

ALAMO LODGE #44

Feb 2009 Trestle board



The Alamo
San Antonio, Texas

Upcoming Events:

Feb 11th 2009- Stated Meeting

- Official Visit of Steven F. Nail DDGM 39-A
- Dinner at 6:15pm and Meeting 7pm

Feb 18th 2009- Floor Practice

- 6:00pm

Feb 25th 2009- Floor Practice

- 6:00pm

Mar 7th 2009- Annual Masonic Alamo Observance/Conference

- 8:30 AM - Historic Gallagher house just outside the Alamo grounds on Houston Street for coffee and refreshments
- 8:45 AM and march to the front of the Alamo
- 9:00 AM for the presentation.

Alamo 44 Officers:

WM: Michael Goodrich

SW: Lawrence McNamee

JW: Scott Mikos PM

Tres: James Higdon, PM

Sec: Edward O'Banion, PM

Chap: Ron Havens, PM

SD: Gregory Wright

JD: David Powell

MoC: John Pena

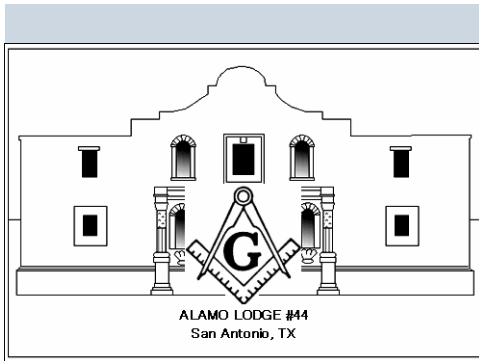
Tiler: George Trumbo

Special Note:

Our member, Arthur A. (Art) Augustine has just learned that he successfully passed the Board Certification Examination in Family Law given by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He can now, effective retroactive to December 1, 2008, hold himself out as a Board Certified Family Law Specialist in Texas.

Congrats Brother, job well done.

Brief History of Alamo Lodge #44



161 year old Lodge

(Charter granted January 15, 1848)

Lodge Address: [308 Avenue E @ 4th St.](#), San Antonio 78205

Mailing Address: PO Box 824,
San Antonio, 78293-0824

Meetings: 2nd Wed @ 7:00 pm

Meal: 6:15 pm

Lodge Phone: 210-225-7072

Alamo Lodge No. 44, honored by a plaque on the south wall of the Long Barrack, was granted a charter from the Grand Lodge of Texas on January 15, 1848. The Master of the Lodge was Captain James H. Ralston, an Assistant Quartermaster of U.S. Volunteers. Born in Kentucky, Captain Ralston resided in Illinois at the time he received his commission, which he held from June 26, 1846 until March 3, 1849. Original members of the Lodge were mainly army officers who were already Masons. The Lodge held its meetings for several months in an upper-story room of the Long Barrack until it moved into its own hall on Alamo Plaza on June 24, 1848. (1)

Message from the Grand Lodge of Texas Internet Committee

Modern construction has a long history, going back to the use of clay bricks by the Babylonians in 2900 BC and where slime and pitch were their “mortar”. Some 400 years later in early Egypt the pyramids were built with a mortar of mud and clay, or of sand and clay. These mortars later were supplemented with lime or gypsum, which was somewhat soft and not durable. Subsequently the Greeks and Romans improved their mortar through the use of volcanic ash and other materials, but surprisingly, these improvements were lost and builders in the middle Ages used an inferior mortar which was subject to water degradation. It was not until the late 1700’s when the more modern cements were developed and perfected.

The Romans used the term “opus caementicium” to describe masonry which resembled concrete and this material was referred to as “cementum”, “cimentum”, “cäment”, or “cement”. Both the tempering, and correct mixture of the various materials, and the actual preparation were known to a select few and they closely guarded their knowledge as “secrets” of the craft. To be a “mattjon”, or wall builder, was a mark of respect with its masters, apprentices, and workmen.

The use of cement to solidify and unite a building easily admonishes us to use the mortar of our experiences, fragments of our lives, and small interactions with each other to unite our Band of Brothers and add to the beauty of the Temple created by the Great Architect. The Entered Apprentice is charged to prepare the mortar and guard it against being “untempered”, or not being mixed or prepared properly. His apron is to protect him from this mortar and points to need to restrain his passions in order to move to the next phase of his life, namely applying his knowledge to construction.

As a Fellow Craft he is to work and build. The implements of Masonry, notably the trowel, are to apply his cement and unite the various components of his life into a harmonious whole. Brotherly love and affection are the critical components which bring Masons together and a Brother must care about the conditions of his Brothers and make every effort to reach out to them at all times. The choices he makes represent his trowel in action for the betterment of himself and those about him.

And so it is, as a Master, he is charged to admonish, comfort, and aid his fellow Brothers. Like a Craftsman adding the final touches to a structure or an artisan crafting the final brush strokes to a painting, he must strive to help his Brothers in completing their Temple and at the same time, complete his. Each of us is a stone in the Temple of the Great Architect and the mortar that holds that Temple together is the mortar we create through our actions and deeds. We must strive to make that cement as true and pure as we can, for each Mason will be measured in the final days and wishes to be found upright, level and square.

For the Grand Lodge History Committee,
Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Dick Brown

Email Ed O'Banion for any Business related comments or questions regarding Alamo Lodge #44 @ alamolodgesect@yahoo.com

If you know of a brother that is no longer active in the lodge, please call or visit him and get his contact information. If you can print out this Trestle board and show him our activities, it might start the fire again. There is plenty of Light to go around.

Secretary's Corner:

Brethren,

Be advised that the parking lot across Fourth Street is no longer allowing a discount. Please plan on paying the posted price.

Fraternally,

Brother Ed. O'banion

Message from the Area Coordinator

Dear Brethren,

Our Grand Master, Most Worshipful W. David Counts, Jr. will commemorate the annual Masonic Alamo observance on Saturday, March 7, 2009, with the traditional processional to the Alamo for a wreath laying and presentation to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas followed by a conference at the Alzafar Shrine Center.

You are invited to join the Grand Master in the Alamo observance and attend the conference. The conference will begin with a light lunch at 11:00 AM.

We are honored by an invitation from the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to assemble at the historic Gallagher house just outside the Alamo grounds on Houston Street at 8:30 AM for coffee and refreshments served by the Rainbow girls. The procession will line up from the Gallagher House on the Houston Street side of the Alamo at 8:45 AM and march to the front of the Alamo at 9:00 AM for the presentation.

Please bring this up in your next meeting of the Lodge and please invite your EA's and FC's to attend. We are sending separate letters to our Eastern Star Chapters and other appendant bodies so they may join us in this observance.

You are invited to wear your Regalia.

Feel free to contact me for any questions you may have. I look forward to seeing you on March 7th.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Ed O'Banion

Area Coordinator

210-735-9813

Cell 210-845-6322