

The Ailsa Craig

Issue No. 59

August 2010



Lodge Ailsa No. 1172 S.C.

23a Coleman Street

Singapore 179806

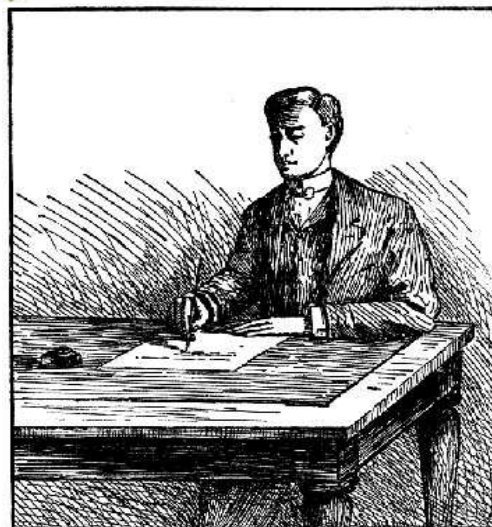
www.LodgeAilsa.org

A Voice from the East



Welcome to another edition of the Ailsa Craig. We have received quite a few "Thata-boys" for our last few editions and we hope that everyone has been enjoying this periodical.

Well, we have had a great few months since our last edition. While we have new Brethren who have joined Lodge Ailsa, we also have had the real pleasure of seeing several brethren visit us, since they have left for work outside of Singapore.



We have several returning brethren who have either recently come back, or are imminently returning, into Singapore --- we look forward to seeing you again in the Lodge and at our activities.

Speaking of activities - the WJW, and his Merry Band of Brethren, are quickly pulling together our upcoming Ladies Night which will be held on the evening of Sept 4th. The event will be a great night out and tables will be going fast – so please get in touch with Bro Ethan to reserve your seats. On another activity, we have our Charity Hash Run coming up in Oct. Bro Julian is captaining this and I am sure of its success. We hope to bring out not only the Brethren and their families, but also members of other Lodges and many of our friends. Food, Beer, soft beverages and souvenirs will be had during this fun afternoon, and all profits will go to our charity "The Haven House". We are also looking to plan The Master's BBQ for late August, an event for the entire family --- please watch for the email invite!

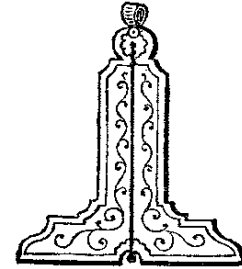
The Business side of the Lodge is looking good as well. We have some good effort going into our Benevolent Funds and I am happy to say we our financial health is well.

I look forward to seeing you at the Lodge or at our upcoming Events,

Bro Peter Froitzheim

RWM Lodge Ailsa 1172 SC

Thought's from the West



A boy was 11 years old and went fishing every chance he got from a dock at his family's cabin on an island in the middle of a New Hampshire lake. On the day before the bass season opened, he and his father were fishing early in the evening, catching some fish and perch with worms.

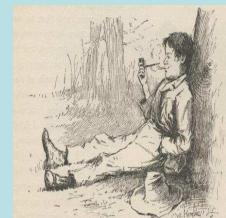
When his pole doubled over, he knew something huge was on the other end. His father watched with admiration as the boy skillfully worked the fish along side the dock. Finally, he very gingerly lifted the exhausted fish from the water. It was the largest one he had ever seen, but it was a bass. The boy and his father looked at the handsome fish, shining in the moonlight. The father lit a match and looked at his watch. It was 10 p.m., two hours before the season opened. He looked at the fish, then at the boy. "You'll have to put it back, Son," he said. "Dad!" cried the boy. "There will be another fish," said his father. "Not as big as this one," cried the boy.

He looked around the lake. No other fishermen or boats were around in the moonlight. He looked again at his father. Even though no one had seen them, nor could anyone ever know what time he caught the fish, the boy could tell by the clarity of his father's voice that the decision was not negotiable. He slowly worked the hook out of the lip of the huge bass and lowered it into the black water.

That was 34 years ago. Today, the boy is a successful architect in New York City. His father's cabin is still there.. He takes his own son and daughters fishing from the same dock. He was right. He has never again caught such a magnificent fish as the one he landed that night long ago. But he does see that same fish -- again and again -- every time he comes up against a question of ethics.

Ethics are simple matters of right and wrong. It is only the practice of ethics that is difficult. Do the right thing, and be an example to others. They will never forget.

*Let us endeavor so to
live that when we come
to die even the
undertaker will be
sorry.
Brother Mark Twain*



Etch of Huck Finn

A Voice from the South



Dear Brethren,

It is my pleasure to confirm that our Ladies Night will be held on the 4th Sept 2010 at Fairmont.

I would like to take this opportunity here to thank all the brethren who have helped out, and I really appreciate your time and your experience. Ailsa Ladies Night is an annual event where we invite our better halves for an evening of wine and dine, and of course to know who we are hanging out with during our regular lodge.

It's also a good idea to invite your friends and potential candidates, as it will be a great opportunity for them to know who we are. If you have anything, yes I do mean anything, to contribute to the event, please let myself know. If you don't have any idea, talk to me ;) Remember, Ladies Night is an event OF the lodge FOR our ladies, so I really appreciate if everyone could do their best to attend!

This will be a night filled with; Comedy (Wait til you see who we got to MC); Great Door Prizes; Dancing and great times for all!!

Event: Ailsa Ladies Night 2010

Date: 4th Sept 2010

Venue: Fairmont Hotel Singapore

Tickets are priced at S\$130 each

Master's BBQ

Before the Ladies Night, we can first warm up to the first get-together of the year...Master's BBQ! Our RWM Bro Peter Froitzhem and his lovely wife Inne have graciously allow us to gather at their place for an afternoon of BBQ, Food and drinks. Be sure to turn up with your family (yes, your kids too!)

If anyone is kind enough to bring along some beers, water or juice... that would be most welcome!

Venue: 516 Upper East Coast Road

Date: 21st Aug 2010

Time: 3 pm

RSVP: Aug 10th

Visitations

Visitation has always been an educational and pleasurable experience for me, as not only I get to witness the workings of the other lodges, the brethren are always warm and friendly. It's just like meeting up with long lost friends! We are still carrying on visiting the lodges within Singapore, so if you are keen, do check your emails regularly, either our RWM, the WSW, the W Secretary or myself will keep everyone posted of upcoming dates!

That's all from me now, until next time!

WJW Bro Ethan Bok

A Voice from the North (Upcoming Work and Visits)



August's working will be a **Second Degree** working.

The Duties are:

Investiture Bro Richard Batka/
Bro Archie Mathie
SE Corner Bro Robert Whittiker/
Bro Aden Gan
Trestle Board Bro Simon Alford /
Bro Frederic Moraillon
Veil and Symbol Charge Bro Peter Froitzheim
Bro Vijay Kumar
Links Bro Peter Froitzheim

September's working will be a **First Degree** working.

The Duties are:

Investiture Bro Andrew Skene
Lights of Immortality Bro Aden Gan
Symbols of Immortality Bro Frederic Moraillon/
Bro NickDrury
Trestle Board Bro Rob Whittiker
Charge Bro Vijay Kumar
Links Bro Peter Froitzheim



Lodge Ailsa 1172 SC is happy to welcome our new initiate and Denny Kurien. We would like to congratulate Bro Archie Mathie on your Raising

Upcoming Planned Visits & Events:

August 4th..... Lodge Stamford Raffles
August 21st..... The Master BBQ
Sept 4th..... Lodge Ailsa Ladies Night 2010
Sept 10th..... Lodge Zetland in the East
Oct 2nd..... Masonic Hash Run 2010
(Dempsey Road)
Oct 4th..... Lodge Singapore
Nov 11th..... Lodge Horsbugh
Nov 15th..... Lodge St Andrews Installation
Jan 17th..... Lodge St Andrews
Feb 23rd..... Lodge Centenary

The proposed sequence of Workings for the next few months:

Aug ----- 2nd Deg
Sept ----- 3rd Deg
Oct ----- 1st Deg
Nov----- 1st Deg
Dec..... 3RD Deg
Jan..... 3rd Deg
Feb..... Mark Deg
March..... Installation

"We represent a fraternity which believes in justice and truth and honorable action in your community...men who are endeavoring to be better citizens...[and] to make a great country greater. This is the only institution in the world where we can meet on the level all sorts of people who want to live rightly."

*Harry S. Truman
President of the United States*



Mason's Around the World



Masonry in Germany

In the last issue of the Ailsa Craig, we explored the linkages between the culture of the American Indian Nations and the customs and practices of Masonry. In this issue of the Ailsa Craig, we will explore the roots of Masonry in Germany.

Within Mackey's, History of Freemasonry (The Masonic History Co. and The Lakeside Press 1906), and Robert Gould's, History of Freemasonry (LONDON: THOMAS C. JACK, 45 LUDGATE HILL.1885), both authors indicate the complex history that exists in Germany with regard to Freemasonry. To enlighten further, there are several governing bodies in Germany that provide "Grand Lodge" governance as we would define by our own Grand Lodge of Scotland. These independent functioning bodies are the following:

1. The Grand Lodge of Hamburg, founded Feb. 11, 1811, with seat at Hamburg.
2. The Mother Grand Lodge of the Eclectic Union, founded March 27, 1823, with seat at Frankfort on the Maine.
3. The Grand National Mother Lodge of the Prussian States, also known as "Lodge of the Three Globes" founded in 1744, with seat at Berlin.
4. The National Grand Lodge of All German Freemasons, or Grand Lodge of the Country, or Grand Countries Lodge, founded in 1770, with seat at Berlin.
5. The Grand Lodge of Prussia, called Royal York of Friendship, founded in 1760, with seat at Berlin.
6. The Grand Lodge 'Sun,' or 'Zur Sonne,' founded in 1741, with seat at Bayreuth.
7. The National Grand Lodge of Saxony, founded in 1811, with seat at Dresden.
8. The Grand Lodge 'Concord', founded in 1846, with seat at Darmstadt.





There are 5 Independent Lodges as well. They are: Minerva of the Three Palms, at Leipsic; Baldwin of the Linden, at Leipsic; Archimedes of the Three Tracing Boards, in Altenburg; Archimedes of Eternal Union, at Gera; Karl of the Wreath of Rue, at Hildburgshausen.

The five independent lodges formed a Free Association in 1833 which functions as a Grand Lodge, and is generally acknowledged as such.

Why the diversity? Lets take a quick 100 year look...

The first German lodge to be constituted was established at Hamburg, Dec. 6, 1737. In August of the following year it initiated the Crown Prince of Prussia, who afterwards became Frederick the Great. Frederick in turn established a private lodge of his own at Rheinsberg, and later permitted the forming of a lodge at Berlin, Sept. 13, 1740, which took the name "Lodge of the Three Globes." This lodge, after erecting a number of lodges at other points, transformed itself into a Grand Lodge under the title Grand Royal Mother Lodge, which in 1772 was changed to Grand National Mother Lodge.

The National Grand Lodge of all German Freemasons was founded Dec. 27, 1770, by Johann Wilhelm von Zinnendorf. He was made a Mason at Halle, Aug. 10, 1731, and afterwards joined the Lodge of the Three Globes. When that lodge embraced the Rite of Strict Observance, Zinnendorf became Master of the Scotch Lodge. He quarrelled with the Rite of Strict Observance, which excommunicated him and which he in turn condemned.

Immediately he secured through a friend of his a copy of the Swedish rituals and used them as a basis for a new Rite, which he set up in opposition to the Strict Observance. A sufficient number of Masons followed his lead to enable him on June 24, 1770, to set up a new Grand Lodge, in which twelve lodges participated. For seven years this Grand Lodge enjoyed the recognition of the Grand Lodge of England, and later the protectorship of the King of Prussia. Zinnendorf remained Grand Master from 1774 until his death in 1782.





Another important influencer of Freemasonry in Germany was Friedrich Schroeder. In 1814, when he was seventy years of age, he became Grand Master of the English Provincial Grand Lodge of Lower Saxony. This honor came to him as a result of the work he had done in re-organizing the Provincial Grand Lodge's ritual. According to Schroeder, Freemasonry in Germany had become corrupted by the luxuriant growth of higher and side degrees; believing that Masonry in its purest form was that which had been developed in England, he translated a form of the English ritual into German and set up what came to be known as Schroeder's Rite, which consisted of only three degrees. This was adopted by the Provincial Grand Lodge in 1801.

Partly as a result of Schroeder's influence and partly owing to other forces at work, other Grand Lodges followed suit, so that of the eight Grand Lodges now in existence, five practice only three degrees. The National Grand Lodge uses ten degrees; the Grand National Mother Lodge uses seven; the Grand Lodge of Prussia uses a fourth degree, confined to a select few.

But is this the true roots of Freemasonry in Germany? Does masonry really stretch well before the 1700's?

Stonecutters, or Steinmatzen in German, were utilized throughout Europe to build churches and cathedrals throughout continental Europe. Not just in what was the principals of Germany, but throughout the continent – from what is present day United Kingdom to the Mediterranean states to present day Russia.

To develop and build a church or cathedral several hundred years ago, not only was a significant achievement requiring skills that were not prevalent throughout society, but such building generated significant revenues for the towns and cities. Pilgrims would travel great distances to pray at such structures, and having a need to lodge and feed...the economies of the host city quickly grew. With economies that grew, so did regional power; for laws, taxes and security grew as well to support the city infrastructure.





The operative craftsmen and masters of their craft were therefore a prized commodity to have as they were able to apply skill and calculated disciplines to build large and grander houses of worship.

As for what existed in Germany, the society of stonecutters had within it a variety of grades and occupations. These included Steinmaurer or stone layers, Steinhauer or stone hewers, as well as Steinmetzen, a word derived from Stein or stone and Metzen, a derivative of the word Metzel or chisellers, a more detailed and skilful art than the hewers. The construction of Bauhütten or lodge situated next to the churches being constructed served as design, work and sleeping quarters. This of course is operative masonry and should not be confused with speculative masonry.

One of the earliest records of Masonic lodges was found in the German city of Hirschau (now Hirsau) in the current state of Baden-Württemberg (Klovekorn, 99 Deg of Freemasonry, Turning the Solomon Key, Self-Published 2006).

As early as 1149 the first German Zünfte or stonemason unions developed in several principle cities in Germany, including Strasburg. In 1250 the first grand lodge of Freemasons was formed in the city of Cologne Germany.

The grand lodge was formed as part of the immense undertaking to erect the cathedral of Cologne. Building of The Holy Church of St Peter and Maria, better known as The Dom, started in 1248 and did not complete until 1880 due to a series of interruptions.



The Holy Church of St Peter and Maria



Shrine of the Three Kings



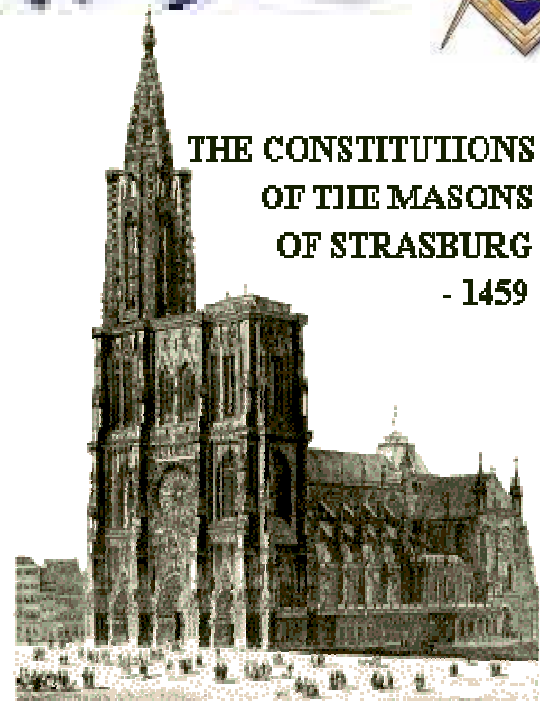
Grand master Erwin von Steinbach



The cathedral is one of the world's largest churches and the largest Gothic church in North Europe, and until 1884 it was the tallest structure in the world. Certainly a building worth the effort and skills of master craftsmen.

These Craftsmen had planned this grand structure to house the remains of the Three Kings and ensure the cathedral played an important role a place of worship within the Holy Roman Empire.

The first Masonic congress occurred in the city of Strasburg, Germany in the year 1275. It was formed by Grand Master Erwin von Steinbach. This was also the earliest recorded use of the symbol of



Freemasons, the square and compasses. Even though these lodges are from having operative roots; that the formation of a Grand Lodge and in the utility of “Tools” in a similar manner seems to indicate the initial period where Operative began to bridge towards Speculative natures in Germany. Other Masonic lodges were formed in Wien, Bern and Cologne; and these were called Oberhütten or great lodges. Between the years of 1498 and 1563, the first recorded Arms of the Masons of Germany were recorded depicting four compasses. The Masonic Arms of Germany also displayed the name of St John the Evangelist, who is the patron Saint of German Masons.

Due to the relative size and growing importance of the Oberhütte of Cologne, it was considered the head of the Masonic lodges of all upper Germany. Strasburg, was to lead the Masonic lodges of southern Germany, Franconia, and Bavaria.

Between 1276 and 1281, Rudolf I of Habsburg, a German king, became a member of the Bauhütte or Lodge of St Stephan. King Rudolf was one of the first non-operative, otherwise called free or speculative members of a Masonic lodge.

The laws of Masons in Europe were revised in 1459, part of which described the requirement to test foreign brothers prior to their acceptance in lodges via an established method of greeting.

After the invention of the printing press, the Masons of Germany printed the first Rules and Statues of the Fraternity of Stonecutters of Strasburg Ordnung der Steinmetzen in 1464. These regulations were approved and sanctioned by succeeding Emperors such as Charles V and Ferdinand.



With the rise of Protestantism in 1517, many of the cathedrals built converted away from Catholicism, and the Masonic Lodges followed suit by becoming more liberal, thus opening the door wider for Speculative Masonry to take a firmer hold.

Through their vow of secrecy, rituals, and symbols, Freemasonry was and still is erroneously associated with secret societies and conspiracies theories, even though many of the rules and rituals have now been revealed and the lodges tend to operate in the style of civic associations.

The relationship that the major churches have with Freemasonry is divided: While the Catholic Church still insists upon the incompatibility of Freemasonry and the Catholic Church, Protestants in Germany have been free to have a dual membership in both a lodge and the Protestant Church since 1973. In 2004, there were about 14,000 Freemasons in Germany



“I know nothing about the subject,
but I’m happy to give you my expert opinion.”

Lodge Ailsa's Ladies Night 2010



*Join Lodge Ailsa for our annual tribute to
the Ladies...*

Charity of the evening will go to "The Haven"

Sept 4th 7pm at the Fairmont Hotel

tickets at \$130pp

*Door Prizes include: Weekend Bintan Getaway for 2; 5-Star
Accommodation in Singapore; High-Tea for 2 and much more....*

Happenings & Supporters



*“Heart to God
Hand to Man”*

The Haven is a residential home for abandoned, abused and neglected children, mostly referred to The Salvation Army for care by the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports.



Lodge Ailsa’s charity this year is THE HAVEN. All proceed and contributions from our Ladies Night and upcoming Masonic Hash Run will go directly to this charity.

Please join us to help.....

Get Ready!

Get Set!

Have Fun!

Lodge Ailsa

Charity Hash Run 2010



October 2nd 2010

Start and End – Dempsey Road Carpark

Food, Drink and a Great time for Charity

Happenings & Supporters



NIRWANA RESORT HOTEL
NIRWANA GARDENS



Jalan Panglima Pantar, Lagoi 29155, Bintan Resorts, Indonesia

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Happenings & Supporters





Bringing you the best of what Scotland has to offer ...

Taste
Scotland's climate & unspoilt landscape provide ideal conditions to yield first-rate produce...

Whisky
When the spectrum of taste is infinite, the pleasure of discovering new & untried whiskies never fades...

Experience
Weaving you events to remember through our unique connection with Scotland...


Specialist in the import, distribution & promotion of quality Scottish produce
and purveyor of Scotland's rich & unique culture in Singapore & South East Asia

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Simply - "Just for a chuckle"

A drunk is stumbling through the woods when he happens upon a preacher baptising folk in the river. He ambles down to the water's edge then trips and falls down before the holy man. Almost overcome by the smell of alcohol, the preacher pipes up: "Lord have mercy on your drunken soul, brother - are you ready to find Jesus?"

Out of his skull, the drunk agrees: "Yes, I am!" he replies. And with that, the preacher grabs him and dunks him under the water. Moments later, he drags the boozer back up: "Brother, have you found Jesus?"

"No, preacher," stammers the drunk, "I have not!" Stunned by this, the preacher sends the drunk down again...this time leaving him there a little longer.

Shortly he drags him back up again: "Rid your soul of the poison, brother - have you found Jesus?"

Gasping for air, the drunk splutters a reply: "No, preacher - I have not!"

At his wit's end, the preacher sends the drunk down one last time. A full minute later, he pulls him out: "For the love of God," shouts the preacher, "tell me you've found Jesus!"

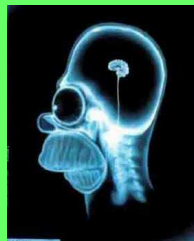
Coughing his lungs up, the drunk wipes his eyes and turns to the preacher: "You sure this is where he fell in?" *Contributed by Bro Chris Sweeney*

Did you know

A car uses 1.6 ounces of gas idling for one minute. Half an ounce is used to start the average automobile!

When glass breaks, the cracks move faster than 3,000 miles per hour. To photograph the event, a camera must shoot at a millionth of a second!

Your skull is made up of 22 different bones ---- re-defines the name "Bone-Head"



A cowboy passes by a ranch and strikes up a conversation with the rancher sitting by the gate. The cowboy asks the rancher, "Mind if I talk to your dog over there?"

"Damn fool, don't you know dogs can't talk?"

The cowboy replies, "So what's the harm?"

The rancher shrugs, "Go right ahead."

The cowboy ambles up to the dog and says, "Howdy!" The dog replies, "Hello."

The rancher's eyes pop wide open. The cowboy continues, "Does your master here treat you alright?"

"Sure does. He feeds me, lets me sleep inside, and every day he takes me to the lake."

The cowboy asks the shocked rancher, "Mind if I talk to your horse over there?"

The rancher replies, "Now, I don't know what you're up to, but I know for a fact that horses can't talk."

"Well then, what's the harm?" "Go right ahead," says the rancher.

The cowboy says to the horse, "Hello."

The horse replies, "Hello."

The rancher's jaw drops.

The cowboy asks, "Your owner here treat you OK?"

"Sure," replies the horse, tossing his mane. "He rides me every day, brushes me down, feeds me good, and he keeps me in the barn out of the bad weather."

The cowboy looks satisfied and turns to the rancher, "Are those your sheep over there?"

The rancher looks alarmed and stammers, "Listen -- them sheep out there, they're -- they're nothing but a bunch of liars!"