/1923	
SD	Sioux Falls	St. Simon	48	4/27/1923	
IL	Springfield	St. Edward	49	4/27/1923	
TX	San Antonio	St. Anthony	50	6/12/1924	
DC	Washington	St. Simeon Stylites	51	6/12/1924	
WI	Milwaukee	St. Wilfred	52	6/12/1924	
IN	Fort Wayne	St. Hilary	53	5/28/1925	
TN	Chattanooga	St. Gregory	54	5/28/1925	Charter revoked on 5/27/1939 and restored on 6/8/1946.
NM	Santa Fe	Santa Fe	55	5/28/1925	
MO	Springfield	St. Christopher	56	5/26/1925	
AL	Birmingham	St. Dunstan	57	5/21/1926	
KS	Salina	St. David	58	5/21/1926	
MI	Bay City	St. Martin	59	5/21/1926	
GA	Atlanta	St. Ambrose	60	6/7/1927	
HI	Honolulu	Opukahaia	61	6/7/1927	
CA	San Diego	San Diego	62	6/7/1927	
CA	Long Beach	Saint Croix	63	5/25/1928	

Chart C
Empire of the West

State	City	Name	Empire of the West Conclave Number	Charter Date	Notes
MS	Jackson	St. Leonard	64	5/28/1929	
TX	Fort Worth	St. Timothy	65	5/22/1931	
SC	Columbia	All Saints	66	5/22/1931	
NC	Asheville	St. John of Patmos	67	5/22/1931	
AZ	Phoenix	Arizona	68	6/17/1932	
VA	Richmond	St. Polycarp	69	6/2/1934	
PN	Balboa	San Lorenzo	70	6/2/1934	
NY	Syracuse	St. Leo	71	6/2/1934	
NC	Charlotte	St. Titus	72	5/25/1935	
IA	Cedar Rapids	St. Ignatius	73	5/25/1935	
MI	Marquette	St. Bonaventure	74	5/27/1939	
NY	Garden City	St. Quentin	75	5/27/1939	
MX	Mexico City	City of Mexico	76	5/29/1944	
MX	Monterrey	Monterrey	77	5/29/1944	Charter surrendered on 7/10/1975.
WV	Charleston	West Virginia	78	5/29/1944	
OH	Toledo	St. Thomas	79	5/19/1945	
IL	Rockford	Holy Trinity	80	6/8/1946	
TX	El Paso	St. Alphege	81	6/17/1947	
SD	Rapid City	Black Hills	82	6/17/1947	
TN	Nashville	Old Hickory	83	5/22/1948	
NM	Albuquerque	St. Sophia	84	5/22/1948	
AK	Anchorage	Alaska	85	5/22/1948	
OH	Cincinnati	St. Columba	86	5/21/1949	
NM	Roswell	Christos Rhetor	87	5/21/1949	
KS	Wichita	Calvary	88	5/21/1949	
OH	Dayton	Holy Grail	89	5/20/1950	
TX	Galveston	San Felipe	90	5/20/1950	
FL	Jacksonville	St. Honore	91	6/2/1951	
AR	Fort Smith	Trinity	92	6/2/1951	
TX	Houston	San Jacinto	93	5/25/1952	
MS	Water Valley	St. Boniface	94	6/18/1955	
IN	Lafayette	St. Basil	95	5/26/1956	
TX	Lubbock	Llano Estacado	96	5/26/1956	

Chart C
Empire of the West

State	City	Name	Empire of the West Conclave Number	Charter Date	Notes
LA	Lake Charles	St. Charles	97	12/5/1958	
LA	Monroe	Ouachita	98	5/18/1957	
TX	Waco	DeMolay	UD	7/26/1958	Operated under dispensation in Empire of the West; chartered by the UGIC.

35th Annual All Missouri Conclave



The scaled down version of the 35th Annual All Missouri Conclave convened on September 12, 2020 in respectable fashion at Jefferson Lodge No. 43 in Jefferson City, Missouri under the careful and watchful eye of Intendants General Bobbie E. White of Missouri Northern and John W. Siscel III of Missouri Southern. Even considering the restrictions of the time, all Missouri Conclaves were represented.

Activities commenced with much guarded socializing and fellowship along with the proverbial doughnuts and coffee. This gathering was pleased to share the time with several Ladies who provided a congenial atmosphere as well as serving as hosts and in most cases, assistants to see that our Knights Companions were properly cleaned up after and behaved themselves.

Next following came the College of Viceroys ably directed by Knight Companion Gary A. Phillips, Most Eminent Viceroy, and impeccably assisted by Knights Companions Clark A. McLemore, Eusebius; Randy Jones, Marshal: and Dennis Hammack, Prelate. Senior Generals participating were Ronald Barrett, Gerald McCoy and Don Gilkerson (exemplar). At the

conclusion of the work, Knight Companion Matthew L. Quesenberry, Puissant Sovereign, presented Knight Companion Ronald L. Barrett his patent as issued by the United Grand Imperial Council.

Shortly thereafter, Knight Companion Robert W. Schlichter, Most Illustrious Sovereign, convened the Senate of Sovereigns with the superb assistance of Knights Companions Robert R. Anderson, Jr, Most Eminent Viceroy; Darryl L. Price, High Prelate: and Dennis N. Vogel, Illustrious Marshal. Participating Viceroys were John Hess (exemplar), Edward Choate, William Mathis, and Larry Chambers. Following this part of the program, Knight Companion Matthew L. Quesenberry, Puissant Sovereign, presented Knight Companion John W. Hess with his patent as issued by the United Grand Imperial Council.

After completing the remaining business, the assemblage retired to the dining hall to join with the Ladies in a generous repast of pulled pork, burnt ends, baked beans, home fried chips, and cold slaw as provided by Lutz Bar-B-Q.



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