

The Square and Compasses.

A newsletter for the Grand Lodge of South Africa. No. 129 October 2022



Most Worshipful Brother John Smith OSM MSA.

Mentoring

The dictionary defines a “Mentor” as a “Trusted Advisor” and tells us that “Mentorship” is guidance provided by a more experienced person. Although the word “Mentor” is not used in the VSL, the concept of “Mentorship” is often referred to therein. In Proverbs 15 we read: *Plans fail for lack of guidance, but with many advisers they will succeed.* In 2 Timothy we read: *Continue in what you have learned because you know those from whom you have learned it.* Benjamin Franklin, one of the “fathers” of America and a Mason, said: *Tell me and I may forget, teach me and I may remember but involve me and I will never forget.*

We have all had mentors and we have all been mentors, often without even knowing or realising it. A young boy who shows his younger brother or sister how to tie their shoelaces or climb a tree or play a game on a cellphone, is a mentor and is busy mentoring his younger sibling in the knowledge which he has acquired. An Apprentice Freemason who, after attending Lodge a few times after his initiation, assists a new Apprentice in any manner, has become a mentor to that new Freemason without even realising it.

Mentoring is fun and many Brethren never miss an opportunity to tell and show more junior Brethren what and how to do things. While this is, in most cases very commendable and should be encouraged, too many Brethren become annoyed when it is pointed out to them that certain things that they have been teaching more junior Brethren, are incorrect. While this is unfortunate, it is worse if such Brethren stubbornly refuse to correct their mistakes. Many of our Lodges

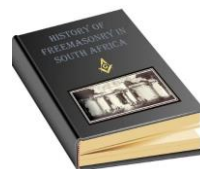
have appointed Brethren as their Lodge mentors and some even have mentorship programs. Many Brethren have however refused to assume the role as mentor as they are concerned that they do not have the required knowledge, experience or confidence to do so.

In an attempt to assist all our Brethren to increase their knowledge of and development in Freemasonry, Grand Lodge is introducing a program to train mentors. Every new member is given a personal mentor. To enable every member of our Grand Lodge to become a mentor and to share in the fun of properly guiding and assisting more junior Brethren to increase their knowledge of Freemasonry, let us read through our degree rituals and our Masonic Book of Life and pay particular attention to any aspect therein which we, personally, lack in knowledge and experience. Our Grand Lodge is well recognised and Brethren from our Sister Constitutions and from foreign Grand Lodges enjoy visiting us. To enable us to receive and treat them properly, courteously and correctly, we must become well versed in Masonic Protocol and Etiquette to ensure that we can do so. This is one of the cornerstones of Freemasonry and ensures that Masonic relationships work effectively throughout the World.

While Freemasonry is not a charitable society, benevolence and charity is another cornerstone thereof. The needs of humanity, which include certain of our Brethren, become more acute every day and we must encourage all our members to do whatever they can to assist. I believe that mentoring is having a brain to pick, an ear that listens and a push in the right direction. Let us use every opportunity to learn, grow and become inspired to share our Masonic knowledge with others. Clint Eastwood, a renowned Hollywood actor and movie director, said: *A mentor will get great satisfaction from helping people to take advantage of an opportunity that they may not have had.* Isaac Newton, a renowned mathematician, physicist, alchemist and a Freemason, said: *If I see further it is because I have stood on the shoulders of giants.* Let us embrace our mentorship programs and become the giants on whose shoulders others can stand.

**MW Bro John Smith OSM MSA
Grand Master**

The Heritage Book – Orders still being taken!



In 2022, South African Freemasonry celebrated its 250th birthday. To mark this event, we published a Heritage Book relating our history over all Constitutions and Divisions.

A few copies of the A4 book are still available through our GLSA online Shop - click on:

[Purchase Heritage Book](#)

Royal Arch Annual Meeting a great success

On 15 October the de Goede Hoop Temple in Cape Town hosted our Royal Arch Chapter. Before lunch MEC Mahmoud Patel held the Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Chapter (Southern Division). His report was a most positive one and the Division is certainly growing rather well at present.

After a relaxing and much enjoyed lunch break it was the turn of Supreme Grand Chapter. Having



receiving our foreign guests from Gabon and Benin, First Grand Principal, MEC John Smith OSM MSA, delivered a very positive report on the progress being made. He then installed his various Officers with MEC



Avron Jacobson MSA as the Deputy 1st Grand Principle and including Deputy Grand Master, MEC Brandon Topham, as 2nd Grand Principle.

He also included EC Andre Germishuys as Grand Almoner and

Past Ranks went to EC Cobis Wilson (*below*) and MECs Marius Mostert, Jacques Markantonis, Rex Ingle.

Comp Michael Shackleton was the "Scribe E of the Year", while "Awards of Excellence" went to MECs Dawie van Rooyen and John Harmse and ECs Marius Terblanche and Dino Kyriacos.



The day finished with a much enjoyed dinner.

New Master Mason certificate released

You will be pleased to know that the GLSA has officially released a new format Master Mason certificate, the first one going to Bro Malcolm Crossley (de Goede Hoop) who was raised on 12 October. The certificate is in both English and Afrikaans, being printed on both sides of the page.



Alpha enjoy a Charity Golf day

Alpha set a fine example for our Lodges with a Charity Golf day at Eagle Canyon Golf Club. While



the field was a little smaller than hoped for, the day was a most enjoyable one and set a solid platform for future initiatives of this type. Well done Brethren!

Southern Division Shoot to Glory.



Congratulations to Southern Division's Shooting team on their fine victory. At this stage the GLSA are leaders in the Annual Inter-Constitutional Olympics.



1st Grand Principal, MEC John Smith OSM MSA (c) with Past 1st Grand Principals MECs Geoff Edwards OSM and Johan Britz MSA on his right and our foreign visitors on his left, surrounded by attendees at the Royal Arch Annual Meeting.

First United Installation

On Saturday 1 October 2022 Wor Bro Ike Ezeuduji (PGL Assistant PGM) performed the First United Reinstallation of Wor Bro Bruce Lamprecht as Master of the Lodge. RW Bro Basil de Kock led the Grand Lodge team.

Wor Bro Ike Ezeuduji's very thought-provoking address was entitled "Masonic Burnout – Perception or Reality". The day was a most successful one.



MW Pretorius Installation

On Saturday 8 October 2022 MW Pretorius celebrated the Reinstallation of Wor Bro Marius Mostert as their Presiding Master. The Grand Lodge delegation was led by the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Godfrey Place, while the PGM, RW Bro Simon Nash, led the PGL delegation and performed the ceremony. Much is expected from the Lodge going forwards.



Unie Installation

On 24 September Wor Bro Barney Fourie was ReInstalled as the Worshipful Master of Losie Unie. The PGL team was led by PGM Frans Appelgryn, with Wor Bro Marcell de Kock as Installing Officer.



Jacob de Mist Installation

On 3 October Wor Bro Louis van der Linde was installed as Worshipful Master of Jacob de Mist. The Grand Master, MW Bro John Smith OSM MSA, led Grand Lodge while Wor Bro Cobis Wilson led the PGL delegation and was the Installing Officer.



Wor Bro Simon Nash Exalted to Royal Arch



On Monday 26 September the Northern PGM, RW Bro Simon Nash, was exalted to the Royal Arch by Chapter Fidelity. He was supported by Assistant PGMs Wor Bros Gerald Bosch and Marius Mostert. It's always encouraging to see our senior Brethren involved in our side degrees and setting the example.

Sonheuwel Raise Bro Dewald Steynburg

On Wednesday 12 October our beautiful new Port Elizabeth Temple witnessed the raising of Bro Dewald Steynburg to Master Mason. The ceremony was conducted by Wor Bro Xavier Macleod and his Sonheuwel team and I'm sure that Bro Dewald will remember the evening for the rest of his life.



Almoner's Report

It is with much sadness that we have to report the passing of RW Bro Frik Botha (Diamond). Frik was 92 years old and had been a member of the GLSA for more than 65 years. He had served Central Division as both Provincial Grand Master and Secretary and had contributed a great deal to the development of the Division. Our condolences go to his family.



Bro Danie van Rensburgh (Oranje) was 95 years of age and our oldest member. He passed away a few short days after losing his beloved wife. He had belonged to the GLSA for over 67 years and was our longest serving member. May they both rest in peace.

We further report that Wor Bro Justin Buirski (de Goede Verwachting) has passed away 5 weeks after losing his wife Lovell. Our sympathies are extended to the family and all those left behind.

Wor Bro Seppi Ricci (de Goede Trouw) has had his gall bladder removed but we are assured that he is recuperating very well.

Wor Bro Colin Potgieter (First United)'s wife, Jill, has been having Chemo but we are told that she is making good progress. Our partner's are extremely important to us. Please keep Jill in your prayers.

We are concerned about Wor Bro Eric Scholtz (Theophilus) who experienced complications after a gall bladder operation and has been in intensive care ever since. Eric is Deputy PGM of Eastern Division and an invaluable member of our team. Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

There have been a few Covid cases recently so please keep this in mind and do what you can to stay unaffected by it. Other than that, we trust that our Brethren are well and caring for those who aren't.

If anything is known about a Brother in distress, please share it with your Divisional Almoner.

Southern	Wor Bro Cobis Wilson	083 2844684
Northern	Wor Bro Kevin Smith	082 8883890
Central	Wor Bro Johnny Cambanis	083 9865397
Eastern	Wor Bro Andrew Pover	084 2597108
E Cape	Wor Bro Ian Hetherington	082 9545297

We must become the change we wish to see
Gandhi

How Balanced is Your Lodge?

As a Grand Lodge we are always exploring new ways of promoting the attributes we subscribe to and helping our Brethren to get the best possible Masonic experience. The Balanced Lodge program initiated by our Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Brandon Topham, has this very much in mind. On a monthly basis the Master of each of our Lodges completes an online Questionnaire covering a variety of items related to the effective functioning of his Lodge. These are collated and the individual Lodges are able to assess the progress that they are making.

To add a fun (and competitive) element, we are recording the scores of all the Lodges and will regularly provide updates on progress. The Lodges are separated into small, medium and large and, based on September / October the leaders would be

Large (26 and more members)

- | | | |
|----|---------------|----|
| 1. | De Goede Hoop | 24 |
| 2. | Koh-I-Noor | 22 |

Medium (16 to 25 members)

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|
| 1. | Star of the Rand | 22 |
| 2. | De Goede Verwachting | 20 |
| 3. | De Broederband | 19 |

Small (15 and less members)

- | | | |
|----|---------------|----|
| 1. | Jeffrey's Bay | 20 |
| 2. | Dagbreek | 18 |
| 3. | Jacob de Mist | 16 |

RW Bro Godfrey Place is collating the results, while RW Bro Avron Jacobson MSA provides the technical expertise that supports the Questionnaire.

You should also be aware that the Grand Master is so enthusiastic about this project and its potential that he has instructed all of our Lodges to include it on their BoM Agenda for monthly discussion. The idea is that, by looking at how we are performing and identifying our weak areas, we will be able to focus on them and so create more effective Lodges.

From January we will be running the competition in earnest, so if you aren't fully operable yet, get to it. Answering the Questionnaire takes 5 minutes a month!



Raising Bro Levi Mulegwa

On Monday 17 October Lodge Cape Town, assisted by Westerford, with RW Bro Tommy Hardiman in the chair, raised Bro Levi Mulegwa to the degree of Master Mason.

In the recent past Cape Town, has struggled to perform as effectively as they would have liked and, to ensure that their members get the best possible Masonic experience, they will be handing back their Charter and their members will join Westerford.