

# Conspiracies, Esoteric Knowledge and the Hidden Mysteries Found in Common Occurrences & Events

By Rick Carver

(Based on a concept presented in *Auntie Em! Anti-M* by Bro. Tom Accosti)

Internet conspiracy theorists would have us believe that sacred numbers conveying special messages to Freemasons are hidden within most of the mysteries and significant events of the world. They assert that Freemasons are either behind these events, or at least were well involved in the planning of them and that Freemasons leave certain signs and symbols littered around the scene of the crime just to prove who was behind them. Of course, those making these claims are the same ones supplementing their income by selling books or DVD's explaining why, since they are the only ones with enough time on their hands or possessing the finely-honed CSI skills necessary to find the secrets to begin with.

Case(s) in point from the shallow end of the Internet gene pool include:

- The Destruction of the World Trade Center. One theory is based on the date of 9/11 and the supposition that Masons associate the number 11 to mean *death and destruction*. Regardless that theory, the negative association with the number 11 was not a Masonic discovery, and in fact long before existed with ancient Kabalistic, Hedonic, and several other orders of mysticism where numbers are

considered; but let not *facts* stand in the way of a good conspiracy theory! Since it is known that Anton LeVey, the founder of the church of Satan in 1969, chose the number 11 to represent his Eleven Satanic Rules of the Earth, ipso facto, *all* associations with the number 11 therefore *must be also* Satanic. Since the author *says* the number 11 is Masonically significant, therefore *it is*, and the reader should then freely associate the two as though they were synonymous and interchangeable, because the author does.

- Another Fun with Numbers Exercise that almost adds up is a website devoted to the space shuttle flight of John Glenn. Here, a future Mensa president asserts that John Glenn was forced by the higher Masonic powers to return to space in order to sacrifice himself to the comet Tuttle — or perhaps it was the comet Temple — the author never seems to be quite sure which. No matter — Shuttle... Tuttle... Tempel... Templar... we can all grasp the obvious connection! Also, the comet Tempel-Tuttle has as a revolution period of 33 years. Well, that could never be a coincidence! The author further alludes to Glenn and 6 other crew members, so the numbers 6 and 7; spent 9 days aloft  $3 \times 3 = 9$ ; made 144 orbits  $12 \times 12 = 144$ ; at 77 years of age Glenn was the oldest man to orbit the Earth  $7 \times 11 = 77$ ; and finally that Glenn's first space mission occurred 36 years prior  $3 \times 12 = 36$ . I have no idea of what numerismic and/or Masonic relevance any of this has, but I am pretty amazed that the author was able to set the crack pipe aside long enough to get it all down on paper.

- The Internet YouTube abounds with assertions that Masons placed the number 13 as some sort of subliminal satanic advertisement on the dollar bill. One might immediately question that since the dollar isn't worth much these days, Masons might try to get these messages better exposure on some of the more valuable denominations, yet there only seems to be a fracas over the \$1 note. Accordingly, there are 13 leaves in the olive branch, 13 bars and stripes in the shield, 13 feathers in the eagle tail, 13 arrows in his talons, 13 letters in 'E Pluribus Unum,' 13 stars in the crest, 13 stones in the pyramid, 13 letters in 'Annuit Coeptis,' and as final proof 32 feathers in one of the eagle's wings and 33 in the other. While I can see some connection between the numbers 32 and 33 to Scottish Rite Masonry, I also seem to recall that Scottish Rite Freemasonry did not exist in the US until its founding in 1801. Even then, while the order technically existed, but there weren't actually a 32 or 33 degrees of Scottish Rite Freemasonry until Albert Pike introduced them in 1859. Since the Great Seal was adopted in 1782, I suppose that early Masons must have possessed refined psychic powers in those days so they were attune to details that would not occur for another 77 years. Perhaps the number 77 is, in itself, also significant? I am also a bit baffled by the significance of the number 13. Other than the connection to the Knights Templar being arrested on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, 1307, I am pretty hard pressed to come up with another connection other than the obvious — that there were 13 original colonies that

formed the United States and that the number actually alludes to them. What fun would that be?

Bro. Brent Morris may have said it best when he was asked in an interview if Masons were secretly plotting to take over the world, he replied that it was doubtful that Freemasons could ever find a way to pull it off, since 8 of us cannot agree on what we are going to serve for dinner at the next meeting. Sadly, that pretty much sums up the level of organization at most Masonic functions, despite the best ( or most sinister) of intentions.

This all being said, and I being someone who loves a good conspiracy theory as much as the next guy, I present the following thesis for your consideration:

## **Esoteric Mysteries, Secrets and Symbolism Hidden in the Wizard of Oz [MGM 1939]**

First, note that Dorothy begins with the letter D, the fourth letter of the alphabet, and 4 being a very mystical number to Freemasons because I say it is, this is my paper and you don't get a vote. If you subtract that 4 from 7, the number of the letter G, you get 3, the central mystical number of all esoterica. The number 7 itself is a

number with magical properties. Dorothy then meets 3 others on the yellow brick road, making again the number 4, and one can easily see the symbolism between the stone bricks and ancient craft Masonry. The movie contains 2 wicked witches, 2 being a prime number and 1 good witch, making 3 again, and when added to the 4 travelers on the bricks and becomes 7, proving the importance of that number to Masons.

They travel on a road heading East, a direction with mystical connections, to the Emerald City, with green being an important symbolic color to Masons, it being the yellow from the bricks merged with the blue of the so-called Blue Lodges making green. The castle of the Wizard, representing the Grand Master, is built of stone and resembles the medieval cathedrals of Europe. This opens the door to both the Knights Templar and the pagan religions that the Templars studied, which we now know made them heretics. The travelers meet up with the Wizard, now making 5, another important number in Masonic symbolism, who asks them to perform a service before he will help them. This is actually a hidden reference to the Hiram Abiff legend in which the workers on the Temple of Solomon must complete the Temple before receiving the secrets of a Master Mason.

The travelers – and let us note that Masons refer to themselves as "traveling men" - meet up with the Wicked Witch of the West, the one from the East having been landed upon and summarily squished by

Dorothy's house a twister, which is defined as a violently rotating column of air; columns being sacred to architecture and thus to Masonry. Note that "house" is synonymous with "temple." The Wicked Witch of the East has been interred under the Temple from the Heavens – yet another reference to several items central to Masonic lore. The Wicked Witch of the West appears to take the shoes that Dorothy acquired from the Good Witch of the East, which resonates with the ancient Masonic initiation ritual in which the candidates are deprived of their own shoes.

Dorothy is eventually captured by the Wicked Witch of the West, who flies on a broom, symbolizing "Air", one of the four classical elements of antiquity. Dorothy is then kept in the stone castle, symbolizing "Earth," but during an ill-fated rescue attempt, sets "Fire" to the witch, which is then set to right by the application of "Water." All this, of course, is an acknowledgment that the Freemasons have subverted the religion of their fathers in order to study the ancient pagan ways.

The Wizard, played by a man named Frank Morgan, a descendant of Capt. William Morgan of anti-Masonic fame, showing further attempts to defame the early Morgan and his claims against Masonry. The name "Frank Morgan," also having 11 characters, is a further attempt to vilify the Morgan name. The actor plays 5 parts in the movie: Professor Marvel, The Guardian at the Gates, The Carriage

Driver, The Wizard's Guard and the Wizard of Oz — 5 again being a number of significant importance to Masons, and in no way reflective that the Screen Actor's Guild was very poorly organized in those days, and that starring actors were often used to fill in on various other minor and non-speaking parts.

The service to the Wizard now completed, the travelers make their way back to the Emerald City. The Wizard is exposed to be simply a man, which resonates with the Masonic idea that only the Grand Architect of the Universe can be perfect and all knowing. The Wizard, though, is a wise man who manages to help the Lion, Tin Man, and Scarecrow develop traits which are secret Masonic virtues: courage (Strength), heart (Beauty), and brains (Wisdom). Of special note is that the Scarecrow, upon receiving brains, symbolic of receiving Masonic "light" recites the Pythagorean Theorem! This is the most important theorem in geometry, which begins with the letter "G", and is the essence of the esoteric Masonic mystical teachings.

Now, for the really scary part: Judy Garland (Dorothy), Frank Morgan (The Wizard), Ray Bolger (Scarecrow), Bert Lahr (Lion), Margaret Hamilton (Wicked Witch(s)) and Toto, when expressed numerically, total 666! Talk about throwing it all right in your face; come on now and smell the coffee!

Did you get all of that?

By now, non-Masons would be nodding their heads up and down, with the perception of understanding slowly growing, like the dawn creeping over the horizon. It all makes sense when it's pointed out to you, doesn't it? If a total fabrication is presented with any part as a known truth, it gives the remainder of the story the possibility of credibility, and that is all the weak-minded need in order to latch on and to perpetuate the story. Never mind the fact that the actor's numerismic names in the Wizard of Oz example actually total 667 and not 666. I got the names right, and that is all it usually takes to hook the casual reader and get him to repeat the story, and to convey it as fact.

Actual Masons that know better are probably scratching their heads and asking "What the hell was that, and when is he going to shut up?"

In the past 5 years (5 being an important Masonic number) that I've been paying particular attention to such things, I've been amazed at the number of non-Masons who have derived some authority that they believe qualifies them to write about what we are and what we do. Some of them are fairly benign, and draw upon other sources without really understanding what it is that they've quoted. All too many conspiracy theorists claim that we Masons are the keepers of

some kind of mystic or esoteric knowledge, and that we secretly or surreptitiously try to impart this knowledge or perhaps communicate with other Masons through the use of these symbols. You might think that in a modern age, we would just use email! You know the type: they tell you about the importance of the measurements and other numbers related to the Washington Monument, or the Great Pyramid in Giza, or the layout of the streets in Washington DC. If you listen to them long enough, you'll see that virtually every number, color, and shape is somehow important in Masonic Mysticism. You can easily spot conspiracy theorists by the "Kaballah for Dummies" reference guide.

But some aren't quite so harmless. Like the benign group, they jump to the same conclusions drawn from irrational leaps of logic, but from there they build a conspiracy theory worthy of the X-files. These are the people who create pages and pages of web sites and blog postings about how the Freemasons are behind the black helicopters and the Illuminati or New World Order, the control of money in the World Bank, and the infiltration and control of public officials, from the local zoning commission to the highest offices of government. When someone from this group gets a parking ticket, it's not because they let their car run 20 minutes over on the meter; no, it's because the Masons in the local town council have it in for them, and are going to use their power to drive out the little people. When you try to explain to them that the Masons in your Lodge are just shop

owners and engineers and utility workers, they accuse you of lying, of covering up the "real" truth, and will probably send you a 7-page letter (7 being an important Masonic number), threatening to take you to court, if they could only believe that the Masonic judges and police weren't already spying on them.

Then there are those, who for reasons I still can't quite fathom, would seek to undermine the Craft because (so they believe), we are a religion unto ourselves, one that has long since strayed from The True Path, one that worships the demon Baphomet, and which seeks to capture and convert other unknowing souls into our pagan ways. And that's not the strange part; the really strange part is that we somehow seek to convert others to our soul-stealing, hell-bound perversions by such unspeakable acts as raising money for children's organizations, or by donating money to the poor, or by working in soup kitchens, or by donating time and energy into various community activities, or – and this is apparently the absolute worst thing – by not only sitting in the same room with people of other religions, but of accepting them and not trying to convert them to something else! They call us a 'cult,' which by my dictionary is what the big church calls the little church.

I'm trying to imagine a culture in which tolerance for the beliefs of others is a bad thing... Nope, still can't fathom that one.

Those with religious objections to Freemasonry are insidious. I've tried explaining that Freemasonry is not a religion, that we don't worship Baphomet or any Deity in particular, and that most of the Masons I know are conservative men with a religious or certainly spiritual bent. And I used to be surprised by the rejoinder: those men don't know that they are worshiping a false deity. The "true" secrets (they claim), are only known to a very select few of the highest degrees. If you are a 32° Scottish Rite, then they will tell you that the secrets are known only to the 33°. If you are a 33°, then the secrets are only known to some smaller sub-group. Apparently only a very super-secret select few know that when Freemasons open a lodge, they unknowingly offer up a prayer to some deity that nobody else has ever heard of.

We don't know who gets the prayer when we bow our heads for some quiet contemplation, as if some other deity is pirating our cable? Apparently, we are double-parked the psychic realm. Is there no firewall on our spiritual Wi-Fi?

I've decided that, if only to keep myself from feeling bored and tired, and to amuse myself, if possible, I'm going to go to the other extreme and point out these Masonic connections where they would least expect them to be found.

By the way, there were 42 words in that last paragraph, which is the

most important Masonic number of all, and the key to life, the universe, and everything!