



GFN CYBER MASON

www.masonic-network.com

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

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Volume 3, Number 6 June 2008

Forums meet at the East Gate.

UK 2100 BST Sunday only

AP 1030 GMT

USA 0300 GMT

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

"The views expressed here (by Members of the GFN) are of those individuals who contribute them and are not of any Masonic Lodge, Grand Lodge nor of the Editors, Officers or Personnel of the Newsletter".

Editorial

A. CLARIFICATION OF THE GFN's POSITION REGARDING SEVERAL ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED BY MEMBERS.

B. BASIC GFN REGULATIONS & DESCRIPTION OF THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIFFERENT GFN STAFF MEMBERS.

THE GFN'S OBJECTIVES AND GOALS.

Among the Global Fraternal Network's objectives and goals are, simply, the following: To create an Electronic Global Fraternal Network for the exclusive use and benefit of Master Masons. To create an electronic platform where Brothers can voice their opinions, contribute constructive ideas, and foster a genuine Masonic exchange.

To promote Masonic education.

To develop close fraternal ties and cooperation between and among Freemasons throughout the world.

THE COST OF RUNNING AND MAINTAINING THE GFN

The expense of creating this Masonic Network; the cost connected with programming and maintaining the GFN, etc., since its inception in 1994, have been fully borne by your Hosts, the two Founders. The GFN is not beholden to anyone except the GAOTU.

THE GFN'S POSITION ON MASONIC REGULARITY

The GFN is an Internet-based fraternal network embracing all Freemasons throughout the world regardless of jurisdiction. Since many Grand Lodges do recognize each other but, in turn, do not mutually recognize other Grand Lodges, it is up to the individual to determine his global fraternal relationships. However, it is the Administrators' prerogative to limit membership from only those jurisdictions, which in their opinion have broad recognition. Communicating on this or any other Internet network does not constitute Masonic Intercourse. The GFN does not hold itself out as a Chartered Masonic Lodge. It is a communications network, virtual in nature, for Master Masons throughout the world. However, prior to engaging in anything, which may be considered an impropriety by your jurisdiction, you are cautioned to exercise good Judgment when communicating over this network. You are to always keep in mind that the esoteric works must never be discussed anywhere except in a properly secured tiled Masonic Lodge which has fraternal recognition by your jurisdiction. You are also reminded that in keeping with Masonic Protocol, all correspondence between Lodges, Districts and Grand Lodges outside of the jurisdiction of your Grand Lodge must be transmitted through the Office of your Grand Secretary. The Global Fraternal Network, its Founders being Past District Deputy Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, may at its discretion, in matters of Masonic protocol, recognize the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Comments or suggestions regarding the News Letter may be entered onto the GFN Comment Board

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

This message is meant for those GFN members who have not yet furnished their details on Membership Roster or have given very scanty details. Though not compulsory, it is recommended that you give at least your name, lodge and other contact details and profession/business details so that other brethren all over the world may know you better. Unless of course you do not want to be disturbed!

Please feel free to send in your comments and suggestions. Please remember that the postings on the Roster are not meant to be used for business purposes.

Narendra Porwal Rep for India



THE GFN WILL BE RUNNING A 24 HOUR CHAT FESTIVAL
DATE: 16TH AUGUST 2008

The concept is to have the East Gate forum hosted by GFN members for the complete 24-hour period on the 16th August 2008; we do need your help to make this idea become a reality.

HOW? By becoming a volunteer to act as a host for a specific time slot within the 24-hour period. There will also be topics set down for time zones and we want your help to choose these Topics, which will be posted prior to the event. 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. For this to be successful we need YOU to help and donate your time. To do this, write to me < dennis_19502000@yahoo.co.uk> and let me know the time slot in the 24 hour period that you are able to "man " the forum.

So, my Brothers, please take the time to get involved, either by becoming a host or pledge to just come on line on the day and in that way supporting the CHAT FESTIVAL. By doing this you will get to know many of your Brothers around the world and help your fellow GFN members have a great time and together we can make this "EVENT "a Grand One to remember.

Fraternally.

Dennis [aka Genisis]
24 hours Chat Festival Coordinator

“Who is who in the GFN?”

First in a series of profiles

Brian Butler aka Brian W Crayford
Euro Regional Leader
GFN News Letter Editor



Brian was born in Lambeth London in 1936. At the outbreak of WW2 he together with thousands of others was evacuated out of London. Spending 3 years in Cornwall.

At the age of 16 he was apprenticed to J & E Hall a well none firm of refrigeration engineers as a Coppersmith. At one time Halls supplied refrigeration equipment to 60% of the Worlds Shipping.

On completion of his apprenticeship he served in the Royal Navy for two years National Service.

After working as a Coppersmith for a few years In the Royal Docks he returned to J & E Hall as a Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Installation Engineer eventually leaving Halls and setting up his own Limited Company.

Brian was married to Doreen in 1964 and now has two children and three grandchildren.

Initiated into Crayford Lodge No 6336(UGLoF) in 1980 and was Master in 1990 and 1991. Then took up the duties of Treasurer from 1993 until 2004.

Was appointed as Past Provincial Assistant Grand Registrar in 1986 and promoted to Past Provincial Senior Deacon in 2002

Recently appointed as Charity Steward for his Lodge.

Appointed as UK Rep for GFN then as Euro Regional Leader.

Brian is also Web Master to www.crayfordlodge.org.uk and www.britishbytes.org.com
GFN News and Crayford Lodge News Letter Editor for third year

This keeps him pretty busy but leaving time for Indoor and Outdoor Green Bowls

He retired on his 65th Birthday in 2001



Asian Pacific

EXCITING TIMES FOR FREMANTLE

There is no doubt that the Chalmers Street Masonic Centre is one of the best designed meeting places in the metropolitan area. The location boasts two good-sized and well-proportioned lodge rooms, two large dining halls, a double kitchen and ample rest room facilities. Although consideration was given to relocate to a new venue, it soon became apparent that it would be impossible to provide the same quality of building and excellent location, as that provided by the Chalmers Street hall.

With these facts in mind, the decision was made to transfer the property to Grand Lodge to undertake a major refurbishment of the Fremantle hall. The first stages of the renovations will be largely unnoticed, as they entail major repairs to the roof and an overhaul of the electrical wiring. The first significant internal construction work will involve the installation of a fully enclosed six-person lift. Other major construction work will include the provision of disabled toilet facilities on the upper level and a new fully-enclosed fire escape.

External construction includes a new portico entrance, complete with the traditional Masonic pillars and new stylish automatic front doors, the removal of surplus exterior landings and hazardous street trees to provide additional parking and a render treatment to the exterior face brickwork. This work will provide a very significant facelift to the building and create an impressive façade of which we can all be proud.

This work will provide a very significant face lift to the building and create an impressive façade of which we can all be proud.

The internal cosmetics will include a top-to-bottom paint job and new drapes to all windows. New quality Masonic carpeting will be fitted to the lodge rooms (blue for Craft and red for Chapter) with matching carpeting for the assembly areas, plus the provision of a Craft pavement rug for the lodge room and Royal Arch design rug for the Chapter room. The Chapter room will feature permanent, hanging, floor-to-ceiling curtains to facilitate effortless setting up and working of the Degrees in Chapter and all other Orders.

The timber floors in each festive board area will be sanded and re-sealed with an ultra hard epoxy finish, and new upholstered chairs with multi-configuration dining tables will be provided.

Professional renovation will also be undertaken to reveal one of Fremantle's hidden treasures, the wonderful terrazzo floor in the entrance hall. The colour and quality of this floor has long been concealed under decades of wear and with the proper treatment it will once again provide a beautiful feature for the main entrance.

As always, patience is requested from the brethren, as work of this complexity takes very careful planning and hasty decisions and avoidable mistakes can be very costly. It should also be noted that without the foresight and cooperation of the Fremantle Hall Company in transferring the property to Grand Lodge, this exciting programme could never have been put into place. We all owe them a sincere vote of thanks for putting the future of Freemasonry in Western Australia ahead of any local or personal considerations.



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



To Andy Lillie Rep for Scotland on being installed as PG Vice President of Stewards for Grand Lodge of Scotland.
To Ian Daniel, Director of Traveling Brother Board on his promotion to Provincial GSN (Northumberland) Grand Scribe Nemehia Royal Arch Chapter

To Peter Evans. Rep for Kent on being presented with the Invicta Award for his services to Masonry in West Kent



Brethren, You will be glad to know that on April 30, 2008 I was granted promotion in my Grand Rank at UGLE & SGCE that of PAGDC and PGst.B in Craft and Chapter respectively. However I could not attend the investiture on April 30 at the Grand Lodge in London

. S & F, narendra porwal GFN REP for India



USA

John Brown (1800-59) the militant American abolitionist became a Freemason. The records of his old lodge, Hudson Lodge No. 68, GL of Ohio, show that he was made an EA on January 13, 1824, a FC on February 10, and a MM on May 11. Brown was elected JD of the lodge in 1825, however, very soon after he renounced Freemasonry.

Brown led the raid on Harpers Ferry and whose defeat, trial, and execution helped set the stage for the US Civil War (1861-65). He was immortalized by Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910) who was most famous as the author of the patriotic verse "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", first published in the 'Atlantic Monthly' in 1862. This soon became one of the most popular songs of the Union during the American Civil War, the patriotic verse is set to the tune of the popular song "John Brown's Body," which Howe had sung along with Union soldiers during a visit to Washington, DC, after the Battle of Bull Run on July 21, 1861.



On my recent visit to Singapore I made a point of looking for the Masonic Hall, which like most things there was built at the instigation of Sir Stamford Raffles.

Picture attached

S & F

Hedley Mason



Singapore Freemasonry

By Cornelius-Takahama, Vernon written on 2000-04-28
National Library Board Singapore

Freemasonry, fraternal society, first set up in Singapore, on 8 December 1845, with establishment of "Lodge Zetland In The East", the oldest surviving Freemason lodge here. Its members called Freemasons or Masons belong to Lodges or Temples, and here, activities are centred at the Masonic Hall in Coleman Street. The Craft promotes three main principles - society, charity and morality.

History

Freemasonry, or simply, Masonry, one of the world's oldest fraternal societies, started out in England in the 16th century from a blue-collar trade-fraternity guild of stonemasons or stone-workers. The oldest Grand Lodge of Freemasons in the world is the United Grand Lodge of England, founded in London on 24 June 1717.

It is believed that the Dutch Masons were the first to set up an organised lodge in the Far East but the beginnings of Singapore's Lodge is traced to the founding of Freemasonry in the Eastern Archipelago. This began with the establishment of the Lodge at Bencoolen in 1765. Stamford Raffles himself was instrumental in establishing Lodges in the region - namely Lodge Virtutis et Artis Amici in Java, Lodge de Vriendschap in Surabaya and Chapter La Vertueuse in Batavia. Such was the influence of Raffles that the local Lodge bears his name and coat-of-arms as insignia.

Freemasonry was introduced to Malaya in September 1809 via Neptune Lodge No. 441 E.C. Penang. Activities in Singapore began with the first 'mother' lodge, "Lodge Zetland in the East" No. 748 E.C (now The Zetland in the East Lodge No. 508) established and consecrated on 8 December 1845, in a house at Armenian Street. At that first lodge meeting, twelve leading members of the small European community in Singapore - among them senior lawyer, William Napier, deputy superintendent of police, Thomas Dunman and Straits Times editor, Robert Carr Woods - were proposed for initiation. On 15 December 1845, William Napier became the first initiated Brother, next was prominent citizen Mr William H. Read followed by soldier, Lieutenant Benjamin Bloomfield Keane. Other notable Freemasons in Singapore's early history included the country's founder, Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles; first attorney-general, Thomas Braddell; Rajah of Sarawak, James Brooke, Admiral Henry Keppel, John Coulson Smith, former headmaster of Raffles Institution, and Thomas Owen Crane, Justice of Peace, and trustee of Raffles Institution. Some world famous Masons were George Washington, Theodore Roosevelt and Winston Churchill. The present head and Grand Master of the 'headquarters' United Grand Lodge of England is the Duke of Kent.

Prior to the construction of the Lodge at Coleman Street, the Masonic meetings were held at Masonic Halls in various locations around Singapore including Armenian Street (1845), High Street (1846), North Bridge Road (1853), the Esplanade (1856), Beach Road in Kampong Glam (1871), and then another location at Beach Road (1873).



South Africa

From Kingstone PS Cuthbert

?

Outeniqua Lodge 3125 EC (under the UGLE).

Meets on the 1st Thursday of each month, except January (recess) and October (1st Saturday, Installation)

<http://blogs.24.com/outeniqualodge3125ec>

Lodge Protea 1578 SC (under the Grand Lodge of Scotland).

Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, except April (1st Saturday, Installation) and December (recess).

<http://blogs.24.com/lodgeprotea1578sc>

And in Oudtshoorn

Cango Lodge 2088 EC (under UGLE)

Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January (recess) and November (1st Saturday, Installation).
<http://blogs.24.com/cangolodge>

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Masonic Buildings.

Dear Bro. Brian:

FYI, I am sending a photo of the G.L. of Cuba, which is in Central Havana. This was taken some time ago and it doesn't look as nice as it once was. Nevertheless, it is still an imposing edifice.

Best wishes.

Bro. Ainsley Sahai



Dear Brother:

I always enjoy reading the Global Fraternal newsletter and April's edition was no exception. I was particularly interested in reading about the Cuban lodges and seeing the photographs. I was able to relate to them. This is because I have been to Cuba on several occasions and have attended lodge meetings in Havana and Cienfuegos. I have also visited a few other lodges in other towns in Cuba.

I was very warmly received by the Cuban brethren.

Freemasonry is alive and thriving well in Cuba. What struck me over the years is that more and more younger people are joining.

Despite the political system in Cuba being different to what most of us are accustomed to, there has been no interference in Freemasonry.

I have done a paper on Cuba and the Craft and another on Freemasonry and the Cuban Revolution.

In closing may I point out that Cuba practices regular Freemasonry. The Grand Lodge of Cuba is recognized

by the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the Grand Lodge of Scotland and many of the other recognized Grand lodges of the world.
Ainsley Sahai

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

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/>

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

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>

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>

Quote

Strangers are just friends waiting to meet

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