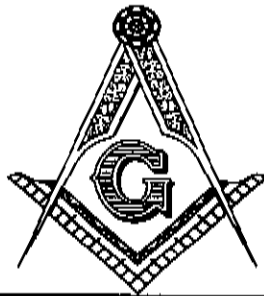


The Gray Line

Gray Lodge #329

March/April 2004

Worshipful Master
Charles (Butch) Boggess
Master@gray329.org
713-825-1735



Secretary
Lloyd Phelps
Secretary@gray329.org
713-782-9651

West Houston Masonic Library and Museum Foundation

Brethren:

February 11, 2004 Patrick Mahoney, Shern Smith, John Minniece, Lloyd Phelps, Randon Reaves and myself met at the American Tile Co. and closed on the sale of the Lodge.

The stated meeting in March will be a busy OPEN meeting. I would like to see all our members who can make this meeting as well as the April meeting. The architect will be there to introduce the latest design and answer questions along with the building committee. The rest of the evening will involve a few decisions we have to make and some voting. We will be presenting a motion to move the Lodge, which will layover till the April meeting for a vote.

The fuse was lit for a 90 day move out. This means that we have now less than 90 days to vacate the building before the new owners take possession. The contract allows us remove everything and anything. We will need the assistance of the brethren to help with the move. I would like to ask there are any members who have any spare warehouse space for storage and/or have the time to assist please contact either myself or leave a message at the lodge.

We have come along way in our 134 years of history in Houston and in the Masonic Community. We were constituted in the hall of Holland No. 1 which was meeting in the J.J. Hudson Building at 601-603 Main Street. Our first year was spent in the hall of Holland Lodge No. 1. We then moved on June 21, 1871 to the Grand Lodge Temple at Main and Capital. This was our first Lodge room. You can see the layout of the temple in the boo The History of Gray on page 63. Our humble beginning were with a lodge room that was no larger than the two offices shown on the same floor. This is were we stayed until the Grand Lodge decided that it needed to be more centrally located. From November 1905 to August 1924 we met at the Holland-Gray Masonic Temple at Main and McKinney. The Lodge had seen a lot of changes in these early years with membership growing quicker than expected. The Lodge raised 260 Master Masons in 1922, a record in any book. Gray then moved to their own building August 1924 at Clay and Fannin where we stayed until June 1964 when we moved to our present location. Our previous building can still be seen downtown with all the carving around the roof line. Through the past 134 years Gray has spent 80 years in just two different buildings. The move to our first building in 1924 helped with the membership which was at 1,332 members. Our membership grew to a record high in 1955 of 1,480 members. The move to the Hillcroft location was a step towards a more neighborhood location and a long time relationship with Lee High School, students and its teachers.

The move to our next location is a step for the future. The west side is one of the fastest growing areas in Houston with new schools, business, neighborhoods and more importantly people. We took a great step in creating the West Houston Masonic Library and Museum Foundation. What better way for us to make a presences in the Community than to have our own Library and Museum as a place where anyone can come to research an view the history, meaning and symbolisms of Freemasonry.

As we see the stones of a new foundation are soon to be leveled, so can we see the future of Gray Lodge and Masonry.

Worshipful Master
Charles " Butch " Boggess

It has been a busy year and we have come along way but there is still much more ground to cover.

----Up Coming Events Gray Lodge & Bluebell Chapter----

02/24: Bluebell Stated Meeting "Deep In The Heart of Texas" Honor Star Points Western Attire
02/25: Master Wardens and Secretary Association
02/26-28: Houston Livestock Show BBQ Cook-Off
03/03: Gray Stated Meeting OPEN MEETING The Architect's visit
03/09: Bluebell Stated Meeting "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling"
03/26: Flying Fez
03/20: Bluebell Stated Meeting Calendar Dinner
03/23: Bluebell Stated Meeting

**Check The Web Sight and Paper for Degrees.
School of Instruction Every Thursday Night.**

Gray Masonic Lodge No. 329
3210 Hillcroft
Houston, Texas 77057-5806

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Address Service Requested

2004 DUES NOTICES

The 2004 dues cards have been mailed. The annual dues are \$90.00.

Brethren, I urge you to remit your dues as soon as you receive your dues notice. Failure to do so creates extra burdens and costs to the Lodge. These costs are for second, and sometimes third, dues notice mailings, which do not qualify to be mailed under our bulk mail permit. If you are unable to pay your dues or you have not received a notice all we ask is that you contact the Lodge. We do not want anyone to go suspended for non-payment of dues if it can be avoided.

Internet Update

I know that everyone does not have access to a computer or to the Internet, but for those that do, check out the Gray Lodge web pages at WWW.GRAY329.ORG . Several changes have been made to the pages, and I hope you enjoy them.

There are special links to send the Lodge Officers electronic mail, as well as links to other Masonic Lodges. While you are "surfing" around, don't forget to pay a visit to the Grand Lodge of Texas site at WWW.GRANDLODGEOFTEXAS.ORG

The Internet can be a wealth of information, as well as imposing to those that may be just starting out.