

Trestleboard

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

MARCH 2004

The purpose of the NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education is to foster the education of the Craft at large through prepared research and open discussion of the topics concerning Masonic history, symbolism, philosophy, and current events.

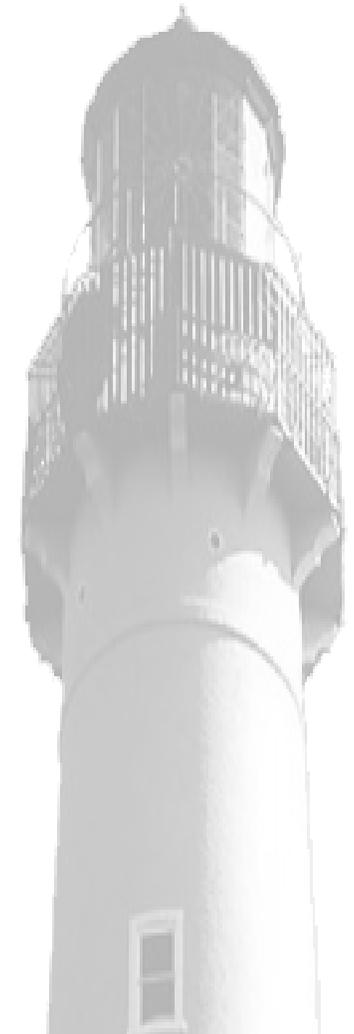
Next Communication

The New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education meets on the fourth Saturday in January, March, May.

Our next communication will be held on
Saturday, March 20, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at:

Trenton Masonic Temple
100 Barracks Street
Trenton, New Jersey

ALL MASTER MASONS ARE WELCOME!



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From the East

RW George A. Olsen, Worshipful Master

RWB George Olsen is at home recovering from surgery. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers during his period of recuperation.

From The West

Bro. Tom Thorton, Senior Warden

My Brothers,

We are now completing our first two years of operation. It is good news and it is bad news. The good news, we have had excellent papers presented at each of our meetings. The sad news is most have been from just two writers. It was hoped that with over 20,000 Masons in the state there would be a few more interested in writing about Freemasonry.

And please remember research does not mean digging up and detailing the past. Really we need more effort in trying to research the future.

However I think probably LORE is suffering from the same thing that really is affecting all Freemasonry. We have many good things going and really too few Masons aware of what we have and what is going on.

At the Grand Lodge level, we find almost weekly functions and all well attended. At the Blue Lodge level, sadly we find we make Masons and in many cases rarely see them again. In fact, I think many depart not really knowing what Freemasonry is all about or the wealth of activities that are available.

So if any of you can suggest how we can get the word of what we do, when and where we do it, that contribution could 'make the difference'.

A Mason who is inactive only has two avenues of input. His local lodge's trestleboard and the quarterly New Jersey Freemason. The NJ Freemason does an excellent job but the local trestleboards are a different situation.

If any of you have any ideas how we could 'get the word' to just the newly made Masons it might help.

Fraternally,

Bro. Tom Thorton, SW

NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education
BY-LAW CHANGE

The following by-law change was submitted by Nathan Mark, a member of New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research & Education No. 1786. The following change will be voted up at the next regular meeting on March 20, 2004:

Article III, 3.1 now states:

Stated Communications. Stated communications shall be held on the fourth Saturday of May, September, January and March, except if such be a legal or religious holiday weekend. The Worshipful Master will then select an appropriate alternate date. All Stated Communications will be held at the Trenton Masonic Temple located on 100 Barracks Street, Trenton, New Jersey commencing at 10 AM and ending no later than 3:00 PM.

Proposed change:

Stated Communications. Stated communications shall be held on the fourth Saturday of May, September, January and March, except if such be a legal or religious holiday weekend. The Worshipful Master *may, at his discretion, change the date and/or time of said Communication when he deems it necessary.* All Stated Communications will be held at the Trenton Masonic Temple located at 100 Barracks Street, Trenton, New Jersey commencing at 10 AM and ending no later than 3:00 PM.



Secretary's Corner

Brethren,

It was decided at the last meeting to have the vote for the selection of the Paper of the Year in March. We would include all papers presented during the first two years of the Lodge. Once a paper is selected, a Plaque will be presented at our annual meeting in May.

Please visit our website and take a look at all the papers presented over the last two years. Remember which one you think is best and remember that paper when you vote in March.

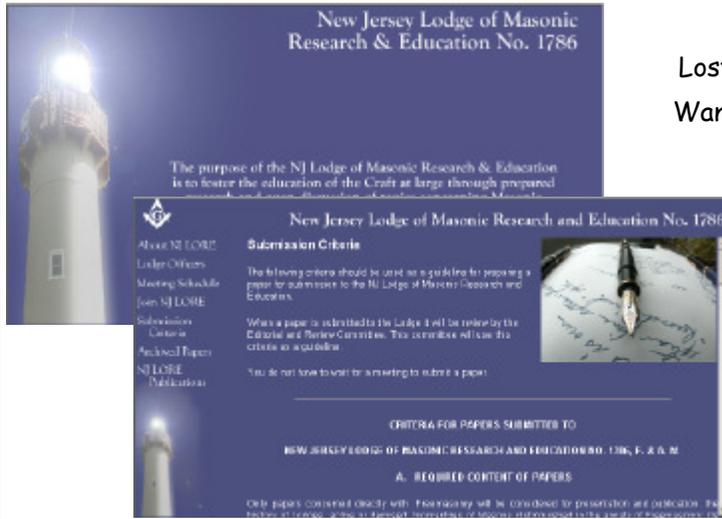
We are getting price quotes on the printing of our Proceedings. They should be available to members at our Annual Meeting in May. We hope to make these publications available to Blue Lodges for their libraries. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

We have added three new members bringing our total membership number up to 75.

Help the New Jersey Lodge of Research and Education!!!

When you are finished with this month's trestleboard, place it in a prominent location in your home Lodge. Hopefully, someone will grab it up, read it, find it interesting, and submit an application to join NJ LORE No. 1786!

Matthew Korang, Secretary, NJ LORE No. 1786



Missed the last meeting??
 Lost your most recent NJ LORE Trestleboard?
 Want a copy of a paper presented at a meeting?

Take a look at the NJ LORE website at
<http://njlore1786.com>

At our website, you will find all of the latest information from copies of Trestleboards and papers to important contact information and meeting dates. Be sure to check it out!!

NJ LORE NO. 1786 — MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Initial Membership Fee is \$ 25.00 and the Annual Dues are \$25.00. A personal check, bank check or money order made out to "**NJ Lodge No. 1786**" in the amount of \$50.00 must accompany this application.

Mail to our Secretary: WB Matthew Korang / 344 East Union St. / Burlington, NJ 08016

Please clearly print or type the following information

Brother Dist. Brother WB RWB MWB

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Telephone (home) _____ (business) _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Lodge Affiliation (Mother Lodge or Lodge currently attending)

Your Lodge Secretary must sign and seal this section of the application indicating that you are in good standing.

Name _____ Number _____

Address _____

Grand Lodge of New Jersey _____ Grand Lodge of _____

Signature of Lodge Secretary _____

"I respectfully represent that I am a Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge of Master Masons in the State of New Jersey or in a Grand Jurisdiction with which New Jersey maintains fraternal relations and do hereby make application for membership."



Your Signature _____

Required Reading

Bro. Tom Thorton, Senior Warden & Bro. Matthew Korang, Secretary

At September 2003's meeting, Bro. Thorton presented his paper titled "The Books of Freemasonry – Simplifying the Overwhelming". Bro. Tom's attempted to wade through the sea of Masonic writing to give the reader an essential list of must-haves for your personal Masonic Library. The entire paper can be downloaded from our website for your enjoyment.

One of things that Bro. Tom wrote about was a listing of good writings available on the Web. Tom stated that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania had a nice listing of books. Well, in my efforts to fill the whitespace of the Trestleboard this month, I went on a search of the Internet for a decent list to present here. In my surfing travels, I found a great website – www.workingtools.com. This website contains some of the most prevalent authors in England at this time. Many of the writers of Freemasonry Today, an English Freemasonic Magazine, are regular contributors to the website. Noted author and editor of Freemasonry Today, Michael Baigent is a regular contributor.

Anyway, the website editor, Matthew Scanlon, posted his quite extensive listing of what he considers "required reading" for today's Freemason. The website lists the books in three parts. I will reprint them for you with Bro. Scanlon's commentary. If you get a chance take an Internet trip to this webpage, you will not be sorry. The rest of the list will be reprinted in future editions of the Trestleboard. Even though this is a list for English Freemasons, it is still interesting.

Recommended Reading

Abah, Ranami, Chief

Light After Darkness

(Lewis Masonic, 1993)

The author examines why men are attracted to Freemasonry and from such a wide variety of religious, ethnic and social backgrounds.

Acta Macionica

Transactions of Ars Macionica Research lodge,

Grande Loge Reguliere de Belgique

Articles are published in Flemish, Dutch, French and some in English.

www.acta-macionica.be

Anderson, James

The Constitutions of the Free-Masons

Originally published in 1723 and a second edition was released in 1738 complete with a semi-mythical history of the masonic craft dating from ancient times. Both editions were reprinted in a facsimile edition in 1976 with a foreword by Eric Ward, PM of Quotour Coronati Lodge, No.2076, EC.

Second hand copies can be found at a reasonable price.

Aries

Aries

(Brill, Leiden, Holland)

Research journal dealing with the western mystery tradition, esoterica, and includes studies on Freemasonry. Now being published by the long-established Dutch publishing house Brill, in German, French, Italian and English.

Ars Quatour Coronatorum , No.2076, EC

Transactions of the Quatour Coronati Lodge

An invaluable collection of research papers into all aspects of Freemasonry published since the inception of the lodge in 1888. The current volume and some past transactions can be obtained from QCCC Ltd, Great Queen Street, WC2B 5AZ. Salesight for correspondence circle: www.qccc.co.uk

Baigent, Michael & Leigh, Richard

The Temple and the Lodge (Jonathan Cape, 1989)

An investigative account concerning the myth that the Templars ran away to Scotland in the fourteenth century, finding sanctuary with King Robert Bruce. The tome encounters celtic myths, alleged Templar graves, Rosslyn Chapel, the

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Gypsies, the Sinclair and Montgomery families, the Scots Guards, and ties them in with the story of the Rosicrucians, the Freemasons, the Jacobites, and the foundation of the modern American state, all packaged in an imaginative prose. Recommended as a fun read, as it is undoubtedly the best of the recent spate of popular Templar 'whodunnits', though I don't subscribe to the general thesis.

Barker-Cryer, Neville

The Arch and the Rainbow: the story of the Order of Mark Master Masons and the degree of the Royal Ark Mariner (Ian Allen, 1996)

A work which attempts to explain all that one needs to learn regarding the Mark and Royal Ark Mariner degrees. Written by the Past Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of England, it is a fascinating tome for all those in the above orders.

Barrett, David V

Secret Societies, from the Ancient and Arcane to the Modern and Clandestine (Blandford, London, 1999)

This is a good study for anyone looking for an introduction to the complicated world of esoteric and secret societies. From the ancient Pythagoreans and Zoroastrians, to the medieval Platonists, Gnostics, Sufis, and Kabbalists, the author succeeds in presenting an introductory and balanced view. Chapter 3 is on Freemasonry. Available in paperback.

Batham, C, N

Freemasonry in England and France - collected papers of Cyril Batham (Australian Masonic Research Council, 1993)
Available from QCCC Ltd.

Baymard, S, H

History of the Supreme Council 33rd degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction of the USA. 2 vols., (Boston, 1938). This is regarded as the standard history of the rite.

Beresiner, Yasha

Royal Arch: the fourth degree of the Grand Lodge of the Antients (Privately printed, 2000)
Last year's Prestonian Lecture from a Past Master of Quatour Coronati Lodge of Research, No.2076. (EC) Available from QCCC Ltd.

Bredin, Miles

The Pale Abyssinian - a Life of James Bruce, African Explorer and Adventurer (Harper Collins, 2000)
An account of the remarkable eighteenth century Scottish explorer, duellist and womaniser, who was a descendent of King Robert Bruce. Between 1768 - 73, Bruce made a lengthy journey into the highlands of Abyssinia, where he subsequently claimed to have discovered the Tisisat Falls and the source of the Blue Nile. Though his claims were ridiculed, his discovery of the lost Ethiopian Books of Enoch is not open to question. Bruce was admitted a member of the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge No.2 in Edinburgh. A good read, though some of the information it contains relating to Freemasonry, tends to rely more on legend than fact.

Buisine, Andre

La Franc-Maconnerie Anglo-Saxonne et les Femmes (ed. Guy Tradaniel, Paris, 1995)

Bullock, Steven C

Revolutionary Brotherhood, Freemasonry and the transformation of the American Social Order, 1730 - 1840, (University of North Carolina Press, 1996)

This is a scholarly attempt to look at Freemasonry's impact on North America. Professor Steven Bullock then examines the role of Freemasonry in the American Wars of Independence, looking at the membership of the founding fathers, including Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, and George Washington. A highly readable work, though there are one or two small errors on early Freemasonry in England.
Available in paperback.

Continued in March 2004 Edition

NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education

Important Information

<p>Brethren,</p> <p>You are cordially and fraternally invited to the next Regular Communication of the NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786 to meet on Saturday, January 24, 2004 at the Trenton Masonic Temple, 100 Barracks St. Trenton, NJ at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Order of Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continental Breakfast (served 9:00 a.m.) - Opening Lodge - Short Business meeting - Presentation of Papers - Lunch Break - Finish Paper Presentations (If necessary) - Closing <p>Officer's Dress – Business Attire</p>	<h3><u>Officers for 2003-2004</u></h3> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>George A. Olsen 25 Gail Dr. East Hanover, NJ 07936 Genesis #88</p> <p>Thomas W. Thornton 11 Adelpia Rd. Parsippany, NJ 07054 Cincinnati #3</p> <p>Ira P. Drucks 64 Oakwood Ave. Livingston, NJ 07039 Germana C. Union #11</p> <p>Leonard M. March 1059 Davistown Rd. Blackwood, NJ 08012 Laurel #237</p> <p>Stephen B. Speirs Matthew Korang (Protem) 344 East Union St. Burlington, NJ 08016 Beverly-Riverside #107</p> <p>Matthew Korang Jay Hochberg (Protem) P.O. Box 264 Caldwell, NJ 07006 Little Falls #263</p> <p>Stewart D. Thomas 96 Sheridan St. Irvington, NJ 07111 Alpha #116</p> <p>Ronald A. Poeter, PM 70 Shunpike Rd. Madison, NJ 07940 Madison #93</p> <p>Scott Simmins 62 Lochatong Rd. Ewing, NJ 08628 Mercer #50</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Worshipful Master 973-887-2515 (H) kenmike167@aol.com</p> <p>Senior Warden 973-887-8772 tomthornton@nac.net</p> <p>Junior Warden 973-994-2963 bikerira@aol.com</p> <p>Treasurer 856-228-4408 lenthekid@aol.com</p> <p>Secretary 609-386-8902 mkorang@comcast.net matthew.korang@lmco.com</p> <p>Senior Deacon 973-256-0374 euclid47@earthlink.net</p> <p>Junior Deacon 973-372-5233 epps@bellatlantic.net</p> <p>Chaplain 973-822-1483 r.a.poeter@worldnet.att.net</p> <p>Tyler 609-882-5983 rdsxfn09@yahoo.com</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>George A. Olsen 25 Gail Dr. East Hanover, NJ 07936 Genesis #88</p> <p>Thomas W. Thornton 11 Adelpia Rd. Parsippany, NJ 07054 Cincinnati #3</p> <p>Ira P. Drucks 64 Oakwood Ave. Livingston, NJ 07039 Germana C. Union #11</p> <p>Leonard M. March 1059 Davistown Rd. Blackwood, NJ 08012 Laurel #237</p> <p>Stephen B. Speirs Matthew Korang (Protem) 344 East Union St. Burlington, NJ 08016 Beverly-Riverside #107</p> <p>Matthew Korang Jay Hochberg (Protem) P.O. Box 264 Caldwell, NJ 07006 Little Falls #263</p> <p>Stewart D. Thomas 96 Sheridan St. Irvington, NJ 07111 Alpha #116</p> <p>Ronald A. Poeter, PM 70 Shunpike Rd. Madison, NJ 07940 Madison #93</p> <p>Scott Simmins 62 Lochatong Rd. Ewing, NJ 08628 Mercer #50</p>	<p>Worshipful Master 973-887-2515 (H) kenmike167@aol.com</p> <p>Senior Warden 973-887-8772 tomthornton@nac.net</p> <p>Junior Warden 973-994-2963 bikerira@aol.com</p> <p>Treasurer 856-228-4408 lenthekid@aol.com</p> <p>Secretary 609-386-8902 mkorang@comcast.net matthew.korang@lmco.com</p> <p>Senior Deacon 973-256-0374 euclid47@earthlink.net</p> <p>Junior Deacon 973-372-5233 epps@bellatlantic.net</p> <p>Chaplain 973-822-1483 r.a.poeter@worldnet.att.net</p> <p>Tyler 609-882-5983 rdsxfn09@yahoo.com</p>
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<p>Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey Most Worshipful Robert L. Miller 383 Bloomsbury Rd. Bloomsbury, NJ 08804 908-479-6599</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">Like to Write?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Interested in Masonic History or Theory?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Why not consider submitting a paper to the NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education?</p> <p>The NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education is looking for individuals interested in the history and activities of Freemasonry in both New Jersey and the world.</p> <p>Only papers concerned directly with Freemasonry will be considered for presentation and publication: The history of Lodges, active or demised; biographies of Masons distinguished in the annals of Freemasonry; its ceremonies, usage, and practices; the speculative or philosophical aspects of Freemasonry; and any other Masonic subject of general interest to the Fraternity.</p> <p>Interested? If you have a paper you would like to submit or would like more information concerning writing and submitting papers, please feel free to contact :</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RW Thomas Thorton at 973-887-8772</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">From the Editor's Desk.....</p> <p>Next Trestleboard will be published by March 1, 2004. All articles must be submitted by February 15, 2004.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Matthew Korang, PM, Secretary</p> 		

New Jersey Lodge of Masonic
Research and Education No. 1786

Trenton Masonic Temple
100 Barracks St.
Trenton, NJ 08608

*Bringing Light to New
Jersey Freemasonry!*

**We're On the Web!!
njlore1786.org**

Back Page Book Review

Bro. Jay Hochberg, Peninsula Lodge No. 99

"A Daily Advancement in Masonic Knowledge," by Various Authors
Published by the Masonic Book Club, 2003, 345 pages.

If this book review reads like an endorsement of a club membership... that's because it is. To recommend "A Daily Advancement in Masonic Knowledge" is to recommend the Masonic Book Club also, as the MBC is the publisher and sole distributor of this, its 34th publication. If Masonic research and education interests you, then this non-profit outfit is worthy of your time.

Club membership is limited to 1,500, but there are openings now. For \$15 a year the member receives a beautifully bound hardcover volume of pointed Masonic interest. Sometimes it'll be a reprint of a rare and highly sought Masonic document; other times the book will be a newly authored work of significant Masonic knowledge. This volume for 2003 is somewhere in between as it contains 45 years of Society of Blue Friars lectures. Here you'll find rarities by authors you have in your bookcase — Newton, Coil, Carr, Denslow, Cerza — and contemporary writers you might know from Masonic cyberspace, like McLeod, de Hoyos, Morris and King.

The content of this volume is a treasure, as it imparts a wealth of histories, biographies and erudite points of view. Space here does not allow for even a cursory description of what's to be learned from this book. You'll simply have to read it. To join the MBC, mail your \$15 check to:

Robin Carr, Secretary
Masonic Book Club
Box 1563
Bloomington, Illinois, 61702-1563

*A Daily Advancement in
Masonic Knowledge*

