



GFN NEWS

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The Newsletter of the Global Fraternal Network -- VIRTUAL INTERNET LODGE NO. 1
Volume 1, Number 2, April 2006

Editorial

Here we go for the second edition. We hope you enjoyed the first. By the feed back and new contributions you certainly did. Keep sending in. At the moment we are restricted to the size. Too big and members will be bored and not download.

I have been asked to draw to your attention that this News Letter will only go to those that are registered on the Members Roster.

Suggestions received for title of News Letter so far are: -

Global Echo
Fraternal Times
Global Blues
GFN Gazette
GFN Mirror.

Lets have a vote. E Mail me with your decision.

I welcome Brothers Ellis Mills, Furokh and Dennis McDowell onto the editorial team. I am sure with their help we shall improve each edition.

Are you using the Boards ? They are there for your benefit. As are the Forums PLEASE JOIN IN

Ed

Your editorial team is: -

Editor Brian W Crayford on bwbutler@btinternet.com

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Correspondents. All GFN Reps

From the Birthday Board Director

Brethren of the GFN

May you each be surrounded by family and friends on your special day.

I send electronic Birthday Cards to all members of the GFN who have disclosed to me their dates, either on the Member Roster, or by private e-mail to me.

I also acknowledge Masonic, and Wedding, Anniversaries that I hear of.

On the Glad Tidings, Birthday Board I post congratulations to the Brethren so others may be reminded of the significant events in your life and be bound closer together by ties of Brotherly Love and Affection.

[The Farewell To the Brethren of St. James' Lodge, Tarbolton]

"May freedom, harmony, and love,
Unite us in the GRAND DESIGN,
Beneath the' OMNISCIENT EYE above,
The glorious ARCHITECT divine!

That you may keep the' UNERRING LINE,
Still by the PLUMMET'S law,
Till ORDER BRIGHT completely shine,
Shall be my prayer when far away'."

Robert Burns

Ellis Mills [etfromstar187]
Sickness & Distress Trestle Board Director
Glad Tidings/ Birthday Trestle Board Director
Chairman GFN Staff Directory Committee
SW Star Lodge 187, Cuyahoga Falls, OH



United Kingdom

Lodge required to host UK GFN Get Together in the autumn

Contact the editor

Forthcoming Topics for UK Forum at the East Gate Sunday 9.0pm GMT

2nd April Should Lodges be put under pressure to meet Charity Targets?

9th April What are you doing to keep Freemasonry alive?

16th April The White Table Meeting

23rd April Exhibiting your Lodge at a Town Show

Dear Brethren, fraternal greetings

Lodge St John No.174 Scottish Constution are selling the following Cd recorded by the Senior Deacon Robert Crowe. Tenor from Scotland's only Classical Three Tenor Group, R3 Tenors. Roberts biog can be found on www.r3tenors.co.uk <<http://www.r3tenors.co.uk/>> St John 174 can be found at mainpage@strathearnvalleymasons.bravehost.com
mainpage@lodge174.bravehost.com

Cost £10 profits to Masonic Charities.

14 numbers

Granada

Bring him Home

Shine through my dreams

Lonely House

It Must be so

Mattinata

Non ti scordar di me

Funiculi funicula

Marechiare

O surdato 'nnamurato

Parmi verder la lagrime
Come un bel di, di maggio
Sicillana
La donne mobile

You can also buy the CD from the R3 Tenor Web site.

Yours fraternally,
Bro Robert Crow
The Castle
Kirk Wynd
Dunning
Perthshire
PH2 0SJ

From UGLofE Quarterly Communications of December 2005

The Board is most anxious to encourage the recruitment of young members and expect to give notice of motion in March to amend the Book of Constitutions to allow for a lower rate of dues and registration fees for Brethren under the age of twenty-five. In the meantime it is the Boards intention to waive during 2006 50% of the annual dues and registration fee payable in respect of a Brother who is under twenty five for any part of the Lodge subscription year in which it Will fall to be paid.

Grand Lodge of Armenia

GL recommends that it be recognised
For full details of Communications link to www.mqmagazine.co.uk

Countries not in USA, UK or AP

Subject: New Temple

Brother Brian,
Here's a story for you.

The Freemasons in Barbados, representing both the Scottish and English Constitutions, are building a new temple on the island to replace the historic one in the heart of Bridgetown, which has outlived its usefulness. The new property is located in the central parish of St. George on the island and has a panoramic view of the sugar plantations. It will be more convenient for a number of masons who live nearer to the temple, as it is closer to residential developments, but most importantly it also eliminates the parking problems that were experienced in the Bridgetown situation.

The big question now is the finance to complete the structure, particularly the finishes and furnishings on the inside. It will have three meeting rooms to allow various meetings to be conducted simultaneously as there are many of the other chapters on the island in addition to the 12 Craft lodges.



Brother Mike A. Williams is the GFN Representative for Barbados and the Caribbean. He has supplied this information and pictures.

THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BARBADOS

Holding of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland
Announces the Installation of

Bro. Nigel Ricardo Jones OBE, JP
As
Right Worshipful District Grand Master
Of
The District Grand Lodge of Barbados
On
Saturday, 8th April 2006
At
Sherbourne Conference Centre, St Michael, Barbados

Outline of Activities

Friday, 7th April 2006
7:00 p.m. Reception.
Saturday, 8th April 2006
9:00 a.m. Sightseeing/Shopping for *Spouses*.
3:00 p.m. Installation Ceremony.
7:00 p.m. Cocktails
8.00 p.m. Installation Banquet

The Grand Barbados Beach Resort Hotel has offered special rates to Masons attending the functions. Rates inclusive of taxes are: Single US\$105.75 and Double US\$123.37. Tel: (246)426-4000; Fax: (246)429- 2400; Email reservations@grandbarbados.com

Please mark you diary accordingly and make hotel reservations early.
Registration details for the Installation activities will follow.
For further details, please contact R.W. Jean Rene van Geuns at jrene.vangeuns@verizon.net



ASIAN PACIFIC

I have received a complaint that the Australian Flag does not mirror the activities of the Asian Pacific Forum as other countries are involved. How about a Brother designing a Logo for AP Ed.

AP Forum

Every day at 7.00 pm Perth Time 11.00 am GMT

Hi Bro Brian,

I've just returned from interstate where I've been on a job assignment for the past three weeks and noticed your posting re., a request for an article for the newsletter, I hope someone sent something to you.
If not it might be of interest for your readers to learn a little of what happened as a result of our GFN Gathering last October. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Ron

Freemasons Welcoming Freemasons

The theme for the 2005 GFN Asian Pacific Gathering was 'Freemasons Welcoming Freemasons' and that was certainly true of what took place at the Masonic Centre on the beautiful bayside town of Dromana Victoria Australia. (GFN brethren interested in that Gathering will find coverage on the Asian Pacific Trestle Table.) It's what has happened since that I think is of great interest.

We have gained **new GFN members** a number of Freemasons attending the Gathering have now become members of GFN.

We made GFN visible in Victoria through this activity. Following the discussions that were held by our GFN Asian Pacific Convention Master, V.Wor Bro Ron Cameron with the Grand Secretary and the subsequent approval given by the Grand Master the Most Worshipful Brother Bruce Bartrop for the GFN Gathering and for the Dromana Lodge to host the event many good things began to happen.

We gained a new candidate for Freemasonry. There's no substitute for Freemasons getting together and in particular to find themselves in the company of an enthusiastic band of GFN members at a Gathering such as 'Freemasons Welcoming Freemasons'. Bro Allan Singh our representative from South Africa who was present had the unique opportunity of introducing his brother-in-law to 'who and what we are' over that weekend. His brother-in-law is now a candidate for Freemasonry and will be taking his first degree in May.

The Global Fraternal Network is a wonderful means of promoting the Craft. It is and can be a means of **enlarging our vision** of what it means to belong and through our commitment to Freemasonry encourage others to be more involved in the life of their Lodge.

Apart from the United Grand Lodge of Victoria a vote of thanks must go to the Brethren of Masons Connect www.masonsconnect.com <<http://www.masonsconnect.com>> for their support in promoting the GFN Gathering and for their contribution to that weekend by running a workshop over the weekend.

V Wor Ron Cameron, PGIW
GFN Asian Pacific Convention Master



The United States

USA Forum 9.30pm EST 3.0am GMT

Ivanhoe Commandery 33

Patrick J Chalmers E.C. & Joseph L Stith Jr Recorder 124 South Harrison Street, Kankakee, Illinois 60901
Be it known that Ivanhoe Commandery 33 will hold its Annual Inspection and Knighting of a Companion on April 8th 2006

The day's activities will be under the direction of E G W Joseph W Lucas.
The day will start with Coffee and Donuts at about 9.00 AM. Then a feast for Sir Knights and Ladies at a modest cost of \$5.00 per person. Lunch at Noon.
Labour starts at 1.00 PM Ladies Tea at 2.00PM

Evening work to follow Order of Temple.
A silent auction will be held during the day, donations welcome.
A beautiful crocheted Afghan will be auctioned sometime during the day. Viewing will be held at Tea.
Dinner will be at Family House Restaurant at the conclusion of the day's festivities.
RSVP

Past Master on the Shelf.
From the South African Freemason
From: furokh (@ 59.183.27.104)
Email: fsantoke@hotmail.com
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2006 at 03:36:07

Message:

One of the most lamentable spectacles in Freemasonry is the Brother whose designation heads this article. He is to be found in almost every Lodge. Whilst a neophyte in the Order, his Masonic devotion knew no limits. At every meeting, he was sure to be there and when he received the honours of office his enthusiasm seemed to grow with his advancement. He it was who toiled at the Lodge of Instruction, at least when its programme was ritual only, who was always ready to fill the place of an absentee and to rail at him because he was not on hand, and above all, he was prime mover in every proposition to run another higher degree. But the time came when he was accorded the highest honour that the Lodge has in its power to bestow, and then came the beginning of the end. At his Installation he made great promises, and doubtless meant to fulfil them, but when he had passed through his year of office, with more or less éclat, and had entered on the "otium cum dignitate" of the I.P.M.'s collar, he began to mysteriously talk of "the burden and heat of the day" and of the necessity of "giving a chance to younger hands" and his place at the left of the Master was often vacant, especially at regular meetings when there was no degree on. And when the I.P.M.'s collar had been transferred to other shoulders, the fall from grace came on apace.

Regular as well as working meetings saw a vacant chair on the dais, and the W.M. was often at a loss when he looked for someone to relieve him of a Charge or a Tracing Board, or help him in point of ruling. "Facilis est descensus Arverni", and soon the Wor. Brother is only on hand when an Installation or Ball gives him the opportunity of showing the crowd his dingy apron. He is for all practical Masonic purposes dead as a doornail, and although he pays his dues with commendable regularity, at least when the Treasurer looks him up, the Lodge forgets him as a factor in existence.

Such is the story of many a Masonic fossil, literally "on the shelf" and more is the pity of it all. If Masonry is worth anything at all it is worth cultivating to the end of one's active mental life, and he who drops out of it directly has nor acquired the potentiality of being truly useful, has never properly imbibed its sublime teachings. The P.M. on the shelf is a sorry spectacle and a blot on the Masonic escutcheon. Beware of falling into a similar state of dry rot - rather, be ready, honours or no honours, to do your Masonic duty so long as the Great Architect of the Universe gives you strength to put on an apron or frame a sentence of ritual.

If this is not the Truth!

Editorial team

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Master Masons are welcome to request free copies. Please send full name, name, number of lodge, and email. Copies available by e-mail.

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