



**Friends on the Lahn Lodge # 860 A.F. & A.M.**  
**CMR 458, Box 665**  
**APO AE 09143**

THE NOT SO OCCASIONAL TRESTLE BOARD  
Mar 2010 – No. 2010-02



**From The East**

**Bro. Christopher  
Master**

Fraternal Greetings and a Happy New Year Brethren All,

indeed, wishing everyone a "Happy New Year" is an old custom that we all continuously use over and over again during the first few weeks of every New Year likewise, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate an 'old' recipe for the new Year!

**A Recipe for a Whole Year**

Take 12 months, clean them thoroughly from bitterness, greed, tactlessness and vanity. Divide each month into 30 or 31 portions, so that your supply will last a whole year. Prepare each portion daily and equally with one part Work, one part Cheerfulness and one part Humour. Add three heaped tablespoons of Optimism, one teaspoon Tolerance, one grain Self-confidence and a large pinch of Tact. Mix thoroughly and glaze with plenty of Love. Decorate with small sprigs of attentiveness and serve daily with cheerfulness and with a cup of not too strong Spirit!

Goethe's Mother, Catherine Elisabeth (\*1731 - †1808)

I hope you all had some relaxing days with your families and a smooth transition into the New Year and Decade; that life will continue to bring you good health and fortune, especially for those who are not as fortunate as the majority of us are; equally I would like to wish you all, the wisdom to choose your priorities well – especially those priorities that really matter in life.

Sadly we closed the 'old year' with the loss of Very Worshipful and Illustrious Bro. Charles E. Glidewell (33°), as the Grand Architect of the Universe called him to that Celestial Lodge above on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009. A Memorial Service was held at his home town in Langgöns-Espa on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2009.



We are also saddened that VVBro. Martin (PM, & DDGM) and Sister Charlotte have returned to the States - on a positive note however, for bigger and better opportunities are now residing near San Antonio, Texas. A going-away dinner was arranged at the Greek Restaurant "Irodion" in Wieseck, where former colleagues also joined us on this evening.

Likewise we are also saddened that WBro. Shawn (PM) has also returned to the States, he has reenlisted back into the Army and is currently at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. A going-away dinner was arranged at the "Steakhouse-Ratschänke" in Fernwald-Steinbach.

*Although we release the chain formed by our hands  
... the chain in our hearts remain unbroken!*

Even though it would seem that we have started the New Year off on the wrong foot, we will continue to persevere and try our utmost to fill and strengthen the ranks of our Great Fraternity!

Although a second quarter Masters Calendar and a Social/Cultural Calendar of events has been advertized in an attempt to bring various Lodge, Social and Cultural factors into our Lodge environment, the overall participation has been more than disappointing. Nonetheless, I will to continue to update both calendars with interesting events and visitations hoping to encourage an improved involvement. Likewise, if there are any other interesting events/activities that are preferred and deemed to boost the emulation or interest among the brotherhood, please forwarded them for inclusion – a short email/telephone call would be sufficient.

Regrettably the same problem seems to apply to Lodge participation – in the first six months of my term in the East we only show an average of 46% participation of resident members at Stated Communications. Pleasure and displeasure have a motivational force thus depends, if a member partakes or not – so if you are not happy with Lodge activities, let's talk about it!

Fraternally and Sincerely  
Bro. Chris,  
Master, "Together We Can"

Lodge email: [fotl860@yahoo.de](mailto:fotl860@yahoo.de)  
Lodge Web Page: <http://www.860.acgl.us>



### From The West

**Bro. Calvin  
Senior Warden**

Greetings Brethren All,

as the snow starts to melt after one of the longest winters I can recall, our thoughts turn to more pleasant outdoor activities. The *Verein* has been our leader in such activities over the past few years and there have been several instructional walks, a bike ride to Wetzlar and a train ride out to Limburg to name but a few of these pleasant social events. I don't recall one event that was negatively affected by the weather, we've been very lucky, and even the freezing temperatures on the Christmas market really only served to improve the comradeship (and the *Glühwein*). I hope that this year we can continue that trend.

We have two EA's who are now studying for their advancement and I'm sure we can all recall what that means. Advancement in the AGL has to be within 1 year but must take at least one month. This is significantly different to our German Brothers who will generally take at least a year to advance, minimum. Those Brothers who have forgotten what it was that they achieved in our Lodge to gain advancement should just take a minute or two to open their Degree monitors and see how much of it they can still do. I maintain that all Brethren that were passed and raised in our Lodge were able to attain a standard of work that is probably now rare in most Lodges. Advances by various bodies to make the proficiency easier have not been successful in my opinion and have only served to introduce Brothers who still require much work before they can participate in our Degrees. I can report that our new Brothers are suffering in much the same way we all did and will continue to uphold the high standards that have always been a part of our Lodge.

There will be a Lodge of Sorrow conducted next month to remember our Brothers who have passed away during the last year. If you are unable to attend, please take a moment to reflect on their passing and the distress this caused their family, friends and Brothers. Happy to meet, sad to part, and happy to meet again!

Fraternally,  
Br. Calvin, Senior Warden



### From The South

**Bro. Brian  
Junior Warden**

#### **Christmas Market 2009 in Limburg**



A train ride to the City of Limburg to visit a traditional Christmas Market with hot 'Bratwürst' and 'Glühwein' to keep warm!

#### **Christmas Party 2009 Giessen**



Our Sisters Marion, Rene and Inge won in our Christmas Raffle 300,000DM each!  
(...unfortunatelv in a shredded memorial format)

#### **Castle Staufenberg 2010 with Knight Dietrich**



Medieval Banquet , "Knights Cellar", with Knight Dietrich



**From The North**  
**East Corner**

**Bro. William**  
**Treasurer**



**From The South**  
**East Corner**

**Bro. Mike**  
**Secretary**

Fraternal Greetings One and All,

With all the military facilities within the Giessen area being closed, we are now required to do our banking as a private organization in Wiesbaden, for those of you that are familiar with the terrain here that is about 100 miles from where I live. Then we have an APO Mail Box in the AAFES Depot in Giessen (about 35 miles from where I live). I go to Wiesbaden to deposit money, checks and other cash transactions, and back to Giessen to get the bank Statements when they arrive.

This month I tried to combine my Treasurer duties with a shopping trip with my wife Renate and my dog Sammy. I went into the Bank (my wife went walking around the Base with the dog) and started to do my business, it did not go well. A request for a German money transfer was very complicated for me and the bank teller. So, after about 20 minutes of total confusion, I told him that I would be back when I get it straight. I took my little cash bag and went to my car. It started sprinkling rain. I was in the car trying to get my stuff together when my wife came back and wanted in because the rain had turned into a downpour. Sammy (you have to love him) jumped all over the paper work and wanted to be petted and hugged, my wife did not want to be hugged or to sit in the back with the dog while I did the paper work, so I gave her a choice, sit in the back or go walking in the rain, she indicated her dissatisfaction with one of her right hand digits and took off. About one hour later I was ready to try my luck again. Bless the teller, he had the patience of Solomon, walked me thru all the corrections that I needed to make and at the ends. Well, the story is not ended. I went back to the parking lot and rescued my wife and dog from the rising water level (her temper level was much more severe) and she told me to get my wallet out and be ready to spend and all about having to go shopping just for dry clothes. Well at least my dog still loves me, he was so happy to see me he jumped up and put mud all over me. The moral here is that "Prior planning prevents poor performance". All I can say is; I will do my very best the next time.

By the way, my wife indicates that she will stay with me, but I need to think about going by myself the next time. Aw Honey!

Fraternally  
Bro. William, Treasurer

Greetings Brethren All,

Hoping the New Year has started and continues to provide well for you and yours, with ample time for your Masonic development and advancement. As some may know I had a few Health issues and was unable to perform my duties as Secretary as I would have liked to, but recovery seems in order and I sincerely apologize for the delayed issuance of your Dues Cards, these should have all been received by now and for those who have not got them, please review your payment history and assure that you had submitted payment. If you feel you should have received one and have not yet, please take a moment to send me a short note/letter and /or email (email preferred). Some of our Brothers are very mobile and keeping up with the current addresses is a major portion of my work. It is also very disheartening for me to get your Trestle-Board /Communications back with a "Yellow Sticker" RETURN TO SENDER and NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED, as for all intents and purposes we have lost you and have no way of contacting you. So please aid and assist me in keeping your address current, for those with new email Addresses please send a short email so that we can communicate with you electronically.

For those of you that have paid, I would like to Thank-You for your continued support of "your" Lodge, especially those who have "sent some extra", I deposit this to the Almoners Fund unless you have specifically stated that you wanted it used in another way such as the General Fund, etc. Thank You for your prompt payments.

Please take a moment and note our address information for your Masonic File:

US Mail:  
Friends on the Lahn Lodge, No. 860  
CMR-458, BOX 665  
APO AE 09143

International Mail:  
Friends on the Lahn Lodge, No. 860  
POSTFACH 10 03 18  
35333 Giessen  
GERMANY

With Best Fraternal Greetings, I remain

Michael Moreland  
Secretary



## Chaplain's Corner

Fraternal Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I wish each and every one of you the very best of health and sprit!

*"It is that time of Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."  
Psalm 19: 14*

The first gift of a Freemason is a Lambskin or white leather Apron; it is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason. As this emblem of innocence was deposited into the grave of our dear Brother Charles, we are reminded of the universal dominion of death. The arm of friendship cannot interpose to prevent his coming; the wealth of the world cannot purchase exemption; nor will the innocence of youth or the charms of beauty or the serenity of age change his purpose. The evergreen is an emblem of enduring faith in the immortality of the soul. We are reminded that we have a life within us that shall survive the grave, and which shall never, never die. We are reminded that we, too, like our Brother, shall soon be clothed in the habiliments of death, yet through our belief in the mercy of God, we may confidently hope that our souls will bloom in eternal spring. Our Prayers are with each of you and your families.

Bro. Karl Schneider, HPM, Chaplain

### There is no Higher Title than Brother!

It was an honor to have been entrusted with the duties of Secretary of our Lodge for so many years. Thank you to each of you for that privilege and for your support. It became increasingly obvious to me the past few years that I simply was unable to continue. I was not capable of doing the job that you deserve of a Secretary and so I had to decline the nomination for another term. The good news is that we have a Brother who served as Secretary once before and is highly qualified. That Brother is Mike Moreland and he will do a better job than I am capable of doing so support Mike in every way you can. Mike will be doing some things differently because he is a different person. Mike is also employed in a demanding position and he also has health issues. Again, thank you for allowing me to serve and I wish each of you and your loved ones the best of everything good.

There is no higher title than Brother and I am proud to be your Brother Don (Saint).

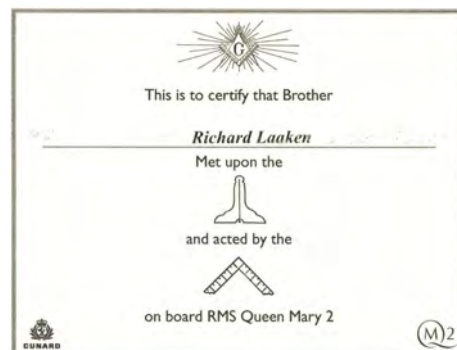
## Raising the Per Capita (Head Tax)

Due to waning membership and reduced income the American Canadian Grand Lodge (ACGL) has chosen to increase the so called "Head Tax" by €2.00 (approximately \$3.00) per member effective 2010. This tax is paid by all Lodges of the ACGL for their Resident and Non-Resident Brothers. We will also be discussing to see if a Dues increase is needed, not just for the increased Head Tax, but for the increases in doing Lodge Business in general. Since the Drawdown and Base Closures we are facing increased cost that we did not have in the past; Lodge Hall Rent, Mailing and Banking just to mention a few. We are currently able with extended logistics to count on the help of our Brothers to get the mail and banking done in Wiesbaden (the closest remaining Base in the area). Should this change, we will only be able to use German facilities - letters to the US would then cost \$2.47 each and German Bank charges would increase drastically. International Money Transfers would increase your costs. As you can see there are many changes about and we are endeavoring to maintain the "Status Quo" as long as we can. Please let me, or the Master know your thoughts on this matter.

Michael Moreland, Secretary

### An Interesting Experience

In late November my wife Barbro and I took a cruise on board Queen Mary 2 to the Caribbean. Several days into the cruise a notice appeared for a "Gathering of Masonic Brothers" in the daily bulletin. A total of 16 brothers from the US (4), Ireland (1), Canada (1), and the UK (10) attended. We exchanged experiences about our respective lodges and we all signed the log book provided by the Cunard Lines. This was the second volume since they have had a meeting each voyage since the ship was put into service in January 2004.



I was fortunate to participate in a similar meeting a year ago when we sailed on QM2. I don't know why they have this tradition on board Cunard ships but I find it interesting and wanted to share this experience with you all.

Fraternal Greetings All, WBro. Dick Laaken, (PM)

## Brotherhood = Humanity = Brotherhood!

Dear Brethren all, allow me to share with you all an experience that I just recently had, to which I also had the privilege of indirectly represented our beloved Lodge at the same time.

I flew from Copenhagen to Seoul ending a tiresome duty cargo flight, once on the ground I received a phone call from our dear brethrens from the Hanyang Lodge in Seoul, inviting me to come down town to the Irish Pub for a beer or two. Even though I was extremely tired and not knowing exactly what to expect, I agreed to go because it was for a very good cause: a Charity Drive for the Children of HAITI. Our Australian Bro. Rod Rothwell had organized a Raffle with Australian Beef, Sausages, Steak and Beer for the benefit of distressed Children who were victims of the terrible Earthquake in Haiti just recently.



The great thing was, that I met so many Brothers from different Lodges and different degrees; e.g. the Economy Attaché of the Spanish Embassy; many United Nations officers from Denmark that were taking care of business between North and South Korea; members of all different parties involved in development help and Education ... the list could go on for hours. The Raffle totaled a collection of €700 which went directly through Freemasonry channels to Haiti and will arrive surely to the right people in need. I am proud to say that I indirectly had the privilege to represent Friends on the Lahn Lodge # 860 at this event. It was likewise important for me to be there, because I felt that it was my duty as a Freemason to participate and support such events - to help people in need that are innocent victims of nature catastrophes, leaving most of them without means to support themselves.

Some of you might think that €700 is just a drop in the Ocean, but it is the willingness to help that counts! I believe we all should continuously think about the BROTHERHOOD that does not stop within the walls of our Lodges thus, spreading humanity throughout the World and letting others know that it is still alive and still existing!

Fraternally, Bro. Friedrich (EA)

## Cowan's & Eavesdroppers

How many times have we, as Brothers, heard the terms; Cowan's and Eavesdroppers? I hope you all find this small explanation interesting.

"Cowan" is an old Scotch word meaning an ignorant Mason who puts stones together without mortar or piles rough stones from the field into a wall without working them square and true. He is a Mason without the Word; the Apprentice who tries to masquerade as a Master. The eavesdropper in ancient times was that would-be thief of secrets who listened under the eaves of houses (the walls and roofs did not always meet, in order to provide ventilation). Because to hear he had to get close to the walls under the eaves, he received the droppings from the roof, if it rained - hence eavesdropper. In modern times the eavesdropper is that bold man who forges a good standing card, or finds one and masquerades as its owner; the man who has read the "expose" of Masonry and tries to get into a Lodge, in order to ask for help or charity. He is very rare and few Tyler's have ever met him! The Cowan however, the FC or EA stopped for cause, the onetime member in good standing who is now dropped for one cause or another - these not infrequently try to pass the Tyler.

A contribution by Bro. Don

### Principles

Principles or conventions are the rules and stipulations in which every society places upon itself without the force of law, but by which its members may try to live together in a frictionless environment.

Masonry has also developed its own conventions, by which its members Meet, Act and Part. As we passed through the three degrees, we received various instructions to the rituals and the obligations applicable to them. We are carefully taught essential things which a man must know in order to become a true Mason. Two important teachings which are all too often forgotten are that all brethren of a Lodge are equal and that the Officers are the servants of their brethren - not their superiors. Lodge courtesies, like those of the profane World, are founded wholly on the Golden Rule. They lubricate the Masonic wheels and enable them to revolve without friction. They smooth the path of all the brethren in the Lodge and prove to all the diversity and truth of the ritualistic explanation of that "more noble and glorious purpose" to which we should continuously practice.

A contribution from Bro. Chris

**"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist"**  
Indira Gandhi.

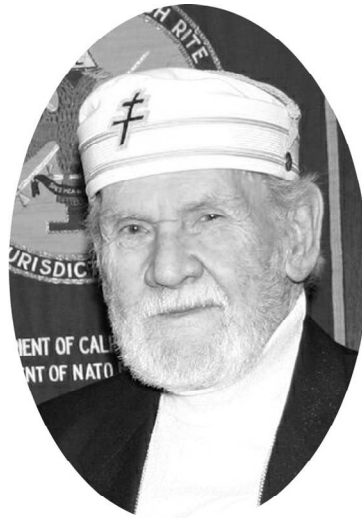
## Charles Edward Glidewell

was born in Dallas, Texas, USA, on Sunday, December 12, 1920

He served his country in the US Army as a Master Sergeant, retired from the US Army with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) and later from Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) after many years of distinguished service.

At a young age he had worked for the Texas Electric Company; had been one of very few dog judges in the USA; had the pleasure of making friends with many celebrities such as the World Heavyweight Wrestling Champion Lou Tress; and had boxed as a light-heavyweight boxer.

His father, who had a PhD, was the Grand orator for the Grand Lodge of Texas and was also the manager of Western Union for the state of Louisiana and half of Texas.



Very Worshipful and Illustrious Brother Charles Edward Glidewell's Masonic career was most exceptional; Past Master of Friends on the Lahn Lodge (1981-1983), Senior Warden (1980-1981) and Secretary (1983-1988).

He was appointed Grand Tiler of the American Canadian Grand Lodge (ACGL) within the United Grand Lodges of Germany, "Brotherhood of Freemasons" (1985- 1995), elected Honorary District Deputy Grand Master in 1991 and Honorary Senior Grand Warden in 2002.

In 1983, Charles joined the American Military Scottish Rite Bodies, Orient of NATO Bases (AMSRB's). In 1989 he was invested the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (K.C.C.H.) and in 1991 he was coroneted a 33° (Inspector General Honorary). In 1990 he was appointed the AMSRB's General Secretary by Ill Robert W. Woodward, 33°, G.C., Deputy for the Supreme Council to the American Military Scottish Rite Bodies, Orient of NATO Bases.

The Supreme Councils for Portugal and the Cote D'ivore (Ivory Coast) honored Ill Glidewell as a Sovereign Grand Inspector General Honorary of their Supreme Councils.

The Grand Architect of the Universe called our beloved brother to that Celestial Lodge above on Sunday, December 13, 2009