

SUL ROSS MASONIC
 LODGE NO. 1300
 A.F. & A.M.
 COLLEGE STATION,
 TEXAS
 CHARTERED 1947

Sul Ross Lodge News



Volume 30, Issue 4

Spring 2012

Special points of interest:

- Masonic Night with the Bombers on June 9th call or email Chance Robinson for tickets
- Several brethren recently honored for service to the fraternity
- Lodge remains busy with degree work
- Sweetheart Dinner a success

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FROM THE EAST

BY BROTHER BOBBY ROGGENBUCK, MASTER

Brethren:

As this Masonic year comes to a close, I want to thank you for such a great opportunity to serve Sul Ross Lodge as Master this year. This year has been a busy and exciting and there is still more to come. We have participated in the Fantastic Teeth program, held our annual Sweetheart Banquet, and in June, we will again have a Masonic Night with the Bombers.

We have seen many young men join this great fraternity and have climbed the mountain to be raised as a Master Mason. Each of them, have been instrumental in assisting the lodge in our various degrees. It is a great feeling to see such a young generation eager to learn and willing to participate. I am proud of the work each of them have put in and grateful to call them my brothers.

For the second year in a row,



Sul Ross Lodge had the privilege of presenting three 65 year Masonic Service Awards at the January and February Stated Communications. (L-R) W.: Bro. Bobby Roggenbuck, Bro. Doyle Moore, Bro. Bill Ravey, Bro. Jim Stocker, and R.:W.: Bro. Jay Meador.

the Brazos Valley Bombers Baseball Club will have a Masonic Night with the Bombers. This will be a great opportunity for all masons and their families to come together for fellowship. Dinner will be served, followed by the baseball game. It should be a good time for all.

An American flag was presented

to Sul Ross Lodge at our March Stated Meeting. Brother Jeff Williford had this flag flown over the United States Capitol on September 11th 2011 and then at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, where he was stationed, on March 2nd 2012, Texas Independence Day.

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CIRCUMAMBULATION

BY PHILLIP L. GOLDSTEIN AND ATTILIO G. PARISI

The word "circumambulation" is a compounded derivative from the two Latin words, circum, which means "round about", and ambulare, which means "to walk". From the first word come such terms as: circumnavigate, circumscribe, circumspect, and circumlocution;

while from the second word come such terms as: amble, ambulance, and ambulatory. The compounded word means "to walk around."

As a rite, it has come to mean a formal ceremony, usually a procession around an altar or holy, consecrated object. It was uni-

versally prevalent among the ancient peoples. More often than not, it alluded to the sun. Sun worshipers, like most of the primitives, worshiped the natural elements. This is readily understandable when one considers that their very lives were

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Bro. Mike Knox and the Humber 1 ton Pig near Wimberley, Texas.

**Sua Tela
Tonanti means
"To the Warrior
his Arms"**



"Fetch Phoenix" ... or was that "Fetch Felix"

A SURPRISING FIND IN TEXAS

Brother Mike Knox is visiting Texas from the UK and belongs to the United Grand Lodge of England, Lodge #8003, Sua Tela Tonanti, the Lodge of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (RAOC) of the British Army. He was Initiated in September 1999 and Raised in 2007. He served 22 years in the British Army, mostly as an Ammunition Technician and finished as a Warrant Officer Class 1, the highest rank achievable without being commissioned. The motto Sua Tela Tonanti means "To the Warrior his Arms". The RAOC merged with a number of other Corps – the Pioneers, The Catering Corps, the Royal Corps of Transport and the Post and Courier personnel of the Corps of Royal Engineers to form the Royal Logistic Corps on 5th April 1993. The motto lives on in the new Corps.

In WWII and beyond when there was no radio voice encryption British Army units were known by other names to disguise their role. For example, the Royal Artillery was known as "Shell Drake", the Royal Corps of Transport as "Playtime" and the RAOC was "Rickshaw". During the Northern Ireland Troubles starting in the late 1960s, Bomb

Disposal Teams from the RAOC were deployed to form 321 EOD Unit, later as 321 EOD Company. As the IRA and later the PIRA bombing campaign intensified there were more and more calls for "Rickshaw" meaning a response from the Bomb Disposal Teams. As a result, radio traffic was modified so that "Rickshaw" represented normal logistic matters and "Phoenix" call sign was allocated to the Bomb Disposal Teams, typically with a radio call of "Fetch Phoenix".

The story goes that one day there was a request for Phoenix and the young signaller misheard his officer and thought that he said "Felix". And so the legend was born. From that point all requests for Bomb Disposal Teams were known as Felix Requests.

The name seemed appropriate since the EOD Operators seemingly had nine lives like the famous cat. A series of cartoons were created by one of the staff and normally showed the cat, now dressed in Urban Ops helmet and Flak Jacket looking surprised or bemused. His image was adopted as the logo of the unit and then adorned the unit vehicles. Mike served in 321 EOD Com-

pany in 1982 as an Assistant EOD Operator or "Number 2". Teams were known by names like Bobcat, Bear Cat and the senior EOD Officer was known as Topcat. He served from 1987-1989 as an EOD operator and was awarded the George Medal for Gallantry.

Now some 40 years later....

On a trip to Austin and the surrounding countryside Mike was driving towards the town of Wimberley where, outside a gun shop, he spotted an Armoured Personnel Carrier, commonly known as the Humber 1 ton Pig, used by the British Army. As he approached he was very surprised to see the Felix logo adorning the doors and front of the vehicle and had to stop to investigate. It is possible that this was the vehicle that Mike used to drive in when responding with his team to Felix Requests. Investigations will continue

It is hard to say which one of the two has withstood the ravages of time better. At least Mike is working; the present condition of the vehicle is unknown.

Newsflash: The Gun Barn has now closed and the Pig has now disappeared.

FROM THE WEST

BY BROTHER CHANCE M. ROBINSON, SENIOR WARDEN

Brethren:

I recently read the March-April edition of the Scottish Rite Journal and I was struck by the message of Sovereign Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale, and more especially a prayer penned by Bro. and Rev. Karl D. Schimpf, who serves as the Grand Prior of the Supreme Council, NMJ:

"Forgive us O God, for everything that spoils our witness to the good lessons of our fraternity when we deny with our lives what we say with our lips. Forgive us for the difference between our creed and our conduct, our profession and our practice, for the times when we make it easier for people to criticize our Craft. Strengthen us in these days together that our

delight might be in your statutes to the end that we may go from here to live more nearly as we ought. With new vision and courage may we nurture that form of living which will receive your blessing. Amen. So mote it be."

I say this message spoke to me because it gave me cause to

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Sul Ross Lodge was chartered in 1947, and is thought to be the first known Masonic Lodge to have functioned on the campus of a state college or university in the United States. A unique feature of the new lodge was that among its members were the president of Texas A&M College, all of the deans, and almost all of the department heads. The sizeable number of college administrators who were Master Masons provided impetus to the growth of the new lodge which created almost 100 new masons during its first year of existence. In 1951 Sul Ross Lodge purchased the Dan Russell building at 312 Jersey Street (now Bush Street. It was sold in 2000.

LOCAL CALENDAR OF MASONIC EVENTS

MAY 2012

5	Sat.	Grand Master's Conference	Masonic Temple	10:00 a.m.	Fort Worth
7	Mon.	FC Exam / MM Degree	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
8	Tues.	Visit Patrick Lodge #359 (Franklin)	Meet at BVMLM	5:30 p.m.	
14	Mon.	Stated Communication	BVMLM	5:30 p.m.	College Station
19	Sat.	Waco Scottish Rite Reunion	Lee Lockwood SRLM	7:30 a.m.	Waco
21	Mon.	EA Exam / FC Degree	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
28	Mon.	Memorial Day	Lodge Dark		

JUNE 2012

4	Mon.	FC Exam / MM Degree	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
9	Sat.	Masonic Lodge Night at the Ballpark	BVB Ballpark	6:00 p.m.	Bryan
11	Mon.	Stated Communication (<i>Officer Elections</i>)	BVMLM	5:30 p.m.	College Station
18	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
24	Sun.	St. John the Baptist's Day			
25	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station

JULY 2012

2	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
4	Wed.	Independence Day			
9	Mon.	Stated Communication	BVMLM	5:30 p.m.	College Station
14	Sat.	Officer Installation (tentative)	BVMLM	4:00 p.m.	College Station
16	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
18	Wed.	District 29 MWSA Meeting	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
23	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
28	Sat.	Houston Scottish Rite Reunion Lodge of Perfection Degrees (4-14°)	Holland Lodge	8:30 a.m.	Houston
30	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
31	Tues.	Family Fun Night and Potluck Supper	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station

AUGUST 2012

6	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
13	Mon.	Stated Communication	BVMLM	5:30 p.m.	College Station
20	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station
25	Sat.	Ritual Forum and Exam	Masonic Temple	9:00 a.m.	Bryan
27	Mon.	Floor School	BVMLM	6:30 p.m.	College Station

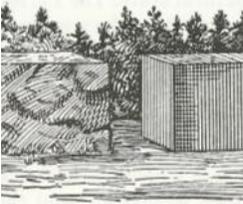


**Masonic Night
with the
Bombers on
June 9th
purchase your
baseball tickets
from Chance
Robinson by
calling 979-676-
2487**



Brother Doyle Moore received a 65 year Masonic Service Award at the January Stated Communication. Pictured (L-R) are: W.: Bro. Bobby Roggenbuck, Bro. Doyle Moore, and R.: W.: Bro. C. Thomas Payne II, PM.

MOVABLE JEWELS



The rough and perfect ashlar serve as reminders that we might work to shed those vices and superfluities present in our lives.

“By the Rough Ashlar we are reminded of our rude and imperfect state by nature; by the Perfect Ashlar of that state of perfection at which we hope to arrive, by a virtuous education, our own endeavors, and the blessing of God...”



Bro. Roy Smith and Omid Rahmani after being raised to the sublime degree.

(Continued from page 2)

reflect back upon how often I fall short, how often my actions in word, deed, or thought do not reflect the words which I so frequently recite in tiled lodge. Brother Rob Jones, suggests that “Our job as Masons is to look at our negativity with a critical and discerning eye.” He further states that, “We must identify as many of our dark traits as possible, then we must figure out why we do what we do...” That is not to say that we should be critical of ourselves, but critical of our negative actions and traits, more especially those actions and thoughts seen and heard only by our Creator. And that through prayer and patience we might live in our daily lives the tenets of our fraternity.

But why all this discussion of falling short, are we not ever present in an imperfect world? Well yes, and could we not receive the answers and teachings of how to live a righteous life through careful study of the

Holy Scriptures? Well yes, but it is in Masonry that we may experience brotherhood that is unlike the profane imperfect world. A fraternity where brotherly love, relief, and truth are its principal tenets, and ignorance, fanaticism, and intolerance serve as its chief enemies. While countless Masons live daily a righteous life without the frequent interactions which might be found at an occasional lodge meeting, I believe that it is through those interactions and discussions not only with the outer world, but with your brethren at lodge that make us better men and a better fraternity. In other words through our associations with likeminded brethren, we are better equipped to improve ourselves, our family, and our world.

As Freemasons, I trust that this is a journey in which each of us have and continue to travel upon, but I hope that this message is not one of scolding, but that it is understood as a message which might cause each of

us to smooth one of those rough and superfluous parts of our rough ashlar.

In closing it is truly a pleasure to serve our lodge, to interact with my brethren, and to learn through you and with you. We are truly an active thriving lodge, but as a lodge we need each and every member who is able within his means to participate; this will improve the lodge, it will show our newest brethren the importance of our fraternity, and more importantly you will be strengthened and encouraged through those interactions as will your brethren.

“Finally, brethren, be ye all of one mind; live in peace, and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you.”

Faternally,

Chance M. Robinson

Senior Warden, Sul Ross Lodge

OUR NEWEST MASTER MASONS

Congratulations are due to several of our brethren who recently have been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason and we also thank there instructors and mentors who have led them thus far.

Brother Omid Rahmani was raised on Tuesday, February 28, 2012. His instructor is Brother Roy Smith.

Brother Decebal Marin was raised on Monday, March 5, 2012. His instructor is Brother Rusty Farquhar.

Brother Nathan Teinert was raised on Monday, March 19, 2012. His instructor was Brother Roy Smith and Brother Adam Helms.

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Photo taken following the raising of Bro. Beaty to the sublime degree. Pictured (Front L-R) are Bro. Decebal Marin, Tom Fritz, Gary Beaty, Chance Robinson, Omid Rahmani, (Back L-R) Brian Wilkey, W.: Bro. Bobby Roggenbuck, Justin Meyer, and Rusty Farquhar.



Three of our newest Master Masons at the Sweetheart Dinner on February 13. (L-R) Bro. Decebal Marin, Omid Rahmani, and Mike Riser. Bro. Riser, a TAMU student and senior member of the Aggie Corps of Cadets was taught by Bro. Rusty Farquhar as a courtesy to George West Lodge No. 1129.

(Continued from page 4)

Brother Gary Beaty was raised on Monday, March 26, 2012. His instructor was Brother Tom Fritz.

It should be pointed out that Brother Fritz has been a Master Mason for less than one year and in that time has found time to improve his ritual proficiency and instruct a fellow brother in the art and science of our mystic order.

One of the beauties of our lodge is that so many of our newest brethren are busy working in the quarries, and yet there is a place for other brethren to participate not only through the ritual, but through your attendance and words of encouragement to your fellow brothers.



Bro. Tom Fritz and Gary Beaty after being raised to the sublime degree.

ANNUAL SWEETHEART DINNER HELD RECENTLY



Bro. Raymond Burt and his sweetheart.

On Monday, February 13th, Sul Ross Lodge honored our sweethearts and the widows of our deceased brethren at the annual Sweetheart Dinner prior to our Stated Communication. We also recognized several of our brethren upon the occasion of serving our fraternity for 65 years, these brothers include Bro. Doyle Moore, Bill Ravey, and Jim Stocker.

This was also the occasion that we were to receive R.:W.: Jay Meador for his official visit to Sul Ross Lodge. R.:W.: Meador however did not travel alone, he was joined by his lovely bride and a puppet friend. RW Meador entertained the crowd with his ventriloquy. The entertainment and special presentations were followed by the stated communication.

If you were unable to attend we hope to see you next year.



R.:W.: Bro. Jay Meador and his traveling companion.



Bro. Bill Ravey and his sweetheart.



Our honored ladies received a red rose from the brethren.

“One of the beauties of our lodge is that so many of our newest brethren are busy working in the quarries...”



Brother Roy Smith and his sweetheart.



Lawrence Sullivan Ross—1838-1898 Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman, Brig. General C.S.A., Governor of Texas, President of AMC

“The three steps delineated upon the Master’s carpet are emblematical of the three principal stages of human life, youth, manhood and old age.”

UPCOMING BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

MAY

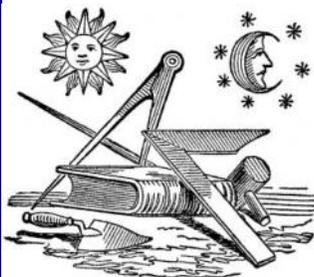
3	Hugh L. Carnahan	11	Justin D Curtsinger	24	W Jay Matush
5	Durwood Speights	11	Kurt R Thormahlen	25	Andrew L Sikes
5	Robert D. Eller II	13	M Christopher Perkins	26	Jimmy D Boswell
6	Leslie C Clifton	16	Carl D Seiter Jr	27	John B Vittrup
7	Robert C White	18	James L Shelton	28	Michael P Becket
8	Ronald G Claiborne	21	R Ryan Hogan	29	Donald F Simons
9	Travid G Normand	22	Frank J Klein	31	Raymond E Burt Jr.
9	J David Williams	22	Steven M Singer		
10	Sam H Neuman	23	D Samuel Balch		

JUNE

4	Trevor N Jones	10	Adam J Helms	16	James B Pruden
5	John T Drennan	12	James G Hutchinson	19	Laurence H Potts Jr
6	Doyle L Moore	12	Joel Latham	19	Lawrence D Romine Jr
6	Caleb W Williams	12	Decebal A Marin	19	Robert B Sanders
7	R Frederick Hunter	13	Billy L May	24	Thomas A Gilbreath
7	Henry W Ince	15	Thomas W Dew III	24	Robert L Nichols
8	Ronald R Day	15	R Fletcher Massie	25	Blaine A Joseph
9	C Lynn Colson	15	Allen D McCord IV	26	James B Akin
9	Alan L Miller	16	James Eller		

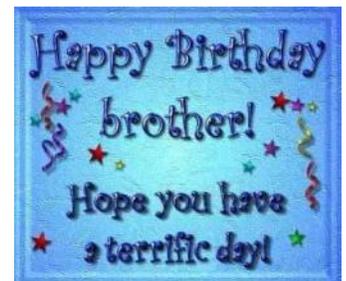
JULY

1	Richard J Stephenson	13	Stanley G Seffert	25	Curtis N Lancaster
2	Sean M Hanley	17	Richard H Bonds	27	Robert E Epps
4	Ryan J Ussery	17	Zachary S Elewitz	27	Roger A Fuller
5	Guy L Moody	19	William J Cross	27	Damon L Drinnon
6	James M Mann	20	Aaron D Gibbs	28	Robert S Adams
6	Charles A McLaran	20	Justin E McKown	29	Owen D West
8	John W Dutch	22	Robert A Garner Jr	29	Marco Valli
9	Horace W Vancleave	24	Matthew A Beyers	30	Omid Rahmani
11	John A Branch	25	Thomas F Griffin	31	Albert Rollins
12	Brian T Rhoades	25	Robert Hase Jr		



Brethren please keep our service men and women in your prayers when on bended knee. Sul Ross Lodge brethren are serving in our armed forces across the globe.

- Bro. Josh Flye (a new endowed member) has left Air Force Active Duty and is now flying the Air Force C-17 with the Alaska National Guard in Anchorage, AK.
- Bro. Scott Lassiter and Chance Schrutka are currently in Charleston preparing for duty as Submarine officers in the USN



MASTER MASON ANNIVERSARIES

MAY

<p>3 Paul D Beckingham (1983)</p> <p>4 Thomas F Griffin (1978)</p> <p>6 Joseph R D'agostino Jr (2008)</p> <p>7 Weldon D Nanson (2007)</p> <p>8 J David Williams (1985)</p> <p>9 R Conrad Eckard (1959)</p> <p>9 James R Snell (1995)</p> <p>10 James F Slowey III (1995)</p> <p>12 Jeffrey D Antal (2009)</p> <p>13 Gary D Simmons (1983)</p> <p>14 Alexander P Gogulski (2002)</p>	<p>16 Brian M Wilkey (2011)</p> <p>17 Harry C August (1952)</p> <p>18 Robert Hase Jr (1967)</p> <p>19 Alfred E Cullins Sr (1959)</p> <p>20 Thomas A Gilbreath (1960)</p> <p>20 C Montel Rutledge (2002)</p> <p>21 Raymond C Freeman (1951)</p> <p>21 Lawrence D Romine Jr (1968)</p> <p>21 Michael D Gerst (2001)</p> <p>21 Charles C E Garrett (2011)</p> <p>22 Ralph E Ohland (2006)</p>	<p>23 Jimmie McMahan (1957)</p> <p>23 Kenneth D Loveless (1973)</p> <p>23 Charles L Robertson Jr (1995)</p> <p>23 Caleb W Williams (2011)</p> <p>24 Robert S Cohen (1982)</p> <p>28 Dan C Bonds (2002)</p> <p>30 Michael D Nanny (1979)</p> <p>30 Michael A Decuir (1995)</p> <p>31 Curtis N Lancaster (1967)</p>
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JUNE

<p>2 Frank J Klein (1973)</p> <p>5 John B Hopkins (1976)</p> <p>5 Douglas V Porter (1995)</p> <p>6 Bill J Ravey (1947)</p> <p>7 Justin M Meyer (2010)</p> <p>8 Brian T Rhoades (2010)</p>	<p>11 Cecil T Fields (1966)</p> <p>11 Kent J Fuselier (1994)</p> <p>11 John E Baquet (2002)</p> <p>18 Ryan A Bareilles (2007)</p> <p>19 Justin K Trahan (2006)</p> <p>21 Albert Rollins (1954)</p>	<p>27 Adam J Helms (2006)</p> <p>28 Alan L Miller (2004)</p> <p>29 Thomas W Comstock (1953)</p> <p>29 H Dwayne Credor (2009)</p> <p>30 J Robson Eby (1999)</p>
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JULY

<p>5 James G Hutchinson (1955)</p> <p>5 James D Ingram III (1956)</p> <p>5 Charles M Sneed (1971)</p> <p>7 Scott W Bratsen (2008)</p> <p>9 Robert E Epps (1953)</p> <p>13 Michael L Epps (1994)</p> <p>18 Charles W Harrison (1990)</p> <p>18 Robert D Tucker (1990)</p>	<p>19 Sean M Hanley (2000)</p> <p>19 John P Cordova V (2010)</p> <p>20 Durwood Speights (1967)</p> <p>20 Sean D McCarroll (2009)</p> <p>22 Johnny Ingram (1965)</p> <p>23 R Fletcher Massie (2007)</p> <p>24 J David Giles (1958)</p> <p>25 Alfred J Lehtonen II (1995)</p>	<p>26 Trevor N Jones (2010)</p> <p>27 James D Robbins (2009)</p> <p>29 James Eller (1963)</p> <p>29 Marco Valli (2002)</p> <p>30 Eugene B Smith (1956)</p> <p>30 Shane P Bush (2001)</p>
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Crest of Clan Ross. Sprig of evergreen held aloft. Motto: Success Nourishes Hope

“... be true and faithful, and imitate the example of that celebrated artist whom you have this evening represented.”



Stained glass depiction of our Ancient Grand Master drawing his designs upon the tres-



“Texas is emphatically a masonic Country. Our National Emblem, The Lone Star, was chosen from among the emblems selected by Freemasonry to illustrate the five moral virtues. It is a five pointed star, and alludes to the five points of fellowship”.

- George K. Teulon, Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas 1844



The ancients followed the course of the sun in their rites, walking from east to south to west to north and so forth. That is, they rotated to the right.

“Walk about Zion, and go round about her; tell the towns thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following. For this God is our God for ever and ever; He will be our guide even unto death.” - Psalm 48



Pythagoras of Samos
(abt 570 – 495 BC)

(Continued from page 1)

dependent upon such phenomena as the sun, moon, stars, wind, rain, and thunder with lightning. Unable to explain or understand the elements, these people regarded them as supernatural entities and deified them. Early man literally found God in nature. The sun, providing light and heat, kept the wild beasts away, assisted man to overcome his natural enemies, and grew his crops. Thus, in terms of protection and sustenance, the sun represented Life, itself. Fire, which also provided light and heat, came to be accepted as the symbol of the sun or God. Therefore, it was placed upon the sacred altar. There, it represented God's presence. Thunder was regarded as His voice; lightning, His weapon; and the wind, His breath. In their religious ceremony of circumambulation, the Sun worshipers followed the course of the sun, walking from east to south to west to north and so forth. That is, they rotated to the right.

We read in the 48th Psalm, “Walk about Zion, and go round about her; tell the towns thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following. For this God is our God for ever and ever; He will be our guide even unto death.”

In the Old Testament we read that the children of Israel circled the walls of Jericho for seven days and on the seventh day the wall fell.

In ancient Greece, when the priests were engaged in the rite of sacrifice, they and the people always walked three times around the altar singing a sacred hymn. Sometimes, the people formed a circle around the altar, thus constituting “a point within a circle,” while the priests walked around to the

right sprinkling meal and holy water on the altar. The Greeks called this ceremony “from the right to the right”. The priests of Apollo at Delos changed, “We imitate the example of the sun and follow his benevolent course.”

The Romans, following the pattern of the Greeks, called this processional rite, “destrovarsum” or “dextrorsum”, meaning toward the right or of the right, that is, rightward. Plautus, a Roman playwright, said in a play, “If you would do reverence to the gods, you must turn to the right hand.”

Circumambulation was virtually always accompanied by singing or chanting of a sacred ode. The Pindaric ode consisted of three stanzaic divisions in each section, – the strophe, antistrophe, and the epode. The Romans adopted and transmitted the same general custom. It is not surprising, therefore, that many religious ceremonies and fraternal rites include the recitation of the Scripture or chant as they practice the procession of circumambulation. The Romans always used circumambulation in their rites of sacrifice, expiation or purification. The priests sprinkled the people with holy water, using the right hand, partly because it was more convenient, and partly, because the right hand was regarded as the stronger and more favored hand.

In time, use of both rites became so commonplace that lustrare (to purify) and circuire (to walk around) were used interchangeably and regarded as synonymous. Hence, purification and circumambulation were inseparable to the Romans.

The pilgrims of Mecca perform what is considered to be a very sacred ceremony; that of circumambulation of the Kaaba,

the cubical stone building in the court of the Great Mosque of Mecca which contains the famous Black Stone of Mecca said to have been given by Gabriel to Abraham. The reason given for this rite is that the Kaaba represents the celestial throne which is constantly being circled by the heavenly angels.

The Hindus also made frequent use of circumambulation. We are told that upon rising, a Brahmin first faces the sun in the east in adoration, and then walks to the west by way of the south, saying, “I follow the course of the sun. As the sun in his course moves around the world by way of the south, so do I follow that luminary to obtain the benefit arising from a journey round the earth by way of the south.”

The Druids observed a religious ceremony of dancing around the “cairn” or sacred stone. The priest usually led his worshipers around the “cairn” three times, going from east to west by the right hand, according to the course of the sun. They called this “Deiseal” from the two words, deas (right hand) and soil (run).

In the rite of initiation, symbolic of the beginning of a new life, circumambulation is to make known the fact that the candidate is truly prepared and possesses all the necessary qualifications for advancement and progress. It is also likened to the mystic journey representing the toilsome progress of humanity from ignorance and darkness to a state of civilization and enlightenment.

We can trace the source of this rite back to the time that our early ancestors worshiped the sun, always traveling to the right in search of light and the truth.

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(Continued from page 1)

Brother Williford serves as a captain in the 1st Battalion 23rd Marine Reserves. A special thanks is due to all of our brethren who have or are currently serving in our armed forces.

Lastly, we have a number of

degrees scheduled for the upcoming months. Keep an eye out for the calendar of what's to come. If you would like to be a part of one of the degrees, please contact myself or one of the wardens. This is an exciting time for Sul Ross Lodge, as so many young men are petitioning our fraternity.

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Pythagoras required the candidate to walk in darkness for three years before being permitted to see Light. In the course of his travels, the initiate encountered various obstacles which impeded his progress and tested his ability to pass or surmount them. In this fashion, he was taught Dependence, the dependence of Man upon Deity. During this time, he was also taught that he must have Faith. He must trust his Guide, the Deity, learn His ways, follow Him, and fears no danger.

Today, we exhort Man from the pulpit and in the classroom or lodge to recognize that "no man walks alone"; "no man can find his way alone". He must rely upon or put his faith in God. He must study His word and learn to live according to His law.

For obvious reasons, the esoteric uses of the rite of circumambulation are not known or cannot be divulged. It is a rela-

bly well known fact that it is employed in numerous organizations to impress the candidate with pertinent lessons taught by the respective organizations. In some, it is used merely as a period of meditation; in others, it is meant to convey significant incidents in the historical background of the organization; while in others, a panorama, or broad view of the ideals of the groups is portrayed through chanting or recitation of a poem, excerpt from scripture, or symbolic prose. Invariably, circumambulation lends dignity and substance to any ritualistic ceremony. This accounts for the fact that, despite its antiquity, it still enjoys widespread use. Many high school and college organizations employ the rite to add impressiveness to their rituals. The extent to which it is used attests to the effectiveness of this popular rite.

Reprinted from the [Southern California Research Lodge Papers Volume I](#). The [SCR L](#) is the user friendly education and

Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity so serve Sul Ross Lodge as Master this masonic year. It has been a great honor.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Bobby Roggenbuck

Master, Sul Ross Lodge

information Lodge (3,000 members, in every U.S. state plus 20 foreign countries) that offers services to Lodges, Masonic Education Committeemen, District and Lodge Education Officers and Master Masons. Individual Master Masons as well as Lodges and other Masonic bodies are eligible for membership. [Dues are \\$20 U.S., with no affiliation fee.](#)

The principal benefit of membership is the monthly mailings. Fourteen pages every month except December, with feature articles, editorials, reviews of Masonic activities around the world, book reviews, news of importance to our members, and excellent material for Stated Meeting talks.

A prime benefit is our book department, which is available to anyone. We not only buy from domestic publishers but are a prime distributor of books from Lewis Masonic, the premier publisher in England. Nearly all books, including new *Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia*, are discounted, (usually 20%). The latest list can be had upon request.



Bro. Jeff Williford presenting an American flag to Sul Ross Lodge. Received on behalf of the lodge by W.: Bro. Bobby Roggenbuck.

“Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity so serve Sul Ross Lodge as Master this masonic year. It has been a great honor.”

RULES GOVERNING MASONIC CALENDAR DATING

You hear it at Lodge: "A.L. 6012." What does that mean? Then you go to another Masonic organization and it is different. Why? A.L. stands for Anno Lucis, or "In the Year of Light." Here is a summary of how and why the Masonic calendars work the way they do:

Ancient Craft/Symbolic "Master Mason" Lodges commence their era with the

"traditional" creation of the world, calling it Anno Lucis (A.L.), "in the year of light." Add 4,000 years to the common era. Thus 2012 becomes A.L. 6012.

Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the York Rite date from the year the second temple was commenced by Zerubbabel, calling it Anno Beneficio (A.B.), "in the year of the discovery." Add 530 years

to the common era. Thus 2012 becomes A.B. 2542.

Councils of Cryptic Masons of the York Rite date from the year in which the Temple of Solomon was completed, calling it Anno Depoitionis (A.Dep.), "in the year of deposit." Add 1,000 to the common era. Thus 2012 becomes A.Dep. 3012.

(Continued on page 11)



W.: Bro. Bobby Roggenbuck, Catherine and Will Roggenbuck at the Sweetheart Banquet on February 13, 2012.



Brother Bob Cohen reading the names and Masonic record of our recently honored 65 year Masonic Service Award recipients.

*"...I ask you
always to
remember—In all
you do , In all you
say, In all of your
actions, take a
good look at
yourself, you are
someones
impression of
Freemasonry "*



Jewel of the order of Knight York Cross of Honour.

BROTHER BOB COHEN RECEIVES KYCH

Brother Robert "Bob" Strib Cohen, Secretary of Sul Ross Lodge was recently honored as a recipient of the title, Knight York Cross of Honour. This being a very prestigious honor within the York Rite of Freemasonry of which Ancient Craft Masonry (Blue Lodge) is the foundation.

Bro. Cohen presided as Worshipful Master of Sul Ross Lodge from 2004-2005, Most Excellent High Priest of W.T. Austin Chapter No. 87 from 2007-2008, Thrice Illustrious Master of W.T. Austin Council No. 52 from 2008-2010, and Eminent Commander of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8 from 2009-2010.

For an explanation of this order and the significance of the above listed offices, I have included the following:

The Order was formed in Monroe, North Carolina on March 13, 1930.

On June 6, 1930 the Convent General of the United States of America was formed to administer the Order.

Requirements for membership are that each proposed candidate for membership must have

presided over a Lodge as a Master, over a Chapter as High Priest, over a Council as Illustrious Master and over a Commandery as Commander.

Knights of the York Cross of Honour is a Honor Group of York Rite Masons who are dedicated to serving the Masonic Fraternity as a Labor of Love.

No individual should aspire to membership in KYCH, when he has done the required work, and done it well, he will be invited to membership. Those who labor will be rewarded by being invited.

After a Mason has fulfilled the requirements of membership, his name may be proposed for membership by a member of the K.Y.C.H.. The prospective member should not know that he has been proposed. When a Priory receives a proposed, such proposal must be held over until the next stated meeting of the Priory before it is Balloted on. Some of the Ballot rules vary in different Jurisdictions, to comply with Grand Lodge Rules and Regulations. In this Jurisdiction the prospect must receive a unanimous vote by secret Ballot.

The prospective proposal should not know that his name was proposed until he is official notified that he is elected to be invited to petition to membership. If this rule is followed, no one that is proposed and rejected should ever know that he was proposed and rejected, thereby saving much embarrassment. to everyone.

A member of K.Y.C.H. who has served any of the Four Grand York Rite Bodies as presiding Officer is thereby a Knight Grand Cross of Honour, with one Quadrant for each of the Grand Bodies he has served.

This means that if he has served any of these Four Grand Bodies, before he is inducted

into K.Y.C.H. , he would be a Knight Cross of Honour upon being inducted into membership.. If he serves any of these Four Grand Bodies after he is a K.Y.C.H. member, then he gets a Grand Quadrant when his term ends for each of those Grand Bodies. When a member becomes a Knight Grand Cross of Honour, he is entitled to a Certificate from Convent General showing the distinction, i.e., Knight Grand Cross of Honour with, One Quadrant, Two Quadrants, Three Quadrants, or Four Quadrants, as the case may be. These certificates are available from the Grand Registrar - General at no cost. Lapel emblems are available to indicate Knight Grand Cross of Honour. Each Quadrant is represented by the appropriate color of the order served, i.e., Blue for Lodge, Red for Chapter, Purple for Council, and White for Commandery, if the member is a Past Prior the background of his emblem should be Purple, if he is a Knight Grand Cross of Honour, but not a Past Prior, the background should be White. The meaning of membership in K.Y.C.H. can best be explained by a closing statement of Most Eminent Knight Donald E. Friend, Grand Master General, at his Convent General Session in 1995 , "As a Knight of the York Cross of Honour, you are a proven servant of the Masonic Fraternity , your inspiration has come from your Past, your duty is in the present , your Hope is in the Future, I ask you always to remember—In all you do , In all you say, In all of your actions, take a good look at yourself, you are someones impression of Freemasonry "

This information prepared by Ivan D. Rinck, Personal Representative No, 18 April 3, 1999.

FROM THE SOUTH

BY BROTHER JOSH REINBOLT, JUNIOR WARDEN

Brethren:

As we enter the last few months of this Masonic year, I would like to thank you again for entrusting me to represent Sul Ross Lodge as Junior Warden. It is truly an honor to serve the Lodge in this capacity. We have had a successful and busy year with numerous activities that I have been proud to take part in with my brothers. Whether it be stated or called meetings, the holiday and sweetheart banquets or family fun night, it has been a pleasure to oversee the lodge at refreshment.

Over the past few months we have seen many young men work their way through the degrees and I am proud of each of them and hope that they will continue on their journey in Masonry. I encourage each of you to remain active in our Lodge or in a Lodge where you relocate after graduation. You can get as little or as much as

you want out of Masonry, so I trust that you will begin on the proper footing. I am also excited about the number of visitors who have been attending lodge and hope they are impressed with how we operate and treat our visiting brethren.

Please be on the lookout for the notice regarding Masonic night with the Brazos Valley Bombers. The event will take place on Saturday, June 9. The cost of the ticket is \$15 and includes a meal before the game. This is a great way to bring your families and interact with other Masons in the area in a fun casual setting. Last year we had a great turnout and hopefully we can get more brothers to participate in the event this year.

Finally, as I have mentioned in previous newsletters, I want to encourage our brothers who are inactive that remain in the area to become active again to continue the great traditions of

our Lodge and Masonry at large. At our last stated meeting we had four petitions read as well as the possibility of several others so we not only need you, but our fraternity needs you and I promise that you won't regret being more involved with the Craft.

Brethren, thank you for allowing me to share this message with you and for the opportunity to serve Sul Ross Lodge. I am proud to be able to serve the Lodge and I look forward to continued service in the coming years in whatever capacity I may offer. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 979-255-1253 or

jreinbolt99@aggienetwork.com.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Josh Reinbolt

Junior Warden, Sul Ross Lodge



Congratulations to Bro. Josh Reinbolt and Mrs. Gayla Reinbolt. Josh and Gayla were married March 24, 2012 in College Station.

“...it has been a pleasure to oversee the lodge at refreshment.”

(Continued from page 9)

Commanderies of Knights

Templar of the York Rite commence their era with the organization of the ancient order, calling it Anno Ordinis (A.O.), “in the year of the Order.” The Order was traditionally established in A.D. 1118. From the Christian Era, subtract 1118, thus 2012 becomes A.O. 894.

Scottish Rite

Similar to Ancient Craft except the Jewish chronology is used, Anno Mundi (A.M.), “in the year of the world.” Add 3,750 to the common era. Thus 2012 becomes A.M. 5772. After September, add another year.



Several of our newest brethren are pictured. (Front, L-R) Bro. Chance Robinson, Hugh Carnahan, Sam Balch, Decebal Marin, Omid Rahmani, Zach Woolridge, Mike Gerst, Josh Reinbolt (Back, L-R) Tom Fritz, Andrey Malakhovsky, Roy Smith, Gary Beaty, Ben Baskin, Justin Meyer, Rusty Farquhar, Bob Cohen, and Bro. Michael Ethridge of Kendall Lodge No. 897.



Bro. Jim Robbins (pictured center left) and Bro. Tim Pickerill always see that the tables are properly furnished at refreshment. Honored ladies and brethren are also pictured at the February Stated Meeting.

**SUL ROSS MASONIC
LODGE NO. 1300 A.F.
& A.M.
COLLEGE STATION,
TEXAS
CHARTERED 1947**

Brazos Valley Masonic
Library & Museum
3411 Longmire Drive
College Station, Texas 77845

Mailing Address:
PO Box 10110
College Station, Texas 77842

Phone: 979-680-1300
Email: secretary@sulross.org

*Sul Ross Lodge 2011-2012
Elected and Appointed Officers*

Bobby Roggenbuck, Master
Chance Robinson, Senior Warden
Josh Reinbolt, Junior Warden
Mike Gerst, Treasurer
Bob Cohen, Secretary
B.J. Leggett, Chaplain
Justin Meyer, Senior Deacon
Scott Atkinson, Junior Deacon
Jim Robbins, Senior Steward
Tim Pickerill, Junior Steward
Brian Wilkey, Marshal
Caleb Williams, Master of Ceremonies
P. G. "Pete" Normand, Jr., Librarian
Ben Baskin, Tiler

Sul Ross Lodge News
Chance Robinson, Editor
crobinson@aggienetwork.com

www.sulross.org

Stated Communication
Second Monday of every month
Meal at 5:30 p.m.
Masonic Program at 6:30 p.m.
Master Masons Lodge at 7:00 p.m.

Called meetings or Floor School
every Monday except stated
meeting at 6:30 p.m.

...that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.

**Sul Ross Masonic Lodge No. 1300, A.F. & A.M.
PO Box 10110
College Station, Texas 77842**

Address Service Requested

REMINDER

Brethren,

If you have an email address that is not on file, or if you need to update your email or mailing address with Sul Ross Lodge please send a message to secretary@sulross.org.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Bob Cohen, Secretary

MASONIC NIGHT WITH THE BOMBERS

**Saturday, June 9
6:00pm Pre-Game Picnic
7:00pm First Pitch
Brazos Valley Bank Ballpark
525 W. Carson St. in Bryan**

Come join local Masonic lodges at the Brazos Valley Bombers baseball game. Masons, family members and friends are all invited.

The evening starts with a pre-game picnic at 6:00pm. The picnic includes all-you-can-eat hot dogs, hamburgers, brats, chicken sandwiches, baked beans, potato chips, soft drinks and bottled water. After the picnic, take a seat and watch the game in your reserved seat.

Adults: \$15/person; Ages 4-12: \$6/person; Age 3 and Under: Free. Kids also receive two free games in the Bombers Kid Zone.



Formerly Bomber Field (Travis Field), home of the professional minor league, Bryan Bombers (1947-1948). Today the ball park is the home of the Brazos Valley Bombers which are part of the Texas Collegiate League.

For more information about the Bombers Baseball Club visit <http://www.bvbombers.com/>

To purchase tickets call or email Chance Robinson at (979) 676-2487 or crobinson@aggienetwork.com