From: linden@positive.eng.sun.com (Peter van der Linden)

Newsgroups: alt.folklore.urban

Subject: Re: What's The _Rosicrucian Order_?

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The "Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis" or the Rosicrucians is just a bullshit mailorder scam that rakes in big money for the leaders! Less ruthless and well-organized than the Scientologists, but not as philanthropic as the average fraternal order, the Rosicrucians reveal mysteries of the ancient Egyptians to anyone who can clip a coupon and send it in, along with \$20.

The Rosicrucians were started by confidence trickster H. Spencer Lewis in 1915, and rely on beguiling the naive with secret ceremonies, passwords, fraternal signs, and general mumbo-jumbo. It's all a crock of frog brains, but if you long to be part of something larger, and you don't even know enough to get into the Republican Party, the Rosicrucians will fill the void while lightening your billfold.

The "Bigger Secrets" book says that the 3 mysterious passwords of the Rosicrucians are "reflection", "Maat" (sic) and "Moard-Moarc" (sic).

The Supreme Temple of the Rosicrucians is round the corner from Phil's house in San Jose. It's a compound surrounded by palm trees and occupying a complete city block (the Rosicrucians, not Phil's house).

The Rosicrucians were in the news within the last 2 years because one of the uneducated scamming louts at the top had seized control from another of them, and since there were millions of dollars at stake, the matter of who had the ownership rights was being bitterly contested. It became a lawsuit in the end.

I wonder if the market for invented bullshit-type religions is totally saturated yet? The problem is that you AFU types don't take anything seriously enough to sign up for my "Spiritual Ecstasy through Fermented Fluids" religious franchise. Whoop, whoop, pull off!

[INLINE] January 25, 1995