



The Trestle Board



MWSA

6th Masonic District in Texas

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FROM THE PRESIDENT.....

Greetings, Brethren,

I have had the privilege to teach quite a few new masons their work over the last few years and I am often humbled by their thirst for knowledge about our ancient fraternity. Some of the wordings have to be explained to them because the language is a bit foreign to their East Texas roots. Over time, trying to explain the meanings, my understanding of the lessons has deepened. I don't know if I am getting wiser, but I hope that I am trending in the right direction. Sometimes I will answer a question from my wife with "I have" or "I will". She wants to know why I am talking funny. I think that sometimes a short answer is all you need. Occasionally, the one asking the questions requires a longer answer and I am encouraged to expound. New masons are the same way with questions and answers. We should share whatever knowledge or wisdom we have with them and encourage them to seek a deeper meaning for themselves. Hopefully they can take their new found wisdom out into the world and spread brotherly love and affection. Isn't that what we are trying to do?

*Brother Rhett McCullough,
President, MWSA District 6*

Our web site is www.mwsa6.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE DDGM

It is a great privilege to represent our Grand Master Terry W. Stogner as the District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District six. It will be my great honor to serve the Lodges in our district over the next ten- and one-half months (10 1/2),

Grand Masters theme for the year is "Lead by example". It is a theme that takes some courage to display in our daily lives, and comes with great rewards for those who take the chance. I am reminded of the bible story of David. He stepped forward to free his people by fighting and killing the Philistinean Goliath. What courage he had and a great example to his people of leading by example. But what did his act gain him. In 1Samuel chapter 18 his reward is the lifelong friendship of King Sauls son Jonathan. He protected David from his Father and ultimately David became King of Israel. Read the story, it is a wonderful example of dedicated friendship from a true and faithful friend.

Over the past forty years as a Mason I have had the honor of associating with many men that were honorable, faithful, and true friends. Who distinguished themselves with their integrity. They were men that "Led by example" both in their daily lives and in their walk as Masons. Many of these men live right here amongst us in Northeast Texas.

Do you recognize any of them? They are in Lodge every time the doors are open. They work in the kitchen, they do repairs to the building, they are the first to accept a job in lodge. They are always willing to accept yet another position, and step up to fill an empty chair if needed. They never complain, they are always cheerful. Do you sit next to one of them at Lodge? Do you work with some of them? ARE YOU ONE OF THEM? If you are then you already "Lead by example". If you are

not one of them, I would challenge you to become one. There is tremendous personal reward in being a true and trusted friend. One who can be counted on and trusted to be there, and always providing good counsel, and a cheerful word of encouragement.

I am committed to "Lead by example" during 2019. Will you join me and do your best to also be committed to "Lead by example" this year? I am sure our combined efforts will be rewarding both to ourselves but also to Masonry.

May Brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us.

Right Worshipful Paul W. Dempsey

Symbolism

Topic 3 – Studies In Blue Lodge Symbolism

Adapted from an essay by Bro. H. L.

Haywood

What are symbols from a Masonic viewpoint? The simplest answer is to say that they are the storehouses in which wise men of the past have accumulated their wisdom. The assemblage of many symbols in our fraternity means that the fraternity is in itself a storehouse of the wisdom of many wise men. Wisdom can never be learned or taught by one man working alone. It is when many men join their knowledge together that wisdom and truth are found. Wise men of the past have wrought to discover truth and often have embodied their truths in symbols. In our Order these symbols are assembled together so that the wisdom of many wise men has been placed at our disposal. Is that not that a great privilege? Is it not a fine opportunity for those who desire to learn?

What do these symbols teach? It is not curious lore. It is not occultism. It is not information. It is a wisdom of how to live. The purpose of Freemasonry is to teach men how to live, and to help them to live, and to learn how to live to the benefit of each other. Each one of us can benefit from learning how to live better. Therefore, Freemasonry has much to give to each one of us. We can help each other to learn how to live, and consequently help each other. The symbols give us their wisdom, their light, their truth. When we receive this wisdom, we can then teach it to others. We can

transform the dead symbol into a living idea; that is the highest way to learn.

Why did the wise men of the past store their wisdom in symbols? Because symbols are a convenient and more universal means in which to communicate ideas. Words require that one be well versed in the particular language in order to understand it. Symbols on the other hand, may be understood as well by a Spanish speaking person, as an English speaking one. A large body of research indicates that images help us to better retrieve and remember information. The results of research on visual learning makes complete sense when you consider that our brain is mainly an image processor (much of our sensory cortex is devoted to vision), not a word processor. In fact, the part of the brain used to process words is quite small in comparison to the part that processes visual images. The effective use of symbols can decrease learning time, improve comprehension, enhance retrieval, and increase retention. In teaching through symbols our Fraternity reveals itself as a very wise teacher. Additionally, if the meaning of a symbol is somewhat hidden from us it may well be to stimulate us to hunt for its meaning. The process of contemplating and hunting for a symbols' meaning develops our faculties, and the development of our faculties is one of the purposes and aims of wisdom

The beginning of wisdom is to develop ourselves mentally. Most of us have never discovered what are the possibilities of our own minds. We live poorly and meanly because we permit the highest powers of our minds to lie dormant. One is learning the wisdom of life when he strives to develop each power of himself to the uttermost.

Excerpt from The Opening Charge of a Master's Lodge – "The ways of virtue are beautiful. Knowledge is attained by degrees. Wisdom dwells with contemplation: there we must seek her."

To the man who has neither the eyes to see nor the will to work, Freemasonry seems to offer little. For those who will make the effort to learn, it has much to offer. Freemasonry holds rich gifts in its hands; are you willing to receive those gifts? You may if you are willing to study, to work, to develop. We have only that which we strive for, and we possess only that which we earn. When truth is poured into a passive mind it is soon lost from that mind, and when it is won by an active mind, it becomes a part of that mind. When truth has become a part of the mind then is the mind truly

enlightened, for enlightenment is that wisdom which has become a part of ourselves. Masonry helps to enlighten us by stimulating us to apply our mental powers to the study of those symbols in which many wise men have hidden truths so profound, so illuminating, so helpful, and so packed with meaningful life.

We ourselves, in this present hour, can best understand what symbols mean and how their meaning is to be discovered if we will turn to a few of them. Our selection may appear arbitrary, at first glance, but the meanings we shall win will fit themselves together into one lesson, into a truth that is one truth, the truth that wisdom is the learning how best to live, and that God helps each of us how best to live when we seek His wisdom.

Discussion Questions:

1. List and discuss examples of symbols used in Freemasonry that convey how we should live, and how we should treat each other.
2. Give an example of a symbol used in Freemasonry that conveys a universal meaning beyond our fraternity.
3. List and discuss at least three examples of symbols that symbolize a willingness to work and in what way.

OBITUARY

FRED EDWIN ALLEN

May 12, 1928 - January 31, 2019



Fred Edwin Allen was born on May 12, 1928 in the Farmers Academy Community of Titus County, to Claud E. and Lilly Mae Allen in the home of his grandparents, Charlie and Mary Allen. He was delivered by Dr. Fred Taylor, a rural physician with offices in Winfield.

He lived in the Farmers Academy Community attending public schools of Farmers Academy and Winfield; graduating from Mount Pleasant High School in 1945. He received his B.S. Degree from East Texas State Teachers College in January of 1949. He continued to be active his entire life in his college, serving for 15 years on the Foundation Board of Trustees; and for the last 7 years as Chairman. In 1985 he was honored with the citation of Distinguished Alumni.

His first job out of college was teaching in the Ennis Public School Veterans Program. In February of 1952, he entered the Army during the Korean Conflict. After training at Fort Riley, Kansas, he was assigned to European Army Headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany as an aid to the Adjutant General. During 15 months on the General's staff, he traveled extensively with the General.

Upon discharge in February of 1954, he joined Royal Typewriter as a salesman. He quickly rose through the ranks, advancing to Western Regional Sales Manager with responsibility for all sales operations west of the Mississippi River; with headquarters in Chicago. Then, just over a year later, he was promoted to National Sales Manager with office in New York City. His wife, Mildred, after having lived in New York for a while remarked that Fred had always been a "Damn Yankee". After the merger with Litton Industries, he assumed the position as Sales Manager of the Business Equipment Group of Litton, which included all of Europe.

In 1968, he left Litton to form his own company in New York City. During this time Fred, Mildred, and daughter, Linda, lived in Westchester County, north of New York City. He formed List Management, Inc. which was a management-marketing firm that did consulting for other business equipment firms. He was the first person of this type of business to install a computer in the late 1960's. This was very rare, however he signed a contract with Honeywell to lease a computer for 5 years at \$5,400 per month. This new computer required a room with 4,000 square feet of space and air conditioning. The new business grew very fast and operating cash became a problem so in 1969, with over 150 employees, he merged his company into Computer Property Corporation; a company listed on the New York Stock Exchange. He became a member of the Board of Computer Property Corporation and remained the President of List Management Division.

In 1970, Computer Properties Company was merged into Fairfield Communities, Inc., a nationwide estate development company also listed on the New York Stock Exchange. In 1972, he resigned to move back to

his native Titus County. It was his plan to devote his time to his Registered Black Angus cattle operation that he had owned for many years. This he enjoyed very much, however he soon missed the business world. He had a strong desire to become active in business again, so after completing a new home overlooking his Black Angus herd, he started Fred E. Allen, Inc., a direct marketing consulting firm. He soon had a large group of customers including Macy's, J.C. Penny, Eddie Bauer, L.L. Bean and numerous others. It was only a short time before he built an office for his operation of more than 50 employees.

About this time he was in demand as a speaker for many professional meetings. In 1974 he was invited to give the key note address at the World Wide Direct Marketing Symposium in Monteux, Switzerland. Also many magazines and newspapers published information about Fred. The one he was most proud of was the feature article in the Sunday Magazine Section of the England Daily Time of London on Sunday, April 1, 1979; at that time it had the largest circulation of any newspaper in the world.

He was also a lifelong Methodist and active leader in the church. He was always faithful wherever they lived. He was a man of strong Christian values and never shy about his belief. His wife Mildred was Secretary to the Bishop of the Methodist Church when they were married. At that time, they were both members of First Methodist Dallas and were married by Dr. Robert Goodrich, the church pastor and Bishop Martin. Fred actively filled offices in the church and was a delegate to the Annual Conference 9 times, Jurisdictional twice and General Conference twice.

He served as Vice-Chairman of the Titus County Hospital Board; was a Board Member of the Titus County Chamber of Commerce; was a Board Member of Titus Regional Medical Foundation and was a member of The Lions Club, Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club. He was an organizer and Chairman of the Board of American National Bank and served as a Board Member of Pilgrim Bank since 1997.

He joined the Masonic Fraternity in 1960 where he was very active wherever he lived. His home lodge is Ennis 369 in which he held membership until his death. In 1991 he was elected head of the Masonic Fraternity in Texas, serving in 1991 and 1992 as Grand Master of Texas. The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry honored him with the Grand Cross Thirty Third Degree. He was very proud to have served the Scottish Rite Hospital of Dallas for 30 years as the Vice-President and Board Member. He was also the Chairman of The Valley Dallas for the Scottish Rite, the largest Scottish Rite in the World.

The Number of friends that he made over the years was more pride to him than anything except his family. He was very proud of the tribute paid to him on March 18, 2010 when Congressman Ralph Hall read a Tribute into the Congressional Record of the 111th Congressional Session.

He valued his family very much. He is the sixth generation of the Allen and Gossett family to reside in Titus County since the early 1800's. What was a very large family during the 1800's and 1900's however, will cease, with the passing of Fred, the last of the Allens.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Claud and Lilly Allen; a brother, Jerry Ray Allen; a grandson, Patrick Miche; wife of 44 years, Mildred Craghead Allen; and wife of 20 years, Francine Allen. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Lee Miche; and grandchildren, Spencer, Hunter, and Kendall Miche.

A celebration of life will be held for Fred on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 2:00 PM at First Baptist Church Mount Pleasant with Dr. Clint Davis officiating. The family will receive friends an hour prior to the funeral at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Bates-Cooper-Sloan Funeral Home in Mount Pleasant.

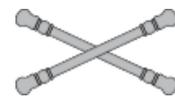
The World of Masonry

(Masonry is a historically multi-faceted, progressive, individually interpretive, & symbolic organization. It means many things to many people and due to this fact we find many variances in Lodges, jurisdictions, practices, & interpretations regarding numerous aspects of the craft. The articles or examples brought forward of practices may or may not exist within a specific jurisdiction, within particular Lodges, or even between members of the same Lodge. This information is presented for informational or thought-provoking purposes only, not as a rule or guide)

by Rex McGee

Other Offices that may be Used in Lodges

Marshal



Jewel of the Marshall

The office of 'Marshal' is quite common in the United States, but not in other countries. In some jurisdictions

where it is found, the title is simply an alternative for 'Director of Ceremonies' However, there are jurisdictions in which the office is distinct from any other, in which cases the duties of the office revolve around the organization of processions and ensuring the correct precedence and etiquette in formal proceedings, and may include the introduction of visitors to the lodge. This is distinct (in such jurisdictions) from the role of the Director of Ceremonies in supervising the ritual of the lodge's degree ceremonies.

Masters of Ceremony



Jewel of the Master of Ceremonies

The offices of 'Senior and Junior Masters of Ceremony' appear in some jurisdictions. Their primary duty is to prepare the candidates prior to each of the three degrees and partially or completely conduct the candidates during the degree conferrals. They also maintain order during special circumstances at the discretion of the Worshipful Master. In some jurisdictions, the Masters of Ceremony are responsible for answering alarms at the preparing room, examination room or outer doors.

Almoner

The 'Almoner' (sometimes called the 'Caring Officer') is responsible for the well-being of lodge members and their families. He remains in contact with members who are unwell, and also maintains a discreet presence in the lives of widows of former members, so that the lodge may readily assist them should they find themselves in any particular need.

Of necessity the Almoner must be well versed in local and national Masonic charities and the scope of their charitable work, so as to offer advice to those who might qualify for such assistance.

In some jurisdictions, these duties are handled by a committee or other specified Officers.

Organist / Director of Music



Jewel of the Organist

The 'Organist' or 'Director of Music' provides musical accompaniment to lodge proceedings, although there is no set form. Many lodge rooms are equipped with a pipe organ or electronic organ, and in others, there is provision for a wider range of instruments. In other places the Director of Music operates recorded or digital music systems.

Superintendent of Works

The Superintendent of Works keeps the inventory, and is responsible for the material possessions of the lodge. It is his responsibility to see that the lodge is properly set out before the ceremony, and that everything is safely locked away at the end of the evening.

Immediate Past Master

While the Immediate Past Master (the last brother to hold the office of Worshipful Master, in some areas titled the "Junior Past Master") is not formally an officer of the lodge, but in certain jurisdictions he has his own duties. In the United Grand Lodge of England, he has a ceremonial role in the opening and closing of the lodge, and is expected to deputise for the Worshipful Master in the event of his absence or death and may be charged with other specific duties

Orator



Jewel of the Orator

In some jurisdictions there is a strong tradition of Masonic research and education, and the presentation of papers by members is as common as degree ceremonies or other business. In such cases the 'Orator' may present papers, or be responsible for their presentation by others. The Orator may also be called upon to present a paper to celebrate milestones in the life of the lodge.

Historian / Librarian



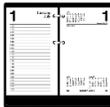
Jewel of the Historian

Most lodges have a senior member who holds a particular interest in the lodge's history. In some jurisdictions, this interest may lead to appointment to formal office as the lodge's 'Historian'. The office involves the archiving of documents and artifacts, and the publishing and updating of historical information. In some jurisdictions a 'Librarian' procures Masonic reading material for Members of the Lodge and maintains a small Library where books and magazines may be borrowed.

Charity Steward

All lodges are charged with maintaining an appropriate level of charitable giving to good causes. In some jurisdictions the office of 'Charity Steward' exists. He is responsible for encouraging the members to give generously, as well as leading discussions about the appropriate recipients of the lodge's charitable donations.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- March 4th** – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session
- March 5th** – David Elliott Lodge #364, Monthly Stated Meeting
- March 5th** – Border Chapter #211, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting
- March 7th** – Frank Sexton Lodge #206, Monthly Stated Meeting
- March 11th** – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session
- March 11th** – Avery Chapter #252, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting
- March 11th** – Northeast Texas Shrine Clubs, Monthly Meeting
- March 12th** – Iron Bluff Lodge #1376, Monthly Stated Meeting
- March 12th** – Pittsburg Chapter #381, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 14th – Daingerfield Chapter #906, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 18th – Linden Chapter #576, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 18th – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session

March 19th – Oasis Lodge #79, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 19th – Omaha Chapter #997, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 21st – Mt. Vernon Lodge #691, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 25th – New Boston Chapter #700, OES, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 25th – Oasis Lodge #79, Training and Practice Session

March 26th – Temple Lodge #70, Monthly Stated Meeting

March 28th – 6th District MWSA, Monthly Stated Meeting

Temple Lodge # 70 Awards Golden Trowel Award to Rex McGee

by Larry Joe Reynolds

Rex McGee was presented the prestigious Golden Trowel Award by members of Temple Lodge # 70 at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 02, 2019 at the Lodge in Mt. Pleasant.

Brother McGee received his Entered Apprentice Degree on May 12, 1990; received the Fellowcraft Degree on July 01, 1990 and was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on August 11, 1990 in Talco Lodge # 1134. . Brother McGee became a plural member in Temple Lodge on April 23, 1991. Brother McGee has served as Worshipful Master in three lodges a total of five times. He has also served in numerous other offices over the years. Brother McGee is active in the Masters, Wardens and Secretary's Association, the Shrine Club, and the Order of the Eastern Star as well as being an active member of four Lodges.

Recipients of the award are chosen by a Golden Trowel Committee appointed by the Worshipful Master at the beginning of the Masonic year. The Committee is comprised of three of the five most immediate, and available, living Past Masters of the Lodge. Their responsibility is to review the activities of all members to determine if any qualify for this high honor.

The Golden Trowel is a Lodge's formal recognition of a Brother for his devoted service to Masonic principles

in general or to his Lodge. It is intended to recognize the Brother who, year after year, quietly, but actively demonstrates his devotion to the teachings of Masonry.

Every Lodge has such members. They spread the living cement that builds our Fraternity into a true brotherhood. You will find them at labor in the kitchens, on the work committees, in public office, on community projects, in service clubs, heavily involved in their church activities and in schools – anywhere that a true and steady hand of assistance is needed.

It is those Master Craftsmen that the Golden Trowel Award is designated as the highest Award a Lodge can bestow on an individual member. Only one Golden Trowel Award can be bestowed each year if there is a deserving Mason.

Paul Dempsey, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District # 6 presented the award to Brother McGee and acted as Master of Ceremonies for the presentation. After Brother McGee had an opportunity to thank everyone for attendance and visitors had the opportunity to congratulate Brother McGee everyone was invited to the dining room for refreshments.



Carole McGee pins the Golden Trowel Pen on Husband Rex McGee while Right Worshipful Paul Dempsey looks on.

THIS MONTH'S HUMOR

An ambitious yuppie finally decided to take a vacation. He booked himself on a Caribbean cruise and proceeded to have the time of his life--at least for a while. A hurricane came unexpectedly. The ship went down and was lost instantly. The man found himself swept up on the shore of an island with no other people, no supplies, nothing. Only bananas and coconuts. Used to four-star hotels, this guy had no idea what to do. So for the next

four months he ate bananas, drank coconut juice, longed for his old life and fixed his gaze on the sea, hoping to spot a rescue ship. One day, as he was lying on the beach, he spotted movement out of the corner of his eye. It was a rowboat, and in it was the most gorgeous woman he had ever seen. She rowed up to him. In disbelief, he asked her: "Where did you come from? How did you get here?" "I rowed from the other side of the island," she said. "I landed here when my cruise ship sank." "Amazing," he said, "I didn't know anyone else had survived. How many of you are there? You were really lucky to have a rowboat wash up with you." "It's only me," she said, "and the rowboat didn't wash up nothing did." He was confused, "Then how did you get the rowboat?" "Oh, simple," replied the woman. "I made it out of raw material that I found on the island. The oars were whittled from gum-tree branches, I wove the bottom from palm branches, and the sides and stern came from a eucalyptus tree." "But, but, that's impossible," stuttered the man. "You had no tools or hardware--how did you manage?" "Oh, that was no problem," the woman said. "On the south side of the island, there is a very unusual stratum of exposed alluvial rock. I found that if I fired it to a certain temperature in my kiln, it melted into forgeable ductile iron. I used that for tools, and used the tools to make the hardware. But enough of that. Where do you live?" Sheepishly, the man confessed that he had been sleeping on the beach the whole time. "Well, let's row over to my place, then," she said. After a few minutes of rowing, she docked the boat at a small wharf. As the man looked onto shore, he nearly fell out of the boat. Before him was a stone walk leading to an exquisite bungalow painted in blue and white. While the woman tied up the rowboat with an expertly woven hemp rope, the man could only stare ahead, dumbstruck. As they walked into the house, she said casually, "It's not much, but I call it home. Sit down, please would you like to have a drink?" "No, no, thank you," he said, still dazed. "I can't take any more coconut juice." "It's not coconut juice," the woman replied. "I have a still. How about a pina colada?" Trying to hide his continued amazement, the man accepted, and they sat down on her couch to talk. After they had exchanged their stories, the woman announced, "I'm going to slip into something more comfortable. Would you like to take a shower and shave? There is a razor upstairs in the cabinet in the bathroom." No longer questioning anything, the man went into the bathroom. There in the cabinet was a razor made from a bone handle. Two shells honed to a hollow-

ground edge were fastened to its tip, inside a swivel mechanism. "This woman is amazing," he mused. "What next?" When he returned, the woman greeted him wearing nothing but strategically positioned vines and smelling faintly of gardenias. She beckoned for him to sit down next to her. "Tell me," she began suggestively, slithering closer to him, "We've been out here for a very long time. You've been lonely. There's something I'm sure you really feel like doing right now, something you've been longing for all these months? You know. ..." She stared into his eyes. He couldn't believe what he was hearing: "You mean..." he replied, "I can check my e-mail and the Freemason-List from here?"

Temple Lodge # 70 introduces
“Bring a Friend” night
by Rex McGee

Gary Oliver, Worshipful Master of Temple Lodge # 70 in Mt. Pleasant, encouraged the local Lodge to support a program to encourage local citizens to visit the Lodge and learn of its many community and charitable activities. January 29th saw the first dinner and program to be presented on this endeavor.

The turnout was good with a good mixture of local Masons, community members, family members, and visiting Masons interested in seeking membership in the local Lodge,

The Worshipful Master welcomed everyone and introduced the guests. The Lodge served a good meal with Masons and their wives providing and serving the meal.

Paul Dempsey, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District # 6 presented the program related to the history and impact of freemasonry upon the world, country and society as a whole.

Worshipful Master Oliver stated that he has a commitment from the incoming Worshipful Master for 2019-2020 to continue the program in hopes of making the program a community involvement yearly event.

Oasis Lodge presents
Seventy Year Service Award
By Rex McGee

Oasis Lodge presented one of its members with a Seventy Year Service Award for his many years of service to the Fraternity. The award was presented at the Pleasant Springs Nursing Home in Mt. Pleasant, Texas where Brother Ray Burgin is a resident.

Brother Ken Kennedy of Oasis Lodge read the Masonic record of Brother Burgin which included terms as Worshipful Master of Talco Lodge #1134, Temple Lodge #70 and Oasis Lodge #69 as well as numerous other offices over the years. Brother Burgin received his Entered Apprentice Degree on October 31, 1958, his Fellowcraft degree on December 11, 1958 and his Master Mason Degree on January 16, 1959.

Right Worshipful Paul W. Dempsey, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District # 6 presented the seventy year certificate and pin to Brother Burgin. The seventy year award is a Grand Lodge award and the District Deputy represents the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master when presenting the award.

After the presentation the visiting brothers and recipient enjoyed a few minutes of fellowship while congratulating the recipient for his many years of service to the Fraternity.



Jodie Harris, Joel Bumpass, Ken Kennedy, Paul Dempsey, Rex McGee, Brother Ray Burgin

Pittsburg Order of the Eastern Star serves
meal to Honor the local Masons
by Rex McGee.

The Order of the Easter Star holds an “Honor the Masons” dinner yearly to honor the Masons in their particular Lodges. The Order of the Easter Star and Masonic Fraternity has a close relationship all over Texas and especially in our area. The Eastern Star

Chapters in our area all share facilities with their host Lodge. The organization has many husband and wife combinations as well as children and grandchildren belonging to the same Lodges and Chapters which makes for strong organizations with a pronounced sense of community service. The two organizations coordinate on many fund raisers, family days, Award banquets and similar activities.

The ladies of the Eastern Star prepared a meal at the Frank Sexton Lodge # 206 in Pittsburg for the Masons at their February stated meeting.

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 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.



Deborah Abernathy, Beverly Sinclair, Gina King, Carole McGee, Diann Norton, Martha McGuire

Frank Sexton Lodge presents Sixty Year Service Award

By Rex McGee

Frank Sexton Lodge presented one of its members with a Sixty Year Service Award for his many years of service to the Fraternity. Worshipful Master Bruce Carpenter had Brother Odis Marsh escorted to the Altar and then to the East to be seated beside him while the Secretary reported his long history of service and Brother Carpenter praised the Brother for his service and long tenure.

Right Worshipful Paul W. Dempsey, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District # 6 was then introduced to present the sixty year certificate and pin to Brother Marsh. The sixty year award is a Grand Lodge award and the District Deputy represents the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master when presenting the award.

After the presentation Brother Marsh was given an opportunity to voice a few words to the members and then the members were given an opportunity to congratulate Brother Marsh on his achievement. Brother Marsh remained seated in the East at the left of the Worshipful Master as his special guest for the balance of the meeting.



Right Worshipful Paul Dempsey, Brother Odis Marsh, Worshipful Master Bruce Carpenter.

FREDERICK THE GREAT HELPS A BROTHER'S WIDOW

Frederick the Great, a Mason without any doubt, while in a jewelry shop in Potsdam, Germany, observed a middle-aged woman exhibiting an article of silver having certain Masonic symbols, possibly a Past Master's jewel. She was trying to borrow money on it. She said she had come to this particular shop to avoid the usurers and because the owner of the shop was a Mason. The jeweler told her that he was not in the pawnbroking business and couldn't make the loan.

Another person in the shop asked her many questions concerning the jewel, whose it was, how she had possession of it, etc. The man offered to buy the jewel and kept raising the price. When he decided to make her the loan, he discovered he had no money in his pocket. He then disclosed to the surprised woman that he was the King.

Fredrick shook his staff at the jeweler and told him that he was not fit to be a Mason and threatened to file

charges against him. The following morning the woman went to see Fredrick and the palace and he instructed her to return whenever she was in need of help.

Shrine Club News

by Rex McGee



The Shrine Club held its monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of the month at Herschel's Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

The meeting was opened by President Paul Dempsey welcoming the visitors and thanking everyone for attending.

The first order of business was a discussion of the Annual IHOP International Pancake day to be held this year on March 12, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. President Dempsey discussed the details of participation by the local Shrine Club and proceeded to develop a schedule for the member's participation at the Restaurant. The schedule was finalized, and the President stated that the details of participation would be discussed at next meeting prior to the date of the activity.

At our previous meeting we discussed changing the date of our stated meeting each month. After discussions a motion was passed to change the dates of the stated meetings from the third Tuesday of each month to the second Monday of each month. We will continue to meet at Herschel's Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant, Texas at 6:00 p.m. for a meal and then start our meetings at 6:30 p.m.

The Northeast Texas Shrine Club will have its next stated meeting at 6:30 p.m. on March 11, 2019 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.

THE RUG OF APPRECIATION

As a young man Sarkis H. Nahigian fled Armenia to escape persecution and arrived in the United States in 1890. He worked hard and became a successful businessman in Chicago and a devoted Mason. In 1948 he presented a priceless Oriental rug, 46½ feet long and 29½ feet wide, to the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. In presenting the gift he said:

"I came to America believing in miracles. I say these words with gratitude, faith and pride. Gratitude -- to the generations of hard-working and God-fearing men and women who came to this new country to make a home for freedom. Faith, in that the democracy they built will never die. Pride, in that my chance has come to show my appreciation for being an American. And believe me when I say there is no finer title, no higher position than to be a citizen of the United States."

"Here we have freedom of thought, freedom of the press, and freedom of speech. One does not appreciate what these freedoms mean until one recalls what it was to be deprived of them. Now, again, in humble spirit, it gives me great pleasure to donate to our beloved George Washington Memorial Building, the largest Persian Royal Meshed carpet I have ever known. I donate this carpet in grateful appreciation of all the unlimited privileges and friendships and support I have enjoyed in this blessed United States of America, and not among the least of these is my privilege of being a Mason."

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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