



January 14, 2010

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

Volume 1, Issue 7

Masonic News:

- MWSA Meeting—January 25
- Exam Night—February 01
- Stated Meeting—February 04
- EA Degree—February 09
- Scottish Rite Reunion—February 13
- OES—February 16
- 25 Year Presentations—February 27

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The new year is upon us and with it brings the downhill slide for the Masonic Year. I want to thank everyone who participated in the Lodge Christmas Party. It was a good time for all.

So far, January has been a quite month with not much activity. However, a lot is being planned for the next few months. We will be honoring Barbara Duncan with the Community Builder Award; honoring those Lodge members who have attained 25 years of membership, giving scholarships and honoring an educator, honoring our Masonic Widows, and I still plan on making Masons and practicing Masonry during this time.

Many will remember that I set the goal of achieving the Vanguard Award for the Lodge in 2010. Pine Tree Lodge has not received the award since the mid 1990's. The award is not easy, but indeed obtainable.

There are five categories of activities and achievements that a Lodge must complete before being allowed to apply

From the East

In February, we will host the Waco Scottish Rite Bodies' Annual East Texas Reunion and Degree Conferral. Any Master Mason who desires to join the Scottish Rite and become a 32nd Degree Mason will have the opportunity to do so. The reunion and degree conferral will be on Saturday, February 13th. This will be the first time Pine Tree Lodge has ever hosted the event. All Scottish Rite Masons are encouraged to attend the Reunion.

At the February Stated Meeting, Right Worshipful Jessie Newton, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District 10-A will make its Official Visit to Pine Tree Lodge. Please plan on at-

tending to support your Lodge and to support our District Deputy Grand Master.

Saturday, February 27th we will have a joint meeting with Pine Tree Chapter 1090, Order of the Easter Star to honor our 25 year Masons. We have 24 Masons who will receive the award and the Easter Star will present their 25 year awards also.

That about sums it all up this time. Next stated meeting is February 4th. The meal will be provided by the Eastern Star.



Vanguard

for the award. The categories are: Lodge Improvement, Community Involvement, Member Service, Masonic Education, and Fraternalism. Each category has 2—5 activities that must be completed.

Pine Tree Lodge has completed the categories of Member Service, Masonic Education, and Fraternalism. In

order to complete the category of Lodge Improvement, we must "Personally contact (in person or by telephone) all members in danger of being suspended. Discover the reason for nonpayment of dues. Produce and maintain a log to be attached to the Vanguard Application form."

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



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

Two of the easiest Masonic expressions to understand are “due form” and “due guard”. Both express responsibilities of the Officers and members of a Lodge and are admonishments as to their conduct. As will be found in the charges, the dignity of character, obedience to the Tenets, and the reputation of the fraternity are critical elements in being a leader and Mason.

As explained in Mackey’s Encyclopedia, “due form” comes from the French expression, “en du forme”, with the “du” coming from “devoir” or “to owe”. Thus it is that in the subordinate lodges, the officers and members “owe” it to their Brothers to perform their actions properly and with attention to the established usages and customs. The honor of being an officer, a Mason, and representative of one’s lodge carries the need to be conversant with the laws of Masonic order at all times.

Due

In a similar manner, “due examination” is an examination that is in correct form and as prescribed by the Masonic laws. At each level there is an expectation in proficiency to be able to stand such an examination as to protect the secrets of the Craft. Brotherly love and Masonic trust depend upon close attention to this aspect of our responsibility as Masons and preservers of the Craft.

The “due guard” is a mode of recognition referring to the act of duly guarding one in their obligations and in reminding them of a penalty should they violate that obligation. Mackey reports that this expression is not found in English and continental forms, and is fairly recent within the Americas. Nevertheless it is a clear reminder of the expectation made of our Brothers in their journey to becoming a Master.

In addition, “due” is associated with direction and as before, indicates what is “proper” and as should be. When found on a map, due east is precisely east, and with no variation north or south. Thus the expectation imparted with the word “due” imparts a strict adherence and effort toward Truth and Light. Masonry is work toward the Perfection of our Master and while perfection is a high standard, to do less would be forget the lessons of the rough and smooth ashlar, and the obligations of the Craft.

Never forget we have an obligation to those who preceded us, those about us, and those yet to come. We hold the landmarks of the Craft in our hands and represent the usages and customs of our Fraternity each time we meet and part. Those are responsibilities we should ever remember and discharge.

Masters’ Wardens’ & Secretaries’ Association

The Masters’, Wardens’, and Secretaries’ Association for the 10th Masonic District of Texas was granted dispensation from Grand Master Orville O’Neill on January 04, 2010.

The association meets on the fourth Monday of every odd

month beginning in January.

The next meeting will be Monday, January 25th, 2010, at Gladewater Lodge No. 852 in Gladewater. There will be a covered dish dinner beginning at 6:30 and the meeting will follow at 7:30. The meetings are open and all Master Masons and their ladies are

invited to attend.

We will be looking for a Lodge to host the March meeting which will be on Monday, March 22nd.

Pine Tree Chapter 1090 Order of the Eastern Star

Hello Everyone and Happy New Year! Well I guess everyone that made a New Year Resolution has broken it by now. I can't say that I have but then I did not make one this year. Good luck with yours if you did.

We had a great time at our OES and Masonic Christmas Party. As we promised, Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus were there. I do believe that this was one of the largest combined dinners we have ever had! Thanks to all who helped with it and especially to W.C. & Jo Ann Fields.

We are very busy at Pine Tree OES. There will be a called meeting on Feb. 2 for the purpose of initiation of a new member. All OES members are invited to attend. Also, we will be pleased to serve dinner to our Brother Masons at their February stated meeting on February 4th at 6:30 PM. This is to honor the Masons by the OES Chapter. Anyone wanting to help, just show up.

We have planned one fundraiser and are working on another one. We have been given the opportunity to feed the Scottish Rite Masons on

Saturday, Feb. 13th at the Pine Tree Lodge. Anyone who can help with this fundraiser is welcome to join us at the Lodge. We will prepare and serve chili for their lunch. Proceeds will be used for benevolent purposes such as scholarships.

Another event that we are excited about is the 25 year awards dinner scheduled for Feb. 27th at 6:30 PM for covered dish dinner and awards at 7:30 PM in the Lodge Room.

Bill Wyatt, WGP of the Grand Chapter of Texas will be presenting the awards. I think we have about 8 Chapter members who will be receiving the awards.

Ann Wyatt, Associate Matron of Pine Tree is working on her slate of officers for next year. If you want to be an officer, please let her know as soon as possible. At this time, she needs someone willing to start up the line and others. Please think about how you want to serve and contact

Ann Wyatt. And don't think you can't do it, we are all here to help you!

On the Grand Chapter level, our WGP is traveling all over the state attending the OES schools. He is now in District 2 and will be finished by the end of this month. Kenneth, Betty, Ann, & I were very pleased to join him recently at the school held in Wichita Falls. We were able to attend the Humanitarian Program held on Friday, January 8th. The District 2 Humanitarian Chairman is Faye Percy who is a former member of Pine Tree Chapter. She did a marvelous job with her program and we are all very proud of her. It was also great to get to see her and visit with her.

Thanks and until next time, remember what our WGP, Bill Wyatt says, "Kindness is a language the blind can see and the deaf can hear."

God Bless you all!

Linda & Kenneth Jackson



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

Vanguard *continued from page 1*

In order to complete the category of Community Involvement, we must 1. Support Public Schools Week in a manner consistent with criteria set by Grand Lodge, and 2. Support a Masonic youth group by providing at least \$200.00 in financial support.

The remaining activities we have scheduled for the remainder of the year will cover the tasks that I have not identified here. We are in good shape, but not there yet. The committee on arrears will have to keep a log and document the telephone calls to those members in danger of

being suspended for non-payment of dues. The lodge will need to agree to provide \$200.00 to a youth group. I will give a complete report to the Lodge at the February Stated Meeting detailing what we have accomplished and what we have left to do.



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



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25 Year Service Awards

- W.C. Barnard
- Newton Clarke Benham III.
- Donny Lee Benson
- Erman Lee Bright
- Terry Roland Brown
- Jabus Talton Davis
- Scott Welch Dickerson
- Dennis Jean Easley
- Alfred Darrell Edwards
- Charles Harold Ensinger
- Joseph Dale Faulk
- Monty Faulk
- Garland Floyd Hollis
- John Nolan Lewis
- James Clinton Lockridge
- Charles Dewayne Looney
- Ralph Martin
- Douglas Edward McKinney
- Walter Lee Murphy
- James Leon Smith
- Henry Earwon Teer Jr.
- Rickey Lynn White
- Noah Junior Yoder
- John Lindsey Young

