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The Texas Mason Magazine is an official publication of the Grand Lodge of Texas A. F. & A. M. It is published three times a year for the members of Texas Lodges and subscribers. Opinions expressed by the Editor and contributing writers do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Grand Lodge of Texas Copyright 2010, by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas. All rights reserved.

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The Texas Mason Magazine encourages submission of articles and photographs of general interest to Masons in Texas, reserving the right to edit and use the articles and pictures as needs and policies dictate.

News and articles from around the state will continue to be published in a web based format on the Grand Lodge of Texas website The Grand Lodge website is accessible at http://www.grandlodgeoftexas.org/texasmasonmagazine.

Please continue to send your articles and Lodge events and news to the Editor of *The Texas Mason Magazine*.

The preferred method of submission is via email with an attached Microsoft Word document. Pictures should be separatly submitted in JPEG format to Ben.Linduff@gmail.com. If you do not have email, submissions may be sent to the Grand Lodge of Texas, Attn.: The Editor of *Texas Mason Magazine*, PO Box 446, Waco, Texas 76703. All materials become property of the magazine and cannot be returned.

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On the Cover: M.: W.: Orville L. O'Neill; 2010 Grand Master of Masons in Texas

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

Texas Proud

My Brethren:

I sincerely appreciate the honor you have conferred upon me. It is with humility that I have undertaken this task, because I realize the responsibilities and obligations involved and know these can be met properly only if I have the cooperation of every Master Mason in this great state. This I seek and expect because I have an abiding faith in the unselfishness and love of each member for the founding principles of our Great Fraternity.

The truths of Masonry, its principles, its influence for good in the lives of men, and all that Masonry so definitely conveys to us in its degrees relative to the Master of us all, have been, and always will be

Like the pyramids, Masonry is not the result of a single man, nor the labor of a single year.

Masonry, and the beauty of its degrees, is the accomplishment of many men, who, on the square, working together, have achieved a great purpose, and have given to each of us more light.

Because the Brethren of yesterday have passed on to us, the craftsmen of today, the working tools of a Master Mason, many things which are yet to come will be ours to use and enjoy in the future.

No the fundamentals of time or of Masonry do not change.

Therefore, in the hearts of men, the tenets of Freemasonry remain unchanged and a guide to us who seek more light on that which is good.

They are truths, given to us in the Book of Life by the Supreme Architect of the Universe, and stand clear and plain on the trestle board of Masonry.

In the beginning of this New Year may we resolve to make the best use of time; for yesterday is no more, and tomorrow is not assured. Only today is ours; and one today means more than two tomorrows.

Please continue to lead by example. Now that you have replaced yourself this year and know now that it is not so hard to accomplish, please do so again next year.



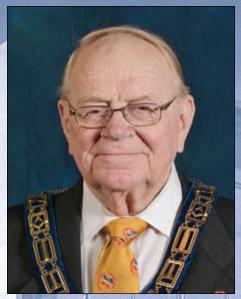
Sincerely and fraternally, Onillo f. Oneill

Orville L. O'Neill M:W: Grand Master

2010 Grand Lodge of Texas Officers



Thomas E. "Gene" Carnes
Deputy Grand Master



James F. "Jim" Brumit Grand Senior Warden

Walter W. Rogers • Grand Junior Warden

On Saturday, December 5th 2009 the Masons of Texas selected for the office of Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden a seasoned, committed and dedicated laborer in the quarries of Freemasonry.

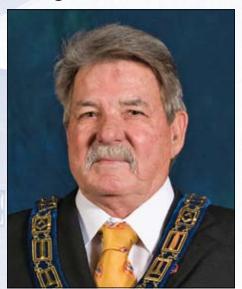
The third child born to Frances Marcel Williams Rogers and Woodrow Wilson Rogers, Walter "Walt" W. Rogers was born on August 18, 1944 in Houston, Texas. He had one brother and one sister. When Walt was only one year of age, his mother and father divorced, and his mother remarried Clarence Thomas Little, who while serving aboard the

battleship Maryland was a Pearl Harbor survivor and Purple Heart recipient. Two more children, a boy and girl were born in this marriage.

Walt's formal education began at Santa Rosa, Texas and continued through the fourth grade when his family moved to Bryan, Texas where his schooling continued through the sixth grade before the family moved to Houston where he attended the Galena Park schools.

At age 17, Walt joined the United States Navy in 1961 and served aboard the USS Oak Hill LSD-7 as an Electrician's Mate, Third Class. While serving in the Navy, he took college courses and was honorably discharged in 1965.

On January 17th, 1969 he married Ardith Elaine Smith who soon thereafter was employed



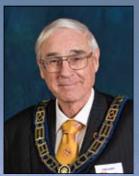
by the First State Bank of Bedias, later being employed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice until her retirement in 2007. Walt and Ardith had four wonderful daughters: Rebecca Elaine Morris, a school teacher in the Iola, Texas ISD; Gail Linden Williams, a department manager at Gander Mountain in College Station, Texas; Shauna Denise Jenkins, a school teacher in the Conroe, Texas ISD; and Kristy Dawn Carroll, a nurse practitioner at the Oaks Clinic in The Woodlands, Texas. Walt and "Miss Ardith" are the proud

grandparents of seven grandchildren.

It was in 1965 that Walt began his career in steel fabrication, steelerection and construction management as a field hand with Empire Steel Erectors where he later became general manager. In 1976 he formed Universal Steel Erectors in Bedias, Texas as owner/operator. Later, he was employed by Derr-Gruenwald where he managed some impressive projects such as the Denver International Airport in Denver, Colorado, Bud Walton Arena on the University of Arkansas Campus at Fayetteville, Arkansas, the Cumberland City Powerhouse Retrofit for the Tennessee Valley Authority in Cumberland City, Tennessee and the new Natatorium on the Texas A&M Campus. To demonstrate a rather unique diversity of talent, in continued on page 8



Archie Scott Grand Treasurer



Tommy D. Guest **Grand Secretary**

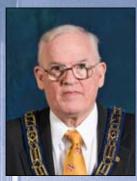




Ted D. Hennis **Grand Chaplain**



Francis E. Smith, Jr. **Grand Orator**



Ronald D. Park **Grand Marshal**



J. Roy Elliott **Grand Senior Deacon**



Robert "Bob" Clemmons Charles A. Murchison Grand Junior Deacon



Grand Senior Steward



Wendell P. Miller **Grand Junior Steward**



James W. Holloway **Grand Organist**



William J. "Bill" Hale **Grand Pursuivant**



Billy Don Comedy Grand Photographer



Mitchell Ray Jones **Grand Tiler** All Officer photos by John Lawson.



GRAND MASTER'S CALENDAR (For updates or an annual calendar of events, visit website)

APRIL 2010 (continued)

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G. M. Conference – Lubbock 1 PM Tyler 1233									
12 Mon O. V Texas City 6 PM Brazos Union				_					
17 Sat Grand Commandery 30 Wed 5 PM Install Harmony Lodge	17	Sat		Grand Commandery	30	Wed	5 PM	Install Harmony Lodge	

RESULTS OF THE 174th GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Resolutions & Elections

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 1 – Not adopted Resolution No. 2 – Withdrawn

Resolution No. 3 – Adopted. Recognizes National Association of Masonic Scouters (NAMS) in Article 225a.

Resolution No. 4 – Adopted, as amended. Adds Past Presidents and Past Masters as members on Form 23a.

Resolution No. 5 – Adopted. Amends Article 276a to permit the Lodge to determine if their officers are qualified.

Resolution No. 6 - Withdrawn

Resolution No. 7 – Not adopted.

Resolution No. 8 - Not adopted

Resolution No. 9 – Withdrawn

Resolution No. 10 - Withdrawn

Resolution No. 11 – Adopted as amended. Requires disclosure of compensation from the Grand Lodge of Texas by Master Masons for consulting, legal, accounting, or other professional services be made to the Grand Lodge of Texas and reported by the Grand Lodge Finance Committee.

Resolution No. 12 – Not adopted

Resolution No. 13 – Not adopted

Resolution No. 14 – Tabled. (Died at end of Grand Lodge, and must be re-submitted by May 15).

Resolution No. 15 – Withdrawn

Resolution No. 16 – Not Adopted.

Resolution No. 17 - Withdrawn

Resolution No. 18 – Adopted. Amends Article *X*, Constitution, regarding members of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School and withdraws the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master from serving on the Board. This becomes a Hold-Over Resolution.

Resolution No. 19 – Tabled. (Died at end of Grand Lodge, and must be re-submitted by May 15).

Resolution No. 20 – Not adopted.

ELECTIONS:

GM - Orville L. O'Neill

DGM - T. E. "Gene" Carnes

GSW – James F. "Jim" Brumit

GJW - Walter W. Rogers

GT - Archie Scott

GS - Tom Guest

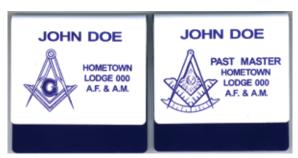
Committee on Work - G. Duane Anthony

Board of Directors of the Masonic Home & School – W. David Counts, Jr.

Board of Directors of the Masonic Grand Lodge Library & Museum – Orville L. O'Neill

Name Badges Now Available

Name badges are now being offered by the Grand Lodge of Texas for all Texas Masons, especially those who might not have access to a badge maker in their area. The badges, designed to easily slip onto the breast pocket of a suit or shirt, are available in two different styles - one for members and one for Past Master. The price for each badge is only \$15.00, including tax and shipping.



If ordering multiple badges, please include all information on a separate sheet. Make checks payable to "Grand Lodge of Texas."

Name Badge Or	der Form Pl	ease Print Legibly
Name		
Lodge Name & Number		
Check One:	re & Compass 🗆] Past Master
Ship to Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone Number		
Send all orders to: Clearview Printing, P.O.	D. Box 1084, Mid	dlothian, TX 76065







GOOD SEARCH UPDATE

The Library and Museum received a check for \$195.10 from GoodSearch.com. This amount is a compilation of 1 penny for each search that was made or a percentage of any online purchase that was made while our supporters were using the Good Search search engine (powered by Yahoo). To find how your family and you can make a "free money" donation just like others did this year, please go online to GoodSearch.com for complete instructions. Thank you for your help.

Grand Junior Warden Continued from page 2

1994 Walt joined up with Fresh Commodity Sales in McAllen, Texas where he worked in produce sales until 2000 when he returned to Universal Steel and Fabrication as owner/operator and General Manager until 2004 when he joined CDI Engineering Solutions as Construction Manager in charge of Huntsman Corporation, relocating five research laboratories from around the United States to The Woodlands, Texas, the new Q-10 Manufacturing plant for Kaneka Corporation in Pasadena, Texas, the expansion of the M.E.M.C. plant in Pasadena, Texas, and retiring in September, 2007.

Walt enjoys golf, hunting, fishing, motorcycle riding and motor home traveling with "Miss Ardith," but his main enjoyment is his love of Freemasonry.

His Masonic journey began in Bedias Lodge No. 651 where he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 27, 1978. He served as Worshipful Master of his Lodge in 1980-1981, as Secretary 1986-1991 and 2001-2003. In recognition of Walt's many contributions to his Lodge, his community and to Freemasonry, he was awarded the Golden Trowel in 2003. His concern for maintaining accuracy of the rituals of freemasonry led him to earn and maintain his "A" Certificate of Proficiency since 1979. Walt is an endowed member of Bedias Lodge No. 651 and is a dual member of Point Isabel Lodge No. 33 in Port Isabel.

Walt's service to Grand Lodge began with his appointment by Grand Master J.M. "Jimmy" Willson, Jr. as District Deputy Grand Master in District No. 29 for the 1981-1982 Grand Lodge year. Additionally, he has served as Assistant State Coordinator under Grand Master J.D. "Buddy" Baccus in 1983, Grand Master George R. "Bob" Scott in 1985, and under Grand Master John E. "Jack" Kelly in 1987, and as State Coordinator under Grand Master Leonard. P. Harvey in 1989 and Grand Master W.M. "Mike" Gower in 1999.

Additional service to Texas Masonry has included: Chairman, Special Assignments Committee 1986-1988, member of Committee on Work 1988-1991, Purposes and Policies Committee 2000-2006, Chairman of the Take Time to Read Committee 2001-2004, and Vice Chairman 2007-2009. He served as Grand Junior Deacon in 1985, Grand Senior Deacon in 1999 and Grand Orator in 2002, as has been Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut since 1985. He was awarded the William M. Beck Award in 1999 and is a member of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum Sam Houston Hall of Fame.

Walt Rogers is not a man content to look across a river and wonder what is on the other side, he wants to cross the river and see for himself. So, in 1979 he received the 32nd degree in Houston, in 1985 was honored by the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry by his investiture of the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor and in 1997 was coroneted a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary.

His activities in the York Rite of Freemasonry includes membership in the W.T. Austin Chapter No. 87, Royal Arch Masons and the W.T. Austin Council No. 52, Royal and Select Masters and he is a Past Commander of Ivanhoe Commandery, Knights Templar No. 8. He is a member of Madisonville Chapter and Iola Chapters, Order of Eastern Star, and is a Past Patron of Madisonville Chapter. He has served as President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of Masonic District No. 29. As a Knight Companion of the Red Cross of Constantine, Walt is a Past Puissant Sovereign of DeMolay Conclave in Waco and held dual membership in Ascension Conclave in Tyler from 2001 until 2008.

Other Masonic affiliations include charter membership in W.M. Taylor Chapter of the Philalathes Society, Chinar Grotto and Arabia Shrine in Houston. He is a member of the Texas Lodge of Research, Scottish Rite Research Society, the Societas Rosicruciana in Civiatibus Foederatis and the Star Chamber Council No. 298, Allied Masonic Degrees in Tyler.

Walter W. Rogers – a man who does more than set goals. He attains his goals!

TEXAS ANSON JONES

(JANUARY 20, 1798 - JANUARY 9, 1858)

ANSON JONES WAS BORN IN GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS. HE EARNED HIS M.D. DEGREE IN PHILADELPHIA IN 1827; BY OCTOBER 1833, JONES HAD MOVED TO TEXAS, ESTABLISHING A SUCCESSFUL MEDICAL PRACTICE IN BRAZORIA. IN 1835, HE HELPED ORGANIZE HOLLAND LODGE NO. 36, THE FIRST MASONIC LODGE IN TEXAS. IN 1836, JONES JOINED IN TEXAS' WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE AND SERVED AS JUDGE ADVOCATE AND SURGEON OF THE SECOND REGIMENT. HE FOUGHT AS A PRIVATE IN THE PATTIC OF SAN JACINTO.

BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO.

AFTER THE WAR, JONES RETURNED TO HIS MEDICAL PRACTICE AND IN 1837 WAS ELECTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THAT YEAR, HE WAS ALSO ELECTED AS THE FIRST GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN TEXAS AND WAS AMONG THE NOTED CHARTER MEMBERS WHO ORGANIZED THE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF TEXAS. IN 1838, SAM HOUSTON APPOINTED JONES AS MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS. IN THIS POSITION, HE BEGAN TO STIMULATE AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR ANNEXATION BY STRENGTHENING TEXAS! TIES WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE PLAYING AT U.S. INSECURITIES.

ANNEXATION BY STRENGTHENING TEXAS' TIES WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE, PLAYING AT U.S. INSECURITIES.

JONES MARRIED MARY SMITH MCCRORY IN 1840; SHE WAS LATER ELECTED THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS. IN 1841, PRESIDENT HOUSTON APPOINTED JONES AS SECRETARY OF STATE, WHERE HE FURTHER ENCOURAGED ANNEXATION, IN 1844, JONES WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS; HE BECAME THE COUNTRY'S LAST PRESIDENT WHEN THE U.S. ANNEXED TEXAS ON DECEMBER 29, 1845. AT A FORMAL CEREMONY IN AUSTIN ON FEBRUARY 19, 1846, JONES LOWERED THE LONE STAR FLAG AND DECLARED, "THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS IS NO MORE." HE RETIRED TO BARRINGTON, HIS PLANTATION NEAR WHAT IS NOW WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS, WHERE HE SPENT MUCH OF HIS TIME WRITING, TODAY, ANSON JONES IS REMEMBERED FOR HIS MULTITUDE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT EARNED HIM THE NICKNAME, "THE ARCHITECT OF ANNEXATION."

MARKER IS PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Anson Jones Marker Dedication Ceremony

On November 21, 2009, the Texas Heritage Society with the Harris County Historical Commission conducted the marker dedication ceremony for the Anson Jones Texas Historical Commission marker in Glenwood Cemetery in Houston, Texas. Here are some of the many photos taken at the dedication ceremony. All photos on this page were taken by Texas Heritage Society Publicity Chair, Pat Spackey.

For more detailed information on this dedication ceremony visit the Texas Heritage Society Web Site: http://texasheritagesociety.org/Anson-Jones-Marker-Photos-Page-1.html

Left to right: Anson Jones Marker Sponsor and Texas Heritage Society President, Kameron K. Searle; and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, W. Vernon Burke, Jr. (2000).





Members of the Texas Army, shown here with piper, provided the color guard and the black powder rifle salute. Left to right: Denton Bryant, Col. Michael Thompson, Col. John Martin, Col. Jim Peddy, Col. Jerry Tubbs, Admiral Texas Navy Sam Whitley and piper, Stanley Fontenot. Several of these gentlemen are also members of Frontier Lodge #28, A.F. & A.M.

Texas Heritage Society President, Kameron Searle, makes opening remarks and introductions.

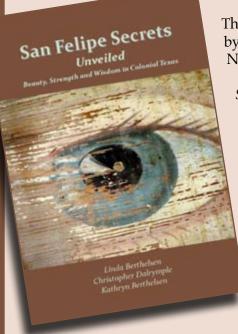
Houston Mayor Bill White shakes hands with the Worshipful Master of Holland Lodge #1, A.F. & A.M., Fred Kurtis Kasper and other Masons.

Texas Masonic Charities Foundation 2010 Spring Grants Application Procedures

- The Texas Masonic Charities Foundation (TMCF) will issue \$100,000 in matching grants to Lodges for children's scholarships in the spring of 2010.
- Texas Lodges will have to complete a TMCF Grant Application and submit the completed application to the TMCF (PO Box 446, Waco, Texas 76703) by March 1, 2010.
 - a. In addition to the completed Grant Application, the Lodge must include letters from the High School or ISD of the recipient child that the School/ISD agrees to present the entire amount of the grant to the recipient and that the School/ISD agrees to select the recipient regardless of Masonic affiliation.
 - b. The Lodge will have to raise \$500 in matching funds and include a \$500 check to the TMCF with the Grant Application.

- Grant Application Forms and Guidance will available from the TMCF web site on the Grand Lodge of Texas Web Site, from the Texas Lodge Secretary's Database (Lodge Secretaries only), or from the Grand Secretary's office.
- 4. The TMCF Grants Committee will evaluate each submission, rank the application in order, and recommend the distribution of checks as far as the funds are available.
- The TMCF will issue \$1,000 checks made out to the High School or Independent School District and mail them to the Lodges no later than April 15, 2010, or return any \$500 Lodge check to Lodges that failed to qualify.
- 6. The Lodge will present the scholarship to the recipient, usually at the school/ISD presentation ceremony.

Texas Masonic Charities Foundtion (T	MCF) Matching \$500 Scholarship Grant Application			
Name & Number of Texas Masonic Lodge:	Name of Primary Contact for this grant:			
Mailing Address:				
Phone:				
Fax:				
E-Mail:				
Worshipful Master:				
Specific purpose for which grant funds are requested: (Please li	imit to 500 words).			
 the needs, the ability of the grant recipient Lodge to meet the program. Provide Name and Address of High School or Independence of Enclose documentation that the School agrees to preserve the recipient regardless of Masonic background. Amount requested: \$500 Total cost of the program: \$ Period of time during which TMCF funds will be spendence of the Masonic Operating budget \$ for the Masonic Lodge \$500 sent to the TMCF (PO Box 446, Eligibility: Only Texas Masonic Lodges are eligible for the Program in the Program is the Program is the Program is the Program is the Program in the Program is the Program is the Program is the Program in the Program in the Program in the Program is the Program in th	e fiscal year ending June 23, 2010. Waco, Texas 76703) with the grant application. r this grant.			
In addition to the above, the following questions must be at 1. Does the Lodge have an annual outside audit? Yes				
2. Has the Lodge presented scholarships previously? $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \$				
List scholarships:				
3. Will the Lodge present a scholarship if this grant is not r				
4. Did the Lodge raise the initial \$500 through Lodge fundr	raisers?			
5. Has the Lodge submitted a current Form 71 to the Grand	d Secretary's office? ☐ Yes ☐ No			



The following book review was written for the December, 2009 Messenger by Jim Herold, member and current Worshipful Master of Riesel Lodge No. 835 and part-time employee of the Grand Lodge Library.

San Felipe Secrets Unveiled; Beauty, Strength and Wisdom in Colonial Texas by Linda Berthelsen, Christopher Darylmple, and Kathryn Berthelsen

Although it has been said for generations "You can't judge a book by its cover," this cover surely catches one's eye and foretells the quality the reader finds within. The All-Seeing Eye on the cover is the first of eighty-three photographs found throughout the book.

The authors' objective is "to introduce us to the beauty, strength, and wisdom of the San Felipe Church; the oldest Protestant church in Colonial Mexican Texas, and to the brave colonists who gave it life." Around this simple church house the authors intertwine stories of Methodism, Masonry and its influence in Texas, Stephen F. Austin, the colonization of Mexican Texas, the colony's capital San Felipe and the Texas Revolution.

The most memorable feature of the book is the photographs of painted symbols found on the walls and ceilings of the church's second story lodge room. Here we find a clear blue night sky with stars and clouds on a dark horizon. The dominate image is the striking All Seeing Eye. Although painted Masonic symbols were found in many early lodge rooms in the Eastern states this is a rarity in Texas. It is even rarer that this lodge room survives. San Felipe Lodge No. 239, chartered June 13, 1860 worked in this room until 1909 when the Lodge moved to nearby Sealy. The charter of Olive Branch Lodge No. 26 of Cincinnati, Texas on the Trinity River in Walker County was restored in 2005. It now meets quarterly in San Felipe.

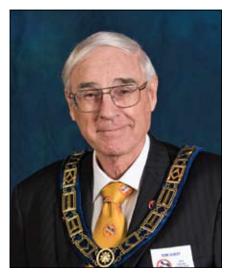
A brief, but useful timeline follows each chapter's narrative. A more extensive San Felipe chronology is found at the end of the book. An expansive set of chapter footnotes is included along with a bibliography of sources. These sources include more than a dozen websites the authors visited. The reader, too, will gain from such visits.

San Felipe Secrets is a lovingly and poetically crafted narrative of early Texas, Methodist, and Masonic history at San Felipe and will be a useful addition to the library of history minded Masons.

This book is being offered for sale through the Library as a fundraiser until June 23, 2010. To place an order simply fill out the order blank below (you can make a copy if you are saving your magazines) and mail with your check to the publisher – Wild Garlic Press, 1103 Walden Circle, Sugarland, TX 77498. The authors will donate \$5.00 to the library and museum for each book sold. The library also has a supply of the books, which you may purchase if you are visiting the Grand Lodge.

MASONIC GRAND LODGE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM FUNDRAISER

Send this order form with payment to: San Felipe Secrets Unveiled Wild Garlic Press 1103 Walden Circle Sugar Land, TX 77498	Number of Books ordered Book Cost (\$20 each) Shipping Cost Total Cost	Shipping Costs: 1 Book - \$5.00 2 Books - \$10.00 3-12 Books - \$12.00	
Make checks payable to Wild Garlic Press	Ship To:		
WWW.WILDGARLICPRESS.COM			
Tax deductible donation of \$5.00 per book to			
the Grand Lodge Library and Museum & \$1.00 per book to the San Felipe Church	Contact Information:		
huildino fund	F-mail or Phone Number		



Message from the Grand Secretary...

TEXAS PROUD - 2010

Once again, Texas Freemasonry is passing though the "transition" period from one set of Grand Lodge officers to another. The year 2009 was a difficult one economically, and Past Grand Master David Counts is to be commended for bringing us through it and for his leadership in attaining ad valorem property tax relief. In 2010 we continue to face challenging world-wide economic conditions. Economists and sailors both remind us that the state of the economy and that of ships rise and fall with the tide of the times. Our conditions are improving but we have a way to go before we are to the

point we need to be. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote, "Great is the art of beginning, but greater is the art of ending." PGM Counts began the actions to improve the state of the Grand Lodge in 2009.

Grand Master O'Neill has the leadership skills to bring the Grand Lodge of Texas to better times in 2010. His motto for the year is "Texas Proud" and he instructed the Trustees in the December 6 meeting always to take actions that would make Texas proud. With the help and support of the Freemasons in Texas, the Grand Lodge of Texas will end in an improved state of affairs and ready for a spurt of growth.

If you visited our fair town this past month, you might have observed the road sign, "Baylor-Waco – Proud Partners." As Texas Masons you are encouraged to partner with the Craft to enhance Freemasonry in our State.

I seldom go to the movies anymore but my son persuaded me to attend one with him. He wanted to see "The Blindside" which I envisioned to be a poor-sighted detective story. I really enjoyed the movie starring Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw, and Quentin Aaron about the 2009 Baltimore Ravens rookie offensive left tackle, Michael Oher. According to the movie, ever since All-Pro defensive player Lawrence Taylor ended the career of the Washington Redskins quarterback Joe Theismann with a then legal tackle from behind, a primary role for the offensive left tackle is to protect the "blindside" of the quarterback. Based on a true story, the film depicted the rise of Michael Oher from the ghettos to become an All American offensive left tackle thanks to the help of the Touhy family and to his highly honed protective skills to care for his adoptive family. I recommend the movie for its lessons in life.

I implore your support for the programs of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Grand Lodge Committees have been charged to review their work and ensure that everything proper to be done has been initiated. If you have constructive suggestions to improve the operations, please bring it to the attention of the Trustees. In the meantime, consider taking on the role of a good offensive lineman. Help Grand Master O'Neill lead us to better times. Take pride in Texas Masonry – support the Craft. Be "Texas Proud."

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Jamey D. Duest

Tom Guest Grand Secretary

2010 MASONIC MERCHANDISE

Name:	
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City/State:	Zip:
Title:	District:

QTY	ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	COST*	TOTAL
	52100	Lapel Pin – w/Grand Master's Logo	\$ 5.00	
	52100-C	Charm – w/Grand Master's Logo	\$ 5.00	
	53200	Button Hook Tie Chain – with Charm	\$ 10.00	
	53200EXP	Expandable Tie Chain – with Charm	\$ 20.00	
	52000	Bronze Coin	\$ 5.00	
	52400	Enamel Coin	\$ 10.00	
	52500	Silver Coin	\$ 40.00	
	52600	Large Buckle – w/ Grand Master's Logo	\$ 25.00	
	52200	Small Buckle – w/ Grand Master's Logo	\$ 20.00	
	52700	Bolo Tie – w/ Grand Master's Logo w/White Cord	\$ 13.00	
	53000	3" Car Emblem – w/Grand Master's Logo	\$ 13.00	
	52800	Logo Decals	\$1.00	
	52900	Tail Light Decals (pair) – Member	\$ 5.00	
	52900PM	Tail Light Decals (pair) - Past Master	\$ 5.00	
	53600-B	Cap – Mesh Back/Blue	\$ 13.00	
	53600-K	Cap – Khaki Crown w/Blue Bill	\$ 13.00	
	53300W	Shirt – White Specify: M L XL XXL XXXL	\$ 25.00	
	53300B	Shirt – Blue Specify: M L XL XXL XXXL	\$ 25.00	
	53900	Ceramic Coffee Mug w/Grand Master's Logo	\$ 7.00	
	54000	Tie – Gold w/Grand Master's Logo	\$ 30.00	
	ROOSTER	Ladies' Pin Rooster	\$ 10.00	
		S/H under \$50.00	\$5.	00

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S/H over \$50.00

TOTAL (*Sales Tax Included)

\$10.00

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Signature

ROOSTER

Waco, TX 76703

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Questions? Call 254-753-7395



The Chinese zodiac says that the rooster crowing could scare away evil spirits, but we all know that Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the Soul. It has been a long journey, but now the roosters are nesting.

Proceeds to benefit the Texas Masonic Retirement Center

The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M. P.O. Box 446
Waco, Texas 76703

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Texas Mason's Exemplify the Texas Third Degree in London

On June 4, 2009, a group of Master Masons from Panther City Lodge #1183 in Fort Worth were honored guests of America Lodge #3368 of London, England. The occasion was the 100th anniversary of America Lodge, which was started by American Masons who were living and working in London in 1909. Several former US Presidents are also members of America Lodge. It is the only Lodge in the UK where the US Flag is displayed in the East along with a picture of George Washington.

To help commemorate their "Centenary", Panther City Lodge was invited to put on an exemplification of the Texas Third Degree at a meeting in the Grand Lodge Room of Freemasons Hall in London. This was done with special dispensation from our Grand Master, W. David Counts, Jr. In attendance were over 400 Master Masons, including several Metropolitan Grand Lodge officers. The Texas work was warmly received.

Tom Smith Colleyville, Texas



Photo taken in the East immediately after the Panther City degree team had concluded the degree and the Lodge closed. The members from *Panther City shown are:* 3rd from left - Tom Smith, APM (and also current WM of America Lodge); 4th from left - Ray Holt, PM; 5th from left – Ed Knott, current WM of Panther City; 6th from *left – Art Norton, PM;* 4th from right – John Hughes, PM. The other Masons in the photo are members of America Lodge and are shown in their British regalia.