



Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 A.F. & A.M.
897 East Blanco Road • Boerne, Texas 78006

January 2015



FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brethren,

Happy Holidays to all this end of December day here in Beautiful Boerne, Texas. We had our annual Christmas party and food distribution preparation for the needy this past Friday. The food baskets were delivered Saturday morning. What a wonderful endeavor our Lodge has been a part of for a number of years. We have numerous traditions upon which to build. Thanks to those whom participated in this worthwhile practice.



Speaking of practice, and you know that I take every possible opportunity to speak to our Work, I would like to congratulate our Degree Teams for earning Certificates of Merit in the Entered Apprentice and Master Degrees which were presented at Grand Lodge on December 5th at our annual communication. Our Degree Team performed the number 1 Master Degree in the State of Texas this last year. Thanks to those who have worked very hard and really put their hearts into their Masonic Work.

Thanks also goes out to our Raffle Committee in their successful results in growing our charitable fund. This is how we finance our Scholarships as well as other local

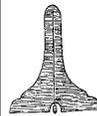
charitable giving.



SW Clarence Smith & Bro Duane Garza's Daughter
Draw Winning Raffle Tickets

May the Blessings of Heaven rest upon you and yours this Holiday Season.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
David Bruton, PM
Worshipful Master



FROM THE WEST

It is that special time of the year when we celebrate the holiday season and I hope each of you had a Joyful Holiday and a Happy New Year. We certainly enjoyed the time we spent with all of our family members who gathered at a relatives in Belton, Texas.



This month I would like to discuss the use of the term, Geometry.

Why do Masons put so much emphasis on Geometry?

The place of Geometry in the Masonic system is not only historical, but a most natural emphasis upon a basic science, which is essential to building. The lecture of the Fellowcraft degree records its importance to the craft. Historically, the Egyptians were undoubtedly one of the first people to cultivate geometry as a science. From Egypt it passed over into other countries and geometry and Operative masonry have always been found together, the latter carrying into execution the designs which were first made possible according to the principles of the former.

Speculative Masonry, in like manner, is intimately connected with geometry. We derive our most important symbols from the science of geometry and it is only natural that we give it a place of great prominence in our rituals. Geometry is not only synonymous with Masonry but with the art of building as well, and since Freemasonry is, in the speculative sense, a system of teaching that each individual should erect within himself a spiritual temple, it is the most natural thing that we use the tools of architecture and geometry as symbols in carrying out that instruction.

(Taken from: One Hundred Questions about Freemasonry ,
Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M. of Kansas)

Fraternaly,
Bill Carder
Senior Warden



December Service Awards: (l to r) Brothers Al Gray, Burke Martin, Terrell Norris, and Joseph Sill



Packing Christmas Food Boxes for local needy families: (l to r) Bob Tucker, Jimmie Black, Cindy & Gary Bau-sell, Susanne Smith, Hamilton Tyler, Deborah Bruton, Jeff Clark, Duane Garza, and Clarence Smith



FROM THE SOUTH



Brethren,

Meal for the January Stated Meeting will be hardy beef stew.

One of the things I enjoy is reading U.S. history 1861 – 1865 also known as the Civil War, the war of Southern Insurrection and the war of Northern Aggression. Some of the interesting things that I have come across are:

“L. J. Williams of Harvard, New York, enlisted in the 114th New York Volunteers at the beginning of the Civil War. He received the Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Degrees in Downsville Lodge No. 464 prior to his leaving home.

Later during the war he was captured and imprisoned near Savannah, Georgia. While in the prison, he communicated with his friends in the North. His lodge in New York through the proper officials got in touch with Zerubbabel Lodge in Savannah and stated that they would consider it a favor if the lodge in Savannah would confer the Third Degree on the Fellowcraft Brother Williams.

One night Brother Williams was taken from the prison and conducted to the lodge room in Savannah. He only had his blue tattered uniform to wear, a token of his sympathy with the cause he believed in. The officers of the lodge were all in Confederate gray. Although on opposite sides in the struggle going on the battlefields of the South, they were all Brethren. He was then and there raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason and acclaimed a full Brother and friend to those who wore the gray.

Later that night Brother Williams escaped. When asked about his escape he would "smile peculiarly. You might put it down as an escape, but it wasn't an escape strictly speaking. They put me in a boat and carried me off some distance. Then they deposited me on neutral soil between the lines." From there Williams was able to find his friends. Williams never knew who exactly helped him escape. He considered it as their secret and it was never disclosed. Williams stated: "I know exactly to whom I may attribute my escape, His name is Hiram."

And

“Just as the city of Richmond, Virginia seemed to be doomed, by fires and looting, a Union cavalry unit swung up Franklin Street. The bearded colonel looked warily at the riff raff around him who were about to fire a building which bore a sign "Masonic Hall." Taking command of the moment, he halted his troopers and ordered that an adjutant "have all Masons wheel out of column." Almost half of his force moved out. From this group he ordered a suitable guard to protect the Masonic Temple. The column reformed and resumed its ride. Later General Godfrey Weitzel, a Mason, gave the order, after a request by the Lodge, to continue the guard. The building saved is said to have been the oldest purely Masonic building in America with records dating back to 1787, and the historic building itself was built in 1785 by Richmond Lodge 10. The Grand Lodge assembled here after its formation in Williamsburg until its move in 1869.”

Regardless of one's political, religious or social beliefs we are bound to the fraternity by a stronger tie, one that is not taken lightly nor ignored in favor of personal gain. In that we should apply ourselves to God, our neighbors and ourselves that we might in our age enjoy the reflection of a life well spent.

**Fraternally,
Clarence Smith
Junior Warden**



FROM THE SECRETARY'S CORNER

Brethren... I hope that you and your family had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy *(and safe)* New Year. Believe it or not... we've now put half of the 2014-2015 Masonic Year behind us. Before you know it we'll be planning the 2015-2016 Masonic Year's Installation of Officers. However before we get ahead of ourselves, here are some of the things going on this month.



January is a month of new beginnings. Here are a few things to put on your calendar:

- The new dues year has begun. Payments for 2015 are supposed to be received before January 1st, which is the beginning of the 2015 Year for Grand Lodge of Texas dues. If you haven't sent them in then please take the time to do that now.
- We will receive our new District Deputy Grand Master, **Right Worshipful Chuck Ramsey**, on Monday night, January 19th at our stated meeting.
- **Monday, January 19th**, will be our **January Stated Meeting** with Dinner starting at 6:15 PM, Food and Fellowship lasting until 7:20 PM or so, and our Stated Meeting starting at 7:30 PM. Some of our wives stay in the Banquet Room during the meeting so bring your wife and/or other family members and come to the dinner and meeting.
- No date set yet, but we're going to be putting on a graded Fellowcraft Degree in the next month or so. Come and give us a hand. According to our Charter Instructing candidates to learn, improve themselves, and become Master Masons is the primary reason we are here.
- As a follow up, on Monday, December 8th we honored our **distinguished brethren who have achieved 25, 40, 50, 60, and 65 years of Masonic Service** during this 2014-2015 Masonic Year. I congratulate Brother **Dean Reynolds** of Bay City, TX (65 Years); Past Master **Robert Messerli** of Scottsdale, AZ and Brother **Al Gray** (60 Years); and Past Master **Terrell Norris**, and Brothers **Jack Cameron** of Rusk, TX, **Burke Martin**, and **Joseph Sills** (50 Years) on all of these Grand Lodge of Texas Service Awards. Worshipful Master David Bruton also presented 40

Year Lodge Service Awards to Past Master **Herman Haas** and Brother **David Vaughan**. Forty Year Awards were also sent to Brothers **Lyndon Herridge**, **Richard Wackerman**, **Thomas Pipes**, **Donald Hoops**, and **David D'Spain**. Brother **Stephen Hill** achieved his 25th Year Service Award which was sent to him.

- At the December Meeting, the **Fall Raffle's Top Prize of a \$500 Gift Certificate** was won by **Mrs. Vicki Katzer** and the **\$300 Gift Certificate to Best Buy** was won by **Clarence Smith**. Thanks to all of you that participated.
- **PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:** Saturday, February 14th for a Luncheon honoring our Masonic Sweethearts (our Widows and Ladies). Plan on coming, visiting, eating, and a short program.

So don't say that there is nothing going on at the lodge. We always have something going on that you can be a part of.

Brethren Remember:

That a fire whose coals and embers are scattered is destined to go out and provide no heat or comfort to anyone. However, a fire whose coals and embers are banked together remains warm and will spring back to life when additional fuel is added. Which of these descriptions describes Masonry to you? It is important to get together and socialize with the Brethren from time to time and rekindle that fuel that first brought you to Masonry in the first place.

Gary L. Bausell

**Gary L. Bausell, PM
Secretary**



- The Brothers Cluck -
EA Jonathon Cluck Jr. & Jonathon Cluck Sr., PM



Building Preservation Fund December 2014 Donations

Donor

In Memory/Honor of

Abb Kestler

Archie Burke

Ottie Kondright

John Angle

Laechelin Family

Emelia Laechelin

