

Addendum Dec 2004 to Dec 2006

Our approach to ritual including allowing participation of Brethren as soon as they have been initiated has paid dividends. We continues to exist for social fellowship and mutual assistance, of Charity to the distressed and goodwill to all

During this period 8 gentlemen were intitiated, three joined us and 1 Brother became an Hon. member.

Sadly we lost 5 brethren to the Eternal East and 6 resigned.

December 5, 2004 to June 2005.

Following on from the marvellous 40 year celebration in December was always likely to be difficult but a very successful Ladies night in April and various social functions and BBQs at the Paul Moor School were superbly managed by the excellent Junior Warden, Jim L. At the BBQ, May 22 we were .pleased to hand over a substantial cheque to the school- our chosen charity.

David Slo was initiated in December and John M in February. In March Gunnar S was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason and Dietmar S was passed in May. In April we had an impressive passing for David Pa.

The Installation Ceremony took place on the 4th June at the Holiday Inn Düsseldorf Airport Hotel, Ratingen where it was my pleasure to hand over the responsibility of Lodge Niederrhein to Worshipful Brother Jim L. The Lodge was honoured by the presence of the Grand Master of British Freemasons in Germany MW Brother Michael C accompanied by his Deputy, Assistant and a large deputation of his Grand Lodge officers. There were many visitors from Germany and other Constitutions present.

Sadly during the year we lost to the Eternal East Brother Hank M. This wonderful man and Brother with his tremendous sense of humour will be missed.

Very Worshipful Brother Paul M and Worshipful Brother Frank A reached the stage where they had been Masons for over 40 years and we were able to congratulate Worshipful Brother Mike Cr who celebrated 40 years with Niederrhein (initiated back in April 1965). This distinguished Brother enjoys his Masonry these days in Kent where he is a Provincial Grand Officer.

There were several great visits during the year including the highlight our trip to Manchester in February- Westbourne Lodge where we visited Brother Dad E. The party of Niederrhein brethren recorded for posterity –Glyn, Brad, Cedric, Dietmar, Paul D and I who made the flight to Manchester. In the UK we met up with Mike C, Derek L and Ian G plus as a guest Ian H from Keys of Munster.

The Lodge members gave excellent support to our Grand Master when they attended the Annual Communication in great numbers.

June 2005 to December 2005

In November, my excellent candidate, Dietmar was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Sadly we lost to the Eternal East Brother Harvey F who fought hard and always with a great spirit against a long illness.

In December Worshipful Brother Joachim M the Master of Lodge Zür Bruderkette in Wuppertal was made an Honorary Member.

In September a personal highlight for the writer was being married on Loch Lomond to Ingrid followed by a great party in Germany where several members of Lodge Niederrhein and their families attended.

It was pleasing to see several brethren recognised by Grand Lodge including Allen D and Frank A.

Conway became Master of Mozart Lodge in Düsseldorf and our own Very Worshipful Brother Mike C PJGW became Master of his Lodge in Southport.

We were also delighted that Brad was made an honorary member of Rose and Akazie Lodge in Düsseldorf.

On the social scene, the Junior Warden Ronaldo was very active raising substantial amounts of money for charity (The Grand Masters Charity and the Paul Moor School). The highlights were the Christmas Evening at Wuppertal and the Sri Lanka restaurant gathering.

January to June 2006

We started the year with the news that our oldest and second longest serving brother, Frank S, had left us for the Eternal East. Frank had served 40 years as a member of Lodge Niederrhein.

Two of us made a visit to Thistle and Saltire Lodge in Osnabruck to watch Masonic Ritual par excellence-the Scottish Constitution way- as carried out by Brother Harry L PM and his team

During the same week the Worshipful Master, Jim n accompanied by Brad, and Cedric attended the Installation at Burgess Hill in Sussex. Brad in particular, should be commended for establishing the relationship with Worshipful Brother Jim C and the Worthing and Burgess Hill Lodges.

In February, some of the Niederrhein nomads led by Brother Son (Glyn) made the visit to Manchester and met up with Brother Dad.

March saw another large group of us travel to Salisbury for the Installation of our own Initiate Ian G as Master of City Lodge. Four of us travelled from Germany and were joined by Rick Doug N and Derek L from UK and our guest Ray B of Saxony and Ashford Lodge fame.

At home, the Lodge introduced Alejandro P into Freemasonry, in February and welcomed David Joh as a joining member. In March we raised Rick to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Rick came over from UK for the ceremony and we wish him well when he joins a UK Lodge. Jörg-Thomas M was welcomed as a Joining member (Dual)

There was an additional meeting at the end of March to initiate Paul Wil and in April, Ulrich Win was initiated into the Craft. In May we raised to a sublime degree of a Master Mason Brother David P.

It was a sad time however as our Founder Member Most Worshipful Brother Albert S, Award of Honour, PKM, OSM, Grand Master, The Grand Lodge of British Freemasons in Germany and Past Master of Lodge Niederrhein laid aside the earthly tools and passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Monday April 17, 2006.

Very Worshipful Brother Paul M who had sat in Lodge with him since 1968 gave the address at the funeral.

In June Brother David L who had only just returned to Northern Ireland left us for the Eternal East. This was another great loss for Niederrhein.

The social calendar was outstanding with the JW Ronaldo showing all the magic that so many of us love about him. There was one outstanding event after another with the highlights being the St Patrick's Night where David Jn showed us all why he is a former World Champion Pipe Major. His playing of the bagpipes was a dream and it is not the Guinness talking, I can assure you.

The Annual Meeting of Grand Lodge which was also the Installation meeting of our new Grand Master took place in May and several members of the Lodge were in attendance.

During the year Brethren of the Lodge made visits to various other Lodges both within our Grand Lodge and others within the United Grand Lodges of Germany. The Installation in June again at the Holiday Inn was a wonderful affair where Worshipful Brother Jim and his team carried out an excellent ceremony. We were honoured to receive the new Grand Master MW Brother Frederick C accompanied by his Officers to Lodge Niederrhein. Lodge Niederrhein is a Lodge whose brethren come from various countries of the world. With assistance for Installing Inner Guard and the Long Closing coming from Westbourne Lodge (Trevor and David L, from Doncaster via the Grand Organist of Yorkshire Province of West Riding, David R and speeches from Jim C Burgess Hill/Worthing) and Peter B the Liaison officer for the West Riding it emphasised the international cosmopolitan aspects of Lodge Niederrhein..

June 2006-December 2006

On August 19th, 2006 the Grand Lodge and Lodge Niederhein held a Memorial Service for Albert at Christ Church Düsseldorf. The Address was given by the Grand Almoner, David and the readings by Brad. A very large number of Officers of Grand Lodge, Brethren of Lodge Niederrhein and other brethren attended the Service giving their last respect to departed merit.

Following the unfortunate resignation of the Worshipful Master it was necessary for the Lodge to have an emergency meeting where it was agreed that Worshipful Brother Cedric J would be Acting Master for the year.

September arrived and the Lodge in a fine ceremony introduced Tassos into the Craft. Tassos will prove to be an excellent mason. He has already, along with Alex, made several visits both here and in UK albeit they are both at the beginning of their Masonic life.

During September they both accompanied Glyn, who organised a group to visit Rosslyn Chapel. From all accounts it was a memorable week-end and along with other members of the party –Jim and Sabine, Brad and Uschi and Cedric enjoyed Scotland and learnt a lot.

Another young Brother, Ulrich W, who has been quite prominent already in ritual pleased us by visiting the Installation at Bielefeld with the writer. Niederrhein new brethren in the tradition of their predecessors continue to visit and learn.

October came and we initiated Chandra. Wolfram h carried out a first class ceremony despite the fact that he had only returned from business in the Far East some 4 hours prior to our meeting.

October is also a holiday month for some and Glyn and family went to Lanzarote- it was good to know however that in keeping with Niederrhein industry he visited a Lodge whilst on holiday.

The Junior Warden Martin was very energetic and the Brethren and their families were organised for a walk, a Ganz fest and an outstanding Christmas function at

Wuppertal. In liaison with the Charity Steward they both have raised substantial amounts for our Charities.

In November a large contingent of Niederrhein brethren attended the Half Annual Grand Lodge Meeting at Bad Iburg. We were delighted that Mike C came over from UK and boosted our numbers- we were 16 in total. This was the last time at this location as with effect from May 2007 the Grand Lodge re-locate to Münster.

Appointments and promotions in Grand Rank were given to Brad and Cedric. November and December saw two raisings- Steve T and David Slo. Both brethren are living too far away to make regular attendance viable but both are sincere Masons.

During the last two years the Lodge has continued to keep in contact with the Widows- We are pleased that both our outstanding UK Almoners- Frank A and Derek L are as pro-active as they are in keeping contact with absent brethren.

Yes brethren we are doing quite well as a lodge but of course we can always do better.

David
February 2007