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I would like to encourage all Sir Knights to submit articles, letters, pictures, or comments for inclusion in this supplement. Articles need to be submitted to me by the 1st of the month for the next issue (January 1st for February issue).

## ALASKAN TEMPLARS BID FAREWELL TO SIR KNIGHT DAVE LACOMBE



Long-time Matanuska-Susitna Valley resident, David G. LaCombe, 62, died of post-operative complications on Saturday, October 25, 2008, at Providence Hospital in Anchorage. Masonic Services were held on Friday, October 31, 2008, at Alaskan Heritage Memorial Chapel, 1015 S. Check St., Wasilla, Alaska.

Born January 6, 1946, in Attleboro, Massachusetts to Olive and Albert LaCombe, he was the elder of two children. He resided in the Mat-Su Valley for the past 16 years and married Donaldeen "Dee" Olson on February 12, 1995 in Wasilla, Alaska.

David worked as a logger in his youth. Other jobs included cross-country truck driver, assistant manager at Burger King, nurse at a convalescent home, home health care nurse, security guard, camp host, Wal-Mart associate, and he received a medical discharge after a

brief enlistment in the United States Marine Corps.

David was a member of the International Shrine Clown Association and frequently entertained children of all ages with his magic tricks and balloon animals or hats. He volunteered as "Squeakers" the Clown at the Shrine Outreach Clinics in Anchorage and was a driver for the Palmer Senior Citizen Center as well.

David helped out at the Scottish Rite food booth during the Alaska State Fair and could be counted on to lend a hand whenever needed. He was a member of Matanuska Lodge #7 F. & A.M. in Palmer and was very active in York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Order of the Eastern Star. When not involved in volunteer activities, David would surf the internet and was learning to tie flies. He liked to go fishing, hunting, hiking, camping, gold panning, shoot black powder pistols, swap stories with his many friends, and was a movie buff.

He was retired on disability. His family said: "He loved life, and loved being outdoors." "He enjoyed quiet times by the campfire with special hot chocolate and marshmallows."

David was preceded in death by his sister, Diane Wood and by his parents, Olive Clara Lussier, and Albert Leo LaCombe.

David will be greatly missed by his wife Dee LaCombe, his daughter and son-in-law Lorna and John Tripp of Pawtucket, RI, stepdaughters Pam Frey of Billings, MT and Bonnie Lambert of Spokane, WA, stepson and spouse Corey and Becky Frey of Wasilla, AK, cousin June Wing of Rehoboth, MA, nephews Joshua and Arthur Wood, niece Carrisa Wood, and grandchildren Cassie, Madison, Kylie, Katie, Spencer, Breanna, Paige, and Triston.

## Northwestern Department Conference

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America presented the Grand Encampment Breakout Sessions at the Northwestern Department Conference held in Boise, Idaho on October 16-18, 2008. Sir Knight William H. Koon II, Most Eminent Grand Master and his staff of officers offered an interesting program. Many subjects were covered including the transformation of the *Knight Templar* magazine. This process will occur during the next few months as Sir Knight Sid C. Dorris, III, Publisher, Sir Knight John L. Palmer, Managing Editor and the new editorial review board respond to requested changes from the membership and readers. One new feature of the magazine is already in place. The *Letters to the Editor* page appeared in the October 2008 issue. The addition of full color and change in the type of paper used is in the works as well.

Efforts are under way for the 64th Triennial Conclave which will be held in August of 2009 at Roanoke, Virginia. Watch for more information shortly.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. has begun the 41st Annual Voluntary Campaign. Hopes are high for contributions to exceed last year's drive. Please remember the various ways to generate funds which include sales, promotions and dinners, etc. with proceeds earmarked for KTEF. Contributions need not be from members only. Alaska's Mat-Su Valley Commandery #4 was recognized as the state leader in the contributions per member by per-capita category.

Sir Knight Koon looks forward to seeing all Grand Commanderies represent at the Triennial in August of next year.