



Views from the Valley

Valley Lodge No. 175

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



October 2009 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 • **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 October 10th Stated Meeting at 7:30 PM. Come early for a delicious "Valley Lodge Meal" at 6:30 PM, with a menu of Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Deviled Eggs, Rolls, and a "Twinkie" Dessert. 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:

• August was an exciting month for Valley Lodge. I would like to thank the Eastern Star for providing such a wonderful meal for our stated meeting. Be sure to show these ladies your appreciation; they do such a wonderful job. • We had two visits from our Most Worshipful Grand Master David Counts who came down on 19 August to watch a Masters degree and then gave us a surprise visit on 26 August to watch us put on a Fellowcraft. It was a pleasure to have him visit our Lodge. • We also completed some house-keeping this month, installing two new toilets and handicap rails in the restrooms. I would like to thank Brother Daricek and Brother Cockroft for helping me with the installation of the new fixtures. • I would like to remind everyone about the Cave Degree scheduled for 24 October at Longhorn Caverns. The price of the fajita meal will be \$10.00. There are also caps for purchase from Brother James Holbrook to help support the event. I hope to see you all there. Fraternaly Yours,

William Teague

Worshipful Master

UPCOMING OCTOBER EVENTS

- 10/3 Henry Thomas Lodge Stated Meeting
- 10/5 Kingsland Lodge Stated Meeting
- 10/7 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 10/7 Austin Scottish Rite Stated Mtg.
- 10/10 Valley Lodge Stated Meeting
- 10/12 Columbus Day (A Holiday)
- 10/13 Burnet OES Stated Meeting
- 10/13 Llano Lodge Stated Meeting
- 10/14 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 10/15 Burnet Chapter & Council Mtg.
- 10/16 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 10/17 Bertram Lodge Stated Meeting
- 10/19 Blazing Star Lodge Stated Meeting
- 10/21 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 10/22 Burnet Commandery Stated Mtg.
- 10/24 Mt. Horeb Lodge Stated Meeting
- 10/24 Longhorn Cavern Cave Degree
- 10/28 Valley Lodge Floor School
- 10/31 Halloween

MASTER MASON DEGREE TO BE PRESENTED AT LONGHORN CAVERNS:

• A Master Mason degree will be put on in Longhorn Cavern at Longhorn Cavern State Park on 24 October at 6:00 PM. A fajita dinner will be served at 5:00 PM, costing \$10. • Baseball caps celebrating the occasion will be sold before and after the degree. • The degree will be presented by members of District #49 of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. • Longhorn Cavern is located six miles west of U.S. Highway 281, on Park Road 4. For those using GPS, load the address of 6211 Park Road 4 South, Burnet. • For further details, contact: Brothers James Holbrook, Henry Thomas Lodge No. 278 830-798-4164, Joe Greene, Bertram Lodge No. 583 512-585-9796, or Carter Barcus, Lake Victor No. 1011 512-355-3195. • This should prove to be a memorable and interesting degree, presented in the dimly-lit cavern with its remarkable stalagmites and stalactites and other amazing rock formations!



Worshipful Master Thomas Turner of Blazing Star No. 413, awards a Forty-year certificate to Brother Travis Thomas. Awaiting their Forty-year awards are Brothers Hugh Reed and Andy Freeman.

There is no witness so dreadful, no accuser so terrible as the conscience that dwells in the heart of every man.

... Polybius, 205 BC - 118 BC

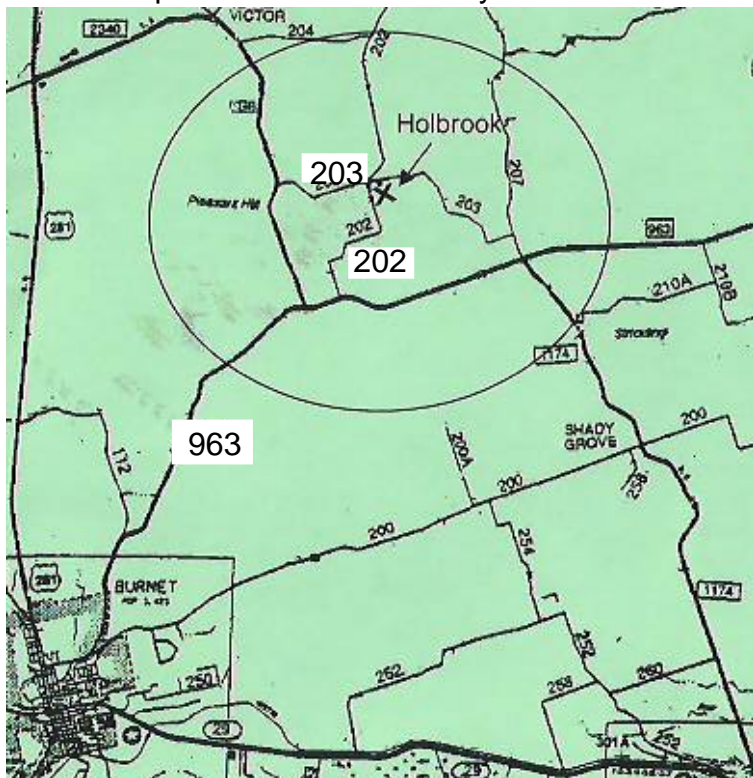
Scottish Rite

Consider More
Masonry, Join

York Rite

THE ANNUAL 49TH DISTRICT PICNIC AT SAGE TEXAS:

The annual 49th Masonic District Picnic will be held Sunday afternoon 11 October, 2009 at the James Holbrook ranch pavilion at Sage, Texas. See the map below and look for signs. The bar-b-que meat will be furnished by the Master, Warden and Secretaries Association and will be cooked by the great Brother James P. Holbrook. Each Lodge should have gotten a letter telling them what to bring to go with the meat. For more information call Brother Holbrook at 830-798-4164 • Individuals are encouraged to bring a dessert. We will start gathering at 1:00 PM. Most Worshipful Grand Master David Counts will be our speaker for this event. He is famous for his interesting and sincere messages. We will plan on eating around 3:00 PM. There are plans to have a Country/Western band.



STRESS DURING TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES

Parade Magazine, May 2009 (edited for length)

(Editor's Note: With the high unemployment we are experiencing, it is likely that some of our members are experiencing hard economic times and feel overwhelmed by the difficulties that they and their families are enduring. Perhaps these following thoughts will help them cope until recovery.)

• A recent survey reveals that 8 out of 10 Americans say that the steep decline in the economy has become a major source of stress in their lives. At every level of society, people are overwhelmed with fear, depression, anxiety and shame. People are so intimidated by the scope of challenges they face that they have no plan in place to deal with the difficulties and to get themselves going again. • First, remember

that you are not suddenly stupid or inept because you have financial problems. You still have the same ability and talent that you had before you were caught in the “perfect storm” of conditions over which you have no control. • If you need help, ask for it! Reach out to friends, extended family, church members and others. Do not withdraw into an emotional cocoon. Withdrawal is a warning sign that shame and guilt are controlling you. • Spend 5% of your time deciding if you got a good or bad deal and 95% deciding what you are going to do about it! There is nothing you shouldn't consider when in survival mode! You may need to give up the nice car, vacations, designer jeans and even your house. Reorder your priorities. If you are out of work and need money, you have got to get the best available job as soon as you can, even if it is not what you hoped for.

• Use this moment for a “rebirth.” Seize the opportunity to use this experience to improve your life, your family bonds and your feeling of self-worth. Get the RIGHT ATTITUDE, because it is all about attitude. Be honest with yourself. Can we learn to live “smaller?” • Financial pressures are among the top complaints of divorce. Couples get wrung out about money problems and turn their fears and frustrations on each other. By venting at your partner, you jeopardize what is the greatest anchor in times of crisis — the love of a spouse and family. Instead of placing blame, turn to your spouse and say, “We can get through this together. Even if we have to give up some of the things we worked for, we can always start over.” This crisis can be a glue that welds you together rather than a wedge that drives you apart. • Make your children, if any, part of the solution. Sit down with them and let them know exactly what is going on. Give your kids things to do. Help them to figure out how to save money. Your job is to cherish your children, protect them and prepare them for the world. Everything else is a luxury and children need to know that. • Think with verbs (working words) in your sentences and do whatever it takes to keep you and your family afloat. This, too shall pass.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS:

Christopher Columbus (c. 1451 – 20 May 1506) was a navigator, colonizer and explorer whose voyages across the Atlantic Ocean led to general European awareness of the American continents in the Western Hemisphere. • The anniversary of Columbus's 1492 landing in the Americas is observed as **Columbus**

Day on October 12 in Spain and throughout the Americas, except that in the United States it is observed on the second Monday in October. • With his four voyages of discovery and several attempts at establishing a settlement on the island of Hispaniola, all funded by Isabella I of Castile, he initiated the process of Spanish colonization which foreshadowed general European colonization of the “New World.” • Although not the first to reach the Americas from Europe—he was preceded by at least one other group, the Norse, led by Leif Ericson, who built a temporary settlement 500 years earlier at L’Anse aux Meadows (near the northern tip of Newfoundland) — Columbus initiated widespread contact between Europeans and indigenous Americans. • The term “pre-Columbian” is usually used to refer to the peoples and cultures of the Americas before the arrival of Columbus and his European successors. • Academic consensus is that Columbus was born in Genoa, though there are other theories. • Columbus’s initial 1492 voyage came at a critical time of growing national imperialism and economic competition between developing nation states seeking wealth from the establishment of trade routes and colonies. • Columbus’s farfetched scheme won the attention of Isabella I of Castile. • Severely underestimating the circumference of the Earth, he estimated that a westward route from Iberia to the Indies would be shorter and more direct than the overland trade route through Arabia. If true, this would allow Spain entry into the lucrative spice trade — heretofore commanded by the Arabs and Italians. • Following his plotted course, he instead landed within the Bahamas Archipelago at a locale he named *San Salvador*. Mistaking the North-American island for the East-Asian mainland, he referred to its inhabitants as “Indios.”



FOOTBALL PLAYERS AND COACH’S NUGGETS OF WISDOM:

Editor’s Note: We recognize that many of our readers are football fans — we therefore, will be enclosing several of these humorous and ironic quotes and sayings during the “football season.” We’ll have more in the November issue.

- "Football is only a game. Spiritual things are eternal. Nevertheless, Beat Texas." Seen on a church sign in Arkansas prior to the 1969 game.
- "After you retire, there’s only one big event left... and I ain’t ready for that." Bobby Bowden, Florida State
- "The man who complains about the way the ball bounces is likely to be the one who dropped it." Lou Holtz, Arkansas

- "When you win, nothing hurts." Joe Namath, Alabama
- "Motivation is simple. You eliminate those who are not motivated." Lou Holtz, Arkansas
- "If you want to walk the heavenly streets of gold, you gotta know the password, "Roll, tide, roll!" Bear Bryant, Alabama
- "A school without football is in danger of deteriorating into a medieval study hall." Frank Leahy, Notre Dame
- "There’s nothing that cleanses your soul like getting the hell kicked out of you." Woody Hayes, Ohio State
- "I don’t expect to win enough games to be put on NCAA probation. I just want to win enough to warrant an investigation." Bob Devaney, Nebraska
- "In Alabama , an atheist is someone who doesn’t believe in Bear Bryant." Wally Butts, Georgia
- "You can learn more character on the two-yard line than anywhere else in life." Paul Dietzel, LSU
- "It’s kind of hard to rally around a math class." Bear Bryant, Alabama
- When asked if Fayetteville was the end of the world. "No, but you can see it from here." Lou Holtz, Arkansas
- "I make my practices real hard because if a player is a quitter, I want him to quit in practice, not in a game." Bear Bryant, Alabama
- "There’s one sure way to stop us from scoring-give us the ball near the goal line." Matty Bell, SMU
- "Lads, you’re not to miss practice unless your parents died or you died." Frank Leahy, Notre Dame
- "I never graduated from Iowa , but I was only there for two terms — Truman’s and Eisenhower’s." Alex Karras, Iowa



HALLOWEEN THIS ‘N THAT

*From ghoulies and ghosties
And long-leggedy beasties
And things that go bump in the night,
Good Lord, deliver us!*

. . . Scottish Saying

I’ll bet living in a nudist colony takes all the fun out of Halloween. .

. . . Author Unknown

Eat, drink and be scary. . . . Author Unknown

A grandmother pretends she doesn’t know who you are on Halloween. . . . Erma Bombeck

*When witches go riding,
and black cats are seen,
the moon laughs and whispers,
‘tis near Halloween.*

. . . Author Unknown



FROM THE EDITOR: This newsletter depends heavily on the writings of other Brothers. We give attribution to 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 October 10th. 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

October 2009

Donna Safarick, Worthy Matron
Clay Fancher, Worthy Patron

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/3 JoAnn Doak • 10/3 Dolly Martin •
- 10/5 Marie Daniel • 10/7 Dorothy Null •
- 10/10 Carroll Heffington • 10/12 Angela Clinard •
- 10/14 Nell Gardner • 10/15 Stoney Holbrook •
- 10/15 Bill Hooten • 10/15 Laura Leeds •
- 10/28 Margaret Gilmore • 10/29 Delores Smith •

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALL!

To all our Star members with an OCTOBER anniversary:

"HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!"

NOTES FROM THE WORTHY MATRON AND WORTHY PATRON:

- I want to thank all the members of Chapter #425 for their attendance on 8 September to welcome the new Deputy Grand Matron Dottie Ammerman to our Chapter meeting and for her official Visit. The pot luck dinner was wonderful and everyone was very supportive.
- Congratulations to Ricky Allen of Valley Lodge on his Golden Trowel award. He has been a hard worker in a difficult job — as the Secretary of Valley Lodge — and he still has

made time for all the extra things he does for the Lodge. • See you all at the OES stated meeting on 13 October.

THE MASONIC MEETING DINNER:

- The Masonic dinner menu has been planned and will be served by the team of Sisters Dee Blue and Vickie Barho. They have chosen Beef Roast, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Deviled Eggs, Rolls, and a Twinkie Dessert. Sounds fabulous.

Star Love,

Donna Safarick

Worthy Matron
Order of the Eastern Star
Burnet Chapter #425

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND ALL OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

VALLEY LODGE No.175

P.O. Box 249

BURNET, TX 78611