



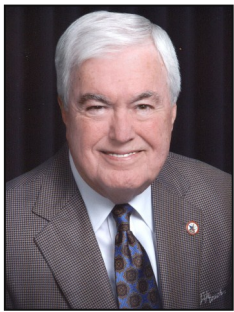
# THE OCCASIONAL BULLETIN

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

June 2017

Number 1

### From the Master's Desk



Thank you for allowing me to serve as Worshipful Master of the Texas Lodge of Research. I consider this a high honor and will do my best to bring pride and distinction to this year of service. We have assembled a great team to complete our tasks and earnestly seek advice from each of you to make TLR a more vibrant and fun Lodge.

The March meeting, under the direction of Charles McKay moved along smoothly and the election was conducted by Past Master Mike Wiggins. The day was hosted by Knox-Corinthian Lodge No. 851 and Worshipful Master Bill DuBois. This Lodge was thrilled to be invited to host TLR and Worshipful Master DuBois and his Officers did an outstanding job of serving a breakfast snack, lunch, and organizing tours of the Dallas Scottish Rite Building. Thank you Knox-Corinthian!

Mike Wiggins, TLR Past Master and Past Grand Master, served as Installing Officer, assisted by Leonard P. Harvey, TLR Past Master and Past Grand Master, serving as Installing Marshal. TLR Past Master Charles McKay served as Installing Chaplain. TLR Past Master and Past Grand Master Reese Harrison led the pledge to the United States Flag after a discussion of flags and their meanings, and Brad Billings, TLR Past Master, led the pledge to the Texas Flag. TLR Full Members of Richardson Lodge—Chuck Bukin, Frank Amadon and Frank Todd—served as ushers.

#### Next Stated Communication

Saturday, June 17, 2017  
San Antonio, Texas

#### Host Lodge

Alamo Lodge No. 44

#### Location

Alzafar Shrine Temple  
901 North Loop 1604 West  
San Antonio, Texas 78232

The Lodge will open at 9:00 a.m. for coffee and donuts with the stated meeting following at 10:00 a.m.

More than 60 Masons attended the March meeting, including Brother Herb Polinard, our Charter Chaplain. It was good to see Herb as active as always. Nine TLR Past Masters attended and thirteen new members were elected. Larry FitzPatrick, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education and Service was introduced. This Committee oversees the activities of Texas Lodge of Research.

We are excited about the June meeting in San Antonio for our annual Anson Jones Lecture. Our lecturer will be Joe C. Harrison, Past Grand Master of Tennessee. (See the article about him in this issue.) The San Antonio meeting will be hosted by Alamo Lodge No. 44 which meets at Alzafar Shrine Temple. My Grandfather was a member of Alamo Lodge.

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**Texas Lodge of Research**  
**Officers 2017 — 2018**

<b>Worshipful Master</b> 972 931-7699	<b>David B. Dibrell, PGM</b> davidbdibrell@gmail.com
<b>Senior Warden</b> 214 755-2583	<b>Christopher D. Livingston</b> cdlivingston@yahoo.com
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<b>Treasurer</b> 972 380-5610	<b>H. David Moore</b> dmoore@ghizmo.com
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<b>Junior Steward</b> 817 988-8808	<b>Charles Ramsey</b> ramseyc@windstream.net
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b> 936 488-9775	<b>Greg Megill</b> gregmegill@yahoo.com
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<b>Tiler</b> 972 342-1461	<b>Michael H. Bigbee</b> mbigbee@hotmail.com
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The September meeting in Waco will be a York Rite Symposium hosted by Baylor Lodge and our TLR Past Master Jack Harper. TLR Past Master Brad Billings is Symposium Director and is assembling the various committees to make this a successful event. In addition to regular TLR papers, several shorter discussion articles on the York Rite will be presented with cash prizes provided by the various Grand York Rite Bodies.

TLR will honor our Past Masters at the December meeting in Houston. A very special guest speaker is planned, and we are hopeful that most of our Past Masters will attend. The TLR year will end in March in the Dallas area where it began. Mark your calendars and make plans now to attend all four meetings this year.

Many changes are being made to the *Occasional Bulletin* and to the website. We hope to improve readability with a larger font size. We hope to improve interest with biographical sketches of Officers and of Past Masters. We hope to improve usability with a more timely delivery of the publication. You need to tell us how we are doing. If you like it, tell someone. If you dislike it, please tell me and offer an idea to improve it.

See you in San Antonio.

Fraternally,

David B. Dibrell



## March in Dallas



**Officers of TLR 2017-2018:** *Front Row* (left to right) - Richard Schlaudroff, David Moore, Chris Livingston, David Dibrell, Truitt Bradly, Stephen Moore, Greg Megill, Michael Bigbee. *Back Row:* Charles Maddox, Stephen Moore, Charles Ramsey.



David Dibrell, PGM, is installed as Worshipful Master of Texas Lodge of Research.



Grand Master Jerry Kirby addresses TLR.



Charter Chaplain Herb Pollinard chats with Past Master Brad Billings.



Clyde Schoolfield, Jr., WM of Oklahoma Lodge of Research, visits with Brother John Wilson.



# In Memoriam



Brother Plez Avery Transou, 90, a recipient of the Grand Lodge 65-Year Service Award, laid down the working tools of life on Saturday, 25 March 2017, in Dallas.

Brother Transou was born 29 May 1926 at Winston-Salem, NC, the only child of Plez Alexander Transou and Hattie Farrington Transou. He graduated from R. J. Reynolds High School in 1943. After a year at Georgia Tech University, he joined the U.S. Navy and served on the Destroyer Minesweeper #41, the USS Doran, in the Pacific during World War II. After the war, he attended and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After graduation, he began a 39-year professional career in the furniture business, and became the Sales and Marketing Director for the Myrtle Desk Company in the Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico territories. He moved from North Carolina to Dallas in 1955, where he married Diane Parkins of Dallas.

Brother Transou was initiated, passed and raised in 1950 in West Bend Lodge No. 434, Lewisville, NC. He affiliated with Dallas Lodge No. 760 in 1970 and was Worshipful Master of that lodge in 1976-77. He was a Past Master of Claud L. Austin Lodge No. 1450, serving as the lodge's Secretary from 1987 to 2005, and was a Charter Member of St. Alban's Lodge No. 1455. In the Grand Lodge of Texas, he served as District Deputy Grand Master of District 14-A in 1980 and as Grand Senior Deacon in 1987. In 2003, he was awarded the Golden Trowel Award by Dallas Lodge No. 760. In 2004, he was awarded the John Sayles Award for his lifelong contributions to Freemasonry.

An internationally recognized Masonic scholar and author, he was a Charter member of Texas Lodge of Research, and was elected the lodge's twentieth Worshipful Master, serving from 1979 to 1980. He was the author of the book, Masonic Almanacs and Anti-Masonic Almanacs, published in 1982 by The Masonic Book Club. In 1989, he was elected Secretary of Texas Lodge of Research, serving in that office for fifteen years. He was elected the lodge's tenth Fellow in Masonic Research in 1989. In 1991, he was elected Secretary of the newly created Scottish Rite Research Society, and served in that office for ten years, when he was named the Society's "Founding Secretary Emeritus."

Brother Transou was principally responsible for the donation of the Masonic library of Past Grand Master Robert L. Dillard, Jr., by the Dallas Scottish Rite to the Brazos Valley Masonic Library & Museum at College Station.

Among his many affiliations, Brother Transou was a member of the DeMolay Legion of Honor; York Rite of Freemasonry; the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry; St. Mark's Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine; the Grand College of Rites, U.S.A.; the National Sojourners; and The Order of the Foul [sic] (a special organization that Plez created many years ago, and which he conferred on select friends).

Brother Transou was a Thirty-third Degree Scottish Rite Mason, and was elected General Secretary of the Dallas Scottish Rite in 1989, serving in that office for over thirteen years. He also served for many years as an Advisory Trustee of the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

Fraternally,

Pierre G. Normand, Jr., PM, FMR

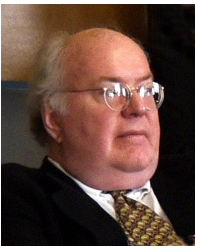
## From the West

The ranks of Texas Lodge of Research include many associate members who enjoy the fruits of our research. Most of them also have a paper in mind and desire for full membership. I want to remind each of you that while completion of a paper is an extraordinary accomplishment, it is not beyond your reach. The first step is always to file a Notice of Intent. Topics are limited to Masonry, but NOT just Texas Masonry. Your paper can touch upon other Masonic topics and histories. If there is an area you wish to explore or a topic that fills your dreams at night you can take action. Papers should be double spaced and at least twelve pages in length. Citations to your resources must conform with the TLR Form and Style Manual, which is available on our website. If you have questions about starting a paper or the process for turning that idea into a paper, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can do it!

Chris Livingston, SW



## Visitor from the North



At its March meeting in Dallas, TLR was pleased to receive a distinguished visitor, Brother Clyde H. Schoolfield, Jr., Worshipful Master of Oklahoma Lodge of Research, who came with fraternal greetings and tidings from his lodge, literary gifts, and wise counsel. He was most heartily welcomed by the brethren.

## York Rite Symposium

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas and Texas Lodge of Research are calling for papers to be presented at the TLR stated meeting in Waco on September 16.

Papers should be about 1000 words on any topic relative to the Chapter, Council, Commandery, or other York Rite appendant bodies. A cash prize will be offered for the winning submission.

For further details and deadline for submission, please consult the TLR website.



## Officer Profile

H. David Moore



Treasurer Moore has been a Master Mason for 57 years, receiving his degrees in East Gate Lodge No. 543 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in June 1960. He affiliated with Plano Lodge No. 768 in 1979, where he served as Worshipful Master in 1989-90, and for the past six years has served as the Plano Lodge Secretary.

He is an active York Rite Mason and served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas in 2012-2013.

David's research paper, entitled "Masonry in Plano", was presented in Richardson Lodge on 16 March 1996, where he was elected a Full Member of the Texas Lodge of Research.

## **Joe C. Harrison**

### **2017 Anson Jones Lecturer**



Joseph Curtis Harrison was born in Memphis and reared in Paris, TN. He owns degrees in Electronic Engineering Technology, Psychology, Business Administration, and Management Information Systems. He is currently is an Associate Professor of Information Systems at Union University in Jackson, TN.

Most Worshipful Harrison was raised a Master Mason in September 1983 in Bartlett Lodge No. 211 and served as Worshipful Master in 1990. In 1999, he was elected Junior Grand Warden and progressed to serve as Grand Master of Tennessee in 2002. In February 2002, he was elected to the Commission in Recognition of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. He served as Chairman of the Commission for three years and currently serves as Secretary/Treasurer. PGM Harrison received the Masonic Medal of Honor from the Grand Lodge of Bulgaria in 2008 for his work in unifying Masonry in that country.

Brother Harrison is a 33<sup>rd</sup> Scottish Rite Mason, receiving the degrees in Memphis Consistory. He was President of the Scottish Rite Foundation (Childhood Language Disorders Clinic) in 2007-2008. In 2007, Brother Harrison became Chairman of the Board and Personal Representative of the SGIG in the Memphis Scottish Rite and was elected Sovereign Grand Inspector General in 2015.

He is a Past Sovereign of St. Stephens Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, and became the Intendent General of Tennessee. He has served as Grand Almoner of the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, and is presently Grand Viceroy.

Companion Harrison has served as High Priest of Millington Chapter No. 225, Illustrious Master of Millington Council No. 131, and Eminent Commander of Millington Commandery No. 39, where he was made a Knight Crusader of the Cross. He has been Governor of the York Rite College and received the Order of the Purple Cross from the York Rite Sovereign College. Companion Harrison was elected to receive the Knight of York Cross of Honor and the Grand Cross of Honor. He served as General Grand Prelate of the Convent General KYCH in 2006 and 2012.

He is a member of many other appendant bodies, including Al Chymia Shrine Temple, Grand College of Rites, Royal Order of Scotland, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Allied Masonic Degrees, Knight Masons, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, National Sojourners and Heroes of '76, Order of the Eastern Star, SRICF, Rectified Scottish Rite CBCS, St. Thomas of Acon, and Mayflower Conclave Pilgrim Preceptors, in many of which he served as presiding officer. Brother Harrison is a member of the Tennessee Lodge of Research.

## Officer Profile

Christopher D. Livingston



Senior Warden Livingston is a Past Master of Richardson Masonic Lodge No. 1214 and the current Worshipful Master of Hillcrest Masonic Lodge No. 1318. His current Masonic activities include

service as an officer of the 14<sup>th</sup> Districts MWSA, the Dallas Scottish Rite, and several appendant bodies. He also actively serves in leadership roles at First United Methodist Church Richardson. His research paper discussed the legal meaning of “moral turpitude.”

Professionally, Chris is Senior Assistant City Attorney with the City of Garland. He is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law and the University of Kansas. He and his wife Ashley are raising two boys in Dallas.



## Study Clubs in Texas

The Texas Lodge of Research has embarked on having Study Clubs in the larger metropolitan areas. This is a project to bring back what was popular 25 years ago. These local groups will meet periodically to help members decide on topics for papers, to help new members get more involved in TLR, to present papers of interest, and finally to promote fellowship among the members.

There is one active Club meeting presently in Richardson Lodge on the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. For more information on that Club, please contact Chris Livingston, Senior Warden of TLR, at 214-755-2583.

If you are interested in forming a group in your area, please contact Brian R. Dodson, Junior Warden, at 281-844-5747. Your Club could meet monthly, quarterly or as frequent as it makes sense in your area.

Brian R. Dodson, Junior Warden

## June in San Antonio

The June TLR Meeting will be held in San Antonio on June 17<sup>th</sup> at Alzafar Shrine Temple for our Annual Anson Jones Lecture. The meeting will be hosted by Alamo Lodge No. 44. Worshipful Master Anthony Harris promises great food and fellowship. Our Anson Jones Lecturer is Joe Harrison, Past Grand Master of Tennessee (see related article).

Alzafar Shrine is located at 901 N. Loop 1604, San Antonio, 78232, 210-496-1625. A block of rooms is held at Hampton Inn – Northwoods, 2127 Gold Canyon Dr., San Antonio. The room rate is \$119. Call the hotel at 210-404-1144 and ask for the TLR Rate. A hospitality room will be open Friday evening in the hotel. The Friday evening no-host dinner will be at a nearby restaurant at 6 p.m.

The stated meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, in the Alamo Lodge room after the breakfast. We will have one or two papers and then lunch will be available for a donation of \$12. The Anson Jones Lecture will follow at 2 p.m., after which TLR will close.

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



The Committee on Masonic Education & Service for the Grand Lodge of Texas is responsible for providing resources that will help the Masons of Texas gain a deeper and more meaningful understanding of the History, Jurisprudence, Philosophy, Ritual, and Symbolism of Freemasonry. In an effort to fulfill its obligation, the committee has completed several projects and begun a series of initiatives it believes will help further the cause of Masonic education in Texas.

Past Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey's book, *Masonry and the Mason*, an excellent resource for the newly raised Master Mason, and the A.L.L. program have both been updated and are now available through the Grand Lodge. *Sharing Freemasonry*, originally introduced by Past Grand Master Jerry L. Martin as an aid to Lodge Mentors, has been updated and will be going to the printer later this month.

The 2017 Briscoe Fall Workshop Program is complete and presentations in your District will begin in mid-September. This year's program includes situations related to the application of Grand Lodge Law as well as discussions of topics on Masonic Symbolism and Philosophy. The 2017 Officer Leadership Program (formerly the Wardens' Retreat), designed to prepare those who have been selected to lead their Lodges to do so effectively and efficiently, will begin the first weekend in August. Please see the Grand Lodge website for dates, locations, and registration information. Registration is open to all Master Masons.

Among the initiatives that we are working on are an update and rewrite of the L.I.F.E. Program, creating an MESC website to facilitate distribution of materials, and a Title V Handbook for Lodges. Lastly, in conjunction with members of TLR, the committee has completed an educational program entitled "Brotherhood of Light," which should be available online prior to year's end.

As a member of TLR and someone interested in Masonic Education, I am confident you will find something of value in these offerings and ask your assistance by helping us promote them within your Lodges.

Larry M. Fitzpatrick, Chairman