

AGAPÉ



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February 1, 2009 EV



From the Grand Master

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law

Mystics, Mothers and Magicians

Over the weekend of November 14 through 16 of the previous vulgar year, U.S. Grand Lodge held the Mystics, Mothers and Magicians Symposium, hosted by 418 Lodge at the Sacramento Convention Center. This event was the sequel to the O.T.O. Women's Symposium (OTOWS) held in Las Vegas in 2006 EV. The program may be viewed here:

<http://mysticsmothersmagicians.com/>

Many thanks to 418 Lodge for hosting the symposium, with special thanks to Sister Anna, who coordinated the whole affair.

Order of the Lion, Order of the Eagle: A reminder

In the May 1998 issue of *Agapé*, I instituted a program within the U.S. Grand Lodge to formally recognize men and women of the past who have contributed in diverse but important ways to the development and advancement of the great principles of our Order. Men so recognized receive an honor called the Order of the Lion; women receive the Order of the Eagle.

Nominees must be historical (as opposed to purely mythological) men and women and must have died at least eleven years before award.

Any member of U.S. Grand Lodge in good standing of at least Third Degree may submit a nomination. Nominations must be accompanied by a thorough, well-researched and documented essay defending the nomination. Nominations may be submitted to any U.S. S.G.I.G. for screening, and meritorious nominations are forwarded to the Supreme Grand Council for further consideration. Inductions into these two orders are announced in *Agapé*, and the essays are posted or linked to on my website.

The current list of inductees into the Order of the Eagle may be found here:

http://www.hermetic.com/sabazius/lion_eagle.html

If this sounds interesting to you, you might also consider that *Marjorie Cameron* has been eligible for nomination since 2006 and *Frieda Harris* and *Jane Wolfe* have been eligible for nomination since the inception of the program. *Helen Parsons Smith* will be eligible for nomination in 2014, and *Phyllis Seckler* will be eligible for nomination in 2015.

IHQ Publishing Efforts

I'd like to mention three major publishing projects that International HQ has in the works:

1. The unabridged *Confessions of Aleister Crowley* in a definitive, unexpurgated six-volume edition, with an additional volume of editorial material. This project is currently in proofreading for Volume 5, currently at about 2,000 pages. It is being done

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in the original style (font and size) specified by Crowley, and will include *Liber AL* in color in Volume 3.

2. The complete Crowley diaries from 1896 to 1947. This project is 95% complete in first proofs, currently also at about 2,000 pages.

3. A definitive edition of *Magick Without Tears*. Frater Shiva of O.T.O. Australia is editing this project. Four sets of typescript are being compared to ensure that the final version specified by Crowley will be published.

Notes on Promulgation of the Law of Thelema

As you know, the mission of Ordo Templi Orientis U.S.A. is “to effect and promote the doctrines and practices of the philosophical and religious system known as Thelema, with particular emphasis on cultivating the ideals of individual liberty, self-discipline, self-knowledge, and universal brotherhood” (<http://oto-usa.org/mission.html>).

Another phrase of similar meaning frequently used by Crowley (e.g., in *Liber CCC*) is “promulgation of the Law of Thelema.”



Mysteria Mystica Maxima ☩ *Ecclesia Gnostica Catholica*

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The word “promulgate” is a term used primarily in the legal profession and means to publicly declare or announce a decree, rule, law, code, or constitution, thereby putting it into effect.

The etymology of the word is interesting:

1530, from L. promulgatus, pp. of promulgare “make publicly known,” perhaps from provulgare, from pro- “forth” + vulgare “make public, publish.” Or the second element may be from mulgere “to milk,” used metaphorically for “cause to emerge.”

—Online Etymology Dictionary, Douglas Harper

The use of the term “promulgation,” then, carries the meaning of putting the Law into effect simply through the act of proclaiming it, of “putting it out there,” of disseminating it. So, as members of O.T.O., we serve as individual and collective

proclaimers—*preachers*—of the Law of Liberty throughout the world. While we have no duty to “convert,” we do have a duty to disseminate the Law as widely as possible throughout human society, not just within specific sub-cultures, classes, and social groups. Therefore, diversity among the membership is something to be sought after and actively encouraged. We would do well to view ourselves as *infiltrators* of all aspects of society, bringing Light wherever we go. As such, we need members who belong to all professions, political parties, and social institutions; who can travel freely among all social strata; and who represent all cultural and ethnic groups. It does not serve our cause to associate only with people who look like us, talk like us, and share our personal tastes, interests, and opinions.

Love is the law, love under will.

Faternally,
Sabazius

From the Electoral College

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

The Electoral College at its fall meeting, October 18th, 2008 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 Mons Abiegnus Oasis (San Francisco, CA) has passed from Frater Gregory Peters (Frater KΦ) to Soror Ylva Tuck effective October 18th, 2008 EV.

Mastership of Vortex Oasis (Tacoma, WA) has passed from Sr. Brandy Williams, Soror Via Amore Gnostike, to Br. Ted Gill effective October 18th, 2008 EV.

New Local Body Charters

Azul Nox Camp (Hanover, PA) has been chartered with Frater Euaristos S.T.V.L. (Sin Rabe) as master effective October 18th, 2008 EV.

Samadhi Camp (House Springs, MO) has been chartered with Soror B. as master effective October 18th, 2008 EV.

The college wishes to express its appreciation to the past and present masters of each of these bodies.
We wish each of them the best in their new offices and endeavors.

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Ninth Degree Revolutionary

Members in good standing of the Sovereign Sanctuary of the IX^o 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.

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 Eight Degree (per Liber CXCIV, section 16) via email links found at:

<http://ec.oto-usa.org/Electors.html>

Hosting E.C. Meetings

The college wishes to thank the members, families, officers, and masters (outgoing and incoming) of Tahuti Lodge for their hospitality in hosting our fall meeting. Local bodies that are interested in hosting meetings of the Electoral College are encouraged to write the president of the E.C.

Upcoming E.C. Meetings

Winter 2008 EV meeting scheduled for Saturday, January 10th, 2009 EV via electronic medium.

Spring 2009 EV meeting tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 18th, 2009 EV with our annual Policy & Procedures Meeting on Sunday, April 19th, 2009 EV, hosted by Seven Spirits Camp (Tucson, AZ).

Summer 2009 EV meeting scheduled for Friday, August 7th, 2009 EV, onsite before NOTOCON in Doubletree Hotel (Tukwila, WA).

Fall 2009 EV meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 17th, 2009 EV, hosted by Pyramid Lodge (Buffalo, NY).

Attending E.C. Meetings

Dues current members in good standing of V^o 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

Bodymasters 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 (exclusively) at:

<http://ec.oto-usa.org/ECservices.html>

Bodymasters not already in possession of the username and password will be granted them upon request. All other previous versions of these forms are now obsolete and should not be used.

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. 2.

It is my goal as president of the Electoral College to take effective measures bringing about better communication between the E.C. and the membership of all local bodies. Any input provided to this end is warmly welcomed. I believe that communication is of benefit to the entire Order in our mutual goals and aspiration toward enlightenment in all forms. All postal mail correspondence with the Electoral College Secretary should be sent to the address listed on p. 2.

Love is the law, love under will.

In the Bonds of the Order,
Frater Dvgl's Jms Blk
President, Electoral College

Agapé Volume 11, Number 1 submission deadline:

☉ in ♀ • ☽ in ♃ • dies Mercurii • Anno IV:xvii

Wednesday, April 1st, 2009 EV

Please send your local body reports and governing body reports to:

agape@oto-usa.org

We will also accept other kinds of work, including essays, art, and photography.

Submission guidelines are available at www.oto-usa.org/agape.html. For more information contact agape@oto-usa.org.

From the Education Committee

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

The U.S.G.L. Education Committee has a variety of resources available to body masters and officers.

New resources include a graphics library for use in your handouts.

If you have specific graphics needs, contact education@oto-usa.org to find out whether your request can be accommodated.

New course work is in beta and available for your use, including courses on Thelemic Yoga and on the Thelemic Mythos. A course on Liber Resh is also newly available.

For a complete list of courses, traveling lecturers, graphics, and other resources available through the committee, please see our web site at:

<http://education.oto-usa.org>

The committee is always looking for content writers. Content writers volunteer to write class material on subjects on an "as needed" and "as interested" basis. Content will be written in accordance with a supplied format. There are no long term commitments and no degree requirements.

If you would like more information, please email:

education@oto-usa.org

Love is the law, love under will.

In the Bonds of the Order,
Kayla Block, Committee Secretary

NOTOCON Update

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

Care Sorores et Fratres,

At our recent planning meeting, January 18th, 2009 EV, the Local NOTOCON Committee met at the Doubletree Hotel to move our plans for NOTOCON VII to the next level. The dawning of the vulgar New Year means that the clock is ticking more loudly, and it's time to get down to details. Being in the space where the convention will be held did a lot to inspire us. We're very excited and honored to host you! There are plans for vending, an art show, rituals, workshops, and many opportunities for fellowship and networking.

Our speaker list and presentation topics have been posted after a difficult series of choices from the proposals submitted. We received twice as many proposals as we had spots to fill, making it quite a challenge to choose who made the cut. It was our goal to find something for everyone, and I think we've accomplished that. Thank you to all who submitted proposals!

Vending registration is now open. Space is limited so do not delay. You can notify our vending team of your interest by visiting:

<http://vii.notocon.org/vendors/>

As of the time of the writing of this notice, there are 62 registered for NOTOCON VII. Not bad considering that registration has been open just short of one month. Before we realize it, summer will be here and with it our July deadline, which will give us our final headcount for our August conference. Will you be one of our number?

Our venue, the Doubletree Southcenter, has plenty of room for nearly twice the attendance of our last conference in Salem. Think on that for a moment: Wouldn't it be wonderful if we

had to close registration because we were full? That would mean upwards of 400 brothers and sisters in attendance. Help me reach this goal and register today!

If you're not certain if you want to go and need convincing, I invite you to peruse the pages of our website, and see what you'll be missing:

<http://vii.notocon.org>

In particular, check out the blog, which is a place to find information that might not make the formal announcements.

When I attended NOTOCON VI in Salem, MA, I wanted to share with those I left at home the feeling of unity with my siblings in the Order, and I also wanted to share the people I left at home with those who were at the conference. In keeping with this feeling, and with the conference theme, Unity Uttermost Showed, I am inviting all U.S.G.L. local bodies to send group photos of their current membership to me for display at the conference. The details can be found on the website, or contact me at onsite@notocon.org for more information.

I would like to formally thank the volunteering members of the following U.S.G.L. local bodies, who are coming together beautifully to make this conference happen: Horizon Oasis, Sekhet-Maat Lodge, and Vortex Oasis. There is still a lot of work to be done, and I beseech all those attending NOTOCON to give two or more hours of your time to assist our fine brethren. We need initiates of all degree levels to serve as security, registration, and runners. You can indicate your willingness to do so by visiting the volunteers page of the website.

Love is the law, love under will.

Soror Melissa

Announcements

Transition of the office of Public Information Officer

Carae Fratres et Sorores,

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

Greetings and peace for the coming year of the Star,

It has been my sincere honor and privilege to have been allowed to serve in the office of Public Information Officer for our sacred and most holy Order over the past eight years. During the course of that time I have had the opportunity to communicate, interact with and provide essential information about Thelema and our Order to literally thousands of interested people from all over the planet, in addition to interfacing directly with the press and media as well as representatives from a wide range of other organizations. And while it has not always been an easy job at times, I have nonetheless considered my service to have been, as I often referred to it, "My pleasure and my duty."

Besides helping to develop the standard informational materials we offer, I have been honored to have represented this office in speaking regularly about outreach, recruitment, and hospitality at our Kaaba Colloquium Thelemic Leadership Seminars since the program was founded in 2003 *EV*. Here, I have had the pleasure of getting to know many of you personally over the years. And it is now with great joy and satisfaction that I pass on the mantle of service in regards to this important office that it may further expand and grow under new stewardship.

I am pleased to announce that our Frater Lux Ad Mundi of Thelesis Lodge in Philadelphia, PA has been approved and

appointed by the Grand Master Sabazius to become our next Public Information Officer. Our brother will formally assume the duties of this office as of the Vernal Equinox Anno IV^{xvii}. We will be working cooperatively and closely up until that time to insure a smooth transition of the office. Please join me in welcoming our brother into his new office.

Also, take note that the new contact information for the P.I.O. is as follows:

Frater Lux Ad Mundi
Public Information Officer
Ordo Templi Orientis
U.S. Grand Lodge
c/o Thelesis Lodge
P.O. Box 1627 North Second Street Suite # 220
Philadelphia, PA 19122
Phone: 215.552.8721

I want to take a moment to personally thank our Grand Master and the members of the Executive as well as our esteemed Brother Bill Heidrick as well as the members of the Executive of I.H.Q. for all of their support and assistance to me in carrying out the duties of my office over the past eight years. Once again, I am proud to have been given this opportunity to serve in this capacity and look forward to many more years of service to my brothers and sisters and our most holy Order.

Love is the law, love under will.

In Service,
Frater Hrumachis

Transition of the office of U.S.G.L. E.G.C. Secretary

Dear Sisters, Brothers, and Honored Guests,

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

First, I would like to thank Tau Marie for her outstanding work as E.G.C. Secretary; I have big shoes to fill. As previously communicated by Brother Hunahpu, the major change that will accompany the position transition will be that we are reverting back to the system where the presiding clergy will create a certificate, sign it and give to the person who has been baptized, confirmed or ordained. The E.G.C. Secretary will no longer print certificates nor sign them, so there is no need to send certificates to her. We are working on designing a template certificate, but officiating clergy can create and use their own *with approval* from the E.G.C. Secretary. The reporting of sacraments goes to the E.G.C. Secretary as usual.

The transition is still in process; I appreciate your patience while I get up and running with the position. I would like

to remind everyone that it is the duty of the presiding clergy to report sacraments. Since local bodies need to track E.G.C. activity for the Annual Report, it is recommended that clergy cc body masters in their sacerdotal reports.

The new mailing address for correspondence is:

USGL EGC Secretary OTO
P.O. Box 2578
Columbia, MD 21045

Email is still egc@oto-usa.org

I look forward to serving my Sisters and Brothers.

Love is the law, love under will.

In the Bonds of the Order,
Sr. Hypatia

Local Body Reports

Sekhet Maat Lodge (Portland, OR)

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

At this point in what has thus far proven to be a year marked by chaos, strife and entropic decay in the broader world, few are likely to need a reminder that this is the year of the Tower. Sekhet-Maat has weathered this tension with successes and failures, but in the end using the year as a stone to hone our edge into a finer weapon. Our values inspire us to take action, and our goals act as the engine that keeps our work moving forward into the year of the lovely Star.

The bulk of our goals for the coming year extend directly from our ultimate objective: promulgating the Law of Thelema. We aim to achieve this in part by getting the Word out through a series of printed handouts, journals, booklets and cards, disseminating them through placement in high traffic areas, coffee shops and cultural centers, as well as handing them out the public on street corners or wherever else seems fit. These materials are designed to describe basic Thelemic ideology and practices, primarily using the writings of Saint Aleister Crowley.

We also tie into the broader community by offering events that blend social gatherings with an educational or ritual focus. We offer periodic "open house" lectures to introduce the curious to the Gnostic Mass. The women in our valley periodically hold a "Sisters of Babalon" ritual and feast, open to women only. We recently initiated a weekly "Film, Food and Forum" series wherein members show films and afterward lead a discussion exploring it from a Thelemic perspective.

Sekhet Bast Ra Oasis (Oklahoma City, OK)

Do What Thou Wilt Shall Be the Whole of the Law.

I consider myself very lucky to have witnessed and participated in the activities of such an amazing body. With fewer than ten active members, *Sekhet Bast Ra*, in Oklahoma City, achieves so much and provides an important service to the community in Oklahoma. We have, in fact, been so active that we had over 25 O.T.O. initiates from other areas come to participate in multiple events occurring at our temple. We are very fortunate to have a separate temple space for our work. This gives us freedom and comfort when planning public events and allows for an arena in which to meet guests for the first time.

Sekhet Bast Ra held over 20 classes this past year covering a range of topics, including Mass classes, divination, the Middle Pillar Ritual, O.T.O. organization, and magick. Brother Dann treated us to a two-day, in-depth workshop covering many facets of the Mineral Degree. An absolute wealth of scholarship was prepared for this presentation that truly illuminates the important first step for becoming an initiate. We had many initiates from neighboring states come to participate in this workshop. In fact, we are planning on hosting this event again. Initiates interested in attending are encouraged to contact us at master@sekhetbastra.org.

The imperative to get the Word out is increasing our own knowledge and understanding. We use educational programs as our main tools to promote a refined apprehension of Thelemic principles. This year our classes will focus more on fundamentals, including a regular schedule focused on basic rituals and a monthly class and discussion based on the new Kaaba series of booklets. Our ecclesiastical study programs continue to expand into an higher level of sophistication as we deploy study guides for newly baptized or confirmed members of E.G.C. and continue to flesh out our catechumenate.

Many of our accomplishments can be directly attributed to ideas we have gleaned from dedicated initiates all over the world, which are fostered and remade in our own image through the labors of our local members. In order to extend that favor, we offer whatever aid we can to our brethren elsewhere so that we may mutually draw upon each other for ideas, praise and criticism. To that end we seek to make information about what we do and how we do it as transparent as possible. For this reason, we have again published our completed Annual Report Form submitted to the Electoral College. This series of documents, including several supplemental reports, can be found on our website:

http://sekhetmaat.com/wiki/Annual_Reports/2008_ev

Blessings, glory, delight and success to our brothers and sisters everywhere.

Love is the law, love under will.

In addition to the classes and workshops, *Sekhet Bast Ra* also held two special private events hosting Bishops from other areas of the country. Throughout the year, 26 Gnostic Masses were celebrated, 4 deacon workshops, celebration of the Three Days of the Writing of the Book of the Law, and a private celebration of the Greater Invocation.

Our body also proudly initiated 3 Minerval-degrees, 3 First-degrees, and 2 Third-degrees. The E.G.C. of *Sekhet Bast Ra* also performed 5 Ceremonies of Baptism and 5 Ceremonies of Confirmation.

The vulgar year 2009 promises to be just as active and rewarding. As previously stated, another Minerval lecture workshop is planned, deacon workshops, Mass classes, Tarot classes, Sigil Magick classes, a Bishop Review, along with all our Thelemic celebrations, initiations, and Gnostic Masses. Have a look at our web site to stay informed of our public activities. There is a contact address listed on that web site as well:

<http://www.sekhetbastra.org/>

Love is the Law, Love Under Will.