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Grand Lodge Memorial Temple, dedicated December 7, 1949

The Texas Freemason Magazine is an official publication of the Grand Lodge of Texas A. F. & A. M. It is published four times a year for the members of Texas Lodges and subscribers. Spring and winter issues are available in print. Summer and fall issues are available in PDF format at <https://grandlodgeoftexas.org>. Opinions expressed by the Editors and contributing writers do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Grand Lodge of Texas Copyright 2020, by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas. All rights reserved.

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The Texas Freemason Magazine encourages submission of articles and photographs of general interest to Masons in Texas, reserving the right to edit and use the articles and pictures as needs and policies dictate.

News and articles from around the state will continue to be published in a web-based format on the Grand Lodge of Texas website. The Grand Lodge website is accessible at <http://www.grandlodgeoftexas.org>

Please continue to send your articles and Lodge events and news to the Editors of The Texas Freemason Magazine.

The preferred method of submission is via email with an attached Microsoft Word document. Pictures should be separately submitted in JPEG format to TexasFreemason@grandsecretaryoftx.org. If you do not have email, submissions may be sent to the Grand Lodge of Texas, Attn.: The Editor of The Texas Freemason Magazine, PO Box 446, Waco, Texas 76703. All materials become property of the magazine and cannot be returned.

Submissions

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Archives

<https://grandlodgeoftexas.org/texas-mason-magazine-archives/>

A WORD FROM THE Grand Master



The Grand Master's motto at the beginning of this year was "Create Excitement" for Texas Masonry. It still is. In this time of national emergency, we must be the light that helps show the way. In our daily journey through life we must be the examples of brotherly love, hope and charity. I continue to ask you to brand yourselves and become visible ambassadors.

Our beloved country and Freemasonry continues to be challenged with the COVID-19 pandemic. As you know, we have had several limitations placed on us since March that we have had to work through. It has not been easy; but if we continue to take responsibility for the safety of ourselves, our family, our Brothers and others, we will be leading the way as Masons for all to emulate. The Grand Master has consistently followed the Governor's direction in keeping Texas Freemasonry compliant with his several Executive Orders. The Grand Master also expects you to follow your local county and city guidelines.

Charity, Family and Legacy are still the themes of 2020. If you did not have an opportunity to attend one of the Grand Master Conferences earlier this year, there is a video that provides a way for you to see what you missed. It is available on the

Grand Lodge of Texas Facebook page and on the Grand Lodge of Texas YouTube page. The link below is a direct link to the YouTube version.

<https://youtu.be/vbY8DoEbZJs>

You are invited to the Briscoe Workshops this fall. A schedule of dates and locations will be announced in the coming weeks. They are excellent events and I hope you make plans to attend.

I plan to have at least three Grand Master's Recommendations for your consideration at our next Grand Communication. One will propose a path forward to preserve our Grand Lodge building. The second will propose an amendment to Article 508. The third one will address Endowed Memberships.

The rules and guidelines of the Honesty and Integrity Award as specified in Article 14f provides the opportunity for each lodge to recognize two outstanding high school juniors for their honesty and integrity. The identification of these students begins with the onset of school this fall. Your lodge should already have received materials for this wonderful program in the coming 2020/2021 school year.

The online merchandising is now operational on the Grand Lodge website located at the top under the dropdown menu label "Shop". <https://grandlodgeoftexas.org/shop/>. On this user-friendly link you can see pictures of all the items with pricing and easy ordering and payment. I hope you will visit it and consider purchasing available items, including the First Lady merchandise from the same link.

The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer have taken steps to modernize the accounting systems for Grand Lodge. The actual processing of most accounting transactions has been outsourced to a local CPA firm with electronic approval by both

officers. It has reduced our overall accounting costs and improved information access for the Trustees.

The Trustees are already meeting on plans for our Grand Session in January. A Special Committee has been formed to develop and explore what alternatives exist if the COVID-19 pandemic does not permit us to meet as usual in January. Any sound business operation should always have a Plan B.

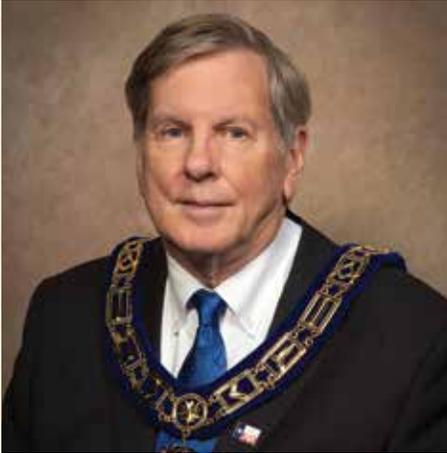
It is my hope you will continue to keep our families and brethren safe, as well as "Create Excitement" within our fraternity and within the community about all the ways Masonry is integral to our society. God Bless you.

Fraternally,

Paul D. Underwood
Grand Master



A WORD FROM THE Deputy Grand Master



It is an honor and privilege to serve Texas Freemasonry. So many memories of things past and so many hopes for things future! 2021 is rapidly approaching with anticipation and worries. This has been a difficult year for Texans and Texas Masonry; yet what does not destroy, strengthens. We just must work and enjoy. Following are some thoughts on the coming year if tradition prevails and I am elevated.

Appreciation: First and foremost, our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Paul D. Underwood, deserves our thanks and praise. He was catapulted into a new world when the pandemic closed our society and altered how we relate and interact with others. The pandemic forced a halt to many of his activities and programs. Throughout the ordeal of the last few months M•W• Underwood led us with determination, compassion, and a majestic love for our Fraternity. Please take time to personally thank him for his leadership.

Need and fulfillment: As we travel our journey in this life, from time to time we hear people say things which strikingly affect us, words that take on paramount importance as they sink into our subconscious. At a Grand Master Conference in Houston, a Brother vocalized that the real problem with our Fraternity is that we do not treat our Brothers very well. My Brothers, Jeff King of Palo Duro Lodge No. 1239, and Ernie Gandy of Plainview Lodge No. 709, voiced that lodges must focus on the needs of their members and then fulfill those needs.

In most Masonic Lodges the mindset is, "What can a member do for the Lodge?" Rarely, if ever, does the Lodge leadership think about what

does the member need from the Lodge. Does a member have a need for attendance at a stated meeting? Does a member have a need to listen to the Secretary read minutes? The simple answer is that the member does not have a need to do those things. Lodges push meeting attendance, paying bills, and filling the chairs. Those are all needs of the Lodge. What are the needs of the member? Does the Brother need help paying bills or finding a job? Does the Brother need someone to console him or offer him kind words of support? Does he need fellowship outside of that monthly stated meeting dinner, or does he need someone to listen to his joys and concerns? Does he need time with good men, or does his family need time with good people? What is it that the Brothers of your lodge need?

Take the time to create a playing card for each member who participates in your lodge, those whom you have seen in the past year. On that card put information such as job and education, conditions of health, when he joined the lodge, who signed his petition, how old he is, where he works, who is in his immediate family, does he have young children or grandchildren. Then on the back of his playing card write down what he needs from the Lodge. I came back to Masonry to learn the ritual work. I did this because the DeMolay ritual guided and gave order to my life as a youth. As an adult I needed the teachings and directions of our Masonic ritual. My son, with a beautiful and vibrant wife and three small boys and a precious girl on the way, does not need to attend a meeting. His need is comradeship and family support, people to go fishing with on Saturday morning, and some activity at the lodge for his and other Brothers' children. Once you have listed the needs of the Brother then go about deciding how you are going to fulfill those needs.

Bring back a brother. Typical lodges will see fifteen percent or so of their membership during a typical year. Thirty five percent of their members may be too infirmed by age or illness, or otherwise unable to attend lodge because of job or family considerations. That means roughly fifty percent of our members are content to be card carrying Texas Masons and not be active in a lodge although they pay dues or are endowed members. These are men who took the obligations, were judged proficient and probably tried to be active for a year or two. Some lodges actively reach out to these Brothers, but most do nothing beyond a phone call. If we are to survive, our lodges must determine why it is their members are not active and what changes the lodge must make to bring

them back. The 2021 Planning Team and the Membership Committee will promote a BRING A BROTHER BACK workbook to lodges who care about those missing Brothers beyond seeing their dues or endowments.

Conference with the Grand Master. There will be 28 Conferences with the Grand Master across the state. These conferences will differ from the past in that they feature a speaker on the Bring Back a Brother Program, remarks by the Grand Master, and a questions and answers session with the Grand Master and other Grand Officers present. They will be open to all Masons, their friends, and families.

District Service Team. The District Service Teams, consisting of the District Deputy Grand Master, the District Instructor, District Education Officer and District Communication Officer, are tasked with proactively working with their district's lodges and to plan district wide activities. The Service Team is expected to lead the district and be accepted as Brothers and friends in each lodge in their district.

Volunteers. I am asked how Brothers become active in Grand Lodge. It is a sad statement that positions are only offered to those good and able Brothers we meet along the way and that there is nothing which identifies and pushes up good and able Brothers with special and necessary competence or interests. We need to identify a member's occupations and areas of competence in Grandview. We need to list all committees and their members on the membership portal of Grandview. After reviewing the list of Committees, any Brother that is willing, able and can, should offer to work with the committee on a volunteer basis. This will form a pool from which to select future committee members. We are in the process of reconstituting the Insurance Advisory Committee. We need volunteers who have a background in insurance and claims handling. If that is you, please email me through the Grand Secretary.

These are some of the initiatives for next year. Remember Need and Fulfillment.

Again, thank you for the many memories and the many hopes. Stay safe, and "Let's be careful out there!"

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
Ken Curry
Deputy Grand Master

JOIN US FOR THE
**GRAND
MASTER'S
BANQUET**

HONORING
**GRAND MASTER
PAUL D. UNDERWOOD**

Thursday, January 14, 2021

**Lee Lockwood Library
Social Hour at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner served at 7:00 p.m.**

Tickets are \$55 per person
Seating will be limited.

Purchase tickets and RSVP at
<https://tinyurl.com/glotbanquet>

Please join Grand Master Paul D. Underwood for an exciting evening at the annual Grand Master's Banquet for the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Grand Master will present the W.B. and Brandon Carrell Award, the William Beck award, and honor the Sam Houston Medal recipients for the year.

.....
**Lee Lockwood Library, 2801 W. Waco Drive
Waco, Texas**

JOIN US FOR THE
**COMING
HOME
PARTY**

HONORING
**KEN AND GLORIA
CURRY**

Saturday, April 24, 2021

**DFW Hilton
Reception at 6:00 p.m.
followed by Dinner**

Tickets are \$65 per person
Available from members of the 2021 Planning Team and from 2021 DDGMs or by purchase at

Available on line at
<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e6h7hzd-faa67e0&oseq=&c=&ch=>

Dress is "cowboy formal" so tux top and blue jeans or coat and tie with blue jeans for men. Music and dancing hosted by a local band.

.....
**DFW Hilton, 1800 Highway 26E
Grapevine, Texas 76051-9641**

Special rate at the hotel for the night of the event of \$129.

Local attractions include: Historic Grapevine Main Street, local wineries, shopping malls, LEGOLAND® and SEA LIFE Grapevine Aquarium.

Hotel Shuttle to DFW International Airport and local attractions.



Ladies Shopping Trip — TO — Salado

NOTICE

The bus COVID regulations: You **MUST** wear a mask on entire bus trip. Front seats on each side to **remain empty**. No distancing required in seating. The bus will pick up at the Grand Lodge Building at **9:00 am prompt!**

When: Friday, January 15, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Pick Up: Grand Lodge Building; north side entrance on 7th Street, Waco, Texas

Register By: January 7, 2021

Itinerary: Bus ride to and from Salado, Texas; luncheon at Alexander's

Price: (mark your choice)
 \$30 – Bus trip only
 \$25 – Lunch at Alexander's
\$ _____ Your Total

Questions: Sharon Mosmeyer
 sharonmosmeyer@yahoo.com
 281-389-3091

Luncheon at Alexander's
 Mark your choice. All meals include choice of tea or coffee, gratuities and lemon-scented cheesecake bites with raspberry sauce.

Shrimp and Pasta
 Sautéed shrimp with fettuccine pasta with fresh basil pesto and garlic toast.

Flat Iron Steak Frites
 Cast Iron seared flat iron steak with house fries and sauce au Poivre (peppercorn).

Southern Fried Chicken
 Southern Fried chicken with collards and red rice.

Salmon Nicoise
 Delicate salmon filet, mixed greens, capers, lemon, nicoise olives, haricot vert, egg, potatoes, chives and local goat cheese.

You **MUST** register, send your **PAYMENT** and select your **MENU CHOICE**. Register by completing this form and return with payment to:
 Grand Lodge of Texas | P.O. Box 446 | Waco, Texas 76703 | Attention: DORIS

Name

Email Address

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Cell Phone

Contact Phone That Day

2020-2021 Summary of Proposed Resolutions and Recommendations

Resolution No. 1: This Resolution would amend Art. 172 and require all portions of Committee reports proposing any change in Grand Lodge or Grand Lodge law to be filed with the Grand Secretary on or before November 15 of each year and included in the copies of proposed Resolutions forwarded to the secretaries of the subordinate Lodges by the Grand Secretary

Resolution No. 2: This Resolution would amend Art. 83 and would change the date for filing DDGM reports on the status of the Lodges in his District from September 15 to December 31 of each year.

Resolution No. 3: This Resolution would amend numerous Articles in both the Constitution and laws with regard to certain action dates. The requested date changes are requested in light of the movement of the date of commencement of the Grand Annual Communication from the 1st Thursday in December to the 3rd Thursday in January.

Resolution No. 4: This resolution would amend Art. 338 regarding the safekeeping of the minutes of Constituent Lodges to permit the digital storage of Lodge minutes in the "Cloud" which would allow Lodge members to review Lodge minutes "on-line" in a secure environment.

Resolution No. 5: This resolution would delete Art. 629, 631, 632, 638 and 639 and would amend Art. 630 by requiring a suspended or expelled Mason, except for those suspended for nonpayment of dues, to file a written petition for reinstatement of restoration with the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas. The petition would be considered by the Grievances and Appeals Committee and, after certain action, its findings and proposed action would be forwarded to the Grand Master for approval. The actions would be included in the Grievances and Appeals Annual Report.

Resolution No. 6: This resolution would create a new Art. 22(a) and would give the Grand Master authority, with the approval of the Grand Lodge Trustees, to suspend or modify any law of the Grand Lodge of Texas (a) during the period of a world, national or state emergency; or (b) to conform with any lawful Federal or State directive that would affect the operations of the Grand Lodge of Texas and/or its constituent Lodges.

Resolution No. 7: This resolution would amend Art. 316 by adding Endowed Members to the list of those Masons who are exempt from paying dues and their Lodges to be exempt from paying per capita to the Grand Lodge.

Resolution No. 8: This resolution addresses the proposed realignment of Masonic Districts 26A, 26B and 26C in Southeast Texas.

Resolution No. 9: This resolution would create a new Art. 224c which would modify the position of the Grand Lodge of Texas regarding consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages on Lodge premises.

Resolution No. 10: This resolution would change the name of Fort Hancock – Fort Bliss Lodge No. 1297 to Taft-Diaz Lodge No. 1297.

Resolution No. 11: This resolution requests the realignment of Lodges in District 30.

Resolution No. 12: This resolution would create a new Art. 74b and would require the Grand Secretary, with approval of a majority of the Grand Lodge Trustees, to annually review, revise, add or delete Masonic forms as may be necessary for compliance with Grand Lodge laws and to provide the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee and written report for that committee's action pursuant to Art. 107.

Resolution No. 13: This resolution would amend Art. 163a and would require each Lodge to pay an annual assessment of \$40.00 for each member on its rolls until a total assessment of \$200.00 per Lodge member has been paid. The monies would be first placed in the Grand Lodge General Fund and then transferred to a Reserve Fund, in trust, to be solely used for structural maintenance, renovation, remodeling and repair of the Memorial Masonic Grand Lodge Building.

Resolution No. 14: This resolution would amend Art. 4, Sec. 8 of the Constitution and would permit the Grand Master to appoint District Deputy Grand Masters from either a Lodge in that District, or from a Lodge in an adjoining District.

Resolution No. 15: This resolution would amend Art. 75 by adding that if a Masonic District is not composed of three or more Lodges, the Masonic District shall have one year to submit a plan for redistricting. If no plan for redistricting is submitted, the Grand Lodge shall redistrict accordingly.

Grand Master's Recommendation No. 1: This recommendation would amend Art. 508 by making it a Masonic offense to make any negative reference, or take any negative action, in regard to a petitioner's or member's faith, creed or race at any time.

Grand Master's Recommendation No. 2: This recommendation would permit the Grand Master to allow the participating Lodges to participate in a "Join the Move" program during his Masonic year. The program would be designed to advance those Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts who did not complete their degrees within the prescribed time to become Master Masons. The specific provisions of the program are included in the published Recommendation.

Grand Master's Recommendation No. 3: This recommendation would delete Art. 163b, 163e and 318a in their entirety and would create a new Art. 318a regarding Endowed Memberships. The minimum amounts for an endowment would be set at an amount not less than 20 times the Lodge's current annual dues, if under age 65; or 10 times annual dues if over age 65. All monies presently in the Delaware Trust, the current holder of the endowment assets, would be returned to the Lodges who would be required to establish and manage an Endowed Membership Fund. Only the income from the fund could be withdrawn and used by the Lodge for its operations.

Grand Master's Recommendation No. 4: This recommendation would amend Art. 163(11) by increasing the amount from \$1.00 to \$9.00 to be remitted by the Lodge for the Grand Lodge Library and Museum with its Annual Return for each member on the rolls of the Lodge.

GRAND LODGE

2021 Grand Communication Schedule of Events

The family and friends of Master Masons attending the 185th Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas are invited to all Open Sessions printed in red in this program.

During the hours of the Tiled Sessions of the Grand Annual Communication, the Ladies Lounge and Television Room on the lower level and the Library and Museum on the ground floor of our Memorial Grand Lodge Temple will be open.

Thursday, January 14, 2021

1:00 p.m. Musical Prelude, W.⦿ Michael J. Coté, Grand Musician

1:30 p.m. Pre-formal Opening Ceremonies, R.⦿ W.⦿ Thomas F. Griffin, Past Grand Master, Presiding

Presentation of the Colors by the National Sojourners

Entrance and Procession of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Past Grand Masters and the Grand Lodge Officers, under the direction of R.⦿ W.⦿ Don Angell, Grand Marshal

M.⦿ W.⦿ Paul D. Underwood, Grand Master, Presiding

Reception of Distinguished Guests by R.⦿ W.⦿ Don O. Angell, assisted by W.⦿ Peter E. Grish, Grand Tiler, and the Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Texas

Salute to the United States Flag by R.⦿ W.⦿ Bradley S. Billings, Grand Senior Warden

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag led by R.⦿ W.⦿ Bradley S. Billings, Grand Senior Warden

Salute to the Texas Flag led by R.⦿ W.⦿ G. Clay Smith, Grand Junior Warden

Pledge to the Texas Flag led by R.⦿ W.⦿ G. Clay Smith, Grand Junior Warden

Address of Welcome from the City of Waco

Presentation of the Certificate from the City of Waco

Response to Address of Welcome by R.⦿ W.⦿ Brian R. Dodson, Past Grand Master

Greetings from Masonic affiliated organizations:

Order of Eastern Star, Worthy Grand Matron, Linda Winn-Christenson, and Worthy Grand Patron, Paul Garner

Order of Rainbow for Girls, JoAnn Weaver, Supreme Inspector, and Brittany M. Stevens, Grand Worthy Advisor

Order of DeMolay R.⦿ W.⦿ Tommy F. Chapman, Past Grand Master, Executive Officer, and Justin Hancock, State Master Councilor

York Rite, Mark Myer, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

Jackie Matthews, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas

Sir Knight Gary H. Freedman, Right Eminent Grand Commander, The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas

Sir Knight Lawrence E. Tucker, Right Eminent Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America

Scottish Rite, R.⦿ W.⦿ and Illustrious Michael L. Wiggins, 33°, Past Grand Master, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas. The Supreme Council, 33°, A.& A. S. R. Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

Illustrious James D. Cole, 33° Sovereign Grand Commander, Supreme Council, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

Illustrious David L. Glattly, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, Supreme Council 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

M.⦿ W.⦿ Wilbert M. Curtis, Grand Master, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas, F. & A. M.

Jerry Gantt, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Shriners Hospital for Children, Past Imperial Potentate

Imperial Sir James Smith, Imperial Potentate, Shriners International

Memorial Service – Brother, Joseph A. Taylor, Chairman, Memorials Committee

Presentations of Awards:

Masonic Service Awards – Grand Master, Paul D. Underwood

Vanguard Lodges Awards – Grand Master, Paul D. Underwood

Roll Call of Grand Lodge Officers by R.⦿ W.⦿ Justin B. Duty, Grand Secretary

Response to Roll Call of Grand Lodge Officers by R.⦿ W.⦿ Kenneth Curry, Deputy Grand Master

Roll Call and Welcome of the Past Grand Master's by R.⦿ W.⦿ Justin B. Duty, Grand Secretary

Response to Roll Call and Welcome of the Past Grand Masters by R.⦿ W.⦿ M. Boyd Patterson, Past Grand Master

Roll Call and Welcome of the District Deputy Grand Masters by R.⦿ W.⦿ Justin B. Duty, Grand Secretary

Response to Roll Call and Welcome of the District Deputy Grand Masters, by R.⦿ W.⦿ John I. Hollowell II, District Deputy Grand Master District 42

5:00 p.m. Prayer by R.⦿ W.⦿ John Wood, Grand Chaplain

6:00 p.m. Grand Masters Banquet Scottish Rite Temple, 2801 West Waco Drive

W. B. and Brandon Carrell Humanitarian Award

Sam Houston Medal Award

William M. Beck Award

Friday, January 15, 2021

9:00 a.m. Opening of the One Hundred Eighty Fourth Grand Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, by M.⦿ W.⦿ Paul D. Underwood, Grand Master

Report of Committee on Credentials by Brother W. Mike Spears, Chairman

Resolution seating all Master Masons by R.⦿ W.⦿ W. M. "Mike" Gower, Past Grand Master

Resolution setting day and time for election of Officers of the M.⦿ W.⦿ Grand Lodge of Texas for 10:00 a.m., Saturday, January 16, 2020 by R.⦿ W.⦿ Brian R. Dodson, Past Grand Master

Resolution setting day and time for Installation of Officers of the M.⦿ W.⦿ Grand Lodge of Texas for 2:00 p.m., Saturday, January 16, 2020 by R.⦿ W.⦿ Walter W. Rogers, Past Grand Master

Report of the Grand Master by M.° W.° Paul D. Underwood, Grand Master

Report of the Grand Treasurer by R.° W.° Rick Townsend, Grand Treasurer

Report of the Grand Secretary by R.° W.° Justin B. Duty, Grand Secretary

Report of the Grand Lodge Trustees by R.° W.° Justin B. Duty, Grand Secretary

Report of the Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas by Honorable Don Paul Payton, Secretary-Treasurer

Report of Masonic Youth Foundation by R.° W.° Brian R. Dodson, Past Grand Master

Report of the Square and Compasses Holding Inc. by R.° W.° Richard C. Townsend, President

Committee on By-Laws by Brother Dennis D. Reader, Chairman

Final Report Committee on Finance by Brother Ronald C. Wise, Co-Chairman

Report of Grand Lodge Assistance Fund by Brother Ronald C. Wise, Co-Chairman

Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence Initial Report on Resolutions and Recommendations by Brother Lawrence A. Winkle, Chairman

Consideration of Resolutions & Grand Master Recommendations

12:00 p.m. (approximately) Grand Lodge Called From Labor

1:00 p.m. Prelude of Guitar Music by W.° Michael Coté, Grand Musician

1:30 p.m. Grand Oration by R.° W.° Joseph R. Barron, Grand Orator

Grand Lodge Called to Labor

Prayer by R.° W.° John Wood, Grand Chaplain

Continuation of Consideration of Resolutions & Grand Master Recommendations, if necessary

Committee on Investments Report by Brother Fred R. Smith, Chairman

Committee on Work by R.° W.° W. Keith Reynolds, Chairman

Committee on Masonic Education and Service by Brother Larry M. FitzPatrick, Chairman

Committee on Membership by Brother J. W. Irick, Chairman

Committee on Memorials by Brother Joseph A. Taylor, Chairman

5:00 p.m. (approximately) Grand Lodge Called from Labor

Prayer by R.° W.° John Wood, Grand Chaplain

Saturday, January 16, 2021

8:00 a.m. Masonic Home and School Ex-Student speakers, Patsy Dunlap King, William James Oakley, PM. All Ladies are invited.

8:30 a.m. Grand Lodge Called to Labor

Prayer by R.° W.° John Wood, Grand Chaplain

Report by Masonic Home and School Board of Directors, Bro. John R. Clements, President

Committee on Fraternal Relations by Brother P. G. Pete Normand, Jr. Chairman

Report of the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation by Bro. Don Comedy, Executive Secretary

9:00 a.m. Coffee honoring Rebecca Underwood (2020) and Gloria Curry (2021) in the Lower Level, Grand Lodge Building. All Ladies are invited.

Continuation of Consideration of Resolutions & Grand Master Recommendations, if necessary

Final Report of Committee on Credentials immediately preceding elections by Brother W. Mike Spears, Chairman

The election of Grand Officers shall be held at such hour as the Grand Lodge may fix by resolution adopted the previous day and shall have priority over all other business.

Committee on Merchandise Sales by Brother Donald R. Keasler, Chairman

Final Report of the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee by Brother Lawrence A. Winkle, Chairman

Unfinished business

New business

Grand Lodge Called From Labor

Prayer by R.° W.° John Wood, Grand Chaplain

1:30 p.m. Musical Prelude - Installing Grand Musician: Michael J. Coté

2:00 p.m. Open Installation of Officers as fixed by resolution; Master of Ceremonies, R.° W.° Thomas F. Griffin, Past Grand Master; Installing Officer R.° W.° Michael L. Wiggins, Past Grand Master; Installing Marshal R.° W.° Donny W. Broughton, Past Grand Master; Installing Chaplain R.° W.° William Michael "Mike" Gower, II, Past Grand Master.

Presentation of Grand Master's Ring and Bible to Grand Master by the immediate Past Grand Master, R.° W.° Paul D. Underwood

Presentation of Past Grand Master's Apron by R.° W.° Terry W. Stogner, Past Grand Master

Presentation of Past Grand Master's Jewel by R.° W.° Tommy F. Chapman, Past Grand Master

Presentation of Past Grand Master's Certificate by R.° W.° Jerry N. Kirby, Past Grand Master

Presentation of Past Grand Master's Ring by R.° W.° Wendell P. Miller, Past Grand Master

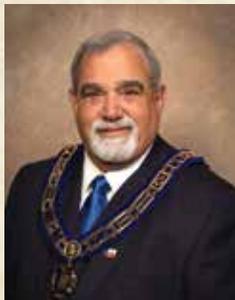
Presentation of First Ladies Pin by Rebecca Underwood to First Lady Gloria Curry

Presentations to the Most Worshipful Grand Master

Remarks by the Most Worshipful Grand Master

Closing of the One Hundred Eighty Fifth Grand Annual Communication of the M.° W.° Grand Lodge of Texas by the M.° W.° Kenneth Curry, Grand Master at the completion of all Grand Lodge business.

Statements of Availability



Joseph R. Barron
For Grand Junior Warden

ST. JOHN'S LODGE NO. 53

Raised: April 1995; Past Master, Endowed Member, Golden Trowel Recipient

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

T R Bonner No. 764 Endowed member, Current Chaplain

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

2001 Member of Grand Lodge of Texas-Young Masons Committee
Grand Lodge of Texas Insurance Committee member
2016 DDGM District 16
2017 District Communications officer
2018 District Communications officer
2020 District Instructor District 16
2019 Grand Masters Planning Committee
2020 Grand Masters Planning Committee
2020 Grand Lodge of Texas Grand Orator

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A-Certificate Holder for 23 years
Instructor for over 200 new Masons
Signed over 200 Masons into the Lodge
Conferred many Masonic funerals

EMPLOYMENT

Maintenance Specialist V Texas Department of Public Safety
American Red Cross Office Manager, Tyler, Texas
Retired Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company-Tyler Plant-35 years-
Journeyman-Millwright
Barron Custom Farming owner

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND CHURCH AFFILIATION

Disaster Assistance Team and Transportation Supervisor,
National American Red Cross
Assistance Team member for the American Red Cross assisting
in displaced families
Board Member for the Association of Retarded Citizens
Served as Steering Committee and Chairman for United Way of
Tyler and Smith County Day of Caring 25 years
Sponsor of Education Foundation for the Advancement of
Foreign Exchange Students
Member of First Presbyterian Church of Tyler
Served as Youth Leader for many of the church functions
State Employees Charitable Campaign Chapter Board Member
Served 4 years as Goodyear's United Way of Tyler/Smith County Chair

FAMILY

Wife-Virginia, 46 years. Two Daughters—Melissa and Sabrina,
Son-in-laws Jesse and David
Two grandsons



Bart Henderson
For Grand Junior Warden

WOODLAND LODGE NO. 1157

Raised: July 31, 1986

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Bellaire Lodge No. 1336 –Worshipful
Master: 1999-2000, Golden Trowel -2018
DeMolay Lodge No. 199 – Worshipful
Master: 2015-2017
Texas Lodge of Research

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

District Masonic Relations Officer: 2000-2002
District Deputy Grand Master: 2004
Grand Senior Deacon: 2006
President: Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Assn, District 30:
1999-2000
Asst. State Coordinator: 2002-2004
State Coordinator: 2006
Grand Lodge 'Counterparts' Recording Secretary: 2000-2006
Grand Masters Planning Team: 2001, 2002, 2004, 2006-2015
Grand Masters Family Convention Team: 2004-2005
Area Conference Coordinator: 2009-2012, 2015
Chairman, Youth Activities Committee: 2001- 2007
Member, Grievances and Appeals Committee: 2011- 2016
Member, Audit Committee: 2014- 2016
Vice Chairman, Audit Committee: 2017
Chairman, Audit Committee – 2018
Grand Representative, Austria: 2006- 2008
Grand Representative, Grande Loja Maconica Do Estado de
Rondonia-Glomaron: 2015/Current

EDUCATION

University of Houston, Bach/Science/Business: 1980

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

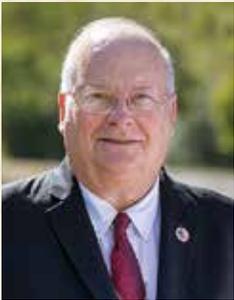
Sales Manager, Hubbell Foods: 1980-1994
Area Sales Manager: J-B Foods: 1994-1999
Area Sales Manager, Blue Ribbon Sausage/Bacon: 1999-2004
Sales Manager, Freedman Distributors: 2004-2013
Area Sales Manager, Colorado Boxed Beef: 2013-Current

CIVIC ACTIVITY

Member, served as Youth Counselor/Sunday School Teacher
Usher: St. Marks United Methodist Church, Houston
Member, Houston Jaycees: 1982-1997
Secretary, Northside Loins Club, District 2-S2, Houston: 1983-1987
Paul Harris Fellow, Heights Rotary Club, Houston: 1988-2009
Member, Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary E-Club of the Southwest:
2009-Current
Committeeman, Houston Livestock and Rodeo: 1992-Current
Chairman, STOCKMAN'S CLUB, HLSR: 2009-2011
Captain, Wine Committee, HLSR: 2011-Current (Committee Rookie
of the Year-2011)
Membership, Calf scramble Greeters Committee, HLSR: 2020

FAMILY

Married Linda Rae: June 4, 1983



George D. Moxley
For Grand Junior Warden

T. NEAL PORTER LODGE NO. 1354
Raised: September 18, 1974
Worshipful Master, 1978 - 1979, 2018 - 2019
Secretary, 2009 - 2018 - 2019 to Present
Endowed Member, 2011
Golden Trowel Award, 2012
25 Year Service Award, 1999
40 Year Service Award, 2014

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Sweet Home Lodge No. 576, Endowed Member, 2013
Tranquility Lodge No. 2000
Texas Lodge of Research

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

District Deputy Grand Master, District 50, 2013
District Instructor, District 50, 2014 - Present
Grand Lodge Special Assignments Committee, 2015 - 2018
Vice Chairman, Committee on Texas History, 2019 - Present

EDUCATION

Sidney Lanier High School, Austin, Texas 1968
University of Texas at Austin, 1968 - 1972, Music Education

BUSINESS / PROFESSIONAL

Austin Police Department, Police Officer, 1972 - 1998, Retired
Austin Independent School District Police Department, 1999 - 2004
Austin Police Department, Background Investigator, 2005 - 2017, Retired
Founder and operator, American Karate of Austin, 1999 - Present

CIVIC ACTIVITY

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Board of Trustees 2015 - Present
Member University of Texas Longhorn Alumni Band, 1972 - Present
President, University of Texas Longhorn Alumni Band, 2005 - 2006
Austin Area Representative, University of Texas Longhorn Alumni Band, 1985 - Present
Longhorn Alumni Band Board of Directors, 2000 - 2004, President 2004
Longhorn Alumni Band Board of Trustees, 2006 -2010
Life Member University of Texas Alumni Association
Member Austin Police Association
Member Austin Police Retired Officers Association

FAMILY

Married to Linda Sevigny Moxley
Three children, Garrett Moxley, Ashley Bruno, Brandon Moxley
Six Grandchildren



Brad A. Reel
For Grand Junior Warden

HOLLAND LODGE NO. 1
Raised: November 5, 2003
Worshipful Master, 2014-2015
Endowed Member - 2004
Life Member - 2015

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 -
Endowed Member

Texas Lodge of Research - Endowed Associate Member

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

District Deputy Grand Master, District 30A - 2018
Esoteric B Certificate - 2018
Sam Houston Hall of Fame - Member

EDUCATION

Conroe High School, 1986
Sam Houston State University
Bachelor of Business Administration - Accounting - 1997
Alpha Kappa Psi - Business Fraternity

MILITARY SERVICE

United States Marine Corps
Active Duty 1987 - 1993
Light Armored Infantry - Platoon Sergeant
Conflicts:

Panama - 1990
Iraq - 1991

Honorable Discharge

Reenlistment Code: RE1A (highest rating achievable)

BUSINESS / PROFESSIONAL

Louisiana Pacific Corporation - Cost Accountant, 1997-1998
Ernst & Young, LLP - Tax Consultant, 1998-1999
KPMG, LLP - Tax Accountant, 1999
Sulzer Medica, Inc. - Tax Accountant, 1999 - 2001
Pon North America, Inc. - Tax Accountant, 2001-2011
Center for Allergy and Asthma of Texas, PLLC - Co-Founder
Chief Operating Officer, 2012 - present
Chief Financial Officer, 2012 - present

CIVIC ACTIVITY

Woodlands Church - Member
2nd Marine Division Association - Life Member
China Post 1 - American Legion - Member (by invitation only)
National Rifle Association - Member
International Defensive Pistol Association - Member
Freemason's Riding Club - Member

FAMILY

Married to Yoshiko Ogawa-Reel
One Daughter

Statements of Availability



Rick C. Townsend
For Grand Treasurer

Houston Lodge No. 1189
Raised: May 29, 1990
Worshipful Master: 1995/96
Treasurer 2000 - present
Golden Trowel Award: 2005
Endowed Member: 1996
25 Year Service Award: 2015

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Doric Lodge No. 420
Senior Warden: 2020

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Acting Grand Treasurer- July -2020-present
Esoteric A Certificate 2000 – present
District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 30A: 2009
Member of the Finance Committee 2006 - 2012 and 2016 - present
Chairman of the Finance Committee 2011 and 2012

EDUCATION

Arlington High School: 1961
BBA The University of Texas at Austin: 1965
Certified Public Accountant License 1968 - 2010

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

Accounting and Data Processing supervisor at the Kroger Co
1965 - 1968
Auditor and Accounting Manager at Allied Chemical Corp. 1968 - 1972
Vice President and Controller at Maralo Inc. - an independent Oil and
gas company 1973 - 2000
Board Member Square and Compasses Holding 2007-2016 and
2018-present
Square and Compasses Holding President 2010-2016 and
2018-present
Houston Chapter of Texas Society of CPAs

CIVIC ACTIVITY

Board of Governors Shrine Hospital- Galveston 2002-2011 Chairman
2010&2011
AARP Tax Aide District coordinator
Board of Directors Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center
Houston Bar Association Grievance and Appeals Committee
West University Baptist Church

FAMILY

Married to Linda Barton Townsend for 29 years
5 Children



Jason P. Coffelt
For Grand Secretary

J. H. GURLEY LODGE NO. 337
Raised: November 11, 2010
Worshipful Master, 2015 - 2016,
2017 - 2018
Secretary, 2018 - Present
Endowed Member, 2016

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

White Rock No. 347

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Grand Representative, Grand Lodge of Benin, Africa, 2018- Present
District Deputy Grand Master, 61-C, 2019
Waco Grand Master's Conference Coordinator, 2019
Grand Junior Steward, 2020

EDUCATION

Waco High School, Waco, Texas 2009
National Honor Society
McLennan Community College, Waco, Texas, 2014
Certificate in Business Management
Associates Degree in Business Management

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, Waco, Texas,
Administrative Assistant, 2016 - Present
Scottish Rite Foundation of Texas, 2011 - 2016

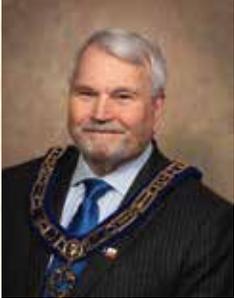
CIVIC ACTIVITY

Bosqueville United Methodist Church
Board of Trustees, Secretary
Technology Committee, Chairman
Lay Leading Nominations Committee
History Committee, Member
Bulletin Editor
Young Adults Representative
Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

FAMILY

Engaged to Leslie Templin





Thomas W. Ellison
For Grand Secretary

WOODLAND LODGE NO. 1157

Raised: 1966
Endowed Member

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Milam Lodge No 2 – Endowed Member,
Past Master, Golden Trowel
Point Isabel Lodge No. 33 – Charter and
Endowed Member
Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 – Endowed
Member, Treasurer – Current

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Acting Grand Secretary – 2020 to Present
Grand Treasurer – 2014 – 2020
Committee on Investments, Chairman – 2011-2014
Committee on Finance – Vice Chairman – 2003-2005
District Deputy Grand Master Masonic District 20 – 2003
Sam Houston Award – 2020

EDUCATION

Texas A&M University, BBA Finance
ABA National Commercial Lending School
Former Instructor: Dallas County Community College, North Lake,
Small Business Mgmt.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

Chairman of the Board & CEO, Commercial Bank of Texas NA, 1990-2017
President, Tarrant Bank of Fort Worth, 1989-1990
President, First National/First City Bank Grand Prairie, 1976-1989
Charter President, First Security National Bank of Colleyville, 1972-1976
Mgr. Master Charge Dept., First Security National Bank of Beaumont, 1969-1972
Mgr. General Accounting, US Steel Corp., 1966-1969
Director Southwest States Bankcard Association, 1970-1972
American Bankers Association
Member, ABA Community Bankers Council
Member, ABA Fraud & Security Committee
Co-Chairman (Texas), Membership Committee
Director, Texas Bankers Association, 2010-2013
Former Instructor, American Institute of Banking - Principles of
Bank Operation, Bank Mgmt.

CIVIC ACTIVITY

Chairman, Farmersville TIRZ Board, 2018-Present
Executive Assistant to the City Manager, City of Farmersville for Economic
Development, 2018-Present
Rotary, 1973-Present, 2x Paul Harris Fellow
Director, Stephen F. Austin State University Foundation, 2013
Director, SFA University Real Estate Foundation, 2013
Director, Nacogdoches Economic Development Foundation, 2000-2014
Director, Nacogdoches Industrial Foundation, 1990-2014, Chairman, 2010-2014
Director, Greater Southwest Hospital, 1976-1978
Director, Grand Prairie Memorial Hospital, 1978-1983
District Chairman, Mountain Lake District Circle 10 BSA, Wood Badge 33

MILITARY SERVICE

Instructor, US Army Reserve School, Beaumont, TX, 1970-1972
4th Infantry Div. Fort Lewis, Washington, 1966
36 Infantry Div. Texas N.G., 1969-1970

FAMILY

Married to wife Patty 56 years
2 Sons, 2 Granddaughters



Richard E. Schlaudroff
For Grand Secretary

DALLAS LODGE NO. 760

Raised: September 26, 2006
Worshipful Master: 2010-2011, 2013-2014
Secretary: 2018-Present
Endowed Member: 2011
Golden Trowel Award: 2015

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Texas Lodge of Research
Affiliated: 2007
Full Member: 2016
James D. Carter Award: 2018
Northern Star Lodge No. 377
Affiliated: 2008

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

DDGM, District No. 14-A: 2019
Masonic Education & Service Committee: 2015-Present
Vice-Chairman: 2020-Present
Memorials Committee: 2020-Present
Vice-Chairman: 2020-Present

EDUCATION

Master of Theological Studies, Harvard University
Master of Philosophy, History, Columbia University
Master of Arts, Philosophy, Fordham University
Bachelor of Arts with Honors, Philosophy & Religion, Austin College
Lake Highlands High School, Dallas, Texas
Master of Library Science, Texas Woman's University
Graduate Certificate of Advanced Studies in Library Management,
University of North Texas
Graduate Certificate in Archival Administration, University of Texas
at Arlington

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

Held faculty appointments at nearly every level of higher education
over a 35-year teaching career
Manager, Learning Resource Center, Strayer University, Irving:
2013-2016
Senior Librarian & Technical Services Manager,
Mildred M. Kelley Library
The Art Institute of Dallas: 1994-2012
Retired in 2017

Statements of Availability



Charles R. Forsyth
For Committee on Work

H.A. McFARLAND LODGE NO. 1338
Raised: May 28, 1992
Endowed Member
Worshipful Master - 1996
Secretary - 1998-2001, 2002-2016
Golden Trowel Award - 2005

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Goldsmith Lodge No. 1276
Endowed Member
Worshipful Master - 2007, 2008, 2009
Secretary - 2012-2014
Golden Trowel Award - 2012
Odessa Lodge No. 955
Worshipful Master - 2013
Fellowship Lodge No. 1385

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Esoteric "A" Certificate 1993 - present
Life Certificate - 25 years-2019
Life Certificate - Chairman Committee on Work 2020
District Deputy Grand Master - Masonic District No. 82 - 2005
District Deputy at Large - 2019
District Instructor - Masonic District No. 82 - 2002 - present
District Instructor - Masonic District No. 81 - 2012

FAMILY

Married to Anese N. Forsyth
Son, David I. Forsyth
Daughter, Elizabeth L. Forsyth



Brian R. Dodson
For Library & Museum Board

BELLAIRE LODGE NO. 1336
Raised: April 30, 1981
Worshipful Master, 1987 - 1988
Golden Trowel Award - 1998
Life Member - 1988
Endowed Member - 2002

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS

Temple No. 4 - Endowed Member, 2015
Worshipful Master, 2016 - 2017
Texas Lodge of Research
Worshipful Master, 2019 - 2020
Milam No. 11 - Endowed Member, 2005
Brazos Union No. 129 - Endowed Member, 2006
Post Oak Island No. 181 - Endowed Member, 2001
Gray No. 329 - Endowed Member, 1992
Worshipful Master, 2015 - 2016
Eagle Lake No. 366 - Endowed Member, 2013
Worshipful Master, 2012 - 2013
Lone Star No. 660
Worshipful Master, 2009 - 2010
Tomball No. 1096 - Endowed Member, 2005
Sugar Land No. 1141 - Endowed Member, 2005
Park Place No. 1172 - Endowed Member, 2008
Old Ocean No. 1284 - Endowed Member, 2005
Tranquility No. 2000 - Endowed Member, 2000

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Grand Representative, 2006 - 2014
Grand Lodge of Indiana
Grand Master, 2005 - 2006
Deputy Grand Master, 2004 - 2005
Grand Senior Warden, 2003 - 2004
Sam Houston Hall of Fame, Full Member, 2003
Grand Junior Warden, 2002 - 2003
Grand Pursuivant, 2001 - 2002
Grand Orator, 1999 - 2000
District Communications Officer, 30-B, 1997 - 1998
Grand Junior Deacon, 1996 - 1997
District Deputy Grand Master, 30-B, 1992 - 1993
District Education Officer, 30-B, 1991 - 1992

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

Texas Masonic Youth Board
Square & Compasses Foundation
Masonic Jurisprudence, 2012 - 2019
Directors of Home and School, 2003 - 2006
Masonic Education and Service, 1999 - 2002
Literacy, 1999 - 2000
Grand Officer's Report, 1996 - 1999
Chairman, 1998 - 1999
Special Assignments, Chairman, 1998 - 1999
Memorials, 1990 - 1991



"J.W." Johnny W. Irick
For Library & Museum Board

Greenwood Lodge No. 779
Raised: December 15, 2008
Withdraw Plural Membership 2013

PLURAL MEMBERSHIPS
Bridgeport Lodge No. 587
Affiliated: 2010
Worshipful Master: 2013, 2014, & 2016
Endowed: 2016
Golden Trowel: 2017

Decatur Lodge No. 447
Affiliated: 2016
Endowed: 2020
Current Senior Warden

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Esoteric "C" Certificate: 2011-Present
District Deputy Grand Master: 2015
Grand Marshal: 2019
Assistant State Coordinator: 2019
State Coordinator: 2023
Grand Master's Planning Team: R.W. Terry W. Stogner
Grand Master's Planning Team: M.W. Paul D. Underwood
Grand Master's Planning Team: R.W. G. Clay Smith
Grand Master's District Deputy Training Team: 2019
Grand Master's District Deputy Training Team: 2020
Chairman Membership Committee: 2020
William Beck Award/Sam Houston Hall of Fame Membership: 2020

EDUCATION

Associate Degree: 2000 North Central Texas College
Total Quality Management Certificate: 1998 North Central Texas College

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

Retired from Peterbilt Motors Company: 2007

CIVIC ACTIVITY

Wise County Toy Run: 2012-present

MILITARY SERVICE

United States Navy Veteran: 1973-1977

FAMILY

Wife of 29 years: Jackie
Son: Matthew, daughter-in-law Brandi and two Granddaughters

A LOOK BACK

From the Texas Freemason, December 1920

Yuletide

New conditions bring forth new rules for society. New inventions and discoveries demand new methods and sometimes new manners. But the underlying principles of truth, justice, brotherhood, and charity, remain the same throughout the ages.

It has always been right to love, help, forgive, respect, protect. It always will be right to do these things.

Jesus devoted his life on earth to teaching these principles and living them. For that reason, we have been blessed through Him and have set aside this Christmas season to commemorate His birth. No teaching of Jesus can be taken away without an insufferable loss to humanity. No teaching can be added that is now lacking.

Jesus embodies everything good in all the philosophies and in all the religions that went before Him or have come after. He discarded every tenet and practice that led to unhappiness and its attendant or causative vices.

It is a source of deep gratification that in the degrees of Masonry, evolved by gradual processes out of the operative Crafts of ancient and mediaeval times among the pyramid and temple and cathedral builders and out of the Mysteries through which the ancient philosopher learned and taught their wisdom, we find exactly these same principles of truth, justice, brotherhood, and charity that appear in the teachings of Jesus.

With double pleasure, therefore, whether we be Gentile or Jew or Moslem, whether we look upon Jesus as divine, as the Christians do, or only as a great and wonderful philosopher, as do the others, we pay tribute at this season to Jesus of Nazareth, the King crowned with Thorns who taught us to forgive, help, protect, and love.

On the Masonic Road

By Bill Crow



David Dibrell Ceremony



David Dibrell C



Bob Waters Ceremony



Bob Waters Ceremony

On October 24, 2020, a cold and windy day, our Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas Officers; Most Worshipful Grand Master, Paul D. Underwood, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Kenneth C. Curry, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, Bradley S. Billings, Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, G. Clay Smith, and Right Worshipful Grand Marshall, Don O. Angell met solemnly and sincerely, in a personal and official capacity, to recognize and memorialize three of our most recently deceased Past Grand Masters.

It was a day “On the Masonic Road” that required emotional and professional discipline on the part of the attendees, as those present and those deceased were very good friends and Brothers in the Craft. Many or most of the attendees had deep personal and or professional relationships with the deceased Past Grand Masters and their family members. The day carried the “fog” of bitter-sweetness and deep remembrance.

Earlier this year, our Grand Master sensed a need to “re-set” a “near dormant” 1961 Grand Lodge remembrance and memorial program, that placed Masonic grave markers near the headstone of the graves of our Past Grand Masters, and elevated it once again to a worthy priority.

The responsibility for identifying and marking the graves of Past Grand Masters was first adopted by the Grand Lodge of Texas Committee on Masonic Education and Service in 1961, by recommendation of then, Grand Master William G. Proctor, and under the leadership of Chairman and Past Grand Master Randall E. Briscoe.

According to the 1961 Grand Lodge of Texas Proceedings, a bronze plate was designed and approved for use in marking the graves. Unfortunately, a sample of the design was not preserved in Grand Lodge records. Since that time, many of the deceased Past Grand Masters graves have been identified, but after reviewing the Grand Lodge Proceedings it appears that many may still need to be marked.



ceremony



Leonard Harvey Ceremony



Leonard Harvey Ceremony

The Grand Lodge of Texas, Committee on Masonic Education and Service, recreated the design for the Masonic marker plate with information that was available, and secured a quote for the production of seven markers. The Committee then obtained the necessary funds to allow for placement of the markers in the coming year, and finally, replicated and updated the 50-year-old Grand Lodge, Past Grand Master, Marker Dedication Ceremony that will be used for all Past Grand Masters future grave marking ceremonies.

Saturday, October 24, 2020 began with a sense of duty and a call to remembrance. Our Grand Lodge of Texas Officers met at Richardson Masonic Lodge No. 1214, at 9:00 AM, to open a representation of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. This began the morning activities of traveling to the burial sites for the Past Grand Masters to be recognized. The schedule of events was as follows:

- 9:00 AM Opening of Representation of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas at Richardson Masonic Lodge No. 1214
- 9:30 AM Arrive at Restland Cemetery
- 10:00 AM Marker for Past Grand Master, R. W. R. H. "Bob" Waters (Served 1984) Ceremony – M. W. Grand Master, Paul D. Underwood
- 10:30 AM Marker for Past Grand Master, R. W. Leonard P. Harvey (Served 1989) Ceremony – R. W. Grand Senior Warden, Brad S. Billings
- 11:00 AM Marker for Past Grand Master, R. W. David B. Dibrell (Served 2001) Ceremony – R. W. Past Grand Master, Tommy Griffin

- 11:45 AM Arrive at Richardson Lodge, close representation of the Grand Lodge Of Texas

With the recent passing of the aforementioned Past Grand Masters, and R. W. Orville L. O'Neill (2010), R. W. J.M. Willson (1982), R. W. Graham H. Childress (1988) R. W. Fred E. Allen (1991), and R. W. James F. Brumit (2012), a renewed effort has begun to research past records of the Grand Lodge proceedings to determine which other Past Grand Master's graves may not have received special Past Grand Master Masonic markers.

In the wake of the pandemic interruption to our Masonic practice and fellowship, it is significantly important to our Grand Master, that he and the Brothers of the lodges in Texas, place a high priority on the remembrance of our diseased Brothers, particularly Past Grand Masters. This ceremony memorializing three deceased Past Grand Masters is the recent first in a series of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas ceremonies, recognizing and marking the graves of our Past Grand Masters.

The Grand Lodge of Texas will replicate this memorial ceremony and placing of the Masonic Markers annually until all of the Past Grand Masters graves are marked as allowed by the cemeteries and approved by their families.

If you have any information on the location of a Past Grand Master's grave that is not marked, please contact a member of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Committee on Masonic Education and Service.



Our Obligation to Masonic Funerals and Truck Stop Enchiladas

By James C. "Chris" Williams IV

"Brother Chris, I am so hungry I could eat the South end out of a North bound mule," he said. I responded with a sick look on my face, "John I am going to act like you never said that to me." My day had been going pretty good until I looked up and saw a giant coming in the door. It was John all right and of course he was hungry... when is he not? I told him that I didn't know he was coming and I had to run an errand downtown. Predictably, he wanted to go with me and have lunch somewhere on the way. I told him he could come along and began trying to figure out where to eat. If it was just me I would drive through somewhere and eat on the run but not John. Oh no His is a more refined palate and demands a higher quality junk food. It's enough to make you lose your appetite. I finally decided to try something a little different and asked John if he had ever eaten at Casbeers. "I am sorry Brother Chris," he said "but I don't really drink beer." "I don't mean drink beer John," I said looking sideways at him. "I mean have you eaten at a place called Casbeers?" "No," he replied "I'm OK going just about anywhere; I just won't have the beer." I gave up and just drove in silence. It was better for my sanity that way. After a while he just began talking. He said, "Brother Chris, one of our Lodge members, Jerry Lee, was moaning the other day that one of our long time members and a Past Master had gone to that Celestial Lodge above and there were only five Masons at his funeral. He said that it was embarrassing because the Brother had been a member of our Lodge for almost 50 years and only five Brothers made it to his funeral and he could tell that the family was disappointed. I listened to him going on about it for a few minutes and decided I had heard enough. This had been boiling in my belly for some time and it was ready to come out. I said "Brother Jerry, what year was this Brother the Master of our Lodge?" "Well John," he replied back to me, "You know when he was Master. It was the year before you. I guess it's been 25 years or so." I said, "So when was the last time the Brother was in Lodge?" "I think it was, as well as I can remember, about 20 years or so since I last saw him," Jerry answered but quickly continued, "But he was kind of active in the Scottish Rite and the Shrine. You know that we have an obligation to him as our Brother to attend his burial." "So, other than you and I, who else who is active in the Lodge right now knows him," I asked. He figured out where I was going with this and got defensive on me, "That shouldn't matter John. We all take an obligation to take care of each other and we didn't do our job last week." I could tell he was sure he was right on this and he was going to fight me tooth and nail to the finish so I said to him, "Brother Jerry, you are absolutely right" He got a real confused look on his face as he was not expecting that response. So while I had him wondering what the heck was going on I finished my sentence "in a perfect world. But this, Jerry, is not a perfect world. This is the real world. In a perfect world our Brothers would attend the Blue Lodge at least some



of the time. In a perfect world they would realize that their boring Lodge that they stopped attending because they didn't like someone in the leadership or something that was going on, has a change every year in not only leadership but also in dynamics as new Brothers step in with new and different ideas and programs. In a perfect world they would get involved in making their Lodge better instead of running off to the Scottish Rite, or York Rite or Shrine and putting their talents to work there, never to return to their Lodge. In a perfect world, Brother Jerry, they would realize that those other organizations wouldn't even exist without the Blue Lodges."

Visit <https://grandlodgeoftexas.org/our-obligation-to-masonic-funeralsbrandbrtruck-stop-enchiladas/> for the rest of the story.

Grand Lodge of Texas Committee on Texas Masonic History

By Bill Crow

For next installment on Grand Lodge committees, let's quickly review the Grand Lodge of Texas, Grand Lodge Permanent Committees structure, as an introduction to learning more about the Committee on Texas Masonic History.

The laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas, Chapter 16 – Title I, Articles 105 through 126k of The Laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M. lists the Permanent Committees, each committee's organization, and assigned duties and responsibilities. Currently there are 21 Permanent Committees.

The Committee on Texas Masonic History is one of the 21 Permanent Committees aforementioned and is directly answerable to the Grand Master of Texas, and Grand Lodge of Texas Trustees.

The term of office of each member of each of these 21 Permanent Committees is seven years. Each year, on the last day of each Annual Communication, the incoming Grand Master shall appoint a successor to the member(s) of each Committee whose term(s) expire at that Communication. No member shall be eligible for reappointment to succeed himself who has

served a full term of seven years on a Committee, and no member shall be eligible to serve on more than one Permanent Term Committee or Board elected by Grand Lodge concurrently.

Chapter 16, Article 126j as follows, lists the duties and responsibilities for the Committee on Texas Masonic History:

“Art. 126j. Texas Masonic History. The Committee on Texas Masonic History shall be responsible for (i) the promotion of Texas Masonic Historical activities; (ii) the improvement of the Masonic image in historical activities and celebrations; (iii) the investigation and reporting of significant historical events to be celebrated; and, (iv) advising the constituent Lodges as to the conservation and preservation of historically significant artifacts, documents and records in the care of said Lodges.” (Revised 2007)

The Committee on Texas Masonic History has overall responsibility and or assistance for all (Grand Lodge and/or constituent lodge) planning and promoting of historical events and activities, seeking opportunities for and to improve our Texas Masonic image in our communities, identifying and reporting on significant Masonic opportunities for celebra-

tion and providing counsel and guidance on the identification and preservation of Masonic items of “legacy” value and historical evidence.

The Chairman and members of the Committee on Texas Masonic History are very proud of the committee's hard work and would add; “This year our aim is to celebrate and emphasize Masonic stories, histories, and individuals. This 2020 year, we have penned over a dozen articles ranging in topics from our local lodges' histories to the creation of the Texas flag.”

The Committee on Texas Masonic History is a great place to go for help when discovering the legacy of old Masonic documents, articles and regalia. Please allow the committee to help as you may want or need help in any of its stated duties and responsibilities. If you have any appropriate contributions that you believe would be of benefit to the Committee on Texas History, or if you need assistance or would like to know more about the Committee on Texas Masonic History, please contact Jeremy D. Hogan, Chairman, at Jeremydhogan87@gmail.com.



Texas Masonic Cemeteries

By Jim Hoffpauir



The story of Texas cannot be told without mention of the town of Brenham. And the story of Brenham cannot be told without knowing the history of Old Masonic Cemetery. Old Masonic Cemetery, also known as Wilderness Cemetery and, later, Yellow Fever Cemetery, literally plots the history of this vital Washington County city in early Texas.

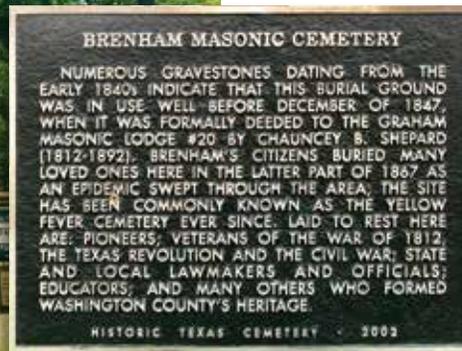
Located in Brenham off HWY 36N (Loop 283) just northwest of Brenham High School adjacent to Dupree Drive on Old Masonic Drive, the cemetery dates back to the early 1840s. It was founded by the Shepard family and then deeded to Graham Masonic Lodge No. 20 by Chauncey B Shepard in December 1847.

Graham Lodge No. 20 was granted a charter January 13, 1845 by the Grand Lodge of Texas, AF & AM during the period of the Republic of Texas. A gate entering the property and a large Texas Historical Marker 17065, were added in 2002.

Graham Lodge, 175 years old, was the home lodge of two former Past Grand Masters of Texas Masons – John Sayles (1853) and J D Giddings (1865). Sayles' brother-in-law Barry Gillespie (PGM 1846 and member of Matagorda Lodge No. 7) and Giddings are buried in the Prairie Lea Cemetery, also in Brenham, which opened in 1874-75. It is not officially known if Gillespie ever attended Graham Lodge since the first 21 years of Graham's history were lost when the lodge building and records were destroyed in September 1866 when tensions between locals and occupying union troops during post-war Reconstruction led to the burning of

downtown Brenham.*

The cemetery is sometimes confused with The Masonic Cemetery in neighboring Chappell Hill which is often mistakenly referred to as Brenham Masonic Cemetery in Chappell Hill. The oldest grave in the Brenham Old Masonic Cemetery dates from 1841. Mrs. M A Graham was laid to rest there four-to-five years prior to other graves on site and the founding of the city of Brenham.



Old Masonic Cemetery obtained the Yellow Fever Cemetery name during the epidemic which ripped its way through Texas in 1867. Brought in through the port town of Indianola in June, the fever spread to Galveston. Shortly thereafter the mosquito-borne infection was carried to Huntsville, LaGrange, Brenham and Chappell Hill, Hempstead, Goliad, Navasota, Victoria, Montgomery, and Houston.

By November's first frost, nearly 4000 Texans had perished. Losses were heavy in Brenham as 21 tombstones and two mass graves holding an estimated 200 plus individuals each were added to the cemetery in September and October. All told, the site holds approximately 128 individual graves as well as two mass graves though numbers cannot be accurately known as the cemetery has many stones removed from their original locations due to heavy vandalism over the years. Between them, the Brenham cemeteries hold over 550 victims of the Yellow Fever Epidemic.

Historically, Masonic Cemetery holds pioneers from European countries, settlers from both eastern and southern states, veterans of the 1812 war, Texas Revolution, and Civil War. Important state and local lawmakers, officials and educators since the early days of the Republic are also interned there.

The first restored grave belonged to Patrick H Lusk buried in 1851. Lusk was one of 176 men recaptured following an escape attempt during a march from Mier to Mexico City. The attempted escape at Salado, Tamaulipas in February of 1843 lead to the infamous Black Bean Episode. Mexican Colonel Domingo Huerta, originally ordered to kill all participants, decided to execute every tenth man. A jar holding 17 black and 159 white beans was passed among the prisoners. Commissioned officers were ordered to draw first. Lusk drew a white bean and was saved. The 17 men marked for death were shot at dusk on March 25, 1843 after being allowed to write letters to their families back home. Their bodies were returned from Mexico in 1848 and buried at Monument Hill near LaGrange.**

Lusk's father, Sam Lusk is also buried at Masonic Cemetery. He served in the battle of San Jacinto and was a member of the Constitutional Convention that passed the Declaration of Independence of Texas and later a member of the Congress of the Republic which ratified the



annexation of Texas into the United States. He also served as mayor of Brenham 1859-61 and was a long-time Washington County Clerk.

Civil War veterans include Confederate officer Hugh A McPhaill, a native of Arkansas who moved to Washington County from Fannin County in 1860. McPhaill joined the Fifth Texas Cavalry at the beginning of the war and was commissioned as a captain in command of Company E. Following combat in the battle of Valverde he was promoted to major and led his troops in battle throughout Louisiana in 1863 and 64. He was buried in Old Masonic Cemetery in 1865. ***

Various individuals have been involved with and independent of Graham Lodge No. 20 in the restoration of the cemetery over the years.

Ms. Janis Kmiec, spurred into action by Bob Hasskarl's book *Brenham Texas 1844-1958*, organized a children's cleanup of the cemetery. A teacher in the area, Kmiec applied to the Texas Historical Commission for Historic Texas Cemetery designation for the cemetery approximately 15 to 18 years ago.

Graham Lodge member Keith Twigg started an out-of-pocket maintenance of the facility over a two-year period beginning in 2016. He hired two men to mow and remove brush as well as organized Boy Scout projects several times.

Lowell Herzog, a retired history teacher, restoration specialist, and owner of Texas Gravestone Conservation, has been working with the lodge to restore the Shepard stone and other markers throughout the cemetery. The Shepard family as afore mentioned donated the cemetery to Graham Lodge No. 20. Herzog specializes in gravestone and restoration of monuments in cemeteries throughout the region.

Dr. Robert Stark, family medical specialists in Brenham, has been a Graham Lodge No. 20 member for near 40 years. He says there are still 55-to-60 sunken, covered, fallen, and broken graves still in need of conservation at the site. Several prominent area families probably had deceased members removed to Prairie Lea when it opened.

Graham Lodge formed a committee to oversee the repairs and renovation in June of 2015 consisting of Dr. Stark and Brothers Glen Grantom, John Fuller, and Kirby Simmons. They have been working on obtaining information from relatives of the interred as well as overseeing the restoration and maintenance efforts.

Indications are that the cemetery was not always accessed from the country road but that it was entered from the south near or at the site of the Lusk lot. The location of the mass graves in the current front of the cemetery with the better-known family named plots toward the rear are indicative of this assumption. - *hoffpauir*

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Dental problems can start early. Many of the youngsters we assist with dental treatments already have cavities in their baby teeth, which is quite painful. Our dental programs make a huge difference to every child we help.

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We have provided rent, food, and utilities for families affected financially by the pandemic. Thousands of people lost jobs, income, and insurance, and are in urgent need of help to stay in their homes and feed their children. We are honored to help Texas families during this unprecedented time.

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Qualified widows of Texas Master Masons don't have to worry about how they will provide for themselves. Thanks to our partnership with Texas Masonic Retirement Center we are making sure the needs of widows are met by providing a home, meals, activities, and many other lifetime services. For widows in the San Antonio region who continue to enjoy staying in their own homes and communities, our partnership with Area Agency on Aging is helping to make that possible by helping with small modifications to their homes, including installing grab bars in a shower or a wheelchair ramp.



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Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas

New Website Launched!

The Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas is a 501(c)(3) charity organization. In addition to the Library and Museum, the organization manages the Masonic Oak Park in Brazoria and the Grand Lodge Memorial Temple in Waco.

We have recently launched a new website that showcases our exhibits, membership levels for the Sam Houston Hall of Fame, and information about the purpose and goals of the Library and Museum Board of Directors.

The new website has a link to donate to the organization or sign up for a membership in the Sam Houston Hall of Fame using PayPal.

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