

EUROPE

Section 1

THE BRITISH ISLES

An Overview

In this book, the phrase ‘the British Isles’ is used to include the Republic of Ireland, the ‘six counties’ of Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales, and the islands adjacent to these, including the Channel Islands. No political statement is intended by this, merely geographical convenience, in order to group together the Masonic jurisdictions so encompassed.

The British Isles possess three Grand Lodges—those of England (and Wales), Ireland, and Scotland—that are the epitome of ‘regularity’ for mainstream Grand Lodges. The formation of a Grand Lodge in London in 1717 provided the impetus for Masons in Ireland and Scotland to form Grand Lodges also, and these three are collectively referred to as the ‘home’ Grand Lodges.

All three have been extremely active in warranting lodges outside their immediate geographical locations. Indeed, they have, directly or indirectly, been the source of all other Grand Lodges in the world. In this sense, all Freemasonry is descended from the British Isles. Even today, they have lodges on every continent. The spread of English, Irish and Scottish Masonry was largely the result of British colonialism, and in particular the vast expansion of the British Empire in the nineteenth century. While this Empire has now vanished, many of the lodges it spawned have remained.

The matter of jurisdiction in this respect is an interesting one. It is universally accepted amongst mainstream Grand Lodges that one’s geographical jurisdiction is Masonically inviolable. This arose from the ‘International Compact’ of 1814 when the three home Grand Lodges agreed not to erect lodges on each other’s territory. They also agreed that in areas where there was no Grand Lodge, each was free to warrant lodges as they chose. Thus, for example, no mainstream foreign Grand Lodge would ever attempt to erect a lodge in, say, England. However, it is generally equally accepted that where a country or area has no ‘regular’ Grand Lodge, this is ‘open territory’—at least until a new and acceptable Grand Lodge is formed therein. Equally, when a new Grand Lodge is formed it is customary to allow any existing lodges that wish to maintain their current allegiance to do so. Thus, a few lodges still exist in places such as Australia, Canada, and New Zealand—where there have been indigenous mainstream Grand Lodges for a century or more—which remain under their original Grand Lodges.

Technically, most of Asia and Africa fall into the category of ‘open territory’. Nevertheless, for the historical reasons just mentioned, it is uncommon to find these open territories possessing lodges other than English, Irish or Scottish—although there are a growing list of exceptions, notably in French-speaking Africa. Overseas lodges chartered from the British Isles are dealt with elsewhere under appropriate headings.

The following discussion concerning Masonry under the home Grand Lodges applies only to English, Irish and Scottish Masonry in the British Isles itself. Nonetheless, English, Irish and Scottish Masonry tends to be very similar whether it is located in the British Isles or in foreign parts. In some cases, a few minor differences have arisen in overseas lodge practices—the relative remoteness of various lodges from ‘home’ providing the explanation for this. Another reason is the effect of multiple memberships where lodges of differing Constitutions exist, even meeting in the same halls. On occasions, this has led, in some areas, to variations in style and working.

All three home Grand Lodges organise themselves with intermediate administrative structures, without reducing Grand Lodge sovereignty. All possess what are termed *Provincial* or *District* Grand Lodges. For England and Scotland, lodges inside their geographical jurisdictions are placed in *Provinces*, whilst those

overseas are placed in *Districts*. For Ireland, the term *Province* is used, regardless of whether the administrative unit is inside or outside Ireland.

A Provincial (or District) Grand Lodge has fairly wide administrative powers within its own area. Most lodges are placed into a Province or District. The exceptions to this are London lodges, in the case of England, which are now administered by an organisation separate from that of Grand Lodge, and lodges that are geographically isolated. Generally, a Province or District requires several lodges, at least, before it can be formed. Overseas areas with some lodges, but not quite enough to form a full District, are often placed under a Grand Inspector (in the case of England or Ireland) or a Grand Superintendent (in the case of Scotland) until Masonic growth has become sufficient for a District or Provincial Grand Lodge to be established. Overseas lodges without near neighbouring lodges under the same constitution are generally governed directly by the applicable Grand Lodge.

A Provincial (or District) Grand Lodge functions in an analogous way to its actual Grand Lodge. A Provincial or District Grand Master and Grand Officers are appointed (or elected, as applicable) and these bodies meet—generally on an annual basis. A Provincial, or District, Grand Master has a fair range of Masonic powers within this own province. It is not difficult to appreciate that the relative size of the three home Grand Lodges has historically made these intermediate tiers of Masonic government necessary, and the system works well. Nonetheless, it must be noted that the applicable Grand Lodge in each case is completely sovereign, and Provinces and Districts can in no way be seen as Grand Lodges in their own right.

The last point to be made in this overview is that of the titles of lodges. Lodges under England, for the most part, place the word ‘Lodge’ last in their name, whereas the Scottish usually place it first. For example, assume that a lodge is called ‘Friendship’: under England, it would likely be styled ‘Friendship Lodge’, whereas under Scotland it would probably be called ‘Lodge Friendship’. A minority of Irish lodges (mostly in Northern Ireland) carry no name, but are known only by number. Where this occurs the word *Lodge* is always placed first (for example: Lodge No 500). For named Irish lodges, some use the Scottish system, while others follow the usual English practice, there being no great preference either way.

ENGLAND AND WALES

A United Grand Lodge of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England

Founded: 1717. *Descent:* Early Operative (?)

Address: Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ.

Telephone: (44 71) 831 9811. Fax: (44 71) 831 6021.

Email: <ugle@compuserve.com>. Website: <<http://www.grand-lodge.com>>.

Lodges: 8651. Membership: 326,659.

Ritual: Various English.

Publications: *Constitutions, Masonic Year Book, Proceedings.*

History

England possesses the oldest and largest Masonic jurisdiction in the world. It is also the most widely diffused, and probably the most diverse. It is therefore essential that English Freemasonry be examined at length.

The premier Grand Lodge was formed in 1717 by four existing lodges then meeting at various London taverns, with Anthony Sayer as first Grand Master. The earliest years of the English Grand Lodge era proved far from harmonious, and the eighteenth century saw six Grand Lodges emerging at various times to claim jurisdiction over England or part of it; in some cases as a result of schism.

However, only two of these Grand Lodges persisted with any substantial following. These were the premier Grand Lodge of England (often referred to as the 'Moderns' Grand Lodge, or *Moderns*), and the Antients or Atholl Grand Lodge (usually referred to as the *Antients*). From its very beginnings, the Moderns Grand Lodge was not particularly well organised or efficient and, according to its opponents, it introduced unacceptable changes in ritual and customs (hence the *Moderns* tag). Certainly, it would appear that some members were less than satisfied with its administration of the Craft.

In 1751, the Antients Grand Lodge was formed. It was established originally by lodges not belonging to the Grand Lodge of England and had a distinctly Irish influence—and subsequently many Masons came to range under it. Both these Grand Lodges developed and expanded membership over succeeding years, quite independently of each other. The Grand Lodges were rivals, often bitter rivals, and each considered the other to be 'irregular'. Generally, the premier Grand Lodge tended to attract more 'upper class' members, while the Antients appeared to have a far broader membership base. In terms of organisation, the Antients, unlike the Moderns, widely practised the Royal Arch degree; and to some extent the 'Chair degree of Installed Master'. A fair number of differences in practice developed between the two Grand Lodges. However, except at an official level, ordinary Masons were not overly interested in this rivalry, and the bulk of membership on both sides either completely ignored these divergences or paid little heed to them, some Masons even having dual membership.

In most places, the rapid expansion of the Craft and the passing of time saw these old discords largely disappear. Newer members on both sides had no understanding of the issues involved, and even less interest in them. The pressure for union increased, and the chance of such an occurrence was greatly enhanced upon the election of the Duke of Sussex as Grand Master of the Moderns, and his brother the Duke of Kent as Grand Master of the Antients. Joint committees of the two Grand Lodges met and overcame remaining problems, and a union was happily effected in 1813. The title United Grand Lodge of England was adopted and the Duke of Sussex became its first Grand Master.

The United Grand Lodge has subsequently developed into the largest in the world today, having lodges warranted on every continent. The Grand Temple, at Freemasons' Hall, London, is one of the most magnificent in the world. The charitable institutions associated with the United Grand Lodge include several Masonic Benevolent Institutions, Masonic Homes for the Elderly, and the Royal Masonic Hospital.

The 250th anniversary of the Grand Lodge was celebrated on 27 June 1967, with a special Grand Lodge Communication held in the Royal Albert Hall, London. HRH the Duke of Kent was installed as Grand

Master on that occasion—an office he still holds today. A similar gala event was held in 1992 to celebrate the 275th anniversary of the Grand Lodge and twenty five years of the Duke of Kent's Grand Mastership.

Almost since its inception, this Grand Lodge has included the principality of Wales within its jurisdiction. With the approach of the 21st century, there is a distinct possibility that the name of the Grand Lodge will be changed, to reflect that jurisdiction, to the United Grand Lodge of England and Wales.

Notes for visitors

MEETING TIMES AND DRESS

The English Constitution is fairly diverse in terms of its practices, and the meeting times of lodges prove no exception. As with many English customs, it is nearly impossible to generalise, except in the broadest terms. The majority of lodges in London meet about 5 pm, and dine after the lodge is closed. In many English provincial centres, lodges will often meet between 5.30 pm and 6.30 pm. In view of these variations, visitors will need to have some knowledge of the particular lodge, or lodges, they seek to visit. It should also be noted that there are an increasing number of daytime lodges, to cater for those who prefer not to drive on dark winter nights.

Prior to the Second World War, formal dress was common when attending a lodge meeting, but this became impractical during the war. Subsequently, a dark lounge suit has become the norm. Some members wear a black suit, white shirt, and long black tie. Most wear a dark (grey or blue) suit, socks of a similar colour, black shoes and a white shirt and (long) black tie. White gloves are also normally worn. Provincial officers often wear a plain black jacket and striped trousers instead of a dark suit and Provincial officers on official duty wear a black tail coat. Nevertheless, a visitor will always be welcome in a dark suit for any meeting. In addition, there are lodges that request members to dress in a dinner suit for Installation meetings, while a dark suit is approved for normal meetings. It is even quite usual to wear a dark lounge suit when attending meetings of Grand Lodge, or a Provincial Grand Lodge.

LODGE AFTER-PROCEEDINGS—THE FESTIVE BOARD

Unlike meeting times, the practices associated with English festive boards are similar throughout England and Wales. The festive board in English lodges almost always includes a dinner. The vast majority of English Masonic premises are licensed to serve alcohol. After the lodge meeting it is customary to retire to the bar for a pre-dinner drink, and drinks are paid for with cash. The meal will usually consist of soup, main course, sweets, coffee, and cheese and biscuits. At Installation meetings, and at Christmas meetings, some lodges will arrange an even more substantial banquet. The serving of the meal commences as soon as the Master is announced and Grace said.

The proceedings that follow are invariably under the control of the lodge's Director of Ceremonies. During the serving and partaking of the meal, the practice of 'taking wine' is observed in many lodges. The procedures for 'taking wine' are largely confined to English Masonry. They precede the proposition of formal toasts, the latter beginning after the meal is finished. 'Taking wine' consists of the Master and the recipients of the toast rising together in their places to drink. No speeches or replies of any kind are undertaken. The Director of Ceremonies announces, each separately, that the Worshipful Master would be pleased to take wine with ———, a selection of groups, not normally more than five, such as: his Wardens; all present (members and visitors remain seated); Grand Officers (if any present); holders of London Grand Rank, or holders of Provincial Grand Rank (as appropriate); his Immediate Past Master; the Initiate or candidate (if any); Visiting Brethren (all visitors rise); or any individual member, but only if the Master has a special reason. The choice of who to take wine with will be found to be varied, at the discretion of the Master.

The customs regarding alcoholic beverages during the meals are variable. It is increasingly the custom that drinks are taken from the bar to the table, or are available from the Stewards for cash. This is increasingly replacing the older practice of having beer or wine on the table and included in the cost. This is in part due to a desire to control costs and partly a reflection of the drink/drive regulations.

After the dinner is completed, or nearly completed, the Director of Ceremonies will then sound his gavel, and announce that the Master will propose the first toast of the evening. The toasts may begin before coffee is served, but all non-Masonic catering staff are usually excluded from the room during toasting. A Masonic Fire and singing may accompany many of the toasts. There are many variations in songs to be found across

the breath of English lodges and these differences are always a delight. An example of a full Toast List is as follows:

1. *The Loyal Toast* (The Queen and the Craft). This is proposed by the Master, and is often followed by singing the first verse of the National Anthem.
2. *The Most Worshipful The Grand Master*. This also is proposed by the Master and, following it; the Director of Ceremonies will usually announce that the Master grants his permission to smoke. It must be noted that smoking is not normally permitted once the dinner has commenced until after this announcement is made.
3. *The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master and Officers of the Grand Lodge Past and Present*.
4. *Holders of London Grand Rank, or Holders of Provincial Grand Rank* (or both, if present).
5. *The Worshipful Master* (usually proposed by the Immediate Past Master).
6. *Absent Brethren*. This toast is proposed by the Master. Most lodges have a fixed time when they remember absent brethren, often 9 pm.
7. *The Immediate Past Master* (proposed by the Master, often only on Nights of Installation).
8. *The Initiate, or Candidate*. (often proposed by Proposer or Secunder of the Candidate). A response is normal.
9. *The Guests*. The Visitors' Toast is proposed by a member, often the Junior Warden, on prior notice. The responding visitor will also have received prior notice.
10. *The Tyler's Toast*. This is always the final toast of the evening.

Not all the toasts given above are always proposed, and the order of presentation can vary, except for the first three toasts. During the conduct of the toasts, a charity collection may take place, if not already taken in lodge, or a raffle may be held. In any case, visitors are advised to have an appropriate sum of money in their pockets to donate in this regard.

NIGHTS OF INSTALLATION

English lodges install a new Master every year in a month fixed by each individual lodge. Not uncommonly, Installations commence one to two hours earlier than a normal meeting. Therefore, in London lodges for example, an Installation meeting might well begin in the middle of the afternoon, or in the Provinces be on a Saturday afternoon and evening. Installation meetings are always well attended in England, and it is most desirable (indeed largely necessary) that a visitor informs the lodge whose Installation he proposes to visit of his intended presence. Methods of approach in this regard will be explained shortly. The dinner following an Installation will follow the same lines as a normal lodge dinner, but it will invariably be longer, and the dining fee may well be larger than usual.

VISITING IN GENERAL

In the case of the majority of English lodge meetings, all Masons attending, whether members or visitors, enter the lodge room prior to the opening of the lodge. When all are inside, the Director of Ceremonies will announce the coming of the Worshipful Master, who will enter with his Principal Officers. Thereafter, the lodge will be opened. But there are lodges where a procession into the lodge does not occur. In this practice, the Master and his officers will simply take their places and open when all are ready. Only official visitors from Grand Lodge, or the relevant Provincial Grand Lodge, will normally be admitted after the lodge is opened, and then with due ceremony. However, members and visitors arriving late may be admitted at appropriate times by the Tyler, provided that no degree ceremony has commenced. Nevertheless, it is most inadvisable for an unknown visitor to be late. Aside from common courtesy, he must arrive early enough to be examined, if required, and avouched prior to entering the lodge.

The cost of dining at the festive board may or may not be included as part of an English lodge member's dues. It is noteworthy that the cost of meals varies considerably. Outside London it may be similar to the cost of a meal in a local pub, while in London it can be up to four or five times that price. Thus it is increasingly common practice for visitors to offer to pay for their meals—this may be accepted or refused, but it is considered polite to offer. The general English practice is for visitors to be invited by a member of a lodge. It would be normally accepted that a unknown foreign visitor would make contact via the secretary, ask to attend a meeting and offer to pay for his meal. However, members and visitors alike are responsible for the purchase of their own drinks and refreshments. If a visitor is prevented from contributing to the costs

of his meal, he may well feel inclined to contribute generously to any charity collection undertaken in connection with the lodge meeting he is attending.

Most English lodges use professional caterers for their festive board repasts, or even (especially and increasingly in London) dine outside the Masonic Hall at a local restaurant. It is therefore necessary for a lodge to have an accurate idea of the number attending any meeting and dining at its festive board. A lodge will usually be required to pay for the number of meals ordered, regardless of whether or not they are taken. It is the practice to charge members who order meals and fail to be present to receive them, unless there is some very good reason to the contrary. On the other hand, the provision of an extra meal at short notice to a visitor arriving unannounced does not usually pose a problem. Nevertheless, a few days notice to the relevant lodge secretary of any intended visit is always most appreciated. Of course, the problem is to know who to contact in this regard, and advice on this question is detailed below.

Regardless of the slight complexities of visiting just outlined, no visitor should be dissuaded from attending any English lodge meeting. Visitors are always made welcome, and will be most cordially received.

INTERESTING ASPECTS OF ENGLISH MASONRY

Many aspects of English Masonry will provide the visitor with great interest, and some of these we will now examine:

The large majority of English lodges annually hold a Ladies' Festival, or other social event. This often takes the form of a dinner dance, formal ball, or expansive dinner, and is held at a hotel or at other suitable public premises. As a rule, non-Masons and their ladies may also be invited to these social functions.

Candidates for English lodges require a proposer and seconder, both of whom should be members of the lodge they seek to join. It is normal for a proposed candidate to be first interviewed by a committee of the lodge appointed for that purpose. If found acceptable in such a manner, the proposed candidate's name will then appear on the lodge summons (Notice of Meeting). A secret ballot will always be taken in open lodge prior to his acceptance as a candidate for Initiation.

Affiliating members of English lodges are called Joining Members. The pre-membership procedures for a Joining Member tend to be more quickly effected than for a candidate, except when the proposed affiliate comes from a jurisdiction outside England, in which case his home Grand Lodge may be asked for details concerning him prior to the matter proceeding.

Not surprisingly, the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge contains many Masonic buildings of exceptional beauty and interest. Foremost of these is Freemasons' Hall, London. This large and magnificent building houses the Grand Temple, which is a most exquisite construction. It seats approximately 1700, and is decorated with stained glass windows, a gold leaf mosaic ceiling, richly carved furniture, and many other features, all of which have been wrought by the finest craftsmen. The Grand Temple is approached through several large anterooms, and entered through two huge bronze doors, each of which weighs several tons. In other sections of Freemasons' Hall are found the Grand Lodge library and museum. Both contain many treasures that will fascinate the Masonic visitor. Tours of the Grand Temple are conducted regularly during business hours. They leave from the library, and are open to the public. Masonic visitors to the Grand Lodge library will find a visitor's book inside its entrance, which they are welcome to sign.

There are many buildings in London and other English cities with Masonic connections, and therefore of direct interest to Freemasons. Likewise, some of the Masonic temples scattered throughout England and Wales are of considerable architectural interest. Space makes it impossible to go into detail here, but the staff of the Grand library and museum will be happy to advise interested Masonic tourists.

England possesses many Lodges of Instruction (LOI), which are attached to a normal Craft lodge, or specially licensed by certain lodges, such as the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, with Grand Lodge permission. Such lodges may meet monthly, fortnightly, or even weekly. They often meet in the early evening, usually between 7 pm and 8 pm. They are not warranted lodges, as such, and possess no number.

Lodges of Instruction are governed by a Preceptor and one or two Deputy Preceptors, who are elected annually from among its members, together with a Treasurer and Secretary. The purpose of Lodges of Instruction is to instruct and educate English Masons in all aspects of Masonic ritual and lodge work. The festive board, as it applies to normal Craft lodges, is not applied to Lodges of Instruction. However, a short social gathering of members is usual after a meeting. Visitors interested in attending a Lodge of Instruction

are advised to make inquiries upon visiting a normal Craft lodge, whereupon they will readily receive an invitation.

LODGE WORKINGS, AND RITUAL

English ritual, as it exists today, largely stems from the Lodge of Promulgation that was erected after the Union of 1813 to accommodate the practices of the Antients and the Moderns. However, the United Grand Lodge has never attempted to lay down any standard ritual for use in lodges. Indeed, the diversity of English ritual practices would make any attempt to do so very unpopular, and local attempts in the past at standardisation have largely failed. Today, English Masonry possesses in excess of fifty different rituals in use in its lodges, bearing such names as Emulation, Stability, Logic, West End, Bristol, and so forth. The Emulation ritual is used by the majority of English lodges. Others are confined to smaller pockets of lodges in geographical locations, having no general currency. With the exception of the Bristol working and possibly a few others, English rituals are quite similar. Between some, the only difference is minor wording, although the adherents of each ritual form are often extremely partisan, and it therefore may be unwise to enter into a discussion on the merits or otherwise of a particular ritual when talking to English Freemasons. It should also be noted that many lodges have their own variations to any standard ritual, and that these are invariably guarded with care.

Of particular note is the 'English Ritual' which is very significantly different in terms of the Installation of the Master. It is practiced only by a small number of lodges, usually of 'Antients' derivation, and was prohibited by Grand Lodge from 1813 to 1926. It then became permissible to undertake this ritual, provided that a disclaimer was given 'that it contains various signs, tokens and words which do not form part of the normal ceremony of Installation and thus may not be demanded from any Past Master as a proof of being such'. The secretary for this ritual is Philip Thomas, email <pthomas@internet.lodge.org.uk>.

All English ritual practices are similar in form, if not totally in accord in content. English lodges open and close, and conduct their ordinary business, in the first degree. A lodge will be taken into the second or third degrees only when such a degree is to be conferred. The usual order of proceedings is as follows:

1. The lodge is opened in the first degree by the Master.
2. In some lodges, but probably not many, the summons convening the meeting is read (in abbreviated form).
3. Also in some lodges, one of the Antient Charges of a Freemason is read (often by a Past Master).
4. The minutes of the last regular meeting are read, and confirmed. The Treasurer may report briefly on lodge finances.
5. Ballots for Joining Members, and for candidates for Initiation (if any). Notices of motion are proposed, or if already on notice, are discussed and voted upon.
6. The degree ceremony (or the Installation ceremony, on a Night of Installation).
7. The Master *rises for the first time* (the lodge having been resumed in the first degree if not already in that degree). Correspondence from Grand Lodge is dealt with.
8. The Master *rises for the second time*. Correspondence from Provincial Grand Lodge is dealt with.
9. The Master *rises for the third time*. All other correspondence is dealt with and fraternal greetings are presented to the Master.
10. The lodge is closed.

The order of proceedings above serves as an example of the format of workings in an English lodge. However, this format tends to vary somewhat from lodge to lodge, and from area to area. Not all lodges collect alms as part of a meeting, but rather take up a charity collection at the festive board.

As mentioned earlier, the Emulation ritual is the most widely used under the English Constitution. Indeed, with some minor variations, many other Grand Lodges, notably in Asia, Australia and Canada, permit the use of Emulation, or have adopted it as official ritual. However, there are often divergences in the form of presentation of the ritual between these jurisdictions.

In England, the tracing boards are usually located on the floor in the centre of the lodge, while in Australian lodges they are often located on a wall. It is quite common for a lodge Master to perform most of the Master's work, whereas elsewhere Past Masters often provide heavy assistance. The content of the Emulation ritual, as practised in England, is to be found in printed form, and most Masonic libraries will possess a copy. Interested visitors can readily pursue their researches in this way.

At an Installation meeting the Master is installed at a 'Board of Installed Masters' (the Chair degree of Installed Master), and the witnessing of this is restricted to Installed Masters. Visiting Past Masters will normally be able to see this ceremony.

THE GRAND LODGE

The United Grand Lodge of England meets on the second Wednesday of March, June, September and December, usually at 12 noon. These meetings are invariably held in the Grand Temple, at Freemasons' Hall, London.

Normally, only members of the Grand Lodge are permitted to attend. The members of the Grand Lodge are the Grand Master, all Grand Officers past and present, and all Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters of constituent lodges. Clearly, the membership of the Grand Lodge is very large indeed, so much so that the Grand Temple cannot accommodate anywhere near the number of Grand Lodge members who wish to attend its meetings. The Grand Installation takes place in March each year.

With the exception of the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer, all Grand officers are appointed by the Grand Master. The Grand Master and Grand Treasurer are elected annually. However, in practice, the Grand Master is automatically re-elected. The Grand Master is normally a member of the British Royal Family, and the highest Grand Lodge officers are often peers of the realm. Those appointed to Grand office must normally be Grand Lodge members, and hold their office for one year. Exceptions to this are the Grand Tyler, and administrative officers such as the Grand Secretary, who hold office at the pleasure of the Grand Master.

Visitors who wish to attend meetings of the Grand Lodge must be invited by the Grand Master, but this is arranged by the Grand Secretary. Generally, only the senior members of Sister Constitutions receive such an invitation if visiting London or a Mason officially representing his own Grand Lodge.

The functions of the Grand Lodge are administered by the Board of General Purposes. It generally meets eight times per year. It consists of the most senior Grand officers, eight members appointed by the Grand Master, and twenty-four members elected for three-year terms—half representing London lodges, and half representing Provincial lodges. This Board is responsible for all matters relative to the administration of the English Craft, and it answers only to the Grand Lodge.

Until the 1980s, the second major administration unit within the Grand Lodge was the Board of Benevolence, and it was composed in much the same way as the Board of General Purposes. This Board functioned to administer relief, and to play a role in certain Masonic Benevolent Institutions. However, this board was superseded by the Grand Charity, which performs much of the role of the Board of Benevolence, but is basically independent of the Grand Lodge.

Finally, any discussion on Grand Lodge government in England would not be complete without reference to Grand Rank and Past Grand Rank. It must be remembered that the English Constitution is the largest and most widely dispersed of any Masonic organisation in the world. Consequently, it is impossible for any but a very few Masons to serve as active Grand Lodge officers; and similarly, the hugeness of the English Craft has made local administration essential, in the forms of Provincial and District Grand Lodges. These bodies have already been discussed in our overview on the British Isles.

One of the principal effects of the Provincial/District system in the English sense is that of Provincial/District Grand Rank. Every Grand office, and every Provincial/District Grand office may be conferred on English Masons in a *past* sense. Thus the visitor will often observe a *Past* Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, or a *Past* District Grand Director of Ceremonies, and so on. The list of examples, of course, is almost endless, and the Grand Lodge's *Book of Constitutions* lists in order of seniority some 81 different Masonic ranks. Often, but not invariably, the holders of these ranks have not served actively in the position they hold. Above the Provincial/District level is *actual* Grand rank and, aside from those few who have actually served in an active Grand office, *past* Grand rank is conferred sparingly. Obviously, the holder of a past Grand rank, such as Past Grand Standard Bearer, or Past Senior Grand Deacon, is almost automatically more senior than the holder of Provincial or District Grand rank.

The astute observer of English Masonry will immediately notice that lodges located in London come directly under the ambit of the Grand Lodge, and therefore no Provincial Grand Lodge is involved. Of course, it naturally follows that in terms of conferred Provincial Grand Rank; the more senior members of London lodges miss out. This fact was recognised by the Grand Lodge, and several years ago London Grand

Rank was introduced. It was also recognised that a number of overseas English lodges were not in Districts and therefore their senior members were not privy to District Grand Rank. Therefore, to cater for this need Overseas Grand Rank was introduced. This system was subsequently extended further with the introduction of Senior London Grand Rank, and Senior Overseas Grand Rank. All these ranks, whether Provincial, District, London, or Overseas all involve a system of Grand Lodge precedence, which is too complicated to explain here.

In terms of regalia, English Master Masons wear a light blue trimmed apron with a triangular flap, and three rosettes placed in a triangular pattern within the white body of the apron. A Past (Installed) Master's apron is the same as that for a Master Mason, except the rosettes are replaced by silver 'levels'. Provincial Grand Officers wear a dark blue apron with the badge of rank and a dark blue collar. This comes in 'dress' (with gold braid) or 'undress' (without the gold braid). It is possible to distinguish Active Provincial Officers, who wear round jewels, from Past Provincial Officers, who wear oval jewels. Grand officers past and present wear aprons and collars of garter blue, with the particular symbol of the rank inscribed upon the apron. Collars for Grand Officers carry the symbols of corn and acacia on them and easily enable the visitor to distinguish between Provincial and Grand Ranks. Certain jewels (medallions) are permitted to be worn by English Masons, but the only jewels not applicable to Craft Masonry that may be worn in a Craft lodge are those of the Holy Royal Arch degree.

THE OFFICERS OF CONSTITUENT LODGES

The following officers constitute an English Craft lodge: The Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Inner Guard, and Tyler. The Master may also appoint additional officers: Chaplain, Director of Ceremonies, Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Almoner, Organist, Assistant Secretary, and Stewards. These optional offices are generally filled in most lodges. The Master and Treasurer are elected annually by lodge members in a secret ballot. The Tyler is also elected. All non-elective officers are appointed by the Master.

In many lodges, especially those in London and other larger cities, Tylers tend to be somewhat 'permanent' appointments, subject to the annual formalities of election or appointment. They also usually paid for their services, and it is not uncommon for one Mason to be Tyler to quite a number of different lodges.

While most offices in English lodges are appointive, the principal offices are, without exception, progressive. The line of progression from bottom to top is as follows: Inner Guard, Junior Deacon, Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden, Worshipful Master. In some lodges, the Tyler needs to be included at the base of this list, but as has just been indicated the office of Tyler as a progressive office no longer exists in many English lodges. In addition, in most lodges it is usual for a member to have served as a Steward before joining the 'line' to the Chair. However, this is not a rigid list and even the Secretary is occasionally a progressive office towards the Master's chair.

List of lodges

There are over 8600 lodges warranted by the United Grand Lodge of England. It is therefore completely impractical to even attempt to list them here. Of these lodges, as of 1998, 1622 met in Greater London; 6224 elsewhere in England and Wales (in 47 provinces); and 798 overseas. Overseas lodges under the English Constitution are dealt with in their proper places herein. Of the London lodges, several hundred meet at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. A complete list of London lodges, including meeting details, plus much other information concerning them, can be founded on the Internet, at: <http://www.london-lodges.org/index.html>.

It can be readily stated that, except in the summer months of June, July and August when most English lodges (in England) recess, every available meeting room at Freemasons' Hall will be occupied with a lodge meeting on every night of the week except Sunday. Many hotels, cafes, and guest houses of suitable size and quality in central London possess Masonic meeting facilities, and cater for many lodges. Many of these meeting places are within easy walking distance of Freemasons' Hall. Visitors to London can readily make their inquiries at Freemasons' Hall, whereupon they will receive full assistance. The actual office is on the ground floor of the building, and if in doubt ask the doorman.

Upon attending the Grand Lodge office and presenting the appropriate credentials, the Masonic visitor will be recommended to a lodge meeting that night (or on the night of that week that suits the visitor). He

will be given a card, which he will then present at the lodge he is to attend. This will facilitate the visit, but the visitor will still need to establish his personal Masonic *bona fides* prior to the lodge opening. Upon arrival at the meeting, the lodge Tyler should be sought out. He will invariably arrange an introduction to the Master and/or Secretary of the lodge, and matters will proceed happily from there.

In addition, a visitor wishing to attend lodges in Provincial areas is best advised to purchase a copy of the current United Grand Lodge of England *Masonic Year Book*. This lists the meeting details of all English lodges, and gives the addresses and contact phone numbers of the various Provincial Grand Secretaries. It is available at the Grand Lodge 'shop', located immediately to the right inside the entrance of Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street.

Otherwise, outside of London, each main Provincial centre has a major Masonic hall (usually several other halls as well), and many are listed below. The visitor attending any of these centres will doubtless gain the necessary assistance to visit successfully.

Bath:	Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath.
Birkenhead:	Masonic Temple, Clifton Road, Birkenhead.
Birmingham:	Masonic Temple, Clarendon Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Blackpool:	Masonic Hall, Adelaide Street, Blackpool.
Brighton:	Sussex Masonic Temple, Queen's Road, Brighton
Bristol:	Freemasons' Hall, 31 Park Street, Bristol.
Cambridge:	Freemasons' Hall, Bateman Street, Cambridge.
Cardiff, Wales:	Masonic Temple, Guildford Crescent, Cardiff,
Carlisle:	Masonic Hall, Portland Square, Carlisle.
Chester:	Freemasons' Hall, Queen Street, Chester.
Durham:	Masonic Hall, Old Elvet, Durham.
Leeds:	Masonic Hall, Great George Street, Leeds.
Leicester:	Freemasons' Hall, London Road, Leicester.
Liverpool:	Masonic Hall, 22 Hope Street, Liverpool.
Manchester:	Masonic Temple, Bridge Street, Manchester.
Newcastle upon Tyne:	Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Nottingham:	Freemasons' Hall, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham.
Northampton:	Freemasons' Hall, St George Avenue, Northampton.
Norwich:	Masonic Hall, St Giles Street, Norwich.
Oxford:	Masonic Hall, 333 Banbury Road, Oxford.
Plymouth:	Davie Masonic Hall, North Hill, Plymouth.
Portsmouth:	Freemasons' Hall, 10 Guildhall Walk, Portsmouth.
Sheffield:	Tapon Hall, Shore Lane, Fulwood Road, Sheffield.
Southampton:	Masonic Hall, Albion Place, Southampton.
Swansea:	Masonic Hall, St Helens Road, Swansea, Wales.
York:	Masonic Hall, Duncombe Place, York.

Most English lodges working in England and Wales meet between four and nine times a year. Four meetings per year is the norm in London, increasing to nine or more for older lodges in the Provinces. Lodges meeting infrequently often conduct more than one degree ceremony concurrently at the same meeting, although they never use the same candidate. For example, a particular lodge might work a second degree, and then proceed to work a third degree, one after the other.

A minority of English lodges meeting in England can, to some extent, be broadly placed into categories, and some of these are outlined below, with examples.

Military lodges

These lodges consist mainly of members who rank as personnel of the British Armed Forces, or who are retired servicemen. Examples: London Scottish Rifles Lodge #2310; Royal Engineers Lodge #2599; Navy Lodge #2612; Air Force Lodge #7335.

Professional lodges

These lodges contain mainly members drawn from certain professions. Examples: London Hospital Lodge #2845; Industrial Engineers Lodge #7514.

Old School lodges

These lodges consist mainly of former students of the schools for which they are named. Examples: Old Rugbeian Lodge #3551; Old Harrovian Lodge #4653; Old Etonian Lodge #4500.

Expatriate lodges

These lodges usually contain members drawn mainly from overseas countries but living in Britain. Examples: Lodge of Erin #2895; America Lodge #3368; Canada Lodge #3527; Australia Lodge #6505.

Reunion lodges

These lodges are generally composed of members who have served in other countries in the course of their professions. Examples: Anglo-Colonial Lodge #3175; Anglo-South American Lodge #3623; Star of India Lodge #3444.

Sporting lodges

Some lodges consist of members devoted to a particular sport. One likely to be of interest to many visitors is golf, and the latest of several golfers' lodges is Crawshay Jones Golfers Lodge #9476, in the Province of Derbyshire (contact Colin Annison <colin@annisonc.freemasonry.co.uk> phone 01332 557241, or Stan Suggitt <Shsuggi@aol.com>).

Cultural lodges

These lodges often consist of members associated with various cultural professions or pursuits. Examples: Incorporated Society of Musicians Lodge #2881; Pen and Brush Lodge #2909; Orchestral Lodge #3028.

Language lodges

These lodges tend to be composed of foreign nationals, and sometimes work in a language other than English, often with a non-English ritual. Examples: Pilgrim Lodge #238 (German); Loge La France #2060 (French); L'Entente Cordiale #2796 (French); and Loggia Italia #2678 (Italian).

Installed Masters' lodges

These lodges are always composed of members who are Installed Masters in the Craft. Examples: City of London Lodge of Installed Masters #8220; Isle of Wight Masters' Lodge #8847.

Research lodges

These lodges are specially formed for the purpose of Masonic research, and generally conduct no degree work, only lectures. These will be dealt with under separate heading, below.

There are several other categories into which various English lodges could be placed. In England, these lodges are sometimes referred to as 'class lodges'. Of course, it must be immediately stated that there are a very large numbers of lodges not generally associated with any particular group, or type of person. Equally, it must be added that English lodges cannot constitutionally restrict the admission of members on the basis of class, religion, race or any other similar reason. Nonetheless, many lodges have evolved with members sharing a community of interest and this, upon reflection, is quite understandable. Visitors who have the time to attend more than one lodge might well find it of interest to attempt to visit lodges in more than one category, as outlined. Of course, there are many other examples in each category in excess of the lodges mentioned above. Again, the staff at Freemasons' Hall, London, can provide the visitor with advice in this regard.

Research lodges

The 'big three' research lodges, Quatuor Coronati #2076, Leicester #2429 and Manchester #5502, are famous worldwide, but there are many other research lodges in England, some of them bearing the name 'research', and others virtually incognito. Among the latter are various lodges of Installed Masters, Authors Lodge #3456 and Internet Lodge #9685. Other research bodies, operating informally without a warrant, include the Dormer Masonic Study Circle and the North Wales Association for Masonic Study. Unique is the independent Canonbury Masonic Research Centre, at Islington, London. Details of some of the research bodies of various types are given below:

Quatuor Coronati Lodge #2076, the premier research lodge of the world, was consecrated in 1886. It meets five times per year, in February, May, June, September and November (Installation), almost invariably at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, in London. It maintains a large Correspondence Circle, with honorary Local Secretaries in most parts of the world, administered by a company, QCCC Ltd, in London. Its transactions, *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, are published annually.

Lodge of Research #2429, consecrated in 1892, in Leicester, meets three times per year, on the 4th Monday of January, March and November (Installation). It maintains a correspondence circle and publishes annual transactions as a small, soft-cover book. Information for visitors may be obtained from Freemasons' Hall, 80 London Rd, Leicester LE2 0RA, phone (0)116-2545325.

Manchester Lodge of Masonic Research #5502 operates in conjunction with the Manchester Association for Masonic Research, the latter being responsible for publication of the annual (soft-cover) transactions. The lodge meets four times per year at 5.45 pm, on the 4th Tuesday in January (Installation), the 4th Wednesdays of March and September, and the 4th Tuesday of November. The Association meets on the same dates, and also on the 4th Wednesday in May. To attend dinner after any meeting requires four clear days notice. The general secretary of the Association is Kevin A Horne, 2 Blackburn Rd, Padiham, Burnley, Lancs BB12 8JZ, phone (0)1282-772373.

Blackburn Lodge #6720 meets at Darwen Masonic Hall, Hawkshaw Ave, Darwen, Lancs, on the 3rd Friday of January, May (Installation) and September, at 7 pm. It does not do degree work but usually conducts its meetings in the third degree, using its own variation of the Nigerian ritual. The lodge usually calls off and receives research papers not as a lodge, but as the Blackburn Masonic Research Association. As with Manchester, it is the Association which is responsible for publishing transactions. Intending visitors may contact Garry Wilson <garry.wilson@saqnet.co.uk>, phone (0)1254-772378, fax (0)1254-707395.

Buckinghamshire Lodge for Masonic Research #9585, offspring of the Buckinghamshire Association for Masonic Research, meets at various locations in the Province of Buckinghamshire, on the 3rd Saturday in March, June (Installation) and November, at 11 am, followed by lunch at 1.30 pm. The Association meets annually, usually on a Saturday morning in January, when research papers are presented, and it is the Association which runs the correspondence circle and publishes the lodge transactions, at £5. The Secretary is Bernard Frow <Beranns@ouvip.com>, 13 Bronte Close, Aylesbury, Bucks HP10 3LF, phone (0)1296-432849. Alternative contacts are John Winter <winter@saabs.co.uk> and Nigel Beavan <nigel@beavan.freeserve.co.uk>.

Thomas Harper Lodge #9612 is a research lodge for Masonic collectors, the majority of whom specialise in Masonic jewels, tokens or postage stamps, but every area of Masonic collecting is represented. It is a peripatetic lodge, meeting in the afternoon, in Birmingham on the 4th Saturday in June for the Installation, and elsewhere around the country on the 2nd Saturday in March and the 1st Saturday in September. Intending visitors may contact Garry Wilson <garry.wilson@saqnet.co.uk>, phone (0)1254-772378, fax (0)1254-707395.

Internet Lodge #9685 is unique in that all members must have an email address, and all communications to or from the secretary are by email. Warranted by the United Grand Lodge of England, it admits as full members Master Masons from all jurisdictions recognised by England (joining fee is £50.00, annual dues £45.00). It was consecrated in January 1998 at Freemasons' Hall, Bridge Street, Manchester, in the Province of East Lancashire, and holds its Installation there at noon on the 3rd Saturday in March. Its other two regular meetings are on the 2nd Saturday of August and October, at various locations, at midday (local time). Intending visitors should contact the secretary <secretary@Internet.lodge.org.uk>. At the meetings, papers are presented by keynote speakers, concerning not only historical research but also matters of Masonic education and sociological trends in society as they affect Freemasonry both today and in the future. The lodge maintains a superb website at <<http://internet.lodge.org.uk/>>, where these and other papers and information are available.

North Wales Association for Masonic Study meets in the Province of North Wales, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master. The secretary is Hywel Wyn Jones, 43 Gorwel, Llanfairfechan, LL33 0DU, phone (0)1248-680885.

The Dormer Masonic Study Circle meets at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen St, London, at 2.30 pm on the first Saturday of each month except January, May and August (unless circumstances dictate a change to the 2nd Saturday). Members and visitors must be Master Masons of a lodge under or recognised by the United Grand Lodge of England. Dress is smart casual. The research papers presented are usually on symbolic or mystical aspects of Freemasonry. The Circle has members in some 30 countries (joining fee £5, annual subscription £15). It publishes annual transactions (back issues available from Transaction Secretary G Zografos, 59 Leppoc Rd, London SW4 9LS), and has an extensive reference and lending library at Freemasons' Hall. Associated with the Circle are *The Lodge of the Double Horizon #9269*

(meets on 3rd Thursday of December [Installation], March, June and September, at Freemasons' Hall as a non-dining lodge), founded in 1988 to mark the 50th anniversary of Dormer, and the HRA *Chapter of the Double Horizon #9269*, founded in 1991.

Canonbury Masonic Research Centre, located at Canonbury Tower, Canonbury Place, Islington, London N1 2NQ, is a recently founded educational institution to support the independent study of Freemasonry and of mystical and esoteric traditions worldwide. Public lectures are held fortnightly on Wednesday evenings, primarily concerned with issues relating to contemporary Freemasonry, presented by leading Masonic scholars from different Masonic traditions. Weekend workshops deal with broader issues of mystical and esoteric traditions, including the Kabala, Alchemy and Transpersonal Psychology. The first academically accredited MA course (two afternoons and two evenings per week) is scheduled to commence in October 2000. Two databases are being established at the Centre: one to identify primary resources for the study of Freemasonry, including listings of all important Masonic collections worldwide; the other to support study programs at the Centre, and listing similar programs and their approach to investigation of the spiritual, mystical and esoteric traditions, East and West. The Centre has a website at <<http://www.canonbury.ac.uk>>, maintained by the Head of Research, Snezana Lawrence <snezanal@canonbury.ac.uk>. Other inquiries, phone (0)171-2266256, fax (0)171-3596194.

B Military lodges of other jurisdictions

Lodges warranted from several other jurisdictions are located in units of the British and American armed forces stationed in England, including the following:

Grand Lodge AF&AM of Ireland

St Patrick's Lodge #295, in the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month within the regiment, the location of which is not publicised.

Lodge Glittering Star #322, in the Worcester and Sherwood Foresters' Regiment, meets at various locations off-base; meeting dates are more frequent than, and vary from, the officially listed '3rd Saturday, from September to May'. Details for several months ahead may be obtained from the secretary, Major A J Darliston, 22 Suffolk Way, Droitwich, Worcestershire WR9 7RE, phone (0)1905 775012, or from Captain Ron Gee <rong@clara.co.uk>.

Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM State of Maryland and Jurisdiction

Donald E Jones Lodge #121 meets at 7.30 pm on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays every month at RAF Feltwell, near Thetford.

Theodore R Montgomery Lodge #123 meets on the 1st and 4th Tuesdays of each month at RAF Croughton, Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire.

Clarence H Beavers Lodge #124 meets on the 1st Saturday and 3rd Tuesday of each month at RAF Alconbury, Huntingdon.

Nero Prince Hall Lodge #126 meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at RAF Croughton, Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire.

Norman E Carter Lodge #136 meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at Gateway Community Centre, 51 Oldridge Road, Edgware, London SW12.

Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM Jurisdiction of Oklahoma

George R Barnes Military Lodge #171 meets at 9 am on the 2nd Saturday of each month at RAF Feltwell, near Thetford.

Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM Washington and Jurisdiction

Pride of Great Britain Lodge #76 meets at noon on the 3rd Saturday of each month at RAF Feltwell, near Thetford.

Russell G Gideon Lodge #78 meets at 6 pm on the 2nd Friday of each month at West Ruislip Chapel, London.

Note: As volume 2 of *Freemasonry Universal* went to press, an unconfirmed report was received that all Masonic activity has been prohibited on Ministry of Defence property. If correct, this will necessitate a change of meeting place by most of the above Prince Hall lodges and by St Patrick's Lodge #295 IC.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

There are two indigenous Orders for women in England, both derived from Co-Masonry (*see below*). Each forbids initiation of men, and admission of male visitors, and each requires belief in TGAOTU and the presence of an open VSL for all tyled meetings. The Order of Women Freemasons (OWF), originally the Honourable Fraternity of Antient Masonry (1908), has its headquarters at 27 Pembridge Gardens, London W2 4EF, and lodges as far afield as Canada, Australia (Adelaide), and southern Africa. The Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons (HFAF, 1913) is based at 68 Great Cumberland Place, Marble Arch, London W1H 7FD, and has recently established a lodge at Gibraltar; it has a website at <<http://www.powerpro.demon.co.uk/hfaf/hfafmain.htm>>, email <106637.2327@compuserve.com>.

L'Ordre Maçonnique Mixte International du Droit Humain, otherwise known as Co-Masonry, which admits both men and women, is an international Order governed from France, but with delegated national authorities (Federations) in various European countries, Australia, Britain and the Americas. Internationally, it does not require belief in TGAOTU or working in the presence of an open VSL, but these requirements may be imposed by a federation upon all lodges under its authority, as is the case in Britain. It works a 'Scottish Rite' system, with additions: Craft lodges (1–3°), Mark lodges & Royal Arch chapters, Rose Croix chapters (4–18°), Grand Knight Kadosh encampments (19–30°) and the ultimate 31–33°. Mainstream Masons are universally forbidden to associate Masonically with this Order.

Membership lists of CLIPSAS and CATENA (*see Introductory chapter*) include another mixed-gender organisation in Britain, The Order of Ancient Free Masonry for Men and Women, but nothing further is known of it.

The United Grand Lodge of England forbids its members to associate Masonically with the mixed-gender but female-oriented Order of the Eastern Star; there is no such prohibition by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, where the Order thrives. Among the requirements of this Order is active participation of male Masons in certain offices. There are a few Eastern Star chapters in England, chartered from Scotland; these have a dispensation from Grand Chapter, to fill male-oriented offices with female members if necessary.

The Grand Orient of France has a lodge, *Hiram*, which has been working in the London area since 1899. It meets at Hexagon House, Surbiton, Surrey, and works the French Rite. The United Grand Lodge of England regularly warns its members of the existence of this lodge, and of a lodge in London under the authority of a King Solomon Grand Lodge from USA. Other 'proscribed' Grand Lodges include in their titles *Adoniram*, *Alpha*, *King David*, *Athenian*, *Trinity* and *Universal*.

STOP PRESS, July 2000.

In June 2000, the United Grand Lodge of England restored recognition to the Grand Lodge of Greece, which had been withdrawn in 1993. At the same time, a resolution to restore recognition to the National Grand Lodge of Greece (recognised by England from 1993 to 1999) was lost. Both Greek Grand Lodges are considered by England to be regular, but English Masons may only visit the one now recognised. Irish and Scottish Masons in particular will need to check with their own Grand Lodge offices for any changes in recognition, before visiting Greek lodges.

CHANNEL ISLANDS

Provincial Grand Lodge of Guernsey and Alderney (EC)

Address: District Grand Secretary, Masonic Centre, St Martins, St Peter Port, Guernsey.

Lodges: 11.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Jersey (EC)

Address: District Grand Secretary, Masonic Temple, St Helier, Jersey.

Website: <<http://user.itl.net/~crgoss/jersey.htm>>.

Lodges: 11.

History

The Channel Islands, located off the coast of France, are all British possessions and comprise the islands of Alderney, Guernsey, Jersey and Sark, of which the first three have long possessed lodges.

Freemasonry in the Channel Islands boasts considerable antiquity. The oldest lodge is Mariners' Lodge #168, meeting on Guernsey. It was founded under the *Antients* Grand Lodge in 1784. This was followed by Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship, established in 1804, but which through a quirk of numbering gained the number #84. Alderney possesses only one lodge, St. Ann's #593, warranted in 1851. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Guernsey and Alderney, which dates from 1849, currently boasts eleven lodges, the latest erected in 1973.

Jersey constitutes a Provincial Grand Lodge in its own right, which dates from 1848. Its oldest lodge is Yarborough #244, warranted in 1812. It was closely followed by Duke of Normandy Lodge #245, erected in 1813. The eleventh, and youngest, lodge in Jersey (Jersey Lodge of Installed Masters #8383) was founded in 1971.

Notes for visitors

With 22 lodges working in the Channel Islands, it is not possible to list them all here. All ten lodges in Guernsey meet at the Masonic Centre, St Martins, Guernsey. The Masonic Centre at St Martins (a village about two miles south of the main town, St Peters Port) has only recently been completed. The eleven lodges in Jersey meet at the Masonic Temple, St Helier. A visit to either address will promptly place the Masonic visitor in good fraternal hands. The lone lodge on Alderney, St Ann's #593, meets at the Masonic Temple, Church Street, Alderney on 2nd Tuesdays, from November (Installation) to June.

IRELAND**Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland**

Founded: 1725. *Descent:* Early Operative, and England?

Address: Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin 2, Republic of Ireland.

Telephone: (353 1) 676 1337 or 662 4485. Fax: (353 1) 662 5101.

Email: <glfi@iol.ie>. Website: <<http://www.irish-freemasons.org>>.

Lodges: 864. Membership: 38,000.

Ritual: Irish.

Major Publications: *Annual Calendar and Directory* (issued January), *Laws and Constitutions*, *Annual Report* (Grand Lodge proceedings).

History

The jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the second oldest in the world, is unique in that it is spread over the borders of two sovereign nations. The Irish Grand Lodge is the sole Masonic authority for the Republic of Ireland and for Northern Ireland, the latter being politically a part of the United Kingdom. Again, as it is a major and widespread jurisdiction, we must examine Irish Masonry at some length.

There are several traces of the Craft working in Ireland prior to 1725, the accepted date of the foundation of the Grand Lodge. Records indicate that the Grand Lodge was working by June 1725, but it probably existed somewhat earlier. The early history of the Grand Lodge is vague and disjointed from the records that remain extant.

Two schisms occurred in the Irish Craft, one in 1740, the other in 1780. Both were healed with relative ease a few years after they occurred. The Grand Lodge of Ireland was unaffected by the great division of English Masonry into the *Antients* and the *Moderns*, although it steadfastly supported the former throughout its separate existence.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland was the first Grand Lodge to issue a warrant to a military lodge, and was probably the most active of all Grand Lodges in this respect. Indeed, today, when military lodges have largely become stationary where they formerly existed under other constitutions, Ireland still has two travelling military lodges.

The Irish Grand Lodge, unlike Scotland, governs only the three Craft degrees. However, there are several additional orders in Ireland that work with the approval of the Grand Lodge, but operate separately from it. These are the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter, the Grand Council of Knight Masons, the Great Priory of Knights Templar, and the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for Ireland. No other approved Orders exist in Ireland, nor would they be permitted by the Grand Lodge to be formed.

Today, the Grand Lodge of Ireland flourishes peacefully, with 864 lodges on its roll (1998), of which over 150 are located outside Ireland. Lodges are organised into Provinces, as has already been indicated, with twelve Irish Provinces being overseas. The Grand Lodge, as with those of England and Scotland, is well known for its charitable works. Organisations associated with the Grand Lodge include the Masonic Girls' Benefit Fund, the Masonic Boys' Benefit Fund, the Masonic Widows' Fund, and the Masonic Orphans' Welfare Committee.

Notes for visitors

MEETING TIMES, AND DRESS

Most Irish lodges meet at 7.30 pm in the cities of Ireland, while in the Provinces they may meet at any time between 7.30 pm and 8 pm. Visitors should arrive by 7 pm at the latest, in order to present their credentials. A visitor should make himself known to the Tyler and the Senior Warden, the latter generally being the one to vouch for him inside the lodge. The Tyler, or a lodge officer, will usually instruct a vouched visitor in pertinent aspects of Irish workings, if unfamiliar with them.

Dress for all Irish lodges is a lounge suit. A visitor from outside Ireland who is not carrying a suit with him will be welcome in a sports jacket and tie. Shirts do not necessarily have to be white, and no gloves are worn. A dinner suit (tuxedo) is usually worn on Nights of Installation, but even in this case, an overseas visitor is not required to wear a dinner suit.

LODGE AFTER-PROCEEDINGS

In Dublin, and in most Irish cities, a festive board on the English model is not the norm. Most lodges have what is usually called 'light refreshments', or supper, after their meetings. This generally commences about 9.15 pm, and continues until about 10.45 pm. These suppers are characterised by informality, and toasts are limited to 'Ireland' ('The Queen' in Northern Ireland), the Grand Master and Grand Lodge, and any toast appropriate to the occasion, such as Visiting Brethren. Visitors are often seated at the Master's right hand, talk is general, and speeches limited. Drinks are served, and there is usually no charity collection at refreshment.

It is most unusual for a visitor to an Irish lodge to be asked to pay for his supper. However, towards the end of the evening, visitors will often notice the lodge Treasurer circulating amongst members to receive their contributions. A visitor may make an offer to contribute likewise, but invariably a polite refusal to accept will be tendered in reply. Nevertheless, should a visitor become a regular attender at any particular lodge, he should seriously discuss the matter with the lodge Treasurer. In the event that a visitor's toast is proposed, a reply is always called for. An overseas visitor, in particular, might be forewarned to respond. A speech in response should be brief, and can be quite lighthearted.

Toasts at Installation dinners are much more formal and generally follow a fixed pattern, similar to English practices. Visitors should also be aware that there are a very few lodges in Ireland which serve no alcohol at any supper associated with their proceedings. These 'Temperance Lodges', however, will rarely be encountered, and are getting fewer.

NIGHTS OF INSTALLATION

On nights of Installation, lodges generally meet at an earlier time, usually 6.30 pm or 7 pm. Most Irish Installation meetings occur in the months of January, February and March. Dinner suits are the normal dress at such meetings, but only if an actual formal dinner is to follow immediately afterwards. It should be noted that not all Irish lodges follow this practice, and that there are some that do not conduct their Installation dinner on the same night as their Installation meeting. If a lodge is planning not to dine after its Installation meeting, only lounge suits will be worn. However, dinner suits will be worn subsequently at the actual Installation dinner held at a later date.

Irish lodges, as with those of England and Scotland, work the Chair degree of Installed Master. Visiting Past Masters can be excluded from witnessing this part of an Irish Installation if they do not arrive early

enough to be vouched for as a Past Master. They must, of course, present a Past Master's Certificate, or equivalent documentation. It is most desirable for a visitor to provide notice to the lodge concerned if he desires to attend its Installation. The following dinner is usually catered, and lodges need to know the exact numbers attending. A visitor can readily approach the relevant lodge Secretary, if known, or make arrangements at the Grand Lodge office in Dublin when in personal attendance. Prior notice of a visitor's intended presence at a normal lodge meeting is not necessary, although this is recommended as a courtesy, where possible.

VISITING IN GENERAL

It is desirable that an overseas visitor proceeds in the first instance to Freemasons' Hall, Dublin; or to an appropriate Provincial Masonic Centre (the addresses of the main Temples are provided below). This method of approach is appreciated by the Grand Lodge. It is sometimes possible for a visitor, having presented his Masonic credentials, to be examined as a Freemason in the peace and quiet of Freemasons' Hall, prior to attending a lodge meeting. He will, as a consequence, be vouched for by the Grand Lodge office to any lodge he visits in Ireland. This will certainly save the visitor time when he actually visits, and will circumvent the necessity of his being examined at each lodge meeting he attends. Nonetheless, the visitor should not visit the Grand Lodge office at Freemasons' Hall expecting the procedure just outlined to occur automatically. Examination at the Grand Lodge office will depend on time available to appropriate office staff when the visitor arrives, and on other factors. In other words, it is a courtesy provided to the visitor, and he must be well aware of this fact.

It is unusual for a visitor's receipt for dues (*Dues Card*, to a North American), or similar document, to be called for when he presents himself at an Irish lodge. However, a visitor is still well advised to have it with him, just in case. Of course, his Master Mason's Certificate (Diploma) will be called for, and it is not unusual for his signature on that document to be compared with his signature in the lodge attendance book. A common feature of Irish visiting is that the visitor will be required to take 'The Tyler's Oath' during his Masonic examination. This simple procedure is one whereby the visitor affirms that he is, indeed, a Freemason. As was noted in *Volume One*, a similar system is used in the United States of America.

All Masons attending an Irish lodge enter before the lodge is opened, with visitors having already been examined. There is no particular order of entry, and after all attending are inside the lodge, the Master and his officers will parade in to open the lodge (or in some cases, simply take up their positions and open when all are ready). Grand officers, if present, will enter with the Master. All present should be seated before the Master enters, and will rise as he does so. Sitting Masters of other lodges, and Past Masters, should sit in the body of the lodge. After the lodge has been opened, the Master will then invite them to be seated in the East.

Many lodges hold a Ladies' Night annually, consisting of a buffet meal, dancing, raffles, and so on. Non-Masons and their partners are usually welcome to attend. It is not common to have a lodge meeting prior to, or in connection with, these functions. They are often held on lodge premises, however, and visitors can normally be conducted over the Masonic facilities where the function is held.

The Grand Lodge building in Dublin is a most attractive edifice, dating from 1869. The Temples within it are well worth visiting, as are the library and museum contained within its precincts. It also contains specially decorated temples for other Masonic orders, such as the Knights Templar, and Ancient & Accepted Rite. Most Dublin metropolitan lodges meet there, along with other Masonic orders found in Ireland. Several other Masonic buildings in Ireland are worthy of note, and information concerning these may be readily obtained by interested visitors at the Grand Lodge office.

Candidates for Irish lodges must be proposed and seconded by two members of the lodge, both of whom should, and one of whom must, be personally acquainted with the candidate. On the meeting night that the proposition is put forward, three scrutineers are appointed to investigate the candidate. At the next lodge meeting night, the scrutineers report and the lodge ballots. If the ballot is unanimous, the name of the candidate is submitted to a Committee of Enquiry which finally passes the candidate, who may then be initiated at the next, or at a subsequent, meeting of the lodge.

A Mason wishing to affiliate with an Irish lodge will pass through the same procedures as a candidate, except that there are some lodges that do not require a unanimous ballot for affiliation, although most do. He must be in good standing in some recognised lodge, and inquiries may be directed to his home Grand Lodge

if he comes from outside Ireland. The Grand Lodge of Ireland permits plural membership both inside and outside Ireland. An affiliating Past Master joins an Irish lodge as junior Past Master.

THE GRAND LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

Until very recent years, Ireland was the only mainstream jurisdiction in the Masonic world that did not print an official Craft ritual in some form, or at least permit its ritual to be printed. Even the American Grand Lodges that will not print a ritual as such, still print Monitors containing exoteric portions of their ceremonies. In Ireland, even this was not permitted. However, Irish Grand Lodge now does print an official ritual, but its distribution is tightly controlled.

As a direct result of its past 'no printed ritual' policy, the Grand Lodge of Ireland has constituted a subordinate Grand body. It was formed in the last century, and is known as the *Very Worshipful Grand Lodge of Instruction*. Membership of this is limited to 50, including nine *ex-officio* members. The other 41 members are elected from among Irish Past Masters of three or more years standing. Those elected must be known for their excellence in ritual work. Although they are not Grand officers (except for the Grand Secretary of Instruction, and his Assistant), members of it are styled *Very Worshipful*, wear Grand Lodge regalia, and receive Grand Lodge salutes. It holds eight meetings per year (four in Dublin, and four in Belfast), at which visiting lodges or lodge officers demonstrate complete degree ceremonies, or other ritual work. The audience is invited to ask questions, and these are answered by the Grand Secretary of Instruction. By old tradition, the Deputy Grand Master takes the Chair when present.

Two closed meetings of the Grand Lodge of Instruction are held annually, where its members contemplate ritual matters. Decisions of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, when approved by the Grand Lodge (generally a formality) are binding. The Grand Lodge of Instruction does not itself conduct classes of instruction, but licenses a small number of classes in Dublin and Belfast. While these classes are conducted by Masons of skill and ability, the class leaders do not necessarily have to be Grand Lodge of Instruction members. In Dublin classes meet weekly, where ritual is practised. Any interested visitors wishing to visit these classes, or the Grand Lodge of Instruction itself, must make inquiries at the Grand Lodge office.

LODGE WORKINGS, REGALIA, AND RITUAL

The ceremonies of Irish Freemasonry are similar to those of England and Scotland in basic content but their forms contain obvious differences to those witnessing them. The opening of an Irish lodge will pose the visitor with his first point of interest. All present are required to provide the Deacons of the lodge with the password of the first degree. A similar procedure applies when the lodge is called up to the second or third degrees. However, non-Irish visitors will have been instructed with the passwords at their earlier avouchment. It is also worthy of note that Irish lodges use *Masonic Fires* as part of their degree workings, as well as at lodge after-proceedings. A different Fire relates to each degree. As has already been explained, all members and visitors are usually seated in an Irish lodge prior to its opening.

However, a late arrival can seek admission, via the Tyler. A *member* arriving late will be promptly admitted, whereupon he will take up a position level with the Junior Warden, salute the Master, and apologise for lateness. A *visitor* arriving late, subsequent to avouchment as necessary, will follow the same procedure on admission. Quite obviously, it is most unwise for a visitor to be late.

The Irish do have a most interesting procedure that is occasionally used for a late Irish visitor. After he has been admitted, the Master may challenge him after his apology. If so, the Master will ask: 'Whence come you, Brother?' If the visitor is an Installed Master, he will reply: 'From the East, Worshipful Master'. If he is a Master Mason, he will say: 'From the West, Worshipful Master'. The Master will then say: 'What tidings do you bring?' The visitor will then answer: 'Peace, love and harmony to all good and true Masons, especially to you Worshipful Master, the Wardens and Brethren of this lodge'. The Master will then ask the visitor to be seated, and may call upon all present to salute him, whereupon the visitor will return the salute.

However, it must be stressed that the foregoing procedure is included here simply for the interest of the overseas visitor who may witness its use when visiting an Irish lodge. Under no circumstances will a non-Irish visitor ever be called upon to undergo this procedure when entering an Irish lodge. Invariably, it will only be used on an Irish Mason arriving late, and then invariably only on such a late arrival who is personally known to the Master (and who the Master knows is aware of the procedure). Again, it is stressed that the visitor need have no fear in this regard. However, it is once again worth mentioning that, as with any

lodge, it is not courteous to be late for an Irish lodge meeting. It must also be noted that no member or visitor will be admitted once a degree ceremony has commenced.

Unlike the English and Scottish Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge of Ireland has long adopted a uniform ritual. However, while Irish ritual is nominally identical for all lodges, there are five or six lodges in the Masonic province of Munster (which encompasses the City of Cork and nearby towns) that are 'allowed' to use a ritual that is quite different to the standard Irish version. There are historical reasons for this, and the ritual itself approximates the (English) Bristol working. While the Grand Lodge regards this working as incorrect, it is permitted, in view of the antiquity of certain Cork lodges.

Approved Irish ritual contains many features that will interest visitors. Irish rules prohibit more than one candidate at a time to be taken through the first degree, and the third degree (but not the second). Part of the Irish first degree is very dramatic, particularly at the point immediately following the obligation. Indeed, the English visitor will find that while the content of Irish ritual is fairly similar to that of his own experience, its order of presentation and the forms used are somewhat different.

The closing of an Irish lodge involves a statement by the Master that visitors may speak. At this point, visitors will rise and in turn present fraternal greetings from their lodge, naming it, and also its Constitution if it be a non-Irish lodge. If there is more than one visitor from any one lodge, all members of that lodge present will rise together for the greeting, but only one of them will present greetings—usually the Master, or senior member in attendance. When all visitors have spoken, the Master will render Masonic courtesies in return, and all visitors will rise again together, and return the courtesy. After the closing of the lodge, the Master and his officers form a procession out of the lodge in a manner similar to their entry.

Although he is welcome to do so, it is not necessary for a visitor to bring his own regalia to an Irish lodge. Working regalia is provided for all. Irish regalia is somewhat different from the English or Scottish, but not markedly so. The wearing of Irish regalia is certainly not mandatory on visitors from outside Ireland. Indeed, Irish Masons are most interested to view the regalia of other jurisdictions. Irish Craft aprons are worn inside the jacket, similar to Scottish practice. However, if a visitor wears his own personal regalia outside the jacket as normal practice, he is welcome to do so in Irish lodges. Likewise, a visitor is able to wear any appropriate Craft jewels (medallions) consistent with his rank in his own jurisdiction. However, it must be noted that only Craft jewels may be worn in an Irish Craft lodge.

It will be remembered from our discussions concerning England that, under that Constitution, jewels applicable to the Holy Royal Arch degree may also be worn in English lodges, in addition to Craft jewels. This is not the case in Ireland. In short, the wearing of non-Craft regalia of any kind is prohibited in Irish lodges. Visitors will also notice that, unlike English practice, Irish Past Masters do not wear a Past Master's Collar. However, Irish Past Masters do wear a Past Master's jewel, often on a cord around the neck.

THE GRAND LODGE

The Grand Lodge of Ireland meets five times per year, and all Master Masons may attend. However, visitors desirous of attending should make application at the Grand Lodge office. Dress for Grand Lodge meetings is a lounge suit, or a dinner suit in the case of Grand officers. The Grand Lodge meets on the first Thursday in March, June, October and December at 8 pm. The fifth meeting is held at High Twelve (12 noon) on St John's Day, just after Christmas, to 'Install and Salute the Grand Officers'. A minimum of two of the first four meetings must be held in Dublin, and at least one must be held in Northern Ireland. The St John's Day meeting is usually held in Dublin, also. The offices constituting the Grand Lodge of Ireland are very similar to those of England. Interestingly, in June 1983, the Grand Lodge for the first time created the rank of Assistant Grand Master, bringing it even more closely in line with England in this area. Of course, previously it did have a Deputy Grand Master, and still does.

Grand officers obtain their positions by merit, and usually serve for three years, holding a different office in each of those years. All offices are elective, except those of Deputy Grand Master and Grand Master's Standard Bearer, both of whom are appointed by the Grand Master. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer tend to be re-elected indefinitely, generally until retirement. The Grand Master and Grand Wardens are, likewise, usually continually re-elected for several years. The Grand Master himself is often a British Peer, although this is not currently the case.

At meetings of constituent Irish lodges the Master, if present, must preside. Nevertheless, should the Grand Master be present, he must be offered the Chair, which he may accept. The Deputy Grand Master has

the same right to preside. In addition, a Provincial Grand Master, or his Deputy, must be offered the Chair when he attends a lodge within his Province. It is traditional that an outgoing Master should install his successor if at all possible, or failing this some other Past Master. A Grand officer may be asked to act as Installing Master, and in doing so would take the Chair by invitation, not as a Grand officer but rather as a Past Master. In the premier lodge of Ireland (The Grand Master's Lodge), the Grand Master is the permanent Master of the lodge, and will take the Chair on any occasion that he is present. This is the only Irish lodge in which the Deputy Grand Master cannot preside as of right. This lodge annually elects an Acting Master, who presides in the Grand Master's absence.

OFFICERS OF CONSTITUENT LODGES

The officers of Irish lodges are as follows: The Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Steward of Charities, Director of Ceremonies, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Inner Guard, and Chaplain. Each lodge must have a Tyler, but he is not deemed an officer of the lodge. All officers are annually elected, and each non-administrative officer is usually elected to the next highest progressive office, until he reaches the Master's Chair—similar to English practice. An Organist and Stewards may be appointed by the Master, and they sometimes are. The Immediate Past Master has the traditional right, not always exercised, to take the Chair in the Master's absence. The right of the Master to appoint a Deputy to preside in his absence is almost invariably ceded to the lodge Secretary. It is interesting to note that while the majority of lodge offices are elective, no member of an Irish lodge can be installed without the written approval of the Grand Master (or, if applicable, the Provincial Grand Master).

List of lodges

As with England, the large number of Irish lodges forbids the inclusion of an expansive list here. Again, Irish lodges outside Ireland are dealt with elsewhere. As has already been stated, almost all Dublin lodges meet at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin. Visitors must also be aware that, as with England, Irish lodges recess in the northern summer months. Very few Irish lodges located in Ireland meets in June and July, and many fail to meet in May or August. Overseas Irish lodges tend to follow local practices in terms of months of meeting. The main meeting places in other Irish cities are listed below. A visitor can always be assured of full assistance should he care to make inquiries at any one of these locations.

Belfast: 15 Rosemary Street, Belfast, or Arthur Square, Belfast, or Crumlin Road, Belfast.

Cork: 27 Tuckey Street, Cork.

Londonderry: Bishop Street, Londonderry.

Limerick: 97 O'Connell Street, Limerick.

Nonetheless, there are several Irish lodges of special interest, which are detailed below. However, before proceeding to mention certain individual lodges, it is most interesting to examine briefly the Irish system of lodge numbering. It is a natural assumption that the lower a lodge's number, the older it must be, and therefore the greater is its seniority. By and large, in England and Scotland, and in many other Constitutions, this is the case. However, not so in Ireland, to anywhere near the same extent. Many of the earlier Irish lodges are greatly out of normal numerical sequence. The Grand Master's lodge heads the Irish roll of lodges, but it carries no number and heads the list for special reasons. In any case it is far from the oldest Irish lodge.

The oldest lodge in Ireland is the First Lodge #1 (founded before 1731). Lodge #2 (before 1731) appears to be assumed to be the second oldest, while Lodge #6 seems to be credited as third oldest. Then comes the much respected Antient Union Lodge #13, founded in 1732. It should now be quite obvious that there are a few gaps. Other lodges hold the numbers in between those just mentioned. The cause of this mix-up had its origins in the 19th century.

As in any Grand Lodge, some lodges tend to become extinct for varying reasons. The general policy in England has always been to periodically close up the gaps by re-numbering—a policy that obviously had merit and proved most satisfactory. The policy in Ireland, however, was somewhat different. In the last century, the Grand Secretary of the era decided to try filling up his gaps by offering low numbers to new lodges, and giving existing lodges (for a fee) the opportunity to exchange their existing warrant for a new warrant with a lower number, and therefore (in theory) raise the status of the lodge. Not every lodge embraced this idea, and after a while the practice was discontinued. Nonetheless, the result of this policy has meant that many Irish lodges are numerically out of step. Therefore, the observer must be careful in

attempting to judge the antiquity, or otherwise, of any particular Irish lodge simply on the basis of its number. The Waterford Lodge #5 proves a good example. It was originally warranted in 1757 as Lodge #286, but it exchanged for the number 5 in 1814.

It is noteworthy that not all Irish lodges are named. A minority of Irish lodges, many of which are located in Northern Ireland, are known only by number. Ireland remains one of only two mainstream constitutions that possess lodges without names (the other being Pennsylvania); although there are a few jurisdictions which, while ascribing names to their lodges, do not number them. Many Irish lodges have long histories and rich traditions. A full list of all Irish lodges, with all meeting details, is found in the *Irish Freemasons' Calendar and Directory*, which is published by the Grand Lodge each January. It can usually be purchased when visiting Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, or alternatively an intending visitor's own Grand Lodge office may be able to secure a copy. It is as well to note that the Grand Lodge does not publish more copies than it considers necessary, and therefore it is often sold out within a few months of publication.

It now only remains to list the lodges of interest to which reference has already been made. Nonetheless, the following is only a very brief representative list, and there are many other lodges in Ireland well worth visiting—indeed, any Irish lodge must fall into this category.

The Grand Masters' Lodge has already been largely discussed. It meets at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on the second Friday of every month (except June, July, August and September), at 6 pm, and on 1st Thursday in June at 12 noon. It is traditional of the Grand Master himself to preside at the June meeting.

The Lodge of Research CC, founded in 1914, is the only lodge of its type in Ireland, and after the Quatuor Coronati Lodge #2076 (*see under England*), it is probably the best known in the Masonic world. Its membership is restricted to Past Masters of the Irish Constitution, and any Irish Past Master may join it. There is no membership limit, as such; nor does an Irish Past Master need an invitation to join. Nonetheless, the lodge does possess a worldwide correspondence circle, open to all Master Masons of recognised jurisdictions. Its *Transactions*, published at regular intervals, are renowned for their scholarship; and are available only to its members (whether full members, or corresponding members). The lodge meets four times per year, twice in Dublin, once in Belfast, and once elsewhere in Ireland. Inquiries concerning its Correspondence Circle are welcome, and can be directed to the Lodge Secretary, at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.

The First Lodge #1 dates from before 1731, and was probably in existence well before then, but no proof exists. It is located in the city of Cork, and is one of those lodges that use a ritual of some antiquity, to which reference has already been made. It meets at the Masonic Mall, Cork, on 1st Monday of the month (except May, June, July, August and September), and 2nd Monday in May, at 8 pm.

The Antient Union Lodge #13, a very old lodge, meets at the Masonic Hall, Limerick, on the second Friday of each month except June, July and August, at 8 pm.

Lux Diei Lodge was formed (without number) in 1988, to cater for Masons who find difficulties in attending evening meetings. It meets at 2 pm, last Friday, monthly (except June, July, August and December), often in Dublin.

Ireland, alone among the three Grand Lodges of the British Isles, still has two military lodges under charter. These lodges are not stationary, but meet where the military corps for which they are named, are posted at any particular time. They are: The 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards (St. Patrick's Lodge #295) and The 1st Battalion, the Worcester and Sherwood Foresters' Regiment (Lodge Glittering Star #322). Both lodges currently meet in England (*see above*).

STOP PRESS, July 2000.

Lodge Ireland #2000 was consecrated on 10 June 2000 as an Internet lodge, encouraging communication between Irish Masons and other Masons worldwide. Its website is at <<http://www.ireland2000.org>>.

SCOTLAND

Grand Lodge of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland

Founded: 1736. *Descent:* Early Operative?

Address: Freemasons' Hall, 96 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 3DH, Scotland.

Telephone: (44 131) 255 5304, *Fax:* (44 131) 225 3953.

Website: <<http://www.grandlodgescotland.com/>>

Lodges: 1160. *Membership:* circa 150,000.

Ritual: Various Scottish forms.

Publications: *Constitutions and Laws*, annual *Year Book*, *Proceedings*, *Robert Burns—The Freemason, Historical Sketch of the Grand Lodge 1736–1986*, *Scottish Freemasonry, An Account of the Chapel of Roslin* (in press, 2000), *The Grand Lodge of Scotland and Rosslyn Chapel* (in press, 2000).

History

Despite the presence of lodges dating back to the 16th century, the Grand Lodge of Scotland was not formed until 1736. It is ranked as the third oldest extant Grand Lodge in the Masonic world, although earlier dates are claimed for the formation of several other Grand Lodges, past and present.

At the time of the emergence of Speculative Freemasonry in England in the 17th century, Scottish operative masonry had already long since been well established. There were many operative lodges working in Scotland in this era, with a large mason-trade organisation built up around them. While the sources of Scottish operative masonry were possibly English, wars between these two countries between the 13th and 16th centuries saw Scottish masonry look to the Continent for inspiration, and some Scottish buildings of the period show French influences. The wars themselves tended to lead Scotland as a nation into becoming somewhat insular in many fields of endeavour. In terms of masonry, this insularity and the uncertainty of the times would appear to have been the main impetus behind the emergence of lodges and trade organisations. The masonic trade organizations worked to provide training in the operative skills, and to preserve the integrity of their profession. Records indicate that at least twenty operative lodges were working in Scotland prior to 1700.

Extant records show that 'non-operative' members were admitted to some Scottish lodges as early as the 16th century. However, unlike English masonry that had become largely speculative by the 17th century, many Scottish lodges remained basically operative into the 18th century. While Scotland possesses by far the oldest lodges for which records exist, it was slow to adopt the Grand Lodge system, probably because of the trade organisations its Masonry fostered over a lengthy period. It was not until 1736 that four old lodges met and acted as the catalyst for the formation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The Grand Lodge has developed steadily to this day, and remains one of the most respected in the world. The expanse of its history has been largely free of schism or internal discord, except for a period of 70 years when one of its lodges (Mother Kilwinning) broke away to resume independent operation. Nonetheless, there were several lodges that refused to join the Grand Lodge of Scotland at its outset. As examples, Aitchison's Haven Lodge remained independent from before 1598 until its demise in 1853, and Lodge Melrose St John remained independent until 1891.

The Masonic student can readily research Scottish Masonic history at his leisure, there being a great many books and articles available on the subject. However, for our purposes, this brief introduction must suffice.

Notes for visitors

MEETING TIMES, AND DRESS

The first point to be aware of concerning Scottish Masonry is that the majority of its lodges meet regularly *twice* per month. There are, nevertheless, a percentage that meet only monthly, with many in this category being overseas. The second important point to mention is that most Scottish lodges in Scotland itself recess in the northern summer months of June and July. In most Scottish seaports some lodges stay open in the summer months to accommodate visiting seamen, but often reduce the frequency of meetings in this period.

The commencement time for most Scottish lodges is 7.30 pm, although some lodges located outside the main Scottish cities may meet later. That said, there are some lodges, mainly in the larger cities, which meet in the daytime. The meeting times and other details concerning Scottish lodges overseas are dealt with elsewhere. Visitors should not fail to be early to a Scottish lodge meeting. Scottish avouchment procedures tend to be most thorough. Thus, unknown visitors are well advised to be in attendance by 7 pm at the latest, for a 7.30 pm meeting.

Dress for all Scottish lodges is a jacket and tie as a minimum requirement, but most wear a dark lounge suit. Many members wear a black suit, white shirt and black tie, and this is usually the case for lodge officers. A number of Scottish lodges have also adopted their own crested lodge tie which members wear to meetings. In addition, the wearing of traditional Scottish dress (kilts or trews) is quite permissible, and many Scottish Masons avail themselves of this option, particularly at Installation meetings or other special occasions.

LODGE AFTER-PROCEEDINGS

The 'festive board' in the English tradition is unknown in Scottish lodges, being replaced by a 'Harmony'. Harmonies are either *official* or *unofficial*. Some lodges never have an *official* Harmony and some never have an *unofficial* one. Some lodges have a combination of both, with an official Harmony at a first degree and other important occasions (such as the annual visit of the Provincial Grand Lodge), while for all other meetings an unofficial Harmony is held. An official Harmony is a sit-down meal of (typically) three courses and a variety of toasts. An unofficial Harmony consists of buffet style food; the lodge concerned may or may not have toasts on such an occasion. Harmonies almost always involve song, music and recitations.

In some lodges the formal toast usually proposed is the Loyal Toast to the British Sovereign; some lodges occasionally propose a toast to visitors. When a longer toast list prevails, it may include toasts to any or all of:

- The Grand Lodge of Scotland and/or the Grand Master Mason (or even the three 'home' Grand Lodges and their respective Grand Masters);
- 'The Degree Workers';
- The Candidate(s);
- The Visitors;
- The Past Masters; and
- The Right Worshipful Master.

Any reply to a proposed toast should be very brief.

Visitors will rarely be required to contribute to the cost of the supper, as this is covered in members' lodge dues. Most Scottish lodge buildings are licensed to serve alcohol, and possess their own bar facilities. Members pay for their own drinks but the visitor will, on occasions, find that any drink he may require will be paid for him.

A raffle, with the proceeds benefiting Masonic charity, is usually a part of the Harmony. A Harmony can go on quite late into the evening after a lodge meeting, but members and visitors are certainly free to depart at any time after the lodge is closed. On occasions, one lodge will visit the meeting of another. On these visitation nights an official Harmony is sometimes invoked, and it is often funded by a levy (usually by a ticket donation) on members present. However, once again, visitors are not normally expected to contribute.

NIGHTS OF INSTALLATION

It is not common for Scottish lodges to begin proceedings earlier on nights of Installation, with most lodges still commencing about 7.30 pm. Alternatively, some lodges hold their Installations on a different day to regular meetings, often on a Friday or (more commonly) a Saturday. At the conclusion of the Installation an official Harmony is usually held, in the form of a formal dinner or banquet. While no special invitation is required for a visitor to attend a normal Scottish lodge meeting, the arrangements often differ for Installations. It is general practice in Scottish lodges to sell tickets to Installation dinners, and visitors who wish to attend are 'encouraged' to purchase one. The price of the meal at an Installation is not normally met by a member's annual lodge dues, and the ticket method ensures that costs in this area are covered. Visitors should be aware that ticket costs are usually not refundable, even in cases of last minute unavoidable non-attendance, as the lodge will invariably be required to pay its caterers for meals ordered, whether they are taken or not. In theory, no invitation or ticket is needed for a visitor to attend an actual Installation

ceremony, but in practice those attending will normally hold tickets for the official Harmony following. That noted, there are often many who attend the Installation itself, and not the official Harmony.

An Installation Harmony is often accompanied by a formal Toast List, which usually includes the following toasts accompanied by short responses where applicable. It will be noted that, as with the appellations applicable to office holders, it is usual to toast the office held, and not the individual.

1. The Queen and the Craft.
2. The Grand Lodge of Scotland (and the relevant Provincial Grand Lodge, if applicable)
3. The Lodge.
4. The Installing Master(s).
5. The Visitors.
6. The Artists and Stewards.

Dress for Installations is still normally a dark (often black) lounge suit, although in some lodges officers will wear a dinner suit (tuxedo). In some lodges the senior officers wear full dress tails, and occasionally the Master and Installing Master wear top hats (tile hats), although this is rare. Visitors are welcome at any Scottish lodge Installation without an invitation (subject to the usual avouchment procedures). Nonetheless, as a courtesy, visitors wishing to attend an Installation are advised, if possible, to express their desire at the Grand Lodge office in Edinburgh, or when they visit one of the main temples in one of the other Scottish cities, as listed below. The visitor will readily receive either direct assistance, or be referred to a relevant lodge Secretary, from whom a ticket can be speedily obtained. Of course, this assumes that an Installation is to be held during the stay of the visitor, which, depending on the time of the year and the location, may not always be the case.

The vast majority of Scottish lodges, at least in Scotland itself, hold their Installation Meetings on or about the Feast Day of St John the Evangelist (27 December). Generally, those that do not have been 'forced' to move further away from that date because of 'competition for attendance' due to the number lodges located in certain areas. The Installation toast card is typically headed 'Installation Meeting & Festival of St John'.

VISITING IN GENERAL

While not a necessity, it is desirable that a visiting overseas Mason proceeds to Freemason' Hall in Edinburgh, at least in the first instance. Indeed, if for no other reason, such a visit provides a most interesting experience. The Grand Lodge building is a most attractive edifice, and the Grand Lodge library and museum housed therein are most highly recommended. The museum, in particular, contains many unique Masonic relics that will engross any Masonic visitor. A visitor to the Grand Lodge office can be assured of a warm welcome, and full assistance.

Upon entering the domain of a Scottish lodge for the purpose of visiting, the visitor should first approach any lodge officer, who will arrange the necessary avouchment procedures. There are two main 'systems' in used in Scotland. In many lodges on the western side of Scotland, all Masons present, members and visitors, normally enter the lodge room prior to the opening. All present remain standing while the Master enters, and then all are seated. Visitors will usually then be asked to stand and each will be vouched for individually by a member of the lodge. Each visitor sits when duly vouched for. Visitors who have not sat in open lodge with a member present will have already undergone a Masonic examination prior to entering the lodge, and will be vouched for by their examiners. After all visitors have been vouched for, the Master will then invite Masters of other lodges and Past Masters who are visiting, to be seated in the East. They will then stand, proceed to the East, and be welcomed by the Master, who will also indicate their seats. The Master will then usually welcome all visitors with a very short address. Only then will the lodge be opened. It is not unusual for members of a Scottish lodge to give a round of applause to the visitors after the Master has welcomed them.

In many East Coast lodges, however, it is more common to take an unknown brother aside and 'test' him as to his Masonic knowledge. Again lodge practice varies but this testing is normally quite rigorous. This is normally the duty of a Past Master, but in some Lodges the Senior Warden carries out this procedure prior to the Opening of the Lodge. The 'testing' is always carried out in private, to avoid any possible embarrassment. Those lodges which verify that visitors are Freemasons by this method do not, generally, then use the 'vouching' procedure in open lodge.

There is one other method of proving that all present are Freemasons and that occurs when the Master asks the Senior Warden if he is satisfied that all present are Freemasons (and, occasionally, are properly clothed) and the Senior Warden replies that he is not. All the Brethren are then individually tested for the grip and word. This is a fairly rare occurrence and when used it might well be that there is some suspicion that there is a cowan in the lodge, but more often it is used as an educational tool.

The closing of Scottish lodges or, more particularly, the procedures adopted immediately prior to the closure, will be of interest to visitors. In many lodges, just prior to the closing, members often take the opportunity to comment on the quality of the work undertaken during the course of the meeting. Some of these comments can be quite critical, but nevertheless polite. Visitors are welcome to speak at this point. They can convey fraternal greetings if they wish, or even comment on the proceedings themselves. However, with respect to the latter, as a visitor, considerable circumspection is advised.

INTERESTING ASPECTS OF SCOTTISH MASONRY

There are quite a few aspects of Scottish Masonry that will be of interest to the travelling Freemason, some of which are outlined below.

The Master of a Scottish lodge is termed *Right Worshipful* Master, while the Wardens are termed *Worshipful* Wardens, and in some lodges the Deacons are termed *Worthy* Deacons. Of course, these titles only apply to the appropriate incumbents while they hold office. Indeed, all Scottish Masons are known simply as Brother, regardless of Masonic rank. Thus, rank applies to the office held, not to the person holding it. For example, the Master of lodge will be known as: 'Brother . . ., Right Worshipful Master'. The Grand Master will be known as: 'Brother . . ., Grand Master Mason'. This is the reverse of the comparable English practice. Once a brother has served his term of office, the title he has held generally can no longer be applied to him. For example, a Past Master will not be 'Right Worshipful Brother . . .', but simply 'Brother . . ., Past Master of Lodge . . .'.

The major social function held by many Scottish lodges is an annual ball. An old custom observed by many lodges on such occasions is the Grand March. At the beginning of the ball, Masons and their ladies form a procession down the ballroom, led by the Right Worshipful Master. Each lady wears her husband's lodge apron for the duration of the March. After the procession is over, the regalia is put away and the ball continues. While non-Masons may be present at an annual ball, they cannot take part in the Grand March.

Many Scottish lodges also hold an annual Ladies Night. In some lodges it might take the place of the annual ball, but in many lodges both functions are held at different times of the year. The Ladies' Night might take several forms, but often involves a dance, a meal, or both. They are never held in combination with a lodge Installation—this is not permitted by Scottish Masonic law—but it is not uncommon for Ladies' Nights to be held after a normal lodge meeting, in place of the normal 'Harmony'.

Candidates for Scottish lodges (sometimes called *Intrants*) require only a proposer and a seconder, and no additional depositions are required, as is the case in some other jurisdictions. A prospective candidate must meet with the lodge's Inquiry Committee prior to his name being placed on notice for a ballot. Every lodge must have an Inquiry Committee, and it must favourably report on every candidate referred to it before the proposition can be taken any further.

Scotland does not have any lodges of instruction on the English or Irish models. When a lodge does not have a candidate, the usual Scottish practice is for a substitute candidate (usually the last Initiate) to be used for what is effectively a 'demonstration' ceremony. In other words a degree is worked, but without a 'real candidate'. Scottish lodges almost always hold a Rehearsal Meeting during the week prior to the 'real' meeting..

It is not unusual for Scottish lodges to notify forthcoming meetings in local newspapers. Lodge meeting notices, which are usually called *Billets* in Scotland, are rarely printed for ordinary meetings, although they are commonly produced for Installations. However, many Scottish lodges do print and distribute an annual card to their members; containing details of lodge office bearers, the addresses of principal officers, and meeting dates for the year.

Scotland has an interesting Grand Lodge membership system. Under its Constitution, the Masters and Wardens of all lodges are members of the Grand Lodge and as such are entitled to attend and vote at its meetings. That said, should any or all of these three officers be unable to attend any particular Grand Lodge meeting, a lodge may appoint proxies in their place. These proxies do not necessarily have to be Past

Masters. Unlike under the English Constitution, Past Masters are not members of Grand Lodge in their own right. It was long recognised, however, that the Masters and Wardens of overseas-based Scottish lodges could not regularly attend Grand Lodge meetings. As a result, Scotland instituted a system of proxies. Where possible, the Master and Wardens of overseas lodges have proxies residing in Scotland. Thus each overseas Scottish lodge has a Right Worshipful Master, Worshipful Senior Warden and Worshipful Junior Warden, but also, normally, a Proxy Master, Proxy Senior Warden and Proxy Junior Warden.

Any Past Master resident in Scotland may communicate with the Grand Secretary in Edinburgh and offer himself as a proxy for an overseas lodge. Many do so. The Grand Secretary will fit such a Past Master into a vacancy as they occur, usually as a Proxy Worshipful Junior Warden in the first instance. From there, it is usually a case of awaiting the death or retirement of the Proxy Senior Warden or Proxy Master of the overseas lodge to which he is attached, to enable 'promotion'.

This system has two main advantages. Firstly, it gives overseas lodges direct representation at Grand Lodge meetings. The Proxy officers of a lodge are expected to be in regular contact with their 'opposite numbers' overseas, and by this means keep them fully informed of Masonic matters 'at home'. Secondly, it gives a significant number of Scotland-resident Past Masters, as proxy officers, an effective seat and vote in Grand Lodge, which would not otherwise be the case.

Lectures on Masonic subjects, while not uncommon in English lodges, are not nearly as prevalent in Scottish ones. Degree conferment work, therefore, predominates. Indeed, if for a particular meeting a lodge does not have a candidate listed, it is far more likely to work a degree using a substitute candidate.

Since 1952, the Grand Lodge of Scotland has issued an annual *Year Book*. Aside from printing general information concerning Scottish Masonry, together with a list of lodges, the *Year Book* also contains many interesting research papers and articles of Masonic interest. This publication is available directly from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, at its address recorded above. It is in order for a Mason to write directly to the Grand Lodge of Scotland to obtain a copy of the *Year Book*. However, if a non-Scottish Mason wishes to communicate with the Grand Lodge for any other purpose, the letter must be directed via his own Grand Secretary. It must be noted that only the number of copies of the *Year Book* that are pre-ordered are printed, and the Grand Lodge therefore does not hold large stocks. It does, nonetheless, print a number of copies in excess of orders, as it has become tradition in many lodges to present new Master Masons with a free copy upon the occasion of his Raising. These extra copies are earmarked for that purpose. It must also be noted that a subscriber must re-apply every year for his copy, as no reminder notes are sent to old subscribers outside of the Scottish Constitution. Of course, Scottish Masons receive their copies through the auspices of their own lodges. The cost of the *Year Book* tends to rise in line with rising prices generally, so it is pointless to quote a subscription rate here. Each edition contains an order form for the next edition.

LODGE WORKINGS, REGALIA, AND RITUAL

As with England, there is no standard ritual in use in Scottish Masonry, and several printed forms are available through proper Masonic channels. However, the Scottish rituals all tend to be relatively similar in content, although their forms can be slightly more diverse than is generally the case with English rituals. Some of the points found in varying Scottish rituals include reference to the Holy Saints John in the first degree obligation, a darkened temple for Initiation, and an extremely dramatic third degree ceremony, which is acted out in quite spectacular fashion in some ritual forms. Visitors from English-type Constitutions will also notice that music is often more frugally used in Scottish lodges than in their own.

A unique feature of Scottish Masonry is that the degree of Mark Master Mason is worked in Craft lodges. In all other mainstream jurisdictions, only the three Craft degrees are worked in constituent lodges. In Scotland, the Mark degree is viewed as an adjunct to the Fellow Craft degree, although a member must first be a Master Mason to receive it. Most Scottish Craft lodges usually work the Mark degree ceremony once per year. Interestingly, the Mark degree can also be taken in a Chapter under the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland.

Lodge regalia in Scotland is by no means standard, as it tends to be in most other jurisdictions. Most Scottish lodges have long traditions of wearing various tartan-trimmed aprons. Each lodge can decide its own regalia design, and a very wide variety is in use. Sashes are also worn in some lodges. In Scotland, it is a constitutional requirement that aprons are worn under the jacket in all lodges. Nonetheless, visitors are welcome to bring their own regalia and to wear it as they would in their own lodge. However, it must be

stated that only Craft jewels and medallions can be worn in Scottish lodges, and not those applicable to any additional degrees.

THE GRAND LODGE

The Grand Lodge of Scotland meets quarterly, and consists of all Grand office-bearers, together with the Masters and Wardens of every Scottish lodge. Dress for the Grand Lodge is still a dark suit. The list of Grand Lodge offices is similar to that of England and Ireland, although there are several variations. The majority of Grand office-bearers are elected to office on an annual basis. However, it is usual for the Grand Master Mason (as the Scottish Grand Master is called) to remain in office for five years, although he is still subject to annual re-election. Salaried Grand officers, such as the Grand Secretary and Assistant Grand Treasurer, are appointed to office and generally hold office from year to year, until retirement. The Grand Treasurer is an elected officer, and the incumbent can change frequently. The Grand Lodge, between its meetings, is administered by the Grand Committee consisting of senior Grand officers, and a number of elected members. There are several other Grand Lodge committees, including one responsible for benevolence. Any Master Mason, visitor or otherwise, can apply, even on the day of meeting, for a Visitor's Card to attend a meeting of the Grand Lodge.

It is of interest to note that the wearing of Grand regalia by a Grand officer in a constituent Scottish lodge is not normal under the Scottish Constitution. The only exception is an official visit by a senior Grand officer, and this is not particularly commonplace. Normally a Grand officer will wear the regalia of his lodge when visiting. By and large, Grand regalia is worn only by Grand officers in meetings of Grand Lodge itself. It is also against Scottish Masonic rules for any Scottish Mason to wear more than one collar at a time, or to wear a collar to which he is not entitled, even if standing in for another officer.

A particular feature of Scottish Masonry is the custom of the Grand Master Mason and the Grand Secretary (or his Assistant), to travel widely overseas to visit scattered Scottish lodges. Grand Master Masons invariably make such a trip annually, and endeavour to visit most areas of the world possessing Scottish lodges at least once during their term of office.

OFFICERS OF CONSTITUENT LODGES

Scottish lodges have several offices largely unknown in other mainstream jurisdictions. The full list of possible officers is as follows: Right Worshipful Master, Immediate Past Master, Depute Master, Substitute Master, Worshipful Senior Warden, Worshipful Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Almoner, Director of Ceremonies, Senior Chaplain, Junior Chaplain, Worthy Senior Deacon, Worthy Junior Deacon, Architect, Jeweller, Director of Music, Bible Bearer, Sword Bearer, Organist, Piper, Bard, Marshal, Inner Guard, Tyler (or Outer Guard), President of Stewards and 1st, 2nd & 3rd Stewards. Not every lodge will elect (or appoint) every one of these officers. Practices in each lodge depend to some extent on the form of ritual used, or simply tradition.

Some of the additional offices have little in the way of defined duties. A Jeweller is largely responsible for lodge regalia, and its distribution and collection at meetings. The Bible Bearer, as the name suggests, is responsible for the care of the lodge's Sacred Volume. The Sword Bearer, in some Scottish rituals, precedes the candidate in a degree ceremony while he progresses around the lodge, and may precede the Right Worshipful Master in any entry or retirement procession. The Sword Bearer will also precede the Master in any *public* procession of Masons—a practice far from uncommon in Scotland.

Offices in Scottish lodges are all elective with the exception of the Depute or Substitute Master, one of whom is the appointee of the new Master. Any member of a Scottish lodge who has been admitted to it at least fourteen days prior to nomination, can be nominated and elected to office. In practice, the lodge committee generally recommends members to office, but they still must be proposed and seconded and, of course, elected. A nominee for the office of Master does not necessarily have to be a Past Warden (as is the English practice).

List of lodges

The very large number of Scottish lodges precludes any attempt being made here to list them. Lodges outside of Scotland will be found detailed in their proper place elsewhere herein. Within Scotland itself, most towns possess at least one lodge. The larger cities of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen have many. Each of these three cities possesses many lodge meeting places, servicing suburban areas. Listed below are major meeting places in each (there are, of course, several others).

EDINBURGH

Aside from Freemasons' Hall itself, and meeting places immediately surrounding it in George Street, the three most frequented are:

Masonic Hall, 11 Morningside Drive, Edinburgh.

Masonic Temple, 19 Hill Street, Edinburgh.

Masonic Hall, 32a Broughton Street, Edinburgh.

GLASGOW

Glasgow is the largest Scottish city, and possesses in excess of 80 lodges. A major meeting place is Freemasons' Hall, 138 Butterbuggins Road, Glasgow.

ABERDEEN

Aberdeen is a popular tourist destination, and its main Masonic meeting place is the Masonic Temple, 85 Crown Street, Aberdeen.

There are several Scottish lodges of special interest, and some of these are detailed below:

Lodge Mother Kilwinning #0 is arguably the oldest extant lodge in the world, and it is certainly one of the most famous. It dates from 'before 1598'. In 2000, therefore, it can boast a recorded history of 402 years.

The history of this lodge makes fascinating reading. Interestingly, in recent times, the lodge was created a Scottish Provincial Grand Lodge in its own right. It meets at the Masonic Hall, Kilwinning, Ayrshire, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, monthly. Visitors to this lodge are particularly advised to arrive early, as attendance at it is, quite naturally, extremely popular. Curiously, its number is pronounced as 'nothing'.

The Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel) #1—it remains a matter of contention between Mother Kilwinning and the Lodge of Edinburgh as to which is the oldest lodge, and certainly no opinion will be offered here.

The Lodge of Edinburgh is certainly one of great traditions and fame. It meets at the Masonic Temple, 19 Hill Street, Edinburgh, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, monthly, from October to March (December, 2nd Tuesday only), at 7.30 pm.

The Lodge of Aberdeen #13 is another very old lodge, dating from before 1670. It meets at the Masonic Temple, Crown Street, Aberdeen, 2nd Mondays, October to March, at 7.45 pm.

Lodge St. Andrew #25 is located at St Andrews, the town famous as the 'Home of Golf', and possessing the Royal and Ancient Golf Club. It meets at the Town Hall buildings, South Street, St Andrews, on alternative Fridays, from September to April, at 7 pm.

The Operative Lodge #47 is the oldest lodge in Dundee, and dates from 1745. It meets at the Masonic Hall, 161 Princes Street, Dundee, every Tuesday from November to March; and 1st & 3rd Tuesday in September, October, April and May.

Lodge Montefiore #753 dates from 1888. Its membership is comprised largely of adherents to the Jewish faith. It is renowned for the beauty of its ceremonial work, and tickets are often necessary to witness its third degree conferments, in particular. It meets at Langside Halls, 5 Langside Avenue, Glasgow, 2nd Monday, September to May (except December, then 1st Tuesday), at 7.15 pm.

The above list affords only a very brief cross-section of some of the interesting Scottish lodges, to which is added a note on research lodges, below. However, most Scottish lodges are rich in history and tradition, and are equally recommended to the visitor. Full assistance to the intending visitor will be readily provided at the Freemasons' Hall in Edinburgh, or in major cities.

Research lodges

There is at least one research lodge in each of the major cities, serving it and the surrounding area. Many of these are of recent origin, and most do not include the word 'research' in the name of the lodge. Some are listed below, and details of others may be obtained by local inquiry.

Lodge Camperdown #317 meets at the Masonic Hall, 1a Wellington St, Dundee, Angus, every week from the 1st Monday in September to the last Monday in May, except on statutory holidays, at 7.30 pm.

Lodge Felix #355 was a Middle East 'oily' lodge, which met at the port of Aden, in what is now Yemen. It became dormant and was 'reopened' in Scotland in the Province of Aberdeenshire in 1998 as a research lodge. It meets at the Masonic Hall, Charleston Rd, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, at 4 pm on the 3rd Saturday of April, June and November.

Lodge Pioneer #1305 was also a Middle East 'oily' lodge that met at Aden and became dormant. It was 'reopened' earlier than Lodge Felix and since 1986 has served Linlithgowshire as a lodge of research. It meets at the Masonic Temple, Jarvey St, Bathgate, West Lothian, at 7 pm on the 3rd Friday of February, April, September and November. Contacts are the Secretary, Walter Sneddon, who is also Grand Librarian, and Frank Hogg <060644@cableinet.co.uk>, who is/was RWM in 2000.

Loretto Centenary Lodge #1373 was originally a 'school' lodge, drawing the bulk of its membership from Loretto School. It became dormant in 1939 and was 'reopened' as a lodge of research in 1986. It meets at the Masonic Hall, 129 High St, High School Close, Dalkeith, Midlothian, at 7.45 pm on the 3rd Friday of February, 4th Friday of April, 1st Friday of October and 2nd Friday of December. Contacts are the Secretary, James Peaston, phone 0162082 3334, and Jim Carroll <james.carroll@virgin.net>.

Century Lodge #1492 is Glasgow's lodge of research, meeting at the Masonic Hall, 101 Clifford St, Ibrox, Glasgow, at 7 pm on the 4th Monday of November and 2nd Monday of February, May and September.

Lodge Sir Robert Moray #1641 was chartered in 1968 as Edinburgh's research lodge, with a Past Grand Master Mason as foundation RW Master (Andrew, Lord Bruce, later Earl of Elgin). It meets at the Masonic Hall, 19 Hill St, Edinburgh, at 5 pm on the first Thursday of February, May and November. Contact is the Secretary, Norman Collins, phone 01968 673248.

Lodge Discovery #1789 is Forfarshire's second research lodge, meeting at 12 Blackness Ave, Dundee, Angus, at 7.30 pm on the 4th Friday of September, November, January & March, & 1st Saturday in May.

Lodge Aurora Borealis #1809, in the Province of Banffshire, was chartered in 1996 as a research lodge. It meets at the Masonic Hall, The Square, Portsoy, Banffshire, on the 3rd Friday of January, April, July and September at 8 pm.

Anchor Lodge of Research #1814, formed in 1996, serves the Province of Renfrewshire West. It meets on the 1st Friday of April, May, September and October, at 7.30 pm in the Masonic Temple of Lodge Greenock St John's #175 at West Stewart Street, Greenock. The meetings are followed by supper, usually a cold buffet. Like many other Scottish research lodges, its charter permits degree work, but such is unlikely with its initiation fee set at £500. Contacts are the Secretary, John Keith, phone 01475 792360, and Jim Donnelly <JD@donnelly217.freeserve.co.uk>

Section 2

THE NORDIC COUNTRIES

Introduction

The Nordic Countries consist of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Iceland. Each of these beautiful, and often panoramic, northern countries has much to offer the tourist and visiting Freemason alike. All five have Grand Lodges recognised by most of the mainstream group, and all work the unique system of degrees known as the Swedish Rite. It is for this reason that, in this book, the Nordic Countries are treated separately from Europe. For the visitor to understand Masonry in these countries, he must first appreciate the development of the Swedish Rite which, in turn, requires an insight into Swedish Masonic history. Therefore, we must in this instance depart from our usual alphabetical approach, and begin our discussion with Sweden.

SWEDEN

A Grand Lodge of Sweden – Swedish Order of Freemasons

(*Svenska Frimurare Orden*)

Founded: 1760. Descent: England, France.

Address: Grand Secretary, Nybrokajen 7, S-111 48 Stockholm, Sweden.

Principal Masonic Temple: Baat Palace, Blasieholmgatan 6, Stockholm.

Telephone: +46 8463 3706. Fax: +46 8463 3719.

Email: <info@frimurarorden.se>.

Website: <<http://www.frimurarorden.se/eng.htm>> (English version), or

<<http://www.frimurarorden.se/>> (Swedish version)

Lodges (St John's, or Craft): 40 (incl 5 in Finland). Membership: 17,000.

Publications: *Constitutions, Proceedings, Book of Registration* (list of lodges).

Periodical: *Frimuraren (The Freemason)*. All publications are in Swedish.

Swedish Masonic History, and the Swedish Rite

It would appear that Freemasonry came to Sweden originally from England, via France. The first lodge was founded at Stockholm in 1735, and was later named *Den Nordiska Första*, the First Northern Lodge. The early development of Masonry in Sweden is obscure, but from the first the Swedish Craft was controlled by the Swedish aristocracy. *Den Nordiska Första* (which still works in Stockholm) was erected by Count Axel Ericson Wrede-Sparre, who entered Masonry in Paris. It is a St John's Lodge, working the three Craft degrees. The first St Andrew's Lodge was established in 1756, to work the 4th, 5th, and 6th degrees. It was later renamed *Den Nordiska Cirkeln*, the Northern Circle Lodge.

Thus, the Swedish (or Scandinavian) Rite dates back to the 1750s. It consists of ten degrees organised into three divisions, plus one Supreme degree, making eleven in all. The rite was standardised in the 1770s by a committee headed by Duke Charles of Sudermanland (afterwards King Charles XIII).

The first division consists of the three Craft degrees, conferred in what are known as St John's lodges. Then follows the second division, also of three degrees, and usually referred to as the Scottish Lodges. They are conferred in St Andrew's lodges. The degrees are: Apprentice-Companion of St Andrew (4th and 5th degrees) and Master of St Andrew (6th degree). The 4th and 5th degrees are conferred on the same evening, while the 6th is conferred separately.

A Mason having achieved the 6th degree can then in due course proceed to the third division of degrees. There are four degrees in this division, and they are conferred in Provincial Grand Lodges (usually called

Chapters). The degrees are: Very Illustrious Brother, Knight of the East (7th degree), Most Illustrious Brother, Knight of the West (8th degree), Enlightened Brother of St John's Lodge (9th degree), and Very Enlightened Brother of St Andrew's Lodge (10th degree).

Finally, at the pinnacle of the system is the 11th degree, Most Enlightened Brother, Knight Commander of the Red Cross. There are about 50 Freemasons in Sweden holding the 11th degree. This degree should not be confused with the Royal Order of King Charles XIII, which can only be awarded to Masons holding the 11th degree. This Order is unique in Freemasonry. It is a Civil Order awarded by the King of Sweden, and its members are expected to wear its insignia in public, and it can only be conferred on 11th degree Masons. About 30 Swedish Masons hold this Order, including all members of the Grand Master's Supreme Council.

There are quite a number of procedural differences between the Swedish Rite and those of other Masonic systems. In the Swedish Rite, there is only one form of ritual for each of the degrees, and no deviations are tolerated. The Master of the lodge has, in each degree, an official manuscript before him (rituals, as such, cannot be printed) and he must personally check in every detail the work of himself and his officers. The Master of each lodge is a permanent appointment until his death or resignation, but in practice he has to resign at the age of 75, or after a maximum of 12 years in office. The other officers of Swedish lodges are elected annually, but usually serve at least three-year terms. Each lodge officer has deputies, and these share the ritual work. This is a necessary precaution because, up to the 6th degree, lodges usually meet several times per month (except when in recess). As in old operative practice, the Wardens in Swedish lodges both sit in the west.

Another unique feature of Scandinavian Masonry is the *Brödräforeningar* (Fraternal Societies or Lodges of Instruction). When they are formed in population centres where St John's lodges exist, they work the St Andrew's and sometimes the Chapter degrees. When they come to be established in smaller towns they serve a particularly valuable function by holding lectures. *Brödräforeningar* have a prescribed ritual, and elected officers. They instruct in the workings of the Swedish Rite, but they do not normally have the function of actual degree conferment. Of course, members must belong to a lodge or chapter as well.

The Swedish Rite, as now outlined, is worked in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland. It is also worked in the south-western parts of Finland, where there is a significant Swedish-speaking population. In all these Masonic jurisdictions, save the difference of language, the workings and forms of the Rite are virtually identical. The Swedish Rite is also, in a German variant, practiced in Germany by the *Grosse Landesloge der Freimaurer von Deutschland*. All ten degrees are worked in full, and progress from one to the next is slow, being far from automatic. Regular attendance, and a high proficiency, are needed before any brother can advance. Indeed, many years are required before a Mason under the Swedish Rite reaches the highest degrees.

Each *division of degrees* enjoys a certain amount of autonomy, but they are all nevertheless under the rule of the Grand Master and his Supreme Council. It should be noted that in all Nordic Countries, except in Finland under the Grand Lodge of Finland and in Denmark outside its National Grand Lodge (*see below*), Freemasonry is completely Christian, and candidates must profess the Christian Faith to gain admission.

The Royal connection with the Swedish Craft began in 1771 when King Gustavus III and his two brothers, Duke Charles (afterwards King Charles XIII), and Duke Frederick Adolphus, were initiated. The Grand Lodge of Sweden had been formed in 1760. Duke Charles became Grand Master in 1774, whereupon the Swedish Rite was basically formed into the system that is worked to this day. Duke Charles remained as Grand Master after he ascended the throne as King Charles XIII, and until recent years all successive Swedish Kings have been Grand Masters. The current Swedish King, Charles XVI Gustavas, is High Protector of the Order; while his uncle Prince Bertil, Duke of Halland, was Grand Master until his death in 1996.

Notes for visitors

Visitors wishing to attend a Swedish Lodge should, in the first instance, call at the Masonic Temple in Stockholm. The giant Masonic Temple building in Stockholm is probably the most magnificent Masonic structure in the world. It was built originally as a palace, and was later purchased by the Craft. Dating from 1666, it is a three storey structure, with two wings, thus forming a U-shape. It houses administrative offices, the Grand Temple, various other temples, a library, and a museum. A wrought iron fence with iron gates extends from one wing to the other across its frontage. The inside is of magnificent opulence, featuring great

frescoes, black marble columns, and ornate decorations. A tour of the Baat Palace must form the highlight of any Mason's visit to Stockholm, and this can be arranged at the Grand Lodge office within it.

As the Swedish Rite system is quite different from the forms of English-speaking Masonry, intervisitation arrangements are unusual and must be discussed at some length. Obviously, there is no problem for a mainstream Craft Mason visiting a St John's Lodge, which likewise works the three Craft degrees, albeit in a Continental-type form. However, as with Continental Masonry generally, some small reversals in the ritual content of the Entered Apprentice and the Fellow Craft degrees restricts intervisitation, in terms of English-speaking Masons, to those holding the Master Mason degree. In short, there is no problem in a mainstream Master Mason turning up unannounced at any St John's Lodge and seeking admission. Of course, the usual formalities, as discussed earlier, are applicable.

Upon moving into the area of a St Andrew's lodge, the visitation situation becomes a little more complicated, but not much. It was agreed in the late 1950s, in an informal concordat between England and Sweden, that English Royal Arch Masons could visit St Andrew's lodges in Sweden and that Swedish Masons holding the 6th degree could visit English Royal Arch Chapters. It must be added that the usual documentary evidence must be presented either way, as the ceremonies and modes of recognition are dissimilar in the two systems. As a further result, qualified Masons visiting from either system to the other may be required to take an obligation of secrecy. In short, again, provided the forms just discussed are observed, a qualified Mason (a holder of the Royal Arch degree) will encounter no difficulty in visiting in Nordic countries up to the 6th degree.

However, when we enter the realms of the Chapter degrees of the Swedish Rite, the ground becomes less certain. There does exist a loose and tacit arrangement between the English Great Priory (Knights Templar), and the English Supreme Council (Ancient and Accepted Rite) with the Grand Lodge of Sweden concerning intervisitation with the Swedish Chapter degrees. While there are certain philosophical links between the 8th and 9th degrees of the Swedish Rite and the degrees of the Great Priory (Knights Templar and Knights of Malta), the forms on each side are not close enough to allow intervisitation as a general rule. Similarly, there are problems associated with the Ancient and Accepted (Scottish) Rite. However, when the English Supreme Council considers admitting Swedish Masons to its Rose Croix chapters and those of its higher degrees, it is guided by the following comparisons. The 18th (Rose Croix) degree is seen as the equivalent of the 8th degree of the Swedish Rite; the 30th degree as equivalent to the 9th Swedish degree; the 32nd degree as equivalent to the 10th Swedish degree; and finally the 33rd degree as equivalent to the 11th Swedish degree.

It must be strongly emphasised that these comparisons are only a rough guide. Knights Templar and Scottish Rite Masons cannot simply arrive at the Grand Lodge of Sweden and expect admission as a visitor to its Chapters. Masons from either jurisdiction who are properly qualified, and who have a genuine interest in such a visit, must seek approval through their own Great Priory or Supreme Council well in advance of the intended visit. Permission must be obtained from both sides and is certainly not automatic. Each individual case is treated on its merits. Qualified Masons must not *under any circumstances* directly approach the Grand Lodge of Sweden concerning visiting Swedish chapters, but must make all inquiries through their own appropriate Grand body.

It can now be noted that the Supreme Councils (Scottish Rite) of Scotland, Ireland, Canada, and the United States (Southern and Northern Jurisdictions), and some in other countries, exchange recognition with the Grand Lodge of Sweden. Therefore, qualified Masons under these allegiances are also in a position to visit Swedish chapters, *but on the same terms* as just discussed concerning the English bodies. It is useful to add further that, as a rule, all Nordic Grand Lodges working the Swedish Rite act in concert on matters of intervisitation, and therefore the procedures just detailed are to be observed by qualified Masons seeking to visit chapters of the Swedish Rite in Norway, Denmark, and Iceland.

Sweden currently possesses 40 St John's (Craft) Lodges, of which three work in Stockholm, namely *Den Nordiska Första*, *St Erik* and *Adolf Fredrik*. Unlike in most other countries, Swedish lodges are not numbered, but bear a name only. An interesting Swedish custom is that of having only one St John's lodge per town or city, regardless of population. Stockholm is the only exception, with its three lodges. On occasions, this can lead to large memberships, and in early 1990s *Den Nordiska Första* had over 300 members, which *St Erik* had over 400. These lodges were eventually considered too large, and 1997 the third

St John's lodge (*Adolf Fredrik*) was formed in Stockholm. Sweden also has five St John's lodges in Finland (*see under Finland*).

Sweden has 22 St Andrew's lodges, and eight Provincial Grand Lodges (chapters)—each headed by a Provincial Grand Master—which have administrative as well as degree-conferment functions. There are also 68 *Brödräforeningar* (Fraternal Societies), the function of which has already been discussed. The Swedish Grand Lodge, unusually for one so widely recognised, is governed by a Supreme Council, consisting of the Grand Master and 18 members. The unique character of the Swedish Masonic System accounts for its governmental practices.

Dress for Swedish lodges is a dark or black business suit, black or grey tie, and black shoes. The vast majority of lodge meetings start at 6.30 pm, punctually. A charity collection takes place during lodge meetings. Dinner always follows a lodge meeting, and a nominal charge is payable by all attending (and this will normally include visitors). Tickets for a dinner are generally obtained shortly before the lodge meeting starts. There is not, however, any formal toast list, but informal speeches may be made under the direction of the Master of Ceremonies. Visitors may be called upon to speak.

Swedish regalia consists of a sash, variously inscribed, to denote the rank and degree held by its wearer. Visitors are most welcome to carry and wear their own regalia. All lodges, of course, work in Swedish, but English is widely spoken or at least understood by a large number of Swedish Freemasons. Language problems, therefore, will be slight.

A candidate for a Swedish lodge must be 24 years of age and to profess the Christian Faith. This also applied to Swedish Rite lodges in other Nordic countries. Membership is not offered; one must seek admission at the lodge nearest to home, directly or through a Freemason. Two members are required as guardians for the candidate. The Worshipful Master will ask the opinion of the lodge officers as to the character of the candidates. If no objection is raised, the candidate is put up for voting in lodge, and in due time admitted.

List of lodges

Clearly, the large number of Swedish lodges makes it impossible to list them all here, aside from the fact that, for the most part, Swedish lodges do not meet on a fixed day. However, they do meet at least weekly, as a rule. In Stockholm, Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays seem to be nights mostly favoured by its three St John's lodges, Den Nordiska Första, St Erik, and Adolf Fredrik. Clearly, a visitor is best advised to inquire personally at the Grand Lodge office. Outside the recess summer months of June, July, and August, most week nights will see a lodge working. Lodges invariably open at 6.30 pm.

Alternatively, visitors with Internet access can obtain details of the forward program of all Swedish lodges (with Temple address, phone number, meeting dates, times, and degree to be worked) within the Grand Lodge of Sweden's home pages (Swedish version) at: <<http://www.frimurarorden.se/>>.

The forward program of the St John's lodges in Stockholm can be accessed as follows:

Den Nordiska Första: <http://www.frimurarorden.se/svea/nf/nf_arb.htm>.

St Erik: <http://www.frimurarorden.se/svea/e/e_arb.htm>.

Adolf Fredrik: <http://www.frimurarorden.se/svea/af/af_arb.htm>.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Scandinavian Federation of the International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* has one lodge in Sweden. There is also an Order called *Jus Humanum Suecia*, which is a member of CATENA.

DENMARK

A Danish Order of Freemasons—Grand Lodge of Denmark

(*Den Danske Frimurerorden*)

Founded: 1743. *Descent:* England and Germany.

Address: Masonic Temple, Blegdamsvej 23, DK-2100 Copenhagen.

Postal Address: PO Box 2563, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark.

Telephone: +45 3525 0101. Fax: +45 3538 5595.

Email: <webmaster@ddfo.dk>.

Website: <<http://www.dendanskefrimurerorden.dk/>>.

Lodges: 36 (Craft).

Publications: *Book of Constitutions, Year Book*.

Periodical: *Frimurer Meddelelser (Masonic News)*.

B Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Denmark

(*Det Danske Frimurerlaug af Gamle, Frie og Antagne Murere*)

Address: Freemasons' Hall, Smallegade 33, DK-2000 Frederiksberg.

Postal Address: Det Danske Frimurerlaug, Vesterbrogade 10, DK-1610 Copenhagen, Denmark.

Telephone: +45 3325 0260. Fax +45 3325 0410.

Email: <info@ddfl.dk>.

Lodges: 38 (Craft).

Publications: *Book of Constitutions, Year Book*.

Periodical: *Frimureren (The Freemason)*.

C Association of St John's Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons 'The Old Charges'

(*Sct Johannes Logeforbundet af Gamle, Frie og Antagne Murere 'De Gamle Pligter'*)

Address: Blegdamsvej 23, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark.

(*For phone, fax and email, see under the Danish Order of Freemasons, above*)

Lodges: 3 (Craft).

Publications: *Book of Constitutions*.

Total membership of the three grand bodies: 9321.

History

Uniquely amongst the Nordic countries, Denmark has two Masonic systems, using three different Rites, with mainstream recognition. The first lodge in Denmark was St Martin Lodge, established by Baron Georg Carl von Münnich at Copenhagen in 1743. The lodge was regularised in 1749 with the granting of a warrant from England. Other lodges followed, gaining warrants from England and Germany. In 1749 an English Provincial Grand Lodge was set up with Count Danneskiold-Laurvig as Provincial Grand Master.

By 1792 Freemasonry was recognised by the Danish Crown, provided that the ruling Prince of the country was its Grand Master. This promptly occurred and Prince Karl became head of the Danish Freemasonry. This practice continued until 1948, with either the King or a Royal Prince as Grand Master. Since then, no member of the Royal Family has held the position of Grand Master.

The accession of the Danish Royal Family to the progressive Grand Mastership of Denmark also brought with it the introduction of the Swedish Rite. The Swedish system was made mandatory for all the lodges under the Danish Order of Freemasons in 1855. The forms of Masonry under this Grand body today are very similar to those of Sweden and Norway. The Order of Freemasons—Grand Lodge of Denmark is ruled by the Grand Master and his Supreme Council. The Danish Order of Freemasons is not essentially a Craft Grand body but a Christian Masonic Knights system, comprising eleven degrees with the Grand Master and his Supreme Council making up the XIth Degree (called Knights Commander of the Red Cross).

The second Masonic organisation in Denmark to capture our attention is *The Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Denmark*. This Grand Lodge dates from the second half of the 18th century and was formed to re-introduce English Freemasonry into Denmark. The 38 lodges on its register work an Emulation-based ritual (in Danish) and its *Book of Constitutions* is similar to the *Book of Constitutions* of the United Grand Lodge of England. Its members wear English Craft regalia.

The third Rite is *The Association of St John's Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons 'The Old Charges'*, a body of German descent, formed around the turn of the 18th/19th centuries. Its lodges work the German Schroeder ritual translated into Danish. The members under this body wear German-type Craft regalia.

In 1959/60 the two Craft Grand bodies in Denmark associated themselves with the Danish Order of Freemasons and agreed that there should be but one Grand Master for all 'regular' Freemasonry in Denmark. The Grand Master of the Danish Order of Freemasons is today the ruling Grand Master for all three Masonic bodies and each body is ruled according to its own *Book of Constitutions*. It should be noted that the three Grand Lodges in Denmark are essentially independent Masonic bodies similar to the Masonic structure in Germany. The only difference is that, unlike Germany, they have not formed a 'United Grand Lodges'.

Notes for visitors

The Grand Lodge building in Copenhagen is quite an imposing structure, containing both a library and a museum. Visitors to Denmark should, at least initially, make themselves known at the Grand Lodge office in Copenhagen. The details concerning lodge visitation in Denmark are similar to those of Sweden and Norway. Dress is a black or dark suit, and visitors are welcome to wear their own regalia. Lodges meet in the early evening, followed by a meal, at which visitors and members will be charged a small dining fee. A number of speeches are made, and visitors are sometimes called upon to speak.

It is interesting to note that, in common with most Nordic countries, members under the Danish Order of Freemasons must profess the Christian faith. This restriction, however, does not apply to the members of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons or to the members of the Association of St John's Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons 'The Old Charges'.

New Masters of the Danish Order of Freemasons St John's Lodges in Denmark are elected by the lodge from a list of three senior brethren recommended to the lodge by the Grand Master, and when so elected they can serve up to eight years, or until they reach the age of 75 years.

Visitors interested in attending a lodge meeting under the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons or under the Association of St John's Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons 'The Old Charges', can make arrangements through the Danish Order of Freemasons office in Copenhagen.

The Masonic Hall of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons in Copenhagen is at 33 Smallegade, and, as with the Danish Order of Freemasons building at 23 Blegdamsvej, lodges work every week night throughout the Masonic season (September to May).

List of lodges

The Danish Order of Freemasons currently has 36 St John's lodges, nine St Andrew's lodges, and three Chapters. Of the St John's lodges, nine work in Copenhagen, with the balance meeting in other Danish towns—one lodge per town. Meeting details of the Copenhagen St John's lodges, of which all meet at 7 pm unless otherwise stated, are as follows:

Mondays: Lodge Dannebrog #532, Lodge Nordstjernen #508 (at 6.30 pm).
 Tuesdays: Lodge Christian #507, Lodge Genesis #533.
 Wednesdays: Lodge Zorobabel og Frederik til det kronede Håb #501, Lodge Hafnia #522.
 Thursdays: Lodge Veritas #535.
 Fridays: Lodge Absalon #511, Lodge Rosenborg #531.

As with Sweden, the forward program of all Danish lodges (with Temple address, phone number, meeting days and times, and degree to be worked) can be found under the Danish Grand Lodge's Internet home pages.

The Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons currently has 38 Craft lodges. Eleven of these work in Copenhagen in the DDFL Masonic Hall in 33 Smallegade and meet at 7.30 pm throughout the Masonic season (September to May) as follows:

Lodge Phoenix #814 1st and 3rd Monday.
 Lodge Det Flammende Sværd #828 2nd and 4th Monday.
 Lodge Lyset til de IX Hjerter #802 1st and 3rd Tuesday.
 Lodge Danevirke #813 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
 Lodge De Tre Søjler #816 1st and 3rd Wednesday.
 Lodge Den Raa Sten #825 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
 Lodge Mod Lyset #832 1st and 3rd Thursday.
 Lodge Tre Løver #804 2nd and 4th Thursday.
 Lodge De Tre Hamre #815 1st and 3rd Friday.
 Sct. Georg til Fidelitas #823 2nd and 4th Friday.
 Den Gyldne Cirkel #819 2nd and 4th Saturday.

Further Craft lodges are to be found throughout the country in the following towns: Aalborg (3), Randers (2), Viborg (1), Aarhus (1), Silkeborg (2), Herning (3), Odder (1), Horsens (2), Vejle (1), Fredericia (1), Esbjerg (2), Gram (1), Sønderborg (1), Odense (1), Vordingborg (1), og Hillerød (1).

There are also two Installed Masters lodges, Lodge Adoniram #841 (Copenhagen) and Lodge Vita Nova #842 (Vejle), and one lodge of research, Lodge Sit Lux #843 (Odense).

The Association of St. John's Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons 'The Old Charges' has three Craft lodges. Two of these, Lodge De Gamle Pligter #701 and Lodge Christian til Palmetræet #703, work in Copenhagen in the Danish Order of Freemasons building at 23 Blegdamsvej. The third, Lodge Ygdrasil #702, works in Aarhus.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

Several other bodies, unrecognised by mainstream Masonry, are located in Denmark. These include:

Storlogen af Danmark af Gamle Frie & Antagne Murere, which describes itself as working 'in accordance with the English system York Rite'. Its headquarters is at Ny Kongensgade, Copenhagen; it is a member of CLIPSAS, and its website is at <<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Atlantis/4552/>>.

The Scandinavian Federation of the International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* has lodges in Norway (2), Sweden (1) and Denmark (3). Unlike the parent body, the Scandinavian Federation admits only men and women who believe in TGAOTU, and it requires its lodges to work with an open VSL. The Danish lodges are located in Aalborg, Copenhagen and Horsens. The Federation's website is at <<http://www.droit-humain.org/scandinavia/>>.

Others organisations are *Laugsfrimureriet* (the Guild) and *Logesamfundet* (the Lodge Society).

The Feminine Grand Lodge of Belgium has a lodge in Copenhagen.

FINLAND

A Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Finland

Founded: 1924. *Descent:* Sweden, New York.

Address: Suomen suurloosi, Kasarmikatu 16D, 00130 Helsinki, Finland.

Telephone: +358 9 6844 3210, Fax: +358 9 6844 3218.

Website: <<http://www.vapaamuurarit.fi/>>.

Lodges: 137. Membership: 5600.

Ritual: Webb-form.

Publications: *Constitutions*, *Register of Lodges* (biennial), *List of Lodges* (annual Year Book).

Periodical: *Kiolliskulma* (Northeast Corner), *Lakikivi*, *Fraternus*.

History

In the early eighteenth century Finland was part of Sweden, so it is not surprising that the first Masonic activity in the country stemmed from there. The first Swedish lodge was erected in Finland in 1756, and two others followed. The Russo-Swedish War of 1808-09 saw Finland fall under Russian control, whereupon Freemasonry was suppressed. In 1822 the Russian Tsar decreed against all secret organisations, and Freemasonry ceased to exist in Finland until after independence in 1917.

In 1922, eight Finnish citizens who were Masons in the United States of America returned to Helsinki and petitioned the Grand Lodge of New York for a charter. This was duly granted, and Suomi Lodge #1 was consecrated. Some of the earliest members of the Masonic revival in Finland were men of high distinction in government and the arts, including the famous Finnish composer, Jan Sibelius. This new lodge grew in strength, and by 1923 two further lodges had been chartered. The Grand Lodge of Finland was then constituted by the Grand Lodge of New York in 1924. Thereafter, membership and the number of lodges expanded rapidly.

However, the Finnish Craft came under great pressure in the 1930s. In line with the tide of anti-Masonic feelings flooding Germany, anti-Masonry arose in Finland. It stemmed from various right-wing political groups, and also from the Lutheran Church. Fortunately, this opposition did not find general currency amongst the Finns, and the Craft survived without great difficulty. The Second World War brought a renewal of pressure on the Craft, and the political situation became such that the work of the Craft was suspended by the Grand Lodge. From 1945 onwards, the Craft in Finland has grown with great rapidity. It now possesses 137 lodges and 5600 members.

In recent years, the Royal Arch degree, the Mark Master Mason degree, the Knights Templar and the Ancient and Accepted Rite have been introduced into Finland, all from England. There are now many lodges of each Order in Finland under Finnish Grand bodies, working various English rituals in the Finnish language. The Finnish Grand Chapter was erected in 1961, and the Finnish Mark Grand Lodge in 1970, the Finnish Supreme Council 33° in 1973, and the Finnish Knight Templar Great Priory in 1985. Naturally, these bodies maintain the warmest ties with the comparable British Grand bodies.

In the closing years of the 20th century, the Grand Lodge of Finland was active in the re-introduction of Masonry into Estonia, the most northerly of the Baltic states. It started admitting Estonian candidates to its lodges in Finland in 1991, and chartered four lodges in that country from 1993. The Grand Lodge of Estonia was consecrated in 1999.

Notes for visitors

Of the 136 Finnish lodges, 35 work in Helsinki, while every other Finnish population centre of any size possesses at least one lodge. The ritual used in the Craft lodges is basically that of the Grand Lodge of New York, translated into Finnish. Thus, the Grand Lodge of Finland tends to be fairly *American* in nature. As is normal with Webb ritual forms, Finnish lodges open in the 3rd degree, and only revert to the 1st or 2nd degrees when actually conferring them. Again, as with usual American practice, the Finnish jurisdiction is divided into Districts (currently eleven), each with a District Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Temple building at Kasarmikatu Street in Helsinki was purchased in 1965, as the previous building had become too small. The new building was renovated to include several temples and administrative areas in its three-storey structure.

Finland also possesses a fine lodge of research, Research Lodge Minerva #27. It was founded in 1962, publishes a Year Book called *Annales Minervae* and also special studies in a series called *Acta Minervae*. Four meetings are held annually in different cities around the country. The lodge also possesses twenty regional bodies called 'Minerva Clubs'. In total, the lodge has over 700 members. It has a website at: <http://www.ttg.sci.fi/vom/minerva.html>.

All Finnish lodges meet in the early evening, normally at 6 pm or 6.30 pm. Dress is a dinner suit, or dark suit with black tie. American-style regalia is used for the Craft degrees, but visitors are welcome to wear their own. Regalia is usually available for loan to visitors not carrying their own.

Towards the end of any meeting a collection for the 'Widows Penny' is taken. The normal contribution to this charity collection is 10–50 Finnish markka, but of course, visitors can be as generous as they wish. A 'Table Lodge' (similar to an English 'Festive Board') is held after lodge meetings in Finland. Toasts include those to the President and Republic of Finland, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the District Deputy Grand Master (if present), the candidate (if a degree ceremony was worked), and the visitors. An overseas visitor is likely to be called upon to speak.

List of lodges

The large number of Finnish lodges preclude any listing of them here. Nonetheless, one lodge is of particular interest. This is Union Lodge #134, which is Finland's recently formed (and thus far only) English-speaking lodge. It meets six times per year at the Grand Temple Building at Kasarmikatu Street in Helsinki, at 6 pm. However, its days of meeting are not fixed. Its meeting details, and those of all lodges in Finland, may be readily obtained at the Grand Secretary's office in the Grand Temple Building. In Helsinki, where 35 lodges work, it is rare to find a week night where there is not at least one lodge meeting.

B Swedish lodges

Six percent of the population of Finland is Swedish-speaking, and their affinities are Swedish in nature. So it is with their Masonry. The Swedish lodges in Finland were erected beginning in 1923 with St Augustin

Lodge (a St John's lodge), and several more were subsequently established under Swedish warrant. The Swedish lodges suffered the same unsettled history until after the Second World War as did the Finnish lodges. In 1999, Finland possessed five St John's lodges, one St Andrew's Lodge, one Swedish Provincial Grand Lodge (Chapter), and four *Brödraföreningar* operating under Stockholm. The friendliest relations exist between the Swedish and Finnish Grand Lodges, and their respective constituent lodges in Finland.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Finnish Federation of the Order of International Co-Freemasonry *Le Droit Humain* has lodges in Helsinki, Turku and Tampere in Finland, and in Tallinn in Estonia. They work the Scottish Rite in Finnish, Swedish and Estonian. Their website is at <<http://www.droit-humain.org/finland>>.

ICELAND

A National Grand Lodge of Iceland—The Icelandic Order of Freemasons

(*Frimúrarareglan Á Islandi*)

Founded: 1951. *Descent:* Denmark.

Address: Masonic Temple, Skúlagata 55, IS-125 Reykjavik.

Postal Address; PO Box 5151, Reykjavik, Iceland.

Telephone: (354) 551 1599. Fax: (354) 562 8930.

Email: <frmr@isholf.is>. Website: <<http://www.isholf.is/FRMR/>>.

Lodges: 11 (Craft). Membership: 2947.

Ritual: Swedish Rite.

Publication: *Constitution*.

History

Icelandic Masonic history is relatively short. It began in 1913 when a 'society of brothers', *Edda*, was established, in Reykjavik. In 1918 *Edda* became a lodge of instruction. A year later, in January 1919, it became a fully accredited lodge, under a warrant from the National Grand Lodge of Denmark. Iceland gained political independence from Denmark in 1944; and in 1951 Denmark constituted the new Grand Lodge of Iceland. The first Grand Master was the first President of Iceland, Brother Sveinn Björnsson. At the time of the formation of the Grand Lodge there were two St John's lodges, two St Andrew's lodges, and one chapter working in the country. Today, the number of St John's lodges stands at eleven, plus six Lodges of Instruction.

Notes for visitors

Of the eleven St John's lodges in Iceland, five work at Reykjavik, while the balance meet at other population centres. Reykjavik possesses two of Iceland's three St Andrew's lodges, while Akureyri has the other. Similarly these two centres share the two chapters between them. Iceland adheres completely to the Swedish Rite system, and its forms and rituals are virtually identical to those of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, aside from the fact that its lodges work in Icelandic. Nonetheless, visiting Freemasons will find a number of English-speaking members when attending a lodge meeting, and so will have no trouble as a result of language.

As is common in Scandinavian countries, a candidate for an Icelandic lodge must profess the Christian faith. He must also be at least 24 years of age. Membership is never offered and one must seek admission at the lodge nearest to one's home directly, or through a Freemason. Two members are required as 'guardians' for any candidate. The Master will ask the opinion of the lodge officers as to the character of any candidate, and if no objection is raised, his name is submitted for voting in lodge.

Interestingly, dress for Icelandic lodges is black formal dress (tails) with black vest, although visitors are welcome in either a dinner suit or dark business suit. Lodges meet in the early evening, usually at 7 pm, followed by a dinner and informal toasts. As is usual Nordic custom, visitors are not normally exempt from paying for their meal. Masonic visitors to Iceland should make themselves known at the Masonic Temple in

Reykjavik, prior to visiting, whereupon they will receive every assistance. As is always the case, visitors will be asked to identify themselves with the appropriate papers from their home lodge. It is recommended that, if possible, visitors telephone ahead, prior to attending a meeting. Visiting Masons are welcome to wear their own regalia, but regalia will be supplied to those without it.

Iceland has evidently suffered several public attacks upon the Craft in years gone by, and the National Grand Lodge of Iceland tends to be somewhat more introspective than most others. While it is useful for the visitor to be aware of this, it will not affect the mainstream Mason wishing to visit an Icelandic Craft lodge. As with those of other Nordic countries, Icelandic lodges recess between May and August (inclusive), but during the months of September to April, St John's lodges meet weekly. Icelandic St John's lodges also meet on St John's Day (24 June).

List of lodges

Reykjavik

Lodges in Reykjavik meet at the Masonic Temple, Skulagata 55, IS-105 Reykjavik. Telephone: (354 1) 551 1599, Fax: (354 1) 562 8930. All lodges meet at 7 pm.

Mondays: Lodge Mimir #3, Lodge Gimli #5.

Tuesdays: Lodge Edda #1, Lodge Fjolnir #11.

Wednesdays: Lodge Glitnir #8.

Akureyri

Lodge Run #2 Meets at the Masonic Temple, Gilsbakkavegur 15, IS-600 Akureyri; Wednesdays. Telephone: 462 4379 Fax. 462 7372.

Isafjordur

Lodge Njala #4 Meets at the Masonic Temple, Hafnarhusid, IS-400 Ísafjörður; Mondays. Telephone: 456 3101.

Hafnarfjordur

Lodge Hamar #6 Meets at the Masonic Temple, Ljosatrod 2, IS-220 Hafnarfjordur; Tuesdays. Telephone: 555 0849.

Akranes

Lodge Akur #7 Meets at the Masonic Temple, Stillholt 16, IS-300 Akranes; Mondays. Telephone: 431 2016.

Keflavik

Lodge Sindri #9 Meets at the Masonic Temple, Bakkastig 16, IS-260 Njardvik; Tuesdays. Telephone: 421 3777.

Selfoss

Lodge Rodull #10 Meets at the Masonic Temple, Hrismyri 1, IS-800 Selfoss; Wednesdays. Telephone: 482 2377.

B Prince Hall lodges

Joseph I Staton Lodge #71, chartered by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington, meets at Keflavik.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* is established in Iceland. Its website is at <<http://www.mmedia.is/samfrim>>.

NORWAY

A Grand Lodge of Norway

(*Den Norske Frimurerorden*)

Founded: 1891. *Descent:* England, Sweden, Germany.

Address: Masonic Temple, Nedre Vollgate 19, 0158 Oslo, Norway.

Telephone: (47) 2247 9500. Fax: (47) 2247 9521.

Email: <frimurer@online.no>.

Website: <<http://hotell.nextel.no/frimurer/engelsk.htm>> (English), or
<<http://hotell.nextel.no/frimurer/index.htm>> (Norwegian).

Lodges: 51 (Craft). Membership: 16,896.

Ritual: Swedish Rite.

Publications: *Constitution*, *Matrikkel* (year book).

History

Norway was a possession of Denmark until 1814, when it was ceded to Sweden, which in turn granted it political independence in 1905. The first Norwegian lodge was erected in 1749, under an English warrant. The English-warranted lodges existing in 1814 upon the Swedish takeover were united with the Grand Lodge of Sweden, which formed a new Provincial Grand Lodge in Norway working the Swedish Rite.

In 1882 a lodge was established in Norway by the Grand Lodge Zur Sonne, of Bayreuth, Germany; and several more lodges were subsequently established by the same authority. In 1891, the Grand Lodge of Norway was formed out of the existing Swedish Provincial Grand Lodge. In 1920, the German-warranted lodges formed their own Grand Lodge, with four constituent lodges under it. The German body united with the Grand Lodge of Norway in 1947, and since that date only one Grand Lodge has existed in the country.

Notes for visitors

Norwegian Freemasonry is quite similar to its Swedish counterpart. In structure, the only real difference is that the King of Norway is not the hereditary Grand Master although, as with Sweden, a Norwegian Grand Master is usually elected for life. Norway works the Swedish Rite of eleven degrees, with St John's lodges, St Andrew's lodges, and chapters for the highest degrees. The rituals, likewise, are very similar to the Swedish.

The Grand Temple in Oslo is probably second only to the one in Stockholm for its imposing beauty. It is one of Oslo's showpieces, bordering a large park in the centre of the city. Built originally in the early 1890s, the Temple was damaged and looted during the Nazi occupation, but it was completely restored after the War. It remains richly decorated, and contains an excellent library and a museum.

A visitor wishing to attend a Norwegian lodge should make himself known at the Grand Temple in Oslo, whereupon he will receive a warm welcome and full assistance. The details for visiting in Norway are similar to those for Sweden. Dress is a black or dark suit, and white gloves are also worn. A festive board is held after meetings. Meetings themselves mostly start at 6.30 pm. As with other Nordic countries (except Finland), there is a charge for the meal, which may vary from 50 Kroner to 100 Kroner, or more. Toasts are certainly part of the proceedings. The Master will toast all brethren, often degree by degree. Entered Apprentices will be welcomed with a short speech, often explaining some of the ritual experienced. This also can occur when a brother is advanced to a higher degree. Speeches are replied to very briefly. Visitors, especially those from outside Norway, can expect to be toasted individually, and a short response is welcomed.

Oslo itself possesses eight St John's lodges, and two St Andrew's lodges. Lodges of Instruction (currently eleven), with memberships as yet too small to charter a St John's lodge, are found in some outlying areas. There are currently four St Andrew's lodges of instruction, formed on the same basis. In addition, there are also six Deputy Craft lodges. These are branches of a regular St John's lodge, attached to it, and operating in another place with special permission. The Norwegian practice in this regard is analogous to the American practice of creating lodges 'Under Dispensation'.

List of lodges

The eight St Johanneslogen (St John's lodges) in Oslo all meet at the Masonic Temple, Nedre Vollgate 19, Oslo. Visitors must note that, as with all Nordic Grand Lodges, Masonry goes into recess during June, July, and August, and lodges also tend to meet less frequently in May and September. The Grand Temple works with a skeleton staff in this period, and is completely closed during July. Most also fail to meet in the last week or two in December, and the first week in January. During the active months, lodges meet weekly.

Meeting details of other lodges in Norway may be readily obtained from the Grand Lodge office. Alternatively, visitors with Internet access can obtain details of the forward program of all Norwegian lodges (with Temple address, phone number, meeting dates, times, and degree to be worked) within the Grand Lodge of Norway's home pages.

All Oslo lodges open at 6.30 pm. The usual meeting details of St John's lodges meeting in the Grand Temple in Oslo are as noted below, although meeting days can vary. Specific full details of all Norwegian St John's lodges, including meeting days and the degree to be worked at forthcoming meetings, can be readily accessed at <<http://www.frimurer.no/stjohann.htm>>.

Similarly, meeting details of all St Andrew's lodges in Norway are at <<http://www.frimurer.no/standeas.htm>>.

Mondays	St. Olaus til den hvide Leopard #1, Haakon til de tre Lys #24.
Tuesdays	Nil.
Wednesdays	St Olaus til de tre Soiler #8, Kolbein til den opgaende Sol #23.
Thursdays	Olaf Kyrre til den gyldne Murskje #33.
Fridays	St Olaus til de tre Roser #9, Olaf Kyrre til den gyldne Kjaede #22.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Scandinavian Federation of the International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* has two lodges in Norway.

*Section 3***WESTERN EUROPE****Introduction**

For the Freemason without previous experience, continental Masonry can be a somewhat strange but nevertheless interesting experience. Over most of its history the Craft in Europe has variously suffered repression, the effects of war, and a good deal of internal division. For a sizeable part of the twentieth century, in European countries suffering under either left-wing or right-wing dictatorships, the Craft virtually ceased to exist—although from a few there were spasmodic reports of ‘underground’ lodges. This included all Eastern European areas, prior to the fall of communism. Happily, the ‘fall of the Berlin Wall’ has subsequently seen the re-birth of Freemasonry throughout the former Soviet Union.

European Masonry is certainly as old as, and arguably older than, British Masonry. Operative Masonry can be traced back in France and Germany over many centuries. Regardless, the available evidence suggests that speculative Masonry as we now know it came to Europe from England in the early eighteenth century, whereupon it developed rapidly. This was particularly so in France. However, this development was not uniform, nor was it in many cases similar. The Europeans tended to adapt the Craft as they received it into many varying forms, notably with the introduction of a profusion of additional or ‘higher’ degrees in excess of normal Craft Freemasonry. This tendency for addition and change led to division and argument, making the history of the Craft in Europe quite turbulent. Breakaway lodges and Grand Lodges were not uncommon, and the residue of these unhappy outcomes is still to some extent evident in European Masonry today.

The effect of repression and war on European lodges has been to make the European Mason somewhat introspective, and European Masonry more secretive than that of the English-speaking world. Whereas English-speaking Masonry has in recent times moved to create better community understanding of its aims and objectives, European Masonry has largely failed to emulate this pursuit. In some cases, the visitor will not recognise a Masonic Temple or meeting place in Europe from its outside appearance, there being no trace of Masonic emblems or designation to be seen externally. Unless the visitor knows the exact address, he may not find the place he seeks. In terms of external appearances, some European Masonic complexes often look just like the buildings or apartment houses that surround them. Given the history of Continental Masonry, this ‘secrecy’ is not altogether surprising, and it is certainly understandable. An English-speaking visitor should not be surprised to be asked questions concerning his views on the ‘secrecy question’. Questions such as: ‘Would you tell a non-Mason of your membership in the Craft’, are not uncommon. Indeed, many European Masons will not admit their membership of the fraternity outside Masonic circles. This is particularly true in Roman Catholic countries such as Austria and Italy, where the Craft has endured persistent religious opposition until very recent times, and lately in former communist countries. It should also be noted that in many European Obediences it is not considered proper for a Mason to identify anyone else as a Mason, whether or not he chooses to reveal his own allegiance. Masonic membership, therefore, is considered a very personal matter.

The other main characteristic of European Masonry is that it tends to be somewhat more exclusive than elsewhere. In many Obediences, a high social, educational and economic status are tacit prerequisites for Masonic membership. For example, in some countries it is unusual for a candidate to enter Freemasonry without possessing a university degree. In terms of economic requirements, the high membership fees largely prevalent in European Masonry tend to preclude men below a certain financial position from considering membership. None of these ‘requirements’ are statutory, but rather are simply a matter of convention.

It is sometimes considered that the relatively small memberships of European Masonic Obediences, when compared with those of English-speaking countries, are the result of religious antipathy and past repression. However, this is only partly the case. The ‘exclusive’ nature of much of Continental Masonry tends to deter high memberships. Indeed, the European Grand Lodges tend to have no great interest in large numbers. Rather, their interest lies in the quality of membership. Of course, that is not to say that non-European Grand

Lodges have no interest in this area. The Europeans largely tend to lay stress on moral, ethical and philosophic study through the medium of Freemasonry.

Unlike English-speaking Masonry, where the tendency is to pursue proficiency in ritual, Continental Masons predominantly have little interest in this area. Many European lodges, very largely, can be analogously compared with the 'research lodges' of English-speaking countries. For example, a typical European lodge will meet weekly (or at least every two weeks). Of an average four meetings per month, only one will be a degree conferment, with the other three meetings given over to lectures. When a ceremony is held, it is fairly common for the participating officers to read their parts, rather than recite them from memory. For candidates, progress from one degree to the next is usually slow. Often, the minimum time lapse between degrees is twelve months. All these factors are manifestations of the desire by European Obediences to imbue their members with a deep and thorough understanding of the teachings and principles of Freemasonry. Indeed, it can certainly be argued that the European Masonic system achieves this objective with greater effect than does English-speaking Freemasonry.

It is worthy of note that, except in actual English-language lodges, Continental lodges not infrequently fail to follow the Anglo-Saxon custom of associating a meal with lodge meetings. Certainly, it is rare for a repast to be provided for an informal lecture meeting. For a formal degree ceremony, some lodges in some Obediences will provide a repast either before or after a meeting, the latter being more usual. It will be noted that many European lodges meet at 8 pm, or later, thus allowing members to dine at home prior to attending. Nonetheless, many lodge members will gather casually after a meeting, whether formal or otherwise, for drinks and fraternal fellowship. Variations in these customs as they occur are mentioned in the text that follows.

Regardless of these complexities, which form part of the make-up of Continental Masonry, it must be added that without exception the visitor will receive the warmest of welcomes. Europeans are generally most hospitable, and European Masons very much so. An English-speaking visitor need not fear any language problems either, as invariably any European lodge will possess members who speak fluent English. Quite common in many European Obediences is a system of 'tagging', although it has no formal name. 'Tagging' simply means that a foreign visitor will be placed with a member who speaks the visitor's language. The 'tagging' member will sit with the visitor in the temple, and at any social function, to ensure his ease and comfort. Of course, the visitor will usually witness a ceremony in a language other than English. Nevertheless, although the ritual used may vary somewhat in form, the content will be basically the same and fairly readily discernible to the Masonic visitor, regardless of the language used.

For convenience of presentation, in this book the continent of Europe has been divided into East and West somewhat arbitrarily. The intention was to deal separately with emerging Masonic jurisdictions of former Iron Curtain countries, but it has resulted in the well-established jurisdictions of Greece and Turkey being placed in their midst.

ANDORRA

A District Grand Lodge of Andorra (GLNF)

Address: District Grand Master, 6 rue du Docteur Nequi, Andorra La Vella, Principat d'Andorra.

Telephone: (376) 828-183.

Lodges: 3.

History

This tiny principality is located in the Pyrenes Mountains between France and Spain. Not surprisingly, its Masonry has come from these two countries. The first lodge in Andorra was chartered in March 1994 by the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF). This was *Loge la Triade* #839. It was followed in 1995 by *Loge Sant Juan Dells Valls* #927, and in 1998 by *Loge Carlemany* #1127. By 1999, the Craft in Andorra had expanded sufficiently to justify the creation of a District Grand Lodge. The *District d'Andorra*, under the GLNF, was duly constituted at the Andorran capital of Andorra-la-Vella on 25 April 1999.

List of lodges

Listed below are the GLNF lodges presently working in Andorra. Lodges #839 and #927 meet at the Masonic Temple, Cercle Ramon Llull, AVDA Co-Princip Episcopal N° 378, Encamp, whereas #1117 meets at the Hôtel Roc de Caldes, Carretera d'Engolaster, Andorra-la-Vella.

Loge la Triade #839	Meets 2nd Fridays, except July & August, at 10.30 am. Installation: September. Ritual: Scottish Rite Craft degrees.
Loge Sant Juan Dells Valls #927	Meets 4th Saturdays, except July & August, at 3 pm. Installation: September. Ritual: Rectified Scottish Rite.
Loge Carlemany #1117	Meeting days not yet fixed. Ritual: Emulation.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Grand Lodge of Spain warranted Logia Montsalvat #81 in Andorra in 1996. Curiously, even uniquely, this lodge is administered by the GLNF *District d'Andorra*, although still under Spanish charter. It works Emulation ritual in Spanish.

A Grand Lodge (or Grand Orient) of Andorra also works in the country. It consists of five Spanish-speaking and two French-speaking lodges, which were originally chartered under the Grand Orient of Spain and the Grand Orient of France respectively.

AUSTRIA

A Grand Lodge of Austria

(*Grossloge von Österreich*)

Founded: 1919. *Descent:* Germany and France.

Address: Masonic Building, Rauhensteingasse 3, Vienna 1010, Austria.

Telephone: (1) 512 7422. Fax: (1) 512 0455.

Lodges: 57. Membership: 2350.

Ritual: Schroeder-form.

Publications: *Constitution, Proceedings*.

History

The first lodge in Austria was formed in Vienna in 1742, under the patronage of Duke Francis, husband of Maria Theresa, the Empress of Austria. The Craft expanded slowly until 1785, when, under great religious pressure, the 45 lodges then operating in the country were reduced to just three by imperial edict. Not surprisingly, the Craft moved into rapid decline, and by 1794 Freemasonry was formally suppressed.

Thenceforth, Austrian Masonry remained mostly in darkness until 1867, when Hungary became a separate kingdom. It then became possible for Austrian Masons to form lodges across the border. However, it was not until after the First World War that a Grand Lodge could be formed at Vienna. It contained 26 lodges by 1938, when the Nazi takeover brought Masonry to a quick end.

Following the Second World War, the Grand Lodge of Austria was revived, and it has since prospered. It had 45 lodges in 1984, and 57 at the turn of the century. Similarly, membership continues to expand steadily and lodges now exist in all main population centres of the country.

Notes for visitors

Two-thirds of Austrian lodges meet in Vienna, at the Grand Lodge headquarters at Rauhensteingasse 3. These premises are new, with the old Grand Lodge rooms in Dorotheergasse being closed a few years ago. Vienna has 38 lodges, all but two of which work in German. The exceptions are Sarastro Lodge, working in English, and *Lodge Aux Trois Canons*, working in French.

Austrian lodges meet for only ten months of the year, a common practice throughout Europe. July and August are the recess months. However, during the ten-month season, Austrian lodges (with a few exceptions) meet weekly on a fixed day, with most commencing at or about 7 pm. The evening's proceedings occasionally begin with a fully catered meal, with a lodge meeting to follow. Of the four or five meetings held in any month, usually only one is an actual degree conferment. In Austria it is rare for a Mason to advance to the next degree in under twelve months. The non-degree-conferring meetings are taken up with members delivering lectures on Masonic subjects and, indeed, a candidate in Austria must personally deliver at least one lecture to his lodge before he can advance to the next degree.

Dress for Austrian Masons is a black lounge suit, black shoes, white shirt and long black tie. Visitors are welcome to wear any dark suit they may be carrying. While visitors are welcome to bring and wear their own regalia, it will be readily supplied to those not carrying it. The usual Masonic documentation should be presented to lodge officers when arriving, after which a warm welcome is assured. The majority of Austrian Masons speak English, in addition to German, or at least understand it if they are not overly fluent. A visitor will usually be 'tagged' to an English-speaking member. The Austrian *modes of recognition*, while comparable to those of English-speaking jurisdictions, are somewhat different. Although the visitor should be aware of this, it is quite in order for him to use the *modes* he himself was taught, as these are known and recognised. Nevertheless, it will be useful for the visitor to have a private discussion with a lodge officer along these lines prior to entering the lodge.

Austrian lodges use a form of the Schroeder Ritual, inherited from Germany. As is usual in many Continental ritual forms, lodges are set out along operative lines, with the Master seated in the east and both Wardens seated in the west. The manner of entering an Austrian lodge is for all members and visitors, upon entering the temple, to walk between the two Wardens in the west, saluting both Wardens and the Master in the process, and then move to their seats, where they remain standing to order until the lodge is opened. Austrian lodges usually open in the first degree, unless working a higher grade. Visitors can expect to be welcomed by the Master, but to be actually called upon to speak is rare.

A meal associated with a meeting is generally informal. The Master will often address the gathering, but no formal toasts are usually proposed. Visitors wishing to attend a lodge meeting are advised to visit the Grand Secretary's office during the day to discover which lodge meeting on that night, or in that week, is actually conferring a degree. The visitor will doubtless find the attendance at a degree conferment more interesting than a lecture, particularly if he is not German-speaking. It should be noted that visiting in Austria by Austrian Masons is not nearly as common as visiting is in English-speaking jurisdictions. While Austrian Masons may, of course, visit any other lodge; it is less common for them to do so because their own lodge will meet weekly in any case. In some Austrian lodges, therefore, visiting tends to be a novelty. No charge is made on any visitor for any repast associated with a lodge meeting.

List of lodges

Austria has two lodges meeting in Croatia, and until mid-October 1999, when the Grand Lodge of Slovenia was created, Austria also had three lodges in Slovenia. These are dealt with under separate headings.

Unlike most other jurisdictions, Austrian lodges are not numbered, but of course each lodge carries a name. The following towns and cities outside Vienna possess lodges: Burgenland (1 lodge), Graz (3), Innsbruck (2), Klagenfurt (4), Linz (2), Salzburg (2), St Pölten (2, both English-speaking), and Villach (1).

The lodges in Vienna (all meet at the Masonic Building, Rauhensteingasse 3), with days of meeting, are as follows:

Mondays:	Freundschaft, Gleichheit, Hiram, Kosmos, Logos, Phoenix, Zu den drei Rosen, Zur Wahrheit.
Tuesdays:	Aux Trois Canons, Humanitas, Libertas Germina, Pilgrim, Sapiencia, Universum, Voltaire zur weißen Kugel, Zukunft, Zur Toleranz.
Wednesdays:	Concordia, Donau zu den freundlichen Ufern, Fraternitas, Libertas, Zur brüderlichen Harmonie, Zur Bruderkette, Zu den drei Lichtern, Zum Rauhen Stein.
Thursdays:	Acacia, Anthopos, Eintracht, Helios, Lessing zu den drei Ringen, Mozart, Prometheus, Pythagoras, Zur den sieben Himmeln.

Sarastro Lodge (English-speaking) meets only twice monthly (2nd and 4th Wednesdays). Vienna also possesses a research lodge, Quatuor Coronati, which meets on the first Friday, monthly. Dual membership is not usually permitted under the Austrian Grand Lodge, except for research lodges. Consequently, Lodge Quatuor Coronati is easily the largest individual lodge in the country, with membership approaching 200.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Grand Orient of Austria (*Großorient von Österreich*) dates from 1961 and has 130 members in five lodges, all meeting in Vienna, in the old Emperor's Palace. They all work a modified Schroeder ritual. Two lodges are male-only and three are mixed-gender. The three oldest lodges use a very old (inherited) copy of the Holy Bible in their ceremonies, the VSL being optional in this Obedience. The Grand Secretary is Anselm Fleischmann <anselm@fleischmann.at>, and the website of the Grand Orient is at <<http://www.freimaurer.at>>.

The Grand Orient is derived from the Independent Freemasons' Lodge Vienna (*Unabhängige Freimaurerloge Wien*, UFML), which was formed by members of two lodges of the Grand Lodge of Austria (*Zukunft* in Vienna and *Zu den Drei Bergen* in Innsbruck) in the 1950s for the purpose of finding an 'up to date' form of Freemasonry. One of its experiments was to hold open discussion forums (not tyled meetings), at which women participated.

When CLIPSAS was formed in January 1961, UFML was a foundation member. The following month, UFML divided its membership, creating two additional lodges, and forming the Grand Orient of Austria. In 1968, some founding members of UFML quit the Grand Orient and rejoined the Grand Lodge. Membership of the Grand Orient declined; two of its three lodges became inactive, and only UFML endured.

In 1985 UFML was able to erect two new lodges, *Zu den Neuen Pflichten* (May) and *Gotthold Ephraim* (June), and re-instituted the Grand Orient of Austria. The two new lodges commenced initiating women, and thus became mixed-gender lodges. Membership of *Unabhängige Freimaurerloge Wien* (UFML) remained men-only, but women of the other two lodges were accorded visiting rights. Two other lodges have since been formed: *Zu den drei Spiegeln* (1998), male membership with visiting rights for women; and *Sapientia Cordis* (1999), with mixed-gender membership.

In the early 1990s, the Grand Orient of Austria participated in the restoration of Freemasonry in neighbouring former Eastern-bloc countries: Hungary and the former Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. The Grand Orient remains a member of CLIPSAS, and is on visiting terms with all other 'liberal' Masonic bodies in Austria and neighbouring countries.

Grossloge Humanitas Austria (für Männer und Frauen) was erected in 1978 from the German body, *Orden Humanitas Deutschland*. It has 52 members (late 1999) in three mixed-gender lodges which work the Scottish Rite Craft degrees. This Grand Lodge requires belief in a 'Higher Being'. It has no official website; the Grand Secretary is Helga Ebenberger <Helga.Ebenberger@bmuk.gv.at>.

Orden Humanitas Deutschland actually founded two 'mixed' bodies in Austria, *Grossloge Humanitas Austria* (above), and *Orden Humanitas Austria*. The latter has since been dissolved. During the co-existence of these two Obediences a problem arose. Both wished to join CATENA, but the rules of that organisation permit only one member per country. They decided to form a partnership, the Union for Mixed Freemasonry for Men and Women in Austria (*Union für die Gruppen der Gemischten Freimaurerei für Männer und Frauen in Österreich*), and registered with both CATENA and CLIPSAS under that name. Now *Grossloge Humanitas Austria* is reverting to its original name because of the demise of *Orden Humanitas Austria*.

The International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* has two lodges in Austria. Curiously, the older lodge has only women members. There is no separate website for the Austrian lodges.

BELGIUM

A Regular Grand Lodge of Belgium

(*Grande Loge Régulière de Belgique*)

Founded: 1979. *Descent:* Grand Lodge of Belgium

Address: Masonic Temple, Rue Royale 265, Brussels B-1030, Belgium.

Telephone: 32 2 218 4616, or 217 8400. *Fax:* 32 2 223 1665.

Email: <Secretary@GLRB.org>, <Secretary@RGLB.org>.

Website: <<http://www.glr.org/>>, <<http://www.rglb.org/>>.

Lodges: 37. *Membership:* 1500.

Ritual: Modern (Craft) Rite, others.

Publications: *Constitutions*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Acta Masonica*.

History

Belgium has had a fairly turbulent Masonic history. It currently possesses several Grand Lodges, of which only one is accorded mainstream recognition. It is a country which has seen frequent changes in sovereignty over the last 300 years, and this has affected its Masonic development. From 1714 (the Peace of Utrecht) until 1793 (the French Revolution), it was the Austrian Netherlands. From 1793 until 1814 it was a province of France, and from 1814 to 1830, it was part of Holland, finally gaining its independence in 1830 as a sovereign kingdom.

The original lodges in Belgium were established around 1740. The first lodges for which evidence exists were *L'Union* (1742), and *L'Équité* (1743), at Brussels. These lodges were French-inspired, while two of English origin were established in the same period: *La Discrete Imperiale*, at Alost, and another at Ghent. In 1764, England appointed Francois Bonaventure Dumont, Marquis of Gages, as Provincial Grand Master of the Austrian Netherlands and he thereafter created a large number of lodges during the reign of Maria Theresa of Austria.

By 1774, nineteen lodges were at work in Belgium, but by 1787 they had all closed as a result of an Austrian edict. The annexation of Belgium to France saw a fairly large number of lodges created under the Grand Orient of France, and at the same time the introduction of the French Rite of seven degrees. Upon the demise of French political control over Belgium, its lodges came under the Netherlands, and by 1820 over 30 lodges were at work. Belgium gained its political independence in 1830, but the disturbances which accompanied the creation of the new country served to reduce the lodges to 14.

In 1833, these lodges met and formed the Grand Orient of Belgium. This new Grand body accepted the creation of *chapters* which conferred the high degrees of the Scottish Rite, the Scottish Philosophical Rite, and the French Rite, with the *lodges* under the Grand Orient only working the three Craft degrees. King Leopold I, who, previous to his accession to the Belgian throne, had married Princess Charlotte, heiress to the British Crown, and had thus been Prince-Consort until her death, was the uncle of Queen Victoria. He had been initiated in 1813 at Lodge Espérance in Bern, Switzerland, and became the Protector of the Order in Belgium.

Unfortunately, in 1854 the Grand Orient moved to allow political discussion in its lodges. As well as being subsequently ostracised by many Grand Lodges, this move caused a schism in the Grand Orient itself. Additionally, in 1872, the Grand Orient decreed that belief in a Supreme Being was an optional prerequisite for membership, and altered its *Constitution* accordingly. Despite these developments, relations between the United Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Orient of Belgium were not adversely affected until after the death of King Leopold. In 1875 Count Eugène Goblet d'Alviella was formally invited to the installation of the Prince of Wales (the future King Edward VII) as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England.

The benevolent English view of the situation in Belgium (in contrast with its view of the Grand Orient of France) is also highlighted by the fact that in 1890 d'Alviella, who in the interval had served as Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Belgium (1884–1887), was elected a member of Quatuor Coronati Lodge #2076 EC. England did not officially sever fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of Belgium until 1908.

Masonry acceptable to England again arose in Belgium in 1933 when *Loge Anglo-Belge*, then under the Grand Orient of Belgium, was reconstituted as Lodge Wellington #1385 under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, to meet at Antwerp. In turn, this lodge sponsored a second Scottish lodge at Brussels in 1951, Lodge Allegiance #1465.

The Second World War saw all Freemasonry in Belgium suppressed by the Nazis, but subsequently the Grand Orient and the Scottish lodges revived, although the former still persisted in its practices. However, in 1959, five Grand Orient lodges which used the VSL withdrew from the Grand Orient and formed the Grand Lodge of Belgium. Several more defecting lodges from the Grand Orient later joined it. This new body was constituted by the mainstream Grand East of the Netherlands, and gained fraternal recognition around the Masonic world. Scotland granted recognition on the basis that its two lodges in Belgium would be preserved. By 1979, the Grand Lodge of Belgium had 35 lodges on its roll, and over 2000 members.

Unfortunately, in 1979 the Grand Lodge of Belgium chose to follow the precepts of the Grand Orient. The Grand Lodge endorsed the argument that reference to the Supreme Being was purely symbolic, and that its Constitution neither implied nor required from its members a personal belief in the Supreme Being. The result of this action was a schism within the Grand Lodge, whereupon nine lodges (with a total of 300 members) withdrew and formed the *Regular* Grand Lodge of Belgium. England, Ireland and Scotland, together with most other mainstream Grand Lodges of the world, promptly withdrew recognition from the old Grand Lodge, and instead recognised the new *Regular* Grand Lodge. The new Grand body has since expanded to contain 37 lodges and 1500 members. Thus, Belgium today has three Grand Lodges which once enjoyed mainstream recognition, of which only the youngest retains it. The two Scottish lodges remain at work in Belgium, together with two military lodges under the Prince Hall Grand Lodges of Georgia and Maryland, respectively. There are also other bodies which have never achieved mainstream recognition, which are mentioned below.

Notes for visitors

With so many different Obediences in Belgium, mainstream visitors need to be careful which lodges they attend. Therefore, at least in the first instance, visitors are advised to telephone or fax, or preferably visit, the office of the Regular Grand Lodge of Belgium at the Grand Temple in Brussels. Of the 37 lodges under the Regular Grand Lodge (GLRB), eleven work in Brussels itself, three in Ghent, two in Waterloo, two in Antwerp, with the others spread all over the country. Two lodges, namely King Leopold 1st #3, at Mons, and Chevalier Ramsay #4 at Brussels, work in English, and have many English-speaking servicemen as members.

GLRB lodges largely work the Modern Rite (*Rite Moderne*) Craft degrees, though not a few use the French Rite, the Scottish Rite Craft degrees or the Rectified Scottish Rite. They generally meet on a fortnightly basis, although some meet weekly or monthly. Most open proceedings at about 8 pm, with members dining together afterwards, on occasions. Dress is a dark lounge suit, and visitors are welcome to wear their own regalia if carrying it. It should be noted that GLRB lodges recess in the months of June, July and August.

List of lodges

Listed below are the details of the nine GLRB lodges meeting in Brussels; those in Antwerp and Mons; the two Scottish lodges; and the two Prince Hall lodges. Details of GLRB lodges at other locations in Belgium may be readily obtained when visiting the Grand Lodge office in Brussels. The language and ritual used by each lodge is also noted.

Antwerp

Loge De Oude Plichten #15	Meets at Masonic Temple, Genuastraat 15, 2000 Antwerp, Mondays at 8 pm. Installation: April. <i>Rite Moderne</i> . Flemish-speaking.
Loge De Eendragt 1763 #22	Meets at Masonic Temple, Fort Lillo – Havenmarkt 3, 2040 Lillo, Antwerp, 2nd and 4th Fridays, at 8 pm. Installation: December. Rectified Scottish Rite. Flemish-speaking.

Brussels

Meeting places: lodges #1, 4, 7, 17, & 30 meet at the Masonic Temple, Rue Royale 265, 1030 Brussels; lodges #11, 18 & 21 at the Masonic Temple, Rue de Suède 41, 1060 Brussels; lodge #12 meets at the Masonic Temple, Koningsstraat 265, 1030 Brussels.

Loge l'Union #1	Meets Mondays, at 8 pm. French-speaking. Installation: December. <i>Rite Moderne</i> .
Loge Chevalier Ramsay #4	Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays, at 7 pm. Installation: January. Californian Ritual. English-speaking.
Loge les Trois Anneaux #7	Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, at 8 pm. Installation: March. Scottish Rite Craft degrees. French-speaking.
Loge Parfaite Amitié #11	Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, at 8 pm. Installation: September. Scottish Rite Craft degrees. French-speaking.
Loge Jan van Ruysbroeck #12	Meets Mondays, at 8 pm. Installation: September. <i>Rite Moderne</i> . Flemish-speaking.
Loge le Cèdre #17	Meets Mondays, at 8 pm. Installation: May. Scottish Rite Craft degrees. French-speaking.
Loge Geoffroy de Saint Omer #18	Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, at 8 pm. Installation: December. Rectified Scottish Rite. French-speaking.
Loge In Candore #21	Meets Wednesdays, at 8 pm. Installation: April. Scottish Rite Craft degrees. French-speaking.

Mons

King Leopold I Lodge #3	Meets at Masonic Temple, Chaussée de Binche 101, 7000 Mons, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at 7.30 pm. Installation: May. New York Ritual. English-speaking.
Loge La Parfaite Fraternité #20	Meets at Masonic Temple, Chaussée de Binche 101, 7000 Mons, 4th Fridays, at 7.30 pm. French Rite. French-speaking.

Scottish lodges

Lodge Wellington #1385	Meets at Masonic Temple, Van Maerlantstraat 33, 2060 Antwerp, 3rd Tuesday, September to May, at 8 pm. Installation: January. English-speaking.
Lodge Allegiance #1465	Meets at Masonic Temple, Rue Royale 265, 1030 Brussels, 2nd and 4th Tuesday, September to April, at 7.30 pm. Installation: May. English-speaking.

Prince Hall lodges

George L Mason Lodge #590 GA	Meets at SHAPE HQ, 1st Tuesday 7 pm, 3rd Saturday 9 am.
Willard W Allen Lodge #108 MD	Meets at 16 rue Chisaire, Mons.

Research lodges

The Regular Grand Lodge of Belgium has a lodge of research, *Loge Ars Macionica #30*, formed in 1995, which meets at the Masonic Temple, rue Royale 265, 1030 Brussels, but its meeting dates are not fixed. It uses the *Rite Moderne* and works in French, and publishes annual transactions, *Acta Macionica*.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The origins and history of the Grand Orient of Belgium have been outlined above. The Grand Orient remains by far the largest Masonic body in the country, with about 9500 members in 106 lodges (in Brussels 32 lodges, in French-speaking districts 43 lodges, in Dutch-speaking areas 29 lodges, with one in the Netherlands and one in Bujumbura, capital of the African state of Burundi). In 1969 the Grand Orient established a Centre for Masonic Documentation (CEDOM); its aims include: collecting, analysing and classifying Masonic documents; centralising bibliographical data of lodge libraries and archives; and promoting scientific Masonic research. The library and other collections have been computerised, and author, title and keyword catalogues are available to Freemasons and approved non-Masonic researchers. In 1985 the Grand Orient established a Masonic Museum in Brussels (Lakenstraat/rue de Laeken 79), which is open on Thursday afternoons, and has guided tours by appointment (phone/fax 02 223 0604). The Grand Orient used to be a member of CLIPSAS but quit in 1998, together with the Grand Orient of France, over an issue of voting qualifications. It is a member of SIMPA.

The Feminine Grand Lodge of Belgium (*Grande Loge Féminine de Belgique–Vrouwengrootloge van België*) was formed in 1981 from four lodges of the Feminine Grand Lodge of France (*Grande Loge Féminine de France*), erected from 1974 onwards at Brussels (2), Charleroi and Liège. The Feminine Grand Lodge of Belgium (GLFB) now has more than 1200 members in 31 lodges, which are permitted to choose between the Scottish Rite Craft degrees, the French Rite or the Ancient French Rite. The GLFB has also created lodges and *triangles* abroad, with one lodge in Denmark (Copenhagen) and two in USA (New York and Los Angeles). The GLFB is a member of CLIPSAS.

The International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* is strongly represented, with a self-regulating Belgian Federation (*Fédération Belge du Droit Humain*), which is also a member of CLIPSAS.

The Grand Lodge of Belgium shares a website with the Grand Orient and the Feminine Grand Lodge, at <<http://users.swing.be/mason>>. There are said to be other bodies ('micro' Grand Lodges) too reticent to be located.

CORSICA

This large Mediterranean island, located north of Sardinia, has been part of Metropolitan France since 1789. It has long possessed lodges owing allegiance to the Grand Orient of France and the Grand Lodge of France. Currently, the Grand Lodge of France has four lodges in Corsica, the oldest dating from 1971, at Ajaccio, in the south, and the others being located at Bastia (2), also in the south, and at Porto Vecchio in the north. Meeting details are given below.

In 1981 the first mainstream lodge, *Loge Corsica-Prima #265*, was chartered by the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF) at Bastia. This was followed a year later by *Loge Primo Jovannali #297* at Ajaccio, and a further seven lodges have been established in Corsica. They are governed under the GLNF Provincial Grand Lodge of the Mediterranean Alps (*Province Alpes Méditerranée*). All nine lodges meet monthly, work in French, and recess in July and August (unless otherwise stated below). Meeting details are given below.

GLNF lodges

Loge Corsica-Prima #265	Meets at the Masonic Temple, Louis-Mattei, 37 Boulevard Pauli, 20200 Bastia; 2nd Saturdays, at 6.30 pm. August. Installation: October. Ritual: Scottish Rite Craft degrees.
Loge I Jovannali #297	Meets at the Masonic Temple, Les Terrasses d'Ajaccio, Avenue Noël Franchini, 20090 Ajaccio; 3rd Fridays, at 7.30 pm. Installation: September. Ritual: Scottish Rite Craft degrees.
Loge A Ziglia Autel du Feu #388	Meets at the Masonic Temple, 4 rue E Arène, 20000 Ajaccio; 4th Fridays, at 7.30 pm, except August. Installation: October. Ritual: Rectified Scottish Rite.
Loge Terra Sacra #562	Meets at the Masonic Temple, Sartène, Corsica; 3rd Saturdays, at 10 am. Installation: September. Ritual: Emulation.
Loge In Lux Limine #563	Meets at the Masonic Temple, 5 boulevard Auguste Gaudin, 20200 Bastia; 4th Mondays, at 7 pm. Installation: September. Ritual: French Rite.
Loge St Jean de Corsa #647	Meets at the Masonic Temple, Chemin de Turichjia, Prunelli di Fium'Orbu, 20240 Ghisonaccia; 2nd Sundays, at 10 am. Installation: September. Ritual: Scottish Rite Craft degrees.
Loge Pasquali Paoli #659	Meets at the Masonic Temple, Les Terrasses d'Ajaccio, Avenue Noël Franchini, 20090 Ajaccio; 2nd Fridays, at 7.30 pm. Installation: September. Ritual: Scottish Rite Craft degrees.
Loge San Juan Evangelista #817	Meets at the Masonic Temple, Les Terrasses d'Ajaccio, Avenue Noël Franchini, 20090 Ajaccio; 1st Saturdays, at 7.30 pm. Installation: September. Ritual: Rectified Scottish Rite.
Loge San Juan Battista #818	Meets Masonic Temple, Les Terrasses d'Ajaccio, Avenue Noël Franchini, 20090 Ajaccio; 1st Saturdays, at 7.30 pm. Installation: September. Ritual: Scottish Rite Craft degrees.

GLdF lodges

Loge la Lumière Amitié Latine #819	Meets at Résidence 'Le Maxime', Route des Sanguinaires, Ajaccio, 2nd & 4th Mondays, 8 pm.
Loge Mantinum #886	Meets at Maison – Expo, Avenue de la Liberté, Bastia, 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7.30 pm.
Loge Philonios #961	Meets at Punta Calcina – Lieu dit Piana di Conca, Ste Lucie de Porto Vecchio, 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7.30 pm.
Loge Tilox #1247	Meets at boulevard de la Libération, Bastia, 2nd & 4th Fridays, October to June, 7.30 pm.

FRANCE

France has possibly the most complex and diverse Masonic history of any country in the world. It is difficult to ascertain exactly how many Masonic bodies there are in France at the close of the 20th century but we list a dozen or so here. Four of these have adopted principles of regularity familiar to mainstream Masonry. One of them, the French National Grand Lodge (*la Grande Loge Nationale Française*, GLNF) is widely recognised by mainstream Grand Lodges. Two others, the Traditional and Symbolic Grand Lodge Opera (*Grande Loge Traditionnelle et Symbolique Opéra*, GLTSO) and the French National Lodge (*la Loge Nationale Française*, LNF) are offshoots of the GLNF, and are unrecognised. The fourth and oldest, for which a claim of direct descent from the premier Grand Lodge of England is made, is the Grand Lodge of France (*la Grande Loge de France*, GLdF). The GLdF enjoyed recognition from its parent in the latter part of the 18th century, from a substantial number of American mainstream Grand Lodges in the first half of the 20th century, and—after nearly 40 years of non-recognition—is once more beginning to be accepted by mainstream Masonry. Of the remainder, whose principles conflict quite substantially with the mainstream, by far the oldest, largest and best known is the Grand Orient of France (*le Grand Orient de France*, GODF).

Although operative organisations which included masons developed early in France, and continue to this day, *speculative* Freemasonry was imported from across the English Channel. Within a few years of the formation of the premier Grand Lodge in London there were lodges in Paris, Calais and Bordeaux, but most of the records were lost or destroyed in the Revolution at the close of the 18th century, when Freemasonry was suppressed. Those which are available contain claim and counter-claim, error and exaggeration, to make the task of the historian more difficult. Confusion is exacerbated by the proliferation of ‘higher’ degrees and bodies to control them, as well as the historical, cultural, philosophical and linguistic differences between English and French.

In or around 1726, English and Scottish exiled Jacobites formed *la Loge Saint Thomas* in Paris. By 1729 a lodge of the same name, but with Hanoverian supporters, was meeting in Paris at a tavern called *Au Louis d’Argent*, or the King’s Head. This lodge received an English warrant in 1732, as did a lodge of British naval officers at Bordeaux (eventually numbered 204), and two others quickly followed: *la Parfaite Union* at Valenciennes (1733) and *la Loge Écossaise d’Aubigny* meeting at the chateau of the Duchess of Portsmouth in Aubigny (1735). The following year the celebrated John Coustos was foundation Master of the Coustos–Villeroy Lodge in Paris. There may have been other lodges in this period, without English warrants. In 1728 the Duke of Wharton, formerly Grand Master of the premier Grand Lodge, was appointed Grand Master. He was succeeded by James Hector Maclean in 1731 and Charles Radcliffe in 1736. The first French Grand Master was le duc d’Antin, elected in 1738, and Anderson’s revised *Constitutions* of that date acknowledges France’s independence. Two days after the death of d’Antin in 1743, le comte de Clermont was elected as his successor. Formal recognition between the Grand Lodge of France and the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) was recorded in 1766. The following year Masonry was suspended by law in France, partly because of war with England and suspicion arising from the English origins of Masonry, and partly because of the general Masonic unrest in France.

Clermont died in 1771, shortly after the ban was lifted. Before this date, and beyond, there were many splits, alliances and re-arrangements between the various Masonic bodies that had proliferated in France. From these, in 1773, emerged a *Grande Loge Nationale de France* and *le Grand Orient de France*, but diversity continued. By 1799 the Grand Lodge and the Grand Orient were reunited under the name *le Grand Orient de France*, but some lodges of the Grand Lodge did not accept the new central authority. The arrangement did not last, and by 1804 a number of lodges moved under the protection of a newly formed Supreme Council of France, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. A modern French historian describes the situation thus:

With the turmoil of the French Revolution and its aftermath, the First Republic, the Convention, the revolutionary wars, the Terror, the Directory, the Consulate, France changed its political system every few years and Masonry suffered a lot. It split, went underground, parts of it disappeared and other parts coalesced.

Two main currents survived: that of the Grand Orient and that of the Grand Lodge of France, the latter inseparably intertwined, first with the Rite of Perfection, ancestor of the A&ASR, later with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite itself.

He goes on to say:

There were no major changes in French Masonry during the first and the second Restoration (1814–1830), separated by Napoleon's 'Hundred Days', King Louis-Philippe's reign (1830–1848), the Second Republic of 1848 and until the Second Empire, that of Napoleon III (1852–1870). Among a multitude of minor Masonic bodies, the still universally recognised Grand Orient of France on one hand, and the independent A&ASR Supreme Council perpetuating, under various names, the Grand Lodge of France, slowly restored their forces and membership. . .

The disastrous war of 1870, basically caused by a misunderstanding between Napoleon III and Bismarck, was lost by France. Paris was occupied. The Emperor was made prisoner. The Third Republic was born. The savage days of the Commune in 1871 (which again saw Brethren fighting each other on both sides of the barricades) was followed by an extraordinary industrial, intellectual, scientific, financial and commercial development. France was rich. The end of the 19th century brought about the triumph of 'positivism', dear to Auguste Comte, Jules Ferry, Littré and Claude Bernard, with its emphasis on explaining how things run, and a total disregard for the 'why's and the origin of things. French Masonry thus embraced what could be referred to as 'liberal' causes: feminism, the emancipation of slaves, social responsibility, social reform and pacifism. Many French Masons of the end of the 19th century could be described as either radical, utopian, democratic, egalitarian, or socialist. Things that could not be proven scientifically, such as the existence of God, were summarily declared bogus, while scientific progress practically became the new God.

The fact that, during the tormented years just before, during and since the Revolution, the Catholic Church had been (or at least had been perceived as) perpetually siding with the tyrants, was not unrelated to the situation. A wave of anti-religious and particularly anti-clerical emotion swept France. In 1877 and under the intense pressure of its members, the Grand Orient of France declared optional and left to the discretion of the individual lodges any mention of the Grand Architect of the Universe and the presence of the Bible. It thus became the epitome of irregularity in the eyes of most other Masons in France and elsewhere.

In 1880 several lodges seceded from the Supreme Council of France and formed *la Grande Loge Symbolique Ecossaise* (Scottish Symbolic Grand Lodge) which, ten years later, became *la Grande Loge Symbolique de France* (Symbolic Grand Lodge of France). In 1894 the lodges which had stayed with the Supreme Council of France were reformed as the Grand Lodge of France. The Symbolic Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge merged in 1897 and in 1905 the Supreme Council of France officially recognised the Grand Lodge of France as a wholly independent body. From 1917 to the mid-1960s, this independent Grand Lodge achieved quite widespread recognition among US mainstream Grand Lodges (23 of them, according to one American historian), but not the 'home' Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland.

Meanwhile, a lodge of the Grand Orient of France, *le Centre des Amis*, which had been dormant since 1789, was revived under Edouard de Ribaucourt, who subsequently (1912) corresponded with the Pro Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, with a view to seceding and forming a new Grand Lodge. This came to fruition in late 1913, with *le Centre des Amis* and another resurrected lodge, *la Loge Anglaise N° 204*, the old English lodge at Bordeaux, as the only constituent members of *la Grande Loge Indépendante et Régulière pour la France et les Colonies Françaises*. The new Grand Lodge gained instant recognition from England and gradually from a large majority of other mainstream jurisdictions. It is more familiar as *la Grande Loge Nationale Française* (French National Grand Lodge, GLNF), the title it adopted after World War II.

The history of Freemasonry in France subsequent to 1913 will be given under the headings of the individual bodies, below.

A French National Grand Lodge

(*Grande Loge Nationale Française*, GLNF)

Founded: 1913. *Descent*: Grand Orient of France.

Address: 12 rue Christine de Pisan, 75017 Paris, France.

Telephone: (33 1) 4415 8620, Fax: (33 1) 4415 8636.

Email: <contact@glnf.asso.fr>. Website: <http://www.glnf.asso.fr/>.

Annual Communication: December.

Lodges: 1087. Membership: 20,000 (estimated).

Ritual: A&ASR Craft, Rectified Scottish Rite, French Rite, Emulation, etc.

Main Publications: *Constitution, Proceedings, Annuaire* (list of lodges).

Periodical: *Actualités* (bi-monthly).

History

From its inception in 1913, with only two lodges, *la Grande Loge Indépendante et Régulière pour la France et les Colonies Françaises* gradually expanded. By 1918 it had ten lodges, and this figure was tripled within the next 20 years. Under German occupation during WWII, Masonry was banned, and Masons of all Obediences were detained, tortured and killed, and Masonic property was confiscated or destroyed.

Masonry revived after the war, and *la Grande Loge Indépendante et Régulière pour la France et les Colonies Françaises* changed its name to *la Grande Loge Nationale Française* in 1948. Because of widespread mainstream recognition, regrowth of the GLNF was assisted by the presence of Allied troops and subsequently NATO forces, which provided an influx of new members. The Grand Lodge chartered lodges in France, Spain, and elsewhere to accommodate them.

In 1955 a joint committee of members of the GLNF and the Grand Lodge of France drew up a proposal for amalgamation, as the United Grand Lodge of France, but the idea was shelved. Five years later, amalgamation was again considered, this time between the GLNF, GLdF and the Grand Orient of France. Alas, even after five meetings, agreement could not be reached.

Meanwhile, the GLNF had internal problems. With expatriate English members and military—predominantly American—members outnumbering the French nationals, and because of the GLNF's deep concern to demonstrate continued regularity (as defined by the United Grand Lodge of England), the Deputy Grand Master and a substantial proportion of the French minority quit the GLNF in 1958 and formed a separate Grand Lodge of the same name. The seceders took legal action to gain possession of GLNF premises but were unsuccessful. They then moved to premises near the Paris Opera House and consequently were distinguished from the parent body by being called *Grande Loge Nationale Française Opéra*. They are now known as *Grande Loge Traditionnelle et Symbolique Opéra*.

These losses were compensated for by acquisition of the lodges of two smaller bodies, which joined the GLNF that same year: the Grand Lodge of the Rectified Rite, and the Scottish Masters of St Andrew; and subsequently, in 1964, by providing a home for about 800 members of the Grand Lodge of France who were opposed to a treaty with the Grand Orient. As a result, 26 new lodges (working the Scottish Rite Craft degrees) were formed in the GLNF and thus, although there is still a strong English influence, the imbalance has been redressed.

The GLNF has played a vital role in fostering mainstream Masonry in many parts of the world—wherever French is spoken, and in countries formerly behind the iron curtain—by erecting lodges and by encouraging the formation of Grand Lodges, as well as providing a Masonic home for NATO servicemen.

The GLNF operates an organised charity for Masons, their widows and orphans, *Oeuvre d'Assistance Fraternelle* (OAF), which is mainly directed toward support of the unemployed by helping them to find work. General charity work (for Masons and non-Masons alike) consists largely of discreet medical and monetary support for major catastrophes worldwide, and a 'Christmas Tree' for orphans and needy children.

Notes for visitors

Of the 1,087 lodges under the GLNF (late 1999), about 50 are located overseas—although this number has regularly changed in recent years as new lodges are chartered and new Grand Lodges are formed. Of those in France, nearly 180 meet in Paris, plus a further 55 in Neuilly and 50 in Puteaux. With the rapid expansion of French Masonry in the last twenty years, the previous Grand Lodge headquarters at *boulevard Bineau* in Neuilly became inadequate, and in 1993 a new (additional) Masonic Centre was constructed on *rue Christine de Pisan*. This has a Grand Temple, with seating for 700, and 13 smaller temples, plus library and museum, a restaurant and bar.

A wide variety of rituals are used in GLNF lodges. English-speaking lodges largely prefer the Emulation ritual, but some French-speaking lodges also work Emulation in translation (around 25% of lodges, overall). Most English-speaking lodges work in Paris, and there is also a Paris-based lodge (Eleusis #210) which works in German. Lodges working in Armenian, Basque, Breizh (a Celtic language of Brittany), Greek, Italian, Malagasy, Spanish and Ukrainian are also to be found within the GLNF, many of them in Paris.

The Scottish Rite Craft degrees (33%), and the Rectified Scottish Rite (19%) predominate in French-speaking lodges. In relatively recent years, the French Rite has also gained popularity in French-speaking lodges (16%), and its use is expanding. There are also a few lodges, mostly military, using the Californian or Texas Webb-form rituals. Some of these were established in Spain, catering for American servicemen but, with the downgrading of NATO forces in Spain, only one remains. Another, formerly based in Spain—Stability/Concorde #29/42, itself an amalgamation of two lodges—now meets in Paris and uses Californian ritual.

An interesting development in ritual usage in France has occurred in recent years, with a significant number of lodges using the Nova Scotia (Canadian) ritual. The oldest lodge so doing is Loge Lafayette #51, at Strasbourg, and as of the mid-1990s fifteen GLNF lodges, at various locations in France, were using this working. These lodges operate in English and largely cater for North American servicemen stationed in France. French-chartered lodges outside France are discussed under the relevant headings elsewhere in this book, and in the previous volume.

Unlike most of Continental Europe, many GLNF lodges require their officers to learn and recite their ritual. This applies particularly to those using Emulation working, whether in English or French.

The meeting days of lodges under the GLNF vary somewhat, largely in consequence of the language and ritual used. Generally, English-speaking lodges meet on a monthly basis, as do French-speaking lodges using Emulation. Lodges using a Continental rite more often tend to meet fortnightly, although this is certainly not always the case. It must be noted that most lodges, regardless of their ritual usage, recess in at least July and August. Not a few also fail to meet in either, or both, of June and September as well, and some in December.

Meeting times are also apt to vary. English-speaking lodges tend to convene at about 7.30 pm, with a Festive Board following the proceedings, as do the French-speaking lodges working the Scottish Rite Craft degrees. French-speaking lodges using other rituals tend to meet later, at around 8–8.30 pm. After-proceedings for these lodges, often of an informal nature, will generally only follow a degree-conferment meeting. There are, in addition, a small number of lodges in Paris, and elsewhere, that meet in the afternoon or early evening, and these may be particularly useful to visitors.

Dress for all GLNF lodges is a black or dark business or lounge suit, and visitors are welcome to wear their own regalia at meetings. As most visitors to France will enter via Paris, they should find a visit to the GLNF Masonic Centre quite practical. Office staff are happy to guide visitors over the complex, and assist them in visiting lodges. Except in the recess months, there are few nights in Paris without at least one lodge meeting.

List of lodges

The three main Masonic Centres in Paris are as follows:

- 12 rue Christine de Pisan, 75017 Paris (170+ lodges)
- 65 boulevard Bineau, 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine (55 lodges)
- 28 rue Lucien-Voilin, 92800 Puteaux (50 lodges)

Clearly it is not possible to list all GLNF lodges, or even those meeting in Paris, but here are the addresses of the principal meeting places in major French cities:

Aix-en Provence:	745 Chemin de la Badesse, Les Milles	(5 lodges)
Angers:	12 ter, rue Bertin	(4 lodges)
Bordeaux:	13 bis, place Stalingrad	(8 lodges)
Cannes:	19 rue du Docteur Budin	(6 lodges)
Clermont-Ferrand:	10 rue Fongivière	(10 lodges)
Deauville:	45 bis, rue de Clairfontaine	(3 lodges)
Grenoble:	11 boulevard Gambetta	(8 lodges)
Le Havre:	8/10 impasse Greuze	(2 lodges)
Le Mans:	3 rue Louis-Crétois	(4 lodges)
Lille:	202 rue Jean-Jaurès	(5 lodges)
Limoges:	5 rue Pothier	(5 lodges)
Lyon:	22 rue de Montesquieu	(16 lodges)
Marseille:	76 boulevard Danielle-Casanova	(17 lodges)
Metz:	9 rue des États-Unis, Montigny-les-Metz	(3 lodges)
Montpellier:	10 rue Adolphe Moin	(6 lodges)
Nancy:	77 bis, rue Vayringe	(3 lodges)
Nice:	2 rue Gustave-Deloye	(16 lodges)

Orléans:	94 rue du Hameau, Saran	(9 lodges)
Perpignan:	3 rue Adam	(6 lodges)
Poiters:	51 Grand'rue	(3 lodges)
Puteaux:	28 rue Lucien-Voilin	(34 lodges)
Rennes:	24 rue Thiers	(3 lodges)
Rouen:	56 rue de Bammerville	(6 lodges)
Strasbourg:	1 rue du Puits	(5 lodges)
Toulon:	4 rue Léon-Jouhaux	(8 lodges)
Toulouse:	32-34 rue Gabriel-Péri	(13 lodges)
Tours:	8 ter, rue de la Bourde	(10 lodges)
Valence:	6 cours Voltaire	(4 lodges)
Versailles:	19 rue de Limoges	(5 lodges)

Research lodges

Lodge Villard de Honnecourt #81 was formed in 1964 as a lodge of research, and is named after a celebrated medieval architect. In 1967 it was accorded the title of National Lodge of Research. It meets at rue Christine de Pisan, Paris, with four general meetings—usually on a 4th Wednesday at 7.30 pm, but the date may vary—and four special events. It works in French, and its Installation is in September, before the regular meeting. Dress for all meetings is formal. Current membership is nearly 1000. The lodge is widely respected and publishes *Cahiers* (transactions) three times per year. These are high-quality soft-cover books, in French, at Fr 450 per year, and back issues are available from *Scribe*, the GLNF shop at 131–133 rue de Saussure, 75017 Paris. The lodge has an Internet presence on the GLNF website. Email contact for inquiries is Gérald Béhuret <gerald_behuret@wanadoo.fr>.

Lodge Phénix #30 has an interesting history. It began as a degree-working lodge between the two world wars, and was dormant after WWII. In 1968 the Grand Master sought to revive it (appropriately, in view of the name, Phoenix), and approached an English member, Arthur Barnett, who was among those who had quit the Grand Lodge of France in 1964 and joined the GLNF. Bro Barnett agreed to be the new Master on condition that it should be a lodge of research. The Grand Master approved and the lodge was revived as an English-speaking lodge of research, which flourished under Barnett, first as Master and then Secretary/editor. It attracted noted scholars, including George Draffen of Newington, Cyril Batham and Alec Mellor, and established a worldwide correspondence circle, complete with local secretaries after the style of Quatuor Coronati Lodge #2076 EC. Initially, the lodge worked in English, but is now bi-lingual, as are its annual transactions, published in A4 soft-cover format. The lodge meets in Paris monthly (except June–August, and December) on the 4th Monday at 7 pm.

B Grand Lodge of France

(*Grande Loge de France*, GLdF)

Founded: 1728; 1894. *Descent:* England; Supreme Council of France.

Address: 8 rue Puteaux, 75017 Paris, France.

Telephone: 01 5342 4141, *Fax:* 01 4470 0787.

Email: <secretariat@gldf.org>. *Website:* <<http://www.gldf.org>>.

Grand Communications: semi-annually, June & December.

Lodges: 667. *Membership:* 26,000.

Ritual: A&ASR Craft rite, Rectified Scottish Rite, Emulation (in English).

Main Publications: *Constitution*, *Proceedings*, *Annuaire* (list of lodges).

Periodical: *Points de Vue Initiatives* (quarterly).

History

The Grand Lodge of France gained its independence in 1894, and merger with the Symbolic Grand Lodge of France in 1897 did not affect that independence, but doubt was cast on the wording of the original declaration by the Supreme Council of France, which was not resolved until a second declaration in 1905. Recognition by mainstream Grand Lodges was slow, but that is not unusual. After the United States of America entered World War One in 1917, and landed troops in France, recognition speeded up. The Grand Lodges of Texas and the District of Columbia accorded recognition in 1917 and the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and New York approved intervisitation that same year. Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode

Island, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming followed suit within the next two years. That this was not merely a copy-cat action is demonstrated by the debate recorded in Grand Lodge *Proceedings*, and the fact that some Grand Lodges declined the petition for recognition. Curiously, some of these Grand Lodges also recognised the French National Grand Lodge and/or the Grand Orient of France contemporaneously with their recognition of the Grand Lodge of France, despite the American doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction. The last of the US mainstream Grand Lodges to accord recognition to the Grand Lodge of France was Wisconsin, in 1958.

When French Freemasonry was recovering from the devastation of WWII, its members became aware (or were reminded) of the racial segregation practiced by US mainstream Grand Lodges, and French Masons—of the Grand Orient as well as the Grand Lodge—demonstrated their feelings by welcoming Prince Hall Masons to their lodges, regardless of the absence of any treaties of recognition or intervisitation. In 1952 the Grand Lodge of France went further, making a unilateral declaration of recognition of all Prince Hall Grand Lodges. This action may have been one of the causes of withdrawal of recognition by US mainstream Grand Lodges. Undoubtedly, there were other factors, which will not be explored here.

From time to time, the Grand Lodge has considered ways to resolve the divisions in French Freemasonry, some of which have been mentioned in section A, above, but none has been successful to date. The most disastrous, from the point of view of this Grand Lodge, was its Grand Master's moves in 1964 towards closer co-operation with the Grand Orient, resulting in the defection to the GLNF of about 800 members.

The most recent proposal, which began with discreet discussions in 1998 between members of this Grand Lodge and the Traditional & Symbolic Grand Lodge Opéra (GLTSO), is for a United Grand Lodges of France, a confederation of equal and autonomous bodies on the German pattern, confined to those adhering to mainstream requirements of regularity. They hoped to persuade the GLNF and the French National Lodge to join them, but this has not eventuated. Instead, Grand Lodges from outside have expressed interest, and if there is a positive outcome at all, it may well be a United Grand Lodges of Europe.

Although members say that the Grand Lodge of France is not particularly concerned with outside recognition, a number of moves have been made in recent years: the *United Grand Lodges* approach, above; individual treaties of friendship with foreign Grand Lodges, some of them mainstream; and the appointment of Michael Segall, a multi-lingual and very capable scholar, as Grand Representative of the Grand Master to North America and the Caribbean. RWBro Segall is a highly regarded and very active member of the Philalethes Society International, a regular visitor to the whole of the designated district, and he contributed the 12-page entry on France in the most recent edition of the American publication, *Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia*. It is a distinct possibility that mainstream recognition of the Grand Lodge of France will expand exponentially, for which reason visitation details are included in this book.

Modern France is a welfare state, and there is little scope for organised charity on the scale adopted by American Masonry. Such organised charity as there is in French Masonry is devoted to widows and orphans of Masons, and indigent Masons. Despite the divisions in French Masonry, five grand bodies combined to support a Masonic orphanage and other in-house charities: GLNF, GLdF, GOdF, GLTSO and the women-only GLFF. Contributions are based per capita on membership figures. This presented a problem. The GLNF and GOdF base their figures on returns of membership from lodges, not on an actual head-count of Masons within the Obedience—and individual members often belong to several lodges. These two bodies withdrew support, and the orphanage is now maintained by the combined contributions of GLdF, GLTSO and GLFF.

The Grand Lodge of France, like the GLNF and the GOdF, has been active in establishing lodges abroad, and in encouraging the formation of new Grand Lodges, particularly in francophone areas and countries formerly behind the Iron Curtain. Membership of the Grand Lodge of France is growing at home as well as abroad, at a steady rate of about 3% per year. Twenty-one new lodges were consecrated in 1999, fifteen of them at home and six abroad, an increase of just over 3%.

Notes for visitors

The Grand Lodge building at 8 rue Puteaux was originally a monastery for a subdivision of the Franciscan order, which was disbanded after the French Revolution. Since then it was used for various purposes, including as a movie theatre, before being purchased by the Grand Lodge early in the 20th century. There is no indication outside the building of its present usage, except a small sign to the effect that there is a

‘Scottish club’ on the premises. The ‘club’ is the Grand Lodge restaurant, in the sub-basement, where lodges dine after meetings, and which is open to the public for lunch.

Inside there are 22 temples, of which the largest is a superb gothic structure with stained glass windows, originally a chapel, which now seats 400 brethren for lodge and Grand Lodge meetings. Beneath it is another former chapel, now the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Temple (with portraits of the former US President and his wife), which seats 150. When Grand Lodge meets, both these temples and one other are linked electronically, to accommodate the 600+ delegates, using multiplex video and audio and an electronic voting system.

Meeting details of lodges in France may be obtained from the Grand Lodge in Paris, or by consulting the *Annuaire*, an annual list of lodges with appropriate information. Details of lodges overseas are given under appropriate headings in this book and the previous volume.

This Grand Lodge maintains a fine library (open weekdays from 10 am to noon and 2 pm to 6 pm—and to 8 pm on Mondays & Wednesdays). For all matters concerning documents and research, the Grand Librarian may be contacted at the Grand Lodge building or by email to <f-rognon@gldf.org>.

As with most European Obediences, lodges meet weekly for ten months of the year. Most of these meetings are primarily for presentation and discussion of research papers, and generally a lodge will hold only three meetings per year for degree work, at which up to five candidates at a time are initiated, passed or raised. Promotion from one degree to the next takes at least a year. A typical weekly meeting might proceed as follows:

- 8 pm Tyler, Inner Guard and Wardens start testing all waiting brethren, whether known or not, before entry to the temple.
- 8.10 All brethren stand in lodge, while the Master of ceremonies and the Expert escort the Master and officers to their seats. After verification that the lodge is properly tiled, the opening ceremony is performed.
- 8.25 Minutes of the previous meeting are read and voted on.
- 8.35 A Master Mason or Fellow Craft presents a paper. A disciplined discussion follows.
- 9.20 The lodge is ritually closed.
- 9.35 Brethren adjourn to dinner.

It will be appreciated from the above that all lodges in the jurisdiction are virtually research lodges. Nevertheless, the Grand Lodge of France has a designated research lodge that devotes itself to subjects which require deeper or lengthier research or presentation. Particulars of this lodge are given below.

This is by no means the full extent of Masonic education in the jurisdiction. In the summer months when no lodges meet (July and August) seminars are held weekly, at which eminent scholars present papers to members and the public.

Research lodge

Loge Jean Scot Érigène #1000 meets at 8 rue Puteaux, Paris, monthly (except June–August) on the 3rd Saturday at 10 am. It has a steady membership of 50 (average attendance 35), publishes its *Cahiers* (transactions) in book form every two years, and contributes articles to the Grand Lodge quarterly magazine, *Points de Vue Initiatiques*. All members are frequent speakers at other lodges. It does not have its own website, but inquiries may be directed to Michael Segall <michael@segall.org>.

Philalethes Society International

A chapter of the Philalethes Society International has been established in France. *Cercle de Grasse Tilly Chapter* meets at 168 rue de Grenelle, 75007 Paris. Its website is at <<http://freemasonry.org/CdeGT/>>, and inquiries may be directed to its President, Michael Segall, at the above address, or by phone 331 4705 2486, fax 331 4556 9111, or email to <michael@segall.org>.

C Other Grand Lodges

Grande Loge Traditionnelle et Symbolique Opéra

The Traditional and Symbolic Grand Lodge Opera (GLTSO), formerly *Grande Loge Nationale Française Opéra* (because of the proximity of its main building to the Paris Opera House), is commonly called ‘*GL Opéra*’. It was created in 1958 by a secession of many *French* members of the GLNF. These members,

while in agreement with the principles of regularity and with traditional Masonic teachings, resented (quote) ‘the rigid and intransigent attitude of the GLNF, as well as its blind submission to the United Grand Lodge of England’. The GLTSO mostly works the Rectified Scottish Rite. Currently, the *GL Opéra* has about 2500 members in some 55 lodges, with an average of 45 members per lodge. Multiple membership is not customary in the GLTSO, and thus actual and claimed membership figures are very close to each other.

It is this Grand Lodge which responded to the proposal of the Grand Lodge of France to form a United Grand Lodges of France.

Loge Nationale Française

The French National Lodge (LNF) is a much smaller group, which seceded from the GLNF in 1968. It has about 600 members in 12 lodges, each of which is basically a research lodge, working and studying the Traditional French Rite, the Rectified Scottish Rite, Emulation ritual, and additional degrees. The LNF is regarded as regular by the GLdF and the *GL Opéra*.

Grand Orient de France

The Grand Orient (or Grand East) of France (GO, GOF or GOdF), formed in 1773, claims a membership of 38,000 in 900 lodges (based on lodge memberships, but multiple membership of lodges is common). Very involved in social, political, and some charitable activities, the GO is politically left-leaning and closely associated with the French political left. Since 1877 most lodges of the GO have abandoned the Bible as well as any reference to the Great Architect of the Universe. Recently, a number of its lodges have started admitting women. For all these reasons, the GO is irregular according to mainstream definition. Its lodges work a variety of rites, but mainly the French Rite and a substantially modified version of the Craft degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite (A&ASR). The subjects of papers and debates in lodge are mainly problems of society, ecology, human rights, the condition of the working class, public health, AIDS and so on. The members of the Grand Orient are extremely vocal in public life and politics and have been known to participate in full regalia in political and anti-religious street demonstrations. They take the weighty responsibility, deplored by most other French Masons, of projecting worldwide an atheistic, left-leaning, politicking, wheeling-dealing image of French Masonry as a whole.

When the Grand Orient abandoned the requirement of belief in TGAOTU and the use of the Bible in lodge, in 1877, its de-recognition took a long time. Its members were still admitted in English lodges as much as ten years later, on condition that their ‘Masonic Passport’ used the old stationery (of which the GO seemed to have a large supply) bearing the formula ‘To the Glory of the Grand Architect of the Universe’. Even more surprising, many US Grand Lodges which had withdrawn recognition from the Grand Orient—whether for changing the religious requirement, for encroaching on the territory of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, or for speaking out against racial discrimination in US Grand Lodges—re-recognised the Grand Orient after the First World War and maintained that recognition for many years.

The Grand Orient has allies in Europe and has been active in forming lodges and promoting the formation of like-minded Grand Lodges/Orients worldwide. It has fostered a number of notable Masonic scholars and maintains a highly respected library at its headquarters at 16 rue Cadet, 75009 Paris, whose facilities have been made available to mainstream scholars of note. Its website is at <<http://www.godf.org>>. It used to be a member of CLIPSAS, until 1998, when it withdrew, together with the Grand Orient of Belgium, over an issue of voting rights. Every member of CLIPSAS has an equal vote, but these two Grand Orient (with more members than all the other CLIPSAS bodies combined) wanted proportional representation. The GOdF is a member of SIMPA.

Grande Loge Française du rite Memphis-Misraïm

Early in the 19th century a 90-degree Rite of Misraïm was introduced, and later a copy-cat Rite of Memphis with up to 97 degrees. The subsequent history of these rites is complex, and beyond the scope of this work, but in 1899 the two systems were combined to form a Grand Lodge of Memphis-Misraïm in France. Its former lodges in Madagascar, Mauritius and Réunion have formed the Grand Lodge of Memphis-Misraïm of the Indian Ocean. Recently, while maintaining a low profile, the parent body has formed lodges in North America, with a view to establishing Grand Lodges there—separate Grand Lodges for men and women, but with the Grand Masters subordinate to a Grand Sovereign.

Ordre Maçonnique Mixte International du Droit Humain

The International Co-Masonic Order of the Human Right (DH) accepts both men and women. Created in 1893, it is quite widespread outside France, mainly in Europe and notably in England. It is a worldwide organisation under one centralised governing body located in Paris. The DH works a highly modified version of the Craft A&ASR and, like the Grand Orient, gives its lodges the right to individually decide whether to work to the Glory of TGAOTU or not. Most French lodges do not. The same is true of the use of the Bible. In France, the DH has very close ties with the Grand Orient and, just like that body, its papers and debates in lodge are mainly about problems of society, ecology, human rights, the condition of the working class, problems of public health, AIDS and so on, even though some of its lodges are very esoterically, theosophically and even occultist-inclined. The DH has about 11,000 members (13,000 claimed) in France, two thirds of them women and one third men, in about 250 lodges.

Some of its lodges abroad have been organised into *Federations*, which have local autonomy, and in some federations belief in TGAOTU and use of a VSL are obligatory. This is not sufficient for recognition by mainstream Grand Lodges, of course, because of the admission of women and the remaining ties to the parent body.

DH in France has a website at <<http://www.droithumain-france.org/>> and an earlier website is still in operation which gives links to DH federations and lodges in 17 other countries, at <<http://www.droit-humain.org/>>.

Grande Loge Mixte Universelle

The Universal Mixed Grand Lodge (GLMU) was formed in 1973 by seceding members of the Droit Humain, who wished to remove the Craft degrees from the authority of the ‘higher’ degrees in the parent body. Some of the seceding lodges have since returned to DH, and others broke away further, but about 650 members remain in GLMU—although their return to DH also is mooted. It is a member of CLIPSAS.

Grande Loge Mixte de France

The Mixed Grand Lodge of France seceded from *la Grande Loge Mixte Universelle* in 1982, and now has about 1200 members in 50 lodges. It functions in association with *le Grand Orient de France*, and shares its buildings.

Grande Loge Unie de France

The United Grand Lodge of France is yet another split from *la Grande Loge Mixte Universelle*, in 1994. It has about 100 members in five lodges, which are male-only, female-only, or mixed.

It has a website at <<http://www.easynet.fr/gluf/>>. It is not to be confused with the United Grand Lodges (*plural*) of France, referred to in the section on the Grand Lodge of France.

Grande Loge Indépendante et Souveraine des Rites Unis

The Independent and Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United Rites is a ‘Humanitas’ body of male-only, female-only and mixed-gender lodges, formed from a single seceding lodge of *le Loge Nationale Française* in 1975. It now has several hundred members and works eleven Rites.

Grande Loge Féminine de France

The Feminine Grand Lodge of France (GLFF) accepts only women candidates. Its filiation comes from a very ancient French women’s Masonry, working a very interesting and symbolically rich ritual called the Rite of Adoption, which traces its roots as far back as 1744 and probably earlier. This Adoption Masonry went through a long decline and had practically disappeared by the end of the 19th century. The current GLFF is derived from the Lodges of Adoption (ancestors of the Order of the Eastern Star), revived at the end of the 19th century by the Grand Lodge of France for the wives, widows, mothers, daughters and sisters of its brethren. In 1945 the GLdF gave these Lodges of Adoption their freedom and helped them federate into the Women’s Masonic Union of France (*Union Maçonnique Féminine de France*, UMFF). The UMFF still worked the Rite of Adoption, but without a male membership or presence and without any kinship required with male Masons.

In 1952, the UMFF changed its name *la Grande Loge Féminine de France*, abandoned the Rite of Adoption (except for one lodge, Cosmos #76) and adopted a version of the Craft ritual of the A&ASR worked by a majority of French Masons. Despite the massive help received from the GLdF at the time of its creation, the GLFF reproaches the Grand Lodge for its refusal to accept women visitors, and has preferential ties with the Grand Orient, which does accept them as visitors. Under the influence of the latter it has

become relatively left-leaning. It also has in common with the Grand Orient the subjects of its lectures and discussions in lodge, plus typically feminine ones, interspersed with truly Masonic, esoteric and symbolic topics.

Currently the GLFF has about 12,000 members and 300 lodges, with an average of 40 members per lodge. Since few Sisters are members of multiple lodges, the actual and claimed memberships are close. In principle, individual lodges have the right to decide whether to have the Bible and work to the Glory of TGAOTU, but very few do. This Grand Lodge is a member of CLIPSAS.

L'Ordre Initiatique et Traditionnel de l'Art Royal

The Initiatic and Traditional Order of the Royal Art (OITAR) was formed in 1974. It is not a Grand Lodge as such, but a federation of sovereign lodges, encompassing male-only, female-only, and mixed-gender lodges, which work the *Rite opératif de Salomon*, created by the founder of this body. There are about 750 members in 32 lodges.

STOP PRESS, July 2000.

The Grand Lodge of France (GLdF) and the Traditional & Symbolic Grand Lodge Opéra (GLTSO) concluded a treaty, in June 2000, to form the United Grand Lodges of France, a confederation of equal and autonomous bodies based on the German pattern, confined to French Grand Lodges adhering to mainstream requirements of regularity. They hope they will be joined by the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF) and the French National Lodge (LNF).

In addition to the unilateral recognition of all Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation (PHA), the Grand Lodge of France has concluded reciprocal treaties of amity and recognition with the following PHA Grand Lodges: Caribbean, District of Columbia, and Georgia. It is not clear at this stage whether these (and other) acts of recognition involving the GLdF will have to be renegotiated with the United Grand Lodges of France.

Also in June 2000, the United Grand Lodges of Europe (foreshadowed above) was inaugurated, with the Grand Lodge of France (GLdF), the Traditional & Symbolic Grand Lodge Opéra (GLTSO), and the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia as foundation members. Other Grand Lodges (whose identities are confidential at this stage) are contemplating joining this body, which is also based on the German model. The Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia should not be confused with the Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia. The latter has fairly substantial mainstream recognition.

GERMANY

A United Grand Lodges of Germany (Brotherhood of Freemasons)

(Vereinigte Grosslogen von Deutschland)

Founded: 1958. *Descent:* originally England and France.

Address: Grand Lodge Building, Emserstrasse 12-13, 10719 Berlin, Germany.

Telephone: (030) 861 4796. *Fax:* (030) 862 1164.

Lodges: 490. *Membership:* 14,000

Ritual: Schroeder, Swedish Rite, English and Webb forms, Fessler.

Publications: *Constitution, Proceedings.*

Periodical: *Humanität*

History

Uniquely, German Masonry is made up of a combination of five distinct and largely independent Grand Lodges, under the umbrella of the United Grand Lodges of Germany. These are the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Germany, the Grand Land Lodge of Freemasons in Germany, the Grand National Mother Lodge of the Three Globes, the American-Canadian Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of British Freemasons. The first three are German-speaking, while the latter two are English-speaking.

Freemasonry arrived in Germany from England and probably France in the first half of the eighteenth century. The first recorded lodge was one erected in Hamburg in 1737, in which the Emperor Frederick the

Great was initiated. Several other lodges followed, all originally holding warrants from London. From 1750, for some thirty years, German Masonry came to be dominated by the Rite of Strict Observance propagated by Baron von Hund. While space here prevents lengthy discussion of this occurrence, it is sufficient to say that German Masonry became filled with innovation in this period, leading to great fragmentation.

By the First World War there were no fewer than eight Grand Lodges in Germany, with three more formed by 1930. These eleven Grand Lodges, with their locations and years of foundation, are as follows:

1. The Grand Mother Lodge of the Three Globes, at Berlin. (1740)
2. The Grand Lodge of Prussia. (1760)
3. The National Grand Lodge of German Freemasons, at Berlin. (1770)
4. The Grand Lodge of Hamburg. (1743)
5. The Grand Lodge of the Sun, at Bayreuth. (1741)
6. The Mother Grand Lodge of the Eclectic Union, at Frankfurt. (1742)
7. The National Grand Lodge of Saxony, at Dresden. (1811)
8. The Grand Lodge 'Concord', at Darmstadt. (1846)
9. The Grand Lodge 'Chain of German Brotherhood', at Leipzig. (1924)
10. The Grand Lodge 'Freimaurerbund' at Nurnburg, later at Hamburg. (1907)
11. The Symbolic Grand Lodge at Hamburg, later at Berlin. (1930)

The first three of these Grand Lodges, all based at Berlin, were called the 'Old Prussian Lodges', and they generally enjoyed the protection of the Prussian Kings. They only admitted men professing the Christian Faith. The National Grand Lodge adopted the Swedish Rite quite early in its career.

The Grand Lodges, number 4–9 above, admitted men of any monotheistic faith, and have been called the 'Humanitarian Lodges'. All the first nine Grand Lodges recognised each other and enjoyed fraternal relations. The last two Grand Lodges (numbers ten and eleven) were not recognised by the other nine, evidently because they did not conform to several of the ancient landmarks of the Order.

By 1930, there were an estimated 100,000 Freemasons in Germany, indicating that the Craft had taken root with far greater success than in any other European country at that time. The rise to power of the Nazis in 1933 saw this happy situation quickly reversed. By 1935, all lodges in Germany had been dissolved and their property confiscated. Thereupon, Freemasonry remained completely suppressed until 1945.

After the War, the Craft rapidly re-established itself, although its membership had been greatly lessened by the War. It was widely recognised by surviving German Masons that the old system of eleven independent Grand Lodges was unsatisfactory, and indeed, several of these were not to rise again from the ashes of the War. Aside from a lack of unity, the old system had meant that German Masonry had remained largely unrecognised outside the country. This unity was not easily achieved; it will be appreciated that the surviving German Masons had grown up under a number of differing Grand Lodge systems and rites.

By 1949 a good start had been achieved, when representatives of 151 German lodges met at Frankfurt and founded the United Grand Lodge of German Freemasons (GL AF & AM). However, complete unity was still not gained, as former members of the old National Grand Lodge at Berlin stood out. Members of this Grand Lodge were nurtured under the Swedish Rite system, and they found that assimilation presented them with governmental and ritualistic difficulties. Instead, the Swedish Rite lodges erected the Grand Lodge of the Freemasons' Order (GLFD).

Nonetheless, the idea of unity was far from dead, and protracted negotiations ensued between the two Grand Lodges. In 1958, these negotiations led to the formation of the United Grand Lodges of Germany. Particular attention should be paid to the plural word 'Lodges'. At the convention forming the United Grand Lodges, 264 lodges of the Grand Lodge AF & AM were represented, together with 82 GLFD lodges. The basis of the unity was a *Magna Charta*, which passed sovereignty to the United Grand Lodges, but maintained the two forming bodies as Provincial (Land) Grand Lodges. Each 'Land' lodge remained largely administratively independent, with external relations and general policy ceded to the United Grand Lodges. A Senate was formed for the United Grand Lodges, with each party having five members of it.

There still remained outside the Union the original Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, which had been resuscitated in West Berlin. This situation was rectified after the Union, when it joined the United Grand Lodges and took a seat in the Senate. Meanwhile, a large number of English-speaking lodges had been formed in Germany after the War by American, Canadian and British troops stationed there. These lodges formed themselves into two Provincial Grand Lodges, namely the American–Canadian Grand Lodge

(ACGL), and the Grand Lodge of British Freemasons (GL BFG), whereupon they both affiliated with the United Grand Lodges. In 1970, the status of the three latterly joining Grand Lodges was raised under an amended *Magna Charta*. Presently, the GL AF & AM has five Senate members; the GLFD three; and the Three Globes, ACGL & GL BFG, one each. Finally then, German Masonry had become totally united with a unique system of five largely independent Grand Lodges bonded together under the umbrella of the United Grand Lodges of Germany. As each of the five Grand Lodges forming the Union is somewhat divergent, they will now be examined separately.

Grand Lodge Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons of Germany (GL AF&AM)

Founded: 1947.

Address: Grand Lodge Office: Emserstrasse 9, 10719 Berlin, Germany.

Telephone: (030) 8642 2034, Fax: (030) 8642 2054.

Email: <gl_afam@freimaurer.org>.

Website: <http://www.freimaurer.org/english/gl_afam/index.htm>.

Ritual: Schroeder-form.

Notes for visitors

This Grand Lodge was formed out of the majority of Masons surviving the Second World War, and its lodges mostly work the Schroeder Ritual. Its lodges usually meet weekly during the Masonic season, although a few meet on a fortnightly basis. As is common throughout Europe, most German lodges recess in the months of June, July and August. An example of a monthly program in a lodge might be: Meeting 1: an informal meeting; 2: a lecture with discussion; 3: an informal meeting, with lectures; 4: a formal lodge meeting, with a degree ceremony.

For a meal to be associated with a German-speaking lodge meeting is not particularly common, and where this occurs such a repast will accompany a formal lodge meeting, never an informal/lecture meeting. Sometimes, when a meal is scheduled, a short toast list will be used. Toasts often included are those to the Grand Master, to the Grand Lodge AF & AM, and to the United Grand Lodges. Visitors may be called upon to speak. If a repast is associated with a degree-conferment meeting, the candidate of the evening is sometimes called upon to give his thoughts on the degree ceremony he has just experienced. As is German custom, all toasts are given and responded to while seated. Visitors, while not often speaking at lodge after-proceedings, will usually be called upon to speak near the close of a formal lodge meeting, whereupon fraternal greetings will be exchanged. In addition, it is not uncommon for a charity collection to be taken inside the Temple. AF & AM lodges largely meet either at 7.30 pm or 8 pm. Dress is a black or dark business suit, and regalia will be lent to visitors who are not carrying their own. Some matters relative to the Schroeder Ritual were dealt with in Volume I under the heading of *Degrees and Rites*.

Grosse Landesloge der Freimaurer von Deutschland (GLFD)

(Grand Land Lodge of Freemasons in Germany).

Founded: 1770, *revived:* 1947.

Address: Masonic Temple, Peter-Lenné Strasse 1-3, Berlin, Germany.

Telephone: (030) 831 1877, 841 7160, Fax: (030) 8417 1617.

Email: <info@freimaurerorden.org>.

Website: <<http://www.freimaurerorden.org/>>.

Ritual: Swedish Rite.

Notes for visitors

This Grand Lodge works the Swedish Rite, originally imported from Scandinavia. It is a system of eleven degrees in Germany, modified in part from the Swedish original, although evidently the Grand Lodge has realigned their system more to that of Sweden in more recent years. A fuller discussion of the Swedish Rite is found elsewhere in this book under the heading of *Sweden*.

Swedish Rite lodges meet weekly, with a typical monthly program being lectures at three meetings, and a formal degree ceremony once per month at the fourth meeting. It is uncommon for a repast to be associated with lodge meetings, although drinks afterwards are fairly usual. Where a repast is held, it will normally follow a formal degree ceremony. A visitor will never be expected to contribute to any repast he may attend.

Swedish Rite lodges largely meet at 8 pm, with members having dined at their homes beforehand. Dress is a dark business suit, and regalia tends to follow the Swedish pattern, including the use of sashes.

Grosse National-Mutterloge ‘Zu den drei Weltkugeln’

(Grand National Mother Lodge of the Three Globes)

Founded: 1740, *revived:* 1947.

Address: Masonic Temple, Heerstrabe 28, 14052 Berlin, Germany.

Telephone: (030) 304 2806, Fax: (030) 305 7106.

Email: <gl_3wk@freimaurer.org>.

Website: <http://www.freimaurer.org/gnml_3wk/index.htm>.

Ritual: Fessler.

Notes for visitors

The Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, virtually from its outset, has been centred in Berlin. It was re-formed after the War, and had 19 lodges when it entered the United Grand Lodges. It was heavily affected by the Rite of Strict Observance in its early history, but later came to use the Fessler ritual. Brother Fessler was a contemporary of Brother Schroeder, and he was possessed with the same idea of purging the existing German ritual of irregularities. Indeed, the Fessler ritual is not unlike the Schroeder version. The basic notes for visiting are much the same as those for the Grand Lodge AF & AM.

American–Canadian Grand Lodge, Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons

Founded: 1962.

Address: Grand Lodge Office, Kruppstrasse 134, 60388 Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

Telephone: (069) 41 0252, Fax: (069) 41 0413.

Email: <acgl@freimaurer.org>.

Website: <<http://www.freimaurer.org/acgl/index.htm>>.

Notes for visitors

The Second World War left a large number of American, Canadian and British troops stationed in Germany. Of course, a number of these servicemen were Masons, and attempts to erect English-speaking lodges soon followed the War. These new lodges initially took various USA or German charters, eventually leading to the formation of the American–Canadian Provincial Grand Lodge, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of British Freemasons (the latter of which is reviewed below).

American lodges were initially military lodges meeting at military bases, but US military policy changed in the late 1960s, whereupon lodge meetings at bases became discouraged. These lodges were then forced to become stationary in various German population centres, and this quickly spurred the formation of the American-Canadian Grand Lodge (ACGL). Over forty lodges now work under the ACGL, all using various American rituals. The Webb-form rituals in use include the Rhode Island, New York and Oregon workings, and several others. As noted in Volume 1, the various US rituals are similar.

It is, therefore, hardly surprising to discover that general American Masonic practices are fairly closely followed in ACGL lodges. Dress is a dark business suit, sports jacket, or even more informal, although in some lodges, officers will wear a dinner suit (tuxedo). The visitor arriving in a dark suit will cover all contingencies. Visitors should first approach the lodge Tyler, who will arrange for an examination by Past Masters. Usual American practices such as the ‘pen Installation’, the ‘Collation’ after a meeting, the lack of toasts at after-proceedings, and holding a repast in the middle of proceedings, are all found under the ACGL. Indeed, the general text for visitors found under the heading of the United States in Volume 1 largely applies to ACGL lodges in Germany. Again, as with usual American practice, members contribute to every meal taken in association with lodge meetings. While not particularly common, visitors may also be asked to contribute.

Any repast under an ACGL lodge is informally structured, under the superintendence of the Junior Warden. While no toasts as such are proposed, various members and visitors may be called upon to speak. A charity box is always present, and visitors are welcome to contribute. Unlike general practice in the United States, there is no prohibition against the serving of alcohol in association with an ACGL lodge repast. Each

member and visitor is responsible for purchasing his own needs in this regard. Usual practice is for the custodian of each 'Logenhaus' (Masonic Temple) to have a range of drinks available for purchase. The lodge itself is not involved. This applies to all lodges in Germany, regardless of their affiliation.

Visitors and joining members are eagerly sought by ACGL lodges, particularly the latter. Many lodge members are servicemen stationed in the country for only three to five years, and so a considerable turnover of membership is experienced. This occurrence sometimes robs lodges of experienced officers. Again, as is common in the United States, ACGL lodges conduct a stated meeting once a month, and special meetings as needed. The meeting time for most lodges is 7.30 pm.

Grand Lodge of British Freemasons in Germany

Address: Postfach 60 04, Heerstrasse 6, 41836 Huckelhoven.

Telephone: (041 91) 958 888, Fax: (041 91) 958 666.

Email: <gl_bfg@freimaurer.org>.

Website: <http://www.freimaurer.org/gl_bfg/index.htm>.

Notes for visitors

The Grand Lodge of British Freemasons is the smallest of the five constituents of the United Grand Lodges, but nevertheless it possesses lodges throughout Germany. As one would expect, the British lodges closely follow British Masonic practices, and those of England in particular. The most popular ritual is the English Emulation working. A festive board, with Toast List, generally follows a lodge meeting. A charge is levied on members attending a festive board, and visitors are not always exempt from this. Dress for British lodges is a dark lounge suit, and visitors should attend with their own regalia where possible. Most British lodges meet at around 7.30 pm, on a fixed day each month.

German Masonic Museum

The German Masonic Museum in Bayreuth (Deutsches Freimaurermuseum) is well worth a visit. It is located at Hofgarten 1, 95444 Bayreuth (on the right behind Villa Wahnfried). Its opening hours are: Tuesday–Friday 10 am to noon and 2 pm to 6 pm; and Saturdays 10 am to noon. The website is at <<http://www.freimaurer.org/english/museum/index.htm>>.

The museum was started in 1902 by *Loge Eleusis zur Verschwiegenheit*. By 1916 it contained 5100 catalogued items. In 1933 it was closed and plundered by the Nazis. Together with the properties of almost all German lodges, its contents were stored initially at the *Reichssicherheitshauptamt* in Berlin and during the war were transferred to various places in the east. During this period, more than 1000 lodge jewels, 700 medals, many carpets, more than 1000 oil paintings, engravings, crystal glasses, china and more than 15,000 lodge seals from the museum were lost. About 80,000 items were transferred to Oberschlesien and were preserved, and later finished up at the library of the university of Poznan, in Poland.

After the war, the library and museum were rebuilt. American forces donated books they found in Nazi institutions. Some lodges that were able to preserve their libraries donated those to the museum as well, so that a functioning central library could be created. In 1984 an agreement on co-operation was reached with the university library in Poznan. Today, the library of the German Masonic Museum has the largest collection in German-speaking countries with approximately 16,000 volumes, and the museum itself contains one of the largest Masonic collections in the world.

List of lodges

While no attempt can be made here to list all German lodges, below are most of the English-speaking lodges located in Germany, together with the main meeting places at most well known German destinations. A complete list of all German lodges is to be found in the *Jahrbuch* (Year Book) published annually by the United Grand Lodges. Not only does it contain details for every lodge in Germany under the five constituent Grand Lodges of the United Grand Lodges, it also details every German-speaking lodge in the mainstream Masonic world, as well as providing details for many lodges under other mainstream European Grand Lodges. In short, it is a most useful book for the Masonic traveller—provided he has at least a rudimentary knowledge of German, as the book is largely printed in that language. It is available for a modest price, and inquiries can be usefully directed to the American-Canadian Grand Lodge office. However, visitors wishing

to purchase it should make their request to the ACGL office through the auspices of their own Grand Lodge office.

It will be noted that all ACGL lodges are in the Southern area of Western Germany, while GLBF lodges are in the Northern area of Western Germany. This reflects the American and British 'administrative zones' set up after World War Two. Since the reunification of Germany in 1990, a number of lodges have been chartered by the various German Grand Lodges in Eastern Germany, particularly in main cities such as Leipzig (with five lodges currently) and Dresden (two lodges). Undoubtedly this process will continue.

Ansbach

Light of the Three Stars #963 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Cronegkstrasse 2, 91522 Ansbach, 1st Thursdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Aschaffenburg

Spessart Lodge #875 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Hauptstrasse 24, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Augsburg

Lebanon Lodge #831 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Schiebgrabenstrasse 30, 86150 Augsburg, 1st Monday at 7.30 pm.

Bad Heilbrunn (Munich)

Isar River Lodge #857 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Gaststaeue Langau, 83670 Bad Heilbrunn, 2nd Thursdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Bad Kreuznach

F. W. von Steuben Lodge #837 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Sigismundstrasse 18, 55543 Bad Kreuznach (telephone: (06 71) 651 88), 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Bamberg

Bamberg Acacia Lodge #832 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Franz-Ludwig-strasse 16, 96047 Bamberg (telephone: (09 51) 26 884), 1st Wednesdays, at 7.30 pm

Bayreuth

Bayreuth contains one GL AF&AM lodge, plus a research lodge, Quatuor Coronati #808 (GLFD). Both meet in the Bayreuth Masonic Museum premises (*see above*).

Berlin

Berlin is the headquarters of three of Germany's Grand Lodges, as noted above. It currently contains 44 lodges, with all five Grand Lodges being represented. Its two English-speaking lodges' details are as follows:

Phoenix Lodge #847 (GLBF) Meets at the Logenhaus, Heerstrasse 12, 14052 Berlin (telephone: (030) 304 2806), 2nd Thursday, October to May (except December) at 7.30 pm.

Berlin 46 Outpost Lodge #895 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Emserstrasse 12-13, 10719 Berlin, 2nd and 3rd Thursdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Bielefeld

Britannia Lodge #843 (GLBF) Meets at Lessinghaus, Lessingstrasse 3, 33604 Bielefeld (telephone: (05 21) 65 317), 3rd Tuesday, October to June, except December, at 7 pm.

Bonn

Bond of Friendship Lodge #890 (GLBF) Meets at the Logenhaus, Dyroffstrasse 2, 53113 Bonn (telephone: (02 28) 224 223), 3rd Thursdays, November to June.

Bremen

This large German city contains no English-speaking lodges, but does have eight German-speaking lodges, at least one of which works every week night. The main Logenhaus is at: Kurfürstenallee 15, 28211 Bremen (telephone: (04 21) 345 535).

Bremerhaven

North Sea Armed Forces Lodge #829 Meets at the Logenhaus, Lange Strasse 147, 27580 Bremerhaven (ACGL) (telephone: (04 71) 503 351), 1st Thursday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Büttelborn

U S Hessen Lodge #844 (ACGL) Meets at Hauptstrasse 33, 64572 Büttelborn OT Klien-Gerau (telephone: (061 52) 83 297), 1st Tuesdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Celle

Saxony Lodge #842 (GLBF)

Meets at the Logenhaus, Magnusstrasse 2a, 29221 Celle (telephone: (051 41) 26 486), Last Wednesday, monthly, except January, July, August and December, at 6.30 pm.

Düsseldorf

Niederrhein Lodge #892 (GLBF)

Meets at the Logenhaus, Uhlandstrasse 38, 40237 Düsseldorf (telephone: (02 11) 673 876), 1st Monday, September to May, except January, at 7 pm.

Frankfurt/Main

Frankfurt on the Main Lodge #861 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Kruppstrasse 134, 60388 Frankfurt/Main (telephone: (069) 427 722), 1st Monday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Oregon Military Lodge #936 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Finkenhofstrasse 17, 60329 Frankfurt/Main (telephone: (069) 554 108), 2nd and 4th Thursdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Türkey Lodge #995 Meets at the Logenhaus, Kruppstrasse 134, 60388 Frankfurt/Main (telephone: (069) 427 722), Tuesdays, at 7.30 pm.

Fürth

Truth & Friendship Lodge #828 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Dambacher Strasse 11, 90763 Fürth (telephone: (09 11) 770 120), Wednesdays, at 7.30 pm.

Hamburg

One of the largest German cities, Hamburg currently contains 40 lodges, of which only one is English speaking.

Anglo-Hanseatic Lodge #850 (GLBF) Meets at the Logenhaus, Welckerstrasse 8, 20354 Hamburg (telephone: (040) 344 267), 3rd Saturday, October to May, at 3 pm.

The other Logenhaus in the city is at: Moorweidenstrasse 36, 20146 Hamburg (telephone: (040) 443 723)

Hannover

This large German city currently possesses ten lodges, of which one is English-speaking. It has two main Masonic Halls, at Lemforder Strasse 7, 30169 Hannover (telephone: (05 11) 885 247), and at Heiligengeiststrasse 1, 30173 Hannover (telephone: (05 11) 815 042).

Bridge of Fellowship Lodge #929 (GLBF) Meets at Willy Tager Haus, Heiligengeiststrasse 1, 30173 Hannover (telephone: (05 11) 815 042), 1st Fridays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Heidelberg

This famous university city possesses two German-speaking lodges. They meet at the Logenhaus, Schwarzwaldstrasse 29-31, 69124 Heidelberg (telephone: (062 21) 720 326).

Herford

Rose of Minden Lodge #918 (GLBF)

Meets at Gesellschaftshaus, Unter den Linden 34, 32052 Herford; 1st Monday, September to June, except November and January, at 7 pm.

Kaiserslautern

Galilei Lodge #810a (ACGL)

Meets at the Logenhaus, Augustastrasse 2, 66765 Kaiserslautern (telephone: (06 31) 93 403), Fridays, at 8 pm.

George Washington Lodge #820 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Augustastrasse 2, 66765 Kaiserslautern (telephone: (06 31) 93 403), Thursdays, at 7.30 pm.

Köln (Cologne)

Cologne possesses no English-speaking lodges, but does contain five German-speaking lodges. The Logenhaus is at: Hardefuststrasse 9, 50677 Köln (telephone: (02 21) 315 097).

Lahr

Black Forest Lodge #901 (ACGL)

Meets at the Logenhaus, Friedrichstrasse 9, 77933 Lahr (telephone: (0 78 21) 23 607), 1st Tuesday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Ludwigsburg

Hiram Lodge #819 (ACGL)

Meets at the Logenhaus, Aspergerstrasse 37, 71638 Ludwigsburg (telephone: (071 41) 925 953), 2nd Monday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Mannheim

Alt Heidelberg Lodge #821 (ACGL)

Meets at Block L9, 9, 68161 Mannheim, (telephone: (06 21) 20 259), 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm

- Triangle Lodge #834 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Block L9, 9, 68161 Mannheim (telephone: (06 21) 20 259), 1st Tuesday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.
- Monschengladbach-Rheindahlen*
New Absalom Lodge #841 (GLBF) Meets at the Logenhaus, Stadtwalderstrasse 35, 41179 MG-Rheindahlen (telephone: (021 61) 582 727), Last Thursday, January, February, April, June, September and November, at 7 pm.
- Star of Saxony Lodge #853 Meets at the Logenhaus, Stadtwalderstrasse 35, 41179 MG-Rheindahlen (telephone: (021 61) 582 727), 3rd Wednesday, monthly, except July, August and December; 2nd Wednesday, December, at 7 pm.
- München (Munich)*
This large Bavarian city possesses eleven lodges, of which one is English-speaking. Most of the German-speaking lodges meet at the Logenhaus, Schwanthaler Strasse 60/V, 80336 München (telephone: (089) 533 477).
Bavaria Lodge #935 (ACGL) Meets at Pennstrabe (Perlacher Forst), Building 364-C, 81549 München, 1st Thursday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.
- Münster*
Keys of Munster Lodge #881 (GLBF) Meets at the Logenhaus, Diepenbrockstrasse 30, 48145 Münster (telephone: (02 51) 33 006), 2nd Friday, monthly, except January, February, July, and August, at 7 pm.
- Nürnberg*
This large German city possess no English-speaking lodges. Its seven German-speaking lodges meet at the Logenhaus, Hellerwiese 16a, 90419 Nürnberg (telephone: (09 11) 337 788).
- Osnabrück*
Doric Lodge #886 (GLBF) Meets at the Logenhaus, An der Katharinenkirche 3, 49074 Osnabrück (telephone: (05 41) 23 344), 3rd Wednesday, monthly, except July, August, and December.
- Paderborn*
Neuhaus Lodge #946 (GLBF) Meets at the Doergner Hof in Doergner Field, 33102 Paderborn, 2nd Tuesday, October to June, except May, at 7 pm; and 3rd Saturday, May, at 11 am.
- Pirmasens*
Mount Moriah Lodge #823 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Beckenhofenstrasse 36, 66955 Pirmasens (telephone: (063 31) 47 134), 1st and 3rd Mondays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.
- Schweinfurt*
More Light Lodge #874 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Neutrostrasse 4, 97421 Schweinfurt (telephone: (097 21) 21 402), Tuesdays, at 7.30 pm.
- Stuttgart*
Solomon Lodge #822 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Herdweg 19, 70174 Stuttgart (telephone: (07 11) 293 868), 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.
- Ulm*
Munster Lodge #833 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Schülinstrasse 11, 89073 Ulm (telephone: (07 31) 25 560), 1st Tuesday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.
- Vilseck*
Pyramid Lodge #869 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Amberger Strasse 2, 92249 Vilseck, 1st and 3rd Thursdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.
- Wiesbaden*
Lüftbrücke Lodge #838 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Friedrichstrasse 35, 65185 Wiesbaden (telephone: (06 11) 376 232), 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, monthly, at 7.30 pm.
- Worms*
Peter M Rasmussen Lodge #916 (ACGL) Meets at 'Seidlerheim', Durerstrasse 10, 67549 Worms (telephone: (062 41) 55 846), 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, monthly, except July, at 7.30 pm.
- Wurzburg*
Cornerstone Lodge #836 (ACGL) Meets at the Logenhaus, Valentin-Becker-Strasse 3, 97072 Wurzburg (telephone: (09 31) 51 080), 1st Wednesday, monthly, at 7.30 pm.

Readers are again reminded that most German-chartered lodges recess in June, July and August, and some in September and December. Visitors should be sure to obtain exact information from a German Grand Lodge office when in Germany, prior to visiting in these months.

B Prince Hall lodges

There are 62 military lodges under six Prince Hall jurisdictions, meeting in 37 locations in Germany. The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia has 1 lodge, Illinois 2, Maryland 18, Oklahoma 25, Texas 3 and Washington 13. Useful meeting details are available from the first three of these jurisdictions, and are given below:

Ansbach (near Nürnberg)

Charles R Trawick Lodge #148 MD Meets on 2nd Saturday & 4th Thursday at Bliedorn Kaserne

Bad Aibling

Albert S Stanley Lodge #112 MD Meets on 1st Thursday & 2nd Saturday at Bad Aibling Station.

Bad Kreuznach

James T Dorsey Lodge #114 MD Meets on 1st Thursday & 3rd Saturday at Bad Kreuznach Health Clinic.

Bamberg

Prince E Marshall Lodge #149 IL Meets at the American High School.
Ronald D Scott Lodge #119 MD Meets on 1st Thursday & 3rd Saturday at Building 7120, Warner Barracks.

Darmstadt

Frederick T Hicks Lodge #117 MD Meets on 2nd Thursday & 4th Saturday at Darmstadt Middle School.

Hanau

Robert H Taylor Lodge #149 MD Meets on 1st Tuesday & 3rd Saturday at Germany Pioneer Kaserne, Building 3.

Heilbronn

Charles E Jones Lodge #118 MD Meets on 1st Wednesday & 1st Saturday.

Mannheim

Stuttgart Military Lodge #581 GA Meets 1st Saturday 8 am, 3rd Wednesday 8 pm.
Samuel T Daniels Lodge #109 MD Meets on 1st Saturday & 3rd Thursday at Taylor Barracks.
Major Galloway Lodge #142 MD Meets on 2nd Saturday & 3rd Thursday at Taylor Barracks.

Schweinfurt

Benjamin F Waters Lodge #143 MD Meets on 1st Thursday at Ledward, Building 287, & 3rd Saturday at Abrams Club.

Sembach

Ernest W Lyon Lodge #107 MD Meets on 4th Saturday & 2nd Thursday at Building 520.

Spangdahlem (near Trier)

Junior R Glenn Lodge #135 MD Meets on 1st Wednesday & 3rd Saturday at Building 405C, Spangdahlem Air Base.

Stuttgart

Elmer T Hawkins Lodge #113 MD Meets on 1st Thursday & 2nd Saturday at Robinson Barrack School.

Vilseck

John R Woodbridge Lodge #133 MD Meets on 1st Wednesday & 3rd Saturday at Rose Barracks.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Grand Orient of France has a lodge at Duisburg, *Union dans l'Égalité*, formed in 1996 and working the French Rite.

The Grand Lodge of Humanity (*der Großloge Zur Humanität*), otherwise known as *Orden Humanitas Deutschland*, and *Universaler Freimaurerorden 'Humanitas'*, is based in Berlin. It has nine mixed-gender lodges and is a member of CLIPSAS and CATENA. This Grand Lodge has erected two similar bodies in Austria, *Orden Humanitas Austria*, and *Großloge Humanitas Austria*. Its website is at <<http://www.freimaurerinnen.de/GL.css>>.

GIBRALTAR

A District Grand Lodge of Gibraltar (EC)

Address: District Grand Secretary, Gibraltar Masonic Institute, 47a Prince Edward's Road, Gibraltar.
Lodges: 9.

B District Grand Lodge of Gibraltar (SC)

Address: District Grand Secretary, Gibraltar Masonic Institute, 47a Prince Edward's Road, Gibraltar.
Lodges: 3.

History

The *Rock of Gibraltar* is a British Colony and an important naval base, located at the mouth of the Mediterranean Sea. It has lodges under England, Ireland and Scotland.

Gibraltar has been a British possession since the 18th century, used primarily as a naval base and military outpost. The first lodge on *The Rock* was the Lodge of St John, warranted by the English *Antients* Grand Lodge in 1767. It is now #115 on the English roll of lodges. Inhabitants Lodge followed it in 1776, from the same source. The *Moderns* (Premier) Grand Lodge weighed in with Royal Lodge of Friendship in 1789. A further six English lodges work in the colony, the oldest of these (#2874) dating from 1901, and the youngest (#9217) from 1986.

The English District Grand Lodge of Gibraltar dates from 1752, and is the oldest District under the English Constitution. In 1991 its name was altered to add 'and Lusitania' to its title, reflecting the warranting of three lodges in Portugal in recent years. However, England formed its Portugal-based lodges into a Grand Inspectorate in 1994, whereupon 'and Lusitania' was removed from the District Grand Lodge title (*see under Portugal*). An interesting more recent English lodge is Massias District Grand Stewards Lodge #9217 EC. It was warranted in 1987, and named after the then District Grand Master, EC. It is a *red apron* lodge, and meets twice per year.

The oldest Scottish lodge is St Thomas #576, dating from 1876, one of four lodges of the Scottish District Grand Lodge. The youngest Scottish adherent is a research lodge, formed in 1998. Gibraltar also contains two Irish lodges, Calpe #325, dating from 1826; and Irish Masters #915, constituted in March 1992. Both are governed directly from Dublin.

Notes for visitors

Freemasonry in Gibraltar is healthy, and growing continually, with new lodges being created at intervals. All lodges except St John #115 EC work in the English language. St John conducts the business section of its proceedings in English, but the actual ceremonial is worked in Spanish, under permanent dispensation from London. This unique situation tends to attract many visitors to its meetings.

Another aspect of lodges in Gibraltar is that one can often attend meetings under the three Constitutions within the space of one week, and this is widely appreciated by all Masons visiting *The Rock*. All lodges in Gibraltar tyle at 7 pm (and 6.30 pm on Nights of Installation) and all English lodges use Emulation ritual.

Visitors are also welcome at meetings of the English and Scottish District Grand Lodges, through prior arrangement with the respective District Grand Secretary. Both meet twice per year, the English in April and November, and the Scottish in May and November. The English November meeting, which is usually held in the second week, is its Festival Meeting, and the ladies of those attending are invited to the following Festive Board.

All Gibraltar lodges hold a festive board after meetings, which usually consists of a full meal. Visitors should offer to meet the costs of their own meal, and this will be accepted; unless one is specifically invited as the guest of a lodge member, whereupon he will meet the dining fee.

The geographic position of *The Rock* means that Masons in Gibraltar regularly come into contact with the Craft in Spain, and they enjoy an excellent relationship. There are several English-speaking lodges under the Grand Lodge of Spain on the Costa del Sol, long a popular English tourist destination. Spanish Constitution Masons are not infrequent visitors to lodges in Gibraltar, and some hold dual membership.

List of lodges

All lodges working in Gibraltar meet at the Gibraltar Masonic Institute, as noted below. All lodges recess in July and August, and many in June.

Lodge of St John #115 EC	Meets 4th Thursday, September to May (except December). Installation: 24th June, annually.
Inhabitants Lodge #153 EC	Meets 3rd Saturday, October to May, except December (2nd Saturday). Installation: January.
Royal Lodge of Friendship #278 EC	Meets 1st Wednesday, October to June, except January. Installation: December.
Robert Freke Gould Lodge #2874 EC	Meets 1st Tuesday, October to May, except January. Installation: December.
Connaught Lodge #2915 EC	Meets 1st Friday, October to June, except January. Installation: November.
Letchworth Lodge #3505 EC	Meets 4th Monday, September to May, except December. Installation: May.
United Services, Gibraltar Lodge #3813 EC	Meets 3rd Thursday, September to May, except December. Installation: November.
Massias District Grand Stewards' Lodge #9217 EC	Meets 2nd Thursday in June and December. Installation: June.
Gibraltar Masters Lodge #3825 EC	Meets 3rd Tuesday, February (Installation), May, and November.
Calpe Lodge #325 IC	Meets 2nd Monday, monthly, except July and August. Installation: January.
Irish Masters Lodge #915 IC	Meets 2nd Friday in March, May, and October. Installation: March.
Lodge St Thomas #576 SC	Meets 3rd Monday, October to June. Installation: December.
Lodge Al Moghreb Al Aksa #670 SC	Meets 2nd Tuesday, October to June. Inst: May.
Lodge Coronation #934 SC	Meets 4th Friday, September to May. Installation: February.
St Bernard Lodge of Research #1817 SC	Meets 1st Thursday, February, April, & September. Installation: 2nd Friday, November

C Other lodges

The Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons (HFAF), a London-based women-only organisation, has recently established a lodge at Gibraltar.

HFAF has a website at <<http://www.powerpro.demon.co.uk/hfaf/hfafmain.htm>>.

ITALY**History**

Freemasonry in Italy has historically been afflicted with a wide variety of innovations, repression, religious opposition, and Masonic schism. It now has two Grand Lodges recognised by mainstream Grand Lodges, depending on which Grand Lodge a visitor comes from. These are the Grand Orient of Italy, dating from 1805, and the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy, dating from 1993.

The early history of Italian Freemasonry is obscure. It is traditionally supposed that Masonry came to Italy from England in or about 1732, and that lodges were established at Florence, Rome, Siena, and other places. Certainly, it must have been well established by 1738, when Pope Clement XII issued the first Papal Bull against it. This prohibition appears to have had only limited impact. Nonetheless, the Inquisition certainly prevented rapid progress, to say the least.

A National Grand Lodge of the Zelo was formed at Naples in 1764, but royal decree closed it in 1775. The first Grand Orient of Italy appears to have emerged about 1784 under the influence of the Grand Orient of France, but its career was also short. There were, in addition, several weak and short lived Grand bodies of various names set up around this time in Turin, Naples, and Sardinia.

A new Grand Orient was formed at Milan in 1805, and it is from this body that the current Grand Orient of Italy claims its direct descent. It expired in 1814 upon the fall of Napoleon. At this time, the Scottish Rite was introduced from France and a Supreme Council was erected in 1809. By 1861 there were three Grand Orients in Italy—at Naples, Turin, and Palermo. Garibaldi, the father of modern Italy, and probably the country's most famous Freemason, united these three in 1867. This was achieved at a meeting of all lodges in Italy, and out of it came a Grand Orient to govern the Craft degrees, and a Scottish Rite Supreme Council. By 1874 all Italian lodges were unified under the Grand Orient of Italy. These two bodies endured with

mixed success until 1925, when all lodges were dissolved by the fascist regime of Mussolini. The Craft was then ruthlessly repressed, and many prominent Freemasons were killed.

Subsequent history of Masonry in Italy is given below.

A Grand Orient of Italy

(Grande Oriente d'Italia)

Founded: 1805. *Descent:* England and France.

Grand Lodge office: Villa Medici da Vascello, Via di San Pancrazio 8, 00152 Rome, Italy.

Telephone: 0039 06 5899 344 & 345. Fax: 0039 06 5818 096.

Email: <goi@freemasonry.it>. Website: <<http://www.freemasonry.it>>.

Main Temple: Via Derna 15, Rome.

Lodges: 554. Membership: 12,000.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite, Emulation, and others.

Publications: *Constitution, Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Hiram*.

B Regular Grand Lodge of Italy

(Gran Loggia Regolare d'Italia)

Founded: 1993. *Descent:* Grand Orient of Italy.

Grand Lodge office: Lungotevere dei Mellini 17, 00193 Roma, Italy.

Telephone: (39 6) 3600 1603, Fax: (39 6) 3600 1604.

Email: (Grand Secretary) <albsily@libero.it>. Website: <<http://www.glri.org/>>

Main Temple: Via Delle Conce 20, Rome 00154. Phone/fax: (39 6) 578 3127.

Lodges: 38. Membership: 1200.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite, Emulation, and others.

Publications: *Constitution, Proceedings*.

History since 1945

The Grand Orient of Italy was revived in 1945.

The Grand Orient of Italy was recognised by the United Grand Lodge of England in 1972. Virtually all other mainstream Grand Lodges around the world subsequently recognised it. In 1974, the Roman Catholic Church softened its long-standing hard line opposition to Masonry, which had been backed up several times in the past by anti-Masonic Papal Bulls. This happy outcome was seriously compromised in 1976–77 when sustained and unfounded attacks by the secular press in Italy against Masonry caused great concern in world Masonic circles, and some American Grand Lodges temporarily withdrew recognition.

In 1980 the P2 'Masonic lodge' scandal broke in Italy, and resulted in the fall of the Italian Government of the day. It was discovered that this bogus lodge, which had engaged in deep political and criminal intrigues, was originally under the Grand Orient, but had been suspended by it in 1976. While this explanation satisfied other Grand Lodges, the *P2 Affair* brought the Craft bad press around the world, and resulted in the Vatican hardening its line against Masonry after the softening of 1974. Despite these disturbances, it must be stressed that the Grand Orient of Italy had no complicity in them.

In 1993 the then Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy, MWBro Giuliano Di Bernardo, citing alleged irregularities in the operations of the Grand Orient, seceded and formed the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, Scotland, and a few others, withdrew recognition from the Grand Orient of Italy, and instead recognised the new Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. However, virtually without exception, the Grand Lodges of America, Canada, Australia, and most others elsewhere, declined to emulate England, and have since maintained fraternal relations with the Grand Orient. This unfortunate situation remained unaltered at the time of going to press.

Thus there are at present two 'recognised' Grand Lodges in Italy, depending on the perspective and fraternal recognition of any non-Italian Mason's own Grand Lodge. Details of both Grand Lodges are listed below. It is up to individual Masonic visitors to Italy to be aware of which of the two his own Grand Lodge recognises, and thus which lodges he may properly visit.

Notes for visitors

Italian Masonry is the most taciturn in the Masonic world. Given the sustained religious, political and media opposition it has received in the past, this is somewhat understandable. Indeed, under the Grand Orient of Italy, with the exception of the Grand Master, Italian Freemasons are not permitted to make public statements concerning the Craft. Such statements as have been made in years gone by appear often to have been distorted. It is extremely rare for an Italian Freemason to admit his Masonic membership outside Masonic circles, and it is certainly taboo for one Mason to comment on the Masonic membership, or otherwise, of another. Nonetheless, provided the visitor appreciates these points, he will encounter no problems in his sojourn amongst his Italian brothers. Naturally, when attending the Grand Lodge office, or any lodge meeting in Italy, the visitor will need to present appropriate Masonic credentials, preferably including a *Letter of Introduction* from his Grand Lodge, or lodge, or dues card if a North American Mason. Masonic visitors are always made most welcome when attending any Italian lodge meeting.

In the first instance, a visitor should attend either the Grand Orient's Rome office at the Villa Medici da Vascello (if his Grand Lodge recognises the Grand Orient of Italy) or the office of the Regular Grand Lodge at Lungotevere dei Mellini 17 (if his Grand Lodge recognises that Grand Lodge). The Villa Medici da Vascello is located about two kilometres out of central Rome and quite easily found. If in doubt, head for the Russian Embassy, which is next door. The Villa Medici is set in expansive gardens, and contains the Grand Orient's office, its substantial library, and meeting rooms. It has no lodge rooms, but this may change in the future.

The principal lodge meeting venue for Grand Orient lodges in the Italian capital used to be the Masonic Centre at 'Palazzo Giustiniani', in central Rome. However, this building was vacated in 1988 when it was acquired for State offices. Grand Orient of Italy lodges now meet at premises in Via Derna, a short and narrow street in the Eastern residential outskirts of Rome. However, these premises are often only used for non-ceremonial meetings. When degree ceremonies are to be worked, many Roman Grand Orient lodges use various large hotels.

Under the Grand Orient, most lodges use the Scottish Rite Craft ritual. As is quite common in Europe, progress through the three degrees is slow, with candidates being required to present lectures and undergo an extensive Masonic examination prior to advancement. Most lodges meet twice monthly, at about 8 pm–9 pm, although a *temple ceremony* is often only performed once per month, or even less frequently. Dress is a dark business suit, and regalia will be supplied on loan to visitors attending without their own. A meal, gratis to visitors, accompanies some Italian lodge meetings. It should be noted that most Italian lodges recess from 24 July until 20 September each year.

Although most Grand Orient lodges work the Scottish Rite Craft degrees, there are a number which use the English Emulation ritual—one in English and 25 in Italian. These lodges are widespread, with the largest concentrations being in Florence (6 lodges), Turin (6 lodges), and Rome (3 lodges). There is also a lodge at Padova, Florence Nightingale #1012, which uses the English *Oxford* ritual, albeit in Italian.

There are four other Craft lodges working in English under the Grand Orient of Italy, using an 'American' ritual. They are: Aviano #643 (at Aviano), Benjamin Franklin #591 (at Pisa), Harry S Truman #649 (at Naples), and George Washington #585 (at Vicenza). These lodges largely cater for NATO servicemen (particular North Americans) stationed in Italy.

Under the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy, there are 12 English-speaking lodges working at present, most using Emulation ritual. Prior to 1993, some of these belonged to the Grand Orient of Italy. Some cater for British NATO servicemen, while the membership of others is largely comprised of bilingual Italians. These lodges are: Sir Horace Mann #2 (at Florence), Excalibur #17 (Pistoia), Tommaso Crudeli #21 (Arezzo), Rudyard Kipling #22 (Arezzo), Giordano Bruno #23 (Arezzo), Joseph Attias #29 (Livorno), Piero della Francesca #46 (Perugia), Marble Craft #53 (Carrara), Avalon #55 (Follonica), Pegasus #87 (Follonica), Parsifal #92 (Pistoia), and San Galgano #106 (Siena)

Most of the other lodges of the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy use Emulation ritual in Italian. Of the various regions in Italy, eight lodges work in Lazio, two in Campagna, five in Calabria, one in Lombardy, six in Sicily, five in Tuscany, eight in Emilia Romagna, and one in San Remo. Rome possesses seven lodges: Mozart, Michael, Scienza E Umilita, Lire E Spada, Gerusalemme, Degli Antichi Doveri, and Keats and Shelley. The last-mentioned is English-speaking. All lodges under the Regular Grand Lodge meet

monthly, and those in Rome convene at the Masonic Temple, Viz Delle Conce 20, Rome 00154 (telephone and fax: 39-6-578-3127. The Regular Grand Lodge holds quarterly communications.

List of lodges

Under the Grand Orient, lodges in Italy are grouped under seventeen districts, largely corresponding with the geographical regions of Italy. Each is headed by a District President (*Presidente de Collegio Circostrizionle*), who is the most useful contact in each area. Nonetheless, as incumbents are apt to change, details cannot be practically listed here. Of course, contact with the Grand Lodge office in Rome will quickly point the visitor in the right direction.

Under the Regular Grand Lodge, Masonic administration is similar, with nine Regional Grand Lodges presently in operation, each with a Regional Grand Master.

What can be usefully listed here are some of the main meeting places in the larger Italian cities, and these are noted below, for both the Grand Orient and the Regular Grand Lodge. A word of caution, however. There are more than a few other grand bodies operating in Italy. Most are not large, but they do have lodges in a number of cities. Visitors, therefore, should be particularly alert in case they inadvertently come into contact with bodies not recognised by their own.

Grand Orient of Italy

Arezzo:	Via dei Pescoini 2, Arezzo (5 lodges)
Bari:	Corso Cavour 198, Bari. (5 lodges)
Bologna:	Via Castiglione 6, Bologna. (10 lodges)
Florence:	Borgo degli Albizi 18, Firenze. (45 lodges)
Genoa:	Associazione Studi Liguri, Via Porta d'Archi 12, Genova; and Stanze di Cultura G Rensi, Via Roma 4/3, Genova. (12 lodges)
Livorno:	Via Ricasoli 70, Livorno; and Piazza dei Domenicani 16, Livorno. (6 lodges)
Messina:	Via Saint Cecilia 119, Messina, Sicily. (10 lodges)
Milan:	Circolo Culturale Olona, Corso di Porta Nuova 16, Milano. (25 lodges)
Naples:	Galleria Umberto 27, Napoli. (15 lodges)
Palermo:	Corso Vittorio Emanuele 137, Piano 2, Palermo, Sicily. (20 lodges)
Perugia:	Piazza Piccinino 9, Perugia. (16 lodges)
Pisa:	Via Rismondo 49, Pisa. (4 lodges)
Ravenna:	Via Matteotti 35, Ravenna. (3 lodges)
Rimini:	Circolo Europa, Via Ampere 28, Rimini. (2 lodges)
Rome:	Via Derna 15, Roma. (45 lodges)
San Remo:	Corso Cavallotti 115, San Remo. (4 lodges)
Siena:	Via dei Montanini 101, Siena. (4 lodges)
Trieste:	Circolo Gymnasium, Via Saint Nicolo 30, Trieste. (6 lodges)
Turin:	Piazza Vittorio Veneto 8, Torino; Piazza Vittorio Veneto 17/19, Torino; Via Cernaia 15, Torino; and Corso Vittorio Emanuele 83, Torino. (33 lodges)
Venice:	San Marco 4325 (Campanello Jevolella), Venezia; Saint Croce 664/A (Campanello Urbani), Venezia; Via Emilei 9 (Campanello Circolo Ricerche Storiche), Venezia; and Cannaregio 6270/a (L'Adriatica), Venezia. (5 lodges)
Vicenza:	Via Tornieri 103, Vicenza. (1 lodge)

Regular Grand Lodge of Italy

Arezzo:	Borg'Unto, 6 - 52100 Arezzo (4 lodges)
Bologna:	Villa Pantaleoni, Via Stradelli Guelfi 1129 - 40024 Poggio Grande (2 lodges)
Cagliari:	Via Azuni, 50 - 09124 Cagliari (3 lodges)
Catania:	Via Fondo Cosentino, 15 - 95100 Catania (1 lodge)
Catanzaro:	Contrada Martelletto - 88100 Catanzaro (1 lodge)
Cosenza:	Via A. Volta, 14 - 87030 Rende (2 lodges)
Fano:	Via Nolfi, 99 - 61032 Fano (2 lodges)
Genova:	Via Assarotti, 44/12 - 16122 Genova (3 lodges)
Messina:	Viale della Libertà, 365 - 98121 Messina (5 lodges)
Naro:	Contrada Coscio - 92028 Naro (2 lodges)
Perugia:	Via dei Priori, 32 - 06123 Perugia (1 lodge)
Pescara:	Via Colli Innamorati, 420 - 65125 Pescara (1 lodge)
Reggio Calabria:	Via Nazionale Pentimele, 198 - 89100 Reggio Calabria (2 lodges)
Rome:	Via delle Conce, 20 - 00154 Roma (9 lodges)
Rovereto:	Via Riolfatti, 18 - Villa Lagarina-Rovereto (1 lodge)
San Marino:	Via Fondo Ausa, 44 - Repubblica di San Marino (1 lodge)

Soverato: Via Milano / Contrada Laganosa Palazzo Aurora - 88068 Soverato (3 lodges)

Trieste: Via Dante Alighieri, 5 - 34122 Trieste (3 lodges)

There is also a Chapter of the Philalethes Society International, Magistri Insubriae Chapter, which meets in Varese.

C Prince Hall lodges

Two Prince Hall Grand Lodges are represented by military lodges in Italy, Maryland and Oklahoma. They meet as follows:

Aviano

Robert B Croxton Lodge #128 MD Meets 2nd Monday 7 pm & 4th Saturday 9 am at Elementary School, Aviano Air Base.

Livorno

George V Lottier Lodge #130 MD Meets on 2nd & 4th Saturdays at Bldg 413, Camp Darby.

King Cyrus Military Lodge #169 OK Details not known.

Naples

Mediterranean Military Lodge #149 OK Details not known.

Sigonella (Sicily)

Sigonella Military Lodge #160 OK Details not known.

Vicenza

Howard Z Plummer Lodge #131 MD Meets on 2nd Wednesdays & 4th Saturdays at Vicenza High School.

Zilliah Military Lodge #167 OK Details not known.

D Other lodges and Grand Lodges

Gran Loggia dell' Unione (Grand Lodge of the Union)

Address: Grand Secretary, Via Ambrogio Aonzo 11/3, Savana 17100, Italy.

Lodges: 21. Members: 350.

In December 1997, fifteen lodges under the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy withdrew and formed the Grand Lodge of the Union (*Gran Loggia dell' Unione*). It has since consecrated an additional six lodges. It has three Regional Grand Masters, for Liguria, Lombardy, and Piedmont. The Grand Lodge holds quarterly communications on the 4th Saturday in September and March, and the 1st Saturday in December and June. It publishes its *Constitution*, *Grand Lodge Proceedings*, and a monthly periodical, *Grand Lodge News*.

Lodges meet monthly, and in some cases more frequently. Most are in the north, with one in Como, two in Florence, four in Milan, one in Parma, three each in Pavia, Savona and Turin, and two in Varese, but one is at Roccella Ionica in the far south, and one is in Tunisia (*see under that heading*). Most lodges use Emulation ritual, although others are permitted.

One lodge, Sir Horace Mann 1732 #1, at Florence, works in English. It originated under the Grand Orient of Italy, then moved to the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy, prior to its current allegiance. It consists very largely of bilingual Italians and meets on 3rd Fridays in the Astoria Hotel, Florence.

Gran Loggia Unita d'Italia (United Grand Lodge of Italy)

Address: Via XX Settembre 65, Roma 00187, Italy.

Lodges: 11.

In 1998, a further group of lodges withdrew from the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy to create the United Grand Lodge of Italy. These are widely spread, with two lodges in the north, at Pistoia and Trieste, three in the centre (Rome), one at Avellino, near Naples, one in Sicily (Syracuse), and four in Sardinia (two at Cagliari and one each at Nuoro and Sassari).

Gran Loggia Federale Italiana, (Federation of Grand Lodges of Italy, GLFI)

In June 1999, the Grand Lodge of the Union (*Gran Loggia dell' Unione*) sponsored the creation of a body known as the Federation of Grand Lodges of Italy (*Gran Loggia Federale Italiana*), and became its foundation member. The United Grand Lodge of Italy (*Gran Loggia Unita d'Italia*) subsequently affiliated with it. The statutes of the Federation allow reciprocal membership for Grand Lodges in Italy that, in its

opinion, can prove their regularity of origin. Each Grand Lodge maintains its autonomy, and would seem to have followed the example of the structure of the United Grand Lodges of Germany. The aim of the Federation is to unite all 'regular' Grand Lodges working in Italy.

Gran Loggia d'Italia degli Antichi Liberi Accettati Muratori (GL ALAM)

Of the many other Grand Lodges in Italy, the Grand Lodge of Italy of the Ancient Free Accepted Masons is probably the largest, with a membership variously reported as between 4000 and 7500. It used to be known as the Grand Lodge of Italy Piazza del Gesù (*Gran Loggia d'Italia di Piazza del Gesù*), after the address of its headquarters, but this has since been moved to the Palazzo Vitelleschi. It is a 'mixed gender' organisation, and a member of CLIPSAS and CATENA. They use the Scottish Rite ritual, and the Grand Master is also the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council 33°. This Grand Lodge has a research lodge, *Santi Quatuor Coronati!*

Gran Loggia Massonica Italiana (Italian Masonic Grand Lodge) with headquarters at Via Paolo Tosti, in Rome, is also associated with a Scottish Rite body (*Rito Scozzese Antico e Accettato*, RSAA).

Grande Oriente di Napoli e delle Due Sicilie (Grand Orient of Naples and the two Sicilies) is based at Naples.

Gran Loggia Femminile d'Italia (Feminine Grand Lodge of Italy) is a women-only organisation with about 90 members, and is affiliated with CLIPSAS.

Grande Oriente Italiano di Stretta Osservanza (Italian Grand Orient of the Strict Observance, GOISO) is based in Rome.

A branch of AMORC (*Antiquus Mysticusque Ordo Rosae Crucis*) is located in Milan.

The following are also noted:

Federazione Italiana Liberi Muratori.

Gran Loggia Comunione dei Liberi Muratori.

Gran Loggia di Calabria.

Gran Loggia d'Italia della Muratoria Universale.

Grande Oriente Italiano.

Libera Loggia 'Cosmopolitan' di Bergamo.

Libera Loggia di Milano.

Libera Loggia Partenope di Napoli.

Libera Loggia Phoenix di Roma.

Libera Loggia Tergesti di Trieste.

Serenissima Gran Loggia d'Italia.

LIECHTENSTEIN

This tiny principality wedged between Switzerland and Austria appears to have never possessed a lodge. The official state religion of Liechtenstein is Roman Catholicism, which may provide an explanation in the matter.

LUXEMBOURG

A Grand Lodge of Luxembourg

(*Grande Loge de Luxembourg*)

Founded: 1803. *Descent:* Probably France.

Address: Masonic Temple, 5 rue de la Loge, Luxembourg.
 Postal Address: Grand Secretary, BP 851, L 2018, Luxembourg.
 Telephone: (352) 229 451, Fax: (352) 463 566.
 Lodges: 5. Membership: 276.
 Ritual: French Rite, Emulation, Schroeder.
 Publication: *Constitution*.

History

Luxembourg had, for many years, the distinction of possessing the smallest Grand Lodge in Europe, and arguably the smallest in the world, although that mantle has now been taken by several of the newer Grand Lodges of Eastern Europe. The early history of the Grand Lodge of Luxembourg is obscure. Some accounts indicate that a Grand Orient existed in Luxembourg between 1774 and 1812. However, the earliest lodge in the country was definitely *La Parfaite Union*, dating from 1770. Its origin was probably Belgian. The second lodge to be established was *Les Enfants de la Concorde Fortifiée*. It appears to date from 1803, its origin being the Grand Orient of France. Oddly it holds the number one place on the Grand Lodge roll of lodges, despite the fact it is clearly junior in age to *La Parfaite Union*. The remaining three lodges are daughters of the other two.

Luxembourg is a Grand Duchy wedged between Belgium, Germany, and France. It is almost wholly Catholic in religion, which probably accounts for its very slow Masonic development. However, its fourth lodge, erected in 1974, would seem to indicate that membership is now expanding. This lodge works in English, and it largely caters for English-speaking foreign nationals resident in the city. A fifth lodge was chartered in 1997, to work in German.

The date of erection of the Grand Lodge is claimed as 1803, formed presumably by the two lodges then existing. There were for many years questions concerning the authenticity of the Grand Lodge and it was not recognised by England until as late as 1969. It now has wide mainstream recognition.

Notes for visitors

Most Luxembourg lodges meet at 6.30 pm. Unlike many other European lodges, those of Luxembourg only meet monthly, and hold a festive board afterwards. As will be noted below, Friday is the main meeting night. Dress is a dark suit, although visitors will be made welcome in a jacket and tie, if necessary. The three older Luxembourg lodges work in French, while Friendship Lodge #4 works in English using the English *Taylor's* ritual. Logen Zur Bruderkette #5 works in German, using the Schroeder ritual.

List of lodges

All five lodges in Luxembourg meet at the Masonic Temple, 5 Rue de la Loge. Meeting details are as follows:

Loge Enfants de la Concorde Fortifiée	Meets 1st Friday, monthly.
Loge la Parfaite Union #2	Meets 2nd Friday, monthly.
Loge Saint Jean de l'Espérance #3	Meets 3rd Friday, monthly.
Friendship Lodge #4	Meets 4th Friday, October to June, at 7 pm. Installation: October.
Logen Zur Bruderkette #5	Meets 2nd Tuesdays, monthly.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

A Grand Orient of Luxembourg, aligned with the Grand Orient of France, also exists in the country. It is a member of CLIPSAS.

MALTA

Malta is a small island located in the Mediterranean Sea, south of Italy. There is evidence of Masonic activity dating back to 1730, and an English-warranted lodge was in existence by 1785, some fifteen years before the British set foot on the island. Malta became a British possession in 1800, and remained so until its independence in 1964. The last British forces left the island in 1979.

Prior to 1979, there were seven English lodges in Malta under a District Grand Lodge, two Irish lodges, and a Scottish lodge. Masonry had always been largely a British preserve in Malta, and the withdrawal of British forces was certain to require a rationalisation of lodges. The only actual casualty was United Brethren Lodge #1923, which returned its warrant in 1980. The members of five of the lodges took their warrants back to England, where they happily commenced new lives. Four lodges moved to Hampshire: three to Aldershot (Zetland #515, Wayfarers #1926, and Waller Rodwell Wright #2755), and one to Petersfield (Union of Malta #407). The sixth departing lodge, Royal Naval #2761, finished up in Yeovil, Somerset.

This left Malta with only its premier English lodge, the Lodge of St John and St Paul #349, which dates from 1815. However, it was subsequently found that one remaining English lodge was not enough. The steady entry of Maltese citizens into the Craft, something that was less common when the lodges were largely the province of British servicemen, has given local Freemasonry a new lease of life. The expansion was such that a new lodge was needed, and Count Roger of Normandy #9265 was warranted at Valletta in 1988. A further lodge, De Rohan Lodge of Installed Masters #9670, was erected in 1997. A Grand Inspector, administration having been downgraded from its former District Grand Lodge status, now governs these three lodges.

The two Irish lodges and the single Scottish lodge survived the British withdrawal. In line with recent membership expansion, a further Irish lodge, Fenici #906, was consecrated in 1991. The English lodges meet at the Masonic Hall, 6 & 7 Marsamxett Street, Valletta, while the Scottish and Irish lodges meet at the Masonic Hall, Villa Blye, Corradino Road, Paola. Meeting details are:

Lodge of St John and St Paul #349 EC	Meets 1st Monday, October to May. Installation: December.
Count Roger of Normandy Lodge #9265 EC	Meets Last Monday, September to April, except December. Installation: April.
De Rohan Lodge of Installed Masters #9670	Meets 2nd Saturday in May and September.
Abercorn Lodge #273 IC	Meets 4th Wednesday, monthly, October to May. Installation: November.
Leinster Lodge #387 IC	Meets 1st Tuesday, November to May. Installation: November.
Fenici Lodge #906 IC	Meets 2nd Tuesday, November to May, except December. Installation: May.
Lodge St Andrew #966 SC	Meets 2nd Thursday in February, April, October, and November. Installation: November.

MONACO

This small principality is located amidst the French Riviera. It has one English lodge, working in Monte Carlo, and dating from 1924. It is governed directly from London, and is the only lodge of the English Constitution still remaining in 'French' territory. Its details are as follows:

Port of Hercules Lodge #4626 EC Meets in the Library of St. Paul's Church House, Avenue de la Grande Bretagne; 2nd Thursday, January, March and November. Installation: 23rd April, each year.

THE NETHERLANDS

A Grand East of the Netherlands

(Grootoosten der Nederlanden)

Founded: 1756. Descent: England.

Grand Lodge Office: Prinsessegracht 27, 2514 AP Den Haag (The Hague).

Postal Address: PO Box 11525, 2502 AM The Hague, Netherlands.

Telephone: (31 70) 346 0046. Fax: (31 70) 361 5919.

Email: <order@vrijmetselarij.nl>. Website: <<http://www.vrijmetselarij.nl/>>.

Lodges: 160. Membership: 6528.

Ritual: Dutch.

Publications: *Constitutions, Proceedings*.

Periodicals: *Thoth* (research magazine), *AMT* (general Masonic magazine).

History

The Netherlands has a Grand Lodge dating from 1756, making it one of the oldest in Europe. One of the main features of Dutch Freemasonry has been its relatively tranquil development—a trait not generally shared with other continental Grand Lodges.

The first lodge to meet in Holland was the ‘Lodge of the Grand Master of the United Provinces’ meeting in The Hague in 1734. It gained an English warrant, and was followed by *Loge la Véritable Zèle*, also in The Hague. The next year *Loge de la Paix* was founded in Amsterdam under a warrant from Scotland. However, local opposition to Freemasonry was not slow to rear its head, and its Temple was pillaged by a riotous mob in December 1735. Mention of its foundation was made in an Amsterdam newspaper, and this announcement gave the government the opportunity to ban Masonic activity. By 1744, the effects of this prohibition seemed to have dissipated, and new lodges started to form. By 1756 ten lodges were active, and these united to form the Grand Lodge of Holland. Of these, six were warranted from England, one held a Scottish charter, and three were sponsored by the ‘Lodge of the Grand Master’ in The Hague.

The Grand Lodge of England recognised the Grand Lodge of Holland in 1770, and thereafter ceased to warrant new lodges in Holland. All English lodges not then incorporated into the Grand Lodge of Holland progressively joined it or eventually became extinct, so that by the time of the English Masonic Union in 1813, no extant lodge remained in Holland on the English rolls.

The most interesting feature of Dutch Masonry is that it has remained largely free of control from the ‘higher’ degrees which have so often plagued other continental Obediences. Consequently, Dutch Masonry has enjoyed a long reign of stability. In the second half of the 18th century a few ‘side degrees’ came into being, such as *Élus*, *Écossais*, *Knights of the Sword and East*, and *Rose Croix*. An organisational connection between these degrees did not exist until 1803, when the *Grand Chapter of the Higher Degrees* was founded to take control of the French *Rite Écossais* and *Rose Croix* degrees. This Grand body has continued to the present day. There is also a Scottish Rite Supreme Council that is in amity with the corresponding English body—in itself a rare feat in terms of continental Masonry as a whole. The Royal Arch was introduced from England in 1949, and in 1950 an independent Grand Chapter of the Netherlands was established. Mark Masonry and Royal Ark Mariner Masonry, introduced and warranted from England, followed in 1959. A number other additional degrees, deriving from England or Scotland, also operate in the Netherlands.

It is worthy of note that the Grand East of the Netherlands once controlled Belgian lodges, during the period when Belgium formed part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (1815–1830). After the secession of Belgium in 1830, the Belgian lodges followed their own course. The peaceful development of Dutch Masonry was interrupted by the Second World War, which saw all lodges closed and its members persecuted. A rapid recovery was made after the War.

The Grand East of the Netherlands has in the past warranted many lodges outside Holland, notably in South Africa, the Dutch West Indies, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), and Indonesia (*see under the relevant headings*). In 1961, the Dutch lodges in South Africa (except one) formed the Grand Lodge of Southern Africa (later the Grand Lodge of South Africa). Eight Dutch lodges work happily in the West Indies, while seven still hold charters in Zimbabwe. The Dutch lodges in Indonesia closed after the Indonesian government forbade Masonic activity in 1965.

Notes for visitors

As is not unusual European practice, most Dutch lodges meet weekly except in the summer months of July and August. Dress varies from evening dress to a dark, usually black, business suit, with white shirt and long black or Masonic tie. Visitors are welcome to wear a jacket and tie, if they are not carrying a suit with them. Almost without exception, Dutch lodges open at 8 pm.

While the majority of Dutch lodges meet weekly, a *Temple meeting* for degree conferment is usually held only once a month. The other meetings are taken up with lectures, Masonic education and administration. Lecture topics are mainly Masonic or philosophical (although politics and religion are never discussed), or perhaps social. A Dutch Mason must personally present at least one lecture to his lodge, and prove his command of the rather large catechism of his current degree, prior to being admitted to a superior degree. The minimum time lapse between degrees is one year. Indeed, a Fellow Craft does not receive the Master

Mason degree as a right, but strictly on merit. The resolution of the Master Masons of the lodge is necessary before any Fellow Craft may be raised. As with some other continental Obediences, Dutch lodges generally enforce a system of compulsory attendance, and a member who fails to live up to expectations in this regard will find his rate of progression greatly slowed.

A formal dinner, usually in the form of a traditional Table Lodge, often follows a temple meeting, and visitors are always most welcome to dine with members. The costs of repasts are borne individually and usually paid on the night. Visitors are treated as honoured guests, as is the case anywhere in Europe, and under no circumstances will a visitor be called upon to pay. A Dutch Mason's lodge dues, by English or American standards, are quite hefty.

The procedures for entering a Dutch lodge vary somewhat from English-type practices. In many Dutch lodges, the Master and Wardens remain in the lodge Forecourt (ante-room—*Voorhof*, in Dutch), while all other members enter the lodge room. Only then will the Master and Wardens enter and open the lodge. However, in some Dutch lodges the reverse procedure applies, whereby the Master and Wardens enter the lodge and, when ready, summon the remainder inside. When the former approach is used it is not uncommon for visitors, as honoured guests, to enter with the Master; or they are hosted by a senior member of the lodge. Of course, all necessary avouchment procedures must first have been completed with respect to any unknown visitor.

All who enter a Dutch lodge hold the *Posture of Fidelity* (almost identical to the English *Sign of Fidelity*), and communicate the password of the degree concerned as they enter. Visitors should make appropriate inquiries in this regard subsequent to avouchment. It must be noted that Dutch lodges open and close in whatever degree is to be worked on any particular occasion. Thus, to the Dutch, there is no such thing as calling the lodge up or down from one degree to another. The normal business of the lodge is not conducted in the Temple but rather at a separate meeting, equivalent to the *standing committee* of English-type lodges. It is extremely rare for a visitor to be called upon to speak during any Dutch *Temple meeting*, the proper occasion being during the after-proceedings.

The regalia used in Dutch lodges is very similar to that generally adopted on the Continent. Dutch aprons are of white lambskin with a triangular flap, are bordered with the colour(s) of the lodge, and resemble the English Master Mason's apron but without the rosettes. The same apron is used in each of the three degrees, with it being arranged in different ways to distinguish the degree being worked. However, visitors are welcome to wear their own regalia if carrying it.

Dutch ritual is somewhat unusual in terms of wider Continental Masonry. To begin with, rituals are not officially prescribed by the Grand East. Rather the Grand East provides an example ritual which is recommended to be followed. Lodges are somewhat autocratic and older lodges in particular have retained certain traditional usages. Many lodges work interesting variations, which makes visiting very fascinating indeed. One example is Lodge Hiram Abiff, in The Hague, which still draws the Tableau (tracing board) in sand on the lodge floor during the opening of the lodge.

In addition, Dutch ritual is largely clean of Continental innovations found elsewhere in Europe. Nonetheless, it must be remembered that Dutch practice stems from 18th-century English ritual, not the post-1813 Masonic Union rituals in use in English Masonry today. Indeed, Dutch ritual is more comparable with the German Schroeder-type rituals than with Emulation.

Some of the interesting features of Dutch ritual include: the similarity of the opening and closing of each degree; the Sacred Volume is always open at the first Chapter of St John's Gospel; the *Mason's applause* is given at the end of the opening, and corresponds to a *Masonic fire* in English-type practices; a candidate is only obligated in the first degree; and a catechism for each degree must be learnt by every candidate.

Certain other aspects of Dutch Masonry will be of interest to visitors. Certificates are issued for each degree completed, with the lodge seal attached, and these are issued by the lodge itself. However, the Master Mason's Certificate is countersigned by the Grand Secretary. Any Master Mason may be elected to the Master's chair in the Netherlands, without ever having served in any other office. Although presently a maximum of six years is recommended by the Grand East for occupation of the chair, many Dutch Masters serve for only one or two years.

The layout of a Dutch temple largely follows old operative-type lines, with both Wardens seated in the West. A typical Dutch lodge will feature an altar in the form of a cube of white marble and have a tracing board in the form of a floor cloth in the centre of the lodge floor. Many temples feature walls and ceilings

that are richly decorated with zodiacal signs and Masonic symbols. An *all-seeing eye* placed in a triangle adorns the ceiling above the Master in the East, and the entire lodge floor is mosaic. Another common practice is for Dutch temples to have a concealed spotlight in the ceiling that illuminates the VSL.

The form of Government employed by Dutch Masonry is largely that of an appointive Grand Lodge, with Masters and Wardens of all Dutch lodges being members of the Grand East, although some European characteristics are evident. Most grand offices are appointive, of which the main ones are: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Orator, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Librarian, Grand Master of Ceremonies, Grand Examiner and Grand Inner Guard.

Highly recommended is a visit to the *Cultural Masonic Centre Prins Frederik* (CMC) in The Hague, located directly behind the Grand East, at 9 Jan Evertstraat. It houses Europe's greatest treasury of Masonic collectables, information and reference material, including the Order's library of over 40,000 books and its world famous collection of Masonic objects. Of special mention is the Bibliotheca Klossiana, an unsurpassed collection of 7,000 books and 2,000 manuscripts giving insights into the history of Freemasonry in Europe. The CMC is named after Prince Frederik, who was the Order's Grand Master for 65 years in the 19th century. It was opened in 1995 and is visited daily by Masonic and non-Masonic researchers and scholars alike. The Centre is open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 1 pm, or as pre-arranged. Telephone: 31 70 346 1676; Fax: 31 70 364 1237.

List of lodges

Most Dutch cities and towns of any size possess lodges. Visitors are advised to make themselves known at the Grand Lodge office in The Hague, if at all possible. However, as The Hague may not be a visitor's initial or main destination in the Netherlands, listed below are the lodges meeting in the four largest Dutch cities.

On arriving for a lodge meeting, unless you have an interest in a specific lodge, it is suggested you inquire which lodges are actually working a degree ceremony on that evening. Visitors will doubtlessly find the witnessing of ceremonial considerably more beneficial than attending a lecture (unless one understands the Dutch language). Where possible, the visitor is assigned a host who speaks the visitor's language. All meetings commence at 8 pm.

Den Haag (The Hague)

All lodges meet at the Masonic Hall, 2e Sweelinckstraat No. 131, 2517 GW, The Hague. Telephone: (70) 364 1262.

- Mondays: L'Union Frédéric #106; Het Zuiderkruis #152; De Vlamme Ster #169 (last Monday of the month); Het Westelijk Venster #241; Le Véritable Zèle #271 (4th Monday only).
- Tuesdays: L'Union Royale #1; De Oude Plichten #136; De Ruwe Steen #210; Driehoek #251; Het Schietlood #215 (2nd and 4th Tuesdays only).
- Wednesdays: De Vriendschap #35; Hiram Abiff #68; Via Lucis #161 (1st and 3rd Wednesdays only); De Broederketen #199 (1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays only).
- Thursdays: Groot Nederland #118; Sint Jan #178, Vincent La Chapelle #180.

Amsterdam

All lodges meet at the Masonic Hall, Vondelstraat 39-41, Amsterdam. Telephone: (20) 618 6456.

- Mondays: La Charité #6, Willem Frederik #36.
- Tuesdays: La Bien Aimée #2; Nos Vinxit Libertas #69.
- Wednesdays: Wending #186; Post Nubila Lux #236.
- Thursdays: La Paix #4; Concordia Vincit Animos #5.

Rotterdam

All lodges meet at the Masonic Hall, Delftsestraat 9, Rotterdam. Telephone: (10) 414 1177. Note: Concord Lodge #134 works in English, using the Emulation Ritual.

- Mondays: Eensgezindheid #150 (1st, 2nd & 3rd Mondays); Concord #134 (2nd Mondays & 4th Saturdays); De Drie Lichten #197
- Tuesdays: Frédéric Royal #8; Acacia #56.
- Wednesdays: De Eendragt #233.
- Thursdays: De Drie Kolommen #13; Tamarisk #248.

Utrecht

All lodges meet at the Masonic Hall, Maliebaan 70A, Utrecht. Telephone: (30) 231 3104.

- Mondays: De Unie van Utrecht #146, meets at Beethovenlaan 21, Bilthoven, Utrecht; Johannes #204, meets at Pieterskerkhof 5, Utrecht (every fortnight).
- Tuesdays: De Stichtse Broederschap #200.

Wednesdays: Hermannus van Tongeren #204.

Fridays: Ultrajectina #42.

B Military lodges

The French National Grand Lodge (GLNF) until recently had two military lodges in the Netherlands, but one (Benjamin Franklin #52) has become dormant. There are also two military lodges under Prince Hall Grand Lodges, namely Maryland and Massachusetts. Meeting details are given below:

General John J Pershing Lodge #166 GLNF Meets at the Temple, 16 Heggenstraat, Maastricht, on 2nd Wednesday, monthly (Installation June), working Nova Scotia ritual in English. Phone/fax: 00-32-11-663614.

Mano Santos Lodge #127 MD

Meets at La Perseverance Club, in Brunssum, near Maastricht.

Blazing Star Lodge #26 MA

Meets at Amersfoort on 2nd Saturday, monthly.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* has a Dutch Federation (*De Nederlandse Federatie*) with 22 lodges in 17 towns and cities. It is a member of CLIPSAS; its website is at <<http://www.multiweb.net/~damhert>>. There is also a Netherlands Grand Lodge of Mixed Masonry (*Nederlandse Grootloge der Gemengde Vrijmetselarij*, NGGV), which is a founder member of CATENA.

The Grand Orient of Belgium has a lodge at Delft.

PORTUGAL

A Legal Grand Lodge of Portugal/GLRP

(*Grande Loja Legal de Portugal/Grande Loja Regular de Portugal*)

Founded: 1991. Descent: France (GLNF).

Address: Travessa do Pereira à Graça, 16A—atelier C, 1170 Lisboa, Portugal.

Telephone: (351 1) 842 1400. Fax: (351 1) 842 1401.

Email: <dosdin@mail.telepac.pt>. Website: <<http://www.glrp.org>>.

Lodges: 31. Membership: 600.

Rituals: Scottish (Craft) Rite, Rectified Scottish Rite, French Rite.

Publication: *Constitution*.

Periodical: *O Aprendiz*.

History

The first warrant issued for a lodge in Portugal came in 1735, from England. The Papal Bull (1738) was heeded in Portugal and Freemasonry had to develop on an *underground* basis until about 1807. Nonetheless, a Grand Orient of Lusitania was erected in 1804. In 1807, the French captured Lisbon and Masonry was able to come out into the open, although it was subjected to the influence of the Grand Orient of France.

By 1824, the Portuguese monarchy was firmly back in control, and Freemasonry was again strenuously repressed. However, it managed to survive, and a Grand Orient of Portugal, together with several other rival Grand bodies, were soon to spring up—all working the French Rite. The Grand Lodge of Ireland had also been active in this period, and had chartered four lodges by 1844. Several schisms and unions occurred within Portuguese Masonry over succeeding years, none of which helped to engender harmony in its lodges, or endear it to government authorities.

By 1869, the United Grand Orient of Portugal had emerged as the dominant Grand body, reporting 48 lodges at this time. The Irish lodges joined it in 1872. By 1885, it had over 70 lodges, some of them in the Portuguese colonies. In 1926 a right-wing dictatorship assumed control of the country and the Craft was heavily suppressed, to be finally dissolved by the governing regime in 1935.

Upon the restoration of democracy to Portugal in 1978, Freemasonry revived in the form of a combined Grand Orient–Supreme Council. It chose to align itself with the Grand Orient of France and Belgium, and thus failed to obtain mainstream approval.

However, the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF) soon became active in Portugal. It began by chartering *Loja Fernando Pessoa #523*, in Lisbon, in September 1987. This lodge now heads the list of lodges of the Legal Grand Lodge of Portugal/GLRP. A further lodge was warranted in Lisbon in 1982, and soon afterwards three more were established at Cascais (suburban Lisbon), and one in Porto.

On 29 June 1991, the *Grande Loja Regular de Portugal* (Regular Grand Lodge of Portugal) was consecrated by the GLNF Grand Master at the Hotel Palacio in Estoril, a seaside resort town 25 km west of Lisbon on the Portuguese Riviera. This Grand Lodge was quite promptly recognised by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, Scotland, and many other mainstream Grand Lodges.

Unhappily, in December 1996, a small group of dissenters, led by a former Grand Master, occupied the Grand Lodge Temple at Cascais, and subsequently formed a rival Grand Lodge *under the same name*. Very few Portuguese Masons associated themselves with this schism and, although it caused considerable disruption at the time, the Portuguese Craft has recovered. As the schismatic body had misappropriated its name, the original Grand Lodge was renamed the Legal Grand Lodge of Portugal (*Grande Loja Legal de Portugal/Grande Loja Regular de Portugal*). It remains widely recognised by mainstream Grand lodges throughout the world.

In 1989, two years prior to the creation of the Regular Grand Lodge of Portugal, England warranted Prince Henry the Navigator Lodge #9360, on the Algarve, to service English Masons residing in the Portuguese sunshine. This was followed by Lodge of Discoveries #9409 in the following year, and two further lodges thereafter. The original English lodges were placed under the District Grand Lodge of Gibraltar (EC), but recently the four lodges gained their own Grand Inspector, and were thus detached from the Gibraltar District. Upon England's recognition of the Grand Lodge of Portugal (now the Legal Grand Lodge of Portugal), a concordat was signed, allowing England to erect and maintain English-speaking lodges on Portuguese territory.

Notes for visitors

Quite naturally, the Legal Grand Lodge of Portugal has largely adopted a constitution and the practices of its mother Grand Lodge, the GLNF. Most of its lodges are using the Scottish Rite Craft degrees, although one has adopted the Rectified Scottish Rite, and another the French Rite. All lodges but one meet monthly, mostly in the evening and a few in the afternoon. Most recess in August, and variously in July and/or September.

List of lodges

Of the 29 lodges under the Legal Grand Lodge of Portugal, 20 meet in Lisbon, with the remaining nine at other towns in the country. Intending visitors can readily contact the Grand Secretary's office, where every assistance awaits.

English lodges

Prince Henry the Navigator Lodge #9360	Meets Parque das Laranjeiras, EN 125, Benfarras (near Vilamoura), 8100 Loule Algarve, Portugal; 1st Wednesday, October to April (except January). Installation: February.
Lodge of Discoveries #9409	Meets Hotel Almansor, Vale Cove, Carvoeiro, 8400 Lagoa Algarve, Portugal; 3rd Thursday, September to March (except December). Installation: September.
Lancaster Lodge #9413	Meets Mimosa Club, Monte Estoril, Portugal; 4th Thursday, October to May (except December). Installation: January.
Britannia Masters Lodge #9575	Meets Parque das Laranjeiras, EN 125, Benfarras (near Vilamoura), 8100 Loule Algarve, Portugal; 4th Friday, January; 2nd Thursday, May; 3rd Wednesday, October. Installation: May.

B Prince Hall lodges

Daniel James Jr Military Lodge #38, under the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Delaware, is located in the Azores, in the mid-Atlantic, nearly 2000 km west of the coast of Portugal.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The present *Grande Oriente Lusitano* traces its descent back to an English (*Antients*) lodge in 1802, via the *Grande Oriente Lusitano Unido—Supremo Conselho da Maçonaria Portuguesa* and the *Grande Oriente de Portugal*. Revived since 1978, it now has approximately 1000 members in about 40 lodges, including until

recently one in Macau. One lodge works the Modern French Rite, and all the others work the Craft degrees of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, although the Grand Orient is prepared to permit other rituals. It is a member of CLIPSAS and, while initiation is restricted to men only, the Grand Orient lodges admit as visitors the female members of other CLIPSAS Obediences. The Grand Orient is in the process of organising a website; lodge websites are at <<http://www.terravista.pt/guincho/7337>> and <<http://come.tp/maconaria>>.

The International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* has lodges in Portugal and there is also a Feminine Grand Lodge of Portugal (*Grande Loja Feminina de Portugal*).

SAN MARINO

This ancient independent Republic of San Marino is located on the Adriatic side of central Italy between the Romagna and Marche regions. The republic's area is only 61 square km, making it one of the smallest countries in the world, and it has only one lodge, Monte Titano #9, under the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. It meets at the Masonic Rooms, Via Fondo Ausa 44, Repubblica di San Marino.

SARDINIA

Sardinia is a large Mediterranean island located to the south of Corsica, and is an Italian possession. Quite naturally, the Grand Orient of Italy has been active on the island and, more recently, the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. For a summation of Italian Masonry, see under *Italy*, above.

The addresses of the four current main meeting places in Sardinia, under the Grand Orient of Italy, are as follows:

Cagliari: Masonic Hall, Piazza Carmine 22, Cagliari (14 lodges).

Carbonia: Masonic Hall, Via Gramsci 8, Carbonia (2 lodges).

Nuroro: Masonic Hall, Via Veneto 27 (Mura), Nuoro (1 lodge).

Sassari: Masonic Hall, Viale Umberto 1 10, Piano 4, Sassari (2 lodges).

The Regular Grand Lodge of Italy presently has three lodges meeting at the Masonic Hall, Via Azuni, 50 - 09124 Cagliari. These are Landmarks #8, San Graal #80, and Kipling #88.

The United Grand Lodge of Italy (*Gran Loggia Unita d'Italia*), an offshoot of the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy, has four lodges in Sardinia: two at Cagliari and one each at Nuoro and Sassari.

SPAIN

A Grand Lodge of Spain

(*Gran Logia de España*)

Founded: 1982. *Descent:* France (GLNF)

Address: Masonic Temple, Gran Via de las Corts Catalanes 617, Barcelona.

Postal Address: Apartado de Correos 5119, 08080 Barcelona, Spain.

Telephone: (34 93) 302 5991. *Fax:* (34 93) 412 1691.

Website: <<http://www.gle.org/>>

Lodges: 107. *Membership:* 2000.

Publications: *Constitution*.

Periodical: *Genesis*.

History

Freemasonry came to Spain from England about the 1730s. Just what lodges were first erected remains obscure, but it seems that at least two were working in Madrid in the early 1750s. King Philip V of Spain supported the anti-Masonic Papal Bull of 1738, and set the Spanish Inquisition onto the Craft. Under the greatest of difficulties, Spanish Masonry continued, and in 1767 a Grand Lodge (later Grand Orient) was formed. The coming of the Napoleonic Era saw Spain briefly under French control, and a National Grand Orient was set up in 1809 under the auspices of the Grand Orient of France. A Scottish Rite Supreme Council appears also to have been erected about this time, and by 1820 the original Grand Orient was under Scottish Rite control.

The suppression of Masonry continued unabated, with the harshest measures employed against Masons, including capital punishment. Finally, with the death of Ferdinand VII in 1835, these persecutions ceased, as the ensuing Civil War saw the Catholic Church lose much of its influence. However, the Craft soon became its own worst enemy in Spain. By 1874, there were at least four Grand Orients in the country, with more established in 1881 and 1889. In 1922, the old Grand Orient dissolved into seven separate Grand bodies. Thus, in the midst of extreme disunity, the Spanish Craft was in no position to resist the right-wing dictatorships that developed in the 1920s. Freemasonry was ruthlessly repressed under General Franco, and it is reputed that since the Second World War, and prior to the death of Franco, over 10,000 Spaniards were arrested for supposed Masonic membership. The Grand Orient of Spain went into exile in Mexico.

The death of Franco and the restoration of democracy enabled the Grand Orient to reform in Madrid in 1978, as the United Grand Lodge Orient of Spain. Evidently, this body is a fusion of the Craft and the Scottish Rite. In the meantime, the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF) commenced chartering lodges in Spain. The Grand Orient of Spain allied itself with the Grand Orient of France, and subsequently a substantial proportion of its members 'defected' to the GLNF-chartered lodges.

By 1980, four lodges were operating in Catalonia as part of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Occitania, under the GLNF. In December 1980 these four lodges were formed into the GLNF District Grand Lodge of Spain, and in the next two years a further six lodges were founded. On 2 July 1982 the GLNF constituted these ten lodges into the Grand Lodge of Spain. Subsequent Masonic expansion was slow but steady until 1987, when recognition by the United Grand Lodge of England and other mainstream European Grand Lodges enabled many of the Masons among the substantial foreign community in various parts of Spain to apply for affiliation. A large number of further lodges followed, with the total reaching 107 by 2000.

Spain has in the past had a number of military lodges chartered from the GLNF. In 1969, there were five such lodges in Spain, stationed at various US military bases. In that year they were constituted into the GLNF Continental District Grand Lodge, together with other GLNF-chartered military lodges then in the Netherlands, France and Belgium. The members of all these lodges were American and Canadian servicemen. The GLNF military lodges in Spain, given that Franco was then still in power, were unable to meet outside US bases, nor were they permitted to admit Spanish citizens. These lodges were John J Kestly #60 (at Rota), George Washington #69 (at Morón), Liberty #70 (Torrejon) and Pyrenees #77 (Zaragoza). They were joined in Spain by Arthur T Weed #59, which started life in Morocco and later moved to Spain.

Following the ongoing reduction of NATO forces in Spain, a number of these lodges closed down. George Washington #69 merged with John J Kestly #60 (under the latter name and title) and today remains the only GLNF military lodge still operating in Spain.

Notes for visitors

Similar to English and GLNF practice, Spanish Masonry is divided into six Provincial Grand Lodges, each with a Provincial Grand Master. These are those of Castilla (Madrid, Valladolid and Galicia), Cataluña (Barcelona area), Baleares (Balearic Islands: Ibiza, Majorca, Minorca), Canarias (Canary Islands), Valencia (Alicante, Castellón, Valencia), and Andalucía (Almería, Cadiz, Málaga, Sevilla). There are also lodges in Bilbao, Cartagena and Zaragoza. The Annual Assembly of the Grand Lodge of Spain is held in March each year, alternately in Barcelona and Madrid. Any Master Mason from a recognised constitution is welcome to attend, upon prior application to the Grand Secretary.

As would be expected, most lodges work in Spanish or Catalan (70), although a substantial number (37) work in English, French, German, Danish, Portuguese and Dutch. Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Spain are tabulated below, by both language and ritual-type:

LODGES	Span	Eng	Catln	Fr	Germ	Dan	Port	Ned	TOTAL
AASR (Craft)	30		3	1			1		35
Emulation	30	26	2	2					60
Rect. Scot. Rite	3				1				4
Schroeder	1				2				3
Swedish Rite						3			3
Dutch								1	1
York Rite			1						1
TOTAL	64	26	6	3	3	3	1	1	107

As can be seen, the Scottish Rite Craft degrees and the Emulation ritual are equally popular in Spanish-speaking lodges. The number of English-speaking lodges is, perhaps, surprising high for a non-English-speaking country, but less so when it is realised that a large number of English families have retired to Spain for its warmer climate.

Most English-speaking lodges work in tourist areas, such at Javea (near Alicante), Ibiza, Palma de Mallorca and Menorca (Balearic Islands) and Tenerife (Canary Islands). Many meet in hotels, like the not uncommon English custom. Madrid possesses one English-speaking lodge (Emulation #67). Most Spanish lodges meet monthly, although some meet twice a month. Virtually all lodges in Spain close in July and August, and many English-speaking lodges only meet 6–8 times a year. Lodges generally open at 7 pm to 8 pm. Inquiries concerning lodge meetings are best directed to the Grand Office in Barcelona.

Dress for Spanish lodges is a dark lounge suit, and regalia is similar to that used under England and the GLNF. Visitors should bring their own regalia. A dinner often follows lodge meetings, with an appropriate toast list, especially in the case of Emulation lodges and English-speaking lodges.

List of lodges

Clearly, it is not possible to list all Spanish lodges herein. The Masonic Halls in the two main Spanish cities are as follows.

Madrid: Masonic Centre, Calle Juan Ramón Jiménez, 6, Madrid (11 lodges).

Barcelona: Masonic Centre, Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes 617 (11 lodges).

There are also other smaller Masonic Centres in Bilbao, Valladolid, Gran Canarias and Cartagena.

Spain has two lodges of research on the mainland, Logia Duque de Wharton #18 at Barcelona, and Logia Athenor #47 in Madrid, both working in Spanish. Another lodge, Logia Tajinaste #45, meeting at Tenerife in the Canary Islands, has had an interesting career. It was consecrated in November 1989 as a normal working lodge and continued as such until 1994 when Logia Ave Fenix #73 was chartered. Logia Tajinaste then became a Lodge of Investigation, or in other words a research lodge, and many interesting papers were submitted. When problems arose with dissidents in the Canary Islands in 1996, some thought that Logia Tajinaste should be closed, but it was decided to keep it going as an Installed Masters Lodge—the only one in the Canaries. It works in English, and visiting is not restricted to Past Masters.

B Military lodges

As noted above, one military lodge, John J Kestly #60, meets in Spain under a GLNF charter, where it has worked since 1965. It is located at the Rota military base (Cadiz). Meeting details vary, and it is very largely composed of American Masons using the Californian (Webb-form) ritual, in English.

The postal address of the lodge is: PSC 819, Box 1849 FPO, AE 09645. Email: <Lodge@writeme.com>. It also possesses interesting web pages at <<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/5931>>. Aside from general details, this site contains a fascinating paper on the history of military lodges in Spain.

A military lodge of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Saints John Lodge #35, also meets at Rota, sharing premises with John J Kestly Lodge #60, GLNF. Saints John Lodge meets on the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Saturday monthly.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The GLNF has not been the only French Obédience to warrant lodges in Spain in recent years. The Grand Lodge of France (GLdF) has chartered three:

Loge le Centre de l'Union Écossaise #1178 Meets at Bruniquer 42 - E 08012 Barcelona, 1st & 3rd Mondays at 8.30 pm.

Loge Genesis #1202

Meets at Rue Batel 7 - E 28042 Madrid, 2nd & 4th Mondays.

Loge Rezon #1282

Also meets at Madrid.

A number of other Grand Lodges operate in Spain, all unrecognised. These are:

- Federal Grand Lodge of Spain (*Gran Logia Federal Española*). This is a schismatic group from the mainstream Grand Lodge of Spain, based in the Canary Islands. It possesses few lodges.
- Grand Orient of Spain (*Gran Oriente Español*). This is the revived, historic, Grand Orient of Spain, which spent the Franco era in exile in Mexico. It is aligned with the Grand Orient of France. Its website is at: <<http://www.msnr.org/goe/>>.
- The Symbolic Grand Lodge of Spain (*Gran Logia Simbólica Española*), with headquarters at Barcelona and a website at <<http://www.glse.org>>, was erected by the Grand Orient of France in 1979. This Grand Lodge has about 500 members in 27 lodges (4 male, 23 mixed-gender), and is a member of CLIPSAS and AMIL.
- The Spanish District of the International Order of Co-Freemasonry *Le Droit Humain* has a website at <<http://www.arrakis.es/~d.h>>.
- *La Grande Loge Féminine de France* has lodges in Spain, and is a member of CLIPSAS.

SWITZERLAND

A Grand Lodge 'Alpina' of Switzerland

Founded: 1844. *Descent:* England and France.

Address: Grand Chancellor, rue du Petit-Beaulieu 1, Lausanne CH-1004, Switzerland.

Telephone: (021) 648 3070. *Fax:* (021) 647 3445.

Email: <glsa@planet.ch>. *Website:* <<http://www.freimaurerei.ch>>.

Lodges: 79. *Membership:* 3,842.

Ritual: Mainly Scottish (Craft) Rite, and Schroeder.

Publication: *Constitution*.

Periodical: *Alpina*.

History

This picturesque European country has had a somewhat confused Masonic history, but nonetheless possesses a mainstream Grand Lodge dating from 1844.

The first lodge in Switzerland was erected by English Masons at Geneva in 1736. Several further English lodges appeared in various parts of the country, but the mortality rate was high. This was in no small way due to official opposition, with lodges in Geneva being suppressed in 1738. However, by the 1760s the climate had become more favourable, and nine lodges met in Geneva in 1769 to form the Independent Grand Lodge of Geneva, working an English ritual in English. Soon thereafter, French and German 'higher' degrees entered the country; and a resultant Grand Orient was formed at Geneva by eight lodges. By 1822, there were four different Grand Lodges working in Switzerland, each with various 'higher' degree systems. The two main bodies were a Grand Orient, and a National Grand Lodge largely composed of former English lodges. A sustained effort was made to unite Swiss Masonry, beginning in 1822, when the then English Provincial Grand Lodge and a Grand Lodge at Lausanne merged to form the National Grand Lodge of Switzerland.

However, after repeated attempts, it was not until 1844 that a greater union was effected, with the formation of the Grand Lodge 'Alpina' of Switzerland. This new Grand Lodge adopted constitutions similar to those of England, but with some Grand Orient forms. A Scottish Rite Supreme Council was erected in 1876; separate from, but in amity with, the Grand Lodge.

Swiss Masonry thereafter has enjoyed a relatively tranquil and prosperous existence, although there have been three noteworthy hiccups. The first of these occurred in the late 1920s when questions concerning the use of the VSL were raised, but the Grand Lodge fortunately remained firm in its requirements.

The second testing time for the Swiss Craft occurred shortly thereafter in the 1930s with the rise of anti-Masonic feeling, stemming largely from Germany. A large petition presented to the Government forced a referendum calling for Freemasonry to be banned, but it was defeated in the popular vote. This is the only occasion in Masonic history where Masonry has been the subject of a plebiscite.

The third hiccup occurred in 1966, with England taking a dim view of the fact that the Swiss Grand Lodge had recognised the Grand Orient of France. Pressure from the three British Grand Lodges persuaded 'Alpina' to withdraw recognition, and a breach between British and Swiss Masonry was avoided. Regrettably, a similar occurrence manifested itself in 1971, and on this occasion England did temporarily withdraw recognition. However, relations were fully restored in the following year when 'Alpina' barred all but mainstream French Masons from attending its lodges.

Notes for visitors

The first point to note about Switzerland itself is that it is a country of several languages. In the western areas around Geneva, French is the predominant language; in the north, German; and in the south the main language is Italian. Not surprisingly therefore, each of these languages is well represented in Swiss Masonry. Similarly, Swiss ritual is not uniform. French-speaking lodges largely prefer the Scottish Rite Craft degrees, while German-speaking lodges mostly practice the Schroeder ritual. There are two English-speaking lodges in Switzerland, one at Geneva and one at Zurich. There is even a lodge at Berne (Bon Accord #41) that works the Emulation ritual in German.

Dress for Swiss lodges is a dark, or black, business suit, and visitors are welcome to wear their own regalia. Visitors will notice that most Swiss lodges use the plain white aprons common in many other European Obediences. The majority of Swiss lodges meet at 8 pm, although there are some that meet as late as 8.30 pm. An informal dinner accompanies some Swiss lodge meetings. Some lodges dine formally—particularly those following English-type practices. Visitors will never be asked to contribute to any repast of which they may partake.

As is not uncommon European practice, the majority of Swiss lodges meet weekly, except in the summer months of June, July and August. Generally, only one degree conferment is held per month, with other meetings taken up with lectures. Again, the progression from one degree to the next is slow, and it may take a Swiss Mason up to five years to achieve the Master Mason degree. The general continental practices discussed in this guide as pertaining to European Obediences are largely applicable to Swiss Masonry.

List of lodges

While a visit to the Grand Chancellor's office in Lausanne is recommended, this town may not prove to be a visitor's main destination. Therefore, listed below are details of Swiss lodges meeting in the main cities and towns. Most other Swiss towns possess one or two lodges.

Basel

All Basel lodges meet at the Masonic Temple, Byfangweg 13, 4051 Basel. Telephone: (061) 239 293. All work in German.

Mondays: Panta Rhei #47 (7 pm or 8 pm).
 Tuesdays: Zur Freundschaft und Beständigkeit #4 (7 pm or 8 pm).
 Wednesdays: Zum Fels am Rhein #5 (8.15 pm).
 Thursdays: Osiris #6 (8.15 pm).
 Fridays: Zu den sieben Rosen #64 (1st & 3rd Fridays, 7 pm).

Berne

The Swiss Capital City of Berne (Bern) possesses two lodges which meet at the Masonic Temple, 30 Brunngasse, 3001 Berne. Telephone: (031) 220 474.

Wednesdays: Zur Hoffnung #7 (late afternoon, time not fixed). German.
 4th Fridays: Bon Accord #41 (at 7.30 pm). French.

Geneva

Geneva lodges meet at three locations:

- (a) Masonic Temple, 4–6 Rue de la Scie, 1200 Geneva. Telephone: (022) 292 203.
- (b) Masonic Temple, 3 Rue Massot, 1200 Geneva. Telephone: (022) 460 647.
- (c) Masonic Temple, 12b Rue de l'Athénée, 1200 Geneva.

With the exception of Masonry Universal Lodge #40 which works in English, Geneva lodges work in French.

Mondays: Persévérance #17 meets (a), 7.15 pm; Masonry Universal #40 meets (b), 2nd Mondays, 7 pm; Lux Post Meridien #72 meets (c), 4th Mondays, 7.30 pm .
 Tuesdays: Cordialité et Vérité #15 meets (a), 8.30 pm; Flumen Fraternitatis #66 meets (c), (2nd Tuesday, 7.30 pm).
 Wednesdays: Union des Coeurs #18 meets (b), 7 pm; Union et Travail #19 meets (a), 7 pm.
 Thursdays: Fidélité et Prudence #16 meets (a), 8.30 pm; Tolérance et Fraternité #46 meet (b), 7.15 pm.
 Fridays: Les Amis Fidèles #14 meets (a), 8.30 pm.

Lausanne

All Lausanne lodges meet at the Masonic Temple, 17 Avenue de Beaulieu, 1000 Lausanne. Telephone: (021) 375 484. All lodges work in French.

Mondays: Liberté #21 (at 8 pm).
 Tuesdays: Le Progrès #22 (at 8.15 pm).
 Wednesdays: Espérance and Cordialité #20 (at 8.30 pm).
 Thursdays: Tradition #51 (1st and 3rd Thursdays at 8.15 pm); Les Frères Inconnus #62 (2nd & 4th Thursdays, 8 pm).
 Fridays: Trismégiste #61 (2nd & 4th Fridays, 8 pm).

Lugano

The three lodges in Lugano meet at different locations. All work in Italian.

Mondays: Brenno Bertoni #58, at Via Balestra 2, 6901 Lugano (8.15 pm).
 Wednesdays: Il Dovero #24, at Via Pretorio 20, 6900 Lugano. (8.30 pm).
 Thursdays: Singa Hominis #60 at Hotel Arizona, Via Massagno 20, 6900 Lugano (8 pm).

Lucerne

Wednesdays: Fiat Lux #25, at Murbacherstrasse 15, 6000 Lucerne. (8 pm, in French).

Zürich

All Zürich lodges meet at the Masonic Temple, 4 Lindenhof, 8001 Zürich. Telephone: (01) 211 1349. All lodges work in German; except Cosmopolitan Lodge, which works in English.

Mondays: In Labore Virtus #36 (7 pm), Aurora Humanitas #56 (7.30 pm).
 Wednesdays: Catena Humanitatis #44 (7 pm).
 Thursdays: Libertas et Fraternitas #37 (7.30 pm); Cosmopolitan #43 (7 pm).
 Fridays: Sapere Aude #39 (7.30 pm); Post Tenebras Lux #52 (1st & 3rd Fridays, 7.30 pm).
 Saturdays: Modestia cum Libertate #38 (7.30 pm).

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Grand Orient of France has three lodges in Switzerland: two in Geneva (*Étoile du Lemman* and *La Fraternité*) and one at Bale (*Libertas Helvetica*). All work the French Rite.

The International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain* first erected a lodge in Switzerland in 1896, at Zurich, but it became dormant ten years later. Others were chartered at Geneva (1913) and Lucerne (1923), and more followed. There is now a semi-autonomous Swiss Federation, with a website at <<http://www.droit-humain.org/ch>>.

The Feminine Grand Lodge of Switzerland (*Grande Loge Féminine de Suisse/Schweizerische Frauen-Grossloge/Gran Loggia Femminile Svizzera*) has upwards of 350 members in 14 lodges in the cantons of Bâle, Berne, Genève (4), Neuchâtel, Tessin, Vaud (5), and Zurich. It is an amalgamation of two smaller Grand Lodges, *La Grande Loge Féminine de Suisse – Confédération de Loges et de Rites* (1976) and *La Grande Loge Féminine d'Helvétie* (1985). Both of these were ultimately derived from the Feminine Grand Lodge of France. The GLFS website is at <<http://www.glfs-masonic.ch/>>.

Smaller groups include:

- *La Grande Loge Mixte de Suisse* formed by several lodges which quit the *Droit Humain*.
- *La Grande Loge Suisse du Rite Ancien et Primitif de Memphis-Misraïm*, which has a website at <<http://www2.club.ch/masonic/glms01.html>>, and is a member of CLIPSAS.
- A group of three independent lodges, *Loge Eôs* (which meets fortnightly at Lucerne), *Loge Erasme* (which also meets fortnightly at Lucerne), and *Loge Voltaire aux Neuf Soeurs* (which meets at Berne).

Section 4

EASTERN EUROPE

Introduction

For convenience, all European countries formerly in the Soviet Bloc have been included under this heading. In some of them, Freemasonry was established quite early, but suffered repression under various totalitarian governments. In many, Freemasonry either was never established, or was totally suppressed. Now, it is being introduced, re-introduced, or revived in almost all.

This heading also includes Turkey and Mediterranean countries and islands east of Italy, where the development of Freemasonry has suffered less discontinuity.

ALBANIA

It would seem that Freemasonry has never existed in Albania. This country exited the Second World War with a totalitarian government, and since its fall in 1990 the political and economic situation in the country has been anything but stable. Technically, conditions now exist wherein the establishment of Freemasonry is possible. However, given that Albania is an Islamic country and that it has no past Masonic history, one would imagine Masonic prospects not to be immediate.

ARMENIA

Armenia is a small republic bordered by Georgia and Azerbaijan to the east, to the west by Turkey, and to the south by Iran. It declared its independence from the former Soviet Union in 1990. No lodges yet work in the country, but in recent years a number of Armenian nationals have joined lodges in Romania and the United States of America. The latter possesses Hayastan Lodge #94 (under the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia), in Washington, DC. In addition, there are mainstream lodges which are mostly comprised of expatriate Armenians in Argentina, England, France, Lebanon, and Israel. The Grand Lodges of Romania and Russia, and the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF) have plans to charter one lodge each in the Armenian capital city, Yerevan, during the year 2000, with a view to these three lodges forming the basis of a Grand Lodge in the future—perhaps within three years.

On 23 October 1999, the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia issued a charter for Masis Lodge #99, to a number of Armenian Masons from its Hayastan Lodge, for the purpose of establishing a working lodge in Armenia. This new lodge effectively has a travelling warrant, enabling it to meet at any location in Armenia. It was named after the highest mountain in Armenia, Mount Masis, itself the subject of much poetry and literature. Inquiries may be addressed to: Secretary, Masis Lodge #99, Office of the Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, 5428 MacArthur Boulevard, NW Washington DC 20016, USA.

BULGARIA

Grand Lodge AF&AM of Bulgaria

Founded: 1997. *Descent:* Germany.

Address: Grand Secretary, Dabnitza Str. 3a, Sofia 1756.

Postal Address: PO Box 32., Sofia 1404, Bulgaria.

Email: <grand.secretary@Freemasonry-bg.org>.

Telephone: (359 2) 58 1065.

Lodges: 5. Membership: circa 200.

Publication: *Constitution*.

History

Freemasonry is reputed to have existed in Bulgaria as early as 1820, but when its first actual lodge was formed remains unclear. Certainly, several French-warranted lodges were working by 1871, as in that year they formed a Grand Lodge of Bulgaria, at Sofia. Its subsequent history remains unclear, and it would appear not to have lasted long. A second Grand lodge, also erected by French-warranted lodges, formed the National Grand Lodge of Bulgaria in 1917. Little more is known of it, except that it gained scant recognition outside Bulgaria. It probably lasted in some form until the Second World War. A Scottish Rite Supreme Council, under the aegis of the Supreme Council of France, was established in 1936.

As with the balance of Eastern Europe, Masonry was suppressed during the Second World War, and did not recover with the subsequent advent of Bulgarian communism. The collapse of the Communist state has again made Masonic activity tenable. A spurious 'Grand Lodge of Bulgaria' was erected in December 1992, by a rebel Mason from Yugoslavia, who as a result was expelled in his own jurisdiction in 1993. The subsequent fate of this 'Grand Lodge' is unknown.

Happily, Masonry came to Bulgaria in more acceptable form in 1994, when three lodges were chartered in Sofia by the United Grand Lodges of Germany. These were Lodge Zora #1001, Lodge Swetlina #1002, and Lodge Serdika #1003. These was followed in 1996 by Lodge Zarja #1012 at Sofia and Lodge Chernomorski Prijатели #1013 at Varna. On 20 September 1997 these five lodges were instituted as the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Bulgaria, at a ceremony in Sofia. Given its origins, in time this body is likely to receive widespread mainstream recognition.

List of lodges

Four of the five current lodges under the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Bulgaria meet in Sofia, namely Zora #1, Swetlina #2, Serdika #3, and Zarja #4. The Grand Lodge does not yet possess any permanent Masonic Temple, and lodges meet variously. Visitors should direct all inquiries to the Grand Secretary, who will happily make all necessary arrangements.

CROATIA

Grand Lodge of Croatia

Founded: 1997. *Descent:* Austria.

Address: Grand Secretary, Vidosiceva 7, 10090 Zagreb, Croatia.

Masonic Hall: Ulica Seljacke bune 26, Zagreb - Podsused.

Telephone: (385-1) 484 3222. Fax: (385-1) 484 3444.

Email: <vlhgcl@vlh-glc.org>, <milan.gelb@zg.tel.hr>.

Website: <<http://www.vlh-glc.org/indexeng.htm>> (English).

Lodges: 3. Membership: 100.

Ritual: Schroeder.

Publications: *Constitution*.

History

The first lodge in the area of Croatia was Lodge Ratno Prijateljstvo (War Friendship) opened at Glina in 1764 under warrant from Austria. It worked in French and Latin, and survived until Austrian Masonry was proscribed in 1795. A second lodge from the same source, Savrseni Savez (Perfect Union) was founded at Varazdin in 1772 and it lasted until 1785. The first lodge at Zagreb, erected in 1773, was Lodge Razboritost (Prudence). It worked in Latin under the German 'Grand Lodge of the Three Globes'. In 1784, it changed its name to Mudrost (Wisdom) and worked in German. It had expired by 1786.

A number of other lodges, with warrants from Hungary and France, were formed at various Croatian locations in the early 1800s, in the Napoleonic era. After the return of Croatia to Hungary in 1813, Freemasonry was again banned and all lodges closed.

By the 1870s, a revival of Masonic activity became possible, and a few lodges gained charters from Romania and Hungary. Lodge Croatian Fairy, the first lodge to work in the Croatian language, was founded at Zagreb in 1892, under Hungary. It closed in 1904. In this year Lodge Love of Neighbour, also under Hungary, commenced work in Zagreb. By 1917 three lodges worked in Croatia: Lodge Love of Neighbour and Lodge Maksimilijan Vrhovac at Zagreb, and Lodge Budnost (Vigilance) at Osijek. These lodges affiliated with the newly formed Grand Lodge of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, based in Belgrade, in 1919. Interestingly, there were no lodges in Slovenia at this time. This Grand Lodge later changed its name to the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia.

Several other Croatian-based lodges were subsequently formed with most, but not all, under the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia. In 1940, with the advent of World War II and the rise of fascism in the Balkans, all lodges in the region were forced to close. Many Freemasons were sent to concentration camps, although a number survived the war. The advent of communism after the War meant a Masonic revival was impossible.

Following the collapse of communism and the breakup of the former Yugoslavia, a Masonic renaissance became feasible. Only two pre-war Croatian Masons were alive by 1992. Through the good offices of the Grand Lodge of Austria, a number of Croatians progressively joined the Craft in Vienna, and by 1995 their number stood at 70. In November that year Austria chartered three new lodges. These were Lodge Hrvatska Vila (Croatian Fairy), Lodge Grof Ivan Draskovic (Count Ivan Draskovic) and Lodge Tri Svjetla (Three Lights), all at Zagreb. These three lodges were constituted into the Grand Lodge of Croatia, by the Grand Lodge of Austria, at a ceremony in Zagreb on 8 November 1997. It has been recognised by the United Grand Lodge of England and, given its origins, this new Grand Lodge is likely to be widely recognised by mainstream Grand Lodges in the years immediately ahead.

List of lodges

As Croatian lodges are directly descended from Austria, 'Notes for visitors' under 'Austria' (above) largely apply in Croatia.

All three current lodges under the Grand Lodge of Croatia meet in the Masonic Hall, Ulica Seljacke bune 26, Zagreb - Podsused. They are Lodge Hrvatska Vila #1 (meets Mondays), Lodge Grof Ivan Draskovic #2 (Mondays), and Lodge Tri Svjetla #3 (Tuesdays). All lodges meet at 8 pm and work the Schroeder ritual in Croatian. Lodges recess in June, July and August. Visitors should initially direct all inquires to the Grand Secretary, who will happily make all necessary attendance arrangements.

CYPRUS

District Grand Lodge of Cyprus (EC)

Address: District Grand Secretary, PO Box 4687, Limassol CY.3726, Cyprus.

Telephone & Fax: (357-5) 751 945.

Email: <dgsec@cyprus-Freemasons.org.cy>

Website: <<http://www.cyprus-Freemasons.org.cy/index.html>>

Lodges: 8.

History

Cyprus is a large mainly Greek-speaking island located in the western Mediterranean Sea, although it also possesses a substantial Turkish minority in the north. Cyprus has eight lodges warranted from the Grand Lodge of Greece, and a further eight lodges work under an English District Grand Lodge.

The first English lodge warranted on Cyprus was St Paul's #2277, erected in 1888, while the latest, Cyprus Masters #9655, was formed in 1997. Of the English lodges, two work in Nicosia, two in Limassol, and four elsewhere. The oldest Greek lodge, Zenon #18, was chartered at Limassol in 1893, while the youngest, Phoenix #136, was erected at Nicosia in 1995.

Cyprus is, of course, an independent country, albeit largely Greek-speaking. As it does not possess an independent Grand Lodge, it is Masonically open territory, hence it can possess both Greek and English lodges, as it does.

Unfortunately, the previous harmony that existed between all lodges on Cyprus was interrupted in 1993 when the United Grand of England found it necessary to cancel its recognition of the Grand Lodge of Greece (*see under Greece, below*), and transfer its recognition to the National Grand Lodge of Greece. However, England has recently withdrawn recognition from the National Grand Lodge as well, thus recognising no Greek Grand Lodge.

Understandably, this occurrence caused considerable local problems. However, while inter-visitation is no longer permitted, English lodges and Grand Lodge of Greece lodges still share the same Masonic Halls in several cases.

It should be noted that the National Grand Lodge of Greece also has several lodges in Cyprus, although meeting details are not to hand. Overseas Masonic visitors should be aware as to which Greek Grand Lodge is recognised by their own, and ensure their visitation matches accordingly.

List of lodges

Details of all English and Grand Lodge of Greece lodges are noted below. As an additional aid, the Post Office address of each lodge under the Grand Lodge of Greece is also noted, appropriately, plus the Masonic Hall telephone number. The English lodges largely cater for NATO servicemen stationed on the island, although they also possess a proportion of bilingual Greek members. The English lodges mostly use the Emulation Ritual, open at or about 7.30 pm, and hold a Festive Board after meetings. Details of how Greek lodges operate can be noted in the section on Greece later in this Volume. Particulars of lodges in Cyprus under the National Grand Lodge of Greece may be obtained by intending visitors, from the Grand Secretary's office, recorded in the section on 'Greece'.

English lodges

St Paul's Lodge #2277	Meets at the Masonic Rooms, 8 Jerusalem Street, Limassol, 3rd Wednesday, October to April. Installation: December.
St. George's Lodge #3135	Meets at the Masonic Rooms, 6 Charalambos Michael Street, Nicosia, 2nd Wednesday, October to May. Installation: April.
Lord Kitchener Lodge #3402	Meets at the Masonic Hall, Dhekelia, 4th Wednesday, September to June (except December). Installation: November.
Othello Lodge #5670	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 10 Zachariadou Street, Larnaca, 1st Wednesday October to June. Installation: April.
Lusignan Lodge #7453	Meets at the Masonic Rooms, 6 Charalambos Michael Street, Nicosia, 4th Tuesday, September to May (except December). Installation: November.
Apollo Lodge #7886	Meets at the Apollo Rooms, Episkopi, 2nd Tuesday, October to June. Installation: January.
Agapinor Lodge #8905	Meets at the Venus Beach Hotel, Kato, Paphos, 1st Tuesday, October to May (except December & January). Installation: February.
Cyprus Masters Lodge #9655	Meets at the Masonic Rooms, 8 Jerusalem Street, Limassol, 3rd Monday, January & September, & 2nd Monday, May. Installation: May.

Grand Lodge of Greece lodges

Zenon Lodge #18	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 8 Jerusalem Street, Limassol, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, October to June. PO Box 50128, 3601 Limassol. Telephone: (357 5) 362 077.
Kimon Lodge #53	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 10 Zachariadou Street, Larnaca, 2nd and 4th Fridays, October to June. PO Box 40212, 6302 Larnaca. Telephone: (357 4) 654 239.
Solon Lodge #55	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 53A Onasagorou Street, Nicosia, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, October to June. PO Box 21353, 1507 Nicosia. Telephone: (357 2) 463 230.
Kiniras Lodge #64	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 5 Ermou Street, Paphos, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, October to June.

Evagoras Lodge #77	PO Box 60097, 8100 Paphos. Telephone: (357 6) 233 210. Meets at the Masonic Hall, 8 Jerusalem Street, Limassol, 2nd Tuesday, October to June. PO Box 56858, 3310 Limassol. Telephone: (357 5) 362 077.
Adonis Lodge #115	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 53A Onasagorou Street, Nicosia, 1st and 3rd Fridays. PO Box 21863, 1514 Nicosia. Telephone: (357 2) 463 230.
Kinon Kiprion Lodge #126	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 53A Onasagorou Street, Nicosia, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, October to June. PO 21353, 1507 Nicosia. Telephone: (357 2) 463 230
Phoenix Lodge #136	Meets at the Masonic Hall, 53A Onasagorou Street, Nicosia, 4th Tuesday, September to June. PO Box 24243, 1703 Nicosia. Telephone: (357 2) 463 230

CZECH REPUBLIC

A Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic

(*Veliká Lóže Ceske Republiky*)

Founded: 1919. *Consecrated:* 1923. *Revived:* 1990. *Descent:* Yugoslavia.

Address: Grand Secretary, Centrum V L C R Pivovarnicka 6, CZ-180 00 Praha 8, Czech Republic.

Telephone & Fax: (420 2) 6836 417

Lodges: 6. Membership: 190.

Ritual: Czech.

Publications: *Constitution*.

Periodical: quarterly *Newsletter*.

History

Czechoslovakia was long a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and so was bound up in the general Masonic history of central Europe. Masonry appears to have arrived in the area from Austria, via the German Grand Lodges. Four lodges were working in Prague by 1775. The Craft in Bohemia (as modern Czechoslovakia was then known) was suppressed in the late 1700s, as it was in the rest of Austria–Hungary. Following independence after the First World War, Freemasonry was revived. The first lodge created was Lodge Johann Amos Comenius, formed in Prague in 1919. In the following year, two more lodges were erected—Lodge Narod and Lodge Dilo—both chartered from the Grand Orient of Italy. Other lodges followed, and The National Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia was formed at Prague in February 1923, with about 400 members.

In addition, a German-language Grand Lodge, *Lessing zu den drei Ringen*, constituted in 1920, worked in the country, which possessed 35 lodges by 1939. Both grand bodies were recognised and worked in mutual amity. In 1939 Hitler invaded the country and immediately suppressed Freemasonry. The National Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia had then 25 lodges and the total Masonic membership in the country stood at approximately 3000.

Subsequent to World War Two, the Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia was re-established by the surviving members of the pre-war Masonic organisation, but the Order was again banned shortly after the Communist coup of 1948. When the Communist regime collapsed forty years later, there were only 28 Masons remaining, but they had clandestinely maintained contacts during the whole period, not only among themselves but also with the United Grand Lodge of England, via the Grand Lodge of Finland, some of whose senior members took the risk to visit the Czech Masons on several occasions. Prof Jiri Syllaba, who had been initiated in 1926, was elected Grand Master of the re-awakened Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia.

In 1993, the country split into the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia was renamed the Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic.

Currently, six lodges work under the Czech Grand Lodge. Four lodges are located in Prague, namely: Lodge Narod (title means Nation), Lodge Dilo (Work), Lodge Most (Bridge), Lodge U Tre Hvezd (Three Stars) and Lodge Alphonse Mucha. Lodge Ján Kollár was originally located in Bratislava, in Slovakia, and worked in the Slovak language. It moved to Brno due to the anti-Masonic climate in Slovakia, but returned to Bratislava in February 2000, after elections and a change of government in Slovakia. Lodge Jozef Dobrovsky, in Plzn, was erased in 1999. Lodge Alphonse Mucha is the newest addition, having been

founded in May 1999, and caters largely for French-speaking expatriates. The lodge was named after Alphonse Mucha (1860–1939) the famous Modern-style painter and Freemason. He was Sovereign Grand Commander of the Czechoslovak Republic Scottish Rite from 1922 until 1936.

List of lodges

Due to limited financial resources, Czech Freemasonry currently possesses no permanent Masonic halls, although an arrangement has been reached with the town authorities by the Prague lodges to be able to meet every Monday in the prestigious *Clam Gallas Palace*. Lodges meet at times and places which are announced in lodge summons. Intending visitors, of necessity, are advised to contact the Grand Secretary when in Prague, to ascertain meeting locations. The Grand Lodge publishes a quarterly program announcing the details of the planned meetings of all the lodges under its jurisdiction. All lodges currently meet at or about 6.30 pm. Dress is a dark lounge suit.

All lodges use a Schroeder-derived, Emulation-type ritual in the Czech language, except Lodge Alphonse Mucha which works in French. However, Lodge Most and Lodge Alphonse Mucha occasionally work in English when they receive foreign delegations.

An interesting addition to Czech Masonry is the Ignatius von Born Association, sponsored by the Czech National Museum, which encourages Masonic historical research and promotes the creation of a Czech Masonic Museum. It meets on a monthly basis and its membership is opened to all interested persons.

Lodge meeting details are as follows:

Lodge Dílo #1	Meets in Prague, with no fixed meeting details.
Lodge Národ #2	Meets in Prague, 3rd Monday, monthly, at 6.30 pm.
Lodge Most #3	Meets in Prague, 1st Monday, monthly at 7 pm.
Lodge U Tri Hvezde #5	Meets in Prague, with no fixed meeting details.
Lodge Ján Kollár #6	Meets in Bratislava, Slovakia, with no fixed meeting details.
Lodge Alphonse Mucha #7	Meets in Prague, 3rd or 4th Thursday, monthly.

There are also meetings at the Prague Masonic Club, every Wednesday at 7 pm. Activities include lectures on Masonic topics and instruction sessions.

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Grand Lodge of France has a lodge in Prague, Loge Tolérance #1254, founded in 1998.

The Czech Grand Orient (*Veliký Orient Český*) was founded in June 1993, affiliated with the Grand Orient of France. It has three lodges in Prague (Comenius, Dílna Lidkostí and Cestou Světla), one in Brno (Via Lucis), one in Ostrava (Lux in Tenebris) and one in Podivín (Bratrství). Also operating in the country is the National Grand Lodge Humanitas Bohemia (*Veliká Národní Lóže Humanitas Bohemia*), founded from Italy, by the GL ALAM. It has four lodges, two in Prague (Josef Dobrovský and Pierre de Lasenic), one in Brno (Jan Blahoslav) and one in Litomerice (U Sedmi Světla—The Seven Lights), and is a member of CATENA. The Feminine Grand Lodge of France and Co-Masonry (Droit Humain) are also active in the Czech Republic, each with one lodge in Prague. None of these Grand Lodges and lodges are recognised by mainstream Freemasonry.

ESTONIA

A Grand Lodge of Estonia

Founded: 1999. *Descent:* Finland.

Address: Grand Secretary, Narva mnt. 6–12, 10117 Tallinn.

Postal Address: Grand Secretary, PO Box 3992, 10509 Tallinn, Estonia.

Telephone: (372) 6616083. Fax: (372) 6616083.

Lodges: 4. Membership: 110.

Ritual: Finnish.

Publications: *Constitution*.

Periodical: *Vendlus* (Fraternity).

History

The first lodge in the territory of what is now the Republic of Estonia was founded well over 200 years ago when Tsarist Russia ruled the region. Isis lodge was constituted in Tallinn on 12 October 1773. Its mother lodge was Harpocrat Lodge, St Petersburg.

Prior to the banning of Freemasonry in Russia in 1822, three additional lodges operated in Estonia: *Zur Bruderie* (Brotherly Love) 1777–1778; *Zu den drei Steithääbern* (Three War Hammers) 1778–1820 and *Die Hoffnung der Unschuld* (The Hope of Innocence) 1787–1789.

Restoration of the independence of the Republic of Estonia in 1991 opened up the opportunity to once again develop Freemasonry. The Grand Lodge of Finland began to initiate Estonians in their lodges in 1991 and thereafter progress was rapid. Four lodges were chartered in Estonia under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Finland: Fööniks Lodge #201 in Tallinn on 12 June 1993; Patria Lodge #202 in Tallinn on 4 June 1994; Perona Lodge #203 in Pärnu on 8 June 1996 and Ugandi Lodge #204 in Tartu on 16 May 1998. The Grand Lodge of Finland established the District of Estonia with its own district deputy Masonic officers, in anticipation of the creation of an independent Grand Lodge of Estonia.

On 26 September 1998, the Masters and representatives of the four Estonian lodges met in the Mustpeade Maja Fraternity Hall in Tallinn and resolved to establish the Grand Lodge of Estonia. They thereupon petitioned the Grand Lodge of Finland to be its Mother Grand Lodge and carry out the consecration and installation ceremony.

The Grand Lodge of Estonia was formed on Tuesday 18 May 1999. The Consecration Ceremony was carried out by the Grand Master of Finland, MWBro Ilkka Runokangas.

Notes for visitors

The four Estonian lodges now have over one hundred members. In addition to those who have received their degrees locally, the membership of Estonian lodges includes Masons who joined earlier in countries such as the United States of America and Peru, and who subsequently came to reside in Estonia.

Dress for lodges is a dark lounge suit, and visitors are encouraged to bring their own regalia. All lodges work in Estonian, with the ritual being that of Finland in translation. The Finnish Ritual itself is Webb-form, originally derived from the Grand Lodge of New York. All lodges meet at 6 pm. As a rule, Estonian lodges dine after lodge meetings, with a toast list that includes ‘The President of Estonia’, ‘The Grand Master and Grand Officers’, ‘The Worshipful Master’, and ‘Visitors’. All visiting Freemasons are most welcome to attend lodge dinners.

It should be noted that all Estonian meeting locations are presently ‘temporary’, and thus are likely to change. Therefore, Masonic visitors to Estonia are advised to contact the Grand Secretary to check current meeting details. Given the unquestioned regularity of origin of the new Grand Lodge of Estonia, it is likely to rapidly attract widespread fraternal recognition.

List of lodges

Meeting details are as follows:

Lodge Fööniks #1	Meets at temporary Masonic Temple, Regati pst. 1, Tallinn, 2nd Thursday, at 6 pm (Fööniks = <i>Phoenix</i> in Estonian).
Lodge Patria #2	Meets at temporary Masonic Temple, Regati pst. 1, Tallinn, 4th Thursday, at 6 pm.
Lodge Perona #3	Meets at Masonic Temple, Pärnu – Sauga, 4th Thursday, at 6 pm.
Lodge Ugandi #4	Meets at temporary Masonic Temple, Vikerkaare 40, Tartu, 3rd Wednesday, at 6 pm (Ugandi is the former Estonian name for the province of Tartu).

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Finnish Federation of the Order of International Co-Freemasonry *Le Droit Humain* has lodges in Finland and in Tallinn in Estonia. Their website is at <<http://www.droit-humain.org/finland>>. The lodges work the Scottish Rite in Finnish, Swedish and Estonian.

GEORGIA

This former soviet republic is situated below the southern Caucasus mountains on the Eastern shores of the Black Sea. It is bordered by Russia to the north, and Turkey to the south. As of early 2000, no lodges were yet reported in the country, but a number of Georgian citizens have reportedly joined lodges in Moldova and Ukraine, under the aegis of the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. It is not unlikely that lodges will follow, in the first instance in the Georgian capital city, Tbilisi.

GREECE

A Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Greece

Founded: 1811. *Descent:* France, England and Italy.

Address: Masonic Hall, 19 Archanon Street, 10438 Athens, Greece.

Postal Address: PO Box 3203, 10210 Athens, Greece.

Telephone: (301) 881 2182, (301) 822 9950. *Fax:* (301) 821 0180.

Email: <Masonsgr@travelling.gr>

Lodges: 73. *Membership:* 8000.

Publications: *Constitution.*

History

Greece possesses two Grand Lodges, both of which are 'regular' depending on the perspective of the mainstream visitor, as well as an old English lodge dating from 1861.

During the Ottoman Empire's control of mainland Greece, it was not possible to introduce Freemasonry. However, the Ionian Islands located to the west of the Peloponnese were not in Turkish hands, but controlled from Venice. It appears that the first lodge in Greek territory was erected in the Ionian Islands from Venice in 1714. This lodge was called Benefizena (Benevolence), and it worked in Greek. In 1799 the Russians came to control Ionia, whereupon this lodge declared its independence, and nothing appears to have been heard of it since.

The year 1807 saw Napoleon assume control over Ionia, and within three years two lodges had been established at Corfu (the most northerly of the Ionian islands) under the Grand Orient of France. By 1811 these lodges had formed the National Grand Lodge of Greece in Corfu, but it had expired by 1814. Another Grand Lodge, the Serene Grand Orient of Greece in Corfu was erected in 1814, but after a chequered career it was extinct by 1843.

The fall of Napoleon saw England assume political control over Ionia, with the occupation forces having a hand in forming Pythagoras Lodge at Corfu and Phoenix Lodge at Zante. Phoenix Lodge still works, and heads the Greek List of Lodges as #1. It meets at Kerkira (Corfu).

During the Greek War of Independence (1821–1833) from the Ottomans, Masonic records are scant, and remain so until 1863. In this period those lodges surviving appear to have remained independent, or worked under the Italian Grand Lodges at Turin. In 1867, Greece became a Masonic province of the Grand Orient of Italy, and in the following year eight Italian-chartered lodges formed the Grand Orient of Greece at Athens, but whether this new Grand body was a successor to the earlier Corfu body remains obscure. Nevertheless, the year 1811 is claimed by the current Grand Lodge of Greece for its foundation. The Grand Orient of Greece, as was fairly typical of European 19th-century Masonry, was controlled by a Scottish Rite Supreme Council.

The Grand Orient of Greece expanded steadily, but without much in the way of fraternal recognition outside Greece. This changed after 1940, whereupon the Supreme Council surrendered its control over the

three Craft degrees, and the Grand Orient became the Grand Lodge of Greece. It subsequently became widely recognised as regular throughout the mainstream Masonic world.

However, in September 1993, the United Grand Lodge of England withdrew recognition from the Grand Lodge of Greece, claiming it was again under Scottish Rite Supreme Council control. Scotland and Ireland, and a few other Grand Lodges emulated the English example and similarly withdrew recognition. England, and the other Grand Lodges following its lead, decided to switch recognition to the National Grand Lodge of Greece. This body was formed in 1987, when several lodges under the Grand Lodge of Greece seceded in a dispute over the creation of a Grand Chapter of Greece to control the Royal Arch degree, which had been introduced recently from England. The new National Grand Lodge that resulted, in the interregnum until 1993, had received no recognition outside of Greece, prior to the English switch. However, as occurred with a similar situation in Italy (qv), the Grand Lodges of USA, Canada, Australia, and most other mainstream Grand Lodges, declined to emulate England, and maintained fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Greece.

In 1999 the United Grand Lodge of England withdrew recognition from the National Grand Lodge of Greece. In so doing, it conceded that both Grand Lodges were regular, and explained its latest actions as providing encouragement for the two Greek Grand Lodges to reach an accommodation with each other.

Notes for visitors

Greek Freemasonry has its own ritual, which is basically the French Rite Craft degrees translated into Greek. Interestingly, until relatively recent years, the only degrees available to Greek Masons outside the Craft degrees were those of the Greek Scottish Rite Supreme Council. This changed with the introduction of the Royal Arch from England in the 1980s, and was a factor in the schism in Greek Masonry that followed.

As is somewhat the tendency in Europe, the Greek Craft tends to be somewhat exclusive, with a high societal and educational standard being a general prerequisite for membership. Greek lodges meet weekly although, perhaps uniquely, in many lodges an actual degree conferment ceremony is usually performed only annually for each of the three degrees. Clearly, a visitor will be relatively fortunate to visit a Greek lodge meeting where a actual degree conferment is being performed.

The vast majority of meetings are taken up with lectures, and instruction. Each Greek Entered Apprentice must have served at least twelve months at that rank before he may receive the Fellow Craft degree. In addition, he must deliver at least one lecture on the first degree in his lodge prior to being passed, and he must satisfactorily complete a written examination. These practices follow usual Continental patterns. The time lapse between the second and third degrees is a minimum of six months, with the same proficiency requirements applying. Typically though, a new Apprentice can expect to wait up to five years to achieve the Master Mason degree. Greek lodges, as is common throughout Europe, recess in June, July and August, although some lodges hold unofficial social meetings in the open air during this period.

The structure of Greek Masonry is that of a modified Grand Orient system. Each year at their annual elections, lodges elect three Past Masters as their representatives to the Grand Lodge. Every three years these lodge representatives elect the Council of the Grand Lodge (its Grand Orient). In turn, the Grand Orient elects the Grand Master, and other Grand Lodge officers. Thus the Greek system of Masonic government uses indirect democracy, unlike the more autocratic forms of Grand Orients.

Dress for Greek lodges is a dark business suit, but the carrying of personal regalia is a good idea, although those without will be catered for. Lodges generally meet in the evening, at any time between 7.30 pm and 9 pm, depending on the individual lodge, although many open at 8 pm. As a result of these divergent meeting times, visitors are best advised to make themselves known at the appropriate Grand Lodge building in Athens prior to visiting, where they will receive every assistance. The membership of Greek lodges varies from as low as 40 members up to 250 members in some cases.

It is usual for the principal officers of Greek lodges to meet separately before their lodge meeting, and undertake a preview of the evening's proceedings. The lodge members will already be inside the Temple, whereupon the Master and his Wardens will enter later. Visitors, having previously been Masonically examined if unknown, will often enter with the Master's party. The use of printed rituals inside the lodge is the norm. To the Greek Freemason, excellence in ritual is not as important as Masonic knowledge and behaviour. Indeed, 'lodges of research' are effectively conducted by every Greek lodge, and Masonic orators and scholars are called upon to impart their knowledge. Grand Inspectors, appointed by the Grand Lodge,

are present at every Greek lodge meeting to assist the Master and his members on points of Masonic knowledge and procedure.

Greek lodges have an interesting method of electing a new Master. Elections are held every two years. The Worshipful Master can be elected only twice, and in order to secure a second term he must gain three-quarters of the vote. He must be at least 35 years old, a Master Mason for least three years, a Mason for least six years, a member of his lodge for at least two years, and have previously served as a lodge officer. He must also be a resident in the town or city in which his lodge meets.

Another absorbing Greek Masonic practice is called the White Ceremony. Each lodge usually holds such a ceremony on an annual basis, and it is most impressive. It is, in fact, a ceremony of Masonic mourning in recognition of members deceased during the year, of celebration for members married during that year, and for the adoption of Lewises by the lodge. This latter practice hails back to old French usage, whereupon a lodge 'adopts' the twelve-year-old sons of Masons and pledges itself to their welfare. The White Ceremonies are semi-public occasions, with brides attending in their bridal attire, and Lewises in special attire, with members of their family and friends. Visitors who would like to attend these ceremonies can readily inquire at the appropriate Grand Lodge office.

Lodges in Greece are involved in some excellent charitable work, a feature of which are night schools run by lodges for poor children. There is also a Masonic Archaeological Club which visits sites of Masonic interest and conducts lectures for the general public.

Of the 79 lodges under the Grand Lodge of Greece, 28 work in Athens, eight in Cyprus, six in Thessaloniki, four in Crete, and the remainder in other centres throughout mainland Greece and the Greek Islands. One English-speaking lodge works in Athens under the Grand Lodge of Greece (Parthenon #112), together with an Italian-speaking lodge (Garibaldi #130), a French-speaking lodge (La Tradition Française #125), and a German-speaking lodge (Apollon #98).

Greece also possesses an old English-warranted lodge, formed in the days when England held sway in Ionia. This is Star of the East Lodge #880 EC, erected in 1861. It meets at Zante (Zakinthos), which is the southernmost of the Ionian lodges. It meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in February, April, May, October and November; the 1st Friday in June and December; the 4th of April, and installs on the 7th of January each year. It works in Greek, using the Emulation Ritual, at the Masonic Hall, 3 Delazari Street, 29100 Zante; which it shares with the Greek Lodge Helios #99.

List of lodges

Importantly, any mainstream Masonic visitor to Greece needs to be aware which of the two Greek Grand Lodges is recognised by his own, and therefore which he may visit. As virtually all entry to Greece is via Athens, a visit to the appropriate Grand Lodge office will be practicable, and is strongly advised prior to visiting.

Under the Grand Lodge of Greece, in Athens there are six to seven lodges meeting every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday nights. Wednesday night is reserved for the Scottish Rite, and other Masonic degrees. All Athens lodges open at 8 pm, and follow meetings with a supper or dinner. Visitors are never expected to contribute financially to any lodge repast. Visitors should endeavour to arrive at the Masonic Hall in Archanon Street by about 7 pm in order to facilitate their visit. Upon arrival, it is suggested that a visitor inquire if any lodge is working an actual degree ceremony on that evening. Undoubtedly, visiting a degree ceremony will prove more interesting to the non-Greek-speaking visitor than a lecture meeting. The meeting details of lodges in other Greek locations can be readily obtain at the Grand Lodge office.

The other main Greek city is Thessaloniki. Six lodges meet therein, at the Masonic Hall, 24 Filikis Eterias Street, 54621 Thessaloniki. Telephone: (30 31) 256 619. These are Philipos Lodge #38 (Wednesdays), Phoenix Lodge #59 (Thursdays), Fos ('Light') Lodge #88 (Wednesdays), Megas Alexandros Lodge ('Alexander the Great') #62 (Thursdays), Dimitrios Margaritis Lodge #103 (Tuesdays), and Plithon Gemistos Lodge #128 (Tuesdays). All lodges open at 8 pm. Note that these lodges generally only met in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd weeks of the month. In the 4th week, as with Greek Lodges in some other areas, meetings of additional Masonic orders occur (such as the Scottish Rite).

B National Grand Lodge of Greece

Founded: 1987. *Descent:* Grand Lodge of Greece.

Address: Grand Secretary, 38a Eressou Street, 10681 Athens.

Telephone: (301) 330 0892.

The origin and brief history of this Grand Lodge have been given above. It has lodges in most population centres in Greece, and on Cyprus. In terms of workings and customs, the forgoing notes concerning the Grand Lodge of Greece are very largely applicable.

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

There are at least three other bodies active in Greece: the Most Serene Grand Orient of Greece, which is a member of CLIPSAS; the Grand Lodge of Greece Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, which is in amity with the Grand Lodge of France; and the Hellenic Federation of the International Order of Co-Freemasonry *le Droit Humain*.

STOP PRESS, July 2000.

The Grand Lodge of Greece has continued to be recognised by most mainstream Grand Lodges, despite the fact that the 'home' Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland withdrew recognition in 1993 and recognised the off-shoot National Grand Lodge of Greece (NGLG) instead. In September 1999, the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) withdrew recognition from the NGLG, although continuing to regard the NGLG as regular, for the stated purpose of encouraging both Greek Grand Lodges to reach accord. In June 2000 UGLE restored recognition of the Grand Lodge of Greece but not the NGLG. It remains to be seen whether Ireland and Scotland will follow suit.

HUNGARY

Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary

(Magyarországi Szimbólikus Nagypáholy)

Founded: 1989. *Descent:* Germany, Austria.

Address: Masonic Centre, Lövölde tér 2, H-1071 Budapest.

Postal Address: PO Box 395, H-1446 Budapest, Hungary.

Telephone & Fax: (36 1) 322 7339.

Lodges: 7. Membership: 170.

History

As part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the history of Freemasonry in this area parallels that of all Central Europe. The first Hungarian lodge is claimed for Brasso, Transylvania, in 1749, although little is known of it. There were certainly military-type lodges working in Hungary by the 1770's, notably to the twin cities of Buda and Pest, and a lodge is documented in Pozsony in 1775. Hungarian lodges were united with those of Austria in 1781 under a Provincial Grand Lodge, which functioned until 1786. The Hungarian Emperor started to suppress Masonry about 1780, and in 1795 lodges were dissolved by Imperial Edict.

Hungary became a separate kingdom in 1867, enabling Freemasonry to be re-established. Seven lodges were erected under the Grand Lodge *Zur Sonne* of Bayreuth, Germany, and in 1870 they formed a National Grand Lodge (often called the Grand Lodge of St John). A Grand Orient was erected separately in 1872 by several lodges chartered by the Grand Orient of France. These two bodies united in March 1886 to create the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary, then comprising 26 lodges.

By the First World War, the Symbolic Grand Lodge possessed 32 lodges in Budapest and 51 in wider Hungary, with over 7000 members. The Grand Lodge was widely recognised as regular throughout the mainstream Masonic world. Sadly, the Grand Lodge was dissolved by decree in 1920 and by the end of the Second World War there were only about 300 Masons left in the country. The Grand Lodge was revived in

1946, and made very rapid progress; by 1950 membership had recovered to 1500, despite losses by emigration after the communist takeover in 1948.

On 12 June 1950 the secret police occupied and confiscated the Grand Lodge building in Budapest, and the Grand Lodge was forcibly dissolved. Thereafter, a *Masonic Aid Fund* for Hungary was set up under the sponsorship of the Austrian and German Grand lodges, which cared for Masons in Hungary. Hungarian Masonic refugees set up lodges in Canada, Argentina, Brazil, France, and Austria.

The *perestroika* of the mid-1980s enabled Hungarian Masons to travel again, and, more importantly, it enabled younger Hungarians to join Freemasonry overseas, thus adding considerable strength to Masonic membership in the country. Upon the legalisation of Freemasonry in September 1989, following the fall of the communist regime, plans were made to resuscitate the Grand Lodge. Four lodges were chartered just over the border in Austria, and these were transferred to Budapest on 27 December 1989, and the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary was reconsecrated under the sponsorship of the Grand Lodge of Austria. Fraternal recognition has followed from many Grand Lodges, and this process continues. The United Grand Lodge of England recognised the revived Grand Lodge in September 1990. The Grand Lodge celebrated 250 years of Masonry in Hungary in 1999.

Notes for visitors

Hungarian lodges use a form of the Schroeder ritual, and with two exceptions, work in Hungarian. All lodges work from September to mid-June, recessing in July and August. Lodge Deák meets weekly (except immediately before and after Christmas), while other lodges meet formally twice per month. The two most recent lodges in Hungary are Lodge Liszt, consecrated on 15 May 1999 to work in German, and St Stephen's Lodge, consecrated on 18 June 1999, to work in English, using the English *Oxford* ritual. As with Austria, Hungarian lodges are named but not numbered.

All lodges usually open at 6 pm, except Lodge Egyenlőség and Lodge Galilei which normally commence at 5.30 pm. Dress is a dark lounge suit, and visitors are encouraged to bring and wear their own regalia. A light meal, with wine, often follows a meeting, with the repast lasting about one to one and a half hours.

List of lodges

Listed below are the common meeting days of the Hungarian lodges. However, these should be taken as a guide only, as meeting days can vary. For example, a lodge meeting fortnightly, depending on the calendar, may convene three times in a month. Lodges in Budapest meet at the Masonic Centre, Lövölde tér 2, H-1071 Budapest. Lodge Árpád currently meets at 42 Temesvari Court, Szeged (on the Hungary–Serbia border).

Education sessions and Masonic lectures comprise most meetings, with degree ceremonies in Hungarian-speaking lodges being held no more than once per month, if that frequently. St Stephen's Lodge regularly holds a degree ceremony monthly (usually at its first meeting of the month), and normally holds a Lodge of Instruction two or three times per month.

The Grand Lodge of Hungary does publish a calendar of lodge work at intervals, which sets out the meeting dates and work of each lodge. Visitors to Budapest can readily obtain a copy from the Grand Secretary.

Lodge Deák Ferenc	Meets at Budapest, every Thursday.
Lodge Egyenlőség	Meets at Budapest, 1st and 3rd Mondays.
Lodge Galilei	Meets at Budapest, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.
Lodge Sas	Meets at Budapest, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.
Lodge Árpád a Testvériséghez	Meets at Szeged, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.
Lodge Liszt	Meets at Budapest, 2nd Mondays, and 3rd or 4th Saturdays (German-speaking).
St. Stephen's Lodge	Meets at Budapest, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (English-speaking).

LATVIA

One of the three Baltic states (together with Estonia and Lithuania), Latvia gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

The first lodge in the territory of Latvia was *Zum Nordstern* (North Star), constituted in Riga in 1750, from Germany, as the second lodge in Tsarist Russia. It joined the Strict Observance in 1765 and was renamed *Zum Schwerdt* (Sword). Another lodge, *Zu den drei gekrönten Schwertern* (Three Crowned Swords), operated in Jelgava (Mitau) from 1754 until 1819.

Prior to the banning of Freemasonry in Russia in 1822, five additional lodge were founded in Riga: Apollo in 1773; *Castor* in 1777; *Zum kleinen Welt* (Little World) in 1778; and *Konstantin zum gekrönten Adler* (Constantine of the Crowned Eagle) and *Astrae* in 1785. In Liepaja (Libau), there was a Lodge Irene founded in 1780. The first lodge in the independent Latvia was Lodge Anker (1921–1934).

Since regaining independence, Latvia has thus far been the recipient of a lodge chartered by the United Grand Lodges of Germany in 1996, Lodge Jānuguns #1010. Technically, it is considered to have been re-constituted, as a lodge of the same name was erected in 1924, but had closed by 1934 when political conditions became authoritarian. It could not be revived under the Nazi regime or the communist rule that followed.

In addition to those who have received their degrees locally, the membership of the lodge includes Masons who joined earlier in countries such as the United States of America and Sweden, and who subsequently came to reside in Latvia. Dress for lodges is a dark lounge suit, and visitors are encouraged to bring their own regalia. The lodge works in Latvian, with the ritual being that of Grand Lodge AF&AM of Germany in translation.

Lodge Jānuguns meets at a temporary Masonic Temple in Riga (the Latvian capital) on the 4th Saturday, monthly, at 12 noon. In early 1999, the lodge had 23 members. The Lodge secretary is Valters Kronbergs, telephone (371) 9208166 or (371) 7228022. One would expect that, in time, further lodges will be established in Latvia, leading eventually to the formation of a Grand Lodge. Updated information can be founded on the lodge's home page at: <<http://www.freimaurer.org/januguns.riga/>>.

LITHUANIA

The southernmost of the three Baltic states, Lithuania gained its independence in 1991, following the break up of the Soviet Union. Happily, Masonry was soon to follow. The United Grand Lodges of Germany chartered Lodge Renaissance #996 in 1993, and this was followed by Lodge Vilnius Orient #1009 in 1995. A third, Lodge Uolusis Lietuvis #1016, was warranted on 22 May 1999. All three lodges meet in the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, but as yet remain numerically small. A Grand Lodge of Lithuania, comprising these three lodges, is scheduled for creation in 2000. All three lodges meet concurrently, at the Masonic Rooms, Latviu 7, LT-2002, Vilnius; on the second Sunday of each month, at 2 pm; and work the Schroeder ritual in Lithuanian. The contact telephone number is: (370 2) 35 40 90.

MOLDOVA

The Republic of Moldova is located between Romania and the Ukraine. It achieved political independence in August 1991, following the break up of the former Soviet Union.

The first lodge erected in Moldova was Lodge Alleanza #113, formed in Chisinau, the Moldovan capital, in June 1997, under the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy (GLRI). It was followed by Lodge Terzo Millennio #116, Lodge Stella del Sud #118, Lodge Unione #122, and Lodge Rinascita #121. All these lodges meet in Chisinau, except Stella del Sud, which works in Tighina. All lodges work the Emulation ritual in Romanian, the language of Moldova.

On 10 October 1998 these five lodges were consecrated into the Regional Grand Lodge of Moldova, by the Grand Master of the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. A further four lodges have since been formed in Chisinau—Lodge Atlant #134, Lodge Sirius #138, Lodge Unire-Edinstvo #139 and Millenium Lodge #141.

On 15 October 1999 the Grand Lodge of Moldova was consecrated at Chisinau by the Grand Master of the GLRI. Since the new Grand Lodge does not yet have permanent premises, and in most cases its lodges do not have regular meeting days, intending visitors should address inquiries through the Grand Secretary of the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy.

POLAND

A National Grand Lodge of Poland

(*Wieka Loza Narodowa Polski*)

Founded: 1991. *Descent:* England, Germany, Italy.

Address: Grand Secretary, ul. Lekarska 19, PL –00-610, Warsaw, Poland.

Telephone & Fax: (48 22) 41 68 48.

Lodges: 5. Membership: *circa* 120.

Publications: *Constitution*.

History

The first lodge erected in Poland was *The Three Brothers*, of unknown origin. Other lodges followed, despite some early religious repression, culminating in the constituting of the Grand Lodge of Poland in 1769. Its founding lodges were largely of English origin. This Grand Lodge became extinct in 1772 with the first partitioning of Poland. In 1784, a new National Grand Orient of Poland was established, with twelve constituent lodges of German and French origin. Poland was again partitioned in 1794, and most lodges dissolved.

Poland regained independence in the Napoleonic era, and another Grand Orient was erected under French influence in 1810. The defeat of Napoleon saw the Russians take over Poland, and the Grand Orient was closed by *ukase* of the Tsar in 1821.

This situation remained unchanged until Polish independence in 1918, whereupon seven lodges were formed under the Grand Orient of Italy. On 1 October 1921 these lodges established the National Grand Lodge of Poland, in Warsaw. This Grand Body remained intact, although without much in the way of fraternal recognition, until 1938 when it was outlawed by the Polish Government. The Second World War quickly followed, and the subsequent advent of communism in Poland prevented any Masonic revival.

Happily, the collapse of totalitarianism in Poland enabled Masonic activity to resume. Three lodges were established in early December 1991, bearing the names of three lodges which were former constituents of the pre-war National Grand Lodge—Kopernic, Walerian Lukasinski, and Przesad Zwyciezony .The oldest extant is Lodge Kopernic, founded in 1920. Upon the banning of Masonry in Poland it moved to France and operated under the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF), until it returned to Warsaw in 1990.

On 27 December 1991, these three lodges met and re-established the National Grand Lodge of Poland at a ceremony in Warsaw. The constitution of the Grand Lodge espouses the tenets of mainstream Freemasonry, and its *revival* was assisted by senior officers of the Grand Orient of Italy and the GLNF.

A more recent addition is *Lodge la France*, founded in 1993, with the assistance of the GLNF. It works in French and its members are mainly expatriates living and working in Warsaw.

List of lodges

The five current Polish lodges meet as noted below. All use the Scottish Rite Craft degrees. Further lodges are planned for other Polish cities. Lodges in Warsaw meet at the Grand Lodge Building, 19 Lekarska Street, 00610 Warsaw. In the first instance, visitors should endeavour to contact the Grand Secretary, from whom all assistance will be readily provided.

Lodge Kopernic # 1	Meets in Warsaw, 2nd Thursday, monthly, at 7 pm.
Lodge Walerian Lukasinski # 2	Meets in Warsaw, 1st & 3rd Thursdays, monthly, at 7 pm.
Lodge Przesad Zwyciezony #3	Meets in Krakow, 3rd Sunday, monthly, at 3 pm. No current fixed meeting venue. (Secretary, phone: (+48 12) 423 1691.
Lodge La France #4	Meets in Warsaw, 2nd Monday, monthly, at 7 pm.

Lodge Swiatynia Hymnu Jednosci #5 Meets near Poznan, 2nd Sunday, monthly, at 12 noon. (Secretary, phone: (+48 61) 652 3643.

The Poznan lodge meets at the Ciazzen Palace (80 km from the city). It is part of Poznan University, and contains one of the largest Masonic libraries in the world. Most volumes were 'removed' from various German locations during WWII.

B Other Grand Lodges and lodges

The Grand Orient of Poland, which is aligned with the Grand Orient of France, currently possesses seven lodges. There is also a Grand Lodge 'Humanitas', of obscure origin, and a Co-Masonic (*Droit Humain*) lodge in Warsaw, with a website at <<http://www.ceti.com.pl/~masonipl>>.

ROMANIA

National Grand Lodge of Romania

Founded: 1880 (1993.). *Descent:* France, Italy, New York.

Address: Freemasons' Hall, Calea Victoriei Nr. 118, Et. 4, Sect. 1, Bucharest.

Postal Address: Grand Secretary, PO Box 37-187, Bucharest, Romania.

Email: <cristian@acintl.ro>.

Telephone: (40 1) 310 3134. Fax: (40 1) 310 3135.

Lodges: 59. Membership: 753.

History

Romania gained its first lodge in 1856, when the Grand Orient of France warranted *Star of the Danube Lodge* at Bucharest. Other lodges followed with charters from Italy, Germany, and Hungary. Freemasonry in Romania appears to have not suffered the repression of elsewhere in Europe. In September 1880, a National Grand Lodge of Romania was formed by 20 lodges then under the Grand Orient of France and other Grand bodies. However, Romanian Masonry did suffer the excesses of the so-called 'higher' degrees. A period of degeneration followed, and by 1905 only one lodge was still working, with the Grand Lodge extinct by 1913.

The First World War served to prevent any early Masonic recovery, but by 1926 a Grand Orient of Romania had been established by seven lodges then under the Grand Lodge of New York. It was joined by four lodges that had revived under the Grand Orient of France. However by 1937, Masonry in Romania was repressed under right-wing political pressure, and it did not long survive the outbreak of the Second World War. The Grand Orient was re-activated late in 1944, only to be closed by the communists in 1948.

Happily, the collapse of the Romanian communist regime in 1990 created the conditions necessary for a Masonic revival. The Grand Orient of Italy warranted Lodge Concordia #1097 in Bucharest in 1991. (It had a lodge of the same name in Bucharest in the late 19th century). The Grand Orient of Italy subsequently chartered a second lodge at the same location, Delta Dunarii # 1103, in the following year, and subsequently several others.

On 24 January 1993 the National Grand Lodge of Romania was re-constituted at Bucharest by the Grand Orient of Italy, assisted by the Grand Lodge of California. The growth of this new Grand Lodge has been exponential. By 1995 it possessed 19 constituent lodges and 410 members. By 1998, a mere three years later, it reported 48 lodges, and 698 members.

There is also a United Grand Lodge of Romania, formed in 1996, of unclear origin, and the Grand Orient of France has been quite active in erecting lodges in the country.

List of lodges

Given the large number of lodges already working in Romania, it is not possible to list them all here. As of late 1998, nineteen lodges were at work in Bucharest, with the balance operating in other cities and towns in the country. Iasi, Timisoara, and Turnu Severin possessed three lodges each, while Sibiu, and Buzau had two each, with many other locations possessing one.

Visitors to Romania are advised to either telephone the Grand Secretary's office in Bucharest on arrival, or visit Freemasons' Hall in that city. In Bucharest alone, there are few nights where at least one lodge is not meeting.

RUSSIA

A Grand Lodge of Russia

Founded: 1995. *Descent:* France (GLNF)

Address: Grand Secretary, PO Box 18, Moscow 109377, Russia.

Telephone or Fax: (709 5) 206 8176.

Email: <glor@usa.net>.

Lodges: 12. Membership: 200.

Ritual: Scottish Rite Craft degrees.

Publications: *Constitution*.

History

On 24 January 1731, the Premier Grand Lodge of England appointed a Captain John Phillips as Provincial Grand Master for Russia and Germany, but whether actual lodges were formed in Russia in this era is unclear. The first lodge for which extant records exist was chartered at St Petersburg in 1771. This was Perfect Unity Lodge #414. Others followed rapidly, enabling a National Grand Lodge to be formed in 1776, reputedly with 18 lodges. The new Grand Lodge abandoned the English system to work the Swedish Rite.

Regrettably, Russian Masonry appears to have degenerated into political intrigue. Government pressure began in 1782, and by 1794 all lodges were forced to close. The Craft was allowed to revive under the liberal Tsar Alexander I, who ascended the throne in 1801. In 1815, the Grand Lodge 'Astrea' was formed at St Petersburg by four lodges originating from Sweden and Germany, again working the Swedish Rite. However, by 1822 he had been persuaded that Masonry was a danger to the state, and all lodges were again closed. Thereafter, the Russian Craft existed in limbo. There are stories of continuing Masonic activity up until the Bolshevik Revolution, which the Craft most certainly did not survive.

Subsequent to the Russian Revolution, émigrés took their Freemasonry to France, where they founded Lodge Astrea #100 in 1922, working in Russian under the French National Grand Lodge (GLNF). This lodge still operates in Paris. The members of this lodge provided a catalyst for the return of mainstream Masonry to Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Notes for visitors

As will be appreciated in view of Russian Masonic history, Russian Masons tend to be discreet in relation to their membership. It is preferable to address envelopes to the Grand Secretary without any Masonic reference.

An intending visitor could endeavour to telephone the Grand Lodge office in Moscow when in the country, or attend it personally, in order to make arrangements to visit a lodge. However, be aware that the Grand Lodge office is not permanently staffed. The best recommendation is to contact the Grand Lodge office by either email or fax, well in advance, asking for a contact telephone number for use on arrival. Note that no mention of Masonic interests should be put on visa applications.

Visitors are most welcome, and can expect to be met at a convenient public place and then taken to a meeting. At present, Russian lodges do not possess their own Masonic halls, but use rented accommodation such as schools.

Dress for Russian lodges is a dark lounge suit, though a collar and tie is acceptable. Regalia is based on that of the GLNF, which in itself is similar to English regalia. Visitors will need to bring their own personal regalia with them. The ritual used by Russian lodges is the Scottish Rite Craft degrees, as used by Lodge Astrea #100 GLNF.

A festive board is held after every lodge meeting, analogous to the GLNF/English pattern, which includes a light supper or buffet, often replete with wine, beer, mineral water and, of course, vodka. A short formal

toast list and speeches often accompany the supper. An overseas visitor is likely to be called upon to reply briefly to a toast in his honour. While most Russian lodges use the Russian language, quite a few members are bilingual, and English is understood.

List of lodges

While the names and numbers of Russian lodges are noted below, meeting details are not—simply because meeting dates and places are not fixed, and can often be changed at short notice. No Russian lodge has yet obtained permanent premises. An intending visitor will be informed appropriately, upon inquiry by fax or email to the Grand Lodge office in Moscow. Russian lodges recess in June, July and August (except Jupiter #7 near Moscow, which meets all the year round); otherwise they meet monthly.

All lodges work in Russian, except Aurora #6 and Brotherly Love #10 which work in English, while Northern Radiance #9 works in Russian and Armenian, and Alexander Pushkin #11 works in Russian and French. A research lodge, Quatuor Coronati #8, has recently been formed in Moscow.

Lodge Brotherly Love #10, was consecrated on 6 March 1999 in Moscow, with a travelling warrant. Its second meeting, by arrangement with the Grand Lodge of Turkey, was in Marmaris, Turkey. The initial lodge officers originate from seven countries: Russia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Lebanon, Austria, France and Germany. Upon invitation, the lodge will travel and meet in sister jurisdictions. It is hoped the lodge will be a catalyst for introducing Freemasonry into countries where it does not yet exist, particularly East Asian Republics. The lodge can be contacted via the Grand Lodge Office in Moscow. Russia now has eleven lodges under charter but, given the size of the country, this number is likely to expand greatly in the years ahead.

The most recently formed Russian lodge is Pacific Rim #12, to work at Vladivostok, and is the first mainstream lodge formed east of the Urals. It presently works ‘under dispensation’, but will be formally consecrated during 2000. The introduction of Masonry into Russia’s Far East is being supported and facilitated by the Grand Lodge of Alaska, through its ‘Russian Relations Committee’. The Grand Lodge of Russia had previously requested Alaskan assistance in erecting lodges in the Russian Far East.

Lodge Pacific Rim met for the first time in Palmer, Alaska, on 10 September 1999, to initiate a Russian from Vladivostok. On 15 October, a group of senior Alaskan Masons flew to Vladivostok and conferred the three Craft degrees on a further eight Russians. Three days later the officers of the lodge, drawn from the new members, were duly installed. Within the next few years further lodges are foreshadowed in other Far Eastern Russian cities. Interested visitors to Eastern Russia can obtain meeting details through the Grand Secretary in Moscow, or through the Alaskan Grand Secretary in Anchorage.

Currently-chartered Russian lodges are as follows:

Meeting in Moscow:	Lodge Harmony #1, Lodge Lotus #2, Lodge Aurora #5, Lodge Quatuor Coronati #8, Lodge Northern Radiance #9, Alexander Pushkin #11.
Meeting in St Petersburg:	Lodge Astrea #3
Meeting in Archangelsk:	Lodge Polar Star #6
Meeting in Voronezh:	Lodge Gamaïoun #4
Meeting in Zvenigorod (near Moscow):	Lodge Jupiter #7
Meeting variously:	Lodge Brotherly Love #10
Meeting in Vladivostok:	Lodge Pacific Rim #12

B Other lodges and Grand Lodges

The Grand Lodge of France (GLdF) has six lodges in Russia, the most recent of which is #1281, erected in late 1999. The GLdF does not publish the names or locations of these lodges, for security reasons.

In recent years, the Grand Orient of France (GOdF) has established a Grand Orient of Russia, which meets in Moscow. The existence of others is rumoured, including a Grand Lodge derived from Italy.

SLOVAKIA

Slovakia is a relatively new country, having become independent from Czechoslovakia in 1993. It has one mainstream lodge, Ján Kollár #6, under the Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic. It was originally chartered

under the Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia and was located at Bratislava. After 1993, when Czechoslovakia split into the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia was renamed the Grand Lodge of the Czech Republic, it was deemed prudent to move the lodge to Brno, in the Czech Republic. Following a change of government in Slovakia, the lodge returned to Bratislava in February 2000; meeting details are unknown.

Lodge Humanizmus, chartered under the Grand Orient of France in 1993, meets twice each month at Bratislava and also has joint meetings with two of the lodges of the Czech Grand Orient (*Bratrstvi* and *Via Lucis*). It has an Internet presence at <<http://www.humanizmus.sk/>> and <<http://www.slobodomurar.sk/>>.

SLOVENIA

Grand Lodge of Slovenia

[*Velika Loza Slovenije*]

Founded: 1999. *Descent:* Austria.

Address: Grand Secretary, Gosposvetska 1, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Telephone & Fax: (386) 61 226 915.

Email: <mikl.knez@siol.net>.

Lodges: 3. Membership: 100.

Publications: *Constitution*.

History

This former constituent of Yugoslavia lies immediately to the south of Austria and east of Italy. It gained its independence in 1991. The early Masonic history of Slovenia largely parallels that of Yugoslavia and Croatia (*see under these headings*). The first lodge in what is now politically Slovenia was founded at Ljubljana in 1812. This was the French-chartered lodge *Les Amis du Roi de Rome et du Napoleon* (Friends of the King of Rome and of Napoleon). It did not survive the Napoleonic era.

Some Slovenians, between the two world wars, were members of Yugoslavian lodges. The first, and only, lodge in this period composed of Slovenians was Lodge Valenyin Vodnik, formed in Ljubljana in 1940. It was permanently closed in April 1941, following the Italian occupation of Slovenia. In 1945, Yugoslavia became a communist state, with Masonry forbidden.

However, following the collapse of communism in 1990, and the subsequent independence of Slovenia, it became possible to re-introduce Freemasonry into the country. Initially, Slovenians had joined newly-formed Yugoslavian lodges, but by 1991, as with Croatia, Masons in Slovenia were taken under the wing of the Grand Lodge of Austria. On 21 March 1991 the Deputy Lodge 'Ilyria' was formed in Vienna, and upon its foundation six Slovenian and twelve Croatians were accepted into membership. On 26 September in that year, the first initiation of candidates into this lodge occurred in Ljubljana.

On 5 March 1994, a second Deputy Lodge, 'Dialogus', was consecrated and on 5 October 1996 the first two full lodges were erected: *Dialogus* and *Ziga Zois*. A third lodge, *Arcus*, followed on 16 October 1998.

The Grand Lodge of Slovenia, with its three founding lodges, was consecrated by the Grand Lodge of Austria in Ljubljana on 16 October 1999 in the presence of over 200 Masonic guests from across Europe. Given its origins, in time it is likely this new Grand Lodge will be widely recognised by other mainstream Grand Lodges.

List of lodges

Lodge Dialogus and Lodge Ziga Zois both meet every Monday at 7.30 pm. Lodge Arcus meets on Tuesdays, also at 7.30 pm. All lodges recess in June, July and August. As is the case with Austrian lodges, those in Slovenia carry no number. Slovenian lodges work the Schroeder ritual, in Slovenian. The Temple address is: Dragomer, Dragomerška 1, 1351 Brezovica. Brezovica is an outer suburb of Ljubljana.

Visitors to Slovenian lodges are most welcome. It is an appreciated courtesy for visitors to contact the Grand Secretary upon arrival in Ljubljana, whereupon every assistance will be offered.

TURKEY

A Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Turkey

Founded: 1909. *Descent:* France, England, Scotland & others.

Address: Masonic Hall, Nuru Ziya Sokak 25, Beyoglu, Istanbul 80050, Turkey.

Telephone: (90 212) 249 2451, or 251 2650, Fax: (90 212) 249 4753.

Email: <Mason@yore.com.tr>. Website: <<http://www.Mason.org.tr/>>.

Lodges: 175. Membership: 11,900.

Ritual: Turkish.

Publications: *Constitutions*.

Periodicals: *Tesviye*, *Mimar Sinan*.

History

There is documented reference to the existence of lodges in Turkey in 1738. These lodges appear to have emanated from various European sources. In 1748 Sultan Mahmud I used the pretext of Pope Clement XII's Bull, 'In Eminenti' (April 1738), and banned Freemasonry with a royal edict, but the edict was never put into force. By the end of the 18th century many lodges were operating and they flourished after the French Revolution and during Napoleon's reign. On 15/16 June 1826, in order to reform the army, the corrupt military order of the Janissaries was abolished in a bloodbath, by Sultan Mahmud II. The Janissaries were mostly members of the Bektachi sect, which was also abolished. Freemasonry was closed with the pretext that it was a kind of 'Bektachism' and many Freemasons were sent into exile.

However, the political climate eventually changed, and the Craft was re-introduced during the Crimean War, in 1856. In that year an English-warranted lodge, Oriental #988, was formed in Turkey, and another ten English lodges were established between 1860 and 1870. Ireland, Scotland and the Grand Orient of Italy, France, Spain and Egypt also had lodges in Turkey in this period.

The expansion of the Craft was slow, as various Ottoman Sultans issued edicts suppressing Freemasonry. This repression became particularly harsh, although selective, during the reign of Sultan Abdülhamid II (1876–1909). Abdülhamid favoured Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, and even donated money towards its balls and charities. On the other hand he persecuted Freemasons from the Grand Orient of France and Italy who, under the influence of Carbonarism and the Resorgimento in Italy (Garibaldi, Mazzini, etc) endeavoured to overthrow Abdülhamid's rule to establish a constitutional monarchy. This 'politically-active Freemasonry' achieved its goal through the 'Liberty and Progress' political party, which organised its political and subversive activities in Masonic lodges under the Italian, French and Spanish jurisdictions.

In 1908 a constitutional monarchy was declared and Abdülhamid was deposed by a committee of deputies, all Freemasons. In 1909, first a Supreme Council warranted from Egypt, and then a Grand Lodge of the Ottoman Empire inspired by the French Grand Orient, were created. Most of the lodges under foreign jurisdictions joined the Grand Lodge. It initially consisted of fourteen lodges holding French, Italian or Spanish charters. It modelled its constitution on that of the Grand Orient of France. The Grand Lodge of the Ottoman Empire (later re-named the Grand Orient of Turkey) enjoyed a period of sustained expansion, erecting 65 lodges prior to 1935. The political climate in Turkey had been deteriorating, and the Grand Orient became dormant in 1935.

The Turkish Supreme Council revived in 1948, and controlled Turkish Craft lodges until it divested control to the Grand Lodge F&AM of Turkey, founded in 1956 and formed by 29 Craft lodges. The Grand Lodge of Scotland consecrated the 'new' Grand Lodge in April 1965, and Turkish lodges at this time largely adopted the Craft ritual of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, although still exhibiting a Continental heritage, particularly French. The Grand Lodge also adopted, largely, the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

However, the events of 1965 were not without disharmony. A schism occurred whereupon in 1966 seven of the 29 lodges broke away and formed the *Liberal* Grand Lodge of Turkey (*see below*), which was later

recognised by the Grand Orient of France. The Grand Lodge F&AM of Turkey was recognised by England and Ireland in 1970, and today enjoys fraternal relations with most mainstream Grand Lodges around the world.

Notes for visitors

The Grand Lodge of Turkey is a strongly expanding Masonic body. Of its current 175 lodges, all but a few work in its three largest cities. While most lodges, quite naturally, work in Turkish, there are a few that operate in foreign languages. As foreign rituals are not permitted by the Grand Lodge of Turkey, these lodges all use the Turkish ritual in translation.

Lodge Dikmen #22 (at Ankara), Lodge Freedom #35 (at Istanbul), and Lodge Ephesus #42 (at Izmir) all work in English and largely cater for bilingual Turkish members. Two French-speaking lodges are to be found in Istanbul, *Loge Atlas* #9, and *Loge Humanitas* #33, and one at Izmir, *Loge Prométhée* #16. Two Greek-speaking lodges also work in Istanbul, Lodge Hakikat #18 and Lodge Hulûs #34. Istanbul also has a German-speaking lodge, *Logen Libertas* #17.

Turkish ritual is largely based on that of Scotland, but with several continental additions stemming from the French Rite and Schroeder ritual. Reflecting its membership, the Koran, Old Testament and New Testament are each displayed on the altar of all Turkish lodges.

Turkish lodges exhibit many interesting features. They require such things as a long time lapse between degrees, compulsory attendance (particularly for Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts), candidates presenting lectures and written assignments prior to progression, and operative-style lodge layouts. Every Turkish lodge has an *Inspector*, appointed by the Grand Lodge.

Dress for Turkish lodges is a dark suit, and working regalia will be supplied to visitors without their own. Most lodges meet fortnightly. In Ankara, lodges meet in the 1st and 3rd weeks. However, in all other cities, lodges meet every fortnight, and consequently it is possible for a lodge to meet three times in one month. Lodges open at either 6.30 pm or 7 pm (with the latter being more common) and most recess in June, July and August.

The Grand Lodge (Grand Assembly) meets annually in April. The Grand Committee consists of 20 Grand officers elected every second year, plus the Immediate Past Grand Master. The Master, Immediate Past Master and one elected representative are the delegates from each lodge to the annual Grand Lodge meeting. In lodges themselves, a new Master is elected every two years, usually in November, and installed at the end of December.

Turkey has an excellent research lodge, Mimar Sinan #43, meeting at Istanbul. It produces its own magazine, also called *Mimar Sinan* ('Sinan the Architect'). Like the Grand Lodge magazine, *Tesviye*, it is published bi-monthly.

List of lodges

The addresses and contact numbers of the three main meeting places in Turkey are noted below. If possible, it is recommended that visitors in the first instance call at the Grand Lodge office at Freemasons' Hall in Beyoglu, Istanbul, where full assistance will be readily obtained. Istanbul has a second Masonic Hall, located on the Asian side of the Bosphorus, at Yakacik. Six lodges work in this Temple. A third Temple on the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus is presently under construction.

Istanbul: Freemasons' Hall, Nuru Ziya Sokak 25, Beyoglu, 80030 Istanbul (73 lodges). Telephone: (90 212) 249 2451, or 251 2650, Fax: (90 212) 249 4753.

Ankara: Freemasons' Hall, Tuna Caddesi 17, 06410 Yenisehir, Ankara (38 lodges). Telephone: (90 312) 431 1888, or 432 5638, Fax: (90 312) 435 1477.

Izmir: Freemasons' Hall, Cumhuriyet Bulvari 158, 35220 Izmir (25 lodges). Telephone: (90 232) 421 0642, or 463 3300, Fax: (90 232) 463 5957.

Bursa has three lodges, Adana has two, and Antalya, Bodrum, Bursa, Eskisehir, and Mamaris, one each. Meeting locations and details for these lodges can readily be gained at the Grand Lodge Office in Istanbul, or at Freemasons' Hall in Ankara or Izmir.

Needless to say, there is rarely a weeknight in Istanbul, Ankara or Ismir without lodges working. That said, it is likely that the non-Turkish-speaking lodges will hold more immediate interest for overseas visitors, and thus their meeting details are noted below:

English-speaking lodges

Lodge Dikmen #22 (Ankara) Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

Lodge Freedom #35 (Istanbul) Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays.
 Lodge Ephesus #42 (Izmir) Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays.

French-speaking lodges

Loge Altas #9 (Istanbul) Meets 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays.
 Loge Hümanitas #33 (Istanbul) Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays.
 Loge Prométhée #16 (Izmir) Meets 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays.

Greek-speaking lodges

Lodge Hakikat #18 (Istanbul) Meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays.
 Lodge Hulûs #34 (Istanbul) Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

German-speaking lodge

Logen Libertas #17 (Istanbul) Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

B Prince Hall lodges

There are four Prince Hall lodges meeting in Turkey, three under Delaware and one on the Washington rolls. They meet as follows:

Ankara

C P Houston Jr Military Lodge #34 DE

Incirlik

Mt Ararat Military Lodge #36 DE
 Fellowship Military Lodge #82 WA

Izmir

Elwood Maxfield Military Lodge #39 DE

C Other lodges and Grand Lodges

Ozgur Masonlar Buyuk Locasi (Liberal Grand Lodge of Turkey), founded in 1966 by seven lodges which broke away from the re-constituted Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Turkey (*above*), has grown from the original seven lodges and 150 members in 1966 to 3000 members in 36 lodges by the end of the century. Its lodges are located in various regions, including Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Istanbul and Izmir. They work a Scottish Rite Craft ritual, mostly in Turkish, but Lodge Wisdom works in English and *Loge l'Étoile d'Orient* works in French, both in Istanbul.

The Liberal Grand Lodge is a foundation member of CLIPSAS, and its headquarters is in Istanbul. Although it initiates only men, it admits both men and women visitors. Its website is at <<http://www.mason-mahfili.org.tr>>, and it publishes a quarterly magazine, *Mason Dergisi*.

Kadin Masonlar Buyuk Locasi (Grand Lodge of Women Freemasons of Turkey) was founded in 1991 and is based in Istanbul. In late 1999 it had 450 members in seven lodges, in Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Istanbul and Izmir, all working a Scottish Rite Craft ritual. Only women are accepted as members, but men and women are admitted as visitors. It, also, is a member of CLIPSAS.

UKRAINE

The Republic of Ukraine is bounded by Russia to the east and several countries, including Poland and Romania, to the west. It achieved political independence in December 1991, following the break up of the former Soviet Union.

There is scant reference to Freemasonry existing in the Ukraine during the Russian Tsarist era. However, it has been claimed a *Grand Lodge of Ukraine* was established in Kiev in 1919. If it did exist, it cannot have survived Ukraine's incorporation into the USSR in 1920.

The French National Grand Lodge (GLNF) chartered *Loge les Trois Colonnes* #785 (the Three Columns) in Paris in April 1993 to admit Ukrainians. The lodge moved to Kiev in 1996, and was followed in late 1998

by *Loge le Phénix d'Ukraine* #1093 (the Phoenix of Ukraine) at Kharkov. Both lodges use the Scottish Rite Craft ritual in Ukrainian, and are administered under the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lutèce, in Metropolitan France.

The Regular Grand Lodge of Italy (GLRI) has also been active in the Ukraine. On 7 February 1998, the GLRI consecrated Hiram Lodge #25 at Odessa. It was subsequently followed by Lodge Novaya Atlantida #117 (at Kiev) and Lodge Kosmopolitan #119 (at Odessa). These three lodges were formed into a Regional Grand Lodge under the GLRI on 17 October 1998, governed by a local Regional Grand Master. A further three lodges have been erected: Light of the Truth #142 (at Odessa), Zoloti Vorota #143 (at Kiev), and Obriy #145 (at Odessa).

On 17 October 1999 the Grand Lodge of Ukraine, comprising the former GLRI lodges, was consecrated at Odessa by the Grand Master of the GLRI. Since the new Grand Lodge does not have permanent premises, and in most cases its lodges do not have permanent meeting days, intending visitors should address inquiries to the Grand Secretary of the GLRI.

It remains to be seen if the GLNF lodges will join the new Grand Lodge, or whether the GLNF will continue to charter lodges in the country. Intending visitors to GLNF lodges should address initial inquiries through the GLNF Grand Secretary, but some meeting details of GLNF lodges are available, as follows:

Loge les trois Colonnes #785	Meets at Kiev, 2nd Sunday, monthly, at 10.30 am, except January and August. Installation November.
Loge le Phénix d'Ukraine #1016	Meets at Kharkov, 4th Friday monthly, at 7.30 pm, except July, August & December. Installation November.

YUGOSLAVIA

Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia

Founded: 1990. *Descent:* Germany.

Postal Address: Svetozara Markovica 81A, 11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia.

Telephone & Fax: +381 11 672 378.

Email: <rgly@bigfoot.com>.

Website: <<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/5020/Lod.htm>>.

Lodges: 6. Membership: 150.

Ritual: Schroeder.

Publication: *Constitution*.

History

Long subjected to communist rule, Yugoslavia now possesses a recognised mainstream Grand Lodge, and Masonic prospects in this region look relatively bright.

Until 1991, Yugoslavia consisted of six constituent republics: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia, and Montenegro. Today, only the latter two remain together in federation—the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Consequently, Masonry in other former Yugoslavian republics is dealt with separately in this book.

As with Austria and Hungary, Yugoslavia (then called Bosnia) was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the 19th century. Several lodges from various sources existed in Bosnia, tenuously, prior to World War One. A Grand Lodge was erected at Belgrade in October 1908 by lodges then working under the Grand Lodge of Hungary, but it did not survive the Great War.

After that war, Yugoslavia largely gained independence, and the Grand Lodge of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (later re-named the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia) was formed in June 1919, at Belgrade, by lodges then variously under the Grand Lodges of Hungary and Hamburg, and the Grand Orient of Italy. A schismatic Grand Lodge, the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia, was created in 1921 by three lodges breaking away from the above. Prior to the Second World War, there were 27 lodges and 2500 Masons in Yugoslavia.

However, Nazi occupation during the War saw the rapid demise of all Masonic activity. The subsequent

Yugoslav communist government did not permit the legal establishment of lodges, although there were occasional reports of an ‘*underground*’ lodge operating in the 1960s and 1970s.

After the collapse of Eastern European communism, the conditions arose for a Masonic revival in Yugoslavia, as elsewhere. Three lodges in Germany, comprised largely of Yugoslavian exiles, relocated to Belgrade, the capital of Yugoslavia. On 23 June 1990 these lodges formed the new Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia, sponsored by the United Grand Lodges of Germany, and supported by the Grand Lodge of Austria. Subsequently, further lodges were chartered.

Unhappily, a schism occurred in the Grand Lodge in 1993. During its Annual Assembly, the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia expelled its immediate Past Grand Master, and then altered its name to the Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia. Its initial sponsor, the United Grand Lodges of Germany, immediately sanctioned the change of name and gave formal recognition to the Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia.

The former Grand Master, now expelled, claimed leadership of a ‘Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia’, but received no mainstream international support. As of 1999, it is not clear if his ‘Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia’ still exists. However, mainstream Masonic visitors to Yugoslavia should be aware that if their Grand Lodge recognises a Grand Lodge in Yugoslavia, it is the *Regular* Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia. Visitors should beware of imposters.

Notes for visitors

The Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia has adopted German constitutional and ritual practices, and uses German Schroeder ritual translated into Serbo-Croat. Several Lodges of Instruction have also been formed to assist in training new members. Dress for meetings is a black or dark business suit, plus regalia.

It needs to be appreciated that the new Grand Lodge begins its life with no assets (lodge buildings, regalia, etc), and faces a lengthy accumulation process in this area. Consequently, lodges do not yet have fixed meeting venues, and meet variously. Therefore, Masons travelling to Yugoslavia will need to contact the Grand Secretary’s office in Belgrade to arrange visits. The Annual Assembly of the Grand Lodge is usually held in Belgrade in the first week of June. After formal proceedings, a dinner follows to which the ladies are invited.

List of lodges

The six lodges presently working in Yugoslavia under the Regular Grand Lodge are as follows:

- Lodge Probratim #1 (Meets in Belgrade, Serbia)
- Lodge Maksimilijan Vrhovac #2 (Belgrade)
- Lodge Svetlost Balkana-Garibaldi #3 (Belgrade)
- Lodge Montenegro #4 (Podgorica, Montenegro)
- Lodge Vuk Karadzic #5 (Belgrade)
- Lodge Mitropolit Stratimirovic #6 (Novi Sad, Serbia).

STOP PRESS, July 2000.

Re the schism of 1993, described above, the Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia retains fairly substantial mainstream recognition, while its rival, the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia, has become a founder member of the United Grand Lodges of Europe, together with the Grand Lodge of France (GLdF) and the Traditional & Symbolic Grand Lodge Opéra (GLTSO).