



## **Masonic Library & Museum Association**

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

### **Teleconference MEETING – 2017**

#### **AGENDA**

Wednesday, 13 December 2017

#### A) Welcome and Roll Call

Attendees:	Brian Rountree	Manitoba, Canada
	Hugh Young	Alberta, Canada
	Neil Wynes Morse	Canberra, Australia
	Glenys Waldman	[near] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
	Hayley Moll	Raleigh, N. Carolina
	Cathy Giaimo	[near] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

#### Regrets were received from:

Mark Tabbert	Virginia
Ed King	Maine
Glenn Visscher	New Jersey
Bill Kreuger	Iowa
Adam Kendall	California
Michael Carpenter	Louisiana
Richard Powell	New York
Dick Browning	Arkansas
Marie Barnett	Virginia
Jeff Maynor	Louisiana

#### B) Approve Minutes of 2016

Missing motion on the by-laws needs to be found, if possible, and added.

Motion: Hugh Young / Glenys Waldman

That: we approve the minutes.

Carried.

#### C) Secretary's report

circulated

#### D) Treasurer's report

available soon; to be circulated

E] Vice President's / President's report   circulated [see attached]

F] Webmaster Report                            none

G] Overseas reports:

a) Library + Museum of Freemasonry, England -- no report  
[Diane Clements retired this fall]

b) AMMLA and Scandinavia [Helge Bjorn Horrisland] circulated [see attached]

c) Others

Neil Morse mentioned that most Australian Masonic libraries are poorly funded by the GL. GL Victoria has rebranded itself & has a qualified librarian who has applied for federal funding. This may be the first of several it will apply for. NSW grand lodge library is not able to receive money from GL because it is not being used by the members. Performance indicators "not up to snuff!"

GL Alberta will move offices shortly. Hugh has passed on the librarian role to Kim Parkyn. There are hopes to expand into a museum also.

Glenys Waldman is reducing her hours at the library and doing work from home. Cathy Giaimo will be in charge of the physical library. Dennis Buttleman is still Curator.

Manitoba is quiet and we are starting to plan for our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025.

MOTION: Glenys Waldman / Neil Wynes Morse:

That: the reports be received.

Carried.

H] OLD BUSINESS

a) Table top display was lost for a while, it has appeared in Waco, TX and sent on to Val Korszniak.

Neil asked about the display to be available for Sept 2018 in Washington for the QC meeting.

I] NEW BUSINESS

a) 2017-2019 Officer Nominations & Elections:

The results of the Survey Monkey questionnaire are:

- President – Brian Rountree
- Vice-President – Jeff Maynor

Survey comments made:

(i) a name was put forward, but that person had already been approached and declined. [Brian-- Several others were

approached and declined. The request was circulated on the Yahoo list.]

(ii) It is SOP that to serve as president a member must have hosted a MLMA meeting-- or at the VERY LEAST attended a meeting.

- Secretary – Cathy Giaimo
- Treasurer – Eric Trosdahl

MOTION: Hugh Young / Neil Wynes Morse  
That: the officers be confirmed.  
Carried.

b) Regarding Rhode Island

It was unfortunate that we could not meet in Rhode Island. On our behalf, Richard Lynch had arranged with the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island to pay some non-refundable fees.

MOTION: Glenys Waldman, Hayley Moll  
That: we re-imburse the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island with \$1,000 towards fees paid on our behalf for the September 2017 meeting.  
Carried.

c) Member news:

Bill Kreuger (Iowa) writes:

Our Grant Wood painting entitled "The First Three Degrees of Freemasonry," will be heading out to NYC to the Whitney Museum in mid-January for a huge Grant Wood exhibit there that opens in late February/early March 2018. I think the exhibit runs to mid-June 2018. Anyone on the east coast will be able to see one of the earliest and the only Masonic painting done by Iowa artist Grant Wood.

Note from Jeff Maynor via email during our meeting — I did want to mention that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana Library/Museum went through the Museum Assessment Program (administered by the American Alliance of Museums) this year. The process at least raised some interesting self-reflection questions and gave us a number of things to think about. Has anyone else gone through this program?

None of the participants here knew anything about this program.

Hugh Young: Alberta moved from LibraryWorld to LibraryThing which is free and does the job they want. LT uses SmallCat and is good for small libraries.

The link is <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/ABMasonic>

## J] FUTURE MEETINGS

There were 27 respondents to the Survey Monkey questionnaire: thank you

for participating. It offered several places, including the DeMoulin Museum in Springfield, IL and the Detroit Masonic Temple, Detroit MI.

It should be noted that the George Washington Memorial was only offered because of the Association for Masonic Arts conference and was not a separate offering: apologies if the explanation was not clear enough.

Also, Cristiano Franceschini was kind enough to offer his museum in Italy but did realize that the distance creates a problem.

One response did recommend Portland, Oregon.

The results of the Survey say that our future meetings shall be

2018 – DeMoulin Museum, Springfield, IL during Oct. 11-13, 2018

2019 – Detroit Masonic Temple, Detroit, MI during dates to be determined.

Brian said that he would be in touch with the people involved and assist in planning for the events.

#### K] Other Business

Neil Wynes Morse asks about material relating to Gold and Rosy Cross of 1700s? None of us have anything on that topic. Also—does anyone have any Primers on conservation of masonic fabric items? He has contacted institutions in Canberra and they are hesitant because of the mix of fabrics, leather, and bullion embroidery in aprons which all require different techniques. If anyone has leads, let Neil know at [morse@netspeed.com.au](mailto:morse@netspeed.com.au)

#### L] Adjourn

MOTION: Hugh Young

That: we adjourn the meeting.

Carried.

### **APPROVED AT THE 2018 MEETING**

SIGNED:

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BRIAN ROUNTREE, President

CATHY GIAIMO, Secretary

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To the members of MLMA:

Greetings,

It came as a surprise to me (and to all of you, no doubt), when our President, Aimee Newell, announced in August that she was resigning as President. We continue to wish her well in her job with the Luzerne County Historical Society.

I have continued to work with our Secretary, Cathy, to keep the members updated in our Yahoo Group but have not done very much to update our Facebook page. Members are welcome to send me material to add, or to post there themselves.

While she was President, Aimee Newell had been working on these projects:

1] MSA library booklet

She had collected material from a number of libraries with the assistance of Richard Lynch and Glenn Visscher. Do we want to continue?

2] Aimee's President's Challenge did not have any entries for 2016 and I have not heard of any up to Dec 1, 2017. Is this a worthwhile project to continue? Our Annual Conference A strength of our organization is its ability to visit various member institutions and learn about them and their communities. It was certainly a hard decision for Richard Lynch and myself to have to cancel our meeting in Rhode Island. Thank you again, Richard, for all your work in arranging the meeting.

Looking ahead, you might remember that over the past few years we had discussed the possibility of our 2018 meeting being sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Washington (State). Unfortunately, it turns out that this is not possible. Happily, we have had the following offers, that will be listed on the SurveyMonkey web survey for consideration by the members. The results will be reported at the Dec. 13 conference call meeting.

1] ASSOCIATION FOR MASONIC ARTS

This conference takes place May 1-13, 2018 at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial. See their letter for details.

2] FIRENZE ITALY

why not next meeting in firenze italy

I can try to organize some masonic tourist tour a place where we can do the meeting in some interesting old room and also you can pay a visit to my small museum the MUSMA looking for your answer ready to send you a tentative program for the tour of course i can try to give some idea regarding the hotels, and some others tours it will depends how many days i will think to stay in firenze or near towns like Siena Pisa or and Lucca full of masonic history and the fly

must be reserved of course one by one from you or you must charge some in  
america to organize a fly from ny or others airport to firenze airport this to obtaine  
the best and cheap cost

cristiano franceschini

museo simbologia massonica Firenze

3] GREENVILLE, ILL.

Greetings from the DeMoulin Museum. What amenities would we need to provide  
to host in 2018 or 2019? How many hotel rooms would you need? We would like  
to put together a proposal. The museum would get assistance from the City of  
Greenville in putting together a package. We are located on Interstate 70 about  
an hour east of St. Louis.

Thanks, John Goldsmith...DeMoulin Museum Curator

4] DETROIT, MI

The Detroit Masonic Temple Library, Archive, and Research Center hosted back  
in 2004 and would love to do so again. We have half of the 4th floor within the  
world's largest Masonic Temple to ourselves. We are working hard to become a  
first-rate research facility, and would be eager to host our colleagues next year or  
in 2019.

Rob Moore

Executive Director, Detroit Masonic Temple Library, Archive, and Research  
Center

Please do complete the short 6 question survey before 5 pm [Central] on  
Wednesday.

I look forward to "meeting" everyone on Dec. 13.

Yours truly,

Brian Rountree, President

## **Helge Bjorn Horrisland's European report**

The annual AMMLA-meeting reflected the 300 anniversary of UGLE. An exhibition in the Library reflected freemasonry in England and the Commonwealth through the years. A trip to Burlington House, containing probably the first purpose built lodge room in England. Dinner at a typical gentleman's club in the City – The Oriental Club.

I gave a report on ongoing European restitution issues: German universities has started a long and slow process repatriating books from WWII to original owners. We estimate that 100.000 books are in that category, maybe 15.000 masonic books. The Sicherheitsdienst-Karthotek with 35.000 German masonic names used by SS during the annihilation of German freemasonry in 1933-35 has been found by me at the National Archive in Szczecin, Poland. The wartime National Library book deposit in Prague containing 1 million books from WWII and the Communist Era contains probably ten percent masonic books. Registration has started and will probably take ten years time. I am part of the team that are trying to pin down the history of that deposit. Masonic books have been found in National Library in Minsk, Belarus. I am working on identification.

A new face in AMMLA is professor Tadeusz Cegielski, University of Warsaw that held an interesting speech on freemasonry as topic for Polish exhibitions after glasnost. He is more or less the founder of postcommunist freemasonry in Poland, former grand master of Grand Lodge of Poland.

The annual AMMLA meeting for 2018 will be at Corfu, Greece primo July.

UGLE Library director Diane Clements is retiring end of 2017. A new woman has been appointed from outside masonic fraternity. I don't have any details yet, but will meet her in February/2018.

I have not any interesting news from Scandinavia.

For the rest of Europe, most international events have been connected to the 1717-anniversary. Two international masonic congresses in Paris and Toulon, France highlighted 1717 and its implication of freemasonry in different countries. Most valuable is the new discoveries of Sommers/Prescott on the founding of the first grand lodge in London. This issue will be taken up in a meeting of Quatuor Coronati/London in February 2018 with Sommers/Prescott in the red corner and John Hammill, UGLE in the blue corner. Half of Europe is looking forward to that meeting.

I missed my annual MLMA-trip this year and hope that there will be one in 2018 in Providence or elsewhere. If I can do anything from this side of the pond, pls let me know. Keep me posted.

Helge

## Masonic Library and Museum Association letter

Brian Rountree  
Masonic Library and Museum Association

Dear Honorable Brother Brian Rountree,  
It is my honor to present to your attention our Association of Masonic Arts /[www.masonicarts.net/](http://www.masonicarts.net/). We are Freemasons and Friends of the Symbolic Arts, dedicated their time to research of the Masterpieces of the Masonic Culture - to have better understanding of the significance of the great traditions of the Craft; to improve our artistic work, present the contemporary Symbolic Authors, and help the young generations in their quest for identification at the Universe of Arts. We had a chance the last 3 years to grow slowly in peace and harmony, outside of the big attention, noise and speed of the Contemporary Global Society, developing our ideas and programs. A few times we enjoyed the invitations from another Masonic bodies, and presented our small exhibits at their events. We learned the importance of the open hand and help from our Fraternal organizations to keep the existence of all good ideas from the History of the Craft for one better Future of the Humanity.

The main event of the Association of Masonic Arts is Apollo Festivals- the World Celebration of The Symbolic and Masonic Art and Culture. The First one we did in 2015 in Brasilia under the patronage of the Grand Orient of Brazil, with the participation of Artists, Writers, Musicians and Friends of Arts from different countries and Cultures. Now, we are working hard in preparation of Apollo 2018 - the Second Festival, which will be held from May 10 - 13 at The George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. Please, check our web - site for more information about the Festival. We are in process in building our General Program, hoping that our concerts, exhibitions and lectures will be appreciated by Brethren and Seekers of the Symbolic Culture.

And this is the right time to extend our heartily Invitation to Masonic Organizations to be part of this Celebration, and to present to the visitors their ideas and programs. We know the importance of your work and achievements for the Future of Freemasonry. We would like to share the space and atmosphere of the Festival with you! We will be very honored and happy, if you consider to have your annual Conference at the same time, using with no charge the Festival space. The Masonic Libraries and Museum can have free booths at the event, to present some artifacts from their amazing collections, and to distribute materials and information in their wish. You can use the Hotels for the Festival, too, which are acceptable from our web - site.

Your Members are free not to pay full General Admission, but to have their individual participation in some of our concerts, lunches, dinners and cocktails in their choice. We can send you detail prices for each event in the Festival Program, to help in this process. Please, accept my admiration to your Nobel work and dedication!

Fraternal Respect and Brotherly Love,  
Dimitar Mavrov,  
Executive Secretary of the Association of Masonic Arts