

# THE CRAFT FREEMASONRY NEWSLETTER No.13 DECEMBER 2006



# THE MASONIC HIGH COUNCIL

The Mother High Council of the World

Charting the path, in promoting and uniting the Craft, in Britain and across the globe

SPEECH OF THE PRO GRAND MASTER

Dear Brethren All,

May I wish you all a very fraternal welcome, particularly those who have travelled far to be with us today. It is truly remarkable that what began with a small number of disillusioned Masons has now become what we are today. More remarkable is that this has been achieved without the usual organisational systems that such entities as ours normally require.

The time has now come to put those systems into place and I am very pleased today to be able to present our draft Book of Constitutions of the Regular Grand Lodge of England. Once you have all had time to digest this excellently thought out and very necessary book, we welcome all of your suggestions. Only when we are sure that the overwhelming majority of our membership agrees with it will it be adopted by Grand Lodge.

We are now expanding or setting in place all of the various administrative systems the Regular Grand Lodge of England requires, but we will be very careful not to forget that it was arrogant overadministration which made most of us want to leave what we had and become a member of the Regular Grand Lodge of England in the first place.

I can assure you brethren, that it is not going to be the policy of this Grand Lodge to have a top heavy hierarchy with no communication to the grass roots membership. We have all seen where that will eventually lead.

Today we have furthered our international relations even more and it is to be hoped that all Regular Grand Lodges in amity with the Regular Grand Lodge of England will enjoy the same success in building and expanding as we are enjoying.

A word of warning brethren. We must not falter in our efforts to fully establish that which we have begun. There will be many times when you may feel that it is too much of a task that we have set ourselves. This is not so brethren. Our cause, to re-establish the antient landmarks of the Order of Freemasons is an honourable one and one which requires pride and strength in abundance. Brethren, I know you have these attributes and will put them to good use.

We shall work hard towards our goal. There will be several policy statements issued over the coming months, all of which will be discussed in great detail before being made public. It is time to tell all Freemasons exactly what we stand for, why we have changed and, if it appeals to them, how they can join us.

My special thanks go to the Grand Secretary for his organisational skills in getting us all together today. When you all leave this place and return to your various countries remember this; wherever we are and whatever we do, we are Freemasons under the all seeing eye of the Great Architect who gives us the strength to continue. Have a wonderful festive season brethren and I look forward to seeing you again in 2007.

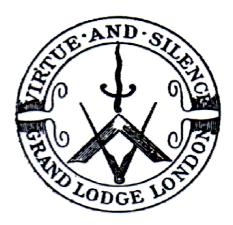
# **MW Pro Grand Master**

# COMUNICATION

We all have had a wonderful and successful day in Paris and we are planning more of these important conferences in 2007. Locations and venues will be sent as usual via the Grand Secretaries Office to all Grand Lodges in the International Masonic Federation.

# **GRAND ASSEMBLY GENERAL MEETING PARIS**

4<sup>TH</sup> November 2006



# TO THE GLORY OF THE GRAND ARCHITECT OF HEAVEN AND EARTH



**Opening of the Grand Assembly of the Masonic High Council** 

# GRAND ORIENT OF ITALY FEDERAL ® PARIS, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2006 E.V.

The Paris Accord: International Masonic Conference
Federation of Regular Grand Lodges: The Masonic High Council the Mother HC/RGLE

# My Dear Brethren,

# I believe

that in the last 60 years, we have never lived in a more worrying time than the present, where almost anything can happen. Pseudo-religious, pseudo-economical, pseudo-political, pseudo-ecological fundamentalist groups compete aggressively against each other and are responsible for destroying all that is beautiful on this planet at the expense of life, love, beauty and virtue.

# I do not believe

that it is necessary to immediately analyse all the bad things that are happening around us, because in so doing it will divide the good ones from the bad ones according to personal evaluation of what is "right" and "wrong". This will only cause division in the immediate future instead of working towards the real goal of understanding and overcoming the problems. I want to focus on an idea. The idea that evil, having arrived forcefully and uninvited, must be the catalyst to force each and every one of us to find the solutions to the problems in a well-balanced and harmonious manner.

# **Therefore**

The Human spirit, which makes the good things in life today, is ill through infective viruses which have found their way uninvited into the fertile ground of Mankind. The viruses cause fanaticisms which are nourished by our own hypocritical weaknesses.

### Consequently

we should not waste time by attempting to evaluate the degree of the sickness, but act together immediately in order to find the cure heal it. We should focus our minds on the cause of the problems that will then enable us to overcome them.

Now, more than ever before, it is also most important that we re-build and sustain a form of Universal Freemasonry in full conformity to the Antient Landmarks and Traditions of the original thoughts so that we can become more united in Love and Harmony and aim our efforts, supported by Truth and Virtue, against the evil in the world. We are fortunate to possess such a diverse spread of intellectual prowess to enable us to work out the solutions required for our task.

Today, November 4<sup>th</sup> 2006, from this International Masonic Conference of Paris, I wish to urge all of you who are part of our Confederation of the Regular Grand Lodges of the World, to be continuously engaged, through the Truth and Virtue I have already mentioned, in finding solutions to our problems.

Let our diverse intellectual ability as Masons shine through during our daily works in everyday life, if only for a small but precious contribution towards our goal.

World Freemasonry, our Freemasonry, must return to the basic principles taught to men in the beginning, enabling them not only to live a better life for themselves and their families, but also to spread the truth and warmth of our fraternity to those outside the Craft and thereby influencing Mankind in a most positive manner. No longer as spectators facing the events, ......but more and more as ambassadors of the Craft.

# Pasquale Cerofolini

MW GM of Italy, GOIF

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# Regular Grand Lodge of Bolivia

Masonic High Council of Bolivia
ANTIGUA Y HONORABLE FRATERNIDAD DE MASONES LIBRES Y ACEPTADOS
SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT

To all Points of the Triangle with, due respect to the Order, Peace, Tolerance, Truth.

M∴W∴ Grand Master of the Regular Grand Lodge of England

M : W : , R : W : Brethren:

On behalf of the Regular Grand Lodge of Bolivia and the Masonic High Council of Bolivia I send greetings and at the same time would like to apologise for our absence in this International Conference

It is a privilege for us, the Regular Grand Lodge of Bolivia, to direct these brief lines to the high dignities assembled at this Grand Conference and to pledge our support to all conclusions that will fortify the Confederation of the Regular Freemasonry throughout the world.

Although we are still a very young Grand Lodge and therefore have many limitations concerning our infrastructure which we mentioned in the previous Conference in London, we would like to propose that consideration be given to holding the next International Conference, in August 2007 in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. This would fortify our brotherhood in our country and in South America.

Valley of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, October 31, 2006 A  $::\! D:\! :$ 

Fraternally

M∴W∴ Osvaldo Ulloa Peña

**Grand Master** 

**Regular Grand Lodge of Bolivia** 

# MASONIC HIGH COUNCIL OF LEBANON

Dear Brethren,

One of the Greatest Inspirations of Freemasonry is to sit in a Lodge room and look about at the men present, men with the snow of many winters in their hair and weight of a long and useful life bearing down upon the once strong shoulders.

In their faces, as they attentively watch the work or listen to the lectures of discussions you always see real interest, close attention, calmness, confidence in the principles exemplified. They have come through fair weather and foul, they have come many miles to listen to these truths and to present them to younger Brethren. You can see them here today.

Unfortunately this Event which I was invited to and missed the opportunity to attend, is a big loss to me. Not to be able to join this enduring appeal of Freemasonry with the wisdom in it's lessons that fits the needs of all ages and generations is sad. The lifelong loyalty seen in the lives of so many patriarchs in every community is indicative of what Freemasonry means to the men who join it. I believe that this Meeting, the Paris Accord, is one of the best proofs that the search for the basics in Freemasonry through the worldwide organisation supported by the MHC is alive, well and flourishing. In your hands, the hands of the Masonic High Council and the Regular Grand Lodge of England, this will surely continue. Allow me to pass to you the Warmest Fraternal Greetings from the Brethren in Lebanon.

Fraternally,

RW Bro. Khaled Nachabe, MHC Senior Grand Officer of Lebanon

# MASONIC OPINION

Brethren, we invite you to submit your news, views and other relevant Masonic Communications. Please submit them to the Grand Secretary. We reserve the right to publish parts of your submissions due to available space in the Newsletter. The following letter was received after our Paris Communication.

Dear Brethren

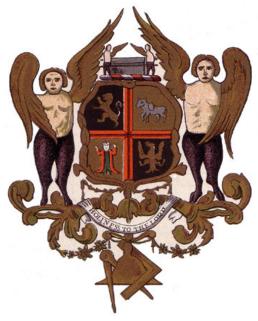
It was an honour for me to attend the Grand Assembly in France on the 4th of November. I arrived with my wife in Paris and was met by a large group of international brethren from around the globe who immediately greeted us with the warmth always expected but seldom experienced in Masonry. It was the beginning of a fantastic weekend. After arriving my wife was whisked off on a sight seeing tour around Paris with the other wives. The reports received were that a truly wonderful day was had by all and, more importantly, many new friendships having been forged.

The spirit of Masonry was in abundance over the weekend with delegates from across the world each giving an address to the assembly, the theme was unanimous. 'The joy at being in the presence of other Masons of like mind." There was a definite feeling that things were changing in Freemasonry and we were in the thick of it. The Grand Master and Pro Grand Master along with their Grand Officers and many visiting Masonic dignitaries from around the globe, confirmed and signed the Paris Accord and the new proposed regulations put before the Grand Assembly.

The Grand Lodge Ceremony superbly conducted by the Grand Master of France in both French and English was a sight to behold and an experience of togetherness that one rarely feels these days at other Masonic gatherings. Our fraternity is certainly bountiful with sincerity, integrity and brotherly love. I could write for hours about different aspect of the conference but will save my renditions until I meet you all hopefully again one day very soon. Suffice it to say that it was a wonderful experience for me and one which I look forward to repeating over again in the future.

With more such events being planned for 2007 of which the locations and venues will be sent as usual via the Grand Secretaries Office to all the Grand Lodges in the Masonic International Federation, I am already looking forward to it.

Sincerely and fraternally (name and address supplied)



# WE, THE REGULAR GRAND LODGE OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND

IN AMPLE FORM Assembled, according to the Old Constitutions regularly and solemnly established under the auspices of Prince Edwin in the City of York, England, in the year 926 A.D. viz:

#### TO ALL AND EVERY OUR WORSHIPFUL AND LOVING BRETHREN

We the Masonic High Council, the Mother High Council of the World, of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England

#### SEND GREETINGS

KNOW YE that We, the Founding Members, Senior Grand Officers of the Masonic High Council, the Mother High Council of World Craft Freemasonry, assembled at Paris this day of our Lord the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2006 have decided and agreed that in order to prevent the dilution and any further loss to our uses and customs this Grand Assembly of Senior Grand Officers have decided to sign this,

# "ACCORD OF PARIS"

WHEREAS all present, the Masonic High Councils of France, Italy, Lebanon, Slovenia, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, United States of America, Middle East, India, Germany, Madeira, Brazil, Mexico, Tunisia, Monaco and others promise, with the appended signatures of all Official Representatives, to foster the enlightenment of all Masons under this new Confederation of Regular Grand Lodges by the means of teaching the true history, antiquities and symbols of the Craft. To cultivate a desire for Masonic Research, and to stimulate a high standard of working in local Lodges and to generally foster Masonic good-fellowship, and to promote the true Antient Landmarks of English Craft Freemasonry and the Grand Principles upon which our Order is founded.

GIVEN under our Hands and the Seal of the Masonic High Council the Grand Lodge at Paris this 4<sup>th</sup> November A.L. 6006 A.D. 2006.

BY COMMAND OF THE SENIOR GRAND OFFICERS OF THE MASONIC HIGH COUNCIL THE MOTHER HIGH COUNCIL OF THE WORLD





# **INTERANTIONAL MASONIC CONFERENCE**

# **SUMMONS**

# MASONIC CENTRE, LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA 9 DECEMBER 2006

09:00AM - Reception of international delegations.

10:00AM - Ceremony of the consecration of the Grand Temple.

- Installation of the Officers of the Lodge ANTON TOMAŽ LINHART No 1, Lodge SIMON GREGORČIČ No 2, and Lodge BARON JURIJ VEGA No 3.
- Installation of the Grand Officers of the Masonic High Council of SLOVENIA.
- Consecration of the Regular Grand Lodge of Slovenia (RGLS) Grand Lodge of Accepted Masons of Slovenia (GLAMS) second variant.
- Installation of the Grand Master of the RGLS (GLAMS)
- · Appointment and Installation of Grand Officers.
- Address of the Grand Master
- Closing and Chain of Union

14:00PM - Transfer to the Grand Hall for the festive agape.

# **MHC OF GERMANY**

Many Brethren, some very high ranking, have sought contact with the Regular Grand Lodge of England and the Mother High Council due to the obvious lack of growth in Craft Masonry in Germany. These initial approaches will give our whole movement more impetus and certainly assist disillusioned Masons in Germany to find a true and universal Masonic base. Freemasonry is stagnant in Germany with no growth and a distinct lack of younger men wishing to join. The foundation of a new English-speaking lodge in early 2007 is being explored by disillusioned brethren, searching for the true meaning of Masonry and no longer prepared to put up with the lack of transparency amongst the present leadership. We will continue to closely monitor the situation in Germany

# **MHC OF LEBANON**

The Grand Master and Grand Officers of the Regular Grand Lodge of England, together with the Officers involved in the Masonic High Council, the Mother High Council of the World and all brethren would like to heartily congratulate our Lebanese Brethren on the consecration of a new lodge, namely Lodge King Solomon No.2, in the Orient of Beirut, Lebanon.

### **MHC OF TUNISIA**

Several Brethren in Tunisia have now instigated official contact with the Masonic High Council, the Mother Masonic High Council, in order to establish the Masonic High Council for Tunisia. We will continue to provide support and assistance to brethren in Tunisia in their honourable endeavours to recreate true antient Freemasonry in their country.

# **MHC OF MONACO**

Several Brethren in Monaco have now instigated official contact with the Masonic High Council, the Mother Masonic High Council, in order to establish the Masonic High Council for Monaco. It is of particular interest that the so-called American-Canadian Grand Lodge of Germany has established an irregular lodge in Monaco. This shows that there is much scope for a Regular Masonic High Council in this country. We wish those brethren involved in this historic event much luck and offer our support in their endeavours.

# **REGULAR GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA**

# **NEW LODGE**

We heartily congratulate our American Brethren in the State of Virginia on their efforts on constituting their new Lodge, House of Jacob Lodge No. 7 at the orient of Suffolk, Virginia.



All enquiries, submissions and articles should be sent to the attention of The Grand Secretary of the Regular Grand Lodge of England.

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(We are unable to return material submitted by individual brethren. Any submissions which are not signed will not be considered for publication.)