

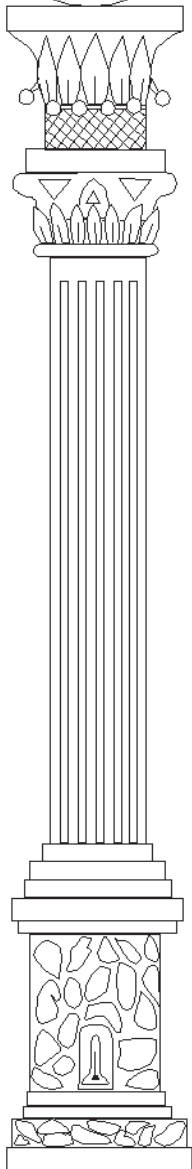
The Trestleboard



A Publication of Austin Lodge 12, A. F. & A. M.
April 2008



From The East



Here we are, April 2008! What a year it has been so far! The year is almost over but we still have a lot more to accomplish. We still have several awards to hand out, including the Community Builder Award, which we will be handing out before this month's Stated Meeting begins.

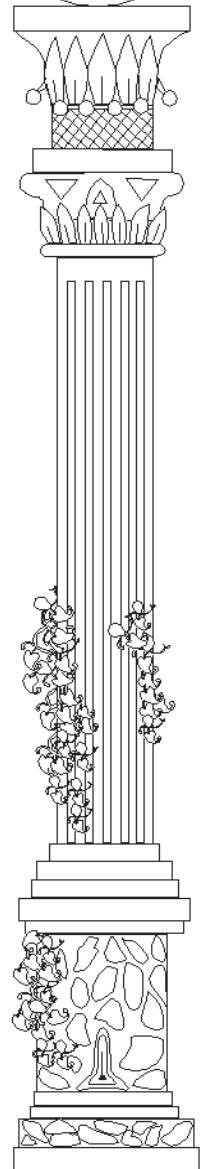
We have also been having Master's degree practice, as we will be doing two Master's degrees over the next few weeks, one of which will be for certification. Since we have already certified in the Fellowcraft degree, all we will have left to certify will be the Entered Apprentice degree. If you wish to play a part in either the Master's or Entered Apprentice degree, come on down. We still have plenty of spots left, both speaking and non-speaking.

In a couple of weeks, we will be holding our Annual Picnic. It is on Saturday April 26 at 1:00pm at the Shrine land, which is a couple of miles east of SH-130 on the northern side of 71. This year we are opening it up to all the Lodges, appendant bodies, and their families in the area. Everyone is invited – Masons and non-Masons alike. Lodge 12 will be providing the food; you bring your own beverage. In addition to being members of Lodge 12, we are also Texas Masons. I think that this will be a great time. Please make every effort to attend and bring your family and friends.

In a couple of months we will be changing the guard. The nice thing is that all of our officers are on board with what we have been doing. As a result, we will be continuing the events that worked and continue to improve upon them.

Take care of yourselves and I look forward to catching up with you soon.

Fraternally,
Jeff Goldman, Worshipful Master



Next Stated Meeting: Monday, April 15, 2008

2007-2008 Lodge Officers



Worshipful Master

Jeffrey D. Goldman
(Megan) 751-8208
jeff@goldenrealtyservices.com

Senior Warden

John Brengle
(Evelyn) 335-8070
brenglej@austin.rr.com

Junior Warden

James A. McKissick
(Lin) 828-7701
jam@mckissick.us

Treasurer

Ronald C. Harrison
(Kay) 345-6601
ronharrison@rocketmail.com

Secretary

Victor Y. Armstrong
(Patricia) 345-0226
lodge12@austin.rr.com

Chaplain

Gordon W. Kelso
(Rita) 282-4726
gordonkelso@srct.org

Senior Deacon

Steven C. Sterzing
431-4554
stevensterzing@hotmail.com

Junior Deacon

Russell W. Zears
(Chalda) 794-9224
rzears@medium-s.com

Steward Emeritus

Wm. Oscar Orum
(Ina Gay) 346-4310
oorum@austin.rr.com

Junior Steward

Stephen J. Mitchell
(Sandy) 632-2781
sjmitchell@austin.rr.com

Marshal

Silas A. Powell
(Theresa) 282-8808
stphookem@austin.rr.com

Master of Ceremonies

Steven M. Bach
(Haley) 249-0780
moof1138@mac.com

Tiler

John W. French
(Juanita) 345-9454
jwfrenchins@yahoo.com

Lodge Librarian

Stephen Penn
(Priscilla) 203-9113
mint400@hotmail.com

From the Secretary's Desk

Well, here we are again. Spring has sprung and there are only 2 more months to get your dues in to keep from going suspended. If you haven't paid your dues now is the time. If you have lost the envelope call me... We will make sure you have one... Final notices for dues will be going out soon.

This has been a busy year with numerous candidates. We have been certified in the Fellowcraft's Degree, and the Master certification is coming up soon. Try to attend any and all of our degrees. Let's make a great and laudable impression on our candidates.

Our Senior Warden is busy making plans for the 2008-09 Masonic year.

Austin Lodge 12 is well represented in the Scottish Rite Bodies. Members include the General Secretary, The Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection. Several of our members serve on the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Learning Center, The Scottish Rite Dormitory, The Scottish Rite Community and Children Theatre and on numerous Degree Teams. Austin Lodge 12 has for more than 150 years conferred the 14th Degree at the Scottish Rite Reunions. We should be proud of our Masonic involvement.

Finally Brethren, one more once, send in your dues.

See you at Lodge,

Victor

April Birthdays

Wilhelm Joseph Teltow, Jr.	4/1/1943	Steven Charles Sterzing	4/10/1970
Louis Wesley Tolliver, Jr.	4/1/1974	Hyman Samuelson	4/11/1919
Brent Allen Whitmore	4/1/1969	Daniel Andrew Risler	4/11/1957
Jonathan Mason Buck	4/2/1974	A. Gene Dage	4/12/1927
Everett D. Bohls	4/4/1918	Jiles Worley Jackson	4/14/1927
William Ross Cady	4/5/1963	Gerald Leroy Curry	4/16/1934
Octavio Tripp Garza	4/5/1930	John Holly Sheffield, Jr.	4/16/1946
David Boyd Fogle	4/6/1962	Russell Lowell Shrader	4/23/1936
George Curtis Holland, Sr.	4/8/1916	James Robert Hopkins	4/25/1970
William Morgan Fogle	4/9/1929	Donald Henry Lively	4/25/1928

A View From The South

One of the most important rights and duties we have as a Mason is that of the Ballot. It has been said that after the Holy Bible, the Ballot is the most sacred thing in the Lodge, for it is by the Ballot that we determine if a man will be admitted into our Order. We owe it to the Lodge to ensure we only elect worthy men to receive our Mysteries, and we likewise owe it to every petitioner to ensure a fair Ballot, uninfluenced by discrimination and prejudice. Proper Masonic Etiquette should always be followed when taking the Ballot.

After the Worshipful Master has ordered the results of the Investigating Committee read, but before the Ballot is spread, members may ask questions about and discuss the results of the Committee. Once the Master has received the report and discharged the committee, it is bad Etiquette to ask further questions or for any other discussion to take place.

The Senior Deacon is responsible for collecting and displaying the Ballot. It is customary to present the Ballot to the Master for his inspection, to ensure the Ballot is clear. The Ballot is then presented to the Master, the Wardens, and Secretary, all of whom vote without leaving their stations or places. If any Brother is present who has difficulty leaving his seat, or any Grand Lodge officers are present, it is good Etiquette to present the Ballot to them where they sit before calling upon the other members of the Lodge to vote.

When the Ballot is being cast, no one should enter or leave the Lodge room, except for the Tiler, and then only when the Worshipful Master orders the Junior Deacon to relieve him, so that he may cast his vote. The Lodge should maintain a respectful silence while the Ballot is being cast and collected, with no discussion of the Candidate or the vote taking place.

The Worshipful Master, if he determines that the Ballot was questionable, may destroy the Ballot and call for another vote. This should be done immediately - balloting should be uninterrupted by any other business and completed before any Brethren who participated in the destroyed Ballot have left the Lodge. Once the Master has announced the results of the Ballot, no member has the right to call for another vote - this is the prerogative of the Master alone.

Finally, it should be noted that as the Ballot is secret, you should never attempt to determine how a particular brother has voted, nor should you ever reveal how you voted. Mackey, in his Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, says the reason for this is self evident, for "If one member has a right to rise in his place and announce that he deposited a white ball, then every other member has the same right; and in a Lodge of twenty members, where an application has been rejected by one black ball, if nineteen members state that they did not deposit it, the inference is clear that the twentieth Brother has done so, and thus the secrecy of the Ballot is destroyed."

- J. McKissick, Junior Warden

~ REMEMBER: YOU ARE SOMEONE'S IMAGE OF MASONRY! ~

Brethren,

The following Lodge 12 Brethren remain on our prayer list as they are either ill at home or staying in nursing facilities. I am sure they would appreciate hearing from any of you, either by phone, personal visit or a card:

Samuel Baker
Everett Bohls
George Davis
Marvin Feil
Bill Fogle
Herbert Jackson, Jr.
John Kavanaugh, Jr.
Gordon Kelso
Claude King
Robert Pugh
Paul Quinn
John Sheffield, Jr.
William Riley
Walter Schlueter

If you know of any other Brethren that should be on our prayer list, please call the Lodge office at 454-8009.



Lodge Schedule

April, 2008



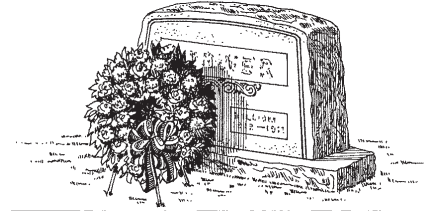
- Apr. 24:** Light supper 6:30 P.M
Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries meeting to follow
Onion Creek 220 - All Masons invited
- Apr. 26:** Lodge 12/District 50 Picnic 1:00 P.M
Shrine property a couple of miles East of SH130
on 71 - Everyone Welcome
- Apr. 28:** Light supper 5:30 P.M
Masters Degree to follow
- May. 5:** Light supper 5:30 P.M
Masters Degree to follow
- May. 12:** Movie Night 6:00 P.M
Everyone Welcome
- May. 14:** Visit Parsons 222 - Dinner 6:00 P.M
York. Rite Bldg. - 311 W. 7th St.
All Masons Invited

Schedule is subject to change based on the availability and schedule of candidates.

For the latest, most up-to-date information on what is scheduled to occur at the lodge, please call 454-8009. The answering machine message is updated every Monday evening. We invite all interested brethren to attend our floor work and degree work sessions! **Remember, all stated meetings are Family Night!**
We hope you will all bring a dessert for everyone to share!

You can also view the schedule online here:
<http://www.austinlodge12.com/schedule.php>

In Memoriam



“Well done, thou good and faithful servant! Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!”

Trestleboard Editor -- Steven Bach
<editor@austinlodge12.com>



Austin Lodge No 12, A.F. & A.M.
P.O. Box 5150
Austin TX 78763-5150 — 512/454-8009

Non Profit
Organization

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Austin, Texas
Permit No. 1558

Address Service Requested