



Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite

Taipei Bodies News

Orient of Taiwan, on which the sun never sets

Newsletter #31, May 2018

A word from the Venerable Master



Dear Brethren,

The Spring Reunion had been completed under the pleasant and joyful moment. The response from brothers we have not heard any negative comment.

Thanks to the Ill. Roy Tan and brothers from KL to help to prepare everything to make this reunion very successful.

The next year Spring Reunion will be taken care by Thailand brothers. The venue will be announced later.

Very soon the Fall Reunion will come, it will start from the fourth Friday in September in Taipei. Wish all brothers can come. We appreciated that lot teams had already shown their enthusiast to perform the different ritual work for long form.

Expecting a successful reunion again.

Fraternally yours,

Ill. Dupree Chia,
Venerable Master

The Spring Reunion

First, congratulations to the Malaysian organization Committee, for a beautiful Reunion, which gathered over 100 members, to confer the degree of Master of the Royal Secret, to 27 brothers.



Five compulsory degrees were performed in long form, the 4th, 14th, 18th, 30th and 32nd, plus the 21st degree, Noachite or Prussian Knight. The international ritual teams from India, Malaysia, Mauritius, Singapore, Sri-Lanka, and Thailand, were very professional and left a strong feeling to the candidates, in particular the dramatic 21st.



While brothers attended the ceremonies, ladies enjoyed sightseeing, shopping and eating in the sympathetic and beautiful environment of Aonang.

The ceremonies were concluded by a Banquet in the Resort. The new Masters of the Royal Secret were presented the Scottish Rite Leaflet, issued by the Supreme Council.

The tradition inaugurated last year was continued by the presentation of the Double Headed Eagle medal to brothers who spent a lot of efforts for the success of the Reunion.

Everybody left in happiness, wishing "au revoir" for the Fall Reunion in Taipei.



The Fall Reunion

Preparation of Fall Reunion is starting strongly.

The dates first: Friday September 28 and Saturday September 29.

The place: China Masonic Temple for the ceremonies, Hotel Sunworld Dynasty for the welcome reception and banquet.

The discussion with the Hotel are going on, and we expect to reach a proposal close from the past year conditions.

The registration conditions are being prepared and will be mailed soon.

The Ritual teams are getting organized.
We expect a great Reunion, with many visitors.

The end of the journey, the 32nd degree

"Ex Oriente Lux"



The 32nd degree is the conclusion of the long journey from the degree of Master Masons. It intends to clarify into a single coherent doctrine the lessons taught in the preceding degrees, illustrated by many symbols.

It is organized into two parts. The first one is illustrated by the Masonic camp, which was presented first to the candidate in the Prologue, and which is now presented in more detail. The camp carries first the symbolism of the Pythagorean numbers one, three, five, seven and nine with the nonagon, heptagon, pentagon, triangle and circle. It recapitulates the several degrees which were conferred with their most important lessons. It presents also the four symbols of the Ezechiel's dream, the bull, the lion, the eagle and the man (which find also present in the Royal Arch), each of them symbolizing an evangelist.

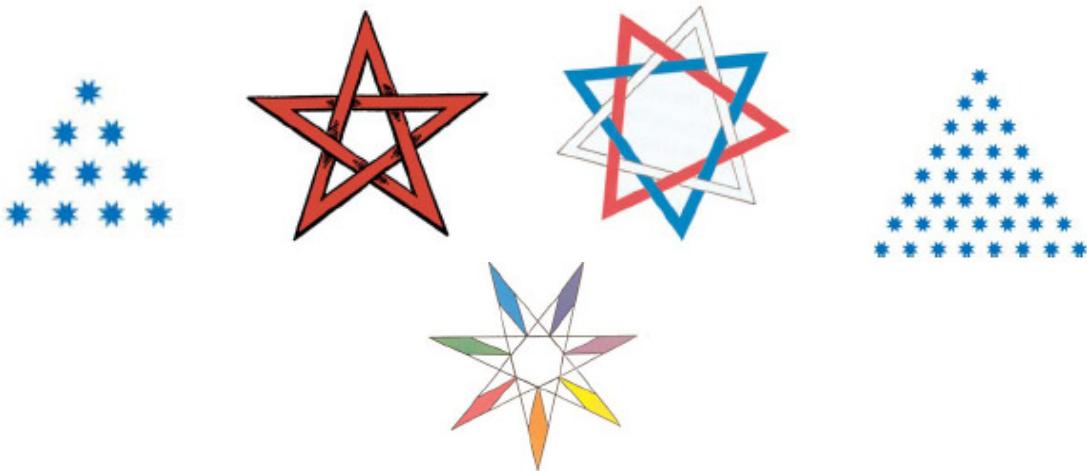
This part is concluded by a reference to the Vedas, as Albert Pike see in the vedic culture of the Aryan civilization an origin of the symbolism present in all subsequent religions or philosophies.

This part is concluded by a reference the governing constellations at the time of vernal equinox and their relation with religions.

The second part summarizes the pledges of the candidate who take five obligations, committing the be a loyal Soldier of the Light for education and enlightenment of the others, Soldier of the Liberty against despotism, Soldier of Freedom of religion against religious fundamentalism and dogmatism, Soldier of the People against incompetence.

The teachings are made in turn by the Venerable Master, the Wise Master and the Commander of Kadosh, respectively head of Lodge of Perfection, Chapter Rose Croix and Council of Kadosh.

Along this part, the candidate is presented with very important symbols, the Tetractys, the Pentacle, the Triple Triangle, the Seven pointed Star, the meaning of which has to be discovered by the candidate.



As YHVH was discovered by the Perfect Elu and INRI by the Knight Rose Croix, the Master of Royal Secret is presented the sacred word AUM, to conclude that the human soul possesses a ray of the Divine Light

The signs and the passwords are explained

After his investiture, the New Master of the Royal Secret, having now accomplished satisfactorily his Journey, is allowed to pass the balustrade he showed first closed in the fourth degree.

Your readings

Among the several books of the History of Freemasonry by Albert Gallatin Mackey, it is a good idea to start with The Legends of the Craft, initially published in 1898.

The author reviews 44 legends which have influenced the Freemasonry: Lamech, Haliwell poem, druidism, Enoch, the crusades,
A good reference book for any study.

Dues 2018

Although we were expecting a good dues collection at the Reunion, we are still very far from our target.

On a total of 392 regular members, only 240 are in good standing.
67 members (17%) are still late for 2018, and 85 (22%) have larger arrears.

A positive point however is that brethren use more and more the Online payment procedure.

We shall receive soon the 2019 Dues Cards, and issue the 2019 Dues Notices (payment before end of 2018), so we hope to have better record at the Fall Reunion.

Payment can be made

- Online in US\$ only, the best way (<http://scottishrite.org/> Pay your Dues) **the best way**, or
- by bank transfer to the following account
Megabank International Commercial Bank
Account Holder: Claude Robert Soucaille
Account Number: 021-10-42184-9
Swift Code: ICBCTWTP021
- or in cash.

We have to discourage payment by check from outside the USA as our bank refuses to handle small amounts, which cost more than the checks amount.

New arrivals, kiss and goodbye

We have been notified earlier this year of the death of Sir Knight James Chun Liang Chou Deceased Chou, who was retired in New York State. May the Grand Architect of the Universe welcome him in the Grand Lodge above. We offer our sincere condolences to his family.

Contribute to our letter

Contribute to the life of our Valley, send your contribution to
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