

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—September 18, 2010

Rare 1956 Centennial Plate Foreshadows Controversial Kerrville Cross

Kerrville, TX— Sometimes life is stranger than fiction. Such was the case recently for Kerrville artist, Max Greiner Jr., President of **The Coming King Foundation** and **Max Greiner Jr. Designs**. On July 20, 2010, the sculptor needed to replace a flat tire that occurred while driving back to Kerrville from Dallas. Max and his wife, Sherry went to a local Kerrville tire store to purchase a replacement tire. As they started to pull into the store's driveway Max heard a "still small voice" inside of him. It said: "*Don't buy the tire here; go to A&A Tires in Ingram.*" The thought was illogical and made no sense to the sculptor since going to the town of Ingram to buy a tire would mean driving an extra 10 miles, round trip. However, the "Born-Again" Christian instantly obeyed the soft internal voice.

When Max and Sherry Greiner arrived at **A&A Tire Service** in Ingram, the Manager, Sandy Weinheimer came out of her office to speak with Max, who did not know her at the time. Sandy introduced herself and told the artist that she had been praying for six months that he would come into her store because she had something he needed to see. It was a rare **1956 Centennial Plate** which she had received from her mother. Francis & Jean Dreiss, her parents, own **A&A Tire Service**. The **Kerr County Centennial Collectors' Plate** depicted a giant cross on a distant hill in the background.

After purchasing a tire, Greiner made an appointment to come back the next day to see and photograph the ceramic plate. This was a major "confirmation" to Max of God's sovereign will regarding the 77'7" "**The Empty Cross**" sculpture in the 23 acre **Sculpture Prayer Garden** on IH-10.

The next day, Greiner invited **TCKF** Vice President, Jim McKnight to join him to see and photograph the historic commemorative plate at **A&A Tire Service**. Upon arrival, they were invited into the office where several of Sandy's family members were gathered. Max and Jim were stunned to see that in the center of the **Centennial Plate** was a depiction of a three-dimensional cross, with a hollow space in the center, which appeared to be 77' tall!

Sandy Weinheimer said later: "*We knew about the **The Coming King Sculpture Prayer Garden** and have been praying for it for quite some time. I told my Mom, 'I've got to show this to Max Greiner!'*" She added: "*I immediately understood the significance of this plate, both spiritually and historically.*"

Sandy's grandmother, Katherine Snyder purchased the collectors' plate from a downtown store in Kerrville during the **Kerr County Centennial** in 1956. After her death, the rare plate was given to her daughter, Jean Dreiss, who had kept it until it was passed onto Sandy. Only God in His providence knew the spiritual significance of the ceramic plate and who would keep it safe until the appointed time.

The **Centennial Plate**, by the providence of God, was issued the same year that US President Dwight D. Eisenhower adopted our national motto: "***In God We Trust.***" In 1956, at the 100 year celebration of its founding, the Hill Country community of Kerrville chose to put a giant cross on a distant hill, in the center of its historic plate. The cross looks exactly like "***The Empty Cross***" that was erected by **TCKF** on the top of the hill on July 27, 2010, 54 years later! **The Coming**

King Foundation Trustee, Fern Lancaster later remarked: *“Those who walk by faith can recognize and discern the footprints and fingerprints of God in this situation.”*

According to Greiner, this rare **Centennial Plate** will occupy a special place of honor in the future **Visitor’s Center & Museum** at the **The Coming King Sculpture Prayer Garden**.

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