



THE OCCASIONAL BULLETIN

TEXAS LODGE OF RESEARCH
October 2019 Number 2

December Meeting Saturday, Dec. 7th

San Marcos Lodge No. 342

3024 N State Highway 123
San Marcos, TX 78667

Doors open at 9am
Meeting begins at 10am
Lunch will be served at noon

Host Hotel

Holiday Inn San Marcos
Convention Center
105 Bintu Dr.
San Marcos, TX 78666
(512) 805-1000

\$115/night + tax
Mention:

Texas Lodge of Research
or Group Code TLR

Deadline Nov. 15th

Friday "No Host" Dinner

Ivar's River Pub
701 Cheatham St.
San Marcos, TX 78666
6:30pm

From the Master's Desk

Brethren,

To start I want to thank all of the Brothers in Lufkin that made our visit there a wonderful success. The officers and members of Lufkin Lodge did all in their power to make us feel welcomed. If you had to miss the meeting, not only did you miss the fellowship but probably one of the best lunches we have had in years. The steak and potatoes were cooked to perfection.

Please try to make the next meeting of the Texas Lodge of Research, to be held in San Marcos, on the first weekend in December. Had we stuck to our usual schedule, our meeting would have been the weekend just before Christmas. I purposely picked San Marcos for this meeting for our significant others because of the great shopping at the outlet malls there.



(Continued on page 2)

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From the Master's Desk (continued from page 1)

I want to gently prod all those members who have expressed to me their desire to do a paper. There is no better time to start than NOW.

The hardest part is getting started. Once you have immersed yourself into the process it the ball begins rolling and it is easy to make progress.

Once again, I look forward to seeing everyone in San Marcos for our next meeting.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Brian R. Dodson, WM



Future Meetings

Dec. 7th
San Marcos

April 4th
San Antonio

DeMolay's Battle Fleet Chapter

By Bro. Jake Vermeulen

“For your information, a chapter was recently instituted in the United States Naval Fleet now anchored off San Pedro, California. The chapter will be known as the “Battle Fleet Chapter,” and is sponsored by a group of officers of the fleet who are Masons. Your Grand Scribe is informed that there are approximately 100 DeMolays on board these ships, and it is the plan of this floating chapter to exemplify the work before Masonic bodies in foreign ports. Due to its uncertain location, the Grand Scribe has granted Letters Temporary under the direct sponsorship of this Grand Council. He asks your approval of his action.” – Report of the Grand Scribe, 1925.

Battle Fleet Chapter got its name because, beginning in 1922, the United States Navy was divided into the Battle Fleet and the Scouting Fleet. Battle Fleet was the primary U.S. Naval presence in the Pacific Ocean, and it included most of the larger ships in the U.S. Navy, including the battleships and aircraft carriers. The chapter was founded in the Battle Fleet.

The Chapter survived on several ships after the Navy was reorganized into the Atlantic, Pacific, and Asiatic Fleets just prior to World War II. Letters and newspaper coverage from the time confirm that elements of the Chapter were operational on at least the **U.S.S. Arizona**, **U.S.S. Saratoga**, and **U.S.S. Colorado** at various times in the 1920s, '30s, and '40s. A Senior DeMolay serving onboard the **U.S.S. Houston**, the flagship of the Asiatic Fleet, requested information from the Executive Officer in Florida to start a Chapter onboard that ship in the 1930s as well.

During World War II, Frank S. Land, founder and Secretary General of DeMolay, sent out a communication to all DeMolay Chapters, urging them to provide Battle Fleet Chapter with any and all possible support if it were to come to a port near them. According to Grand Master Ralph Hamill's report during the 1963 Supreme Council Session, at the time the **U.S.S. Arizona** sank at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, there was a bronze plaque commemorating Battle Fleet Chapter and listing its charter members in one of the ship's compartments.

**Texas Lodge of Research
PO Box 1057
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From the Secretary

I have had numerous requests for Texas Lodge of Research name badges. Texas Lodge of Research members can now order directly from Eternity Creations at sales@eternitycreations.com. The cost for a name badge is \$26.50.

If you have had a change of address and have not let me know, please email me at: secretary.texaslodgeofresearch@gmail.com or send a note to the Lodge mailing address at

PO Box 1057
Georgetown, TX 78627-1057

as soon as possible so I will have a correct mailing address for you.



Fraternally,
Truitt L. Bradley, PM
Secretary
Fiat Lux