



# The Trestle Board

OCTOBER 2013

Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897  
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## FROM THE EAST



Greetings Brethren,

September was another very busy and productive month for the lodge. I want to acknowledge Brothers Clarence Smith, Billy Lieck, Duane Garza and Phillip Archilla again for all their hard work on the kitchen remodeling. Our new sink and faucets are installed and the cabinet doors have been completed. These Brethren are working extremely hard and dedicating many hours to make our kitchen attractive, modern, convenient, and practical for all the functions it supports. Future tasks include replacing the counter top and possibly adding some new hardware to the cabinet doors and drawers. Once these are complete, the remodeling will be complete and I am sure our lodge kitchen will be one of the best in Texas.

Donations are currently about \$2,000 short of covering the full cost of the AC replacement and the kitchen remodeling projects. Donations are still trickling in and we hope to attain our goal.

Our September dinner and stated meeting was a great success. The Kendall County Fire Marshall, Mr. Jeff Fincke, addressed the members and guests during the dinner about the history and issues relating to our county's Fire Departments and EMS services. Mr. Fincke's presentation was informative and the audience was pleased with the information received. Dr. Victor Vela will speak about diabetes during our October dinner, and I am sure we will be surprised by the information he will impart.

Because of our District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) Tom Cottle's official visit we did not have a Masonic Education presentation at our September meeting. Our "Opening Ritual, Reception of the DDGM, and Closing Ritual" were graded by District Instructor David Bruton and we received the great score of 90.

Brother Chis Williams from Davy Crockett #1225 is scheduled to present the Masonic Education program during our October stated meeting. I urge all to come listen to this excellent speaker.

Brother Charlie Lloyd's presentation of the more interesting points of our lodge history has been re-scheduled for November. Lodge history is significant and should be one element of our Masonic education.

I would like to congratulate and thank Brothers Clarence Smith and Dow Mathis for their outstanding presentation during our EA Education night. They explained and expanded on the key elements of the Entered Apprentice Degree. The presentation was both informative and entertaining for the assembled Entered Apprentices and Master Masons. We left with a better understanding of the different forms and ceremonies of the degree.

## Kendall #897 Trestle Board – August 2013



I would like to thank our Stewards Duane Garza and Billy Lieck, for the great meal served at our September stated meeting and for the amenities they provide during called meetings and other functions. These Brothers work hard to support the lodge and if you have not had one of their dinners, I urge you to come and enjoy their culinary arts.

Brothers David Bruton and Bill Carder just returned from the Grand Lodge's Wardens Retreat with ideas on how to make our lodge better. The other officers are looking forward to hear any fresh ideas on staying abreast with the changing times and keeping members active and engaged in lodge events.

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, we completed an outdoor Master Masons Degree at Camp Alzafar. It was a courtesy degree for Kerrville Lodge #697 with officers from both lodges participating. It was great!! Brother David Bruton coordinated and orchestrated the event, and we thank him for his efforts.

Brother Dow Mathis and other members finished printing, stuffing, and mailing the tickets for our fall fund raiser dinner. Our entrée has traditionally been Sausage only but this year we are adding Brisket to try to get more participation from the community. The mixed BBQ will be accompanied by our traditional sides. The Boerne #200 OES ladies will again provide the desserts while the DeMolay and Rainbow youth will assist with set up, serving, cleanup, etc.

For the first time we are conducting a Blood Drive in conjunction with the dinner and hope to have the best turnout in lodge history. I urge all members to invite family and friends to enjoy a great meal for the small donation of \$8. These dinners are the major source of funds for lodge operations and key to our ability to pay our bills and conduct normal lodge business.

One of my priority goals is to keep the membership informed of our activities, and I think publication of this monthly Trestle Board is doing the job. We have received many positive comments about the monthly newsletter, and I urge you to let us know how we are doing. If you would like to write an article for inclusion in one of our Trestle Boards, please contact the secretary or me.

We currently send newsletters to 119 members by Post Office, 120 via email, while two members get both versions. If you have an email address, I ask you to contact Secretary Bausell to update the Grand Lodge's and our database. Your email address will not be shared and you can choose to continue receiving the paper publication.

We are now starting the stated meeting dinners at 6:15 pm to give guest speakers a fifteen minute block of time to present topics pertinent to the lodge and community.

I urge each member who has not recently been to lodge, to come to the next stated meeting or just stop by some time and visit with your brethren.

Please feel free to contact me or the Secretary about any issue you feel is important to the lodge or membership. You can contact the Secretary at (830) 249-8917 or email [kendall897@gvtc.com](mailto:kendall897@gvtc.com) or me at (210) 241-5268 or email [qualchg@gvtc.com](mailto:qualchg@gvtc.com).

Fraternally,  
Bob Easterling, Worshipful Master



**FROM THE WEST**



Named after the highest ranking Texas Ranger during the era of the Frontier Battalion and Past Grand Master of Masons in Texas...the **Major John B. Jones Masonic Ranging Company** emphasizes the close relationship that Texas Rangers and Texas Masons have always shared. It has been said that "the badge of a Ranger was a good recommendation to become a Mason, and the badge of a Mason was a good recommendation to become a Ranger." Membership in the Major John B. Jones Masonic Ranging Company is open to all Masons in good standing with the Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.

These words are taken from the Major John B. Jones Masonic Ranging Company [website](#) and the members of Kendall Lodge are proud of the fact that our Lodge is Ranger Camp #4 of that Company.

This last Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, the Texas Rangers Heritage Center (TRHC) had a groundbreaking at their new location adjacent to historic Fort Martin Scott in Fredericksburg, Texas. The event was well attended with over 400 people present including the mayor of Fredericksburg, State Representative Doug Miller, and Governor Rick Perry. Each elected official expounded on the important role the Texas Rangers played in our state's history. The TRHC is a unique resource paying tribute to the leadership and legacy of the Texas Rangers and designed to educate and inform the public in the values of Courage, Determination, Dedication, Respect, and Integrity – attributes that are also stressed for a proper Masonic life.

Respectfully submitted,  
David K. Bruton PM, Senior Warden

**FROM THE SOUTH**



Brethren,

The October 21<sup>st</sup> stated meeting meal will be Beef Stroganoff, green beans, salad, bread, and iced tea.

**THE JUNIOR WARDEN AND THE LAW BOOK**

One of the duties of the Junior Warden is to post changes to the Grand Lodge Law Book keeping it in proper order for the lodge. The Worshipful Master may at any time want to review Grand Lodge law or direct another officer to research a specific law as it relates to the local Lodge's By Laws, Standing Rules, or another specific question. Many Brethren have their own copies of the Grand Lodge Law Book, but have not posted changes made during the Grand Lodge's Annual Communications. I urge those who possess these Law Books to check with the Secretary to ensure that they have the most current version. You can call, email, or bring in your book to compare it with the Lodge's most recent copy.

Although many may think the Grand Lodge Law articles are full of "esoteric law speak", they are in most part easy to read and understand. You may be surprised to know that



many of these laws give some latitude to subordinate lodges to adjust their own By Laws to meet unique requirements.

The Junior Warden is the chairman of the lodge's By Laws Committee and it is imperative for him to be familiar with Grand Lodge laws and know how they apply to our own By Laws and Standing Rules.

Fraternally,

Bob Easterling, Worshipful Master for:

Bill Carder, Junior Warden

### FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



Brethren... during this or the next few months you will receive a phone call from one of the officers of Kendall Lodge. If we miss you and leave a message to return our call, please do. We want to: (1) find out how you and your family are doing, (2) is there anything we can do for you, (3) have you been receiving the Trestle Board from the Lodge, and (4) if not, then do we have your current home and/or email address(es) and current phone number(s). We assure you that we will not misuse your contact information, but both we and Grand Lodge need to know the best ways to contact you.

Many times Brethren tell us that they don't come to Lodge because they don't believe that they can "get in" in the door and give the signs. Remember that in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas all that you need to "get in" is a current Grand Lodge of Texas Dues Card and a Photo ID (driver's license, military id, etc.). If you've misplaced your Dues Card, let me know at [kendall897@gvtc.com](mailto:kendall897@gvtc.com) or (830) 249-8917 and I will have a replacement made in Waco and mailed to you. As far as the signs, we will help you with those before or during the meeting. They'll come back to you quickly... like riding a bicycle!

We have several opportunities for you to come and see what's going on during the next 30 days or so. The following are coming up:

- The Grand Master's Workshop for the 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> Masonic Districts at Kendall Lodge on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9:30 A.M. through 12:00 P.M. Come a little early and join all of us for coffee.
- For a fun time, if you happen to be up in Arlington, Grand Lodge will hold 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Masonic Family Day on the Texas Masonic Retirement Center grounds on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, from 10 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. There will be rides, games, 100+ booths, and a Barbeque Cook-off. Come, bring the whole family, and have a great time with us.
- On Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> Kendall Lodge will host our Fall German Sausage and Brisket fundraiser. We'll start serving around 11:30 A.M. and go until 2:30 P.M. Come see us and eat, too! Plates, including drinks and dessert, are only \$8.00 each. It will be a great time to get reacquainted.



- Then on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, we will have our Stated Meeting with Dinner at 6:15 P.M. and the Stated Meeting at 7:30 P.M. Bring your wife and family for dinner.... we do!
- Finally, remember that if there's not a Stated or Called Meeting scheduled, we meet each Monday evening for practice at 6:30 P.M. We also meet on Wednesday and Saturday mornings at 9:00 A.M. or a little before. Come and join us!

So there you have it for this month. As I said... don't worry if it's been a while since you were at Lodge as we will assist you with whatever you need. We're looking forward to seeing all of you and when you get that call, let us know how we can help.

Fraternally,  
Gary Bausell PM, Secretary



### PURPOSE OF A MASONIC FUNERAL

What is the purpose of the Masonic Funeral? We certainly honor the memory of our departed brother and ask God's blessing on his family by saying, "With those, his immediate relatives and friends, we most sincerely, deeply, and most affectionately sympathize..." and we remind them that "Our Heavenly Father will give his love and protection to those who put their trust in Him."

However, I suggest that the Masonic Funeral is another opportunity to educate those who might not know of Masonry and remind those of us who are knowledgeable of important truths. One often tries not to think of death, but the words of the funeral say, "Again we are called upon to consider the uncertainty of human life, the absolute certainty of death, and the vanity of all earthly ambitions." Symbols of our order continue this thought. "The **LAMBSKIN or WHITE LEATHER APRON**, the first gift of Masonry, is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason...By it we are reminded of the universal dominion of death. The arm of friendship cannot interpose to prevent his coming; the wealth of the world cannot purchase exemption; nor will the innocence of youth or the charms of beauty change its purpose. The **Evergreen** is an emblem of our enduring faith in the immortality of the soul. By it we are reminded that we have a life within us that shall survive the grave and which can never, never die...Through our belief in the mercy of God, we may confidently hope that our souls will bloom in eternal spring..."

The funeral also admonishes us in the right way to live. "And now, my brethren, let us see to it and so regulate our lives by the plum line of justice, ever squaring our actions by the square of virtue, that when the Grand Warden of Heaven shall call for us, we may be found ready." This leads us to our place in the "**CELESTIAL LODGE.**" "Then when our dissolution draws nigh...with joy we shall obey the summons of the Grand Warden of Heaven and go from our labors on earth to eternal refreshment..."

The quotations were taken directly from the Monitor of our Lodge, and the thoughts are my own.

Submitted By:  
David Vaughan, Chaplain

**KENDALL MASONIC LODGE No. 897**  
**897 E. Blanco Road**  
**Boerne, Texas 78006**



Address Service Requested

## **PLEASE NOTE**

If you are receiving this Trestle Board by US Mail and have an eMail address, please use it to send a note to the Lodge Secretary at [kendall897@gvtc.com](mailto:kendall897@gvtc.com). eMail is a much more cost effective and efficient method of communication.