



Masonic Library & Museum Association

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

ANNUAL MEETING -- 2010 George Washington Masonic National Memorial

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

Bill Krueger & Jan	IA
Eric Trosdahl & Larry Loyer	MN
Glenys Waldman	PA
Brian Rountree	Manitoba
Val Korszniak	NJ
Cynthia Alcorn	MA
Adam Kendall	CA
Jarrold Adkisson	AR
Dick Browning	AR
Jim Dufresne	ME
Cathy Giamio & Joseph Giamio	PA
Aimee Newell	National Heritage Museum, MA
Dick Bish + Peg Ogilvie	WA
Debra LaPlace & Simon	CT
Patrick Carr	AR
James Graham	AR
Jeffrey Alexander	NJ
Charles Reid	Ontario
Jay Macpherson	Ontario
Albert Martin + Vivre	GA
Mark Tabbert	GWMNMA

REGRETS

Larissa Watkins, of the House of the Temple

Marie Barnett, of the G.L. Virginia [unable to attend on Thurs. or Fri.]

Diane Clements, Martin Cherry, Library + Museum of Freemasonry [London, England]

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

A] OPEN BUSINESS MEETING

The President, Bill Kreuger, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Invocation was given by the Chaplain, the Rev. Brian Rountree.

B] REPORTS

Minutes and secretary's report

Moved/Seconded: Brian Rountree, Jim Dufresne, that the Minutes for 2009 be adopted as circulated. Carried.

The Secretary, Brian Rountree, reports that we have

69 Institutional members

23 Personal members

28 Affiliate members

Our members come from a number of places—United States, Canada, England, Scotland, Australia, France, Mauritius

Treasurer's report

The treasurer, Eric Trosdahl, presented his report for 2009. He indicated that we had a positive cash flow during the year.

Moved/Seconded: Albert Martin, Jim Dufresne; that the report be received and accepted. Carried.

President's report

Bill Kreuger reported that he'd had a quiet year. He helped Mark Tabbert with the planning of this Washington event.

Vice-President's report

Mark Tabbert mentioned that the theme he and Bill had developed was that of how museums handle their collections and displays in small spaces. We have the opportunity to view several large and small museums.

Webmaster's report

It was mentioned that items do get posted to the listserv as well as on the website. If you are not on the listserv mailing list, contact Dick Browning.

C] OLD BUSINESS

Items 1 and 2 were deferred until Friday to allow members time to read the relevant reports.

1) Incorporation of MLMA – committee members Tabbert, Trosdahl, and Kornblum

2) Review of By-laws – committee members Kreuger, Waldman, Trosdahl, Kornblum

3) Museum cataloging – continuation of Bish discussion

Dick Bish shared the process he uses for cataloguing museum items in his grand lodge (Washington state). His information was adapted from material he received from the *National Heritage Museum* in Lexington, Mass. He shared the Inventory information sheets he gives to his volunteers and circulated a two-sided page where the information on an item is actually recorded. This will be put onto our website shortly.

4) Newsletter (*Beehive*) report

Editor Jay Hochberg was not present but he indicated to us via a text message to Val Korszniak that, although he had volunteered to be editor several years ago, his public and private avocations were interfering with that goal.

A discussion followed about the continuance of the Newsletter. If so, with what content? and with what format? Albert Martin (GA) volunteered to take it on. He said he'd like to get an issue out within a month.

Aimee Newell (NHM) indicated that articles from the Museum could be reproduced, with appropriate credit. We could include the group photo from this gathering.

Anyone with contributions is welcome to contact Albert at
albertmartin@earthlink.net

5) MLMA display report

Val Korszniak discussed the history of the display. He took it to New Jersey's Academy of Masonic Knowledge sessions, we saw it last year in San Francisco, and it was used during Masonic Week in Feb. 2010.

A discussion was held on changes that had been proposed and a committee of Val, Adam Kendall (Calif.), and Aimee Newell (NHM) will look after getting the changes done by December. Proposed graphics will be put on our listserv for us to all consider, and the final product should be ready for Masonic Week 2011. Albert Martin recommended that each revision of the display be dated.

Brian Rountree asked that it be available for the end of March, the date for the All-Canada Conference held in Winnipeg.

6) Reports around the World

i) AMMLA – Past President Glenys Waldman

The AMMLA meeting in Paris 3-6 June 2010, was held – as it had been in 2007 – at all three grand lodges: the Grande Loge Nationale de France (the one we recognize), the Grande Loge de France, and the Grand Orient de France. The Grand Orient has a beautiful new, permanent exhibition on Freemasonry, which we (and the public) enjoyed very much. All three grand lodges cooperated – as they always do in matters relating to museum and libraries – in mounting this exhibition. Each of the other two has its own Museum also, of course, with smaller permanent exhibits.

Other presentations were given on Masonic library resources in Spain (Bibliotheca Publica Arus), the latest news from the United Grand Lodge of England, and the Deutsches Freimaurermuseum in Bayreuth.

AMMLA has also incorporated itself and revised its By-Laws according to Belgian law, as the headquarters is in Brussels.

ii) Library and Museum of Freemasonry [London] – Diane Clements, Martin Cherry

2010 began with the opening of our exhibition, *Freemasons and the Royal Society* (11th January – 28th June). This exhibition, which coincided with the 350th Anniversary of the Royal Society, celebrated some of the 350 plus freemasons who had also been Fellows of the Royal Society. A list of these scientific freemasons can be found on our website (http://freemasonry.lmfm.net/os/wp-content/resources/frs_freemasons_complete_jan2010.pdf).

On 9th April, Martin Cherry (Librarian) attended the symposium, *New Perspectives on American Freemasonry* at the National Heritage Museum, Lexington. Although not giving a paper, Martin was able to network with all the speakers and make them aware of aspects of our collections that they may be interested in.

Mark Dennis (Curator) gave a paper entitled, *Created neither by Church nor State - The development of fraternal and Masonic regalia as a secular form of identity statement*, at the International Costume Conference “*ENDYESTHAI (To Dress)*” *Historical, sociological and methodological approaches* in Athens, Greece (9th – 11th April). The conference gave Mark the opportunity to talk about freemasonry to a completely non-masonic academic audience.

The European Association of Masonic Museums, Libraries and Archives (AMMLA) 2010 Conference was held in Paris (4th – 6th June) and was attended by Diane Clements, Mark Dennis and Susan Snell (Archivist).

Diane and Susan followed up the AMMLA Conference by attending the University of Bordeaux Conference, *Women and Freemasonry since the Enlightenment* (17th – 19th June). Both Diane and Susan gave papers. Diane’s entitled, “*Its members are of all sorts...*”, *The Male Element of Early Co-Freemasonry in England* was an exploration of the men who were involved in the coming of co-masonry to England in the late 19th and early 20th Century. Susan’s paper *Enlightenment females and freemasonry: revelations from women’s poetical contributions to the Freemasons Magazine and a rediscovered verse by Anna Jane Vardill (1781 – 1852)* examined the considerable number of poems by female poets in England’s first Masonic periodical.

Our current exhibition, *The Masonic Emporium: Selling to the world*, opened on 1st July and is an exploration of the market for Masonic items and tells the story of its suppliers and customers, notably George Kenning of Toye, Kenning and Spencer. The exhibition runs to the end of the year. Our visitor numbers for 2010 are up 10% on 2009.

We are planning two exhibitions for next year, *Building Solomon’s Temple*, which will focus on how freemasonry has used the image and ideal of Solomon’s Temple and *Patriot Masons: Freemasonry and American Society*, a basic introduction to the history of American Freemasonry.

Finally we have just revamped our website; www.freemasonry.london.museum. Any comments would be welcome.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

C] OLD BUSINESS

1) Incorporation of MLMA – committee members Tabbert, Troisdahl, and Kornblum

Motion: Albert Martin, Cynthia Alcorn, that we proceed with Incorporation.

There was some history given about the background to this idea.
Some discussion ensued including possible benefits to being Incorporated.

The vote was taken and the motion Carried.

2) Review of By-laws – committee members Kreuger, Waldman, Troisdahl, Kornblum

Motion: Cynthia Alcorn, Addam Kendall, that we approve the revisions to the By-Laws.

It was noted that there was a missing piece for Affiliate members, in that they also receive the Newsletter and other benefits. that will be fixed when the By-laws are made available to members and on our website.

The Motion was Carried.

3) Conflict of Interest Policy

Motion: Albert Martin, Mark Tabbert, that we accept this Policy.

It was pointed out that the wording is standard, taken from suggestions by the IRS.

It will be up to us to determine the frequency of reviews (article VII).

The officers will begin to sign the statements (Article VI) in 2011 at our next meeting.

The Motion was Carried.

E] 2011 AND BEYOND MEETINGS

2011

Brian Rountree spoke about the meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba next year. The focus will be, naturally, "Showcasing Manitoba History."

The dates will be Wed. Sept. 28 [arrival] to Sun. Oct. 2 [departure].

Albert Martin suggested that we have workshops. President Bill Kreuger offered to moderate a session on how different museums catalogue their artifacts. The question was also asked about how museums mark their artefacts when cataloguing. Mark Tabbert said that a key question for any display is: who is our audience?

It was suggested that we could have a question on our website asking about topics to be explored at future meeting dates.

2012

Minnesota. Eric Trosdahl indicated that the Lodge members are working on a venue and program. The meeting might be in Minneapolis.

2013

Val Korszniak said he would investigate the possibility of holding the meeting in New Jersey.

2014

Open to interested parties.

D] NEW BUSINESS

and

F] ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

1) Mark Tabbert asked us to promote the ICHF meeting in 2011 to be held at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. The organizing committee has given him permission to investigate the possibility, and cost, of videostreaming the main speakers. He asked if MLMA would want to have a booth there as one or two people would have to be present at all times.

2) Jeff Alexander spoke on the progress being made in the Library and Museum which is now in Trenton, New Jersey.

3) Dick Browning spoke about last year's display in Arkansas of the 200th anniversary of Albert Pike. He was most appreciative of all the local groups and museums that contributed to the display's success.

4) Bill Kreuger noted that in Iowa there was a Civil War-related quilt show in anticipation of the 2011 anniversary of the start of the Civil War.

5) Aimee Newell demonstrated how to search for objects listed on the NHM website. Many new items have been added to the database.

6) Adam Kendall spoke about the Henry W. Coil Library and Museum, found at www.masonicheritage.org, that now has some online exhibits. He is also involved in the planning of the annual California Masonic Symposium.

Adam then shared a powerpoint “Little Display, Big Message” where he presented suggestions for making effective displays.

G] ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Jim Dufresne, to adjourn. Carried.