



# Views from the Valley



Valley Lodge No. 175

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

**March 2010** Over 153 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](mailto: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:** Stony Holbrook (Diane) 512-756-8049 •
- **Junior Steward:** James Holbrook (Elaine) 512-756-6004 • **Tiler:** Jack Smith (Delores) 512-756-7082 •

Attend the March 13th Stated Meeting at **7:30 p.m.** Come early for a delicious "Valley Lodge Meal" at **6:30 p.m.**, and enjoy Marinated Grilled Chicken and side dishes, drink and dessert. Our meal reputation is well known. Bring an appetite and your wife or significant other, children, the whole family, friends and neighbors.

## VIEWES FROM THE EAST:

- My brothers, we had an exciting month in February.
- We started out by having our official visit from our new District Deputy the Right Worshipful David Brown. He was very pleased with his visit and said he looked forward to returning to Valley Lodge in the near future. • I would like to thank the ladies of the Eastern Star for their help in making his visit a success. • This was also the night we awarded two very special brothers with their forty year pins. Join me in congratulating Bros. Buck Daricek and Harold Dayton. These two have contributed so much to our lodge and Masonry. • We also bestowed Valley Lodge's most prestigious award upon Bro. Edward Snyder. The Bunk Gibbs award is presented to a Past Master who exemplifies the true teachings of Masonry. The committee could not have selected a more deserving candidate. Congratulations Eddie!
- We will be having our fund raiser on April 2nd to raise money for our scholarship fund. This year we are having a fish fry. Tickets will be going on sale soon. If you wish to contribute to the fund to buy the fish please contact Bro. Rick Allen. • Remember please, that we practice every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m., so make plans to attend and sharpen up on that memory work. I hope to see you there!

Fraternally Yours,  
*William Teague*  
Worshipful Master

## I AM PROUD TO BE A MASON

by Rabbi Seymour Atlas (edited for space)

I shall never forget my first thought as I made my initial entrance into the Masonic Lodge that conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree on me, and followed with the Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degrees. I was immediately made to feel that I was surrounded by Brothers. I felt there were no strangers present. This was one big family that seemed to have adopted me, and I, in turn, was elated to adopt them as my family.

My horizon of Masonry expanded, and my pride and joy were bubbling and effervescent. I couldn't wait to be able to confer the Degrees on others as there was so much I wanted to explain and elaborate about each Degree.

I was offered this opportunity and immediately began to study and memorize many parts, and over the years I became very active, holding office, lecturing, and taking an active part in every phase of Masonry where my talents and abilities could be used.

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## SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Any high school senior wishing to apply for a scholarship from Valley Lodge—or any Brother wishing to apply for a scholarship for a relative who is graduating this year—should contact the Lodge Secretary and request an application form. The form then needs to be taken to that senior's school to be completed by the senior counselor, then returned to Valley Lodge. In order to qualify, the graduating senior must be related to a Brother Mason.



Past Master Buck Daricek proudly displays his 40-year Service pin as District Deputy Grand Master Right Worshipful David Brown and Worshipful Master William Teague look on.



DDGM R. : W. : David Brown and Worshipful Master William Teague pose with Past Master Eddie Snyder, and his prestigious Bunk Gibbs award.



DDGM R. : W. : David Brown displays Past Master Harold Dayton's 40-year Service Certificate as Mrs. Dayton (Bertha) and Worshipful Master William Teague pose with him.

Scottish Rite

Consider More  
Masonry, Join

York Rite

One aspect of Masonry that has made a great impression on me was the ability of all Brothers, regardless of religion, to ask me why did I need Masonry as a Rabbi, because my profession was one of integrity, kindness, honesty, and all the attributes expounded in Masonry. It was difficult for many to grasp my need for this addition and supplement to religion. I worked with men of different religions, as well as of the Hebrew faith, and they were all impressed when I would say that Masonry is not a religion, but to be a Mason we had to believe in God, and if this was the only aspect of our religion and we had no other formal religion, yet we adhered to all the moral teachings of Masonry; this too would have put us in the category of men of integrity. However, Masonry is not a substitute for religion, nor is it a religion.

My experience has shown that Masons are, for the most part, deeply religious men. I am proud to be a Mason and a part of an organization that is devoted to helping, without question or embarrassment, widows, orphans, and those in need.

I am proud to be a Mason and to be a part of a Fraternity dedicated to the upholding of the Constitution of the United States of America and the Bill of Rights.

I am proud to be a Mason who believes in the freedom of mankind and the sanctity of human life. I am proud to be a Mason who believes in the dignity of God's children and opposes hatred and bigotry, and stands for truth, justice, kindness, integrity, and righteousness for all.

I am proud to be a Mason and shall always be happy to number myself among those who uphold those cardinal principles and moral standards of life that are so needed if our organization is to continue on the high level that has been its character from its inception. May God grant it continued strength to go, to grow, and to glow so that I and all Masons can exclaim: **"I am proud to be a Mason!"**



## CHAPTER/COUNCIL/COMMANDARY NEWS

• Excellent High Priest Tom Oughton left 28 February for eight weeks in Wilmington, Delaware. • Apparently they won't let him start driving trains again until he gets a refresher course. We will miss him. • He passed his drug test, though, so that is a good thing! • Chapter is putting on a Mark Masters degree on 11 March. Final practice for the degree is March 4, both at 7pm. All Royal Arch Masons are welcome, come join us.



*A jumper cable walks into a bar and orders a drink.  
The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything!"*



*Two cannibals are eating a clown. One asks the other,  
"Does this taste funny to you?"*



*I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day,  
but I couldn't find any.*



## SAINT PATRICK - THE STORY

*From <http://www.saint-patrick.com/history.ht> (edited for space)*

• St. Patrick was born a Briton under Roman rule; either in the north of England or in southern Scotland. • In his teens he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave by Niall of the Nine Hostages, a famous king of Ireland. • Patrick was taken to Antrim where he was sold to a local landowner to work as a shepherd. • For six long years Patrick lived upon the Slemish mountain with only his sheep for company. The land was bleak and harsh but Patrick found solace in the faith that his people had abandoned under Roman rule. • One night he heard a voice calling to him, telling him that the time had come to escape. It told him, "See, your ship is ready." He travelled south for 200 miles until he came to Wexford where, sure enough, a boat heading for Britain was waiting. • Patrick approached the captain, who at first denied him passage. He turned away, praying for guidance. Before he finished the prayer he heard a member of the crew calling to him to come with them—they had changed their mind and could provide him with passage home. • Patrick did not have an easy life—when travelling home through Britain he was captured by a band of brigands, who returned him to slavery. Desperate, Patrick heard God's voice reassuring him that, "Two months will you be with them." • Sure enough, after sixty days in their company, he was delivered from their hands. Patrick then spent seven years travelling throughout Europe trying to determine what his purpose on earth was. Eventually he came to the conclusion that he should take his religious message throughout the world. • After completing his religious studies he returned to Britain as a priest. He remained in Britain until a voice came to him in a dream. He recognised it as the voice of the Irish, which begged him, "We beseech thee, holy youth, to come and walk once more amongst us." • At this point, Patrick's purpose in life was revealed to him—he would convert the Irish to Christianity.



## HIDDEN LESSONS FROM RITUAL WORK

*by Micheal Mayer*

• So many times we seem to look at Ritual Work as not being that important, and that it doesn't have to be done that well. We feel that we just need to have more Masons for our Lodges. If we fail to share the teachings properly, who do you think loses? • I would like to have you think back to that first night—it could have been a warm or cool night—that we all share. That night we were so apprehensive, or for the sake of better words, confused as to what was going to happen. • Those first words you heard said at the Lodge door, asking

questions and wanting answers from you, and how you were treated was only the start of your Masonic life; that life that leads most of us on a continuous journey of Masonic travel for the rest of our lives. • For some of us, those who had to memorize the Degree and Obligations, we share something that no one else can understand. It was that task of learning them, that we choose to do, and we did. This struggle teaches us what we all can do with hard work and a true desire to accomplish things. • I have listened to the lectures so many times, and still I find them as interesting as the first time I heard them. Every time I hear them, I find a new perspective that I have missed before. I fear for those that do not choose to listen to them in this way, as they will never find the lessons that are taught there in Masonry. • And as for those that give those grand lectures, they learn as well. They learn how it feels to give that perfect lecture and also when they don't get it perfectly right; most of the time just stopping for a moment to think or to taking a breath. I think we can all learn hidden lessons here too; like how we should overlook everyone's little mistakes that we all make in life. And, to remember sometimes the best intentions go wrong by accident.



### PREDICTIONS THAT FAILED MISERABLY

*There have been times in history when great and otherwise intelligent men made lousy predictions. Here are some of the more egregious ones:*

- **“This ‘telephone’ has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us.”** Western Union internal memo circa 1876, one of many wildly incorrect judgments made in the early days of the device. By the end of 2006, global mobile phone usage hit 50 percent.
- **“I have anticipated radio’s complete disappearance . . . confident that the unfortunate people who must now subdue themselves to listening in, will soon find a better pastime for their leisure.”** Science fiction author H.G. Wells circa 1925, erroneously predicting the end of a technology that not only still exists but has morphed.
- **“Television won’t be able to hold on to any market it captures after the first six months. People will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night.”** Film mogul Darryl F. Zanuck of 20th Century Fox, in 1946, not the only famous figure to doubt the popularity and persistence of Americans’ most popular leisure activity.
- **“The cinema is little more than a fad. It’s canned drama. What audiences really want to see is flesh and blood on the stage.”** Film star and famous funnyman Charlie Chaplin circa 1916, possibly toying with his

audience. American film admissions did drop by 2.6 percent in 2008, to 1.36 billion.

And, coming full circle:

- **“There is no reason for any individual to have a computer in his home.”** Ken Olson, founder of Digital Equipment Corp., circa 1977. Of course, as Snopes points out, computers were very different at that time—giant, impractical, high-maintenance machines that were not designed for and certainly did not appeal to the casual consumer.



### DID YOU KNOW THIS? . . .

*Doctors claim that using the brain stimulates it, and helps to keep it healthy. We will, from time to time, provide puzzles and other brain-teasing materials. Let’s keep those brains healthy!*

#### NUMBERS, ANYONE?

Do the following numbers ring a bell, mentally? For instance the number 365 might mean the days in a normal year. Can you figure out what the following numbers would make you recall?

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. 1,760 . . . . .  | 11. .4771 . . . . . |
| 2. 2,000 . . . . .  | 12. .4971 . . . . . |
| 3. 4,840 . . . . .  | 13. 1.6 . . . . .   |
| 4. 640 . . . . .    | 14. 1.414 . . . . . |
| 5. 1.732 . . . . .  | 15. 1,728 . . . . . |
| 6. 2.54 . . . . .   | 16. 3-4-5 . . . . . |
| 7. 3.1416 . . . . . | 17. 6,080 . . . . . |
| 8. 366 . . . . .    | 18. 62 .5 . . . . . |
| 9. .3010 . . . . .  | 19. 90 . . . . .    |
| 10. 1492 . . . . .  | 20. 88 . . . . .    |



### FEBRUARY UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3/1 Kingsland Lodge Stated Meeting
- 3/2 Lake Victor Stated Meeting
- 3/3 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 3/3 Austin Scottish Rite Stated Mtg.
- 3/6 Henry Thomas Lodge Stated Meeting
- 3/9 Burnet OES Stated Meeting
- 3/9 Llano Lodge Stated Meeting
- 3/10 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 3/13 Valley Lodge Stated Meeting
- 3/15 Blazing Star Lodge Stated Meeting
- 3/17 Saint Patrick’s Day
- 3/17 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 3/18 Burnet Chapter & Council Mtg.
- 3/20 Bertram Lodge Stated Meeting
- 3/24 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 3/25 Burnet Commandery Stated Mtg.
- 3/27 Mt. Horeb 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 March 13th. 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

March 2010

Donna Safarick, Worthy Matron  
Clay Fancher, Worthy Patron

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/1 Richard Markle • 3/1 Willie Jo Anderson • 3/2 Melba Graves •
- 3/3 Betty Jo Klein • 3/7 William Teague • 3/7 Rolan Cottle •
- 3/8 Jerry Goodson • 3/9 Judy Johnson • 3/10 Elizabeth Dean •
- 3/12 Jeana Anderson • 3/18 Sue Walker • 3/20 Vivian Nichols •
- 3/20 Shirley Cheatham • 3/21 Lois Hahn Bowmer • 3/21 Betty Waters •
- 3/23 Chastity Teague • 3/23 Sara Ann Luther • 3/24 Arlene Willis •
- 3/24 MarJane Cogburn • 3/28 Lonnie Rogers •

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALL!**

**To all our Star members with a March anniversary: "HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!"**

### FROM THE WORTHY MATRON AND WORTHY PATRON:

• Greetings to everyone. • How about that snow we had this month. God blessed us with a very beautiful day. • We had our Friendship meeting in February. Sister Sally Howard presented the program. • Thank you to Sisters Martha Heffington and Chastity Teague for the Masonic Dinner and refreshments for Chapter. • I would like to thank Sister Patricia Towal who substituted at the last minute, and stepped into the East—and Sister Dee Blue for making phone calls. I know I have said it before, but it's worth repeating—Burnet Chapter #425 has the BEST members and I truly appreciate every single one of you.



### THE STATED MEETING ON 9 MARCH:

• The program for March will be presented by Ray Bronk. Brother Ray does a wonderful presentation so we hope to have a large turnout there on March 9th for our meeting and the program. • Come to the meeting for a great program on "Masons and Education in Early Texas," and for those refreshments.



### THE MASONIC DINNER ON 13 MARCH:

This month's Masonic Dinner will be provided by Marjorie and Ray Bronk, so we know that it will be wonderful. They plan on serving their popular marinated grilled chicken.

Star Love,

*Donna Safarick*  
Worthy Matron

Burnet Chapter #425

**GOD BLESS AMERICA AND ALL OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN**

**VALLEY LODGE No.175**

P.O. Box 249

BURNET, TX 78611