

Hempstead Lodge #749 A.F. & A.M.

A Friendly Neighborhood For Your Permanent Masonic Home

Volume 109, Issue 2

February 2002

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - Ted W. Wren Jr.
SENIOR WARDEN - T. Roy Shields
JUNIOR WARDEN - Kenneth Harvey
SENIOR DEACON - Steven D. Lyons
JUNIOR DEACON - L.M. Jim Ferguson
SENIOR STEWARD - John N. Daut



JUNIOR STEWARD - Malcolm A. Carter
SECRETARY - - - John "Corky" Daut
TREASURER - - - Malcolm P. Carter
CHAPLAIN - - - John Garrett
TYLER - - - R. Wayne Kluna
BULLETIN EDITOR - John "Corky" Daut



THE NEXT STATED MEETING February 14, 2001

Meal Served 6:30 PM — Meeting Starts 7:30 PM

Good Food + Big Smiles + Hearty Handshakes = A Real Welcome



Texas Masonic Heroes

DAVID G. BURNET

Elder Statesman of the Republic

The first President of the Republic of Texas, David Gouverneur Burnet had gained revolutionary experience in 1806 as the first American volunteer to join Francisco de Miranda's expedition to free Venezuela from Spain, and as Commander of the boat that fired the first shot for South American Independence.

A native of Newark, New Jersey, Burnet had left an accounting job in New York at the age of eighteen to take up a life of adventure. He returned from South America, and in 1813 decided to establish a trading post in Natchitoches, Louisiana, but he contracted tuberculosis and the business failed. Sick and despondent, he rode deep into the Spanish Texas wilderness where he nearly died, but a band of Comanche Indians took him in and nursed him back to health in the two years he lived with them.

From 1819 to 1825 Burnet studied and practiced law in Ohio and Louisiana. In 1826 he traveled to Saltillo, Mexico, where he entered into a partnership with Lorenzo de Zavala, and secured an empresario grant in east Texas. In December 1830, he married Hannah Este of New York, and they made their home on a plantation on the San Jacinto River, across from the Lynchburg ferry.

Burnet was elected President of the ad interim government of Texas on March 16, 1836. He remained

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ONE SADNESS OF FREEMASONRY

To me, one of the saddest things you could hear a Lodge Brother say is, "I **am not** going to attend the Lodge meetings as long as Brother _____ is the Master or a Warden or the Secretary of our Lodge." usually with the addition of "because, I don't like him." or "because he did something to me one time."

I have only been a member of Hempstead Lodge about a year and a half and personally only heard that statement once or twice. But, second hand, through another Brother or two, I hear too much of it.

I realize it is every individual's right to decide when and whether to attend a meeting or not. However it is hard for me to believe that a Brother who has studied the teachings of Freemasonry and has sworn an oath to follow them, would indirectly harm his Lodge just to settle a score even if it is unintentional.

A Brother **would not really** inconvenience anyone by not attending Lodge meetings. However, without guidance or opposition, a weak or misguided officer could leave a Lodge in trouble. And, that officer would be laughing at those sitting at home, thinking they are settling a score, when they may have opposed bad decisions, questioned his actions or pointed out his mistakes while attending a meeting.

"PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LODGE AND TAKE PART IN IT'S OPERATION!"

We must remember that no organization can be any better then the members who are supporting it.

A Personal Point Of View And Not Necessarily That Of The Other Members Of This Lodge Or The Grand Lodge Of Texas. Corky



The Star Corner

Q. What are the purposes and goals of the Order of the Eastern Star?

A. To provide an organization where women and men with high moral and social character can contribute much time, energy and wisdom to our Order with Charity, Truth and Loving-kindness for the good of all mankind throughout the world.

Q. How may I express a desire to join the Order of the Eastern Star?

A. If you are not familiar with anyone in a Chapter in your area, you may contact the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of California, for the name, address, and phone number of a Chapter in your area to express your desire for additional information.

Q. What procedure should I follow when I have decided that I would like to join a chapter?

A. The Chapter you intend to join will provide you with a Petition which you must fill out completely. It should be returned to the Chapter Secretary, as soon as possible, with the appropriate fees.

Q. What happens after I submit my petition?

A. Your petition will be submitted to an Investigation Committee composed of members of the Chapter that you wish to join. Shortly thereafter the members of the Investigation Committee will contact you individually to set up a time and place for a meeting. This is done (1) To ask a few very simple questions, (2) To provide you an opportunity to meet some of the Chapter members, (3) To provide you an opportunity to ask and receive answers to any additional questions that you might have, and (4) To verify your Masonic affiliation. The information that the Investigation Committee receives will be reported to the Worthy Matron.

Q. What will be the next step?

A. If all of the information is in order, the report of the Investigation Committee will be submitted to the Chapter members at a stated meeting and a vote will be taken. If favorable, you will have been elected to receive the Degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star. The Secretary will notify you of the results of the election and arrange for you to be initiated into the Order.

Q. How long after the election will that be?

A. Each Chapter attempts to plan the events of each meeting for the entire year. That usually includes some



**Thoughts From The
Secretary's Desk**

Once again, Hempstead Lodge, with the wholehearted support of Waller lodge has sponsored a very successful Banquet to honor the ladies in the lives of the Masons of District #108.

The turn out was lower then expected, probably due to picking a bad date for the event. We did not take into consideration the Trail Ride, the Parade, the Houston Rodeo and the big Bar-B-Que Cook Off. Approximately 120 Masonic wives, daughters, mothers and widows and Brothers enjoyed an outstanding meal, good fellowship and entertainment last Saturday night at the Hempstead Junior/Senior High School Cafeteria. Hempstead, Waller and Brookshire Lodges almost equally made up 80% of those present with a few people each, from Pleasant Hill, Katy, Morton, Rosenberg and Oakwood Lodges making up the other 20%

The New Psalms Gospel Quartet entertained us with some excellent singing and were rewarded with about \$200 dollars in their kitty. And, the speakers kept their speeches short

Special thanks for their hard work making it a success go to, *(in alphabetical order)* Junior Bridges, Kelly Cox, John Daut, Yvonne Daut, John Garrett, Rhonda Garrett, Kenneth Harvey, Brenda Harvey, Betty Kluna, Wayne Kluna, Steven Lyons, Bill Parham, Mike Risley, Joe Rutledge, Calvin Trapp, Steve York, Jimmy Zapada and Kris Zapada. I realize I am bound to have missed some of those who helped, so let me know and I'll add them next month.

Two Hempstead officers, W.M. Ted Wren Jr. and S. W. Roy Shields were missed. Ted is suffering from breathing problems and Shingles residue. Roy is suffering from many ailments that incapacitated him lately.

flexibility to accommodate Degree meetings for new members; however, in some instances very special plans cannot be interrupted, so the Degrees will be given at the first possible date. This will be between one week and not later than 60 days.

Comments to Corky at 979-826-6267 pineilse@swbell.net



DAVID G. BURNET
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President during the most turbulent eight months of the Republic of Texas, and was happy to resign the post to Sam Houston, the newly elected President, in October 1836. Elected Vice-President in 1838, he became President again upon the resignation of Mirabeau Lamar in December 1841.

He returned to his plantation in 1848 and, after his wife's death in 1858, he retired and moved to Galveston. He died on December 5, 1870, and was buried with Masonic honors. He was a member of Holland Lodge No. 1.

This month's "Texas Masonic Heroes" column is the sixth in this series on famous Masons who made Texans History.

Masonic Questions and Answers

Q: Is there such a thing as a Masonic Bible?

A: No. The Bibles sometimes called "Masonic Bibles" are just Bibles (usually the King James Version) to which a concordance, giving the Biblical citations on which the Masonic Ritual is based, has been added. Sometimes reference material on Masonic history is included. Anyone is welcome to read one.

Q: Does Masonry have a hidden religious agenda or practice that is known only to "higher" Masons?

A: No. The religious position of Freemasonry is stated often and openly, and we've already mentioned it above. A Mason must believe in God, and he is actively encouraged to practice his individual faith. Masonry has no "god" of its own. Some anti-Masons have said that we are not allowed to mention the name of God in Lodge. That isn't true-in fact that is one of the two meanings of the "G" in the square and compasses logo (the other meaning is "geometry"). It is true that we, generally, use some other term ("The Grand Architect of the Universe" is most common) to refer to God. That is done only to avoid giving religious offense to anyone whose faith prefers to refer to God by another name. But the God to whom Masons pray is the God to whom all Christians pray.

"Masonic Questions and Answers" It is basically for new Masons, Masonic wives and children. However, we may all benefit from being reminded sometime. Please let the editor know if you have a question.

In Memory Of Brother John Lloyd Bishop of the Hempstead Masonic Lodge #749, who died last month at the age of 74. Brother Bishop had been a Master

In Memory Of Brother Terry L. Boeger of the Hempstead Masonic Lodge #749 who died February 1, 2002 at the age of 49. Brother Boeger had been a Master

It's not easy to be a Mason. In fact being a Mason, a real Mason, an active Mason. a faithful Mason . . . is very tough.

It's hard enough trying to live by all the principles, the tenets and the charges of Freemasonry, you also have to be a brother. Frequently that's not easy.

Say A Prayer For,

Brother David Hartley, who is still suffering from headaches and facing a shoulder operation.

Brother John N. Daut Sr. who is facing another back operation.

W.M. Ted Wren Jr. who is suffering with breathing problems and after effects from the shingles.

Brother Joe Hester whose mother-in-law passed away recently.

Kelly Hartley, whose brother passed away recently.

Brother Roy Shields who is suffering from Diabetes, Hypertension and vision problems.

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Bridges, Junior W.	2-01-71
Chamberland, Clarence C.	2-07-61
Clark, Harold Wayne	2-22-57
Smith, Lavohn H	2-28-58

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO

Crow, John E.	2-07-27
Hamner, T. Finley	2-07-21
Hester, Sidney Joe Jr.	2-28-53
Kluna, Robert Wayne	2-08-42
McWilliams, Robert Lee	2-15-41
Styers, Julian Keith	2-25-69

Little David comes home from first grade and tells his father that they learned about the history of Valentine's Day. "Since Valentine's day is for a Christian saint and we're Jewish," he asks, "will God get mad at me for giving someone a valentine?"

David's father thinks a bit, then says "No, I don't think God would get mad.

Who do you want to give a valentine to?"

"Osama Bin Laden," David says.

"Why Osama Bin Laden," his father asks in shock.

"Well," David says, "I thought that if a little American Jewish boy could have enough love to give Osama a valentine, he might start to think that maybe we're not all bad, and maybe start loving people a little bit. And if other kids saw what I did and sent valentines to Osama, he'd love everyone a lot. And then he'd start going all over the place to tell everyone how much he loved them and how he didn't hate anyone anymore."

His father's heart swells and he looks at his boy with newfound pride. "David, that's the most wonderful thing I've ever heard."

"I know," David says, "and once that gets him out in the open, the Marines could blow him away."

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