

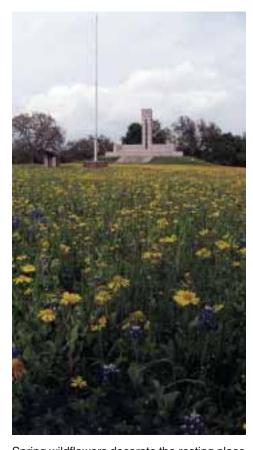
Spring, 2002



Vol. XI, No. 2

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The oldest continuous institution chartered by the Republic of Texas.



Spring wildflowers decorate the resting place of Bro. James Fannin and other heroes of the Goliad Massacre. Texas Masons observed the 266th anniversary of the Texas Revolution in San Antonio, Goliad and San Jacinto. Photo by Jim Dougherty

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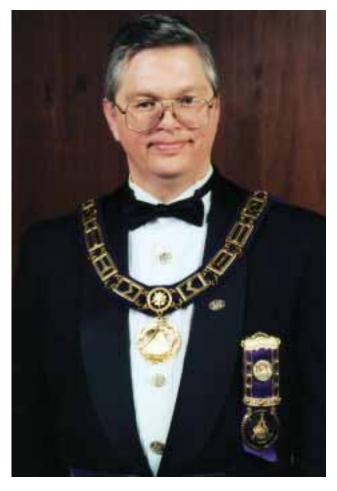


The future of our Home & School is up to us

Brethren, the year seems to be going by so quickly! Your reaction to the conferences — by your attendance as well as your favorable response to the topics presented — has been overwhelming. Be assured that your support is greatly appreciated. I believe that Masonry in Texas is on the move in the right direction! Good men around the state are taking note of our community involvement and many lodges are now reporting a positive increase in interest about our fraternity.

As you have no doubt noted from the cover, this issue is dedicated to the Masonic Home and School of Texas. Our home is growing in terms of the number of children enrolled as well as in the improvements made in our ability to help deserving children acquire the knowledge and the necessary social skills to be successful in life. For more than 102 years, our Home and School has successfully taught Texas children Masonic values; however, over time we have slipped in terms of the financial support required to continue the quality of care that our Home and School has always provided. Now, more than ever before, the more than 150 children who are all sponsored by Texas lodges, and the 34 widows of Texas Masons now residing in the Texas Masonic Retirement Center, need our financial stewardship. I hope that the information and stories contained in this issue will serve to renew your interest in an important aspect of our Texas Masonic traditions.

Brethren, I understand as well as anyone else in Texas just how hard times are right now, but I ask you to consider a bold step to renew the financial health of our Home and School. In addition to gifts we have already made, Sheri and I have agreed to pledge \$500 per year for the next five years to help overcome the critical financial needs at our Home and School. We believe that the mission of our Home and School is vital in Texas today! We believe that the Texas of our future will be a better place to live when the children and widows who need our help understand that Texas Masons are men who "walk the walk" of the lessons taught all Masons — that of charity toward all mankind. Sheri and I recently saw a movie called "Pay It Forward." The movie was about not giving up when things seemed most desperate. The story line suggested that if one person would do a good deed for three others, and those three would do the same for three more, the bad influences in the world could never triumph over the good. The idea was that hope would always prevail over despair and that, through every effort to do good in our world, we can make it a better place to live for us all! The needs



Portrait by Jim Dougherty

Most Worshipful Michael D. Nanny Grand Master of Masons in Texas

of our Home and School are great, but if we can see our way to "Pay It Forward," we can overcome this desperate condition and change the world for those who need our help and support the most.

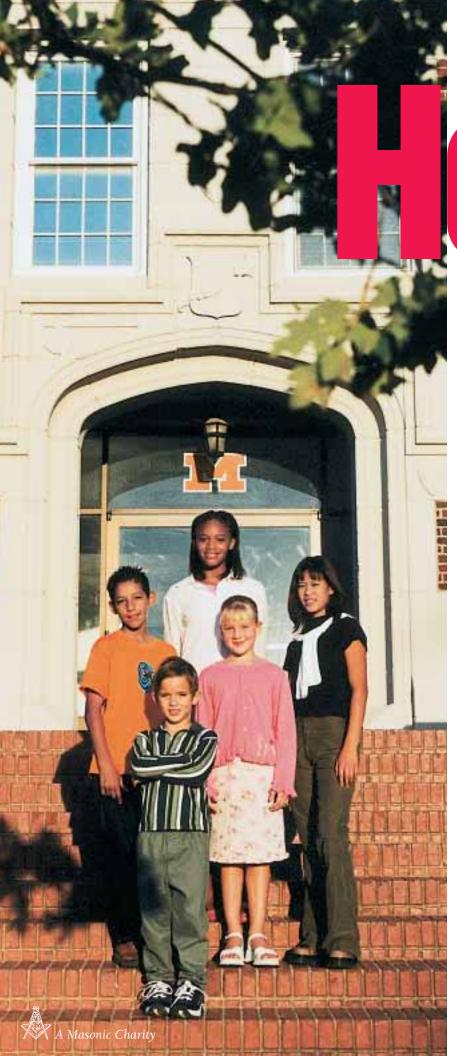
Thank you for all that you will do to create an environment to which every good and moral man in Texas is attracted to seek membership. They must be inspired by our examples where we live, work and worship. They must be inspired by YOU!



Sincerely and fraternally,

Mike Nanny Grand Master





There is No Place Like Our

asonic Home and School of Texas is so much more than its name implies. Yes, it is a place where children live. It is also a place where children learn. But perhaps most importantly, it is a place where children are loved.

A stable home and learning environment should be every child's birthright. When circumstances take that right away from a child, Masonic Home and School hopes to give it back. For children and families seeking compassionate care and assistance, the home often offers the best chance for brighter futures.

The purpose of Masonic Home and School of Texas is to make life better for those in need of love and support. This goal is embodied by the motto: "The children come first. Always, without exception."

The home provides a quality education for children in grades pre-K through 12th in a residential learning environment that emphasizes compassion, strong moral values, spiritual growth and academic initiative while fostering creativity, individualism, responsibility and self-esteem.

The children of the home are like any others: They will grow up to be teachers, doctors, business people, moms and dads, volunteers, engineers, or whatever they choose to be. What makes these children different is that they were given a second chance at childhood when they needed it.

Continued on next page



A few years ago, Masonic Home and School itself was in need of a second chance. The school had been in decline for a number of years. The curriculum had not kept up with the times, and students were not graduating on equal footing with other public school graduates. Several buildings on campus were abandoned, empty or in disrepair. Enrollment had dwindled to only 52 students. Texas Masons and former students of the home demanded change. They knew that needs were going unmet and that the futures of countless children depended on the future of the home.

It wasn't easy, and it wasn't overnight. But change did occur. Thanks to the help of three significant financial gifts, the hard work of many supporters and staff members, and the vision of several Masons, former students and Board members, Masonic Home and School of Texas was granted a second chance when it needed it most.

Today, the home's enrollment has tripled to more than 150 current students and the capacity to serve 175. In three short

years, the school's curriculum has been greatly improved and expanded, so that students can stay competitive with other graduates after completing their education. As testament to the enhanced program, the Texas Education Agency recently awarded Masonic Home Independent School District a rating of recognized. The middle school was rated exemplary, and the elementary and high schools were rated recognized.

Also in the past three years, major strides have been made toward campus facility improvements and growth. More than 10 existing structures have been refurbished and/or renovated, and two new residential cottages have been built. The home's Board of Directors has also been hard at work. An investment committee was created that immediately diversified the management of the endowment fund to increase income and growth. These combined efforts are helping breath new life into a home and school that was once in decline. Today's Masonic Home and School is a proud, strong and vital force for children. It will take continued vigilance and support, however, to remain such a force for tomorrow's children.



Fact vs. Fiction

Fact:

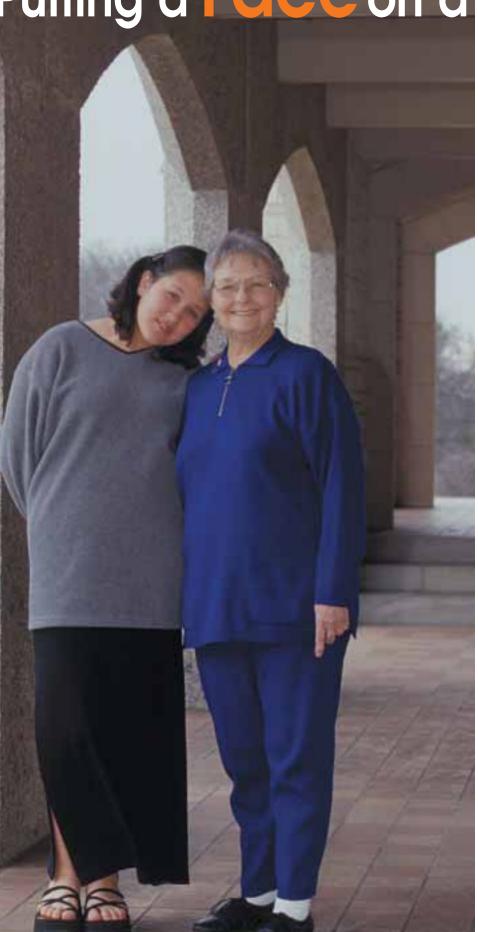
- The children come first. Always, without exception.
- It takes \$6 million in donations a year just for the home and school to survive.
- Planned giving in the form of insurance, wills, trusts or land gifts is one of the most important ways to ensure the future health of the home.
- Only 2% of the home's revenue comes from Masonic dues.
- The endowment funds only 26% of the home's yearly operating budget.
- The majority of the home's operating budget (68%) is funded by donations.
- Masonic Home and School of Texas financially cares for and supports more than 30 Masonic widows who reside at the Texas Masonic Retirement Center.
- Masonic Home and School needs immediate donations for now and for the future.

Fiction:

- Masonic dues fund the yearly operating budget of Masonic Home and School.
- The endowment funds the yearly operating budget.
- The home has not kept up with the times and does not provide a much-needed service.



Putting a Face on a Special Place



hen 72-year-old Glenda Mayo was forced to become the primary caretaker for her young granddaughter, it was less than an ideal situation. After raising her own children, Glenda was ready for the slowed-down pace of grandparenting - not the 24-hour demands of parenting. Her granddaughter, Sarah, needed the stability of a solid home life but was missing out on a lot of opportunities that her grandmother wasn't able to provide.

A Past Worthy Matron of Eastern Star, Glenda Mayo knew about Masonic Home and School of Texas and knew that it could provide the security and support Sarah so badly needed. "The home is a healthy environment. The children are happy children, the classrooms are small and the children get excellent help with their problems in school or with any other problems they might have," Glenda says. "It is an ideal place for someone like Sarah. It is the perfect solution for us."

Since her arrival at the home last fall, Sarah has taken advantage of numerous new opportunities. She plays the flute and has recently taken up bells. She participates in cotillion and Thursday night basketball, and she has made some lifelong friends. As her grandmother notes, "For Sarah, it is like suddenly having 11 sisters. She is an only child, so she is thrilled with that."

Perhaps most importantly, Sarah herself realizes the new potential for her future. During a recent weekend visit home she reassured and reinforced her grandmother's decision to let her live at the home with just a few simple words. "Grammy, thank you for giving me the opportunity to go to Masonic Home," she said. Those are pretty powerful words coming from a sixth-grader. •

"We are providing a service to the children of Texas that is not surpassed by any other resource in the state. Without our commitment, many of these young people would never have those things which will enable them to enjoy a happy and safe childhood."

III. Sataglance

"Our responsibility is not only to the children and widows but to the Masons who had the vision long ago. We cannot meet these needs without sufficient funding. Each of us, as Masons, must accept our responsibility and do our part to provide sufficient funding to continue this noble endeavor."

- Masonic Home and School of Texas was founded in 1885 with a resolution to offer a permanent home for widows and orphans. Its doors actually opened in 1899.
- The home and school provides a quality education to children enrolled in pre-K through the 12th grade. The school is fully accredited and recognized by the Texas Education Agency.
- The residential learning environment emphasizes character, family ties, compassion and responsibility.
- The home strives to meet each child's emotional, spiritual, physical and educational needs.
- Children come to Masonic Home and School because of a wide range of family, educational and financial circumstances.
- All services are provided at no charge to the families.

 The ability to provide services without charge depends on continued financial support through wills, bequests and donations from Texas Masons, former students, corporations, foundations and other benefactors.

By the Numbers

- More than 150 students are currently enrolled at Masonic Home and School
- 175 students could currently be served
- 2% of the home's revenue comes from Masonic dues
- 68% of the home's revenue comes from various donations
- 5 years of financial commitment by each Texas Mason would ensure the continued success and longevity of Masonic Home and School

– Mike Gower Board Member



asonic Home and School of Texas financially cares for and supports more than 30 Masonic widows who reside at the Texas Masonic Retirement Center. Resident Jerry Blauvelt puts a face on this special place.

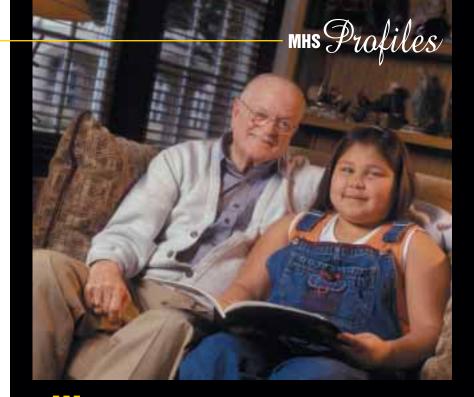
Mrs. Blauvelt has been a Texas Masonic Retirement Center resident since her husband, a 52-year Mason from San Saba Lodge No. 612, passed away. Jerry and her husband used to visit friends at the center and decided then that it would be a good place to live if the need ever arose.

Mrs. Blauvelt especially appreciates the fellowship, activities and even the food provided at the center. And she finds the on-site medical clinic and nursing home extremely comforting to her peace-of-mind. She stays busy and active with daily walks through the center's grounds, reading material from the center's own library, and various group activities with other residents.

Mrs. Blauvelt is active in her long-time local church, and every Sunday one of her family members takes her on a special outing. But a self-confessed "homebody," she is always happy to return to the place she now lovingly calls home.

"I can't say enough good things about this place," she says. "I am very thankful that the Lord has put me here for the rest of my life."

voung people."



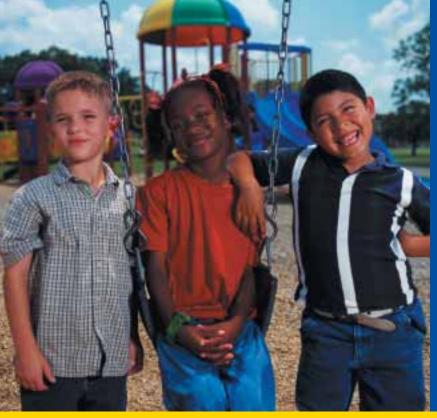
hat goes around comes around. That old cliché just about sums up Norman Strange's weekly Wednesday morning activity. From the age of 5 until his graduation, Norman was a resident of Masonic Home and School. As an adult, he is now a regular volunteer at the home. Each week, he can be found working with his young reading partner, Maria. He believes in the importance of reading skills and sees reading as the basis for all academic education. So his volunteer work as a reading partner is a cause that's close to his heart. "It always makes me feel good to see Maria accomplishing more and more. Her test scores continue to improve," he says. "And besides, it's like old home week every time I come here."

As a child, Norman says that he felt he was part of a very caring and warm environment. He knows firsthand the depth of Masonic Home and School's interest in the well-being of children. "The atmosphere at the home is open, kind and reassuring to the children. It's an environment that helps instill confidence and self-esteem," he says.

As someone whose life was improved by the home, Norman is dedicated to seeing it thrive for future generations. "With the shrinkage of the number of Masons in Texas, it presents a constant problem to house and educate the children of Masonic Home and School. It takes more than once-a-year giving - a constant monthly gift from all members who can afford such is what's needed. The programs of the home and school need to continue. It is important to pledge to give what you can," he implores fellow Masons.

"There is no doubt in my mind that we have no choice but to continue to invest in our greatest resource, the

Your Help Will Bring 1010



You can't put a price tag on the worth of a child's life. But the actual cost of providing a secure, stable learning and living environment for a child at Masonic Home and School of Texas is small. For as little as \$500 per year for the next five years, you can change the course of a child's life.

Part of your Masonic responsibility is to help care for children in need. Fulfill your responsibility while building the dreams and futures of Texas children. The help you give will become the hope they have.

Dollars and cents will come and go. But the mark you leave on the world and the mark each child leaves on the world will live forever.

Leave a legacy that will impact young life after young life. Make a commitment today to Masonic Home and School of Texas, and make a commitment to our collective future.

Donate Today



Just make a commitment to give \$500 or more a year for the next five years.

Use the enclosed envelope to choose from several payment options: a personal check, a credit card charge (MasterCard, VISA, Discover or Amex) or a monthly bank draft. If your company has a matching gift program, you can obtain a form from them and send it to Masonic Home and School along with your check. Consider making Masonic Home and School of Texas a permanent part of your giving legacy through your will or long-range estate plans. For more information, please call Masonic Home and School of Texas at toll-free 1.877.531.9300. Follow these simple instructions to improve children's lives now and in the future.

MASONIC HOME HIGH SCHOOL

Jason Bean



Shaun Brown

Introducing The Class of 2002

"Through the efforts of Masonic Home and School, children will have the opportunity to lead a productive life, and many will become our leaders of tomorrow. Let it be known that my special interest and pride for this Home and School does not end with my retirement from the Board.

I shall continue to support this great charitable institution financially and by word and deed, and I would urge all Texas Masons and interested parties to do the same."

– Sam E. Hilburn Former Board Member



Mark Partridge



Jonathan Niles



David Cummins



Pacer Hughes



Christol Jones



Abe Moreno



Rosemary Nguyen

State Fair II in Beaukiss May 11

"Yall come" was the invitation issued by the Masons of Central Texas led by members of Post Oak Island Lodge No. 181 in beautiful downtown Beaukiss, Texas last year for a day of fun benefiting the Masonic Home & School.

Literally hundreds of Masons, their wives, families and friends did just that. They came and the country lodge in a community without a single resident Mason did very well. Through food sales, carnival-style amusements, and an antique and collectibles auction, the 63-member host lodge presented a check for \$20,000 to MH&S board chairman R.W. Joseph Regian.

The call has gone out again to lodges throughout the state to participate with a food or arts and crafts booth and to individual Masons to provide valuable auction materials. All proceeds go directly to the MH&S.

Festivities begin at 10 a.m. at the lodge, just off State Hwy. 619 between Taylor and Elgin. Details and directions may be obtained by calling A.W. "Archie" Scott at (512) 926-4420.

This year, on May 11, the word is: "Y'all come back now ... you hear?"

Masonic Oak Picnic In Brazoria May 19

The 53rd annual Masonic Oak Reunion and Picnic will be held on the grounds of Masonic Oak Park in Brazoria the Sunday after Mother's Day.

Devotional services begin at 10 a.m. followed by a short program and a catered barbecue lunch.

Come for a great day of Masonic reunion, remembrance, and don't forget to bring a lawn chair.

Tom Land, 1922 - 2002

Past Grand Master Tom Land passed away Sunday, Feb. 24, following a long illness.

Born Aug. 6, 1922, in Krum, he and two brothers and two sisters became residents of the Masonic Home and School, following the death of his father. While at the Home and School, he was a member of the "Mighty Mites" football team and participated in various sports and academic activities. His freshman and sophomore years in college were spent at SMU in Dallas, with financial assistance coming from the L.A. Pires Scholarship Fund of Dallas.

During World War II, he served as a staff sergeant with the 84th Infantry Division in Europe. He was captured by the Germans and held in a prison camp until the end of the war. After three and a half years in the U.S. Army, he transferred to North Texas University in Denton and received a bachelor of science degree in 1948 and a master of science degree in 1949.

Returning to Fort Worth, he became associated with the State Life Insurance Company. A successful businessman, he was past president and member of the board of directors of the Fort Worth Association of Life Underwriters, past national and state committeeman of the Association of Life Underwriters: life member of the Texas Leaders Round Table and a National Quality Award winner for 17 consecutive years. In civic activities, he was a life and charter member and past president of the Sertoma International Club; past president of the Masonic Home Ex-Students Association of Texas; trustee and secretary of the McCaulay Memorial Masonic Foundation and a member of the Texas Golden Gloves Double "G" Club.

PGM Land is survived by wife Sylvia Ann and two children, David Michael Land and Susan Kay Land.

Raised in Polytechnic Lodge No. 925 in 1946, he served as Worshipful Master in 1964-65. He received his



Tom LandGrand Master of Masons in Texas, 1981

Chapter and Council Degrees in Polytechnic Chapter and Council. He was also a member of Worth Commandery No. 19, Moslah Shrine Temple, the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Bodies, and Polytechnic Chapter No.420, Order of the Eastern Star. He was honored as a member of the St. Timothy Conclave Red Cross of Constantine. He was also a holder of the DeMolay Legion of Honor

He served the Grand Lodge of Texas as chairman of the Masonic Graduate Advisory Committee from 1970 to 1977. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic Dist. 64-A in 1973-74. In 1977, he was elected Grand Junior Warden and progressed to serve as Grand Master in 1981. He had the distinction of being the third Texas Grand Master to be a graduate of the Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth

Religious and Masonic services for Past Grand Master Land were conducted on Feb. 29, with burial in Fort Worth.



DeMolay State Master Councilor Raised in Albert Pike Lodge

SAN ANTONIO — Douglas Van Griner (right), State Master the Councilor of Texas DeMolay, received his Master Mason's Degree on Jan. 28, 2002, in Albert Pike Lodge No.1169 in San Antonio. Grand Master Michael D. Nanny performed the lecture and apron presentation. The register read like a Who's Who of Texas DeMolay.





GARRETTS BLUFF — Grand Master Michael D. Nanny presents Roan Oak Lodge No. 860 Worshipful Master Ben F. Mooring, the lodge's centennial certificate.

Appel inducted into Consumer Electronics Hall of Fame

FORT WORTH — Bernard "Bernie" Appel has joined the ranks of such notables as Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas Edison by being inducted into the Consumer Electronics Hall of Fame.



Bernard Appel

Referred to in business circles as "Mr. Radio Shack," he helped guide the Fort Worth-based electronics business into a Fortune 500 company. Much of that growth came from innovative consumer-oriented electronic designs.

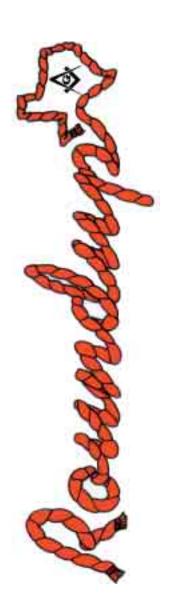
Brother Appel is a member of Tabernacle Lodge No. 1195.

Scot ritualists perform MM degree for Waxahachie sesquicentennial



WAXAHACHIE — Nineteen Scottish Masons from the Glasgow-area accepted an invitation to help Waxahachie Lodge No. 90 celebrate its sesquicentennial in January. During their visit they exemplified a Scottish Master Masons Degree under the sponsorship of Waxahachie Lodge and Sam P. Cochran Lodge No. 1335 and an Entered Apprentice Degree at Arlington Lodge No. 438. Over 400 Masons attended the Master Masons Degree exemplification. The traveling brethren, representing eight Scottish lodges, were housed at a reduced rate, at the former Eastern Star Home in Arlington during their stay.







Three generations of Masonic leaders join PGM Fred E. Allen during an official visit to Temple Lodge No. 70 in Mount Pleasant. Right Worshipful Joel C. Conroy, DDGM Masonic District 6 (left), visited his home lodge in the presence of his grandfather, John O. Conroy, and his father, John A. Conroy (right). John O. Conroy, a Master Mason for 54 years, was DDGM in 1971. His son, John A. Conroy, a Master Mason since 1970, was DDGM in 1977. "The Conroy family has been an influence in Masonry in Titus County and Temple Lodge for over 50 years," says PGM Allen.



Butch Harrison (center), Senior Deacon of Frio Lodge No. 399 in Pearsall, was a happy Mason when both of his sons, Seith and John, became Master Masons. The brothers took their degrees concurrently and examined each other after Dad taught them their work.



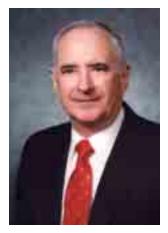
Grand Master Michael D. Nanny presents a special certificate and recognition pin to E. Mays Osborne, an 85-year member of Plainview Lodge No. 709. Bro. Osborne, 105, became a Mason in Pine Hill, Rusk County, when he turned 21 and has been a member of Plainview Lodge since 1925. He also holds the distinction of being the oldest living WWI veteran in Hale County.



From the Grand Secretary Editor's notes

To the Secretaries:

One of the topics in the Grand Master's Conference currently being held throughout Texas deals with the importance of conducting thorough investigations of the individuals seeking admission into Freemasonry. This vital issue has been addressed in this column on more than one occasion, and has been a recurring theme since the beginning of Freemasonry. In May 1994, Grand Master Claude L. Austin cautioned, "It is highly important that the investigating committees be extremely careful and thoroughly investigate the character, reputation and moral qualifications of each petitioner." He further stated, "We should not be interested in numbers, but should be deeply interested in conferring our degrees only on men of outstanding character who...will



James D. Ward **Grand Secretary**

become the exemplars and reflect honor and credit as Freemasons."

For many years, a petitioner for the degrees had to reside in Texas and within the jurisdiction of a lodge for one year prior to his petition. Today, the residence requirements are only six months and the judgment as to a person's character and moral qualifications can hardly be judged by the last six months or even one year of his life. This could place an additional burden upon the investigating committee to look beyond the past six months, or one year, especially if the individual has relocated frequently.

A thorough investigation, or lack of same, can have a long term impact upon a lodge, especially now that less than a unanimous ballot is required for election. As an example, the two most essential elements in establishing the most favorable environment in which Masons may best work and best agree is "Peace and Harmony." Consider then, if a petitioner is elected by less than a unanimous ballot, it is highly probable that friction or even animosity already exists, which is detrimental to the peace and harmony of the lodge. The importance of a complete and thorough investigation then is elevated from the level of being desirable, or significant, to being absolutely essential.

Our Grand Master is to be commended for reminding us all of this highly important matter and to exercise the utmost caution in guarding the entrance of Freemasonry.

Sincerely and fraternally,

James D. Ward **Grand Secretary**

Despite the diligent efforts of several eagle-eyed proof readers, there were errors in the last issue of The Texas Mason that should be corrected.

The key to the City of Waco (Page 7) was presented by Judge and Bro. Tom Gray, Justice of the 10th

Court of Appeals.

W. Grand Persuivant Brian Dodson's photo was inadvertently left out of the Grand Officer layout.

We regret these errors and thank those individuals for their gracious understanding.



Brian Dodson Grand Persuivant

Submissions to The Texas Mason are always welcome. However, we are unable to use digital photo prints from bubblejet printers or screened photos from newspapers. Please send clear color photos, printed on glossy paper. If submitting digital photos, please send high-resolution images on diskette or CD-ROM in either JPEG or TIFF format along with full identifications and information about the event. Send only duplicate copies as submissions cannot be returned. Submission of photos and/or stories is considered permission to publish and a waiver of any claim to copyright.

— Editor

New Vanguard Award Changes for 2003

Current Vanguard Award requirements will change for 2003 as they are brought in line with the Masonic calendar. These changes will become effective as of July 2002.

Prepare your lodge to take up the challenge in 2003. Visit http://www.gltexas.org/ vanguard to see the changes that will take effect in July 2002 for receiving the award in 2003. Those details will also be published in the next issue of The Texas Mason and have been furnished to each lodge secretary.

Qty. Description	Price Each	Total		
521MDN Lapel Pin	5.00			
521MDNC Ladies Charm	5.00			
542MDN Ladies Necklace	10.00			
520MDN Bronze Coin	3.00			
524MDNEC Enamel Coin	6.00			
525MDNSC Silver Coin	25.00			
526MDN Large Belt Buck	de 30.00			
522MDN Small Belt Buck	de 25.00			
543MDN Note Pad	3.00			
544MDN Monthly Planner	r 3.00			
523MDNEB Enamel Bolo	Tie 10.00			
532MDN Tie Chain	10.00			
536MDNCuff Links	10.00			
538MDN 2B1 ASK 1Stick	xer* 1.00			
539MDN Money Clip	10.00			
528MDN Logo Sticker	1.00			
529MDN Decals for Tail Li	ght (pr) 3.00			
537MDN License Frame	4.00			
536MDNG Cap, grey/roya				
536MDNM Cap, maroon/i	navy 10.00			
533MDNG Shirt, grey/blk	trim 30.00			
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Grand Lodge Jewelry 2002











Make checks payable to: The Grand Lodge of Texas. Visa or MasterCard orders must include card number, name as it appears on card and expiration date. Prices include state sales tax, as applicable. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

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James D. Ward, Grand Secretary P.O. Box 446 Waco, TX 76703-0446









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Credit card number and expiration date (VISA OR MASTERCARD, ONLY)

First Lady's pins to benefit MH&S

Texas Masonry's First Lady, Mrs. Sheri Nanny, has announced that proceeds from the sale of her beautiful 2002 Sun Pin benefit the Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth. The pin is available at the jewelry table at Masonic events around the state, or by mail.

Please specify color: Blue, Maroon, Black, White, Purple, Orange or Green.

By mail, pins are \$13.00 each. (Includes sales tax, postage and handling.)



Order the 2002 First Lady's Pin only from:

Bill Hale P.O. Box 2887 Cedar Hill, TX 75106



By your purchase of these pins, the light of hope will give strength and knowledge to the children of Texas. — Sheri Nanny

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