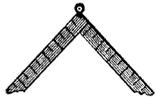




Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 AF & AM
897 East Blanco Road • Boerne, Texas 78006

October 2015



FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brethren,

Now that October has arrived, we can look forward to fall and to cooler weather once again. But first, let me bring you up to date about some of the Lodge activities during the past month or so.



On August 31st, we conferred an Entered Apprentice Degree. He was the third EA to become a part of our Lodge in the last few months. Thanks go out to Brother Matt Archilla, who has volunteered to instruct him in his memory work.

The next great thing that happened last month was the completion of our Lodge's new roof (see picture on right). We now have a beautiful new standing seam metal roof installed by our Past Master, Jeff Sill. He is the owner of Newport Construction Services located on Boerne Stage Rd in Leon Springs. He was so generous that we were able to replace our old composition shingle roof with the new metal roof, paying little more than the insurance check that Brother David Bruton was instrumental in obtaining from our insurance company. Come by the Lodge someday soon and see what a difference it has made. Also, please thank Brothers Sill and Bruton for all of their hard work.

Also, as of this printing, plans are being carried out to put on an outdoor Master Masons degree at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 3rd at Camp Alzafar. This will be a part of the Shrine's annual Chili Cook-off and Masonic Picnic. Please come out early and support our brother.

Another important activity will be our Fall BBQ Fundraiser on Saturday, October 17th from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Again, please come and help us have another successful event.

We look forward to seeing you soon at the lodge or some of our future activities.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

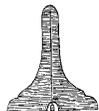
Bill Carder

Worshipful Master



Kendall #897 Calendar

	<u>Every Monday w/out Stated or Called Meeting</u> 7:00—9:00 pm	Kendall #897 Floor Practice
	<u>Every Wednesday</u> 9:00—11:30 am	Kendall #897 Floor Practice
	<u>Every Saturday</u> 9:00—10:00 am 10:00—11:00 am	Kendall #897 Esoteric Round Table Floor Practice
Oct 3	7:30 am	Outdoor MM Degree Camp Alzafar
Oct 6	<u>1st Tuesday</u> 7:30—9:30 pm	Boerne OES #200 Stated Meeting
Oct 7	<u>1st Wednesday</u> 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Brownwood Commandery #22 Dinner Stated Conclave
Oct 14	<u>2nd Wednesday</u> 6:30—9:00 pm	THC DeMolay Dinner & Stated Meetings
Oct 17	11:30 am—2:30 PM	BBQ Fundraiser
Oct 18	<u>3rd Sunday</u> 3:00—4:30 pm	THC DeMolay Advisory Council
Oct 19	<u>3rd Monday</u> 6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Kendall #897 Dinner Stated Meeting
Oct 21	<u>3rd Wednesday</u> 6:30—8:30 pm	Brownwood Commandery #22 Floor Practice
Oct 23	<u>4th Wednesday</u> 7:30—9:00	THC DeMolay Stated Meeting



FROM THE WEST

A Sprig of Acacia

During the Masonic funeral service we place a spring of ever-green (Acacia) upon the casket. It is an emblem of enduring faith in the immortality of the soul.



The Acacia tree has been described as a striking tree noted for its graceful and flexible leaves of yellowish green which droop down and wave in a light breeze. It is held sacred in ancient initiations and as a symbol of immortality it was used to mark the last resting place of the distinguished dead.

This sacred tree grows abundantly in the mid-east and has always been consecrated in ancient rituals.

The symbolism of immortality of the Acacia originated when Osiris was tricked into getting into a chest, when he did it was locked and thrown into the Nile river, it floated down stream and came to rest in Phoenicia, washed ashore at the foot of an Acacia tree. The tree grew and Osiris body was encased by the tree, the tree became a symbol of immortality. The Hebrew people being in captivity in Egypt took on some of the Egyptians beliefs.

This belief spread among the known world and was adapted into local rituals. Buddhism in The Jataka, Vol II (4 B.C.E.) in the Kandagalaka poem regarding imitation of the master describes the tree as an extremely hard wood full of piths, so hard it would bread the beak of woodpeckers.

The ancient Arabic Poem of Imru-ul-Quais (530 A.D.) Describe the fragrance of the blooming Acacia as being so pungent as to make the eyes water.

The Pyramid Text (2350 – 2175 B.C.E.) under the title Charms and utterances used the wood for a vessel to hold the spirit of Horus.

In Islam an Acacia tree is the symbol of Al-Uzza, an Arabic goddess who rules births, the earth, marriages, warfare and the Zodiac. Her color was adopted by Islam as its own favorite color. It was under an acacia tree that the companions of Mohammad took a pledge of fidelity to him.

In the arid regions of the mid-east the Acacia tree was used to build all manner of houses and implements used in the daily lives of the population. The tree itself is extremely dense with a density rating of .70 by contrast red oak density is .657. As a result of the density of the tree and being the only material available it was highly sought after as building material and when used in construction of a home, the logs often sprouted branches. Immortality was inferred as a result of the new growth from a dead log. It was resistant to decay and insects.

Acacia wood is mentioned in connection with the tabernacle of Moses (Exodus 37 & 38). Also Acacia was used to construct the ark, the table, the brazen alter, the incense alter, and poles used to transport them.

Modern uses of the Acacia include furniture; Arabic gum used in adhesives, some medicines and blood thinning agents. Its seeds are used as seasoning and flavoring to desserts and liqueurs; the essential oils are used in perfumes. Extracts from the Acacia tree are also found in Fresca, RC Cola, Barq's Root Been, Altoids, and M&M pretzels.

Mackey states that there are three possible explanations of the symbolism of the Acacia. That we are taught that in the initiation of life, of which the initiation is emblematic, innocence must for a time lie in the grave to await the calling of the Grand Master of the Universe to immortality of the word. He also states that in our ceremony the sprig of acacia was planted on Mount Calvary, the place of the death of Jesus the Christ, who is referred to in scripture as "The lion of the tribe of Judah" and the wood of the cross symbolically takes the place of the Acacia and this small insignificant symbol provides the mysteries of life, death, of time and eternity. Masonry proves more than just a social organization as Mackey suggest it is "a lamp unto our feet" whose speculative light shines on the darkness of the deathbed, and dissipates the gloomy shadow of death.

Therefore we place the sprig of Acacia on the sarcophagus of our departed brother to honor his life.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Clarence Smith
Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings from the South

The menu for the October Stated Meeting is Lasagna, Spaghetti, and Garlic Bread.

What's In a Name?

A.F. & A.M. It's on our lodge sign and letterhead, it's on our dues cards, It's everywhere around us, and the words, "Ancient Free and Accepted Masons," seem pretty straightforward to me, except maybe for the word "Accepted." What does that mean in the world of masonry, and why is it even in the name?

Well, if you're curious enough, and if you've got a copy laying around, either in print or scanned, then you can look it up in Mackey's *An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, Vol. 1*, where we find this definition and history of the term:

ACCEPTED. A term in Freemasonry which is synonymous with "initiated" or "received into the society." Thus, we find in the Regulations of 1663, such expressions as these:

"No person who shall hereafter be accepted a Freemason, shall be admitted into a Lodge or assembly until he has brought a certificate of the time and place of his *acceptation* from the Lodge that *accepted* him, unto the Master of that limit or division where such Lodge is kept."

The word seems to have been first used in 1663, and in the Regulations of that year is constantly employed in the place of the olden term "made," as equivalent to "initiated." This is especially evident in the 6th Regulation, which says, "that no person shall be *accepted* unless he be twenty-one years old or more;" where *accepted* clearly means *initiated*. As the word was introduced in 1663, its use seems also to have soon ceased, for it is not found in any subsequent documents until 1738; neither in the Regulations of 1721, nor in the Charges approved in 1722; except once in the latter where "laborers and *unaccepted* Masons" are spoken of as distinguished from and inferior to "Freemasons." In the Regulations of 1721, the words "made," "entered," or "admitted," are constantly em-



ployed in its stead. But in 1738, Anderson, who, in publishing the 2d edition of the Book of Constitutions, made many verbal alterations which seem subsequently to have been disapproved of by the Grand Lodge (see *Book of Constitutions*.) again introduced the word *accepted*. Thus, in the edition of 1723 read as follows: "But no man can be *made* or *admitted* a member of a particular Lodge," etc., he changed the phraseology so as to make the article read: "No man can be *accepted* a member of a particular Lodge," etc. And so attached does he appear to have become to this word, that he changed the very name of the Order, by altering the title of the work, which, in the edition of 1723, was "The Constitutions of the Freemasons," to that of "The Constitutions of the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons."

Although many of the innovations of the edition of 1738 of the Book of Constitutions were subsequently repudiated by the Grand Lodge, and omitted in succeeding editions, the title of "Free and Accepted Masons" was retained and is now more generally used than the older and simpler one of "Freemasons," to distinguish the society.

The word *accepted*, however, as a synonym of *initiated*, has now become obsolete. The modern idea of an accepted Mason is that he is one distinguished from a purely operative or stone-mason, who has not been admitted to the freedom of the company; an idea evidently intended to be conveyed by the use of the word in the Charges of 1722, already quoted.

What I take from this is that the word *accepted* was used to mean *initiated* way back in 1663, but then was essentially forgotten until the 1730's when our brother, Mr. Anderson, was working on a new edition of the Book of Constitutions. He became so enamored with the term that he went so far as to rename the Book of Constitutions itself and managed to rename the Fraternity in the process, even though most of his changes were subsequently changed back.

So without Brother Anderson's help, we would be simply "Kendall Lodge #897, Freemasons."

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Dow Mathis
Junior Warden



October Birthdays

Brother	Birthday
William B. Scales	10/1
Terrell E. Norris	10/1
Peter B. Abel	10/3
Jon B. Tipton	10/6
Carl E. Praesel Jr.	10/13
Frederick F. Hoelke	10/13
Gary D. Lawson	10/14
Roy L. Dwyer	10/17
Roger D. Curry	10/19
William R. Kendrick Jr.	10/20
Grover C. Carroll Jr.	10/21
David D. Scales	10/23
Jerry D. Tilley	10/26
Stephen W. McMahan	10/26
Fred A. Stahl	10/27
Gregory B. Tom	10/30

October Service Anniversaries

Brother	Years MM
James E. Davies	49
Mac M. Hopkin	47
Daniel E. Gudas	47
Kenneth L. Fitzpatrick	47
Fred A. Stahl	44
Nelson R. Davis Jr.	43
Joseph A. Carrola Sr.	38
Charles C. Lianza Jr.	38
Scott L. Williams	28
Harold E. Sill Jr.	27
Donald K. English	20
L. D. Martin	17
David D. Scales	16
Edward J. Vogt	9
Frederick F. Hoelke	8
Peter B. Abel	7
Terry A. Stahl	7
Thomas B. Johnson	5
Matthew P. Archilla	4



Kendall Lodge's New Standing Seam Metal Roof



FROM THE SECRETARY'S CORNER

Brethren... as we slide from summer to fall take a night off and come and join us at the lodge. We could certainly use your help in the degree work, so **come to our practices, refresh your knowledge, and hone your skills.** We won't toss into the deep end until you're ready.



Here are a few things to put on your calendar for October:

- ◆ Alzafar Shrine is hosting a **Chili Cook-off and Masonic Picnic at Camp Alzafar** on Saturday, October 3rd. **Kendall Lodge will put on a Master Mason's Degree** at 7:30 AM and raise our newest Master Mason. Chili weigh-in starts at 8:30-9:30 AM, cooking starts at 10:00 AM, and judging starts at 3:00 PM with awards at 4:00 PM. Dinner will start at 6:00 PM with a dance from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. No tickets required and it's open to all Masons and their families. This is in our backyard so come on and have fun.
- ◆ On Saturday, October 17th we will have our **Fall Fundraiser Sausage and BBQ Brisket Dinner**. We'll start serving at 11:30 AM and serve until 2:30 PM. As usual this will include meats, sides, condiments, drinks, and dessert. The tickets are only \$10.00 and **you will not go away hungry**, but usually caring a "to go" container. Currently we are planning on the Eastern Star ladies being at the dinner as well selling their crafts.
- ◆ On **Monday, October 19th**, we will have our **October 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.

Coming Events:

- ◆ **Save the date of Monday, November 2nd, at 7:00 PM** to attend Kendall Lodge's Night to honor our **60, 50, 40, and 25 Year Masons** who have achieved these years of Masonic Service. We will honor these Brethren and their families as well as have a reception following the ceremonies.

- ◆ The Grand Lodge of Texas 2015 Grand Communication will be from December 3rd - 5th this year as usual in Waco. All Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren are welcome to attend our tiled meetings and wives are welcome to attend our Opening Session on Thursday afternoon, Oration on Friday afternoon, and Installation on Saturday afternoon. There are also several meetings just for you, as well as trips that you can sign up and go on while your Masons are toiling away.
- ◆ Also remember that **we are taking donations for raffle tickets for our Fall Raffle**. The prize this Fall going to be a **His & Hers Handgun Set** with a semi-automatic **Beretta for him** and a **Ladies Revolver for her along with a case and CHL class for each**. This is a win – win situation. You win because you're in the raffle with chances to have your ticket drawn and high school seniors in Boerne and Comfort win as some of them will be given scholarships to earn a higher education. If you're in Boerne or the surrounding area, come by and one of us will be glad to sell you raffle tickets. If you're out of town, mail us a check and we'll mail you the tickets and put your stubs in the drawings to be held at 7:00 P.M. on December 21st. **So help us support Education in Kendall County!**

To all of our members: *Do you know the most common reason given for not coming to lodge meetings or events?* It's, "I'm not sure that I can get in." Brethren... all that you need are your Texas Lodge Dues Card and your Driver's License. If they're in order then you can come in! You will be surprised at how fast the ritual returns.

Remember... do not to say that there is nothing going on at the lodge for you. We always have something going on that you not only can be a part of, but that we need you to be a part of.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Gary L. Bausell

**Gary L. Bausell, PM
Secretary**

Building Preservation Fund September 2015 Donations	
<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory/Honor of</u>
Abb Kestler	Bro. Bill Scales
Bob Easterling	Sharon Arce