



Ordo Templi Orientis United States Grand Lodge Annual Report

Anno IVxvii

Fiscal Year 2009

(March 2009 - February 2010)

✿ *Mysteria Mystica Maxima*

✿ *Ecclesia Gnostica Catholica*

*Annual Report of the
United States Grand Lodge
of Ordo Templi Orientis
Fiscal Year 2009*

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

Ordo Templi Orientis (O.T.O.) Ordo Templi Orientis (O.T.O.) is an international religious and magical initiatory fraternity open to both men and women. O.T.O. was founded in Germany and England in the early part of the 20th century, and was incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in California in 1979. It is currently organized in 30 countries, with Grand Lodges in the United States, England, and Australia, and 155 official bodies worldwide. Ordo Templi Orientis is the first of the traditional esoteric fraternities to accept the Law of Thelema, the religious revelation obtained by Aleister Crowley in 1904. It still operates by the original charters, constitutions, documents and principles established during its formative years.

The U.S. Grand Lodge of O.T.O. and M.:M.:M.: (U.S.G.L.), also known as Ordo Templi Orientis U.S.A., or O.T.O. U.S.A. (<http://oto-usa.org>), is a duly chartered Grand Lodge and National Section of Ordo Templi Orientis, chartered by Ordo Templi Orientis International Headquarters on March 30, 1996. It is a tax-exempt, non-profit religious organization incorporated on June 20, 1996 under the laws of the State of California. O.T.O. U.S.A. was incorporated for the purpose of the preservation and advancement of the religious tenets, doctrines, principles, teachings, traditions and rites of Ordo Templi Orientis, and all its funds are irrevocably dedicated to furthering that purpose.

U.S.G.L. is the most populous and active national section of O.T.O., with 58 local bodies in 25 states as of February 2010. Each local O.T.O. body interfacing with the public in the United States is designated as a Camp, Oasis, or Lodge, depending on its size and level of activities. Although there is often much interrelating between local bodies, each operates independently yet answers directly to the national government of U.S.G.L.

Specific local bodies (Oases and Lodges) provide ceremonial initiation into the first series of degrees of O.T.O. Most local bodies also regularly perform an O.T.O. ritual called the Gnostic Mass. This ritual is described in our system as “the central ritual of the O.T.O. both public and private”, and is presented under the auspices of the Ecclesia Gnostica Catholica, the Gnostic Catholic Church, which is the ecclesiastical aspect of O.T.O.

Most local bodies also offer public classes, workshops and book studies that usually cover a wide range of Thelemic and esoteric/occult subject matter. Some of these may include various aspects of the theory and practice of Thelema, Qabalah, Yoga, Ceremonial Magick, Hermetic Science, Tarot, Astrology, Alchemy, Mythology, Comparative Religion, and the history and structure of O.T.O., as well as various Thelemic celebrations, rituals, rites and holidays that assist and support the development of Thelemic community.

This fiscal year, we experienced a slight drop in overall membership of 66 members. This is largely attributable to the current economic situation, but also partly attributable to carry-over from last year’s one-time inactivation of a large number of members who had not paid their dues in some time. That inactivation was the result of a change in policy that tightened up the inactivation grace period afforded to members who are not dues-current.

We have continued to implement the programs and services offered to our members that have been developed according to the goals set forth in our 2007 strategic plan, which is currently under review. We expect a revised strategic plan to be prepared by the end of the current fiscal year.

Our annual joint meeting of governing bodies was held at our seventh biennial national convention (NOTOCON) in Seattle, Washington, over the weekend of August 7-9, 2009 e.v. We will hold our annual joint meeting of governing bodies over the weekend of July 17-18, 2010 e.v. in Southern California.

In the following paragraphs, you will see our Statements of Mission, Program, Vision, and Values. These statements were developed as part of our 2007 strategic planning process, incorporating principles from the original constitutions, documents and principles developed during the founding and initial growth of Ordo Templi Orientis. They form the basic plan from which our strategic plan was built, and offer a concise view of the direction we have charted for the near future of U.S.G.L.

Love is the law, love under will.

Fraternally,



Sabazius X°
National Grand Master General
Ordo Templi Orientis U.S.A.

*M*ission Statement

Ordo Templi Orientis U.S.A. is the U.S. Grand Lodge (National Section) of Ordo Templi Orientis, a hierarchical, religious membership organization. Our mission is to effect and promote the doctrines and practices of the philosophical and religious system known as Thelema, with particular emphasis on cultivating the ideals of individual liberty, self-discipline, self-knowledge, and universal brotherhood. To this end, we conduct sacramental and initiatory rites, offer guidance and instruction to our members, organize social events, and engage in educational and community service activities at locations throughout the United States.

*P*rogram Statement

1. To create, maintain, and promote a structured society of men and women within the United States of America, who are united by their acceptance of the Law of Thelema, by a common interest in Magick, Yoga, and Hermetic Science, by the common experience of ceremonial initiation and sacramental ritual, by common pledges of fidelity, cooperation, and mutual aid, and by certain common ideals, namely: individual liberty; self-discipline; self-knowledge; universal brotherhood; and opposition to tyranny, superstition, and oppression.
2. To manage and govern this society in substantial conformance with the principles set forth in the writings of Aleister Crowley and other historical leaders of Ordo Templi Orientis, with the approval and under the authorization of the International Headquarters of Ordo Templi Orientis, and in such a way as to ensure its continued survival and promote its continual growth and advancement.
3. To provide certain benefits to the members of this society, including, but not limited to: participation in sacramental rituals; social community and entertainment; pastoral guidance and mediation of disputes; instruction in Hermetic Science, Yoga, and Magick; and opportunities for creative expression, community service, and development of beneficial social and professional relationships.
4. To preserve and advance the principles and practices of the religious, philosophical, and magical system of Thelema, and to promote the principles of individual liberty and universal brotherhood.
5. To conserve and manage books, documents, and other properties of historical or practical value which it may possess.
6. To establish physical centers of activity for the society in diverse locations throughout the United States of America.

*V*alues Statement

1. We support the liberty of the individual and the cultivation of self-respect, self-knowledge, self-discipline, and self-responsibility.
2. We affirm the bonds of fraternity and expect fidelity, frankness, cooperation, mutual aid, and good faith among our members.
3. We value hospitality in our community and promote peace, tolerance, truth, and respect to the Order within our temples and precincts.
4. We advocate the principles of Scientific Religion and Universal Brotherhood, and oppose tyranny, superstition, and oppression.
5. We accept and uphold the Law of Thelema as promulgated in the Book of the Law and the writings of the Prophet of the Aeon, Aleister Crowley.

*V*ision Statement

1. We envision OTO USA as a model religious and fraternal order of occult initiates, and a leading proponent of Thelemic thought and culture within the United States.
2. We will maintain a physical presence near every major population center in the country, from which we will offer services in support of our mission to our members and to the public.
3. We will uphold the highest standards of excellence and effectiveness in the practice and dissemination of our religious, spiritual, magical, and ethical teachings.
4. We will espouse and defend the principle of individual liberty while cultivating strong fraternal bonds within our ranks.
5. We will foster harmonious and constructive relationships with the academic, business, civil, and greater social communities within which we operate.

Initiations

Minerval	142
I° ..	98
II°	57
III°	29
IV°	33
Perfect Initiate	33
Knight of the East and West	6
V°	4
Knight of the Red Eagle	4
VI°	3
Grand Inquisitor Commander	0
Prince of the Royal Secret	1
VII°	0

Initiators

New Initiators	12
Attrition ..	6
Total Initiators	166
<i>Change from last fiscal year (%)</i>	3.75

Local Bodies

Local Bodies as of 28 February 2010	58
Camps	11
Change from FY08.....	0
Oases	23
Change from FY08	0
Lodges	10
Change from FY08	0
Chapters	14
Change from FY08	1
New	7
Closed	8
Corrections for error in FY08 numbers	2
<i>Change from last fiscal year (%)</i>	-1.7

E.G.C.

Gnostic Masses reported (Oases and Lodges only, per criteria)	603
<i>Change from last fiscal year (%)</i>	0
Gnostic Masses reported (including Camps)	686
Baptisms reported	101
Confirmations reported	68
Deacon Ordinations reported	15
Priest Ordinations reported	6
Priestess Ordinations reported	2
Weddings reported (including 1 from 2008 not reported until 2009)	2
Bishop Consecrations reported ..	0

Classes

Total number of classes offered	995
<i>Change from last fiscal year (%)</i> *	-9.6

Grand Lodge Events

Annual joint meetings of governing and administrative bodies:	7 August 2009, Seattle, WA Hosted by Horizon Oasis, Vortex Camp, and NOTOCON
Electoral College Meetings:	18 April 2009 at Seven Spirits Camp, Tucson, AZ 7 August 2009 at NOTOCON, Seattle, WA 17 October 2009 at Pyramid Lodge, Buffalo, NY 9 January 2010 (on-line)
Kaaba Colloquium Workshops:	23–24 May 2009, Star Sapphire Lodge, Los Angeles, CA 26–27 September 2009, Onnophris Oasis, Indianapolis, IN
National Conference:	7–9 August 2009 at Horizon Oasis, Seattle, WA

Initiator Training

Initiator Training sessions:	24 May 2009 at Sol Invictus Oasis, Fayetteville, AR 24 October 2009 at Golden Lotus Oasis, Mission Viejo, CA
Advanced Initiator Training sessions:	14–15 March 2009 at Knights Templar Oasis, Salem, MA 5–6 May 2009 at Star Sapphire Lodge, Los Angeles, CA

Publications

U.S.G.L.:	<i>Agape</i> <i>The Eucharist</i> <i>The Pelican</i>
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Local Body (Fourteen local bodies with active, regular publications):

418 Lodge	<i>Cheth</i>	Coph Nia Oasis	<i>The Wand</i>
Leaping Laughter Lodge	<i>The Laughterful Caress</i>	Horizon Oasis	<i>Sky's Embrace</i>
Scarlet Woman Lodge	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>	Horus Oasis	<i>The Other Eye</i>
Sekhet-Maat Lodge	<i>Lion & Serpent</i>	Onnophris Oasis	<i>Old Hoosier Thelemite</i>
Tahuti Lodge	<i>The Scroll of Thoth</i>	Sekhet Bast Ra Oasis	<i>Ophiuchus</i>
Thelesis Lodge	<i>Behutet</i>	AHBH Camp	<i>AHBH Newsletter</i>
Blue Equinox Oasis	<i>Blue Equinox Newsletter</i>	Subtlety or Force Camp	<i>Doomsayers Digest</i>

Library

Number of Titles*	1,435
Number of Titles Acquired this Year*	13
Status of Lending Program: Fully activated for lodge masters and members of the VI° and above	

We always welcome literary donations; Grand Lodge has an Amazon.com Wish List and also accepts donations directly from members and friends.

* Includes correction to 2008 number.

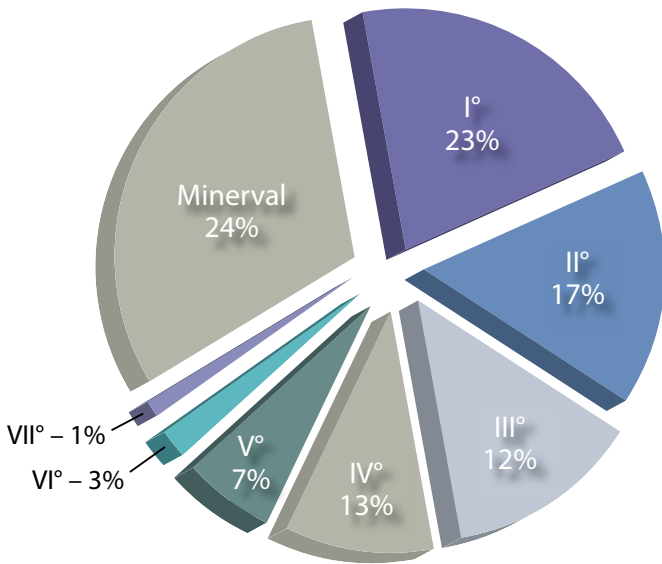
Membership

Active members as of Feb 28, 2010*	1,156
Minervals	279
Full members	877
Active members change from last year	.66 (-5%)
Active membership change from U.S.G.L. founding	.73 (7%)
New U.S.G.L. membership	205
Number of new Minervals†	174
Re-admissions (<i>requiring Executive approval</i>)	0
Reactivations (<i>not requiring Executive approval</i>)	31
Moved to U.S.G.L. jurisdiction	0
Attrition:	271
Moved from U.S.G.L. jurisdiction	3
Inactivated‡	256
Demitted Minervals	102
Inactivated full members	154
Resigned	8
Expelled	0
Deceased	4
Correction to prior year membership count	10
Bad Reports	2
Bad Reports lifted	0
Suspensions	1

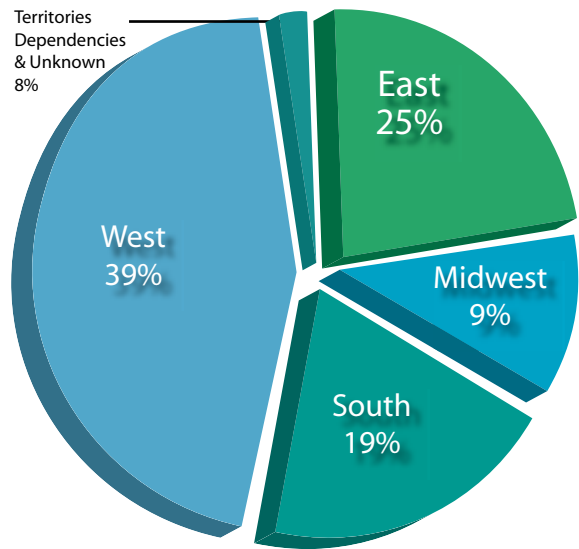
* Includes full members and Minervals.

† Includes Minervals performed in FY08 but not reported until FY09.

USGL Membership by Degree
(as of February 28, 2010 e.v.)



USGL Membership by Region
(as of February 28, 2010 e.v.)



Region Key

- West: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.
- East: CT, DC, DE, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT.
- South: AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA WV.
- Midwest: IA, IL, KS, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD, WI

Finances

Income:

Dues.....	\$42,255
Conference Fees.....	34,434
Initiation Fees.....	27,671
Sales.....	12,400
Training Fees.....	3,630
Donations.....	1,505
Other.....	333
Total Income.....	\$122,228

Expenses:

Local Body Subsidies.....	\$26,902
Administration.....	17,433
Program Expenses.....	83,661
Conferences.....	37,454
Local Development.....	35,259
Quartermaster.....	8,132
Internet.....	1,800
Agape.....	814
Initiations.....	202
Prison Ministry.....	0
Total Expenses.....	\$127,996

Net Income for year ending February 28, 2010.....(\$5,768)

Assets:

Temples & Regalia.....	17,390
General Fund.....	\$17,097
Archives.....	13,748
Building Fund.....	5,482
Real Estate.....	5,000
Office Equipment.....	3,670
Inventory.....	3,634
Total Assets.....	\$66,021

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable.....	9,779
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Net Assets.....\$56,042

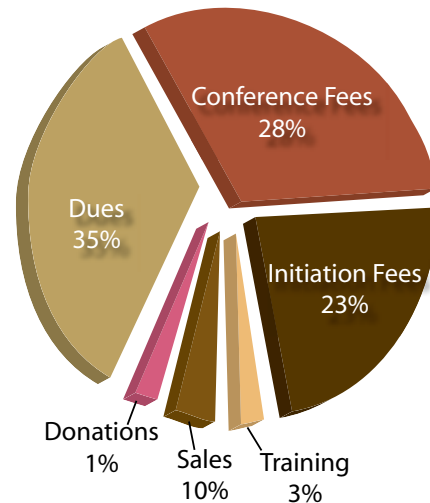
Detailed membership data and financial statements are available upon request from the Grand Treasurer General.

Ordo Templi Orientis USA is a non-profit religious organization, tax-exempt under IRS Code 501(c)3.

Donations, gifts, and bequests are fully tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

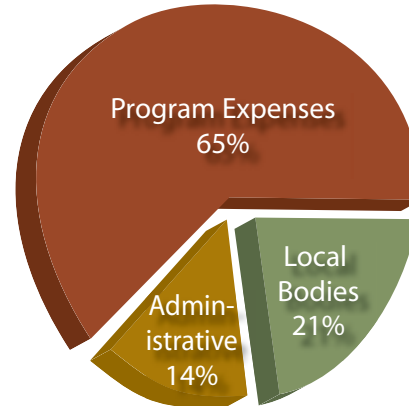
USGL Sources of Income

(March 2009 – February 2010 e.v.)



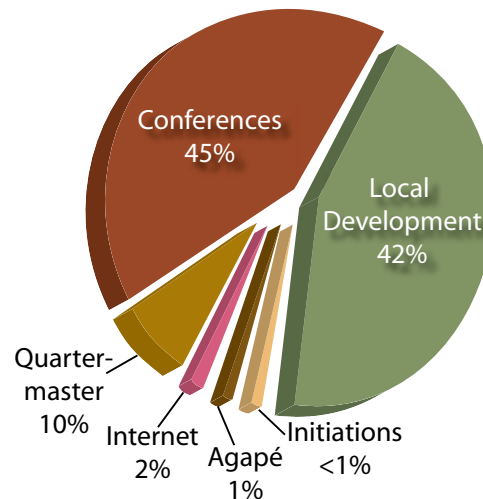
USGL Expenses

(March 2009 – February 2010 e.v.)



USGL Program Expenditures

(March 2009 – February 2010 e.v.)



Contact Information

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U.S. Grand Lodge Committees:

Conference Committee
Education Committee
E.G.C. Clergy Training Committee
Finance Committee
Initiation Training Program Committee
Kaaba Committee
Mediation Training Development Committee
Profess House Development Committee
Public Relations and Media Outreach Committee

U.S. local body contact information:

<http://oto-usa.org/bodies.html>