



Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite

Taipei Bodies News

Orient of Taiwan, on which the sun never sets

Newsletter #32, July 2018

A word from the Venerable Master

Dear Brethren,



In this hot Summer season, it is time to take a break and to enjoy vacations with your family. Safety is important for whatever you do wherever you go: enjoy but take care.

Keep some time to think about the Scottish Rite and the preparation of our Fall Reunion.

It starts from September 27th, the welcome party. Wish you all can join this and introduce more brothers to become Master of the Royal Secret.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Taipei,

Fraternally yours,

III. Dupree Chia,
Venerable Master

Fall reunion

Two months left from now: the Fall Reunion will take place in the China Masonic Temple in Taipei on September 28 and 29. We are waiting for many visitors to join this event. A welcome party will be held on the Thursday 27 in the evening at the Sunworld Dynasty, which is again this year our hotel partner.

We expect to perform on the Friday and Saturday 6 degrees in long form, with international ritual teams, and in particular for the first time in Taipei the 21st degree, Noachite or Prussian Knight.

The documents for registration and hotel reservation have been sent to you, since long, but if you missed it, contact us.

If you have candidates to present please send us their application form.

Brotherly and Diversity, living up to our Principles

From Sir Knight Louis Ruehlmann

"By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family..."

Perhaps no better embodiment of Brotherly Love among so a diverse group of Masons can be found when the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasons, Taipei Bodies join together twice a year for their Spring and Fall Reunions to confer the 4th to 32nd degrees upon our worthy candidates of equal diversity.



TAIPEI BODIES SPRING REUNION, KRABI ISLAND THAILAND 2018

In Freemasonry we are taught to regard the diversity of our existence on earth as beautiful. The human race is extraordinarily diverse in so many ways: gender, ethnicity, race, religion, nationality, philosophy and lifestyle. The areas in which we differ are endless and that is exactly where the beauty resides.

So too are we cognizant that we live in a world rapidly filling with strife of every description, war, contention, division, sorrow, unhappy people, selfishness, and misery. But change and improvement of our world is possible. For us Freemasons, equality and freedom, according to our



principals is a non-negotiable. It is intrinsically part who we are! One of the laws of physics states: "bodies at rest tend to stay at rest, and bodies in motion tend to stay in motion" unless acted on by an outside force. Freemasonry is such outside force, a force for peace and harmony.

In this busy world with its many contentions and strife Freemasonry around the world offers its members a

safe retreat where men can meet to expound and practice Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. The creation of a safe retreat certainly holds true for our Taipei Bodies Spring and Fall reunions. At each reunion more than 100 members Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasons and candidates gather together from across continents, countries, races and religion stretching from India, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Mauritius, America, United Kingdom, France and others nations to enjoy each other's company. It is indeed a true celebration of diversity as we all happily meet, work and socially interact free of any distinction of profession, social rank, race or creed.

At the reunions multicultural teams made up from this diversity form and work harmoniously together in the atmosphere of brotherly love to perform five compulsory degrees in long form, the 4th, 14th, 18th, 30th and 32nd to an equally diverse group of twenty to thirty candidates. A beautiful sight to behold.

I believe that this success stems from the fact that human beings are hard wired to connect. Our Taipei Bodies provides fertile grounds where such likeminded men can meet, bond, and create intimacy and lasting relations. With Freemasonry at the center we able to build bridges of light that bond us, brain to brain, heart to heart. Those bonds, once formed, are hard to be broken.

When attending our Reunions I cannot help but reminisce on Rudyard Kipling's poem "The Mother Lodge" It celebrates the equality which reigns among Freemasons. The first stanza clearly reflects the diversity of this particular Lodge, underscored by the refrain which contrasts the behavior displayed in public with that shown inside the Lodge.



The Mother Lodge

(First Stanza)

*THERE was Rundle, Station Master,
An' Beazeley of the Rail,
An' 'Ackman, Commissariat,
An' Donkin' o' the Jail;
An' Blake, Conductor-Sergeant,
Our Master twice was 'e,
With im that kept the Europe-shop,
Old Framjee Edu1jee.
Outside - " Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!
Inside - 'Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!*

The many Brethren who attend our reunions must cross physical borders. Yet when gathered together we also cross spiritual borders, to explore new frontiers... frontiers of the heart, frontiers of the soul, and if we're lucky, we come home again, having learned great lessons about our shared destiny, for the purpose of our travels, both inward and outward. It's not merely to see the unseen, but to bring those visions home, to share with those we love.

Sir Knight Louis Ruehlmann



Scottish Rite Journal

We hope you well received the July/August issue of the Scottish Rite Journal, where our last Spring Reunion has been honored thanks to article and pictures provided by our Brother Alexandre Hamalian.

For those who did not receive the Journal, we remind that it is available online

Dues 2019

The Dues Cards for the year 2019 are on their way, and the website is ready to receive your Online payments.

The Annual Dues have been slightly increased: 2,500 NT\$ or 80 US\$ for Taiwan members, 2,000 NT\$ or 70 US\$ for overseas members.

The Life Membership is 1,000 US\$.

The Dues Notices are being sent individually, including as the case may be previous not paid yet.

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.

New arrivals, kiss and goodbye

III. Bill Hou dropped his working tool on Sunday, July 1, 2018. III. Bill was initiated in Liberty lodge #7 and later affiliated with Tan Lodge #9 and has served as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of China. III. Bill has been a dedicated Mason all his life. Joining the Scottish Rite in 1983, he has been the memory of Taipei Bodies, and a reference for our ritual work. He has contributed tremendously to the compilation and proofreading of the ritual monitor of the Grand Lodge of China. His passing is surely a big loss to the fraternity. May he rest in peace in heaven and may God's blessings be on his surviving family.

Contribute to our letter

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