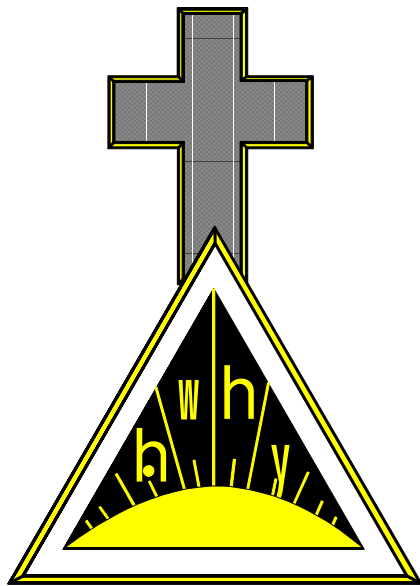


The Hermetic Order Of The  
GOLDEN DAWN<sup>Intl.</sup>

**CONSTRUCTION AND  
SYMBOLISM OF THE FIRE  
WAND**



**PHILOSOPHUS 4=7**

Originally in the Golden Dawn, the Fire Wand, along with the other three elemental tools, were made by the Adeptus Minor. As a matter of fact, it was part of the requirements in the grade of Adeptus Minor. The Fire Wand is used in all magical workings where the nature of Fire is needed. It is under the presidency of  $\gamma$  in the Tetragrammaton. It is the wand of the Tarot.

If you look closely at the shape of the Fire Wand, you will notice that it has a very familiar shape, that of an erect phallus. The cone itself is mounted on a shaft. The wand should be about nine to fourteen inches, depending on the size of your altar, the size of your hands, etc.. Don't make it too big, but make it big enough that you feel the essence of power when you hold it.

Painted on the cone-shaped head of the wand are flaming elongated  $\gamma$ 's. This firmly points out and establishes the  $\gamma$  (Father) Fire nature and energy of the wand itself. The Hebrew letter  $\gamma$  also has a similar representation to that of sperm. Sperm is the masculine inseminating qualities of Fire. Traditionally in Eastern Tao philosophy, sperm, when it is in the testicles, is feminine or Yin energy. However, when the penis is aroused and becomes erect, the sperm heats up, and as it heats up it takes on Yang or masculine energy. So, the Fire Wand is definitely Yang masculine energy, the inseminating nature of Fire.

There have been various methods used for making the Fire Wand. Traditionally, there is a magnetized wire that runs through the entire length of the wand. This could be accomplished in a number of different ways. The Golden Dawn suggested the use of cane wood because of its natural hollowness, allowing the wire to be inserted into the center of the wand and protrude out to the acorn at the end. In some parts of the country or in various craft stores, this cane can be found, and if you can find it with its joints in the appropriate places, it can work very well. It is light, durable, and it is an appropriate wood for making the Fire Wand.

Another method is to take your dowl and to have somebody with a saw slice it up the middle, then, with a router or a file, file out enough area so that the magnetized wire can be inserted in the filed-out area. Using wood glue, adhere the two pieces back together with the magnetized wire in the center.

An alternative method is a bit unorthodox but seems to be very effective, and that is the use of a brass pipe. We know that brass is the metal of  $\text{j} \chi \text{n}$  and  $\text{j} \chi \text{n}$  is the sephira of Fire in the elemental grades of the Golden Dawn. Thus, a piece of brass can be purchased from a plumbing supply store, a craft shop or hardware store, and then the magnetized wire can be inserted inside. Brass does not conduct magnetic energy so the interference with the magnetic wire should be minimal. When you insert the magnetic wire in the wand shaft itself, the portion of the wire that is magnetized, or the portion that will pick up pins and small metal objects, is the end that should be placed at the acorn portion of the wand.

Now, a brief side note on the emphasis of mesmerism and magnetic energy as exemplified by Cornelius Agrippa. Much emphasis was placed on this magnetic wire, however, the emphasis has shifted over the last hundred years from the physical magnetic emphasis to the psychological emphasis. Therefore, some will point out, and probably with good cause, that the magnetic wire has very little effect on the magical outcome when utilizing the Fire Wand. However, there are purists that will disagree with this. In the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, most of the Adepts utilize the

magnetic wire in the center of the Fire Wand, but it is not a requirement. Remember, the wand is an extension of your masculine Yang will; whether you be female or male, it makes no difference. It is a symbol of your projective will, and that is far more important than the magnetized wire running up the center of the wand. So, if it is too much trouble to place the magnetized wire in the center of the wand, it can be eliminated, but every effort should be exhausted before giving up on placing the magnetized wire in the center of the Fire Wand.

One other method for placing the wire in the center of the shaft of the Fire Wand is to take the shaft and to cut it in half, not length wise this time, but in diameter. Then using a small, long drill bit, drill holes through the sections, run the wire through it and glue them back together.

There are a number of methods for getting this magnetized wire in the center of the Fire Wand, any one of which may work. If you have in the construction of your personal Fire Wand developed other methods or ideas, please be sure to share them with your proctor so that he or she may share them with other Order members, as we are always looking to improve our methods in the process of creating tools.

The next problem that you will develop in the construction of the Fire Wand will be finding an appropriate acorn that can act as the tip or head. These can be purchased in furniture stores generally. Look for a furniture store that has unfinished parts, and you should be able to purchase a pointed acorn for less than a couple of dollars. Another method is the use of oven-hardening clay. Here, the clay is made into a ball, pointed, and formed into the shape of an acorn. It is then attached to a wooden dowl, but not the wooden dowl that you are using for the Fire Wand, for you would not want to burn it. Use instead a wooden dowl of the same size. This acorn is then placed in the oven at approximately two hundred and fifty degrees until it is hardened, but please read the instructions. Remember, this oven-hardening clay actually hardens in the cooling process, not in the oven itself. Somehow the change of heat in the cooling process allows it to firm up, so be careful when removing it from the oven not to drop it, otherwise, you will have to start over. Another method that involves the oven hardening clay is to cook it a little bit longer at about twenty five degrees lower than what the instructions call for. In this case you would be using the actual dowl of the Fire Wand with the wire, and the wire would stick through the oven-hardening clay and protrude out the end of it. The first method allows you to do it if you are not going to use a wire; if you are going to use the wire, you will need to actually have the dowl that you are using for the shaft of the Fire Wand in the oven in order that the magnetic wire protrudes out the end of the dowl and into the oven-hardening clay.

The next step is to give your Fire Wand an undercoating of primer; white primer is the best. After you have applied the white primer, use several coats of bright red paint. Spray paint is effective, but some people prefer using Testor's model paint, and other people prefer a water-based paint and the use of varathane after they have completed the project. Whichever paint you prefer, make sure that it is bright and shiny.

The next is the construction of the bands that surround the Fire Wand itself. These can be created out of strips of leather. One can make four strips of leather using a straight edge and a craft knife. They should be about a quarter of an inch wide and placed in the appropriate places at the bottom of the wand, at the base of the acorn,

and two other strips equally spaced in the center of the shaft. Please see the diagram for the exact placement.

Another method is to use Sculpey clay, a name brand of hardening clay. Beautiful, strong, firm bands can be created out of the Sculpey clay.

Another method for creating the bands is the use of wood rings that can be purchased at a craft store. These rings can be painted and glued on the dowel. For whatever method you utilize, they should be painted in a vivid, bright yellow. In addition to the bands being painted yellow, the acorn itself at the end of the wand should have three elongated y's painted in yellow.

The sigils on the Fire Wand should be painted in a bright, emerald green. Remember to leave space for your Adeptus Minor motto that will be going on the Fire Wand later. You will paint the sigils in Hebrew that are given to you in the diagrams in this lesson. This should give you the basic idea for the creation of your Fire Wand.

The Fire Wand is a requirement for this particular grade. You should have already created your other three elemental tools. This is your fourth and last one. In the Adeptus Minor grade, you will be consecrating these tools along with other tools as well. For additional information and ideas on the Fire Wand, consult your proctor.

