

HEMPSTEAD MASONIC LODGE



#749 AF & AM



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Secretary John "Corky" Daut

March 2003

A HOUSE REUNITED

The merciful role Freemasonry was to play during the bitter years of reconstruction started on the day Confederate General Robert E. Lee was; forced to evacuate the trenches in front of Petersburg, Virginia. Union General Godfrey Weitzel, a Freemason, marched his troops into Richmond, Virginia, the Confederate capital, and immediately eased the minds of the inhabitants.

The General ordered his troops to fight the fires which had been set by the fleeing Confederates; Federal soldiers were used to subdue the rioting and looting mobs; the homes of women whose husbands were fighting with Southern troops had guards placed about them. Most important of all, Weitzel, on his own initiative, ordered food rushed to the starving city.

Major A.H. Stevens, General Weitzel's provost marshal, a member of Putnam Lodge in Massachusetts, placed Union soldiers about Masons; Hall, the home of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, (today, the oldest Masonic building in the country) to save it from looting and destruction by the unruly mobs. He went even further and used his men to protect the homes of many Richmond Freemasons.

The charitable acts of the Freemasons who captured the capital city of the Confederacy were talked about throughout the South. They

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The Big Hempstead And

The annual Valentine party for the ladies in our lives was a huge success this year.

73 people enjoyed a great meal of fried catfish, steak, coleslaw, boiled red potatoes, and hush puppies with cakes for deserts. Each lady there received a pink carnation and a fancy crocheted heart that could be pinned on her blouse or used as a refrigerator magnet. We also gave boxes of candy as door prizes to 12 lucky ladies including my daughter, Valerie. Thank goodness I wasn't the one who drew the tickets.

We were very happy to see that 2 Hempstead Lodge brothers and their ladies attended the party.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TWO LODGES MERGE

I believe this will answer the questions I have been ask by some of the Hempstead Brothers concerning what will happen to a Lodge's property if it merges and consolidate with another Lodge.

These answers were found in the "Laws Of The Grand Lodge Of Texas" on pages 128 and 129.

Art. 245 states that a Lodge may consolidate with another Lodge whenever the majority of it's members sign a written declaration deeming it for the best interest of

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BROTHER AUDIE

Audie Murphy (1924-1971) was a U.S. war hero and actor. He was born in Texas, and became the most decorated soldier in WWII.

In 1955, Audie Murphy became interested in Freemasonry. Encouraged by his close friend, Texas theater owner Skipper Cherry, Audie petitioned and joined the Masonic Order in California. Later he returned to Texas to conduct his Scottish Rite work and to join the Shrines. Audie remained active in various Masonic events and was a member of good standing at the time of his death.

Audie received his first degree in Masonry when he was regularly initiated, February 14, 1955, in North Hollywood (California) Lodge No. 542, Free and Accepted Masons of California. He was passed to the Fellowcraft degree on April 4, 1955. On June 27, 1955, he was raised to the degree of a Master Mason. Later, he became a dual member with Heritage Lodge No. 764, North Hollywood, (now Magnolia Park No. 618) on May 14, 1956.

Audie took his degree work in the Scottish Rite Temple in Dallas on November 11-14, 1957, according to records located at the temple. After receiving his 32nd degree, Audie was elected vice president of the Thomas B. Hunter Memorial Class.

Audie became a Shriner (Hella Temple, Dallas) on November 15, 1957. Audie was made a "Master of

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A HOUSE REUNITED

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helped soothe the pangs of surrender and undoubtedly caused many Southerners to cease fighting earlier than would have been the case if the inhabitants of Richmond had been treated brutally. The Army of Northern Virginia, under the command of General Robert E. Lee, surrendered on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Court House. On the 10th, Lee bid his command a sorrowful farewell and left for his home in Richmond. Ulysses S. Grant, the Union commander, left for Washington, leaving behind the Freemasons from Maine, General Joshua L. Chamberlain, to accept the surrender of the Confederate forces. Chamberlain turned what could have been humiliation for the Southerners into something they could recall with pride. As the Confederate soldiers marched to stack their weapons, the general ordered his men to give the conquered soldiers a full military salute!

Chamberlain's brotherly act, a Masonic trait, was remembered and talked about wherever the former soldiers of Lee's army traveled. The South learned there were men who were not vindictive, but were ready to lend a helping hand whenever possible.

Unfortunately, there were men who could not and would not forgive the citizens of the states that had seceded from the union of states. There were many who believed the states of the former Confederacy should be punished. A War had been fought on the principle that no state had the lawful right to withdraw from the Union. But when the war ended, many of those who had proclaimed that

principle refused to let the seceding states return to their former status.

Abraham Lincoln, before his cowardly murder, made it clear that he believed the best course for the Federal Government to follow should be one of moderation.

Prior to the outbreak of hostilities in 1861 Andrew Johnson (now president) sought to prevent a "civil" war. In spite of the efforts of Johnson and many other Freemasons, in and out of Congress, some of the Southern states seceded. The way was paved for the outbreak of civil war. And throughout the Civil War, Freemasonry did its best to ease the pangs of hatred and misery. When the war ended it was Masonry and individual Freemasons who appeared to work the hardest to reunite the un-united states; to make the period of readjustment one of restoration rather than the "reconstruction" it turned out to be.

REMEMBER THESE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pam York - Bad knees
Roy Shields - Still much better
Ted Wren Jr. - Breathing problems

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Daut, John "Corky" 3-31-28
Gratehouse, Woodrow 3-11-13
Smith, Gary Lynn 3-01-54

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Daut, John N. SR 3-26-90
Ferguson, Lewie Mayo 3-02-99
Herrin, Harold Edward 3-25-76
Lewis, Donald R. 3-23-73
York, Steven Wayne 3-25-75

A Favorite Quote

Author Unknown

A secret between two is a secret of God; a secret between three is everybody's secret.

INSTANT MASONS IN OHIO

One-Day Class Set for Each Ohio Masonic District in March, 2003

Ohio Masons have enthusiastically called for an encore, and the new Grand Master has agreed.

A one-day class will be held in each of Ohio's 25 Masonic Districts on a Saturday in March, 2003, with a hope of rekindling the spirit that led to a hugely successful event last April.

Each District, under the leadership of its District Advisor and District Deputy Grand Masters will plan the event to meet local needs, under guidelines provided by the Grand Master's One-Day Class Committee. R.W. Jim S. Deyo, Senior Grand Warden, has been appointed chairman of the committee for the second consecutive year.

Most provisions will be the same as last year:

All three Symbolic Lodge Degrees will be conferred on one day in one location, utilizing the best ritualistic work available.

No examination or memorization requirements will be enforced

Lodges may take action on petitions at special meetings.

All candidates must petition a regular Lodge, pay that Lodge's normal initiation fee, be investigated and approved by ballot in the usual manner

Each candidate will be assigned a "mentor," to be with him and assist throughout the degrees.

A goal of 5,000 new Master Masons has been set by Grand Master William P. Mayberry, Sr., for the one-day classes in March 2003. The

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More Test Answers From A Sixth Grade Class

9. Queen Elizabeth was the "Virgin Queen." As a queen she was a success. When she exposed herself before her troops they all shouted "hurrah."

10. It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of blood. Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes and started smoking. Sir Francis Drake circumcised the world with a 100-foot clipper.

I hope you enjoyed reading these. There will be some more.

LODGE MERGERS

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Masonry.

Art. 250. states that after the approval of the Grand Master, the charter and seal of the petitioning Lodge shall be turned over to the Grand Secretary.

All unfinished work and business Will be taken up by the petitioned Lodge.

All property, money and effects of the petitioning Lodge shall become the property of the petitioned Lodge.

Two east Texans are walking toward each other, and one is carrying a sack. When they meet, one says, "Hey Tommy Ray, whatcha got in th' bag?"

"Jes' some chickens."

"If I guesses how many they is, kin I have one?"

"Shoot, if ya guesses right, I'll give you both of 'em!"

"OK. Ummmmm. . . three?"

BROTHER AUDIE MURPHY

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the Royal Secret" in the Valley of Dallas, Orient of Texas, on November 14, 1965. Audie was also decorated a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (KCCH) on December 11, 1965. Audie affiliated with the Long Beach Scottish Rite Bodies on April 2, 1971. Two weeks previously, on March 19, 1971, Shriner Murphy affiliated with the Al Malaikah Temple in Los Angeles.

Audie often participated in Shrine parades in both Texas and on the West Coast. He was especially involved with the annual Mariner's Night, which included a dinner held in the memory of the dead and to honor the living seafaring men. San Pedro's Los Angeles Harbor Lodge No. 332, Long Beach California, sponsored the annual Mariner's Night. As an honored guest, Audie made one of his last public speeches for the Mariner's Night Dinner on April 15, 1971.

Shortly after his death, the Long Beach Scottish Rite Bodies honored Brother Audie Murphy's memory by naming the 111th Scottish Rites Graduating Class the "Audie Murphy Memorial Class." The class, which graduated on Saturday, November 19, 1971, had 124 members from forty five California cities and towns. One of the highlights of "graduation day" for the members of the Memorial Class was a special showing of the film "TO HELL AND BACK". The film took the place of the 31st degree and was shown to give the candidates a much better understanding of the character and background of the distinguished Mason and late member of the Long Beach Bodies.

OHIO MASONS

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A similar goal was established last year and was substantially exceeded as approximately 7,750 new Master Masons were welcomed into membership that day.

Last year's fantastic success has rejuvenated many Ohio Lodges, created unprecedented enthusiasm in the Fraternity around the state, and focused the attention of Masons all over the world on Ohio's accomplishments.

This year, each Lodge will provide the Bible and Apron for each candidate, as is traditionally the practice. A summary of the guidelines and procedure are published elsewhere in this issue.

Grand Master Mayberry said, "By having a one-day class in each district, I think we are in a better position to serve our candidates. I ask for the support of each Ohio Mason, to sponsor a good man into our fraternity by signing his petition to become a Freemason."

THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

It is sad when members of the Hempstead Lodge that has survived 110 years, start discussing closing the Lodge and merging with Waller Lodge. It is also sad that 90% of the members have lost so much interest in the Lodge that we do not have enough members present at stated meetings to fill all of the chairs.

In the December 2002 meeting, 4 of the 9 present were dual members of Waller Lodge and in the January 2003 meeting, 6 of the 8 present were dual members. In the February 2003 meeting 11 of the 20 present were either dual members or visitors

Smiles Are Catching

Jacob age 85, and Rebecca age 79 are all excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding and on the way they go past a drug store. Jacob suggests that they go in. He addresses the man behind the counter:

"Are you the owner?" - The pharmacist answers, "Yes."

Jacob: "Do you sell heart medication?" - Pharmacist: "Of course we do."

Jacob: "How about medicine for circulation?" - Pharmacist: "All kinds."

Jacob: "Medicine for rheumatism?" - Pharmacist: "Definitely."

Jacob: "How about Viagra?" Pharmacist: "Of course."

Jacob: "Medicine for memory?" - Pharmacist: "Yes, a large variety."

Jacob: "What about vitamins and sleeping pills?" - Pharmacist: "Absolutely."

Jacob: "Perfect! We'd like to register here for our wedding gifts."



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