

The Occasional Bulletin



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

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

Number 2

Spring

2007

Next Stated Communication Austin, Texas

Friday, June 15, 2007

4 p.m. Hospitality Room opens at
Homestead Studio Suites Hotel,
517 S. First St.
Dutch-treat supper at a nearby
restaurant.

Saturday, June 16, 2007

10 a.m. Tour of Bob Bullock
Texas History Museum
Noon - Dutch-treat luncheon at the
museum.

3 p.m. Quarterly Meeting of
Texas Lodge of Research,
Main Lodge Room, Second Floor,
York Rite Masonic Temple,
311 W. 7th St., Austin, TX

6 p.m. Reception for
2007 Anson Jones Lecturer
Mark Tabbert
in the Moton H. Crockett Jr.
Reading Room, Second Floor,
York Rite Masonic Temple

7 p.m. Anson Jones Lecture
Supper, Dining Room, Third Floor,
York Rite Masonic Temple

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Occasional Bulletin
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www.texaslodgeofresearch.org**

From the East

— By Worshipful Master Raymond Bronk

It is hard to describe in words the pride and satisfaction felt by me at the March 17th meeting when PGM David B. Dibrell conducted the Texas Lodge of Research Installation ceremony and my friend and mentor from Valley Lodge No. 175, Bro. Danny Cockroft as Marshal, declared all the new officers present to be properly installed for the 2007-2008 Masonic year.



Worshipful Master
Raymond Bronk

What a great group of strong, active members have agreed to serve in the various positions with me! I found great joy in introducing my wife, Marjorie, and my son, Tim and in recognizing the many members of Valley Lodge and TLR present near the altar where the year before last I had been installed as Worshipful Master of Valley Lodge.

I had accepted the reins from Past Master Jim Dougherty, who served admirably for the past year and, with sadness, reflected that my Scottish Rite mentor Bro. Gordon Kelso was stepping down as TLR Secretary.

My speech to the assembled

friends was quite short. I wanted to chose projects that were both necessary and possible. My first big charge to myself was to work to have our data base serve our organization more efficiently, to save us time and money where possible, and to keep our information as free from gaps and errors as practical. When an organization is composed of members whose residences are as far-flung as ours, literally all over the world, much care must be taken to get correct information from the members themselves.

The other charge I assumed was to help find new ways to save and find new sources for funds. Like most organizations, TLR walks a tight line of fiscal responsibility, and our budget is one of the most important documents available for efficient operation of our lodge. We must plan it carefully, keep it intact, and pass good figures and fiscal deportment on to the next "shift." We have already found one simple way to save about \$3,000 by using a new way of performing a continuing annual task and, I am certain, there are plenty more good ideas out there. I challenge all TLR members to share with me and the other officers of TLR any suggestions you might have to improve our operation.

From the East, continued on Page 3

**Texas Lodge of Research
Tableau of Officers
2007 – 2008**

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Burnet snapshots

The Hill Country opened her arms on Friday 16 March to welcome the members of the Texas Lodge of Research to Burnet and the quarterly stated meeting on 17 March. The weather was superb, the temperature was balmy, the famous wildflowers were beginning to burst out along the roadsides, and the bluebonnets were proliferating.

Texas Lodge of Research members and guests gathered at the hospitality room at Holiday Inn Express — where the hosting was top of the line — for conversation and libations and snacks in the Longhorn Room, supplied gratis by the accommodating management. After a short period of fellowship, members congregated at the Highlander Inn for a seafood buffet and steaks. We then returned to the hospitality suite for more interesting conversation.

Saturday morning, Valley Lodge No. 175 hosted a snack breakfast. We had many non-TLR Masons as visitors when the stated business meeting opened at 10 a.m. Acting as Worshipful Master, Senior Warden Raymond Bronk gaveled the lodge to order with a custom-designed and constructed TLR gavel, crafted by Past Master Pete Martinez nearly a quarter of a century ago, in 1983, when PGM John E. "Jack" Kelly was Master of TLR. It will be used faithfully in the future. Worshipful Master Jim Dougherty was out of the country with his family for what would have been his last meeting as Worshipful Master and Secretary Gordon Kelso was bedridden with the "crud" that

is sickening so many right now. Their absence contributed to a certain shortness of this meeting — we postponed endowment certificate presentations, petitions for affiliation and several other pronouncements. Past Master Doug Collins volunteered his pen as Secretary pro-tem.

Past Master Pete Martinez reported that the Concise Index, republished every five years, is



Worshipful Master Bronk congratulates first time presenters and new Full Members Max Hirrill and James McCrae.

nearly ready for the printer. Dr. William P. Vaughn reported that Volume XL of the *Transactions*, (The Yelvington Edition) is progressing smoothly and has minor finishing touches before it goes to press.

Bro. Martinez donned a silk top hat and skillfully handled the gavel to oversee the nominations and voting process for the 2007-2008 officers. Pro-tem Worshipful Master Bronk announced that the Anson Jones lecture will be given by Bro. Mark Tabbert, Director of Collections of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Arlington, Virginia. Bro. Tabbert is a 33°, Scottish Rite, Inspector General Honorary, a member of the Masonic Society of Blue Friars and has attained a



Newly elected and appointed officers of Texas Lodge of Research are presented to Past Grand Master David Dibrell for installation by Installing Marshal Danny Cockroff (right.)

distinguished collection of other Masonic honors.

Before the lodge was closed and in other business, Bro. Herb Arbuckle rose to reaffirm his support for the Friday night Hospitality Room, presented a sizeable check to the lodge for support of the TLR tradition and challenged others to follow suit.

It being near "High 12," a delicious chicken dinner was served to 50 TLR members and guests by the ladies of members of Valley Lodge and Burnet OES Chapter No.425.

After the noon meal, the open meeting was gavelled to order before a filled lodge room. Three papers were read and two new Full Members were affirmed. The first paper was "The Past Master's Jewel," by Max Hurrill, followed by DDGM James McCrae, who read "Freemasonry in Gillespie County." Past Grand Master. Full Member David Dibrell then read "Andrew Neill, Scotsman, Lawyer, Texas Patriot, Expelled Past Grand Master." Then WM Bronk awarded Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas replica aprons to Bros. Hurrill and McCrae and declared both to be members of a distinguished group of less than seventy living holders of this unique and coveted honor.

Right Worshipful Dibrell then assumed the East and proceeded to install the new officers, assisted by TLR member and Valley Lodge Past Master Danny Cockroff.

Worshipful Master Bronk acknowledged the honor just bestowed upon him, thanked his coterie of new officers and assembled guests and gave a short talk about what he hoped to accomplish in the coming year.

There being no further business, the lodge was adjourned until June.



Worshipful Master Bronk receives his collar and jewel from Lady Marjorie. (Photos courtesy Pete Martinez, PM.)

From the East

Continued from Page 1

As a member of the Editorial Committee for several years, I have spoken to scores of people who have told me they have wonderful ideas for papers. I encouraged them to act on those ideas, and many of them have. But, there is still a great pool of information out there, just waiting to be shared with TLR members and the world we serve. I am excited about our upcoming meetings, and have given much thought to finding venues that are interesting and exciting, and with a historic basis for consideration.

Our Anson Jones lecture in Austin's redecorated York Rite Temple the weekend of June 15-16, will be of interest to historians and others interested in information acquisition and use. Our speaker Bro. Mark Tabbert brings with him an impressive set of credentials and promises to be an exciting speaker. Then, the weekend of Sept. 14-15, we will be honored to open lodge in the replica of Independence Hall at Washington-on-the-Brazos. In January we travel to Dallas for our first meeting in 2008.

At a called meeting on April 4, the lodge was honored by the presence of PGM Jack Hightower to install Bro. Dougherty as Secretary of TLR. Due a family commitment, Bro. Jim was unable to be present at the Burnet meeting. We are happy to have him in harness as our new Secretary and are confident he will do great work. The year ahead holds great promise and opportunity.

God Bless the USA and God Bless Texas.

Please check your dues card immediately!

If the expiration date is Dec. 31, 2006, please send your dues payment as soon as possible. Due to a computer glitch, some Endowed Members have received a dues statement, or second notice, in error. We regret the error and hope all members who are actually in arrears will continue to support the important work of Texas Lodge of Research.

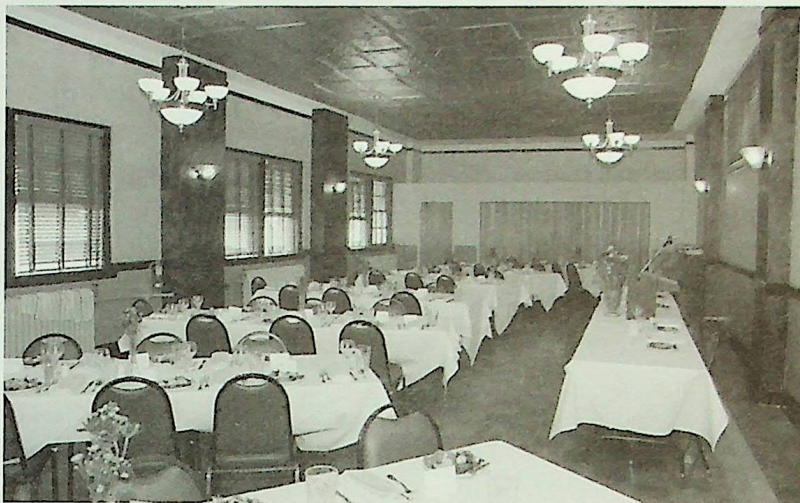
- Jim Dougherty, PM, Secretary

Historic Austin York Rite Masonic Temple Welcomes 2007 Anson Jones Lecture

Mark your calendar and plan to make it a great weekend for our annual Anson Jones Lecture Weekend — June 15-16, 2007. University Lodge No. 1190 and the Austin York Rite Bodies will be our hosts at the newly refurbished York Rite Masonic Temple in downtown Austin. A special tour of the (Bro.) Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum has been arranged. Lunch is dutch-treat at the museum's restaurant. The 3 p.m. business meeting followed by the speaker reception and Anson Jones Lecture Dinner will all be held at the York Rite Masonic Temple, 311 West 7th St.

Hotel accommodations have been blocked for TLR at the Homestead Studio Suite Hotel at 507 South First St, "across the river" in South Austin. Call (512) 476-1818 and ask for the "Masonic Rate." This is a busy weekend in Austin and all hotels are filling rapidly so, please make reservations as soon as possible. The Hospitality Room will open at 4 p.m.

Tickets for the Anson Jones Lecture Dinner are \$35 per person. Please call Barbara at the TLR office number (512) 472-7247 to make reservations, no later than



The sparkling, newly redecorated, Austin York Rite Masonic Temple dining room awaits another black tie crowd and the distinguished Anson Jones Lecture.

Friday, June 8. Credit cards are accepted.

Please note: dress for the lecture dinner is Black Tie for TLR Officers and Full Members. Dark suit for Members and guests.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 15-16, 2007. Host: University Lodge No 1190 and the Austin York Rite Bodies. Austin.

September 14-15, 2007. Host: Washington Lodge No. 18. Independence Hall, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park.

January 18-19, 2008. Host: Claud L. Austin Lodge No. 1450. Dallas.

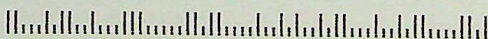
March 14-15, 2008. Host: San Gabriel Lodge No. 89. Georgetown.

June 20-21, 2008. Anson Jones Lecture. Host: Gray Lodge No. 329. Houston.

September 19-20, 2008. 50th Anniversary Celebration. Waco.

Texas Lodge of Research
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