

Volume 5:2019

Making Good Men Better Since 1875

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

Prosper, TX

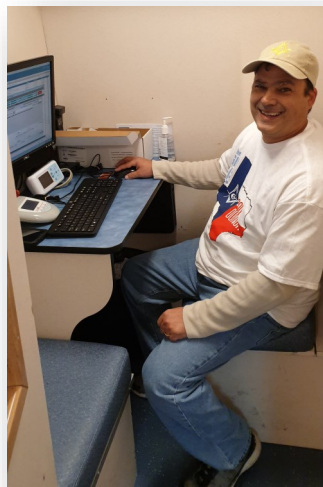
Giving Til' It Hurts

The Masonic Blood Drive on April 13, 2019 was a resounding success in volunteer turnout, donations collected and education for one and all. Blood donors got educated about what it means for donors and recipients alike. There were 14 donations made out of 16 possible timeslots even though it poured rain most of the day.



After completing a short questionnaire to determine the usability of the donation, donors got a quick medical exam with temperature, blood pressure and pulse being taken as well as a finger prick blood sample to verify iron level.

Once blood was taken, donors were given the opportunity to have a snack and beverage during a short rest. When each person determined they felt well enough to proceed with their day, they were free to leave.
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GREETINGS FROM THE EAST

Bill Strohmeyer, Worshipful Master, Lee Lodge #435, A.F. & A.M.

Brethren,

It is almost the close of another Masonic year, we are only a bit more than a month away from elections and Lee Lodge's new group of officers.

There are a few more things on the agenda to finish up. We are continuing to work on completing the Vanguard requirements, everyone is contributing in one way or another which makes the process go more smoothly. Part of the requirements include getting the newly elected and appointed officers familiar with their roles and responsibilities. The completion target date of installation on June 29th is quickly approaching so please remain diligent in working with Brother Ron Underwood and Brother Jim Hill in the L.I.F.E.

program and Officer Training respectively. If you have additional questions, please refer to Past Masters Lewis Bell, Mike Eckrote, Jim Hill, Don Hipp, Grant Hunter or Ron Underwood. The lodge recognizes these brothers for their willingness to share their experience and expertise as we prepare to begin a new Masonic cycle.

Elections are scheduled for the June stated meeting on June 13th. The slate of officers is being prepared. If you have a desire to be considered for an appointed position, please speak to Brother Lance Rawlinson. As the incoming Worshipful Master, Brother Rawlinson will select all the appointed officers to work with him throughout the coming year.



THANK YOU

"Please accept my thanks to each and every brother and their family members It is an honor to work with such dedicated and creative people."

Please accept my thanks to each and every brother and their family members for contributing so generously to the success of Lee Lodge #435 during my tenure as Worshipful Master. It is an honor to work with such dedicated and creative people.

WM Bill Strohmeyer
214-500-5192



MAY

Tom Casey—5/9
Bruce Thomas—5/12
Gene Gattis—5/17
Mike Eckrote—5/26
Scott Surplus—5/31



**Congratulations on
Your Master Mason
Degree**

Bruce Thomas—5/2
Joe Perks—5/20
Jeff Joseph—5/23



"Freemasonry teaches not merely temperance, fortitude, prudence, justice, brotherly love, relief, and truth, but liberty, equality, and fraternity, and it denounces ignorance, superstition, bigotry, lust, tyranny and despotism."


- Brother Theodore Roosevelt

Help Lee Lodge continue to grow and improve, submit ideas you would like to help develop to WM Bill Strohmeyer:
bstrohme@gmail.com or 214-500-5192



COMING ACTIVITIES FOR GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS, DISTRICT 9A & APPENDANT BODIES

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH – 9:00AM REGISTRATION
9:30AM BAGS FLY
 HELLA SHRINE INDOOR CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
 2121 ROWLETT RD. GARLAND, TX 75043

TUESDAY, MAY 7TH – 6:00PM DINNER
7:00PM STATED MEETING  Traveling
 EAST FORK #650 STATED MEETING Gavel
 508 PARKER RD. WYLLIE TX 75098 Locale

TUESDAY, MAY 7TH – 6:30PM DINNER
7:30PM STATED MEETING
 ST. JOHN'S #51 STATED MEETING
 215 ½ N KENTUCKY STREET MCKINNEY, TX 75069

TUESDAY, MAY 7TH – 6:30PM DINNER
7:30PM STATED MEETING
 LEBANON LODGE #837 STATED MEETING
 6983 MAIN STREET FRISCO, TX 75034

THURSDAY, MAY 9TH – 6:30PM DINNER
7:30PM STATED MEETING
 LEE LODGE #435 STATED MTNG
 101 S CHURCH STREET PROSPER, TX 75078

THURSDAY, MAY 9TH – 6:30PM DINNER
7:30PM STATED MEETING
 MELISSA LODGE #569 STATED MEETING
 1709 COOPER STREET MELISSA, TX 75454

MONDAY, MAY 13TH – 6:30PM DINNER
7:30 STATED MEETING
 CELINA LODGE #919 STATED MEETING
 139 N OHIO CELINA, TX 75009

TUESDAY, MAY 14TH – 6:30PM DINNER
7:30PM STATED MEETING
 ALLEN LODGE #1435 STATED MEETING
 101 N ALLEN DRIVE ALLEN, TX 75013

SATURDAY, MAY 18TH – 6:00AM START
10:30AM FINISH
 LEBANON LODGE #837 FIRST RESPONDER'S BREAKFAST
 6983 MAIN STREET FRISCO, TX 75034

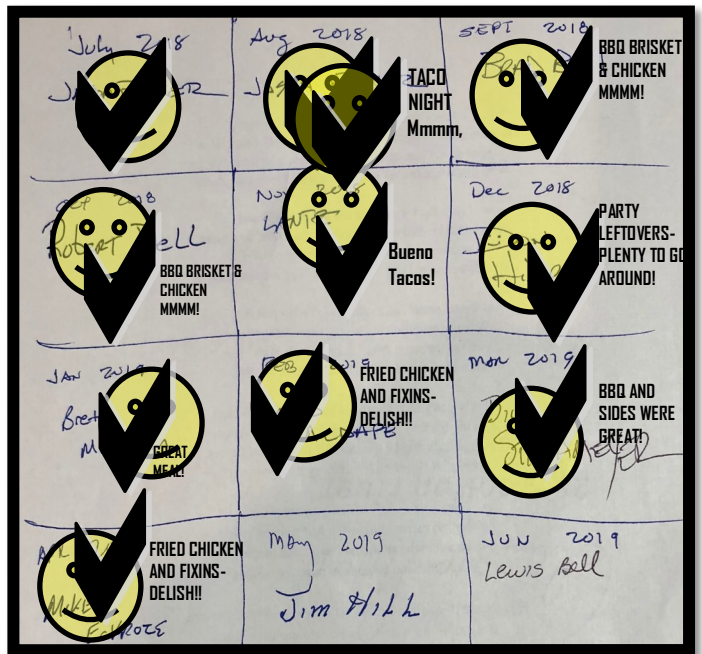


The Grand Lodge
of
TEXAS



It's time again, so please remember to RSVP on the Band if you are planning to attend in order for us to have a good estimate of how many meals are needed. Thank you not only to everyone who prepares and

furnishes such delicious menus each month but to everyone who helps with set-up and clean-up before and after our dinners. If for any reason you are unable to fulfill your meal commitment, please contact Brother Jason Porter; Senior Steward, Brother Cedric Cascio; Junior Steward or Brother Brad Bell; Junior Warden to notify them with as much advance notice as possible that you will be unable to provide the meal you have chosen.



LEE LODGE #435 A.F. & A.M.

PROSPER TEXAS

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

There are a record number of applications this year and two finalists have been chosen. We will report on the winners in the next issue of the Trestleboard.

STAY TUNED!



The phlebotomists on duty were quite adept and made everyone feel at ease with the whole procedure. Brother Lewis Bell, (normally terrified of needles) even contributed without so much as feeling faint (no photographic proof available)!

If you were one of the donors, you may register on carterbloodcare.org to get a thorough report of your donation including your blood type. *Some types are more rare and therefore more*

sought after but all viable donations are much needed and appreciated.



**EVERY UNIT DONATED CAN
SAVE OR IMPROVE THE LIVES
OF UP TO 3 PEOPLE!**

Grand Lodge “Gift of Life” Program Provides Positive Results

- 💧 Thousands of units of blood have been collected.
- 💧 Our Masonic Lodges have been visited by many non-Masons.
- 💧 Lodge members have come together in fraternal fellowship for a worthwhile cause.
- 💧 Numerous petitions for membership have been received by local Lodges.
- 💧 Local communities have witnessed the viability and involvement of the Masonic fraternity, thus enhancing the presence of Masonry in those cities and towns.

Did you know that you are able to donate regularly through Carter Blood Care at one of several locations in the North Dallas area and can designate your donation as a “Gift of Life” Masonic donation. Blood donations not only provide for others but is an excellent way to keep track of your cholesterol and other vital information. Thank you to all those who turned out to assist and contribute “The Gift of Life”.



*It takes **all** types.*

TYPE	YOU CAN GIVE BLOOD TO	YOU CAN RECEIVE BLOOD FROM
A+	A+, AB+	A+, A-, O+, O-
O+	O+, A+, B+, AB+	O+, O-
B+	B+, AB+	B+, B-, O+, O-
AB+	AB+	EVERYONE
A-	A+, A-, AB+, AB-	A-, O-
O-	EVERYONE	O-
B-	B+, B-, AB+, AB-	B-, O-
AB-	AB+, AB-	AB-, A-, B-, O-



TOPGOLF



TOP GOLFERS

Top Golf proved to be a great place to get together and have fun for Lee Lodge members, family and visitors. Thank you to Brother Cedric Casio for organizing the activity, it was a superb time all around! Even the weather was glorious!



Top Scorer of the Day



Another great event, Par for the Course for our Social Director!





L.I.F.E.PROGRAM

PM Ron Underwood is the appointed counselor for the Lodge Instruction For Effectiveness training program at Lee Lodge. Look for emails from Brother Ron regarding these essential lessons.

Our fraternity almost universally accepts the belief that as a man joins our brotherhood, he must do some proficiency work after each degree. Although the length of that work, and exactly what is required, may vary from one Grand Jurisdiction to another, we each must show that we are willing to work, learn and perform. The strength in this approach lies in doing, in the participation itself. This program follows that same approach in that the individual does some practical work in preparation for each of the three senior officers stations. If the exercises are completed within the context of your own lodge and it's traditions, the officers will be better prepared to lead and guide your lodge.

Since this is a Grand Lodge program, a series of manuals are available from Grand Lodge to prepare for Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden. Although the titles of the manuals are designated for a specific office, this program is open to anyone who would like to work on it. Any brother could complete the three manuals before ever reaching the Junior Warden's station. Additional manuals are available from the

Grand Secretary. There is an order blank for more manuals contained in each Manual.

This program was designed to be as simple, administratively, as possible. The Committee on Masonic Education and Service will directly support this Program at the Grand Lodge level. When each of the officers have completed their manuals, mail in the certification of completion, located in each of the manuals. Lodge Certificates for completion of all three programs by the appropriate officers will be sent to each lodge in the beginning of the new Masonic year. No application is necessary.

The completion of this program is a significant achievement. The certificates, should be awarded and presented to the brother who has earned it, in open lodge with the brother before the altar, where he was installed and charged to perform his duty as a lodge officer. When all three officers complete their manuals and the lodge receives its recognition certificate, it is recommended that you invite the District Deputy Grand Master to the lodge to make the presentation.

Now is the time to go to work on this very informative Grand Lodge Program.

- taken from grandlodgeoftexas.org



HELLA SHRINE Cornhole Tournament

MAY 4—Bags fly at 9:30 AM

BENEFITING HELLA SHRINE CENTER AND THE WORK WE DO FOR THE SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN

Hella Shrine Center—2121 Rowlett Rd., Garland TX 75043

\$5 Entry Fee for all non-players

OPEN DOUBLES & SINGLES

Open Division (doubles & singles) - \$100/team

Hella Division (doubles & singles) - \$60/team

Registration: 8:30 AM

Open boards: 9:00 AM

Open boards: 1:30 PM

Singles start: 9:30 AM

Doubles start: 2:00 PM

*** Money Shot Raffle (1-\$2, 3-\$5, 7-\$10)**

*** Raffles**

*** Food & Drinks**

*** BYOB**

Call Steve Lang—(214-929-2181) OR

Email: longhornsteve17@gmail.com

PAYOUTS

DOUBLES-Open

SINGLES-Open

1ST \$500

1ST \$200

2ND \$400

2ND \$150

3RD \$300

3RD \$100

4TH \$200

4TH \$75

5TH \$100

5TH \$50

DOUBLES-Hella

SINGLES-Hella

1ST \$200

1ST \$100

2ND \$150

2ND \$75

3RD \$100

3RD \$50

*** Proceeds from this event are for the benefit of Hella Shrine and are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution.**

WISDOM

wiz·dəm (noun)

Wisdom is defined as the ability to make sensible decisions and judgments based on personal knowledge and experience

He had the wisdom to stop before he said too much.

Whenever you
find yourself
doubting how
far you can go,
just remember
how far you
have come.

Remember
everything you
have faced, all
the battles you
have won, and
all the fears
you have
overcome.

– Unknown

A Masons Obligation

If a mason can't say
anything good of his
brother, he should
at least keep silent.

He must whisper
good counsel
to the ear of our
erring brother.
and not slander
or insult him and
speak ill of him.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

A Frog decided to reach the top of a tree. All frogs shouted, "It's impossible, it's impossible."



Still the frog reached the Top.

How.....?

Because He was DEAF...

and He thought everyone was encouraging him to reach the top.

"BE DEAF TO NEGATIVE
THOUGHTS IF YOUR AIM IS
TO REACH YOUR GOAL."



Bethlehem

P L A C E

Prosper's Food Pantry

We are still seeking a container to be kept in the dining area of Lee Lodge to help increase our collections for Bethlehem Place throughout the year. Since there is always a continued need at Bethlehem Place to provide for those in need, we seek to assist them in their meaningful efforts wherever possible. Bringing items from the list below to monthly stated meetings will help fill the shelves on a ongoing basis so let's find a good way to collect and deliver them each month. Do you have a sturdy, appropriate vessel to use for this effort? If you have such a receptacle, please contact Brother Don Hipp or Brother Lewis Bell.

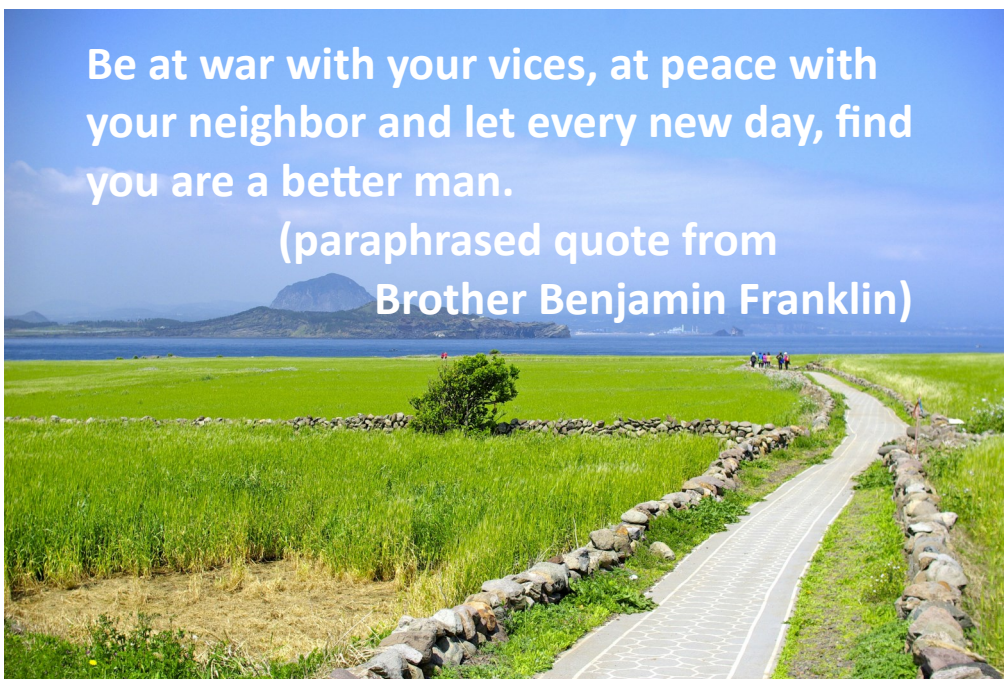
Cash or Check Donations (tax deductible receipt available)

Canned Chicken	Top Ramen	Flour
Canned Tuna	Macaroni & Cheese	Masa
Canned Fruit	Peanut Butter	Shampoo
Canned Corn	Jelly or Jam	Conditioner
Canned Peas	Pasta	Deodorant
Canned Tomatoes	Pasta Sauce	Baby Wipes



Be at war with your vices, at peace with
your neighbor and let every new day, find
you are a better man.

(paraphrased quote from
Brother Benjamin Franklin)





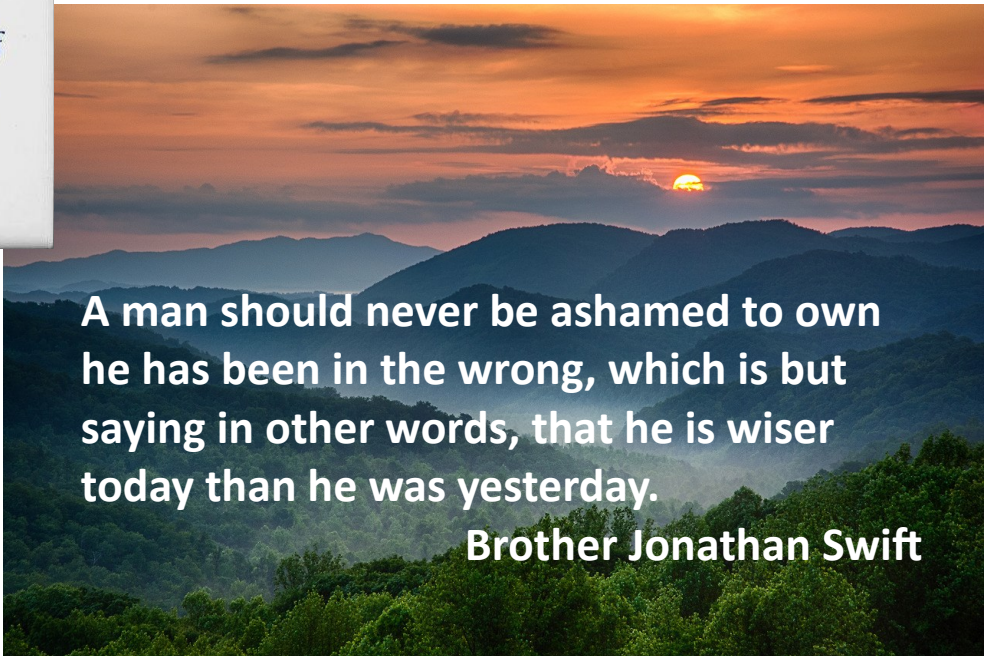
Have You Joined the BAND?

If not, what is holding you back? There is help available to get you started so speak to other brothers in the lodge who already signed on and get some assistance. It is even possible to have a training session if enough requests are made.

Already members? Great!! Please give some insight into what is really working for you and what might be giving you a bit of difficulty. Like anything else, practice makes perfect so use the BAND frequently. You can use it find out about upcoming events, share information with other brothers, check in when you are unable to make it to stated meetings and much, much more.



Knowledge is learning
something every day.
Wisdom is letting go of
something every day.
-Zen proverb



**A man should never be ashamed to own
he has been in the wrong, which is but
saying in other words, that he is wiser
today than he was yesterday.**

Brother Jonathan Swift

The Traveling Gavel



The Traveling Gavel was originally designed and built in 2002 by R.W. Ron Underwood, DDGM to encourage visitation between Lodges of Masonic District 9.

The gavel was designed with the following in mind:

- ◆ It is made of oak to represent the Masonic Oak of Texas.
- ◆ The head of the gavel is six-sided, representing the six Lodges in District 9
- ◆ Each end of the gavel head has 3 rings
One end alludes to the 3 stages of life; infancy, manhood & death
The other end refers to the three degrees in Masonry; Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason
- ◆ There are three rings on the handle that represent the three principle officers of the Lodge; Junior Warden, Senior Warden, Worshipful Master
- ◆ The end of the handle alludes to the 7 Liberal Arts and Sciences. The 5th ring is more pronounced than the others, referring to Geometry which is principally essential to Masonry.
- ◆ There is a small gap where the handle fits to the head. This is to indicate that there is still work to be done to complete the work.

**ARE YOU UP FOR
THE CHALLENGE?**

LEE LODGE COULD BE THE NEXT STEWARD OF THE DISTRICT 9 TRAVELING GAVEL!

The rules for taking possession of the gavel are as follows:

1. A minimum of 5 members of a visiting Lodge must attend the STATED meeting of the Lodge possessing the gavel.
2. If a Brother is a plural member of both the possessing Lodge and the visiting Lodge, he will be considered as a member of the possessing Lodge, not a visitor.
3. If a Brother is a plural member of more than one visiting Lodge, he will be considered a visitor from both Lodges.
4. If more than one visiting Lodge has a minimum of 5 visiting members, the Lodge with the most visiting member will win the gavel.
5. If two or more visiting Lodges have an equal number of visiting members, the following sequence will be used to break the tie.
 - The Lodge with the most officers (Elected & Appointed) present
 - The Lodge with the longest time since possessing the gavel.
 - The Lodge who has travelled the farthest distance to visit.
6. The losing Lodge cannot repossess the gavel for a minimum of 30 days.
7. The gaining Lodge will, within 3 working days, notify all other Lodges within the District, that the gavel has moved to the gaining Lodge. Notification can be by mail, phone, email or any other means whereby notification can be verified.



THE DISTRICT 9 TRAVELING GAVEL CURRENTLY RESIDES WITH THE EAST FORK LODGE

*If you would like to help bring the Traveling Gavel to Lee Lodge on Tuesday, May 7th,
contact W.M. Bill Strohmeyer with your intention to attend.*



Are you a “Traveling Man” ? Did you know that Masonic Passports are available to take with you on your travels to other lodges as a log and to verify your visits to other lodges throughout the world? With each visit, you get the Lodge Secretary to include their lodge seal on one of the pages along with signatures of the W.M. and another officer of the lodge.

This “passport” serves not only as a record of Lodges you have visited but can spark memories of other Brothers you met in each one. Speak to Brother Secretary Lewis Bell if you would like to receive a Masonic passport.

Do you already have a Masonic Passport with a variety of entries from lodges you have visited? Why not share your stories in the Trestleboard! Contact Lee Lodge Secretary Brother Lewis Bell: lewisraybelljr@gmail.com to provide information or write up an article yourself to include in the Lee Lodge newsletter.



Do you have an interest in desktop publishing? Why not become the Trestleboard writer/editor? The job will be available starting with the July issue which is due out on July 1st. The task involves compiling data from Lee and local lodge events, Grand Lodge of Texas and District calendars plus appendant body activities and other things of interest to Freemasons in general.

How about trying it out by submitting things for the June issue?



This publication is written using Microsoft Publisher and the internet with occasional Adobe Photoshop work on an Apple laptop computer but you could use whatever equipment and software you find familiar.



Frisco Area Collin County Shrine Club Hosts 1st Responders Breakfast

by Robert Bell

On March 16, 2019, early in the morning, three Nobles crawled out of bed to prepare breakfast for hungry Fire Fighters, Policemen and Veterans. They arrived at Lebanon Lodge #837 in Frisco, Texas, before daylight and began preparing a breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and pancakes, orange juice, coffee and water. This was going to be the day for the Frisco Area Collin County Shrine Club to show these first responders

how much they are appreciated.

The day before, Nobles George Crosby and Robert Bell visited Market Street in Frisco and met with store manager Margaret Stone to load the groceries the store had donated to this event. The groceries were transported to Lebanon Lodge and after an hour or so of unloading and organizing they were ready for the big event.

Noble Link Cook, our Shrine Club communications officer with over a decade of restaurant experience, manned the kitchen and began his magic. He moved through the kitchen like lightning or at least the speed of a Cheetah. I have never seen anyone prepare food that quickly and do it perfectly. Our first visitor didn't arrive until around 6:15am. I was concerned that the three of us would have to consume 200 eggs with all the trimmings by ourselves.

Fortunately, a young Frisco Police Lieutenant arrived as our first customer. When I greeted him I was still thinking about my conversation with the other two Nobles and instantly said "Welcome Lieutenant (can't remember his last name) to breakfast. This food was provided by Market Street in Frisco and our Shrine Club is cooking and serving you." I continued by saying, "don't leave here hungry and when you do leave if you still feel great after fifteen minutes get on your radio and tell all the other officers to come and have breakfast with us. On the other hand if you feel sick, don't use the radio." I received a good laugh from the officer, so I continued to use it for the remainder of the morning on both police officers and fire fighters.

Over the course of the morning I got to know about 40 of these young police officers and fire fighters and still remember their faces. The best part when everyone exited the door was their sincere appreciation for what the Frisco Area Collin County Shrine Club had done to honor them. The Tuesday night and Friday night before this breakfast found me with zero sleep so I went into this breakfast running on empty. It was all worthwhile to see the smiles on their faces when they entered and how that smile was mixed with pleasure when they left.

Originally published April 2019-The Camel's Calf : Publication of Hella Shrine, Dallas, Texas



THE NEXT 1ST RESPONDER BREAKFAST IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, MAY 18TH AT LEBANON LODGE STARTING AT 6:00AM. HELPING HANDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME OR BRING YOUR FAVORITE 1ST RESPONDER OR VETERAN TO ENJOY BREAKFAST WITH US!