



November 17, 2010

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

Volume 2, Issue 5

Masonic News

- 11/29: MWSA
- 12/2-4: Grand Lodge
- 12/6: Exam Night
- 12/9: Stated Meeting
- 12/11: Christmas Party
- 12/21: OES

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At our November stated meeting, the membership voted to support the application for temporary financial assistance from the Grand Lodge of Texas by one of our unfortunate brothers. Although Pine Tree Lodge has no funds available, the Grand Lodge may be able to provide the money needed for medicine to fight an infection. This item required a vote of the Lodge and completion of request forms from this brother, our Lodge and the District Deputy Grand Master, therefore it required major discussion at our meeting.

In other business, Pine Tree Lodge voted –in accordance with Grand Lodge Law– to appoint a proxy who plans to attend Grand Lodge to pick up credentials in the absence of the Worshipful Master, Senior, and Junior Wardens. Our Lodge will be well represented and the Grand Annual Communication.

We also committed to assist Pine Tree Chapter No. 1090, Order of the Eastern Star with food baskets for the needy for Thanksgiving and donated toys for Christmas with Santa on December 11th at the joint Christmas Party for the children.

There was no degree work scheduled this month due no esoteric work being submitted at the November exam night meeting and no petitions being read at our last stated meeting. Please encourage all that have petitions

From the East

to get them completed and submitted. Also, if you have someone who has shown an interest, be sure they have access to a petition and your assistance with signatures.

We experienced a really low turnout for the review of resolutions to be presented at the annual communications at The Grand Lodge of Texas. Although this review had been advertised through verbal announcements at other lodges and numerous email notices, there were only four attendees and the speaker. Attendance was inhibited by this being deer season for hunting. a stated meeting at a neighboring lodge, and a called meeting for the purpose of degree work done by former District Deputy Grand Masters at another neighboring lodge. Therefore, we loaded up in the car and went to the Bethesda Lodge in Gilmer for the Master Mason Degree done by the Past District Deputies. We all witnessed a fine degree with two from our car working in the degree.

We are looking forward to the upcoming Grand Lodge meeting, visiting with the Grand Lodge Officers, the candidates, old friends, and meeting new brothers from other parts of our great State. We also look forward to seeing you and giving a good report at our December 9th stated meeting and at the joint Christmas party on December 11th. As you remember, the December stated meeting has

been moved to the 2nd Thursday due to Grand Lodge activities on the first Thursday.

Pine Tree Lodge 1396 wishes to extend our condolences to the Abernathy family in the loss of their niece, Vicky Strohsahl. Vicky was also a member of Pine Tree Chapter 1090. We also extend get well wishes to Jo Ann Fields as she continues to recover.

Happy Thanksgiving to one and all!

Kenneth Jackson, Worshipful Master.





Look for Pine Tree Masonic Lodge No. 1396, A. F. & A. M. on FACEBOOK



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

Within the Lodge a Mason's time is divided among labor, refreshment, and sleep, and the same is true within the symbolic Lodge. The constant reminder of the fleeting aspect of time is found upon reflecting upon the hourglass and its collection of sand particles. It truly is an emblem of human life and the importance of time to the Freemason.

One of the earliest appearances of an hourglass is found in 1338 in a painting by Ambrogio Lorenzetti entitled "Allegory of Good Government". Significantly, the hourglass is held in the hand of "Temperance", the first of the Cardinal Virtues. In addition, records of hourglasses were found on many lists of ships stores and the hourglass was widely used in seafaring, where time measurement was critical to navigation. While there were sundials, but no mechanical clocks, the hourglass was most dependable of timepieces. Unlike the water clock it did not freeze and, to some degree, was accurate as

A Mason's Time

the flow rate of sand was independent of depth.

To the ancients the division between day and night was the critical time and for most the counting of time began with the sunrise, moved to the sun's zenith, and ended with sunset. For many civilizations the basic numbering system was duodecimal or base twelve, rather than present base ten, and it easy to understand using divisions of twelfths to record the passage of time in hours. The earliest known time measuring devices were sundials, obelisks, shadow clocks, and common rods. Later burning ropes, candles, oil lamps, and water clocks were used to measure the passage of time. All were somewhat in accurate or precise.

However, the Mason has chosen to adopt the hourglass, with mythical wings, to remind him of the fleeting passage of time, his place in this world, and his mortality. The hourglass has a future, with the sand above; a present,

with the sand flowing through the middle; and a past, with the sand below. The Mason must understand that he stands between his future and past, as his time flows by and no other device so clearly illustrates these three states. His days are numbered, just as the grains of sand in his hourglass.

Human existence is best viewed in the quotation, "As the sands in the hourglass, so are the days of our lives". There are three stages for each Freemason, youth, manhood, and age, and the most precious gift a Mason possesses is his time. Each moment of time is a grain of sand to be used toward building a moral and upright life, caring for those about us, extending Brotherly love and happiness, and being Masonic in our actions and deeds. Remember all is a preparation for when the last grain falls and we move toward the Light, facing the Great Architect.

Masters' Wardens' & Secretaries' Association

The next meeting of the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association of the 10th Masonic District of Texas will be hosted by Marshall Masonic Lodge No. 22, in Marshall on Monday, November 29, 2010. We will have a covered dish dinner beginning at 6:30 with

the open business meeting to follow.

Following the business meeting, we will review and discuss the proposed 2010 Grand Lodge Resolutions, which are published on pages 4-5 of this newsletter.

Remember, all Worshipful Masters, Wardens, Secretaries, and Past Masters of Lodges in Districts 10-A or 10-B are members of the MWSA by virtue of their respective offices. All Masons and their families are encouraged to attend.

Pine Tree Chapter 1090 Order of the Eastern Star

Pine Tree Chapter 1090 would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. This is the time of the year we are thankful for so much. That Jesus died on the cross for our salvation, our family and friends, our country, and the servicemen that fight for our freedom. Let's all pause during this time to say thank you, I love you or to praise God.

We are assembling 5 boxes of food for those that are in need of a little extra at Thanksgiving. Anyone who wishes to help Linda Jackson assemble these boxes can meet her at the Lodge on Friday, November 19th at 7:00 pm . If you

are bringing nonperishable food items, please have it to the lodge by Friday. This is a joint endeavor of Pine Tree Masonic Lodge and the Eastern Star chapter. All is appreciated.

Pine Tree Lodge and Pine Tree Eastern Star Chapter will have a combined Christmas Dinner/Party on Saturday, December 11th at 6:30 pm at the Lodge. This will be a covered dish dinner. Please bring your family and enjoy Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Section 8 Eastern Star members are gearing up for our "school of instruction" which

will be held in Beckville on December 17th and 18th. Our Deputy Grand Matron has been planning for many months to make this school a fun and learning experience. This will be the time we achieve our proficiency certificate for the next year. All are encouraged to attend and join in.

Have a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

Ann & Bill Wyatt

Worthy Matron & Patron



The Avenues of Masonry in Texas

A young Mason is initiated as an Entered Apprentice. He learns the associated lesson and sits for an examination. He passes! Then there is the Fellowcraft degree. Like the Entered Apprentice, he learns the work and is finally Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Little does he know that his Masonic Journey has only just begun, even after becoming a Master Mason. Sure, there are esoteric lessons, degree work, and the path to the East, but every Mason needs to be know what doors have been opened for him just be becoming a Master Mason.

There are two primary avenues for the new Master Mason to peruse: Scottish Rite and York Rite. Well, the Scottish Rite isn't Scottish and the York is more American than it is anything, so what's the big deal?

The Scottish Rite offers the Master Mason more Light. The degrees offered by the Scottish Rite are the 4th through the 32nd. The elusive 33rd Degree is an invitational degree offered to those Scottish Rite Masons who have distinguishably served the order and have been admitted among the Court of Honour. The Scottish Rite is composed of four bodies: The Lodge of Perfection; The Chapter of Rose Croix, The Council of Kadosh; and the Consistory. The 4 bodies make up a Scottish Rite Valley. There are 9 Valleys in Texas, the closest to East Texas being Dallas and Waco.

The York Rite is divided into three groups: The Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; the Council of Royal and Select Masters; and the Commandery of Knights Templar. Each body meets independ-

ently, and a Grand Body exists for each. York Rite Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies are found all over East Texas, including Longview, Tyler, Marshall, Kilgore, Pittsburg, and many more.

The door to the Shrine Temple is also open to the New Master Mason. The Shrine, unlike the Scottish and York Rite, does not offer additional Light to the Mason. It does offer a place where the Mason can socialize with other Masons and have a good time while supporting the Shriner's Hospital. Sharon Shrine Temple in Tyler services the East Texas Area.

Explore these and other avenues of Masonry. Master Mason is the highest honor to be conferred, but there is Light waiting to be discovered.

The 175 Grand Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas will be held at Waco on December 2-4.

Grand Lodge Resolutions

1. Amend Article 433 to require candidates to learn only the answers to questions in the first section of the EA and FC degrees, except by request the GM by dispensation may waive any part of the learning requirement of the EA. (Louis Libel)
2. Amends Article 129 and 505 to require the Committee on Work to prepare separate and distinct cipher books for each of the primary Masonic Degrees and be published and sold by the Grand Lodge of Texas. In addition, it places restrictions on candidates using the cipher book. (Adolph McKnight).
3. Amends Article 318a and 353 for Lodges to not per capita payments to the Grand Lodge for any member with an endowed membership. (Ray O. Robinson).
4. Repeals Article 405a to permit names of petitioners, candidates, etc., be published. (Travis M. Major).
5. Amends Article 225a to recognize the Major John B. Jones Masonic Rangering Company of the Former Texas Rangers Foundation as an organization to which Texas Masons may belong and participate in as members. (F. Richard "Dick" Brown).
6. Amends Article 505.17 to add "canvass publicly for or against the reinstatement of a suspended or expelled Mason, or the admission of an unaffiliated Mason. (Fletcher L. Gray).
7. Amend Article 276 to delete the word Warden and replace it with "Junior and Senior Warden" of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction to be considered eligible to be elected Worshipful Master. (Garlon E. Evans).
8. Amend Article 318a to add the provision that in any year that Grand Lodge fails to pay on the endowment, Lodges shall be exempt from paying Grand Lodge per capita on all endowed members. (James A. Acton).
9. Amend Articles 292, 302, 331, 332, 436, and 437 to use the term "Degree" in lieu of "Lodge." (Daniel B. Owczarzak).
10. Amend Article 397. Removes all extra wording in the Article except the first few lines, "A firm belief in the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is indispensably necessary before a candid can be initiated." Eliminates wording regarding books of chosen faith. (Thornton Lodge No. 486).
11. Amend Article 505 to add item 37 "Make any negative reference or take any negative action in regard to a petitioner's or member's faith, creed or race at any time. (William A. "Bill" Lins).
12. Amends Article 278 to further define tradition of no person other than the Master shall pre- side "covered." (T. Neal Porter Lodge No. 1354).

Grand Lodge Resolutions (*continued from page 4*)

13. Amends Article 14c and 111 to clarify the rules for selecting Golden Trowel Award recipient. (Charles S. Robinson).
14. Amend Forms 26 and 44 to delete the requirement for a petitioner to provide his full social security number. (Cale Clark Stephenson, III).
15. Amend Article 318a to repeal the Endowed Memberships and return the funds to the Lodges. (Frank M. Gentsch, Jr.).
16. Amend Article 353 to restrict plural members from paying Grand Lodge per capita but that all taxes, dues or contributions shall only be paid by the Lodge where the Mason is a regular member. (Harvey S. Dorman).
17. Amend Articles 397 and 398 and Form 26 to delete the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures. (James W. "Sonny" Marchbanks).
18. Amend Article 6a to add information other than Grand Lodge of Texas service or activities in the Statement of Availability. (W. Vernon Burke, Jr.).
19. Amend 318a to permit a member holding an Endowed Membership to add to the value of his endowment in increments of \$100 or multiples thereof. (W. Vernon Burke, Jr.).
20. Amend the Monitor to add the word "Amen" in various places of the Ceremony for Leveling a Cornerstone. (W. Vernon Burke, Jr.).
21. Amend Article VII of the Constitution in regards to the Manner of Voting in the Grand Lodge. (William A. "Bill" Lins).
22. Amend Article VII of the Constitution in regards to the Manner of Voting in the Grand Lodge. (William Harold Collum, Jr.).
23. Amend Article 20c regarding the appointment of the Audit Committee of the Grand Lodge Trustees and required the Audit Committee report on the last day of the Annual Communication. (Fred R. Smith).

STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY

Grand Junior Warden:	Masonic Home and School Board:	Library & Museum:
1. Claude Ervin	1. Paul D. Underwood	1. Graham Childress
2. Gerald Harris		
3. Jerry L. Martin		
4. Charles McKay		
5. Thomas Shelton		
6. D.C. Taylor		

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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

Masters of the Royal Secret

The Waco Scottish Rite Bodies held its semi-annual East Texas Reunion and Degree Conferral at Pine Tree Lodge on Saturday, October 30th. Twelve Master Masons took the next step and became Masters of the Royal Secret in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, including 4 from Pine Tree Lodge.

Scottish Rite Masons from all over East Texas converged upon Pine Tree Lodge to take part in the Reunion. The Kilgore Rainbow Assemblage had a successful fundraiser feeding lunch to all of the Masons.

During the intermission, a memorial service was held in honor of Terry Martin. Dean McDowell led the service and a plaque was presented to Dean to be delivered to the Martin Family.



Mark Tincer, Casey Holder, Jason Turner, and Brett Beggs after being initiated as 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Masons