



Views from the Valley



Valley Lodge No. 175
P.O. Box 249, Burnet, TX 78611 • 512-756-4897

JUNE 2011

Over 154 years of continuous service to the citizens of the Burnet area (1856) **STATED MEETING SECOND SATURDAY**

- **Worshipful Master:** Frank Smith (Linda) 830-613-8640 • **Senior Warden:** Bob Towal (Patricia) 830-237-2956 •
- **Junior Warden:** Tom Oughton (Susie) toughton1@aol.com • **Senior Deacon:** Randy Lackey • **Junior Deacon:** Jack Smith (Delores) 512-756-7082 •
- **Secretary:** Rick Allen (Carol) 512-769-1839 • **Treasurer:** Danny Cockroft, (Suzie) 512-756-6209 • **Chaplain:** Edward Snider 512-756-4465 •
- **Senior Steward:** Stoney Holbrook (Diane) 512-756-8049 • **Junior Steward:** James Holbrook (Elaine) 512-756-6004 • **Tiler:** Nathan Dodd •

Attend the June 11th Stated Meeting at **7:30 pm**. Come early for a delicious "Valley Lodge Meal" at **6:30 pm**. Our meal reputation is well known. Bring an appetite and your wife or significant other, children, the whole family, friends and neighbors.

VIEWS FROM THE EAST:

• June is almost here, and changes are coming all around us. We are leaving Spring for a hot Summer, the Masonic year is drawing to a close, and we will soon have new officers elected to manage our Lodge. • We will be having Lodge Officer Elections at the 11 June stated meeting, and soon a new crew will be taking the reins of our beloved Valley Lodge. • I am pleased with my year as Master, and hope that the ways I have affected our Lodge and Lodge business have all been for the better. I am very proud of the improvements made and challenges overcome. • No catastrophes have occurred, that have affected our Lodge, and I count that as good news, indeed. • We have had some great meetings, our floor school has been well attended, we have initiated, passed, and raised quite a few new members. They are already contributing to Valley Lodge's successes. • Thank you all for your support, especially when we needed to "pro tem" some of the stations and places. You have all been a great help to me, and I will never forget our spirit of brotherhood. • My occupational situation has required much extra work on my part. I thank all who helped when needed. • See you at Lodge on the 11th.

Frank R. Smith Sr.

Worshipful Master

Cell 830-613-8640 (afternoon/evenings only please)



No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another. ~Author Unknown



**IMPORTANT ELECTION OF
VALLEY LODGE NO. 175
2011-2012 OFFICERS AT
JUNE 11
STATED MEETING!**

Trestle-Board For The June 11th Stated Meeting

- **6:30 pm:** Dinner
- **7:30 pm:** Regular Lodge Stated Meeting: including Committee on Arrears-Dues Payments



On May 6, Worshipful Master Frank R. Smith Sr, presented Mirabeau B. Lamar Award medals to assembled Burnet area teachers. L-R: Burnet Consolidated Independent School District Superintendent Jeff Hanks; Natalie Dorsett, Quest High School; Jessica Morris, Bertram Elementary; Susan Scott, Burnet High School; WM Smith; Stacie Davis, R.J. Richey Elementary; Phyllis Smith, Shady Grove Elementary; Vickie Herrera, Burnet Elementary; and Karen Fry, Burnet Middle School.

Thanksgiving is a day when we pause to give thanks for the things we have.



Memorial Day is a day when we pause to give thanks to the people who fought for the things we have.



FLY THE FLAG OF OUR COUNTRY OFTEN. FLAG DAY IS JUNE 14TH



IMPORTANT OFFICER ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 11 STATED MEETING.

• Masonic Lodge Officers, as they move through the Masonic Officer Chairs, as in any organization, could not properly function without a leadership team which provides Masonic Officer Training. • A successful organization's future depends upon how well this team of lodge officers work together to provide Masonic Officer training. In the business world, an organization is built around Presidents, Vice Presidents, General Managers, Regional Managers, Supervisors and Workers. • Each position plays an important part in order for the organization to be profitable and successful. • In essence, the Masonic Lodge Officer duties and Masonic Officer Training structure, much like their counterparts in the business world, shoulder the Lodge Officer Responsibilities which makes a lodge successful. • Lodge Officers are part of a "progressive line", which is also known as "going through the chairs." This line of succession moves up one position at a time from one year to the next. • If no one asks to "step out of the line" for any reason, seven years from the time of becoming Junior Steward, the Master Mason will arrive at the chair of the Worshipful Master. • The progressive line is used in the United States and in many other jurisdictions, as well. • Normally each position is filled for one year, however they may be re-elected to the same position depending on the circumstances. • When nominating and voting, it is important to keep Masonic brotherhood in mind. Always, when voting, ignore personal grudges and vendettas and perceived slights. When one is asked to vote for a candidate or another, think and act for the good of Masonry and the Lodge, based on past-displayed Masonic qualities as well as observed leadership abilities of a particular candidate. • Every candidate for office deserves a chance unless his abilities or performance are lacking. • No one is perfect nor can they be expected to be. Most people rise to the needs of their jobs. So it is with Masonry.



A TIMELESS SALUTE TO ALL FALLEN WARRIORS

Many of you will read this AFTER Memorial Day, but at this Day of Remembrance (May 30) and Flag Day (June 14) it is appropriate—as it is on every day—to pay respects to those who have taken up the mantle of the Warrior to help our country. In the Iran/Afganistan conflict alone, over 6,000 soldiers have died and almost 43,000 have been were greviously wounded.

The name of John McCrae (1872-1918) may seem out of place in the distinguished company of World War I poets, but he is remembered for what is probably the single best-known and popular poem from the war, "In Flanders Fields." He was a Canadian physician and fought on the Western Front in 1914, but was then transferred to the medical corps and assigned to a hospital in France. His volume of poetry, *In Flanders Fields and Other Poems*, was published in 1919.

May this timeless poem from nearly 100 years ago help remind us of that last great sacrifice made by so many of our young men and women.

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



THE FLAG

Cheers for the sailors that fought on the wave for it,
Cheers for the soldiers that always were brave for it,
Tears for the men that went down to the grave for it,
Here comes the flag! ~ by Arthur Macy



Masonry cannot teach, it can only help us learn. ~ Brother Henry C. Clausen



Scottish Rite

Consider More
Masonry, Join

York Rite

PAST PRESENT FUTURE

MAY 23 MASTERS, WARDENS AND SECRETARIES ASSN PROGRAM—FIND MASONIC LIGHT

The 49th Masonic District Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Assn., on May 23, enjoyed the hospitality of WM Kenneth Toe and the Llano Masonic Lodge. They were presented with a program by President Bronk called “A Primer for finding Masonic Light.”

The thrust of the talk was the theory that Master Masons have already received the tools and the structure needed for finding “More Light” in Masonry, and they only have to exercise their minds while contemplating the three Rituals that are already so familiar to most of them.

Past Master Bronk used an example of the very first act of the ritual where a hat, gavel and standing erect gave the first lesson to be contemplated. He opined that the hat identified the Master as the *Man In Charge*. The call to begin was sounded with a rap OF a gavel, an instrument recognized as a symbol of authority. The Master stood erect to identify himself further as the authority in charge of an important endeavor.

Bronk took this example and explained the importance of establishing control at the beginning of anything, be it one’s personal life or any labor, to identify who is to lead in that particular endeavor.

He gave another example that involved the tiler’s role in a ritual. He likened “cowans and eavesdroppers” to undesirable people whom we should keep out of our lodges. We can do this by being honest and forthright in our committee meetings with the candidate. We can keep out lodge-wreckers by being vigilante from our very first meeting. He then compared these undesirables to people we meet and befriend hastily, without using care, who can become anything from an irritant to a catastrophe in our daily lives.

After a lively question/answer period, the meeting was closed in peace and harmony.



IMPORTANT CHAPTER AND COUNCIL NEWS:

• Companion Tom Turner will be conducting the elections of Burnet Chapter #453 and Council #368 on 16 June. • Installation of Officers will be celebrated at the 21 July meetings. • The Royal Arch Masons will be electing Excellent High Priest, Excellent King, Excellent Scribe, Treasure and Secretary. • The Royal and Select Masters will elect Thrice Illustrious Master, Right Illustrious Deputy Master, Illustrious Conductor of the Work, Treasurer and Secretary. Please attend these important meetings, which will start at 6:15 PM with dinner and the 7:00 PM stated meeting in the Lodge Room. • Thank you, Companions, for allowing me to serve as the Thrice Illustrious

Master for Burnet Council #368. • We are proud of this year’s accomplishments, which included hosting our very successful annual Festival on 19 February. We also awarded a 50-year pin and continued with the tradition of great fellowship.

Tom Oughton, *Thrice Illustrious Master*



Editor’s Note: *Although my Father died when I was a small child, I recognize the need for a two-parent family where possible, and respect the value of a Father. In this light, we present this salute to all Fathers, and to the single Mothers who took on the frightful responsibilities of raising large families through long, lonely years.*

THE THINGS YOU TAUGHT ME I WILL ALWAYS KNOW

Author Unknown

The things you taught me I will always know.
How could I not? The roots have sunk so deep:
All lessons of the heart that I will keep
No matter who I am or where I go.
Kids learn from what their parents are, and so
You are my book of life, the thoughts I reap;
Only in your arms I quiet sleep;
Under my words your voice sings soft and slow.
From you I learned the rules of right and wrong
Against which I at times had to rebel,
Though with regret I carry with me still.
How lucky I am to have been loved so well,
Even as I pushed against your will,
Relying on a father fair and strong.



JUNE UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6/1 Austin Scottish Rite Stated Mtg.
- 6/1 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 6/4 Henry Thomas Lodge Stated Meeting
- 6/6 Kingsland Lodge Stated Meeting
- 6/7 Lake Victor Stated Meeting
- 6/8 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 6/11 Valley Lodge Stated Meeting (Elect Officers)
- 6/14 Llano Lodge Stated Meeting
- 6/14 Burnet OES Stated Meeting
- 6/14 Flag Day (U.S. Holiday)
- 6/15 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 6/16 Burnet Chapter & Council Meeting (Elect Officers)
- 6/18 Bertram Lodge Stated Meeting
- 6/20 Blazing Star Lodge Stated Meeting
- 6/19 Father’s Day (US Holiday)
- 6/22 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 6/23 Burnet Commandery Stated Mtg.
- 6/25 Mt. Horeb Lodge
- 6/29 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 6/30 Valley Lodge Installation of Officers



FROM THE EDITOR: This newsletter depends heavily on the writings of other Brothers. We give attribution when available. The newsletter is not intended to PREACH; it is meant to inform and TEACH, and spread more Masonic Light into each Masonic mind. But just reading the selected articles will not complete the task. Think about any points that interest, anger, intrigue, titillate and/or inform you. Obtain Masonic books and writings at the Lodge Library or at local libraries. Keep your mind interested and active. The Craft and You will benefit from your studies.

Great things are happening at our Lodge! Be a part of it! Bring a Mason to Lodge June 11th. Find a Brother—EA, FC, or Master—who has not been to Lodge in a while and bring him in for a meal and an interesting, convivial evening.



Star Points

Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter #425

Burnet, TX • Meets Second Tuesday, 7:30 PM, at Valley Masonic Lodge

June 2011

Patricia Towal Worthy Matron
Bob Towal Worthy Patron

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 6/1 Susan Brown • 6/1 Juanita Steger •
- 6/7 Bertha Dayton • 6/18 Matthew "Matt" Cogburn •
- 6/25 Marjorie Bronk • 6/26 Nata Lee Asher •
- 6/30 Peggy McCullough • 6/30 Diane Holbrook •

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALL!

To all our Star members with a June anniversary:

"HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!"

NEWS FROM THE EAST:

• June and summer are here in full bloom! As Bob and I reflect on our year of leading Burnet Chapter, the friendship and love offered to us throughout the year shines through strongly. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard this year to make our Chapter successful. • As we near the end we are still busy doing things. • We hope you will join us for an initiation for our two new members Ann Lewis and Joseph Long, on Friday, 10 June, at 7 PM. • Our next Masonic Dinner is on Saturday, 11 June at 6:30 PM. It will be hosted by Worthy Patron Bob Towal and Sentinel Tom Oughton. They have requested that members bring pies, if possible, for our dessert. If you volunteered to make one, thanks. If you would like to volunteer, contact Bob at 830-237-2956. • We can also use our wonderful kitchen help around 5:00 PM that day to set everything up. • Please note this change: Before our stated meeting on Tuesday, 14 June, we will meet at 6:30 PM for social hour refreshments BEFORE our meeting starting at 7:30 PM. We will be snacking prior to the BEGINNING of our meeting time so we may all leave at the end of our meeting. As soon as the Chapter room

is restored; then all can go home; making it a shorter evening for all. • We voted on this change in procedure at our May meeting. • At the June meeting we will be considering some other By-laws changes being proposed for the upcoming year. Check with Sister Gelene on details about some possible changes. • At the 14 June meeting, PM Ann Alston will be giving our program, *Treasure Our Masons and Fathers*. Please join us! • On Saturday, 18 June at 10 AM, we will hold our installation of 2011-12 Officers; welcoming incoming Worthy Matron, Gelene Johnson and incoming Worthy Patron, Clay Fancher. Please join us for this celebration. • Your support to our new officers is so vital for the continued success of the Chapter. On Thursday, 23 June, we will be supplying homemade desserts to the Community Dinner held at the Church of Christ at 4:30 PM that evening. • As our year winds down; we want to thank everyone for their support and love. Thanks for being there for us. God Bless and Keep you, everyone! Star Love,

Patricia and Bob Towal
Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND ALL OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

VALLEY LODGE No.175
P.O. Box 249
BURNET, TX 78611