



Knights Templars Inter-Branch Conference & St. John's Festival, 27th/28th June 2009, Hershey, PA

'Celebrating the Centennial of a Threefold Community'

The sweetest Michaelites on earth cordially invite you to join us in beautiful Hershey, PA for the third annual Knights Templars Inter-branch Conference and St. John's Festival. The 2009 conference will celebrate 100 years of threefolding in Hershey! We will examine "The Hershey Idea" in the light of three aspects of the Templar social impulse: the temple of the human soul, the temple of community life, and the universal world temple. Additionally, we will continue the quest for a modern Michaelic fulfillment of the Knights Templars Brotherhood as a social fabric of group and branch life today:

Those of you who have occupied yourselves even a little with the aims of our spiritual scientific movement know our main principle—to create the heart, the kernel, of a brother and sisterhood based on all-embracing human love that transcends race, sex, profession, religion, and so on. Thus, the Society has placed this principle of brother and sisterhood foremost, made it the most important of its ideals. (Rudolf Steiner, Berlin, 23 November 1905)

In 1909, American philanthropist and industrialist, Milton S. Hershey, founded a school for orphan boys on a twelve thousand acre farm campus surrounding both the world's largest chocolate factory, and model 'utopian' town known as Hershey, PA. The founding of the farm school effectively completed a 'threefold commonwealth' as Rudolf Steiner envisioned the free and beneficent working of the economic (factory), political (model town), and cultural (independent school) spheres. Nine years later, in a bold and Templaresque gesture—nearly coinciding with Steiner's publication of *The Threefold Commonwealth*—Hershey gifted his entire personal fortune and controlling chocolate company stock to three trusts which continue to serve the school and threefold community today.

The conference will feature a keynote address, "**Knights of the Temple—Defenders of the Rose Cross,**" group-study, "**The Last Temple and Its Restoration,**" a Bard's Tale, singing, poetry, Nature walk, community potluck, and a gargantuan bonfire-on-the-meadow! On Sunday, an optional excursion to the nearby breathtaking campus of the Milton Hershey School will be offered, as well as a Class Lesson for members of the School of Spiritual Science. The rotunda of Founder's Hall, focal point of the school campus, is the world's second largest freestanding rotunda.

Last summer, representatives of six groups and branches experienced the awe-inspiring St. John's Templar bonfire as the festive highlight of the inter-branch conference. With flames rising upwards of thirty feet, members from Long Island, NY declared the Hershey bonfire *by far the most spectacular we have ever experienced!* Pittsburgh friends attested to the warm community spirit that is a hallmark of Corps de Michael events. For photos and a report of last year's conference, please visit our website, www.corpsdemichael.org and click the Knights Templars Conferences link, "Templar Impulse Ignites..." or just click the following link to go directly to the report title page: http://www.corpsdemichael.org/SW_Michaelmas08_Web2.pdf

Space is limited for some events! Please register early by telephone 717-964-3376 or write: thecorpsdemichael@yahoo.com

*David Lenker, John & Lynn Charlton, & Don Frymyer
(for the) Susquehanna Corps de Michael—Anthroposophical Society in Hershey*

