

# CLAUD L. AUSTIN LODGE NO. 1450

Donnie Swango, Secretary

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## NEW OFFICERS, NEW YEAR

It happens every year, just after June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the proverbial changing of the guard in Masonic Lodges across the State of Texas.

The newly elected officers of Claud L. Austin for 2006-07 are as follows:

Raymond O. Skinner, Jr.  
Worshipful Master  
Ronald R. Greene  
Senior Warden  
James A. Moore  
Junior Warden  
J. Robert Hurt APM  
Treasurer  
Donald H. Swango APM  
Secretary

They were duly and constitutionally installed in their stations at the installation on June 26<sup>th</sup>. The lone exception was Brother Moore, who was detained in Washington, DC because of flood waters. He was installed on July 6<sup>th</sup>. The appointed officers remain in their respective places in accordance with the desires of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing Masonic Year.

## FESTIVE BOARDS

They are getting better all the time. That's a tough statement to make because our Festive Boards have always been the best, anywhere.

Almost half of the Lodge are Dining Members. We wish all were, because that is why the Lodge was

formed. Considering where some live, that some don't drive any longer and that some are not able to attend on a regular basis, we still have a good representation at these quarterly events.

The food at the DAC Country Club is always outstanding as evidenced by our stuffed midsections at the end of the evening.

The programs have been interesting and enjoyable. Most everyone stays awake throughout, but those who succumb to the wine and food, enjoy a brief period of rest and relaxation.

The Red Aprons are always attentive to the needs of the Brethren and cheerfully perform their duties as "required" by the Worshipful Master.

Though we, again, enjoy the Festive Boards immensely, it would be great to see more of our members partaking of them with us.

### \*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*

We are required to report the number of Brethren attending a Festive Board to the Country Club several days in advance of the event.

In that light, we ask, time and time again, for RSVP's to be made on a timely manner – each and every time. Yet, we always have to make several telephone calls to obtain the yes/no answers of our Dining Members.

So, we have another Festive Board set for Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. To quote a late Past Master of Dallas Lodge, "Shock the hell out of us" and make sure you respond to Brother Zola Blicker ([zbblick@aol.com](mailto:zbblick@aol.com) or 972-387-8806) – early and often.

## NEW MEMBERS

The lifeblood of any organization is, of course, new members. We are pleased to announce the following new members that came into our fold during the past Masonic Year:

Admiral L. Robert Smith  
Stephen M. Brazeal

We are extremely pleased to have the Brethren in our Lodge and look forward to many occasions of Masonic conviviality with them.

## DDGM VISIT NO. 2

R:W: Don Hilburn will be making his second Official Visit to our Lodge on August 28<sup>th</sup>. We enjoyed his first visit and are looking forward to having him in our midst once again as the official representative of our Grand Master Brian Dodson.

Please make every effort to attend and greet our District Deputy Grand Master.

## ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP REWARDS

Since Claud L. Austin Lodge adheres to an unwritten rule that all members possess an Endowed Membership, we have seen the rewards of such a "rule" this year.

The Grand Lodge has returned, perhaps a near record, \$32.05 per endowed member to the Lodges. With some 36 deceased Brethren with endowed memberships in our Lodge, you can see how it helps to perpetuate the financial condition of the Lodge.

## MEMORIAMs

Howard Smith Lard                      5/23/06

May his name be inscribed for blessing in the Book of Life

## CALENDAR

Friday, Aug 25	Festive Board
Monday, Aug 28	Stated Meeting
Monday, Nov 27	Stated Meeting
Saturday, Dec 9	Holiday Brunch

## CHEERS – FROM WHOM?



## LIFE'S LESSONS

I've learned.....that the less time I have to work with, the more things I get done.