

The Square and Compasses.

A newsletter for the Grand Lodge of South Africa. No. 66 July 2017

The AGM and Installation Weekend

Saturday 8th July 2017 was a very big day in the history of the Grand Lodge of South Africa. We not only hosted the Annual Meetings of Grand Lodge and Northern Division, but also held the installations of MW Bro Dave Duncan as our new Grand Master and RW Bro Peet Roos as a new Provincial Grand Master.

In the morning Northern Division had their AGM. RW Bro Alan van der Vyver was in the Chair and he not only managed an excellent meeting, but also read an Annual Report which would make anybody proud. The Division has gone from strength to strength under Alan's leadership - and it showed!

Once the regular proceedings had been attended to, the Grand Master, MW Bro Geoff



Edwards OSM accepted the gavel and then proceeded with the installation ceremony of RW Bro Peet Roos as the new Provincial Grand Master. While he has a very different style to his predecessor, Peet is

an experienced Mason who is well respected by his Brethren. While he follows in some big footsteps, he is expected to leave his own impressive legacy.

The afternoon's proceedings started with the reception of visiting Grand Lodges. These included England, Ireland, Scotland, Western Australia,

Togo, Benin, Guinea, Mali, Mauritius, Ghana, Mozambique and Nigeria. There were 5 visiting Grand Masters present and they were all included, later, as members of the Escort of Honour.

After MW Bro Geoff Edwards OSM had read his report and presented such awards as the Secretary of the Year to Wor Bro Frik Brits of Grand Lodge and Albert J Haak, the main event, the installation of MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM, by the outgoing Grand Master, then took place.



MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM and the Escort of Honour

MW Bro Duncan's Regalia Bearer was his friend of over 40 years and Proposer some 26 years ago, Wor Bro Mike Tuck. The Installation was a most successful one and our foreign visitors were extremely complimentary about our proceedings.

The evening saw us all assemble at the Wanderers club for a celebratory banquet. We all had a great time and our new Grand Master's daughter enchanted us all with her delightfully light-hearted response to the Toast to the Ladies.

The weekend was unforgettable and a fine way for our new Grand Master to start his term.



In the centre is our new Grand Master, MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM, flanked by visiting dignitaries and our senior Brethren

New Grand Master's Inaugural Address



Martin Luther King, on 28th August 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial, delivered his famous “*I have a dream*” speech in which he revealed his vision for the future of his people in America. In his speech he challenged the prevailing norms and perceptions existing in society at that time. While his speech was enthusiastically received by his followers, most of

society discounted it as “*the impossible dream*”. On 25th May 1961, John F Kennedy, in a speech before Congress unveiled his dream of seeing an American being the first man to walk on the moon, and set an objective that this must happen by the end of the decade. Was this another “*impossible dream*”?

Neither man alone could make it happen, but both men knew that if you do not have goal as a leader, you cannot mobilise people to work to a common objective. Not everyone will sign up, but if the goal is perceived as worthy, enough will lend their skills and abilities to make it happen.

Neither man lived to see their goal achieved, but the inspiration that they created lived on and history has been written.

Kennedy's dream was realised when, less than 9 years later, on the 20th July 1969, Neil Armstrong walked on the Moon. He, along with Buzz Aldrin, a Freemason, was part of the crew that landed a space craft with the processing power equivalent to two IBM XT notebook computers. They had achieved so much with computing power that is miniscule when compared to the power contained in even the simplest of cell phones readily available today. What placed a man on the moon, has since been developed exponentially and its use simplified to such an extent, that my 7-year-old great grandchild has complete confidence with computing power beyond my imagination - and her understanding.

Kennedy's dream was focussed on an event, but the consequences have been life changing for all of us. Would the technology that we take for granted today have been available if John Kennedy had not had his “*impossible dream*”?

The dream of Martin Luther King has not yet been realised and this shows the difference between the nature of the goals. The “*man on the moon*” project was a material goal and by throwing limitless resources at it; success could be achieved relatively quickly. Martin Luther King's goal is based on attitude and behaviour and no matter how willing the few are, the masses take time to come to terms with new concepts of thought. A whole raft of laws has been promulgated in an attempt to make King's dream come true; but progress has been relatively slow as one cannot legislate a change of attitude.

When we consider organised Freemasonry, we all know that we belong to the greatest fraternal organisation ever created by man; but is it doing what it really should be doing?

In times long past, Freemasonry counted amongst its members, the movers and shakers of society. These were the leaders in their societies and they proudly admitted their membership of the Order. In South Africa this has included, State Presidents, senior Clergymen, Teachers, Lawyers, Industrialists, Entrepreneurs and many of the senior Civil Servants who were responsible for creating the infrastructure of South Africa when it emerged from being a colony to become the industrial powerhouse of Africa. Freemasons were known to their communities, because they were involved in them. Freemasonry was seen, at that time, as a “*force for good in society*”.

Over time this changed and today we are often seen to be little more than a nefarious organisation with lots to hide. We are the butts of attack for every small-minded clergyman who wants to unite his flock by creating the “*enemy without*”. For too long we have not reacted to these claims of wrong doing; hoping that they would go away. It can be suggested however, that the exact opposite has happened.

I suggest that to restore the respect for our Order and reclaim our rightful place in society, we must be actively involved in that society. We must go out and fly the flag at every opportunity and be recognised for the positive contribution that we are quietly making behind the scenes. Sadly, perception is reality and is often more powerful than fact and so we cannot talk to the bigots; we must demonstrate to the open minded as to whom we are and the good that we are doing.

Brethren; it is not just a marketing opportunity that we need to create; we need to structure the activities in our Lodges to involve each and every one of us in “*making a positive difference within our community*”. We must live by those beautiful sentiments portrayed in our ritual; “***There is no man so devoid of power or opportunity that he cannot do much for the good of his fellows. May you so know yourself that using aright those talents wherewith God has blessed you, you may do much good in your day and generation, and have little cause to regret work done amiss, or opportunities neglected***”.

Charity is often perceived as giving money to a worthy cause. I suggest that this is not the best kind of charity work as it does not create sustainable results and, using a biblical analogy, only “*feeds a man for a day*”. By giving our time and expertise to those in the community who are at the coalface of the provision of life supporting charity, we can help them improve their performance and therefore increase their effectiveness.

We are all Freemasons and, in my opinion, we need to put the promotion of Freemasonry first in everything we do within our communities. The task of rebuilding our image and reputation is enormous and therefore I believe that we need to deploy our resources cooperatively in well designed and productive opportunities to achieve this great aim.

Finally, I would like to leave you with the following thought: *“I believe that fundamentally our Lodges are schools of leadership in which we teach the life skills relating to achieving success by the power of empathy and facilitation. We need to mobilise our members to practise and develop these skills by making*

a positive contribution to the less fortunate within their local communities and, in so doing, promote a positive image of Freemasonry as a power for good in society”.

**MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM
Grand Master**



The Consecration and Installation of Losie Sonheuwel (No 143) in Port Elizabeth.

Saturday 24th June was indeed a historic day in the history of our Eastern Cape Division, for this was the day that we consecrated Losie Sonheuwel (143 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of South Africa) and installed Wor Bro Daniel Stander as their first Worshipful Master.

There were over 70 Brethren in attendance at Port Elizabeth's Bon Accord Temple with ages ranging from an 18 year old Lewis to a senior Scottish visitor, Bro Denzel Levy, who has now turned 100 years old.




The GM with Bro Denzel Levy

There can be very few organisations that attract men with an 82 year age difference and it simply illustrates Freemasonry's extraordinary ability to appeal to good men of all

ages and persuasions. The Consecration ceremony was performed by the Grand Master MW Bro Geoff Edwards OSM with the assistance of the Grand Lodge team.

Immediately after the Consecration, the new Master was Installed by RW Bro Keith Hutton while RW Bro Alan van der Vyver performed the Board of Installed Masters. All the ritual work was of a very high standard, with the Brethren of Losie Sonheuwel creating an excellent impression by the well prepared and efficient manner in which they closed the Lodge.

On Saturday evening a thoroughly enjoyable Banquet was held at the Port Elizabeth Golf Club.



Registration Number: 2002 / 031211 / 23

Second Masonic Tour to Israel
"In the Footsteps of Freemasonry"

Join us on this exceptional tour from 9 to 20 September 2017 for only R32 500.00. For more details, call Henda Heyneke on +27 (0) 11 764 2783 or +27 (0) 83 256 6682.

Senior Grand Lodge Officers 2017 - 2018

MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM	Grand Master
RW Bro John Smith OSM	Deputy Grand Master
RW Bro Vic Mühlenbeck	Assistant Grand Master
RW Bro Alf Brönnner	Assistant Grand Master
RW Bro Alan van der Vyver	Assistant Grand Master
RW Bro Tommy Hardiman	PGM Southern Division
RW Bro Peet Roos	PGM Northern Division
RW Bro Cor van Zyl	PGM Central Division
RW Bro Frans Roodt	PGM Eastern Division
RW Bro Keith Hutton	PGM East Cape Division
MW Bro Geoff Edwards OSM	Grand Secretary
VW Bro Brandon Topham	Grand Treasurer



Losie Sonheuwel. Wor Bro Daniel Stander front right

Two Wolves!

RW Bro Vic Muhlenbeck sent us the short story below. It really seems too profound not to share!

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about the battle that goes on inside people. He said:

"My son, there is a battle going on between two 'wolves' and it is raging inside us all.

One is Evil. It is anger, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, resentment, lies, false pride, guilt, inferiority, superiority and ego.

The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about this for a moment and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf wins?"

The wise old Cherokee smiled and replied, "It depends on which one you feed."

Masonic Spring Ball 2017

For the 43rd consecutive year Southern Division (Cape Town) will be holding their Spring Ball fund-raiser for the Masonic Homes

Dinner and Dancing until 11h30 pm

When: Saturday 9 September

Where: Kelvin Grove Club

Dress: Smart (Black Tie)

Time: 7h30 pm

Cost: R400 per person

Reservations - Llew Lloyd-Jones 072 9653572
Magazine Adverts - Geoff Edwards 083 3300083



The 3 Legs of the GLSA

We, in the GLSA, are in the very fortunate position of having 3 distinct "legs" to our structures. This means that, having attained his 3rd degree, a Brother is encouraged to venture into either the AASR or Royal Arch and further develop his Masonic knowledge. The senior Brethren below were captured at the new Grand Master's Installation.



MP Bro Boet du Plessis - AASR Sovereign Grand Commander;
MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM - Grand Master of the GLSA;
MEC Johann Britz - 1st Grand Principal of Royal Arch

Almoner's Corner

With our Almoner feeling poorly and being restricted to his quarters, this month's news tends to be somewhat more limited than normal.

Our sincere condolences are extended to Eastern Division's Wor Bro Grant Futter who lost his Brother recently. May your memories always be with you.

We were also saddened to hear of the passing of Wor Bro Alan Webster, a Past Master of Westerford. While we haven't seen him in the recent past, Alan was a pillar in the Lodge and certainly left his mark. Our thoughts are with his family at this difficult time.

VW Bro Johann Haasbroek (van der Stel) and RW Bro George Schuitemaker OSM (Meerensee) have both spent some time in hospital recently. They are both in our prayers and we trust that they will soon be back to normal again.

Katie Bronkhorst has recently suffered from bleeding on the brain and has had an operation to address the problem. She is recovering slowly and is very much in our thoughts and prayers.

RW Bro Swenny Crofton (van der Stel) continues to fight against his cancer. As a Freemason, the example that he sets is quite extraordinary and we pray that he makes the recovery he deserves.

RW Bro Ken Manefeldt (Bellville) is still struggling with his back pain and has our sympathy.

Grand Almoner

Brethren, the Grand Almoner can only be as effective as the information he is fed. Please, if anything is known about a Brother in distress, just phone RW Bro Neville Klein OSM at 071 4148869 or send him an email to:

kleinneville@gmail.com



GRAND LODGE REGALIA ITEMS

"Wear them with pride".

The following items of regalia of the Grand Lodge of South Africa are available from the Grand Lodge Office.

The price of the tie is R100.
The cufflinks cost R140.



Both items are only available whilst the current stocks last.

The Grand Lodge has also had printed some hard cover Lodge Attendance Registers with 300 pages. Price: R450.

The latest revised rituals in the A5 and larger print are available in Afrikaans and English from Grand Lodge at a price of R40 each.