



DGL NEWS

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE of CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA

Volume VI Issue III

September 2011

ANNUAL POTJIEKOS COMPETITION AT ROSLYN PARK



Photos- courtesy of Bro. Andy Kiloh

FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings Brethren,

A fantastic turn out and great food, made the Annual Potjiekos Competition a most successful day! Let's hope that next year lots more Lodges participate.

In the interests of our new Brethren, I think Lodge Secretaries should consider inserting the full names of members in their Lodge Agendas.

To subscribe, or to unsubscribe, just send an e-mail to [Rhoda is my sister/secretary] rhodaj@telkomsa.net with your request in the subject line, and that will do the trick.]
Bro. Neville Boner PM, Lodge Sound Memory No. 1655
neville.boner@imara.co 082-8997441

TO THE EDITOR

Hello Neville

I am the owner of **FOUR SQUARE REGALIA** I supply EC, IC and Appendant Degree Regalia and jewels. On the 16th July I purchased from Jenny at Rob Roy the Masonic side of her business. I am writing to ask you if you would be so kind as to make this info available in your News Letter .

With patience from the Brethren whilst I learn this side of the business, I am confident that I will now be able to supply quality SC Regalia as well. My contact details are: Elaine - Tel # 011 462 6167, Cell 083 508 4814

Address: 5 San Remo, Kirsten St. VANDIA GROVE Randburg
Once again, thank you for your time - Elaine

"HE WAS A MASON"

By Dr. Roger M. Firestone, 32 KCCH, 10159 Turnberry Place, Oakton, VA 22124-2847

It happens nearly every day in the major newspapers of our cities. A prominent citizen's obituary appears with a substantial headline. The writer begins with the most recent details, cause of death, current residence. There follow several paragraphs recounting the eminent man's life. He was president of his country club, he headed this or that charity drive, he was an executive of these corporations, he attended such and such a college and high school, he was on the board of trustees of his religious congregation, and so on, often for a substantial number of column inches. Finally, towards the end of the obituary, just before the funeral arrangements are specified and the survivors listed, we **find the brief sentence, "He was a Mason."**

Curious, isn't it? Although the remaining details of his career were copiously enumerated, his Masonic activities are summarized in one sentence. Perhaps he was Master of his Lodge, serving "in line" for as long as eight years to reach that station. It could be that he gave his time instead as presiding officer in one of the several York or Scottish Rite bodies. Maybe he took a number of parts in the many degrees of the two Rites. Or perhaps he was one of those who had less skill in memorization but took other responsibilities: for costumes or dining services or Masonic blood programs, even receiving an honorary distinction from the Scottish Rite for many years of such faithful "behind-the-scenes" service. Possibly he was active with one or more youth groups under Masonic sponsorship, giving up his football game-watching on weekends with the other guys to raise funds at car washes or driving cars full of teenagers to annual meetings in distant parts of the state. He might have been a superior fund-raiser for the Shriners' children's hospitals, or even represented the Lodge in local civic activities, such as parades for patriotic holidays. Yet none of these is mentioned by the newspaper writer, who was given

as much space as seemed necessary to outline other aspects of the career of a distinguished man.

Of course, we might suppose that it is the editor's decision that Masonic activities are not of interest to the general public, being that they are the doings of a secretive and selective body. It is not obvious how that position might be reconciled with mention of the man's country-club presidency, which is probably pleased to have an exclusive membership, or his church activities, relevant only to members of the same denomination, or even his rise to prominence in a business corporation, whose internal doings are often cloaked in secrecy as deep as that of any Masonic body. When Masons constitute more than one percent of the adult male population, and almost certainly a larger percentage of those who actually read something besides the sports pages in the newspaper, the reasoning behind such an editor's position may be strained. It is more likely that lack of knowledge about the role that Masonry plays in our society contributes to the brief treatment Masonic activities received in the obituary. Other than the Shriners' Hospitals, few Masonic charities receive any kind of regular mention in the press. And even those Hospitals are still thought of by much of the public as being for crippled children, often overlooking their more recent important role in the treatment of and research into serious burn injuries. Scottish Rite aphasia work, Royal Arch Research Assistance, Masonic cancer hospitals—all find the most infrequent acknowledgement of their contributions to society. The same is true of Masonic service projects, even on a local scale. Did Masons help organize the local Independence Day celebration or aid in cleaning up some poorly-maintained parkland in your town? How would anyone know, if you don't tell them? When writing a monthly Lodge bulletin is a burden, there is even less likelihood that a newspaper press release is going to be prepared by the secretary, junior warden, or whomever. Perhaps the obituary writer never even had the information about the man's Masonic career because his family didn't know it was important, or his Lodge failed to provide the details.

We should not be surprised that a man's Masonic career is little noted in the memorial of his passing. This is nothing new in Masonic history, after all. According to our traditions, it was at the very founding of our order that a great Masonic architect was rudely interred without proper recognition of his contributions to the Fraternity. In later history, it was often to be that Masons would suffer punishment or even martyrdom for their membership in and contributions to the Craft and to the principles of freedom.

Against such a background, mere indifference could even be considered to be an improvement. Yet how much better off might our world be if the contributions of Masons and Masonry were more widely recognized and encouraged? How many more young men might be set on the course of self-improvement through Masonic membership if the examples of great men as Masons were better known?

For the past two centuries of American history, a nearly-constant one-third of the leaders of our country, beginning with the signers of the Declaration of Independence and including all three branches of the government, have been Masons. This is a far higher proportion than in the population as a whole. Did Masonry provide these men with the inspiration and training to achieve leadership roles in the country? Did Masonic principles guide their thinking when tough decisions had to be made? For presidents such as George Washington and Harry Truman, the answers can only be "yes." Of others—those in Congress and the judiciary—we know much less. These are stories that must be told to the rest of the world, not just among ourselves. "He was a Mason" appearing in an obituary is too little evidence to

inspire the uninitiated to seek Masonic light. However, there is one sense in which we may take pride in the way such an obituary is written. When "He was a Mason" appears at the end of the article, it serves as what the accountants call "the bottom line," a phrase that refers to the number indicating whether an enterprise has showed a profit or a loss. To those who measure things by numbers, everything above the bottom line is simply a detail, one element of many that go to make up the big picture as represented by the final total. Seen in this light, the many contributions the deceased man made to society are parts of a totality. They do not stand alone, independent and unrelated to one another. Each gift this man made to his family, his fellows, and his country were components of that whole summarized in the final words, "He was a Mason." Masonic honors and titles are of limited value anyway. They mean much among brothers and companions, somewhat less among family and friends, and little indeed to the non-Masonic world. But if each of us resolves to live according to the principles we embraced when we became members of this ancient and honorable institution, we should be pleased to reflect that there is no higher honor to come to us when our lives are complete than that they should be summed up by that simple but profound phrase, "**He was a Mason.**" [This article appeared in the June 1996 issue of *The Scottish Rite Journal*, published by The Supreme Council, 33°, Southern Jurisdiction, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.]

INSTALLATION LODGE SCOTIA No. 973 SC.



Bros. Bob Law RWDGM, Bradley Charles RWM, Rod Reed WPSDGM

DISTRICT GRAND STEWARDS COLUMN

By Bro. Bill Craig-District Grand President of Stewards

The D. G. Stewards have been charged with organising certain fundraising activities with the proceeds going into the District Grand Lodge **building fund** for our new **FLAGSHIP TEMPLE AND DISTRICT GRAND LODGE HEAD OFFICE**

The Stewards are hoping to have regular announcements in the DG L News to keep Brethren up to date with the Stewards activities.

We hope to be in a position to announce a number of fundraising projects in the next DGL News.

One of our activities is the Stewards raffle at lodge installations which commenced at the beginning of August. We have already raised over R2 000.00. The target for this project is between R30,000 and R50,000 by June 2012.

We wish to emphasise that **ALL** intended raffles will only take place with the full consent and support from the lodges concerned.

The Stewards would like to thank the following Lodges for their valued support and participation in August.

RWM Bro. Bradley Charles & Brethren of Lodge Scotia
RWM Bro. Tyrone Gerber & Brethren of Lodge Gordon
RWM Bro. Riaan Louw & Brethren of Lodge Middleburg United
RWM Bro. Tommy Hair & Brethren of Lodge East Rand Scots

All of the above lodges have contributed to the **building fund** during the month of August.



A rare moment- Bro. Tommy Gorman ordering a round!

HOPE

Bro. Andy Kiloh PM, Lodge St. Andrew No. 954 SC
With kind permission from Bro H Schaum, Grand Ambassador, GLSA.

Our craft lodges are in the true sense – Symbolic lodges, since symbolism is an important building block of our Craft Degree rituals. Often an abstract idea may best be conveyed by a comparison to a concrete object.

Freemasonry's symbols are a part of our culture and of our lives, in the spiritual, intellectual and ethical realms as well as in our daily routines. Tonight I will use the candle, a symbol used in every craft working. We can all learn much from the symbolism of the simple candle.

To give light, the flame consumes the substance of the candle. To give light to one fellow, a man must consume himself and use effort and energy. The philosopher who puts no effort into his teachings – gains no disciples. Unlike the electric lamp, the burning flame of the candle may very easily be extinguished, and so it must be treated gently and carefully so that its warmth and light does not disappear. Similarly, it is very easy to extinguish human enthusiasm, plans, aspirations, good work and intentions. Care and kindness are needed to keep them alight.

Although the candle flame is weak and easily destroyed, it is powerful enough to light a great conflagration. All candles in the world could be lit from one single flame. So too man's enthusiasm and effort could kindle a whole nation into flame for a just cause.

A candle is as easily lit as it is extinguished – so too our initiates may have the candles of their desires lighted by those who give them light. A candle cannot be lit from a distance – there must be contact with the wick. A man cannot inspire others by standing aloof and at a distance. It is only by contact of mind with mind, and heart with heart, that the fire and enthusiasm can pass from one to another. In July 2007, Ingmar Bergman, a well known film director and producer left this world for the great lodge above. He was one who used symbolism as a powerful tool in his films. In one instance action is confined to a dark room, where five candleholders with candles are placed. A young girl enters and lights up one candle after another. All five candles burn for a while when the first candle starts to flicker and says

"My name is honour. Mankind has lost its honour" and the candle dies. The second candle starts to flicker and says "My name is faith. The human race has lost its faith" and the candle dies. The third candle starts to flicker and utters the words "I stand for peace, something precious that has abandoned the human race" and the candle flame dies. The fourth candle starts to talk and says "My name is love. Mankind has lost its love for his fellowman. It does not exist any longer among the people of the world." This candle also stops burning. The little girl in the room starts to sob because of all the sadness and she pleads with the candles: "You are candles and candles should always burn!" All of a sudden the silence in the room is broken, when the fifth candle softly whispers: "Do not cry! My name is HOPE. As long as I keep burning you can light up the other candles again using my flame." The little girl heeds the words and lights up all the candles before she leaves the room. The message to all our brethren out there is this: ***Do not despair, as long as hope continues to stay among and with us, honour, faith, peace and love are not lost.*** Let each Brother Freemason take heed from the lesson gained from the humble candle, and so renew his efforts to spread the light of enthusiasm and hope, the inspiration of Freemasonry.

WEBSITE TO CHECK OUT:

http://www.vatican.va/various/cappelle/sistina_vr/index.html

-The Sistine Chapel in all its glory.

<http://www.detroitmasonic.com/pictures.htm> -The world's largest Masonic temple.

<http://www.freemasonry.org/journal.php> - Philaethes: The Journal of Masonic Research & Letters

<http://www.newseum.org/todaysfrontpages/flash/> - All the world's newspapers at your fingertip.

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

"Forgive many things in others; nothing in yourself." -- *Decimus Magnus Ausonius*

"A multitude of words is no proof of a prudent mind." -*Thales*

"Virtue is true nobility, and Wisdom is the channel by which it is directed and conveyed. Wisdom with humility and virtue alone distinguish Masons." - *Bro. William Preston*

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA

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 District Grand R A Chapter: www.dgrac-sa.com

MOTIVATION

By Bro. Grant Devine PM, Lodge Sound Memory No. 1655
 I few weeks ago, I was scheduled to do a small working at an installation on a Friday night, I can honestly say that I considered sending my apologies on more than one

occasion, but never quite got around to it. Finally the fateful Friday arrived, and I felt less and less like making the effort to get showered and dressed to go out, so I dragged my feet and very begrudgingly got ready for Lodge. Now this is defiantly not the right attitude to have, but I went, thinking that I was just doing my duty. We arrived at the Temple in Orange Grove, and I was still thinking that I would rather be at home, in my warm lounge with the usual rubbish on TV to keep me occupied until it was time to get into a nice warm bed. (IT WAS FREEZING THAT NIGHT)

I AM SO GLAD THAT I WENT TO LODGE THAT NIGHT!

This was one of the best installations that I had ever been to. The Brethren of the Lodge were so welcoming, and pleased that we had all made the effort to be there, the working was superb and done with real feeling and emotion. As is the norm, we were invited to the festive board to enjoy what the Lodge had to offer, and did they lay it on. This was one of the best festive boards that I have ever been to in twenty odd years. There was a large contingent of Ladies present, who had gone all out to make this a very special occasion. The hall was beautifully decorated, the tables were decorated, the hall was warm and welcoming, and the meal was out of the top drawer. To cap it all off, the Ladies arranged a raffle, and donated R500.00 to the DGL building fund.

I must say though, that the Brethren of this Lodge obviously look after their ladies and make them very welcome at their meetings, and don't take them for granted.

I can only assume that they get a lot of support from their ladies. I must say that I was very glad that I dragged myself away from my warm home and did my duty.

This was one of the most pleasant evenings that I have ever had at a Lodge meeting and just to think that I would have missed it, only to hear other dedicated masons talking about the best installation of the year.

In conclusion, don't just do your duty, be involved or you might end up missing out on a fantastic evening, and you won't get to really enjoy your masonry.

WHAT'S ON!!!

LODGE EAST RAND SCOTS No. 1093 SC

CENTENARY CEILIDH



29TH OCTOBER 2011

TEMPLE SINAI.

18H30 FOR 19H00

R280 PER COUPLE.

THIS INCLUDES A 3 COURSE DINNER, CEILIDH DANCERS AND PART OF AFRICAN SKY PIPE BAND. SEATING LIMITED TO 70 COUPLES.

CONTACT: BRO. DAVE COSTINE: 079 8861887

BRO. TOMMY HAIR: 083 232 3599

Southern Masonic Centre

GOLF DAY

13th September 2011
The Reading Golf Club
Contact: Dave Botha on tel 0825218022

Witwatersrand Lodge No. 3745 UGLE INTER CONSTITUTIONAL PRESENTATIONS by All 5 Constitutions

19th September
Park Lane
19:00
[Dining charge R 50.00]

POINTS TO PONDER

"There are in fact four very significant stumbling blocks in the way of grasping the truth, which hinder every man however learned, and scarcely allow anyone to win a clear title to wisdom, namely, the example of weak and unworthy authority, Long standing custom, the feeling of the ignorant crowd, and the hiding of our own ignorance while making a display of our apparent knowledge."
-- **Roger Bacon(1220-1292)**

WHAT KIND OF A FREEMASON ARE YOU?

by **Masonic Vibes**
Sent in by Bro. **Bill Drysdale PM, Golden Thistle Lodge No. 744 SC.**

A lot of Masons are like wheelbarrows — *no good unless pushed.*
Some are like trailers — *they have to be pulled.*
Some are like kites — *if you don't keep a string on them, they fly away.*
Some are like balloons — *full of wind and ready to blow up.*
Some are like footballs — *you can't tell which way they will bounce.*
And then some are like a good watch — *open face, pure gold, quietly busy, and full of good works.*

POEM

"THE OLD MASTERS WAGES"

I met a dear old man today,
Who wore a Masonic pin,
It was old and faded like the man,
It's edges were worn quite thin.

I approached the park bench where he sat,
To give the old brother **his due**,
I said, "I see you've travelled east,"
He said, "I have, have you."

I said, "I have, and in my day
Before the all seeing sun,
I played in the rubble, with
Jubala, Jubalo and Jubalum."

He shouted, "don't laugh at the work my son,
It's good and sweet and true,
And if you've traveled as you said,
You should give these things their due."

The word, the sign the token,
The sweet Masonic prayer,
The vow that all have taken,
Who've climbed the inner stair.

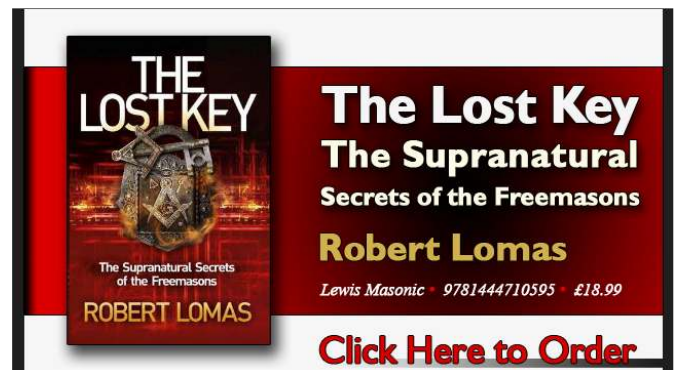
The wages of a Mason,
Are never paid in gold,
But the gain comes from contentment,
When you're weak and growing old.

You see, I've carried my obligations,
For almost fifty years,
It has helped me through the hardships
And the failures full of tears.

UNDERSTANDING OUR LAWS AND BYE-LAWS-

179 Communications for the Grand Master Mason or any Brother acting on his behalf, Grand Lodge or Grand Committee shall be addressed to Grand Secretary. Communications for a Provincial or District Grand Master, or any Brother acting on his behalf, a Provincial or District Grand Lodge or Grand Committee shall be addressed to the Provincial or District Grand Secretary. Communications to a Daughter Lodge shall be addressed to the Secretary.

BOOK REVIEW



The Lost Key: The Supranatural Secrets of the Freemasons or When God Hitched a Ride in My Jeep

By **Robert Lomas**

Hardcover: 368 pages Publisher: Coronet Language English ISBN-10:1444710591 ISBN-13: 978-1444710595

The Lost Key contains revelations that only an initiate of the highest orders of esoteric Freemasonry is in a position to make. Here is the truth behind the hints in Dan Brown's The Lost Symbol that Freemasonry is concerned to reawaken the hidden potentialities and powers of the human mind. The thrilling narrative of this new book follows a candidate for initiation as he rises through the different grades of initiation, taking part in ceremonies that are sometimes terrifying but always revealing of new knowledge and presenting new mysteries which will only be solved when the next stage of initiation has been achieved. Dramatic episodes

include the re-enacting of an ancient murder from 3,000 years ago in full gory detail, lowering the candidate on the end of a rope into a dark vault under the floor of the temple, holding a dagger to the candidates naked breast, and making the candidate attend his own funeral. In the secret teachings revealed to some high-level initiates, there is a type of instruction which seems curiously similar to religious and mystical teachings.

Astrology, angels, chakras and the powers of the mind to operate independently of the body, such as in remote viewing, are all a part of Freemasonic lore. Here Lomas reveals to a wider public and also explains these secret teachings for the first time. He shows that while they are dismissed as superstitious by campaigners for atheism such as Richard Dawkins, they are very much part of the strange, paradoxical world opened up by the latest thinking in quantum physics. This is why he prefers to call them 'Supranatural'.

DIARY

SEPTEMBER 2011			
3	Welcome-Rendezvous	Installation	Bothaville
7	Ophirton	3rd Degree	Boksburg North
8	Golden Thistle	Installation	Park Lane
10	Border	Installation	Vereeniging
12	Alberton	1st Degree	Germiston
12	Sound Memory	1st Degree	Orange Grove
13	Heredom	2nd Degree	Boksburg North
14	Piet Retief	1st Degree	Vereeniging
14	North Western Bedford	2nd Degree	Orange Grove
15	Unity	Installation	The Willows
15	Mo Dachaidh	1st Degree	Kensington
17	Thistle	Installation	Bloemfontein
19	St Andrew	Installation	Orange Grove
22	Brixton	Lecture	Norwood
28	Somah Herber	2nd Degree	Park Lane
28	Argyll	Lecture	Roodepoort