

## Synopsis of the paper

### The Francken Manuscript Revisited

Jointly authored by **S. Brent Morris & Josef Wäges**

Henry Andrew Francken was a naturalized British citizen from the Caribbean. Étienne Morin appointed him a Deputy Inspector General of the twenty-five-degree Order of the Royal Secret. Morin was the presumed founder of the Order, which transformed into the Rose Croix (or the Ancient and Accepted Rite or the Scottish Rite).

The Bibliothèque Nationale de France has a leather-bound manuscript from c.1769 known as the *Santo Domingo Manuscript* from the Baylot Collection (FM4 14). Its author is believed to have been Morin, and Francken translated several copies into English. These translations are known as the "Francken Manuscripts."

The first paper discussing the second known copy of the *Francken Manuscripts* was by A. R. Hewitt in *AQC* 89 (1976), and our knowledge has expanded rapidly. A workshop on the *Francken Manuscripts* was held at the Grand Orient de France as part of the 2015 World Conference on Fraternalism, Freemasonry, and History.

Since then, two additional *Francken Manuscripts* have been discovered, the bookplate in the Santo Domingo Manuscript has been identified with Morin, and intriguing details about Francken's life have come to light. This paper will summarize what is known to date about these intriguing documents.

#### About the Presenter

Bro. S. Brent Morris, PhD, has been managing editor of the *Scottish Rite Journal* of the Supreme Council, 33°, Southern Jurisdiction, USA, editor of *Heredom*, the transactions of the Scottish Rite Research Society, a mathematician with the US federal government, and an instructor at Duke, Johns Hopkins, and George Washington Universities.

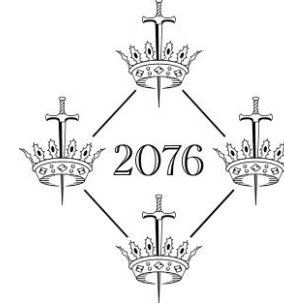
He is a former Distinguished Lecturer of the Association of Computing Machinery and author of *Magic Tricks*, *Card Shuffling*, and *Dynamic Computer Memories*. He has lectured on the mathematics of card shuffling at more than 100 US universities as well as Queen Mary College, University of London, before the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, and at the Magic Circle London.

He is Past Master (1979, 2000, 2017) of Patmos-Solomon's Lodge No. 70, Savage, Maryland, Past Master (2008) of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, a Fellow of the Philalethes Society, and a member of many other Masonic organizations. He is author of many articles and books on Freemasonry, including *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry*.

QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE No. 2076

**The Premier Lodge of Masonic Research**

Consecrated 12 January 1886



**Master**  
**W.Bro. Hugh O'Neill**

Email: [secretary@quatuorcoronati.com](mailto:secretary@quatuorcoronati.com)

12 August 2023

Dear Sir and Brother,

You are desired to attend the duties of the Lodge at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AZ on **Thursday 14 September 2023, at 4pm.**

By Command of the Master,

Yours sincerely and fraternally

Paul Calderwood, PGSwdB  
Secretary

Dark suit - Undress Regalia  
Dinner at conclusion

**OFFICERS OF THE LODGE 2022-2023**

W.Bro. Hugh O’Neill	.....	Master
W.Bro. David Peck	.....	Senior Warden
Bro. Trevor W. McKeown	.....	Junior Warden
W.Bro. Prof. Aubrey Newman, OSM, PJGD,PM	.....	Chaplain
W.Bro. Iain McIntosh	.....	Treasurer
V.W.Bro. Dr. Paul Calderwood, PGSwdB.	.....	Secretary
W.Bro. Dr. John Wade, PAGDC, PM	.....	Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. John Belton	.....	Almoner
W.Bro. Dr. Brent Morris, PM	.....	Charity Steward
M.W.Bro. Fabio Venzi	.....	Senior Deacon
W.Bro. Richard Gan, PAGDC	.....	Junior Deacon
W.Bro. Kent Henderson	.....	Asst Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. Martin Faulks	.....	Assistant Secretary
W.Bro. Mike Karn, PJGD	.....	Inner Guard
W.Bro. Mike James	.....	Tyler
W.Bro. Christopher Powell	.....	Immediate Past Master

**MEMBERS OF THE LODGE INCLUDE**

Dr. Trevor Stewart, PM; Yoshio Washizu, David Peabody, PGStB, PM; Robert Cooper, PM; Antony Baker, PJGD, PM; Prof. James Campbell, PJGD, PM; Prof. Andreas Önnorfors, PM Brian Price OBE, PAGDC, PM; Prof. Roger Burt; Arturo de Hoyos; Mark Tabbert; Dr. Ric Berman, PAGSwdB, PM; Dr. Mike Kearsley, PAGDC; Dr. John Reuther, PSGD; Adam Kendall; Helge Horrisland; Dr. E. Oscar Alleyne; V.Revd. Leif Endre Grutle, Roger Pemberton.

**HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE LODGE**

The Most. Hon. the Marquess of Northampton, DL, PProGM;  
Dr. James Daniel PSGW, PM; Yasha Beresiner, PGStB, PM

**DINING ARRANGEMENTS**

The members of the Lodge will dine together after the meeting at the Hercules Pillars, 18 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DG. If you wish to dine, meals may be booked and paid for (no later than 4.00 pm on the Friday before the meeting) via the QCCC website at <https://www.quatuorcoronati.com/meetings/festive-board/> If you require a fish or vegetarian meal please advise accordingly at the time of booking.

**BUSINESS**

1. To open the Lodge.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 21 June 2023.
3. To welcome visitors to the Lodge, particularly members of the Correspondence Circle, and especially Brethren from overseas.
4. To invest those officers who were unable to attend the Installation Meeting.
5. To Elect a Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year. Those Brethren nominated for these offices are respectively W.Bro. David Peck and W. Bro. Iain McIntosh. As permitted by the Book of Constitutions, it is the intention of the Master to declare them elected, unless any member calls for a ballot. To Elect a Tyler for the ensuing Year.
6. To receive a Report from the Almoner.
7. To receive a Talk delivered by W.Bro. Dr Brent Morris, PM, titled: **The Francken Manuscript Revisited** Jointly authored by S. Brent Morris & Josef Wäges
8. To receive Notice of propositions.
9. To close the Lodge.

**Please note that the lecture will NOT be delivered in the company of ladies and non-Masons on this occasion.**

*The meetings of the Lodge are held on the Second Thursday in November (Installation), Third Thursday in February, Second Thursday in May and September, and the Fourth Thursday in June*

***Next meeting:  
Thursday 9th November  
at Freemasons’ Hall, Great Queen Street, London.***

**THE NORMAN B. SPENCER PRIZE ESSAY**

Brethren are reminded that all are eligible to enter the competition whether they live in the United Kingdom or abroad. It was instituted to encourage brethren to take an interest in Masonic research and those who have not previously undertaken study of this kind will find that it is remarkably interesting and satisfying in itself even though their efforts may not be crowned with the award of the prize. Further details are provided on our website, <https://www.quatuorcoronati.com/research/spencer-prize/>