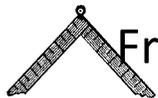




Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 A.F. & A.M.  
897 East Blanco Road • Boerne, Texas 78006



July 2016



## From the East



At our most recent Past Masters Recognition Dinner. The Past Master all made remarks regarding their tenure in the East.

I took notes in looking for guidance from the past to project into the future. Some of the remarks “Outdoor degrees in the cold”; “Past Masters are task to teach “the new guys””; “fourteen master masons in a year”, what a goal; “graded degrees” “support of Ladies of the Lodge”; “fellowship”; “masonry a learning experience”; “Brotherly love”.

What I took away from the remarks were friendships, relationships and support of wives.

Friendship- Friendship is central to our live in part because the special concern we have for our friends; the concern we have for our friends because our friends help shape who we are as Masons. Our shared participation in Masonry, the interactions, shared events that motivate friendship are present in our Lodge. This friend ship is what grows our lodge. We engage in activities motivated by the friendships itself, these activities are not motivated by self-interest but in friendship and brotherly love. The true meaning of what it is to be a Mason. This friendship is life enhancing providing us the opportunity to share our moral and intellectual activities.

Relationship- a connection between person’s beliefs in common good, the way in which we talk, behave and deal with each other. The belief in masonry which bind us together. We are social beings and look for relationships with people of similar interest and ideas.

This masonic relationship is built upon and improved by communication, communication between brothers that build on fraternal ties and bonds. These ties and bonds are strengthened by understanding the life experience of the brother and building on that social basics.

This masonic relationship is an ongoing source of support and a method of strengthening aspects of our lives by providing a trust worth friend as a sounding board. We invest time in learning our ritual, this face to face time provides a positive impact on the brain with emotional cues we need. We find these cues when we listen not just to the words but also the non-verbal communications.

In short our Past Masters have provided a path for a new master to follow to ensure success of his officers and members.

I am honored to have been installed as Worshipful Master for this Masonic year.

**Sincerely and Fraternaly,**

**Clarence Smith**

**Worshipful Master**





## FROM THE WEST



It is with great excitement and not a little confusion that I find myself in the West for this Masonic year. I would like to thank those who thought enough of my abilities to elect me to this post, and it is my goal to see your trust and support well founded. I believe that this Masonic year will be an exciting one, and that Worshipful Master Smith will do a fine job leading us this year.

I've been thinking about the working tools lately, and would like to share something that I recently read concerning the Square. This is from "Level & Plumb," Short Talk Bulletin, Vol. II, No. 6, June 1924:

*"The Level, so the newly made Mason is taught, is for the purpose of proving horizontals... and we are bidden to seek to attain a peaceful, balanced poise of mind, undisturbed by the passions which upset and sway us one way or the other."*

*"Of course the great meaning of the Level is that it teaches equality, and that is a truth that needs to be carefully understood. Our Declaration of Independence tells us that all men are "created equal," but not many have tried to think out what the words really mean... Anyone who faces the facts knows well enough that all men are not equal, either by nature or by grace. Men are unequal in physical power, in mental abilities, in moral quality. No two men are equal; no two are alike. One man towers over his fellows, as a mountain over the hills. Some men can do what others can never do. Some have five talents, some two, and some but one. A genius can do with effortless ease what is futile for others to attempt... When there is inequality of gift it is idle to talk*

*equality of opportunity, no matter how fine the phrase may sound. It does not exist.*

*"By no glib theory can humanity be reduced to a dead level.*

*"Manifestly it is better to have it so, because it would make a dull world if all men were equal in a literal sense. As it is, wherein one lacks another excels, and men are drawn together by the fact that they are unequal and unlike.*

*"What, then, is the equality of which the Level is the symbol? Clearly it is not identity, or even similarity of gift or endowment. No, it is something better; it is the equal right of each man to the full use and development of such power as he has, whatever it may be, unhindered by injustice or oppression. As the Declaration of Independence states, every man has an equal and unalienable right to "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness," with due regard to the rights of others in the same quest. That is to say, before the law, every man has an equal right to equal justice, as before God, in whose all men are one in their littleness, each receives equally and impartially the blessing of the Eternal Love, even as the sun shines and the rain falls on all with equal benediction.*

*"But it is in the free and friendly air of a Lodge of Masons, about an Altar of Obligation and Prayer, that the principle of equality finds its most perfect and beautiful expression. There, upon the Level, the Symbol of Equality, rich and poor, high and low, prince and plain citizen – men of diverse creeds, parties, interests, and occupations – meet in mutual respect and real regard, forgetting all differences of rank and station, and united for the highest good of all. "We Meet Upon the Level, and Part Upon the Square;" titles, ranks, riches do not pass the Inner Guard, and the humblest Brother is held in sacred regard, equally with the Brother who has attained the highest round of the wheel of fortune."*

**Dow Mathis  
Senior Warden**





## From the South

First Brethren I would like to thank you for entrusting me with the honor of serving as the Junior Warden for this Masonic year. As we usher in the new Officers of the Lodge I would like for us to give pause to, and appreciate the uncertainty that change brings. Change is what creates the opportunity for growth and learning, both within the individual brother and within our lodge. Without change we could not “take a good man and make him better”; but it is up to the individual brother to accept the challenge and embrace the lessons in a positive light. With that I wish the new Officers luck in their new offices this year, and I look forward to the change that comes with new responsibilities.

One of my duties as the Junior Warden is to coordinate with the Stewards to ensure we have a good meal planned for our monthly meetings. I have no doubt that we are in good hands with our trusty Stewards, but we are always open to suggestions for meals from the brethren. Should any Brother have a suggestion please contact me or the Senior Steward. The meal plan for the up and coming stated meeting is as follows:

Beef Steak with gravy

Green beans

Mashed potatoes

Fraternally,

Matthew Archilla

Junior Warden, Kendall Lodge 897

=====

## Past Masters Corner

### Three and a Half Hours per Month

When I became a Master Mason I was excited to be able to attend stated meetings with my lodge Brethren. I knew the lodge had over two hundred members, and I was ready to meet and associate with them. As I went through the degrees of Masonry I thought my Masonic world was constrained to the members performing the degrees, providing instruction, and conducting proficiencies. I figured all the regular members were at lodge for stated meetings and other

functions. Alas, the first stated meeting I attended had a major attendance shortfall. I was surprised there were only a few more members in attendance for the stated meeting than the members I was accustomed to seeing at the lodge for my degrees.

I immediately asked my instructor and mentor why there was so few in attendance for the stated meeting. His response is the same as I have heard from so many other Brethren over my years as a Mason. It goes like this: “Just because a Brother does not attend stated meetings or is not active in lodge functions does not mean he is not a good Mason. Many of our members do not live locally, are old or sick, have long work schedules, and every other reason under the sun. They pay their annual dues and live Masonic lives away from the lodge.” This is pretty much the established canned response to give to those who question poor attendance to lodge functions and activities throughout all the lodges in Texas. The questioner is supposed to accept the response and understand the acceptable reasoning for it.

As I understand it, the bulk of all Masonic lodges around our country suffer the same illness. This illness will surely kill our fraternity if we allow it to continue and get worse. When there is not enough attendance to conduct lodge business, then the lodge is not functional.

One of the primary goals for all Worshipful Masters, as they assume their position in the East, is to increase attendance to lodge functions by it members. As a past master, I can attest to the frustration the master of the lodge experiences when he can not muster enough members to reflect a thriving lodge for any event. It is truly a sad event when the lodge presents it annual “Community Builder Award” and there are seven Masons in attendance and twenty three guests. It is truly a sad event when every stated meeting is attended by less than thirty of our active two hundred plus members.

What can be done to fix the problem? There is nothing any Worshipful Master or lodge officer can do to fix the problem. You have to fix the problem. Yes, you the reader, the member of our lodge, the guy who does not attend our stated meetings or functions. As a Mason, you took upon yourself an obligation, an oath, to do certain things in your Masonic life. Stop and give it some thought.

Do you want to help your lodge? The best thing you can do to help your lodge is to try to dedicate three and a half hours of your time to your lodge monthly by attending the stated meetings. Our lodge stated meetings are always conducted on the third Monday of the month, and you can put it on your calendar. If you arrive at 6:30 PM you can dine with the Brethren, attend the stated meeting and be finished and on your way home by about 9:30 PM. I ask you, my Brother, to please dedicate three and a half hours per month to our lodge.

Fraternally,  
Bob Easterling, PM



## July Birthdays

Brother	Date
Morris C. Jernigan	7/1
Aaron M. Heidbreder	7/2
Thomas L. Taylor	7/4
Shawn L. Dunham	7/5
Jeffery L. Clark	7/5
Kyle G. Jackson	7/5
Robert E. Messerli	7/6
Dustin D. Dees	7/7
Todd J. Caron	7/7
James K. Hardin	7/9
Garth W. Gombert	7/9
Douglas R. Babbitt	7/10
Aaron D. Matherly	7/10
Alfred G. Gray	7/18
James L. Baker	7/18
Brian H. Rittmann	7/19
Robert D. Easterling	7/20
Cletus A. Kleen	7/20
Clifford R. Rick	7/21
Howard H. Hutsell Jr.	7/21
Marvil L. Agold	7/22
Paul S. Lemon	7/22
Gilbert W. Alexander	7/22
Edward A. Heath	7/22
Charles B. O'Brien	7/23
Brandt C. Klutts	7/24
Bradley D. Pecor	7/25
Randall J. Stahl	7/25
Marc J. McDonald	7/26
Rudolph Aue III	7/31

## July Service Anniversaries

Brother	Years MM
Calvin S. Sachers	64
Roy E. Thomas	60
Charley A. Taylor	56
John W. Uecker	54
Thomas B. Fuller	46
Hermas H. Hass	42
Lyndon R. Herridge	42
Kenneth O. Booth	41
Robert P. Rush	39
Charles T. Whiehead	37
David K. Bruton	36
Robert E. Magers	33
Thomas C. Williams	30
Frank W. Lieck	14
Marc J. McDonald	7
Ovidio M. Flores	7
Jimmie B. Black II	7
James R. Lloyd	6

After receiving his entered apprentice degree the candidate returned home. His wife asked him what happened to him. Recalling that he couldn't give up the secrets of that degree all he could muster was, "Well honey, there were a lot of walkers, talkers and preachers."

With a somewhat confused look on her face she asked what he meant. He explained, "Well, I couldn't see anybody in the room and was guided around. I would stop then somebody would talk. Then I was guided around by someone else, was stopped, then somebody else talked."

His wife then asked, "That explains the walkers and talkers ... what about the preachers?"

He pondered for a moment then finally replied, "Well, often when somebody finished talking I would hear some other people whispering 'Oh, God

## Building Preservation June Donations

<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory/Honor of</u>
Billy Lemmons Jr.	Bro. Billy Lemmons Sr.
Robert Easterling	Angie Hoops
Abb Kestler	Abb Kestler Sr.



# SECRETARY'S CORNER



for the 2016-2017 Masonic Year. Come to the Installation of Officers at the July Stated Meeting at Kerrville Lodge on July 27<sup>th</sup>. **Our Senior Warden Dow Mathis will be installed as the incoming Vice President.** All masons and guests are encouraged to attend. Welcome aboard!

**Brethren...** June is always a busy month and this year was no different. We went all the way from our Past Master's Night on the 6<sup>th</sup>, closing the 2015-2016 Lodge of Sorrow on the 13<sup>th</sup>, our Stated on the 20<sup>th</sup> honoring our scholarship winners, to having our Installation on June 25<sup>th</sup>, which was followed by opening the 2016-2017 Lodge of Sorrow on the following Monday evening, the 27<sup>th</sup>. **What a month!**



First things first, I would like to **congratulate our newly installed 2016-2017 officers led by Worshipful Master Clarence Smith from the East.** I believe that everyone is looking forward to a great year! **Guys remember that with new offices come new responsibilities.** Come to practices and learn them correctly. We're here Monday evenings at 7 PM, Wednesday and Saturday mornings after 9 AM and we have PM's and Brethren who can work with you.

Brethren... as I had been warning since the first of the year, **several of our Brethren were suspended for non-payment of dues.** This is not something I like to recommend, but after three (3) mailed notices since November, emails, and phone calls and they're still not paid, it was necessary. **It is incumbent on us as Masons to see that either our dues are paid each year** or we can decide to purchase an Endowed Membership. **We also support our Lodge(s) and the Grand Lodge of Texas, as well as their fundraisers and philanthropies, with our time, effort, and money.**

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

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



**Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup>,** will be our **July Stated Meeting** with Dinner starting at 6:15 PM, Food and Fellowship last until 7:20 PM or so, and our Stated Meeting starts 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.

*Gary L. Bausell*

Secretary  
July 2016

=====

### Scholarship Photos:

<http://akestler.zenfolio.com/p826259251>



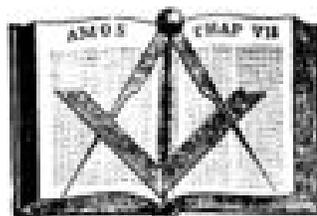
Also congratulations to **Worthy Matron Debbie Tucker and Worthy Patron Bob Tucker.** They were installed on June 18<sup>th</sup> as the Worthy Matron and Patron of **Boerne Chapter No. 200, Order of the Eastern Star.** We'll enjoy working with them

### Installation Photos:

<http://akestler.zenfolio.com/p397875507>



Also coming to the end of its year is the **M.C. Holman Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries' Association** of the 51<sup>st</sup> Masonic District, Grand Lodge of Texas. **Congratulations to Chuck Ramsey** for leading the association this year and also **congratulations to Robert Webb from Bandera Lodge No. 1123** for being elevated to the Presidency



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



Address Service Requested