San Antonio Assembly No. 159

<u>Meetings</u>: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 PM (except for July and August)

Davy Crockett Masonic Lodge 519 Alametos San Antonio, TX 78212

<u>Recorder</u>: (Mrs. Joe) Margie Estlack <u>mrgestlack@satx.rr.com</u> - Phone - 210-684-0446

<u>Worthy President</u>: (Mrs. Gene) Gay Carnes gay@tecarnes.com Website: <u>https://www.beauceant159.org/</u> Supreme Website: <u>https://orderofbeauceant.org/</u>

2023 Officers with Supreme Worthy President (Mrs. Jon) Melissa Spann



Social Order of the Beauceant



Beauceant and Commandery

A Masonic Family

Social Order of the Beauceant (S.O.O.B.)

We would like to tell you about our Social Order of the Beauceant:

The Social Order of the Beauceant was originally started at the suggestion of the Commandery in Denver, Colorado. In August 1892, they were asked to host the 25th Triennial Conclave for the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar, which was to be held in their city in August 1892. The Sir Knights felt with only one Commandery and a membership of just over 300, they needed help. Their wives agreed to supply the help.

At the first official meeting, the ladies adopted the name "Some of Our Business Society" and a brief ritual. The S.O.O.B. was organized solely for the purpose of providing aid and sociability for the Sir Knights and ladies who would attend the Triennial. The ladies so enjoyed the work that they never disbanded, but instead continued operating for the purpose of "making life purer, better and sweeter for others".

The Society remained a small, loyal, local band of ladies, doing good, and assisting their Sir Knights until the 1913 Triennial when they decided to take action to expand. It was then that the first members from other cities were initiated. At that same time, a decision was made to change their name to something more appropriate to Templary while retaining the initials S.O.O.B. Derived from a banner used by the ancient Templars, the "Social Order of the Beauceant" was the result.

The Social Order of the Beauceant is a ritualistic order with the theme of Faith, Loyalty, Love for God, the Order of Knights Templar, and each other. Just as the order of Knights Templar is known to be a Christian arm of Masonry, so is the Beauceant, a Christian Masonic lady's group. Its ritual is beautiful, impressive, based on the New Testament, and allows us to have a deeper appreciation of Templarism. We tell the story of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Jesus Christ who dedicated their lives to the protection of men, women, and children during their pilgrimages to and from the holy places sanctified by our Lord. That ancient brotherhood became known as the Knights of the Temple or Knights Templar.

Eligibility to Membership – wives, widows, mothers, sisters, daughters and granddaughters of Knights Templar of the United States of America, or mothers, sisters, daughters, and granddaughters of a member, who are, or were at time of death in good standing in a Commandery or an Assembly are eligible to membership. A petitioner must be at least 18 years of age at the time of petitioning.

One of the most basic landmarks of the order is the admonition to "cultivate the spirit of love for and loyalty to each other, and the Order of Knights Templar, and the reciprocal consideration due the order". With that in mind, the Beauceant in 1957 adopted the Commandery's Knights Templar Eye Foundation as their official charity. Since that time, they have raised millions of dollars for the Eye Foundation.

Today's Beauceant is an order with a long history of support to the Commandery, one that has proven to be a source of pleasure and benefit both to them and to the Sir Knights. It is a history they are proud of and one they wish to maintain. Therefore, they continue to cheerfully fulfill requests to assist with entertainment and hospitality at any level of their organization.

We now have 2,229 members with 54 assemblies in 29 states.