



## From the Grand Master

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

This past April, the U.S. Supreme Grand Council awarded the first set of historical honors in accordance with the program I instituted last year (See *Agape* Vol. I, No. 3). It inducted Rose Edith Kelly, Dame Leila Waddell Bathurst, Mary d'Eesti Sturges, Leah Hirsig and Ida Craddock into the *Order of the Eagle*; and it inducted Sir Saint Edward Aleister Crowley XI°, Sir Grady Louis McMurtry X°, Sir Karl Germer X°, Dr. Sir Theodor Reuss X°, Sir Carl Kellner, Dr. Sir Franz Hartmann IX°, and Dr. Paschal Beverly Randolph into the *Order of the Lion*. The SGC will consider additional nominations next spring.

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The second National Conference of the U.S. Grand Lodge of O.T.O. manifested over the weekend of August 7 and 8 at the Days Inn hotel and conference center in Portland, Oregon, with roughly 150 members in attendance, several from out of the country. The theme of the conference this year was "fraternity." Most of the lectures and workshops this year tended to focus on the basic practical aspects of organizing and managing OTO local bodies, and on generally getting along with each other; though there was also a workshop on the Third Degree ritual and lectures on such topics as Ida Craddock (see above), the Rites of Eleusis, the use of sound and music in magical practice, the Atus of Thoth, and working with a Thelemic Rosary.

The banquet Saturday night ended with a rather contagious session of belly dancing initiated by the Master of Horus Oasis – people in formal attire getting up and belly dancing is quite a sight to see – and on Sunday afternoon, the Conference closed with a Gnostic Mass attended by nearly all of the conference attendees, and at which Soror Helena and I were honored to serve as Priestess and Priest. A band of talented musicians provided incidental music and ambience, and we sang the Anthem to music specially composed by our Grand Organist and Electoral College President, Frater H.K. This worked surprisingly well despite the fact that only about 12 people attended a single brief rehearsal earlier the same day. Frater H.K.'s music is truly wonderful – sonorous, majestic, energetic, and easy to learn. I recommend that every local body with the slightest interest in adding music to their Masses give it a try. If you'd like a copy of the sheet music for your local body, send an e-mail to me or to Frater H.K. – our e-mail addresses can be found on page 3.

A post-conference reception was thrown on Sunday night at the new Portland Thelemic Community Center. I noticed several members of the hotel catering staff there, and evidently a number

of them ended up applying for Minerval initiation!

Many thanks and kudos to our Brothers and Sisters in Portland who spent the last nine months planning and crafting this memorable affair.

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Scarlet Woman Lodge will be hosting a *Kaaba Colloquium* next spring, at which strategies and tactics for effective local body management and development will be explored in depth. It should be an excellent event, and I recommend that all local body officers, as well as those members who are interested in opening local bodies, try to attend. SGIGs and EC members would do well to attend also. Contact Scarlet Woman Lodge for more information.

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⌘ *Whereas **Frater Io Pan** is currently serving by my appointment as the Very Illustrious Grand Secretary General of the U.S. Grand Lodge of the Antient Order of Oriental Templars; and*

⌘ *Whereas **Frater Io Pan** has served our Order faithfully, with diligence, perseverance, and good humor, throughout his sojourn amongst us; and*

⌘ *Whereas **Frater Io Pan** has endured our company for a period of no less than **twenty years**;*

⌘ *Now, therefore, I, **Sabazius X°**, Grand Master of the U.S. Grand Lodge of Ordo Templi Orientis, hereby, with great pleasure, bestow upon **Frater Io Pan** the illustrious, honorable, and highly symbolic*

⊕ **Order of the Gold Watch** ⊕

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Sabazius 

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## Tribute to a Soldier of Freedom

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

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1999 e.v. Ebony Anpu VI<sup>o</sup> (Charles Reese) went into the ecstasy of the embrace of Nuit. Ebony had a long and distinguished career in our Order. He admitted frequently to us his love of OTO. He was born in Texas on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1950 e.v. He originally intended to enter a career in music when he came to San Francisco Area, but instead he decided to devote his life to helping Grady McMurtry rebuild the Order. He helped put on some of the first Gnostic Masses at Thelema Lodge, served as the Grand Secretary General under Grady, helped put on the Rites of Eleusis, contributed to the OTO Newsletters, etc. Not only was he a devout student of Crowley, but he and others started and maintained Stellar Visions publications. Stellar Visions' goal originally was to make available Crowley material that currently was not available in print. Ebony later married. This was something completely unexpected to us, but after meeting Liesl we then understood.

Besides his devotion to studying Thelemic Texts, he was an expert in Ancient Egypt. He could read hieroglyphs better than many Americans can read English. He helped many of us with the basic understanding of the Egyptian rituals and texts. Many owe Ebony a large debt of thanks for his classes in Ancient Egypt.

Not only was he an expert in Egypt but his skills as a magician were extraordinary. The energy and empowering that he did as a magician demonstrated what was possible and encouraged many of us to work harder.

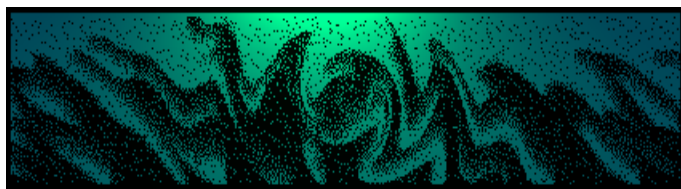
There were three Greater Feast celebrations for Ebony for those who wished to attend in the Bay Area. The first celebration was an ecstatic Gnostic Mass at Oz House on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The second was another Gnostic Mass at Thelema Lodge on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The third was a Memorial service at the Marin Masonic Lodge. Many attended the events. It was good to meet with old friends, make new ones, and finally meet Ebony's family even Bill Heidrick and the lovely Kathy came. Ebony's mother, Matti, flew from China to be at the celebrations.

There were eleven speakers at his Memorial in Marin. Frater Superior Hymenaeus Beta said this about Ebony, "He was one of the most loyal members of our Order, and he was also one of the most disobedient." Bill Heidrick pointed out that Ebony is not really gone, that everyone there was a part of Ebony's life and we still carry his spirit with us.

We all admitted at times he was a pain in the ass, but we love him and he will always be one of our dearest friends in the Order. We raise our wineglasses to Nuit that she may keep you in the Light and ecstasy that you deserve. We will miss you but will never forget you, Ebony, our Friend and Brother.

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Hunahpu & Ixel Balamke



## Announcements

At a meeting this spring, the SecretAreopagus of the Eighth Degree approved the Psychology Guild of Ordo Templi Orientis International, and the Guild was formally activated by the Sovereign Sanctuary this summer.

The Guild will serve as a forum for discussion and dissemination of theory, research, and practice related to psychology and magick. Membership is limited to initiates of the First degree and above who meet the Guild's professional guidelines.

For more information, please contact Bro. David Shoemaker at [dshoemaker@earthlink.net](mailto:dshoemaker@earthlink.net), or by regular mail at P.O. Box 58, Carmichael, CA 95609.



## Book Reviews by JD Lawrence

*Paschal Beverly Randolph: A Nineteenth-Century Black American Spiritualist, Rosicrucian, and Sex Magician*  
by John Patrick Deveney  
State University of New York Press, 1997

P.B. Randolph (1825-1875) is one of the most fascinating and complex figures in all of nineteenth century occultism. Until now he has also been one of the most obscure. Now Mr. Deveney has produced what is, at over 600 pages, surely the definitive biography and a major contribution to occult history in general. Even if you don't have much interest in Randolph himself, this is well worth the money just for showing how occult history /should/ be done. Randolph was certainly a genius, almost entirely self-educated, and one of the best orators of his day. He was also part African-American, and thus subject (even in "free" States) to more social restrictions than most people today can imagine. Randolph had a love-hate relationship with his own ancestry; the only time he unequivocally identified himself as Black was during the Civil War, when he worked to educate freed slaves and opposed their "repatriation" to Africa. He was prickly, eccentric, inclined to paranoia, and had a lifelong habit of alienating the people he most needed. I suppose his friends were more saddened than surprised when he finally took his own life.

On the occult front, Randolph was among those most responsible for the transformation of early (passive) Spiritualism into modern (active) Occultism and Magick. He declared that the spirits of the dead were only one small group in the whole range of spiritual beings, traveled extensively in the Middle East, and pioneered the use of drugs as a means to altered states of consciousness. Deveney goes to great lengths to place Randolph's work in context (indeed in places Randolph seems almost like a minor character in his own biography!) and traces the evolution of his ideas. This is no easy task since Randolph was one of those infuriating authors who revises his books extensively for each reprinting, either because his ideas changed or because he wanted a new angle on his publicity. Deveney provides a detailed bibliography of Randolph's writings that will be invaluable to scholars and collectors alike.

Naturally, Randolph is most famous for being an early adept at sexual Magick. Deveney presents the full texts of his two most

important works on the subject, which Randolph circulated only to private students: “The Ansairitic Mystery” and “The Mysteries of Eulis.” These are notable for the primacy they give to a woman’s experience of sex and were revolutionary in their day, though I suppose modern readers will find them rather tame. Randolph is often cited as a kind of “grandfather” to O.T.O., but frankly I’m not so sure there was much direct influence. His ideas on sex were definitely adopted by the Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor and then supposedly they were passed on to O.T.O. via something called the Hermetic Brotherhood of Light. Unfortunately little is known about this group beyond their name and Deveney couldn’t find any primary documentation, so this particular genealogy must remain speculative for

the present. By way of contrast, Deveney devotes two whole chapters to Randolph’s influence on the early Theosophical Society, and incidentally establishes that the early TS was very much devoted to practical Magick despite Blavatsky’s later opposition, making this book a crucial addition to Theosophical history beyond its other achievements.



*Inside a Magical Lodge: Group Ritual in the Western Tradition*  
by John Michael Greer  
Llewellyn Publications, 1998

This is a fine book dealing with the theory and practice of the lodge system. Greer draws on his own experience in both Fraternal and Magical Orders to explain the whys and wherefores of lodge structure, as well as its benefits and drawbacks. Much of the book consists of detailed advice on creating a new lodge from scratch (Start your own Magical Order for Fun and (non-)Profit!) illustrated with the constitution and rituals of the fictional “Order of the Athanor,” including fly-on-the-wall account of a lodge meeting. Particular attention is given to deriving personal and practical rituals from the regular lodge ceremonies. Greer also gives some useful information on the major surviving Fraternal Orders and on the tricky subjects of incorporation and tax status.

Obviously this book is aimed mostly at people not yet involved with any organized lodge system, but it does have something to offer those who are, which presumably includes most of those reading this review. Old hands in established bodies may already know most of this stuff but newer members should find this book useful and informative. People starting a new body in a remote area may well find it invaluable.



## Local Body Reports

NetemetAnkh Netemet Camp, Braselton, GA

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

Here in the formerly forgotten pocket of Appalachia, where we relocated from Berkeley eleven years ago, is NetemetAnkh Netemet Camp. Located on our acre and a half paradise is our outdoor Temple, playhouse and Sacred Grove. Starting late last winter in a flooded quagmire I and Brothers Greg Follas, Jon Barkley, and Rob Pritchard laid the foundation of our New Horus Temple. Working part-time and weekends all summer we have raised a Great Hall, where the advancing suburbs and shopping malls of Atlanta have marched out to greet us. In addition to Gnostic Masses and MOE initiations we have been performing a series of the Rites of Eleusis in our Sacred Grove. Careful astrological research revealed

## ΑΓΑΠΗ

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**Executive Editor:** Sabazius X<sup>0</sup>

**Contributing Editor:** Baphemetis Continuity

**Production Editors:** Hunahpu & Ixel Balamke

**Artwork Director:** Sulis

**Editorial Address:** PO Box 3203, Austin, TX 78764

[agape@oto-usa.org](mailto:agape@oto-usa.org)

#### U.S. Grand Lodge Officers

U.S. National Grand Master General: Sabazius X<sup>0</sup>

O.T.O. U.S.A. [ngmg@oto-usa.org](mailto:ngmg@oto-usa.org)

P.O. Box 32, Riverside, CA 92502-0032

U.S. Deputy National Grand Master General:

Lon Milo DuQuette [dngmg@oto-usa.org](mailto:dngmg@oto-usa.org)

PO Box 3111, Newport Beach, CA 92659-0705

U.S. Grand Secretary General: Fr. Io Pan

O.T.O. U.S.A., 638 Camino de Los Mares

Suite C-240-495, San Clemente, CA 92673

(949) 492-0988 [gsg@oto-usa.org](mailto:gsg@oto-usa.org)

U.S. Grand Treasurer General: Fr. S.L.Q.

O.T.O. U.S.A., P.O. Box 45139, Los Angeles, CA 90045-0139

(310) 216-5666 [gtg@oto-usa.org](mailto:gtg@oto-usa.org)

U.S. Grand Tribunal: [grand\\_tribunal@oto-usa.org](mailto:grand_tribunal@oto-usa.org)

P.O. Box 32, Riverside, CA 92502-0032

U.S. Executive Council,

U.S. Supreme Grand Council,

O.T.O. U.S.A. Corporate Headquarters:

P.O. Box 32, Riverside, CA 92502-0032

U.S. Electoral College:

Fr. H.K., President [jprice1131@aol.com](mailto:jprice1131@aol.com)

P.O. Box 520307, Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0307

Sr. Pagana, Secretary [electoral\\_college@oto-usa.org](mailto:electoral_college@oto-usa.org)

P.O. Box 180342, Dallas, TX 75218-0342

U.S. Grand Lodge Archivist: Fr. P.

P.O. Box 6635, Jersey City, NJ 07306

U.S. Grand Lodge Initiation Secretary: Hunahpu & Ixel Balamke

P.O. Box 720296, Oklahoma City, OK 73172-0296

(405) 720-6349 [initiation@oto-usa.org](mailto:initiation@oto-usa.org)

U.S. Grand Lodge Quartermaster: Fr. A.M.D.e.N.

P.O. Box 1373, Buffalo, NY 14213

[quartermaster@oto-usa.org](mailto:quartermaster@oto-usa.org)

U.S. Grand Lodge Webmaster: Craig Berry

[webmaster@oto-usa.org](mailto:webmaster@oto-usa.org)

to Sr. Thiaviavon, the Mistress of the Rites, that this is the last time in the millennium that these Rites can be performed to conclude on a Full Moon, Monday.

On the Day and the Hour of Saturn, the scythe bearing Frater Damion got us off to an impressive start of the marathon to come. Five days later I presided as Jupiter, the Father of the Gods. "Oh for the Banquet of Jupiter to begin!," cried Sphynx, Typhon, Hermanubis, and Maenads. Continuing the Olympian grove theme by the light of a bonfire, we fought the War of Mars, up to the loudly resounding cry of "There is no God but God!" Luckily no one was hurt in the melee. I suspect my neighbors are still hiding in fear of the vehement wrath of Mars.

When Sunday rolled around with a drenching monsoon our enchanted revel in the wooded grove ended. We were forced to gargantuan labors to open our New Horus Temple for its first public use. With feverish activity, even in the pouring rain, we finally got started. Fr. Jesus looked great hanging from the cross and Bez danced a pretty mean jig on his grave. By Friday we were glad to be indoors to enjoy Soror Vicki's charming music. The cold night air however did not stop us from later setting a record number of Thelemites in a hot tub.

As I write, with only Rob in Mercury and Lacreya as Luna remaining, Soror Thiaviavon has already begun planning for the next series of the Rites. With attendance averaging in the mid twenties we are very pleased by the visits of the Equilibrium Camp, Lillith Camp and Alostrael Oasis members who have actively participated in our Rites.

In other OTO business we are looking forward to the Electoral College Meeting and Reception to be held in Birmingham next week, another first for the Old South. We have scheduled marathon Man of Earth Initiations and the Grand Opening Mass at the New Horus Temple in November to follow up on the good energy of the Rites.

Donald Correll,  
From Five Oaks in the Valley of the Mulberry  
Master of NetemetAnkh Netemet Camp OTO.

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Ra-Heru-Behutet Camp, Olathe, KS

Cari Fratres et Sorores,

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

Well, it looks as though things are going quite well here at Ra-Heru-Behutet Camp, operating in the Valley of Olathe, a southwestern Kansas City suburb.

Our membership is currently greater than it ever has been, and with the recent transplanting of a member from Oklahoma City, we are now fully cable of performing independent initiations from Minerval through Third Degree, and preparations are currently underway to handle hosting initiations beyond that.

Our Camp Master (who is also a freemason) has had the distinction in his mundane world of being elected and installed

Worshipful Master of a Masonic Lodge, meaning that beginning in the year 2000 e.v., our Camp will have access to that Lodge as a Temple space, once a few staging details are worked out.

This fall, the senior officers of the Camp will be working in conjunction with Sekhet-Bast-Ra Lodge of Oklahoma City to help them perform some Fourth Degree initiations (a first for us), as well as give us yet another chance to meet, feast, and work with brethren from all over, which is always a pleasure.

Our Camp's sporadic journal, *Talons*, has undergone a severe facelift, and the first issue of Volume II is ready for publication. This will also be the first issue made available to the general public through local esoteric bookstores.

We also have completely updated our website (<http://www.sites.netscape.net/raherubehutet/>), and will be including *Talons* online when the hard copies hit the stands. The rest is silence...

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Yours Fraternally,

Frater Supra N.:  
Master of Ra-Heru-Behutet Camp

Saladin Camp, SanAntonio, TX

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

Saladin Camp has been promulgating the Law of Thelema by providing 26 initiations, from Minerval through III<sup>o</sup>, in the past 14 months, and by performing six Baptisms, two Confirmations, and three Deacon Ordinations since our Camp Master was ordained a Priest six months ago. We hold regular bi-monthly Gnostic Masses at our permanent temple location. We support the larger Thelemic community by co-sponsoring the Kaaba Colloquium in order to promote leadership skills in our region, by sending representatives to the Second National OTO conference, and by attending Scarlet Woman Lodge's IO Pan Jam. Saladin Camp offers its membership regular discussion groups on Thelemic culture and Thelemic ritual, and presents a Kaballah workshop twice per month. We provide regular information and access to the local Thelemic community through a regular newsletter, a web site, <<http://www.saladin-oto.org>> feasts and celebrations. We are looking forward to a prosperous upcoming year with new officers being inducted in September, a weekly Enochian workshop beginning in October, and an art exhibition slated for this November. Our members would also like to extend a very special thanks to our Camp Master, Fr. Sabao, for four years of tireless and thankless work to spring a paradise from out of a desert. We love you Brother.

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Jonathan Long, Secretary  
Saladin Camp, O.T.O.