

Chain of Union Newsletter



George Washington Union

Special points of interest:

- New Lodge in George Washington Union takes shape in San Francisco
- Lodge New Isis in Los Angeles holds public event
- International Conference on the History of Freemasonry convenes in 2007 in Scotland

Congratulations are definitely in order to all members of George Washington Union in San Francisco! After 4 years of very capable and hard work as a Lodge of Mission, Franklin Delano Roosevelt Lodge No. 6, Orient of San Francisco, will be consecrated as a full Lodge on October 14th, 2006, at 10:30 A.M. The group is constituted by 10 Masters, 1 Fellowcraft, and 2 Apprentices.

The predominantly Franco-American Lodge recently initiated its first American Sister and is now ready to move forward as others are knocking on the door seeking admission.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt brings to the West Coast yet

another responsible group of Masons working in the tradition of full "freedom of conscience." It works in English according to the freedoms, privileges and responsibilities of the Constitution of George Washington Union in North America. The Lodge members look forward to a very successful year and increasing contact with other symbolic lodges from all Masonic bodies in California, the USA, Mexico and Canada.

The Ceremony of Consecration for Franklin Delano Roosevelt will be held at their regular meeting place in San Francisco. All Brothers and Sisters from George Washington Union, and all Masonic Bodies, are invited to join in the work of the day.

For further information on the Consecration, and other news concerning the Obedience, please contact Grand Master Jean-Claude Zambelli at jc@zambelli.org



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La Grand Loge Féminine de France elects new Grand Mistress

La Grande Loge Féminine de France (GLFF), the foremost female Masonic obedience in the world, has announced the election of their new Grand Mistress, Yvette Nicolas. The Grand Mistress was elected at the 2006 Annual General Assembly of the GLFF. She has

been involved in national and local politics in France including work in the past with Prime Minister Barre. In addition, the Grand Mistress has been a leader in international work to assist civilian victims in the Balkan crisis. She is an officer of the National Order of Merit

and Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. The GLFF has 11,700 members in 365 lodges around the world. Its policy of international development has been re-affirmed at the recent General Assembly with eleven new lodges created in France, Europe and Africa.



“Putting on this public event was a great learning experience for the Lodge and it was well received by the public. We are going to do more events like this in the future on a wide range of topics in philosophy, art and science ”

*Worshipful Master
Ray Boggio
Lodge New Isis No. 8,
GWU*

Lodge New Isis presents

The Tarot and the Isis-Sophia Mystery, a tradition of reflection by individual Freemasons since 1781.

MYSTERY OF THE DIVINE FEMININE

The historic origins of the images of the Tarot are lost in the night of time. Each of the legends concerning its origins has served only to deepen the attraction of the spiritual seeker, or scholar, wanting to know the truth. The French scholar and Freemason, Court de Gebelin, wrote in *Le Monde Primitif* in Paris in 1781 that the Tarot is the surviving book of initiation from Ancient Egypt. Since the telling of this story, a tradition has evolved of speculation on the Tarot by individual Freemasons lasting some 225 years.

This presentation followed by discussion will examine elements of the Tarot concerned with the Isis-Sophia mystery (the Divine Feminine) as relevant to our time and utilizing the ideas of Dr. Rudolph Steiner, founder of the Anthroposophical movement, and C. S. Lewis, the learned Christian writer and philosopher.

The evening's talk, followed by discussion, will be given by John Slifko, Ph. D. Candidate, UCLA, Department of Cultural Geography, Master Mason, Grand Lodge of California, and, 32°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction



Friday, May 19th, 2006

The evening begins at 7:30
There is a \$10 charge at the door
Refreshments will be served

Liberal Arts Lodge Building
2244 Westwood Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90064

The Lodge is on the East side
of Westwood Blvd.,
between Olympic and Pico.
There is ample street parking.

Please RSVP to our secretary
Olivia Barham at: livvi@aol.com
or phone, 310-968-2763 if you
would like to reserve a space.

Lodge New Isis Hosts Public Speaking Event in Los Angeles

The officers and members of Lodge New Isis put in considerable effort to stage a public event in Los Angeles, California on 19 May 2006. As part of the outreach, the “flier” depicted above on this page was distributed electronically and in hard-copy. As a result, the event was well attended with over 100 non-Masons and Masons in the audience. Lodge New Isis plans to organize additional public

events in the future. At the moment, some members are discussing with Masons, and non-Masons, outside the Lodge the idea of a mini-lecture series entitled *“Initiation, Myth and Dream in American Cinema.”* These public events will include presentations and discussions by artists and scholars from Southern California. The idea is to take advantage of the considerable artistic and intellectual resources in

the entertainment industry in Hollywood as well as at prestigious local film schools at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and the University of Southern California. News on the upcoming series will be announced in the *Chain of Union*. For further information please contact Franklin Paine at Franklin_Paine@msn.com.

Le Tarot in Europe – An International Museum Exhibit by the Cultural Trust for Historical Studies and Research in Faenza, Italy

During the Renaissance the "Images of the Ancient Gods" reminded the observer of the classical myths, which were considered symbols of great ethical and moral values. The games of the Tarot were born in this period. The Tarot is considered an extraordinary achievement of Italian Humanism and Western European heritage.

"The Tarots: Art and Magic" is an intriguing exhibition on

this visual dimension of European cultural traditions.

First seen in Ferrara, Italy, the traveling exhibition consists of a large selection of European Tarot cards, together with paintings, engravings, prints, ivories, ceramics, arras, manuscripts, illuminated cards, books and inlaid boxes of great historical and artistic value.

Selected by a committee of university lecturers and re-

searchers, the works on display constitute a fascinating survey of art and history from the 15th to the 20th century.

For additional information please visit <http://trionfi.com/tarot-exhibition/>

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At the right is a depiction of the image of the Sun from the Visconti-Sforza deck painted during the Italian Renaissance.



GWU General Assembly in 2006 to be held in Montreal

Lodge Raoul Zetler, No. 7, George Washington Union, Orient of Montreal, is heavily involved in preparing for the Annual George Washington Union General Assembly. This year the gathering of eager masons will convene 4-5 November 2006, the first week-end of November, in Montreal.

All members of George Washington Union are urged to at-

tend. Numerous reports will be given and propositions from throughout George Washington Union will be taken up.

Some of the results of the General Assembly will be reported on in the next edition of the *Chain of Union*.

For further information please contact Grand Master Jean-Claude Zambelli at jc@zambelli.org



New facilities open at Centre for Research Into Freemasonry

May 2006 saw exciting new developments at the University of Sheffield, when the splendid new premises of the Centre for Research into Freemasonry, opposite the former Jessop Hospital for Women, were formally opened.

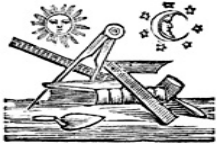
An informative article has

been written on the opening by Professor Andrew Prescott, Director, Centre for Research into Freemasonry, and the readers of the *Chain of Union* are encouraged to visit the Centre's web site and read his article entitled: ***Exciting New Developments at the University of Sheffield.***

<http://www.freemasonry.dept.shef.ac.uk/>



The
University
Of
Sheffield.



George Washington Union

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*Supporting the study of initiation,
tradition and renewal in freemasonry in
North America, and around the world*

Were on the web!

<http://www.georgewashingtonunion.org/>

International Conference on the History of Freemasonry Scotland 2007

Upcoming conference on Freemasonry in Scotland

The first International Conference on the History of Freemasonry (ICHF) to be held Edinburgh, Scotland, 2007, will provide, for the first time, an international forum for all scholars whose work in any way touches on Freemasonry.

Masonic history is a developing field of academic research and ICHF is intended to stimulate and focus on new research into all aspects of this most interesting area of hu-

man activity. The conference is supported by the following academic institutions:

The Centre for Research into Freemasonry, University of Sheffield,

**Centre interdisciplinaire bor-
delais d'étude des lumières,
Université de Bordeaux III**

**Centre national de la recher-
che scientifique, Paris IV,
Sorbonne**

**Interdisciplinary Research
Group Freemasonry, Free
University of Brussels**

ICHF

The Conference will be held over three days commencing 25th May and ending 27th May 2007.

For further information please go to the website at

<http://www.ichfonline.org/main.htm>

