

# CLAUD L. AUSTIN LODGE NO. 1450

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## ONE MORE STATED – 2007

We have one more Stated Meeting this calendar year. It is slated for Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Same place, same time.

## FESTIVE BOARDS

The last Festive Board for this calendar year took place on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Like the others this year, we had good attendance, including three visitors, and lots of good food and Masonic conviviality.

The Dining Fee notices have already been mailed, with your dues cards. The fee remains the same at \$200 and is really a bargain considering the cost of the four meals at the DAC Country Club, the cost of the Holiday Brunch at Lakewood Country Club and the annual BBQ at Rancho Pardue.

It's always a great evening at the Festive Boards, with all dressed in tuxes and the Brethren following the scripted meal and traditional toasts.

## M DOUGLAS ADKINS PM WENDELL P MILLER PM

Claud L. Austin is pleased to announce that our Past Master Doug Adkins is now, and officially, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Scottish Rite's Orient of Texas. And, we are also pleased to announce that our Past Master Wendell Miller is now the Personal Representative of the SGIG and Chairman of the Valley of Dallas. We offer our heartiest congratulations to both in their positions of huge responsibilities. May they lead the Scottish Rite back to the prominence it once had.

## GRAND LODGE

The Annual convocation of the Grand Lodge of Texas will take place in early December – from the 6<sup>th</sup> thru the 8<sup>th</sup>, culminating with the Grand Installation which usually takes place about 2:00pm. The incoming Grand Master, should he progress to that lofty position, will be Tommy Griffin from the metropolis of Stowell, TX. All Master Masons are urged to attend.....you might be surprised as to what transpires every year.

## FROM ZOLA BLICKER APM CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE

Brethren, I cannot assume your attendance at a Festive Board without your RSVP. I can only assume your non-attendance without an RSVP. This is important, because I have to guarantee a count and need to be as accurate as possible, as well as having the "table" appropriately set up. If you do send your RSVP and, it is necessary that you must subsequently cancel, please advise me of such cancellation ASAP and not later than Wednesday preceding the Festive Board, except in event of a last minute emergency, which does occur and is understandable.

A "show" without an RSVP can be disruptive and require last minute changes to the table set up. My aim is to offer you, the Dining Members of our Lodge, the best Festive Board possible, and I need only a couple minutes of your time to send in your RSVP (or cancellation). Some of you are diligent about this and some are not.

I appreciate and thank each of you for your understanding and cooperation.

## HMMM, DO YOU KNOW?

In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?

How did the pear get inside the brandy bottle? It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.

## THOMAS C YANTIS PAST GRAND MASTER

For those who did not know, one of our "finest" passed away on September 26, 2007, in Brownwood, Texas. Right Worshipful Brother Yantis served the Grand Lodge in 1976. He was an Aggie, yet beloved by all.

## NEW MEMBERS

At the August Stated Meeting, we voted in two new members and know that all will join in welcoming them into Claud Austin Lodge. Brothers Charles E. McKay, from Holland Lodge No. 1 and a Past Master of Plano Lodge No. 768, and Larry Van Hall, Past Master of Hillcrest Lodge No. 1318. Both are Dining Members and we look forward to seeing them seated at the Table each quarter.

## NEW ROSTER

You all know that I have been trying to complete this project for way too many months. There are still several members who have never responded to my attempts to confirm their information or get an update.

Rosters, at best, are quickly out-of-date; but I will endeavor to get one published with the best information provided, or not, by the first of the year. For those who helped with your information, thanks very much.

## FROM THE TEXAS MASON APRIL, 1942

Perhaps the most interesting Masonic News item to come to our attention in many a day came to our notice last month during the course of the monthly degree work of Cyrus Chapter No. 133, Royal Arch Masons. It was learned that Ellsworth Smith, able Detroit attorney, was one of the candidates. Companion Smith is blind and for mobile guidance depends on a seeing-eye dog – one of those noble German Shepherd dogs which all over the world have become the eyes of numerous blind men. The dog was the faithful companion of Smith all during the degree work and is probably the first dog ever to receive the Royal Arch Degrees.

Since receiving the work both Companions Smith and his dog have regularly attended the Chapter. Both were present at the annual installation of officers Tuesday, December 9. About a year ago the Scottish Rite Bodies of Detroit conferred its degrees upon Smith and again upon this occasion, the dog was constantly at his side. Thus the dog is probably the only 32° Mason in America. Companion Smith is indeed proud of his dog's record as a Mason.

## SCATTERSHOOTING

Last time, there was quite a list we were wondering about. One, and only one, responded. That came from Brother Bill Scott, now a proud resident of Fredericksburg, TX, who continues to be a very active Mason. Thanks for the response, Bill....we wish you continued good health and Masonic activity.

Here are a few more.....maybe one will tell us what is happening in their lives:

Dr. ET Boon	J Ben Casey
Leonard P Harvey	Edwin S Malone
Jesse G Richardson	G Warren Whitham

## GET WELL CORNER

Mary Alice Wellborn	
Herb Hale	Tulie Pardue

We always hope our members and their families who are under the weather will get well soon.

## TEST

Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh..... Keep guessing! I'll publish the answer and any winners in the next issue.

## NAME THAT BROTHER!



## CLAUD AUSTIN TO HOST TEXAS LODGE OF RESEARCH

On Saturday, January 19, 2008, your Lodge will host the quarterly meeting of the Texas Lodge of Research. TLR, at this meeting, will honor our Secretary Emeritus and one of the major founders of our Lodge..... Plez A Transou.

Plez, a long-time member and active Masonic historian, is also their Secretary Emeritus and a Fellow.....the highest honor they can bestow and one seldom given.

All are invited to attend and there will be a notice sent to each of you as soon as the times and events are solidified.

## FOR THOSE WHO TAKE LIFE TOO SERIOUSLY

I just got lost in thought. It wasn't familiar territory.

When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Support bacteria. They're the only culture some people have.

He who laughs last, thinks slowest.

## CLAUD AUSTIN LODGE IS 20!

Just 20 short years ago, Ernest G. Hudel APM and Plez A Transou APM approached Robert L. Dillard, Jr. PGM with an idea to form a "Table Lodge" that would meet at the Scottish Rite and promote Masonic conviviality.

With the idea born, several of us visited the Lodges of the 14<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts to get their "approval" for a new Lodge in the area.....one that would not compete with them for initiating, passing and raising new Masons. We have always been a lodge considered to be picky as to whom we want in with us; those that fit, if you will. Maybe we are. Some say we are elitists....again, maybe we are, but what is wrong with that?

Approval was given, and a Charter was granted and issued by the Grand Lodge of Texas for Downtown Daylight Lodge No. 1450. The Charter Members were almost a Who's Who in Texas Masonic circles (present company, me, excepted).

There is an interesting story relating to the date and time when Most Worshipful Graham Childress dropped the gavel when the Lodge was instituted by the Grand Lodge and the first officers were "duly and constitutionally installed." We'll save that for another time, however.

We still practice what we preached back then – Masonic Conviviality.

Happy Birthday to our Lodge!

## MORE FROM THE *TEXAS MASON* FEBRUARY, 1941

### *My Creed*

To this day that is mine, my country's and my God's, I dedicate my all. My talents, every one, shall be held subject to the sight draft of the emergencies of others. I will enlarge my soul by cultivating love for those from whom I find myself recoiling. No man shall ever feel his color or his caste in my presence, for within my heart of hearts there shall be no consciousness of it.

The man who has fallen shall find in me a friend, the woman down a helper. But more than this, those falling shall have my trust that they may stand again. The cry of every child shall find my heart whether cry of need or aspiration. Not one of all the nation's "little ones" shall be despised. Cherishing every life of whatever land or race, and mindful of hidden struggles in all things, I will try to help and to serve.

No word shall ever pass my lips, that hurts another in things of face, form, station or estate. My own weaknesses, my foibles and my sins shall chasten speech and spirit and deny desecration to pervert them. The vandal hands of lust and hate and greed shall not be permitted to despoil.

And thus I resolve, not because I am good, but that I want to be; not that I feel above others, but with all my soul I long to be of humankind, both helped and helper. So do I set apart my culture. So do I receive but to give to others. So do I press humbly into the presence of the sacrificial Son of Man, crying out in eager consecration, "Let me follow Thee, Master, wherever the world needs ministry, wherever life is still to be given for many."

Help me, Thou whose manger cradle brought democracy to light, to meet in my own worth democracy's final test and to my own day to be true.

## SCHEDULING

December 6-8	Grand Lodge Waco
December 8 10:30am (Dining Members)	Holiday Brunch Lakewood CC
January 19, 2008	Hosting TLR Scottish Rite
February 25 12:00pm	Stated Meeting
May 27 (Tuesday) 12:00pm	Stated Meeting
June 30 12:00pm	Installation
August 25 12:00pm	Stated Meeting
November 24 12:00pm	Stated Meeting
December 4-6	Grand Lodge Waco

The dates for the Festive Boards and the Holiday Brunch will be set and published as soon as possible.

## WHAT OLD DUFFERS ONCE SAID

Unknown . "Golf is not a game, it's bondage. It was obviously devised by a man torn with guilt, eager to atone for his sins."

Hank Aaron: "It took me seventeen years to get 3,000 hits in baseball. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course."

Lee Trevino: "Columbus went around the world in 1492. That isn't a lot of strokes when you consider the course."