

# Lubbock's Light

## The Newsletter of Lubbock Masonic Lodge

### #1392



### LIBRARY & MUSEUM STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

October 8, 2020

The Grand Lodge Library and Museum Board is honored to announce that Billy Hamilton has joined our organization in the position of on-site General Manager for the Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas, effective today. Brother Hamilton brings over 20 years of management experience leading teams at major corporations such as Verizon and AT&T, as well as a distinguished history of volunteer service to the Masonic fraternity. Billy also brings unique skills in technology and innovation that enhance the purpose and vision of the Library and Museum.

As the General Manager, he will be responsible for all decisions including, but not limited to, the use of the Grand Lodge building, maintenance and upkeep, employee relations, human resources matters, and any business in reference with the Grand Lodge building, the Library and Museum, and the Masonic Oak Park.

Brother Hamilton now serves as the single point of contact for all questions related to the Grand Lodge building facilities, including rental, hours of operation, and policies. He will report directly to the Grand Lodge Library and Museum Board of Directors, and will serve as their voice in all matters of day-to-day operations.

Brother Hamilton will be available in the office Monday through Friday during regular business hours. For any questions, please feel free to contact him at gm.gllmot@gmail.com.

Please join the Board in welcoming Billy to our team and supporting the great mission of preserving and perpetuating all things venerated by the Library and Museum.

#### MASONIC GRAND LODGE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF TEXAS

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| CLAUDE O. ERVIN       | PRESIDENT             |
| PGM JERRY N. KIRBY    | FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  |
| LYNDON L. OLSON, JR.  | SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT |
| DON PAUL PAYTON       | SECRETARY/TREASURER   |
| W. SCOTT LEOPOLD, SR. | DIRECTOR              |
| RUSSELL C. BROWN      | DIRECTOR              |
| ROBERT M. LOFLIN      | DIRECTOR              |



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- From Grand Lodge .....1
- Esoteric Origins in Masonry2
- Esoteric Origins in Masonry3
- From the West.....4
- From the South .....4
- From the Secretary .....5
- From the Sr. Deacon.....5
- Calendar .....6
- Birthdays.....7
- Sickness and Distress .....7
- Lubbock Lode in Action .....7





## "SOMETHING MODERN SOCIETY ISN'T FUL-FILLING": ESOTERIC ORIGINS IN FREEMASONRY

NINTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FREEMASONRY AT UCLA WILL EXPLORE THE MASONIC QUEST FOR SECRET KNOWLEDGE.

By Ian Stewart

Susan Sommers jokes that as daughter of the Midwest, she was exposed to Masonry early. “Every rock you turned over, two or three Freemasons would pop out,” she says. That familiarity with the fraternity eventually came to influence her scholarly work as a historian of 18th century British politics—a field practically awash in members of fraternal orders. And despite what she knew about the strong connection members have with Masonry, Sommers was surprised by the lack of recognition historians had paid to those Masonic bonds. “It just doesn’t show up in the literature,” she says, “but we know that it’s the most important thing for understanding who these men were—who their friends were, what their priorities were.”

The result has been that Sommers has developed into one of the leading researchers on Masonic history—and for the past two years, organizer of the [International Conference on Freemasonry at UCLA](#), hosted by the Grand Lodge of California.

This year’s conference, being held April 18, is titled **Hidden Meanings: Esotericism and Masonic Connections** and centered around the eternal quest for secret knowledge that has for centuries held a special appeal for many members of the fraternity.

Here, California Freemason speaks with Sommers, a [professor of History at St. Vincent College](#) in Pennsylvania and author of [The Sibyls of London: A Family on the Esoteric Fringes of Georgian England](#) (2018, Oxford University Press) and many other books, about this year’s event.

**California Freemason:** This year’s conference is primarily concerned with esotericism. Has that always been the defining characteristic of Masonry—what stood it apart from other fraternal orders?

Continued on page 3

*-“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.” -Helen Keller*

Continued from page 2

Susan Sommers: Esotericism isn't something that appeals to all Masons and it never has been. But it's certainly there and it's a strong current running through the 18th century and on through the present. So on the one hand, we're going to be looking at how that came to be and how various individuals experienced it; and on the other hand we have speakers like Ric Berman who say, 'No, it just got invented and thrown in there because it was sexy.'

**CFM:** Your paper follows a doctor and Mason who was interested in what we'd call the occult. Is this part of the same interest that was so prevalent in turn-of-the-20th century Britain in people like Arthur Conan Doyle and William Butler Yeats?

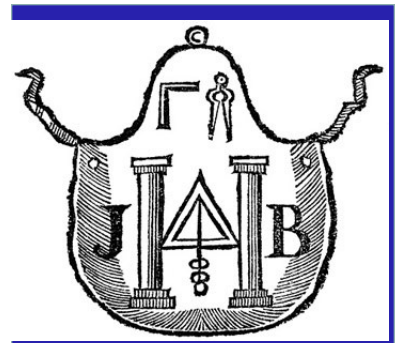
S.S.: Yes, although they come a century later. It's an early romantic impulse, the beginnings of that movement. These are people who said, 'Newtonian science is all well and good, but it doesn't speak to my soul.' You can see the esoteric tradition in Freemasonry in the 18th century as a connection between the late Renaissance and their interests in the occult, or hidden knowledge—the whole Rosicrucian tradition. There's this sense that there's something modern society isn't fulfilling.

**CFM:** Today, many people think about Masonry as a means for making friends, giving back to your community, and becoming a better man; others come for the secret-knowledge part. Has that always been the case?

S.S.: Yes, that's not new. But if you don't know about Masonic history, you wouldn't know it's not new. James Anderson, who wrote the first Book of Constitution in 1723, was also looking for the origins of the great religion of the world—the one religion he believed we all followed at one time. So he certainly was part of this school of thought that there's ancient, valuable information we've lost and we need to regain.

**CFM:** What do you see as the benefits today in learning about the origins of this strain of thought?

S.S.: There's always been this temptation to see those on the other side as being mistaken about the nature of the organization—that they don't understand what it really means to be a Mason. I think it strengthens the fraternity to recognize that if history makes something legitimate, then both aspects of the fraternity—the fraternal part and the esoteric part—are legitimate. We can see people being interested in charity and sociability, and people interested in lost or hidden knowledge all the way back to the beginning. Whenever that was.



*"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." -Ralph Waldo Emerson*



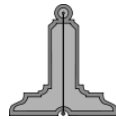
**WORSHIPFUL MASTER HENRY HOUSOUR**  
*From the East*

We smile when we learn that, in a bygone era, in one of the rural parishes of England, people believed that they had to memorize the text of every sermon they heard in church, because they would be required to repeat them all on the Day of Judgment.

To a modern cynic, that would provide another excuse for staying away from church. The less you hear the less you have to memorize.

But maybe this is a hint as to one of the reasons why some Masons stay away from Lodge. So much emphasis, perhaps even pompous emotion, is put on perfect memorization of the ritual, that a Brother hesitates to participate in the floor work and prefers absence to an irritating challenge to be a ritualist or an officer of the lodge.

Good ritualistic performance is a necessity; but brotherly love, kindness and patience must be the tools by which that objective is reached. Otherwise, we merely exemplify our own modern superstition about memorization. "You do it letter perfect or else."



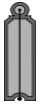
**SENIOR WARDEN HAROLD LOVELESS**  
*From the West*

Greetings Brethren,

November is the month usually known for Thanksgiving and a time of family gatherings to celebrate that which we are thankful for. Take time to reflect in all areas of your life and pray for those who are less fortunate. Also remember that November 11th is Veterans Day. This day usually passes by without much of a thought for those who served our country because of the Thanksgiving holiday. They can be seen every day, but most people tend to ignore or pass by them without a word. I speak of the men (and women) you see in public proudly wearing hats indicating they are veterans. Even though Covid-19 infection increases has caused the Texas Governor to enact safety precautions again, if you see anyone wearing a veterans hat, please take a moment and stop to thank them for their service. They gave of themselves that we may enjoy the freedoms we have today. In closing, I would like to say to all brethren under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, who have served or may currently be serving, "Thank you for your service".

Fraternally yours,  
Harold Loveless

*"I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have." - Thomas Jefferson*



**JUNIOR WARDEN TANNER COOPER**  
*From the South*

Grand Lodge resolution concerning consumption of alcohol on lodge premises.

The Grand Lodge of Texas has proposed a resolution to allow for the consumption of alcohol on lodge premises. According to this resolution, alcohol cannot be consumed in the lodge room, it also disallows any consumption of alcohol for four hours prior to the conferral of a degrees or during tiled meetings. The duty to monitor the brethren and see that they do not over consume would fall to the Junior Warden or someone appointed in his absence. This resolution if adopted by the Grand Lodge of Texas would need to be voted on by each constituent lodge. The resolution states that no lodge can spend lodge funds on the purchase of alcohol, instead any purchase would have to be done through some other means al la donations, etc. The lodge itself is not allowed to serve any alcohol due to liability issues.



**FROM THE SECRETARY JERRY HENDRICK**  
*Taking Care of Business*

As we go forth into a new beginning, we all need to rely on each other. Let us try to bring a forgotten member back to Lodge. With our new location we know the transition will be slow, so we will need all hands to help in this endeavor. It is getting close to the time for dues to go out. Please remember this required obligation, as we go forth. Annual dues are \$75.00.



**FROM THE SENIOR DEACON BILL COOPER**  
*Visiting Brothers and Prospects*

We are always delighted to welcome visitors to Lubbock Lodge. At our last meeting, 10/9/20, we had the pleasure of receiving the District Deputy Grand Master of District 93A of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Right Worshipful Terry Hitt.

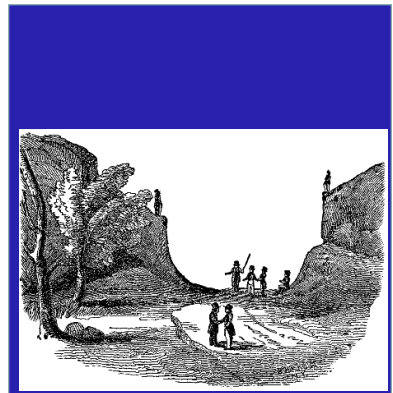
We also would like to extend our appreciation to the following Brethren:

Brother Glen Ashcraft, member of Yellowhouse Lodge #841 and South Plains Daylight Lodge #1443.

Brother Robert Kelly, member of Yellowhouse # 841 Lodge.

Brother Bob Robertson, member of Lodge of Journeymen #8, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Brother Bob Chesser, member of Yellowhouse Lodge #841 and South Plains Daylight Lodge #1443.



"/

*find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have."* -



OCTOBER 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

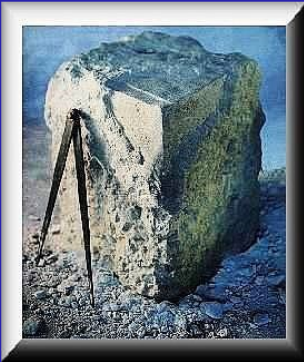
DECEMBER 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <i>Lubbock Lodge Floor Practice</i> Friendship Lodge Stated Meeting	4	5	6 Yellowhouse Lodge Stated Meeting	7
8 Emma Lodge Stated Meeting	9	10 <i>Lubbock Lodge 6:30PM - Host Briscoe Workshop</i>	11 Veterans Day	12	13 <i>Lubbock Lodge Stated Meeting</i>	14
15	16	17 <i>Lubbock Lodge Floor Practice</i> Mackenzie Lodge Stated Meeting	18	19 Slaton Lodge Stated Meeting	20	21 Daylight Lodge Stated Meeting
22	23	24 <i>Lubbock Lodge Floor Practice</i>	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

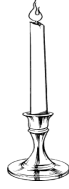
LUBBOCK  
MASONIC LODGE  
#1392  
MASONIC DIST 93-A



For more information visit  
[lubbockmasoniclodge.org](http://lubbockmasoniclodge.org)



## SICKNESS AND DISTRESS



Please remember in your prayers, Brother Finus Branham, his wife and family, as well as Brother Luis Ramos, his wife and family. I know they will appreciate your thoughts and prayers.



Please take the time to visit our sick and distressed; send them cards or call them on the phone,

## This Month's Brothers' Birthdays

Justin Robbins	11/1
Anthony Rumpel	11/22



## LUBBOCK LODGE #1392 IN ACTION

### *Briscoe Workshop*

5625 Villa Dr, Lubbock  
LUBBOCK, TX  
79412

MEETINGS:  
SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH  
MONTH, 7:30 P.M.  
MEAL: 6:30PM  
FLOOR SCHOOL:  
EVERY TUESDAY @ 7P.M.



Lubbock Masonic Lodge 1392 will host the Briscoe Workshop on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:30PM.

The workshop program focuses on Grand Lodge Law, as well as how to deal with difficult and unexpected situations which may occur during the course of one's tenure as an officer of his Lodge.

The purpose of the Briscoe Workshop is to compliment the Officer Training Program and concentrates on Grand Lodge Law and dealing with challenging situations while effectively teaching how to guide their lodge toward a prosperous future.

Although written with the Lodge officers in mind, the Briscoe Workshops are open to all Master Masons.

*"Try not to become a man of success. Rather become a man of value." - Albert Einstein*

