

# Hiram's Hams Amateur Radio Society

Founded September 5994 A.L.



## NEWSLETTER

*The Fraternity within The Fraternity*

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Volume IX, No. 4

Toledo, Ohio

April A.L. 6003

## The Old Charges

By: Brother Ray Baker Harris

What we know of Freemasonry prior to the formation of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717 and the publication of the so-called "Anderson's Constitutions" in 1723, is found in a relatively small body of surviving source materials, printed and manuscript. Of these documentary materials, perhaps the most colorful and revealing are the handwritten copies of the "Old Charges," each manuscript copy constituting a somewhat separate version. Usually, these "Charges," or Regulations were prefaced by historical accounts of Masonry which were inclined to be more legendary than factual. Probably it would be more accurate to describe these "histories" as allegorical or symbolical, and they do reflect much of the moving spirit of our Craft in the formative years of the Freemasonry we know today. The original manuscripts of the "Old Charges" are very scarce and rare, and the discovery of one of them constitutes an outstanding event in Masonic history.

With few exceptions, these manuscripts are of unknown authorship. They were handwritten by Brethren of the 15th to the 18th centuries who merely copied onto parchment or vellum what they had heard verbally of the customs, regulations, traditions and allegory of the Craft in the years before there was any real organizational authority. They were usually written on skins of varying lengths, crudely sewn together, so that the whole would be narrow and long and could be rolled up. From this latter fact they are commonly called "Masonic Rolls."

The oldest known versions are the Regius and Cooke Manuscripts dated about 1400, and the others date from that period into the early part of the 18th century.

The surviving manuscript rolls have been named in various ways. Some of them have been named for the library or institution now owning them, such as the Trinity College, Dublin MS., or named for the Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge, Grand Lodge or other Masonic body possessing the manuscript. Some are named for past or present individual owner, or named for a purchaser who acquired the manuscript and then donated it to some museum, library or Masonic depository. Only a few have changed name once their identity was established.

..... Continued on page 3

## Dayton HAMVENTION program by Bro. Dennis Moriarty, K8AGB

Returning to the *Dayton HAMVENTION* for the second year in a row is Brother Dennis Moriarty, K8AGB, with his educational and entertaining lecture based on 30 years of investigating Radio and TV Interference, primarily from electric power lines, and customer appliances.

His two part lecture will include:

1. Causes and cures of Electric Distribution Line Radio & TV Interference.
2. Causes and cures of customer appliance Radio and TV Interference with self-help suggestions for:
  - a. Identifying the interference type/source.
  - b. Locating RI/TVI using the MFJ-852 portable receiver ( AC Line Noise Meter ).
  - c. Working with your neighbors to locate appliance interference.
  - d. Working with your local electric utility, including F.C.C. Part 15 violations.
  - e. (Last Step) When to contact the F.C.C.

Hap Holly, KC9RP, Hamvention 2002 *Ham of the Year* and Editor of the *RAIN* Report has run the "*Customer Appliance and Radio & TV Interference*" portion of last year's Forum twice - an encore presentation.

Brother Dennis is retired from America's largest Investor Owned Electric Utility System (AEP) after almost 33 years of Telecommunications activities.

K8AGB since 1956, FCC Commercial Operators License since 1958, a member of Hiram's Hams since 1994, Q.C.W.A., Radio Club of America, *DARF/U-CAN* ( printer & mail agent for the *MISSION-AIRE* )

**Editors note: Brethren, if you attend the Dayton HAMVENTION be sure and wear your Hiram's Hams cap.**

**BRETHREN Do you know of a Brother who is also an Amateur Radio Operator? If so, why not nominate him to be a Hiram's Ham!**

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and make your donations payable to:  
**THE HIRAM'S HAMS NEWSLETTER**  
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## WORDS OF WISDOM FROM KING SOLOMON

### YEAR of LIGHT

**A**nno Lucis, in the year of light, is the epoch used in Masonic documents of the Symbolic Degrees. This era is calculated from the creation of the world, and is obtained by adding four thousand to the current year, (note the date used in this newsletter) on the supposition that Christ was born four thousand years after the creation of the world. But the chronology of Archbishop Usher, which has been adopted as the Bible chronology in the authorized version, places the birth of Christ in the year 4004 after the creation. According to this calculation, the Masonic date for the "year of light" is four years short of the true date, and the year of the Lord 1874, which in Masonic documents is 5874, should correctly be 5878. The Ancient and Accepted Masons in the beginning of the 21st century used this correct or Usherian era and the Supreme Council at Charleston, South Carolina dated their first circular, issued in 1802, as 5806. Dalcho (Ahim. Rez., 2nd editon, page 37) says: "If Masons are determined to fix the origin of their Order at the time of the creation, they should agree among themselves at what time before Christ to place that epoch." At that agreement they have now arrived. Whatever differences may have once existed, there is now a general consent to adopt the incorrect theory that the world was created 4000 B.C. The error is too unimportant and the practice too universal, to expect that it will ever be corrected.

Noorthouck (Constitutions, 1784, page 5), speaking of the necessity of adding the four years to make a correct date, says: "But this being a degree of accuracy that Masons in general do not attend to, we must, after this intimation, still follow the vulgar mode of computation to be unintelligible."

As to the meaning of the expression, it is by no means to be supposed that Masons, now, intend by such a date to assume that their Order is as old as the creation. It is simply used as expressive of reverence for that physical light which was created by the fiat of the Grand Architect, and which is adopted as the type of the intellectual light of Masonry. The phrase is altogether symbolic. ✠

Tnx *The Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*  
and

*Its Kindred Sciences*

by

Dr. Albert G. Mackey 33°

Reprinted with permission

✠ Bro. Robert D. Moody, KF0QV ✠

sk

Boulder, Colorado

*Passed away in January after a long illness*

2B1 ASK1

Continued from the March 2003 edition .....

### Masonic Stones of the Washington Monument

At the 200-foot level, eighteenth landing, Virginia presented two Masonic stones. The first is presented by St. John's Lodge No. 36, F.&A.M., Richmond. The stone is granite with a raised marble Bible carved with a compass and square. The stone is signed J.T. Rogers, Richmond. The stone from the Grand Lodge of Virginia is granite with a raised border and also contains a carved Bible with compass and square. It bears the inscription: "By the Grand Lodge of Accepted, Ancient and Free Masons of Virginia. Lo' She gave to this Republic, the Chief Corner Stone. Aug. 4 A.L. 5854." J.T. Rogers, Richmond, has signed the lower border.

Moving up to the nineteenth landing at 210 feet, the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & AM. contributed a simple granite stone from an Iowa quarry and squared by an Iowa craftsman. It was shipped prepaid as a gift of 80,000 Free and Accepted Masons of Iowa, and was received and acknowledged by Charles Stanbury on June 22, 1877.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi contributed a carved sandstone stone "to their Wor. Brother George Washington." The stone has a raised border. A compass and square and an arm upraised with a mallet appear on the left and right side of the inscription. A letter from Wm. Miller, Grand Secretary, Natchez, Mississippi to E. Whittlesey which is dated August 10, 1854, acknowledged the receipt of the stone at the Monument and remitted the cost of shipping, \$7.50.

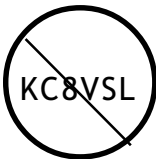
The stone given by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas is the most fanciful of all. The lettering is an accentuated script with ornate characters. The inscription reads "Ad glorium fratris nostris et patris patriae." The various Masonic items are given exaggerated shapes. A coffin adorns the lower portion. An exaggerated eye with a bushy eyebrow peeks from within an ornate letter G. According to the American Organ, September 5, 1856, the stone was done in the marble yard of Alexander Rutherford, by a young man and apprentice. The stone arrived on the Monument grounds September 5, 1856.

The last Masonic stone is at the 230-foot level, the twenty-first landing. It is marble and presented by the Grand Lodge of the State of Florida. Its raised border creates a frame effect for the simple compasses and square in the center of the stone.

..... Continued in the May 2003 edition


**"It's only through labor and prayerful effort, by grim energy and resolute courage, that we move on to better things."**

**Brother Theodore Roosevelt**



KC8VSL

CONGRATULATIONS  
to  
Bro. Michael R. Johnson




KC8MRJ

### Wor. Bro. Wil Browning, W8WB,

Editor Emeritus of the Hiram's Hams Newsletter, was recently installed *Worshipful Master of Lancaster (Ohio) Lodge No. 57.*



Pictured L to R are: Wor. Bro. Joseph Smith; **Wor. Master Wilson "Wil" Browning, W8WB;** and Most Illustrious Brother Jon Robert Armstrong, Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masons of Ohio, the Installing Officer.

Wor. Bro. Wil also served as Master in 1994 


Continued from page 1 .....

### The Old Charges

The subject of this article was named for the late Brother William L. Boyden, 33<sup>o</sup>, who completed identification after this manuscript was brought to his notice, and who purchased it for the Library of the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, at Washington, D.C.

Brothers Douglas Knoop and G.P. Jones published in 1942 a scholarly handlist of more than one hundred known manuscript versions of the "Old Charges of Freemasonry." Of this list, they reported some 90 manuscripts known to exist, 15 known but missing, and 2 definitely known to have been destroyed. They reported only 5 of these surviving manuscripts as located in the United States and Canada: *The Boyden Manuscript*, circa 1700, in the Library of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council at Washington, D.C.; *The Carmick Manuscript*, 1727, in the Library of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia; *The Carson Manuscript*, 1677, and *The Spencer Manuscript*, 1726, in the Library of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at Boston and *The Scarborough Manuscript*, circa 1700, in the Library of the Grand Lodge of Canada at Hamilton, Ontario.

Tnx The Masonic Service Association  
Next month: *The William L. Boyden Manuscript* 




New Hiram's Hams Sweetheart

Sister Tammy M. Johnson, KC8VXV, Fairborn, Ohio

Member of Aero Chapter No. 536, Fairborn, Ohio

Her Hubby is Bro. Michael R. Johnson, KC8MRJ

Senior Warden of Fairborn Lodge No. 764, Fairborn, Ohio



Continued from the February 2003 edition .....

## Some Birthplaces of Freemasonry

Every Cathedral had its lodge, a building nearby, often built against the wall of the Cathedral. This was, at different times and near different Cathedrals, a place in which stone work could be done, a workshop where tools were kept and sharpened, a room in which plans could be discussed, a refectory, and a refuge during rest periods. Inevitably, in it were discussions and formulations of the necessary laws and rules for the government of the builders and doubtless it was where the masons were paid their wages.

Gradually the lodge became also the place in which the moral, ethical and spiritual ideas, inescapably connected with the erection of a great "prayer of stone" became manifest in organization, procedure and ritual.

Men engaged in the tremendous task of Cathedral building could not avoid the implications of their work. It was reflected in their characters as their characters are shown in the principles set forth in the *Old Charges* and fifty ancient manuscripts.

The square was the foundation of the building; what more natural than that men must also be "square" if he was to stand erect among his fellows? By the plumb spires were flung towards the heaven to the glory of God; by the plumb man measured his worth in terms of both God and man.


Men would be injured, their families have illnesses, hardships would be suffered - could men engaged on a common task, living a common life, living, loving in a common worship leave such as these to suffer and to die? Mutual aid was inevitable; relief was inevitable; charity was inevitable.

It can be easily imagined that the lad who had passed his tests and became an "entered" apprentice did so in a ceremony; that one who successfully made his "Master's Piece" and became a "Fellow of the craft" also enjoyed a ritual, a pledging, a making. A Fellow was responsible for his tools; sometimes he made them, sometimes they were given to him. Our presentation of the working tools of any degree may be the vestigial remains of a ceremony in which the tools were actually those which the recipient would in the future cut and carve and build.

The lodge was especially for Freemasons; not for the common workmen, the layers, the quarrymen, the hewers and polishers of the stone, but for the architects, builders, artists, sculptors who were the brains of the Cathedral building.

When the Cathedral building age came to an end, some lodges continued; thoughtful men refused to give up the symbolism and the teaching, the philosophies, and the principles which has become a part of their lives in the work in which they had been engaged.

From these old operative lodges gradually emerged the speculative Freemasonry we now know, and the practice of "acception" in which men, not themselves builders, but of such character as would add to the value of the association, desired to join for the mental and spiritual benefits they would receive.

The Freemasons who erected their breathtaking hymns of praise to the Most High at the same time, and in the same places, began that group which later became our Free and Accepted Masons - the ancient and gentle Craft. The Cathedrals they built are the birthplaces of Freemasonry. 


Tnx The Masonic Service Association

## I am a Mason because:

1. It gives me a greater opportunity to work with like-thinking men.
2. It teaches tolerance and harmonious living with all men. Thus, it helps all men to cooperate with each other without rancor or jealousy.
3. The brotherhood of Freemasonry, based on a belief in God, provides an aim in life to which all men should subscribe.
4. It helps one to get to that certain point of self-confidence which will help him to become an effective instrument in society.
5. Freemasonry teaches the doctrine of the dignity of the human individual and the sacredness of his work.
6. Freemasonry develops leaders who can stand up and express their ideas with beauty and precision.
7. Freemasonry asks no member to believe in anything which his mind does not tell him is reasonable.

Brethren, the Craft does not write out its lessons in great letters for all to see. It conceals them in symbol and allegory. Symbolism and allegory are a language that is old and universal. It is always alive. It sets the mind free and hopefully makes every man think for himself. In this manner we hope to learn the TRUTH, which none of us may learn from another and no one may learn alone. To draw aside the veil from these symbols and allegories is Masonic work, and he who applies the working tools of his trade to this purpose will receive great reward.

Masonry cannot teach; it can only point the way. Each one must, by his own study and contemplation, decide what it means to him. Each of us has a duty to assist in this great work.

You and I in the first instance initiate candidates. Therefore, they are man-made. Let us hope that in carrying out this great work we may do it well and that those Masons we make will be HEAVEN BLESSED. 

Tnx to Bro. Eldon F. Ault, 33°, Valley Of Bay City, Michigan  
and Wor. Bro. John Ochmann, WA8NDL

## Masonry in Action



CONGRATULATIONS to Brother Michael M. Price, KB8ESU who was installed Chaplain at New England Lodge No. 4, Worthington, Ohio.

Brother Michael is the Associate Editor of the Hiram's Hams Newsletter, and President of the *Capital City Repeater Association* (CCRA) in Columbus, Ohio. The CCRA operates eight repeaters in the area with two more on the drawing board.

## BRETHREN

Please look at your address label ..... if there is a dreaded "X" before your name it means that this may be your last copy of the newsletter. Sorry .....

# ☺ DONATIONS ☺

..... for printing and postage .....

- ☺ Wor. Bro. Thomas L. Copeland, N8MAV, Swanton, Ohio  
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- ☺ Bro. William G. Moore, KC4SAM, Fuquay-Varina, NC

## New Hiram's Hams!



- ☺ **Wor. Bro. Fred G. Church, N8ABR, Metamora, Michigan**  
W.M. of Metamora/Hadley Lodge No. 210, Metamora, Michigan  
**District Deputy Instructor**  
Tnx Bro. David G. Medley, WN8VOT, Armada, Michigan  
S.W. of Almont/Dryden Lodge No. 51
- ☺ **Wor. Bro. Hubert S. Steele, Jr., WA8POE, W. Portsmouth, OH**  
W.M. of Aurora Lodge No. 48, West Portsmouth, Ohio  
Tnx Wor. Bro. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
- ☺ **Bro. Riccardo "Ricky" Isnenghi, IN3SUI, Trento, ITALY**  
Tnx Wor. Bro. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
- ☺ **Bro. Gary L. Miller, KB8SRN, Minford, Ohio**  
Tnx Wor. Bro. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
- ☺ **Bro. Kenneth T. Davis, KB2KFV, Green Island, New York**  
Tnx Wor. Bro. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
- ☺ **Bro. Michael R. Johnson, KC8MRJ, Fairborn, Ohio**  
Senior Warden of Fairborn Lodge No. 764, Fairborn, Ohio  
Tnx Bro. Steven O. Putman, 32°, N8ZR
- ☺ **Bro. Albert L. Courtney, W9AQA, Mishawaka, Indiana**  
Tnx Wor. Bro. Richard "Dick" Blaney, KYCH, WB8MHE
- ☺ **Bro. Joseph P. Pozefsky, KYCH, KC2KVV, Albany, NY**  
Tnx Wor. Bro. Keith Chambers, W8VAN
- ☺ **Bro. Ivan J. Soper, KC8NOK, Huber Heights, Ohio**  
Tnx Bro. Carey Alexander, K8DOT

## >> HIRAM'S HAMS CAPS



- Bro. Riccardo "Ricky" Isnenghi, IN3SUI, Trento, ITALY
- Bro. Joseph P. Pozefsky, KYCH, KC2KVV, Albany, New York

## Ham Radio Nets

### 20 METER MASONIC FELLOWSHIP NET

Mon.-Fri. on 14.328 MHz at 1100 E.S.T, Pre-net at 10:30 E.S.T.

#### NET CONTROLS

- Wor. Bro. Bill Hilton, KB0ZNE
- Bro. Lee Kariger, WA6VYQ
- Bro. Paul W. McCandless, KK7RR
- Bro. Paul R. Klender, W8USH

Tnx Bro. John Haungs, W8STX



### OHIO MASONIC FELLOWSHIP NET

Sunday evenings at 9:30 P.M. on 3.865 MHz

Wor. Bro. Dick Blaney, KYCH, WB8MHE

Circleville, Ohio

NET CONTROL



### THE TRESTLE BOARD NET

Originating in Cleveland

Sunday evenings on 28.495 MHz at 8:30 P.M.

Tuesdays on the 146.73 MHz repeater at 9:00 P.M.



### MICHIGAN MASONIC FELLOWSHIP NET

Check in every Sunday afternoon at 1400 hours on 7233 MHz

Wor. Bro. John M. Akkala, W8AT, Marquette, MI

Net Control



### QCWA Chapter No. 1

Cleveland, Ohio

Wednesdays at 8:00 P.M.

on the QCWA's W8LYD repeater 146.85

Craig D. Kollai, N8ZT, is Net Control

Brother Steven A. Martinovich, W8NZD

Net Control Emeritus



## Want to Be a Certified Emergency Communicator?



- **WHAT?** ARRL Emergency Communications Certification (C-CE) exams ARRL C-CE Levels 1,2 and 3
- **WHERE?** Universal Radio, Inc., 6830 Americana Parkway, Reynoldsburg, OH
- **WHEN?** April 26, June 28, August 23 (4th Saturday of even number months)
- **TIME:** 9:30 AM
- **SPONSOR:** Central Ohio Severe Weather Network
- **CONTACT INFORMATION:** Wm. Trigg Tabor, K8NIO  
614 766-2158 or <k8nio@arrl.net>

Please note that it is important to let us know that you will attend.

Additional information and Websites: <http://www.arrl.org/cce/> and <http://www.severe-weather.org>

**Brother Tabor, K8NIO, is a Hiram's Ham**

## SO MOTE IT BE

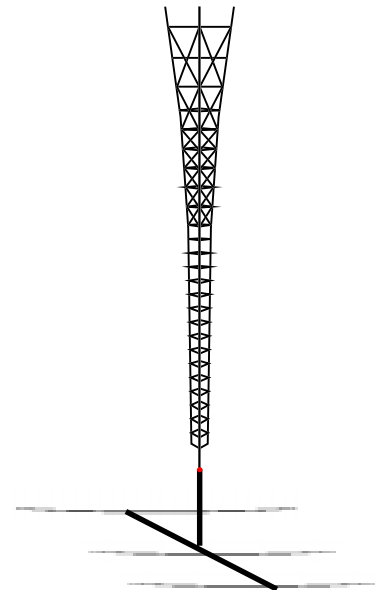
# HAMFESTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

## 2003

- April 13 Raleigh Amateur Radio Society ..... <http://www.rars.org/hamfest> ..... Raleigh, NC
- April 19  Ararat Shrine Amateur Radio Club ..... Kansas City, MO  
<http://www.homestead.com/dowdy/hamfest/hambash2000.html>
- April 19 Catawba Valley Hamfest ..... McDowell Amateur Radio Association ..... Morganton, NC  
<http://cvhamfest.org>
- April 23-24 Arkansas Radio Emergency Service & other Amateur Radio Clubs ..... Little Rock, Arkansas  
<http://www.aristotle.net/~hamfest/>
- April 27 Athens County Amateur Radio Association ..... Athens, Ohio  
<http://www.seorf.ohiou.edu/~xx150/>
- May 3 Big Sandy Amateur Radio Club ..... <http://www.bsarc.org> ..... Louisa, KY
- May 10 Durham FM Association ..... <http://www.durhamfma.50megs.com> ..... Durham, NC
- MAY 16-18 DAYTON HAMVENTION ..... <http://www.hamvention.org/> ..... Dayton, OH**
- May 25 FRANKLIN COUNTY HAMFEST, Frankin County Fairgrounds ..... <clind2@juno.com> ..... Columbus, OH

Tnx ARRL and the Southeastern Repeater Association

*The Fraternity within The Fraternity*



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