



April 25, 2011

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

Volume 2, Issue 10

Masonic News

- 4/28: FC Exam and MM Degree - 7:00 pm
- 5/2: Exam Night
- 5/5: Stated Meeting
- 5/17: OES Stated Meeting
- 5/21: Grand Secretary's School
- 6/2: Stated Meeting

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As I begin this message, I want everyone to know that in my opinion, Pine Tree Lodge had a terrific fundraiser in our golf tournament.

The James E. "Woody" Woodul Annual Golf Tournament was again, a tremendous fundraiser. Everyone including golfers, volunteers, and supporters had a good time. The weather was almost perfect with plenty of sunshine and warm temperatures. The only negative was there was fewer participants than last year. The Tournament administrator, Pine Tree Lodge's Junior Deacon deserves our applause. We raised almost \$5,000. We also want to offer a BIG thank you to the OES members who volunteered and assisted during the festivities.

Pine Tree Lodge also participated in the Grand Master's Conference held April 9th at Pine Tree Junior High School. Our Lodge had a number of officers and members present and the Lodge qualified for the Vanguard Lodge Award. Attendance at the Grand Master's Conference is required, but is not the only requirement. Our Lodge has met most of the requirements and should be recognized at Grand Lodge again this year. The Grand Master's Conference was an informative study session and lesson, and we hope to implement the teachings in our work; especially the lesson concerning checking new petitioners.

From the East

After the conference, several of the Masons went back to the Lodge where the drawing for the AR-15 Rifle was held. Due to this fundraiser, we added around \$900 to the Lodge's scholarship account. Our congratulations go to the winner, a brother Mason at the Little Cypress Masonic Lodge.

Several items that were discussed and addressed at the April business / Stated meeting included the election of a Golden Trowel recipient and a Community Builder recipient. We hope to recognize and honor these individuals in May or June. The Lodge also selected scholarship recipients for White Oak High School, Spring Hill High School and Pine Tree High School. We hope to recognize these recipients and their families in May if the Lamar Metals are returned from Grand Lodge by that time. The scholarship awards will be in conjunction with the Pine Tree OES Chapter and will include a covered dish meal.

We plan to recognize the 40 year and 25 year Masons in May or June also. This will also be in conjunction with the Pine Tree OES service awards.

At the April Stated Meeting, one of our Brothers volunteered to keep the yard mowed just for buying his gasoline. I was by the Lodge a week after the meeting, and the yard had been mowed.

We do appreciate this hard work.

LEAVE 'EM WITH A SMILE

A Texan traveled to England on vacation. While there, he attended a religious service and was amazed at how quiet and reserved it was. Not one word was spoken out of turn. All of a sudden he heard the minister say something he really liked, "AMEN" he shouted. Everyone in the church turned and stared, and the usher came running down the aisle.

"You must not talk out loud," admonished the usher.

"But" protested the Texan, "I've got religion!"

"Well," said the usher, "you did not get it here."

Kenneth Jackson,

Worshipful Master





When an initiate is first brought into the light in a Masonic Lodge, the radiance comes from the Lesser Light which forms a triangle about the Altar. It seems, at first, rather odd that so great an important a symbol should receive such scant attention in the ritualistic body of Freemasonry.

We are instructed that they are called Lesser Lights, that they are placed in a triangle, that by their light we may see other objects, that they represent the Sun, Moon, and the Worshipful Master, for certain reasons which are rather briefly explained... and that is all! Later on we learn, more to example than precept, more by custom than by law, that Lesser Lights are always lit when a lodge is opened. Even when their flames do not really burn they constructively are burning. They supposed to be lighted as the soon as the lodge is opened, and then the altar is arranged; to be extinguished after the altar has been disarranged, and the Great Lights displaced. But no where in our ritual are we told much of anything as to why all things are so; how the Lesser Lights came to be; what their hidden, covered, secret, symbolic meaning is.

And you shall search through many Masonic volume and tome and find no more light on the Lesser Lights than the ritual gives. Mackey, the great authority, is unusually brief, and beyond drawing a parallel to the use of the seven branched candelabra as described in the Great Light, and stating that their use in Masonry is very

Lesser Lights

old, they appearing in print in references to Masonry in the seventh century, adds practically nothing to the ritual explanations.

And yet it could not be possible that so important a symbol could have no more soul than is given in the few words we devote to it. It seems obvious that it is one of those symbols in Freemasonry... of which there are so many... which the individual brother is supposed to examine and translate for himself, getting from it what he can, and enjoying what he gets in direct proportion to the amount of labor and thought he is willing to devote to the process of extracting the meaning from the outer covering.

Immediately after the Lesser Lights are named, our attention is directed to the fact that they are in a triangle about the Altar. In some Jurisdictions they are close about the Altar; in others, one is placed at each of the stations of the three principle officers. In some lodges the three Lesser Lights form a right, in others an equilateral; in others an isosceles triangle. What is uniform through out the Masonic World is the triangular formation about the Altar; what is different is the shape and size of the triangle. It is not possible to place three lights to form anything else but a triangle, or a straight line; they cannot be made to form a square or a star. Which brings us to the first place in which to sink our Masonic shovel; why are the Three Lesser Lights, and not two or four?

There are a number of reasons. Any thinking brother has discovered that there is "Three" throughout the whole system of Ancient Craft Masonry; three degrees, three steps, three Ancient Grand Masters; and so on. It will be no surprise to recall that three is the first of the great Sacred Numbers of the ancient Mysteries, and that it is the numerical symbol of God. Not, if you please, because God was necessarily considered triune... While many religions of many ages and peoples have conceived of Divinity as a trinity, the figure three as a symbol of God is far older than any Trinitarian doctrine. It comes from the triangle, which is the first possible figure made up of straight lines, which is without either beginning or ending. One line or two lines have ends. They start and finish. The triangle, like the square or the five or more sided figure, has no loose ends, and the triangle is the first of these which can be made; as God was always considered as first; and also without either beginning or ending, the triangle itself soon became a symbol of Deity.



1852—
Masonic
Lodge and
Pine Tree
School

Pine Tree Chapter 1090 Order of the Eastern Star

We hope everyone had a blessed and wonderful Easter holiday. Our chapter has been very busy. On March 29th we initiated two new members. We welcome Brett Beggs and Jason Turner into our Order. We are so excited to have them and look forward to their participation in our Chapter. On April 2nd several of our members assisted Pine Tree Masonic Lodge with their golf tournament. We enjoyed the day with them, and from my understanding, their golf tournament was a big success.

April 16th was our garage sale/ barbecue fundraiser. Because of all the participation of our members, we had

a fantastic day. Your Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron appreciate all that everyone did to make this such a huge success. I will have the final tally soon and will give a report at the May meeting.

Our April meeting was election of officers. We are so proud to have elected Sister Debra Albertson and Brother Weldon Pittman Jr. to lead us into the coming year. We will have more details of sister Debra's year as Worthy Matron.

On May 1st our section is looking forward to honoring Sister Cheryl Albrecht with a reception at the Methodist Church in Beckville. Sister

Cheryl will be allowing her name to be placed in nomination for the office of Associate grand Conductress. We wish her luck.

At our May meeting, Sister Becky Austin will bring our Memorial Program. We wish Sister Becky luck as she is allowing her name to be placed in nomination for Board of Directors - District 1.

Please remember in your prayers all that are ill or bereaved and our service men and women that keep us safe.

Ann Wyatt, Worthy Matron



Masters' Wardens' & Secretaries' Association

The Masters', Wardens', and Secretaries' Association of the 10th Masonic District of Texas will NOT have a May business meeting. The By-Laws of the association state that the regular business meetings are to be held on the 5th Monday of each month having 5 Mondays. This year, the 5th Monday of May falls on Memorial Day. It was agreed upon at our last business meeting and declared by the President that we will not meet on the Memorial Day Holiday.

The next meeting will be a called meeting and will be held on Monday, July 25, 2011. The meeting will be

hosted by James F. Taylor Lodge No. 169 in Hallsville. This meeting is being called to conduct the regular business of the association as well as the election and installation of officers for the 2011-2012 Masonic year. Be thinking about officer nominations. We are in need of a Secretary/Treasurer. If you are interested in serving the association as an officer, please contact our association vice president, Chad LaGrone. Brother LaGrone is currently the Worshipful Master at James F. Taylor Lodge.

Pine Tree Lodge has agreed to host the August meeting. We have a guest speaker lined up

for the August meeting. He is a Grand Lodge hopeful. Just as last year, the candidates are wanting to come to East Texas. Please make proper arrangements to attend these meetings. The key to having people want to come and speak is a good crowd.

The Grand Master's Conference went well, but was not well attended. Deputy Grand Master Brumit will have a conference in Longview next year. We need to commit to attending these conferences so that we don't lose the opportunity of hosting them in the future.

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

Pine Tree Masonic Lodge, #1396

2709 Pine Tree Road
Longview, Texas 75604

P.O. Box 150144
Longview, Texas 75615

903-759-9512

Worshipful Master: Kenneth Jackson
903-759-0305

Secretary: Chuck Rue, PM
903-663-0775

Web Master: Brett Beggs
903-238-3222

Trestle Board Editor: Jim Rumsey, PM
903-746-5849

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



www.PineTree1396.org



James E. "Woody" Woodul Masonic Golf Classic

