

Senior Officers

- Worshipful Master Chris Rhodes 972-384-0405
- Senior Warden JJ Miller 972-496-7767
- Junior Warden Scott Shaeffer 972-509-5252
- Treasurer Warner Richeson 972 422-4268
- Secretary Harry F. Powell II 972 424-7153

Junior Officers

- Senior Deacon Adam DeMasellis 214-244-7830
- Junior Deacon Clay Smith 972-881-8341
- Senior Steward Kevin Main 972-377-6171
- Junior Steward Bill Goodell 972-228-7087
- Marshal Mathew Smithey 903-640-4264
- Chaplain Bob Pannell 972-596-4416
- Master of Ceremonies Brian Chaput 972-599-7789
- Tiler Eric Beck 972-443-0007

From the East

Brethren All,

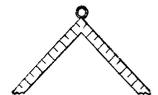
We have recently closed our Grand Lodge annual communication in Waco. During that session some monumental changes in Texas Masonry occurred. For those of you who were unable to attend for various reasons let me inform you of the two changes I think will impact Masonry in Texas the most. First is that it is no longer a Masonic offense to possess a code book of the esoteric work in certain circumstances. Second is stated meetings may now be opened in the Entered Apprentice degree and all business can occur while open in that degree. I know there are strong feelings associated with both of these changes and I will leave that to be discussed in the lodge room.

This is the time of year when families and friends gather for celebrations; the time of year to reflect upon what has occurred during the previous months; the time of year when some see friends or loved ones not often seen; and a time when certain meals or dishes are prepared, that would simply not taste right at any other time. Please savor this time and spend it wisely for you will not get another chance for 12 whole months. Enjoy the season and all it brings. Spend time with those friends and family and reflect on what a great year 2007 has been.

In that spirit December will be a somewhat slow month at Plano Lodge. Our stated meeting will be held on the 13th; on the 20th I expect we will have an Entered Apprentice degree and something different will occur on the 27th. I don't believe that many would show up at lodge that night, so to bring the friends and families together for a little fun lodge will be dark, but we will be gathering to view the new movie National Treasure: Book of Secrets. Let's gather to have a little fun with Masonry and rest and refresh ourselves for what I am sure will be a very busy 2008.

In the light,

Chris



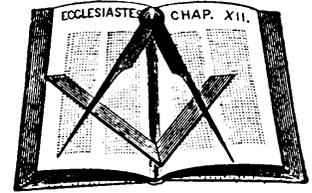
Inside this issue: Page

Light from the East	1
Morals and Dogmas Announcement	2
Calendar of Events	3
Freemasonry and Christmas	4

Is the lodge website under your favorites? If not, go to www.planomasoniclodge.org and add it. Visit it often.



PRESS RELEASE



We are very pleased to announce the arrival of what 99.9% of Masons have been anxiously anticipating for over 136 years.....

A copy of *Morals & Dogma* that is easy to read!

www.morals-and-dogma.com

Morals & Dogma for the 21st Century is a modern interpretation of Albert Pike's Greatest Work. We have taken the entire original book and translated it into modern English, streamlined the ideas, organized the flow of thoughts, updated many of the historical examples, and clarified many of the points that are easily misread.

Now is *your chance* to rediscover the single most important book in Freemasonry presented in a new, easy-to-read format. For the first time ever, *Morals and Dogma for the 21st Century* brings *every Mason* the opportunity to expand his understanding of the craft, its values, and his brother Masons. It will serve to deepen the commitment each Mason has to his brothers and, more importantly, the values that bind them together.

This book *again* demonstrates how the lessons of Freemasonry are timeless across the ages. Its lessons need to be repeated to every generation again, and again, and again because they are so vital to our everyday lives. We have unwrapped, presented, and are offering to you this treasure chest of morality, charity, and Masonic education which is just as relevant today as it was 136 years ago. At long last, Masonic conversations can dive deep into the meanings and teachings of this book, making a truer understanding possible for everyone.

It is with an absolute reverence for Albert Pike and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite that we have endeavored to make *Morals and Dogma* more approachable and accessible to the modern reader. In no way do we intend to displace (or replace) his work from its exalted position, so rightly and fully deserved. Rather, we hope to inspire our audience to read *Morals and Dogma* in its entirety and in the original language. This work is our gift to the Greatest Fraternity in the history of man.

To buy your copy of history, please click on:

www.morals-and-dogma.com

First Printing limited to 5,000 hand-numbered copies.

First 1,000 copies will be signed by the authors.

For additional information please contact JJ Miller at 214-733-1814 or e-mail him at jjmiller@stoneguildpublishing.com .

Calendar of Events for December

<p>Plano Lodge Events</p>	<p>Around District 9</p>		<p>Plano Order of the Eastern Star #703</p>
<p>Dec 13 - Stated meeting "Family night" - 5:30 PM</p> <p>Dec 20 - Entered Apprentice</p> <p>Dec 21 - Young Masons Movie "National Treasure: Book of Secrets"</p> <p>Dec 27 - TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stated meetings in District 9 - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Thurs. Plano - 7 PM First Tues. Lebanon - 7 PM St. John's - 7:30 PM East Fork - 7:30 PM Second Tues. Lee - 7:30 PM Melissa - 7:30 PM Empire - 8:00 PM Second Mon. Celina - 7 PM Blue Ridge - 7:30 PM Second Tues. Allen - 7:30 PM Third Tues. Farmersville - 7:30 PM Fourth Tues. Princeton - 7:30 PM 	<p>Dec 17 - Stated Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p><i>Remember brethren, any wife, daughter or relative of a mason is eligible for Eastern Star membership. Get them involved</i></p>	<p>Dec 17 - Stated Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p><i>Remember brethren, any wife, daughter or relative of a mason is eligible for Eastern Star membership. Get them involved</i></p>
 <p>The chuck wagon</p>	<p>Adopt a Chair Program</p> <p>ONLY 18 CHAIRS LEFT!!!</p> <p>Remember a loved one forever, and help grow the Plano Lodge Building Fund.</p> <p>Chairs are \$100.00 each and new name tags are available at a special price of \$10.00 each.</p> <p>Contact Larry Kester for more info.</p> <p>lhkester@verizon.net</p>		<p>Plano Rainbow Assmblg #320</p>
<p>Dec 13 - Beef Stew</p> <p>Dec 20 - Stewards' Trestleboard</p> <p>Dec 27 - Stewards' Trestleboard</p> <p>All EA's, Fellowcrafts, and new Master Masons are reminded that they should help in the kitchen at least one week. Talk to the stewards about scheduling a time to help.</p>	<p>Texas Young Masons</p> <p>For information on the Texas Young Masons, go to www.texasyoungmasons.org</p>	<p>Dec 4 - Board Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p>Dec 11 - Stated Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p>Dec 18 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>If your daughter is involved in Rainbow, please help with lodge clean up!</p> <p><u>Get your daughter or grand-daughter involved in Plano Rainbow</u></p>	<p>Dec 4 - Board Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p>Dec 11 - Stated Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p>Dec 18 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>If your daughter is involved in Rainbow, please help with lodge clean up!</p> <p><u>Get your daughter or grand-daughter involved in Plano Rainbow</u></p>
<p>Events for the Super-Mason</p>	<p><u>Stock the Store Campaign:</u></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting December 17. Museum & Library History committee, Working meeting December 10th at 5:30 PM. St. John the Apostle Day Dec. 27th. 	<p>Brother Clay Smith is continuing the "Stock the Store" campaign which provides the "Country Store" where the residents of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center can pick up personal items - for free. This is where YOU can help. When you buy these types of products for yourselves, please buy one or two extra and bring them to the lodge. Here is a list of items they will always need.</p> <p>Kleenex, Cough Drops, Sugar Free Cough Drops, Talcum and Medicated Talcum, Lectric Pre-shave, Williams Pre-shave, Knee-high stockings (beige or nude), Aloe Vera and Cocoa Butter creams, Oil of Olay, Cleansing cream, Ponds Cold Cream, Moisturizing Cream (day and night creams), Toner and Astringent, Liquid make up (light color), eye pencils, eye shadow, blush, lipstick, Compacts, loose face powder (light), Chapstick, Cologne: men's and women's, Softsoap, Toothpaste: Colgate, Crest and Sensodyne, Toothbrushes, Individually wrapped snacks and candy (mini candy bars), Trident Gum and regular gum, Sleep caps, Flushable moist wipes, Room deodorizers, aerosol and solid, New and use VHS and DVD movies, Spray Starch, Hair Spray, V05 Hair Styling products.</p>		

Plano Masonic Lodge #768
P. O. Box 860282
Plano, TX 75086

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT No. 420

PLANO, TEXAS



PAGE 4



Certainly Freemasonry is not a religion, Christian or otherwise. It leaves the determination on spiritual matters to each individual Mason, so long as he believes in the Almighty Creator. But there are certain messages from the story of Christmas that are applicable to all Masons, not just those who celebrate a certain birth on December 25th.

Many Christians feel God gave his greatest gift to mankind, and that Gift's birth is marked on Christmas Day. And the spirit of giving is also outlined in our Masonic ceremonies. The new Entered Apprentice is reminded in the northeast corner of charity, and to practice it whenever possible. There's the monetary charity of that portion of our ceremony. And there's another kind. The one referred to in the Charge in the same degree which admonishes "to relieve his necessities, soothe his afflictions, and do to him as you would that he, under similar circumstances, should do until you." In other words, the Golden Rule, from the Sermon on the Mount.

Christmas is a time of faith for our Christian brethren. But all Masons are reminded in the different degrees of the principle of faith. In the First Tracing Board, we hear "How ready and willing ought we to be to adore the Almighty Creator." Therefore, let this time of year serve as a reminder to all Masons to practice their faith, whatever it may be.

Faith and Charity are names of principal staves or rounds on the Ladder you see every meeting on the First Degree Tracing Board. But there is another round, and that is Hope in Salvation. While Salvation has a particular connotation to those who believe in the story of the virgin birth, the concept of some kind of reward for following Masonic principles during our lives winds its way through the various degrees, as those of you familiar with the working tools explanations of the Second and Third Degrees well know.

So let this season of the year remind all Masons, no matter what their religious beliefs, to follow those universal tenets of the Craft—faith, hope and charity. Doing so should bring some satisfaction at Christmas-time.