

SQUARE & COMPASSES

EAST TRINITY MASONIC LODGE #157 ROCKWALL, TX MAY 2026
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APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Brother Brad Hauf from Royse City spoke on believe in Deity and its place in Masonry
- 16 Brothers are delinquent
- A motion was made and approved to have one additional scholarship this year. The following seven students are to receive a scholarship this year. Addison Bryan, Blythe Barkley, Camille Barkley, Addison Young, Jersey Iriart, Ava Lefere, Jonathan Harris
- The treasurer spoke about electronic payments being setup through a square account directly connected to the lodge's accounts and a motion was made and approved to purchase a \$300 (plus tax) terminal to process payments.
- Brother Willard spoke more on the RISD Agri-Innovation and gave details of how it benefits the students and prepares them for future leadership and shared his personal experience with such a program.
- A motion was made to donate to 3 charities, the RISD Agri-Innovation, the TMRC, and Richardson Demolay, each for \$500, and the motion passed.

Fraternal Eats. The menu remains classified, but history suggests nobody leaves hungry

SERVICE AWARD CEREMONY

There will be a Service Award Ceremony on May 11th. The following brothers will be honored: Bros Seely and Crawford (70 years), Bro Turner (50), and Bro Ohman (40). Please come out and congratulate these brothers.

GOLF TOURNAMENT UPDATE

Back by popular demand, the Annual ET Charity Golf Tournament will be held Friday, May 8th, at Buffalo Creek Golf Course. Sponsorships are available. There will be many other contests and prizes as well. A copy of the advertising flyer is included in the same email as this newsletter. A flyer will be sent to everyone via email.

Bro Barkley needs our help to make this another banner year! If everyone could sign up a team, this could be the biggest year ever!!!! Volunteers are also needed to help out during the tournament. Feel free to reach out to RW Barkley at 469 371-4663



DUES

As of this writing, 9 brothers are delinquent.

Remember that a brother who is in arrears may not attend lodge until his dues are brought current. Many brothers are paying thru Grand Lodge, which makes things go a lot easier. If you would like to pay the traditional way, then please send your payment to:

East Trinity Lodge 157
104 South Goliad
Rockwall, Tx 75087

Inside this issue:

NEWS AND HAPPENINGS	1
History Corner	2-5
Memorial Day poems	6-7
From Refreshment to Labor	8-9
ADVERTISING	9-10

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 4th–Stated Meeting
- May 11th– Service Award
- May 18th-practice
- May 25th-Memorial Day

EAST TRINITY LODGE HISTORY CORNER

This month we are featuring the lodge's 29th Worshipful Master J.L. Austin.

James Launia Austin

Biography

Worshipful Master for the East Trinity Lodge (1910, 1912 & 1927)



James L. Austin

James L. Austin was born in Dallas County, Texas on 4 September 1872. He was the eighth of ten children. His parents were Milton Stanhope Austin and Margarette (Maggie) Elizabeth Dumas.

Milton Stanhope Austin History

Milton Austin and wife Maggie were both born in North Carolina. Milton was a soldier in the Civil War for the Confederate States of America serving in the Richmond Regulators, 52nd Regiment, Company E, NC Infantry rising to the rank of Captain. He was wounded in the leg at Gettysburg, PA and again wounded during the battle of Burgess Mill, VA which caused the loss of his right arm. He retired after this incident. After the war, Milton moved his family to Mississippi and then to Texas. He lived in Rockwall, Kaufman County and was a supporter of the effort that created the new Rockwall County. He became the Rockwall County Sheriff and Tax Collector. He served as Rockwall's first state representative in Austin (18th Texas Legislature, 1883-1884). M.S. Austin is first listed as a Master Mason in the 1876 Lodge Returns for East Trinity Lodge No. 157 and he remained a member until his death in 1906. Milton died in Rockwall on 11 November 1906. His tombstone is engraved with the Square & Compasses. Milton was a farmer and his youngest son was James L. Austin.

James Launia Austin

James Austin grew up in the Rockwall County area and was married to Miss Lou Wade 5 October 1897 in Rockwall County. After 1880, James attended college and earned a four-year degree in medicine. The 1900

Census shows James Austin (38) as Head of Family living in the town of Rockwall with his wife Lula (25) and they have one son named Russell who was three months old. Also living in the household are James' parents Milton (72) and Maggie (66). James' occupation is listed as "Physician".

The East Trinity Lodge records show four men with the surname Austin who were members of lodge: Milton Stanhope Austin, Isham John Austin (Milton's eldest son) James Launie Austin (Milton's youngest son) and Russell Elliston Austin (James Austin's only son). Brother Isham served many years as the East Trinity Secretary.

In 1910, James and Lula were living in Rockwall, Texas and he was working as a Medical Doctor. He owned his home and his medical practice. In the 1910 census, he and Lula stated they have two children: son Russell Elliston (9) and daughter Mary Lillian (7).

James is first listed as a Master Mason in the East Trinity Lodge returns in 1904. In 1906, he is listed as the lodge's Junior Steward and then in 1908 he served as Junior Warden. In 1909, James was the Senior Warden, and then in 1910 he became the Worshipful Master for the first time. He was Worshipful Master three times.

THE OFFICER LINE-UP FOR 1910

J.L. Austin – Worshipful Master
 B.B. Lanham – Senior Warden
 W.G. Scott– Junior Warden
 H.B. Barnes – Treasurer
 I. J. Austin – Secretary
 W.C. Roberts – Senior Deacon
 J.N. Jackson – Junior Deacon
 Tom Parker – Senior Steward
 T.E. Keahey– Junior Steward
 L.A. Adamson – Tiler

Past Masters - W.C. Lanham, E. C. Heath, E. W. Hardin, H.A. Briscoe, J.A. Chisholm, R.M. Womack, H.H. Walker, H.B. Barnes.

Master Masons – D.J. Anderson, T.H. Adams, J.F. Allday, B.F. Burtner, N.A. Brown, W.W. Bishop, T.W. Bailly, J.T. Benbrook, J.T. Bailey, J.F. Black, W.A. Bunch, H. Bagley, J.E. Baugh, F. Clark, G.M. Curtis, J.F. Corry, Ebb Carnes, L.L. Crawford, J. D. Cox, W.A. Curfman, L.H. Crump, C.W. Darr, W.B. Dowd, L.L. Darr, Roscoe Darr, J.T. Evans, M.W. Evans, D.C. Fondren, R. Floyd Jr, E.D. Foree, J.F. Good, J.W. Glover, T.M. Gillespie, W.W. Hartman, A.R. Harvey, W.W. Hartman, M.L. Halford, A.W. Harvey, W. R. Harvey, Gus Hartman, T. D. Isbell, J.L. Jones, T.L. Keys, B.F. Keahey, A.C. Lock, A.E. Love, C.R. Love, E.M. Love, T.B. Lanham, W.L. Law-

horn, T.L. Lawhorn, G.R. Lemley, H.B. Lofland, J.R. Lofland, Joseph Moore, L.W. Mason, Olin Mason, W.L. Monroe, J.F. McCarter, J.F. McCristie, Hubert McCurry, J.W. McKnight, S.M. McPhall, A. M. McPherson, W.W. Neal, C.C. Newman, R.M. Payne, J.D. Remassa, R.A. Snead, B.F. Stofford, Paul Snow, T.H. Sullivan, J.R. Trotter, J.W. Teasley, G. F. Vernon, J.T. Vance, T.U. Wade, H.M. Wade, R. White, J.A. Wilkerson, H.W. Walker, J.E. Walker, L.W. Wilkinson, R.W. Wynne, B.H. Wisdom, J. H. Williams, J.H. Webster, Jacob Zoospan.

Entered Apprentices – J.M. Head, Ross Smith, Brue Hartman, R.M. Fender.

Deaths – T.W. Bailey.

On 23 August 1918, James entered the U.S. Army during World War I and he served as a physician (1st Lieutenant) in the 12th American Infirmary at the U.S. Army Training base at Camp McClellan, Alabama. He was discharged on 14 December 1918 and returned to Rockwall.

In 1920, J.L. Austin (46) and wife Lula (44) were living in the town of Rockwall. He is listed on the 1920 census as a Physician in General Practice. Their children Russell E. (19) and Mary L. (17) were teenagers and still living at home.

On 21 June 1922, James' son Russell Elliston Austin submitted his Petition for the Mysteries of Freemasonry to the East Trinity Lodge No. 157 and his father J.L. Austin witnessed Russell's signature on the petition. Russell stated his birth date was 31 May 1900 making him 22 years old and five additional lodge brothers signed his petition. He was listed as a Master Mason in the East Trinity Lodge records from 1923-1941.

In the 1930 census, James (56) and Lou (54) are living at their home on Kernodle Street in Rockwall. He is still a practicing medical doctor and both children, Russell and Mary, are both married. Daughter Mary married L.O. Thompson on 6 April 1926 in Madison, Texas. Their daughter Suzanne Thompson (3) is also listed on James Austin's 1930 census record. Sadly, Mary Thompson died from complications giving birth to Suzanne on 24 August 1928 in Kaufman County and she is buried in Rockwall County. Russell Austin married Mary Welch on 27 July 1929 in Missouri.

In 1940, James (66) and wife Lou (64) are still living in Rockwall on Kernodle Street. Their son Russell (39) is living in their household with his wife Mary (27) and their son Russell L. Austin (7). James and Lou's granddaughter Suzanne A. Thompson (13) is also listed in the James Austin household.

Sadly, Russell died on 30 November 1942 in Clay County, Indiana. Brother Russell Austin is buried in St. Louis, Missouri.

In 1943, James and his wife Lula moved to Angleton, Brazoria, Texas. They left Rockwall when James took employment as the resident physician at the Central Prison Farm #2, Sugarland, Fort Bend County, Texas.

Dr. James Launia Austin died from a heart condition on 24 May 1951 in Sugarland, Fort Bend, Texas. He was 78 years old and he is buried at the Rockwall Memorial Cemetery. James received a Veteran's Tombstone for his service in World War I. His wife Lula lived until 28 May 1965, aged 89 years. She died in the Greenville Hospital in Hunt County. She passed away from complications of a broken hip and she is buried at the

Rockwall Cemetery.



Rockwall Memorial Cemetery

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

(Special thanks to my editor Barbara A. Powell)



TAPS

Major General Daniel Butterfield

Day is done...
Gone the sun
From the lake...
From the hills...
From the sky.
All is well...
Safely rest
God is nigh.

Fading light....
Dims the sight
And a star....
Gems the sky....
Gleaming bright
From afar....
Drawing nigh
Falls the night.

Freedom Is Not Free

Kelly Strong

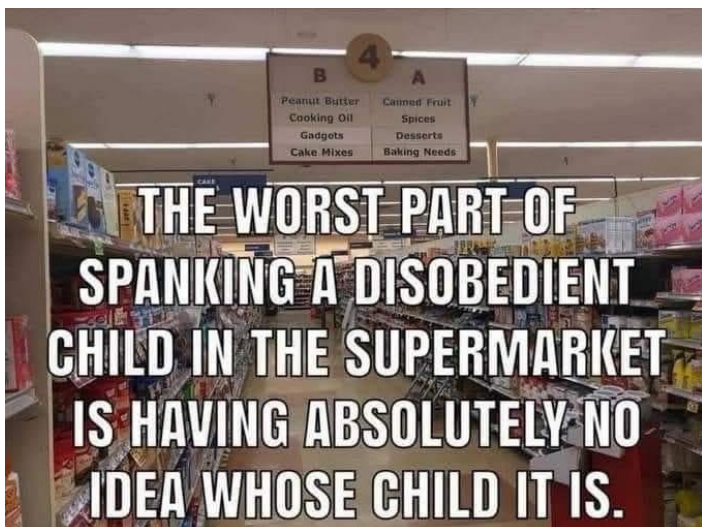
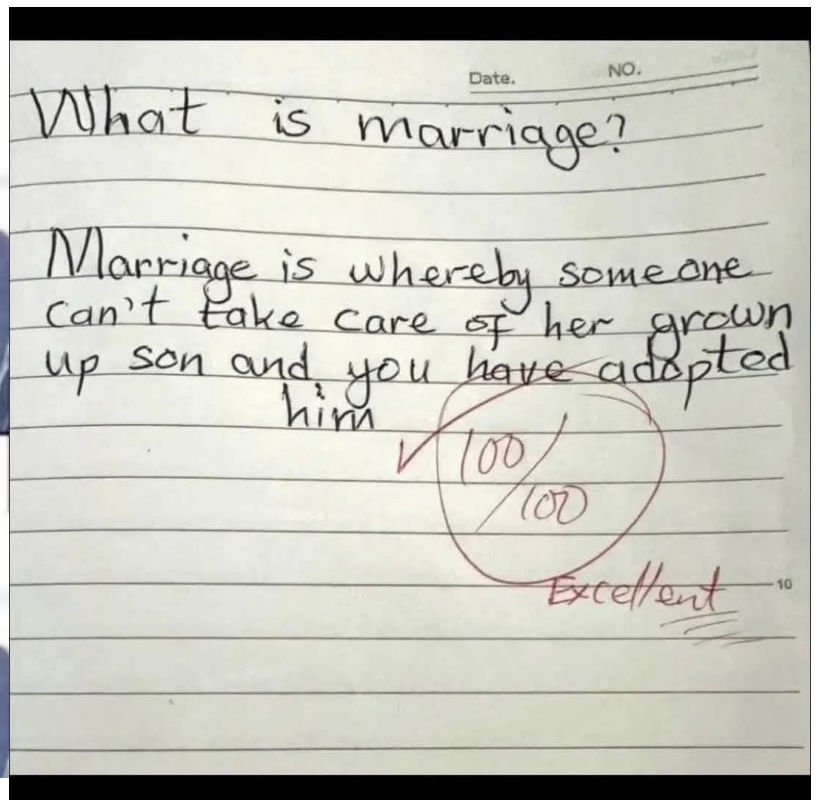
I watched the flag pass by one day.
It fluttered in the breeze.
A young Marine saluted it,
and then he stood at ease.
I looked at him in uniform
So young, so tall, so proud,
He'd stand out in any crowd.
I thought how many men like him
Had fallen through the years.
How many died on foreign soil?
How many mothers' tears?
How many pilots' planes shot down?
How many died at sea?
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?
No, freedom isn't free.

I heard the sound of TAPS one night,
When everything was still
I listened to the bugler play
And felt a sudden chill.
I wondered just how many times
That TAPS had meant "Amen,"
When a flag had draped a coffin
Of a brother or a friend.
I thought of all the children,
Of the mothers and the wives,
Of fathers, sons and husbands
With interrupted lives.
I thought about a graveyard
At the bottom of the sea
Of unmarked graves in Arlington.
No, freedom isn't free.

From Labor to Refreshment



Took me 30 minutes to finally get this 😞



I read that giraffes can grow up to 18 feet.
The ones I've seen only had four.

A Wyoming rancher was working away in his cattle pen, minding his own business. When an FBI agent arrived on his property. He got out of his fancy SUV, came up to him and said, "We got a tip off that you may be growing cannabis on the premises. Do you mind if I take a look around?"

The old rancher raised his eyes to heaven and replied, "That's fine, you shouldn't go over there though."

(and he pointed at the adjacent field)
The FBI agent snaps at him, "Sir, may I remind you I'm a government appointed, federal agent! I can, and will, go wherever I please!"
With this, he pulls out his badge and shoves it into the rancher's face.

The rancher looks at the badge, shrugs his shoulders, and continues with his daily chores. No more than 15 minutes later, he hears a loud, terrified scream from the next field. Suddenly, he sees the FBI agent sprinting toward him with a massive, snorting, angry bull hot on his heels.

The rancher leans calmly on the fence and yells: "Your badge! Show him your badge!"



**THEY SAY
"DON'T TRY
THIS AT HOME"
SO I'M COMING
OVER TO
YOUR HOUSE
TO TRY IT.**

Did you know that the man who invented the Ferris Wheel never met the man who invented Merry Go Round?
They traveled in different circles.

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

SAMMIE'S
**B
A
R
B
Q**
BEER

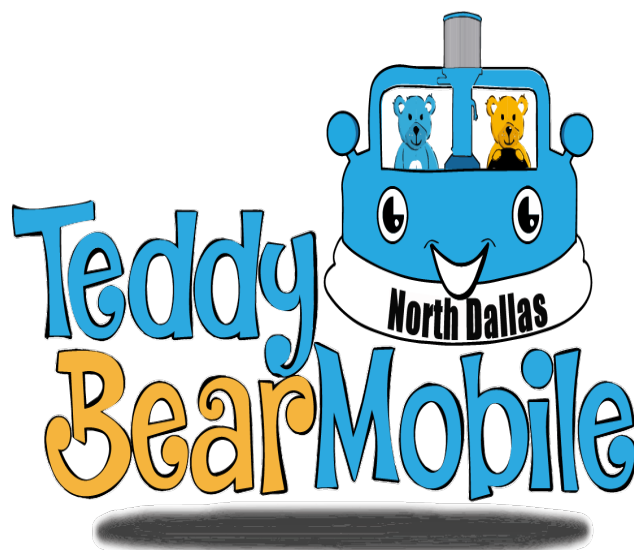
SAM GIBBINS
817-903-1501

Owned by Brother Sam Gibbins, Ft Worth



Walk Ins Welcome!

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



Brother Jeff Bryan 214 232-9933



East Trinity Brother Geoffrey Lyons

