



# Masonic Trestle Board

July 3, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Masonic News

- Saturday, July 11, 6:30 Past Master Appreciation Dinner and Ceremony (covered dish)
- Saturday July 25, Installation of Officers at Little Cypress Lodge, #1459. Kenneth Jackson will be installed as Worshipful Master.
- Tuesday, August 18, 2009, at 11:30 AM, Cornerstone Ceremony at Pine Tree ISD

## Inside this issue:

Language and the Mason	2
Past Master and Charter Member Lays Down Working Tools	2
Cornerstone Ceremony for Pine Tree ISD	2
School has Masonic Ties	3
VISIT US	4

## Pine Tree Masonic Lodge, #1396

June 27, 2009

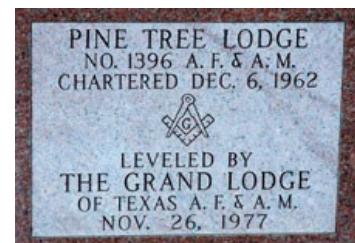
Saturday evening, the new Masonic Year was ushered in at a packed house at the Lodge. The annual Installation of Officers was conducted with all of the usual ceremonies. R.: W.: Robert Dinning, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District 10-A served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening and oversaw the installation.

Visitors and members alike were treated with a beautifully orchestrated oration on Masonry by R.: W.: Donny Broughton, Past Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. The theme of the oration was "What Masonry is and what Masonry is

not." Following the speech, the elected and appointed officers were installed in due and ancient form by Past Grand Master Broughton. Honorable Joe Gilmore, Past Grand Chaplain, served as the Installing Marshal for the ceremony.

Worshipful Master Jimmy Rumsey was presented with the Gavel of the Lodge, assumed his covering, and took the "hot seat" in the East. The Worshipful Master introduced his family and recognized several members of the audience for their support and assistance, including the members of the Scottish Rite and the Order of the Eastern Star. The families of all of the officers were then introduced. Honorable Tom

Whitehead, PM, presented the Worshipful Master with the Traveling Past Master's Ring and presented the history of the ring to the audience. The Worshipful Master then presented an engraved Trowel Past Grand Master Broughton and Past Grand Chaplain Gilmore as a token of his appreciation for conducting the installation (*continued on page 3*)



Cornerstone of the Lodge Building.

## Worshipful Master Announces Goals for the Masonic Year

"Pine Tree Masonic Lodge will receive the Vanguard Award in 2010." This is the priority of Worshipful Master Jimmy Rumsey. "1997 was the last time that the Lodge received this prestigious award. The criteria for the award are tough, but very achievable. With the support of the officers and members

of the Lodge, we will achieve this goal."

In addition to the Vanguard Award, the Worshipful Master announced that he is committed to Masonic Traditions and education. "We will practice Masonry in Pine Tree this year. We are letting our members down by showing

up to stated meetings, eating dinner, paying bills, and going home. Each stated meeting there will be a program presented on Masonic Law, Traditions, History, or something similar."

We are also losing new Masons. (*continued on page 3*)



## Language and the Mason

For one entering Masonry there are many challenges, but none more immediate than learning a catechism couched in a language rooted in the Middle Ages. Not only are the words unfamiliar and the phases awkward, but the meanings are obscure and difficult in modern usage. Nevertheless, there are lessons within these challenges that are most important to being a Mason.

In the charge to the Master Mason there is the statement

that "in the character of a Master Mason, ... correct the irregularities, ... and guard them against a breach of fidelity. To preserve unsullied ... the reputation of the fraternity ..." Later is found

"Your virtue, honor, and reputation are concerned in supporting, with dignity, the character you now bear." Surely there must be a shorter and easier way to convey the message, or perhaps there is a deeper lesson.

Saying the words does not mean one knows the words, nor does it mean one applies the words to their daily living. Actors and actresses frequently learn parts, as do opera singers their arias, without grasping the meaning of what they say. They say the words, but do not "live" them. But Freemasons are expected to go beyond the words and meanings, and make them their rule and guide.

*(continued on page 4)*

**"Pine Tree Masonic Lodge will receive the Vanguard Award in 2010."**

## Past Master and Charter Member Lays Down Working Tools

O.D. Hughes, Charter Treasurer and Past Master (Worshipful Master in 1967-1968, laid down the working tools of life on Sunday, June 28, 2009. He was laid to rest on Wednesday July 1, 2009, and interred at Rosewood Park in Longview.

Brother Hughes was initiated into Masonry on June 9, 1959;

Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on October 20, 1959; and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on January 12, 1960.

He was a member of Longview Lodge, #404, and affiliated with Pine Tree Lodge at its Chartering in 1962.



**1852—  
Masonic  
Lodge and  
Pine Tree  
School**

## Cornerstone Ceremony for Pine Tree ISD

After many years, The Board of Trustees of Pine Tree Independent School District has consented to the leveling of a cornerstone on the newly constructed school house. Pine Tree Masonic Lodge will present the cornerstone to the School District. R.: W.: Donny Broughton, Past Grand Master of the Most Worship-

ful Grand Lodge of Texas will be on hand to level the cornerstone in due and ancient form. The leveling ceremony will be conducted on Tuesday, August 18, 2009, at 11:30 AM. A representation of Grand Lodge will be opened at the Pine Tree Masonic Lodge before the ceremony and closed thereafter. Please con-

tact Kenneth Jackson, Senior Warden, if you would like further details.

*Historical Note:*

See *School has Masonic Ties* on page 3

## Officer Installation (*continued from page 1*)

and spreading the cement of brotherly love and affection. The Past Grand Master congratulated the Worshipful Master and all of the officers, wished them a good year, and challenged them to expand the tenets of the Craft. The ceremony was then concluded.

### The officers installed were:

- Senior Warden, Kenneth Ray Jackson.
- Junior Warden, Daniel Ray Flanagan.
- Treasurer, Phillip Paul Smith.
- Secretary, Charles M. Rue, PM.
- Chaplain, Jason Rumsey.
- Senior Deacon, Kevin Luman.
- Junior Deacon, Ives John Kirbow.
- Senior Steward, Patrick Wayne Bryan.
- Junior Steward, Robert Jason Turner.
- Marshal, Michael Brett Beggs.
- Master of Ceremonies, Michael Anthony Kirbow.
- Tiler, Charles D. Looney.



## School has Masonic Ties

Pine Tree Independent School District was founded in 1847 in rural Upshur County, Texas. The school was established near a spring in a grove of tall pine trees. In 1851, Tusculum Masonic Lodge, #63, constructed a two story Lodge building near the spring. The second floor housed the Masonic Lodge,

while the Pine Tree Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the newly organized Pine Tree School met on the first floor, as was the custom of the time. The pastor of the Church, Solomon Awalt, was the charter Treasurer of the Lodge and a pillar of the community, which bore his name (*Awalt Community*) until the railroad

forced Longview to be named county seat of newly formed Gregg County in 1872.

Although the Tusculum Masonic Lodge demised in 1881, the school that it helped establish thrives today. It is therefore fitting that Pine Tree Masonic Lodge present the cornerstone to be leveled.

**“Pine Tree  
Masonic  
Lodge will be  
the  
benchmark  
for other  
Lodges in  
East Texas.”**

## Goals (*continued from page 1*)

The Lodge Assistance and Mentor Program (LAMP) will be continued. Brett Beggs (Marshal) will lead the LAMP Committee. Additionally, Beggs and Michael Kirbow (Master of Ceremonies) will oversee the Additional Lodge Light (ALL) program ensuring that all new masons re-

ceive the education and support we owe them.

The Lodge will give a Golden Trowel Award.

The Lodge will give Lamar Medals and scholarships.

The Lodge will give a Community Builder Award.

The Lodge will publish a Lodge History with the Texas Lodge of Research.

We will be diligent in guarding the door, initiating good men and raising them as better men. We will be the benchmark for other lodges in East Texas.



## Pine Tree Masonic Lodge, #1396

2709 Pine Tree Road  
Longview, Texas 75607

P.O. Box 150144  
Longview, Texas

903-759-9512

Worshipful Master: Jimmy Rumsey  
903-746-5849

Secretary: Chuck Rue  
903-663-0775

**Stated Meeting: 1st Thursday;  
Dinner at 6:30 and Meeting at  
7:30.**



[WWW.PINETREE1396.ORG](http://WWW.PINETREE1396.ORG)

### Language and the Mason (*continued from page 2*)

We know that one of the Perfect Points is the hand, especially when aiding a Brother. The phrase, "lend a hand," is understood by many to mean "help," when possible. But to the Freemason, this "hand" extends to more serious and important acts of support. We are to preserve the "reputation of the Fraternity" which means we are to defend the honor and reputation of the character of its members. A serious Masonic offense is to "traduce, slander, libel or falsely accuse any person." The mere utterance or mis-

representation aimed at defaming the reputation of another reflects upon the Fraternity and its members. Each Master Mason is a guardian of the reputation of the Fraternity and must be attentive to that responsibility.

So, we are to extend our hand, admonish, and defend. Let none of us speak evil of a Brother, or anyone falsely. Maintain our tongue and be circumspect. Apply prudence, wisdom, and care to building our spiritual Temple, so that we

may be void of offense. Thus, we may insure that our character is above reproach and is an example to all about us of what Masonry truly is.

*This article is re-printed from the Grand Lodge of Texas' Masonic Education and Service Committee, and was published in January 2007.*

