



THE OCCASIONAL BULLETIN

TEXAS LODGE OF RESEARCH, A.F. & A.M.

September 2016

Number 2

Next Stated Communication

Saturday, September 17, 2016
Georgetown, Texas

Host Lodge

San Gabriel Lodge No. 89

Location

900 North College Street
Georgetown, TX 78627

Stated meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Hotel

Accommodations have been arranged with **Comfort Suites**, located at 11 Waters Edge Circle, Georgetown, TX 78626, (512) 863-7544.



From the Master's Desk



We are rapidly approaching the half way point in this Masonic year for Texas Lodge of Research and it seems like it only started. Our September meeting will be in Georgetown with San Gabriel Lodge as our host. I think we are all looking forward to returning to central Texas. It should be fun.

For those of you who were not able to make the June stated meeting and the Anson Jones Lecture, you really missed out on a nice affair. Holland Lodge No. 1 was our host for this event. Impressively, as you walk into that fine old building, the first thing that greets you is a large bronze statue of Anson Jones. This Texas hero really made his mark on the history of Holland Lodge. What a great place to hold the annual Anson Jones lecture. Additionally, it just happens to be my mother Lodge. I was raised in that fine old Lodge room in 1964.

The stated meeting Saturday morning went as most stated meetings go. One item of business that was discussed that I believe should be brought to your attention was a motion brought forward by our Senior Warden, Right Worshipful David Dibrell, to change that portion of our Bylaws addressing the stated meeting schedule. In view of the fact that The Grand Lodge of Texas has officially moved its Grand Annual Communication from December to January, Brother Dibrell's proposed change to the Bylaws would set our quarterly stated meetings for the months of March, June, September and December. Doing that will make our quarterly meeting schedule much more "symmetrical." That motion will be voted on at our September meeting in Georgetown.

All of the business in the Houston meeting concluded in time for Brother Richard Schlaudroff to present his paper on Wheelock Commandery before the noon meal. After his presentation, Brother Schlaudroff was then awarded his full member apron. Congratulations Brother Richard!

The Holland Lodge stewards prepared a fine noon meal for us. After the meal we reconvened in the Lodge room for the annual Anson Jones Lecture. This year's lecturer was Brother Joe Wäges on the topic of The Illuminati. After the lecture, Brother Wäges was awarded his Full Member Apron and welcomed into the ranks of Full Members of Texas Lodge of Research.

For those of you who could not be there, you missed a good time. I hope to see you in September at San Gabriel Lodge in Georgetown.

Charles McKay

Texas Lodge of Research
Officers 2016— 2017

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On the Banks of the San Gabriel

The next meeting of Texas Lodge of Research will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2016, at San Gabriel Lodge No. 89 in Georgetown, Texas.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with San Gabriel Lodge, it is located at 900 North College Street. The Lodge's website can be found at <http://sangabriel89.org/>. The host hotel for the weekend will be Comfort Suites of Georgetown, located at 11 Waters Edge Circle. We have reserved a block of rooms at the bargain price of \$99.00 plus tax and any fees. Rooms may be reserved by calling the hotel directly at (512) 863-7544 and asking for reservations in the Texas Lodge of Research block. The cutoff date for reservations at this price is midnight September 1, 2016.

The agenda for the weekend will follow the usual pattern. At 4 p.m. Friday, September 16, the hospitality room will be open for business. Please come by and socialize. At around 6 p.m. we will depart for Gumbo's restaurant in historic downtown Georgetown for dinner. Gumbo's is located at 701 South Main Street.

On Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. a light breakfast will be served at San Gabriel Lodge. Then at 10:00 a.m. Texas Lodge of Research will convene its stated meeting. While we are conducting our business, the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star have arranged a short tour of historic downtown Georgetown for any of our ladies that would be interested. So Brethren, please bring your ladies. They will have a great time.

Lunch will be served at noon at the Lodge by the Eastern Star Chapter. The usual donation of \$8.00 is requested.

Immediately following the noon meal, we will assemble in the Lodge room for presentation of research papers. This will be an open meeting and everyone is invited to attend. We should be able to close the Lodge by 3:00 or 3:30 p.m.

I'll see you in Georgetown...

Charles McKay, W.M.



From the Senior Warden —

Our TLR Past Master and Past Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey has proposed that TLR undertake a project to write a concise history of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Groups of ten or so years will be adopted by TLR members to do the research and then submit a paper on those years. Past Grand Master Harvey will then assemble the groups of years into the full concise history.

Past Grand Master Harvey will work with researchers to assure a consistent style and format. This is an exciting project and may be a way for some of you to attain Full Membership in TLR. Volunteers have already selected:

1838-1850 Brian Dodson

1900-1910 Christian Moore

Several mentioned their interest at the Houston meeting but these two Brothers are committed. If you'd like to join our project and adopt a group of ten years or so, please send me an e-mail or tell me at the Georgetown meeting.

Past Grand Master Harvey has suggested that we complete the project in 2017 so we must get busy and start the research. Sign up now and reserve the time period you'd prefer.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Dibrell

Proposed Bylaws Changes

The following change is hereby proposed to the Bylaws of Texas Lodge of Research regarding the schedule for quarterly meetings.

Article III

Meetings of the Lodge

Section 1. Texas Lodge of Research shall hold stated meetings at least four (4) times per year. The March meeting shall include the annual election and installation of officers. The March, June, September and *December* meetings shall be held at locations and times as the Worshipful Master may designate (or in his absence or inability to serve, by the Senior Warden, or in the absence of both the Worshipful Master or Senior Warden, then by the Junior Warden).

Respectfully submitted on 18 June 2016,

David Dibrell

Our Newest Full Members



**Texas Lodge of Research
PO Box 1057
Georgetown TX 78627-1057**



From the Junior Warden —

Membership in Texas Lodge of Research is inclusive. We travel Texas for our stated meetings. We have among our membership Masons from all walks of life. We all enjoy the fruits of the research that makes TLR progress, but to continue progressing we must be mindful not just of the past but of the present and future of our fraternity.

Positive publicity about Freemasonry has grown less common with each decade. In 1870, for example, the New York Times found the Masons newsworthy enough to run the article, “The New Masonic Temple: Meeting of the Grand Lodge of New York—Laying of the Corner-Stone on Wednesday.” Now, Freemasonry typically appears only in reference to the fraternity’s slow decline, as in the 2009 New York Times article, “Masonic Lodges Open Those Mysterious Doors.” The transformation of Freemasonry from something once commonplace enough to announce in the daily paper to a true curiosity in the twenty-first century is just as telling of the fraternity’s decline as is the widespread closing of lodges. Yet, a gradual re-birth is coming as pop-culture references, such as those in books and movies, spur curiosity in younger generations.

We ask our grandfathers about this thing called Freemasonry. What is it? How did you join? Why didn’t my father join? Masonry offers something far more valuable than a lodge building where brethren gather for meetings. Freemasonry is a community built through brotherhood based on a principled lifestyle. It is historical. It is philosophical. It is symbolic. It is ritualistic. It is all these things and more. TLR supports research into all these aspects of Our Masonry.

There are Masons out there who think TLR is exclusive, and in some ways it is. However, TLR is also inclusive; inclusive of every brother interested in exploring and gaining light. Our membership is not limited to those who produce papers. We welcome those brothers into our lodge who are searching for the why and how of Our Masonry. Reach out and give your brothers a petition. Show a brother the gift that is TLR.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Christopher D. Livingston, JW