

The Craft's Trestle Board

A Monthly Newsletter from

Lewisville Lodge No. 201

A.F. & A.M.

lewisvillelodge.org

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From the Desk of the Editor:

We appreciate the kind thoughts and comments on the first edition of **The Craft's Trestle Board** and hope you will find this month's edition to your liking. As always, please send us your comments, suggestions and ideas on how we can improve the newsletter.

--The Editor

THE WISDOM TO CONTRIVE

"What do Masons do?" or some variation of that is probably one of the questions we are asked most often. While there are many ways to respond to this question, the response usually is: "We take good men and make better men out of them". But how do we do this? What is the process of improving ourselves thru Masonry? The Mission Statement below was presented at the 2014 Wardens Retreat. It seems to capture the essence of how we strive to improve men in a simple and concise way.

Our mission statement:

*Freemasonry takes a good man
and makes a better man.*

*We will accomplish this by
providing an environment where
men of good character can share
and develop life skills that enable
them to be better husbands,
fathers, employees, and members
in their communities.*

*By doing this we hope to inspire
others to do the same.*

Special thanks to Bro. FitzPatrick, Warden's
Retreat 2014

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Upcoming events and Activities

- ❖ The Stated Meeting for August will be on Thursday, August 13. Meal served at 6:30pm. Stated Meeting will start promptly at 7:30pm.
- ❖ The Lewisville Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month.
- ❖ Remember to mark your calendars that the third and fourth Mondays of the month are set aside for Masonic Education. Junior Warden Steve Trimpe with the assistance of District Instructor Larry FitzPatrick will provide instruction and enlightenment in the Esoteric and Exoteric studies of Freemasonry.
- ❖ Planning continues for a Garage Sale this fall. WM Sanders has put out a call for a location that will provide ample walk up traffic and provide good visibility. More information will be forthcoming as he firms up the plans and date for this Lodge fundraiser.
- ❖ The Dallas Valley of the Scottish Rite will hold its 400th Reunion on September 26, October 3, and October 17. In honor of the 400th Reunion, the Valley is in preparation for a very special Reunion and expectations are high for a large

class. All Scottish Rite Masons are encouraged to attend. Any Master Masons interested in joining the Scottish Rite should contact Brothers Bill Jacobs or Ralph Choate.



A MESSAGE FROM THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER...

We all remember the night we were raised to Master Masons and we were encouraged to work hard and become better masons. We established goals to become better informed and to work hard in order to achieve our goals. However, did we fully understand the commitment we were making to ourselves? Did we realize what this commitment in time and effort meant? Were we sensitive and responsive to the needs of others? Did we establish realistic and achievable goals? Did we have a vision of what we planned to do? Studying the work of the three degrees, we began to realize the teachings of each degree and assemble the structure Masonry was

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preparing us, in order to be better and more qualified to do the work of a Master Mason.

We all remember portraying the life of our Ancient Grand Master and the lesson that he taught us which was to be faithful throughout the difficulty of life's problems that we encounter as we make that journey.

We should all strive to emulate his courage, his skill and devotion no matter what setbacks we encounter along our Masonic journey. Masonry teaches us that the making of human character is liken to that of building a great Temple whereby only the best design, material and workmanship were used.

As we develop our Masonic standards and knowledge base, we should keep in mind a few simple rules that Masonic scholars have used for the development of their Masonic teachings:

"What we do not understand we do not possess",

"neither can we impart to others what we do not possess",

"we cannot teach to others what we do not understand".

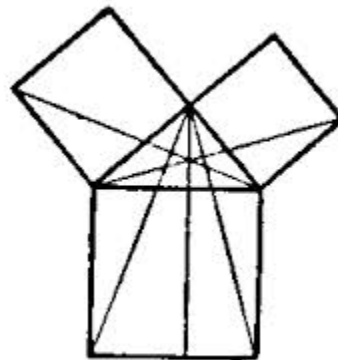
A half-hearted exposure to freemasonry will not suffice to achieve the minimum requirements of a real mason.

Tom Sanders, WM

From the Monitor of the Lodge:

The Forty-Seventh Problem of Euclid

This was an invention of the ancient philosopher, the Great Pythagoras, who in his travels through Asia, Africa, and Europe, was initiated in several orders of Priesthood, and is said to have been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. This wise philosopher enriched his mind abundantly in a general knowledge of things, and more especially in Geometry or Masonry. On this subject he drew out many problems and theorems and among the most distinguished he erected this, when in the joy of his heart, he exclaimed, "Eureka" in the Grecian language, signifying "I have found it"; and upon the discovery of which he is said to have sacrificed a hecatomb. It teaches Masons to be general lovers of the arts and sciences.



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Musings from Foy and Edna:

We ran into Foy and Edna the other day at the Dairy Queen as they were enjoying a Blizzard on a hot summer day. Foy was worked up about a recent visit to the lodge and all the profanity he heard from the brothers. It really was disturbing he said. "I thought we were supposed to be taking good men and making better men out of them". Even in the lodge room you could hear language that once was reserved for the locker room or construction site Foy said.

Edna piped in that "she felt uncomfortable with some of the potty mouth words she heard at a recent lodge event." "What ever happened to behaving politely in public?" asked Edna. Foy reminded me that Masons are supposed to be men of good character and should be setting the example for others to adhere to. "There ain't no place for cussing in the lodge room!" Foy declared. We could see he was warming up to the subject and were thankful he still had a sizable portion of the blizzard to keep him from overheating. "we need to put the 'gentle' back in gentlemen" Foy said as he slapped the Formica table, causing the other guests at the DQ to look his way.

I agreed and told him that I was as guilty as anyone and we should remind ourselves where we are and the proper decorum

required while we are at the lodge. Edna says she remembers back in the day when you never heard a cussword in polite society, but now it seems like everyone casually uses even the most offensive profanity in their everyday conversations.

As Foy was finishing his blizzard, he summed it up very nicely: "We as men and Masons owe it to ourselves to rise above the fray and hold ourselves to a higher standard. If we don't do it, then who will? By golly we need to practice the principals of Freemasonry every day, not just when it suits us."

Edna started to clean up the mess we had made, and said it was time to shove off— she wanted to catch the new episode of Downton Abbey on PBS tonight. Foy heaved a big sigh and scooted out of the booth. His work here was done...

All that is essential for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing. - Edmund Burke

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The Rear View Mirror:

July 7, Dallas Morning News

Oil Boom Helping out Kids

A gift from the past is giving Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children a boost for the future. With the oil boom, the hospital has received roughly \$500 million in oil and gas royalties over the past four years, most of it related to a West Texas ranch donated to the organization in the 1960's. These royalties helped the not-for-profit hospital nearly double the value of its own investments- the institution's endowment- to about \$2 Billion. Last year, the hospital revealed plans for a multimillion-dollar outpatient care center in Frisco, the organization's first satellite expansion from its central Dallas location. Founded by a group of Texas Scottish Rite Masons in 1921, the hospital specializes in pediatric orthopedics. Until recently, the TSRHC never billed patients for services, but after two years of debate the hospital did start billing insurance providers in 2012. The TSHFC has about 15,000 current patients and has treated more than 230,000 kids in its 94 year history.

Editor's note: the above is excerpts from a July 7, Dallas Morning News story. Our lodge has a number of Scottish Rite Masons and we are very proud of the splendid work the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children has done for nearly a century in Dallas.

Spotlight on a Brother

This month we sat down with Brother David Barnett. David was raised as a Master Mason in August 1984 in Lone Star Lodge No. 403 in Denison, TX. He has served our Lodge for a number of years having held the office of Historian in 2014, and currently is our Junior Deacon. David took on the big job of chairing the Race For The Children 5K committee in 2013 which is a full time job. He also is a 32nd Scottish Rite Mason, a member of the Hella Shrine, and served as the President of the Peter's Colony Shriner's Club in 2010 and 2014. When David is not busy with his Masonic activities, he is the plant manager at the Clements Nut factory in Lewisville, which produces peanut butter. According to David his job as plant manager is to "manage nuts" and after 24 years at the plant, he is known as the "head nut". This plant has been a fixture in old town Lewisville (also known as Buttermilk Flats by the old timers in Lewisville) since the middle of last century and is iconic in the great smells of peanuts roasting in the plant.

David grew up in Denison having graduated from Denison High School in 1969. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Southeast State University of Oklahoma, and served in the United States Air Force as part of NORAD.

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David has been married to his wife Cindy for 43 years. He and Cindy have two daughters: Jennie and Staci; and three grandchildren: David, Samantha (NOT SAM!!), and Luke.

Brother Barnett enjoys hunting and fishing and you can find him on facebook. He enjoys the fraternal brotherhood of Masonry and meeting new young masons. He shared with us that one of his disappointments with the world today was the "lack of personal responsibility" demonstrated by too many people today.

We appreciate David's commitment to our lodge and for the time to sit down with us.

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Rainbow Girls Attend Annual Assembly

June 25-28 Members of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls from all across Texas attended the 92nd Annual "Paradise in Rainbow" 2015 Grand Assembly at the Convention Center in Waco Texas. Activities scheduled for the four day event included: ritualistic competition, a pathway to gold workshop, a Hawaiian Falls Water Park event, a memorial service and many other events culminating with the Installation of the 2015-2016 Grand Officers. In attendance were ten of the young ladies from North Texas Assembly # 383 along with several of

the adult leaders. The Supreme Deputy in Texas, Mrs. Joann Weaver announced the 2015-2016 Grand Assembly Officers. Several young ladies and adult members from North Texas Assembly # 383 were honored by receiving Grand Assembly positions for the year.



Members of North Texas Assembly # 383 from left to right:

Tom Snyder, Grand Committee on Work. Linda Snyder, Grand Deputy for Farmers Branch & Plano. Anastasia Lee, Grand Representative to Missouri and Oklahoma. Anastasia Hickman, Grand Love. Hunter Nodwell, Grand Recorder. Gabrielle Teeka-Singh, Grand Chaplain. Sara Hoyer, Grand Representative to Maryland and Vermont and accompanied by Kathy Coleman, Grand Deputy for Area 3

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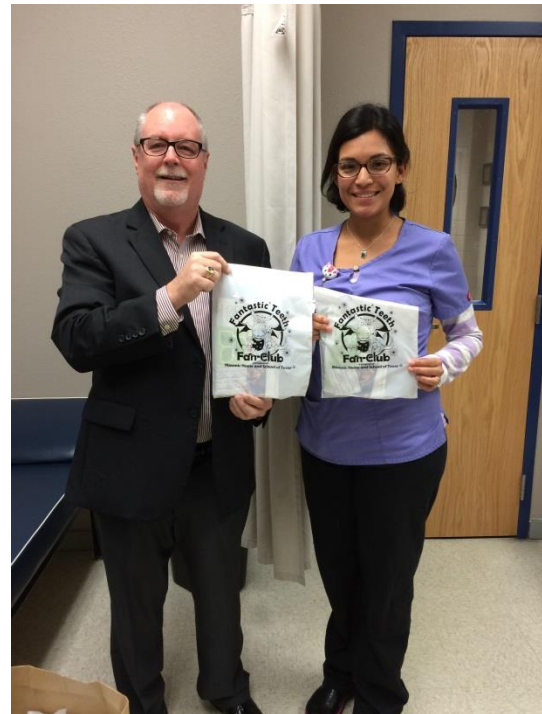
Scatter-shooting from the west:

WM Sanders conducted his first Stated Meeting in July, and the consensus among the members was that he did a great job. For those who have sat in the East, that first Stated Meeting can be a little nerve wracking. We had a turn-out of 19 members and one visitor for the stated meeting, with even more folks who enjoyed the wonderful meal by our new Stewards, Brothers Machado and Langran. The Worshipful Master had a busy agenda for the evening yet was able to complete the business before 9pm. Brother Dobson, our Historian gave a very interesting lecture on the differences between Freemasonry in France and England. Please attend our next Stated Meeting on August 13. Fellowship begins at 6:00, meal at 6:30, and the meeting begins promptly at 7:30.

The Craft's Trestle Board is published monthly by Lewisville Lodge No. 201. Please send your comments and thoughts to: timbrowning@verizon.net

This is what we do:

Earlier this year Lewisville Lodge participated in the Fantastic Teeth Program sponsored by the Masonic Home and School of Texas. Our Lodge presented nearly 200 dental care packages including tooth brushes to Vista Academy in Corinth and to Central Elementary School in Lewisville. This program reaches kids who may not have a tooth brush at home, or have to share one with others in the family.



Francis Munoz, School Nurse at Central Elementary in Lewisville receives the Fantastic Teeth Packages from Tim Browning