



# GFN CYBER MASON

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The Newsletter of the Global Fraternal Network -- VIRTUAL INTERNET LODGE NO. 1  
Volume 1, Number 9, November 2006

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## **Editorial**

### **Grand Lodge of Alabama and Afro-American Members**

A paper is circulating on the Web regarding the above.

You may be interested in comments received from Bro George L Tucker GFN Rep for Alabama.

### **Topics request**

To rekindle interest in the forums topics are required. If you have any ideas please submit them to your area coordinator.

### **Congratulations**

To Ellis Mills (ET) on his Installation to the Chair of Star Lodge 187 Ohio on Nov 22nd

### **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

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

## **SPOTLIGHT ON THE BOARDS**

### **JR. WARDEN'S RECIPE BOARD**

The responsibilities of the Junior Warden are awesome because he is in charge of food and drink for his Lodge Brethren.

His reputation and the gratitude of his Lodge are partially based on the quality of refreshments he provides.

Appropriately named we encourage all to place and share their favourite recipes on this Board. Brother Iain Donald is the Director who has amassed culinary experiences. We are going to keep this Board open with no expiration date.

### **Why was I deleted?**

The GFN data filing system allows three months period before it removes the information of those members who have not logged on for 90 days. If that is the case in your situation, your data has been

purged and you have to register again. Fill out the Application Form as you did the first time. Your second registration may take a little while longer to process. Please note how you fill in the form things like capital letters.

By the way, "Logging-on" (once in 90 days) entails only the following: The bare minimum is that you enter your User Name and Password and log-off. That's it. That is enough to satisfy the GFN Administrative System to mark you as "active". It takes less than a minute.

There are plenty of staff to help with any problems you have. **Communicate with them.**

There is also a FAQ (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS) section. Have a look. Most problems are covered.

Bob Edwards  
**Public Relations Administrator.**

### **Asian Pacific Forum**

Every day at 7.00 pm Perth Time. 11.00 am BST



### **USA Forum**

Every day at 9.00pm.

### **Re Grand Lodge of Alabama**

Greetings Bro. Brian,

This information has been flowing around the web recently as a result of a faction trying to rally support against our present Governor Bob Riley. Gov. Riley is a MM in the Grand Lodge of Alabama. He is also a KCCH in Scottish Rite.

To the question at hand.

This information is incorrect. Did it happen in 1876, yes? Did it come up? again in 1970, it appears so. Is it still policy, no? What more can I say. I have attached a current copy of the Grand Lodge of Alabama Code for you to read if you wish.

The Edicts dealing with membership are:

Article 6-Section7:

No subordinate Lodge shall proceed to confer any or either of the degrees of Masonry upon any person who is not a man, free-born, of the age of Twenty-one years or upward, of good reputation, of sufficient natural and Intellectual endowment, with an estate, office, trade or occupation, or some Other obvious source of honest subsistence from which he may be able to spare something for works of charity and for maintaining the ancient dignity and ability of the Masonic Institution. If the petitioner be physically defective by reason of deformity or being maimed, his eligibility shall be determined by the Lodge to which he has applied, and if determined favourably to the petitioner, he shall be eligible to receive the degrees of Masonry when the action of the Lodge has been approved by the District Lecturer or Assistant Lecturer of that district in writing. The authorization will be reported to the Grand Secretary using a dispensation form supplied by the Grand Lodge.

Article 6-Section 10:

No person shall be initiated, passed or raised in any Lodge, or admitted to membership therein without the unanimous consent of the members present, nor shall any Lodge require any of its members to assign his or their reasons for voting against any person who may apply for membership or initiation

therein.

There are those who would say that the requirement to be "freeborn" is our way of excluding African American petitioners. This is not the way it was explained to me. I was told that the word "freeborn" is in reference to a man being free to think and act for himself. And to not being indebted to someone as a servant. This would have included those in servitude/bondage in England, Scotland, and Ireland in the 1700's and before. Also, it has been stated that in our Obligation we use the word "nigger/negro" in place of the word "clandestine". This is not correct and it is not the "adopted work" in Alabama. Our "work" is exemplified each year at our Annual Communication in November. I have never seen or heard the "n" word used.

I know that you only asked a simple question. And the straight answer is No.

I could of course go on and relate a recent post from a member of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama where it was stated that at this time they do not want to pursue recognition and reasons for that, but I would only be speaking second hand info read on a PHA egroup.

I want to thank you for asking me about this information before publishing the Newsletter.

I hope that I have explained how my Grand Lodge does not stand by what was said many, many years ago. We all have fallen and come short, but we all learn over time and make amends. And in the future, I feel all will be changed for the better and recognition will be done.

If I can help you in any way, just let me know.

POTS,

George L. (Butch) Tucker, Jr., P. . M. . Secretary  
Littleville Lodge #881 F. . &A. . M. .  
OES, York Rite, AASR, AAONMS, MPS, GFN Rep., CoMiLoR  
Grand Lodge Internet Committee Member  
Lodge Journeymen Online 2002  
Phi Sigma Kappa, Univ of Alabama, OD '80  
<http://www.butchtucker.com/butch>  
<http://www.alabamamason.info/>

Webmaster for  
Littleville Lodge #881  
<http://www.geocities.com/littleville881>  
Valley of the Tri Cities, AASR  
<http://www.butchtucker.com/tcsr>  
Florence York Rite Bodies  
<http://www.butchtucker.com/florenceyorkrite>  
Grand Lodge of Alabama  
<http://www.alafreemasonry.org/>  
Cahaba Shrine Temple  
<http://www.cahabashrine.org>  
State of Alabama Rep - Global Fraternal Network  
<http://www.masonic-network.com/>



**UK Forum every Sunday at 9.0pm BST**

## **4<sup>th</sup> UK Gettogether**

The fourth get together of GFN UK members was held at Tarbolton Lodge, Prestwick, Scotland. On Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2006 at 7.0pm. Tarbolton Lodge was the Mother Lodge of Robert Burns.



**GFN Members**



**Your Editor in the Chair**



**The lodge**

## **Scottish visit**

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October, Peter Evans, Mike Dyer and Rick Smale arrived at my house at 8.00 am to make a GFN 'UK Get-Together' trip to Scotland . We proceeded by car to Stanstead Airport, via the M25 and M11, arriving in about an hour for our check-in at 11.00 am. We were, by now, looking forward to a 'fry up' breakfast.

To our dismay the queue for the security check was horrendously long; comprising about 500 people. Eventually we reached security only to be told no lighters, toothpaste, or any liquids were permitted! Having thrown our lighters into a bag with about a thousand others we were able to proceed to check in for our flight to Glasgow. By this time we were nearing our flight time, so the prospect of breakfast was receding.

We boarded the plane looking forward to food during the flight, but nothing substantial was on offer.

On arrival at Glasgow Airport, after an hour's flight, we caught a bus to Glasgow Central Station to meet Graham Elms. Finding his train was not due until 3.00pm and so having an hour to waste, we had a beer at a pub outside the station. Hunger pains were now intensifying so we had Cornish pasties on the station concourse.

Graham arrived only a little late but enough to cause missing the train to Prestwick. Eventually, half hour later, we boarded the train for another 50 min journey. At Prestwick Town station we were met by Andrew Scott who took us to our hotel. He remarked, "I will pick you up in 1 hr to take you to Lodge Tarbolton (Kilwinning)", so again prospects of food diminished. By the time we had drunk a quick cup of tea and changed, Andrew was back. "Never mind" we thought, "we will eat at the meeting". David Hamilton and David Nesbitt, from Northern Ireland, were at the hotel earlier in the day and they told us they had two dinners each. Lucky them!

We proceeded to Tarbolton Lodge and were made to wait outside the door whilst the Lodge was opened. We then formed a deputation of members of the GFN and Crayford Lodge and entered to applause from the assembled brethren.

The members of Tarbolton carried out a very fine Raising. Being from the English Constitution we found the ceremony a somewhat different, and rather dramatic in parts.

After the work was completed we were taken to the dining area where a fine selection of snacks and sandwiches was laid out. "At last!", we thought. We had just made a start on the refreshments, when we were informed the Lodge's Robert Burns Museum was open for our perusal. This contained a fine display of Lodge material dating back to 1700, some of which directly related to Robert Burns, a Past Depute Master of the Lodge. As memento of our visit, I gave the Curator of the Museum a GFN Car Sticker which he was very pleased to receive and placed in a display cabinet in a conspicuous position.

Unfortunately on our return to the dining area the food had been cleared away! However, the WM did keep us well supplied with whisky until midnight, at which point we left. We returned to our hotel tired, but very impressed with our welcome and the ceremony we had witnessed.

Next morning we were up at 6.00 am to catch our flight home from Glasgow airport, finally arriving at Dartford at 1.00pm.

-- **Brian Butler**

## Ten Years On The Ladder !!

**From:** Jock (@ 86.136.59.67)

**Email:** [therockingjock@msn.com](mailto:therockingjock@msn.com)

**Date:** Friday, October 20, 2006 at 18:41:16

### Message:

Fraternal Greetings. On 25th October 2006 I will be installed in the chair of King Solomon, St. Cystenin 6321 in the Province of North Wales UK While I am in the chair I would like to promote this superb web site therefore if you can spare time to e-mail etc Fraternal greetings this weekend I would be forever grateful.

--Br. Stuart McDonald-Smith

## United Grand Lodge of England Grand Charity

### The Grand Charity: Facts and Figures

#### Non Masonic Grants

Over £30 million donated to non-Masonic charities of all sizes working in England and Wales.

Nearly £6 million for more than 250 Hospice services.

Over £1.5 million for emergency relief work following devastating disasters worldwide.

#### Masonic Grants

More than 30,000 applicants assisted through Masonic Relief Grants.

Over £5 million to support other Masonic charities in their work.

**Since 1981 , the Grand Charity has made grants totaling more than £72 million.**

### Situations Vacant

Editor of British/Euro Bytes Web site

A number of vacancy's exist for UK County Reps

Some Euro Reps required

Interested? In the first instance contact the editor.

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#### **Editorial team**

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