

CLAUD L. AUSTIN LODGE NO. 1450

Donnie Swango, Secretary

cla1450@aol.com

972-964-5760

November, 2006

FESTIVE BOARD

It happens every quarter. Some of us take a shower, put on a tux, head to the DAC Country Club, enjoy Masonic Conviviality, some great food and go home with a smile on our faces because we practiced Masonry the way it was designed for our Lodge. No one Lodge does it any better!

On Friday, November 10th, approximately one-half of our membership will do just what was written above. It's a shame that more of you don't partake.....as we would enjoy your company.....and we would bet you would enjoy ours.

If you have not yet made your reservation, please do so ASAP by contacting Zola Blicher either by e-mail at zbblick@aol.com or phone at 972-387-8806.

RAISING OF ANOTHER KIND

Although this writer has yet to see anything official to confirm this, word on the street has it that our Past Master Morgan Douglas Adkins will be "raised" at the end of this calendar year to the position of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Orient of Texas of the Southern Jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. What a mouthful!

We also understand that he will keep his current position as the Chairman of the Valley of Dallas and Personal Representative of the S.G.I.G.

Claud L. Austin Lodge is extremely proud of and for Brother Adkins and wishes him well in his endeavors to further the Scottish Rite in Texas.

IN COOPERATION WITH KNOX-CORINTHIAN LODGE

We received a request from the Secretary of Knox-Corinthian Lodge No. 851, who meets "down the hall" from us. Once a year, they have a Masters' Day whereby they raise several to that sublime degree in one day.

Dispensation is received from the Grand Master to do what they do and then they ask a couple of close-by Lodges to assist them in accomplishing their goals.

Our Past Master Chuck Bukin is a proud member of Knox-Corinthian and has volunteered to be the liaison between our two Lodges for the day. With the permission of our Worshipful Master, Brother Bukin will open Claud L. Austin Lodge for the purpose of conferring a Master Masons Degree (or two) as a courtesy to Knox-Corinthian Lodge.

The Brethren who sit in the stations and places during the opening and closing of Claud L. Austin Lodge will either be members of our Lodge or qualified Master Masons from other Lodges. The Degrees will be conferred by teams arranged for the purpose by Knox-Corinthian Lodge.

The date of this event will be Saturday, November 18th. All Master Masons in good standing are invited to attend.

GRAND LODGE

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas will begin on Thursday, November 30th, and end with the installation of officers on Saturday, December 2nd.

As usual, there will be pomp and pageantry, lots of "hot air" (with no air conditioning) as resolution after resolution is debated and voted on, conviviality in the halls and downstairs, kudos to the victors and the cry "wait till next year" from the losers' camps.

The shame of it all is that nothing ever changes for the better and we will probably find the shaming statistics of decline again next year...and the next. Still, we live in hope...for as long as we can.

Our principle officers are planning to attend, but in case there is an absence, Brother Bob Hurt APM will carry the proxy to Grand Lodge to make sure the votes of our Lodge are properly and appropriately cast.

STATED MEETING

The next Stated Meeting of Claud L. Austin Lodge will be held on Monday, November 27th.

As usual, the meeting will be in the Green Room of the Scottish Rite Cathedral, beginning at noon. A dutch-treat lunch always follows the close, unless.....

The meetings are unusually short for Masonic meetings. That way, boredom is always kept to a bare minimum. If you haven't been for a while, treat yourself and the Lodge by attending.

HOLIDAY BRUNCH

For the Dining Members of our Lodge, their spouses or significant others and our widows, the Annual Holiday Brunch will be held at 10:30am on Saturday, December 9th at Lakewood Country Club. Reservations are required. Please RSVP to the Secretary.

GET WELL SOON CROWD

Richard Farr reported that Brother Herb Hale APM had a stroke and is in Walnut Place Rehab, 214-361-8923, Room 286, for an undetermined time. We hope he has a speedy recovery.

Yours truly has been living with an aching back for several months (aren't we all), but most recently had two angioplasties w/stents and has two more to go. We all know the following:

The cardiologist's diet: If it tastes good, spit it out.

Though he is not a member of our Lodge, he is the General Secretary of the Scottish Rite, our landlord, it has been reported that Brother Ed Kirkpatrick had a cancerous kidney removed and will undergo further treatment. We wish him the best.

SCHEDULE

Friday, Nov 10	Festive Board
Sat, Nov. 18	Masters' Day
Mon, Nov 27	Stated Meeting
Nov 30 to Dec 2	Grand Lodge
Dec 3 to Dec 5	Gr Chap/Council
Sat, Dec 9	Holiday Brunch

Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year

FRIENDSHIP TEST

A simple friend, when visiting, acts like a guest. A real friend opens your refrigerator and helps himself.

A simple friend expects you to always be there for them. A real friend expects to always be there for you.

Aren't real friendships great?