



## ***Masonic Library & Museum Association***

**An International Organization of  
Librarians, Archivists, Curators, & Directors**

### **ANNUAL MEETING – 2012 Stillwater, MN**

#### **MINUTES**

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Bill & Jan Kreuger	IA
Eric Trosdahl	MN
Larry Loyer	MN
Jesse Chariton	IL
Brian Rountree	MB
Adam Kendall	CA
Cathy Giaimo	PA
Aimee Newell	National Heritage Museum, MA
Mark Tabbert	GWNMA
Todd Johnstone & Rachel Coalman	WA
Albert + Virve Martin	GA
Deb LaPlace	CN
Helge Bjorn Horrisland	Norway

#### **REGRETS**

Glenys Waldman	G. L. Pennsylvania
Joan Kleinknecht & Larissa Watkins	House of the Temple, Washington, D.C.
Diane Clements & Martin Cherry	Library + Museum of Freemasonry [London, England]
Val Korszniak	New Jersey

# THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2012

## A] OPENING OF BUSINESS MEETING

The President, Mark Tabbert, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## B] REPORTS

### 1] Minutes and secretary's report – Brian Rountree

Moved/Seconded: Brian Rountree, Bill Kreuger:  
That the Minutes for 2011 be adopted as circulated.  
Carried.

The Secretary sent out renewal forms this year and asked for payments to be sent to him: he then forwarded payments to the Treasurer. This helped to update the membership records.

	2012	2011	Paid 2012
Institutional members	72	72	32
Personal members <i>Including 6 Past Presidents</i>	37	31	16 6
Affiliate members	23	21	7
Removal*	-3		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>61</b>

\* includes mail returned; by request; death

These numbers include new members during 2011-2012 hailing from

- California
- Firenza, Italy
- Minnesota
- Kansas
- Arkansas
- North Carolina
- Argentina
- Edmonton, Canada
- Florida

This report is presented for Information Only.

### 2) Treasurer's report – Eric Troisdahl -- see Appendix 1

The Treasurer presented his report up to September 30, 2012.  
Moved/Seconded: Albert Martin, Bill Kreuger: that the report be received and accepted.  
Carried.

### **3) Vice-President's report—Adam Kendall**

Adam mentioned the status of our Facebook page and made some observations about our small dip into the social media pool.

He asked that we send along photos to him at [akendall@freemasonry.org](mailto:akendall@freemasonry.org) showcasing our collection or giving announcements.

Adam led a discussion on the topic of expanding our conference activities so that we can be a resource and provide service to a Masonic library or museum with some hands-on help in the conference city. Perhaps the result could be a survey and recommendations to the library or museum for its future.

We should not forget that we can post questions on the Yahoo Group.

Motion/Seconded: Aimee Newell, Albert Martin: that Adam head a committee to pursue the idea of outreach projects during our annual conference.

Carried

Mark Tabbert indicated that he would prepare a survey of members' strengths and needs to be completed in time for The Quarry Project.

### **4) President's report – Mark Tabbert**

This was deferred until Friday when he will include information about The Quarry Project

### **5) Webmaster's report – see Appendix 2**

Motion/Seconded: Albert Martin, Adam Kendall: that we receive the report.

Carried

### **6) Overseas reports – see Appendix 3**

a) Library and Museum of Freemasonry – Diane Clements

b) AMMLA [*Association of Masonic Museums, Libraries and Archives in Europe*]

The Association's website is <http://ammla.org/jml6/>

Motion/Seconded: Albert Martin, Adam Kendall: that we receive these reports.

Carried

Helge Bjorn Horrisland inquired about sending a report from his area of the world.

We all agreed that we would appreciate anything he sends as a report on Scandinavian Masonry.

## **C] OLD BUSINESS**

### **1) MLMA By-laws**

No changes.

### **2) Newsletter**

Albert Martin apologized for not doing a Newsletter this year. He thought that it might be better to continue putting our news on Facebook and the website..

### **3) Incorporation**

Eric Trosdahl, Treasurer, indicated that we have applied to the Minnesota government for status under section 501C3.

**4) Val** has the portable Display set-up we purchased. Mark talked about finding someone in his area to do professional images for it. It would be good to get it done for use at Masonic Week and other displays leading up to the Quarry Project in Sept. 2013.

It was noted that Val had not been paid for the professional display stand that we now own.

Motion/Seconded: Adam Kendall, Bill Kreuger: that we pay Val for the purchased display.  
Carried.

## **D] NEW BUSINESS**

There was time for sharing of information from members before leaving for the day's activities.

### **LATER**

Mark Tabbert, President, appointed a Nomination Committee for the 2013 elections:

Bill Kreuger (chair)  
Glenys Waldman  
Dick Browning

### **DISCUSSION**

It was suggested that a qualification be added to the position of President—that one had to have hosted an MLMA conference. There was discussion but no definitive result.

### **DISCUSSION**

Perhaps future presidents should be given \$1000 to assist with the costs of attending one or more Masonic conferences to represent and promote MLMA, for example going to the annual AMMLA conference in Europe.

The result of the discussion was that we would vote yearly on a request by the president for funds to attend a conference.

## **E] FUTURE MEETINGS**

Last year we set the list as

- 2014 sponsored by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey  
*Brian had a conversation a few days ago with Val who suggested that with the changes in NJ, and the joining of Scottish Rite and NJ Library, such a visit might not be possible —perhaps change to 2015 and exchange with Lexington?*

Adam Kendall indicated that he would check with Val Korszniak and Jeff Alexander on this.

- 2015 Lexington, MA at the Museum of our National Heritage

## **F] ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS**

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2012**

9:30am Report by Mark Tabbert on 2013 MLMA/TMS Conference

Mark Tabbert, President, presented an outline of what has so far been discussed between himself and Bo Kline, President of The Masonic Society.

#### **2013 Annual meeting / The Quarry Project September 2013**

- Overview of Events
- Schedule of Events, Thursday – Sunday
  - Thursday – Annual meeting in morning, tour in DC and banquet afternoon / evening
  - Friday, Saturday, Sunday - conference
- Report on The Masonic Society (researching and writing Masonic history)  
I will present the speakers and “workshops” so far organized by Jose Dias and Ken Davis

Report from MLMA (Masonic Libraries & Museums) – Brian Rountree & Adam Kendall

Proposed Library Presenters: Jeff Croteau, Tom Savini, Brian Rountree, Bill Krueger

Proposed Museum Presenters: Aimee Newell, Mark Tabbert (?), Adam Kendall, Hillary Anderson-Stelling, (?)

- Speakers, topics, “success stories” etc.: Heather Calloway
- MLMA contribution / budget for event
  - Discussion of registration fees for MLMA members and non-members
  - Promotion / sponsorships

The MLMA members present were enthusiastic in their support of this project. As the event becomes fine-tuned we are encouraged to check the website at [www.thequarryproject.com](http://www.thequarryproject.com)

## **G] ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Albert Martin: to adjourn.

Carried.

APPROVED AT THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

Signed:

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MARK A. TABBERT, President

BRIAN ROUNTREE, Secretary

**APPENDIX 1**  
**TREASURER'S REPORTS**

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## APPENDIX 2

### Report of the webmaster - 2012

*Masonic Library & Museum Association*

## Masonic Library & Museum Association Website

*The quiet organization*

### **AWAITING YOUR PLEASURE....**

When Paul Bessel asked me if we could take on the task of being the MLMA Webmaster, he assured Ed that there wasn't much to do at all. In truth, he probably overstated the case. After the initial flurry of change, with new domains etc. and the new site design, there has really not been much going on. This is not to say that there couldn't be....

### **CHANGES IN ONLINE APPETITES**

We know that some changes in the world of online presence have occurred. Facebook attracts many while many others (including LOTS of Masons) seem deathly afraid of it. Adam Kendall has done yeoman work publicizing MLMA through Facebook and he is to be highly commended for that. Should MLMA be in other venues like Tumblr or Twitter? It would seem to be a waste of energy unless one of the members was particularly enamored with that particular modality.

### **CHANGES IN LIBRARY INTERACTIONS WITH THE WORLD**

In March, the Grand Lodge of Maine moved its administrative offices from the building it had occupied in Portland for the past 107 years to a former bank building in Holden, some 100 miles away. A potential candidate for the job of Grand Librarian was quickly identified but in late April, he indicated he would not be able to serve. Having been writing a page-full of book reviews for the Maine Mason magazine for the past couple of years, Ed was asked to assume the role.

Since then, he has been trying to learn the ins and outs of library science as well as the 'state of the profession'. Although his son is a librarian (AND a lawyer), Chris works as a Public Services Librarian at a law school so his interest/experience is far different from the field in which Ed now volunteers.

Reading websites and blog posts galore, it becomes far more obvious that the environment of Masonic Libraries and Museums is one which will either change dramatically or be irrelevant in the very near future.

### **AWAITING YOUR PLEASURE....**

Because Ed now has 'skin in the game', so to speak, what happens in and to MLMA is now more important to us than we would have imagined a couple of years ago. To that end, we want to do whatever we can to ensure the future of this field and those who labor in it.

Whether it's a high-level strategy planning or 'stuffing envelopes', we're willing to do anything to help out. Give a shout: we await your pleasure!

Ed & Brandy King

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## APPENDIX 3

### THE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF FREEMASONRY, LONDON REPORT TO MLMA 2012

Best wishes to everyone at MLMA!

We have organised two exhibitions this year: *Beyond the Lodge Room: Freemasonry in Public Life* and *Game, Set and Lodge: Freemasons and Sport*. The latter is of course trying to benefit from the impact of the London Olympics games. It runs until the end of the year and, as yet (mid August), it's too soon to tell. In doing our research for the sport exhibition we have identified about 200 sportsmen who were also English freemasons and have published a list on our website at <http://www.freemasonry.london.museum/resources/sportsmen-in-english-lodges/>. It includes a lot of men involved in peculiarly English sports like cricket but you might find it of interest!

Cataloguing continues across the collections including ritual material, photographs and prints of individuals and jewels. This is all available on the catalogue pages of the website. Following a software upgrade search results now often include thumbprints of objects and photos where we have added these to the catalogue description. The Library collection is fully catalogued but we are now starting to enhance the existing records with details of provenance etc. We have also added details of 1500 or so books from the Library of the High Council of the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia (SRIA) which are on long term loan to us.

We continue to administer a grant scheme (about £2,500 in total; maximum grant £250) to support conservation work on lodge and chapter records. The scheme continues to attract applications from lodges and chapters across the country and helps raise awareness of the importance of looking after these records. We organised a study day in May at a venue on the outskirts of London to demonstrate how Masonic records could be used to study local history. It was attended by both lodge members and others (local historians etc) and now that we have a successful we will aim to do similar workshops once or twice a year.

Members of staff spoke at Masonic lodges around the country and at meetings of family history societies and local and specialist history groups. The breadth of interest which these groups represent is demonstrated by the talks given during the course of just one month when Library and Museum staff gave presentations to the Society of Antiquaries, Alexandra Palace Lodge No 1541, London and the Pub History Society.

You may be familiar with John Lane's *Masonic Records*, a book originally published in 1894, which lists all the lodges warranted by the English Grand lodges and gives details of meeting places. The publication itself was digitised by the (now defunct) Centre for Research into Freemasonry at the University of Sheffield. We have been working with that database and the records here to add all lodges established since 1894. Good progress has been made and all lodges up to 2010 should have been added by the end of the year. We will then need to update the information about pre 1894 lodges. The database is also available on our website at <http://www.freemasonry.london.museum/resources/lanes-masonic-records/>

Progress continues to be made on our project to digitise the content of Masonic periodicals- over 150 volumes from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. We are working with an academic third party. The digitisation is now completed but the length of time being taken to fit in into an agreed website structure is proving a bit frustrating. We remain confident that this will be completed by the end of 2012.

Our project to microfilm membership registers after 1886 is close to completion and we are exploring several options on how to make historic (pre 1920s) membership information available on a searchable database.

*Diane Clements/ Martin Cherry*

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## AMMLA

Association of Masonic Museums, Libraries and Archives

AMMLA met in Rome, where the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Italy (irregular, as in not in *List of Lodges Masonic*) was our host. It's a new museum in a neat old building just across the street from an excavation of what is supposed to have been originally part of the Roman Forum (a plaza with four temples around it, where there is a brick arcade (reconstructed?), in which Caesar is said to have been assassinated on the Ides of March. 'Twas discovered when a developer wanted to get his backhoes' teeth into it!

Anyway, Marc Tabbert gave quite a good presentation on the GW Memorial – I'm sure he will say something about the conference, but do remind him. There were talks about Anti-Masonry in Spain (Adrian Mac Liman), Bob Cooper's report on what the GL of Scotland is doing to preserve its records (UGLE is digitizing theirs), 18<sup>th</sup> century documents in France, Masonic faience and regalia (Ludovic Marcos Musée de la Franc-Maçonnerie, Paris), and the Masonic Museum in Holland (Jac Piepenbrock). Much talk about an intra-European exhibition.

Too much good food.

Next meeting Vienna and the Masonic Museum in Rosenau Palace which is two hours outside the city (!)

Here's a tidbit:

### **2013 first Masonic Museum opens in the city of the popes**

(Rome) in Rome, the city of the Popes, will be the first Masonic museum in Italy. 2013 is the "holy of holies of the skirt (! Apron! – GAW) wearer(s)" to open its doors and make a collection of historical documents and objects of the Grand Lodge of Italy to the public. Its special features include one of the first addressed to a woman Freemason, decrees in 1867 by the leader of the Italian national movement [...]

(online translation of:

<http://www.katholisches.info/?s=2013+%C3%B6ffnet+erstes+freimaurermuseum> (!)

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