

R + C

Rosicrucian Chronicles

August 2, 1992

Volume 1 Number 1

Serving the Ideals of the Rosicrucian Movement

We the undersigned Rosicrucians have, on the 17th of July 1992 in a meeting in Campbell, California, undertaken the creation of a newsletter for the purpose of providing information concerning the tenuous state of the Rosicrucian Order and the uncertain future of Rosicrucian Park.

The authentic voice of the Rosicrucian movement resides in the collective voices of the membership. This newsletter provides a forum for the members to express their hopes dreams and concerns.

This newsletter was also conceived as a vehicle for keeping Rosicrucians informed, so that they may give knowledgeable support to corrections and changes in the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC.

Areas of current concern include:

Prevent any potential sale of Rosicrucian Park

Assure that the administration is in compliance with secular laws and Initiatic traditions

Restore Rosicrucian Park and its assets to the stewardship of the American members

Insure the continued use of the 'Lewis Monographs' and protection of the Lewis Legacy

Return Rosicrucian Park in the valley of San Jose, to its status as the Sovereign Sanctuary and See of the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC

So Mote It Be

Your comments and letters are welcome and encouraged. We will be featuring a letters column for those of you who wish to have your comments shared.

In order to strengthen our network, we encourage you to copy this newsletter and send it to Rosicrucians (active or not) whom you know.

In this issue we have attached a translation of George Graham's letter of resignation from the office of Spanish Grand Master. This letter (in the original spanish) was sent to the members of the Spanish Grand Lodge.

The next issue will be published on September 2, 1992. Among other articles we will be publishing the *Imperator's Averment*.

Sincerely,

Roselyn Beuchat F.R.C.

Roselyn M. Beuchat, F.R.C.

Susanne Boyer F.R.C.

Susanne Boyer F.R.C.

Nancy Ste. Vigne-Warren F.R.C.

Nancy Ste. Vigne-Warren, F.R.C.

Kenneth Thompson F.R.C.

Kenneth Thompson F.R.C.

Curt Warren F.R.C.

Curt Warren F.R.C.

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POLICY FOR NEW GRAND LODGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTERS

Following the above mentioned topics of discussion and after further discussion in consideration of new Grand Lodges, the Legate, Peter Binden, made the following motion which was seconded by President Bernard:

RESOLVED, that the Supreme Grand Lodge may establish, firstly, additional administrative centers and, secondly, Grand Lodges in countries where the population exceeds forty million and fifteen hundred active AMORC memberships.

This Resolution was then confidentially voted on and carried by a vote of seven (7) in favor, two (2) against and one (1) abstention.

GRAND LODGE IN ENGLAND

President Bernard then made the following motion which was seconded by Treasurer Soderlund:

RESOLVED, that the current administration center in the United Kingdom be established as a Grand Lodge, namely, The Grand Lodge of the English Language Jurisdiction for Europe and Africa.

This motion was then confidentially voted on and carried by a vote of nine (9) in favor and one (1) against.

ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER IN SPAIN

President Bernard then made the following motion which was seconded by Treasurer Soderlund:

RESOLVED, that the Supreme Grand Lodge Board recommends that an administration center be established in Spain subject to the following requirements:

The Bylaws of the AMORC organization in Spain will be amended to conform to the Constitution of the Supreme Grand Lodge and provisionally approved by the President or the Treasurer of the Supreme Grand Lodge and submitted for ratification at the next meeting of the Supreme Grand Lodge.

This motion was then confidentially voted on and carried by a vote of eight (8) in favor and two (2) against.

President Bernard then restated that the Administration in Spain will be supervised by both the Treasurer Irving Soderlund and by the Emperor, as stated in the Proclamation.

RECESS

At approximately 6: p.m. March 16, 1992, the Board of Directors agreed unanimously to recess for the day and resume the annual board meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 1992 at 9: a.m. in the same location.

American English Translation

A M O R C

(Insignia)

ANCIENT AND MYSTICAL ORDER ROSAE CRUCIS
HISPANIC GRAND LODGE OF AMORC

GEORGE GRAHAM
GRAND MASTER

OFFICES OF THE GRAND MASTER
IN MEXICO:

Insurgentes Sur 1180-602
Col. del Valle 03100
Mexico, D.F.

Tel: (5) 5 59 97 63

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Mexico, D.F., July 2, 1992

To All Fratres and Sorores of the Hispanic Grand Lodge

In the month of August 1990, the undersigned was officially appointed by the Supreme Grand Lodge as Grand Master of the Hispanic jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of AMORC. In November of that same year at the Monterrey Convention, I received the Installation and at the same time I signed my oath of fidelity to the ideals of the Order.

Many things have occurred since those dates until today in which I took upon myself the obligation to officially create the Hispanic Grand Lodge that existed more in name not as a moral entity. The greatest problem was reproducing the whole operation first disentangling it from the Supreme Grand Lodge and then from the English Grand Lodge with whom it was intimately tied, since in fact these two organizations made all of the Hispanic operation.

In order to accomplish the move to Mexico City, we sought help from all of our fratres and sorores, as much psychic as well as material in order to succeed at this task, having promised to match on the material plane all the donations that were received.

Our operation began in Mexico beginning with zero assets as we had no right to any of the assets which were in San Jose in spite of the fact that a great part of them were acquired with the funds and donations of the Hispanic membership.

Notwithstanding this situation we succeeded in becoming installed in Mexico and even though we still have many needs, the computer system functions well now and the program is adequate for the essential functions of our Grand Lodge, however, to attempt to install in another country the whole operation without counting the additional receipts and donations to the dues, is a financial chimera which is almost impossible to carry out, in spite of the

foregoing, we have implanted and continue to struggle to make efficient the receipts as well as the operation itself, the receipts spent in negotiations with the Mexican Government for the acquisition of external debt which permits us by means of a financial mechanism to increase our dues by 20% to 30%. Various other activities we have realized respectively, but I shall not enter into details at this moment, as my principal objective is to communicate to all of you that as of the 24th of July of this year is made effective my irrevocable renunciation of the duty of President and Grand Master of the Hispanic Grand Lodge.

My decision to resign is due to the following reasons:

First, the Supreme Grand Lodge agreed (copy attached of the record in English) by petition of our Imperator at the Board of the Supreme Council in March of 1992, that any country containing more than 40 million inhabitants and more than 1,500 active members shall have the right to have its own Grand Lodge, thus this decision has enabled Spain to establish a regional administration which is going to convert itself into a Grand Lodge in the immediate future, thereby reducing the revenue of the Hispanic Grand Lodge by 15,000 to 18,000 dollars monthly.

Our Grand Lodge at this actual moment has a financial deficit already great as the dues and donations do not sufficiently cover our expenses, this decision of the Supreme will increase our deficit in the amount I have just previously cited, in spite of this, the disposition of the Supreme Grand Lodge remains the same regardless of the harm that the Hispanicamerican area will receive as a consequence.

It has been argued that other Grand Lodges will not be authorized within our area by virtue of the financial problem, nevertheless, it is absurd to authorize Spain and not the membership of the United States of Northamerica, who have more rights in any case from the viewpoint of so many inhabitants as active membership.

If the United States installs its Grand Lodge and there exist no constitutional motives to deny them this right, the dues from the Hispanic Grand Lodge will be reduced \$65,000 monthly. If their Grand Lodge is denied them, (which same some members of Miami, Florida, are already soliciting) this denial would be unjust as it is given to those who meet the minimum requirements, but denies those who considerably surpass said requirements. It is not necessary to be a genius to realize that something is going wrong. It has been argued that other Grand Lodges in Europe function with 1,500 members and have no financial deficit, but no comment is made that the dues that they pay are \$70 or more quarterly, figures which for us in Latinamerica are out of the question.

(AMORC Insignia)
AMORC HISPANIC GRAND LODGE

The decision of the Spain operation obeys for that reason political ends and not the fulfillment of the same Supreme in which exists a contradiction as the same constitution establishes that there be a Grand Lodge by jurisdiction of language, a situation which is not respected either.

The English Grand Lodge finds itself greatly affected by the indebtedness that our Hispanic Grand Lodge has with it and that we are rendered unable to fulfill, nevertheless, the Supreme is acting on instructions from our Imperator, also the dues of Europe remaining to authorize a Grand Lodge in England, which will depend upon the members in Europe. The English Grand Lodge will find itself also on the verge of bankruptcy unless the Supreme and our Imperator reverses the decision which must destroy Rosacruceanism in America.

The Supreme Grand Lodge changes its domicile from San Jose to Canada, notwithstanding that such change implies a great series of expenses which the whole organization does not have, but must cover.

It can clearly be seen that the AMORC operation in America is oriented to the weakening of American Rosicrucianism and it is possible to its disappearance.

As all of the Grand Lodges must submit to the mandates of the Imperator in turn and it is seen that these mandates will provoke an irreparable harm to our Organization and denying myself to be part of this harm, I have preferred to renounce my duty before participating in the destruction of our beloved Grand Lodge.

The future that awaits our Grand Lodge will depend on how the situation will be adequately managed, but surely increasing the dues will be attempted in spite of the fact that our countries are in difficult possibilities to pay higher dues and therefore it will bring irremissably a perceptible reduction in the membership which will occasion major problems in place of arriving at solutions in the destiny of our organization.

My Dear Fratres and Sorores, it is now in your hands, it remains to you to act to save the legacy of AMORC in America. I have fulfilled my part contributing considerably large donations to double what the membership donated, but even so could we free from danger the financial deficit. With the new arrangements that I have related formerly the solution is becoming impossible and now it does not depend on my will nor my donations to save our Order, but they are taking away almost \$18,000 monthly without caring about the consequences, plus the problems that will occur with the decision that any country has the right to be a Grand Lodge which has more than 40,000 inhabitants and a minimum of 1,500 active members.

At the present moment in which the Hispanic Grand Lodge scarcely is forming its foundation with much effort, to take away the dues for Spain (\$18,000 monthly) and afterwards probably those of the United States (\$37,000 monthly) who are the members together with Spain who pay the highest dues of the Hispanics amounts to \$55,000 monthly less; with this you can imagine my Fratres and Sorores what will happen to our Hispanicamerican Grand Lodge in a few months.

May Peace and Harmony dwell in each act of your lives.

Sincerely and fraternally,

(signed)

George Graham
Grand Master
Hispanicamerican Grand Lodge

GG: mg
cc: Christian Bernard Imperator
To all Grand Masters

tr: agb

Rosicrucian Chronicles

Serving the Ideals of the Rosicrucian Movement

Reflections...

By Curt Warren F.R.C

(Thoughts, opinions and reminiscences of a student on the Path.)

Ralph Maxwell Lewis experienced the Great Initiation on Monday January 12, 1987, at 11:26 P.M. He was eighty-two years old. Of the Second Cycle of the Order in America, Ralph Maxwell Lewis was the second Emperor...and the last.

Ralph was a good man. Good in the sense that his accomplishments far outweighed his failures; a man in the sense that those same strengths and weaknesses that shaped his leadership also gave him some very human and humane dimensions. He possesses the gravity and demeanor of an Emperor, well leavened with a warmth and a wit. Above all else, he truly loved the membership he was charged to guide. He devoted his life to the Order, validating and fulfilling his father's work; he was a son who brought credit to Harvey Spencer Lewis' name.

Time exacts its toll on all of us, an Emperor is no more immune to the processes of natural law than are any of us on this plane. During the last few years of his regime, ill health resulted in his leadership being sharply curtailed; in other words, we had a "part time" Emperor. And, transition or retirement had thinned the ranks of his Old Guard: Harvey Miles, Jimmy Whitcomb, Cecil Poole and many others. Ralph knew that Time was his relentless enemy; his arthritis reminded him of it every day. At the end, Ralph did not name his successor. He trusted the Supreme Grand Lodge to do this. But perhaps -- just perhaps -- Ralph had some lingering doubts about the future when the reins of power would be taken into other hands. On January 5, 1984,

Ralph composed the Emperor's Averment, which is reproduced on page 4 and 5 in its entirety.

(Note: I was appointed by Ralph Lewis to the Executive Council of the International Rosicrucian Historical Council, and a life member of the English speaking jurisdiction. I also had the privilege of writing the Constitution for the I.R.H.C. signed by then Grand Master Gary Stewart and countersigned by Ralph Lewis, Emperor. Those of us connected with the I.R.H.C. were given access to a great deal of archival material, and had permission to copy such material as was germane to our individual researches.)

As you read the Emperor's Averment, bear in mind that according to Supreme Archivist Warren Russeff and Supreme Secretary Kenneth Thompson, to the best of their knowledge, neither Gary Stewart nor Christian Bernard ever signed this document. If either of them has, it should be a simple matter to produce it since it is to be kept with the Oath of Office. It could be faxed worldwide in a day.

If, in fact, the Emperor's Averment was not signed, then neither Gary nor Christian were

continued on page 2.

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A Word From Our Forefathers

"We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive to these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their safety and happiness."

—Thomas Jefferson,
Declaration of Independence, 1776.

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Roselyn Beuchat, F.R.C.
Susanne Mohs Boyer, F.R.C.
Nancy Ste. Vigne-Warren, F.R.C.
Kenneth Thompson, F.R.C.
Curt Warren, F.R.C.

Any opinion expressed in this newsletter is that of the individual author, who is solely responsible for the content and views presented herein.

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Reflections... (continued from page 1).

eligible for installation. They could, under common law, be installed as President, Chief Executive Officer, or some such secular title; but, they would have no right to the title of Emperor, nor any rights appended to that office.

Any acts of a doctrinal nature would be null, and any appointments to a ritualistic office — such as a Grand Master — would be void. Gary and Christian could legitimately claim to be Grand Masters regularly installed by Emperor Ralph M. Lewis; the same could be claimed by, for example, Wilhelm Raab or Irving Soderlund. But, if the office of Emperor has stood empty for the last five years as I believe it has, then any corrective actions will need to be implemented to once again weld together the broken links in the chain of Initiatic Tradition. Perhaps many problems of the recent past and present are in some way the result of this severed chain.

To repeat myself: Of the Second Cycle of the Order in America, Ralph Maxwell Lewis was the second Emperor... and the last.

Fratres and Sorores, remember that a Rosicrucian is a "walking question mark". Exercise your right of free inquiry into the affairs of the administrative offices of an organization that your dues, past and present, support. Ask your questions and expect truthful answers. For myself, my personal choice was to let my membership lapse, since I can no longer — in good conscious — financially support AMORC as it is currently administered.

Coming up in the next issue:

Empowering the Membership—a change from Autocracy to Democracy.

By Susanne Mohs Boyer, F.R.C.

Discussing the Constitution and Bylaws

By Kenneth Thompson, F.R.C.

Reflections...

The down grading of the Supreme Temple

By Curt Warren, F.R.C.

Letters from the Readers.



Imperator's Sanctum
Temple of Alden

Rosicrucian Park
San Jose, California 95191

Some years ago, I fulfilled a wish of Dr. Lewis' and made it a necessity as well; that is, that there should be a formal Installation Ritual for an Imperator. There had been none in modern times, Dr. Lewis having received his authority and initiation abroad.

I prepared such a ritual a few years ago. It is in our file of initiations and should be used when the occasion requires it.

Attached to that ritual is a copy of the enclosed Averment. This Averment must be signed before the duly elected candidate as an Imperator is installed. It should be signed in the presence of all the members of the Board of Directors of the Supreme Grand Lodge. They should sign the original, which will subsequently be kept with the Oath taken at the time of the Installation.

Needless to say, there should be no deviation from the contents of this Averment, which are basic to the perpetuation of the ideals of the Order. Any candidate who refuses to do so or wishes to make changes, shall not be installed.

IMPERATOR

Ralph M. Lewis
January 5, 1984

Witnessed by:

Michelle Ziebel

RML:mz
Enc.



Imperator's Averment

I, _____, having been duly elected by the Supreme Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis, to the august office of Imperator, do solemnly aver and pledge as a Rosicrucian, and in accordance with the ideals of the Rosy Cross, to honor, fulfill, and preserve the content of the following obligations:

- I will not delete the word God from the official teachings of AMORC, even though the Rosicrucian Order is not a religion.
- I will not omit the phrase, "God of our Heart," from rituals or monographs of the Order, allowing the member to place his or her own interpretation on the phrase.
- I will not delete or alter the present use of an Invocation being delivered at the Convocations of AMORC, or as used elsewhere in its doctrinal work.
- I will not suppress or disregard, in AMORC literature, the recommendation of a Home Sanctum for every member, and its use in connection with official rituals and initiations. I will consider such a sanctum, whenever possible, as an essential and integral part of the Rosicrucian membership.
- All rituals of installation by AMORC (and by the Martinists), such as for Colombes and Officers, shall be continued. Likewise, the Appellation Rite, the Rosicrucian Wedding Ceremony, and the New Year Feast shall be perpetuated. With time, they may be adapted to the changing conditions, but never so altered that their purpose or message is lost.
- I affirm that I will always be conscious of the fact that AMORC is a mystical Order. I therefore pledge to preserve those spiritual values of the Order which are related to the Rosicrucian traditional meaning of the word mystical. The word spiritual shall mean, in the Rosicrucian sense, a recognizing of a transcendent Universal Oneness of all Reality; the awareness thereof being the ultra state of consciousness of which man is capable.
- I shall always be aware that traditionally and chronologically the Rosicrucian Order has always been a fraternal (nonsectarian) mystical organization. It therefore must be devoted to two fundamental pursuits:
 - (1) The enlightenment of man;
 - (2) The individual attainment of Peace Profound.

The "enlightenment" shall be construed as being the study of the traditional teachings of AMORC, supplemented by the advanced knowledge of the age in which AMORC exists. The "Peace Profound" shall be construed as the search

for and the attainment of Cosmic Consciousness, as a personal state of euphoria.

- The Studies of modern science, in all of their phases, shall be applied to the teachings of AMORC wherever they can best serve them. Such studies, however, shall never, as a whole, be given priority over the mystical concepts and basic doctrines of AMORC.
- I am aware that the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC, has always encouraged the arts as a function necessary to the higher emotional nature and mystical attainment of man. Therefore, I pledge to further such cultural pursuits within the economic means of AMORC. This shall include such existing activities as that of the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum, the Art Gallery, the Planetarium; also dramas, concerts, video presentations, and other activities having similar objectives.
- I do recognize that the printed word is only a tool by which the Rosicrucian student attempts to acquire an understanding of the Order's traditional precepts and the ultimate application of them. But nevertheless, that tool, the printed monographs of AMORC, shall never be issued to anyone except as an incident of his or her active membership in AMORC. They shall never be sold or loaned or in any way made available to any individual except as stated in the Constitution and official pronouncements of the Order.
- I further recognize that the legally adopted Supreme and Grand Lodge Constitutions of AMORC are the legal structure of A.M.O.R.C. They should always be accepted as the legal guide for the authority and activities of AMORC.
- I do further pledge to determine that every Rosicrucian is made aware of the existence of the Grand Lodge Constitution and is urged to acquire same. In this manner, the member's prerogatives and rights are protected by the instrument of the Constitution, as well as those of AMORC.

(Newly Elected IMPERATOR)

(Date)

(Vice-President)

(Supreme Legate)

(Supreme Secretary)

(Supreme Treasurer)

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In this issue:

Discussing the Constitution and the Bylaws

Reflections...

The Downgrading of the Supreme Temple

Letters from the Readers

Discussing the Constitution and Bylaws
by *Kenneth A. Thompson F.R.C.*

In the last issue you were promised a discussion of the AMORC Constitution and Bylaws. First, I'd like to discuss these documents in general terms and then as they have been handled by the Supreme Grand Lodge and English Grand Lodge boards and their attorneys.

The Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution, the Statutes and the Bylaws are called the "governing documents" of a non-profit organization in the State of California and list the rules under which the group is supposed to operate in order to maintain their non-profit and tax-exempt status.

In general, the Articles of Incorporation are drawn up by the group seeking incorporation, state the purpose of the organization, pledge to abide by the Not-For-Profit/Public Benefit (non-profit) Law and are submitted along with other documents to the State for review. If they comply with the law, the State will grant incorporation and the Federal Government will grant tax-exempt status.

In order to insure compliance with the purposes under which incorporation was granted, the next two documents are also composed by the group and submitted to the State.

The Constitution contains the main overriding rules that can keep the officers firmly on course with the purposes of the organization.

Discussing the Constitution and Bylaws
....continues on page 2

Reflections...

By Curt Warren F.R.C.

(Thoughts, Opinions and reminiscences of a student on the Path)

In Christian Bernard's so-called Emperor's Proclamation for the R+C year 3345, he states: "...from now on the Supreme Temple shall be above all located on a spiritual plane..."; and, "Physically and materially speaking, the Supreme Temple is any Rosicrucian Temple where the Emperor holds a Convocation."

There seems to be a contradiction in terms here unless the illustrious Christian Bernard can transfigure himself into the heavens under the gaze of the assembled membership.

Oh, that Gallic mentality! So conditioned by traditions of the Divine Right of Kings... so noble and so ridiculous. Or, perhaps-- to be generous -- Christian simply doesn't perceive the profound difference between the Celestial Sanctum and the Supreme Temple; the one in the Cosmic and the other on this plane. I suggest he read the AMORC publication Liber 777.

I am sure that Christian's message brought great joy to the hearts of hundreds of long time members who sacrificed to contribute to the construction fund of the Supreme Temple during the 1940's; and, who received a certificate reading in part (and signed by Ralph M. Lewis):

Reflections...continues on page 6

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While a short statement of the "spirit of the law" (the guiding ideals of the group) is often in the Articles, a more complete statement of the "spirit of the law" as well as a foundation for the "letter of the law" (the specific rules) is in the Constitution and the mechanisms for the "letter of the law" are contained within the Statues.

Finally the Bylaws (from the Old Norse words - byr log, meaning town laws and represent laws adopted by the local group) which contain an affirmation of compliance with the Constitution and Statues while adding specific rules needed for local conditions.

Please note the hierarchial nature of the documents. While a lower document may explain and amplify aspects of a higher one, each must comply with their next superior document and no document may legally be inconsistent or out of compliance with the rest. Just as no state or city law can be out of compliance with the Federal Constitution.

Otherwise, knowingly or unknowingly, many kinds

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of mismanagement, some as serious as grand theft and/or felony fraud, may be engaged in by the organization's officers and inevitably damage the organization beyond repair.

If an organization is managed honestly, the constitutional structure will help to ensure the long term stability of the organization, even in the face of the most emotionally volatile of situations. These processes can allow the time and the opportunity for all relevant information to be discussed and the time necessary for thoughtful consideration by all.

As well as assisting the long term stability of the organization, this structure also gives the group short term protection against the type of unseemly manipulation that uses emotional incidents in attempts to unsettle the process and overwhelm the facts. History has given names to some of these people. Some are called quislings and others are called provocateurs.

Many people believe that all constitutions contain honest and fair rules and that the rules are always applied justly. In fact, the statement that some rule or action is "constitutional", for some people, is equivalent to saying that the same rule or action is unquestionably fair, honest and just.

Unfortunately, this is not always true. Many Constitutions have been constructed to contain provisions that "legalized" many terrible injustices. While other fair and just statutes, have been misused or otherwise circumvented (agreement by "resolution" within closed meetings is the tactic most often used to accomplish this end).

For example, a certain father and son on a certain Caribbean island included in their constitutions provisions that declared them "president for life", gave them unquestioned dictatorial authority and provided no financial safeguards.

The lack of safeguards literally created "licenses to steal", which these two used to move millions of dollars of the country's money into personal Swiss bank accounts, which in turn drove the island into bankruptcy. These incidents occurred many years ago and yet the island has not recovered. These types of activities constitute "constitutionalized crime".

The current boards and their lawyers have refiled AMORC's governing documents and instituted major changes in all of them.

When Ralph Lewis was alive and until early in last year (1991), AMORC's Articles of Incorporation contained passages stating that AMORC's purpose

was "To teach, foster and perpetuate the traditional principles of the Ancient Rosicrucians...", it then continued with a detailed exposition of that statement and the rules for the Board of Directors. All of this information was restated in the Constitution of the Supreme Grand Lodge.

Also included in the Articles were the following statements "THIRD: That the place where the principal business of said corporation is to be transacted and where its college or seminary is to be conducted is in the City of San Jose, County of Santa Clara, State of California. FOURTH: That the term for which said corporation is to exist is perpetual."

The original 1928 Supreme Grand Lodge corporation has been changed to the English Grand Lodge and The Supreme Grand Lodge filed as a new corporation in 1991.

When asked to describe the rationale behind the changes, every answer given was illogical, inconsistent with the law, with previous answers and/or with observed actions. The claim offered most often was that the changes would save the organization a great deal of money. When it was conclusively shown that the changes had unnecessarily cost many hundreds of thousands of dollars, Mr. Soderlund, Mr. Schaa, Mr. Bernard and the attorneys refused to discuss the matter further. The American membership, alone, has paid all of the costs.

Only a perfunctory reference to the Rosicrucians has been left in the Articles of Incorporation and they now only contain statements affirming AMORC's compliance with the law (standardized phrases called "boiler plate" that almost anyone could have put together from books on the subject and did not require the State's most expensive lawyers to compile).

Some of the original references to the Rosicrucians have been included in the Constitution. Most of the remainder of the current Constitution, again, consists of standardized phrases, that anyone could have researched from self-help books on the subject.

But, all references to maintaining AMORC perpetually or to maintaining AMORC's assets for the purposes of teaching the Rosicrucian Principles were completely removed.

In the new application for non-profit status, the SGL board and their lawyers swore an oath that, among other things, the headquarters would be maintained in San Jose, California.

But, the headquarters has been moved to Montreal, Canada, in violation of the governing documents, of the oaths sworn to State of California, and in direct contradiction to statements Christian Bernard swore to the officers and members on the occasion of his installation. Also, the move has not yet been officially reported to the State.

Directors are charged with the responsible management and oversight of the financial resources of an organization by law. They are to ensure that all of the assets are used for the purposes of the organization.

While the previous Articles, Constitution and Statutes contained provisions specifically for the handling of property and other assets of AMORC, the current documents have had those sections removed.

The current governing documents of the SGL state that the organization will give no grants or scholarships. The EGL Constitution is subordinate to, and is supposed to comply with, the governing documents of the SGL. And yet, the current EGL Constitution contains a provision to give grants. There are no guidelines as to the qualifications of the recipients or the uses of the grants. There are also no mechanisms for any reporting or tracking, none at all.

The current SGL Constitution contains within it Article VI, Section 4, Reports to Directors. The Section states that the Emperor shall provide a written report, to all directors, that contains certain financial items and the subsections list the items. Subsection "(5) Any transaction during the previous fiscal year involving Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) or more between this corporation and any director or officer..." This subsection contradicts and circumvents Article III, Section 12: Standard of Care and Section 13: Prohibited Transactions, B. Self-Dealing Transactions.

This provision allows the directors to engage in an unlimited number of self-dealing transactions (including grants to oneself) as long as they are \$49,999 or less. All of the transactions can be completed, totally unsupervised and unreported. Therefore, this section effectively neutralizes all financial safeguards and allows any type of activities to be hidden by using it. Such a section was never included in any past documents and should never be contained within a public benefit organization's documents.

In addition, AMORC's previous accounting firm, the highly respected Arthur Anderson and company, pointed out in their formal reports that most of the

normal financial safeguards and controls had been removed from AMORC's systems and insisted that they be replaced. In response, Christian Bernard, Irving Soderlund, Charles Parucker and Burnam Schaa fired Arthur Anderson and removed all of the remaining financial controls.

There is now nothing in place to ensure that the assets are used for the purposes of AMORC. Further, there is now nothing to stop anyone from removing all of the assets, putting them in their pocket and walking away.

As a result of the above, during the last three years most of AMORC's member staff has been removed and replaced by people who have neither experience working in non-profit organizations nor in the functions for which they have been hired. For some time now, these less-than-qualified people (most of whom are non-members) have been placed in charge of your assets and your monographs (violating the Emperor's Averment). These same non-members (most of whom are paid more than most of the member employees have ever been paid) also regularly serve the members badly.

If you wish to further explore examples of the above, ask Ms. Knutson to prove her claimed degree and Phi Beta Kappa, etc., ask Mr. "chief financial officer" John Hinton to prove his accounting background and claimed CPA (he joined AMORC after he was hired). Ask them what they have been paying themselves, both before and after the recent mostly member employee layoff. In the face of the continuing financial and management failures, ask them to document and justify salaries that are nearly double that of Ralph Lewis'.

The SGL board, two on the EGL board, their non-member attorneys and others, in essence, are leading an invasion into AMORC (an invasion of people who are behaving both covertly and overtly hostile to AMORC). Any question of their membership is not the issue. Many non-members have worked for AMORC for years and their performance has been exemplary. Everywhere the members of this group have worked within AMORC, they have left a trail of destruction behind them, and that is the issue.

The above violates all of the trust that the membership has placed in these officers.

All of the individuals who are aiding the boards to operate AMORC as if it were their own personal company, are profiting grandly (for example, the lawyers receive half to two thirds of your dues, on average, more than \$500,000 a year and their

services to AMORC amount to considerably less than that amount). To the best of my knowledge, only the thinnest minimal facade of AMORC's resources are being used for AMORC purposes, while the bulk of the available assets are being used for the personal benefit of a few individuals.

The above demonstrates how a badly constructed and poorly run constitution (especially one lacking financial controls) can damage an organization.

The Constitution for the Netherlands was changed to state that the Grand Lodge officers are appointed by the Emperor alone (as well as other inconsistencies). The SGL Constitution states that the SGL board is supposed to elect all of the Supreme and Grand Lodge board members and officers (including the Emperor). When Irene Beusekamp-Fabert (the Dutch Grand Master) was asked to comply with the SGL documents she refused and Christian Bernard, etc. refused to enforce compliance.

Therefore, after first manipulating the SGL documents and ousting Mr. Stewart; Mr. Bernard, etc., are now again changing the documents to a point where he cannot be removed, regardless of his behavior (president for life?).

During the discussions of these and other concerns, I was told by Mr. Bernard, Mr. Schaa, Mr. Soderlund and others that these concerns were all caused by Gary Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. O'Neill, Gary Kern, the attorneys and just about anyone and everyone who is no longer with the organization.

To the best of my knowledge, every one of the anti-AMORC employees that was hired, caused damage to the Park and then left, has sued and been rewarded with very large separation settlements.

To the best of my knowledge, the attorneys have "lost" these and every other significant lawsuit, costing the members hundreds of thousands of dollars in settlements and hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees. To the best of my knowledge, the attorneys have consistently put forth a less than effective fight for AMORC's benefit and yet they continue to be rewarded and praised for their work. I personally witnessed the board members and the attorneys take great pains to conceal this situation.

Mr. Schaa, Mr. Soderlund and Mr. Bernard complained bitterly and often about their lawyers causing this problem or that, and yet they consistently refused to replace the attorneys.

Even then, it was painfully clear that their statements were not factual. The problems continued then, and

continue now, unabated.

Their explanations and excuses are, of course, irrelevant. These people were in charge. They were afforded all of the authority needed to correctly manage the situation and yet they did not. The continued failures in AMORC's organization only serve to give weight to the argument that they either would not or could not manage the situation.

Regardless of the causes of the problems, the refusal to correct them, places full responsibility for the damages on the board members alone. They should, therefore, be required to reimburse AMORC for all of the losses.

To date, the only board members who have acted responsibly, according to the law, the Constitution and the best interests of AMORC, have been Warren Russeff (the only member of the board who attempted to stop GLS before the losses occurred and who was removed under false pretenses) (If Mr. Bernard, Mr. Bindon and Mr. Schaa had any integrity at all, they would have resigned in embarrassment for being so wantonly negligent as to allow the GLS scandal to occur); George Graham (whose reasons for resigning are similar to the concerns raised here and elsewhere in the Chronicles); and yours truly (who unearthed much of the current boards' questionable activities, confronted the board with the facts, gave them every fair opportunity to comply and was answered with refusals and personal threats (some of which the board has attempted to carry out)).

Many others, who were not on the board, also acted responsibly and in the best interests of AMORC. Most of these have also been removed, and removed under false pretenses. These members and non-members have shown great courage in resisting the destruction visited upon AMORC. If you know any of those to whom I refer, make it a point to tell them how much you appreciate their sacrifices. Most of them have been savaged by the anti-AMORC people and their minions, and many are still unemployed.

There is one final question to consider concerning the governing documents. That is, even if the documents are flawed, can the current officers be relied upon to act responsibly and rise above the flaws?

First, consider that the current boards have worked so very hard to put the inconsistencies in place and to keep them there.

Second, consider the track record of negligence and destruction. Burnam Schaa was the Treasurer and Secretary/Treasurer during the GLS scandal. Mr.

Schaa signed all of the loan documents, effectively making him more responsible than GLS, yet he is still on the board (Christian Bernard and Peter Bindon were also on the board at that time and are equally responsible). There are also a large number of unanswered questions concerning bequests which Mr. Schaa personally managed and questions concerning the removal of the financial safeguards. Yet, all the while, Mr. Bernard's Swiss and other bank accounts grow. Yet, none of these officers have been held accountable for anything (remember the father and son in the Caribbean?).

AMORC is, supposed to be, a Public Benefit organization, not a "Christian Bernard benefit organization".

Finally, consider the large number of statements that board members have made to officers, members and government officials that have revealed themselves to be false and misleading.

The current boards are in full knowledge of all of the concerns that have been raised here and were given more than fair opportunity to rectify the situation. Their refusal to fulfill their obligations as directors constitutes a direct violation of the law, the Constitution and their oaths as members and officers; as well as automatically and sufficiently disqualifying them as officers, directors and members of AMORC.

We have examined some of the theoretical and practical purposes of Constitutions, etc. and have seen that they can be powerful tools for good or terrible weapons of destruction. As is true for all tools, it is a person's use or misuse of a tool that solely determines the result.

These comments will, perhaps, also serve as the beginning of a discussion and future formulation of a new Constitution. A Constitution that will complete the democratizing process begun long ago, when Lodge Mastership was transformed from a lifetime position appointed by a Grand Master to a one year term elected by the board of a local Lodge.

Coming up in the next issue:

Empowering the Membership--a change from Autocracy to Democracy

By Susanne Mohs Boyer, F.R.C.

Reflections...

Martinist Affiliations

By Curt Warren, F.R.C.

Letters from the Readers

"...That (name) having been motivated by Cosmic impulse, has generously contributed to a fund for the erection of a beautiful, symbolic edifice, to serve and perpetuate the Supreme Temple of the Ancient Mystical Order Rosae Crucis."

"To serve and perpetuate", Christian; not be carried around like some supernal aura. Have you forgotten your own address at your so-called installation? You spoke of your first visit to the Supreme Temple twenty-five years earlier when Ralph Lewis escorted you into it. You said it was one of the most memorable events of your life. Why should you think that others do not or would not feel the same way? What Grand Temple has the same mystique, the same symbolic value?

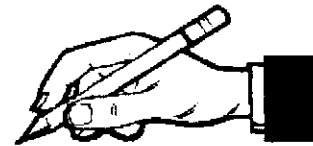
On the Shekinah of the Supreme Temple stands a simple spunbrass orb containing sand collected by Dr. H. Spencer Lewis from the mystical sites in Egypt. This orb symbolizes the physical center of the Rosicrucian Order. It did not travel with the Imperators. And what shall we do with the Supreme Colombe? Perhaps we should send her on Christian's trips with a suitcase in one hand and the orb in the other?.

Christian's actions are not unlike comparing a Pope, upon taking office, removing the Vatican Library (AMORC's archives) and the Throne of St. Peter from Rome to Warsaw. A particularly apt illustration from history recalls a time when there were two Popes; one in Rome and the other in Avignon, France. Church history refers to this time as the Babylonish Captivity of the Papacy. Perhaps one day, Rosicrucian history will refer to this time-- our time-- as the Babylonish Captivity of the Imperatorship.

A month ago, in the September 2nd issue of the Rosicrucian Chronicles, the Imperator's Averment was published. This is the document to be signed prior to the installation of an Imperator. And, the question was raised: Did Christian sign it? TO date, as far as we know, the silence from Paris and San Jose has been deafening. The question has not been answered. In the absence of documentation to the contrary, we can only assume that Christian Bernard was (to be extremely generous) irregularly installed. Since the transition of Ralph M. Lewis on January 12, 1987, it seems that we have not had a legitimate Imperator; and, all items of a doctrinal and ritualistic nature since that time have no validity.

Where the membership has been led to believe that the leadership of the Order is in synch with a Celestial Hierarchy--leadership by a mystical aristocracy-- it has, of late, been led by little more than a collective of peasants with an attitude!

Letters from the Readers



A Soror from Pennsylvania writes:

This is incredible! We survived the Gary Stewart schism - now we have this! Where our beloved HS Lewis restored the worldwide Order, he created a worldwide center for the Order. Like the UN bldg in NY, or the Vatican in Rome.

Yes, the English Grand Lodge should be independent, BUT, it must remain the caretakers of Rosicrucian Park. The Pope is both the Bishop of Rome and the head of the worldwide church, and, despite his nationality works out of Rome. As must it be with the our Park. If the Imperator is unwilling to reside in the Rosicrucian Central Headquarter, let him resign the position to someone who is willing!! If the Imperator is to work out of the Grand Lodge of his (or her) own native country, then there is no need for a central headquarter and the Park should be given over fully to the English Grand Lodge.

A Frater from California writes:

Thank you for the first issue of the Chronicles. I am concerned for the Order and want to stay well informed. Looking forward to more information. Thank you.

A Frater from New Mexico writes:

I just received and read your first copy of The Rosicrucian Chronicles. With all the recent going on with Gary Stewart, the restructuring of the Grand Lodges, and the change of the Supreme Grand Lodge to Canada, etc. I and I believe a great many other Rosicrucians are subjected to a great many rumors, and are simply at a loss as to where the future or the truth lays. The Order suffered great membership loses because of these upheavals, but more importantly the Order suffered a great loss of trust and respect. I see no great effort by the Supreme or Grand Lodges to ease this confusion or to restore lost confidence. This lack of action leads to additional rumor, speculation, distrust and greater

Letters from the Readers...
(continues on page 7)

confusion. What the Order needs desperately is its own version of Glastnost, or openness, without which I too fear for the future of Rosicrucianism in America. While I applaud and support unbiased efforts to inform the membership, I find it quite sad that this effort has to come from the efforts of individual members.

Also one last comment. To be well informed is great, but seeing as we, the individual membership, have no say in these going on, I have to really wonder the value of being informed.

The End



by
Susanne Mohs Boyer, F.R.C.

Introducing: The S.E.T.I.

(Safeguard of the Traditional and Initiatic Teachings)

We have received information that apparently there is a similar group of concerned Rosicrucians active in France. We have anonymously received copies of two S.E.T.I. newsletters and various articles from French newspapers.

The Grand Counselor and the Regional Monitors of the Poitou-Charents region, having discovered at the time of the 1989 Convention that the actions of the leaders of AMORC were contrary to the Rose-Cross ideal, resigned voluntarily from their duties.

The S.E.T.I. say that they hope to create a "hold on conscience" at the highest level of the Organization. According to S.E.T.I., "the President for Life," Christian Bernard has worked hard to discredit them. Further more, "In spite of rumors and numerous attempts of intimidation many Rosicrucians rallied around the courage and will of the founders of S.E.T.I., whose primary aim remains to Safeguard the Traditional and Initiatic Teachings."

In 1990 the S.E.T.I. claim they informed their readers of the financial scandal, which lead to the eviction of Gary Stewart. These facts were bitterly denied by those who, for unconfessed reasons, tried to hide the truth from the members.

In 1991 the S.E.T.I was informed by correspondents at the Parisian Newspaper ("The Parisian") that

investigations concerning fiscal fraud had taken place at the homes of former and present leaders of AMORC in France.

The following is a quote from one of the several newspaper articles (enclosed with the S.E.T.I. newsletters):

"The Rosicrucians teach their members how to live in harmony with the Cosmic laws, but apparently they do not respect the laws of the Republic. The Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis (AMORC) is in fact engaged in commercial activities...but they have omitted to declare them to the Fisc [tax authorities]....At this hour, at the Chateau d'Omonville, an officer denies having undergone a fiscal investigation: 'We simply were the object of a fiscal control, like everyone else,' affirms an officer. Affairs are not very worthy of some supposed ancient members of the Order who have the name of Leonardo da Vinci or Napoleon I".

-The Parisian July 18, 1991

The R+C Chronicles will continue to follow the S.E.T.I. and share our findings with our the readers. We have sent copies of the R+C Chronicles to the S.E.T.I.

Confidential Mailing list

Members have asked us to keep their subscription to the R+C Chronicles confidential. We want to emphasize that the R+C Chronicles mailing list have been, and will continue to be confidential. We keep the names of persons submitting letters and articles confidential, unless otherwise instructed by the author.

125 new subscribers!

The R+C Chronicles have added 125 new readers to our mailing list during the last two months. We are very grateful for the interest in the R+C Chronicles and for the donations of funds and stamps we have received. So far these donation have covered the printing and mailing costs. We want to continue to mail to all interested readers and therefore we encourage all readers to contribute stamps to cover the postage cost of their own newsletter.

The R+C Chronicles is an open forum. Your response is important! Share your vision for our Order or voice your concern. We are confident that the R+C Chronicles is being read.

Rosicrucian Chronicles

Serving the Ideals of the Rosicrucian Movement

In this issue:

Empowering the Membership...page 1,2 & 3

Reflections... page 1,4 & 5
Martinist Affiliations and new information on the Emperor's Averment

Letters from the Readers... page 5,6 & 7

Empowering the Membership **- a change from Autocracy to Democracy**

By Susanne Mohs Boyer, F.R.C.

Part I

The membership of AMORC needs direct control of the organization itself. We fund its operations with our dues and donations, but we have no control. It is like we have bought a car, and being members in good standing we can jump in the back seat and enjoy the ride quietly, but we are not allowed to question the abilities of the driver. Nor can we decide which route to take to reach our destination. Do you like the current route the AMORC "car" has taken? Are you looking forward to a lifetime of Bernard in the driver's seat? It is time to take the Order back, because they aren't going to give it to us. If we have the courage to change, what can we do about it?

I wish to emphasize that this article does not question our Rosicrucian spiritual heritage and documents, the Lewis' teachings or the ritual doctrines, which I hold in the highest regards and strongly promote in my RCUI classes. I am questioning the wisdom of having an organizational structure, which puts the Order in jeopardy. The purpose of AMORC is very clear: "To teach, foster, and perpetuate the traditional principles and laws of the Ancient Rosicrucians...to foster the spirit of brotherhood and understanding among men...."

Constitution of the Supreme Grand Lodge

Empowering the Membership...
Continues on page 2

Reflections...

By Curt Warren, F.R.C.

Thoughts, opinions and reminiscences of a student on the Path

In the September 2nd issue of the Rosicrucian Chronicles, we published the Emperor's Averment; a document to be signed prior to the installation of an Emperor. In that issue, I raised the question whether or not either Gary Stewart or Christian Bernard had ever signed it; raised the question of the legitimacy of the Emperorship.

A correspondent to the Rosicrucian Chronicles-- with whom I am personally acquainted and who prefers to remain anonymous-- has most kindly provided us with the following information:

"Page 567 of the SGL minutes, entitled SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUPREME GRAND LODGE OF AMORC, INC., FRIDAY - JANUARY 23, 1987 - 8:45 AM says as follows:

"The Emperor (GLS) then announced that he was required to sign an Emperor's Averment, as stated in the minutes of the Board of Directors of the Supreme Grand Lodge, at a meeting held on July 12, 1984. Having then signed it, he referred it to the official Document Book held in the Emperor's office for filing."

"Of course, those minutes are signed by all officers

Reflections...Continues on page 4

The next newsletter will be published on December 2, 1992. To receive your copy, please send a self addressed stamped envelope (or stamps) to the following address:

Rosicrucian Chronicles
P.O. Box 111891
Campbell, CA 95011-1891

But what is the best route for the AMORC "car" to take? Will the "car" ever get there at this rate? Do we take the route via the Domain of Silence in Canada and Chateau d'Omonville in France?

The nature of autocracy

AMORC is run as an autocratic organization. What is autocracy? Webster's defines it as: "Absolute power or authority of one person over others. Supreme, uncontrolled, unlimited authority or right of governing, held by one person; dictatorship and despotism." This unlimited, uncontrollable, supreme power belongs to the driver in the front seat, Christian Bernard and his rubber stamp Supreme Board.

The fact is there is neither incentive nor punishment for the autocratic leadership to share its information with the membership, because incentive and punishment comes from the top. For example, what were the justifications for the removal of board members with dissenting opinions (O'Neill,

Russeff, and Thompson) ?.

If the Board chooses to release information (accurate or not) to the membership, it is still not equal to empowerment, because the Grand Masters and Board members are not accountable to the membership.

Miss Knutson said in her second letter to the membership of June 15, 1991:

"We were as a group very trusting. I think we honestly felt something like this could never happen just because we are the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC - that somehow the high ideals and principles of our studies would of themselves protect us. And because of that simple trust, I believe many of us failed to involve ourselves as we might have in the objective, material and mundane operations of our Order."

We are still being asked to trust the information we receive as the truth and we have no means of checking it ourselves. If all is in order, why can't it be presented in the open?

Miss Knutson continues:

" - we are opening up this organization to you, so that you can hold us accountable and help us to operate in accordance with Rosicrucian principles. As members, you have the right to participate actively in our work - and you cannot do so without information."

When Miss Knutson entered into office, March 1991, she promised in her letter of June 15, 1991: "...the Board of Directors of the English Grand Lodge has resolved that an audit of our financial and administrative affairs be performed annually by a group of qualified members, with their report to be published in the Rosicrucian Digest." Have you seen any report? We have received lengthy letters from Miss Knutson, but have not seen a financial report audited by a disinterested auditing firm. But then again we have to have your permission for that don't we?

Today, over two and a half years after Bernard took the drivers seat of the AMORC "car," there are no checks and balances in place. There is still no accountability for economical and organizational changes in AMORC.

Some words from the driver

"It is always with honeyed words, in the name of tolerance, liberty, and love, that dishonest people seek to infiltrate our Order..." Bernard's Installation Speech, printed in the special edition of Forum 1991.

Rosicrucian Chronicles

Serving the Ideals of the Rosicrucian Movement

The Rosicrucian Chronicles is published monthly by the following Rosicrucians:

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 Susanne Mohs Boyer, F.R.C.
 Nancy Ste. Vigne-Warren, F.R.C.
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Any opinion expressed in this newsletter is that of the individual author, who is solely responsible for the content and views presented herein.

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Thank you for your support

R+C Chronicles

In Mr. Bernard's opinion, I probably belong to this category, because I question the organizational structure and the capabilities of the Board from the back seat and I believe it is a good idea for the membership to be empowered. My main concern is: If the Supreme Board does not act for the best interests of AMORC, should there not be a way for the membership to intervene? I cannot imagine that it was Dr. Lewis' intention to leave the membership powerless. With his constitution, he sought to protect AMORC against destroying forces from the outside. He couldn't imagine the destruction coming from inside at the executive level, and it has proven to be the most destructive force of all. How is the Order protected against destructive leadership? When no one has the right to ask questions and demand answers? The Supreme board is not the check and balance of the Emperor and the executive committee. They are part of the board and cannot be expected to investigate and control themselves.

From a Stewart to a Bernard

"I have been studying how I may compare..."

William Shakespeare - Richard II

After the Gary Stewart epoch the membership was in shock. How could a systematic deterioration of AMORC take place, when the Board is responsible for supervising the administration of AMORC? Soon after Gary's installation, members saw the effect of Stewart's true nature and started to voice their concerns. Some did it openly and were ousted. Others did it in the unsigned hierarchy letters. But what did the members of the Board do? They allowed the Stewart follies to continue for years, until Stewart transferred money out of the country. They finally intervened when they saw their financial prosperity transferred to Andorra, but they remained members of the Board. Were they ever held accountable and responsible to the Order and its membership? The question is: Are we better off today?

The Grand Masters became Board members

In the special edition of the Forum of 1991, quoting from the Letter column to the Grand Master, H.C.J., Grand Councilor Emeritus writes: "...Times are changing and autocratic systems everywhere are being displaced with more democratic ones. Having all the Grand Masters on the Supreme Council seems to be in harmony with this universal phenomenon...."

Yes, the Grand Masters have become board members, but the old guard (Bernard, Schaa and Bindon) are still there and helped Bernard take the Presidency of the Supreme Grand Lodge. The new board members were novices in the hands of the far

more experienced board members. To this day, to the best of my knowledge, there has not been a full investigation into the operations of AMORC during the Stewart epoch. A fraud audit was said to be in progress, but we have never heard the outcome. Further more, it was the board itself that was in charge of investigating the allegations about itself. How could they address these issues, and not at the same time answer for the question of their own competency?

New Grand Masters and Board Members are hand picked by Bernard and his board, so where is the incentives to question the policies and decisions? Supreme Secretary Thompson raised issues, and he was removed from the Board.

Bernard's record

Many things have happened to the Rosicrucian Order since Bernard took the office of President: the division of the English Grand Lodge, the move of the Supreme Grand Lodge to Canada, the down Grating of the Supreme Temple, the assumption of the Italian and Spanish Grand Lodges by the French Grand Lodge and there's probably a lot I have missed.

Is this the route AMORC should take to promote the enlightenment of its membership? We aren't even enjoying the ride from the back seat any more. We are behind the "car" pushing as hard as we can.

The process of democratization

Democracy is defined as, Government by the people, either directly or through elected representatives. Majority rule. It is a safeguard of the best interest of the Order.

As described in the article, "Discussing the Constitution and Bylaws" in the last issue, Secretary of the Supreme Board Kenneth Thompson said that Constitutions are: "...powerful tools for good or terrible weapons of destruction....".

In part II, we will begin the discussion of how the constitution of AMORC should be changed to benefit the membership and the organization as a whole.

We invite our readers to join the debate. We wish to hear from you with your suggestions or even if you wish to defend the current constitution. We can work this out, come to a consensus and present these changes to the Supreme Board.

The End

of that time, confirming the historical validity of the above citation."

In the same September 2nd issue, I had mentioned that to the best of their recollection, neither Supreme Archivist Warren Russeff nor Supreme Secretary Kenneth Thompson had ever seen either Gary's or Christian's Averment. On this, my correspondent says:

"I doubt that Warren would have seen it, because Gary's trust in anyone was quickly eroded by the Hierarchy letters;" , and "As for Ken Thompson seeing the Averment, he simply came into such a position far too late in the game to have had the opportunity."

I wish to publically thank our correspondent for providing us with this material; and, to emphasize to our readership, that we always strive to present the best available information in our search for truth. I withdraw my question as to Gary's legitimacy at this time although it is now moot inasmuch as Gary served at the pleasure of the Board and was subsequently removed from office by that same Board. But, I still raise the challenge to Christian's appointment.

On this point, my correspondent had this to say: "As for Christian and the Averment, he never signed one. Nor did he stick with the Emperor's installation formulated by Ralph Lewis. GLS was the first and only Emperor installed as RML dictated. Christian used that terribly bizarre aberration of the Germanic imagination loosed on the world by Wilhelm Raab."

Subsequent to the receipt of my correspondent's material, I have had the opportunity to verify the Board meeting minutes from an independent source; and, I find that the signatories to those minutes were: Gary L. Stewart, Arthur C. Piepenbrink, Cecil A. Poole, Burnam Schaa, and ... Christian Bernard. There is absolutely no question now that Christian knew that an Averment had to be signed prior to installation. I raise the same question now that I did two months ago: Did Christian sign the Averment? If so, send us a copy; we'll print it. If not, what is the Board of Directors of the Supreme Grand Lodge of AMORC, Inc. doing about it?

Until the receipt of the Averment material, I had originally planned this month's column to focus on Martinist affiliation. In the space left, I shall only comment on a single issue, which is best expressed in quote from A Martinist Treasury (by Trophimus, S.I.I. (pseud.); distributed by The Martinist Information Service, Greeley, Colorado,) on page 63:

"Luckily for Stewart, Poole also provided Stewart with a 'Certificate of Free Initiation' which clearly states that Stewart received the Fourth Degree. The document is dated May 22, 1987 and does not appear to be a forgery. Photocopies of both documents are in the archives of The Martinist Information Service. The problem that these documents do not solve is - did Cecil Poole hold the Fourth Degree?"

This problem, of interest to Martinist historians in general and to Christian Bernard in particular, revolves around the issue of the legitimate initiation of our late Vice-President Cecil A. Poole. It has already been documented that Gary Stewart received his initiation from Poole; and, from Gary, it was conferred on Christian. When Christian took control, he literally ransacked Rosicrucian Park looking for Poole's document. Failing to find it, he rooted out of decades-long retirement, Orval Graves, to provide a 'new' validation. Today Christian initiates under the Martinist code BRNRD/G-26 and the mystic name Phenix.

To digress for a minute, AMORC membership should be aware that the historical documents and the files of our late Emperors, H. Spencer and Ralph Lewis, are no longer at Rosicrucian Park. They are squirreled away somewhere in France due to the excessive zeal of Christian's archivist", an odd little character named Jean Louis Abraham who spent long hours at night in Rosicrucian Park ferreting out every scrap of paper of historical interest... and books, too. I can say from personal knowledge that the rare books remaining in the Planetarium vault are far short of what the original Shelf List would indicate should be there. Having watched him in action, my personal opinion is that Jean Louis is eminently qualified to play "Igor" in a Frankenstein movie; loving the darkness in which to rummage around in dead men's papers, seeking to secrete the truth from all for his Master.

The removal of the historical material and books from Rosicrucian Park was not handled according to proper archival procedures. No physical inventory of the books and documents was made at the time; no photographs or copies made of the material to insure a protection-copy in case of loss in transit or otherwise. In short, everything was just boxed up wholesale and shipped to France.

Unfortunately for Christian and "Igor", and fortunately for the membership, there are probably a dozen people that I can think of that probably have a file drawer or more of odd bits and pieces of historical material and document copies. Most of these people were connected with the International Rosicrucian Historical Council, a group that

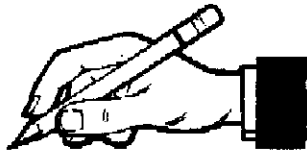
Reflections...

Continued from page 4

Christian tried to merge into the International Research Council. But, since Christian has not established his right to the Imperatorship, the remnant members of the IRHC are now like the 47 Ronin of Japanese tradition; that is, like masterless Samurai, they owe their pledges to a now-dead leader.

One of the document copies now held in trust for the membership is Cecil Poole's initiation. I have personally seen the original... and, I know where a copy resides. Fortunately or unfortunately, Gary Stewart's TMO Martinist rights are as valid as Cristian Bernard's. Each of them can legitimately claim to be a Sovereign Grand Master of a Traditional Martinist Order. But then, so can anyone else that holds the status of a Free Initiator.

Letters from the Readers



A Soror from Texas writes:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your newsletter.

I was quite upset, after then installation of the new Imperator, when I felt the energies leave Rosicrucian Park. The people responsible for the installation of a Frenchman should have known that the first thing he would do would be to steal the Supreme See! And that is exactly what he did! Perhaps they wanted to brake our Order apart and that is exactly what they did.

I am not a Gary Stewart fan, nor a member of his tacky little replica of AMORC. All they know how to do is copy the Lewis monographs....

A Frater in California writes:

I would like to share the following comments

with your readers:

Considering the poor performance of the Supreme Grand Lodge during the 1980s, where they gave the Order to a person who was not qualified to be a Rosicrucian much less an Imperator, and now we have a new Imperator who has arbitrarily decided to move the Imperator position to France, move the Sovereign Sanctuary to Canada, Chop up all the Grand Lodges so that few can survive, and denigrate our Supreme Temple to "Grand Temple".

All of this points out the real need to democratize the Rosicrucian Order by allowing the general membership to vote and decide on all major issues. This change is necessary because the current crop of Officers do not have the same high degree of attunement to the Cosmic that the Lewis's had.

Therefore, I propose that the Rosicrucian Constitution be amended to allow for the following:

I. Officer Recall

Every year a general membership confidence vote will be taken. If an Imperator, Grand Master or other Officer no longer has the confidence of the majority of the members, then that person will be removed from office.

II. Referendum

All decisions and decrees made by the Imperator and / or the Supreme Grand Lodge must be approved by a majority vote of all the members. All major decisions of the Grand Master must be approved by a majority of the general members of the Grand Lodge Jurisdiction.

III. Propositions

Any new idea being proposed by a member that has the signature of 1,000 members must be presented to the general membership. This proposition must then be accepted and acted upon if approved by a majority of the membership.

IV. Officer Election

Any Imperator, Grand Master or other officer before being appointed must be confirmed by a majority of the general membership.

V.

Any Rosicrucian Property, both Real Estate and otherwise, will be entrusted to the Grand Lodge Officers on behalf of the members of that Grand Lodge where the property is located. Any transfer of these assets must be approved by the Supreme Grand Lodge and a majority of the membership.

VI.

The Sovereign See of the Rosicrucian Order shall remain within this country until the 108 year cycle has concluded. San Jose is the best place for now but an alternate back up site in another region of this country should also be prepared just in case.

As we enact these much needed reforms the Order will be strengthened to survive the times ahead.

The following open letter was written by Susanne Mohs, in response to a letter she recieved from the membership Committee, dated September 30, 1992. (The Membership Commttee's letter is provided on page 7).

Open letter to the Membership Committee,
Rosicrucian Order AMORC
1342 Naglee Ave
San Jose, CA 95191

October 31, 1992

To whom it may concern:

Having receive your letter dated September 30, 1992, it is surprising that a serious matter such as an "ousting" is done with an unsigned letter. I am not only a long time member, I am also a member of the IRC, a RCUI instructor and a former employee.

The letter contain a vague accusation reading: "In light of the concerns you have been expressing about AMORC, we are somewhat surprised that you wish to continue as a member..."

What precisely have I expressed, that justifies you to react this way?

The letter is a clear indication of the policies for the handling of members with dissenting opinions to that of AMORC's administration. Obviously any opinion not in agreement with that of the administration/board at any given point is viewed as a threat. Your letter and my answer is published in the Rosicrucian Chronicles to give the readers a concrete example on AMORC's failed fraternal policies in action. Why is it not possible to remain a dues paying member and debate issues in the open?.

When I joined the Order, I did not leave my inquiring mind outside the threshold. Nor did I at any point in time take any oaths giving up my right of free speech, ask question and seek answers.

The membership committee asks me to write; "...a brief explanation of the specific concerns you have been expressing about AMORC, and also state why, in light of this, you still wish to continue as a member..." My concerns are expressed here in a nutshell: I am having to justify that I expressed myself openly! There is no need for me to restate the reasons I had for joining the Order, they are the same. They are the reasons why I am a Rosicrucian and that will not change, whether I am a dues paying member of AMORC or not. I challenge the Membership Committee to produce a reason for suspending my membership.

Sincerely and fraternally I am

Susanne Mohs, F.R.C.

In order to strengthen our network we encourage you to copy this newsletter and send it to Rosicrucians (active or not) whom you know.



The Rosicrucian Order

Known as "THE ANCIENT, MYSTICAL ORDER ROSAE CRUCIS" throughout the world

1342 Naglee Ave., San Jose, California 95191, U.S.A.

September 30, 1992

Ms Susanne Nyhegn Mohs

Dear Soror Mohs:

We are in receipt of your recent remittance, and wish to make an inquiry before accepting this check. The check arrived alone in an unmarked envelope, with no instructions as to what you wish it used for. Since it is for \$48.00, we are assuming it should be designated as a dues payment. We are, therefore, returning your check to you at this time.

In light of the concerns you have been expressing about AMORC, we are somewhat surprised that you wish to continue as a member. As viewed by us, your actions speak otherwise, and we want to be certain that we can provide you with what you need.

Please write a brief explanation of the specific concerns you have been expressing about AMORC, and also state why, in light of this, you still wish to continue as a member of AMORC. This will assist us in determining whether or not we feel you can continue to benefit from membership. After receiving your explanation, we will inform you of our decision.

With best wishes for Peace Profound, I am,

Sincerely and fraternally,
ROSICRUCIAN ORDER, AMORC

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



A worldwide nonsectarian and nonpolitical fraternity devoted to the investigation and study of the higher principles of life as found expressed in man and nature

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Rosicrucian Chronicles

Serving the Ideals of the Rosicrucian Movement

In this issue:

Observing the Laws of the Rosicrucians

Reflections...

A Perspective on Martinist History

Observations on the Laws of the Rosicrucians

By: Kenneth A. Thompson, F.R.C.

First, one note about the current AMORC, AMORC is officially no longer registered as a fraternal organization, and it no longer claims to perpetuate the Rosicrucian Teachings. AMORC is now officially registered only as an educational organization that has pledged to educate the public about the Rosicrucians, nothing else. All that they are now required to do is to distribute any book or pamphlet that mentions the Rosicrucians, factual or not. In its advertising, AMORC claims to be a cultural organization and in its bulletin to the members it claims to be a charitable organization. It is none of these things. AMORC is not pledged to obey the laws governing charitable organizations, nor is it complying with those laws, contrary to all claims otherwise.

One of the laws of the Rosicrucians, as outlined by Michael Maier, states that members are to find someone to replace them before they pass through transition. Emperor Ralph Lewis was keenly aware of the need to fulfill this rule. He was just as keenly aware of the importance of providing for a smooth transition of authority. Both of these tasks he had planned to accomplish before his transition.

Unfortunately, long before Frater Lewis needed a successor, many around him had begun to see themselves as Emperor (Burnam Schaa, Christian Bernard, Sandra Huff to name a few). These people's actions resulted in the attempt undermine AMORC

Observations on the Laws of the Rosicrucians.. Continues on page 2

Reflections...

By Curt Warren, F.R.C.

Thoughts, opinions and reminiscences of a student on the Path.

A Perspective on Martinist History

(Part One of Three Parts)

Generally, most branches of the Martinist Order trace their origins to the appearance of Martinez de Pasqualley in the middle of the 18th Century; and, the name--Martinist--from Pasqualley's disciple Louis Claude de San Martin. Subsequent history, after Pasqualley, traces the work from San Martin and Jean-Baptiste Willermoz to Gerard Encausse (Papus), who revitalized the Order circa 1882-91.

But, which Pasqually? There were two of them: father and son. While it was the son, Don Martinez de Pasqualley, who operated the superior Masonic rite known as Elus Cohen or more precisely, the Ordre des Chevaliers Elus Cohens de l'Universe, he did so under a patent issued to his father, also apparently named Don Martinez de Pasqualley. The son settled in Bordeaux in 1762; and, a year later informed the Grand Lodge of France that he had erected "a Temple to the Glory of the Grand Architect which includes 5 perfect orders (or degrees) of Perfection of which I am the trustee under the constitution of Charles Stuart, King of Scotland, Ireland and England, Grand Master of all lodges, spread over the whole world, this day, under the protection of George William, King of Great

Reflections...continues on page 3

The next newsletter will be published on January 2, 1993. To receive your copy, please send a self addressed stamped envelope (or stamps, which we prefer) to the following address:

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and to frustrate Frater Lewis' process of selection.

When it had become clear that Frater Lewis' strength was failing, several of the above attempted to pressure Emperor Lewis into naming them as his successor. Frater Lewis had discerned these individuals' true natures and would not name any of them as successor. In retaliation, these individuals created a climate of confusion in order to force Mr. Lewis to formally give the choice of succession to the remaining board.

Several years ago, after discovering that he would not be chosen as Emperor, Raymond Bernard proposed to the SGL Board that they continue selecting Americans as Emperor until the end of the 108 year cycle (2023 A.D.). It was then that R. Bernard planned and created his new organizations (CIRCES, etc.) in order to begin drawing financial resources away from AMORC. Later, R. Bernard wrote to Frater Lewis and stated that Christian Bernard (Raymond's son) should never be the Emperor. R. Bernard then instructed Irving Soderland and C.

Bernard to begin telling the Grand Masters that the American Emperor idea was Frater Lewis' alone and that the idea was a personal insult to them. The purpose of this and other rumor spreading was to create disaffection among the remaining Grand Masters and the other jurisdictions and to begin drawing human resources away from AMORC.

Another example is the process of alienation and disaffection created between TMO, the Martinist Orders in France and elsewhere. The Bernards were in the best position to heal these problems and were given the opportunity to do so. Yet, every time that these two did not get their way, the Martinist controversy escalated. In America this is referred to as a "protection racket". Emperor Lewis had also been aware of the "creative accounting" techniques used by Burnam Schaa while handling certain bequests to the Order. At about the same time, Burnam discovered that he also was not being considered as Frater Lewis' successor.

Christian and company, intended to organize a successful coup d'etat and so, therefore, they took great care to set someone up that they were certain to be able to knock down. Gary Stewart provided an ideal choice. He is untrained and inexperienced in organizational management and he was gullible enough to be manipulated by them. Raymond Bernard vacated the Board in order to make a place for Mr. Stewart and Christian Bernard pushed for his promotion. The de Nicholas/money transfer fiasco was created by Irving, Burnam, Peter, etc.. They ambushed Gary by convinced him that the loan and transfer were the right things to do. Christian wanted the millions in Europe where he could get his hands on it. Tony de Nicholas is the one who joined and then was promoted to Spanish Grand Master after three months in the Order.

While Mr. Stewart was in office, he was unaware that his staff members were being chosen for him and that the Park was and is being operated by remote control. During this period, many members noted the sudden influx of new employees, all of whom were inappropriate to the Park - disagreeable, uneducated and unsavory people.

In fact, these people were placed at the Park with the aid of Mr. Salerno. When Peter Bindon and Wilhelm Raab were informed of the malicious and unscrupulous methods of George Salerno, they could not contain their delight. They stated that they owed a great debt to this Salerno. Indebted to Salerno for savaging and otherwise mistreating hundreds of loyal members and employees? Certainly a unique expression of the fraternal spirit. These same people have been claiming loudly and often that they are not

Rosicrucian Chronicles

Serving the Ideals of the Rosicrucian Movement

The Rosicrucian Chronicles is published monthly by the following Rosicrucians:

Roselyn Beuchat, F.R.C.
 Susanne Mohs Boyer, F.R.C.
 Nancy Ste. Vigne-Warren, F.R.C.
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 Curt Warren, F.R.C.

Any opinion expressed in this newsletter is that of the individual author, who is solely responsible for the content and views presented herein.

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interfering with the Park and all the while they have been interfering just as much as they possibly can.

This group has also revealed itself to be thoroughly racist and have connections with the same racist neo-nazi groups that are causing the current violence in Germany. As just one example of the racism of this group, please note that they have demoted Kenneth Idioidi of Nigeria. They have done so because he is a black-African and because he has been so successful. The truth is that Frater Idioidi has accomplished more for the Order than all of the European Grand Masters combined.

Frater Idioidi should have been promoted to Grand Master long ago. The author worked long and hard for his promotion and was refused. Given the first opportunity, let me assure Frater Idioidi that he will be recognized as Grand Master.

If the reader has been keeping up with current events, please note that a single official of the F.C. has nearly sent the entire world into a trade war and global depression. He was willing to make the whole world suffer in order to increase his own personal gain. Therefore, do not think it too unlikely that others would do the same to the Order.

All of the above is thoroughly contrary to the Teachings of the Masters and common decency. These individuals are acting in this manner because their true loyalties have belonged outside of the Order for many years. They have existed within the Order as quislings and provocateurs. For an interesting lesson in history and politics, please, go to your dictionary, look up the word "provocateur" and especially the word "quisling". No genuine student could act in this manner. AMORC is not now being governed by the Initiates.

This group thought that Frater Lewis was unaware of the manipulations going on around him. He would look into the faces of those in whom he had placed his trust, listen to their transparent deceptions and feel his heart break. This is the main reason that he sometimes seemed impatient or distracted or surly toward the end.

Fortunately, for all sincere students on the Path, Frater Lewis made other plans for his succession and for the perpetuation of the Order, all of which remain in place and unknown to the pretenders. All those that have been false and self serving have been allowed to act according to their true natures. In this manner, they are bringing the complete karmic consequences upon themselves.

Because of the above examples and many other acts,

the Great White Lodge and Brotherhood cannot give their support to any endeavor that contains any of these types of individuals. Therefore, the Great White lodge has withdrawn its support from AMORC.

It will soon be the time to begin discussing the preparations by Emperor Lewis and the Masters. Some of our readers have asked why this has happened. The analogy that best explains the situation is that of smelting metal. Some kind of ore is placed in the Crucible and the heat is turned up until the slag floats to the top. The Alchemist then skims off the slag and what remains is the Pure Metal. It is time to skim the slag off of the top.

The End

Reflections... (Continued from page 1)

Britain, and under the title of the Grand Lodge of the Chosen Scotch Perfection." At the same time, he transmitted to the Grand Lodge of France an English copy of the patent issued to his father on May 20th, 1738, by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Stuart, with the power of transmitting it to his eldest son. So, to repeat: to which Pasqualley does Martinism depend? Father or son? And, if it was a developed system as indicated, who and what were the precedents behind the Pasqualleys? Martinist history is woefully lacking in this area of research. Of course, does it really matter? The only true criteria for the legitimacy of a mystical/occult order has always lain in the Latin word Opus, the Work. Who has the Work; documents are hollow without it, and the Work stands alone on its own intrinsic value as a reflection of Truth that any sincere seeker can determine by intuitive resonance. And, let's be honest: all document trails end somewhere.

After Pasqualley, the son, died in 1774, several successors allowed the Temples to little by little fall into dormancy. As a result J.B. Willermoz affixed what we today call the Martinist Tradition onto the upper degrees of the French branch of the German Strict Templar Observance, a system of Masonic High Degree rites. In Lyon, in 1778, the French branch of the Templars reorganized as the "Charitable Knights of the Holy City" under Willermoz. As I understand it, this group never went inactive; and, was in fact active during the time of Papus' revitalization period.

The French Revolution of 1789 adversely affected

Masonry and Martinism; and, it wasn't until around 1806 that everyone in France got around to getting their act together.

The French, Bless 'Em, not only lost their leadership, the aristocracy, to Dr. Guillotine's invention, but quite a few of the intelligentsia as well. Those who escape the Terror did so, many of the landing on the shores of America. People have a tendency to forget that since the time of the Pilgrims, America has been the haven of refuge for heretics, dissidents, mystics and occultists from England, France, Germany, Bohemia, etc. It was the Rosicrucian/Masonic group that laid the foundations of our government. And, though little recorded, the Traveling Lodges made circuits of even the furthest frontiers of this land.

After the resurgence, circa 1806, in France, Martinism was disseminated in Europe through three main branches: 1) the surviving members of Pasqually's Elus Cohen, individually or through groups of 9 persons known as "Kabalistic Arcopages"; 2) the Charitable Knights of the Holy City, which moved to Switzerland and are still there; and 3), through the students of the French mystic, Louis Claude de San Martin, the "Unknown Philosopher" who died in 1803. At this same time, according to one tradition, what we call Martinism had already landed on American shores at Charleston among some clandestine Masons practicing a rite called Memphis and Mizraim.

It is from one of Louis Claude de San Martin's students, J.A. Chaptal, grandfather of the French occultist, Henri Delaage, that the grandson passed the Initiation on to Gerard Encausse around 1882. Delaage's own Initiation is, of course, clouded since there is no record of it ever happening. However, the lack of documentation is common among family traditions; that is, where the Initiation is passed from one generation to the next. Who is going to question one's own Uncle or Grandfather? The lack of records raises Hell with "documented" history and the oral transmission, which was the norm; and, by which, the majority of mystical and occult teachings were in fact transmitted throughout history.

It is Gerard Encausse (Papus) that is the acknowledged father of most of modern Martinism; and, is securely dated from July 1891 with the founding of the Supreme Council. The period from his Initiation in 1882 until the establishment of the Supreme Council were the formative years; the years in which he and his circle formulated the body of teachings associated with modern Martinism. These formative years were important since it is highly likely that he received only a synopsis or brief sketch

of Martinist tradition from Delaage. The Rosicrucian/Masonic historian Arthur Edward Waite tells us: "Papus never concealed the fact that he and no other was the author and fount of its very simple rituals which were modestly conceived and well arranged. He connected it indeed with the name of Saint Martin as a sort of traditional founder...a remote inspiration."

Papus was also influenced by the work of Eliphas Levi (Abbe Constant), the French occultist and Kabalist. So, to whatever Martinism that Papus received, plus the writings of the mystic philosopher, L.C. de San Martin, he also added Kabalistic tradition and interpretation influenced by Levi.

During the formative years when Papus was developing his modern system of Martinism, he was assisted by his associates, including Augustin Chaboseau, who had a separate and probably clearer line of initiatic tradition from L.C. de San Martin. Very likely, they pooled their knowledge. Moreover, on Papus' Supreme Council was a very important individual who has been singularly slighted by Martinist historians: Dr. Eduard Blitz, a member of the "Charitable Knights of the Holy City" and himself an heir to J.B. Willermoz' authority with a Templar/Martinist tradition. Dr. Blitz became the Sovereign Delegate of the Supreme Council for the United States. He published his Monitor here, in English, in 1898. This monitor was the basis for the one created by (and usually attributed to) Sedir, who later was to inherit Papus' mantle after Papus died in World War I. But in 1902, Papus and Blitz parted company.

Quoting, again, Arthur Edward Waite: "(Papus) had sought Masonic initiation and had been refused everywhere in France. By way of reprisal or otherwise, (Papus) converted his Martinist centres into unofficial bodies for the indiscriminate communication of official Masonic secrets to both sexes and for the study of Masonic rituals, symbolism and history." As a result, according to Waite, Dr. Blitz broke away from Papus and in 1902 formed a Rectified Martinist Order in America; and, in England, another group of Martinists did the same. In America, Papus collected what was left to him of the membership, and appointed the novelist Margaret Peeke as its head. He also honored her with the Rose Croix degree. So, circa 1908, there were two quite different groups working the French version of Martinism.

Part 2 will be published in January 1993.

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November 16, 1992

Frater Curt Warren
The Rosicrucian Chronicles
Post Office Box 111891
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Fraters and Sorors:

Frater Curt Warren's Reflections... article in the November R+C Chronicles addresses important issues concerning Christian Bernard's right to hold himself out as a Regularized Free Initiator of TMO, thus eligible to be its Grand Master. Being one of the 47 Ronin of Emperor Ralph Lewis' IRC, I too have continue with historical studies. In this letter I will publicly testify about Christian Bernard's claims to Martinist leadership.

We were entrusted with chauffeuring Bro Orval Graves to and from San Jose to his home in Redwood City for the occasion of Christian Bernard's Regularization and Free Initiator rites of October 22, 1990. Also entrusted to make photocopies of the documents Bro Graves offered at the time of those ceremonies, a copy is reproduced herein for all to see and inspect; I possess photographs made at that time as well.

Bro Graves was elderly and frail of body at that time, yet keen of mind and dedicated as a Rosicrucian, Martinist, and Alchemist. Ralph Lewis' reasons for entrusting development of the Rosicrucian Research Library to Fr. Graves were abundantly evident even at an advanced age.

Donna and myself were concerned about the ethical character of Bernard due to an incident occuring after the rites. Bro. Graves presented Christian with his original documents, whereupon Bernard vowed to hang them on the wall of the Emperor's office in San Jose. As soon as Bro Graves back was turned, Bernard tossed the documents into his brief case, taking his new bounty home to France.

Inspection of the sole document offered by Bro Graves raises serious questions about the rituals performed that day, and even more serious questions about Bernard's fitness to direct Martinist activities. The sole document offered is a certificate of attainment of the S.I. degree of the Ordre Martiniste in 1940. Lewis no longer claimed Ordre Martiniste affiliation, instead operating as the Traditional Martinist Order. Secondly, the certificate authenticates only attainment of rank of S.I. degree, not Free Initiator. Accordingly, documents showing regularization to TMO and receipt of Free Initiator status are required to validate Bernard's claim. It should be remembered only this certificate of S.I. degree initiation was offered to those assembled for Bernard's initiation.

Along with this ritual, Bro Graves signed two documents prepared by Bernard's staff of Martinist experts. Those documents confer Regularization and Free Initiator status. But since they are a invention of Bernard's French staff, thus only signed by Graves, they only validate that Graves signed them but do not validate authorization for him to do so.

After this event, I do personally testify that I spent at least two days with Bernard in a futile quest to locate Cecil Poole's documents and a missing letter of filiation from Lagreze. Those letters were never located in the Emperor's safes nor elsewhere.

TMO and AMORC members will be interested to learn that through the European and American grapevines we hear Bernard has sought out leaders of other Martinist Traditions to grant him Free Initiator status. Thus far his requests have been refused. If the rumors are true, do they speak of an unspoken acknowledgement by Bernard that he is not qualified to hold Free Initiator or Grand Master roles in TMO? We also know that Jim Whitcomb, whose initiations

were received in Europe, would not become involved in AMORCs problems for Bernard at least up to March, 1991.

Cecil Poole's initiations of GLS are quite another matter. Mr. Poole was then still Vice President of SGL in 1987. The fact that Poole served as RML's right hand man for nearly fifty continuous years rendered him familiar with policies and procedures of all aspects of AMORC. He was a Martinist not just from inception of TMO in San Jose, but throughout his long, illustrious career. Thus, TMO policies were fresh in his mind at the time of Stewart's initiations.

On a deeper level, we should call into question the moral character of one who professes to be an authentic lineage bearer while knowing full well the basis of his claims are not supported by documents at hand. Be it stupidity or willfull deceit, either basis brings into question his fitness for leadership of the TMO.

I have copies of the Regularization and Free Initiator Rituals used by Gary Stewart and Christian Bernard. They are not the same rituals. Cecil Poole administered Stewart's rituals, and duly signed the documents. His documents are not public, presumably entrusted to those whose vote of confidence precludes Bernard. I think we would all call into question the validity of Bernard's rituals and documents. As Curt reported, he did not make use of the Imperator's installation ritual left by Ralph Lewis, so why should we believe a document invented by his staff in France serves traditional and antiquarian standards? He should explain its origins with reference to produced documents from Martinist tradition; any attempts based on a "it's true because I say so", and including "such documents cannot be publicly shown" should be judged as evidence against the validity of his claims.

What source does Bernard base his argument on? The sole historical document is a letter from RML to Jean Guesdon, dated April 16, 1940. It states Graves and Poole were about to be appointed to the TMO Board, that both were about to become Martinists and made Free Initiators.

I do not doubt Orval Graves' sincerity. We do not know what TMO practices amounted to in the early 1940's, nor the thoroughness of a Martinist Bro of very advanced age. I am sure Christian must have known at the time of his initiations that a S.I. document did not validate a thing.

Curt is very correct in his conclusion. Those of us appointed to IRC by Ralph Lewis serve a deceased master. And those of us made Regularized and Free Initiators through RML and GLS hold stronger claims than does Christian Bernard. Traditional Martinism prior to the time of Papus and Chabaseau functioned as a network, not as an organization. We Free Initiators now hold the keys, and it is our responsibility to transmit the lamp to succeeding generations.

Those wishing copies of Regularization and Free Initiator documents, and their respective Free Initiator rituals, concerning Gary Stewart and Christian Bernard may obtain them by sending \$10.00 to me to cover reproduction and postage costs. All those documents are public domain and without copyright.

Ken O'Neill

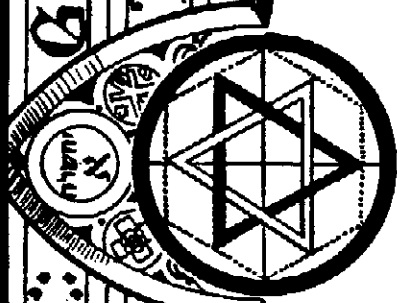
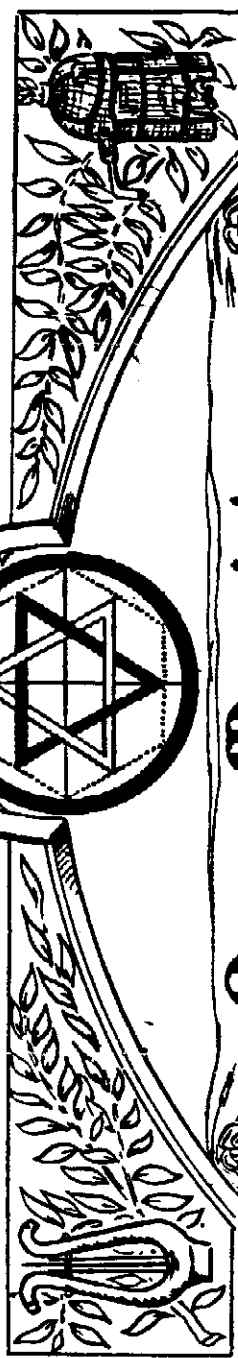
Ken O'Neill
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ST:O:K:ED

Q:Q:J:K

Inr.. R::L:SM

H:ED:du:Phil.



ORDRE MARTINIÈRE

Le 'Initiateur soussigné: Ralph M. Lewis
 Agissant d'après les pouvoirs qui lui ont été régulièrement
 conférés par son Initiateur en G::L::: G. H. Sagerer. (Sikar)

Déclare avoir transmis le: October 17, 1980
 Le Grade de: Supreme Instructor et le nom: S::I:::

Mu S::: : Ossal Grates - XG-RVS-25 (LWS)
 Et invite tous les G::H::: et les Membres de l'O:::, et
 ceux des Sœurs-pitès affiliées à N::O::V::, à accueillir ce

S::: qu'il se fera connaître par les signes habituels.

Signature: LWS

MIR-24 S/I



SAV: LEGATE
 Regional Supr Master

MIR [Signature] FORA

NOTICE

We are happy to report that the Rosicrucian Chronicles has been very successful and that the number of requests for copies continues to increase. Until now Rosicrucian Chronicles has been able to support itself primarily from the donations of a few. Both fortunately and unfortunately, our circulation has increased to the point where we must ask for some additional donations. We don't have lavish estates or lavish life styles to support and we don't pay lavish salaries to ourselves or our friends (we receive and pay no salaries). Therefore, at this time we are asking for any additional small amount that you can spare, only to assist us in covering the cost of printing and requests for back issues.

Trust Fund

We will soon be setting up a trust fund to cover future legal expenses. At this time we are asking that all concerned Martinist and Rosicrucian students who

have legal experience in the non-profit arena to contact us. We are setting up a legal team to address the current conditions. We seek those who are more concerned with the future of charities and public benefit organizations than with exacting record legal fees. In the future we will be asking for everyone's support in this effort. And, unlike the current AMORC, you will be able to receive an honest and complete accounting.



Seasons Greetings

May Christmas and the New Year bring you joyful hours, pleasant memories, thoughts of friends and Much Happiness.



Rosicrucian Chronicles

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