

Volume 2:2019

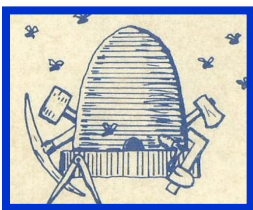
Making Good Men Better Since 1875

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

Prosper, TX

## What Does It Really Mean?

**A**s one of the highest honors any Texas freemason can receive, the *Golden Trowel Award* was established by the Grand Lodge of Texas for the purpose of recognizing any mason who consistently demonstrates outstanding and exemplary service to the community. Golden Trowel recipients display commitment to masonic principles in general and/or in their lodge. Year after year, these brothers show dedication to the moral and philanthropic teachings of Masonry without any thought given to personal recognition.



**I**ndustrious Beehive conjures up images of creatures working continually for the betterment of their society. This award is used to recognize one who consistently labors to benefit the lodge, its chosen charitable organizations and his fraternal brothers.

**W**hile the look of the award or pin may vary from lodge to lodge, it's meaning and significance is the same across the board. Any man receiving this recognition has accomplished something most do not achieve in any aspect of life with the possible exception of birthdays. Sixty years of dedicated service to such a worthwhile organization is certainly important and worthy of acclaim!



**P**ast Master is one of the few positions recognized by Grand Lodge of Texas as a designation one carries for life. Being Master of the Lodge is an achievement all its own but continuing to serve as an integral part of the lodge long after your term is complete displays the exceptional qualities of loyalty and dedication. This award is designed to appreciate the continued service and commitment of Past Masters of Lee Lodge.

## IN THIS ISSUE

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No Mason Left Behind

GLOT 2019 Resolutions



## GREETINGS FROM THE EAST

**Bill Strohmeyer, Worshipful Master, Lee Lodge #435, A.F. & A.M.** - *"I would like to set up a calling committee to contact less active members who live in the area to encourage them to get involved and participate."*



### *Brethren,*

This has been a busy month for Lee Lodge. We had several members attend Grand Lodge in Waco. We had the MWSA meeting at Empire Lodge in Nevada. We had the Grand Master's conference at Hella Shrine. And we have had two EA degrees with more coming. We concluded the gun raffle with a drawing for winners. Results look promising and we will let you know when we have final figures. Brothers Rawlinson and Bettencourt are notifying winners. I want to give my thanks to all those participating in the events this month.

FYI our DDGM has published a summary of the GLOT resolutions we voted on and I have asked for it to be included in this newsletter.

We also had a social event of interest. Brother Cedric Cascio set up a 'Painting with a Twist' evening for brothers, family and guests. Thank you Cedric for your work as social coordinator.

We also had a 60 year pin and Golden Trowel award ceremony for Brother Jim Hill during a refreshment break at our January stated meeting.

RW Buddy Givens presented as one of his last official duties. At the end of the ceremony the lodge presented a plaque to Buddy for his service to the craft, and we presented a Busy bee award to Junior Warden Brad Bell for his recent work for the lodge.

Our new DDGM, RW Jerry McNair has scheduled his first official visit at our March 14th stated meeting. We were informed that the meetings will not be graded this year.

The Grand Orator at GLOT had an interesting message for us. Basically he asked us to try to find something good or positive in everyone we talked with and to complement them or 'validate' them by mentioning it.

The MW Grand Master's message at Hella Shrine was for us to fight for our fraternity and try replace yourself by adding a new member as often as possible. If each member will bring in another to our ranks we can increase our numbers and solve many problems with financial concerns and lack of members. He showed some brief videos giving

examples of lodges that have done a good job and showed some of the ways they are successful in renewing their lodges. This included fund raising and open houses to gain public interest in Masonry. Brother Robert Bell asked if we can secure copies of the videos to show to the lodge and suggested they be made available to all lodges. Brother Secretary Lewis Bell contacted our DDGM who has made the request and was told they would be forthcoming.

One final note: I would like to set up a calling committee to contact less active members who live in the area to encourage them to get involved and participate. If you are willing to help please get in touch with me.

I hope to see all of you at our coming activities.

**WM Bill Strohmeyer**  
**214-500-5192**



### **FEBRUARY**

2/3—Greg Jackson  
2/12—Rick Meyer  
2/16—Bill Proctor  
2/25—Brad Bell



**Congratulations on Your  
Master Mason Degree**

**Sir Arthur Conan Doyle -  
2/23**

*"Mediocrity knows nothing higher than itself, but talent instantly recognizes genius."*

**Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**

**Help Lee Lodge continually improve, submit suggestions you would like to help develop to WM Bill Strohmeyer: [bstrohme@gmail.com](mailto:bstrohme@gmail.com) or 214-500-5192**





## COMING ACTIVITIES FOR GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS & DISTRICT 9A

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND—5:30PM TO 11:30PM**

DALLAS SCOTTISH RITE CATHEDRAL CRYSTAL BALLROOM

500 S HARWOOD DALLAS, TX 75201

\$75 PER PERSON BENEFITTING SCOTTISH RITE CHILDREN'S HOSP.

(SEE MORE DETAILS ON PAGE 8 OF THIS PUBLICATION)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH — 6:30PM DINNER**

**7:30PM STATED MEETING**

ST. JOHN'S #51 STATED MEETING

215 ½ N KENTUCKY STREET MCKINNEY, TX 75069

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH — 6:30PM DINNER**

**7:30PM STATED MEETING**

LEBANON LODGE #837 STATED MEETING

6983 MAIN STREET FRISCO, TX 75034

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH — 6:30PM DINNER**

**7:30 PM STATED MEETING**

CELINA LODGE #919 STATED MEETING

139 N OHIO CELINA, TX 75009

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH — 6:30PM DINNER**

**7:30PM STATED MEETING**

ALLEN LODGE #1435 STATED MEETING

101 N ALLEN DRIVE ALLEN, TX 75013

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH — 6:30PM DINNER**

**7:30PM STATED MEETING**

LEE LODGE #435 STATED MEETING

101 S CHURCH STREET PROSPER, TX 75078

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH — 6:30PM DINNER**

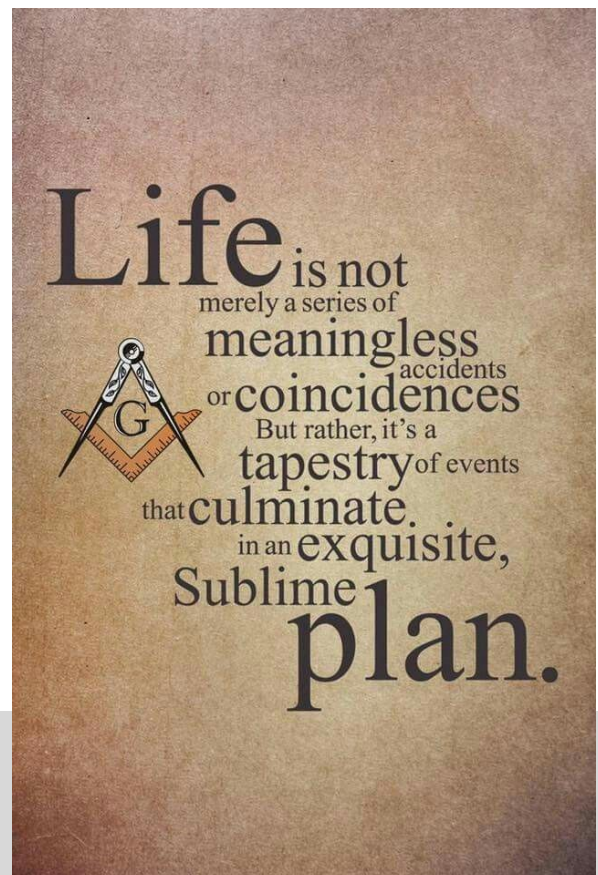
**7:00PM STATED MEETING**

MELISSA LODGE #569 STATED MEETING

1709 COOPER STREET MELISSA, TX 75454



*The Grand Lodge  
of  
TEXAS*







Thank you to all the Brothers that stepped in to provide the meal for the January stated meeting and awards reception. Your help by stepping in when needed is greatly appreciated. If for any reason you are unable to fulfill your meal commitment, please contact Brother Jason Porter; Senior Steward, Brother Cedric Cascio; Junior Steward or Brother Brad Bell; Junior Warden to notify them with as much advance notice as possible that you will be unable to provide the meal for the month.



**2019 Dues are Overdue!**



Ten more Brothers to go and we have 100% of our dues submitted. Please look at your records and bring a check to remit your payment if you have not already done so to Brother Lewis Bell at the February 14th stated meeting or alternatively, mail a check made out to :

Lee Lodge #435  
P.O. Box 435  
Prosper, TX 75078

After your remittance is received, your 2019 Dues Card will be mailed to your address on record. Once it arrives, please sign the card and always carry it with you. It is your record of good standing in the lodge and upon proper examination will entitle you admission to all lodges recognized by the Grand Lodge of Texas.



# A W A R D S



**Lee Lodge #435 received the prestigious Vanguard Award from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Texas, Tommy Chapman, for its 2017-2018 calendar year. This is the first time our lodge has received the significant honor which is presented to lodges that demonstrate marked improvement in several categories as recognized by the District Deputy Grand Master. The award was presented at the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas Annual Communication in Waco on January 17, 2019.**





## Brother Jim Hill 60 Years

*"A long life may not be good enough,  
but a good life is long enough."  
Benjamin Franklin*



## Brother Jim Hill Golden Trowel

*"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every  
opportunity; an optimist sees opportunity  
in every difficulty."  
Winston Churchill*



## Brother Buddy Givens Lee Lodge Past Master Award

*"The key is in not spending time, but in  
investing it."  
Stephen R. Covey*



## Brother Brad Bell Lee Lodge Beehive Award

*"Actions speak louder than words."  
Abraham Lincoln*

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# ANYONE CAN GRANT WISHES



## FUNDS

**ESSENTIALS**



Bethlehem

P L A C E

Prosper's Food Pantry

## THESE THINGS ARE CONSISTENTLY ON THE WISH LIST



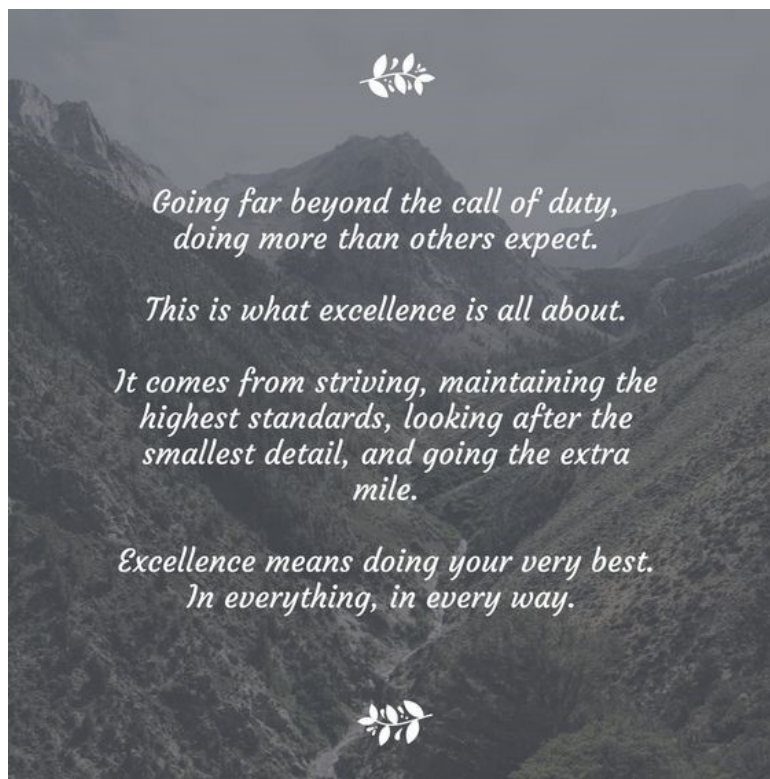


**The Blood Drive originally scheduled for March 19th will now be held in April with the date yet to be determined.**



Texas Masons began the Gift of Life Program 15 years ago in the North Texas area, and today, regional committees have expanded to Houston, San Antonio and the Rio Grande Valley. Not only does the Gift of Life Program meet an essential need for our hospitals and help our communities maintain a quality and sufficient blood supply, but it also makes giving blood convenient for the community to participate. In almost every community, large and small, urban and rural, there is a Masonic Lodge nearby. By holding a blood drive in a Masonic Lodge, the public is introduced to the Lodge facilities, learns who Masons are, and hears about the variety of community

oriented projects that Masonry supports. When provided with the opportunity and a convenient location, like a Lodge, experience tells us people will donate blood – especially when children can benefit. Contact Brother Brad Bell if you are interested in assisting with the Lee Lodge Blood Drive.



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from "Texas Freemason - Winter 2018" publication  
**A Way for Texas Masonic Families to Give Help or Get Help**

## **No Mason Left Behind Project Help Texas Masons and Masonic Families**

**You can help older Masons and their families live with dignity in safe, comfortable surroundings at Texas Masonic Retirement Center.**

### **Alzheimer's Disease & Loss of Vision Diminished Their Quality of Life**



Ben Larsen, age 92, was unable to drive or pay bills without assistance due to failing vision. Anna, age 90, increasingly depended on him as her Alzheimer's disease progressed. Both had devoted many years to Masonic service. The No Mason Left Behind Project helped them move to Texas Masonic Retirement Center. They recently celebrated 72 years of marriage in safe surroundings, enjoying a rich life, with help just a few steps away.

**"Here we've got everything we need and more."**

### **Providing for Relatives Drained Joe's Resources**



At 92, Joe lived in a tiny apartment with the water shut off, little food, and no telephone. As a WWII veteran, steadfast Mason, and provider for his wife, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, Joe had given everything to others—with nothing left for his own needs. Today, Joe's twinkling eyes and broad smile say plenty about the life-altering help provided by the No Mason Left Behind Project and his new home at Texas Masonic Retirement Center.

**"If help hadn't come along at the time, there's no telling where I would be. I didn't want to be a street person, but I was headed that way."**

### **Home Repairs & Taxes Overwhelmed Ruth Ann's Tight Budget**



Ruth Ann, age 84, faced mounting home repairs and increasing taxes. Her limited income earned by creating and selling handcrafted quilts and embroidered linens wasn't enough to offset these challenges. The No Mason Left Behind Project helps mothers of Masons, as well as other qualified relatives. Because of her son's commitment to Masonry, Ruth Ann now has a warm, welcoming place to live at Texas Masonic Retirement Center.

**"I can grow old here with dignity. I appreciate being able to live here as the mother of a Mason."**

### **Costs of Caring for Terminally Ill Wife Wiped Out Martin's Savings**



Martin Miller, age 73, cared for his wife after she suffered a stroke and was diagnosed with lung cancer. In the five years leading up to her death, medical bills wiped out the couples' retirement savings. Alone, with little income to meet daily needs, Martin reached out to the No Mason Left Behind Project at Texas Masonic Retirement Center. His decades-long Masonic commitment and the generosity of Masons now provide him with the security of a quiet, safe place to live and plenty of reasons to look forward to starting each day.

**"I don't have to worry about anything anymore."**

**We hope you'll consider contributing \$50 or more to the 2019 No Mason Left Behind Project. Your generosity will be recognized with an array of amenities based on your level of giving.**

To donate today, use our secure online service at [MasonicLiving.org](https://MasonicLiving.org) or mail your check to the address below. Texas Masonic Retirement Center is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, allowing your donation to be tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Texas Masonic Retirement Center 1501 W. Division St. Arlington, TX 76012  
☎ 817-275-2893 🌐 [MasonicLiving.org](https://MasonicLiving.org) ✉ [Info@MasonicLiving.org](mailto:Info@MasonicLiving.org)





**RESOLUTION #1:** Renaming of Seyene Masonic Lodge # 295 to include the Name of PGM Leonard P. Harvey – **PASSED AS AMENDED**

**RESOLUTION #2:** Dealing with requiring Lodge officer to Hold teaching certificates – **FAILED**

**RESOLUTION #3:** Dealing with increasing Masonic endowment costs – AMENDED & **FAILED**

**RESOLUTION #4:** Dealing with Masons wearing Masonic Aprons outside of the Lodge -**PASSED**

**RESOLUTION #5:** Dealing with permitting the '*Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill*' to hold meeting in Texas Lodges– **PASSED**

**RESOLUTION #6:** – **WITHDRAWN**

**RESOLUTION #7:** – **WITHDRAWN**

**RESOLUTION #8:** - Changing Ft. Hancock Lodge # 1297 to Ft. Hancock – Ft. Bliss Lodge # 1297 – **PASSED**

**RESOLUTION #9:** - **WITHDRAWN**

**RESOLUTION #10:** - **WITHDRAWN**

**RESOLUTION #11:** - (Archival of Lodge Records) – **FAILED**

**RESOLUTION #12:** (Adding language to the 'Manual of the Lodge') – **FAILED**

**RESOLUTION #13:** The Lodge Counselor attending The Officers Leadership Program (L.I.F.E.) – **FAILED**

**RESOLUTION #14:** Requiring the Committee on work to review and approve lodge presentation before given in Lodge. **FAILED**

**RESOLUTION #15:** The Committee on Work to exemplify and alternate opening/closing..." - **FAILED**

**RESOLUTION #16:** Exemplify the FC lecture from the Floor – **Amended & PASSED**

**RESOLUTION #17:** Dealing of the 'maim or defect' qualifications **Amended (2) w/Qualifications & PASSED**

**RESOLUTION #18:** **WITHDRAWN**

**RESOLUTION #19:** '...end of the Masters' lecture to include the apron presentation' – **PASSED**

**GRAND MASTERS RECOMMENDATION #1:** To set up a Committee to review Tile V – to revise same and report to the Grand West in 2020 – **PASSED**