



## Next Stated Communication

Saturday, September 12, 2015  
Galveston, Texas

### Host Lodge

Harmony Lodge No. 6

### Location

Galveston Scottish Rite Temple  
2128 Church Street  
Galveston, Texas 77550

Stated meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m.

### Hotel

Accommodations have been arranged with **Double Tree Hotel**, located at 1702 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston, Texas 77550, (409) 762-4141.

There will be a hospitality room available Friday and Saturday night .



Photo courtesy of John Whitmore

## From the East

Texas Lodge of Research had a busy June meeting which was officially dubbed “the Marathon Meeting” by Past Master and Fellow Pete Normand. The festivities kicked-off on Friday with a dinner at “Love and War in Texas” followed at Grapevine Lodge No. 288 by the 1880’s rendition of a Master Mason’s Degree according to the Taylor Monitor.

The following day started off with the stated meeting at 10 a.m., where the lodge approved the reprinting of *Transactions*, Volumes I-X. After lunch, former Anson Jones lecturer and Fellow Brent Morris gave an intriguing talk on the Franken Manuscript, the precursor of today’s Scottish Rite ritual. Jerome Weilmuenster then presented his paper for Full Membership on Confederate veterans at Grapevine Lodge No. 288, and a final program was then given by Worshipful Ron Lawrence, Grand Musician of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, who played and explained several pieces used during his journey around the state this year.

The 2015 Anson Jones Lecture was given by Texas’ own Arturo de Hoyos at the historic Lancaster Theater in downtown Grapevine. The lecture was well-received and highlighted several instances of Masonic disputes where brotherly love was not observed. After the completion of the lecture, Brother de Hoyos was presented with his Full Member apron.

**Texas Lodge of Research**  
**Officers 2015 — 2016**

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## Galveston in September



Our September meeting promises to be every bit as interesting and action-packed as Grapevine. We will be meeting Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, in the Egyptian Room of the Galveston Scottish Rite Temple. The meeting will start at **1 p.m.** and will be hosted by Harmony Lodge No. 6.

The September meeting will be held in honor of our Past Masters. All Past Masters are encouraged to attend and to bring stories from their year to share with the brethren. According to M.:.W.:. Grand Master Michael L. Wiggins, the largest number of Past Masters of TLR ever assembled was fourteen a little over thirty years ago in Nacogdoches. Let's see if we can surpass that number!

Following the stated meeting, we will have at least one paper presented by TLR Junior Warden and Past Grand Master David Dibrell on Past Grand Masters who also served as Grand Patrons of the Eastern Star.

Finally, Frontier Lodge No. 28 will provide a historic play on events surrounding the formation of the Republic of Texas. This event is open to all Masons, wives, and guests.

The hospitality room will be available at the Double Tree Hotel located at 1702 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551.

### Next Stated Meeting

Mark your calendars for January 16, 2016, for our next stated meeting in Lubbock, Texas. This meeting will center on the Texas Tech Masonic Guild – a precursor to what we know today as Texas Lodge of Research. We will follow in their footsteps, meeting where they met, reading some of their more interesting minutes and dressing in academic regalia as most of the founding members were professors at the university.

This promises to be a one-of-a-kind TLR meeting, deeply rooted in our very own history. Hope to see you in Lubbock!

## From the Master's Desk —

Almost immediately after being raised a Master Mason, I began traveling to other Lodges, meeting and conversing with a number of Brothers and trying to piece together what this great Fraternity was to me. It did not take long to realize that there was no simple definition, no one-size-fits-all answer but rather several diverse and sometimes contradicting opinions.

During the almost nine years I have been a Mason, these gaps have not narrowed. In fact, they have widened, all stemming from the question, "what can we do to make Masonry more appealing in today's society?"

Recently, while reading an article in *Knight Templar* magazine, entitled, "Masonic Philosophical Differences in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" by Brother John Palmer, the factions I had observed in Masonry were spelled out and classified into three groups: Neo-Ancients, Neo-Moderns and the Status Quos. The remainder of this article will attempt to summarize these three classifications of Masons.

\*\*\*Please note that while I agree with the divisional lines drawn by Brother Palmer, the descriptions, quotes and names are drawn directly from his article. They are presented here merely as a means of stimulating conversation within the well-informed Brethren of Texas Lodge of Research!\*\*\*

### Neo Ancients

The Neo-Ancients are so named by Brother Palmer because they hearken to the group that rebelled against the newly established Grand Lodge of England in 1717 and split off to form the Antient Grand Lodge of England. The Neo-Ancients tend to have traditional views of our Fraternity and believe that action needs to be taken to return Freemasonry to what it was intended to be. This viewpoint has mainly manifested in what are called Traditional Observance Lodges: "...[Neo-Ancients] noted that emphasis had shifted from fellowship, philosophical study, and spiritual development into stale donuts, casual dress and superficial discussion about mundane topics..."

They hold to the belief that if Masonry is restored to a system of intellectual and spiritual growth, the perceived value will increase, thus attracting more men from the community. It is important to note that these Masons don't seem to want to change the laws to make every Lodge like their own but prefer

to be left to practice Freemasonry as they see it. This stance sometimes causes them to be seen as elitist.

### Characteristics:

- Much Higher Dues
- Formal Dress
- Emphasis on Philosophy
- Excellent ritual & "initiatic experience"
- Masonic Education

### Neo-Moderns

At the other end of the spectrum, you have the Neo-Moderns, who also believe action needs to be taken but they approach it in a completely different way. They are so named by Palmer because like the first Grand Lodge established in England in 1717, they are attempting to modernize Masonry in their own way. They tend to be of a business mind and believe that Freemasonry has "fallen behind the times" and is "not responsive to the needs of the current generation."

This school of thought believes that the lengthy process of becoming a Mason should be streamlined and that we as a Fraternity should reduce or even eliminate the requirement to memorize the catechisms. They also support one day classes in order to bring Masonry more in line with the needs of a busy modern society and thus attract new members.

### Characteristics:

- One day classes
- Lower memory requirements
- Recruitment
- Casual Dress
- Focused on Money
- More public Charity
- Marginally higher dues

### Status-Quos

The Status-Quos, according to Palmer, are the group that has contributed to keeping our Fraternity alive for the last fifty years. They are proud to be members of the Fraternity and see the current decline in membership as

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## **Iconic Tarrant County Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Texas:**

**1882-1981**

By Robert P. (Bob) Holmes

Tarrant County, Texas, has provided Freemasonry with Grand Masters who each in their special way are noteworthy personifications and icons of the Craft. Spanning a century, these brothers served the Fraternity dutifully in the Texas grand Masonic quarry.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Thomas M. Matthews served as grand master in 1882. He served as Junior Warden of Fort Worth Lodge No. 148 in 1856 and was Master of the lodge in 1859 and 1860. During the Civil War, Brother Matthews served as assistant surgeon (Regimental Surgeon) of Colonel George Henry Sweet's Second Regiment of Johnson's Brigade, Texas Military Reserve. He enlisted in 1862, and later the regiment was known as the Fifteenth Regimental Texas Dismounted Calvary.

After the war Brother Matthews returned to Texas and resided in Rusk, Tarrant, Van Zandt, and Henderson counties. He is listed in the Grand Lodge Past Master Log in 1882 as being from Pine Masonic Lodge No. 203 in Ben Wheeler, Van Zandt County. However, the fact that he was a Past Master of Fort Worth Lodge No. 148 justifies Tarrant County's claim to that period of his fraternal service.

The onset of the twentieth century brought forth the second Grand Master from Fort Worth Masonic Lodge No. 148. Grand Master Nathaniel Moses (Nat) Washer served as Grand Master in 1901. He served Fort Worth lodge as Senior Deacon in 1889, Senior Warden in 1891, and Worshipful Master in 1892. Brother Washer was a business man, civic leader, philanthropist and public speaker. He and his brother Jacob established Washer Brother Clothiers in Fort Worth, advertised as "The Western Outpost of Texas."

The third Grand Master from Fort Worth lodge was G. R. M. Montgomery. He served as Grand Master in 1928. He served in three offices in Fort Worth lodge before becoming Grand Master: Junior Deacon in 1916, Senior Warden in 1917, and Master in 1918.

The fourth Tarrant County Grand Master was from Julian Feild Lodge No. 908. Brother Samuel Benton Cantey Jr. served as Master of Julian Field lodge in 1933-1934 and Grand Master in 1941. The Committee on Grand Officers Reports paid him the following tribute:

Your Committee believes that in his expressions, Grand Master is too modest and that without being requested, or even invited, Grand Master will be found in the ranks serving by precept and example in furthering all those issues and principles which as Grand Master he has promoted with such signal ability. Your Committee expects R. W. Sam B. Cantey, Jr, Past Grand Master of Texas Masons, to adopt in principle, if not in words, the proudly humble motto of the Black Prince, 'I Serve,' and that with or without this shibboleth our friend and brother will always be found in the ranks doing with his might what his hand finds to do. Your committee is impressed with the wisdom and statesmanship of the Grand Master's letters reported and respectfully recommends that the Grand Lodge of Texas invites the attention of the constituent Lodges to them and suggests that they be frequently consulted as furnishing a mine of wisdom and Masonic lore well worth preserving in the knowledge of the Craft.

The fifth Grand Master from Fort Worth Masonic Lodge No. 148 was Brother Hugh M. Craig. He was Junior Deacon in 1937, Senior Deacon in 1938, Junior Warden in 1939, Senior Warden in 1940, Master in 1941-1942, and served as Grand Master in 1949. Brother Craig has the distinction of being the first graduate of the Home and School to be elected Grand Master of Masons of Texas.

The second member of Julian Field Lodge No. 908 to serve as Grand Master was Brother John George Kenmerer, the sixth from Tarrant County. He served as Master of the lodge 1951-1952 and was Grand Master in 1958. Grand Master Kenmerer's biography is singularly stellar in all aspects.

The seventh Grand Master from Tarrant County was from Panther City Masonic Lodge No. 1183. Brother John Dupree Tomme Jr. was Grand Master of Masons in 1966-1967, serving as Master of Panther City Lodge in 1957-1958. Brother Tomme followed in his father's footsteps both in vocation (dentistry) and in the Fraternity. His father received his fifty-year service award in Masonry in 1968.

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The eighth and last Grand Master to hail from Tarrant County was a member of Polytechnic Masonic Lodge No. 925. Brother Tom Land served as Master of that lodge in 1964-1965 and Grand Master in 1981. His civic, business, and Masonic service were exemplary. Brother Land has the distinction of being the third Texas Grand Master to graduate from the Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth. He was a member of the famous Mighty Mites Football Team and participated in all Home and School sports and academic activities.

From Grand Master Matthews in 1882 to Grand Master Land in 1981, a grand century of Tarrant County Masonry has faithfully served the Grand Lodge and the Masons of Texas.

#### Bibliography

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## **Texas Lodge of Research**

### **Research Study Clubs**

The Membership Committee of Texas Lodge of Research is tasked with increasing membership by encouraging Brothers to write papers and become Full Members of TLR. Encouraging Brothers to write papers is an involved and possibly lengthy process and often requires multiple sessions and can extend over many months. Worshipful Master Billings suggested that local Study Clubs may be the proper vehicle to accomplish these tasks.

Several Study Clubs have been established to meet regularly to assist Brothers with writing papers. These clubs will meet informally, sometimes with a meal and at other times over a cup of coffee. A general discussion will be held to outline the steps in writing and then the process. Some meetings will have a speaker while others will use a workshop format. These Study Clubs can help YOU as you write your paper and become a Full Member of TLR.

The Dallas Study Club will meet on the Third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Richardson Lodge, 528 Lockwood, Richardson. Chris Livingston is the Study Club coordinator. Contact him at [clivingston@lyongorsky.com](mailto:clivingston@lyongorsky.com) if you have questions.

The Houston Study Club will meet on the last Wednesday of odd-numbered months at 6:30 p.m. at Temple Lodge, 4055 West Bellfort, Houston. Brian Dodson is the Study Club coordinator. Contact him at [brdodson33@aol.com](mailto:brdodson33@aol.com) if you have questions.

The Austin Study Club is being formed with Charles Maddox as the Study Club coordinator. No dates are yet set for meetings. Contact Charles at [saint.maddox@gmail.com](mailto:saint.maddox@gmail.com).



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cyclical. This group believes that “Masonic office is primarily a reward for faithful attendance and hard work” and that the most important thing is that “the bills be paid, the building kept habitable, the charities be funded and the membership cease to decline.”

Characteristics:

- Low dues
- Ritual is king
- Casual dress
- Emphasis on NPDs
- Masonic education de-emphasized
- The problem will go away

Our Fraternity is a diverse structure which “unites men of every country, sect and opinion ...” It is therefore no surprise that each Lodge might have men of each of the viewpoints characterized here. My purpose in posting this article, like Brother Palmer, was not to persuade you to one argument over the other but, “to make you aware that there is ongoing dialogue on a national scale” in which “many Grand Lodges are already taking actions as a result of the influence of one side or the other.”

For the full article, please see <http://issuu.com/knightstemplar/docs/0415?e=9348930/11574542>, pp., 9-15, 20-24

## Dyslexic Leadership



## Table at Grand Lodge

Texas Lodge of Research will be on display this upcoming Grand Lodge session with a table adjacent to the merchandise table downstairs. Please consider working this booth as it is one of the best opportunities we have to recruit new members. If you are interested in working the table please email R. W. David Dibrell, PGM, at [ddibrell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddibrell@sbcglobal.net).

## Photo purchase

The photo on the front cover is available for purchase from J. Whitmore Photography for a \$15 donation to Grapevine Masonic Lodge No. 288. The picture will be in an 8 x 10 format suitable for framing. Shipping costs are the responsibility of the purchaser. If you are interested, please email Brad Billings at [bradleybst@yahoo.com](mailto:bradleybst@yahoo.com) for full details. The last date to order is September 12, 2015.

## Request for Occasional Bulletin Articles

The format of *The Occasional Bulletin (OB)* has changed and is returning to more of an article format. 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.

We will also use articles previously published in the *OB* and short papers from *The Transactions* 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 our success.

Please submit your article to the secretary in Microsoft Word format as 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.

*Richard E. Schlaudroff, Editor*

**Texas Lodge of Research  
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## **From the Secretary**

I have had numerous requests for Texas Lodge of Research name badges over the past two and a half years, but I did not have a confirmed source. Texas Lodge of Research members can now order directly from Eternity Creations at [sales@eternitycreations.com](mailto:sales@eternitycreations.com). The cost for a name badge is \$26.50 each.

I you have had a change of address and have not let me know, please email me at [secretary.texaslodgeofresearch@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.texaslodgeofresearch@gmail.com) or to the lodge mailing address at P.O. Box 1057, Georgetown TX, 78627-1057, as soon as possible, so I will have a correct mailing address for you.

*Truitt L Bradly, PM, Secretary  
Fiat Lux*

