



GFN CYBER MASON

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

Volume 2, Number 4 April 2007

Editorial

Several members have picked up on the location of last months Lodge Building pointing out it should have been west of the Mississippi. My apologies but I can only publish what I am given.

I have put in a logo for Asian Pacific section. I will use this until such time as a replacement is submitted.

Message to GFN Representatives

Brethren

On April 15th 2007 at 3:00PM New York, 10.00 AM UK, 9.00PM Tasmania time Brother Bob Edwards and I will be in the West Gate to talk over any problems or ideas you may have that will help you and your fellow Representative do your jobs. You as GFN Representative are out there in the Lodges and in a lot of cases are the first contact that the Brethren will have with the GFN so if there is anything we can do to help if possible we will do it. The West will be password protected if you plan on being there contact Brother Bob Edwards or myself for the password

Your Brother and Friend
John R. Nicholas
11 Birch Drive
Standish, ME 04084
(aka John R.)
Staff Administrator

Roster Details

The site is being updated to include details of membership in the member's roster. Until this is complete please update your details when you leave a forum.

Pins, Caps and Car Stickers may be viewed and ordered from the GFN Site
Also available from the Editor.

Editor bwbutler@btinternet.com

SPOTLIGHT ON THE BOARDS

Masonic Regalia Trading Board

This Board was specially created for Brothers interested in Selling, Seeking or Trading Masonic Items. Even though this Site is for the exclusive use of Master Masons, and we could thus expect to deal with Brothers in the fairest of fashions, nevertheless we remind you to use caution as you would in any other commercial dealings. This will also act as a Disclaimer that the Global Fraternal Network, its Officers and Staff cannot be responsible for, or be part of, or mediate in, any business dealings you may conduct as a result of contacts you make on this Web Site. Any irregularities you come across should be immediately reported to the Board Director Brother Colin A. Currie. This Board will purge itself every 90 days.

Asian Pacific



Forum

Every day at 7.00 pm Perth Time. 10.00 am BST

Brothers in the Asian Pacific area please make sure that if you have any worthy articles for the News Letter that you forward them onto me this includes what is happening in your Lodges and up and coming events in your area .We look forward to hearing from you

Dennis Mc Dowell aka Genisis Asian Pacific sub editor

Only 2 months to go!

The first newsletter for this years Gathering was sent out on Monday 26th February. If you did not receive your copy, and would like to be included on future e-mailings, please contact Andrew Bradley at ajbradley@hotmail.net.au.

We would also welcome any suggestions that you may have for experiences, both Masonic and social, over the weekend in the Hunter Valley of NSW. To find out more about this wonderful area of Australia go to the [Hunter Valley Wine Country](#) website.

At this stage the Masonic activity for the weekend will be a visit to Lodge Morisset to see a third degree being performed.

This is a very social Lodge meeting on Saturday nights with the ladies always invited to their meetings.

More details to follow in the next newsletter!

2nd GFN Asia Pacific Gathering

Hunter Valley, NSW, Australia

26th & 27th May 2006

As we now need to start firming up numbers, we are asking all those who intend being at the Gathering to contact Bro Andrew as soon as possible.



USA Forum

Every day at 9.00pm.

Joseph Warren, Patriot.

American Physician and Major General in American Revolution. Born June 11, 1741 in Roxbury, Mass., the brother of Dr.

John Warren, q.v. Graduate of Harvard in 1759. After teaching school for a year, he took up the study of medicine and began practice in 1764. From the time of the 1765 Stamp Act he contributed to the press, and when Samuel Adams left Boston in 1774 to attend the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Warren became the leading figure in Massachusetts political movements. He wrote the Suffolk Resolves of Sept. 9, 1774, and after the provincial Congress met in October, he became chairman of the Committee of Safety. He was elected president of the Provincial Congress on May 31, 1775. It was Warren who sent Paul Revere and William Dawes, to Lexington on April 18, 1775 to warn Hancock and Adams of their danger. On June 14, 1775 he was elected major general of the Mass. forces, but three days later he was killed in the Battle of Bunker Hill while fighting in the ranks as a volunteer.

His body was buried near the spot where he fell, and remained there until it was found and identified on April 4, 1776. On April 8, the grand lodge convened for the purpose of burying the remains of its late grand master. The remains were reinterred in the tomb of George Richard Minot, a friend of the Warren family, in the Granary Burying Ground, Boston, where they remained until 1825. Then they were removed to the Warren tomb in Saint Paul's Church, Boston. On Aug. 2, 1855, the remains were deposited in an urn and placed in the family vault at Forest Hills Cemetery, Boston.

Warren received his degrees in the Lodge of St. Andrew, Boston, in 1761, and was elected master of the lodge, Nov. 30, 1768.

On May 30, 1769, George Earl of Dalhousie, grand master of Scotland, granted him a commission as provincial grand master of Masons in Boston, New England, and within 100 miles of the same. A subsequent commission dated March 3, 1772 extended his jurisdiction over all of North America. Warren exercised the authority of his commission on Dec. 27,

1769 by organizing the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (Ancients) at the Green Dragon Tavern, Boston, and continued as its grand master until his death at Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775. The above organization is historically known as Massachusetts

Grand Lodge. It assumed its independence on March 8, 1777, thus becoming the first independent grand lodge in the United States. On March 5, 1792 it united with St. John's Lodge of Massachusetts.

Submitted by Steve Grant



UK Forum Every Sunday at 9.00pm UK Time

The UK Get Together for 2007 will be held at Leyland Lancashire on Saturday 22nd September at 2.00pm. Host Lodge will be Dona Conferentes.

More details to follow

Scottish Knights Templar submitted by Bro Robert Crowe

Earliest evidence of their existence since 1312

Following the dissolution of the Medieval Order of Knights Templar in 1312 there has been some debate as to the earliest evidence of modern Templars in Scotland. It has been said that this dates from 1778 when a ceremony was conducted in Edinburgh by Freemasons from Perth. It has long been said that they conferred the Knights Templar ceremony on Freemasons in that city. Below we provide extracts from the Minute Books of Lodge St Stephen's, No. 145, which explains the details and thereafter there is a commentary on those Minutes.

LODGE PERTH AND SCOON-ROYAL ARCH AND KNIGHT TEMPLAR DEGREES

ST. STEPHEN'S CHAPTER AND ENCAMPMENT FOUNDED

THE early fraternization of St. Stephen's with the several Lodges referred to in the previous chapter was not wholly confined to those working in and about the Scottish metropolis, but extended much further afield, and especially so was this the case with the Lodge of Perth and Scoon, now known as Scoon and Perth, No. 3. In his history of this Lodge, D. Crawford Smith states, that in the records that have been preserved, there are no references which bear on the relationship existing between the two Lodges, or on the circumstances which led to the conferring of the Royal Arch and Templar Degrees in the year 1778 on several of the members of St. Stephen's by brethren connected with Perth and Scoon. This is to be regretted, but fortunately much valuable information in connection with the matter may be gleaned from the first book of records of the Edinburgh Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, which is not, states William A. Davis, the historian of that Chapter, "in a regular sense a Minute Book of the Chapter, but a written transcript from the original Minute Book of the Knights Templars, that Order having been conferred by the Perth and Scoon Lodge on the same Office-Bearers who received that of the Royal Arch."

As there is much in this written transcript connected with the early history of St. Stephen's and its members during the period covered by the lodge Minute Book, dating from 1777 to 1793, we quote liberally from the History of the Edinburgh Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, in which these records are in part reproduced. The first entry is dated:

"EDINBURGH, Dec. 2nd 1778." This day the compliment of six sundry steps in Masonry was offered to the Office-Bearers of St. Stephen's Lodge by sundry of the Brethren from the ancient Lodge of Perth and Scoon. Accordingly there was a Committee called, so there was then present: The Right Worshipful Master Bro. David McLaren* ; Bro. William Lyon, Junior Warden; Bro. John Dick, Secretary; Bro. George Miller, Senior House-Steward; Bro. Robert Stewart, Grocer; Bro. William Mackenzie; Bro. John Moodie; and Bro. John Reid, Tyler; who all of one voice accepted of the compliment of that degree of Masonry, viz., the 4th called Past the Chair, " " after which the Master, Warden, Secretary, and Brethren, then present, gave honorary initiation to the above named Brethren who gave us the compliment."

The latter portion of the extract is not given by Davis, but is 'quoted by Crawford Smith in his History of Lodge Scoon and Perth, and is of interest from the fact: that it informs us of those who were probably the first Honorary Members of the Lodge, viz., Brothers Andrew Gloag, John Bryson, David Gray, and John Scobie. Two days later:

"December 4th 1778." This night being set apart by the Brethren of Perth and Scoon Lodge in order to confer upon the Office-Bearers of St. Stephen's Lodge the following Degrees of Masonry, viz., Excellent and Super Excellent Masons, Arch and Royal Arch Masons, and lastly Knights of Malta, there was then at that time admitted into that excellent order, Br. David McLaren,* Master; Br. Wm. Lyon, Junior Warden; Br. John Dick, Secretary; Br. James Shaw, Treasurer; Br. John Notman, Grand Steward; Br. George Miller, Senior Lodge Steward; Br. Wm. Gow, Watch-maker; Br. John Moodie, Clerk; and Br. John Reid, Tyler; after which the Right Worshipful Master, Worshipful Junior Warden, and Office-Bearers then present, ordered the same to be Minuted in order to show to the worthy brethren of St. Stephen's Lodge what honour the brethren of Perth and Scoon Lodge had conferred on us."

The next transcript, which is dated 10th December 1778, is also of interest, as we learn from it that the Lodge-room was at this period situated in the Burgh of Canongate :

"a Committee belonging to St. Stephen's met and entered Donald McDonald, apprentice in the Mystery of Free Masonry, in our Lodge here in Canongate, and at the same time conferred the 4th degree of Masonry upon Br. James Robertson, viz., that of Master past the Chair."

There is no doubt that if the first Minute Book of the Lodge could be got, it would be found to contain the foregoing transcripts, for we find in the one dated 4th December the Statement that the recipients of the Degrees "ordered the same to be minuted," but the minutes of the Craft in the majority of cases make no mention of these Degrees, although worked in many Scottish Lodges. In St. Stephen's Royal Arch Chapter 19 the month following the above-mentioned meeting of Committee, on 28th January 1779, it is stated that certain Rules were agreed to, among which we quote the following:

"That all the money arising from said Degrees shall be kept separate from the funds of the Lodge, and a book purchased for keeping their own Minutes."

The record of the meeting at which the foregoing and other Rules were adopted, concludes as follows:

Eodem die

"The Brethren have agreed that none of the Members who shall be of these Degrees shall be art and part in making any Royal Arch Masons upon any pretence whatever within forty miles of Edinburgh unless in their own Lodge, and ordain an obligation to that effect: to be taken at their admission.

" The Brethren present elected:

Br. John Notman, Candlemaker, to be the Governor.

Brs. Wm. Lyon and Andw. Gloag, Assistants.

Brs. McLaren, Dick, A. Stewart, Gray, Cleghorn, Thomson, Miller, Zeigler, Robertson, and Bryson, Committee of Managers; and ordains the Regalia to be kept and this night's expence paid by the Treasurer.

(Signed) "JOHN NOTMAN, ANDW. GLOAG, WM. LYON."

Thus was St. Stephen's Royal Arch Chapter and Knights Templar Encampment inaugurated and put on a business footing. It is unnecessary in connection with the history of the Lodge to make further allusion to these Orders.

Rosslyn Chapel, its Shop and Tea Room are open all year 10.00am to 5.00pm (October to March, 4.30pm) and on Sundays 12.00 to 4.45pm. There is an admission charge with discounts for groups over 20. Guides are available, and visits outwith the opening hours can be arranged.



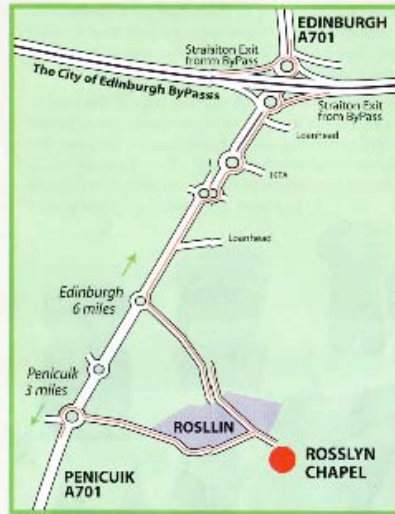
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1. The St. Clair Family Engrailed Cross
2. Knight Templar on Horseback
3. William St. Clair portrayed holding Robert the Bruce's heart
4. The Fallen Angel, Lucifer
5. Lovers turning away from the Devil and towards Righteousness
6. Righteousness
7. The Apprentice Pillar
8. One of the many Medieval Musicians
9. The Green Man, Paganistic symbol
- 10 & 11. Carvings with Masonic symbolism
12. Angel with Bagpipes
13. Templar Tombstone



THE ROSSLYN ASSOCIATION

If you would like to help the Trust in its work, and stay more in touch with the Chapel, why not join the Association or become a benefactor. For more information, contact the Chapel.



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THE HISTORIC ENIGMA ROSSLYN CHAPEL



nd th **Rosslyn Chapel** is unique and famed world
ted ti wide for the beauty of its carvings and for the aura
ally t of mystery and magic that surrounds it.

as th Built in 1446 by William St. Clair, third and
ny & last Prince of Orkney, Rosslyn Chapel conforms
plants neither to contemporary architecture nor to any
very fashion. Rich in ornament, its exact place in
rs. Th the creation of mankind still remains difficult to
ce in estimate. The carvings themselves, including the
ld. famous "Apprentice Pillar", are endless in variety
d star and full of symbolism. Many of the Biblical stories
y. Th
g wat
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as be



are portrayed, and there are frequent references
for those interested in the Knights Templar and
Freemasonry, equally there are Pagan symbols and
Rosslyn Chapel has the largest number of "Green
Men" found in any Medieval building. There are
also carvings of plants from the New World which
pre-date the discovery of that land by Columbus by
one hundred years. There is no doubt that Rosslyn
Chapel has a place in history, not just of Scotland,
but the wider world.

Rosslyn Chapel stands on the edge of the steeply
wooded Fisk Valley. The narrow rocky gorge below
with its fast flowing water gives Rosslyn its name. The
richly wooded Rosslyn Glen offers pleasant walks
and magnificent views of Rosslyn Castle. The Chapel
has been a place of pilgrimage over

the centuries and has much
to delight, intrigue and inspire
today's visitors.

The Chapel is used for weekly
services, can be booked for
weddings and is a venue for
Musical Evenings. Rosslyn
Chapel is the only Medieval
building regularly used by the
Scottish Episcopal Church.



Greece



Panos Rigas GFN Rep for Greece at door of Grand Lodge of Austria

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.

Let me have Pictures of your GL Buildings please. Keep them coming.

Ed.



Grand Lodge of Texas
Submitted by David Broman
GFN Board Director



Provincial Grand Lodge of West Kent
Submitted by Dr Peter Evans
GFN Rep for Kent UK

Quote of the month.

However high we climb in the pursuit of knowledge we shall still see heights above us, and the more we extend our view, the more conscious we shall be of the immensity which lies beyond.

William Armstrong

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