



Masonic Trestle Board

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

October 1, 2012

Volume 4, Issue 1

Masonic News

- October 29—
MWSA
- November 1—
Stated Meeting
- November 8—
Practice Night
- November 20—
Eastern Star
- December 6-8:
Grand Lodge
- December 13—
Stated Meeting
- December 27—
St. John's Day

Inside this issue:

Square & Com- passes	2
MWSA	3
OES News	3
2013 Officers	4
Contact Us	4

Greetings from the East.....

As most of you have already figured out, there hasn't been a monthly newsletter. With a busy work schedule and a busier home life, the newsletters will be coming out on a quarterly basis. I hope each of you understands. With that said, this Masonic year has started off busy and unfortunately, it's already a third over.

With the closing of the 2011-2012 Lodge of Sorrow and the opening of a new lodge and calling it to refreshment, Junior Past Master Daniel Flanagan performed his last duties as Worshipful Master. I would like to say on behalf of Pine Tree Lodge; Job Well Done Brother Flanagan.

With July being our first month in the new Masonic year things started off with a "bang". Junior Past Master Dan Flanagan was presented with his Past Master Apron, the Lodge's traveling Past Master's ring, as well as a hand-tooled leather plaque that had been personally made by Bro. Grover Bryson. Junior Past Master Flanagan was much deserved of these honors for such a great year that he had while in the East.

The following Brothers were given distinct honors on July 21st for their 50 year Grand Lodge Service Award.

- **Mickey Joe Meadows**
- **Joe Max Reeves**

From the East

- **Wayne Martin Gentsch**
- **W. C. Fields**
- **Don C. Townsend**

Each honoree was seated in the East and each addressed the lodge and spoke about their Masonic Journey.

As with July, August was no less busy.

Pine Tree Lodge hosted Right Worshipful Jimmy Henley, Chairman of the Committee on Work. There was a great turn out and all of those in attendance were enlightened with the proper way of conducting certain degrees. Several Lodge brothers attended the esoteric examination that Right Worshipful Henley hosted the following morning at Danville Lodge in Kilgore. Congratulations to those brothers who successfully completed the exam.

Pine Tree Lodge was honored in September with the official visit of our very own Right Worshipful Jim Rumsey, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District number 10-A of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. This being his last official visit, Right Worshipful Rumsey was received in due and ancient form and escorted to the East where he was presented with the gavel of the lodge and seated the Brethren and said he would speak at the end of the meeting. Right

Worshipful Rumsey delivered communication from Grand Master Brumit and opened the floor up to questions. He then thanked the members of Pine Tree Lodge for supporting him during his service as District Deputy Grand Master. He also thanked them for allowing him the flexibility to concurrently serve the Grand Lodge and as Secretary of Pine Tree Lodge.

Pine Tree Lodge also hosted the Grand Master's Workshop for Masonic District Number 10 on September 24th and a good attendance was noted. Honorable Brother Clyde Kenneaster of the Grand Lodge of Texas' Education and Services Committee presented the workshop program.

Starting in October, we will be reinstating our regular monthly practice nights. We will meet at the Lodge on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00.

Any brother wishing to serve as an officer needs to get with our Secretary to get started on the Grand Lodge's Lodge Instruction For Effectiveness (LIFE) Program.

Until next time.

Jason Turner,

Worshipful Master

The Square and Compasses



While not unique to Freemasonry, the interlaced Square and Compasses are almost universally recognized as the emblem of Freemasonry. However, the Square and Compasses have not always been linked in Masonic ritual and it appears the symbolism of these two emblems developed separately. In early 18th century Masonic charts, the Square and Compasses are often depicted without the other, and when they are both presented, they are rarely shone together and never are they interlaced as we see them presented today. None of the early Masonic publications have appeared to contain representations of either the Square and Compasses. It appears, based on, these two symbols of Freemasonry Masonic disclosures, that the Square and Compasses were considered simply Furniture of the Lodge later in the 1700's when they were elevated to Great Lights in the Masonic ritual. Furthermore, it was into the 19th century before the interlaced Square and Compasses were being depicted in Masonic charts and publications.



Over the years, these two symbols of Freemasonry have become inextricably linked as a public symbol of the Fraternity. In 1873, a flour manufacture attempted to trademark the interlaced square and compasses but the United States Patent Office denied the trademark request. In rendering its decision it said, "this device, so commonly worn and employed by Masons, has an established mystic significance, universally recognized as existing, whether comprehended by all or not, is not material to this issue. In view of the magnitude of the Masonic organization, it is impossible to divest its symbols, or at least this particular symbol – perhaps the best known of all – of its ordinary significance, wherever displayed..."

The Freemason is introduced to the Square and Compasses during the Entered Apprentice Degree and they are prominent symbols through the Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees. As obvious as the lessons of these two symbols may appear upon first glance, deeper reflection suggests deeper

far greater symbolism that can be grasped only after long and patient study of the Square and Compasses take on special meanings for the pupil of Freemasonry. However, as the degrees progress, an increasing seriousness and depth of meaning are discoverable to the Freemason.

When the Square and Compasses are viewed as a compound symbol, their individual symbolism takes on greater meaning. In the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Degrees the Square and Compasses symbolize the earth and impress upon the Freemason the importance of controlling our desires. In the Master Mason Degree the Compasses represent those things Heavenly. Within the context of the three degrees they represent our personal journey in life where our understanding progresses from a worldly viewpoint of life to the ultimate spiritual perspective.

To help understand this symbolism, one must consider the use of the Square and Compasses in each degree and the representation of the three degrees as a whole. Without this reference, much of the meaning of the Square and Compasses is lost to the Freemason. Viewed in the aggregate, the lodge is emblematical of the world, while initiation is representative of birth, and the three degrees represent man's existence here and the hereafter.

In the Entered Apprentice Degree, one learns that the symbolic lodge extends from East to West, from North to South, and from the center of the earth to the heavens. As such the lodge symbolizes the world and the place where all men live and work. If the lodge represents the world and the Mason represents man, it follows that initiation must represent the introduction of the individual to the world or the birth of a child.

The introduction of the Entered Apprentice candidate into the lodge

represents the entrance of man upon the world's stage. As a child we enter this world dependant on those around us for the necessities of life and for our intellectual and moral development. Thus the Entered Apprentice represents childhood and youth, that preparatory stage of life where we grow into mature and responsible adults. The Fellow Craft Mason represents man during the productive years of his life, where he worships his God, provides for his family, serves society and continues his pursuit of knowledge and understanding. Thus the lodge in the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Degrees represents the world where all workmen labor at their vocations and in the acquisitions of human knowledge and virtue.

In the Master Masons Degree, the lodge represents the Sanctum Sanctorum of King Solomon's Temple, a symbol of Heaven. It is here the Freemason is symbolically brought into the presence of Deity, where nothing earthly or unclean is allowed to enter. In this degree, the Freemason is encouraged to pursue divine truth and understanding and admonished to develop his spiritual self. The reference to death and afterlife is obvious, with the emphasis being on the spiritual afterlife. Thus the Master Mason Degree represents the reflective stage of life, old age, death, the resurrection, and the everlasting life.

In the ancient symbolism, the square signified the earth, while a circle, drawn with the compasses, represented the heavens. For the Freemason, the Square represents what is earthly and material while the Compasses signify the heavenly and the spiritual. It is not without significance then that the position of the points of the compasses within the interlaced Square and Compasses changes as the Freemason progresses from the Entered Apprentice Mason to a Fellow Craft Mason, and finally to a Master Mason. It represents his progression in life from the here to the hereafter, from birth to the everlast-



Pine Tree Chapter 1090 Order of the Eastern Star

June 2nd began the term of Jennifer Utzman, Worthy Matron and Jim Rumsey, Worthy Patron. Their theme for the year is "laissez les bons temp rouler" - Let the Good Times Roll! In June, Jennifer Utzman, the Worthy Matron, presented an inspiring Patriotic Program honoring the Flag of the United States of America. July's Patriotic Program was presented to our Chapter by Gayla Watson, Worthy Matron of Carthage Chapter No. 747.

Eight (8) Pine Tree Chapter Members recently attended Grand Chapter in Beaumont. Members attending were Betty and Andy Scott, Linda and Kenneth Jackson, Ann and Bill Wyatt, Debra Albertson and Jennifer Utzman. Our new Worthy Grand Matron is Annette Curry and Bill Crews is our new Worthy Grand Patron.

Pine Tree Chapter hosted the Chapters of District 1 Section 8 at an Indoor Picnic in honor of the founder of the Order of the Eastern Star, Dr. Rob Morris on August 18th. This was a time of good fellowship. We appreciate all who joined us for this celebration.

At our August Stated Meeting, the Chapter was presented with a program honoring Dr. Morris by the Worthy Matron of Marshall Lodge.

The October Stated Meeting brought the Official Visit of our Deputy Grand Matron. We appreciate her representing our Section!

Until next time
Jennifer Utzman, Worthy Matron
Jim Rumesy, Worthy Patron

Pine Tree Lodge has been awarded the Vanguard Award by the Grand Lodge of Texas for the 2011-2012 Masonic Year. This is the third year in a row that the Lodge has achieved this honor! Congratulations to all who helped achieve this award!

The Square and Compasses

Continued from page 2

ing life, from the seeker of human knowledge to the seeker of divine understanding where the spiritual has obtained full mastery and control over the earthly and material.

The Square represents the moral law that dictates our relationships with others and guides our actions here on earth. The Compasses signifies our endless pursuit of spiritual understanding and our relationship with God. Together, the Square and Compasses should constantly remind the Freemason of the balance required between the earthly and spiritual, that our spiritual nature should rule and govern our earthly nature knowing that in the end He will dispense impartial justice and will either reward or punish us in the everlasting life according to our obedience to His commands while on this earth.

Masters, Wardens, & Secretaries Association

The last quarterly meeting of the Masters, Wardens, & Secretaries Association of the 10th Masonic District of Texas was hosted by James F. Taylor Lodge in Hallsville. At the meeting, the District Deputy Grand Masters of Masonic Districts Numbers 10-A and 10-B gave a report on their respective districts.

The annual election of officers was held and the following brothers were duly elected or appointed to serve as officers of the MWSA for the 2013 Masonic Year:

President: Wes Hensley (Ore City Lodge)

Vice President: Joe Hudson (Marshall Lodge)

Secretary/ Treasurer: Mack LaGrone (James F. Taylor Lodge)

Chaplain: Brian Degner (Little Cypress Lodge)

Following the election, the officers were duly installed by Right Worshipful Jim Rumsey, DDGM of District 10-A.

The next meeting will be hosted by Ore City Lodge on Monday, October 29th. Dinner at 6:30 and an open meeting at 7:30.

Pine Tree Masonic Lodge, #1396

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Worshipful Master: Jason Turner
903-746-7850

Secretary: Jim Rumsey, PM
903-746-5849

Web Master: Brett Beggs
903-238-3222



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



www.PineTree1396.org



Elected and Appointed Officers of Pine Tree Masonic Lodge

2012-2013

Worshipful Master:	Jason Turner
Senior Warden:.....	Brett Beggs
Junior Warden:.....	Charles Looney
Treasurer:.....	Phillip P. Smith
Secretary:.....	Jim Rumsey, PM
Chaplain:.....	Dell Bledsoe
Senior Deacon:.....	Weldon Pittman, Jr.
Junior Deacon:.....	Casey Holder
Senior Steward:.....	Wes Teague
Junior Steward:.....	Jason Rumsey
Marshal:.....	Gary Middleton
Master of Ceremonies:.....	Dakota Keenon
Tiler:.....	Paul Medved