



PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Volume 183 - June 2009

Senior Officers

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Worshipful Master | JJ Miller | 972-496-7767 |
| Senior Warden | Scott Shaeffer | 972-509-5252 |
| Junior Warden | Adam DeMasellis | 214-244-7830 |
| Treasurer | Barry Parrish | 214-876-6819 |
| Secretary | Harry F. Powell II | 972 424-7153 |

Junior Officers

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Senior Deacon | Clay Smith | 972-881-8341 |
| Junior Deacon | Kevin Main | 214-796-9054 |
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| Marshal | Paxton Dunn | 469-363-5417 |
| Chaplain | Bob Pannell | 972-596-4416 |
| Master of Ceremonies | Eric Beck | 214-435-4758 |
| Tiler | David Carter | 469-467-0633 |

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

As we begin looking forward to a new Masonic year, it is a good time to reflect upon what makes the Masonic Lodge more successful than all other civic clubs in our communities. Here are my thoughts on an individual's choices that make a Mason and his Lodge successful.

Be informed. Freemasonry has a long and rich history which we need to preserve, understand, and communicate to our members, especially our newest members or candidates who are seeking that history and tradition when they mention, "My father was a Mason;" or "My grandfather was a Mason;" or "My great-grandfather was a Mason; and that is why I want to join." Each of us needs to be able to understand and communicate our history because Freemasonry has a great story to tell...warts and all. Do not let our critics be able to define Freemasonry because they know more about the fraternity than our members.

Be friendly. Freemasonry builds very strong friendships from the community of camaraderie. We need to make sure that we continue to create and nurture a social environment to foster these friendships because it does not happen inside the Lodgeroom. Making friends from Lodge is no different than making friends outside of the Lodge – you get to know them by interacting with them – be sure to invite them to get involved. Hopefully most of you do not try to make friends by inviting them to business meetings and arguing about how to pay the bills!

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For the latest on Lodge news and events and to download an electronic copy of the Trestleboard, go to:

<http://www.planomasoniclodge.org/>



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PLANO LODGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS & DINNER MENU

| | | |
|----------------|--|------------------------|
| June 4 | Stated Meeting (EA Degree) <i>Dinner 5:30 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.</i> | Steward's Trestleboard |
| June 11 | EA Degree <i>Dinner 6:00 P.M. / Degree 7:00 P.M.</i> | Chili |
| June 18 | MM Degree <i>Dinner 6:00 P.M. / Degree 7:00 P.M.</i> | Penne Cardinale |
| June 25 | EA Degree <i>Dinner 6:00 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.</i> | Smothered Pork Chops |
| June 27 | Installation of Officers <i>Installation 10:00 A.M.</i> | Refreshments |
| July 2 | Stated Meeting (EA Degree) <i>Dinner 5:30 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.</i> | Tamale Pie |

FROM THE EAST

(Continued from Page 1)

Be generous. Freemasonry is a networked support structure. We take pride in the fact that we have successfully provided help to distressed brethren, their widows, and orphans for hundreds of years. This support is even more urgent in our troubled economic times. Make sure to practice charity each week because everyone can always use a little extra karma. Make sure you are doing your part in contributing to the Lodge's charitable programs because they do not go unnoticed in the community.

Be active. The success of our Lodge is directly related to how we welcome the newest candidate and treat the newest member of the fraternity. What makes people walk in our door is unique to each person, but what makes them continue to come back week after week, month after month, and year after year, is the same thing – the friendships. The moral lessons, the philosophy, and the history are all dependent upon the ability of the Lodge to make people feel welcomed. This fraternity has been around long before any of us were born and it will be here long after we are all gone, but what kind of Lodge your sons and grandsons will join is dependent upon the work you are doing today to ensure the longevity of the Freemasonry through the friendships you build every week.

No excuses.

This has been a fun year and I have enjoyed every bit of it. We made tough decisions to put the Lodge on a solid financial footing. We conferred an outdoor MM degree near Farmersville, and another MM degree at the Washington Memorial in Alexandria. We had a Christmas party, a table Lodge, and a cigar night. We provided relief

for several brethren, a few widows, the Grand Lodge of Texas, and held two more blood drives for the Scottish Rite hospital. We successfully applied for a five year property tax exemption, made a big contribution to the scholarship fund, and had a lot of good Masonic education. We digitized the Trestleboard and improved our Lodge communications. The Museum & Library brought the George Washington Inaugural Bible to display in Plano, and after a long application process, the Museum & Library was approved by the Grand Lodge. Thank you for the opportunity to serve all of you.

Fraternally,

JJ Miller
Worshipful Master

UNTITLED POEM

FREEMASONS all, where'er ye be,
Sons of Light, ye Masons free,
May virtue and may honour be,
The Ornaments of Masonry.
With fervent zeal, with heart and hand,
May love cement our mystic band;
And for our cause let's make a stand;
For glorious Masonry.

Freemasons all, from pole to pole,
May love unite and truth control;
If sorrows come, what can condole
Our griefs like Masonry?
With kindly smiles we all have met,
To welcome each, and not forget
The absent whom we now regret,
On grounds of Masonry.
Ye Craftsmen all, may love impart
A warmth unto each honest heart;
And oft consult that faithful chart,
The guide of Masonry.
And when the spirit hence has fled,
May angels o'er their pinions spread,
And crown with bliss each Mason's head,
With heavenly Masonry.

- W. T. Harding

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

Brethren,

I have often heard the question "how can I help in the Lodge". I have the answer as we move toward the new Masonic year. There are several committees that will be finalized over the next few weeks, and I would like the membership to fill some of these positions. If you are interested, please contact me to offer your time. Everyone has a skill set or knowledge base that can contribute to the success of a committee. I need your help in filling these positions.

Committee opportunities available in a support capacity:

- **Widows:** Ensure communication between Lodge and Widows
- **Lodge communication:** Ensure website is updated, communicate with Lodge members
- **Museum & Library liason:** Keep the Lodge updated on M&L happenings
- **Prospect committee:** Communicate with new non-mason visitors to the Lodge
- **By-Laws committee:** Update our By-Laws & roster during 2009

I look forward to hearing from you on filling these positions. Together the Lodge will grow and prosper.

Your Senior Warden,
Scott Shaeffer
214-384-0317
scott_wrs@verizon.net

MASONIC TREASURE HUNT

Throughout the last Masonic year, the Trestleboard has contained a series of questions based upon information contained in the Monitor of the Lodge for the Grand Lodge of Texas. It is now time for those who have diligently followed these puzzles each month to reap their reward, but one challenge yet remains on this Masonic Treasure Hunt.

First, gather together your answers to all of the preceding puzzles for the entire year. For each of your 11 answers, select a specific letter within each answer as indicated below:

July 2008 – 1st Letter

August 2008 – 5th Letter

September 2008 – 7th Letter

October 2008 – 2nd Letter

November 2008 – 3rd Letter

December 2008 – 2nd Letter

January 2009 – 1st Letter

February 2009 – 3rd Letter

March 2009 – 1st Letter

April 2009 – 1st Letter

May 2009 – 1st Letter

When combined, these resulting 11 letters may be easily unscrambled to provide a final answer to this puzzle and one of the great lessons of Freemasonry.

E-mail your answer to this final puzzle to trestleboard@planomasoniclodge.org as soon as you have it. Use the subject line "Trestleboard Puzzle 2009". All correct answers must be received on or before **Wednesday, June 24, 2009** to be eligible for the prize. All entries providing the correct answer will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift certificate to the local restaurant called Love and War in Texas.

Good luck! (There will be no other hints provided, so don't ask.)

WEEKLY CERTIFICATE PRACTICES

We are meeting every Monday evening at 6:30 P.M. in the Museum and Library downstairs for certificate practices. All those wanting to learn the work and those studying for the exam are welcome. The certificate exam will take place on Monday, September 14th at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is

strongly encouraged to pursue a certificate this year, and if this is your first time, these practices are the best place to start. As a reminder, here are the requirements for each class:

"C" Certificate – Questions and answers from all three Degrees, the Tiler's Oath, and how to open, close, and call to and from labor all three Lodges and the Master Mason's Lodge of Sorrow

"B" Certificate – All requirements for "C" certificate and the floor work for all three Degrees

"A" Certificate - All requirements for "B" certificate and the short-form lectures for all three Degrees

ADOPT A CHAIR PROGRAM

ONLY 18 CHAIRS LEFT!!!

Remember a loved one forever, and help grow the Plano Lodge Building Fund.

Chairs are \$100.00 each and new name tags are available at a special price of \$10.00 each.

Contact Larry Kester for more information.

lhkester1@verizon.net

DISTRICT 9 STATED MEETINGS

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| First Tuesday | East Fork - 7:30 P.M. Lebanon - 7:00 P.M. St. John's - 7:30 P.M. |
| First Thursday | Plano - 7:00 P.M. |
| Second Monday | Blue Ridge - 7:30 P.M. Celina - 7:00 P.M. |
| Second Tuesday | Allen - 7:30 P.M. |
| Second Thursday | Empire - 7:30 P.M. Lee - 7:30 P.M. Melissa - 7:30 P.M. |
| Third Tuesday | Farmersville - 7:30 P.M. |
| Fourth Tuesday | Princeton - 7:30 P.M. |



PLANO ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR #703

June 6 - Officer Installation - 2:00 P.M.
June 15 - Stated Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

Brethren, as a Mason, you, your wife, your daughters or any other female relative at least 18 years of age is eligible for membership in the Order of the Eastern Star.



PLANO RAINBOW ASSEMBLY #320

June 2 - Advisory Board Meeting - 7:30 P.M.
June 6 - Officer Installation - 9:00 A.M.
June 9 - Stated Meeting - 7:30 P.M.
June 13 - Grand Assembly Practice - 10:00 A.M.
June 16 - Lodge Cleanup - 7:30 P.M.
June 20 - Grand Assembly Practice - 10:00 A.M.

If your daughter is involved in Rainbow, please help with lodge clean up!

Brethren, your daughters and granddaughters aged 11 to 20 should be a part of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

APPENDANT BODIES

June 9 - Haggai (McKinney) Commandery Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

June 15 - Scottish Rite (Dallas) Stated Meeting - Dinner 6:30 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.

June 23 - Haggai (McKinney) Chapter / Council Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

June 30 - Plano Shrine Club Dinner



MASONIC Q & A

What does “due guard” mean?

Like many phrases from Masonic ritual, “due guard” is probably a corruption of a much older term. The origin is likely to be found in French, Auld (Old Scots), or perhaps Welsh. Joseph Fort Newton puts forward a very sound hypothesis in his book, *The Builders*, suggesting that the phrase derives from the French “Dieu le garde”, meaning “God guard it”. This phrase was used in watermarks by paper makers from a specific area of Southern France at a time when Masonic Lodges would have natural ties to both paper and book-makers in spreading the work of the Enlightenment.

Thanks to all of our members and their families who submitted questions about Masonic history, philosophy, and symbolism this past year.

EXCERPT FROM THE BUILDERS

Here are the real foundations of Masonry, both material and moral: in the deep need and aspiration of man, and his creative impulse; in his instinctive Faith, his quest of the Ideal, and his love of the Light. Underneath all his building lay the feeling, prophetic of his last and highest thought, that the earthly house of his life should be in right relation with its heavenly prototype, the world temple —imitating on earth the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

If he erected a square temple, it was an image of the earth; if he built a pyramid, it was a picture of a beauty shown him in the sky; as, later, his cathedral was modeled af-

ter the mountain, and its dim and lofty arch a memory of the forest vista—its altar a fireside of the soul, its spire a prayer in stone.

And as he wrought his faith and dream into reality, it was but natural that the tools of the builder should become emblems of the thoughts of the thinker. Not only his tools, but, as we shall see, the very stones with which he worked became sacred symbols—the temple itself a vision of that House of Doctrine, that Home of the Soul, which, though unseen, he is building in the midst of the years.

- Joseph Fort Newton
From The Builders (1916)



STOCK THE STORE CAMPAIGN

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. There is a large box at the top of the stairs to drop the items as you come in.

Here is a list of items they will always need:

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, eyeshadow, blush, lipstick, Compacts, loose face powder (light), Chapstick, Cologne: men’s and women’s, Soft soap, 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 used VHS and DVD movies, Spray Starch, Hair Spray, V05 Hair Styling products.

FREEMASONRY AND THE INTERNET

Plano Lodge

www.planomasoniclodge.org

Plano Lodge Member Forum

www.planomasoniclodge.org/forum

Texas Young Masons

www.texasyoungmasons.org

MWSA - District 9

www.9thmws.ntxmason.org

Grand Lodge of Texas

www.grandlodgeoftexas.org

North Texas Masonic Historical Museum & Library

www.northtexashistory.org

Featured Website for June:

<http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/>