

Alvin Masonic Lodge No. 762 A.F. & A.M.



Nelson Eng, Worshipful Master

Arlene Squires, Worthy Matron, OES #15

Mark Peebler, Advisor, John Wayne Chap. # 3667

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Welcome to the August 2012 Newsletter

Well, July came and went faster than a Texas prairie fire. The activity level at the lodge has been high, kept us jumping, and it's not going to slow anytime soon. But that's what we want! We've had more brothers returning each meeting and definitely more visitors from neighboring lodges. A lot of compliments have been received on the quality of our degree work as well as the great fraternal atmosphere which is growing in our lodge. Don't miss out on any of the fellowship. Stop by our website www.AlvinLodge.org and check the calendar. It's constantly being updated to keep everyone informed of important dates.

Have some good news or special group news? Did someone in the family win an award? Send the information to our email address with the Subject Line stating "NEWSLETTER" so I can share it with our Masonic family. That's the purpose of this newsletter – to be informative. If you want one of those stuffy, boring newsletters that reads like an IRS notice, then our newsletter isn't for you.

Family Night for the Lodge, OES, and DeMolay's is Thursday, August 9th. Bring a dish to share. The food is always great! We eat at 6:30 p.m. No program is scheduled for that night so we intend to simply eat and enjoy the evening in fellowship with one another.

Our first Car & Bike Show is coming Saturday, August 11th to the National Oak Park, 118 S. Magnolia here in Alvin. Starts at 8 a.m. and goes all day! The Blood Mobile will be present and there will be a band, booths, food, fun, and lots of fine looking bikes and cars to walk around, look at, and wish you could cruise the roads in. But along with the fun comes work *and the lodge needs volunteers*. We want this event to be a success and continually build upon it for future car shows. The volunteer work won't be hard; we simply need people to help at the show. If you can, please call Brad Richards at 832-722-7259 or send David Hudson an email at DSHudson623@att.net.



This is our big fundraiser to help pay for the loan to repair our lodge building's roof – the roof that covers all of us while we are in meetings and social gatherings. Our deepest gratitude goes out to the companies and people that generously support us in our fundraising events.

The John Wayne Chapter # 3667, Order of DeMolay is washing cars on Saturday, August 18th! This is your opportunity to come out, get your car washed, stand back – and see teenagers work for their money! (If you've raised a teenager then you know what I mean....) But all kidding aside, the money they receive is placed to good use for their chapter. This group of young adults has proven themselves to be worth every penny earned as you will later read in this newsletter.



Good News from John Mitchell Lodge # 1401 -- R.W. Powell

D.D.G.M. 31B and Marty Haley, J.W. met with Grand Master Brumit, Deputy Grand Master Rogers, and Grand Secretary Guest this weekend while they were all in town. Grand Secretary Guest brought all of the paperwork for Serenity Lodge's dispensation to the Warden's Retreat and they received all of the approvals and signatures.

Serenity Lodge is just waiting for an available date when Deputy Grand Master Rogers can come to town and set them to labor. This is really a *big* action and *has only happened 3 times in the past two decades in Texas*. The Alvin Lodge sends its congratulations to all concerned for the perseverance and hard work that's been performed to accomplish this feat. And everyone should also know that the John Mitchell Lodge # 1401 and Danbury Lodge # 1432 will have booths at our Car & Bike Show to assist their lodge fundraising efforts as well! Be sure to support them at the show by stopping by their booths.

The Order of the Eastern Star will be holding their stated meeting and Rob Morris celebration on August 14th. This is also OES date for the Chapter report. On August 21st there will be an initiation practice at 7:00 p.m. for the August 28th initiation. All officers are asked to attend the practice.



Our Brother Chad Dudley named Lion of the Year! Congratulations!

The Alvin Noon Lions Club outgoing president Clay Stagg presented awards at the installation of officers during the regular meeting of the club in July. Outgoing third Vice President and incoming second Vice President Chad Dudley of Hometown Bank in Alvin was presented with the **Lion of the Year Award** for his commitment to the club's motto, "We Serve."

Got the Olympic Fever? Well, modest as he may be and hasn't told many, our Brother George Alston will be playing in the *Senior Olympics Golf Tournament* in Louisiana next month! **We wish you the best, George.** Remember, keep it in the fairway and watch out for 'gators!



"Solomon's Men" nominated as a finalist in the Best Mystery/Thriller category of the 2012 Military Writers Society of America conference to be held in September in Dayton, Ohio. "Solomon's Men" is one of my three published novels (*yes, I'm an author when not locked in the Secretary's office or working on newsletters.*) It was a surprise and honor to me when notified of the nomination considering hundreds of books are reviewed each year.

The Alvin Lodge will have a **Master Mason's Degree** on Monday, August 13th and an **Entered Apprentice Degree** on Monday, August 20th. All brothers are invited. Our Chef serves meals at 6:15 p.m. so don't be late.

John Wayne Chapter #3667, Order of DeMolay news from Dad Peebler:

On July 19th, six members of the Chapter, along with Chapter Sweetheart, Samantha Lang, Dad Sampson, and Mom & Dad Peebler arrived in Austin to begin the 82nd Annual Texas DeMolay Conclave. They quickly defended their 2011 Junior Division Volleyball Championship by beating the Pasadena Chapter.

The Chapter then participated in the official opening of Conclave and the bowling event held afterwards. On day two, the Chapter spent the morning studying their parts for Saturday's ritual competition. After lunch they competed in Dodge ball but were eliminated by the Amarillo Chapter who eventually won the championship. That evening, Texas DeMolay held a "Pool Party" at the hotel swimming pool and great hamburgers were served to everyone for dinner.



At 9:30 pm, Texas DeMolay began their annual caucusing and election of officers. At midnight, Sean Waldrop of Malvern H. Marks Chapter in Fort Worth was elected the 83rd State Master Councilor of Texas DeMolay. Immediately, Brother Waldrop appointed his district deputies for the 7 DeMolay Districts in Texas.

John Wayne Chapter's very own Tony Peebler was appointed to serve as District Deputy State Master Councilor of District 5 for the 2012-2013 year. This district includes the entire Houston area.

Ritual competition began for John Wayne Chapter at 8:00a.m. on Saturday, and lasted until 3:30pm with our final competition. That evening, the Chapter attended the annual banquet and learned our Chapter Sweetheart had not won the competition for Texas State Sweetheart even though she had won the popular vote of all of the DeMolays. After the banquet, most of the Chapter attended the dance that lasted until 1:00 a.m. On the 22nd, Sunday morning began with a short devotional then the awards ceremonies which highly anticipated.

John Wayne Chapter won the 2012 Junior Division Volleyball Championship. They also successfully defended their 2011 4th Section Team Championship (Tony Peebler, Jonny Lane, Chris Little) by winning the 2012 Texas State Championship, earning the right to compete next March at Frank Marshall in the Championship Level with other State Champions.

Individually, Tony Peebler defended his three 2011 State Titles in Best Part Master Councilor Initiatory Degree (2010, 2011, 2012), Best Part Master Inquisitor DeMolay Degree (2011, 2012), and Flower Talk (2011, 2012). He also won a second place medal in his first attempt at Magnificent Seven (all 7 preceptor parts). Jimmy Frick (Ceremony of Light) and Chris Little (Best Part Jacques DeMolay DeMolay Degree) made strong showings, but were unable to claim titles in the stiff competition.

At noon, the Chapter officially left Austin for home, while four of the members (Jimmy Frick, Jonny Lane, Chris Little, and Tony Peebler) headed for Northeastern State University in Oklahoma with Dad Little for a weeklong DeMolay International Leadership Conference. They returned Saturday, the 28th, after completing nine long days.

In August the Chapter plans to hit the road again to visit Legacy Chapter near Dallas, hold an overnight lock-in rush party, attend an Astros game, and have a beach party -- all before school starts. For more information visit our website at www.jwdemolay.org or contact us at 281-802-3751 or dadpeebler@jwdemolay.org.

Unfortunately, along with good news comes sad news for the Alvin Masonic Lodge # 762:

In the month of July, our **Brothers Steven D. Owens** and **Herman E. Luckett** passed away. The lodge performed a Masonic Burial Service for Brother Owens on Wednesday, July 18th. A Memorial Service for Brother Luckett will be held at the Alvin Masonic Lodge on Saturday, August 18th at 2:00 p.m. The OES and the Alvin Lodge will both perform funeral services during that time. A meal will be served after the services.

Please keep our brothers' families in your hearts and prayers. Our Charter remains draped in their honor. We extend our sincerest condolences to each family member, and may GOD protect our departed brothers throughout eternity.

Our Lodge is a special place for us in many ways. Masons, Order of the Eastern Star, and our DeMolay Chapter meet there for fellowship as well as organizational meetings. We're proud of our lodge building and want it to last for many years to come, but like everyone at home, we are confronted with rising costs to keep it clean, make repairs, and meet our monthly bills. Our cleaning bill alone is \$180 per month while the electrical bill is always over \$300, nearing \$400 in the summer. This doesn't take into account the cost of cleaning supplies which must be bought by the case rather than individual bottle sizes. Another factor is the security of our building. People come and go without restrictions because of our trust and honor system. But in the past we've discovered lodge exterior doors left unlocked; unknown persons have attempted to break the rear door key box, and vagrants have been seen remaining in the rear area. In order for all of us to continue having a beautiful building to meet in, our Worshipful Master Nelson Eng is asking us to always consider three things: (1) Electricity, (2) Security, and (3) Cleanliness.



- (1) When you are the last person to leave the building, please walk throughout the lodge and insure all lights and fans are turned off. Also, please return the air conditioner to 80 degrees Fahrenheit.
- (2) When you are the last person to leave the building, please insure the Secretary's office, and the front and rear doors are locked.

- (3) When you are the last person to leave the building, please walk about and check its cleanliness for cups, bottles, and soda cans in the dining area as well as mud or leaves that may have been tracked into the lodge room.

By cordially working together on these basic issues, we each benefit and avoid restrictive measures being introduced.

The MWSA -- **Master, Wardens, and Secretary's Association** – will hold their next meeting Wednesday, August 8th at the Alvin Lodge.

Please drive safe... A large number of our Masonic families are on the roads now for vacation or driving to take their sons and daughters to start college in various states. Within a few weeks, children will be returning to elementary, junior high, and high school too. School zone speed limits will be enforced once again – and please do not text on your phone while driving – especially in school zones.

Our “Build a Wall of Fame” brick program is going strong. Another large order of bricks has been placed and



will be installed soon. We are building our memorial wall one brick at a time. Order forms are available on the front page of our site: <http://www.AlvinLodge.org>

This is a wonderful opportunity. The bricks will be permanently displayed in the wall outside the front door of the lodge so that in the years to come, you will be able to bring your children and grandchildren to the “Wall of Fame” and see your name and the names of those you honor as part of a permanent legacy at the Alvin Masonic Lodge.



Thank you to all.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Glenn

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