

CLAUD L. AUSTIN LODGE NO. 1450

Donnie Swango, Secretary

cla1450@aol.com

972-964-5760

August, 2008

STATED MEETING

As of this writing, the next Stated Meeting is only a couple of weeks away. It is set for Monday, August 25th at noon on the Green Room of the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

R:W: William P. "Bill" Irving, DDGM of District 14-E will be making his second Official Visit to our Lodge. We hope you will plan to be there and show your support.

Of course, lunch will follow the meeting.

FESTIVE BOARD

The next Festive Board will be held on Friday, August 22nd. As usual, it is for Dining Members only, and will be at the DAC Country Club.

Attitudes can be adjusted, beginning at 6:00pm, with a Call to Table at 6:45pm.

We always have a good convivial time and want everyone to make sure you have called or e-mailed your RSVP to Zola preceding the Festive Board. His contact information is 972-661-8977 and/or zbblick@aol.com.

Reservations are absolutely necessary as we have no crystal ball for telling the Club how many to prepare for. There are always several who, for some reason, fail to do so....almost like you require us to call you. PLEASE do your duty and make your reservation timely. We would appreciate your consideration and help.

FROM RON GREENE PM

Brethren:

My Masonic year as Worshipful Master of Claud L. Austin is coming to an end. I want you to know what a great honor it has been

serving you as Worshipful Master. I have enjoyed all of your friendships. The Stated Meetings were very interesting and productive. We gave a scholarship to a well-deserved young lady, Lauren Morzak, at J.J. Pearce High School in Richardson, Texas. We will be discussing another scholarship for a young man. He is also well deserving of this scholarship and we will, hopefully, be voting on James Galindo, a senior at Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas, at the Stated Meeting in May.

The camaraderie and conviviality amongst the members seems to be growing more and more as each Festive Board comes along. I wish to extend a thank you to John Adams for allowing us to meet at the Dallas Athletic Club. I also wish to thank Zola Blicher, who has been arranging the menus at the DAC, directing the Red Aprons, and has kept busy doing many other things for our lodge. Donnie Swango deserves a big round of applause for all of his hard work as Secretary. The newsletters have been interesting and his preparations for each of our Stated Meetings and Festive Boards have been thorough.

A BIG thanks to all my officers and members who made my year so rewarding.

Fraternally,
Ronald Greene
Worshipful Master
Claud L. Austin Lodge 1450

IN MEMORIAM

Brother Kyle D. "Pete" Garver passed away May 23, 2008. Pete had lost his eyesight and resided in an assisted living facility for several months. He was a Charter Member of Claud L. Austin, affiliating from Sam P. Cochran Lodge where he served as Worshipful Master. Pete

was quite a salesman for Nabors Trailer Co. His "calling" was being a Mason...active in the Lodge, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine.

Brother Frank Everts, Jr. passed away on July 9, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He was a Charter Member of Claud L. Austin Lodge, affiliating from John L. DeGrazier Lodge where he served as Worshipful Master. Frank, a jeweler extraordinaire, was very civic minded and a familiar face in the Lodge, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine.

May their names be inscribed for blessing in the Book of Life.

OFFICERS INSTALLED

On June 30th, the following officers, elected and appointed were installed by Brothers Wendell P. Miller PM, as Installing Master, and Sam I. Smith APM. As Installing Marshal:

James A. Moore	Worshipful Master
Billie L. Cox	Senior Warden
Willie E. Smith, Jr.	Junior Warden
Wendell P. Miller PM	Chaplain
Michael R. Pappas PM	Senior Deacon
Steven M. Brazeal APM	Senior Steward

On July 17th, the following appointed officers were installed by Brothers Wendell P. Miller PM, as Installing Master, and Sam I. Smith APM, as Installing Marshal:

Robert R. Jensen	Junior Deacon
Lawrence A. Winkle PM	Junior Steward

The following officers were carry-overs and were not required to be installed again:

James R. Hurt APM	Treasurer
Donald H. Swango APM	Secretary
Sam I Smith APM	Marshal
Robert G. Burden PM	Tiler

LAMAR MEDAL

The Lodge voted to present a second Lamar Medal and Scholarship to another deserving high school graduate.

James M. Galindo, a 2008 graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, was selected and the award was presented to him at their Honors Assembly in front of his peers by Brother Ron Greene WM. He was also presented with a \$750 scholarship, which he will use when entering the University of North Texas this fall.

Both recipients of the Lamar Medals and Scholarships, Lauren Morzak and James Galindo, were guests of honor at the installation of officers on June 30th.

MASONIC TRAITS

If you don't talk like a Mason, act like a Mason, treat your brethren with the respect due a Mason, then the people around you are going to think that there's nothing special about Freemasonry.

In the community, people consider you the best example of what our ancient Craft teaches. If your behavior is selfish and thoughtless, then Masons everywhere will suffer from your example.

Masonry teaches us how to be better and more satisfied persons, but it is up to us to follow through and practice those lessons every day.

It's interesting to note that among the themes many of the U.S. political candidates are trying to put forth, this campaign season, are character and integrity. The world is starving for them. Freemasonry shows men how to build and develop them.

This is one of the reasons it is so important for Masons to get together outside the Lodge. Some of the greatest Masonic Light is found sitting around after meetings. It's much easier to feel brotherly with someone you get to know on a personal level more than just sitting in Lodge together.

SCHEDULE

Friday, August 22

Festive Board

Monday, August 25 Stated Meeting
 Friday, November 21 Festive Board
 Monday, November 24 Stated Meeting
 Thursday, December 4 -
 Saturday, December 6 Grand Lodge
 Saturday, December 13 Holiday Brunch

OLD, BUT STILL FUNNY

Lady Astor once remarked to Winston Churchill at a Dinner Party, 'Winston, if you were my husband, I would poison your coffee!'

Winston replied, 'Madam if I were your husband I would drink it!'

Lady Astor looked at Churchill and said, 'Sir, you are drunk!' He replied, 'And Madam, you are ugly. At least in the morning I'll be sober.'

WHO IS THIS?



CATHOLICS AND FREEMASONRY

It is forbidden for Catholics to join Masons!

It does appear historically that the distant forefathers of modern day Freemasonry is to be found in the ancient guilds of stone mason

who, because of their inability to read and write, were forced to communicate their level of "craftsmanship" by means of signals and handshakes in order to prove their authenticity as competent stone masons and their membership within a particular guild (or union) of stone masons.

Over the years, with the decline of stone masonry and the need for those services on a large scale, this evolved into a fraternity for men who were dedicated to making themselves better men by binding into an organization wherein, after the professed a belief in God, could sit with other men of like-mindedness and discuss things in a spirit of brotherhood. One of the preambles of masonry is that a mason should be good citizen and he must be a moral man, and there are strict rules to insure this. This is one of the reasons that you find so many prominent citizens, including many of our nation's founders, as members of the fraternity.

It is nothing more than a fraternity, which requires that its members must be a believer in God and that is why you find so many ministers as members of the fraternity. Each lodge meeting is opened and closed with a prayer to Almighty God and the Holy Bible is always open in the center of the lodge.

Above the 3rd degree as a Master Mason, there are indeed 28 other degrees for which the candidate must attend classes and presentation until such time as the 32nd degree is awarded in the Scottish Rite. Yes, a person of any faith can go all the way from 1st degree to 32nd in the Scottish Rite and, yes, the York Rite is based upon Christian principles.

There is no secretive agenda of the Masons except to help a man become a better man and more secure within his own faith.

Unfortunately, the masons have been greatly misunderstood and even more greatly maligned because of that misunderstanding. I have never heard anything within the masons, which in any way demeans or goes against

FOOTBALL – 'TIS THE SEASON

Catholicism or any other Christian faith; in fact, you are encouraged to develop more deeply into your faith. What masonry does encourage is the ability of men of all faiths to come together in understanding and toleration under the umbrella of the Devine Creator of the Universe, Almighty God, in a spirit of brotherhood. Sounds a lot like Ecumenism doesn't it?

If the masons are such a bad fraternity, then why do we see so much good that they do, such as the building of hospitals and burn centers for the children. A child from my family, who was from the Mormon side of the family, required massive treatment for illness and was taken to the Shrine burn center in Columbia, South Carolina, where he was treated for weeks and his family was provided with everything they needed; they were never asked for a dime in payment that I know of. In Louisville, Kentucky, there is a Shrine Hospital for Children where no one is ever turned away because of money. When is the last time you heard of a Catholic hospital that was not worried about insurance or money?

I do not know of any illicit activity that has ever taken place in a Lodge of Masons; no gambling, no drinking, nothing of any immoral or amoral nature. Can we say the same about the Knights of Columbus? But as a Catholic I chafe at seeing yet another sign outside of a Catholic Church that says either "Bingo or Texas Hold'em Poker this Friday night." I wonder sometimes that I might see a Catholic Church with a sign outside saying something like "Come see the sisters dance on tables this Friday at 7pm!" I think we need to rethink some things ourselves.

If we as Catholics are so pompous to foster such things who are we to condemn a fraternity of men who come together for the purpose of trying to both understand each others faiths and do some good in this world. In the Catholic Church we talk a lot about Ecumenism and a coming together of faiths but yet we often condemn others who try to do the same thing.

"At Georgia Southern, we don't cheat. That costs money and we don't have any." Erk Russell / Georgia Southern.

"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