



Views from the Valley

Valley Lodge No. 175

P.O. Box 249, Burnet, TX 78611 • 512-756-4897



JULY 2010 Over 154 years of continuous service to the citizens of the Burnet area

**STATED MEETING
SECOND SATURDAY**

- **Worshipful Master:** William Teague (Chastity) 512-756-7170 • **Senior Warden:** Frank Smith (Linda) 830-693-1221 • **Junior Warden:** Bob Towal (Patricia) 830-237-2956 •
- **Senior Deacon:** Tom Oughton (Susie) toughton1@aol.com • **Junior Deacon:** Dr. Kelsey Liles (Carolyn) 512-756-0976 • **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:** Jack Smith (Delores) 512-756-7082 •

Attend the July 10th Stated Meeting at **7:30 p.m.** Come early for a delicious "Valley Lodge Meal" at **6:30 p.m.** 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:

• Wow, has a year gone by already? I would like for my last entry into this newsletter to be one of gratitude.

• First, I would like to thank God for blessing this Lodge with peace and harmony throughout this Masonic year. • I would like to thank the officers for their dedication. Together we made some great decisions for the good of the Lodge. To my fellow brothers, your support and advice made my job as your Master an enjoyable one. • The ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star went out of their way to ensure that our stated meetings had well-prepared meals, and to offer help wherever needed. I am greatly appreciative! • Finally, to my family—the support you gave me this year enabled me to focus my attention where it was needed most. • The experience as Master of this Lodge is one that I will carry with me always. • I know that brother Frank will do a terrific job as Master in the new Masonic year, and he has my unwavering support. • I love each and every one of you and look forward to seeing you on July 2nd for the installation of officers for the ensuing Masonic year.

Fraternally,

William Teague
Worshipful Master



at 6:30 PM. Installing Officer will be Brother Danny Cockroft, 33°, assisted by the Installing Marshal Brother Travis Thomas. Both men are my teachers and my mentors—I am a better man for being associated with them. I am most honored to have them as leaders of the installation ceremony. Lodge brothers to be installed are: Bob Towal as Senior Warden; Tom Oughton as Junior Warden; Danny Cockroft as Treasurer; Rick Allen as Secretary; Randy Lackey as Senior Deacon; Jack Smith as Junior Deacon; Nathan Dodd as Tiler; Edward Snider as Chaplain; Stoney Holbrook as Senior Steward; and James Holbrook as Junior Steward. Your Lodge Officers look forward to an exciting year and I have a few projects in mind, which I will explain in a future newsletter edition, as all new Worshipful Masters do. If you have not been to Lodge in a while, come on out and enjoy an evening with your friends. Please make plans to join us on this special night.



THOUGHTS ABOUT AMERICA:

This, then, is the state of the union: free and restless, growing and full of hope. So it was in the beginning. So it shall always be, while God is willing, and we are strong enough to keep the faith. ~ Lyndon B. Johnson



VALLEY LODGE INSTALLATION CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR JULY 2

by Frank R. Smith, Sr., Worshipful Master-Elect, Valley Lodge No. 175

• The Installation of Officers of Valley Lodge No. 175 for the ensuing Masonic year 2010-2011 is set for 7:30 PM, Friday, July 2, at the lodge. • I hope you will join us for an evening of fellowship, starting with our giving thanks to our Creator and the blessing of the food (wonderful fried chicken and all the fixin's from Moe's Café of my hometown of Cottonwood Shores)

When an American says that he loves his country, he means not only that he loves the New England hills, the prairies glistening in the sun, the wide and rising plains, the great mountains, and the sea. He means that he loves an inner air, an inner light in which freedom lives and in which a man can draw the breath of self-respect. ~ Aldai Stevenson



America is a nation with many flaws, but [with] hopes so vast that only the cowardly would refuse to acknowledge them. ~ James Michener



FLY THE FLAG OF OUR COUNTRY ON JULY 4



PRAISE FOR THE EASTERN STAR:

I had the unique pleasure to attend the Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter #425, Installation of Officers, June 11, 2010, conducted at Valley Lodge No. 175 building. I was duly impressed by the professionalism and strict attention to ritualistic detail. Installing Grand Officer Annette Curry, A.G.C., P.M., is a person to learn from for sure, and she conducted a wonderful ceremony. On a lighter side, I haven't seen corners squared like that since Brother Sam showed me a few years ago—you men will know what I am talking about when I mention Sam (we miss you at Valley Lodge). As you would expect, the meal was wonderful and the fellowship was even better than wonderful. Hearty congratulations to Patricia Towal as newly installed Worthy Matron. She and her husband, Brother Bob Towal, and their slate of supporting officers will serve the Chapter well. It is very easy to see the gusto in all of their faces. We thank now past Worthy Matron Donna Safarick for a job well done—she continues to serve the Chapter as new Associate Conductress. Valley Lodge #175 looks to another successful “partnership” year with the OES Chapter #425. “May the blessings of Heaven rest upon all of us, allowing us to continue serving others.” *Frank R. Smith, Sr., Worshipful Master-Elect, Valley Lodge No.175.*



NEWS FROM THE YORK RITE:

- Two local Masonic brotherhood chapters have planned installation ceremonies near the end of July. • On July 20, Chapter #453 and Council Chapter #368 will install their new tableau of officers for the ensuing 2010-2011 Masonic year. • Officers to be installed during the ceremonies are:

- **Chapter #453:** Excellent High Priest, Max Lantz; Excellent King, Bob Towal; Excellent Scribe, Mart Tomlinson; Treasurer, Ken Hunter; Secretary, Tom Turner; Captain of the Host, Johnnie Smith; Principal Sojourner, Ed Johnson; Royal Arch Captain, James Embry; Master of the 3rd Veil, Bob Hunter; Master of the 2nd Veil, Laymon Stewart; Master of the 1st Veil, Tom Oughton; Guard, Buck Daricek.



- **Council #368:** Thrice Illustrious Master, Tom Oughton; Right Illustrious Deputy Master, Max Lantz; Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work, Laymon Stewart; Treasurer, Ken Hunter; Recorder, Tom Turner;

Chaplain, Johnnie Smith; Captain of the Guards, Bob Towal; Conductor of the Council, James Embry; Steward, Mart Tomlinson; and Sentinel Buck Daricek. • Installing officers are: Master of Ceremonies, Thomas Turner; Installing Officer, Thomas Turner; and Installing Marshal, Sid Hayes. • Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM, and the Open Installations of the Officers will be at 6:30 PM.



ARE YOU AN ANGRY MASON ?:

Author unknown

- You can tell a lot about a person by observing how often he gets angry, the relative importance of the things he gets angry about, and how long he stays that way. • It seldom pays to get angry. An angry man is, momentarily, a foolish man. Emotion blocks out logic. If he is frequently angry, he's also apt to be a sick man. Continued anger takes a heavy toll of mind and body. • Things done in anger rarely make a good impression on anyone. All of us can look back on mistakes we've made in the heat of anger. Our close friends could probably point out a few more we've chosen to forget. • The most important time to hold your temper is when the other fellow has lost his. It takes two to tangle. When someone else starts to get angry, make it a point *never* to respond in kind. *Always* regard it as an automatic signal to put personal feelings aside and turn on the ice water in your veins. Be casual. Try to stop whatever is causing his irritation immediately. Don't pick up the subject again until he is completely calm and in control of himself. • Whenever you find yourself in an angry mood, stop and find out why. Then figure out something *constructive* to do about it. Never stay angry—people who do are digging their own graves.



A MASONIC THOUGHT:

by William A. Carpenter, Past

Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania

OUR BASIC FUNCTION. The basic function of a Masonic Lodge is to make Master Masons. This does not mean the formality of raising candidates. It extends far beyond that period in the life of a Mason. The task of making Master Masons must be directed toward all of us, those who are Master Masons and those who are in the process of becoming Master Masons. The fruits of our efforts to teach and to learn about Freemasonry and the interest that we show the candidates as we welcome them into the new world of Freemasonry will be evident in the years to come. If we sow well, we are bound to reap well.



Scottish Rite

Consider More
Masonry, Join

York Rite

IT IS THE SOLDIER

by Charles Michael Province, U.S. Army

(Editor's Note:) In the month which is the anniversary of the founding of this great nation, I republish again a poem that seems to be a favorite, and which seems appropriate in these trying times. God Bless America.

It is the Soldier, not the minister
Who has given us freedom of religion.
It is the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us freedom of the press.
It is the Soldier, not the poet
Who has given us freedom of speech.
It is the Soldier, not the campus organizer
Who has given us freedom to protest.
It is the Soldier, not the lawyer
Who has given us the right to a fair trial.
It is the Soldier, not the politician
Who has given us the right to vote.
It is the Soldier who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,
And whose coffin is draped by the flag,
Who allows the protester to burn the flag.



(Editor's Note:) The moment depicted in the poem below began the quest for the freedom declared on July 4, 1776 and nurtured from April 19, 1775, when this first shot was fired. It committed the colonies to the shedding of blood for their principles—principles that we, Thank God, still hold sacred, even to this day.

THE CONCORD HYMN

by Ralph Waldo Emerson (1837)

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled;
Here once the embattled farmers stood;
And fired the shot heard round the world.
The foe long since in silence slept;
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps,
And Time the ruined bridge has swept
Down the dark stream that seaward creeps.
On this green bank, by this soft stream,
We place with joy a votive stone,
That memory may their deeds redeem,
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.
O Thou who made those heroes dare
To die, and leave their children free, —
Bid Time and Nature gently spare
The shaft we raised to them and Thee.

Written for the dedication of the Obelisk, a battle monument commemorating the valiant efforts put forth by area citizens on April 19, 1775, Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Concord Hymn" remains a piece of literature that rings through the hearts and minds of townsfolk and visitors alike who travel to the North Bridge battlefield today. In 1837, the hymn was sung during the town's 4th of July celebration. Today, the foremost recognizable stanza is inscribed on the base of the famous Minute Man Statue. Standing about the cultural landscape, pausing to read Emerson's famous stanza, visitors reflect and possibly feel, hear and see for themselves the activity of the 19th of April.

THE END OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR--WAS IN NEW JERSEY!

Author unknown

• When (the date) the Revolutionary War ended exactly is confusing. It kind of petered out after Yorktown into small raids. • In November of 1782 the British agreed to American Independence and made a preliminary accord with America. • In January of 1783 they signed the preliminary peace treaty with France and Spain. • On April 14th, the Governor of New Jersey issued a Proclamation that ended formal hostilities. The British were still in New York City. • Not until November 23rd, 1783 were they to leave the City. • To most historians, Washington riding into New York City with the remainder of the army (most had been furloughed) is the end of the war. • At Fraunces Tavern, Washington took leave of his officers, asking each to come and take his hand. It was an emotional moment for them all—a bittersweet parting, the breaking of a fellowship. • Governor Livingston had a formal Proclamation printed and distributed to the county sheriffs, who posted it— and probably read it aloud, so that the people would know of the successful conclusion of the war. • A copy of this proclamation is available in many places on the Internet.



Think positively. Sam Rayburn said: "Any jackass can kick down a barn, but it takes a good carpenter to build one."



JULY UPCOMING EVENTS

- 7/3 Henry Thomas Lodge Stated Meeting
- 7/4 [Independence Day](#)
- 7/5 Kingsland Lodge Stated Meeting
- 7/6 Lake Victor Stated Meeting
- 7/7 [Austin Scottish Rite Stated Mtg.](#)
- 7/7 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 7/8 Llano Lodge Stated Meeting
- 7/10 [Valley Lodge Stated Meeting](#)
- 7/13 [Burnet OES Stated Meeting](#)
- 7/14 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 7/15 [Burnet Chapter & Council Mtg.](#)
- 7/17 Bertram Lodge Stated Meeting
- 7/21 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 7/22 [Burnet Commandery Stated Mtg.](#)
- 7/24 Mt. Horeb Lodge Stated Meeting
- 7/28 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 7/29 Blazing Star Lodge Stated Meeting



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 12th. 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

Patricia Towal Worthy Matron
Bob Towal Worthy Patron

JULY 2010

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 7/7 Drew Colvin • 7/18 Buddy Feild •
- 7/21 Maude Allen • 7/24 Frances Porter •
- 7/25 Judy Shelburn • 7/28 Danny Cockroft •
- 7/28 Annie B. Herridge •

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALL!

To all our Star members with a July anniversary:

“HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!”

NEWS FROM THE EAST:

• Thanks to all who attended our Installation on June 11th! Our current Associate Grand Conductress, Annette Curry, oversaw the event marvelously. Our own sister Dee Blue, serving as Installing Grand Marshal, also did a wonderful job of keeping us moving along during the ceremony with great enthusiasm. Past Grand Patron Richard Ochs lead us in reverent prayer as the Installing Grand Chaplain. Sister Nettie Oma Carpenter, Grand Representative of North Dakota in Texas, entertained us royally with her beautiful piano renditions. And our Kingsland sister, Margie Curry, served as a gracious Installing Grand Secretary. Sister Willie Jo Anderson, accompanied by Delores Smith, sang a wonderful hymn to end our Installation on an upbeat note. • We thank our officers for attending. Those members and guests present were so welcome along the sidelines and we both thank you for attending. It was a “grand” event. • All enjoyed a wonderful barbecue dinner of smoked brisket prepared by new Worthy Patron Bob and home cooked desserts prepared by our wonderful Order of

the Eastern Star members. • We all enjoyed ourselves immensely and missed those of you not able to join us. • We would like to thank our outgoing Worthy Matron, Donna Safarick and Worthy Patron, Clay Fancher, for a wonderful year. As a parting gift they prepared savory roast beef and mashed potatoes with green beans and banana pudding. • Members Elaine Holbrook, Delores Smith, and Willie Jo Anderson cleaned up the entire meal so it was a team effort.

OUR JULY 13TH STATED MEETING:

• Please make your plans now to join us for our July stated meeting, to be held on the second Tuesday, July 13th at 7:30 PM. • Our interesting program on *Treasure Our Country* will be given by Kingsland member, Nellie Smith. • Our refreshments will be provided by Willie Jo Anderson and Bob and Patricia Towal. Join us also for a delicious meal before the Masonic stated meeting on the second Saturday of each month.

We look forward to seeing all of you soon!

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