



THE OCCASIONAL BULLETIN

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

September — 2013

Number 3

Stated

Communication

Saturday, September 14, 2013*
10:00 AM

The host lodges are Albert Pike Lodge No 1169, DeMolay Lodge No 199, and Cibolo Lodge No 151 in a Lodge room in the San Antonio Scottish Rite Temple San Antonio, Texas

Papers

The Categorical Approach to Misdemeanors Involving Moral Turpitude: A Guide to Question 16 of Form 26

Christopher D. Livingston
Past Master
Richardson Lodge No. 1214



Reilly Springs Lodge No. 382: The Lodge, The Community, My Family

Charles E. McKay
Chaplain
Texas Lodge of Research
Past Master
Plano Lodge No. 768



* Please note that the September meeting is to be held on the 2nd Saturday instead of the 3rd Saturday of September due to a scheduling conflict.

The September Meeting

The September 2013 meeting of Texas Lodge of Research will be held in San Antonio. Due to a scheduling conflict with the Scottish Rite Honors meeting in Waco on the 3rd Saturday, Texas Lodge of Research's September meeting will be held on the 2nd Saturday on September 14, 2013.

Worshipful Master Harrison has secured \$120 ^{+ tax} per night rates at the Menger Hotel located at 204 Alamo Plaza in downtown San Antonio across from the Alamo. For reservations call (866) 337-7816 or (210) 223-4631 and ask for the Texas Lodge of Research rate (Code: 913TXL). Cutoff date for these rates are August 23, 2013, so make your reservations early as the rooms may go quickly. Valet parking is \$25 ^{+ tax} per night, with unlimited trips in and out, non-valet parking is also available. Additional hotel contact information: Website: <http://www.mengerhotel.com/> and Email: reservations@mengerhotel.com The hotel's fax number is (210) 223-1328.

A hospitality room at the Menger Hotel will be available beginning at 4:00 PM on Friday and will remain open thru Friday evening, except when we are enjoying dinner at Casa Rio. It will also be open Saturday afternoon until dinner.

The Friday evening meal will be at Casa Rio Restaurant, which is located a short walk from the hotel at 430 E. Commerce on the River Walk. Contact and menu information for the restaurant is www.casa-rio.com/history.htm or (210) 225-6718.

Worshipful Master Harrison is reviving the tradition of making Texas Lodge of Research a weekend event, and he has made arrangements for those who wish to remain in San Antonio through Saturday night. Saturday evening Texas Lodge of Research has reservations at La Madeleine, located at 4820 Broadway St San Antonio. Phone (210) 829-7291. www.lamadeleine.com Michel Guyer, Jr., Senior Steward of Texas Lodge of Research, is the manager of this La Madeleine restaurant and has assured us of a fine evening.

The Fall 2013 stated meeting will be held at the San Antonio Scottish Rite Temple at 308 Avenue E, at the intersection with 4th Street. There will not be any entry from the Avenue E entrance, entry will be from the 4th Street entrance, or through the rear entrance. The rear entrance requires a 3 digit code, but the code will be posted. There are 25 parking slots available on the temple property, otherwise leave your vehicle at the Menger Hotel or pay to park in the lot across 4th Street. Do not park on the street because you will be ticketed. Additional information: scottish-rite.albertpikedemolay.org (Continued on page 6)

Texas Lodge of Research

Officers 2013 — 2014

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Elected Emeriti	
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Toward a Cultural History of Masonry

By Lesley L. Walker, Jr., Past Master and Fellow
(Originally published in *The Occasional Bulletin* September 1980)

For most people, all history, like all Gaul, is divided into three parts: names, dates, and places. The general readership has come to expect it to be so, and too many writers continue to cater to this expectation. Perhaps it is because the elementary history textbook from which most of us gained our first ideas of historical writing necessarily emphasized these three parts. Since the reading of history stopped there for all too many, we conclude that this is the end of all historical writing. If history is a record of what has transpired, and if we know who did what, when, and where, what else is there to know?

The writing of Masonic history in America has certainly hewed to the concept. Even so modern a work as that of Henry Wilson Coil is essentially a study of names, dates, and places, relieved by the fact that he has turned his back on what he calls Masonry's "Age of Fable". At no point, however, does he attempt to see Freemasonry as either acting upon or being acted upon by the society around it.

But, one may ask again, what else is there to history beyond identifying significant people, putting them in their time and place, and saying what they did?

Before attempting to answer that question, and lest we be thought to be disparaging of the idea of facts as the foundation of historical writing, let us concede the absolute necessity of the careful preservation of names, dates, and places as an indispensable attribute of the writing of history. In doing this, careful historians through the ages have done no more than respond in part to the dictum of Thucydides, after Herodotus the father of Western history. He laid it down that, "the accurate knowledge of what has happened will be useful, because according to human probability, similar things will happen again".

In response to the question of what else there is to history beyond names, dates, and places, it has long been suggested that there are always the cultural, the social, and indeed, the economic dimensions. It has been scarcely more than a century since the idea was advanced that each major era possesses a dominant collective psychological trait which governs the age. Along with this idea there arose the concomitant one that true historical accuracy requires a consideration of the genesis and cultural setting of a situation as certainly as it does the mere formal truth of the facts narrated.

The idea prevails today that history, to be history, must look to the "psychological trait" which governed the age being studied, and that the clear understanding of the cultural setting and the social milieu are no less important than the faithful recording of names, dates, and places. If we apply these standards to modern Masonic historical writing, we see that such writing falls far short of the mark.

There are some exceptions to this statement. We would cite two books, neither of which is "Masonic" as we are accustomed to thinking of Masonic books. Each book is by a professional historian, and each was published by a scholarly press.

The first book was written by a woman, oddly enough.

Freemasonry in Federalist Connecticut, 1789-1835, was published by Princeton University Press in 1977, and is based on a doctoral thesis by Dorothy Ann Lipson.

A few of her chapter titles give some idea of the social and cultural orientation of her work: "Masonry and the Standing Order of Connecticut", "Masonry, Manners and Morality", "The (Continued on Page 3)

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Masonic Counterculture”, “The Great Moral Shock”. Narrow though its scope, the book stands as a worthy model for future work in the field.

The other book is one by Professor Richard A. Bartlett, entitled *The New Country, A Social History of the American Frontier, 1776-1980*, and published by Oxford University Press in 1974.

In a book of this scope, his comments about Masons and Masonry as a social force in the expanding West are brief, but the author has recognized, as too many others have failed to do, that communities took on a special character by reason of the presence of the institution. Two sentences are worth quoting: “When strangers in a new community came to know each other, one of their happiest discoveries was being Masons in common. Instantly a mastic was present, for Masons tended to trust one another as if membership implied (as often, in fact, it did) a certain standard of conduct and ethics”.

The fact that these two professionals have recognized the social and cultural significance of Freemasonry in the development of our nation gives hope that other historians will do likewise. One looks forward eagerly to publication of the work now being prepared by our own Worshipful Master, Dr. William P. Vaughn, treating of the machinations of the Anti-Masonic Party of the last century.

It is encouraging, too, to know that The Grand Lodge of Texas has commissioned Dr. Duncan D. Tidwell, teacher, the late Editor of *The Texas Freemason*, and distinguished Past Master of this lodge, to write a history of Masonry in Texas. If Brother Tidwell is able to place the Craft in proper perspective in the social and cultural life of Texas and to let us see it “warts and all”, he will have made his greatest contribution to Masonry in our state.

But all this is the hard work of trained historians, and the task of preserving the essentials of Masonic history has always been in the hands of the untrained. If we are to preserve the history of Masonry, both for our own benefit and for the benefit of the historians who may someday delve into our archives for their source material, we must somehow improve the quality and broaden the scope of the lodge history.

Admittedly, this author is no authority on individual lodge histories, his knowledge being limited to some he has read and to others he has scanned during visits to our Grand Lodge Library. This seems ground enough to pronounce judgment upon lodge histories as a class. They still divide all history into three parts. Very few authors of such histories can present it in any other way than through repetitive lists of names and the recitation of date, bound together by occasional quotations from old lodge minutes.

It may well be that any sort of written record of the life of a lodge is better than no record at all. There is

value in knowing the officers each year, and where the lodge met, and what it cost to belong. But, viewed down the corridor of time, the list of officers is fairly meaningless unless we know what they did outside the lodge, what the community thought of them as men, and whether there is any evidence that what they did in the community and in the church and in business and profession was colored in any way by the fact of their having been Masons.

This raises a question concerning the good brother who, out of the goodness of his heart, undertakes to write a history of his lodge. Unless he has some “feel” for history, some innate sense of how both men and institutions shape events and are shaped by them, can he—should he—undertake to make the kind of judgments by which to align his lodge as a social and cultural entity. Yes, he should. Even lacking the genuine “feel” for history, if he has the good sense to recognize that a Masonic lodge does not exist in isolation and that Masons are also many other things in their social order, then he should have sufficient discretion to make reasonably valid judgments.

What escapes the amateur historian is that historians always write from a point of view, a thesis. The thesis, whether explicit or implicit in the writing, is always present, and, if the author is to be consistent, his every argument must serve to support his thesis.

It is not less so with the amateur. It is the lack of a point of view—a thesis—which causes so many lodge histories literally to have no objective. If the author does not know what he wants his readers to understand about the lodge, there is no hope of producing a readable piece of work. On the other hand, even the inexperienced author, if he has a point of view and if he knows where he wants to go, can rise above his inexperience and produce a not unpleasant history.

The prospective author of a cultural history should be aware that he cannot depend solely upon lodge minutes. The minutes must be read against a background of the social and economic milieu of the time in which they were written. War, depression, catastrophe; each contributes to the success or failure of the lodge. The library, the historical society, the files of the local newspaper; all of these sources should be gleaned, not only for information as to the quality of life in the community, but for any mention of the lodge or evidence of the involvement of individual Masons.

If there are very old members still able to recall early operations of the lodge, these should be interviewed, for this is the very stuff of history. Whether by interview or by poring through old records, answers should be found to such questions as, what did the community think of the lodge? What was the standing of the men who became Masons? How did Masons serve society, government, church?

This paper is not presumed to be a quick course in how to write Masonic history, it is an effort to set up a kind of sign-post pointing to a kind of Masonic history.

Future Meetings of Texas Lodge of Research

January 18, 2014 — Houston, Texas



March 15, 2014 — Pine Tree Lodge No 1396 — Longview, Texas



Petition for Membership

Any Master Mason who is a member in good standing of a regular Texas lodge, or of a jurisdiction in fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Texas, shall be eligible to become a member of Texas Lodge of Research upon being proposed by a Full Member of Texas Lodge of Research and elected by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting of the lodge.

The proposed member shall furnish the lodge Secretary with a copy of his current dues card, or a Certificate of Good Standing, and a photo identification (a photocopy is acceptable) with the petition. Membership will continue so long as the member is in good standing in a regular Texas lodge, or of a lodge in a jurisdiction in fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Texas, and the annual dues are current.

Full Name: _____ Texas Member ID No: _____

Address: _____

City : _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Name & Number of Subordinate Lodge: _____

Lodge City: _____ Lodge State/Country: _____

Grand Lodge of _____ List additional lodge memberships, if any, on reverse side.

Past Master of a subordinate lodge: _____ Current Grand Master: _____ Past Grand Master: _____

Recommendation of a Full Member of Texas Lodge of Research

Full Member Printed Name:

Full Member's Signature:

Membership Dues are \$35 per calendar year and are payable in advance.

Endowed Memberships are \$500 payable to Texas Lodge of Research

Mail petition with \$35 check, a copy of your current dues card, and a copy of a photo ID to:

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



Notice of Intention to Submit Research Paper

Texas Lodge of Research

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City : _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Member Texas Lodge of Research: ___ Yes ___ No

Lodge Name and Number: _____

Current Subordinate Lodge Office(s): _____

Research Paper Information

Subject: _____

Thesis Statement: _____

Mail this form to:

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

Or E-Mail this form to:

secretary.texaslodgeofresearch@gmail.com

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The three host lodges are Albert Pike Lodge No 1169, DeMolay Lodge No 199, and Cibolo Lodge No 151. The hosts will provide breakfast tacos, orange juice, and coffee beginning at 9:00 AM in the small dining room at the rear of the building. The meeting will be held in the lodge room of DeMolay Lodge No 199 in the Scottish Rite Cathedral and the Worshipful Master will open the meeting at 10:00 AM. Dress for the meeting is business suit or coat and tie. After the morning business is completed the Worshipful Master will call the lodge to refreshment. Lunch will be provided by the host lodges and a suitable donation for the meal will be expected.

The afternoon session will be open to the ladies and guests and the presentation of the papers of Christopher Livingston and Charles McKay. After the presentation of the papers and the conclusion of the open portion of the meeting, the Worshipful Master will call the Master Mason's lodge to labor and he will entertain any motions to elect the meeting's presenters to full members of Texas Lodge of Research.

Remember, that after the meeting, Texas Lodge of Research's hospitality room at the Menger will be open until dinner at La Madeleine.

Come to San Antonio and join us for some fellowship, some Masonic Light, and some fun.

2013 Anson Jones Lecture

If you missed the June meeting and the Anson Jones Lecture, you missed a unique presentation of Masonic history by Anson Jones Lecturer Joe R Manning, Jr., Past Grand Master of Masons in Oklahoma.

The Anson Jones Lecture is one of the most prestigious Lectures in the Masonic world. Second only to England's Prestonian Lectures (which commenced in 1820), the Anson Jones Lecture brings with it a full membership in Texas Lodge of Research. But it brings much more. Being asked to deliver the Lecture tells the recipient that he has been recognized as a Masonic scholar. It tells him that someone has noticed what he has written, and noticed it favorable. It is a sign of coming of age as a writer in Freemasonry; it is extremely flattering. Small wonder that the typical reaction of a lecturer upon being invited to deliver the Lecture is "Who, me?" - **Jim Tressner, Full Member and Past Anson Jones Lecturer**

Most Worshipful Manning is an attorney in Cushing, Oklahoma, he served in the Oklahoma Legislature from 1972—1982, he served on the Governor's senior staff

1987-1989, he served as Mayor of Cushing 1994-2002, as Vice-Mayor 2008 to present.

Most Worshipful Manning became a Freemason in Cushing Lodge No 111 in 1968, served as Master in 1979, 2004, and 2005, then Secretary from 2006 to present. He is a charter member of Guildhall Lodge No 553. He was Grand Master of Masons in Oklahoma in 1985 and Vice Chairman of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons of North America in 1986. He became a Scottish Rite Mason in 1968 and was elected Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Orient of Oklahoma in 2011.



The History and Art of Masonic Pot-

tery was extremely interesting to both Masons and to the ladies who were in attendance.. In addition to a Power-Point presentation, Most Worshipful Manning brought most of the pieces of pottery he included in his lecture and showed the audience each piece during his lecture, some of these pieces were in excess of 250 years old.

Worshipful Master Harrison proposed the following amendment to the by-laws of Texas Lodge of Research at the March 2013 meeting. The proposed amendment will be discussed, amended if necessary, and voted on at the September meeting of Texas Lodge of Research. If adopted, the amendment will be forwarded to the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education and Service for approval and then to the Committee on Bylaws for final approval.

SECTION XV STUDY COMMITTEES

Section 1. Any three members of Texas Lodge of Research, may form a local Masonic Study Committee with the consent and permission in writing of the Worshipful Master of Texas Lodge of Research.

Section 2. The Worshipful Master of Texas Lodge of Research shall exercise general supervision over the activities of the local Study Committees and have the authority to order their discontinuance.

Section 3. Study Committees shall elect a chairman, a secretary, and a study director, and the secretary shall prepare and send a report of each meeting of the Study Committee to the Worshipful Master of Texas Lodge of Research along with a roster of the attendance.

Section 4. Study Committees may meet as often as desired.

Section 5. Study Committees may accept donations with which to finance refreshments and/or necessary expenses.

Section 6. Study Committees shall conduct their meetings in harmony with the By-Laws of Texas Lodge of Research, the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and such rules and regulations as the Worshipful Master of Texas Lodge of Research, with the assistance of the Texas Lodge of Research, may see fit to establish.

Request for *Occasional Bulletin* Articles

The format of *The Occasional Bulletin (OB)* has changed and is returning to more articles and fewer pictures. In future editions there will be opportunities for members of Texas Lodge of Research to submit short articles relating to Masonic topics for publication in the *OB*. Publication of an article does not make a member eligible for full membership in Texas Lodge of Research.

I will also use articles previously published in the *OB* as there are many current members who have not benefited from the wisdom of the early members of Texas Lodge of Research, those founding members who contributed so

much to the success of our lodge. The article *Toward a Cultural History of Masonry*, by Leslie L Walker, Jr in this issue is an example of passing the knowledge from the past to the future.

Please submit your article in Microsoft Word format either as an attachment to an email, on CD/DVD, or flash drive. While the editorial guidelines will not be as strict as for submitting a paper, please cite your sources where necessary and attribute any quoted material to the proper author.

A few Images of the Masonic Pottery from the Collection of Joe R. Manning, PGM



From the Secretary

Texas Lodge of Research adopted a policy to govern when a member will be dropped from membership in the lodge. The laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas do not permit Texas Lodge of Research to suspend a member for non-payment of dues. If a member does not pay the current dues he is dropped from membership. In the recent past, Texas Lodge of Research has not had a policy to govern when the member is dropped.

At the June meeting, the lodge voted to drop the member upon being in arrears and give the member 12 months to pay the dues in arrears without having to repetition for membership. Texas Lodge of Research's dues are payable in advance and if not paid before January 1 of each year, the member will be in arrears. Only those members who are current will be eligible to receive the *Transactions* and *Occasional Bulletin*.

Texas Lodge of Research has in its inventory almost 3,000 copies of recent *Transactions*, *Texas Lodge of Research AF & AM*. The oldest Volume is XVII (1982 -1983 Kelly - 25th Year Edition) with 189 copies. There are some from the 1990s and most are from this century. As I have the responsibility of storing and preserving this inventory, I would like to liquidate as much of it as possible.

If you are interested in adding to your collection of the *Transactions*, email me your wish list, and I will check the availability of the requested volumes and will advise you which ones are available. Vol. XVII is \$15, others from the 1980s and 1990s are \$10 and anything from 2000 and more recent are \$5 per issue. Lodges wishing to add to your library can also request discounted Volumes. - Truitt L Bradly, PM — *Fiat Lux*

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