

# Plinth

Issue 14-02

May 2014

## Worshipful Master Sewberath-Misser and Bro. Peter Lewinski to get married this year!

### Special points of interest:

- New Website!
- Grand Lodge Troubles
- WM gets married
- King's Day
- Gala Ball in September
- Article about WM

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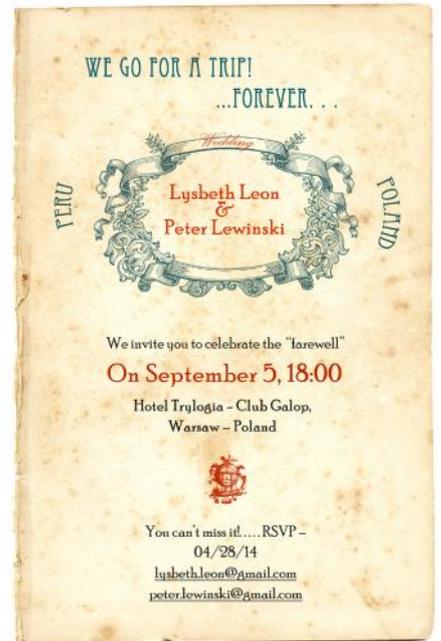
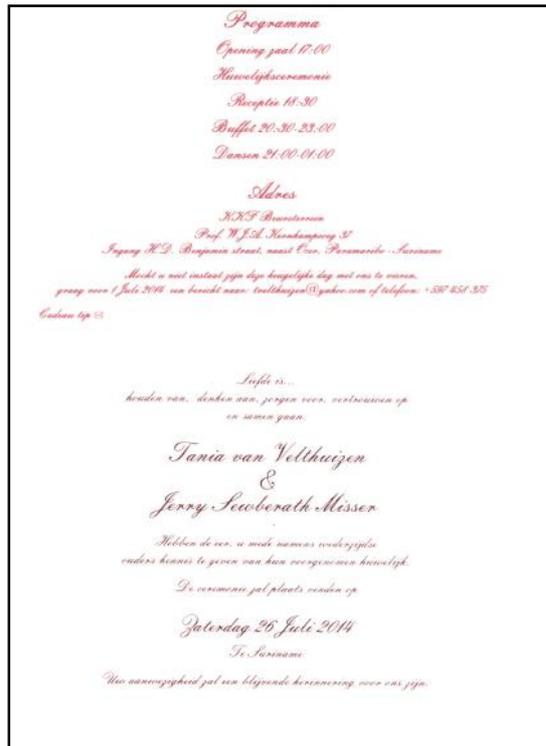
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Congratulations are in order for Worshipful Master Jerry Sewberath-Misser and Bro. Peter Lewinski. These brethren will be making that hopeful step into matrimony this year and have extended an invitation to the brethren to attend (see above).

Worshipful Master Sewberath-Misser will be wedding Ms. Tania van Velthoven in Parimaribo, Suriname on the 26th of July 2014.

Bro. Lewinski will be marrying Ms. Lysbeth Leon in Warsaw, Poland on the 5th of September 2014.

As they begin their lives together ..... “May all their days be filled with love & may all their dreams come true!



R. W. Reuben H. Meade, Deputy Grand Master



Most Worshipful Grand Master  
Bro. Compton R. Jones



R. W. Yves R. Maignan, Senior Grand Warden

Ronald S. Critchlow, Jr  
Junior Grand Warden

PICTURE  
NOT  
AVAILABLE



R. W. Bro. Timothy R. Downs, Grand Treasurer



R. W. Bro. Gerald R. Thaxton III, Grand Secretary



The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
JURISDICTION OF MASSACHUSETTS

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Office of the Most Worshipful Grand Master

April 24, 2014

*Fraternal Greetings my Brothers and Sisters*

As you are aware a 6 (six) month forbearance agreement was signed by the mortgage holder Norfborough Capital Partners and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. At the time the agreement was signed the outstanding principal balance was approximately \$192,000.00 including interest. This amount reflects \$70,000.00 sent with the forbearance agreement to reduce the principal. The balance must be paid in full on or before October 15, 2014. We are to pay monthly interest payments in the amount of \$2,600.00 due on the first of each month.

We continue to receive donations from the members of our Jurisdiction. In addition, some of the Prince Hall Grand Lodges and individual members of other jurisdictions have responded positively to our appeal for assistance.

There will be in Boston this weekend (April 24 - 26) a significant number of master masons, including Most Worshipful Grand Masters from other Prince Hall Jurisdictions to attend our 8<sup>th</sup> bi-annual opening of African Lodge 459. These members are aware of our appeal, as a letter was sent to each Grand Master, and it is anticipated that some contributions will be forthcoming. Please be advised that all donations made have been and will be utilized for the purpose of paying off the mortgage. A list of all donors will be made available during the coming week.

As of today, April 26, we have received the sum of \$413,000.00

On behalf of our Grand Lodge, I extend to each of you who have donated to this special appeal my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the sacrifice you have made. To my brothers and sisters who are still undecided, I respectfully and earnestly solicit your support as we work diligently to pay of this debt and see to it that we do not lose our property.

Finally, please support the several fund raising events planned for the coming weeks. I will keep you informed as we proceed. Once again, thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Fraternaly

Most Worshipful Grand Master *Compton R. Jones*  
Brother Compton R. Jones

*"Building on the Foundation Laid by our Founder"*

## Grand Lodge requesting donations to Save Temple

As you may or may not know, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Jurisdiction of Massachusetts is currently dealing with a serious crisis. Our Masonic Temple and adjacent land, located at 24 Washington Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts was scheduled to be auctioned on April 17, 2014.

Like several other area organizations and churches we are not exempt from the negative effects of a bad economy. In our case and due largely to the actions of our past mortgage holder (Sovereign Bank), we are currently faced with foreclosure on our beloved Grand Lodge Temple. In order to resolve this terrible crisis, your help in the way of monetary donations and prayers is necessary.

If you would like to help the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Jurisdiction of Massachusetts (Where Prince Hall Freemasonry Worldwide Began) in this hour of great need with a "tax-deductible donation", please go to the following link on internet:

Donate" <[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=GWQXJW2XUPXXA](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=GWQXJW2XUPXXA)>

Please donate whatever you can and please don't be modest. No donation is too big or small. Every act of generosity is needed and appreciated. Just use the above link and make your donation using your PayPal account, credit or debit card.

If you prefer to use a check or money order, please make it payable to; The Prince Hall Foundation, Inc.\* and put "Building Relief Fund" in the memo section and send it to:

> Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
> 24 Washington Street  
> P.O. Box 227  
> Boston, MA 02121

*"No act of kindness however large or small will go unrecognized."*

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Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,  
M.W. Compton R. Jones  
Grand Master

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# *Traveling Worshipful Master*



Most Worshipful Masters travel to visit other Lodges, Grand Lodge meetings, the sick, and various Lodge functions. Blazing Star's Worshipful Master travels from Slovakia where he lives and works to the Netherlands each month to open and close his Lodge in due form. In an interview with Past Master Wright, Worshipful Master Jerry Sewberath-Misser revealed how he accomplishes this task each month.

## **Question?**

**The brothers of Blazing Star Lodge must have had a great deal of trust in you by electing you to this important position. How long have you been a member of Blazing Star and what did you do to gain this trust from your brothers?**

I have been a member for more than 10 years now (don't have the exact date with me) . I think that the question of trust only can be answered by the brethren themselves. In March 2012 I changed jobs. Working as a freelance IT consultant, I knew that it would be hard to attend lodge meetings and have any position in the lodge. I was lucky that my first assignment was in Slovakia which allowed me to attend our monthly lodge meetings and some of the functions of the lodge. I love attending lodge meetings. It charges my battery and keeps my head straight to what is important in life, but it is hard work to travel from one country to another each month. I think my commitment during that first year here showed the brethren that I could be trusted with the task of Worshipful Master, and that I could do well in this amazing position

## **Question?**

**What problems, if any, have you encountered during your travels between your residency and your Lodge?**

I wouldn't say problems. Challenges are more like it. The challenge is in the planning of my trip each month. Flights are cheaper if I do early bookings. It happened last year that a meeting was postponed and I could not cancel my flight. That was very costly and frustrating. This year I am working with a year calendar, that all the brethren can see when we have a meeting or a planned function. This leaves everybody enough time to make arrangements if they want to attend these functions.

## **Question?**

**How do you manage to keep on top of issues that regularly take place during the weeks that you are not present?**

I think e-mail is the best invention for travellers like me.

I keep in regular contact with the brethren by e-mail, also by phone, especially my Senior and Junior Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer.. My committee Chairpersons keep me informed of committee activities, changes, etc. when necessary.

*\* This article was submitted by PM Charles Wright*

# *Traveling Worshipful Master*

## Question?

**What were your main issues outlined on your tressleboard for the coming year?  
And how far are you at the present time on accomplishing some of them?**

One of the main things I wanted to focus on is to get the committees more involved in working and planning lodge activities. As I mentioned in my acceptance speech, when outlining my trestleboard, sitting in the craft are brethren who have a lot of ideas, these ideas can help the lodge function better, if implemented. Bringing these ideas forward until now has been a challenge. It seems that the brethren that are willing to spend the time in developing ideas are being held back by the brethren who are "too busy" and/or have another agenda with a "shorter" cable tow. It is a part that I am struggling with and I hope that I can change this in the coming future with the help of the craft. At the present I would say I have accomplished at least 25% of my goals and still striving toward achieving others.

**Thanks for your time and answers Worshipful Master Sewberath-Misser.  
Good luck and we will see you at the next meeting.**

## **Bro. Lewinski - Finalist Neurotalent of the Year**



Bro. Peter Lewinski went to New York in March 2014 to compete in the finals of the Neurotalent of the Year Award. Bro. Lewinski is a PhD candidate (2012-2015) in Persuasive Communication at the Amsterdam School of Communication Research (Univ. of Amsterdam). His research interests, which qualified him for the prize are - facial expressions of emotions (automatic recognition), emotion regulation (temptation resistance), consumer behavior (consumer competence) and advertisement research (video persuasive messages).

We are proud to have Bro. Lewinski as a member of our Lodge and congratulate him on his accomplishment. He was raised last year and is presently in a Steward position. We look forward to utilizing Bro. Lewinski's skills in the Lodge to help us better help candidates with their proficiency and facilitating communication within the Lodge.

Bro. Lewinski will be spending the months of May and June at the KU Leuven University in Belgium as a Visiting Scholar. Congratulations Bro. Lewinski!

## Upcoming Gala Ball in September



*Blazing Star Lodge No. 26*  
*F. & A.M.*  
*Armersfoort, The Netherlands*  
*cordially invites you to their*  
*Gala Ball*  
*Friday, 26th September 2014*



*Dresscode:*  
*Elegantly*  
*Casual*  
*attire*

*The function will be held on*  
*Friday, 26th September 2014, in the Hotel Breukelen*  
*Address:*  
*Stationsweg 91, 3621 LK Breukelen, The Netherlands*  
*Time: 18.00 – 01.00*  
*Price: € 60,- per person*  
*Dinner & Dance*

*Blazing Star Lodge #26 will be celebrating it's 42nd Anniversary in December 2014. In honor of this event we will be holding a Gala ball and dinner on Friday, the 26th of September in Breukelen, the Netherlands. The Lodge will be combining this affair with a charity event. We encourage all brethren to sell as many tickets as possible to make this a memorable and profitable occasion. The only complaint about our last ball was that not enough people attended. We want to correct that at this ball.*

**PLEASE SELL TICKETS NOW!**

# King's Day 2014

Blazing Star Lodge #26 celebrated the first King's Day with food stands in Soesterberg and Zeist. It was a strenuous effort for the Lodge as many brethren did not participate or attend due to prior commitments they had made, sickness, and other reasons. The events were successful, however, due to the hard work and dedication of the brethren who did participate and a large number of volunteers and friends who helped us make this happen one more time. We would like the brethren to thank the volunteers and let them know how appreciative we are for their assistance.



## New Website Online

### Blazing Star Lodge #26

Secretary:

Dennis Griffin

Salsastraat 68

1326 NZ Almere

The Netherlands

Tel: +-31-36 5348 004

E-mail: [djgriff73@hotmail.com](mailto:djgriff73@hotmail.com)



We are looking for articles and or pictures for our next issue. Please send them to the secretary or e-mail them to the following e-mail address:

*E-mail: [blazstar26@gmail.com](mailto:blazstar26@gmail.com)*

*Web site: [www.blazingstar26.org](http://www.blazingstar26.org)*



**We Love You!**

The Blazing Star Lodge No. 26 website has been updated and revamped by Worshipful Master Sewberath-Misser and his web-site committee chaired by Past Master Dennis Griffin. The face-lift has been universally praised by the brethren and puts us back on the right track when it comes to informing our brethren in the Netherlands, the USA, and Worldwide. We hope to have a PayPal facility on the site soon for paying dues!

**CHECK IT OUT!!!!**



**Blazing Star Lodge #26  
2013 - 2014**