

The Occasional Bulletin



Texas Lodge of Research, A.F. & A.M.

P. O. Box 684684 • Austin, Texas 78768-4684

2006

Summer

Number 2

Stated Communication Sept. 16, 2006

Friday, ~~Sept~~ ^{June} 15, 2006

4 p.m. Hospitality Room opens
Comfort Inn Stockyards
4850 N. Freeway (I-35N) Exit 56A

Dinner: Cattlemen's Steakhouse
on the historic Stockyards District

Saturday, ~~June~~ ^{July} 16, 2006

9 a.m. Assemble at Fort Worth
Masonic Temple
1100 Henderson St.
10 a.m. Tiled Quarterly Meeting
hosted by
Fort Worth Lodge No. 148 and
Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Worth

High Twelve - catered lunch

1:00 p.m. Open meeting and
presentation of papers:

*A History of Dublin Lodge
No. 504* by Gary P. Whitfield
(Member to Full Member)

Jimmie Rodgers:

The Singing Brakeman
by Herbert Arbuckle, FM

*Benjamin Franklin Terry: The
Man, the Mason, his Regiment
and the Lodge*

by Brian R. Dodson,
Most Worshipful Grand Master
of Texas
(Member to Full Member)

Thirtieth Anson Jones Lecture a great success in Austin

Texas Lodge of Research's thirtieth Anson Jones Lecturer, Illustrious Ronald A. Seale, 33°, Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the U.S.A., kept everyone in suspense about his topic. But, when he finished, everyone knew that his perception of the future of the fraternity is heart-felt and well founded. Due to its importance to the Fraternity, the text of Illustrious Seale's speech will soon appear on the TLR website.

The Anson Jones dinner and lecture capped a day filled with special events and presentations. A catered lunch at the Texas State Cemetery's museum, followed by a paper on PGM Jewel Preston Lightfoot, who is interred in the State Cemetery, then everyone made their way up "Heroes' Hill" to place a floral tribute at the grave of Bro. Stephen F. Austin.

"It's our goal to make TLR Weekends more than just another *Masonic meeting*," says WM Jim Dougherty. "They are a *MUST DO* on the Masonic calendar."



Worshipful Master James G. "Jim" Dougherty (left) is joined by TLR Chaplain Rabbi Jimmy Kessler at wreath laying ceremony at the grave of Bro. Stephen F. Austin. Photo by Jane Ulrich.

View the Occasional Bulletin in color at the TLR website:
<http://pentium2.gower.net/Community/tlr/>

**Texas Lodge of Research
Tableau of Officers
2005 – 2006**

Worshipful Master & <i>Occasional Bulletin</i> Editor 512 451-0637	James G. "Jim" Dougherty P.O. Box 1192 Austin, TX 78767-1192 jdougherty1@austin.rr.com austinyorkrite@sbcglobal.net
Senior Warden 512 756-2756	Raymond G. Bronk 100 Quirt Drive Burnet, TX 78611 raybronk@aol.com
Junior Warden 512 567-4756	Truitt Brady 3707 Buffalo Springs Rd. #304 Georgetown, TX 78628 truittb@cox-Internet.com
Treasurer 512 345-4328	Dr. Roy D. Harris 3803 Hidden Hollow Austin, TX 78731 HarrisRoyDD@aol.com
Secretary 512 472-7247	Gordon W. Kelso, PM P.O. Box 684684 Austin, TX 78768-4684 800 754-3079 aussrite@swbell.com
Chaplain 409 744-7011	James Kessler 1609 Driftwood Ln. Galveston, TX 77551 galrev@sbc.net
Senior Deacon 325 773.5059	Jack McGee Harper II 1016 Wesleyan Stamford, TX 79553 n7080f@sbcglobal.net
Junior Deacon 512 272-4459	Paul Bullock 11501 Loweswater Ln. Austin, TX 78754 pbullock@austin.rr.com
Senior Steward 512 346-4310	Oscar Orum 8607 Azalea Trail Austin, TX 78759 oorum@austin.rr.com
Junior Steward 512 261-6272	Andrew J. McVeigh III 48 Coltondale Rd. Austin, TX 78738 redleg-6@aol.com
Marshal 251 343-5363	Wayne Simron 250 Suffolk Road Mobile, AL 36608 wsimron@aol.com
Master of Ceremonies 940 658-3596	David Counts P.O.Box 338 Knox City, TX 79529 dcounts@westex.net
Tiler 512 398-9583	Merlen E. Howe 2795 Westwood Rd. Lockhart, TX 78644 b2c2@joomla.com
Transactions Editor 903 575-0100	Dr. William P. Vaughn, PM, FMR 22 County Road 1602 Mount Pleasant, TX 75455

From the East

— *By Worshipful Master James G. "Jim" Dougherty*

June, already!

Half of the TLR Masonic year is history. How can that be?

I'm certainly not complaining; the Harleton and Austin meetings have surpassed my wildest dreams for a successful 2006-07. Fort Worth and College Station are just around the corner. And if you turn to the back page, you'll see that Senior Warden Ray Bronk has his meeting sites set and is working on his nominee for the 31st Anson Jones Lecturer.

Speaking of Bro. Ray, many of you know that he recently had a bout with "The Big C." He and Marjorie brought the wonderful news to the Austin meeting that his doctors have given him the wonderful news that he is cancer-free. God bless you, Ray and Marjorie, for all you have gone through these past months. Now we can concentrate our prayers for you and a great year as Worshipful Master of TLR.

The Austin Meeting was a total success. The rain clouds cleared in time for those in our number, who knew to ask, that our catered lunch at the Texas State Cemetery was **not** going to be in a tent, but in their air conditioned museum. Many thanks to Bobby Shehorn for his fine paper on PGM Lightfoot. Also, to everyone who found their way to the grave of Bro. Stephen F. Austin, for the presentation of a floral tribute in his honor and for those other members of the Masonic family interred in those hallowed precincts.

In the days after my election to the South in TLR, I set my sights on someone whom I knew would be an outstanding Anson Jones Lecturer. My choice was an acquaintance from DeMolay days, when he was Master Councilor of Pelican Chapter of DeMolay in Baton Rouge, LA. He and I attended numerous ritual competitions in Dallas and special events in Shreveport. Our mutual friend and Chapter "Dad" in Shreveport, J.C. Deason, told me: "... you watch Ronnie Seale, he's going places in Masonry." J.C. did live to see his prophecy come true and "Ronnie" become the S.G.I.G. in Louisiana, but died before seeing, in this vail, his becoming Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction. I am indebted to Commander Seale for accepting our invitation to bring the 2006 Anson Jones Lecture. He did a magnificent job and presented a milestone document, which will soon be posted on the TLR website.

We have Fort Worth to look forward to in mid-September. Plans are still being made to make this another "not-to-be-missed" event. Then, there is College Station ... I can't wait to wear my 10X beaver burn't orange "High Roller" hat.

Texas Lodge of Research is attracting great new members and members producing outstanding papers. While this year's paper "plate" is full, there's still room on next year's calendar. The hardest part of producing a paper is sitting down and saying "I'm going to do it!" Your Editorial Committee and Senior Warden will help. Ray's address and phone number are at left.

— Jim

The Austin Anson Jones Lecture Meeting

— By Raymond G. Bronk, S.W.

Once again Texas Lodge of Research returned to Austin and the beautiful and historic Scottish Rite Temple for its June 16-17 quarterly meeting. Special scheduled events, including the 2006 Anson Jones Lecture, created excitement and pride among the members as Worshipful Master Jim Dougherty choreographed a smooth-sailing series of events that were both utilitarian and luxuriously pleasing.

Headquartered at the Marriott at the Capitol, we enjoyed Marriott's usual high standards in accommodations and services. While we were presented a nightly deluge, we were never inconvenienced. We dodged the showers and stayed powder-dry going to and from scheduled events,

Friday afternoon, early arrivers were greeted at the same comfortable Hospitality Suite we had last year. As usual, it wasn't long before everyone was caught up good conversation while exploring a fine spread of cheese and veggie platters. The evening meal was left for all to select for themselves their perfect choice from the city's plentiful restaurants. Some chose to delay their meal to view the emergence of the famous Congress Avenue Bat Colony, 1.5 million strong, on their way to prowl the night skies for mosquitoes and other tasty bugs.

Saturday at noon, a delicious catered meal was served at the Texas State Cemetery visitors center followed by a TLR paper by Full Member Bobby Lynn Shehorn, on PGM Jewel Preston Lightfoot. Following the paper almost everyone chose to ride or climb on foot Heroes Hill to the grave of Bro. Stephen F. Austin, where the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden placed a floral tribute replicating the TLR apron.

Many of us were stunned to discover, for the first time, the many graves of Texas patriots, heroes, icons and citizens. As we wandered the excellently tended and botanically decorated resting places, we were constantly discovering familiar names from Texas history. Here rests "Bigfoot" Wallace, Edwin Waller (founder of Austin), Past Grand Masters Lightfoot, Moffett and McLendon, Governors Allan Shivers, Preston Smith and "Pa" Fergason ... all of whom were Masons and "Ma" Fergason, who was a member of the OES. And then there were other giants like Barbara Jordan, historians and authors J. Frank Dobie and Walter Prescott Webb and General Albert Sidney Johnson keeping eternal vigil over his men in the Confederate Section.

Lodge was gaveled to order at 3 p.m. in the Blue Lodge Room at the Scottish Rite. WM Dougherty noted that it was 28 earlier that he had presided over Parsons Lodge No. 222, our host lodge, in the same room. One of the first items of business was to

approve the nomination of Mr. Harry Bradley, Superintendent of the Texas State Cemetery, for the Community Builder's Award, a first for TLR. In other business, several petitions were read and approved.

TLR Secretary Gordon W. Kelso, PM, was called before the altar for a special presentation: a leather-bound copy of the "Kelso *Transaction*." This Volume XXXVIII was prepared and bound in honor of his labors as Master in 2003-04 and was autographed by many of his officers and committeemen. A bit choked-up, he graciously accepted the gift of the lodge.

Dr. William P. Vaughn, PM, FMR, reported that Volume XXXIX, the "Collins *Transaction*," is complete except for the Index and Roster, but should be at the printer very soon.

Judge Jack E. Hightower, PGM and FM, then presented a paper of reminiscence titled: *I Remember 'Goose'* an interesting dissertation on the Masonic and public life of Edward "Goose" Ramey. The often humorous paper gave examples of Bro. Ramey's philosophy and it was obvious that Judge Hightower held Bro. Ramey in high personal and fraternal regard. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in Peace and Harmony.

Members adjourned to the downstairs lobby for a black-tie reception honoring the 30th Anson Jones Lecturer, Illustrious Ronald A. Seale, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction.

Later, after a wonderful catered meal in the historic Scottish Rite Theatre, Ill Seale spoke on the need to educate non-Masons what Masonry IS, rather than what is now the popular (and the defensive) method of telling them what Masonry ISN'T. He spoke of the parable of the six blind men, who each touched an elephant and then reported their impressions of the beast. We, as Masons, he insists, should have a correct and personal vision of Freemasonry that we can convey to others, else we will be like the blind men and convey a singular (and incorrect) description of Masonry. Ill Seale also hoped for a time when true brotherhood would exist as Freemasonry suggests and he quoted Albert Pike about the hope for a future "When want will not cry out in an unknown tongue." Much of the success of the various events was due to the hard work of TLR and Austin Scottish Rite Secretary Gordon Kelso and his staff: Rita Kelso, Events Manager for the facility, Executive Secretary Barbara Silvus and Bro. Ernest Serrano.

Keep those research papers coming in and always refer to the Criteria and Style Sheet for guidance.

See you in *Cow Town* in the fall.



Anson Jones Weekend Scrapbook



Clockwise, from above: Illustrious Ronald A. Seale, Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction and Worshipful Master Jim Dougherty after Anson Jones Lecture and presentation of TLR apron. Those attending the luncheon at the Texas State Cemetery Museum enjoyed a delicious meal. Full

Member Bobby Lynn Shehorn presents his paper on Past Grand Master Jewel Preston Lightfoot at luncheon. Past Grand Master and Full Member Jack E. Hightower presents his paper, "I Remember Goose (Ramey)" during TLR afternoon business session. From left: PGM Hightower, Editorial Committeeman Herbert

Arbuckle and Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden David Counts stroll the cemetery grounds, many of the stones carry Masonic markings. Despite early-morning inclement weather, the storm passed and almost everyone at the luncheon stayed for the wreath ceremony.

Cowtown to host September TLR meeting

Texas Lodge of Research returns to one Fort Worth, one of our favorite locations, for the Sept. 16, 2006 quarterly meeting. The meeting, to be conducted at the beautiful downtown Masonic Temple at 1100 Henderson St., is co-hosted by Fort Worth Lodge No. 148 and the Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Worth.

Friday night accommodations have been arranged at Comfort Inn Stockyards, 4850 N. Freeway (I-35 West), Exit 56A.

Various room types are available on a first come, first served basis at \$60, plus tax. Call the hotel directly at (817) 834-8001 and tell them you are with the "Texas Lodge of Research Meeting."

As usual, the Hospitality Room will open at about 4 p.m. Dinner will be dutch-treat at the legendary Cattleman's Steak-house, 2458 N. Main St., in the nearby Stockyards

Historical District. Maps will be available in the Hospitality Room for the dinner location. As parking is difficult in this very lively entertainment area, we would advise carpooling.

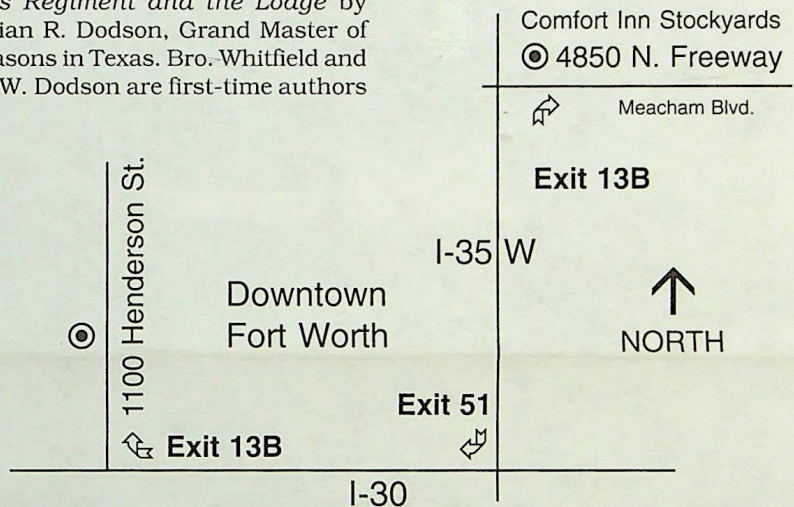
We expect a busy morning with a short tiled business meeting followed by three extraordinary papers: *A History of Dublin Lodge No. 504* by Gary P. Whitfield; *Jimmie Rogers - The Singing Brakeman* by Herbert Arbuckle III, and *Benjamin Franklin Terry: The Man, the Mason, His Regiment and the Lodge* by Brian R. Dodson, Grand Master of Masons in Texas. Bro. Whitfield and M.W. Dodson are first-time authors

and will be accorded Full Membership in TLR following the paper presentations.

Invite other brethren to enjoy the TLR experience, if only for Saturday's meeting. All Regular Masons in good standing may attend the Tiled Meeting. Ladies are invited to the paper presentation and all meals. There are no additional ladies events scheduled for this meeting.

See you in Fort Worth!

© 2006 by the Texas Lodge of Research, A.F. & A.M., all rights reserved. Permission to reprint in Masonic publications is granted, but must include reference to this publication and author, if listed.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- September 15-16, 2006. Host: Fort Worth Lodge No. 148, Fort Worth Masonic Temple, Fort Worth.
- January 19-20, 2007. Host: St. Albans Lodge No. 1455, Brazos Valley Masonic Library & Museum, College Station.
- March 16-17, 2007. Host: Valley Lodge No. 175, Burnet. Installation of 2007-08 Officers
- June 15-16, 2007. Anson Jones Weekend. Host: University Lodge No. 1190; Tiled Meeting and dinner at Austin York Rite Temple.
- September 14-15, 2007. Host: Washington Lodge No. --. Independence Hall, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park.
- January 18-19. Host: Claude L. Austin Lodge No. 1450, Dallas.

Texas Lodge of Research
P.O. Box 684684
Austin, Texas

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Austin, Texas
Permit No. 1120

5
001031

*****AUTO**MIXED AADC 760
GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS
PO BOX 446
WACO TX 76703-0446