



Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 A.F. & A.M.
 897 E. Blanco Road, Boerne, Texas 78006
 August 2023



FROM THE EAST



Greetings Brethren,

We are off to a great start this new Masonic year. We just had our first E.A. Degree for our new brother Rodney Bolt. I want to congratulate everyone on an excellent degree, the degree team worked hard to be successful and I truly believe that the degree would have scored well if it had been graded. Travis Grauman did a fantastic job in conferring as did everyone else.

We must now concentrate our efforts on the next degree which will be a graded Masters Degree. I for one that feel that having your name on a certificate for a graded degree is truly an honor and I encourage all to come to practice so that we as a team can reach that level of excellence. Our Degree master, Brother Butterfrass has been diligent in learning the work so that he can lead and teach us all to be proficient in our efforts to put on a graded degree to the level of perfection we all desire. He will be assigning specific parts to everyone to learn so that they in turn can teach someone behind them.

Several of us took the weekend off of the 22-23 to enjoy a day of fishing the snapper banks off of Port Aransas with members of Alzafar Shrine. If you are not familiar with this, it's a fund raiser that the Shrine does every year for the purpose of raising money for the transportation fund. It was a fun time for all of socializing with other brethren and their families on the beach Saturday and a great day on

the water, fishing Sunday. Prizes were given for the largest snapper and the largest non-snapper caught. Luis Cardenas caught the largest non-snapper and the largest snapper was brought in by yours truly (my lovely wife had that honor last year, but mine was 1/2 pound heavier). Cash prizes of \$150 and \$250 respectively were awarded, which we opted to donate back to the transportation fund. If you would like to partake in this event next year, it is open to all.

We have had 3 of our brothers with hospital stays here of late, brothers Michael Ethridge, Clarence Smith and Doug Eubanks. I'm happy to report they are all at home and on the mend but can still use our prayers.

The August meeting of the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries will be at Kendall Lodge this month and I encourage all to attend. It's a great way to get to know brethren from other lodges in the district and see what they are doing. A meal will be served at 6:30 and meeting starts at 7:00

We still have one more month of hot summer days to look forward to, so remember to stay hydrated, use sunscreen and limit your time out in the heat.

Sincerely and Fraternaly yours,
 A.K. (Bubba) Peel
 Worshipful Master



Brethern,

I'm happy that a new Masonic year has started, and our first meeting is behind us. I'm also looking forward to A.K. 'Bubba' Peel's year as Worshipful Master. We have reestablished the 5th Monday of the Month for a good old get-together with the families who, without their support, we couldn't do what we each enjoy doing.

Maybe this will bring some of our Brethren out of the woodwork and we will get to see some old and new faces. Everyone is welcome to come and attend our first '5th' Monday meal of this Masonic year, on Monday July 31st at the Hungry Horse Restaurant located at 109 Saunders St. here in Boerne I have reserved the banquet room from 6:30 PM until 8:45 PM. We are planning to continue this tradition on every 5th Monday this Masonic year (July 31, October 30, January 29, and April 29).

I really look forward to seeing old and new faces alike, so please come and enjoy some good food and fun fellowship. And if you are able, call some of our elderly Brothers that either can't drive or have a hard time driving at night and pick them up to come enjoy the fun with us. Everyone from Entered Apprentices through Master Masons are welcome as well as their family and friends. This would be a great opportunity to invite someone you know who might be interested in the Lodge to meet us in a neutral location and see the good fellowship we share.

Hope to see you all there.

Fraternally,
Ed Mueller SW




SECRETARY'S CORNER

Brethren... just a quick note to you. In our June Stated Meeting we voted to increase the 2024 Dues from \$150 to \$175. As with you it seems everything the lodge purchases has gone up due to inflation. This comes after four (4) years with no increases. Nothing is due to me until you are notified that dues cards are in. This is normally in October, and you will have until December 31st to get your dues in. Just an early head's up.


Events I want you to know about in August 2023:


-  The Candidate we voted on at the June Stated meeting had his Entered Apprentice degree conferred on July 24th. District Instructor David Bruton said this could have been done for a graded degree as good as it was. While it was an excellent degree, we had PM Stephen Trimpe who did the "Full Form" EA Lecture. Everyone really enjoyed watching and listening to him. Come next time and join us.
-  Come to our Stated Meetings held every 3rd Monday evening. This month that will be on Monday, August 21st. Bring your family, enjoy dinner with us at 6:30 PM, then come to the Stated Meeting at 7:30 PM. Several of our wives remain in the Banquet Room throughout our meeting, and your wives are welcome to visit with them.
-  Just a little bit of advance notice. Put Saturday, October 7th on your calendar. That has been set as our date for the BBQ Brisket and German Sausage Fundraiser for the Fall. We'll be serving from 11:30 AM till 2:00 PM or when the brisket and sausage runs out. We'll keep you in the loop.
-  Don't forget that Doug Leonard and Bruce Butterfras are co-moderating

Kendall Lodge's Philosophical Round Table. We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. This month it will be on August 22nd at 7:00 PM to discuss Masonic points of interest that are in an outline prepared by Brothers Leonard and Butterfras.

-  Brethren. At last month's Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association the 2023-2024 Officers were installed and took their office. This is of note since I stepped down as Secretary/Treasurer after eleven (11) years and we now have **no** Kendall Lodge members in leadership positions. If you think that you might enjoy working with the 51st Masonic District then talk to me, and I will share with you some of the requirements and benefits of attending.


ALSO, OF INTEREST WITH APPENDENT BODIES:


-  Boerne Chapter No. 200 will hold their next Stated meeting on the first Tuesday evening of the month, September 3rd, at 7:30 PM in Kendall Lodge per their bylaws. Light refreshments and fellowship are served at 6:30 PM prior to the meeting. Hope to see all Order of the Eastern Star members there.


-  The **M. C. Holman Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association of the 51st Masonic District** will hold its regular Stated Meeting this month at Kendall Lodge No. 897 in Boerne, TX on Wednesday, August 23rd. All Masons and their families are invited to come and join us. We will have a light meal at 6:30 PM, and the Business Meeting will begin at 7:00 PM. All EAs, FCs, and Master Masons and their guests are invited to join us each month.


-  Shriners International Alzafar Shrine's next Stated Meeting will be on the 2nd

Thursday in August. Come and join us for dinner at 6:00 PM and the Stated Meeting at 7:00 PM on August 10th, 2023, at the Alzafar Shrine Center.

-  The Nekodah Daughters of the Nile Temple No. 44 will meet on Thursday, August 10th at 7:00 PM in the Parlors.

-  Brownwood Commandery Chapter No. 22 meets on the 1st Wednesday of every month at Kendall Lodge. If you are a Sir Knight then please join us for dinner at 6:00 PM with the Stated Conclave at 7:00 PM.

-  THE SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY
SUPREME COUNCIL, 33rd SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, USA
The San Antonio Valley of the Scottish Rite Bodies meets at the Scottish Rite Temple on Alamo Street in downtown San Antonio. Their Stated Meeting is on the 1st Monday of the month. The in-person CME classes are on the 4th Thursday with the live streamed class on the 3rd Monday.

-  EST. 1934
VFW POST 688
Post Bruce Philip Boerne, Texas
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 688 meets at Kendall Lodge on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. If you are a VFW member or interested in joining, then please drop in and meet Commander Scott Galliardt or one of the other officers or members.

FINALLY:

We are at the Lodge every Monday evening starting about 6:30 PM until around 9:00 PM or until we finish. We conduct round tables for esoteric work or practice floor work if we are not holding a Stated or Called Meeting. We are also there on Saturday mornings from 9:00 AM until Noon doing the same. If you need something during the week or just want to talk, Abb and I are normally at the Lodge on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 AM until Noon. **We will be glad to talk with or assist you.**

Gary L. Bausell

Your Secretary
August 2023

Endowed Memberships

In the June 2023 stated meeting of Kendall Masonic Lodge #897, a motion was made, seconded and passed to raise the annual dues of Master Mason members from \$150 to \$175. By the Grand Lodge of Texas law, the only time the price of dues or Endowed Memberships can be raised is in the June meeting when new lodge officers are elected. In the same meeting, a motion was made and seconded to raise the cost of an Endowed Membership from \$2000 to \$2500. After much discussion, this motion was tabled, meaning that it cannot be brought up until the June stated meeting in 2024.

Endowed memberships have advantages and disadvantages for both the Lodge and the member purchasing them. First of all, endowed members (those who have paid for the endowment) are exempt for life from paying dues to the Lodge in which they endowed. The endowment fee that they pay is forwarded to the Grand Lodge where it is added to the Endowed Membership Fund with all other endowed membership money and allowed to accumulate interest. At the end of each year, each participating lodge is sent dividends from this fund based on the amount of endowed membership funds they have submitted. This is customarily estimated at about \$5 for every \$100 of the endowment fee. The minimum fee for an endowment is \$500 which would net a lodge \$25 for that member. Kendall Lodge's \$2000 endowment fee nets the lodge approximately \$100 for each \$2000 endowment. The monies returned to the lodge from the Endowment Fund are at least partially meant to offset the dues which are no longer collected from endowed members.

Endowments benefit members by exempting them from dues and will 'pay for themselves' after a certain number of years of not paying dues. For example, a Kendall Lodge member who endowed at \$2000 (when dues were still \$150 per year) would break even after about 13 years ($2000/150 = 13.33$). With dues at \$175, the endowment will break even after about 11.5 years. This could be especially beneficial for a young Mason if he can afford it without hurting his family's finances. Endowments benefit Lodges by furnishing them with dividends of approximately \$5 per \$100 endowment 'block' (endowments must be made in \$100 increment 'blocks'). At \$2000 for an endowment, Kendall Lodge receives back about \$100 per endowed member (at the \$2000 rate) which is not enough to

equal the \$150 (soon to be \$175) collected from non-endowed members which means Lodges loses money on endowments in the short term. However, the long-term benefit of endowments for Lodges is that the **dividends they receive for each endowed member continues in perpetuity even after that member dies**. So, in the short run the Lodge usually loses money, but eventually it will recoup that loss after the endowed member's death.

So why the long-winded lecture on Endowed Memberships? By Grand Lodge Law, the 'cheapest' endowed membership of any Lodge is \$500 and most Lodges set this as their initial Endowment Fee. In fact, many members of Kendall Lodge purchased endowments at that price. Kendall Lodge later raised their endowment fee to \$1000 and then to \$2000, with more members purchasing them each time 'before the price went up'. Endowments can be voluntarily increased in increments of \$100 by individual members, but Lodges cannot require Endowed Members to increase their endowment amount.

In my opinion currently Endowed Members of Kendall Lodge should consider increasing their endowments in \$100 increments (*maybe each year as other members are paying dues*) until their endowment amount reaches the current endowment price (**only; however, if they can financially afford to do so**). This would help the Lodge by bringing in more money from endowment dividends and would bring all (or most) endowed members up to providing the same value to the Lodge. If this were to occur, then the Lodge might not have to increase the fee for Endowment when it comes back up in June of 2024.

I hope that this has helped members understand the benefits of Endowed Memberships both to the Lodge as well as the member. Also, I hope this will spark discussion within the Lodge before the next vote to increase endowments occurs (*presumably in June of 2024*). In the meantime, I hope some endowed members will consider raising their endowments to the current levels for the short- and long-term benefit of Kendall Lodge!

Raised in	August
Brother	Years Ago
Peter Sean Smith	2
Darrell Wayne Dixon	4
Charles Lee Clark	9
Todd Joseph Caron	11
William Hubert Carder	16
Robert Brian McGill	18
Stephen Wayne McMahan	18
William Lane Holt	18
Charles Minor Harvey	20
Gary Lynn Bausell	21
Steven Duane Fisk	22
Kenneth R. Propes	36
Darrell Scott Noah	39
Douglas Ray Babbitt	41
Mark David Dalpiaz	42
Paul Douglas Jones	45
Richard Douglas Baggs	46
Donald Wesley Jones	54
Terrell Eugene Norris	59
Rudolph Aue	62
Daniel J. Basarich	65

Ronnie D. Pfeil	8/5
John W. Angle	8/6
William H. Carder III	8/6
John L. Eaton	8/11
Donald W. Jones	8/15
Donald D. Sharp	8/15
Gaylin E. Kinsey	8/20
Antonio Hidalgo	8/22
Rodney W. Bolt	8/22
Arthur K. Peel III	8/23
Chad T. Shirley	8/24
Mark D. Dalpiaz	8/29



Brethren, please take a moment to remember the brothers who have laid down their working tools in the past year...

Brother Name	Date of Death
William Rush Zilliott	12/5/2022
Gary Michael "Mike" Coffey	9/4/2022
Ralph Claude Lawless	7/16/2022
John Wayne Uecker	3/27/2023
Joseph Anthony Carrola Sr.	6/5/2023
Samuel Eugene Offer	4/24/2023

Born in	August
Brother	Date
Cecil L. Noah	8/2
Ovidio M. Flores	8/4
Paul M. Rockwood	8/4