



# GFN CYBER MASON

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The Newsletter of the Global Fraternal Network -- VIRTUAL INTERNET LODGE

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Volume 3, Number 8 August 2008

Forums meet at the East Gate.

AP 1030 GMT

USA 0300 GMT

Time Conversion <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/>

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Editorial



**A 24 HOUR CHAT FESTIVAL  
DATE 16TH AUGUST 2008**

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We need your help to make this event become a reality.

--- HOW:

Become a volunteer host for a specific time slot within the 24-hour period.  
Suggested topics will be posted prior to the event.

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We believe the 24 CHAT FESTIVAL will be GREAT for the members of the GFN inspiring them to get together and chat with fellow Masons around the World.

Brothers please take time to get involved either as host or  
By just coming on line on the day to support the CHAT FESTIVAL.

By doing this you will help your fellow GFN members have a great time and together we can make this "EVENT" one to remember

To help write to [dennis\\_19502000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dennis_19502000@yahoo.co.uk) and let him know the time slot in the 24 hour period that you are able to "man" the forum.  
Dennis aka Genisis



USA

### Bicentennial Parade and Celebration



An estimated 10,000 Masons and family members were drawn to Columbus on Saturday (June 21) to participate in a full day of activities helping the Grand Lodge of Ohio to celebrate its 200th anniversary.

The day started with a parade in downtown Columbus, with more than 4,000 persons marching down High Street, from Nationwide Boulevard to the Statehouse.

All parts of the family of Freemasonry in Ohio were involved, including floats or marching units from the Order of Eastern Star; the Scottish Rite; Chapter, Council and Commandery of the York Rite; Shrine, High Twelve; and Job's Daughters, Rainbows, and DeMolay, in

addition to others. Numerous Lodges and Masonic Districts were involved. A huge delegation from the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio also took part.

The parade lasted for 1 hour and 20 minutes.

One of the goals of Grand Master Ronald L. Winnett was to have "all of the Masonic family" participate in this Bicentennial Event, and that goal was met.

After the parade, thousands gathered on the Statehouse lawn, and officers of the Grand Lodge of Ohio reenacted the traditional Cornerstone Ceremony for the Statehouse.

A new, special stone was used in the ceremony, which is being donated to the state and will be on display in the Statehouse museum. The stone is inscribed: "May our freedom rest upon a sure foundation of good government. On June 21, 2008, the Freemasons of Ohio used this stone to reenact the laying of the cornerstone of the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus." The Seal of the State of Ohio and the special Bicentennial logo were also etched on the stone.

After the ceremony, a picnic was held at the Ohio Historical Society for all Masons and family members who participated. Nearly 8,000 persons went through the lines to receive a picnic lunch. Many sat on the grassy area, near I-71, for their lunch, while other toured the Historical Society Museum and enjoyed the air-conditioned comfort inside. Tours of Ohio Village were available, and many took the opportunity to visit Ohio Village Lodge, No. 10, the historic Lodge in the village, sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

The 1860's style baseball game held at Ohio Village concluded with a 5-3 victory for the Keystone Reds over the Blue Ashlars.

This article was published on <http://www.freemason.com/> GL Ohio website.

W. Ellis Mills, [etfromstar187] Birthday/Glad Tidings; Sicknes and Distress Board Director marched the full distance with W. Jim Markwalder, [James Of Star 187] GFN Conventions Master, who took many pictures of the event.

Ellis and Jim also attended a full day of Masonic Fellowship with the Ohio Grand Lodge Officers in Marietta, Ohio on July 4, 2008.

American Union Lodge #1, one of the founding Lodges of GL Ohio and Harmar #390, Marietta have jointly held a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in a Gravel Pit on the Banks of the Muskingham River for 58 years on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July [or 3<sup>rd</sup>] Registration is at 5:30 AM with the Degree beginning at 6 and Breakfast at the Masonic Park which surrounds the Gravel Pit. Guards posted on the upper edge of the pit ensure that proper security is maintained.

For this Bi-Centennial Year a number of activities were planned which were only slightly dampened by intermittent rainstorms. The Gravel Pit being awash it was quickly decided to move to the Masonic Temple downtown. The degree was to start at 7 AM, coffee and donuts were available and the Lodges were opened at 7:15 AM.

The DDGM of the 17th District and visiting DDGM were introduced, and then Officers of the Grand Lodge were introduced with appropriate ceremony.

The candidate was Lt Cmdr Tommy F. Locke, a Navy Fighter pilot.

The Grand Master presented 50-year pins to 2 Brethren before the Degree.

Members of the two Lodges conferred the First Section; the Grand Lodge Officers conferred the second section.

There were over 200 Masons present and all GL Officers except the Deputy Grand Master.

After the Lodges were closed, Breakfast was served.

The rain let up and the Brethren joined the Marietta 4th of July Parade to Mound Ceremony [about 1/2 mile] where the GL placed and Dedicated a Masonic Plaque at the Grave of Rufus Putnam, First Grand Master of the GL of Ohio. Members of the Knights Templar in Uniform formed an Honour Guard and Marietta Chapter; Sons of the American Revolution in period Dress enhanced the proceedings. As at the Parade for the Statehouse Cornerstone Ceremony, the whole family of Freemasonry was well represented.

On the return to the Masonic Temple lunch was served, then the GL Officers conducted a public Rededication Ceremony of the Temple which is 100 years old this year.

It was a wonderful day of Masonic Fellowship, another event in the Wonderful World of Freemasonry.





## **MASONIC HISTORY IN TURKEY**

There is documented reference to the existence of lodges in Turkey in 1738. These lodges appear to have emanated from various European sources. There is also evidence of a Scottish lodge being formed at Aleppo about 1748. Supreme Council of the Ottoman Empire was erected in 1861, probably under auspices of the Grand Orient of France. It was extinct by 1871. However, the expansion of the Craft came slowly. Various Ottoman Sultans issued edicts suppressing Freemasonry.

This repression became particularly harsh during the reign of the Sultan Abdulhamid II (1876-1909). Many Turkish Masons were forced to flee the country. However, this repression did not appear to extend to lodges warranted from foreign countries.

An English lodge (Oriental No. 988) was formed in Turkey in 1856, and another ten English lodges were established between 1860 and 1870. Ireland, Scotland and the Grand Orients of Italy and France also had lodges in Turkey in this period. Most English-speaking lodges had expired by the First World War, although a few held on until 1938.

Upon the coming of constitutional government to Turkey, Turkish masonry was revived in 1909, in the form of resurrected Scottish Rite Supreme Council warranted from Egypt. The Supreme Council sponsored the National Grand Orient of Turkey, constituted by 14 lodges then holding French, Italian or Spanish

charters. It modeled its constitution on that of the Grand Orient of France. The Grand Orient enjoyed a period of sustained expansion, erecting 65 lodges up until 1935. However the political climate in Turkey had been deteriorating, and the Grand Orient became dormant in 1935.

The Turkish Supreme Council revived in 1948, and controlled Turkish Craft lodges until it divested control to the Grand Lodge of Turkey, founded in 1956 on a regular basis. The Turkish Grand Lodge was recognized by England in 1970 and today enjoys fraternal relations with most regular Grand Lodges around the world.



## **MASONIC HISTORY IN CANADA**

Canada possesses ten political divisions known as “Provinces” with each having Provincial Government. Nine of these provinces have regular Grand Lodges. Lodges in the tenth Province Newfoundland are still governed by the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland. The Masonic scene in Canada can in a broad sense be described as an amalgam of American and British practices and customs.

The first settlers in Canada were the French. Quebec became a French Colony in 1608. It remained so until 1763, when all of Canada became a British possession. The geopolitical history of Canada is rather confused, but it is enough to say here that the several Provinces underwent various groupings, separations and re-groupings.

Canada became a Dominion in 1867, uniting Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. Other Provinces later joined. The first lodges in Canada emerged about 1740 in Nova Scotia, and about 1750 in

Quebec. Many of the earliest lodges were military lodges. Warrants came from both the United States and Britain. In 1858, a Grand Lodge of Canada was formed in Ontario, claiming jurisdiction over the whole of Canada, which at that time comprised Ontario and Quebec.

After Canadian Independence, and the progressive formation of other Provinces, other Grand Lodges were erected accordingly. The original Grand Lodge became the "Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario".

## Great Britain



Our Scottish Deputy Rep thanks all that sent good wishes and congratulations on the recent birth of his daughter Lily

From Daily Mail 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008

### QUESTION

My late father's enrolment certificate for the Freemasons in Scotland was signed:  
'In the year of our Lord 1935 and of Light 5939.'  
How is this latter worked out?

### ANSWER

The Year of Light, *Anno Lucis* (AL), often used in Masonic procedure, expressed a year 4,004 before *Anno Lucis* (The year of our Lord) so a man made a Freemason in 1935 has an *Anno Lucis* date of  $1935 + 4004 = 5939$ .

To Creationists, the world was created in 4,004 BC and the creation of the world saw the beginning of Light. ('Let there be Light. And there was Light')

This specific date is taken from the famous chronology of James Usher, Bishop of Armagh, published in 1650. From his literal reading of the Bible. Usher managed to time and date Creation to the night proceeding October 23, 4004BC.

The Year of Light, however was not adopted by Freemasons until 1723 when Dr James Anderson, in his Constitutions, referred to *Anno Lucis* as the Year of Masonry. Anderson (1684-1739) was an Aberdeen-born Church of Scotland Minister, Freemason, Master of a Masonic Lodge and a Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of London and Westminster.

He was commissioned in September of 1721 by the Grand Lodge to write a history of the Freemasons, and it was published in 1723 as *The Constitutions Of The Free-Masons*.

Michael Keane  
Whitley Bay  
Tyneside

## THE GENEROUS FREEMASON

The first Masonic opera, the libretto written by Brother William Rufus Chetwood, prompter at Drury Lane Theater, London, for eighteen years, beginning 1722.

Sixty-one years before Brother Mozart composed his Masonic opera known as The Magic Flute, Brother Chetwood's work was first performed in public.

The following advertisement appeared in the Daily Post, August 20, 1730:

At Oates and Fielding's Great Theatrical Booth at the George Inn Yard in Smithfield, during the time of Bartholomew Fair, will be presented an entire new opera called The Generous Freemason, or the Constant Lady, with the comical humors of Squire Noodle and his man Doodle by Persons from both Theaters. The part of the King of Tunis by Mr. Bareoek, Mirza Mr. Paget; Sebastian, Mr. Oates; Clermont, Mr. Fielding; Sir Jasper, Mr. Burnett; Squire Noodle, Mr. Berry Doodle, Mr. Smith; Davy, Mr. Excell; Captain, Mr. Brogden; the Queen, Mrs. Kilby; Maria, Miss Oates; Celia, Mrs. Grace- Jacinta, Miss Williams- Jenny, the chambermaid, Mrs. Stevens; Lettie, Mrs. Roberts. All characters newly dressed. With several entertainments of dancing by Monsieur de St. Luee, Mlle. de Lorme, and others, particularly the Wooden Shoe Dance, the Pierrot and Pierrette, and the Dance of the Black Joke.

Beginning every day at 2 o'clock. The two theaters mentioned were Drury Lane and Covent Garden The opera was billed as "a tragicomic-farcical ballad opera" and published by "J. Roberts in Warwick Lane, and sold by the Booksellers of London and Westminster," the third page bearing the following dedication: To the Right Worshipful the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, and the rest of the Brethren of the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, this opera is humbly inscribed by Your most obedient and devoted Servant, The Author, a Free-Mason.

The two leading characters in the play are Maria, an English lady, and Sebastian, an English gentleman, who are secretly engaged to each other. When it is proposed that she marry someone else, Maria agrees to elope with Sebastian to Spain where he has a wealthy uncle. Sebastian expresses his regret at leaving England in these words: But yet one pang I feel thro' all my joy,

That from my noble Brethren I must part;

Those men whose lustre spreads from Pole to Pole

Possessing every virtue of the Soul.

But yet all climes the Brotherhood adorn,

As smiling Phoebus gilds the rosie morn! Let love and Friendship then our cares confound,

And halcyon days be one eternal round. During the journey to Spain their vessel is chased by a ship commanded by "the bravest Moor that ploughs the sea," the High Admiral of King Amuranth of Tunis known as Mirza. The captain of the lovers' ship thinks it advisable to surrender but is prevented by Sebastian who declares: "We will for battle instantly prepare: a Briton and a Mason cannot fear." Their brave action is however, all in vain and they are captured, thrown into prison and condemned to die. King Amuranth in the meantime has taken a fancy to Maria and his wife, Queen Zelmana, conceives a like affection for Sebastian. The death sentence is therefore delayed, giving Sebastian an opportunity to give the Masonic signal of distress to Mirza who recognizes him as a Brother and releases the two prisoners, saying to Sebastian: "Come to my arms, thou unexpected Joy, and find in me a Brother and a friend." Mirza accompanies the lovers on a vessel bound for England and Sebastian expresses his Brotherly affection to which Mirza, the generous Freemason replies: v What I have done was in firm Virtue's cause, Thou art my Brother by the strictest laws; A chain unseen fast binds thee to my heart A tie that never can from Virtue part. After this, "Neptune rises to a symphony of soft music, attended by Tritons," and the play closes with a song from him praising Freemasonry.

The opera was revived at the Haymarket Theater in 1731 and Brother Chetwood, 1733, at the theater in Goodman's Fields rearranged it and produced it in the form of a one-act operetta, entitled The Mock Mason, retaining only the comic phases of the original play. In 1741 The Generous Freemason, in original form, was again given with great popularity. Three composers supplied the music for the opera, the musical score having been written by Henry Carey known as the author and composer of Sally in our Alley. Richard Clarke, a violinist and member of the Drury Lane Theater Company, and John Sheeles, a famous teacher of the harpsichord, were the other two responsible for the lyrics in the opera. Two copies of the opera are at present in the possession of the British Museum and these give the airs of some of the songs without accompaniment, which was the usual method at that time.

We are indebted to Brother Richard Northcott, Fellow of the Royal Philharmonic Society, England, for the details given here. \*

**Our thanks to Bro Steve Grant for his continued input to this News Letter**

### **Situations Vacant**

A number of vacancy's exist for GFN Reps

**Assistant Editor** required for British Bytes Web site. Preferably on a Mac.

Interested? Contact John Nicholas [plump45@yahoo.com](mailto:plump45@yahoo.com)

### **Lodge Links**

Arcadia Lodge No 278 California <<http://www.calodges.org/no278/>

Collinwood Lodge #582, Ohio [www.collinwood582.org](http://www.collinwood582.org)

21st Masonic District of Ohio, <http://masonicoh21.net/>

Solar Lodge No. 730 Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A. <http://solarlodgeno730.googlepages.com>

Steubenville Lodge No 45 Ohio <http://www.steubenvillelodge45.org/>

Alba lodge No 315 USA <<http://www.albalodge315.org/>>

Statesville Lodge No27 USA. <http://www.statesville27.ncmason.org/>

Triangle Lodge No 708 Georgia USA [www.trianglelodge.org](http://www.trianglelodge.org)

Triangle Lodge Maine [http://www.bluelodges.com/blweb/site\\_main.aspx?lodgeid=10](http://www.bluelodges.com/blweb/site_main.aspx?lodgeid=10)

Solomon's Lodge No. 3, F. & A.M. Philadelphia, PA

[www.solomons3.org](http://www.solomons3.org) <http://www.solomons3.org>

Lynnhaven Lodge No 220 Virginia <http://www.vamason.org/no220>

Freedom Military Lodge No 1775 Washington DC <http://www.freedomlodge.org>

Freedom Lodge No. 118, Lovettsville, VA, USA <http://www.freedom118.org/>

Crayford Lodge No 6336 England <http://www.crayfordlodge.org.uk>

Prov of Shropshire <http://www.pglshropshire.org.uk/>

Lodge Duyfken, which is in the District of Carpentaria, in Queensland,

Australia. <http://www.tNewinyurl.com/omr8a>

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### **Editorial Team**

Editor: Brian W Crayford: [bwbutler@btinternet.com](mailto:bwbutler@btinternet.com)

Asian Pacific Regional Editor: Dennis McDowell: [Dennis\\_19502000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Dennis_19502000@yahoo.co.uk)

USA Regional Editor: Corby Christenson: [rangercorby@yahoo.com](mailto:rangercorby@yahoo.com)

Assistant editor: Furokh Santoke: [fsantoke@hotmail.com](mailto:fsantoke@hotmail.com)

Distribution Team: Ellis Mills: [eteldest@yahoo.com](mailto:eteldest@yahoo.com)

Leo Scott: [leo\\_scott@att.net](mailto:leo_scott@att.net)

Paul Schoffstall [paul1s@clearwire.net](mailto:paul1s@clearwire.net)

John McDevitt Nelson [41\\_baird@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:41_baird@tiscali.co.uk)

Correspondents

: All GFN Reps

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