



ON THE LEVEL



VOLUME 8 – No. 07

CORNERSTONE LODGE No. 19

Editor J.B. York

MAR 2010

Minutes of the Regular Communication

Cornerstone No. 19 Feb 18, 2010

Number of Signatures on the Register 20 Members and 1 Visitor

Lodge Tyled: 7:30 p.m. by Worshipful Bob Neish.

Notice: Portion of notice calling the meeting was read.

Lodge was lowered to EA. Robert Carrier proved up in the EA degree. Stewards exited with Robert to prepare for FC degree

Visitors: SW read the visitor register

Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes signed and on Secretary's desk

Fellowcraft Degree was performed for Robert Carrier

Petitions: None petitions - No reports

Bills & Accounts: Within budget

Correspondence: Masonic Mentor and Reminder for Eastern Star Potluck night February 20 @ 5:30 p.m.

Sickness & Distress: Vic Ramsbottom has passed away.

Lodges Visited by Brethren: Corinthian Lodge was visited by a few brethren for a degree

General Purposes Meeting: SW read the minutes

Entertainment Committee: Mozart Night on March 13 after GP meeting. Robbie Burns had good feedback.

Education Committee: Back to agenda for March meeting

Temple Board: Next meeting date March 2, 2010

Website: More info needed as usual

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SW Word: Cable Tow

Point of Protocol: Alms bags

Unfinished Business: Wand tops to be finished for next meeting, Need to pay dues discussed, Presentation of MM certificates to Darnell Bass, Gene Oakes, & Dave Parrish. Presentation of PM certificate to Jim Carswell. Presentation of 'Visitor of the Year' to Roger Higham. Presentation of Mason of the Year to Paul Ripley. Presentation of PM Jewel to Jason Caumartin.

New Business: Possible update Regalia. Bob to send letter to Temple Board to thank them and Alms bags were passed around.

Education: Not enough time

Elsewhere About the Lodge: Raised lodge to a MM lodge.

Lodge Closed: 10:10 p.m.

From The Historical Register

100 Years Ago - March 1910

MWGM Bro. J.T. MacDonald visited the Lodge and gave a very inspiring address and commended the officers on the very efficient and impressive way in which they conferred the degree. Attendance 30.

50 Years Ago - March 1960

DDGM RW Bro. R.L. Osborne addressed the Lodge after conducting a quiz. Trustees of the Lodge instructed to look into purchase of land for a new hall. Attendance 35.

25 Years Ago - March 1985

RW Bro. Jim Ross was received in form and welcomed as DDGM. Bros. Juke and Fisher gave an interesting paper at the R&E workshop. Cornerstone Lodge curled against Cayley Oddfellows Lodge and won 11-5.

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La Dame de la Belle Verriere, an 11th century stained glass window at Chartres, one of the three initiatory Black Virgins within the Cathedral.

The Heresy of The Black Madonna

It is no coincidence that the peak years of the development of the cult of the Black Madonna fall well within the Templar era and that most of the effigies are located in areas of that Order's influence. Yet, while Mariolatry is of incalculable importance to the Catholic Church, it has always been uncomfortable with the cult of the Black Madonna. One clue to this may be found in the words of Bernard of Clairvaux. At the time of the Council of Troyes, Bernard laid down a specific requirement for all the members of the Templars to make "obedience to Bethany and the House of Mary and Martha" – in other words to swear obedience and loyalty to the dynasty founded by Mary Magdalene and Jesus. Indeed, many scholars now believe that the great Notre Dame cathedrals built or financed by the Templars were dedicated not to Mary the mother of Jesus but to Mary Magdalene and the son of Jesus.

The Templar veneration of the Magdalene in the guise of the Black Madonna was wide spread and the

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author, Ean Begg lists over 50 centres of veneration of the Black Madonna in churches dedicated to the Magdalene. According to the beliefs of the hidden stream of spirituality within Christianity, the Magdalene is "the symbol of divine wisdom" and according to the Nazorean tradition, she was depicted garbed in black like the priestess Isis, surmounted by Sophia's crown of stars and her infant wore the golden crown of royalty. Ean Begg claimed many years before the disclosure of the Rex Deus tradition that the history and the legends of the Black Virgin reveal a heretical sect with the power to shock and astonish even current post-Christian attitudes, one that involves political forces still influential in Europe today – a comment that, in the light of Rex Deus revelations, is right on the mark!

The majority of the Knights Templar – many of the knights, all the sergeants, craftsmen and auxiliary members – were undoubtedly staunch followers of the Catholic faith, but the founders and the real leaders thereafter were the "heretics" and Gnostics. The French scholars Georges Caggar and Jean Robin claim that:

The Order of the Temple was indeed constituted of seven exterior circles dedicated to the minor mysteries, and of three interior circles corresponding to the initiation into the great mysteries. The nucleus was composed of 70m Templars...

Membership of the secretive ruling clique was restricted to known members of Rex Deus. Yet, despite their power, all we have left to trace their beliefs are the Grail sagas, the cult of the Black Madonna, and traces that eventually carried over into later Freemasonry, for this seemingly all powerful Order was to endure a brutal and remarkably rapid fall from grace due to the greed and cupidity of a French King.

CONGRATULATIONS!

**To all the Canadian athletes, the
Olympic Organizers and the City of
Vancouver.
They have made Canada proud!**

★★ Upcoming Events ★★

GP meeting - 9:00 am Sat. Mar. 13/10
Regular Meeting -Thurs. Mar. 18/10