Most Worshipful M. Boyd Patterson, Jr.
Grand Master of Masons in Texas
A Special Personal Note
as we begin 2003

My sincere thanks are extended to the following:
First, foremost and always - to the Brethren of Texas for permitting me the honor of serving you during this year.
To the members of the 2003 Planning Team - for three years of hard work to prepare a program which Texas Lodges and Texas Masons deserve
To the Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, Committee Members and all those who have volunteered for positions of responsibility - you will make it possible for us to turn plans into reality.

Together we will Take Up The Challenge!

Fraternally yours,
Take Up the Challenge -
To Learn and Improve

“What came you here to do?”
“To learn ... and improve myself in Masonry.”

Sound familiar? Of course it does! Think back to that first study night after your EA Degree. There you are - the newest Entered Apprentice in your Lodge - sitting down with another Brother to begin your Masonic education. How long did that first session last - one hour? ninety minutes? How far did you get - twelve questions and answers? more? less? Irrespective of those specifics, what has been a constant part of your Masonic experience - from that first night of study until today as you read the first issue of this magazine for the new Masonic year?

The one constant has been our desire “To learn”, and that as we learn to “improve ourselves” and not just in Masonry but in all that we do in life. Think for a moment on what membership in Masonry has done for you: new friends, new opportunities for service to mankind, the chance to develop and exhibit leadership skills, to improve your vocabulary and public speaking ability, in short - to improve yourself through learning.

Education, and specifically Masonic education, is the touchstone around which the 2003 term plan has been developed. Since 1836 Texas Masons have been unsurpassed in developing, perpetuating and passing to our new members the ritual which binds us together, which distinguishes Freemasonry as an institution. The members of the Committee on Work, hundreds of District Instructors and tens of thousands of Masons in every Lodge in the state have preserved the work and have used it as a unique method to not only unite us but also to set each of us onto our own path toward Masonic education.

During this Grand Lodge year we will not turn aside from this essential element of Brotherhood. In fact, those of you already working toward earning the Vanguard Lodge Award have become intimately familiar with the new requirements which have been added regarding ritualistic proficiency. Instead, it is my desire and it is our plan that we will continue this devotion to learning the work of Freemasonry, and we will add more opportunities for all of the Brethren of Texas to improve themselves in Masonry by becoming as well versed in leadership, management, fiscal affairs, promotion of charity and service to our Brothers.

We can do more. We will preserve our heritage and our unique identity. At the same time we will add opportunities to continue to learn. Please take time to read about the programs described elsewhere in this magazine, and visit the Grand Lodge of Texas web site as well. Become familiar with the programs we are continuing. Learn more about the new opportunities we have created: the Texas Masonic Philanthropies initiative, new and informative Grand Master’s Conferences, the Wardens’ Retreat Program, MWSA Development, the Fiat Lux Conference and others. Plan now to be a part of all of them.

We can never learn too much. We dare not cease in our efforts to improve ourselves and this great Fraternity. Take time to continue your Masonic education. It is the reason we became Brothers. It is the key which will insure a great tomorrow, building on a tradition of which we can be proud.

Fraternally yours,

M. Boyd Patterson, Jr.

www.grandlodgeoftexas.org
Brian R. Dodson was raised a Master Mason in Bellaire Lodge No. 1336 in 1981, serving as Worshipful Master in 1987-88 and receiving the Golden Trowel in 1998. He is a member of Gray No. 329, Tranquility No. 2000, Post Oak Island No. 181, and the Texas Lodge of Research.


He served as a Regional Conference Coordinator in 1995, member of the Memorials Committee in 1991, the Grand Officers Report Committee in 1995-99 and was its Chairman in 1999. He also served on the Masonic Education and Service Committee 2000-02 and Chaired the “Take Time to Read” program from 1999-2001.

Brother Dodson is also active in the York Rite where he has served as the presiding officer of Washington Chapter No. 2, Houston Council No. 1 and Houston Commandery No. 95 and is a recipient of the KYCH. He served the Grand Chapter as Grand Sr. Steward in 1995 and Grand Orator in 2001. He was District Deputy Grand Master for the Grand Council in 1995. He is a Past Governor of Gulf Coast York Rite College No. 106 and is serving as the Aid to the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar.

Active in the Scottish Rite, Brother Dodson is a Past Wise Master of the Houston Valley Chapter Knight Rose Croix and the current Sr. Warden of the Lodge of Perfection. He received the KCCH 1987 and the 33rd Degree in 1997.

Brother Dodson is a member of the Shrine, M.S.R.I.C.F., Allied Masonic Degrees, Knight Masons, Red Cross of Constantine, the Royal Order of Scotland, Grotto, Amaranth and the Order of the Eastern Star. He has served as a DeMolay Advisory Council member, the Executive Officer’s Staff in 2001-02, District Governor in 2002 and received the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor in 1998.

Civic and personal Associations include being a Life member of Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Past President of Alief Jaycees, member of St. Catherine of Sienna Episcopal Church, a Dale Carnegie instructor for 24 years, and is a Life Member of Theta Xi Fraternity.

Brother Dodson has two beautiful daughters who are the joys of his life, Kimberly and Mary Frances.
Todd W. Polk
Grand Senior Deacon

Bill W. Dormady
Grand Pursuivant

James C. Yelvington
Grand Organist

Richard A. Page, Sr.
Grand Senior Steward

Allen H. Tuell
Grand Photographer

Tommy D. Guest
Grand Tiler

Gene Conley
Grand Junior Deacon

A. W. “Archie” Scott
Grand Junior Steward

Donny W. Broughton
Grand Orator

James F. Brumit
Grand Marshal

Larry Blanchard
Grand Chaplain

Arvol Willingham
Grand Treasurer

James D. Ward
Grand Secretary
1) 2002 District Deputy Grand Masters.  2) Martha Hansard and Elizabeth Cantrill of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.  3) The children from the Masonic Home and School perform a musical program.  4) R:W: Reese Harrison, G.S.W., speaking on legislative items.  5) R:W: Buddy Baccus, P.G.M., turns over the Grand East to Grand Master Nanny at the opening session on Thursday.  6) Grand Master Michael D. Nanny and First Lady Sheri share a final moment.

11) David Dibrell, P.G.M., introduces Jennifer Kleinmann, Rainbow Grand Worthy Advisor and Marlene Dibrell, Supreme Deputy of Rainbow in Texas. 12) Ballots being counted. 21) Nicole O'Brien, Miss Texas USA, speaks about her work on behalf of the Masonic Home and School. 22) The Six Flag of Texas are presented by the Waco Connally Chapter, Hero’s of ’76.

13) Grand Master Nanny presents awards to Advisors of the Year of each of Masonic Youth group. 14) Activity in the Grand Lodge main hall. 15) M.W. Stephen L. Cox, Grand Master of Alaska, who was raised a Texas Mason, presents a gift to Grand Master Nanny. 16) W. John Grady, Gr.Phot. of Alaska, visits with his son, John Grady, Jr., Senior Warden of Wallace Hughston Lodge #1393 in El Paso.

The 2002 recipient of the Sam Houston Medal, the highest award bestowed upon a Mason by the Grand Lodge of Texas, is James E. “Pete” Laney, Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives.

Pete Laney ushered in a new era of reform and bipartisan cooperation when he was elected the 72nd Speaker in 1993. As the presiding officer of the House, Speaker Laney has conducted the Legislature’s business in a way that encourages public participation and earns the trust and respect of all Texans.

Speaker Laney’s leadership has produced some of the most productive legislative sessions in Texas history. Working together with mutual respect and placing the public’s interest ahead of personal interest and partisan politics, the Legislature has produced landmark reforms in education, welfare, juvenile justice and civil litigation.

In recent sessions, the Legislature has crafted a health insurance program for teachers and other public school employees, made it easier for needy Texas children to enroll in Medicaid, created the Children’s Health Insurance Program for working families, and invested surplus funds in public education, health care and tax cuts.

Laney, who lives and farms in Hale Center in the Texas High Plains, is currently serving his 15th term as State Representative of House District 85 and his fifth term as speaker. He graduated from Hale Center High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural economics at Texas Tech University. Laney and his wife, Nelda, have three children and one grandson.

Laney serves on numerous professional boards, participates in many civic activities, and has received numerous awards and honors from many Associations, magazines and Universities. Laney currently serves as chairman-elect of the Southern Legislative Conference.

Pete Laney was raised a Master Mason in 1967 in Lemond Lodge No. 832 in Hale Center, TX, and served the Lodge as Junior Steward in 1969. He is also a plural member of University Lodge No. 1190 in Austin, TX. Speaker Laney has provided invaluable assistance for many years to Masonic organizations in securing use of State Capital facilities and in representing our fraternity to the public in the highest and most respected manner possible.

T. E. “Gene” Carnes
2002 William M. Beck Award Recipient

T.E. “Gene” Carnes of San Antonio was the 2002 recipient of the William M. Beck Award for meritorious service to the Grand Lodge of Texas. Shown above with his wife Gay, Brother Carnes was deeply moved by the honor and pledged his continued support and dedication to the Fraternity. An extremely active Mason, he is a member of Harlandale Lodge #1213 and is currently serving on the Grand Lodge Purposes and Policies Committee.

James E. “Pete” Laney
2002 Sam Houston Medal Award Recipient
All Masons and their families are encouraged to attend the two Historical Observances occurring in March at the Alamo, Sat., March 1, 2003, at 9:00 AM, and Goliad, Sat., March 22, 2003, at 3:00 PM. The Grand Master will open a Representation of Grand Lodge at each location. There are also scheduled the conferring of Masonic Degrees which you will not want to miss.

Additional information is available on the Grand Lodge website and from your District Deputy Grand Master.
**2003 Emblem**

A very unique and distinctive emblem has been adopted for 2003 which is intended to reflect the need for all Masons to translate the ideals and philosophy of our wonderful Fraternity into lives of action.

The letter $G$ is at the center. It is there to remind us that a firm belief in a Supreme Being should always be at the center of all that we do as members of the Craft. The *square and compasses*, being tools of operative Masonry, demonstrate that a faith in God requires action to become effective and that what we do with our lives should emanate from our faith.

The *equal-armed cross* in the background, modeled after The Navy Cross, is a symbol of our hope that Masonry will continue to expand into the world around us. The arms of the cross, equal in dimension and expanding outward from the center, represent that hoped-for growth in all areas of our lives and to those around us.

*White* was selected as the dominant color to remind us, as does the white lambskin apron, of that purity of heart which should actuate us. The *blue* circle surrounding the design is emblematic of fraternity - the binding together of each of us into one society of friends and brothers dedicated to a common purpose.

Whenever we see the 2003 emblem it is hoped that we will be renewed in our commitment to the tenets it symbolizes: a faith in God, which through labor can permit us to grow as individuals and to expand the positive influence of Texas Freemasonry and the unity which will permit us to take up the challenges before us.

The Between Friends kit is one of the best means of explaining Freemasonry to friends - who we are, what we believe in, and how they can become members. If you’re not using this valuable tool, you need to get one and give it to each of your friends. They are available from the Grand Secretary’s office.

The upcoming *2003 Grand Master’s Directory* will again be expanded to better aid the Masons of Texas. The past few years have seen the addition of the lists of Texas Scottish Rite Bodies, Shrine Temples and Masonic Hospitals. Those lists will be continued and this year’s edition will also include contact information on the 3 Masonic Youth organizations. Look for it soon or contact the Grand Secretary’s office.

**2003 Grand Master’s Conferences**

The Grand Master’s Conferences for 2003 will be presentations of sight and sound like you have never seen before. These audio-visual shows will present educational information on each of the continuing and signature programs for 2003, as well as timely items of local interest. As in previous years, conference attendance by Lodge officers is a requirement in order to qualify for the Vanguard Award.

**NACOGDOCHES**  
**Saturday, January 11, 10:00 AM**  
Fredonia Hotel

**DALLAS**  
**Saturday, January 18, 10:00 AM**  
Dallas Scottish Rite  
500 S. Harwood

**VALLEY**  
**Saturday, February 1, 10:00 AM**  
Embassy Suites Hotel  
1800 South 2nd St.  
McAllen, TX

**LUBBOCK**  
**Saturday, February 8, 9:00 AM**  
Lubbock Scottish Rite  
602 Ave. Q

**AMARILLO**  
**Saturday, February 8, 3:00 PM**  
Kiva Shrine  
305 E. 5th

**TYLER**  
**Saturday, February 22, 10:00 AM**  
Sharon Shrine  
10027 State Hwy 31 E

**SAN ANTONIO**  
**Saturday, March 1, 10:00 AM**  
San Antonio Scottish Rite  
308 Ave. E.

**PERMIAN BASIN**  
**Friday, March 14, 6:00 PM**  
Midland Lodge No. 623  
1600 West Wall, Midland

**EL PASO**  
**Saturday, March 15, 1:00 PM**  
El Paso Scottish Rite  
301 W. Missouri

**CORPUS CHRISTI**  
**Saturday, March 22, 9:00 AM**  
Al Amin Shrine  
2001 Suntide Rd.

**AUSTIN**  
**Saturday, April 12, 9:00 AM**  
Austin Scottish Rite  
207 W. 18th St.

**WACO**  
**Saturday, April 12, 3:00 PM**  
Lee Lockwood Scottish Rite  
2801 W. Waco Dr.

**HOUSTON**  
**Saturday, April 19, 10:00 AM**  
Houston Scottish Rite  
7575 Brompton

**FORT WORTH**  
**Saturday, May 3, 10:00 AM**  
Fort Worth Masonic Temple  
1100 Henderson

**PORT ARTHUR**  
**Saturday, May 17, 10:00 AM**  
Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 872  
1901 Lakeshore Dr.
Grand Master’s Calendar
(For an updated or annual calendar of events, visit the website at www.grandlodgeoftexas.org)

JANUARY
4 Sat. Trustees meeting Waco
8 Wed. National Sojourners San Antonio
10 Fri. Home and School Board mtg Ft. Worth
11 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Nacogdoches
15 Wed. Red Cross of Constantine Dallas
15 Wed. Holland Lodge, Speech Houston
18 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Dallas
18 Sat. Grand Master’s Black Tie Banquet Dallas
21 Tue. Andral Vann O.E.S. Houston
22 Wed. Chinar Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R. Houston
22 Wed. Official Visit to 30th Districts Houston
25 Sat. Fairfield Lodge 150th Aniv. Fairfield
31 Fri. Grand Master’s Banquet Valley

FEBRUARY
1 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Valley
8 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Lubbock
8 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Amarillo
14 Fri. Conf. of Grand Masters of N.A. Minneapolis through
19 Wed. Conf. of Grand Masters of N.A. Minneapolis
22 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Tyler
22 Sat. G. Washington Birthday Dinner Richardson

MARCH
1 Sat. Alamo Observance San Antonio
1 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference San Antonio
1 Sat. Uvalde Lodge 125th Aniv. Uvalde
11 Tue. Garland Lodge Garland
14 Fri. Home and School Board mtg Ft. Worth
14 Fri. Grand Master’s Conference Midland
15 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference El Paso
15 Sat. Grand Master’s Banquet El Paso
21 Fri. Grand Master’s Banquet Corpus Christi
22 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Corpus Christi
22 Sat. Goliad Observance Goliad
26 Wed. Official Visit to 64th Districts Ft. Worth
29 Sat. James Ladd Burgess Lodge Dallas

APRIL
5 Sat. San Jacinto Lodge 150th Aniv. Willis
11 Fri. Trustees’ meeting Waco
12 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Austin
12 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Waco
18 Fri. Texas City Lodge P M’s Observance Texas City
19 Sat. Grand Master’s Conference Houston
19 Sat. San Jacinto Observance San Jacinto
26 Sat. Cornerstone/125th Aniv., Boyd Lodge Boyd
30 Wed. Official Visit to 14th Districts Hella Shrine

New Members of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame

Arnold Langston
Angleton
by (4 memberships purchased for:)
Angleton Lodge No. 833
Gulf Coast York Rite College 57
Baytown Lodge No. 13

William J. Giles, Jr.
Baytown

William F. Bohlmann, Jr.
Schulenburg

Frank Richard Brown
Garland

T. E. “Gene” Carnes
San Antonio
by

William M. Beck Award
J. R. Oglesby
McKinney

David Counts
Knox City

Dan Davidson
Ozona

Alton H. Deviney
Eddy

Lloyd W. Towers, Sr.
San Antonio

Thomas Nathan Turner
Lake Jackson

For information on how to support the Grand Lodge Library and Museum by becoming a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame, contact the Grand Secretary’s Office. Patron memberships are also available.

Masonic Youth Need You!

The single largest need of every youth organization is qualified and dedicated adult leadership. If you, or members of your Lodge, can participate in the development of tomorrow’s leaders, please contact the Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee. They will be able to connect you with a local or state leader of DeMolay, Rainbow or Job’s Daughters.

For inquiries about an existing group or to organize a Chapter, Assembly or Bethel in your area, contact chairman Bart Henderson at (H) 713-864-8222 or e-mail him at hbbblackbart@email.msn.com.
TAKE THE NEXT STEP TOWARD THE FUTURE

This year introduces an advanced Masonic Educational Program entitled “Fiat Lux”, or “Let there be Light.” This weekend conference will focus on continuing the education of all current Masters and Past Masters of Lodges in Texas.

The Fiat Lux Conference will bring to Texas the best and brightest local and national Masonic scholars who will teach up to 16 different subjects. Students will be given the option of selecting from such subjects as:

- The Role of the Past Master in the local Lodge, District, and Statewide affairs.
- Statewide and Regional Grand Lodge Programs, Masonry and Grand Lodge in the 21st century
- The Grand Lodge Legislative Process: Who is really in charge, and much more.

In addition, students will be given an opportunity to work together to solve problems in a group setting. This event will truly be the opportunity of a lifetime by allowing attendees to become the best by learning from the best.

The ladies will also be provided their own program. Saturday begins with lunch at the Lee Lockwood Scottish Rite Cathedral, followed by a speaker and a tour of the facility, and ends with a tour of homes in Waco.

Brethren, your Masonic journey by no means ends when you complete your year as Worshipful Master. This only means that you have taken another step “… to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns”.

Registration begins March 1, 2003 and ends October 20, 2003 and is limited to 228 Worshipful Masters and/or Past Masters of Texas Lodges and their Ladies. Be sure to reserve your place at the first annual Fiat Lux Conference to be held on the weekend of November 14-16, 2003.

Masonic Home & School News

Current Statistics: (as of Dec. 19, 2002)
No. of Children enrolled - 122
Staff - 131 (147 approved positions)
Widows - 32
Lunch funds received (fiscal year) - $24,750.
Tier 1 State Funds receive (fiscal year) - $249,739.

The 2002-03 budget was reduced by $713,594 from $9,754,619 to $9,041,025. Current fiscal year expenditures are $3,818,767.

The current income to date (fiscal year) - $2,978,044

The projected amount of additional funds for the MHS due to the passing of legislative items nos. 20 & 21 (using current figures):
(20.) 112,500 dues paying Masons x $3.75 increase = $421,875 additional dollars, which will be received in the next fiscal year. Projected total per capita to be paid for the MHS per revised Art. 163.7 is $562,500.
(21.) 1650 new Master Masons x $15.00 increase = $24,750 added to the Endowment. Projected total to be collected for the Endowment per revised Art. 163.5 will be $41,250.

This article will be a standard feature in every issue of the Texas Mason magazine.
The following resolutions were adopted:

**Resolution 5** eliminates the Temp. Committee On Credentials No. 2 and renames the Permanent Committee on Credentials No. 1 to Committee On Credentials.

**Resolution 8** modifies Art. 433 and requires a minimum 14 day waiting period between degrees.

**Resolution 11** authorizes the use of a summary of Lodge minutes for public presentation by adding to Grand Lodge Law a list of publishable information.

**Resolution 12** as amended leaves Art. 285 unchanged and modifies Art. 269 to be consistent with Art. 285. The beginning of Art. 269 will now read: “In the absence of the Worshipful Master and both Wardens, the last Past Master of the Lodge present may preside . . .” with the remainder of Art. 269 remaining the same.

**Resolution 14** modifies Art 126i. and authorizes the appointment of non-Past Masters to the Committee on Internet, but still requires the Chairman to be a member of Grand Lodge (a Texas Past Master).

**Resolution 15** as amended, adds the following language to Art 14: “Being suspended for non payment of dues while a prisoner of war or within a combat theater of operations at the time of suspension shall be considered as time in good standing upon the return of the Brother to said Lodge.”

**Resolution 17** changes the name of the Permanent Committee on Titles, Deeds and Civil Law to Committee on Civil Law.

**Resolution 18** as amended modifies Art. 126h and brings the Grand Lodge Trustees in compliance with the Texas Non Profit Corporation Act by removing language allowing the Committee on Investments to manage the investments of the Grand Lodge. The Committee will only make recommendations to the Trustees.

**Resolution 19** as amended brings the Grand Lodge Trustees in compliance with Art. 20a. which charges them to run the business of the Grand Lodge. Since those duties cannot be delegated, Art. 120 was repealed and new Art 20b. added requiring the Trustees to be the ones who actually hire the certified public accountant to audit the books and accounts of the Grand Lodge.

**Resolution 20** modifies Art. 163 and increases the fees collected from each Lodge member for use by the Masonic Home and School by an amount of $3.75. In accordance with Art. 493, THIS CHANGE WILL NOT GO INTO AFFECT UNTIL THE 2003-2004 MASONIC YEAR AND THE INCREASE WILL BECOME DUE WITH THE RETURNS PAYABLE TO THE GRAND SECRETARY BY AUGUST 15, 2004.

**Resolution 21** also modifies Art. 163 and increases the fee collected by the Lodge from each applicant for the Master Mason’s Degree from the previous $10.00 to the new amount of $25.00. THIS CHANGE WENT INTO AFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS APPROVAL AND THE INCREASE WILL BECOME DUE WITH THE RETURNS PAYABLE TO THE GRAND SECRETARY BY AUGUST 15, 2003.

**2001 Holdover Resolution No. 6** authorizes the interim appointment of the Grand Senior Warden and then, if necessary, the Grand Junior Warden, to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School until full elections can be held at the next GAC of the Grand Lodge.

**Resolution 6** proposing a Scouting award for Masonic Adult Scouters was tabled to allow Grand Lodge Committees time to secure additional information in order to adequately render an opinion or recommendation. Should the proper information be received, this resolution will be considered at the 2003 GAC.

**Resolutions 1, 2, 7, 9, 10, & 16** were not adopted. **Resolution 13** was not considered and **Resolutions 3 & 4** did not receive the required 2/3rds majority of Grand Lodge to be considered. **Special Referrals No. 1 & 2** were not considered and will not be considered at the 2003 GAC unless proposed in accordance with Grand Lodge Law.

### Texas Masonic Philanthropies

**A 2003 SIGNATURE PROGRAM**

**“How do I refer a child for services at a Masonic hospital?”**

**“Who is eligible to enter the Texas Masonic Retirement Center?”**

**“How does a student enroll in the Masonic Home and School?”**

**“What charities do the Masons of Texas support?”**

Have you ever been asked these questions or for information about Masonic programs to help young people, to provide medical services, education and a host of other charitable endeavors. Texas Masons support many important charitable institutions but, unfortunately, the public is generally unaware of our Masonic aid.

In 2003 we will help see to it that every person eligible for assistance is made aware of the services we offer and to educate every Mason in Texas as well. “Texas Masonic Philanthropies,” is a resource booklet which will be mailed to every Texas Mason containing the basic information on our charities, listing help available, describing services offered and, most importantly, giving contact information for the many services we offer to the public.

The program’s purpose is to make every Texas Mason an informed advocate of these philanthropies. A secondary benefit will be for the public at large to gain a better understanding of our PRACTICE OF CHARITY and our motivation to be, and remain members, of this great brotherhood.

When you receive your copy of “Texas Masonic Philanthropies” in early 2003, keep the booklet with you. Use it to further expand our ability to serve the public and to fulfill the Masonic ideal of Charity. Secondly, talk with everyone in your circle of acquaintances and let them know that Masons are ready to help in many, many ways. Finally, consider making a donation to help underwrite the effort and the charities themselves. It is one more way to show that: “Masons Care”.

www.grandlodgetexas.org
Message from the Grand Secretary

The Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, for December, 2002, has been successfully completed, with a large number of Members and Visitors in attendance, and a majority of the Lodges represented.

All are to be highly commended on the excellent business, professional and Masonic manner in which the session was held. The Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, Committee Chairmen and Committee members were all attentive to their duties and responsibilities, allowing all affairs to be completed in a timely manner, and on schedule.

Founded in Houston, December 20, 1837, in the Senate Chamber of the Republic of Texas, the Grand Lodge of Texas is the oldest chartered institution in the state. When General Sam Houston presided over that first communication of the Grand Lodge, I feel sure that he and all present were convinced they were bringing forth into a new Republic, an ancient and honorable order, not only compatible with, but vital and essential in espousing and practicing those moral qualities and characteristics upon which a civilized society could grow and thrive. They were surely convinced that the basic principles of Freemasonry, which have enabled this great Fraternity to bond men of diverse cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds into a strong and vibrant order, could also help mold a wilderness frontier into a powerful and enduring nation.

The Freemasons of Texas can take pride in the fact that our state Masonic history is parallel to, and neck and neck with, the history of this great State, and has been a powerful force in forming and shaping the destiny of Texas. At the same time, however, we cannot rest, for our task of building and improving society is never ending. No other mission could be more noble or greater.

I wish for each of you, your Lodges and Members, a very happy, successful, prosperous and peaceful New Year.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely and fraternally,

James D Ward
Grand Secretary

York Rite Bodies Update

M:E: C. Louis Hopkins (left) was elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas and M:I: Clarence J. Laney was elected Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas at the 2002 Annual Convocation and Assembly. The 2003 program will be a REVIVAL of PRIDE in the York Rite.

The 2003 York Rite Conferences and Workshops are listed below and all will begin at 10:00 AM:

- San Antonio
  - Jan. 11
  - Army Lodge #1105
- Tyler
  - Jan. 25
  - St. John’s Lodge #53
- Silsbee
  - Feb. 1
  - Silsbee Lodge #927
- San Angelo
  - Feb. 8
  - Suez Shrine
- Houston
  - Feb. 15
  - Melrose Lodge #1294
- Ft. Worth
  - Feb. 22
  - Masonic Temple
- Dallas
  - Mar. 1
  - Masonic Temple
- Burnet
  - Mar. 8
  - Valley Lodge #175
- Corpus Christi
  - Mar. 15
  - York Rite Temple
- Floydada
  - Mar. 22
  - Floydada Lodge # 712

More 2002 Grand Lodge Legislative Items

Frank C. Rockabrand of El Paso was elected to a 5 year position on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School.

R:W: Jack Hightower, PGM, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.

The Grand Lodge also voted to approve the election by the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School of R:W: Harry G. Cunningham, PGM, as its Treasurer.

(Editor’s Note: The Editor would like to thank Jim Dougherty and Allen Tuell for their photographic contributions, and Richard E. Davies, Sr., for editorial assistance in the preparation of this issue.)
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<td></td>
<td>524MBP</td>
<td>Enamel Coin</td>
<td>6.00</td>
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<td>525MBP</td>
<td>Silver Coin</td>
<td>28.00</td>
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<td>526MBP</td>
<td>Large Belt Buckle</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<td>522MBP</td>
<td>Small Belt Buckle</td>
<td>28.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>523MBP</td>
<td>Logo Bolo Tie w/ Gold Cord</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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<td>539MBP</td>
<td>Money Clip</td>
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<td>536MBP</td>
<td>Cuff Links (per pair)</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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<td>528MBP</td>
<td>Logo Decals</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<td>538MBP</td>
<td>&quot;2B1ASK1&quot; Bumper Stickers</td>
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<td>529MBP</td>
<td>Decals for Tail Lights (per pair)*</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<td>537MBP</td>
<td>License Plate Frame</td>
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<td>536MBPK</td>
<td>Cap (Khaki/Dark Green)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>536MBPB</td>
<td>Cap (College Blue/Navy)</td>
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<td>533MBPW</td>
<td>Shirt, White</td>
<td>27.00</td>
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<td>Specify Size (M - L - XL - XXL - XXXL)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>533MBPG</td>
<td>Shirt, Dk. Green</td>
<td>27.00</td>
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<td>Specify Size (M - L - XL - XXL - XXXL)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>540MBP</td>
<td>Logo Tie, Silver w/white logo</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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Sales Tax (Included) incl.

ALL ORDERS ADD $ & H 3.00

(* Not Pictured) TOTAL COST: ______

Name: (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: ____________________________________________________________

City/State: Zip Code ____________________________

Phone #: ________________________________________________

Credit card number and expiration date (VISA, MC only)

Make checks payable to: The Grand Lodge of Texas. Visa or MasterCard orders must include card number, name as it appears on card, and the expiration date. Please allow four weeks for delivery.
2003 Grand Master’s Black Tie Banquet

No. of Tickets ___________ ea x $40.00 per ticket = $ ___________ Total Enclosed

Name: (Please Print): __________________________

Address: __________________________________________

City/State: __________________________ Zip Code: ___________

Phone #: __________________________

____ Hold my tickets for pickup
____ Mail me my tickets at the address above

(Make checks payable to Grand Master's Banquet)

For Tickets and Reservations, complete and return this form to:
Richard A. Page, Sr., 1221 Dumont Dr., Richardson, TX 75080

2003 Historical Observances

ALAMO OBSERVANCE
Saturday, March 1, 9:00 AM
San Antonio

GOLIAD OBSERVANCE
Saturday, March 22, 3:00 PM
Goliad Memorial

SAN JACINTO OBSERVANCE
Saturday, April 19 - Time TBD
San Jacinto Battlefield State Park

MASONIC OAK OBSERVANCE
Sunday, May 18, 10:00 AM
Brazoria

2003 Wardens Retreats

NACOGDOCHES
August 1-3

AUSTIN
August 15-17

DALLAS
August 22-24

MIDLAND
August 29-31

HOUSTON
September 12-13

2003 Lodge Anniversary Celebrations

Lodges celebrating their 150th Anniversary
Colorado #96
Fairfield #114
Fairfield #103
Travis #117
San Jacinto #106
Starr #118
Jacksonville #108
Flora #119
San Jacinto #106
Mt. Hope #121
Guadalupe #109
Bloomfield #112

Lodges celebrating their 100th Anniversary
Cosmopolitan #872
Myra #878
Myra #878
Castro #879
Rosenberg #881

The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F.& A.M.
P.O. Box 607
Waco, TX 76703-0607