

**THE ORIGINAL SUPREME GRAND COUNCIL OF  
LADIES OF KNIGHTS TEMPLARS, INC.  
of the United States of America and Canada  
It's Dependencies and Territories**



*"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."*

*Matthew 6:21*

The Order of Ladies of Knights of Templar is as the name implies, the adoptive body of the Order of Knights Templar. It is an androgynous body Design as the Grand Council and Encampment of the Order of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and Canada, (and Isles of the Sea:) later incorporated as the Supreme Grand Council and Encampment of the Order of the Ladies of Knights Templar a of the United States of America and Canada, Inc., their affiliated male sponsoring group is the General Grand Encampment of Knights of Templar of the United States and Canada, Inc.

The ancestry of this Order, doubtless, dates from the custom of the early Templars. The Paris Templars, followers, of the larmenius, admitted women to the Order, who were called **SISTERS OF the TEMPLE**. Chapter 32 of the Rules of St. Bernard by which they were governed, states that an "Equitessa" is of equal rank to a Knight or "Ques" among the Brethren. Many clauses show that the Brothers and Sisters had parallel titles and positions in all of the grades of the order. An exception from the obligations states as follows: "Thus behaving to my brethren Knights of the Temple, and Sisters, Ladies, with Charity, that I may assist them, and the widows and children of brethren, as well as the widows and children of brethren, as well as the children of sisters, with the sword, advise with money, with power, with authority and with all my other property, and to prefer them always and everywhere, in no cases excepted, and to any not united as follow in no cases excepted, and to any not united as follow solders of the Temple".....and from the Diploma....."Amongst all others present and future, he (or she) may be regarded as a Knight of The Temple, and my possess the title, Nobility.....of a Knight.

Several Knights Templar are buried at Fortress Cathedral , In a vault at the right of the High Altar, a sarcophagus was discovered, a few years ago, containing the remains of a woman, with arms and legs disposed in the correct Knight Templars attitude.

Accordingly, some historically learned patriarch of our affiliation saw fit to link the old with The new amu parallel this idea in the establishment of the this androgynous order, making our Sisters Truly the Ladies of Knights Templar.

The record shows that his body was started July 1924 at Los Angeles, California,

during the Biennial Session of the United Supreme council. Lady Anna T. Owens of Illinois was named its first Supreme Worthy Chief Counselor. She was succeeded in office by Lady Willie Jones of New York then by Lady L.R. Thompson of Louisiana, who worked profusely on the military phase of the order, and was the publisher of the Lady Nights Drill Manual. Her successor was the late Lady Loneze H. Jefferson of New York, who served as Supreme Worthy Chief Counselor until she left the affiliation in 1969. Lady Jefferson served the office well, building this once small and almost penniless struggling department to a large prosperous organization. The body was incorporated in the State of New York on November 18, 1946 by Lady Jefferson and her staff and perpetually incorporated in the District of Columbia in the year 1950. Lady Jefferson was succeeded by Bertha Hutchinson, Louisiana, and Lady Ruth Tucker, Pennsylvania.

The Order works under the Council system, each Council working under the Supreme Grand Council of Ladies of Knights Templar, a department affiliated with the United Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals of the Thirty-third and last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.....for the Southern and Western Jurisdiction of the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, Inc., 1869. Holy See is the Grand Orient of Washington, D.C. The Ladies of Knights Templar are presided over by a Supreme Worthy Chief Counselor and a Supreme Sir Knight Ambassador – who is the Most Eminent Grand Master of Knights Templar. The subordinate bodies are presided over by a Worthy Chief Counselor and a Sir Knight Ambassador. This is an androgynous body composed of Ladies of Knights Templar and Knights Templar.

This order was organized at the Supreme Council in Los Angeles, California 1924. The 1926, Lady Anna T. Owens of Illinois compiled the first ritual of the “Ladies of Knights Templar”. Lady Owen presented her ritual at the Supreme Council of which N.N. Boozier, 33° was the Most Eminent Grand Master and Supreme Head of Knights Templar; Honorable G.C. Williams, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful St. John’s Grand Lodge. State of Louisiana. Sovereign Grand Commander: Honorable Dennis Du Port, Grand Master of Illinois and the Honorable John H. Smith, Grand Master of New York. The ritual was accepted and became the first systematic ritual to be used by this Jurisdiction. Like all things new, it takes time, persistence and money to get it before the people to become actively useful. Lady Owen struggled, and no doubt prayed many a heart rendering prayers before winning the support necessary to put the idea over.

On November 18, 1926, the first Council of Ladies of Knights Templar was approved and set up. The Constitution and By-laws were written and presented by the following members:

- Lady Anna T. Owen – Chairlady      Illinois
- Sir Knight N.N. Boozer, 33°      Texas
- Sir Knight John N. Smith, 33°      New York
- Lady L. Thompson      Louisiana
- Lady Lillie Norton      Louisiana
- Lady Annie Creacy – Secretary      New Jersey

On July 29, 1927, the Council of the Supreme Grand Encampment of the Order of Ladies of Knights Templar of the United States and Canada was adopted. The good works of the order continued in existence until 1944 when Lady Loneze H. Jefferson of New York City was elected Supreme Worthy Chief Counselor and Sir. Knight George L. Peters of New York was elected Supreme Sir. Knight Ambassador.

On July 27, 1959, the Supreme Council of Ladies of Knights Templar was incorporated and perpetuated in the archives in Washington, D.C. by Honorable Rudolph D. Lane, Most Eminent Grand Commander, and Honorable Peter T. Sanders, Minister of State. Lady Jefferson put new life into the Order. She immediately began to build and rewrite the ritual, adding and deleting where necessary, and compiled all of the By-Laws and Ceremonies into one book. This book, and the uniform custom adopted in the 1946 Supreme Session are still in use. Lady Owen's prayer were answered and honor was added to our order.

This Order of Knighthood is not a degree in Masonry or the Order of the Eastern Star fraternities. However, you must be a valid member of the Masonic Order or the Order of Eastern Star to become affiliated with this August body.

In 1950, in the Borough of Brooklyn, State of New York, twenty-five ladies met for the Purpose of organizing the first Ladies of Knights Templar Council in our Jurisdiction. A petition and written request were subscribed to Lady Loneze H. Jefferson, Supreme Worthy Chief Counselor of Saint John's Grand Council of Ladies of Knights Templar, for a charter. A charter was granted and on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 1950 in the City of New York was born a council to be known as "Lilly of the Valley Council No.1, Ladies of Knights "Templar". The First officers were:

- Worthy Chief Counselor      Lady Viola Bell
- Sir Knight Ambassador      Sir Knight John Clarida
- 1<sup>st</sup> Asst. Worthy Chief Counselor      Lady Susie Clarida
- Treasurer      Lady Eula West
- Financial Secretary      Lady Ethel Gadsen

The intent and purpose of the Council of Ladies of Knights Templar is to practice

**Charity, Justice and Patience.** Serving humanity is our goal. Upon entrance into this organization we vowed to aid the sick and distressed, and to walk upright in the sight of God. To be an Ambassador of good will to mankind, a Knight, whether Lady or Sir, is someone who has been touched by the **Spirit of Truth, Compassion and Love.** It is then our sacred duty to serve our fellowman by observing and obeying the commands of the Divine Spirit that will guide and direct us in the path of righteousness for his name sake.

The great **Light of Truth, Justice, Patience and Charity** will shine forth throughout the world that God made, when all mankind, you and I, and our brothers and sisters are anointed with the wisdom to know thine own self that you may be give to another the love and compassion of a true ambassador of Christ, our Savior.

The signs and symbols used in our Order are only outward signs of recognition. The true signs are the acts and deeds done by us in our daily contact with our fellowman. For even the least of them in our eyesight is also a Child of God, and only true tolerance and deep abiding faith in the works of our Father can give us the will to do his bidding toward his own. Surely, through kindness and giving, through service and friendship and cheer, we learn the glory of living and find our happiness here.

On July 26, 1990 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania there was a separation within the United Supreme Council. A delegation from Thirteen States did meet and organize **THE ORIGINAL SUPREME GRAND COUNCIL OF LADIES OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.**

#### **CHARTERED ELECTED OFFICERS**

Supreme Worthy Chief Counselor	Lady LuVerna Eiland – Ohio
Supreme Sir Knight Ambassador	Sir. Knight Carl Davis – Illinois
Supreme 1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Worthy Chief Counselor	Lady Lola Columbus – Louisiana
Supreme 2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Worthy Chief Counselor	Lady Beverly Rawlings – Maryland
Supreme 3 <sup>rd</sup> Assistant Worthy Chief Counselor	Lady Constance H. Parker – New Jersey
Supreme Treasurer	Lady Charlie Mae Scott – Texas
Supreme Financial Secretary	Lady Erma Johnson – Illinois
Supreme Recording Secretary	Lady Margie Jackson – Massachusetts

Supreme Chaplain

Lady Rosetta Ridle – Ohio

Supreme Inner Guard

Lady Louvenia Palmer – Mississippi

Supreme Outer Guard

Lady Rose Pettway - Virginia

### **APPOINTED OFFICERS**

Supreme Asst. Sir Knight Ambassador

Sir. Knight James Burks – Illinois

Supreme First Herald

Lady Beatrice Brown – D.C.

Supreme Second Herald

Lady Estella Smith – California

Supreme Honor Lieutenant

Lady Elizabeth Johnson – Michigan

Supreme First Marshal

Lady Gussie Leonard – Illinois

Supreme Second Marshal

Lady Jocie Bell Warren – Mississippi

Supreme First Standard Bearer

Lady Emma Roberts – New Jersey

Supreme Second Standard Bearer

Lady Elvas Hypolite – Louisiana

