



June 20, 2010

Pine Tree Masonic Lodge #1396, A. F. & A. M.

Volume 1, Issue 12

Masonic News

- 6/22—EA Degree
- 6/24—St. John's Day
- 6/28—Exam Night
- 6/29—Officer Practice
- 7/1—Stated Meeting
- 7/3—Installation of Officers
- 7/20—OES

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This is the last column that I will write as Worshipful Master of Pine Tree Lodge. I hope that everyone has enjoyed the Trestle Board this year. Both Kenneth Jackson and Dan Flanagan have asked me to continue to publish it, so it will be around for at least two more years.

I want to thank everyone for an outstanding year. I was pretty aggressive in some of the things that I wanted to accomplish this year. The Lodge members, to my surprise, have been overwhelmingly supportive and the officers have worked their tails off this year helping me achieve the goals.

The 2009-2010 Masonic Year was a year of many firsts for Pine Tree Lodge. The installation of officers was the first time a Past Grand Master had installed the officers of Pine Tree Lodge.

The publication of this newsletter is another first for the Lodge. This is volume I, issue 12. This has been published each month. All of the archived editions can be found of the Lodge web site.

Although I cannot take credit, I was honored to be able to preside over the Lodge as it sponsored its first public Cornerstone Leveling. Pine Tree Lodge hosted Past Grand

From the East

Master Donny Broughton and the representatives of the Grand Lodge of Texas at the symbolic leveling of the cornerstone at Pine Tree Primary School.

I was privileged to be the first member of Pine Tree Lodge to have a paper accepted for publication by the Texas Lodge of Research. Subsequently, I became the first member of Pine Tree Lodge to be admitted as a full member of the Texas Lodge of Research, and the first to serve as an officer in TLR. The paper, *History of Tusculum Lodge No. 86 A.F. & A.M.*, is available for download on the Lodge web site.

Bill Wyatt, Past Master of Pine Tree Lodge, became the first member of Pine Tree Lodge to be installed as Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star.

Pine Tree Lodge has hosted the Longview Fire Department's Degree Team several times during the past several years, but the degree team conferred their first Fellowcraft degree in our Lodge on one of our Fellowcraft Masons this year. That same Fellowcraft Mason became the first from Pine Tree Lodge to serve as the candidate for the annual Outdoor Master

Mason Degree hosted by Ashland Masonic Lodge No. 1138 in Diana. Dispensation was granted, and Wes Teague was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the Northeast Texas Degree Team.

Grand Lodge Law was amended and lowered the minimum age of joining our fraternity from 21 to 18. Pine Tree Lodge initiated a 19 year old man into the Lodge this year. He is the youngest and the first under the age of 21 to be initiated into Pine Tree Lodge.

The officers of Pine Tree Lodge were instrumental in the establishment of the Masters, Wardens, & Secretaries Association of the 10th Masonic District of Texas. Kenneth Jackson, Dan Flanagan, Chuck Rue and I, by virtue of our respective offices in the Lodge, were privileged to be charter members of the MWSA. I was chosen to be the charter president of the association.

Pine Tree Lodge played host, for the first time, to the Waco Scottish Rite Bodies, and hosted the East Texas Scottish Rite Reunion and Degree Conferral.

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**Pine Tree
Masonic Lodge
has met the
requirements
for the
Vanguard
Award for 2010.**



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

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Pine Tree Lodge presented its first Entered Apprentice Mason and Master Mason Education Lodges. At both events, the Lodge hosted Entered Apprentice Mason and Master Masons from area Lodges for an evening of education about the respective degrees of Freemasonry.

The Lodge applied for a matching funds grant from the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation. The TCMF rolled out the program this year. Pine Tree was the only Lodge in the area that received the grant.

The Lodge elected to honor those Master Masons who have served the craft for 40 or more years. The 40 Year Masonic Service Awards were presented for the first time in Lodge history.

The Lodge received Grand Master's dispensation and held its first Table Lodge. A Master Mason's Lodge was opened in due and ancient form in the Lodge Dining Hall and a tiled meeting was held over dinner. The officers of the Lodge reflected on lessons learned and accomplishments for the year.

The Lodge had a very successful year aside from the many Firsts. The Lodge has met the requirements for the Vanguard Award. Right Worshipful Jessie Newton, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 10-A of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas was on hand at the May Stated Meeting and signed the Grand Lodge Application. Pine Tree Lodge is the only Lodge in Masonic District No. 10-A to receive the award.

Pine Tree Lodge initiated 10 Entered Apprentice Masons, Passed 7 Fellowcraft Masons, and Raised 5 Master Masons. Two members were raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason since the last publication. Please welcome Brothers Mark Tincher and Gary Middleton to our Master's Lodge. Also this year, we affiliated 4 Master Masons into our Lodge from other Lodges, and reinstated 2 Master Masons. It appears that we will finish the year with positive membership numbers.

Sadly, the Lodge did lose two Charter Members; O. D

Hughes and Ernest Jackson laid down the working tools of life this year. I had the opportunity to present Mrs. Hughes with O.D.'s 50 Year Masonic Service Award. We only have a few charter members left. If you come across one in your daily travels, shake their hand and tell them thank you for working to charter the best Lodge in Texas!

We honored those Master Masons who have served the Craft for 60 or more years with the Grand Lodge of Texas' 60 Year Masonic Service Awards.

We honored those Master Masons who have served the Craft for 50 or more years with the Grand Lodge of Texas' 50 Year Masonic Service Awards.

We honored those Master Masons who have served the Craft for 25 or more years with the 25 Year Masonic Service Awards.

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Masters' Wardens' & Secretaries' Association

The MWSA of the 10th Masonic District of Texas will meet at Gladewater Lodge No. 852 in Gladewater on Monday, July 26th. This meeting will be the election and installation of officers.

The by-laws of the association

were amended at the last business meeting to change the meeting dates. The association will meet on the 5th Monday of each month except July.

The association is working to set up as a Not for Profit Or-

ganization, and is accepting donations for Lodges in lieu of dues.

The association meetings are open to all Masons. Come out and support your association and ensure that your Lodge is represented.

Pine Tree Chapter 1090 Order of the Eastern Star

Pine Tree Chapter No. 1090, Order of the Eastern Star installed the newly elected officers on June 12th. Ann and Bill Wyatt now begin their year serving the Chapter as Worthy Matron and Patron. We were honored to have Sister Bess Caldwell, Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star as our Installing Grand Officer. What a pleasure! We were very proud of everyone that participated in the installation ceremony; they did a fabulous job. Thank you to all of the elected and installed officers for accepting the responsibility of your office. Our Chapter is in good hands.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 20th. Darla Dunaway, Grand Organist of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star, will present our annual Patriotic Program. We are looking

forward to hosting her. We will have a covered dish dinner at 6:30 with the meeting following at 7:30.

Pine Tree Masonic Lodge No. 1396 will be installing officers on Saturday, July 3rd at 6:30 PM. We want to extend and offer congratulations to Jim Rumsey, the current Worshipful Master, and his officers for a very successful year. We also want to wish Kenneth Jackson, Worshipful Master Elect, and his corps of incoming officers a year of much success and prosperity. You guys are great!

As a reminder, Pine Tree Chapter No. 1090 meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. We have dinner at 6:30 and our meeting follows at 7:30. Anyone wishing to join, or desiring more information on our Order or our Chapter, please see any of our members or officers. We

look forward to having a discussion with you.

Ann Wyatt, Worthy Matron

Bill Wyatt, Worthy Patron

Editor's Note

The Installation of Officers and the newly installed Worthy Matron and Patron are quite exciting subjects for the Chapter. Hosting the Worthy Grand Matron and having her serve as the Installing Grand Officer is quite an honor. As for the Worthy Matron and Patron, both are currently serving as Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star. Ann is serving at Grand Marshal, and Bill as Worthy Grand Patron. This is the first time in Chapter history that a Worthy Grand Patron has been installed as Worthy Patron.



I am very proud to say that I am a member of Pine Tree Lodge, the Best Lodge in East Texas.

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We presented Chuck Rue, PM, with the Golden Trowel Award. Chuck, who serves as the Lodge Secretary, was surprised at a stated meeting when the Master called the Lodge from labor to refreshment and invited Chuck's family into the Lodge Room. The Master then presented Chuck with the award.

We presented the Community Builder Award to the Honorable Barbara Duncan, Gregg County District Clerk.

We presented 4 Lamar Medals for Educational Excellence and 3 Masonic Scholar-

ships. Miss Stephany McFadden (White Oak), Miss April Nieto (Pine Tree), and Mr. Christopher Peterson (Spring Hill) all received a cash scholarship and the Lamar Medal. Mrs. Billie Jordan (White Oak ISD) was honored as the Educator of the Year. She was presented with the Lamar Medal and the collection—*Masonry and Education in Texas*.

We honored our Masonic Widows with dinner and entertainment. We presented the new Widows with a Masonic Widow's pin and certificate.

Our Lodge web site is, in my opinion, the best Lodge web site in the state.

Financially, we are in good shape and have had a positive year. This will be laid out in the annual audit report.

We have had a great year. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve as Worshipful Master of Pine Tree Lodge, the Best Lodge in Texas.

Jim Rumsey
Past Master Elect

Pine Tree Masonic Lodge, #1396

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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.**



PINE TREE LODGE No. 1396, Longview, TX

www.PineTree1396.org

2010-2011 Officers Elect

- Worshipful Master: Kenneth Jackson
- Senior Warden: Daniel Flanagan
- Junior Warden: Patrick Bryan
- Chaplain: Bill Wyatt
- Treasurer: Phillip P. Smith
- Secretary: Chuck Rue
- Senior Deacon: Jason Turner
- Junior Deacon: Brett Beggs
- Senior Steward: Charles Looney
- Junior Steward: Weldon Pittman Jr.
- Marshal: Casey Holder
- Master of Ceremonies: Dell Bledsoe
- Musician: Brett Conway
- Tiler: Larry Willis

Installation of Officers

The Installation of Officers will be held on Saturday, July 3rd, at Pine Tree Lodge. Dinner will be served at 5:30 and the Installation of Offices will follow at 6:30. Kenneth Jackson has been elected Worshipful Master of Pine Tree Lodge for the 2010-2011 Masonic Year. It is worth noting that the Treasurer and Secretary will remain another year. This ensures stability of these important offices. Also, Weldon Pittman Jr., Casey Holder, Dell Bledsoe, and Larry Willis have been elected to their first office. Congratulations to each of the incoming officers.

Jerry Martin will serve at the Installing Officer. Bill Wyatt will serve as the Installing Marshal.

Lodge members are asked to be at the Lodge by 4:30 for the closing of the 2009-2010 Lodge of Sorrow. Once the memorial service is complete, the Lodge of Sorrow will be closed. A Master Mason's Lodge will then be opened for the dispatch of business and called to refreshment for the purpose of installing the officers, elected and appointed, of Pine Tree Lodge. The Master Mason's Lodge will be called to labor and closed upon completion of the Installation Ceremony.