



THE OCCASIONAL BULLETIN

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

January 2016

Number 4

Next Stated Communication

Saturday, January 16, 2016
Lubbock, Texas

Host Lodge

Yellow House Lodge No. 841

Location

5015 Gary Avenue
Lubbock, TX 79413

Stated meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Hotel

Accommodations have been arranged with **Hawthorn Suites**, located at 4435 Marsha Sharp Fwy, Lubbock, Texas 79407, (806) 792-3600 .

There will be a hospitality room available Friday night.



From the East

The fall meeting of Texas Lodge of Research was hosted by Harmony Lodge No. 6 in Galveston on 12 September 2015. The meeting had been moved off of the usual 3rd Saturday due to the state-wide Scottish Rite Honors day to be held in Waco on September 19.

Those who made it into town on Friday night were hosted by Brother James Agrella and other members of Harmony Lodge and enjoyed great seafood at Gaydos. After dinner the usual hospitality room was opened for fellowship.

On Saturday, members met at the Galveston Scottish Rite Cathedral at noon to enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Eastern Star. The meeting was set to start at 1 p.m. to afford more time for members traveling that day and also to accommodate San Felipe de Austin Commandery No. 1, which held its annual inspection at 8 a.m. that morning.

Aside from the usual business of the lodge, a new program was introduced, entitled "Brotherhood of Light," which is to be sponsored by TLR and the Masonic Education and Service Committee. After some discussion, the program was adopted with much interest.

Following the business portion of the meeting, two papers were given; one by Junior Warden RW David Dibrell, PGM, and the other by RW Pete Normand, Grand Orator, and a Past Master and Fellow of TLR. RW Dibrell's paper was on Past Grand Masters of Texas who were also Past Grand Patrons of the Eastern Star. RW Normand's paper, entitled "The Ancients and Moderns in Eighteenth-century London: Setting the Record Straight," took us back in time to the formation of the two Grand Lodges of England and clarified many misconceptions about the Ancients and Moderns.

After the papers were read, the members of Harmony Lodge No. 6 took the members of TLR and their guests on a tour of the beautiful Galveston Scottish Rite Cathedral.



Texas Lodge of Research
Officers 2015 — 2016

Worshipful Master 806 787-7600	Bradley S. Billings bradleybst@yahoo.com
Senior Warden 972 424-3304	Charles E. McKay cemckay@verizon.net
Junior Warden 214 755-2583	David B. Dibrell, PGM ddibrell@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer 210.867.7244	Reese L. Harrison Jr., PGM reese.harrison@strasburger.com
Secretary 512 567-4756	Truitt L. Bradly, PM PO Box 1057 Georgetown, TX 78627-1057 secretary.texaslodgeofresearch@gmail.com
Chaplain 214-564-5847	Richard E Schlaudroff rschlaudroff@gmail.com
Senior Deacon 214 755-2583	Christopher Livingston clivingston@lyongorsky.com
Junior Deacon 972 984-9130	Harold E. Brown hbrown19@gmail.com
Senior Steward 512 567-6744	Charles E. Maddox saint.maddox@gmail.com
Junior Steward 903 238-3222	Brett Beggs bbeggs@gmail.com
Marshal 903 681-4160	Robert Risko robrisko68@aol.com
Master of Ceremonies 972 418-6446	Kenneth Cochran cochran524@verizon.net
Tiler 817 988-8808	Charles Ramsey lordelfin@aol.com
Transactions & Bulletin Editor 214 564-5847	Richard E Schlaudroff rschlaudroff@gmail.com
Webmaster 903 238-3222	Brett Beggs bbeggs@gmail.com
Secretary Emeritus	Plez A, Transou, PM, FMR

Lubbock in January



The next meeting of TLR will be held in Lubbock, Texas, and will pay tribute to the Texas Tech Masonic Guild, which was the forerunner of TLR and the entity that submitted the first petition to the Grand Lodge of Texas for a research lodge. As closely as possible, we will meet where they met and eat where they ate.

A hospitality suite has been reserved at the Hawthorn Suites and will open on Friday around 5 p.m. We will meet at the Lubbock Scottish Rite, located at 1101 70th Street, after dinner to take a tour of the building and to watch the feature presentation “A Square, a Compass, and a Star,” the film shown at the sesquicentennial of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The stated meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday and will be hosted by Yellow House Lodge No. 841 in their new building, located at 5015 Gary Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79413. My grandfather (Papa), grandmother, and mother are preparing a meal of brisket, sausage, and all the fixings. After the meal the presentation portion of the meeting will be conducted in academic regalia.

Accommodations for out of town members have been made at the Hawthorn Suites at a rate of \$89 per night. Reservations may be made by calling the hotel directly at (806) 792-3600 and referring to the “Texas Lodge of Research” block or Group Code: TLR. All reservations must be made by December 31, 2015, in order to receive the discounted rate.

Future Stated Meetings

Coming stated meetings of Texas Lodge of Research will be held:

March 19, 2016
 Plano Lodge No. 768, Plano

June 18, 2016
 Holland Lodge No. 1, Houston

September 17, 2016
 San Gabriel Lodge No. 89, Georgetown

From the Master's Desk —

From the first meeting I attended during PM Bronk's year, it was apparent that research was what TLR was all about. A large portion of our meetings and *Transactions* showcase the researches and writings of our members, and rightfully so I might add.

When I began to put the plan together for 2015, I kept reminding myself of our motto which is to "promote, encourage, conduct and foster Masonic research and study." As dedicated as we are to research, I felt we were a bit behind in supporting Masonic *study*. This year, in an attempt to increase our focus on Masonic study, your officers and I have worked on and developed two additional resources: the "Brotherhood of Light" Program and the Fellow's Reading List.

Brotherhood of Light Program

During PM Howe's year, with the assistance of Brother Bob Northcutt and others, he designed a program called the "Masonic Guild." This was suppose be somewhat like the "Master Craftsman" program that the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite had initiated several years earlier.

The "Masonic Guild" program had three quizzes, one quiz for each degree, comprised of several multiple choice questions and an essay. The "Masonic Guild" program was well written, but being the first of its kind in Texas, it had some issues with regard to implementation. For this reason, the program was terminated on 15 June 2013.

This year, the leadership of TLR, seeing this program as a valuable resource to Texas Masons, called a joint meeting with the members of the Masonic Education and Service Committee (MESC) at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Dallas. Brother Larry Fitzpatrick, of the MESC, had also been working on a similar idea and out of this meeting the "Brotherhood of Light" program was born.

Committees were assigned with one Brother from each entity to develop test questions and essays for the following subjects: philosophy, history, jurisprudence, ritual and symbolism. Participating for TLR were Ron Lawrence, Chris Livingston, Charles McKay, Jim Rumsey and Jerome Weilmuenster.

Members of MESC that were paired with TLR members were Brothers Karl Krayner, Brad Kohanke, Dennis Reader, John Tolbert and Richard Schlaudroff. This program will be finalized by an oversight committee comprised of WM Brad Billings of TLR, Larry Fitzpatrick, Chairman of the Masonic

Education and Service Committee, and Brad Marrs of the Grand Lodge Internet Committee.

The "Brotherhood of Light" program uses Texas references and is specific to the Grand Lodge of Texas. A certificate and lapel pin are being designed for those who participate in the program and the hope is that these items will be presented to the brother in his local lodge. The associated fee structure is currently being worked out, and the program should be available on the Grand Lodge of Texas website in the first half of 2016.

Fellow's Reading List

When they begin to study our Craft, many Masons are overwhelmed by the almost unending resources available to them. Where does one begin? In an attempt to give some guidance to our Brethren, I asked our Fellow's to provide their respective reading lists, two of whom, Fellows Pete Normand and Brent Morris, obliged. Their compiled list is printed on page 7 of this issue and has also been formatted as a bookmark to hand out at our meetings and Grand Lodge events where TLR has a presence.

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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

COLUMNS OR PILLARS?

by Jerome Weilmuenster

Is there a difference? Probably. The answer depends on whether you ask a Mason or a non-Mason. Most Master Masons recall there are two pillars especially celebrated in the Fellowcraft degree, and three columns associated with wisdom, strength and beauty. And a few will add the columns associated with the senior and junior wardens' stations. But is there a difference between a column and a pillar? These few words will point out the difference and the important distinctions for Masons toiling in the quarries of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

As the craft developed from operative to speculative, it was natural that the symbols adopted for more noble and glorious purposes would be from the building craft. In addition to the square, compasses, level and other working tools, architectural features were adopted as well. Masons use these symbols to remind us of some principle of life or some philosophy speculative Masons should follow. The introduction of the construction of King Solomon's Temple into the ritual strengthened the importance of these symbols.

The history of the adoption of columns and pillars is not clear. Dr. George French, in a paper written for Texas Lodge of Research in 1984 noted that "the terminology is confusing in that the words pillar and column are used interchangeably..." Brother French goes on to note the confluence of a keen interest in the building arts in England in the seventeenth century and the development of Masonic ritual. A neoclassical style of architecture, including the five orders of architecture, became very popular at a time when architectural lectures were often given in lodges.

One of the primary differences between a column and a pillar is that a column should have distinctive proportions and adornments, according to the five principal orders of architecture, Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian and composite. This would be contrary to a pillar, which may be nothing more than a tall stack of rocks. The five orders of architecture are completely described by Giacomo Barozzi da Vignola in his classical work of the early sixteenth century. According to the "Short Talk Bulletin" of November, 1949, the five orders of architecture were "old and hoary with years" before the craft was organized in England.

This same article from the "Short Talk Bulletin" credits Preston with attributing wisdom, strength and beauty to the three columns assigned to the worshipful master, senior and junior wardens, respectively. As lodge furnishings have changed over the years, the master's column has been removed and the wardens' columns have been reduced in size (but not importance) to sit on their respective pedestals. Although the three columns are not physically present in the lodge room, the wisdom, strength and beauty that they symbolize are the three chief supports of the lodge.

The history of the use of pillars is a little easier to trace. The Cooke manuscript, ca. 1410, describes two pillars built by Jabal to record all known science. These two pillars were constructed so as to be impervious to conflagration and inundation. Noachite ritual credited Noah with a similar preservation. In his article for Texas Lodge of research, Brother French notes further that this allusion to Jabal's pillars does not appear in the *Edinburgh Register House* manuscript, ca. 1696, although certain characteristics of these pillars remain with us.

The two pillars of King Solomon's Temple, Jachin and Boaz, are, like the three columns, important Masonic symbols. The description of these two pillars in the Old Testament may be the most complete of any description of architecture in the Bible,

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and have generated no small amount of literature. Many words have been written concerning the material, dimensions and adornment of the pillars. One small point: there were no lilies in Jerusalem, but the pillars were adorned with “lily work”. These flowers were probably representative of the lotus.

The importance of these pillars may be attributed to the names chosen. According to a lengthy article in Mackey’s *Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, Jachin is derived from two words, *Jah*, meaning *Jehovah* and *achin*, “to establish”. Taken together they signify that “God will establish His house of Israel.” Boaz is likewise two words, “*b*” translated as “in”, and *oaz*, signifying “strength”. As the Israelites were reminded when they saw these two pillars, Masons today are reminded to place their faith in the Great Architect of the Universe.

So why are there pillars and columns in Masonry?

1) *Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary* denotes the difference between a column and a pillar by defining a pillar as a column or shaft standing alone, and a column as a supporting pillar. The columns of wisdom, strength and beauty support the lodge. Two of these columns, strength and beauty, are dedicated to the wardens and are represented at their stations. A column should be of given proportions, including pedestal, the column and the entablature, thus serving as an adornment as well as a support.

2) A pillar may be freestanding and of any proportions, as long as it is markedly taller than wide. A pillar is often erected as a memorial or a reminder and is often adorned to commemorate an event or to represent philosophy or principle of life. Such are the pillars Jachin and Boaz in a Masonic lodge.

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 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 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.



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

Transactions Reprint Pre-Registration Form

Texas Lodge of Research is pleased to announce the commencement of a reprint series of its annual *Transactions*, which is nearing its 50th volume. TLR's *Transactions* include the activities of the Lodge for a particular year, but the heart of *Transactions* is the collection of research papers present by its members and invited speakers during the year.

The contents of each reprinted volume are identical to the original publication and are covered in a facsimile heavy paper binding. These volumes would be ideal for filling an incomplete collection or starting a collection and completing it as each volume is reprinted.

The reprint of Volume I, which includes the first three years of TLR's history (1959-61), is ready to be published, and Texas Lodge of Research is now taking pre-orders for this volume. **Pre-orders can be purchased using this form for \$25.00 + \$2.50 postage per volume.** Once publication is complete, each volume may thereafter be purchased for \$30.00 + \$2.50 postage by contacting the Secretary at the email address below. *The deadline for pre-orders is January 31, 2016.*

Payment may be made by cash, check, or Paypal. Please make checks to: *Texas Lodge of Research*. If using Paypal, please add \$1.00 and send funds to the Paypal account: secretary.texaslodgeofresearch@gmail.com.

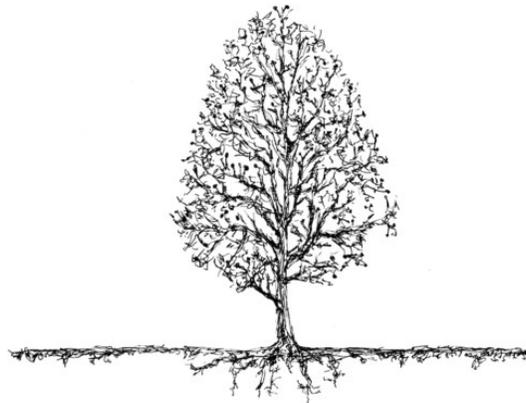
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Fellow's Reading List

- Henry Wilson Coil, *Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia*.
- Albert G. Mackey, *Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*.
- David Stevenson, *The Origins of Freemasonry: Scotland's Century 1590-1710*.
- Douglas Knoop, G.P. Jones and Douglas Hamer, eds., *The Early Masonic Catechisms*.
- Douglas Knoop, G.P. Jones and Douglas Hamer, eds., *Early Masonic Pamphlets*.
- Robert L.D. Cooper, *Cracking the Freemason's Code*.
- Tobias Churton, *Freemasonry: The Reality*.
- W. Kirk MacNulty, *Freemasonry: Symbols, Secrets, Significance*.
- James D. Carter, *Masonry in Texas: Background, History and Influence to 1846*.
- Jessica L. Harland-Jacobs, *Builders of Empire: Freemasonry and British Imperialism, 1717-1927*.
- Tobias Churton, *The Magnus of Freemasonry: The Mysterious Life of Elias Ashmole – Scientist, Alchemist and founder of the Royal Society*.
- Andrew Hammer, *Observing the Craft: The Pursuit of Excellence in Masonic Labour and Observance*.
- Harry Carr, *The Freemason at Work*.
- Bernard E. Jones, *Freemason's Guide and Compendium*.
- Arturo de Hoyos and Brent Morris, *Is It True What They Say About Freemasonry? The Methods of Anti-Masons*.
- A.C.F. Jackson, *Rose Croix: A History of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England and Wales*.
- Arturo de Hoyos, *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor & Guide*.
- Steven Bullock, *Revolutionary Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transformation of the American Social Order*.
- Mark Carnes, *Secret Ritual and Manhood in Victorian America*.
- Robert Freke Gould, *The History of Freemasonry*.
- Michael Halleran, *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Freemasonry in the American Civil War*.
- John Hamill, *The Craft: A History of English Freemasonry*.
- S. Brent Morris, *Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry*.
- Mark Tabbert, *American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities*.



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



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. The cost for a name badge is \$26.50 each.

If you have had a change of address and have not let me know, please email me at 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*

