



Masonic Trestle Board

April 26, 2010

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

Volume 1, Issue 10

Masonic News

- 4/29—Master Mason Education Night
- 5/1—40 Year Masonic Service Awards
- 5/3—Exam Night
- 5/6—Stated Meeting
- 5/18—OES
- 5/24—MWSA Meeting

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April started out rather slowly compared to other months during this Masonic year. For the first time in quite a while, we had no degree work, but did make a few public presentations.

On April 9th, Pine Tree Lodge honored Barbara Duncan with the Community Builder Award.

On April 24th, Pine Tree Lodge honored three deserving graduating high school seniors with scholarships and the Lamar Medal of Academic Excellence. One educator was honored with the Lamar Medal.

The Lodge will be hosting a Master Mason's Education Night on Thursday, April

Friday, April 9th, members of Pine Tree Lodge and guests gathered at the Lodge to honor Mrs. Barbara Duncan with the Community Builder Award. Mrs. Duncan and her husband were treated to a warm welcome, nice dinner, and a presentation ceremony.

Mrs. Duncan is the Gregg County District Clerk and has

From the East

29th. All Master Masons are invited and encouraged to attend, particularly those who have been raised within the last year.

Next month, beginning on May 1st, we will be awarding the 40 Year Masonic Service Awards to those brethren who have been Master Masons in good standing for 40 or more years. The award presentations will be at 10:00 at the Lodge. The Lodge will serve breakfast at 9:00. The presentation will be an open meeting. See the list of recipients on page 3.

Also next month, we will have three Entered Apprentice Degrees, at least one Fellowcraft degree, and possibly a Master's Degree. None of the

dates have been set yet, but will be announced at the May Stated Meeting.

The May Stated Meeting will be on Thursday, May 6th. Dinner will be fried fish and trimmings. Bring a guest from another Lodge or a prospective candidate to dinner.

The Masonic Year is drawing to a close, but we aren't slowing down. I am proud of what our Lodge is accomplishing.

Jim Rumsey



Community Builder

acquired a reputation for being involved. Her service to the community and to the citizens of the county is unmatched. Friends spoke at the award ceremony about her unselfish commitment to the community and how she magically, balances work, family, and volunteer community service. Mrs. Duncan was a very deserving recipient

of the Community Builder Award.





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



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

Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas

At each step through the Degrees, the newly obligated Mason is directed to read, reflect, and follow the moral codes outlined in his Holy Book, for these are his spiritual compasses. However there are other guideposts within his introduction to the Craft that are extremely important, notably “The Grand Lodge Laws” and the by-laws of his Lodge. For the most part, the by-laws of a lodge outline the operational procedures for the lodge, while “The Grand Lodge Laws” are more comprehensive covering both the Grand Lodge and its subordinate lodges.

Most of the Craft know that the Junior Warden is responsible for the conduct of the Brethren during their time of refreshment and that he is to guard them from “intemperance and excess”. Many assume this includes being the lawyer for the Lodge and an interpreter of the various legal questions that may arise during a Masonic year, and consequently “The Grand Lodge Laws” is placed at his station. Few of the Brethren concern them-

selves with this book, except when property is to be bought or sold, Masonic charges are filed, or some special forms are required to be used, but such should not be the case.

First, each Brother is expected to obey these “Laws” as a matter of practice, conscience, and obligation. This obedience requires a familiarity and understanding that can only come through reading, reviewing, and reflecting upon what is the “law”. “The Laws” focuses on specifics of conduct, not the spirituality, and lays the groundwork for possible censure and reproach. The various charges of the degrees outline duties expected as an individual, citizen, Brother, and member of the Craft and the reputation of the Fraternity depend upon an understanding and adherence to these duties. More often than not, a Lodge, and the Fraternity as a whole, is judged on the basis of the behavior of its members, especially in the public eye.

Second, the need to understand the laws as found in the Installation of lodge offi-

cers, where the following charge is given the incoming Worshipful Master: “The Book of Constitutions you are to search at all times. Cause it to be read in your Lodge, that none may pretend to ignorance of the excellent precepts it enjoins”. As the source of Light in the Lodge, the Master is to educate and “The Laws of the Grand Lodge” appears as a required part of that education.

So the message of this educational moment is not to become a lawyer or expert on Masonic law, but rather to attend to examining “The Grand Laws” as a source of improving oneself in Masonry and in personal conduct. Look to its contents to understand the duties of a Mason, the responsibilities of the various officers and committees, the Ancient Charges of a Mason, and the individual lodge operation. Being a Mason carries rights and privileges, but also responsibilities. Labor to understand your responsibilities and act accordingly.

Robert Northcutt

Masters’ Wardens’ & Secretaries’ Association

The Masters’, Wardens’, and Secretary’s Association of the 10th Masonic District of Texas held its bi-monthly meeting at James F. Taylor Lodge on March 22. Attendance at the meeting was poor. A proposed by-law change was made to change the meeting dates of the association to be on the fifth Mon-

day of those months with five Mondays, If July has only four Mondays, and a called meeting would have to be held for the election and installation of officers. The association will vote on the proposition at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be Monday, May 24, 2010, at

Longview Lodge #404. Covered dish dinner at 6:30 with an open meeting following at 7:30. Remember, all Worshipful Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens, Secretaries, AND ALL PAST MASTERS of Lodges in Districts 10-A and 10-B, are voting members of the association.

Pine Tree Chapter 1090 Order of the Eastern Star

Hello everyone! I hope everyone is enjoying the spring and had a very Happy Easter.

Pine Tree Chapter has elected our officers for the new year to begin in June. We would like to offer congratulations to the officers elect and those appointed for the upcoming year. Ann Wyatt, WM Elect has set her installation of officers for June 12th at 4:00 PM.

Pine Tree Chapter traditionally gives two \$200 scholarships each year, when funds allow. This year, a scholarship will be awarded to our own member, Andrea Willey as she continues her education in college. The other will be awarded to Michael Clay-

ton who is graduating from Spring Hill High School and will attend either ETBU or Kilgore College. Good luck to each of you.

Well, the Chapter's year is winding down. Thanks to everyone who worked with us the last 2 years. I really appreciate all the help I have received. We could not have done 2 years in the East without each of you helping.

I mentioned last month that several of us would be attending the "Sir X" banquet where our Grand Conductress, Vi Griffin would name her Sir X who will be elected as our Associate Grand Patron in August. Pine Tree Chapter

would like to offer congratulations to BRO. DAVID DIBRELL for being selected. He is also Past Grand Master of Texas Masons!

Don't forget that the "Roundup" for Bill Wyatt, WGP and Bess Caldwell, WGM in Tyler May 7th - 9th. See Ann Wyatt or myself for details on how to attend.

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

Linda and Kenneth Jackson, Worthy Matron and Patron



40 Year Masonic Service Award Recipients

- Billy W. Allen
- Calvin V. Barnard
- Billy M. Bolt
- Russell M. Bush Jr.
- Charles W. Chambers
- Kris W. Coppedge
- Sammy J. Crow
- Archie T. Cude Jr.
- W. C. Fields
- Raymond H. Fountain
- Edwin R. Garner
- Wayne M. Gentsch
- Jerry W. Gibbs
- Ira M. Hales
- Marvin W. Hall
- Carl E. Hane
- Norman E. Hays
- Kenneth W. Huggins
- Garland R. Jeter
- James H. Kennemer
- Robert D. LaBay
- George W. Lee
- Charles W. McGregor
- Mickey J. Meadows
- Lewis E. Orms
- Joe L. Polatti
- Ronald B. Rasco
- Jerry L. Rawlinson
- Joe M. Reeves
- Richard E. Riggins
- James R. Roberts
- Emory L. Rogers
- W. A. Rogers
- Billy E. Scott
- Robert L. Sending
- Phillip P. Smith
- Sherman D. Stephens Jr.
- Billy A. Tarver
- William C. Taylor Jr.
- Archibald L. Tehan Jr.
- Don C. Townsend
- Wilburn E. Trammell
- Norman H. Turner
- Johnny R. White
- Thomas A. Whitehead
- James L. Willis
- Henry B. Winn

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



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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.**



www.PineTree1396.org

Scholarships and Lamar Medals

Saturday evening, April 24th, members of Pine Tree Masonic Lodge and guests met at the Lodge to honor three graduating seniors and an educator with the Mirabeau B. Lamar Award for Educational Excellence.

Each of the student recipients received the Lamar Award for personal achievements and the Lamar Medal for Educational Excellence, and a college scholarship. The educator recipient received the Lamar Award, Medal, and the two volume set *Masonry and Education in Texas*.

The honorees are:

Miss April Nieto, student recipient from Pine Tree High School.

Miss Stephany McFadden, student recipient from White Oak High School.

Mr. Cristopher Peterson, student recipient from Spring Hill High School.

Mrs. Billie Jordan, educator recipient from White Oak Middle School.

Each honoree was chosen by a committee of Lodge members and school officials.

Mirabeau Bonaparte Lamar was the second president of the Republic of Texas and is credited with the creation of the public school system we enjoy today. He is known as the Father of Public Education in Texas.



L-R: Cristopher Peterson, April Nieto, Mrs. Billie Jordan, & Stephany McFadden