

# Trestleboard

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 1

March 2013

*NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education's purpose 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

New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education meets on the second Saturday in March, June, September and December. Our next communication will be held on **Saturday, March 9, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at:**

**Hightstown/Apollo Lodge #41  
535 North Main Street  
Hightstown, NJ 08520**

*All Master Masons are Welcome!*



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## From the East

Bro. JR Avanti, Worshipful Master

Brethren,

Love-of-Self can be so difficult to maintain or even acquire! As we mature, the innocence of youth can whittle away our Self-Love. Many humans and even the co-existing mammals on earth can revert to the basic instinct of self-preservation, without some expression of Self-Love.

The Forces of our Lives can erode LOVE from our thoughts, Actions and Deeds. These less than positive influences can suppress this most valuable asset given to us by the GATOU. LOVE and also the capability to LOVE Oneself and our fellow creatures on this planet is Priceless and a dynamic Life Force.

When the person in the mirror looks back at you, is there Self-Love for that reflection?

We are All Products of the LOVE of Our Supreme Being!

How Best can We distribute this LOVE to One Another?

LOVE of Others. Can We convey more Love?

### LODGE HAPPENINGS...

NJ LORE No. 1786's next meeting will be held at the Hightstown/Apollo Lodge #41 on Saturday March 9th, at 9:30 a.m.

On the Agenda:

- Short Business Meeting
- Masonic Restoration – Putting Craftsmanship Back into the Craft - Bro. Bogardus
- A Walk to the Middle Chamber—Bro. Hochberg
- Review of a Visitation to GL of NY by Bro. Hoff.

Coffee and Pastries will be served prior to Lodge and Lunch will be provided following. Hope to see you there!



Check NJ LORE out on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/  
njlore1786](http://www.facebook.com/njlore1786)

## **It Came from the Internet**

Submitted by Bro. Matt Korang, Secretary

### **Freemasons to launch their own TV series**

A TV series that reveals the inside story behind exclusive men's club the Freemasons is to run on Victorian community channel C31 next month.

The series – called Freemasons: The Inside Story - aims to expose the myths associated with the fraternity, look back at its history and ponder the role Freemasonry plays within the community, according a press release from the group.

The series is to be presented by 3AW radio presenter Wes Turnbull. The 26-part series, created by Melbourne-based production company Fuzzy TV, will run in 30-minute episodes from Monday 4 March.

<http://mumbrella.com.au>

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### **Islamic Ministry claims Christians, Freemasons secretly working to “eradicate” Islam in the Maldives**

Minister of Islamic Affairs Sheikh Mohamed Shaheem Ali Saeed has warned that Christians and Freemasons are working to “create doubts” on Islam within the hearts of young Maldivians.

Local media reported the Islamic Minister as claiming there is a “strong psychological war” conducted by “various Christian organisations” to “wipe out” Islam from the Maldives.

Shaheem further claimed that the Freemasons – a secretive society originating from Europe – was carrying out activities “in secret” within the Maldives.

Shaheem was speaking at a ceremony to mark the 886th anniversary of the Maldives' conversion to Islam from Buddhism, in accordance to the legend taught in Maldivian schools.

“Various Christian organisations and missionaries are strongly involved and active in our society. They are working within us and outside, trying to create doubts on Islam within the hearts of young people,” Shaheem declared.

“We have got a lot to do to strengthen Islamic faith through the national curriculum. We have to clarify the doubts being cast in the hearts of young generation. We can only overcome this through unified collaboration,” the Minister added.

President Mohamed Waheed Hassan Manik meanwhile expressed similar sentiment to the Islamic Minister, asking the public to be cautious of activities being carried out to allow other faiths into the country.

Waheed said the Maldives had remained an independent and sovereign nation because it was a “100 percent Islamic state”, and that the “unity and

brotherly bond” between people was the result of Islam.

“It saddens me to say that despite the existence of such a bond, today we’re seeing a little weakening of that bond. We need to seriously think about this, especially when the introduction of multi-party politics has resulted in deterioration of familial bonds and social well being,” he said, in his address.

Waheed said it was important for people create love towards Islam and strengthening Islamic faith, as the country celebrates the day the Maldives embraced Islam.

President’s Office Media Secretary Masood Imad meanwhile told Minivan News that the government had not been made aware that undercover Freemason organisations or Christian missionaries were operating in the country in an attempt to undermine Islam.

Massod added that the matter would be better forwarded to the Ministry of Islamic Affairs for clarification.

“We try to keep out of these matters,” he said.

Sheikh Shaheem and leader of the government aligned Adhaalath Party, Sheikh Imran Abdulla, were not responding to calls at time of press.

<http://minivannews.com>

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## **The Music World’s Fake Illuminati**

Beyoncé’s had an unexpectedly tough spin in the news cycle after her universally acclaimed Inauguration performance was revealed to be a lip-synch job.

But it’s hard to believe that the pop singer, who is preparing for the Super Bowl halftime show, hadn’t already heard it all. After all, an entire corner of the Internet believes her daughter is the Antichrist.

Beyoncé and her husband, Jay-Z, are just two of the popular music stars whose ties to the so-called Illuminati have come in for Zapruder-level scrutiny online, on sites like Vigilant Citizen, Media Exposed, and, yes, Beyonce-Illuminati.com.

The fear of the entity known as the Illuminati is neither unique — Bey and Jay join Lady Gaga, Rihanna, Ke\$ha, Kanye West, and practically every prominent banker and politician on Earth is under conspiracy theorists’ microscope — nor novel. The original Bavarian Illuminati, a short-lived Enlightenment group devoted to overthrowing the local government, would likely have been forgotten, said “Occult America” author Mitch Horowitz, had Scottish physicist John Robison not speciously alleged in 1797 that the group had infiltrated the Freemasons and instigated the French Revolution.

“The Illuminati can be understood as the most radical edge of the marriage of avant-garde religious views and political views that sometimes found expression within Freemasonry,” said Horowitz. The movement, as redefined ex post facto to include practically every threatening and new development in American life, went on to resurface in rumors from the anti-Masonry fervor of the 1830s to the election

of a Catholic president in 1960 to (did you need to ask?) the Obama presidency. Though the political goals of the Illuminati in Bavaria were locally minded, the avant-garde aspect lives on. Horowitz listed certain motifs: “skulls, serpents, eyes and pyramids, pentagrams. These were from a religious culture that had vanished after the Dark Ages; they’re alluring, dangerous, sinister.”

And indeed they were alluring to everyone from the designers of the Great Seal of the United States (check out that to, if you trust the Internet, just about every pop star). But that doesn’t signify that every pop star has joined a nebulously defined group bent on world domination. “The eye and pyramid still makes people pause when they see a dollar bill. An artist like Jay-Z understands that,” said Horowitz.

“He flashes an image of Mao Tze-Tung in [the video for] ‘Run This Town,’ but no one suspects he’s an agrarian socialist.”

Here are a few of the accusations waged against Beyoncé and Jay-Z:

- Beyoncé’s love song “1 + 1” is a parable for demonic possession (its repeated plea “Make love to me” is allegedly directed at Lucifer) and its music video, like Rihanna’s “Umbrella,” depicts the devil and Illuminati-organized mind reprogramming.

- Beyoncé inviting Taylor Swift onstage at the Video Music Awards in 2009 represented Swift’s initiation into the malign global elite.

- A pair of designer shoes, each adorned with one eye, that the singer sported are sending a coded message about her ties to the Illuminati.

- Jay-Z and Beyoncé’s daughter’s name, “Blue Ivy,” is an acronym for “Born Living Under Evil, Illuminati’s Very Youngest.”



*Beyoncé at her Super Bowl Performance*

Enough, for now! Taking a broader and more systematic view, conspiracy theorist and YouTube documentarian Mark Dice said, “These symbols represent power. And the Illuminati is the ultimate powerful organization. These scumbags like Jay-Z want that power. Their whole message is that of materialism.

“They assign the meaning, and they have secret meanings for the initiated. The pop stars are Illuminati puppets. I call them Satanic skanks.”

Dice clarified that he did not believe that celebrities are hypnotized into delivering Illuminati-approved messages, as some other conspiracy theorists do (though he took umbrage at Jay-Z’s appearing on behalf of Obama during the presidential campaign: “What’s his message? Is it a message of love and respect? No, he’s a former drug dealer popping Cristal. Go pop your Cristal!”).

Said Dice: “They’re just spokesmen. These people don’t even write their own songs.”

If you’re looking for evidence that a worldwide conspiracy exists but can’t quite fit together global politics and the Bilderberg Group, why not pin as useful idiots the pop stars whom everyone knows? People reflexively distrust celebrities, anyway, so half of the conspiracy theorist’s work of convincing is already done.

The celebrities fan the flames a bit, too. “I said I was amazing, not that I’m a Mason / It’s amazing that I made it through the maze that I was in,” rapped Jay-Z, acknowledging the case against him even as his fans throw up a sign that conspiracy-minded folks allege is that Masonic “eye inside a triangle.” Beyoncé’s one-eyed shoes seem like a fairly deliberate provocation given a portion of her audience’s fixation on Masonic symbolism. Beyoncé and Jay-Z may be setting themselves up for critique, and examination, and obsessive documentation.

Hollywood’s role, in theorists’ minds, is to disseminate messages of “extreme materialism, spiritual vacuity and a self-centered, individualistic existence” to placate the masses, says anti-Illuminati site Vigilant Citizen. Then again, some people just call that pop culture! The involvement of pop culture just bolsters the “superconspiracy” aspect of the Illuminati, said end-times expert and academic Cathy Gutierrez, of Sweet Briar College. “It’s not just a conspiracy against the Bavarian government, now you’re friends with the Rosicrucians, the Elders of Zion, the underground Jewish money funding all of this.” There’s a comfort to this sort of thinking, said Gutierrez, rather like believing in God: “It does protect things from just happening. It’s kind of a big plan.”

Indeed, prominent conspiracy theorist Dr. Henry Makow wrote in an email to Salon, “The ultimate goal of the Illuminati is to morally degrade humanity as a way of inducting humanity into their cult at the lowest level, and enslaving it mentally and spiritually, if not physically.” He specifically bemoaned “feminism, homosexuality and gay marriage” — using pop stars as a scapegoat for the sexual revolution, which had an evil hand guiding it.

Asked what she thought of pop stars’ potential ties to a group that sought to instate a New World Order, Dr. Gutierrez replied: “Lady Gaga? I can imagine worse people running the world.”

<http://www.salon.com>

## Officers for 2013-2014

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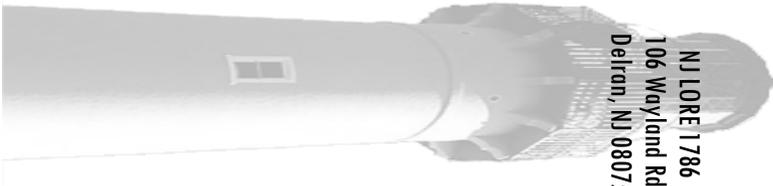
### *From the Editor's Desk.....*

*Next Trestleboard will be published on or about June 1, 2013. We are always looking for articles. All articles must be submitted by May 15, 2013.*

*Matthew Korang, Secretary*  
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*Bringing Light to New  
Jersey Freemasonry!*

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