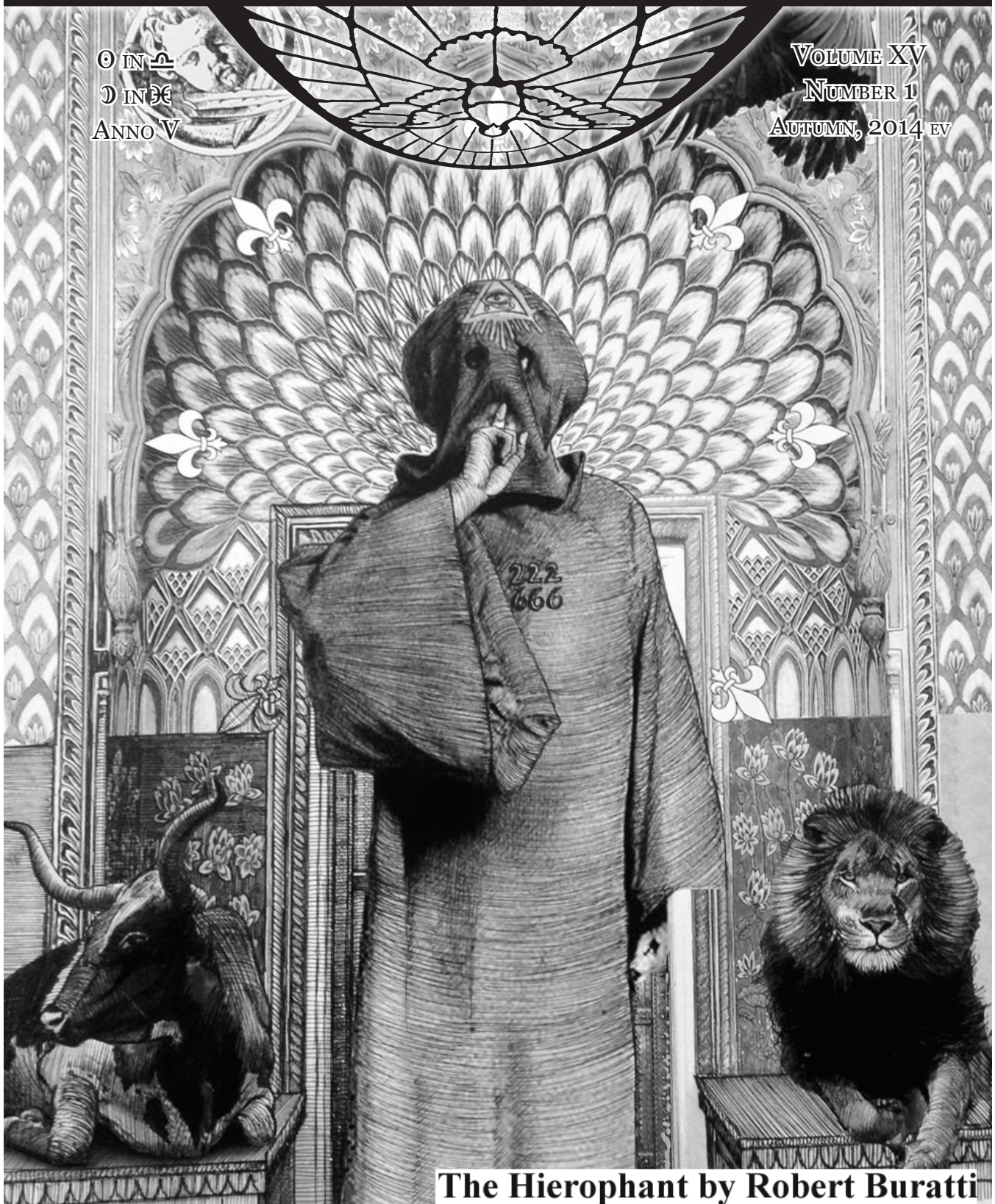


THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U.S. GRAND LODGE OF ORDO TEMPLI ORIENTIS

AGAPÉ

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VOLUME XV
NUMBER 1
AUTUMN, 2014 EV



The Hierophant by Robert Buratti



*The Official Organ of the
United States Grand Lodge of
Ordo Templi Orientis*

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*Do what thou wilt
shall be the whole of the Law.*

Masthead Mania

No, you did not miss an issue of *Agapé* – we have been going through some transitions with our staff and production schedule. The last issue, a double issue (Volume 14, Nos. 1 & 2), is currently available on the U.S.G.L. website and will be printed and distributed in the near future. This issue that you are reading is Volume 15, No. 1. We are excited to get production back on track and anticipate releasing the next issue early in 2015.

Production Changes

Agapé owes a huge debt of gratitude to Marlene Cornelius for her many years of service in the printing and distributing of *Agapé*. Thank you Marlene! We wish you the best in all your future endeavors. We also need to welcome a few new team members. Andrew Lent is acting as the guest editor for this issue. Ongoing editorial duties are transitioning from Frater Julianus to Sister Julia Thiebes. Thank you Frater Julianus for your many years of service. The next issue will be the first full issue under Julia's guidance. Stay tuned for additional staff announcements.

Volunteer Opportunities

Agapé is looking for individuals with printing resources. We have returned to printing and distributing *Agapé* through a commercial business. While this method is sustainable, if you work in the printing industry and think you can help, please let us know at Agape@oto-usa.org.

Want to write for *Agapé*? We have an idea in mind for an ongoing series and (in true Order fashion) we are looking for a volunteer to write it. If you are a motivated individual with good writing, editing, and communication skills – and are interested in conducting interviews with several U.S.G.L. members and officers – please contact us at Agape@oto-usa.org.

We are looking for volunteers to help with development, design, and implementation of a website project in collaboration between Grand Lodge and the Office of the Historian.

Of primary need is a developer with experience in custom web application development. Drupal experience is most desired but anyone who has developed with at least one CMS framework would be welcome. An understanding of HTML5, CSS3, PHP, jQuery, and JavaScript is also desired.

We are also looking for one or two UI (User Interface) developers and graphic designers to help create, build, and implement a robust responsive design site.

In order to save space, full specifications on desired skill sets and project scope can be supplied upon request. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please e-mail your interest or query to master@azulnox.org.

Love is the law, love under will.

- Terry M.

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

CHANGES TO E.G.C. REPORTING PROCEDURE

One item discussed at the Supreme Grand Council meeting this year was the reporting of baptisms, confirmations, weddings, ordinations, etc. by E.G.C. clergy.

When I started out as N.G.M.G., there was no reporting or centralized record-keeping of these services. As we have developed as a Grand Lodge, this has changed. It has become quite clear that we have a need for accurate and complete record-keeping regarding E.G.C. sacramental services, and we now have a U.S.G.L. officer (the E.G.C. Secretary) capable of maintaining a centralized repository of such records.

At first, we thought it would be best to rely on the recipients of sacramental services to perform the reporting, and we tried that out for a few years. It proved to be extremely ineffective.

The policy now is to have the clergy report on the sacramental services they perform. Reports should be made in a timely manner to the E.G.C. Secretary and to the Supervising Bishop. As bishops, you can suspend the authority of clergy under your supervision to perform any of the E.G.C. sacramental services (including Gnostic Mass) if they are habitually failing to comply with E.G.C. policies, and this includes reporting. Reporting forms are available from the E.G.C. Secretary.

SUPERVISION OF E.G.C. CLERGY AND NOVICES

This is a reminder to local masters about the need to make sure people who are celebrating the Gnostic Mass with our official sanction have Supervising Bishops and are dues-current members.

If you are unsure about any of your membership and their status on either of these items, please contact the E.G.C. Secretary about Supervising Bishops and the Grand Treasurer General about dues status.

IMAGES ON THE WEB

Long-standing policy prohibits local bodies from web posting of defamatory materials, materials that could expose the Order to risk of litigation, or that could otherwise attract serious negative attention. Recent events have revealed that some additional guidance in this regard is necessary.

Effective immediately, posting any of the following on local body websites or social media pages is expressly and specifically prohibited:

1) Altered (“Photoshopped”) images of people depicting them in one of our temples, or at an O.T.O. event, which they did not attend.

2) Altered images of people such that a reasonable person might conclude from looking at the picture something that would be considered defamatory about the subject of the photo, or that could reasonably be considered an invasion of their privacy.

3) A recognizable image, not in the public domain, of a person or persons without their express permission.

RECORDING OF OFFICIAL EVENTS

The making of clandestine audio and video recordings of O.T.O. events is prohibited. Audio or video recordings of O.T.O. events may not be made without the permission of the local master (or person in official charge of the event). Such recordings must be made openly, with no effort to conceal the recording device, and appropriate notice regarding the recording activity must be given to all who may be recorded if such notice is required by the local master or by applicable laws or ordinances. Permission must be obtained in advance from all persons recorded for the recording to be published in any form. Publication of recordings of initiation rituals, in any form, is (of course) prohibited.

Fraternally,

Sabazius



Love is the law, love under will.

FROM THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

NINTH DEGREE REVOLUTIONARY

Members in good standing of the Sovereign Sanctuary of the IX° in the United States (who are not serving as an officer or voting member of any Governing or Administrative Body under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Grand Lodge) wishing to volunteer to stand for election to the office of Revolutionary by the Electoral College are encouraged to write the President of the E.C.—see p. 13 for contact information. We are currently in need of volunteers for this important position within U.S. Grand Lodge, and I strongly encourage members of the IX° to take a moment to re-read *Liber CXIV* and consider volunteering to serve your Brothers and Sisters in this manner.

SANCTION FOR APPEAL

Brothers or sisters of our Order who wish to pursue appeal to a verdict of the Grand Tribunal may write to individual members of the Electoral College to request sanction be given to take their case to the Areopagus of the Eighth Degree (per *Liber CXIV*, section 16) via e-mail links found at <http://ec.oto-usa.org/electors.html>.

HOSTING E.C. MEETINGS

Local bodies that are interested in hosting meetings of the Electoral College are encouraged to write the President of the E.C.—see p. 13 for contact information.

On behalf of the Electoral College, I would like to thank the masters and members of Aum. Ha. Lodge in the Valley of Chicago, Illinois; Coph Nia Lodge in the Valley of Eugene, Oregon; and William Blake Lodge in the Valley of Baltimore, Maryland for their excellent hospitality in hosting our Fall, Spring, and Summer meetings, respectively.

UPCOMING E.C. MEETINGS

The Fall 2014 EV Electoral College meeting was held on Saturday, October 18th, 2014 at Scarlet Woman Lodge in the Valley of Austin, Texas.

The Winter 2015 EV Electoral College meeting is to be held online Saturday, January 17th, 2015 EV.

The Spring 2015 EV Electoral College meeting is to be held on Saturday, April 25th, 2015 EV at Swirling Star Lodge in the Valley of Miami, Florida.

The Summer 2015 EV Electoral College meeting is to be held on Friday, August 14th, 2015 EV in conjunction with

NOTOCON, hosted by Scarlet Woman Lodge in the Valley of Austin, Texas.

ATTENDING E.C. MEETINGS

Dues current members in good standing of V° and above are welcome to attend and observe the in-person Electoral College Meetings. We request that those planning to attend contact the master of the hosting body so that adequate arrangements can be made.

WEBSITE

The official E.C. website can be found at:
<http://ec.oto-usa.org>

FORMS

Masters seeking up-to-date forms for the Annual Report, Change of Mastership Application, Application for Oasis Status, Application for Lodge Status, or closure forms will find them by contacting the Document Control Officer at doc_control@oto-usa.org.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE E.C.

I would like to invite any initiates with specific concerns or questions regarding the operation of the Electoral College, to write to either the President or Secretary of the E.C. For contact information, please see p. 13. We welcome ongoing communication between the E.C. and the membership of all local bodies. Increased communication allows us all to better serve the Order. All postal mail correspondence with the Electoral College Secretary should be sent to the address listed on p. 13.

Love is the law, love under will.

In the Bonds of the Order,
Dvd Hill
President, Electoral College
O.T.O. U.S.A.

Fall 2013 Meeting

The Electoral College, at its Fall meeting, held on October 19, 2013 EV took the following actions concerning duties in its charge:

Local Body Closures

None.

Change of Body Status

None.

Change of Body Masters

Mastership of Black Sun Oasis in the Valley of Akron, Ohio was transferred from Brother Ronald Conn to Brother Andrew Lent effective October 19, 2013 EV.

Mastership of Leaping Laughter Lodge in the Valley of Minneapolis, Minnesota was transferred from Brother Otto Christenson to Sister Lisa Coffin effective October 19, 2013 EV.

Rechartered Body

Hidden Spring Oasis was rechartered to the Valley of Daytona Beach, Florida with Sister Emily Lawson as Master effective October 19, 2013 EV.

New Local Body Charters

718 Encampment was chartered in the Valley of San Antonio, TX, with Frater Anubis as Master effective October 19, 2013 EV.

Winter 2013 Meeting

The Electoral College, at its Winter meeting, held on January 18, 2014 EV took the following actions concerning duties in its charge:

Local Body Closures

None.

Change of Body Status

Golden Lotus Oasis in the Valley of Garden Grove, California was chartered as Golden Lotus Lodge with Frater ALP LV as Master effective January 18, 2014 EV.

Change of Body Masters

Mastership of N.O.X. Oasis in the Valley of Ogden, Utah was transferred from Brother Craig Funk to Brother Michael

Sandman effective January 18, 2014 EV.

Mastership of Bubastis Oasis in the Valley of Dallas, Texas was transferred from Brother Shawn Richburg to Soror Magdalaina effective January 18, 2014 EV.

Rechartered Body

Black Sun Oasis was rechartered to the Valley of Cleveland, Ohio with Brother Andrew Lent as Master effective January 18, 2014 EV.

New Local Body Charters

Star of Babalon Camp was chartered in the Valley of Raleigh, North Carolina with Sister Crystal Baker as Master effective January 18, 2014 EV.

Spring 2014 Meeting

The Electoral College, at its Spring meeting, held on April 5, 2014 EV took the following actions concerning duties in its charge:

Local Body Closures

None.

Change of Body Status

None.

Change of Body Masters

Mastership of Horizon Lodge in the Valley of Seattle, Washington was transferred from Brother Jon Sewell to Brother Michael Kolson effective April 5, 2014 EV.

Mastership of Hidden Spring Oasis in the Valley of Daytona Beach, Florida was transferred from Sister Emily Lawson to Sister Sherri McLaughlin effective April 5, 2014 EV.

Mastership of Dove and Serpent Oasis in the Valley of Atlanta, Georgia was transferred from Brother Ziethlan Waters to Soror De Profundis effective April 5, 2014 EV.

Mastership of Aum. Ha. Lodge in the Valley of Chicago, Illinois was transferred from Brother Gordon Kinloch to Brother Derek Schulze effective April 5, 2014 EV.

Rechartered Body

Theorte Ekstasis Camp in the Valley of Louisville, Kentucky was rechartered as Seven Gates Oasis with Brother Zachary J. Walters as Master effective April 5, 2014 EV.

Continued on next page ~

New Local Body Charters

None.

Summer 2014 Meeting

The Electoral College, at its Summer meeting, held on July 12, 2014 EV took the following actions concerning duties in its charge:

Local Body Closures

Xanadu Oasis in the Valley of Reading, Pennsylvania was closed at the request of the Master effective July 12, 2014 EV.

Glory of the Stars Camp in the Valley of Asheville, North Carolina was closed at the request of the Master effective July 12, 2014 EV.

Change of Body Status

None.

Change of Body Masters

Mastership of Crux Ansata Oasis in the Valley of Denver, Colorado was transferred from Sister Julep Watt to Frater Al-Bali' effective July 12, 2014 EV.

Mastership of Blue Equinox Oasis in the Valley of Detroit, Michigan was transferred from Soror Shivani to Frater Taurus93 effective July 12, 2014 EV.

Mastership of Star Sapphire Lodge in the Valley of Los Angeles, California was transferred from Sister Suzanne Torchia to Frater ABHS effective July 12, 2014 EV.

Rechartered Body

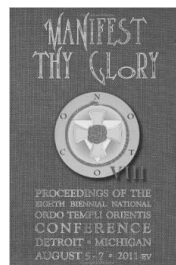
None.

New Local Body Charters

None.

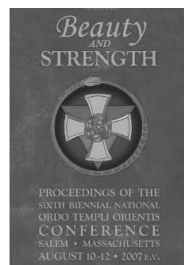
Love is the law, love under will.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS BOOKS



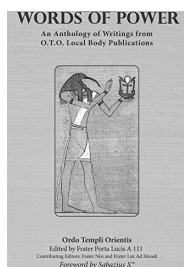
**MANIFEST THY GLORY:
PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTH
BIENNIAL NATIONAL ORDO TEMPLI
ORIENTIS CONFERENCE:
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
AUGUST 5-7, 2011 EV**

**UNITY UTTERMOST SHOWED!
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTH
BIENNIAL NATIONAL ORDO TEMPLI
ORIENTIS CONFERENCE:
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON,
AUGUST 7-9, 2009 EV**



**BEAUTY AND STRENGTH:
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH
BIENNIAL NATIONAL ORDO TEMPLI
ORIENTIS CONFERENCE: SALEM,
MASSACHUSETTS,
AUGUST 10-12, 2007 EV**

NEW RELEASE!



**WORDS OF POWER:
AN ANTHOLOGY OF WRITINGS
FROM O.T.O. LOCAL BODY
PUBLICATIONS**

The articles cover a number of diverse topics including self-publishing in a magical community; personal stories of life within the O.T.O. and the growth of various local bodies; the religious philosophy of Thelema; the life and death of Jack Parsons, rocket scientist and Thelemic pioneer; a pilgrimage to Aleister Crowley's notorious Thelemic Monastery in Sicily; reflections on the mysticism of Richard Wagner, William Shakespeare, and Carl Jung; magical musings; occult history; reflections on ritual; practical magick and personal journeys in the world of modern occultism.

**AVAILABLE FROM AMAZON AND
CREATE SPACE**

GERRIT LANSING

by Joseph Shepard

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

On Saturday, November 13, 2010 EV, Knights Templar Oasis in Salem, Massachusetts presented “An Evening with Gerrit Lansing.”

After a cocktail Hour and a potluck dinner, the members of the Oasis were gifted with 30 minutes of readings by the world-class poet, Gerrit Lansing. The event was semi-private, although members were allowed to invite guests or fans of the poet.

I first encountered Gerrit Lansing’s poem “An Equinoctial” along with Charles Stein’s “from *theforestforthetrees*” in the book *The Equinox Vol. III No. 10*. Mr. Lansing was born in Albany, New York, raised in Northern Ohio, and educated at Harvard and Columbia University. In the early 1960s, Lansing edited and published two issues of *SET*, a literary journal that joined modernist poetic experiment with occult and spiritual themes. *SET* served as a precursor of and influence upon the subsequent counterculture. His work has been described as “a unique mix of Aleister Crowley and Walt Whitman.” (Baker, Robert. “The Metaphysics of Gerrit Lansing.” Rev. of *Heavenly Tree/Soluble Forest* by Gerrit Lansing. Rain Taxi Online Edition, Fall 2001.)

I was delighted to meet with the man at his home in Gloucester prior to arranging the event. I arrived at noon for lunch (Fish) at his home and had the opportunity to talk with the poet for several hours. I found that we had much in common beyond Thelema and Crowley. I received a call at 4:18pm, which produced much laughter at the coincidence as it was relating directly to the subject matter we were discussing at that very moment. It is my continued delight to not only be his friend, but a comrade in the love of freedom, art, and the unlimited possibilities of the creative impulse.

At the event, Mr. Lansing read from his collection of selected poems called “A February Sheaf,” released in 2003. He stated that he felt these were the “best reading so far” in his career. Mr. Lansing chose many of the evening’s selections with an audience of Thelemites in mind. The packed Temple was held at attention with every sound and syllable.

I feel that the event was a serious milestone in our ability to promulgate the culture of Thelema. It had been a long journey from the first time I read his poem in *Equinox III:10* to the moment of his reading at the Knights Templar Oasis.

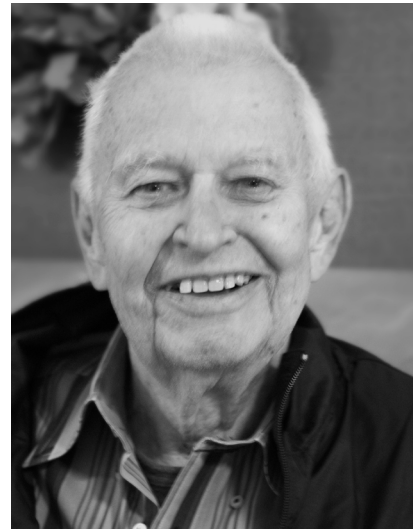


Photo credit: Joseph Thiebes, 2013

BRACKETING IN CITY THICKETS

Get your lovely bod out of bed you sleepy typewriter
You think this day is made for play it’s
Bright out, well it...Droopy streets await,
the puny are pining for that magnificence
we are clouds to bring them and
they’ll never know hid in Jesus’ pants
the winged prick they must caress or further deliquesce...

(“I like to watch him get his gun” the sailor muttered
As great angels rustled round us, looking down)

Our heavenly host is called to mission of derangement,
Inverted postures there the rule ...

Grunt and please yourself there among the live ones,
Lurk as you like, says the Book of the Law
but never deride nor pity:

a grave joy behooves
as you flash the strobe tablets so fast they’re never seen...

Good misery bad Gaiety
Fuck all night on Avenue Z

but Bracketing-Down-the-Alphabet, they say,
will get you a hit of heaven on Avenue A.

- Gerrit Lansing, from *Heavenly Tree/Soluble Forest*.

Love is the law, love under will.

WELCOME TO THELEMAVILLE!

Reflections on the first European O.T.O. Conference,
May 1st-5th, 2013 EV Croatia.

by

Krzysztof Azarewicz (O.T.O. Poland)



Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

I

The history of O.T.O. in the Balkans was something that had interested me for many years. In the early 1990s, Yugoslavia was – after the U.S. – the second country when it comes to the number of members.

It seems that the history of O.T.O. in Yugoslavia started as early as 1982. *The Magickal* (sic!) *Link Vol. II, No. 10* (October 1982) mentions Thelema-93 Chapter in Gorica (Chapter in those years was an equivalent of what nowadays is called an Oasis).

In *Vol. III, No. 2* (February 1983) on the contact page we find another two bodies mentioned: IEHI Agape Camp in Belgrade and 93 is for All Camp in Zagreb.

The first report from Yugoslavia was published in *Vol. IV, No. 3* (March 1984). It mentioned initiations performed in October 1983 (9 Minervals and 3 First Degrees). Grady McMurtry visited the Balkans in 1983 and initiated quite a few candidates.

Five years later, *The Magical* (yes!) *Link Vol. II, No. 3* (Sept-Oct. 1988) listed 16 (sixteen!) bodies in Yugoslavia!

In 1992, O.T.O. set up the “Balkan War Relief Fund” to help members who had been affected by the war.

There are many reasons why it got so busy over there and they require a separate article.

II

I was thrilled when I heard about the idea of organizing the first European OTO conference in Croatia (OTOK). Attending such an event would not only give me an opportunity to see if the Order was still thriving in this region, but also it would be a perfect excuse to visit such a beautiful country.

Despite its reputation as Europe’s vacation hotspot, Croatia has much to offer for people who prefer to avoid crowds. The beginning of May was a perfect choice for the time of the OTOK IV:XXI; it was out of season, there were very few tourists, and also it was a public holiday in some European countries which made it easier for many O.T.O. members to attend it.

The event was organized in Biograd na Moru, a small town located on the Adriatic Sea. In fact, it is one of the most attractive and prestigious locations in Croatia with beaches and a beautiful view of the Pašman Channel. In the immediate surroundings, there are as many as 7 national and nature parks that made it an ideal destination for exploring the natural and cultural beauty of Croatia.

OTOK took place in the four star Camping Park Soline where we had our own area located in one of the corners of the park, away from other tourists. Just imagine: holiday camp in beautiful woods dotted with small chalets and little alleys on which you saw tens of Thelemites from all over Europe! Welcome to Thelemaville! Walking down, you could hear people speaking many different languages. There were members from Croatia, Denmark, England, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Norway, Macedonia, Poland, Serbia, Slovenia, and even the U.S.!

Spacious mobile houses could accommodate up to six persons and had verandas on which we were eating and having social gatherings. Lectures, workshops, and Gnostic Mass took place in a large marquee tent set up especially for us.

III

The event started on Wednesday evening, May 1 with opening remarks and a Q&A panel run by five experienced members. It provided a perfect opportunity to ask questions about our Order, Thelema, and local traditions in different countries.

Thursday morning started with Liber Resh at dawn, Hatha Yoga, and Vipassana meditation. Activities of the day were focused on exploring initiation ceremonies in a series of workshops run by Sovereign Grand Inspectors General. In the evening there was a talk on Psycho- magical aspects of Man of Earth initiations that was given by yours truly. It was very well attended and seemed to be inspiring.

On Friday and Saturday, we continued with degree and E.G.C. workshops. In three days we covered Minerval, I°, II°, III°, IV°, P.I., and V°. All degrees were discussed and practiced in-depth in 2.5 hour classes. We could also hear talks and lectures presented by members from Ireland, Norway, Germany, and Croatia. In the evenings, there were quite a few “TEDx”-style sessions with the most inspiring one presented by Sister Ania from Poland who ran the Paris Marathon to raise the funds for the development of O.T.O. in her native country.

There was quite a large vending space with interesting publications and other items on sale.

Social gatherings were just fun. We were hanging out with members from many countries. Apart from the banquet on the last night, food wasn’t provided and we either were going to eat in numerous and affordable restaurants located by the beach or simply cook for ourselves in chalets. Inviting neighbours from another country for your traditional breakfast was a norm. Such little things helped to get to know each other better and just strengthened fraternal atmosphere.

The weather was simply excellent and evenings warm – many of us were sitting and talking until dawn. In my “TEDx”-style talk I introduced Gerald Suster’s tarot game “Celestial Snakes and Ladders” which became very popular and prevented some people from going to bed too early.

Gnostic Mass celebrated on Saturday evening was just a quintessence of the whole event. The priest and priestess were Polish, the deacon was half-Persian and half-Chinese, one child was from the U.S. and the other from Germany. There were around 60 congregants who were saying “There is no part of me that is not of the Gods” in their native languages.

Later in the evening we all gathered in the outdoor restaurant by the beach for a formal banquet in the joyous company under the starry night. The party obviously continued on the beach

until sunrise!

Many of attendees organized their vacations around OTOK, and after the event headed to different parts of Croatia. We also made our way to the UNESCO World Heritage Plitvice Lakes National Park, famous for its cascades and lakes. It took us just three hours of driving to get to the one of the most beautiful places I’ve ever seen.

IV

I had a chance to attend four NOTOCONs, so I’m able to compare them with what took place in Croatia. First of all, locations for both events were completely different. The European one, organized in the holiday camp in the nature with beaches located just five minutes walking distance and very small town nearby, seemed to be less formal. Also, everyday activities such as cooking meals together helped to break the ice and created a family-like atmosphere. Rather than meeting

in the lobby or hotel rooms, people were gathering on verandas bathed in the sun rays or were wandering in the woods.

In terms of quality of presented material and workshops, there was not much difference than what is usually offered at NOTOCON. For obvious reasons, all presentations and the Mass were done in English.

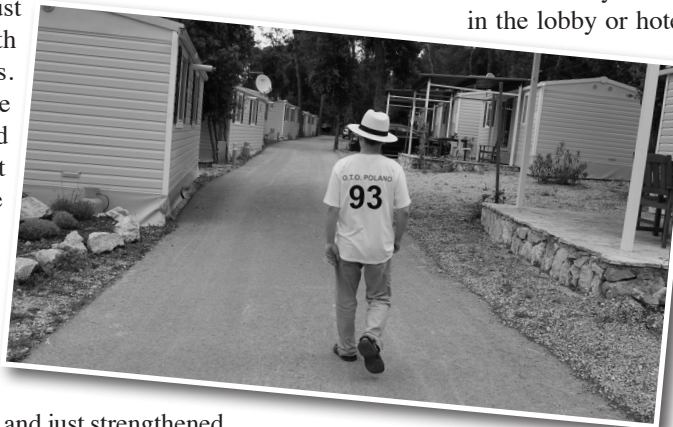
All in all, I consider this event extremely successful and

very well organized. Croatian brethren were working really hard on it. I don’t think there was a single person who wouldn’t enjoy it. The weather, surroundings, and most importantly, PEOPLE, created simply a magical atmosphere.

There are some plans for the second OTOK that will take place in September 2014 EV. More information will be posted here: <http://www.chooseyeaanisland.org/>.

I’ll be definitely attending!

Love is the law, love under will.



Ed. Note: Due to the delay in this issue’s release, the second OTOK has already passed. We hope to have a review of the festivities in an upcoming issue.

OIKOS

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

“The misery caused to children by the operation of the law of the slave-gods was, one may say, the primum mobile of Our first aspiration to overthrow the Old Law.” —*Khabs am Pekht*

One of our prophet’s fine missives from that troublesome book *Magick Without Tears* provocatively entitled “Family: Public Enemy #1” takes pains to warn that the magician’s surest, most insidious impediment to Initiation is being hamstrung by one’s family. The family is by definition, as Crowley attests, the manifest force of the herd mentality, existentially opposed to the lonely path of attaining one’s true will. The success of the family is the failure of the initiate, and vice versa. I will not endeavor to paraphrase the entirety of Crowley’s perspective on family communicated by that short, incisive letter. To summarize, despite his misgivings he ultimately concludes that family is—conditionally—worth the inherent dangers if for no other reason than it provides sufficient stimulus for the initiate to get in touch with his own vileness and pretense. It’s also worth noting that his working definition of “family” in this piece includes any group of people who expect you to be interested in whatever it is they have taken an interest in, a rather broad domain, indeed.

Despite this damning with faint praise, in a number of other writings, while not going to the extent of redeeming family, Crowley does address very specifically the ways in which O.T.O. initiates and the organization as a whole are obligated to children. Most of these writings are foundational documents published in *The Equinox III:1. Liber CI* is especially detailed in these instructions, going so far as to suggest pregnant women “should be induced to become members of the Order, so that the child may be born under its aegis” and “All children of Brethren are to be considered as children of the whole Order, and to be protected and aided in every way by its members severally, as by its organization collectively.” Whatever his feelings about parents, aunts, siblings, and spouses, Crowley’s feelings regarding children and O.T.O.’s responsibilities toward them are unequivocal.

With this in mind I am pleased that U.S.G.L. has taken another step in its inexorable press toward implementation of the Blue Equinox model by establishing the Committee for the Advancement of Thelemic Families. This committee has been appointed for the purpose of developing social and cultural infrastructure that promotes the involvement and support of parents and their children into O.T.O.

This committee is focused on providing infrastructure, not content. While committee members may individually contribute content, the group’s purpose is to provide a means for Order parents, local body officers, and others who are so inclined to share and reference personal stories, resource lists, opinion pieces, and research. The content comes from you, O.T.O. initiates! Submissions may be sent to families@oto-usa.org for publication in our forthcoming online journal, *Oikos*. Volunteers of V° or beyond who would like to serve on the committee should signify their interest by writing to the same e-mail address.

Love is the law, love under will.

In the Bonds of the Order,
CLY FTS
Chair, Committee for the Advancement of Thelemic Families

IT'S ALL ABOUT



THE CHILD

LOCAL BODY REPORT

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

HORUS OASIS

In August, one week after NOTOCON, several members of Horus Oasis in Salt Lake City, Utah, and one member of N.O.X. Oasis in Ogden went to Las Vegas, to do some on-site initiations. There is no current body in Las Vegas. Most of us traveled together in a rented minivan. We performed two First Degrees and two Second Degrees. We had prepared for Minerval, but the candidate was unable to attend. The three-day weekend was lots of hard work, but amazingly rewarding. Their hospitality was generous and their willingness to work unflagging. A great, fraternal time was had by all.

Charged with enthusiasm, we again traveled jointly with N.O.X, this time to Boise, Idaho, in October. We brought “Have Temple Will Travel,” the lightweight, collapsible Gnostic Mass temple that fits in the back of a station wagon, as well as initiation equipment. Seventeen people from the Boise area attended the Mass, along with our nine members and N.O.X.’s four. We baptized three people. We also performed a Second Degree that weekend. The Boise people, including non-Initiates, were also unfailingly hospitable. We couldn’t have done it without them.

Thanks to everyone in Horus and N.O.X. who gave of their schedule, sweat, and shekels to make these two trips work. Taking O.T.O. Initiations and Mass to interested people and geographically isolated Initiates offered our two Oases a wonderful opportunity to serve the Order while gaining a great deal of experience.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Arjuna Andrius Fouts was born ☉ in 22° ♌ : ☽ in 10°: ♂ : IVxxi (October 15th, 2013) to Fawn Lengvenis and Clay Fouts.

Congratulations!

Love is the law, love under will.

Speech in the Silence is the official podcast of Blazing Star Oasis in the San Francisco Bay Area. We focus on the topics of Thelema, Aleister Crowley, and Ordo Templi Orientis while also touching upon the subjects of Magick, Yoga, and Initiation. The podcast includes lectures, music, interviews, discussions, and



readings of the Holy Books of Thelema and other important texts written by Aleister Crowley.

Download or subscribe at iTunes or at speechinthesilence.com or visit our YouTube channel at youtube.com/speechinthesilence.

GREATER FEAST

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

IN MEMORY OF JENNIFER RENEE SIMPSON, JULY 9, 1987 – APRIL 27, 2014

When I met Jenni she attended Gateway Church on McNeil Road in North Austin. She was a devout Christian, and a believer in salvation through her Lord, Jesus Christ. She was also a devout Thelemite, who truly believed that “Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law,” and that “Love is the law, love under will.” And she saw no contradiction between these two beliefs. She accepted that V.V.V.V. was the Light of the World, even as she believed that Jesus Christ was that same Light. She rejected the doctrine of vicarious atonement, but she believed in the power of the healing light and redeeming blood of her Lord Jesus Christ.

I first gave her the Book of The Law some time around the March Equinox in 2012 and when she first read it, she told me that she did not understand it, but that she wanted to. But she also told me that it gave her a spiritual epiphany: that Love and the sexual act were Holy Sacraments.

After reading the Book of The Law, she embraced it. She read it together with me and my family for the first time on April 8th, 2012, as we would do each year that followed.

She attended her first Gnostic Mass: Sun. May 20, 2012. She loved it. I Baptized Jenni into our Church on July 7, 2013. Jenni took her Minerval on December 12, 2012, and her First Degree on June 29, 2013. She was scheduled to take her Second Degree on July 26, 2014. She began to develop and understand her will to perform the Mass as a priestess. I confirmed Jenni on November 24, 2013, and the following week Jenni performed the role of a deacon in the Mass for the first time in which I performed as priest.

Jenni couldn't wait to do the Mass. We practiced at Scarlet Woman Lodge Temple almost every week starting in December of 2013. We finally scheduled our first public Mass for the Third Day of the Writing of the Book of the Law, on April 10, 2014. This was a beautiful Mass, with the Cakes of Light being made during the reading, with the actual blood of “some beast.” Ten days later we celebrated our second and final public Mass, on Easter Sunday, which I told Jenni, and our team, was a Resurrection Mass, in celebration of the new Covenant of Resurrection we embrace in Thelema.

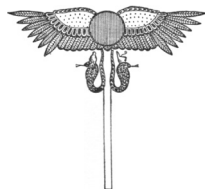
Jenni was also actively involved in The Rite of Saturn. Her contribution to that Rite was immense. She worked by my side and assisted me with casting, artistic direction and production decisions, she sewed almost all the robes, she performed masterfully, and she sang beautifully. Truly, through her songs, which she selected, she was my muse. It is eerily haunting that The Rite of Saturn catalogued a doomed love, between Magister Templi and Mater Coeli, once fraught with melancholy and regret, at the end of which, Jenni, as the Mother of Heaven, sat weeping over my corpse.

Jennifer, I will always love you. You are my soul mate. The years we spent together were the happiest times of my life, as I know they were for you too. I know you wish the best for me, and my two sons, whom you loved as your own, and who loved you too, and I know you believe in the literal resurrection. May your death open a gate that new light, hope and love shine in, a new expression of that same hope, light and love you embodied, but that comes from the Universe, from God. “Another prophet shall arise, and bring fresh fever from the skies; another woman shall awake the lust & worship of the Snake; another soul of God and beast shall mingle in the globed priest; another sacrifice shall stain the tomb; another king shall reign; and blessing no longer be poured To the Hawk-headed mystical Lord!” Jennifer, may you be granted the accomplishment of your will!

- J.P. Lund

Love is the law, love under will.

M.: M.: M.:



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