



Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite

Taipei Bodies News

Newsletter #3, January 2013

A word from the Venerable Master

Fraternal greetings to all!



First of all, my best wishes for the 2013 New Year. May your business move swiftly and everything go smoothly for you and your families in the Year of Golden Snake!

In this period of appraisal, I would give you a few figures about the Orient of Taiwan. At the end of 2012, we are 580 Active Members (with 315 Life Members, 62 Seniors exempted, and only 203 Regular Members). This means that, besides the low interests we earned from the Life Membership Fund time deposit (now at 1.19% p.a.), our only regular income comes from the dues paid by these 203 brethren. You can easily guess that the financial situation is not exactly brilliant, while facing increasing costs. We would accordingly welcome any donation. This can be made in cash, check or online (in any proposed box on <https://secure.scottishrite.org/OnlineDuesPayment/DuesPayment1.as>). Your generosity will help the Taipei Bodies go extra miles and is highly appreciated.

In a few months we will all meet again for our Spring Conferral in Bangkok. Please make your best effort to join our annual reunion. Once again, may you have a prosperous Year 2013.

Fraternally yours,
Dennis Liao, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master

The coming Year of the Snake: the forecast

"The sixth animal who arrived was the philosophical Snake"

The coming 2013 year of the black Snake is going to be astute in observations and deft in actions. The Snake symbol of the 2013 year is an active, snaky and

has a very seductive nature. The 2013 Snake of Kuei Szu year has ability to read complicated situation quickly in a controlled manner which is good for business. But 2013 Snake need to watch for fanatical commitments since Snakes inclination to spend money quickly than earn them may produce tensions in personal relationships.



2013 Spring Conferral

The 2013 Spring Conferral will be held in Bangkok from April 27th to 30th at the British Club.

It is time now to think of gathering new candidates. Contact us for application forms.

Change in mail address

We have opened a new Mail Box. Our address is:

Taipei Bodies
P.O. Box 34-154
Taipei City 10499
Taiwan

The old one will keep in operation from 2 months.

Chivalry and Scottish Rite

Why so many Knights? Reference to Chivalry is very important in Freemasonry and in particular in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Many reasons for that.

The Lodge of Perfection is a continuation of the Solomon Temple history after the death of our Grand Master Hiram Abiff, ending with the return of exiled Hebrew from Babylon. There is no reference to chivalry in these degrees.

Reversely, in following Chapter Rose Croix and Council of Kadosh, 11 of the 16 Degrees refer to a Knight, 3 to a Prince. These degrees start with the rebuilding of the King Solomon Temple and although they keep many references to the Hebrew history, they extend widely in the modern era (AC). Roughly speaking, the Lodge of Perfection is referring to the Old Testament while the subsequent degrees are more



referring to the birth and development of Christianity, from Saint John the Baptist and the Essenians up to modern times.

There is accordingly some logic in seeing the apparition of Chivalry, as from the title of Knight appeared with the Roman Empire (*equites*) and developed strongly during the middle age, in particular with the Crusades, which saw the creation of many chivalric orders, Templars, Hospitalers, Teutonics to mention the most famous ones.

Is there a direct filiation between these Chivalric orders and Freemasonry? This is another story, but it appears however to be clearly the case for the Scottish Rite High Grades, which is quite understandable as Chivalry carries a strong symbolism of honor, courage, dedication, and also devotion to a Supreme being, which are also of prime importance in our Masonic creeds. The chivalric orders, with the opening to the Muslim world in particular, had developed a teaching which the Freemasons might have considered beneficial to their own spiritual and initiatic teachings.

Furthermore, it must also be noted that the official birth of Freemasonry is at the eve of the eighteenth Century at a time when nobility was still the governing principle in Europe, and the when most of elite carried the title of Chevalier or Lord. So there is no wonder that the authors of the rituals refer to Knights for our degrees.

2013 Officers

During our December stated meeting, the following officers were elected for the 2013:

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master

Dennis Liao

Senior Warden

Guang Dah Hsu

Junior Warden

Dupree Chia

Chapter Rose-Croix

Wise Master

Fu-Lin Cheng

Senior Warden

Zeus Chen

Junior Warden

Fisher Kuo

Council of Kadosh

Commander	Bruce Yang
1st Lieutenant Commander	Miguel Lastra
2nd Lieutenant Commander	Winston Chen

Consistory

Master	Pi-Song Tsai
Prior	Richard Wu
Preceptor	Chen I-Chen
Chancellor	Tsung-Yee Chang
Minister of State	Jimmy Shaw
Treasurer	Johnny Li
Secretary	Claude Soucaille
Almoner	Chung-Tai Sun

2013 Dues.

As underlined by our Venerable Master, the payment of your dues is essential. If not done yet, please do it as soon as possible. The online payment is very convenient

(<https://secure.scottishrite.org/OnlineDuesPayment/DuesPayment1.asp>)

We also have a bank account to receive bank transfers:

Mega International Commercial Bank

Account holder: Claude Robert Soucaille

Account number: 021-10-42184-9

Swift code: ICBCTWTP021

Of course cash or check in US\$ is always possible.

Contribute to our letter

Contribute to the life of our Valley, send your contribution to
taipei.bodies@gmail.com

Dear Brother,

We are more and more working through email. We would appreciate you acknowledge this Letter by sending us your email address for future communications

Taipei Bodies, China Masonic Temple
#10 Lane 201, Chang An East Rd Sec. 2, Taipei
Phone +886227713310, taipei.bodies@gmail.com