



THE OCCASIONAL BULLETIN

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

September 2018

Number 2

From the Master's Desk



We had a great turnout for our stated meeting and Anson Jones Lecture in Kerrville.

Our Anson Jones Lecturer, Patton Hart, who is a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and Past Grand Master of DeMolay International, gave an interesting presentation on the current state of the Masonic Renewal Committee of the Conference of Grand Masters. We also had a productive business meeting to address issues, such as a new publication agreement with authors.

Speaking of authors, we are anticipating at least two new papers will be presented at our September stated meeting in Waco. The meeting is being coordinated by Past Master Jack Harper and Baylor Lodge will again host. There is a football game that Saturday, but Brother Harper has secured a block of rooms at Comfort Suites at an excellent rate. Look for our email notifications for more information.

We also have had some sad news since Kerrville. Our immediate Past Master, David Dibrell, PGM, passed away on 30 June 2018. Brother Dibrell and I drove down and back from Kerrville. We stopped at Hammond's BBQ in Glen Rose on the way back. It was a great trip and fun time in the heart of Texas. No man had unkind words for Brother Dibrell – that is not something we can say for every man who has ascended to the powerful positions he held. We must try to emulate the excellent example he set if we are to grow Texas Freemasonry.

Next Stated Communication

Saturday, September 15, 2018
Waco, Texas

Host Lodge

Baylor Lodge No. 1235

Location

722 Washington Avenue
Waco, Texas 76701

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

With Brother Dibrell's passing, Past Master Jim Rumsey will take over coordinating the Texas Grand Lodge History Project. If you accepted the task of writing a decade for Brother Dibrell, I would ask that you get to work and help Brother Rumsey fill some big shoes. We have two of the papers submitted and need to get more ready for December when we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Texas Lodge of Research.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve you as Master of this Lodge. We have a wealth of great officers working to improve TLR and Texas Freemasonry.

Each of you has a paper topic in your head. Please start putting it to paper, so that you can add your part to our body of knowledge.

God Bless,

Christopher D. Livingston, WM

Texas Lodge of Research

Officers 2018 – 2019

Waco Meeting

Worshipful Master 214 755-2583	Christopher D. Livingston cdlivingston@yahoo.com
Senior Warden 281 844-5747	Brian R. Dodson, PGM brdodson33@aol.com
Junior Warden 512 567-6744	Charles E. Maddox charlemaddox@gmail.com
Treasurer 972 380-5610	H. David Moore dmoore@ghizmo.com
Secretary 512 567-4756	Truitt L. Bradly, PM PO Box 1057 Georgetown, TX 78627-1057 secretary.texaslodgereasearch@gmail.com
Chaplain 972 342-1461	Michael H. Bigbee mbigbee@hotmail.com
Senior Deacon 214 320-2600	Vince Zubras vzubras@sbcglobal.net
Junior Deacon 512 887-0775	Christian D. Moore cdmoore1981@gmail.com
Senior Steward 817 988-8808	Charles Ramsey chuck.ramsey@hotmail.com
Junior Steward 936 488-9775	Greg Megill gregmegill@yahoo.com
Master of Ceremonies 214-564-5847	Richard E. Schlaudroff rschlaudroff@gmail.com
Marshal 979 732-2797	Stephen Moore stephenm369@gmail.com
Tiler 254 405-4391	Ed Brown caplo@hotmail.com
Transactions & Bulletin Editor 214 564-5847	Richard E. Schlaudroff rschlaudroff@gmail.com
Webmaster 903 238-3222	Brett Beggs bbeggs@gmail.com

Our next meeting is 15 September 2018 at Baylor Masonic Lodge No. 1235 in Waco, Texas. The address is 722 Washington Avenue, Waco, Texas 7701. Lodge will open at 10:00 a.m.

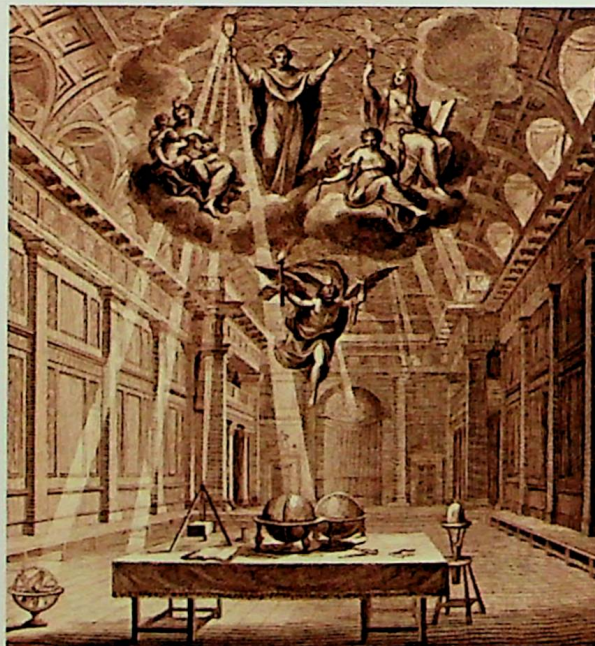
Past Master Jack Harper has procured a block of rooms at Comfort Suites, 810 I-35 North, (254) 799-7272. The rate is \$159.99 / per night.

There will, of course, be a Friday night dinner and fellowship. More information will follow.

Future Meetings of TLR

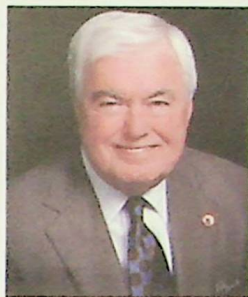
Weatherford, December 15
Phoenix Lodge No. 275

Houston, March 16
TBD



Frontispiece, James Anderson, *Constitutions of the Antient Fraternity of Free & Accepted Masons*, 1784.

In Memoriam



David Benton Dibrell

1938 - 2018

Texas Lodge of Research Past Master and Past Grand Master of Masons David Benton Dibrell epitomized the selfless leader. He passed away in Dallas, Texas, on 30 June 2018 at the age of eighty, surrounded by his family and loved ones.

Beloved and respected, he was a self-professed "computer nerd" who was elected to serve as Grand Master of approximately 130,000 Texas Masons in 2001. He also served as Advisory Trustee for Texas Scottish Rite Hospital of Dallas, Past Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star, Admiral in the Texas Navy, leader of a plethora of genealogical and historical societies, adult leader for DeMolay, and with his high-school sweetheart and wife of sixty years, Marlene, for local, state, and International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

David was born 26 May 1938 in San Antonio, to Juanita (Pounds) and John Lee Dibrell, Jr. His father was a football coach who eventually settled the family in Big Spring, Texas, where David graduated from Big Spring High School and subsequently completed his education at The University of Texas in Austin. He had a successful career specializing in computers and insurance.

Being a leader started early for David. He served as Master Councilor of Big Spring DeMolay Chapter in 1956. He joined Richardson Masonic Lodge No. 1214 in 1971 and served as Master in 1979-1980. He also served as Master of Knox-Corinthian Lodge No. 851 and Eagle Lodge No. 41 and was a plural member of several Texas lodges.

An amateur historian and active genealogist, David traced his Masonic heritage to 1792. He was a Full Member and Past Master of Texas Lodge of Research who was awarded the Carter Literary Excellence Award. David was working on two research papers for the Lodge about Texas Masonic history at the time of his death.

David's membership in Masonic-related organizations is too extensive to list here. Suffice it to say that he was active in every Masonic appendant body, including Scottish Rite, York Rite, Grotto, Shrine, and the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America. Many will attempt to emulate his leadership style and dedication to Freemasonry.

More than the awards and memberships, David was an exceptional mentor to multiple generations of Masons. He once said that Solomon told us in Ecclesiastes 9:10: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." He encouraged others to aim high because they would achieve much, even if they missed their mark. He believed a positive attitude and careful planning would always bear fruit. He hoped to bring the joy of Freemasonry to successive generations. His leadership, mentorship, and friendship will be sorely missed.

Thoughts from the Editor

As submitted papers are prepared for publication in *Transactions*, a few formatting issues are common enough that it seems worthwhile to mention them here.

First, remember that your letter-sized page (8½ x 11) has to be shrunk down to 6 x 9 for publication. This causes a problem particularly with tables. Try to avoid using the Table function in Word, as it often has to be dismantled in the editing. Consider using Tabs for creating tables instead, if possible.

Second, *Transactions* is formatted to maintain a consistent look. That means that much of the special formatting used in submitted papers has to be removed, such as bold formatting for Endnote numerals, irregular typefaces, or Word art. Endnote numerals should be superscripted only. Keep the text as plain as possible, limiting special character formatting (principally italics) to that necessary for emphasis in the text and Endnote citations. Generally avoid unusual page formatting. Follow the *Form & Style Manual*.

Finally, using photographs and scans of documents as support for your paper is certainly encouraged. Remember, however, that images are degraded in print. Try to find the best quality originals and use scans rather than photocopies in your paper.

Hopefully, this will save you time and effort in preparing your submission.

Richard E. Schlaudroff, *Transactions* Editor



From the Senior Warden's Desk

A Round Tuit. Everyone has seen one. We all have said at one time or another that I will get "around to it." But when? If we are talking about writing a paper for the TLR, the time is now.

It is a most satisfying accomplishment to research and write a paper that interests you, and when taken in steps, it is a process that seems to flow. The first step is to determine the topic and submit a Notice of Intent form, which can be found on the TLR website. When approved, the next step would be to research the topic, make an outline of the flow of the paper, and then write it. Once written, it is turned in to the Editorial Committee for their review. After they have looked at it, they will make suggestions for improvement. The improvements are then incorporated into the paper and resubmitted. Once complete, the paper is presented at a stated meeting of the Lodge, and once approved, a Full Member status is awarded to the presenter.

So take the step. Do away with the Round Tuit and begin. We are seeing an increase in the number of Notices of Intent, but the bucket is not yet full. There is still room for yours.

See you in Waco.

Brian Dodson, SW

Grand Lodge History Project

With the passing of R.:W.: Dibrell, I am appointing R.:W.: Jim Rumsey as the new Chairman of the Texas Grand Lodge History Project. R.:W.: Rumsey will be contacting you to confirm your desire to complete this important project.

R.:W.: Harvey and R.:W.: Dibrell were the prime movers of this history project. They are surely watching over us as we attempt to put into words the accomplishments of this great fraternity. Our efforts will be dedicated to their service and memories. I trust that R.:W.: Rumsey will continue to lead us in completing this important undertaking. May the G.A.O.T.U. guide us in accomplishing this task that we promised R.:W.: Harvey and R.:W.: Dibrell to undertake.

I'm sure R.:W.: Rumsey will share his excellent work with us all, so that we have a sound model to emulate.

Let's get started!

1838-1850 Brian Dodson
1851-1870 Richard Schlaudroff
1871-1890 Jim Rumsey (Draft Submitted)
1891-1900 Glen Garber
1901-1910 Christian Moore
1911-1920 Will Treveno
1921-1930 _____ (Leonard Harvey)
1931-1940 Ron Park
1941-1949 Mark Dermitt (Draft Submitted)
1950-1960 Chuck Ramsey
1961-1970 Roger Landry
1971-1980 Charles McKay
1981-1990 Chris Livingston
1991-2001 David Dibrell (Draft Submitted)
2002-2010 H. David Moore
2011-2017 Rene Silvas
Buildings Brad Billings

Christopher D. Livingston, WM

Proposed By-Laws Change

It is proposed that Article II, Section 3 of the By-Laws be amended to bring it into conformity with Article 201 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas (as revised in 2013) and the current situation in the lodge, to read as follows:

Fellow in Masonic Research: Texas Lodge of Research may elect any Full Member to the honorary title of Fellow in Masonic Research in recognition of distinguished service and accomplishments in researching, writing and publishing the history, symbolism, and philosophy of Freemasonry ~~any field within the purpose for which the Lodge was created~~, but such election shall be approved by the Committee on Masonic Education and Service before it shall become valid. Only one Fellow in Masonic Research may be voted per year. Nominations for Fellow in Masonic Research shall be made in writing by any Full Member of Texas Lodge of Research, but before such nominations shall be acted upon, they shall be submitted to a Committee on Fellowship Nominations, appointed by the Worshipful Master and composed of not less than three (3), nor more than five (5), Full Members ~~Fellows in Masonic Research~~. The Committee on Fellowship Nominations shall have the duty of reviewing all nominations and may reject all, or second one or more nominations in a written report to Texas Lodge of Research. The Worshipful Master at the next Stated Meeting shall submit seconded nominations to the Full Membership in attendance for a secret ballot. The votes shall be immediately tabulated by the Secretary, with any assistance as he deems necessary, in Open Lodge, and report his finding to the Worshipful Master. The Worshipful Master shall declare the Brother who has received a majority of the votes cast by the Full Membership present, elected to the honorary title of Fellow in Masonic Research. Should no majority of the vote result on the first ballot, the Worshipful Master shall order succeeding ballots until a majority vote results, or he is convinced that no election can be obtained. Upon election, the Worshipful Master shall certify the name of the Brother so elected to the Committee on Masonic Education and Service. Upon approval by the committee and adoption of its report at the next Grand Annual Communication, the Worshipful Master shall announce the time and place at which a suitable certificate and jewel shall be awarded to the Brother elected. Fellows shall retain all prerogatives of Full Membership.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christopher D. Livingston

Christopher D. Livingston, WM



From the Junior Warden's Desk

Why did you join Texas Lodge of Research?

Last month I talked about one of the reasons I joined Texas Lodge of Research. Hopefully, it prompted you to ask yourselves why each of you decided to join. I mention this because each of us joined for one particular reason or another. Perhaps, like myself, it was the pride of one day wearing the legendary apron. Maybe it was for the social atmosphere we have at our meetings, or possibly for the opportunity to continue to learn.

No matter the reason you joined Texas Lodge of Research, I want you to look deep within yourself and approach your lodge brethren who are not members. Find out what they are looking for in Masonry. Engage them, ask them what knowledge they seek to gain or what lessons they hope to learn.

Texas Lodge of Research is perhaps the most unique lodge in Texas. Remind your brethren across the state in your various lodges that Texas Lodge of Research combines a thirst and exploration for knowledge in perhaps one of the most fraternal and social atmospheres across the state. Think of the reasons that caused you to join and talk with your brothers about those.

See you soon,

Charles E. Maddox, JW



I Shall Not Pass This Way Again

Through this toilsome world, alas!
Once and only once I pass;
If a kindness I may show,
If a good deed I may do
To a suffering fellow man,
Let me do it while I can.
No delay, for it is plain
I shall not pass this way again.

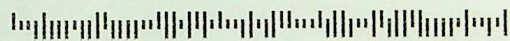
Anonymous

Carl Glick, ed., *A Treasury of Masonic Thought*, 183.

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From the Secretary

I have had numerous requests for Texas Lodge of Research name badges. 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

