



Gray Line

**April
2017**

Gray Lodge No. 329 AF&AM 2370 Barker Oaks, Houston, TX 77077 713-730-9329

Greetings from the East

This has been a busy quarter for Gray Lodge, particularly regarding participation in events in the larger Masonic community. On February 18 we hosted a meeting of Tranquility Lodge. On February 21 we hosted a forum by RW Duane Anthony of the Grand Lodge Committee on Work. On March 1 we attended the visit of MW Grand Master Jerry N. Kirby to Holland Lodge. On March 22 we participated in a Master Mason degree at the Museum of Natural Science in Sugar Land, as well as the fish fry and visit of the Grand Master to the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association.

I want to thank all the officers and other brethren who have been working in various capacities to make this a great year for Gray Lodge. My year as Master will soon draw to a close. It has been a great honor and privilege to serve the lodge in this way. I intend to remain very active. I'm confident the brethren of Gray Lodge will continue to put in the effort to ensure that Gray Lodge remains a premier Masonic lodge.

Please contact me (Master@Gray329.org) if you have questions or want to get more involved.

I'd love to see you at lodge soon.

Doug Hissong, WM 2016-17



Quotes for the Day

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts.

Winston Churchill

Lodge Website

Visit the lodge website, www.gray329.org.

You can learn about recent and upcoming activities, contact the officers, purchase Masonic items, etc.

Golf Tournament

On Thursday, May 25, we will enjoy the 3rd annual Gray Lodge golf tournament at Cinco Ranch Golf Club in Katy. Registration is at 10:30 AM, followed by lunch, shotgun start at 1:30 PM, and then dinner, awards, and a raffle. It will be a great day.

You can get together a team (foursome) and play for \$500. There are a variety of sponsorship levels available. Contributions of cash or raffle or giveaway items are most welcome. Contact Al Florido, juniorwarden@gray329.org, 832-818-7379.

Fundraisers like this are a lot of fun, and working together on them is a rewarding fraternal activity. And, of course, our lodge is counting on substantial income from these events to support all that we do. For example, at our May stated meeting we will present scholarships to two very worthy high school seniors and a Lamar medal to an outstanding educator.

Upcoming events

Wed., April 5 - Stated meeting, DDGM visit
Thurs., April 6 - Called meeting
Sat., April 8 - Golden Trowel presentation to Roberto Sanchez, 3:00 PM
Thurs., April 13 - Called meeting
Thurs., April 20 - Called meeting, FC degree
Thurs., April 27 - Called meeting
Wed., May 3 - Stated meeting, presentations
Thurs., May 4 - Called meeting
Thurs., May 11 - Called meeting, MM degree
Thurs., May 18 - Called meeting
Thurs., May 25 - Golf tournament
Thurs., June 1 - Called meeting
Wed., June 7 - Stated meeting, elections
Thurs., June 8 - Called meeting
Thurs., June 15 - Called meeting
Thurs., June 22 - Called meeting
Sat., June 24 - Installation, 10:00 AM

Attitude

Attitude is the paintbrush of the mind; it colors everything.

An attitude is a habit of thinking. And the beauty is that attitude is one of the few things in life where we have a true choice. We cannot change some events that happen to us or the actions of other people. What we can change is our reaction to such things with the attitude we adopt.

Our attitude is our most important characteristic, more important than our education or talent. It can make or break our relationships and the organizations in which we participate.

Coach Lou Holtz said, "Ability is what you're capable of doing; motivation determines what you do; attitude determines how well you do it."

In my corporate career, I repeatedly saw that attitude is more important to one's performance and success than intelligence, education, or ability. In my sons' educational "careers", I saw that attitude is more important to academic success than whether some tests indicate that a student is "gifted".

Positive attitudes lead to greater achievement. We hear about someone having a "positive attitude" or a "can-do" attitude.

To a great extent, our attitudes define us, and they have impacts on our well being. Attitudes lead to emotions. A belligerent attitude leads to anger, which doctors say is the emotion most destructive to ourselves. A study at Harvard Medical School found that 40 percent of heart attack patients reported significant anger within the previous year, and about 8 percent reported that they had felt rage within two hours prior to their heart attack.

Optimism is an attitude. A study by the Mayo Clinic found that optimistic people live longer. A cardiologist says he has seen firsthand how we can harness optimism, confidence, laughter, social connections, and relaxation to help our hearts get and stay healthy. Positive attitudes contribute greatly to happiness and good health.

Enthusiasm is an attitude. Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Nothing great was ever accomplished without enthusiasm". Courtesy is an attitude.

Make gratitude your attitude. Count your blessings. In a survey, 90% of people said gratitude made them happier, and over 75% said it reduced stress and depression and gave them more energy. When you feel gratitude you express it by thanking others, and you pass it on to others.

We cannot change someone else's attitude; he has to do that. But our attitude affects the attitude of others. Attitudes are contagious. We say that someone has "infectious enthusiasm". I saw a bumper sticker that said, "Courtesy is contagious. Let's start an epidemic". Attitudes are passed from one person to those around him. One person can pull a whole group up or down with his attitude. We need to be alert to what others are passing around, and to strive to control it. We need to maintain a positive and enthusiastic attitude, and to pass it on to everyone we can.

Our attitude is the choice we have. It is a choice we make many times every day. It is a state of mind that no one can take away from us. By controlling our attitudes, we are in command of our lives. And that is the best way to live.

WM Doug Hissong

What goes around comes around.
Work like you don't need the money.
Love like you've never been hurt.
Dance like nobody's watching.
Sing like nobody's listening.
Live like it's Heaven on Earth.

The Tenets of Freemasonry



Brotherly love



Relief



Truth