



The T. L. of R. Bulletin

Published quarterly by the Tennessee Lodge of Research

George C. Ladd, PM & Secretary/Treasurer

4521 Turkey Creek Road, Williamsport TN 38487-2123

Phone: (931) 682-2263 email: TnLodgeOfResearch@gmail.com website: www.tnlor.org

THIRD QUARTER BULLETIN – 2023

JUNE 3 STATED MEETING

The meeting was held in the Lodge Hall of Mascot Lodge No. 738 in Mascot, TN. Thirteen members and visitors were in attendance. Brother Master Michael Neulander presided. Brother Master Neulander expressed special thanks to Mascot Lodge No. 738 for their hospitality and for the excellent meal they provided.

Our speakers were Brothers David Randall Brown, Ph.D. and Gene Claude Lawson, both of of Oriental Lodge No. 453 in Knoxville. They are the creators of the Way of the Hermit podcast, which “discusses the Western Esoteric Tradition of Freemasonry, mysticism, Hermetic lore and more.” They spoke regarding their experience of reading and digesting *Morals and Dogma* to create the podcast episodes during the year and a half period from October 2021 through March 2023. Each episode of the podcast covers a chapter in Albert Pike’s *Morals and Dogma*.

They encourage every Scottish Rite Mason to do as they did and set aside time regularly to, over time, read [*Albert Pike’s Morals and Dogma: Annotated Edition*](#), by Illustrious Brother Arturo de Hoyos, 33°, as the Scottish Rite encourages all Scottish Rite Masons to do. It has been said that no one fully receives a Scottish Rite degree until he has studied its lecture, and each degree’s lecture is the chapter in *Morals and Dogma* which covers that degree.

The Way of the Hermit Podcast is available at <https://www.wayofthehermit.com/> and from all the major podcast providers.

The following death was reported:

Benny Franklin Slusher, Knoxville, TN, Clarksville Lodge No. 89, died 4/27/2023.

Sixteen petitions for membership were approved.

SEPTEMBER 9 MEETING

Our next meeting will be Saturday, September 9 at **Park Avenue Lodge No. 362 in Memphis, TN.**

The Secretary/Treasurer will present “Grain, Wine, and Oil.” This paper was written by our Junior Deputy Master, Brother John Wiseman Simmons II. It examines the various Biblical references to the wages of masons, some of which are surprising.

A meal will be served at 12:00 Noon Central Time. The speaking program will begin at 1:00 PM. The regular meeting of the TLR will begin following the program. The public is invited to the speaker's program, after which all who are not Master Masons will be asked to retire (Master Masons who are non-members are welcome to visit our regular meeting).

Driving Directions:

Proceeding west on **Interstate 40** east of Memphis, when approaching the junction with the Interstate 240 Loop, **take the leftmost lane**, which proceeds onto **Sam Cooper Blvd. Proceed 6.0 miles** to East Parkway North. **Turn left onto East Parkway North. Proceed 0.9 mile** to Madison Avenue. **Turn right onto Madison Avenue. Proceed 0.4 mile** to Cooper Street. **Turn Left onto Cooper Street. Proceed 0.4 mile** to Park Avenue Lodge, which will be **on the right**. Park Avenue Lodge No. 362 is located at [**539 Cooper St, Memphis, TN 38104**](#).

REMAINING MEETING DURING 2023

December 2 – Sparta Lodge No. 99, Sparta, TN

MEETINGS DURING 2024

March 16 – Middle Tennessee– Bethpage Lodge No. 521, Bethpage, TN

June 1 – Unicoi Lodge No. 681, Unicoi, TN

September – West Tennessee—**we need a place to meet**

December – Sparta Lodge No. 99, Sparta, TN

2023 SYMPOSIUM ON MASONIC ESOTERICA

The Annual Symposium on Masonic Esoterica, sponsored by the Tennessee Lodge of Research and the Nashville Valley of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, will be held Saturday, October 21, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Grand Lodge Building, [100 7th Ave North, Nashville](#). The speakers and their presentations are as follows:

9:00 – 9:10	Dan Jones – Opening Remarks
9:10 – 10:00	Ernest Chapman – “The Philosopher’s Tone”
10:00 – 11:00	Mike Neulander – “The Axial Age of Religion”
11:00 – 12:00	Glenn Sparks – “Beyond the Stars”
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00	Steve Martin – “AI and Masonry”
2:00 – 3:00	David Stafford – “Robert Little”
3:00 – 4:00	Panel Question & Answers

This event is open to Master Masons only, who are in good standing with the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, or with any other Grand Lodge with which it is in amity. A current dues card indicating that the attendee is a Master Mason in good standing will be required at the door.

While there is no fee to attend, we do ask that you register in advance at <http://middlechamber.org/>

2022 PROCEEDINGS

The 2022 Proceedings Booklets have been mailed, and the PDF version should be available for download by the time you receive this bulletin. The DVD version of the 2021 and 2022 Proceedings should be mailed in the next two weeks.

The 2022 Proceedings articles include “An Oration on The Life, Character, & Philosophy of Wilkins Tannehill, Past Grand Master of Masons in Tennessee” by Wor. Bro. Edwin Josey, “As All Others Have Done...” by Wor. Bro. Stephen Martin, and “Lafayette’s Grand Tour” by Wor. Bro. Michael Neulander.

GRAND MASTER OF WASHINGTON ISSUES WARNING ABOUT ANTI-MASONS

From <https://freemasonsfordummies.blogspot.com/2023/07/grand-master-of-washington-issues.html>

In the wake of this month's killing of a Freemason in Texas and the bombing of a Masonic building in Greece, MW Steven C. Martin, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington (state), has issued a warning letter, urging Masons to be vigilant when displaying their membership in public.

Brother Robert Wise was shot on July 10th in the parking lot of McAllen Lodge 1110 (Texas) following the installation ceremony of their lodge officers. The (alleged) attacker, Julio Diaz, had posted paranoid threats, rants and allegations against Masons on his social media pages prior to the shooting, and even uploaded a video of himself as he killed Wise.

Grand Master Martin issued his warning in connection with anti-Masonic social media rants and open threats of violence against Freemasons by an individual. That man has previously been arrested for making threats, but was ultimately released by authorities.

Members are urged not to engage with such people if they are encountered in person, but to call 911 immediately.

We tragically live in an age when it's not uncommon to find social media posts that accuse Masons of "worshipping Lucifer," and are followed by comments like, "Burn the place into the ground and with them inside" (such as was spotted today on a 4-Chan message board discussion). There's no reasonable or practical way to put an end to these kinds of accusations and threats, so I fear that advising our members to "be vigilant" seems like a weak defense. But the truth of the matter is that no rational engagement with these kinds of grotesques will ever talk them out of their delusions. No exposures of rituals, no testimonies by hundreds and even thousands of Masons, no stacks of truthful Masonic books and articles will convince these die-hard anti-Masons that we are anything but child-sacrificing, Satan-worshipping, world-controlling "unseen Masters" of society.

And so, the danger remains.

Posted by Christopher Hodapp at Saturday, July 22, 2023