

# SQUARE & COMPASSES

EAST TRINITY MASONIC LODGE #157 ROCKWALL, TX MAY 2025  
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## GOLF TOURNAMENT THIS WEEK!!!

The annual East Trinity Scholarship Golf Tournament is this Friday, May 9th. RW Doug Barkley asks that all members please help out by putting together a team, or by providing items to be given away as prizes for the silent auction or raffle. If you know someone that owns a business, perhaps they can offer some discount coupons for the participants. Everything helps.

There are still sponsorships available. And we can always use help in the building setting up the prizes and food, etc. So if you're into golf, please sign up to play. If you're not a golfer, then please sign up to help. Last year we set a record. Lets break that record this year!!

The tournament will be held at Buffalo Creek Golf Course in Heath.

Let's all pitch in to make this the best one yet!



## DUES CARDS

Brethren, I still have 7 dues cards for individuals who haven't paid their dues yet. Please get them in! If you have paid and haven't received your card, then let me know ASAP. As of June 23rd, I will have to suspend anyone who hasn't paid.

Thank you for your cooperation.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 5th- Stated Meeting
- May 12th--Practice
- May 19th--Cookout
- May 26th-- Memorial Day
- June 2nd- Stated Meeting & Elections

## APRIL MEETING

Some highlights of the April meeting

- one petition was turned in. An investigative committee was assigned.
- one petition for Endowment via Installment plan was presented and voted on. The vote was favorable.
- The WM announced the next family event will be in June. He is planning a bowling outing at Shenannigans in Rockwall. The event is tentatively planned for June 18th.
- The WM announced a cookout on May 19th. This is a "Bring a Friend" event. We will have burgers and hotdogs on the grill.
- The roof was fixed. We are waiting on a good rain to see if there are any more leaks.
- Vanguard Award tasks are on track
- The May stated meeting will be a graded MM lodge. We will open as a MM degree, then call down for any EAs and FCs that wish to attend.

-A nomination for the Community Builder Award was made and voted on. The nominee was Ms Darby Neilsen from the Chamber of Commerce. A vote was taken and was favorable.

## DON'T FORGET THE STATED MEEING THIS MONDAY

The stated meeting will be held on May 5th , 2025. The meal will begin at 6:30 PM. Lodge will begin at 7:30 PM.

**Fraternal Eats** . The meal will be Chopped beef, baked beans, cole slaw, and banana pudding.

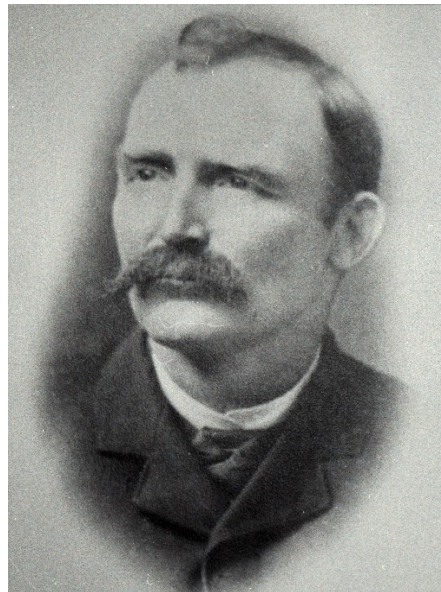
## EAST TRINITY LODGE HISTORY CORNER

*This historical sketch is the 21st article in a series of the history of the East Trinity Lodge. This month we are featuring the lodge's 18th Worshipful Master G.A. Truitt.*

### G.A. TRUITT

Biography

Worshipful Master for the East Trinity Lodge (1890)



G.A. TRUITT

George Andrew Truitt was born on 7 December 1851 in Texas. His father, James Truitt, was born on 6 Dec 1820 in Kentucky. His mother, Celia Ann Smith was born on 7 March 1832 in Indiana. James and Celia Truitt were one of the first settlers to the Rockwall area and were featured as Kaufman area Pioneers in *The Dallas Daily Herald* on 18 Oct 1887. There were six men listed in the Article: John Deweese, John O. Heath, James Truitt, Cadmus Duncan and Harrison Howell. James Truitt died on 30 August 1904 and Celia Ann Truitt died on 26 Jan 1897. Both are buried at the Parker Cemetery in Rockwall, Texas.

In 1860, the U.S. census shows the Truitt family living in Rockwall, Kaufman County, Texas. George's father James was head of household and Celia, his wife. There were four children: George A., Amanda G., Mary E., and Viola. James was a farmer with Real Estate valued at \$4550.

The 1870 census shows James and Celia still living in Rockwall, Kaufman County. George was the eldest child, (age 18), and he had two brothers and five sisters.

We couldn't find George in the 1880 census but he was listed in the census of 1900. George, aged 47, was living in Rockwall, family number 135. He is married to Ellen (Ella) Truitt *nee* Griffin and they have three daughters: Maurine, Allie and Nillie. George's occupation was County Surveyor.

**From our Masonic Lodge Returns records, we have the following information:**

The first record listing G.A. Truitt was the 1888 Lodge Returns. We find George serving as the Junior Warden in that year and in 1889 he served as Senior Warden.

G.A. Truitt was elected to be Worshipful Master in 1890 with the following officer line-up:

**THE OFFICER LINE-UP FOR 1885**

G.A. Truitt – Worshipful Master  
C.A. Montgomery – Senior Warden  
E.W. Hardin – Junior Warden  
J.C. White – Treasurer  
J.J. Lowe – Secretary  
A.G. Stewart – Senior Deacon  
T.M. Curry – Junior Deacon  
J.M. Jackson – Senior Steward  
T.M. Nesbit – Junior Steward  
W.F. Jones – Tiler

***Past Masters*** - W.T. Barnes, F. Sullivan, E.C. Heath, S.D. Waggoner, W.C. Lanham, W.F. Jones

***Master Masons*** - E.B. Ashurst, M.S. Austin, R.L. Arthur, F.M. Anderson, F.G. Andrews, E.M. Bourland, W.L. Brown, W.W. Bishop, J.O. Beasley, J.B. Curtis, Wm. Ellis, D.C. Fondren, Solomon Fletcher, Augustus Green, S.N. Heffington, J.O. Heath, J.S. Hewitt, H.J. Davis, Chas. Kirby, J.T. Keahea, W.L. Lawhorn, T.B. Lanham, B.W. McCown, Neil Moten, L.W. Mason, H.W. Manson, D.H. Parsons, J.W. Peyton, B.W. Rose, L.F. Smith, G.H. Stovall, S.M. Templeton, D.A. Underwood, J.T. Vance, W.C. Vernon, A.K. Wilkerson, R. White, J.M. Wright: Total, 56.

***Entered Apprentices*** – B.F. Burton.

***Fellow Craft*** – E.T. Rice, J.S. Vernon

***Demitted*** – R.A. Brown, D.B. Lowenstein, G.H. Stovall.

***Deaths*** - J. T. Manson, W.D. Barringer

G.A. Truitt is listed as *demitted* in the 1904 Lodge Returns and in the 1910 census we find him living in Ada, Oklahoma with his wife Ella and two children; Maurine (17) and William T. (11). George also reports his occupation as Surveyor and we know from his obituary that he served as the Pontotoc County Surveyor until his death in 1916.

**George A. Truitt's Obituary was published in the Ada Weekly News in Ada Oklahoma:** George A. Truitt died at his home 109 East 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Monday evening at 10:45 after an illness of nearly a month. The funeral service was held at the First Methodist Church, this afternoon at 4:30, Rev. Luther Roberts officiated. The body was then interred at Rosedale cemetery with the honors of the Masonic fraternity. It also said George was nearly sixty-five years of age. He had lived in Texas until coming to Ada some thirteen years ago. He was a man who respected and loved his fellow man, a feeling which they reciprocated. He was upright in his daily life and leaves a clean record behind him. He was a consistent member of the Methodist church. Since statehood, he had held the office of county surveyor. Deceased is survived by his wife and two daughters, Misses Maurine and Will Tom. Also, he leaves three brothers and three sisters.

We contacted Brother John Murphy, the Secretary for the Ada Masonic Lodge, #119, in Oklahoma to see if he could find Brother Truitt in their records. Brother Murphy told me that George Truitt doesn't show up as a past member. He also said there are four Masonic lodges in Pontotoc County so George could have been a member of one of those other lodges. The research continues.



## G.A. TRUITT

Rosedale Cemetery, Ada, Pontotoc County, Oklahoma,

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

(Special thanks to my editor Barbara A. Powell)



# TRUE STORIES AND EVENTS

## FEMALE TYLER OF A MASONIC LODGE

The first lodge in Kansas was Wyandotte Lodge. It met in the home of the Senior Warden, Matthew R. Walker. Mr. Walker, an Indian, acted as Tyler of the lodge. Later Mrs. Walker became the first Grand Matron of the Eastern Star in Kansas.

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## THE LARGEST AND THE SMALLEST MASONS

At the time he was raised in Highland Park Lodge No. 382 in Los Angeles, California, John Aasen was eight and a half feet tall and weighed 536 pounds. Twelve craftsmen were required for certain parts of the ceremony. There were 1500 Masons present to observe the ceremony.

Charles S. Stratton, a midget, was made famous by P. T. Barnum as "General Tom Thumb". He was first presented to the public in 1842; at the time he was two feet high and weighed 16 pounds. In 1844 he married Lavinia Warren, also a midget. He settled in Bridgeport, Connecticut and was raised in St. John's Lodge No. 3 on October 3, 1862.

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## THE CATHEDRAL BUILDERS

In 1899 Leader Scott (a pen name) published her book, *The Cathedral builders*, the story of a Great masonic Guild. This was followed in 1910 by W. Ravenscroft's *The Comacines, their Predecessors and their Successors*. The theory advanced is that when the Roman Collegia of Artificers were abolished, a group of workmen retired to an island in Lake Como where they preserved their technical skills and later built the cathedrals of Europe. This theory was followed by Joseph Fort Newton in *The Builder* and was widely accepted by readers of his popular book.

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## THE RHODE ISLAND LEGEND OF 1658

In 1853 the Reverend F. Peterson wrote on page 101 of his *History of Rhode Island and Newport of the past*: "In the spring of 1658, Mordecai Campannall, Moses Packeckoe, Levi and others, in all fifteen families, arrived in Newport from Holland. They brought with them the three first degrees of Masonry, and worked them in the house of Campannall; and continue to do so, they and their successors, to the end of 1742." This statement has been repeated from time to time, although in 1870 the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts looked into the matter and could find no evidence to support the statement.

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## HOW MANY MASONS SIGNED THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Extravagant claims are sometimes made in connection with the Masonic membership of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. There were fifty-six signers of the document. There is satisfactory evidence to prove conclusively that eight were Masons. Twenty-four others are sometimes claimed as Masons, but evidence submitted is not completely satisfactory, being based of hearsay and "tradition", rather than documents. There are twenty-four signers who have never been claimed as Masons. The best answer the question is as follows: "Scholars have proved that eight Signers were Masons. As many as thirty may have been."

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## SIGNERS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

To counteract similar exaggerations about the Masonic membership of the signers of the Constitution of the United States. Brother Ronald E. Heaton also researched The Masonic membership of Signers of the Constitution, he concluded that thirteen signers were Masons. Their membership is supported by clear and conclusive written records; there are seven signers who are sometimes claimed as members, but the evidence is insufficient and not conclusive; the balance were not Masons.

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## THE STORY OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT, ELIHUS ROOT, AND THE GARDNER

Occasionally one reads the heart-warming story that President Theodore Roosevelt's gardener was master of at the time. The story illustrates how all men become equal in a Masonic lodge. However there is no evidence to support this story.

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## FREDERICK THE GREAT HELPS A BROTHER'S WIDOW

Frederick the Great, a Mason without any doubt, while in a jewelry shop in Potsdam, Germany, observed a middle-aged woman exhibiting an article of silver having certain Masonic symbols, possibly a Past Master's jewel. She was trying to borrow money on it. She said she had come to this particular shop to avoid the usurers and because the owner of the shop was a Mason. The jeweler told her that he was not in the pawnbroking business and couldn't make the loan.

Another person in the shop asked her many questions concerning the jewel, whose it was, how she had possession of it, etc. The man offered to buy the jewel and kept raising the price. When he decided to make her the loan, he discovered he had no money in his pocket. He then disclosed to the surprised woman that he was the King.

Fredrick shook his staff at the jeweler and told him that he was not fit to be a Mason and threatened to file charges against him. The following morning the woman went to see Fredrick and the palace and he instructed her to return whenever she was in need of help.

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## ELIZABETH ST. LEGER or THE HONORABLE MRS. ALDWORTH

In 1735 Lodge #44 at Doneraile, Ireland usually met at Lord Doneraile's home who was Master of his Lodge. His sister also lived with him, Elizabeth St. Leger.

Knowing that the meeting was about to open Elizabeth hid in a storage room adjoining the lodge room. She removed a brick that she had loosened from the wall a few days before and watched the conferring of the Fellow Craft degree.

When the meeting was about to close, Elizabeth realized what she had done, and in her nervous attempt to leave knocked over some storage boxes. The Tiler hearing the ruckus sounded the alarm and ran to dispatch the intruder. Lord Doneraile appeared just in time to save her life.

After questioning her the members re-assembled and deliberated on what to do about this intrusion. After two hours of heated debate, cooler heads prevailed. She was given two alternatives, either she submit to receiving the first two degrees in Masonry or other arrangements would be made for her. Miss St. Leger being able to hear some of the debate gladly accepted.

Mrs., or more appropriately Sister Aldworth after marriage, was so taken by the lessons of charity and Fraternal love shown to her upon being passed to the degree of Fellow Craft that night, that she spent her life and considerable wealth helping the poor in general and the Masonic poor in particular.

*<http://www.mastermason.com/bridgeportlodge181/STRANG06.HTM>*

# From Labor to Refreshment

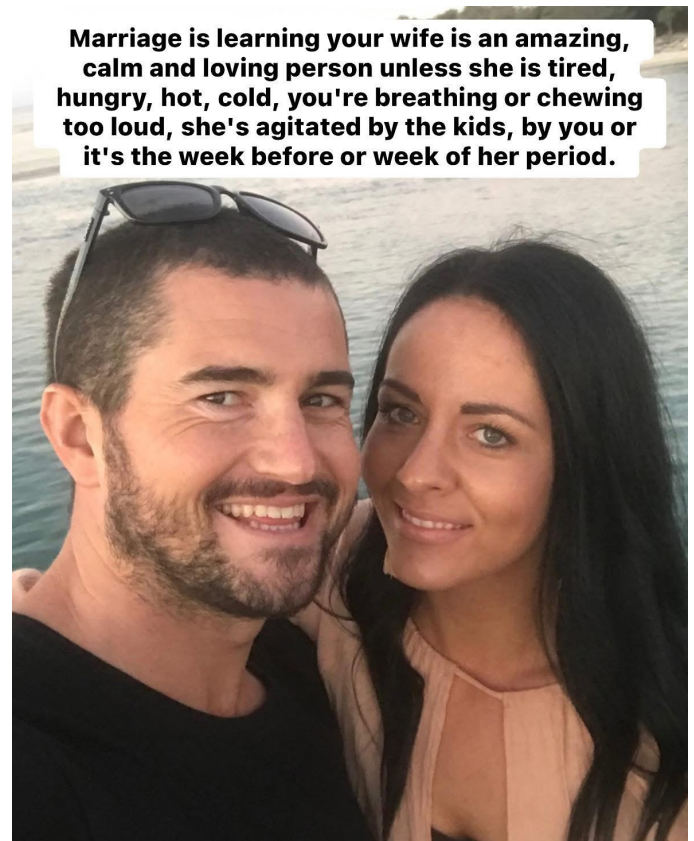


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A guy wants a divorce. He tells the judge, "I just can't take it anymore. Every night she's out until way after midnight, just going from bar to bar."

Judge asks, "What's she doing?"  
The guy answers, "Looking for me."





**Words Of Wisdom From Children. These Are Brilliant.**

1. Never trust a dog to watch your food. - Patrick, age 10
2. When your dad is mad and asks you, "Do I look stupid?" don't answer him. - Michael, 14
3. Never tell your mom her diet's not working. Michael, 14
4. Stay away from prunes. - Randy, 9
5. Never pee on an electric fence. - Robert, 13
6. Don't squat with your spurs on. - Noronha, 13
7. Don't pull dad's finger when he tells you to. Emily, 10
8. When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair. - Taylia, 11
9. Never allow your three-year old brother in the same room as your school assignment. - Traci, 14
10. Don't sneeze in front of mom when you're eating crackers. - Mitchell, 12
11. Puppies still have bad breath even after eating a tic tac. - Andrew, 9
12. Never hold a dust buster and a cat at the same time. - Kyoyo, 9
13. You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass milk. - Armir, 9
14. Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts. - Kellie, 11
15. If you want a kitten, start out by asking for a horse. - Naomi, 15
16. Felt markers are not good to use as lipstick. Lauren, 9
17. Don't pick on your sister when she's holding a baseball bat. - Joel, 10
18. When you get a bad grade in school, show it to your mom when she's on the phone. - Alysha, 13
19. Never try to baptize a cat. - Eileen, 8

"OLD" IS WHEN..... Your sweetie says, "Let's go upstairs and make love," and you answer, "Honey, I can't do both!"

"OLD" IS WHEN..... Your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.

"OLD" IS WHEN..... A sexy babe catches your fancy and your pacemaker opens the garage door.

"OLD" IS WHEN..... Going bra-less pulls all the wrinkles out of your face.

"OLD" IS WHEN..... You don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

"OLD" IS WHEN..... You are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of by the police.

"OLD" IS WHEN..... "Getting a little action" means I don't need to take any fiber today.

"OLD" IS WHEN..... "Getting lucky" means you find your car in the parking lot.

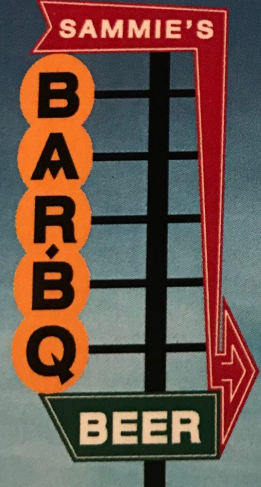
"OLD" IS WHEN..... An "all nighter" means not getting up to go to the bathroom.



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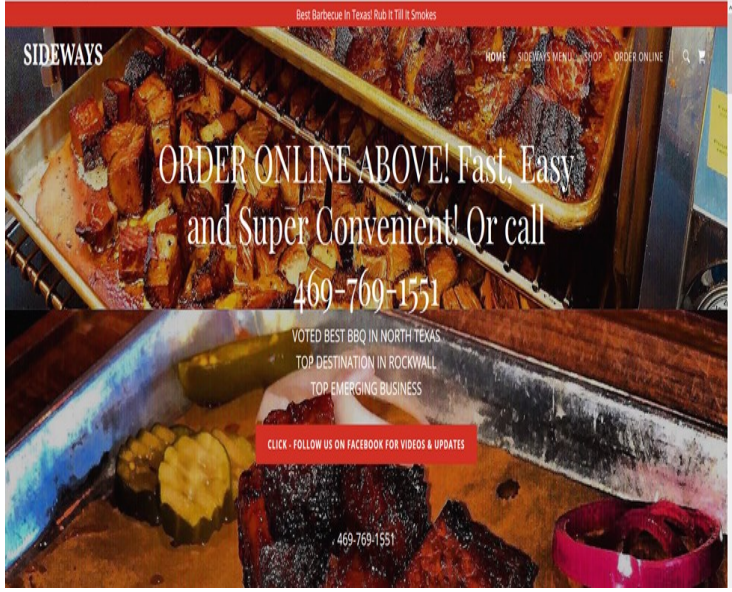
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