



# The Trestle Board



MWSA

6<sup>th</sup> Masonic District in Texas

Volume 2, Number 2

February, 2018

## FROM THE PRESIDENT.....

The beginning of a new year gives us many opportunities to accomplish things started in the previous year. Many of us attended the Grand Lodge of Texas Annual Communication in Waco on January 18, 19 & 20. Most Worshipful Tommy F. Chapman was installed as the Grand Master of Texas on the last day of the Communication. A list of resolutions and recommendations were voted upon and the results are reported under a separate article in this newsletter. Right Worshipful Kerry Wooten is the new District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District # 6. Brother Ken Kennedy is returning after a year's lapse as District Instructor for District # 6.

Oasis Lodge # 79 Practice sessions resumed on Monday nights and Brother Ken Kennedy invites everyone to attend these practice sessions that desire to improve their knowledge in the Ritual of the Fraternity.

The Order of the Eastern Star will be holding its Joint School of Instruction with Section 10 on February 21 & 22 in Texarkana. The OES has held two practice sessions to date and will have one more prior to the School of Instruction.

The Masonic District continues to confer a number of degrees on candidates. Stories pertaining to some of these degrees appear in this newsletter.

The Masters, Wardens, & Secretary's Association resumed its normal meeting dates on the 4th Thursday of each month. We are looking forward to the New Year and the opportunities we have in improving ourselves in Masonry.

The MWSA Newsletter wants to print news from your Lodge or OES Chapter, but we need it reported to us so we can give the activities coverage. This would apply to happenings in the future that your Lodge would like to announce or reporting completed activities you would

just like everybody to know about. You may contact me at 903/577-3233 or [alvinrexmgee@hotmail.com](mailto:alvinrexmgee@hotmail.com) or Joe Reynolds, Newsletter Editor, at the "contact us" button that appears on the MWSA#6 website to report the news. If you choose to communicate by email make sure you also leave a good phone number so we can reach you in case we need to clear anything prior to publishing.

*Rex McGee  
President*

Our web site is [www.mwsa6.org](http://www.mwsa6.org).

## MWSA OFFICERS



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## Mt. Vernon Lodge # 691 holds its Monthly Scholarship Breakfast and an Entered Apprentice Degree

Worshipful Master, Max Cannaday invites everyone to attend the monthly scholarship breakfast at Mt. Vernon Lodge # 691 on Saturday February 03, 2018. Breakfast is served from approximately 7:30 a.m. until about 9:00 a.m.

The scholarship breakfasts fund the Lodges effort to provide scholarships for local deserving students hoping to further their education.

After the breakfast area Masons are invited to attend an Entered Apprentice Degree being conferred at the Lodge.

Come out and eat a good breakfast, help support a good community cause and if you are a Mason enjoy a good Degree.

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## THIS MONTH'S RIDDLE

### **Cross the Road**

Q. Why did the Freemason cross the road?

A. He was following the landmarks of the Order.

### **Drawbridge**

Q. What did the Freemason say when he tripped and fell off the drawbridge?

A. So moat it be.

### **Festive Board**

Q. What did the Junior Warden say when the Steward was about to serve double helpings at the Festive Board.

A. Halve it and begin.

### **Finders Keepers**

Q. Where do you find Freemasons?

A. It depends where you lost them.

### **Freemason or Not?**

Q. When is a Freemason not a Freemason?

A. When advancing to the East in the Second Degree, he turns into a winding staircase.

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## 2018 GRAND LODGE

### Recommendations & Resolutions

The following is a list of Resolutions & Recommendations for consideration during the 2018 Grand Lodge of Texas Annual Communication.

**Reprinted from the December 2017 "The Texas Mason Magazine"**

**with results of vote**

### **2018 RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**HOLD OVER RESOLUTION # 4—2017** This Resolution was voted on and passed at the 2017 Grand Annual Communication, it being a Constitutional change must be voted on in the 2018 Communication.

**Passed**

**RESOLUTIONS 2018 Resolution # 1—**This is to change Dist. 60-A and 60- B into one District. As several Lodges in this District have merged. It would be better served as one District. Submitted by Joseph R. Bailey, Five Points # 1137, John E. Wood, El Paso # 130, and Thomas E. Jenkins, Omar Bradley # 1028. ( P&P) **Passed**

**Resolution # 2--** Art. 272 and Art. 273 be amended to read. If the Master has to leave the east, the Past Master who takes over the East, may keep his Past Master Jewel on. Submitted by Thomas F. Boone, Anson Jones # 1416. (P&P—MJC) **Withdrawn**

**Resolution # 3--** Amend Art. 380, as to the visiting process of Texas Lodges. Submitted by James K. Scales, Italy # 647. (Fin. – MJC) **Withdrawn**

**Resolution # 4 --** Delete Art. 417, who may vote, and Replace with new Art. 417. Submitted by Charles D. Gaulden, Greenville # 335. (P&P) **Failed**

**Resolution # 5—**Amend Art. 512 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas to provide suspension of Masonic activity when accused of a disciplinary violation involving the abuse of children. Submitted by Leonard P. Harvey, Keystone # 1143. Orville L. O'Neill, White Rock # 234. (P&P—MJC) **Failed**

**Resolution # 6--** Amend Art. 512. Status of a Mason under allegations of a Masonic Disciplinary Violation. Submitted by Robin W. Winslett, Danbury # 1432. Jay H. Hicks, Tucker # 297. (P&P— MJC) **Passed**

**Resolution # 7: Realignment of Districts. Passed**

**Resolution # 8—**Delete Art. 401 and Form # 27. Submitted by Roger A. Jacobsen, St. Johns # 51. (P&P—MJC) Missing limbs or disability. **Passed**

**Resolution # 9 –** Amend Art. 236. Who may preside while conferring Degrees. Add new Art. 226- A. Submitted by William (Bill) Lins, Wharton # 621. (P&P—MJC) **Failed**

**Resolution # 10—** Finance Committee Change Art. 122 Thru Art. 126. Submitted by Ronald Wise, Roy Stanley # 1367. (FIN.) **Passed**

Resolution # 11 – Amend Art. 412. Committee Duties and Report. Adding information to second paragraph. WM can allow non investigation team information in open lodge. Submitted by Terrence A. Maxwell, Carrollton # 1400. (P&P—MJC) **Passed**

Resolution # 12 – Amend Art. 163. Fees, Dues and Contributions. To repeal paragraph # 9, and Amend paragraph # 10. Submitted by Thomas W. Ellison, Milam # 2. (FIN) **Passed**

Resolution # 13—Amend Art. 53, as the Grand Lodge has changed their fiscal year to end on December 31st. Submitted by Thomas W. Ellison, Milam # 2. (P&P—MJC) **Passed**

Resolution # 14 – Amend Art. 311 by adding paragraph # 2, about credit and debit cards. Submitted by Thomas W. Ellison, Milam # 2. (MJC) **Passed as amended**

Resolution # 15 – Amend Art. 361. Who may conduct ceremony. Having all deceased Brethren during that Masonic year be read and entered in the minutes of that date. Submitted by C. D. Siems, Gary Krzysicki, Bellaire # 1336 (P&P) **Passed**

Resolution # 16 -- That the Golden Trowel Award forms be included in the Masonic Forms section of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Submitted by C.D. Siems, and Gary Krzysicki, Bellaire # 1336 (P&P) **Adopted**

Resolution # 17 – Amend Art. 319. Automatic Suspension to February 1st and Art. 320 Notice of Suspension by March 1st . **Failed**

Resolution #18— Merge Lodges in Masonic District 120 with District 37A and Masonic District 120 be abolished – S. B. Mosser Lodge 912 **Adopted**

GRAND MASTER RECOMMENDATION # 1— Amend Art. # 129, paragraph # a,( by adding the sentence or brothers who are proficient in the esoteric work and lectures of the first three degrees in Masonry.) Grand Master's Recommendations **Passed**

GRAND MASTER RECOMMENDATION # 2 – Amend Art. # 434a by adding the sentence. The petition for advancement shall require payment of a service fee of Twenty Dollars (\$ 20.00) when filed with the Lodge, and an additional service fee of \$ 20.00 shall be paid annually until the Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft has completed his proficiency. All service fees shall become the property of the Lodge. **Passed with 2 amendments**

**Tommy F. Chapman was elected Grand Master**

**Kenneth Currey was elected Grand Junior Warden**

**Jim Rumsey was elected to a seat on the Committee on Work.**

**Lodges Represented---566**

**Worshipful Masters present—377**

**Senior Wardens present---213**

**Junior Wardens present---160**

**Past Masters present---1758**

**Total Available Votes ---3456**

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### Master Masons Degree conferred at Frank Sexton Lodge # 206

*By Rex McGee*

Frank Sexton Lodge # 206 in Pittsburg conferred a Master Masons Degree on Wednesday night at 5:00 p.m. The candidate works out of state and is only in town for a few days each month. Normally a good meal is planned for the occasion, but everyone including the candidate, agreed that the meal could wait if the Lodge could perform a short notice Degree. We will plan a dinner to honor him at a later date.

This Degree is of particular significance to the Lodge as well as two young Masons. This Degree was conferred entirely by members of the Frank Sexton Lodge. This is the first time in many years that the Lodge has been capable of conferring a Master Masons Degree without the assistance of outside brethren. The second significant occurrence involved the young mason who just received his Master Mason Degree and then examining an Entered Apprentice Mason that he had been teaching his work in his proficiency examination.

Brother Rhett McCullough conferred the Master Masons Degree, Brother Bo Davis presided over the second section and Brother Bill Guy gave the lecture. Also working in the degree were Joe Reynolds, Bruce Carpenter, Charlie Pelezo, Tim Hall, J.C. Friedl, Charles Derrick, Larry Bailey & Rex McGee.

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### THIS MONTH'S HUMOR

It seems that another Mason, Master of his Lodge, went to Heaven and met with St. Peter. He identified himself as a member of the Craft and St. Peter asked, "What Lodge?" Proudly the Master replied, "Old Adage Lodge

#1." St. Peter immediately took him to the Masonic Clock Room. The Master, in puzzlement, looked around the room which was filled with clocks. Each clock had a Lodge's name on a brass plate and, strangely enough, each clock was at a different time. He asked why, and St. Peter informed him that the hands only moved when someone in that Lodge made a mistake in the Ritual. The Master then asked where his Lodge's clock was as he couldn't see it. St. Peter replied, "Why, it's in the kitchen, of course." "The kitchen," said the Master?

"Yes, you see, we needed a new fan."

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### David Elliott Lodge confers Entered Apprentice Degree

David Elliott Lodge conferred an Entered Apprentice Degree on Friday, January 26 at 6:30 p.m. with Brother Mark Munkres conferring the degree and brother Ken Kennedy giving the Lecture. Brother Mike Goforth served as Senior Deacon. Other Lodge members and visitors assisted in the conferral of the Degree.

Lodge members enjoyed a good Degree and an excellent Entered Apprentice Degree. David Elliott Lodge has several Masons studying in one degree or another to complete their work and become Master Masons.

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### SICKNESS & DISTRESS

*By Rex McGee*

#### **Nursing Homes, Assisted living, and Retirement Homes**

Jim Clifton -----Nursing Home in Hughes Springs  
Bennie Stevens-----Nursing Home in Hughes Springs  
Sybil Walton-----Nursing Home in Daingerfield  
Ray Burgin-----Nursing Home in Mt. Pleasant  
Dixie Webster---Haven Care Nursing & Rehab Center,  
111 Ruthlynn Dr., Longview, TX., Room # 104

#### **Illness, Injuries, Surgery, & Rehabilitation**

Jim Huston-----Hospital  
Randy Brock-----Treatment  
Bobby Goswick & Wife-----Illness  
J.N. Duck-----Ongoing illness  
J.D Baumgardner-----Illness  
Joann Floyd-----Tests & Treatment in Dallas

Lilma Godsey-----Treatment in Tyler  
Glendle Lange-----Home in Mt. Pleasant  
Burnis Covington----- now living with his son, Gary  
Dorothy DeLay, Linden OES # 576, Hospice of  
Texarkana, 2407 Gallery Oaks, Texarkana, Room #2.  
Diann Norton, Pittsburg OES # 391-----illness &  
treatment for fall

#### **Deaths**

Hugh Lindsey-----member of Temple #70

#### **Contact information for reporting Sickness & Distress:**

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### BROTHERHOOD AMONG SOLDIERS

A Brother in Savannah, Georgia reported this story of Civil War soldiers from his Masonic lodge records.

It was a time not long after Fort Sumter, and the War of Northern Aggression was well under way. The Yankees, as they are still wont to do, had promptly flocked to Hilton Head and Tybee Islands, the barrier islands on opposite sides of the mouth of the Savannah River. The Savannah folks didn't mind much that the Yankees had stolen the good beaches, for the water was still a bit cool for Southern preferences and, besides, they knew the gnats and mosquitoes would teach the Yankees a lesson they'd never forget. So, the Southerners, as Southerners are wont to do sometimes, just waited.

They didn't have to wait very long before the Yankees on Hilton Head sent out a messenger under a white flag. It seemed that the Yankees had among them a young fellow who had passed through the Fellow Craft Degree before shipping out. The Yanks were just sitting around slapping gnats when it occurred to one of them that, just maybe, there was a nearby lodge that could test him in the Fellow Craft Degree and raise him to that of a Master Mason.

As luck would have it, there was indeed a lodge in Savannah that would soon be having a Masters Degree. One morning, not too many days later, a detail of Confederate Cavalry slipped across the Savannah River into South Carolina and traveled through Bluffton to the shore opposite Hilton Head island.

From there they escorted one Fellow Craft Mason and, I believe, a number of Master Masons of the Northern Persuasion, safely through the Confederate Lines, and back through about 35 miles of Confederate defenses to Savannah, where the candidate and his witnesses were delivered into the lodge.

The records note that this Brother was indeed proficient in the Fellow Craft Degree, and he was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason. That night another detail of Confederate Cavalry, no doubt Brothers to a man, slipped back across the Savannah River and safely escorted their Brothers back to Hilton Head.

Anyway, I have loved this story since the first time I heard it. It clearly demonstrates that, at the darkest period in our Nation's history, when brothers were killing brothers, Brothers could still be Brothers.

also to provide insight for future study and understanding.

Local Eastern Star Chapters select their own charities and places of service in their own communities. Eastern Star proudly support young women's organizations such as Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters. Many Chapters actively support DeMolay for Boys.

The Eastern Star is also a social organization with frequent formal events and ceremonies. Being a member is a wonderful and a fulfilling way of life. Please ask an Eastern Star to tell you more about it!

Master Masons in good standing, the wives, mothers, daughters, legally adopted daughters, widows, sisters, half-sisters, step daughters and step-sisters of Master Masons in good standing at the time of death are eligible for membership.

The fraternal order is comprised of people with deep religious convictions and spiritual values open to all faiths except no faith.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



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### Pittsburg Order of the Eastern Star To Initiate New Member

The Pittsburg Chapter # 381 of the Order of the Eastern Star will initiate a new member on Friday, February 9, 2018. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the initiation will begin at 7:30 p.m. according to Worthy Matron Beverly Sinclair.

All members of the Order are invited to attend and see a new member initiated into the Order.

The Order of the Eastern Star is a Masonic-related fraternity of women and men dedicated to charity, truth and loving kindness. Although not a part of the Masonic fraternity, membership is based on a Masonic affiliation or relationship, a belief in God, and a desire to acquire additional knowledge and for self-improvement.

The degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star teach lessons of fidelity, constancy, loyalty, faith and love. These degrees are presented in a beautiful ritualistic ceremony designed to not only teach the lessons, but

**February 1<sup>st</sup>** – Frank Sexton Lodge #206, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 5<sup>th</sup>** – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** – David Elliott Lodge #364, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** – Border Chapter #211, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 8<sup>th</sup>** – Daingerfield Chapter #906, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Avery Chapter #252, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** – Iron Bluff Lodge #1376, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** – Pittsburg Chapter #381, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 15<sup>th</sup>** – Mt. Vernon Lodge #691, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 19<sup>th</sup>** – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – Oasis Lodge #79, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – Linden Chapter #576, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – Omaha Chapter #997, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – Northeast Texas Shrine Clubs Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>** – 6th District MWSA, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 26<sup>th</sup>** – New Boston Chapter #700, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

**February 26<sup>th</sup>** – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session

**February 27<sup>th</sup>** – Temple Lodge #70, Monthly Stated Meeting

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### **Hellon Cattlett Birthday Celebration at David Elliott Lodge**

*by Rex McGee*

Family members, Eastern Star Sisters & Brothers, Masons, as well as local and out of town friends joined together to celebrate the 90th birthday of Mrs. Hellon Catlett of Omaha at the David Elliott Lodge # 364 in Omaha on Saturday January 27th, 2017..

The Lodge dining room was beautifully decorated with flowers, pictures painted by Hellon, and table arrangements along with enough food to feed an army of well wishers.

Hellon has been a member of the Order of the Eastern Star for many years and is a Past Matron of the Chapter. She has held numerous offices in the Order over the years and has been a loyal member. Her late husband was active in the Masonic Lodge and was a Past Master of David Elliott Lodge.

Here is wishing Mrs. Hellon Catlett a very Happy 90th Birthday and many more.

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### **The Northeast Texas Shrine Club holds Christmas Party & Yearly Election**

*by Rex McGee*



The Northeast Texas Shrine Club cancelled its regular meeting at Herschel's Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant on January 16, 2018 due to inclement weather in the area.

The Club was scheduled to have its yearly installation of officers, but the installation was put off until the February meeting.

Since this meeting was cancelled we did not have the opportunity to develop a schedule for working at the IHOP free Pancake breakfast that receives donations for the Shriner's Hospitals and other organizations. I will be sending out a memo after February 1st to complete the schedule for the event. The schedule will be blocked off in two hour segments. In years past we have furnished members for the Mt. Pleasant IHOP and the Sulphur Springs IHOP, but we will only be working the Mt. Pleasant IHOP this year..

The Northeast Texas Shrine Club will have its next stated meeting at 6:30 p.m. on February 20th, 2018 at Hershel's Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. You need not be a member to attend. Bring your wife or a friend as we always enjoy having visitors.

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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Texas 6<sup>th</sup> Masonic District MWSA. Letters and articles may be submitted to: [Joe.Reynolds@franksexton206.org](mailto:Joe.Reynolds@franksexton206.org) (Cutoff for articles is 15th of the month)