



The Occasional Bulletin

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

Number 1

Spring

2013

First County Durham SG member earns Full Membership apron

One couldn't have asked for more crystal clear weather, or warmer hospitality, than during TLR's first meeting of the new year in Corpus Christi.

The January quarterly meeting was hosted by Oso Naval Lodge No. 1282 in their spacious lodge hall. Worshipful Master and TLR member Bradley McNulty and the brethren rolled out the red carpet for the Saturday meeting. Chef and lodge Past Master Wolfgang Buchang served up a fine buffet lunch of barbecued sausage from Kreuz Market in Lockhart provided by TLR Mentoring Committee Chairman Herb Arbuckle with scalloped potatoes, green beans and cake for dessert.

Friday evening's activities began with a happy hour mix-



Dr. Alan Bell beams in his new Full Member apron, flanked by his wife, Hazel. They are joined by Worshipful Master McCrae, right, and Mentoring Committee member and Secretary, Jim Dougherty, left. W.: Bell is the founder of TLR's County Durham Study Group in the United Kingdom and the first Full Member from the group. Photo by Doug Collins.

Next Stated Communication Dallas, Texas

Friday, March 15, 2013

Hospitality Room opens about 4 p.m. at The Adolphus Hotel. Dutch treat dinner at Sol Irlandes Mexican Chop House.

Saturday, March 16, 2013

10 a.m. Noon catered luncheon at the lodge. See back cover for details.

er in the hotel's lobby followed by dinner at the nearby Water Street Seafood Restaurant.

Saturday's agenda was full and varied. Discussed was the on-going study of publishing the *Transactions* on digital media. The stumbling block seems to be questions about copyright and the method of distributing the finished product.

Treasurer Mark Dermit was absent, recovering from surgery, but his financial report was very positive. Dues payments are strong and continue to be received by the Secretary.

Senior Warden Harrison announced that the March meeting would be held in Dallas on the

third weekend, as usual. Details are found on the back page of this issue of the *Occasional Bulletin*.

Following lunch, members and guests retired to the lodge room for the afternoon's program. First up was the presentation of the Past Master's diploma to Junior Past Master and current Chaplain Merlen Howe. The framed diploma is hand decorated by Past Master Ross Cox Sr.

First time presenter, Dr. Alan Bell read his interesting paper titled "An Egyptian Journey: Thoughts on the Origins of

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Texas Lodge of Research Tableau of Officers 2012-2013

Worshipful Master 830 669-2729	James McCrae 623 Walking Plow Rd. Fredericksburg, TX 78624-6411 drycreek1@hctc.net
Senior Warden 210 224-2000	Reese L. Harrison Jr., PGM 711 Navarro St. Suite 600 San Antonio, TX 78205 reese.harrison@strasburger.com
Junior Warden 903 746-5849	Jim Rumsey White Oak, TX jim.rumsey@suddenlink.net
Treasurer 512 587-8547	Mark Dermit kevit64@yahoo.com
Secretary & <i>Occasional Bulletin</i> Editor 512 970-8746	James G. "Jim" Dougherty, PM P.O. Box 684684 Austin, TX 78768-4684 texaslodgereofresearch@yahoo.com
Chaplain 512 213-7009	Merlen Howe, PM 2795 Westwood Rd. Lockhart, TX 78644-4698 bac2795@gmx.com
Senior Deacon 806 787-7600 (h) 806 361-2613 (m)	Brad Billings 1001 Lost Valley Dr. Euless, TX 76039 bradbst@yahoo.com
Junior Deacon 281 293-9330	Roberto Sanchez 1678 Beaconsire Houston, TX 77077 rmsh13@yahoo.com
Senior Steward 409 762-3617	Jeff Modzelewski 2115 Postoffice St. Galveston, TX 77550-2023 jeffiemod@gmail.com
Junior Steward 972 495-7447	Franklin Todd 2925 Holy Cross Ln. Garland, TX 75044 frankdiana1940@verizon.net
Marshal	Robert Risko Jr. robrisko@aol.com
Master of Ceremonies	Ed Brown 4609 Glenwood Circle Waco, TX 76708 caplo@hotmail.com
Tiler 210 269-5700	Michael Guyer Jr. 7311 Carriage View San Antonio, TX 78249
<i>Transactions</i> Editor 512 756-2756	Raymond Bronk, PM 100 Quirt Dr. Burnet, TX 78611 raybronk@aol.com
Editor Emeritus	Dr. William P. Vaughn, PM, FMR
Editorial Committee	David B. Dibrell, PGM Raymond Bronk, PM Gordon W. Kelso, PM
Webmaster	J. Darrell Kirkley jdarrell@jdkcom.com
Webmaster Emeritus	Pete Martinez, PM
Bulletin Copy Editor	Herbert C. Arbuckle III

On the web at:

www.texaslodgereofresearch.org



Message from the Master

It is hard to believe that almost a year has gone by since the Brethren of Texas Lodge of Research elected this humble servant to the East.

As mentioned in my first *Occasional Bulletin* article as Master, I sincerely appreciate your trust and confidence.

I must say that you, the members of our quarterly sacred retreat of learned Brethren, have exceeded my expectations of fellowship and brotherly love. You have shown respect and dignity to your officers, your fellow members and to the members of our host lodges. You have looked and acted the part of being Masons of the highest quality. You have made the job of being your Worshipful Master easy and pleasant. Thank you one and all.

During this past year we have seen the fruits of your labors become realities. We saw the launch of the Guild of Masonic Studies on our website, we witnessed our website become fully functional and current, we saw our study groups grow to three with the addition of our newest in Houston and we did all this while we grew our membership and as we continued to improve our financial condition.

Yes, we can all look back on our accomplishments during the past year of Texas Lodge of Research, but there is work yet to be done.

One item that is under current consideration is a Lodge Light Outreach. This would



Worshipful Master James McCrae

be a program where Texas Lodge of Research would offer to the lodges of Texas the opportunity to invite a member of TLR to their lodge to present one of the many papers in our archives. It was noted by one of our Brothers that there is not a shortage of Masonic educational materials available to lodges, but there is a shortage of speakers to present such materials and we could supply that need if we deem it a worthy project to undertake. I believe that the Brethren at large would appreciate a Texas Lodge of Research educational outreach program and it could bring more awareness about our unique Lodge to a broad audience of Texas Masons.

Until we meet again on the level, I pray that your Masonic travels will be pleasing to you and to the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe.



A large crowd of members and guests enjoy a complimentary barbecue lunch in Oso Naval Lodge's dining room.

Corpus meeting

Continued from front page.

Freemasonry." W.: Brother Bell is Past Master and current Senior Warden of Cestria Lodge No. 4493, under the Grand Lodge of England. He was the driving force in the formation of the Texas Lodge of Research County Durham Study Group. He is the first Full Member of the group. The group currently has about 25 members. Under their by-laws, all of our British brethren are required to be members of

Texas Lodge of Research.

The Study Group meets quarterly on a Saturday near holidays such as Texas Independence Day, Confederate Heroes Day, Independence Day and Thanksgiving. Their meeting is followed with a Festive Board.

The meeting concluded with time for some members to enjoy a tour of the retired aircraft carrier *Lexington* which is permanently berthed on the bay front.

Authors: Please remember that when you submit a research paper, you must send one paper copy, plus a digital file on CD, DVD, or "thumb drive" to Brother Secretary at the lodge address listed elsewhere in this publication. It is recommended that papers be mailed with USPS delivery confirmation. He logs in the paper, retains the digital media and forwards the paper copy to the Senior Warden, who in turn distributes it to the Editorial Committee. - Thank you for your cooperation.

Isn't it time to get started on that paper?

Of the almost 700 members of TLR, only about 90 are "Full Members." Full Members, with few exceptions, are those who have researched and successfully presented a research paper before the lodge. As set forth in TLR by-laws, only Full Members may vote or hold elective office in lodge.

So, why so relatively few Full Members?

Perhaps it's finding a topic, or just sitting down and putting thought to paper.

The first step is to read the *Form and Style Manual* which is posted on the TLR website. Print it out (it's about 25 pages) as not following the manual is the single biggest complaint from the Editorial Committee and delays a successful outcome.

TLR initiated a Mentoring Committee to help first-time authors get over any apprehension and answer questions about appropriate content and presentation. Chairman Herb Arbuckle (361) 816-2969 and his committee members are ready and willing to help. They are all published TLR authors and have been where you are now.

The distinctive TLR apron you see below is only part of the prestige of being a published Masonic author in our *Transactions*.





Corpus Christi s

Photos by Jim Dougherty





snapshots

Clockwise, from left: Some members found their way to the retired aircraft carrier *Lexington*. Worshipful Master McCrae enjoys a three tier appetizer on Friday night. It was double apron time in the Saturday "chow line" for Herb Arbuckle, Senior Warden Reese Harrison, Worshipful Master Jim McCrae and Oso Naval Lodge Worshipful Master Brad McNulty. The caps and aprons were the gift of Kreuz Market in Lockhart. TLR Past Master Gordon Kelso and wife, Rita, join Ken Cochran and Col. Andrew Jackson McVeigh during the hospitality hour. Worshipful Master McCrae presents the Past Master's diploma to Chaplain Merlen Howe with wife, Judy. WM McCrae presents Oso Naval WM McNulty a certificate of thanks for hosting TLR in Corpus Christi. More photos on Page 7.



Texas Lodge of Research

Please type or print

To submit your application to the Texas Lodge of Research complete the information requested.

- √ Enclose with check or money order for your first year's dues of \$35.00
- √ Endowed Membership may be obtained for \$500, payable to Texas Lodge of Research.
- √ Mail To: Texas Lodge of Research , P.O. Box 684684, Austin, TX 78768-4684

Name:		G.L. ID Number:		
Address:				
City:			State:	ZIP:
Home Phone:	Business Phone:	Cell Phone:		
E-Mail Address:				
Member of:		Lodge No:	Grand Lodge:	
Lodge City:		Lodge State/Country:		
Past Master of Blue Lodge? Yes No		Current or Past Grand Master? Yes No		
Name of Lodge:		State:		
Date of Birth:		Place of Birth:		
If your petition IS NOT SIGNED by a <u>Full Member</u> of TLR; a Certificate of Good Standing from your Blue Lodge, AND/OR a photocopy of current Blue Lodge dues card <u>AND</u> a photo ID (drivers license) MUST be attached.				
(Signed)				
HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT TLR?				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommendation of a current Full/Active Member of TLR 				
Printed Name of Member _____				
Member's Signature _____				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TLR Brochure ○ Internet via The Grand Lodge of Texas Home Page ○ TLR Website 				
Office And Membership Committee Use Only				
Date Received	Check No. or "CASH"	Date Entered	Card and Welcome Letter	Copy to MBR. CMTE.

Welcome new members

We welcome the following new members approved at the Corpus Christi meeting:

Jonathan E. Felger (1190) - Austin, TX

David Price Stanfield (586) - Nevada, TX

Christian Moller Christensen (329) - Houston, TX

Jeremy Ray Johnson (19) - Irving, TX

Richard Michael King (547) - Portland, TX

John L. W. Peters (1109) - Round Rock, TX

J. Tim Terry (25) - Montgomery, TX

Christopher David Livingston, (1214) - Richardson, TX

Quinn Sharkey (6) - Juneau, AK

Graham N. Giesen (1335) - Dallas, TX

County Durham Study Group: Geoffrey William Wild - Sunderland, UK

P.J. Johnson - Tyne & Wear, UK

Paul N. Boulton - Boldon, UK

Masonic outreach

Where do we go from here?

By Jim Dougherty, PM, Secretary and *Occasional Bulletin* Editor

A few month ago there was a delegation of visitors to our York Rite Temple and my TLR office in Austin. Leading the group was the actor/producer Tom Hanks. He was scouting locations for an upcoming movie.

During our visit, this man who has now acted in three Dan Brown "Masonic" movies asked the question: "What do the Mason's do?" I was able to find a spare copy of the booklet *Masonic Charities* and told him that I was sure he could find a lodge in Los Angeles that would appreciate and welcome his talents.

As Masons, we have infinite opportunities to inform the public about what we do.

During the Texas Sesqui-centennial, Masons appeared, clothed as such, at events at historical sites around the state. For several years, TLR has been invited to celebrate the life of singer and our Brother Jimmie



Actor Tom Hanks is about to get a kiss from Miss Josie Dougherty.

Rogers at Schreiner University in Kerrville. Hopefully, one of these days, we will be able to return and spread Freemasonry to the hundreds of Texas school children who wonder who these "old guys" are.

We should never let the opportunity slip past to inform others what our fraternity and its members have accomplished for the good of civilization.

More Corpus Christi snapshots



Left photo: Some of our ladies await the "dinner bell." From left, Jane Ulrich, Rita Kelso, Marjorie Bronk and Hazel Bell. In background are Carol McCrae, Evalyn McVeigh and Judy Howe. Right photo: Doug and Cheri Collins catch up on news from the Metroplex from Senior Deacon Brad Billings.

Texas Lodge of Research, A.F. & A.M.
P.O. Box 684684
Austin, TX 78768-4684

Address Correction Requested

Please remember that the dues card members receive are not valid UNTIL \$35.00 annual dues are paid. TLR funds its publications and activities with member dues. Members who do not respond are generally dropped from the mailing list after two years of inactivity. TLR is prohibited from and does not issue demits.

Alexander C. Garrett Lodge in Dallas to host TLR for March quarterly meeting

Texas Lodge of Research returns to the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex for the March 16th Quarterly Meeting. Due to the Spring Break conundrum, the location of the meeting had to be moved from the previously announced San Antonio site.

We also return to the historic Adolphus Hotel at 1321 Commerce St. in downtown Dallas. The Hospitality Room will open around 3 p.m. on Friday. Reservations may be made by calling the hotel at (214) 742-8200. The TLR rate is \$129.00 per night, plus tax. Valet parking at the hotel is \$26.00 per night and allows unlimited in-and-out parking.

There are many choices in downtown restaurants for dinner, but we have group reservations at the nearby Sol Irlandes Mexican Chop House. The Hospitality Room will reopen when the Stewards return to the hotel. A \$5.00 per person donation is requested for the beverage fund.

Our host lodge, Alexander C. Garrett No. 1216, is located at 7119 East Grand Ave. A breakfast of cooked to order eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee and juice is provided by members of Aubrey E. Hope Lodge No. 1446 with a suggested donation of \$5.00 begins at 8 am. The tiled business meeting will be gavelled to order at 10:00 a.m.

Lunch is a catered event and reservations MUST be made to the Secretary at:

texaslodgeofresearch@yahoo.com.

Installation will begin at 1 pm with the possibility of at least one research paper presentation.

TLR's June 15, 2013 meeting will be hosted by Panther City Lodge No. 1183 at the downtown Masonic Temple in Fort Worth. Plans are for an afternoon business meeting with a formal dinner and lecture in the evening. See you there!