

GARLAND MASONIC
LODGE NO. 441
GARLAND, TEXAS

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- **Officer Roster**
- **Calendar of Events**
- **Change of Address/ Contact Info**
- **What is Relief and Truth?**
- **How to Contact the Lodge**

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Garland Trestle-Board

VOLUME 137, ISSUE 2

AUGUST, 2011

The Master's Carpet

Garland Lodge has been busy in the last month. Officers were installed; the annual audit was started (soon to be completed); a balanced budget was prepared and approved; an Entered Apprentice was initiated and another Brother was Passed to Fellowcraft; we held an Ice Cream Social; By-Laws and Rules & Regulations changes were proposed; two new petitions were read; and a visit to another Lodge was made in an attempt to take the District 14 Traveling Gavel. Each of these will be discussed further in this publication, as well as additional information for upcoming events.

There are a lot of things happening at your Lodge and if you haven't been able to participate lately you are missing some great opportunities to experience fraternal fellowship and enjoy spending quality time with your Brethren. More importantly, we miss your company and friendship.

We are focusing on getting existing members back to Lodge, gaining ground with new, high-quality members, and making the Lodge relevant in your life. The Lodge has already seen some long-time members getting reinvigorated in activities, and I have high expectations of seeing more of you at Lodge events. The officers and I encourage and invite you to come to Lodge as much as your time permits. A Lodge's success rests entirely on the participation of its members; that is what made Garland Lodge great in the past and it is what will restore Garland Lodge to its greatness.

If there is anything keeping you from attending; if there is something you would like to see the Lodge doing, or perhaps doing better; or if you simply want to chat, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am ready and willing to talk. But more than that, I am ready and willing to listen.



Fraternally,
Jerry Lawson
Worshipful Master
214-289-6474

Some Important Dates to Remember

August 20th - Forum and Examination at Duck Creek #1419 8:00am

September 17th - Blood Drive at Garland #441 7:00am

August 30th - Lodge visit to Roy Stanley #1367 (Traveling Gavel)

September 17th - College Football watching in Motley Hall (after Blood Drive)

September 6th - Visit to East Fork #650 (Burt Freeman's 60 yr Service Award)

September 24th - Past Masters Celebration Dinner at Garland #441

September 10th - Scottish Rite Club Fish Fry at North Garland High

6:00pm

By-Laws Committee Report

At the August Stated Meeting the By-Laws Committee presented several proposed changes to Garland Lodge's existing By-Laws and Rules and Regulations.

The first of the proposals is to change the Lodge meeting time from 7:30pm to 7:00pm. The meeting night would remain on the second Tuesday of each month.

The second proposal is to set the degree fees at \$155, \$150, and \$175, for the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason's degrees, respectively. These fees include the required \$5 George Washington National Memorial contribution and \$25 contribution to the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation.

The third, and most discussed and anticipated, proposal deals with raising our yearly dues, which is our largest source of operating revenue. Our second largest source of income (interest on the Note from sale of the Masonic Building on the Garland Square) will decrease

yearly as that Note amortizes down to \$0 interest by 2019. As discussed in last month's Trestle-Board, we do not receive operating income from approximately 257 members, due to purchased Endowments, 50-Year Members, and members exempted from dues for other reasons. The best-case scenario for the Endowments is that we "break even" with the amount received from Grand Lodge versus the Per Capita (\$25) we must return to Grand Lodge on those living Endowed members.

The proposal, therefore, is to set the yearly dues at \$100, with automatic yearly increases tied to the Consumer Price Index over the previous year. The automatic increase is intended to help the Lodge income keep up with inflation, without having to dip into investment funds just to keep the lights on.

These proposals will be held-over until the September Stated Meeting, when they will be voted upon by the members present, without any discussion or amendments.

Give your business some exposure

Business ads in this publication are available for purchase. The income from these ads go to help fund the Lodge's charitable activities, such as DeMolay, Widows' Appreciation, Blood Drives, Police & Firefighters Breakfast, etc.

Ads can be purchased for very reasonable rates in the following sizes, for the remaining 10 issues of the 2011-2012 Trestle-Board:

2"x3-1/2" (business card equivalent) : \$75

Quarter page: \$150

Half page: \$250

Full page: \$500

Contact Jerry Lawson for more information or to place your advertisement.

2011-2012 Budget Approved



The 2011-2012 Lodge budget was presented and approved at the August Stated Meeting. This is a "balanced" budget, meaning the projected income equals the approved expenditures. This budget assumes a full \$25 payout from Grand Lodge on each Endowment, \$100 dues,

\$480 degree fees, and \$6000 of income from fund raisers. Obviously, if any of these income sources fails to provide the anticipated

amount, the Lodge would face a severe deficit.

This is a bare-bones budget and reflects very responsible stewardship of the Lodge's funds and does not account for any contingencies, which would have to be approved by a Lodge vote and drawn from our investments.

Details of the budget can be provided by the Secretary or Master of the Lodge upon request by any Garland 441 Member.

What's Going On at 441?

(All meetings at 7:00PM, unless otherwise indicated)

- Aug 1 Garland Eastern Star Stated Meeting
- Aug 1 Garland Lodge Officers 6:00PM
- Aug 3 Garland DeMolay Stated Meeting
- Aug 6 EA Degree 9:00AM (Breakfast at 8:00)
- Aug 9 Garland Lodge Stated Meeting 7:30PM
- Aug 11 Garland Chapter/Council Stated Meeting 7:30PM
- Aug 15 Garland Eastern Star Special Meeting
- Aug 30 Visit to Roy Stanley #1367 (Traveling Gavel)

Garland Lodge floor school every Tuesday

Garland Chapter/Council floor school every Thursday

Garland DeMolay every Wednesday

- Sept 6 Visit to East Fork #650 (Burt Freeman's 60-Year Service Award)
- Sept 7 Garland DeMolay Stated Meeting
- Sept 8 Garland Chapter/Council Stated Meeting 7:30PM
- Sept 10 Scottish Rite Fish Fry (N. Garland H.S.) 5:00
- Sept 12 Garland Lodge Officers 6:00PM
- Sept 13 Garland Lodge Stated Meeting 7:30PM
- Sept 17 Blood Drive 7:00AM
- Sept 17 College Football watching 4:00PM
- Sept 19 Garland Eastern Star Stated Meeting 7:30PM
- Sept 24 Past Masters Celebration Dinner 6:00PM

Traveling Gavel

One of the great pleasures in Masonry is visiting other Lodges, and on August 2nd eleven members of Garland 441 traveled to Edwin J. Kiest #1310 to sit in on their stated meeting. Now, granted, our motives may not have been totally altruistic; there was a Traveling Gavel up for grabs. Unfortunately, our numbers weren't quite enough, as Roy Stanley #1367 also came to Lodge with fourteen brothers who had a similar goal in mind.

For those that don't know, the 14th Districts Visitation Gavel was initially presented to Richardson Lodge #1214 at their 1999 installation of Officers by Brother Arthur Karl "Dino" Dean of Cedar Creek Lodge #300, Kurten, Texas. It is now used to encourage visitation between the Lodges of the 14th Masonic Districts in the hope of fostering Brotherly Love and the sharing of ideas, lodge methods, and fellowship.

Later this month we will be traveling to Roy Stanley Lodge in hopes of retrieving the gavel and bringing it back to 441. But as our experience tells us, strength comes in numbers and we'd be well advised to travel with as many as possible. If you'd like to join us in our travels we will be meeting at Garland 441 at 5:30 on Tuesday, August 30th, and carpooling from there.

As a special bonus, all Garland 441 members who attend Roy Stanley's August Stated Meeting will receive one of the new Garland 441 lapel pins (a \$10 value).

We look forward to your joining us.

Past Masters Celebration Dinner

Garland Lodge will be honoring its Past Masters at a Celebration Dinner on September 24th at 6:00PM. All living Past Masters and Affiliated Past Masters, and Widows of Past Masters who have gone to the Celestial Lodge Above, are invited. We'll have a special meal prepared by the Stewards and an entertaining program sure to please all in attendance. Family and friends of the Past Masters, as well as Garland Lodge members, are invited to this celebration. More details will be provided as they become available. If you would like to help plan and execute this special event, contact one of the Lodge officers.



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What is Relief and Truth, Masonically speaking?

Excerpted from
"The Masonic
Scholar: A Manual
of Masonic
Education for
Candidates"

Masonic Education Corner

Relief and Truth

Last month the concept of Masonic Tenets was presented. Of the three Principles Tenets we hold dear, Brotherly Love was discussed. This month is the follow up, with the other two Principle Tenets: Relief and Truth.

Relief is one of the forms of charity. We often think of charity as relief from poverty. To care for the helpless or unemployed is deemed usually a responsibility resting on the public. As a rule, the public discharges that responsibility through some form of organized charity financed by general subscriptions or out of public funds.

Our conception of relief is broader and deeper than this. We fully recognize the emergency demands made by physical and economic distress; but we likewise understand that the cashing of a check is not necessarily a complete solution of the difficulty. There sometimes enters the problem of readjustment, of rehabilitation, of keeping the family together, of children's education, and various other matters vital to the welfare of those concerned and through the whole process, there is the need for spiritual comfort, for the assurance of a sincere and continuing interest and friendship, which is the real translation of our principal tenet: Brotherly Love.

Masonic relief takes it for granted that any man, no matter how industrious and frugal he may be, through sudden misfortune, or other conditions over which he has no control, may

be in temporary need of a helping hand. To extend it is not what is generally described as charity, but is one of the inevitable acts of Brotherhood. Any conception of Brotherhood must include this willingness to give necessary aid. Therefore, Relief, Masonically understood, is a tenet.

Truth, the last of the Principal Tenets, is meant something more than the search for truths in the intellectual sense, though that is included. "Truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry." In any permanent Brotherhood, members must be truthful in character and habits, dependable, men of honor, on whom we can rely to be faithful fellows and loyal friends. Truth is a vital requirement if a brotherhood is to endure and we, therefore, accept it as such.

Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth are the principal Tenets of Masonry. There are other tenets, also – Teachings so obvious that argument is never necessary to sustain them. With this in mind, we urge you to ponder the teachings of the craft as you progress from Degree to Degree. You may not find them novel, but novelty is unimportant in the light of the knowledge that the truths upon which Freemasonry is founded are eternal. The freshness of immortality is on them because they never die; in them is a ceaseless inspiration and an inexhaustible appeal. They are tenets of Freemasonry because always and every where they have been tenets of successful human life.



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Texas Leader
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advertisement

Sick and Distressed

Please contact Herb Cook at
972-475-2459 or
hcooksrl@verizon.net
with any updates or
requests pertaining to sick
or distressed Brothers or
their family members.

Change of Address?

New email or phone?

Can you help us keep our records updated? Let us know if any of your contact information has changed, or of any other information you wish to share.

Please submit any changes to
jerry.lawson@yahoo.com or mail to
the P.O. Box shown on the back
page.

Want to Save Your Lodge Some Bucks?

Are you interested in helping Garland Lodge save some money in its operating expenses? Here are some ideas you might consider:

1. Donate \$5.25 to defray printing & postage costs for 12 issues of the Trestle-Board, or opt-in for electronic distribution. It may not seem like much, but with 500+ members the costs add up.
2. If you are an endowed member, consider remitting your dues, or a portion thereof, to offset the \$25 "per capita" we must send to Grand Lodge.
3. Donate cash for, or provide, kitchen and pantry supplies (plates, bowls, plastic-ware, napkins, trash bags, coffee, tea, bottled sodas, etc.)
4. Make sure all lights are turned off, and thermostats adjusted properly, when you are the last leaving the building.
5. Purchase a personal or business ad in this publication.

These and possibly other ideas will help us reduce costs in these trying economic times.



Brother Jack Patterson Honored

Brother Jack Patterson was honored at the August Stated Meeting for his long-time support of Carter BloodCare, the Scottish Rite Hospital, and the Masonic Gift of Life Program.

A brass plaque, with a color photograph of Bro. Patterson, was unveiled, to be prominently displayed in the lodge room. The plaque reproduces a Dallas Morning News article written by Sue Watkins, and reads as follows:

Longtime Garland Mason earns blood donor award

By SUE WATKINS
Special Contributor
Published 28 July 2011 01:04 AM

If Carter BloodCare had the ability to clone an individual, my hands-down guess would be Garland's Jack Patterson of the Garland Scottish Rite Club.

Patterson has donated 58 gallons of that life-saving fluid and is a force behind community collections. He was named chairperson of the year by the Association of Donor Recruitment

Professionals at its 2011 annual conference in Minneapolis.

Retired now from LTV Corp., he first became involved in blood donation more than 20 years ago through a partnership with Garland Scottish Rite Club and Carter BloodCare, which submitted Patterson for his award.

He has worked tirelessly over the years to implement blood drives at Masonic Lodges statewide. About 50,000 units of blood, enough to cover the blood expenses for all 22 Shriner hospitals in Texas and the United States, have been collected.

Patterson, in addition to volunteering his time and energy promoting the Gift of Life Program, has trained future coordinators.

He also continues to organize four annual drives for the Garland Masonic Lodge, which consistently collects close to 300 units annually. He is also a recipient of America's Blood Center's humanitarian award.

The Chairperson of the Year Award was established in 2006, recognizing that chairpersons are the front line of recruitment and often the first people prospective donors meet.

Patterson is a native of Hannibal, Mo., but moved to Garland as a child. He is a longtime deacon at First Baptist Church where he has taught kindergarten Sunday school for 30 years.

First a member of Garland Masonic Lodge, he helped organize Duck Creek Lodge and became a member there.

Dean Patterson, the awardee's son, accompanied his father to Minneapolis for the ceremony.

The Valley of Dallas Scottish Rite Masonic Club recognized Jack Patterson, 33rd inspector general honorary, for his organizing and implementing the Gift of Life program. M. Douglas Adkins, 33rd degree sovereign Grand Inspector General of Texas, and Buck Howard, chairman of the Dallas Scottish Rite, conducted the recognition ceremony.

News from the Texas Masonic Retirement Center in Arlington

By Newton Ballou, TMRC Resident
July 16, 2011

We Celebrate Our 100th Anniversary This Year!!

It may not sound feasible but a hundred years ago this October the doors of TMRC were opened and started accepting Masons to move in and enjoy a superior retirement life. And the trend continues today—UN-Interrupted.

The only difference between then and now is: today is far better and nicer. Major improvements to our facilities have been going on for the past couple of years. Our new building, the Royal Arch Plaza is complete and partially filled. The main dining room and assembly rooms have been redecorated and completely refurbished. Halls and lobby are presently under construction for a complete face-lift, all of which will be complete before our October Celebration begins.

Living conditions and services here are unequalled in the retirement hospitality industry. Of course, another major reason for our excellent living conditions is that we are all Masons.



We all know our neighbors well.

Today we have 151 in residence. 95 of the 151 live in the Independent Living Sections. All independent apartments or rooms have private baths and some have full kitchens, patios and covered parking for their automobile. Also,

everyone has cable TV and internet connections. The balance of our occupants reside in the Clinic; they are about equally divided between the Assisted Care and Totally Care. The Clinic residence has their own dining room and enjoys personal and private services.

Visitations are welcomed always but especially on Week-Days. If you wish a tour of the facilities our Metro number is 817-275-2893. Weekend visits with occupants is encouraged and should always be after a telephone call to the person, if possible.

Bro. Ballou has lived at TMRC for the past 3 years. He is a former Treasurer of Alexander C. Garrett Lodge #1216. He will celebrate his 95th birthday in December of this year and is a 61-year Mason.

More TMRC information can be found at www.texasmasonicretirementcenter.org

Endowments Update

The Grand Lodge of Texas recently forwarded to each Lodge \$5 per Endowed Unit, or \$25 per \$500 Endowment. This will certainly help Garland 441, but only slightly, since that \$25 must be returned back to Grand Lodge in the form of Per Capita expense for each of our living Endowed members.

Since there is a huge gap in income between our dues amount and the Endowed pay-out, the Worshipful Master asks that each Endowed member consider remitting his full dues amount each year. This will allow the Lodge to continue to meet the yearly expenses without having to dip into the capital of our investments or have continuous fund-raising activities.

Additionally, if there are members that would like to contribute to the relief of the Lodge, we have the Adopt-A-Brother program, in which you can remit additional money, to be used toward helping Brothers who may have trouble meeting their dues obligation. Whatever amount you can give to YOUR Lodge is welcomed and appreciated.

Ritual Practice Nights

The Lodge continues to hold Masonic floor school on each Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the Lodge Room. The purpose of these sessions is to improve our ritual proficiency in Degree work and opening and closing lodge. If you would like to improve your own proficiency, as well as participate in fraternal bonding, come on down and join us.

We always have a meal at 6:30, where we sit around the dining table and get to know each other a little better. This

would also be a great opportunity to invite friends who are interested in learning about becoming a Mason.

If you aren't very proficient in the work, or you're a little rusty, or have never even participated in Degree work, come on out anyway. We run a very relaxed, non-threatening learning session, in which everyone is treated with respect. Instructors are also available for one-on-one sessions. Come join us and see what you're missing.

Garland Lodge Committees and Officers

Investments:

Maurice Williams
 Danny Thomas (chair)
 Tim Towson (treasurer)
 Jim Bookhout
 Kevin Slaton

Maintenance:

Eric Stuyvesant (chair)
 Robert Suits
 Evanor Schefer

Membership:

Eric Stuyvesant (chair)
 Brian Pittman
 Robert Sharp

L.I.F.E. Counselor:

Tim Towson

Scholarship:

Hutch Hutchinson
 Larry Case (chair)
 Preston Edwards
 Tim Plunk
 Jody Krizan

Committee on Work:

Jerry Lawson (chair)
 Eric Stuyvesant
 Phil Schreiber
 Dan Dancer

Sick and Distressed:

Herb Cook (chair)
 Cliff Edwards

Gift of Life Liaison:

Robert Sharp

Funeral:

Morris Apple (chair)
 Danny Thomas
 Robert Sharp
 Evanor Schefer
 Eric Stuyvesant

Budget:

Keith Dancer (chair)
 Eric Stuyvesant
 Dwayne Gentsch
 Tim Towson
 Gene Baskin

Charitable Activities:
 To Be Filled (your name here?)

Officers:

Jerry Lawson—Worshipful Master
 Danny Thomas—Senior Warden
 Eric Stuyvesant—Junior Warden
 Tim Towson—Treasurer
 Gene Baskin—Secretary
 Cliff Edwards—Chaplain
 Keith Dancer—Senior Deacon
 Phil Schreiber—Junior Deacon
 Maurice Williams—Master of Ceremonies
 Dan Dancer—Marshal
 Jim Beasley—Tiler



Garland Lodge No. 441 A.F. & A.M.



Stated Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of each month 7:30PM (Supper at 6:30)

Telephone: **972-276-7614**

Web: www.garlandlodge441.org



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Garland Masonic Lodge has been continuously making Masons in Texas since the 1870s. It has a rich and proud history in Garland, Dallas County and Texas. As Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, we believe in the existence of One True God, the Immortality of the Soul, and the Brotherhood of Man.



Garland Masonic Lodge No. 441 A.F. & A.M.

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