

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:

October was a very busy month for the lodge and November promises to be just as busy. Also in this edition we sat down with Brother Dollar Logsdon in our Spotlight on a Brother series. And we are treated to more musings from Foy and Edna. As always, we welcome your feedback on the newsletter. Please let us know if you would like to see other features or information that we are not including.

--The Editor

Upcoming events and Activities

- ❖ The Stated Meeting for November will be on Thursday, November 12 and will be a busy night. We will receive the official visit from our DDGM, RW Larry Wells. A brief overview of the various Grand Lodge of Texas resolutions, recommendations and candidates for Grand Secretary and Grand Jr Warden will be done in preparation for the Grand Communication in Waco the first weekend of December. Meal served at 6:30pm. Stated Meeting will start promptly at 7:30pm.

- ❖ The Lodge Garage Sale is this Friday and Saturday, November 5 and 6. This will be one of the Lodge's primary fund raisers this fall, and we need your help to make it successful. Please check your closets, attic and garage for any items that you can part with and donate to this event. Please take

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a moment to clean any items that may have been stored for a while and please mark the price for your items. The lodge will accept your donated items beginning Wednesday November 4. Any Brothers that are available to help set up and work the garage sale on Friday and Saturday are encouraged to contact WM Sanders.

- ❖ The **“Bring a Friend to Lodge”** program is set for Saturday November 14. The program will start at 10am with a light lunch to follow. Donuts will be available at 9am for those arriving early. SW Kacy McCarroll has led the planning and production of this program and has put in a lot of work and time to see that it is successful. Remember that the ultimate success will be for our brethren to attend and bring a friend. Read more about this program in this edition.

- ❖ Remember to mark your calendars for the third and fourth Mondays of the month which 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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER OF THE LODGE

When I entered into the East, one of my biggest concerns was with membership. I saw a need to attract new members but also was very concerned about the number of our existing members who lose interest in working with the Lodge and drift away and stopped participation in Lodge activities.

My first thought on dealing with this problem was to schedule The Bring A Friend To Lodge Program, which was developed by the Davey Crockett Lodge in San Antonio. They have been very successful in attracting new membership with this program which was developed to provide information to non-masons who were interested in learning factual information about our craft. This program has been proven to do just that and we are pleased to conduct this program at our Lodge on Saturday, November 14th.

The more I think about "The Bring A Friend To Lodge Program", I see it as a program that can help revive our membership, both new and existing members who have drifted away from the lodge.

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Although this program is developed to provide information to non-masons, it has a lot of very useful information that all Masons need to hear again to remind us all of the many reasons we became Masons originally. Hopefully it will revive our interest and motivate us to work harder and be more involved to keep our Lodge work interesting and inspire our membership to want to be more a part of one of the greatest Fraternities in the world. I certainly encourage all of you to attend this program, even if you don't have a friend to bring with you. I am sure it will touch you in some way to help you be a better Mason.

Spotlight on a Brother

We sat down with Brother Dollar Logsdon for a few minutes and he shared with us his thoughts on Masonry and the lodge. Brother Logsdon was raised a Master Mason in December 2009 in Lewisville Lodge No. 201. He has served as Steward and for the past three years has served as Treasurer of the Lodge. Being Treasurer of the Lodge brings a variety of duties and responsibilities not limited to

keeping the books and writing checks. As Treasurer, Dollar chairs the Fundraising Committee and sits on the Investment committee and the Communication Committee. Dollar is a 32nd Scottish Rite Mason belonging to the Valley of Dallas.

Dollar, who was named after his Great Grandmother's maiden name, traces his roots back to Scotland.

When asked about the influences that led him to Freemasonry, Dollar said:

"I joined the lodge because I met a man named Paul Carr while I was living in England. Paul is an upstanding man and a pillar of his community. I could tell right away that he was a man of good character and he was actively involved in a masonic lodge. I asked Paul the question and ultimately he became the first person to sign my petition. Paul introduced me to many more Masons while I was in England, but I waited to petition a lodge until I came back to the USA. As it turns out Paul was the best man at my wedding and he and I are still close friends to this day.

Norah is the joy and inspiration in my life. She brings laughter and happiness to every minute of the day and I couldn't possibly be more smitten with anyone. Norah has

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encouraged me in every life adventure I have undertaken including Masonry and she continues to be my biggest supporter. Norah positively affects everyone she comes in contact with and if that wasn't enough she also hails from Liverpool England (where the Beatles are from) and has a great British accent.

I would like to see the lodge become a beehive of activity. We have so many great members, but it feels like I only see them once in a while at our stated meetings. I wish our membership was more involved with the activities of the lodge. Not only would this allow us to spend more time getting to know one another but we could also do so much more for each other and our community.

My personal goal is to always maintain contact with at least one brother who is not able to come to the lodge as often as they would like. I know it is only a matter of time until I am in their same shoes and I hope that when that day comes there will be someone from our fraternity that will take the time to reach out to me once in a while and look after my family if I should have to leave this planet before they do.

Dollar was instrumental in preserving the memories of our late brother James Higgins by capturing hours of conversation on video to preserve our lodge history. He enjoys

working with the Brethren when he is not busy with his CPA practice.

Some of the hobbies he enjoys include: riding motorcycles, coin collecting, and driving his vintage pickup truck.

His interests in Freemasonry include studying the relationship between Astronomy and the craft, and the ancient practice of alchemy. He is fond of the magical powers of Galium and hopes to one day demonstrate the mystical effects of this misunderstood element.

He would like to see the brethren dedicate more of their time to the lodge and increase participation by more of the members of the lodge. He is an advocate of the notion that the more a man puts into Masonry, the more he will receive in return. His wish for our lodge is to see continued growth both in membership and in Brotherly Love as we practice the art of the craft.

The next time you see Dollar at the lodge or at a fund raiser or lodge activity, thank him for his tireless work as Treasurer and as a Mason.

Man's actions are the picture book of his creeds. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Musings from Foy and Edna

It has been a few weeks since we have heard from Brother Foy and his lovely bride Edna. We were at their house on Sunday watching the Cowboy's game, and of course they had plenty to chat about. Foy was ranting about the Dallas Cowboys' quarterback mess when Edna brought out a second helping of her world famous Nachos. The conversation turned to the recent Past Masters and Widows Dinner at the lodge. The subject of our fallen brother's wives (Edna says the word widows is outdated and we should use some other way to describe the sweet ladies of our brothers who have passed to the celestial lodge above) came up and Foy seized the moment to rhetorically asks *"what exactly are we doing for these ladies?"*

Foy went on to say that *"caring for our widows is one of the most important things we as Masons are responsible for. There are a lot of things we could do to make sure these ladies are taken care of."*

Edna chimed in with a list of things she would like to see the lodge do for our ladies including: receiving a Birthday

card from the lodge, and a phone call occasionally from someone at the lodge just to check on them and see how they are doing.

She went on to say that it would be nice if there was phone number or a Mason to call if a lady needed help with something—like cleaning up the tree limbs that fall occasionally...

Most of all Edna said: *"I don't want to feel forgotten. Most of the ladies devoted a lot of time over the years in support of their husband's lodge activities and events. The very least we can do is remember them"*

Foy, who had been listening intently, looked at Edna and said *"I am sure my brothers will not forget you honey when I am gone. It is one of the most important things a Mason does and I am counting on my brothers to be there when I am not."*

Well that brought a tear to her eye as she got up and gave Foy a big kiss and a hug. The moment abruptly ended when the Cowboy's quarterback (who is that guy?) threw another interception and that prompted Foy to start in on Jerry Jones...

It is easy to get caught up in so many things in the lodge, that we all sometimes overlook one of our most

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important obligations. As we honor our ladies, let's remember them beyond that once a year dinner program.

Remember, they are counting on us.

The truth is like a balloon and a lie is like a pin, once you pierce the balloon with the pin the balloon, like the truth, becomes worthless. -WRF

Bring a Friend to Lodge

Lewisville Lodge will be hosting a program called Bring a Friend to Lodge on Saturday, November 14. This program was originated by our Brothers of Davy Crockett Lodge in San Antonio a couple of years ago as a way of growing membership. The idea was to open the lodge to non-masons and provide them with a detailed look at our fraternity. The program consists of five areas of Freemasonry including:

- The History of Freemasonry in Texas
- Our Philanthropic efforts
- The Philosophical principles of Freemasonry
- The Ritual aspects
- The Altar

Each topic is described by a member of the lodge while the non-masons move from the South to the West, the North, the East and finally to the Altar. Afterwards, a short Q&A session will be conducted, followed by lunch and fellowship.

This program has proven to be very successful at Davy Crockett Lodge for bringing in non-masons that are interested in our fraternity and desire to learn more about what occurs in a Masonic lodge. Their efforts have resulted in a spike in membership not only in their lodge but in other lodges in the San Antonio area. The programs have generated so much interest that at the last program in February, they drew nearly 75 people including several Past Grand Masters and about 15 non-masons.

Lewisville will be producing the program for the first time in the north Texas area. The key to success hinges on our members bringing a non-mason or two to the program. We hope to have a dozen or more non-masons for our first program, and with your help, we can achieve this goal.

Please circle the date and start working on a friend or co-worker that you feel would make a worthy brother.

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Senior Warden Kacy McCarroll is leading the charge on this program and has assembled a team of brothers to perform the program. Please contact Brother McCarroll if you have any questions or need further information.

Let's pack the lodge with members and non-masons on Saturday November 14!!



Past Masters and Widows Dinner

The lodge held a very successful dinner and program recognizing our Past Masters and Widows. The menu, prepared by Stewards John Machado and Charles Langran consisted of Roast Beef and vegetables, that was described by one brother as a superb feast. After dinner, a program was held in the Lodge Room wherein the Past Masters were recognized, and the Ladies of our fallen Brothers were presented with a rose as a gesture of our appreciation. Worshipful Master Sanders then presented Brother Ray Lowery with the 65 Year Service Award, and Brother Bobby Sewel with the 50 Year Service Award.



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