



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



October 2016

From the East



Greeting Brethren,



It is with pleasure that I announce to you that we have two new Entered Apprentices congratulate them when you see them. October is an extremely bust month for the Lodge. There an event every weekend, please plan not only to attend but to participate in the various events.

Right Worshipful Jimmie T. Avery the District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District 51, made his official visit at the September meeting. If you were not able to attend the stated meeting phone one of the officers to find out about his important message from the Grand Master.

Some of my most enjoyable time as a Masonry have been the social events. Greeting members of the lodge that I have not seen in eons. Talking about memorable events in our lives and sharing our hopes and dreams of the future. I encourage you to attend these events and catch up on what has been missed.

Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 Death



Calvin Stewart Sachers

Almighty Father! Into Thy hands we commend the soul of our beloved Brother.

A note Robert Easterling PM:

ITEMS NEEDED FOR SHRINE CLUB GARAGE SALE

The Boerne Shrine Club needs donations for its 1st Annual Garage Sale to be conducted at Kendall Masonic Lodge 897. We want to make our event a huge success, and the more items we have the bigger the event. Please take a look at the list of items below and the donation dates below.

The Boerne shrine club garage sale will be conducted on Oct. 8, 2016, and we ask that all donated items be delivered to Kendall Masonic Lodge on Thursday Oct. 6th and Friday Oct. 7th. We ask that you price each item you donate at a price you would pay for the item at a garage sale. We do not plan to haggle with the customers over the price, and any item that is not purchased will be donated to the Hill Country Animal league after the garage sale. This will assist us in our efforts, save time, and allow the donor to determine the value of the item.

***Please consider donating
any of the types items listed below:***

FURNITURE APPLIANCES LAWN EQUIPMENT
ANTIQUES EXERCISE EQUIPMENT DISHES
CLOCKS HOME DECORATION ITEMS
CAMPING EQUIPMENT
FISHING EQUIPMENT GOLF EQUIPMENT
HUNTING EQUIPMENT

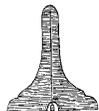
ANYTHING THAT A PERSON MAY NEED OR DESIRE

PLEASE DO NOT DONATE CLOTHES OR SHOES

We appreciate your support,

Bob Easterling

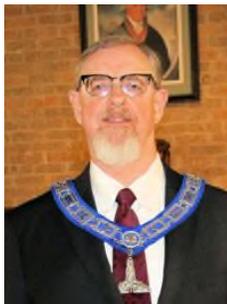
President Boerne Shrine Club



FROM THE WEST

From the West

I've been working through the various Working Tools of Masonry over the past few months, but this month I'm going to take a break and talk about something else. Please bear with me, as this needs to be said.



The Public Face of Masonry

Specifically, I'd like to talk about the public face of Masonry in Boerne. While it's true that Masonry isn't a secret organization, it's also true that Masonry might as well be secret for all the common man on the street knows about us. We toss around descriptions like, "a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," and that "Masonry takes good men and makes them better." Some of us have Masonic license plates or bumper stickers or maybe t-shirts that say, "2B1 ASK1," but what do we actually tell a man who asks about the Fraternity? When was the last time a man asked YOU about Masonry?

According to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, membership has been steadily dropping statewide since 1961 at an average rate of 2,000 men per year. There are several potential causes for the membership drop: dissatisfied brothers demitting; brothers moving to another grand jurisdiction; death. Regardless of the reasons, the fact is that new membership hasn't been at a high enough rate to offset the drop, so numbers have dropped from over 246,000 in 1961 to around 77,000 today.

The question that we have to consider is actually two-fold, "why aren't men joining the fraternity at higher rates," and of equal importance, "why aren't our current members staying involved in lodge activities?"

I believe that the two are related, and that they both have a direct impact on the topic of this article, The Public Face of Masonry. I believe that our numbers are down in this lodge in part because we come to lodge, have our business meetings and maybe a short Masonic moment, and then go home. For our current but absent brothers, this may not be enough to get them back in the door.

Do we have great fellowship at our meetings? Yes we do. But the truth remains that out of over 200 current members, we seldom see more than two dozen at our meetings.

Why is this? Is it because we don't have exciting meetings? Is it because people have better things to do with their time than to come sit in lodge? If so then what can we do to change this perception?

I believe that one of the ways we can improve on member attendance AND attract more new members is to increase our public presence in Boerne and Kendall County. While I'm not sure exactly what we should do to accomplish this, I'm certain that it involves getting out of our lodge building and being more active and more visible as Masons in the community. Maybe it involves doing something in conjunction with the stock show, or sponsoring blood drives, or mentoring kids in our schools. Maybe you have an idea. If so, then please either call or email me with your idea. My phone number is 210-279-6173, and my email is dow@clanmathis.com.

What about the non-mason? We all know men who would make great brothers, but we're not allowed to recruit. Because we can't recruit, we often say nothing at all. This does no one any good. While we can't ask, "Will you join the Lodge," according to the Grand Master, we CAN ask, "Are you a Mason?" and follow up with, "Why not?" We may not be able to recruit, but we CAN talk about the lodge and Masonry. We CAN invite a friend to dinner. We CAN hold a "Bring a friend to Lodge" night, as other lodges have done. We CAN have an open house and advertise it throughout Boerne.

On Sunday, October 23rd, from 2:00 until 4:00 pm, Kendall Lodge, along with every other lodge in Texas, will hold an open house. We will have brothers representing not only our lodge, but the various appendant bodies as well. Please come to this event and bring your non-mason friends who you feel to be worthy and well-qualified (and their wives). These potential brothers and their families are the future of our fraternity.

Dow Mathis

Senior Warden

Kendall Masonic Lodge 897



From the South



Allow me to open this month's article with a bang ...

“In the beginning... And God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them”

--Genesis 1:26-27.

Later in Genesis we again find another creation of man,

“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul”

–Genesis 2:7.

It has been well acknowledged by scholars that there are seemingly two creation stories within Genesis, and there is much debate as to why. For the purposes of this month's article we will not be looking at the lengthy scholarly debates, but instead we will look at the two creation stories from a more intuitive angle to illustrate the meaning of two specific terms we often use within our Lodge. These words are **exoteric** and **esoteric**, two complimentary opposite words, whose meanings are often mixed up.

First, let's start with the word exoteric. The word exoteric comes from the Greek language and means “external, or that which is intended for the general public in understanding.” Exoteric then is the superficial material substance that embodies something greater. In Genesis, specifically Genesis 1:26-27, the body of man is created, there is yet no animation or life essence, man is just existent as a material body.

Now let's look at the meaning of esoteric. Being a complimentary opposite, one can surmise an opposite meaning, and indeed that is the case. Esoteric means “within, hidden spiritual knowledge, or secret doctrine known only to a few.” In contrast to exoteric, esoteric defines something deeper, gives it purpose, and is sustenance for the substance; it is the life essence of something. Genesis 2:7 tells us that man, after first having been created in 1:26-27, is given “the breath of life” and becomes a living soul. It is at this point that man is whole and complete.

Man would not have purpose without spirit, and spir-

it could not experience the material without body; they compliment each other and bring about a balance necessary for the existence of life. To further this idea, and with purpose to live a balanced life, one must nurture both the material body as well as the spirit. Giving to one side more than the other would run counter to our virtue of temperance.

We use the word esoteric very often within the Lodge, but more often than not it is used out of context. Within the Lodge we have a vast body of work pertaining to our rituals that requires a lot of memorization in floor movements as well as proper wording. The memorization of our ritual work, learning the movements and wording, even the timing, is not esoteric work. This work performed is exoteric in nature. It is the substance that contains the sustenance. The purpose and profound meaning behind our external work, that creates much philosophical discussion, that is the esoteric work.

I have found, during my short time in Masonry, that a lot of emphasis has been placed on learning the exoteric work. While the forms and proper wording of the rituals are an integral part of our ceremonies, that is only part of the whole body of work. In order for there to be life within our body of work we must also incorporate the study and practice of the meanings behind the forms and wording, else they are just empty forms. We do this through the systematic study and teachings of the symbols laid out in our system of advancing degrees, through philosophical discussion, and lastly through self-reflection/contemplation upon the same. Neither the exoteric nor the esoteric work should take precedence over each other, rather they should compliment each other as the necessary work of a single process.

Therefore, Brethren, I encourage each of you to seek counsel with those Brothers who are gifted in the knowledge of our exoteric work so that you may learn it yourself, and to seek for understanding of the many meanings behind that great body of work through esoteric teachings; bring balance within our Lodge and within yourselves because no system can survive for any meaningful duration without balance.

Our planned meal for next months stated meeting is Chicken cacciatore , garlic butter pasta , ceaser salad. , all prepared by our hard working Stewards.

Fraternally,

Matthew Archilla

**Junior Warden,
Kendall Lodge 897**



| <i>October Birthdays</i> | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Brother | Date |
| 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 |
| Gar D. Lawson | 10/14 |
| Roy L. Dwyer | 10/7 |
| Roger D. Curry | 10/19 |
| William R. Kendrick Jr. | 10/20 |
| 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 |

| <i>October Service Anniversary</i> | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Brother | Years MM |
| James E. Davies | 50 |
| Mac M. Hopkin | 48 |
| Daniel E. Gudas | 48 |
| Kenneth L. Fitzpatrick | 48 |
| Fred A. Stahl | 45 |
| Nelson R. Davis Jr. | 44 |
| Joseph A. Carrola Sr. | 39 |
| Charles C. Lianza Jr. | 39 |
| Scott L. Williams | 29 |
| Harold E. Sill Jr. | 28 |
| L.D. Martin | 18 |
| David D. Scales | 17 |
| Donald K. English | 21 |

| <i>Building Preservation July Donations</i> | |
|---|---------------------------|
| <u>Donor</u> | <u>In Memory/Honor of</u> |
| Billy Lemmons Jr. | Bro. Billy Lemmons Sr. |
| Abb Kestler | Bro. Dan Mason |
| Bob Easterling | Ann Easterling |
| David Bruton | Dan Mason |

"The Old Masters Wages"

I met a dear old man today,
 who wore a Masonic pin,
 It was old and faded like the man,
 It's edges were worn quite thin.

I approached the park bench where he sat,
 To give the old brother his due,
 I said, "I see you've traveled east,"
 He said, "I have, have you?"

I said, "I have, and in my day before the all seeing sun,
 I played in the rubble, with Jubala, Jubalo and Jubalum."

He shouted, "don't laugh at the work my son,
 It's good and sweet and true,
 And if you've traveled as you said,
 You should give these things their due."

The word, the sign, the token,
 The sweet Masonic prayer,
 The vow that all have taken,
 Who've climbed the inner stair.

The wages of a Mason,
 are never paid in gold,
 but the gain comes from contentment,
 when you're weak and growing old.

You see, I've carried my obligations,
 For almost fifty years,
 It has helped me through the hardships
 and the failures full of tears.

Now I'm losing my mind and body,
 Death is near but I don't despair,
 I've lived my life upon the level,
 And I'm dying upon the square.

Sometimes the greatest lessons
 Are those that are learned anew,
 And the old man in the park today
 has changed my point of view.

To all Masonic brothers,
 The only secret is to care,
 May you live your life upon the level,
 May you part upon the square.



SECRETARY'S CORNER



Brethren... We have two new Entered Apprentices in the Lodge. A Kendall Lodge degree team performed an Entered Apprentice Degree on September 12th and a Graded Entered Apprentice Degree on September 26th with **Grand Lodge Committee on Work member T. K. Anthony** in attendance grading the degree. **This is what our Charter tells us that we are to do. We're in the business of making and instructing new Masons, so come and give us a hand.**

I'm sad to report that another Brother has laid down his working tools. **Past Master Calvin S. "Cal" Sachers passed away on January 25th** in Austin, but we just received confirmation of it from his wife Fran this last month. Brother Sachers and Fran moved to Austin about 3 years ago for better medical care for him and to be closer to family as his dementia grew worse. Please keep his wife and family in your thoughts and prayers.

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



On **Saturday, October 1st** we will have our **Fall Fundraiser BBQ Brisket and Sausage Dinner**. We'll start serving at 11:30 AM and serve until 2:00 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.



Monday, October 17th, will be our **October Stated Meeting** with Dinner starting at 6:30 PM, Food and Fellowship last until 7:20 PM or so, and our Stated Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Again...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.



On **Sunday, October 23rd**, Kendall Lodge will host an **Open House from 2-4 PM**. This open house is intended to be for the Kendall County community surrounding the lodge to introduce them to Freemasonry and what it stands for. We would certainly appreciate it if the families of Kendall Lodge Masons came by as well. So if you haven't been to the lodge in a while... come on by.



Immediately following the Masters, Wardens, & Secretaries Association meeting at Kendall Lodge this month on Wednesday, October 26th, **Right Worshipful Jim Avery and District Instructor David Bruton will hold this year's Briscoe Workshop**. If you want to know more about Masonry, come and join us and we can learn together.

In other Fraternal Bodies:



The **Boerne Shrine Club** will hold a **one-day "garage sale"** at Kendall Lodge on **Saturday, October 8th**. This sale will start around 8 AM and continue as long as merchandise remains and customers keep coming.



The **Brownwood #22 Commandery** at Kendall Lodge will hold a **Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, October 8th** at the same time the garage sale is going on. They will also start serving at 8 AM and continue as long as hungry customers are in line! **Come, eat, browse, and buy!**



The **51st Masonic District's M. C. Holman Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association** will meet in **Boerne at Kendall Lodge on October 26th** with a light dinner at 6:30 PM and the Stated Meeting at 7:00 PM. All Masons and guests are welcome to attend. The Briscoe Workshop will immediately follow the meeting.



Alzafar Shrine is hosting a **Chili Cook-off and Masonic Picnic at Camp Alzafar on Saturday, October 15th**. 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.

Brethren... If you and the family are at home and trying to figure out what to cook, then bring them to our Stated Meeting dinners and sessions on the third Mondays. We eat at 6:30 PM and meet at 7:30 PM. We have great family-time fellowship with wives and children. We want to see YOU!

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.

Gary L. Bausell

Secretary

Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897

BBQ Sausage & Brisket Dinner



Great BBQ!

Saturday, October 1, 2016

11:30 am — 2:00 pm

897 E. Blanco Rd, Boerne, Texas
(Next to the Post Office)

Donation: \$10 (Includes Tea & Dessert)