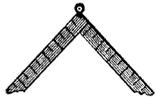




Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 AF & AM
897 East Blanco Road • Boerne, Texas 78006

February 2015



FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brethren,

Another year has rolled around and we are on the upside of our officer's year in their respective stations and places. It is hard to believe that our Masonic year is well half over. The goals and objectives that we set had better be at least half complete as we plan for the remainder of our Masonic year. Our Lodge has achieved the Vanguard Award each year since its inception many years ago. We will plan to finish up our year having completed all the requirements of this prestigious award.



Now please allow me some time and a few words concerning our Masonic Obligation to ourselves and others. The main column of support in our Masonic Philosophy is our recognition and dependence on our Heavenly Father. This common belief and strong bond has kept brothers together in the strength of our traditions for hundreds of years. Our belief in God reinforces our accountability to each other as well as our knowledge of Devine Leadership in our everyday lives. This same bond that recognizes that our Heavenly Father is overseeing our activities is the same bond that strengthens our Obligation to ourselves and to each Brother in our Fraternity.

This brings me to one promise that also binds us together as Brothers; that promise to take care of our Widows of our Brothers. This is one of the most important things we can do as Masons. We do have our Texas Masonic Retirement Center in which our Masonic Brethren and Widows can support and depend upon if necessary. This is only one of the ways

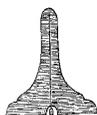
we can support and care for our Brother's wives upon the passing of a Brother Mason. After we perform the last rites at a Masonic Funeral our sisters need our immediate and continued attention and support because they have lost their life partner, their companion, their friend, their identity, and many times their purpose. What are they to do now? This is where we, as Brother Masons belong. In our supportive roles we help strengthen our widows by lending a helping hand to our sisters in the fraternity. Helping hands are abundant from our members of Kendall Lodge #897.

Each year Kendall Lodge shows our respect and recognition to our Sweethearts, Masonic Widows by having a luncheon on or about Valentine's Day. Our Sweethearts Luncheon this year is on February 14th at 11:30 at our Lodge. We ask each and every member to reach out their "helping hand" to our Widows as our Creator speaks to you individually. Find that individual strength given to you by our Great Architect and pledge that gift in support of our Widows.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
David Bruton, PM
Worshipful Master

Building Preservation Fund January 2015 Donations

<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory/Honor of</u>
Abb Kestler	Bill Scales
Charlie Lloyd	Susie & Wesley Boone



FROM THE WEST

Brethren & Sweethearts,

February is the month that we honor our sweethearts on that special day, Valentine's Day. I would like to wish all of our wonderful ladies a joyful Valentine's Day and we hope to see all of you on the 14th at the luncheon.



This month I have chosen a little piece of Civil War History, taken from the book "Freemasonry During Wartime."

THE FINAL ACT BY A MASON IN THE CIVIL WAR

It was an April morning three days after General Robert E. Lee had surrendered to General U.S. Grant. The Southern troops, led by General John B. Gordon, a Mason, were marching in columns towards the Northern troops who were standing in formation waiting for the Southerners to stack arms and fold their flags. Suddenly a shifting of arms was heard. General Gordon looked up with alarm, but there was nothing to fear. General Joshua Chamberlain had ordered his troops to assume the position of "honor answering honor." Immediately, the Confederate troops snapped to attention and returned the honor. It was the first act to heal the wounds of a nation that had spent four years and lost many lives in a civil war. That command of "honor answering honor" was ordered by a Mason.

Major General Joshua Chamberlain was a member of United Lodge #8, Brunswick, Maine. After the war, he became Governor of Maine from 1866-71 and President of Bowdoin College from 1871-83. (He is also featured in the movie "Gettysburg" for his role in holding Little Round Top).

**Fraternally,
Bill Carder
Senior Warden**



FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren,

The meal for the February Stated Meeting will be King Ranch Chicken.



Don't Tinker with the Tiler

In Symbolic Masonry, the Tiler or Tyler is a Master Mason whose duty it is to challenge all those who approach the Lodge Room door and verify that all who enter are Masons who are duly qualified.

In ancient stonemason guilds, Tilers guarded the door against eavesdroppers and cowans. They still serve this function today. The short definition for cowans is that they could be hired to build walls of loose stones without mortar or cement, were not yet apprenticed to a Master Mason, and had no right to attend or vote at the guild meetings.

In a typical Lodge, the Tiler sits outside the Lodge Room door in a Tiler's room, armed with a symbolic sword resting at his side or mounted on the wall. By tradition, the ceremonial sword had a wavy blade representing a ray from a blazing star. Modern Tilers may bear a ceremonial straight military sword or curved cavalry saber donated by a brother. Other made do so with a cross shaped Christian sword donated by a Knight Templar.

The Tiler has not been armed with a sword through all of Masonic history. In early Freemasonry, the Tiler was "armed with the proper implement of his office", which was appropriately, a trowel used for setting tiles. (Peter Champion 2013)

**Fraternally,
Clarence Smith
Junior Warden**



FROM THE SECRETARY'S CORNER

Brethren... It is hard to believe that seven (7) months of this Masonic Year has gone by. However a lot of our lodge activities are still to come. We will have our Sweethearts Luncheon on Saturday, February 14th beginning with fellowship at 11:00 AM. So if you know of a widow of a passed Brother, ask her if she received her invitation. If she didn't receive one, then invite her to come and you can bring your Sweetheart as well.



February is just the start. Here are a few things to put on your calendar:

- Don't forget: Payments for 2015 were 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 have an Entered Apprentice Degree on Monday, February 9th at 6:30 PM followed by our EA Education night. Come and join us.
- **Monday, February 16th**, will be our **February 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.
- Saturday, March 7th at 9:00 AM will be the Alamo Observance by Texas Masons which is held downtown at Alamo Plaza. Following that will be the Masonic Youth Brunch at Alzar Shrine Center at 11:00 AM. Then the Grand Master of Masons in Texas, M.:W.: Michael Wiggins, will hold his San Antonio Grand Master's Conference in the Alzar Ballroom following the brunch. Registration begins at 12:00 PM and the conference at 1:00 PM. It is open to all Masons and their families.
- We've rescheduled our Spring Fish Fry Fundraiser for Saturday, April 18th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Get your appetite ready!
- Grand Lodge has also set the date for the Esoteric Forum and Certificate Exams as Saturday, April 11th starting at 9:00 AM at Medina Lodge No. 1319. Also the dates for the 2015 Warden's Retreats have been set. See me for details or go online to the Grand Lodge of Texas website for information and registration.

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**



**R.:W.: Chuck Ramsey
District Deputy Grand Master
Masonic District No. 51**