



GFN CYBER MASON

www.masonic-network.com

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



Click Here <<http://mysite.verizon.net/vze201j5/countdown.htm>>

Volume 2, Number 12 December 2007

Forums meet at the East Gate.

UK 9.00pm GMT Sunday only

AP 9.30 am GMT 8.30am ESP

USA 3.00am GMT 10.00pm EST

Editorial

Planning for the Future

A special meeting was held on 4th November at the three forums to discuss the decline of the GFN. Arising out of the need to re-evaluate and revitalize our Global Fraternal Network members were asked to contribute their suggestions and ideas. As a result, on the 11th November a special meeting was called to review what had been contributed earlier. We value your help and advice; please let us have the benefit of your input to the suggestions and recommendations listed below.

You can leave a posting and/or attend our special meetings to be held on... Sunday 2nd December

“Brethren all contributions will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.”

Suggestions put forward to improve the site were.

1. Rotate Officer and Rep terms on a 3-year basis.
2. Obtain Grand Lodge recognition internationally.
3. Allow EAs and FCs to join.
4. Introduce individual member mailboxes for private messages.
5. Publish member profiles in the Newsletter.
6. Publish non-Masonic items in the Newsletter.
7. Update the Chat Forums to make the more "user friendly" and real-time / streaming.
8. Roster members to be available in the forums at given times.
9. Improve the menus and appearance of the site overall.

On Sunday 11th November a Steering Committee met to discuss these suggestions.
Findings were: -

- 1 To advertise Representative vacancies within the News Letter
2. A worthy objective - probably a way forward is to list those Grand lodges where we are recognised and publish it on our Website - for example the UGL of Victoria now recognises GFN by virtue of their co-operation for the 2005 Gathering such a list might inspire confidence of G.Ls who are uncertain as to the nature and purpose of GFN.
3. A vote was taken which proved in favour of accepting EA's and FC's
4. No need for individual or private mailboxes - We think that idea is without any real merit.
5. We are in favour as it will create interest - asks each member on this discussion group to put forward a personal profile with photo and presto you have 6 issues taken care of
Only publish the profiles of members who supply them.
- 6 To be left to discretion of Editor
7. We believe we need to get our members a lot more active before we can go to the 2 Rs and ask them to spend a lot of money on an upgrade of the system
8. We suggest we look into the possibilities of restarting the manning of the Forums 24 hrs
9. Most don't know what resources are available to them in the GFN

These are only suggestions. A meeting will be held on AP UK and USA on Sunday 2nd December open to all members to finalise the suggested improvements to the GFN site

Brethren

I have been reading with interest the comments on how The Forums and Trestle Boards are becoming inactive. I would like to ask you a few questions.
First are you contributing to the Trestle Boards by?
Either asking questions or helping to answer another Brothers question? How active the Trestle Boards are Depends upon you.
Second what times do you want the Forums to meet? Are you willing to participate in the Forum by either Hosting one of the Forums for one hour a month or by Suggesting a topic for a forum and be there to Participate in the discussion for one hour each month? Again how active the Forums are depends upon you.
If you are willing to help in any of these areas or Have any suggestions email me at plump45@yahoo.com.
You may also send your suggestions to any of the Area Co-coordinators.
How active or relevant the GFN is going to be depends Upon you the members. The members of the staff are Just tools to keep the gears moving.
John R. Nicholas

Staff Administrator

Any comments or articles to me please on bwbutler@btinternet.com

If any brother would submit their Lodge Web Site to be included as a link in this News Letter please forward Lodge Name, No. And URL

Hospitality Committee Formed

Brothers

It is with great pleasure that the GFN Administration announce the formation of the new Hospitality committee, we look forward to their success and know that their endeavors will be appreciated by our new and old GFN members. Their role is one of assisting new members when they first join our site, to explain about the trestle boards and the chat area so that when a new brother comes on line he not only is made to feel welcome he can also navigate around the site.

.How it works, is that the hospitality committee will send a personalized email to the individual brother and that is followed up by a email from the local Representative. In this way the brother is welcomed and the area Representative has a chance to introduce himself.

Your committee consists of

Dennis	aka	Genisis	Chairman
Ralph Staples			Co Chairman
Ellis Mills	aka	ET	
Leo Scott	aka	Magnolia Shellback	
Andy Lilly	aka	Drew Lilly	

If you know of a brother that is joining and want to also welcome him let one of the committee members know so that we can include you in our welcome.

We look forward to being the first contact that a New member has with the GFN and our intention is to make him feel welcome and to be a part of our great site in a active way.

Regards
Dennis aka Genisis

Hospitality Committee



UK Forum. DO WE NEED IT? If you think we do come and join us
Every Sunday at 9.0pm UK Time



Duke of Connaught who was Grand Master of UGLofE from 1901 to 1939.
Picture shows him in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe)
This from MQ Magazine



Jersey

THE SACKING OF THE TEMPLE

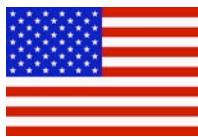
German forces occupied Jersey during the Second World War, and they ransacked the Masonic temple in the search for anti-Jewish material. In the following extract from the book "The Story of Jersey Freemasonry" by Colin Rigors, it will be seen what damage was caused. In 1940 when German forces occupied the Channel Islands, the Temple building with the exception of the caretaker's living quarters, was closed, and the German authorities gave an undertaking that provided all Masonic activities ceased, nothing would be done to interfere with the premises or its contents. Relying on this assurance, the Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro C.E.Malet de Carteret gave instructions that the premises were to remain locked, and that nothing need be removed. Unfortunately, this reliance was very much misplaced, and a squad of what can best be described as wreckers and looters, sent directly from Berlin, started the sack of the Temple on the 27th January 1941, which continued for two days. Bro G.S.Knocker, the Librarian and Curator of the Jersey Masonic Library and Museum watched them at a discreet distance. It is hard to try to imagine the distress that must have been felt by him, at seeing his hard work in building up the collections of books and other items so wantonly destroyed.

The Nazis left very little in the Temple, just the portraits by John St.Helier Lander and the Masters' boards which were fixed on the walls. The warrants that had hung in the ante-room were all removed. Of the furniture, regalia, Lodge books, etc, there was no sign. Much had been destroyed in a bonfire in the caretaker's garden adjoining the Temple. What was of value to the Nazis politically, had been shipped to Berlin? The pair of Cary's Globes dated 1806 (Terrestrial) and 1799 (Celestial) that had been situated either side of the Master's pedestal were never recovered. These globes would now be worth in excess of £30,000. The boiler was left in a dangerous state and could not be used. The chequered carpet had been removed to Linden Court, St.Saviour, the accommodation used by Col. Schumacher, the German Civil and Administrative Commander, who had taken it back to Germany with him in 1941.

During the Occupation the German authorities had forced the States of Jersey to pass an Act to enable the property, both real and personal, to be transferred out of the hands of the Masonic authorities to themselves, and this led to some problems in gaining early access to the Temple after the Liberation. The negotiations with the civil and military authorities were lengthy and complicated, but by the 18th July 1945, W.Bro Knocker was able to regain access. The condition of the building internally was terrible, as it had been used as a store for bottles of wine and the confiscated radio (or wireless) sets. Much work had to be done to restore it to some semblance of order.

The Management committee established a special bank account with the Midland Bank, Hill Street, entitled the "Restoration Fund." All Lodges were requested to collect from each of its members a sum equivalent to two years subscription and pay these into this Fund. Provincial Grand Lodge made a donation of £1,000 towards the rehabilitation and refurbishment of the building. However it needed much effort by the brethren of the Province to make the building habitable again. It is to their credit that the work was completed within a comparatively short time.

Many gifts were received towards refurbishing the Temple including three pedestals, three tracing boards, heavy maul, rough and smooth ashlar, tripod and stand, toolbox, twelve sundry aprons, three collars. Brethren of Structure Lodge No 5157 and the Mark Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight donated many of these. The Winchester Masonic Centre sent a replacement carpet. The War Memorial had been taken, and consideration was given to replacing it with one commemorating brethren who made the supreme sacrifice in both World Wars. The Restoration committee had to report at the end of 1946 that they had abandoned a claim for damage and loss from the States of Jersey, because it had been announced that ex-gratia payments would only be made to business applicants. Seating had to be borrowed from the Theosophical Society, pending the construction of 100 new oak chairs. As part of the reinstatement of the property to Masonic control, a new company the Jersey Masonic Temple Company (1945) Ltd was created. They did not submit any accounts to Lodges for rent until 1947 when after some prompting from the Management committee, three years rent were requested at once. After the Occupation, the best that could be procured for use at meetings, were three Windsor chairs. Before the sacking, the three chairs on the dais had dominated the room, the larger having been of particularly noble dimensions. The Immediate Past Master's chair had been made for RW.Bro J.J.Hammond, when he was Provincial Grand Master and bore his crest of a lion rampant. The other chair bore the unusual emblems of two serpents and a dove. It will be realised that three Windsor chairs were hardly a suitable replacement. On the 4th November 1946, W.Bro Knocker was passing the doors of Deslandes Auction Rooms in Stopford Road. He noticed two old chairs of exquisite design and workmanship, which were to be auctioned later that day. They were in a poor state of repair, but were of such workmanship and quality that W.Bro Knocker returned to the Temple and instructed the caretaker, W.Bro R.O.Marquis to make a bid of up to £4 for the pair, which was successful. A maker's brass plate was found of the back of each chair bearing the inscription "T.O.Lyte, Jersey." It was later established that these had been constructed in 1842 for the Foresters Court of Prosperity who had used them up to the Occupation, but were now forced to remove to smaller premises disposing of their two "rulers" chairs. T.O.Lyte was himself a local Freemason. Mr. J Le Miere and Mr. F.A.Morin renovated them, craftsmen working for A.de Gruchy & Co, and a third larger chair was commissioned to match the other two. The work was completed in 1948, the larger chair costing exactly £100.



USA Forum

Special Communication & Festive Board

Friday, December 7th, 2007

7:00pm - 12:00am

Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd St., New York, NY 10010

7:00pm: Special Communication

Grand Lodge Room, 3rd Floor - TILED

We will welcome the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York and his Elected and Appointed Grand Line. In addition we will receive distinguished delegations from other Grand

Bodies, Concordant Bodies and Lodges from the United States and abroad. We will mark the occasion with an exemplification of 18th Century ritual, a symbolic re-laying of the cornerstone of King Solomon's Temple and other special Masonic labors.

9:00pm: Festive Board

Grand Dining Room, 2nd Floor - TILED

Share a fine three-course meal, wine, toasts and the company of your Brothers at what is certain to be one of the largest Festive Boards in recent memory. Every guest will receive commemorative gifts and a limited edition copy of our Anniversary Transactions, including histories and papers kindly donated by Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. S. Brent Morris 33o, noted Masonic author and the first American Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research.

In Appreciation

El Campo Leader-News · Saturday, October 27, 2007 **Page 5-B**



Most Worshipful Grand Master Donny Broughton, Grand Master of Masons in Texas for 2007, declared August and September as Masonic youth months. In recognition of his decree, the El Campo Rainbow Girls Assembly No. 94 invited local Masons to their September meeting. The Rainbow girls presented a program honoring the Masons, recognizing their contributions to the community and nation, especially to Masonic youth. Rainbow girls and their Masonic friends shared fellowship and favorite refreshments of pie and ice cream after the meeting. Pictured are (front, l-r) Shelley Ashcraft, Grand Worthy Advisor; Sharnise Sylvester of San Antonio, Grand Service; Gabby Temple; Shawneequa Harris; (middle, l-r) Rhonda Ashcraft, Mother Advisor; Sarah Rowland; (back, l-r) D.D. Hill, Worshipful Master, El Campo Lodge No. 918; Wade Newton, Past Master, El Campo Lodge No. 918; Karl McLeod, Worshipful Master, Wharton Lodge No. 621; David Broman, Past Master, El Campo Lodge No. 918; Bill Lins, District Instructor District 32.

David Broman, Director of the Only In Jest Board wrote: "Our WM DD Hill was at Pearl Harbor and this is the 1st time he has served as Master. Bro Newton is a 60yr member and was WM the year before me; he was also in his 80's when he became Master. WM McLeod is a retired FBI agent, myself and bro Lins are the youngsters."



Corby Christenson at Tacoma Scottish Rite Reunion



Asian Pacific



Japan

At the February 21, 2008 meeting of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, Miss Pauline Vera Chakmakjian will present "The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Japan: 1957-2007."

Summary:

Originally one of the many catalysts in MacArthur's plans for the stabilization and reconstruction of Japan, Freemasonry continues to exist in Japan after the formal inception of its first Grand Lodge in 1957. This paper will trace the progress of Freemasonry in Japan, identify five key problems that prevent its growth, and will seek to pinpoint possible solutions to these problems in order to render Freemasonry more successful in Japan. Moreover, the primary issue of imperial patronage will be presented in detail in addition to information about the charitable arm of Freemasonry in Japan as well as efforts to promote good Anglo-Japanese Masonic relations.

About the author of the paper:

Miss Pauline Vera Chakmakjian gives public lectures on occidental and oriental Freemasonry with a particular interest in 18th century British and European Masonic salon culture and contemporary Japanese Freemasonry in relation to Japanese ritual and religion. She completed a BA in English Language and Literature (Whittier), was awarded a fine arts merit scholarship in drawing and painting during her undergraduate studies, and also holds a postgraduate diploma in law (London) as well as a MA in Modern French Studies (London). In 2006, Pauline founded the Japan Room, which meets in Lodge Room No. 11 (named after Japan) of Freemasons' Hall in

London, with the two-fold aim of informing the public about Anglo-Japanese connections in a Masonic context and to promote the culture of Japan.

(Source: Equator Coronate Lodge No. 2076 summons)

Copies of this paper will be available from the lodge approximately Feb. 1, 2008 at a cost of £3.50.

Personally, I'd love to hear more about MacArthur's ideas on Masonry's role in post-imperial Japan. Other than appearing on lists of famous Masons because he was made a Mason on sight, you never hear anything about his interactions with the Craft.

SSG

Situations Vacant

A number of vacancy's exist for UK County Reps

Some Euro Reps required

Interested? In the first instance contact the editor

Masonic Buildings.



Grand Lodge of Oregon



Beaverton Lodge Oregon



Lord Carrington Lodge Queensland

Please let me have Pictures of your Lodge Buildings. Keep them coming.

Ed

Lodge Links

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

Collinwood Lodge #582, Ohio www.collinwood582.org

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

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

Triangle Lodge Maine 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>

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

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

Quote

Before God we are all equally wise - and equally foolish.

Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

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