

SQUARE & COMPASSES

EAST TRINITY MASONIC LODGE #157 ROCKWALL, TX FEBRUARY 2025
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GRAND COMMUNICATION CONCLUDED

JANUARY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The WM thanked Brother Byrd for building the float for the Christmas parade.

-announced the date for Brother Powell's Golden Trowel ceremony. It will take place on February 17th. More details will follow in an email.

-wants to start having quarterly family events. He asked for ideas on how best to proceed.

-wants to get more bids on the roof leaks.

-asked for recommendations for a Community Builder Award and a Mirabeau Lamar Award

-lodge voted to donate \$250 to the Garland DeMolay Chapter and to help a high school student pay for leadership training.

The Annual Communication is now in the record books. This year went smoothly, a stark difference from last year. The weekend involved lots of activities from conducting Grand Lodge business to enjoying the company of brothers we haven't seen since last year, along with great music. A good time was had by all.

WEBSITE IS GREAT!!

Brother Jeff Bryan has made great strides in the East Trinity website. Everyone should check it out.

There are links to a stories about the lodge and other related articles. Past newsletters are being populated. There is also a calendar that shows upcoming events. This is a tremendous improvement, building on past efforts, to make information more easily available to anyone interested.

<https://easttrinity.com/>

NEW DDGM OF 13TH DISTRICT

The new DDGM of the 13th District is none other than PM Doug Barkley. RW Barkley joins a long line of East Trinity Brothers who have ascended to that lofty office. He will be making his official visit during the February Stated Meeting. He asked that all past DDGMs wear their DDGM aprons for a picture afterwards.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 3rd– Stated Meeting. DDGM Official Visit
- February 10th– practice
- February 17th –GT presentation
- February 24th -practice
- March 3rd-Stated Meeting

The stated meeting will be held on February 3rd, 2025. The meal will begin at 6:30 PM. Lodge will begin at 7:30 PM.

Fraternal Eats . The meal will be salad, chicken pot pie, dinner rolls, and Texas sheetcake. And wash it all down with both sweet and unsweet iced tea and soft drinks.

MASONIC TRUE STORIES AND EVENTS

MASONIC COIN AS LEGAL TENDER

In 1794 a Masonic token was minted in honor of the Prince of Wales in England. A son of George III, he later became George the IV. From 1790 to 1813 he served the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) as Grand Master. The ordinator of the coin was Brother James Sketchley of Birmingham who created the coin to commemorate the election of the Prince as Grand Master. These coins were so superior in their copper content that they readily became tender. In 1817 they they were withdrawn from circulation by government order. Brother Judson L. Parker, editor of Masonic Temple Topics, Chicago, has been collecting these coins and presenting them to distinguished Brethren. More than 350 have been distributed.

NON-MASON DISCOVERS RARE MASONIC DOCUMENT

James O. Halliwell-Phillips, and English antiquarian and librarian, was not a Mason. While engaged in his work, he came across a manuscript in the British Museum catalogued as *A Poem of Moral Duty*. It was really a statement of the "Old Charges" in poetic form. It is believed to have been prepared in 1390, thus making it the oldest known Masonic document. Now called the *Regius Poem*, or the *Halliwell Manuscript*, it was published in 1840 in a brochure entitled *On the Introduction of Freemasonry into England*.

THE MASONIC OAK OF TEXAS

In 1835 a group of Masons met under a large oak tree in Brazoria, Texas, and took the first step to form Holland Lodge No. 1. The tree, known as the Masonic Oak, has continued to grow and is still in existence. On May 15, 1966, the Masons of Texas made a pilgrimage to the Oak. There was singing, dinner, preaching and much fun. The Grand Master, H. W. Fullingim, dedicated the place by placing a Texas State Historical Marker near the Oak to commemorate the start of the lodge there.

ALBERT PIKE'S MASONIC LIBRARY SAVED BY ENEMY BROTHER

A Union general, Thomas H. Benton, Grand Master in Iowa, 1860 - 1862, saved Albert Pikes Masonic Library at Little Rock, Arkansas, by placing Federal Troops around Pike's home when the city was invaded during the Civil War.

UP IN THE WORLD

The lodge with the highest meeting place on the globe is Roof of the World Lodge No. 1094, of Oroya, Peru. The elevation of the lodge room in the Andes Mountains is 14,167 above sea level. The closest competitor in the United States is Corinthian Lodge No. 35 at Leadville, Colorado elevation about 10,200 feet.

MUSIC FOR OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM

John Stafford Smith (1750-1836), a member of Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge No. 4, London, wrote the music which became our national anthem. Its original use is not known, but at an early date it was used by an Irish Masonic orphans' Home as its song. When Francis Scott Key utilized this music for the Star Spangled Banner, it was a popular drinking song known as To Anacreon in Heaven.

QUICK CHANGES OF MIND

Alexander I, Czar of Russia from 1801 to 1825, banned the Craft in Russia in 1801. He rescinded the order in 1803 and became a Freemason, probably for political reasons; but in 1822 he again banned Freemasonry in Russia.

ELEVATORS THAT RUN SIDEWAYS

In order to have unbroken floor space in the George Washington Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, the cars in two elevator shafts move sideways thirty-five feet. As the elevators rise 255 feet in two slanting hoist-ways from the main floor to the observation platform at the top of the building, it moves sideways 1 foot for approximately every 7.28 feet it ascends or descends.

FAMOUS INDIAN MASON

Ely S. Parker, a full-blooded Indian chief, was the grandson of Red Jacket, a close friend of George Washington. He was a Union Brigadier General in the Civil War, and served as General Grant's secretary. He was raised in Batavia Lodge No. 88, Batavia, New York, and later affiliated with Valley Lodge No. 109. He demitted and became a founder and first Worshipful Master of Akron Lodge No. 527 of New York. Ely Parker Lodge No. 1002 of Buffalo, New York, is named after him.

WHY PRESIDENT MCKINLEY BECAME A MASON

When General Horatio King asked William McKinley how he happen to become a Mason he explained: "After the Battle of Opequam, I went with our surgeon of our Ohio regiment to the field where there were about 5,000 Confederate prisoners under guard. Almost as soon as we passed the guard, I noticed the doctor shook the hands with a number of Confederate prisoners. He also took from his pocket a roll of bills and distributed all he had among them. Boy-like, I looked on in wonderment; I didn't know what it all meant. On the way back from camp I asked him:

"Did you know these men or ever see them before?"

"No," replied the doctor, "I never saw them before."

"But," I persisted, "You gave them a lot of money, all you had about you. Do you ever expect to get **it back?**"

"Well" said the doctor, "If they are able to pay me back, they will. But it makes no difference to me; they are brother Masons in trouble and I am only doing my duty."

"I said to myself, If that is Freemasonry I will take some of it for myself."



EAST TRINITY LODGE HISTORY CORNER

This article is the eighteenth (18th) article in a series about the history of the East Trinity Lodge. This month we are featuring "LODGE HISTORY 3" and it will document some interesting history about the East Trinity Lodge during the timeframe of 1883 to 1889. This history comes from the Rockwall Success newspaper articles written by E.C. Heath (14th WM) and to oldest surviving Minutes Book of the East Trinity Lodge.

CORNER STONES & TREASURES

As indicated in the E.C Heath's 1906 articles, there were deposits (treasures) originally placed under the corner stone of our old wooden two-story building in 1859 (today 102 S Goliad). These "treasures" were dug up (about January 1878) when the old wooden structure was taken down. The new brick lodge building was built and a new corner stone was laid. We don't know exactly what was deposited under the corner stone in 1859; however, we do have a list of the "treasures" that were buried under the corner stone of the new brick two-story lodge on 22 Feb 1878.

TREASURES

At the May 23 1885 Stated meeting: "A Motion made and approved that a record and contents of the Corner Stone of this lodge be spread on the Minutes which is as follows: **A Piece of Plank. One dollar in gold, 16 ¼ cents in silver' Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas, By-Laws of the East Trinity Lodge, A piece plaster board with the inscription: "Corner Stone of East Trinity Lodge laid Feb 22 1878". Also, a piece of Plank with "Feb 22, 1878" on it. This covered with a larger piece of plank with 22 Feb 1878 on it.** Masons present at the time of laying the stone J.O. Heath, T.W. Wade, A.K. Wilkerson, J.J. Lowe, E.C. Heath and John Butler this Feb 22 1878."

NOTE: A little research on the "Gold & Silver" shows that there was a Liberty Head, One Dollar Gold coin minted 1849 - 1854; an Indian Head, Small head minted 1854 – 1856 and a large head one-dollar gold coin minted from 1854 - 1889 so one of these might have been the one dollar in gold mentioned. We also know that in the early days, the silver Spanish Dollar was common currency and the listed 16 ¼ cents of silver sounds like it could have been a "Piece of Eight" commonly called a "Bit". Maybe the "Gold & Silver" came from the original receptacle buried and dug up from the old wooden two-story building when it was torn down. We know from the inscriptions that the "treasures", listed above, were placed under the Corner Stone of the new two-story brick building when it was laid down on 22 Feb 1878. Question: Are these "treasures" still under the Corner Stone of the brick two-story building next door?

THE SCHOOL ON THE FIRST FLOOR

Another subject in the old Minutes Book (1883 – 1889) shows some lodge history about the school on the first floor of the new brick two-story lodge building.

In the minutes of 25 April 1885: “A Motion was Made and Approved that a committee of three, L.W. Mason, A.K. Wilkerson and J.D. Hartman, be appointed to confer with the School Committee to ascertain the value of the school room and report at the next regular meeting.”

NOTE: It appears that the lodge had an existing School Committee at the lodge and the school teachers owned the first floor and the school operation.

In the Stated Meeting minutes of 23 May 1885: “A Motion Was Made and Approved: That the lodge purchase the lower room of the two-story building at \$250.00 and the following Committee was appointed to close the trade with the school teachers: E.C. Heath, L.W. Mason, A.K. Wilkerson and J. D. Hartman and then Brother R L Arthur was appointed by the WM as a “Committee of One” to see (talk to) the brethren of the lodge not present tonight in regard to dues raising funds to settle for the school room. Motion Made and Carried.”

NOTE: I believe the school always had an arrangement with the lodge that included ownership of the room on the first floor of the wood structure and the brick structure. At some point, the school must have decided to move the school operation to a different location and that made the first-floor available to purchase and rent. The exact arrangement is unknown. Records of the actual transactions have not been found.

A POSSIBLE RENTER FOR THE LOWER ROOM

At the Stated meeting of 21 Nov 1885: “A Motion was made and approved: The Motion was that the lodge rent the lower room to the *Success Company* for 12 months at \$5.00 per month and authorize the Success company to furnish a stove and put a partition across the room and other necessary repairs and deduct the amount out of the rents.”

NOTE: I think the *Success Company* was the *Rockwall Success Newspaper*.

A MOTION ON DUES

At the Stated meeting of March 13, 1886: “A motion was made and approved: That the Secretary summon all members of the lodge who are in arrears as much as four dollars to appear at our next Stated Meeting and show cause why they should not be suspended for non-payment of dues. A second motion was made and approved: That all members of the lodge cease to pay dues when they arrive at the age of Sixty Years.”

NOTE: I added this 1886 motion because it was interesting. It lets us know what our lodge was doing about dues back then. Dues were \$2.00 per year.

NEW CHISHOLM LODGE

At the Stated meeting of 26 November 1887: "The Petition of several brethren for a new lodge at Chisholm Chapel in Rockwall Co. was presented and duly considered. The brethren nominated for the principal officers being examined in open lodge were found fully competent to confer the degrees of Symbolic Masonry in due and ancient form. According to the teachings of the Grand Lodge of Texas and having inquired into and ascertained to the entire satisfaction to the work of Masonry of the Hall in which said new lodge proposes to meet and that it is more than ten miles (and at least ten miles) from this the nearest lodge there to and it being shown that J L Hughs, member of Lafayette Lodge No. 284 Geo. HH Bryand of Amberson Lodge No. 412, Ala, J A Edwards & W J Lofland of W L parker Lodge No 376 Ark. whose Dimits are now on file in this lodge, all of whom are Master Masons in good standing, it was therefore on Motion duly seconded unanimously recommended that the prayer of the petitions be granted. Motion carried to celebrate the 27th Dec, the anniversary of St. John the evangelist, J M Foraker, J B Curtis, Y M Curry, W C Lanham & E C Heath appointed to assist the Stewards in preparing for the occasion. No further business, lodge closed."

NEW ROYCE CITY LODGE

At the Stated meeting of 21 July 1888: "The petitions of several brethren for a new lodge at Royse in Rockwall County Texas was presented and duly considered. The brethren nominated for the three principal officers were found fully competent to confer the degrees of Symbolic Masonry in due and ancient form according to the teachings of the Grand Lodge of Texas and having enquired into and ascertained, to the entire satisfaction of this lodge, the accuracy with reference to the work of Masonry of the hall in which said new lodge proposed to meet and that it is ten miles from this the nearest lodge thereto, and it being shown that the petitioners J H Reinhardt, of Empire Lodge No 586, P S Venerable of East Fork Lodge No 650, J L Angel demit burned up. M C Ingal of Caddo Lodge No 581, W A Terrell of Artesia Lodge No 406, W L Turner of Caddo Lodge No. 581, J R Mckinney, Farmerville Lodge No. 216 and W H Adams, W P Barton... (List of Names) ... all of whom are Master Masons in good standing it is therefore on motion duly seconded unanimously recommended that the prayer of the petitioners be granted. There being no further business lodge closed peace & harmony prevailing."

ANOTHER POSSIBLE RENTER FOR THE LOWER ROOM

At the Stated meeting of 9 February 1889: "A Motion & Approved that the lower room of the hall be rented to Bro. Templeton for school purposes provided it does not interfere with the insurance on same."

EAST TRINITY BROTHERS CHARGED

At the Stated meeting of 16 March 1889: "The Junior Warden Prefers charges against Bro. J. H. Williams for Un-masonic Conduct and Tho. W. Master, orders that the 13th day of April 1889, it being the next regular

meeting of the lodge, be set for the trial of said Bro. J. H. Williams and the Secretary ordered to notify the Tiler to summons Bro. Williams to appear at said time to answer said charges. Bros. E. C. Heath, S. M. Templeton & Frank Jones, a committee to take testimony. The following are the charges – To the Worshipful Master, Wardens & Brethren of E. T. Lodge No. 157 Free & Accepted Masons, I hereby charge Bro. J. H. Williams a member of E. T. Lodge No. 157 – State of Texas, a Master Mason, with Un-Masonic Conduct. The said J. H. Williams was on and before the 4th day of March AD 1889 running a Variety Theater, a public resort for Prostitutes in the city of Waco, McLennan Co. Texas – Geo A. Truitt, Junior Warden E.T. Lodge 157. Bro. T. M. Curry, Tiler of E. T. Lodge No. 157, You are hereby ordered to deliver the accompanying charges and order of trial to Bro. J. H. Williams at least five days before the 13th day of April 1889 and immediately thereafter return this order with your return endorsed there-on showing how you have executed the same. Witness my hand & seal this 19th day of March 1889. Also, Bros. E. C. Heath, S. M. Templeton & Frank Jones are the committee to take testimony against Bro. B. W. McGown for Begging at same time & place – and same committee is ordered to get up evidence in the case of Bro. Phil Swartz and send to Most Worshipful Grand Master.”

At the Called meeting of 20 May 1889: “The trial for Bro. J. H. Williams took place at this meeting. The lodge opened in the Masters Degree. On Motion the object of the present meeting to wit. The Trial of Bros. J. H. Williams, B. K. McCann & J. C. May – Trial continued until the next regular Communications, this action was found to be necessary on account of there not being sufficient number of members present. The lodge then closed, Peace & Harmony prevailing.”

At the Stated meeting of 8 Jun 1889: “There were several new applicants, Committee Reports and the Election of Officers for the new Masonic year. The Trial of Bro. J. H. Williams, On Motion, the case of Bro. McCann was dismissed for want of testimony to sustain charges. On Motion, the Trial of J. H. Williams and J. C. Way was postponed until the next regular meeting.”

At the Stated meeting of 6 Jul 1889: “The Trial of Bro. J. H. Williams was taken up. Bro. R. N. Brown was appointed in the defense. Ballot was then taken on the specification against Bro. Williams as to his guilt where he was declared guilty by receiving Eleven black balls & two White. Ballot was then passed for expulsion when he was declared Duly & Constitutionally Expelled.”

Compiled by Brother David L. Powell, East Trintiy Lodge No. 157

(Special thanks to my editor Barbara A. Powell)

From Labor to Refreshment



It takes 7 seconds for food to pass from mouth to stomach. A human hair can hold 3kg. The length of a penis is three times the length of the thumb. The femur is as hard as concrete. A woman's heart beats faster than a man's. Women blink 2 times as much as men. We use 300 muscles just to keep our balance when we stand. A woman has read this entire text. A man is still looking at his thumb.

A little girl received a tea set for her second birthday, and it quickly became her favorite toy. While her mother was away caring for a sick relative, the toddler delighted in serving her father tiny cups of "tea"—which were really just water. Each time, her father would take a sip and lavish her with compliments, exclaiming how delicious her "tea" was. Her face would light up with pride as she ran off to refill his cup. When the mother returned home, her husband couldn't wait to show her how their little princess had been looking after him. "Watch this," he said, as the girl toddled over with another cup of "tea." He took a sip, once again praising her culinary skills. The mother watched the scene with a smirk, then said with a raised eyebrow, "Did it ever cross your mind that the only place she can reach water is the toilet?"

She just texted me and said, "I can still smell your COLON on my pillow.."
And this is why spelling matters.



@SunsetHeaven

**Man in bed
with his wife...
Slides his hand
slowly across her
shoulders.... across her
waist... under her neck...
below her neck... under her
back... & suddenly stops.....
Wife: (In a romantic voice)
Why did u stop???**
**Man: Got the remote... u go
back to sleep....**



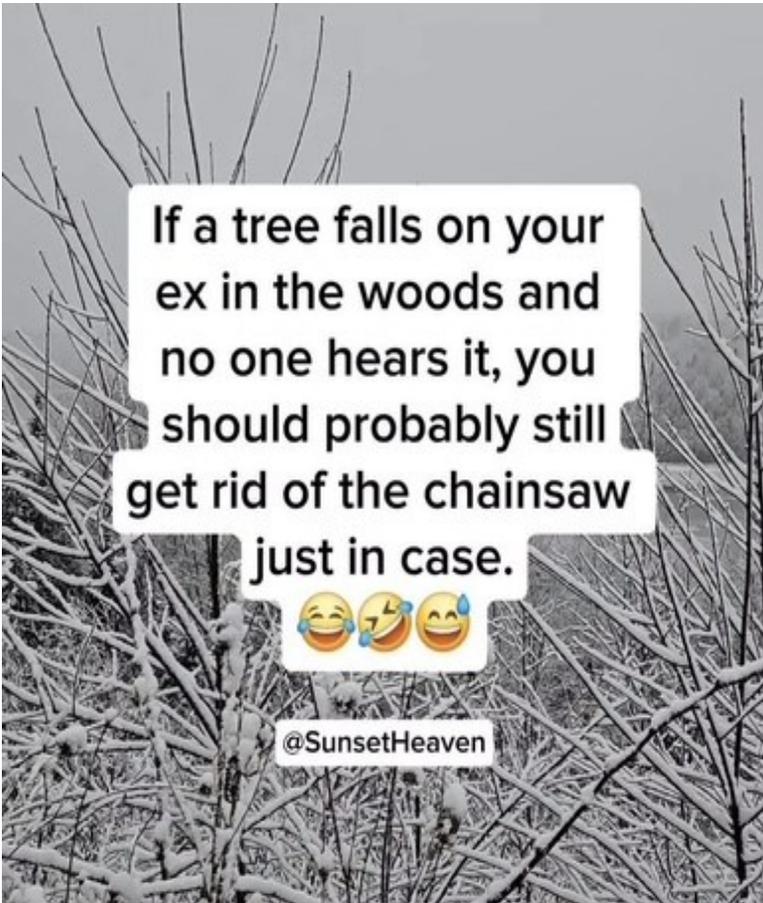
What do you know about atoms?

Very little.



Besides that.

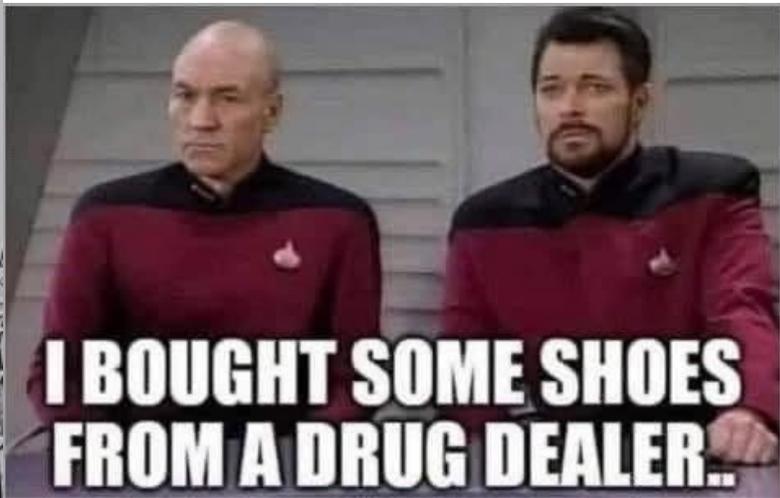
A woman has sued a Hospital stating that after recent treatment her husband had lost interest in sex.
Keep Calm And Oh Fck It Enjoy Some Craic
The Hospital in their defence stated...
"All we did was correct his eyesight"



If a tree falls on your ex in the woods and no one hears it, you should probably still get rid of the chainsaw just in case.



@SunsetHeaven



I BOUGHT SOME SHOES FROM A DRUG DEALER..



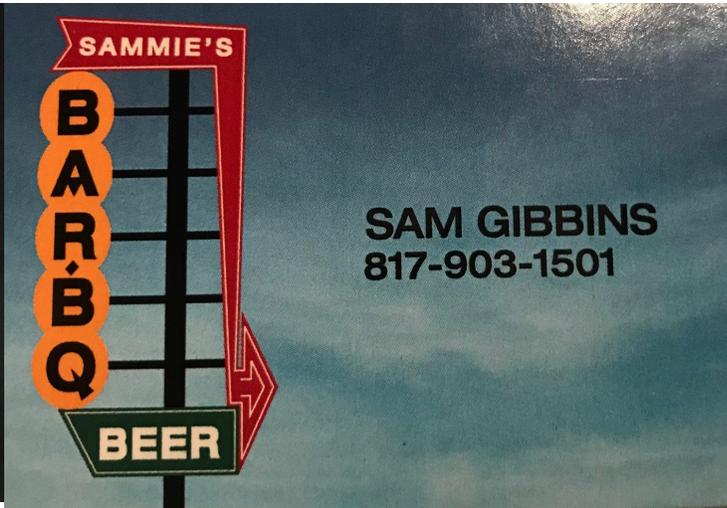
NOT SURE WHAT THEY WERE LACED WITH, BUT I'VE BEEN TRIPPING ALL DAY.

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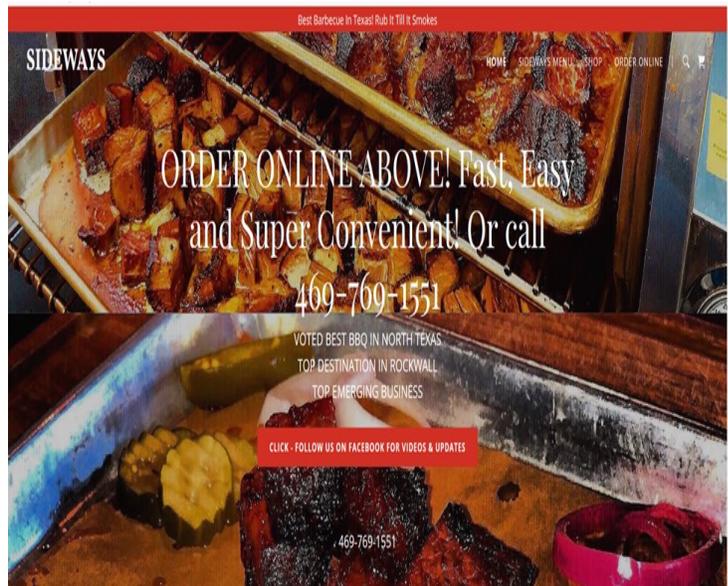
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Owned by East Trinity Brother Dewayne Irwin,
 Hwy 66 in Rockwall



Walk Ins Welcome!
 Every time a brother gets a haircut at Yellow Jacket, just mention the Masons and they donate \$1 to East Trinity!!!!



Owned by East Trinity Brother Josh Deaton

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