



TRESTLEBOARD

MOUNT MORIAH TWO BRIDGES NAHE
LODGE NO 823 A.F. & A.M.

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE AMERICAN CANADIAN GRAND LODGE (ACGL)
WITHIN THE UNITED GRAND LODGES OF GERMANY (VGLvD)

Postfach 1947 66927 Pirmasens Germany

2007

JAN - MAR

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Editor: VWBRO Peter Schell

Stated meetings every first and third
Monday at 19.30 hrs at our Lodge Hall in
Pirmasens, Beckenhofenstrasse 36.

Lodge mailing addresses:

**Ron H. Maskell
In den Birken 7
66957 Kroeppen
Germany**

Or

**Mt. Moriah Two Bridges Nahe 823
Postfach 1947
66927 Pirmasens
Germany**

Or

**ACGL (823)
Attn. Jess Minton, Grand Secretary
P.O. Box 740
Simpsonville, KY 40067**

**Do not use the military APO addresses
that we use as sender.**

To contact Lodge Secretary
0049-6335-916613 (Phone)
0049-6335-916612 (Fax)
email : r.maskell@t-online.de

Please remember!

Don't send any Lodge correspondence
to VWBRO Shaver`s address. Only use
one of the three addresses previously
mentioned.

**Lodge annual
dues
are \$ 50,00**

**Visit our Lodge`s
web-page
www.823fm.com**

From the East

Greetings to our Brothers one and all,

Our Lodge continues to enjoy
fellowship and brotherly love at our
regularly scheduled meetings and outside
the Lodge room as well. We are traveling
to other Lodges to assist in degree work
or just to visit. This is Masonry at work
brothers. Helping others and caring for
others. We always remember our widows

with cards and flowers and invitations to our events. They really appreciate our concern and thoughtfulness.

Already this year, we have had a busy schedule with degree work and community support, especially with the Fisher House and the local community helping the poor with lots of donated clothes and other items.

I am very proud of our resident brothers and their support of the Lodge with their attendance and participation. I am equally proud of you stateside brothers for your support by paying your dues on time and supporting the ACGL drawing by purchasing the raffle tickets. Without all your support we would not be able to function as a Masonic Lodge should function. We are held in high esteem in Germany and elsewhere where our Lodge is known for its brotherly love and commitment to excellence. Believe me, our Lodge is the standard in the ACGL and the Grand Master often refers to our work as the best example to follow.

I encourage every brother reading this to be kind to one another and look for some good deed to perform each day. It is what defines a Mason. Look out for your brothers and take care of their widows. Continue to send us your letters and news of life in the States. We do read your correspondence at our stated meetings and we all enjoy hearing from you.

Fraternally and Sincerely,

Thomas Shaver
Master

From the West

I hope this note finds you and your families doing well. This Lodge is doing good as always and I enjoy working and serving as your Senior Warden. I wish you and yours the very best for the upcoming summer season.

May the blessing of heaven rest upon you and yours.

Fraternally and Sincerely,

Manfred Weis
Senior Warden

From the South

Below lines are nothing new to each of us, however, I think worthwhile to be read again.

Kurt G.Schreiner
Junior Warden

Your Duties as a Mason

You will become a full member of the fraternity when you have received the three degrees, proved your proficiency in each of them, and signed the by-laws of your Lodge. In assuming the obligations of the degrees and signing the by-laws, you enter into an agreement with the Lodge, wherein you bind yourself to perform certain duties, and the Lodge binds itself to protect you in certain rights and privileges.

Always your duties will be loyalty to masonry, faithfulness to your superior officers, and obedience to the Masonic laws. These are fundamental conditions of membership.

As a Mason, it will be your duty to maintain membership in some Lodge. If necessary or expedient you may transfer your membership to another Lodge. Membership in a lodge necessarily requires some monetary obligations. Dues should be paid promptly as an imperative condition of membership. While the Lodge is not

an organized charity, it teaches love and charity for all mankind and especially for Brother Masons, their widows and orphans. It will therefore be your duty to stand ready to lend a helping hand to a Brother Mason in sickness or distress, and to aid in the charities of the lodge, after you become a Master mason so far as your conscience will guide and your means permit.

If you are present at your lodge when a ballot is taken on a petition for degree, you must vote. Voting on a petition for membership is not a right or privilege to be exercised at your choice, but an obligation and duty. This is only another way of saying that the responsibility for deciding who shall be Masons rests on every member. You may be summoned by the Worshipful Master to attend a meeting of your Lodge for some special purpose, or to discharge some duty required of you as a mason and, unless circumstances at the time make it impossible, it will be your duty to obey.

A Lodge differs from any other organization in many fundamental respects; duties and obligations may not be laid down or taken up at pleasure and membership is not a mere gesture of honor or an idle privilege. A member may not stand aside until an opportunity occurs to secure something from it for his own selfish purpose, nor may he evade his responsibilities by shifting his burdens to more willing shoulders. The Mystic Tie that binds him to his fellows holds him fast.

When among strangers you will have certain means of recognition by which to prove yourself to another Mason and to prove him to you, to enable you to establish Fraternal relations with men whom you might never have met. To know that wherever you go in the world and whatever your financial or social

position, you will find Brothers ready to extend to you the hand of fellowship, is one of the greatest of all the privileges of membership.

Communications:

Brethren, below is a selection of letters received from our stateside Brethren and read in open Lodge

From what I hear everything is running smoothly at the Lodge.

Our Dollar sure is taking a beating soon it will only be worth 50 cents.

I'm sending my dues for next year plus a little extra so you can use it where it is best needed.

I am also sending you the check for the drawing We wish you and the family the very best for the holiday season.

Fraternally yours,
Bro. Gene Gelner

Dear Brother Ron,

I hope this finds you all well as we are here. It seems like I just did this a short time ago, time sure flies,

Thanks for the T/boards and other correspondence throughout the year.

Once again I'm enclosing my dues, fee for tickets, and a donation to the Lodge to use as you determine.

I wish you, your family, and all the Lodge a Merry Christmas and a happy new year in 2007

Fraternally yours,

Roger Prast.

COMPENSATION

I'd like to think when life is done
That I had filled a needed post,
That here and there I'd paid my fare
With more than idle talk and boast;
That I had taken gifts divine,
The breath of life and manhood fine,
And tried to use them now and then

In service for my fellow men.

I'd hate to think when life is through
That I had lived my round of years
A useless kind, that leaves behind
No record in this vale of tears;
That I had wasted all my days
By treading only selfish ways,
That this world would be the same,
If it had never known my name.

I'd like to think that here and there,
When I am gone, there shall remain
A happier spot that might have not
Existed had I toiled for gain;
That some one's cheery voice and smile
Shall prove that I had been worth
while
That I had paid with something fine
MY DEBT TO GOD FOR LIFE
DIVINE:

Edgar A. Guest

Dear VWBr. Ron,

Thanks for your quick reply. I am sorry that I haven't been a well spring of communication since my departure. Taking me way out here away from a Lodge has been very hard on me. I am glad that you will convey my fraternal greetings to all the brethren of Mt. Moriah/Two Bridge/Nahe Lodge 823.

I would be very grateful if you would send the scholarship information to my son, Robert Cusick, at the wuncusick@yahoo.com email address. He has been accepted to a university and is looking for ways to assist with paying for all of the expenses. I told him there is a possibility that the ACGL may be able to help him with that goal. I am sure he will be inspired and hope that he returns a petition to us in a few short years when he is 21. I am not sure if a signature is required from me on the packet? I can be contacted more reliably at my army aka email address of warren.cusick@us.army.mil

It has been an exercise in patience here since the 82nd Airborne came into theater and the extended the brigade combat teams from the 10th Mountain Division. Extra assets to prosecute the aims of this war, but no extra vsat internet bandwidth. The

82nd divided up the bandwidth emphasizing their assets and we were left reeling with 1 kbps or less. I could not even connect with yahoo and still can't. In a little comparison, dial up would be like having the fastest ever cable modem compared to what we have now. Two hours to log on is just way past my fun limit. Mail is also going to be a lot slower. It took 31 days for the last package to get here from Nicki and the all time record so far is 6 weeks. The air assets did not increase with additional troops and so we see less and less.

We had a mascal this week-- a family dispute over a fruit tree gone bad. Jerry Springer material. One brother took a fruit tree from another brother, an argument ensued, the brother was shot, and so were the 2 men who came to his assistance. At the end of the day, we had to do an AKA, a colostomy for a rectal injury and a less than glamorous I&D of a through and through butt wound.

We also delivered a baby recently. A 35 or so week pregnant woman innocently shot while in a car following a couple of our jingle trucks. The bullet went through her uterus, grazed the baby's buttock, and lodged in the posterior uterine wall in front of the great vessels. She is lucky she was pregnant or she would have been having a conversation with Allah.

We have a radio station here and our FST got a lot of good press while the bad guys were drug through the mud. I am sure that they did not contact a lawyer for defamation of character as they really have no shame.

We still see a lot of burned kids and occasionally adult women. We are convinced that many are burning them as punishment or to gain access and get humanitarian assistance. It will be interesting to see on judgement day how close to reality our suspicions fall. I am still giving away a lot of used clothing, part of my Masonic philanthropic side.

There is no PX or AAFES here. No stores. This is one of the most austere bases and getting more austere since the arrival of the 82nd. If any one of the brothers would like to surprise me and send a care package of sundry food items, I would be most appreciative. German chocolate is a real hit for this chocolate addict.

My address is:
MAJ Warren Cusick
FOB Naray
TF Strength/160th FST
APO AE 09354

Thanks for all your prayers. Last night there was another attempted attack that was thwarted and sent three bad guys to an early appointment with the Lucifer. It is inspiring to know that we

have protection and I know it comes from the Great Architect of the Universe.

I hope you and your wife are doing well and send you my best in this New Year.

Fraternally,

WBRO Warren Cusik

GET WISE.

Q. What is meant by the term "LEWIS" ?

A. It was an instrument used by operative Masons to lift heavy stone. In England, a Mason's son is called a Lewis.

Q. Has uniformity of Ritual ever been attained in the United States?

A. No, and probably never will be.

Q. Did George Washington lay the corner stone of the Capital Building in the North-East corner as customary in Masonic tradition?

A. No, in the South-East corner.

Q. What is the legend of the Triangular Chain?

A. When our ancient Brothers were led into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar, they were bound by triangular chains as an insult to their religion.

The triangle is a sign of Deity in Jewish religion.

Greetings Brethren,

I hope that you and your family are keeping well, and for those less fortunate and not doing so well our prayers are with you and may you soon be back on your feet and feeling better. At the time of writing all of us here are doing quite well, we are keeping busy with degree work and glad to say that petitions are coming in.

It is still hard going for all of the ACGL Lodges, what with the reduction in troops, Bases and Posts closing, the operating or being active and raising funds on post is often no longer possible, this means the main source of getting possible members has also diminished, now we have a VERY low Dollar - Euro exchange rate, the German tax has increased to 19% (making the cost of living higher) and gas was also increased by 7cts. per Liter. Brethren we are not looking for a shoulder to cry on, just giving you an idea of how things are, but we are still thinking positive and doing very well thanks to you for your donations when sending

your dues and support with the drawing tickets (our main income).

Speaking of Dues, although by our code they are due BY 01 January each year, I am sorry to say we still have a few members that have not met this obligation for 2007, if you are one of these members, PLEASE pay them NOW, or if there is a problem please let us know, we do have members that send their own dues and also for a Brother who has a problem, but we can only help you when we know help is needed. Dues are \$50.00 and please make all checks to

Mt. Moriah Two Bridges Nahe 823.

Please keep your Notes, Cards and letters coming, the Lodge Brothers look forward to my reading them in Lodge, and if you have an article for our T/board or a comment you would like to make, take the couple of minutes and drop us a line.

God Bless.

Fraternally and sincerely,

Ron Maskell, Secretary 823

**PLEASE, LET US HAVE
YOUR e-mail ADDRESS.**

SAND & STONE

TWO FRIENDS WERE WALKING THROUGH THE DESERT. DURING SOME POINT OF THE JOURNEY, THEY HAD AN ARGUMENT; AND ONE FRIEND SLAPPED THE OTHER ONE IN THE FACE.

THE ONE WHO GOT SLAPPED WAS HURT, BUT WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING, WROTE IN THE SAND:

TODAY MY BEST FRIEND

SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE.

THEY KEPT ON WALKING,
UNTIL THEY FOUND AN OASIS,
WHERE THEY DECIDED
TO TAKE A BATH

THE ONE WHO HAD BEEN
SLAPPED, GOT STUCK IN THE
MIRE AND STARTED
DROWNING,
BUT THE FRIEND SAVED HIM.

AFTER HE RECOVERED FROM
THE NEAR DROWNING, HE
WROTE ON A STONE:

"TODAY MY BEST FRIEND
SAVED MY LIFE ".

THE FRIEND WHO HAD SLAPPED
AND SAVED HIS BEST FRIEND
ASKED HIM, "AFTER I HURT
YOU, YOU WROTE IN THE SAND
AND NOW, YOU WRITE ON A
STONE, WHY?"

THE FRIEND REPLIED
"WHEN SOMEONE HURTS US
WE SHOULD WRITE IT DOWN
IN SAND, WHERE WINDS OF
FORGIVENESS CAN ERASE IT
AWAY.

BUT, WHEN SOMEONE DOES
SOMETHING GOOD FOR US,
WE MUST ENGRAVE IT IN
STONE WHERE NO WIND
CAN EVER ERASE IT."

LEARN TO WRITE YOUR HURTS
IN THE SAND AND TO CARVE
YOUR BENEFITS IN STONE.

THEY SAY IT TAKES A
MINUTE TO FIND A SPECIAL

PERSON, AN HOUR TO
APPRECIATE THEM, A DAY
TO LOVE THEM, BUT THEN
AN ENTIRE LIFE TO FORGET
THEM.

DO NOT VALUE THE THINGS
YOU HAVE IN YOUR LIFE, BUT
VALUE WHO YOU HAVE IN
YOUR LIFE !

DECEASED

Jack Sibley	18 Nov. 2005
Arthur J. Johnson	18 Jun. 2006
Udo Wilhelm	18 Jul. 2006
Phillip E. Harbarger	16 Aug.2006