

HEMPSTEAD MASONIC LODGE



#749 AF & AM



Volume 109, Issue 7

Worshipful Master T. Roy Shields
Secretary John "Corky" Daut

July 2002

MIRABEAU B. LAMAR

Accomplished in horsemanship, fencing, painting, and poetry, Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar came to Texas and became one of its greatest political leaders. His inspired vision of what Texas could become lay the foundation for future greatness during some of its darkest years.

Born in Georgia on August 16, 1798, Lamar was educated at the academies at Milledgeville and Eatonton. He served as secretary to the Governor of Georgia from 1823 to 1826, and was elected state senator in 1829. Defeated in the elections of 1832 and 1834, he followed James Fannin to Texas to collect historical information. He became involved in the independence movement and, deciding to settle in Texas, hurried back to Georgia to settle his affairs.

Back in Texas, he was commissioned a colonel and commanded the cavalry at the Battle of San Jacinto. He was soon appointed Secretary of War and demanded the execution of General Santa Anna as a murderer and war criminal. In September 1836 he was elected Vice-President of the Republic of Texas, and in 1837 founded the Philosophical Society of Texas. In 1838 he was supported for President by the anti-Sam Houston

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HEMPSTEAD MASONIC LODGE #749 AF & AM Is Now

Following the Installation Ceremonies, June 28, 2002 we have a new slate of officers filling the Lodge Chairs at Hempstead Masonic Lodge #749 A.F. & A.M..

The Elected Officers are,

Worshp. Master. T. Roy Shields
Senior Warden Kenneth Harvey
Junior Warden "Jim" Ferguson
Treasurer Steven Lyons
Secretary John "Corky" Daut

The Appointed Officers are,

Senior Deacon Kelly Cox
Junior Deacon John Garrett
Senior Steward Ted Wren Jr.
Junior Steward Malcolm A. Carter
Chaplain - - Malcolm P. Carter
Tyler - - Wayne Kluna

I'm pretty sure that it isn't proper to call Hempstead Lodge's new "Worshipful Master" by the loving title, of "Uncle Roy" anymore. But, what the heck, I am 11 years younger than him so here goes.

"Uncle Roy", with a little help from Jimmy Zepeda, Wayne Kluna, Kelly Cox and a couple of wives and daughters prepared fried catfish, boiled potatoes, cold slaw and hush puppies with all the trimmings and fed about 80 hungry people who attended the Installation Ceremonies. And lest I forget, here was a very large table full of

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FREEMASONRY DURING THE WAR

A Battle Was Stopped To Let Soldiers Bury The Enemy's Brother Mason

On June 13, 1863 the USS Albatross, a union gunboat, had been bombarding St. Francisville Louisiana. from its anchorage in the Mississippi river. the ships Captain, Lt. Commander John E. Hart, died from yellow fever. His Brother masons, also officers of the USS Albatross, sent a request that Brother Hart be buried in St. Francisville.

The Master of Feliciana Lodge was serving in the confederate army, but the lodge's Senior Warden, bro. W.W. Leake, though also in the Confederate service, was in the vicinity. Hearing of Brother Hart's death, he felt it was his duty as a soldier and a Mason to honor the burial request. All the hostilities were stopped, and Brother Leake joined the union officer's funeral cortege with two other local Confederate Masons.

At Grave Episcopal church, in full Masonic ceremonies, Commander Hart was laid to rest.

Soon the war resumed. but for one day it stopped in the deference to military honor and Masonic Brotherhood.

I found 8 stories where Freemasonry was stronger then hostilities during the War Between The States. I hope to run the other 7 in future columns.

TEXAS HEROES

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faction. Both of his opponents' committed suicide before the election.

At Lamar's suggestion, the new capital city of Austin was built and occupied in 1839. His proposal set aside public lands to finance public education earned him the title "Father of Education." As a lieutenant colonel during the Mexican War, he fought in the Battle of Monterrey. During the next ten years he traveled extensively and was U.S. Minister to Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Shortly after returning to Texas he died at his plantation at Richmond on December 19, 1859, and was buried in the Masonic Cemetery. He was a member of Harmony Lodge No. 6 at Galveston.

This was the tenth Texas Hero in the series on famous Masons who made Texans History.

OUR NEXT BIG BAR-B-QUE FUND RAISER

Hempstead Masonic Lodge will be holding a Bar-B-Que Chicken and Brisket sale at the Railroad Track Facility on 11th. and Austin Streets from 9:00 am until we sell out on July 13, 2002.

We will be selling Chicken halves and Brisket by the pound and by the sandwich.

All Brothers are ask to help work the fund raiser if you can and at least buy something if you aren't able to help out.

HEMPSTEAD INSTALLATION

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cakes, pies and cookies supplied by the wives, daughters and mothers for deserts, topped off with Blue Bell ice cream..

If you weren't there, you missed a great meal. You also missed enjoying some good fellowship with your Brothers and their families. Hey, you even missed seeing a few of the Brothers you haven't seen in the Lodge Room for a long time.

Hempstead Masonic Lodge #749 outgoing officers, new officers, Brothers, families and guests were honored to have the Past Master of Hempstead Lodge, David Hartley serve as the Marshall for the Installation Ceremonies and Past District Deputy Grand Master Dennis Hughes, was the Installing Officer.

SAY A PRAYER FOR

- David Hartley - Back Problems
- Ted Wren Jr. - Breathing Problems
- John N. Daut Sr. - Back & Heart
- Roy Shields - Multiple Problems
- Bill Parham - Bad Knee

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

- Bishop, John Lloyd 7-12-56
- Buffington, Bobby Glen 7-29-71
- Culberson, Al S. 7-9-59
- Moseley, Darryl E. 7-22-80
- Shields, Thomas Roy 7-20-40
- Smith, Kenneth LaRue 7-31-

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- Buffington, Bobby G. 7-7-43
- Culberson, Al S. 7-7-36
- Faure, Jimmy L. 7-26-35
- Lay, Thomas Fox 7-12-28
- McWilliams, James K. 7-21-63
- Parker, Monte Paul 7-13-58

THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

As some of you may have heard, besides being secretary for Hempstead Lodge, I am also the new Junior Deacon for Waller Lodge. Some one ask me the other day why I wanted to do something like that. I gave some kinda smart answer like a lot of us do sometime to avoid the truth. I guess I figured the real answer would sound kinda corny.

I finally figured out that you can't get any more out of Masonry then you are willing to put into it. So, I am trying to put more into it. That may also be why John Garrett is the new Jr.Deacon at Hempstead Lodge.

Anyway, I hope you attended the really great Installation Ceremonies at Waller Lodge on the 29th. The new Worshipful Master fed about 65 people on brisket and tater salad. The new Officers at Waller are,

Elected

- Richard Ventraca W.M.
- John Daut Sr. S.W
- David Reynolds J.W.
- Jim Faure Treas.
- Bob Scarborough Sec.

Appointed

- Mike Risley S.D.
- John "Corky" Daut J.D.
- Danny Williamson S.S.
- Reagan Rape J.S.
- Jim Hooper Tyler

Past Master Ed Locklear was the Marshal and Past Master "Wes" Mersiovsky, the Installing Officer.

NEW SALES TAX RULING

Grand Lodge, recently notified all Lodges, if they sell food to be consumed on the Lodge premises, Texas sales tax must be collected.

THE STAR CORNER

This story about Dr. Robert Morris is continued from the June issue.

The first Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star was organized in Michigan in 1867. Three years later Grand Chapters were organized in Mississippi, New Jersey and New York. Before the close of 1876, Grand Chapters were organized in California, Vermont, Indiana, Connecticut, Nebraska, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Massachusetts.

Meanwhile the publication of different Rituals and revised editions thereof brought confusion and diversity in the work where there should have been uniformity. It therefore became necessary that this be corrected with all Grand Chapters united under one body and using the same Ritual; thus the General Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star was organized in Indianapolis, Indiana, on November 16, 1876. Committees were appointed to compile and edit a Ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star. The one now in use has been evolved from the Ritual edited by the Committees appointed at that time.

The Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star now encircle the earth. The General Grand Chapter has jurisdiction over all Grand Chapters in the United States (except New York and New Jersey which are independent Grand Chapters), the Provinces in Canada, and the Grand Chapter of Puerto Rico. There is a Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland with jurisdiction over Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, South Africa, and New Zealand. The States, Territories and Dependencies of Australia are under the jurisdiction of the United Grand

Chapter of Australia which was established in 1985.

Chapters have been organized subordinate to the General Grand Chapter in Alaska, Aruba, Austria, Bermuda, Taiwan, Panama, Germany, Guam, Hawaii, Japan, Mexico, Okinawa, Italy, Philippines and Saudi Arabia. The membership in the Order numbers over 1,000,000 members in over 8,000 Chapters.

In 1950 the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, observed the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Writing of the Ritual with appropriate ceremonies held in Washington, D.C.

Once again this column will be continued next month. Please send your Comments and Suggestions For the Eastern Star column to Corky at 979-826-6267 or E-mail to pineilse@swbell.net

OUR LODGE'S NEWSLETTER

I wanted to remind everyone that as a member of the Hempstead Masonic Lodge, you own a part of this newsletter. I just fill up the blank space and try to fit it all together.

If you write an article or story or have an announcement that would be of interest to Masons and/or their families, please get with me, either in person, by mail, or E-mail.

There is one main requirement however, we will not include a copy of anything that was printed in a magazine, book or pamphlet that may be copyrighted, unless we have written permission from the author.

The Lodge is kinda economically challenged and

A MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER'S CHAIR

After 62 years as a Master Mason my dream has been realized.

After many false starts at trying to work through the Lodge Chairs in one town or another and being transferred to a job in another city after a year or two I have finally worked all the way through the chairs to sit in the Worshipful Master's Chair.

I realized long ago that a man can be a good Mason all his life and never derive any benefits from the experience. The only way a man can really get something worthwhile out of Masonry is by putting something of himself into it. It is only by being a Brother that you will become a Brother.

For those Brothers that don't know me very well yet, I have traveled in every state except the state of Washington. I have been a member of 4 different Masonic Lodges and enjoyed friendship and Brotherhood in all of them. I finally ended up in and retired in Hempstead in 1981 when I became of Hempstead Lodge #749. We have worked together to pull this Lodge up to where it is today. I remember when it almost went under in 1996.

That was the same year that I was shocked and honored to receive my Golden Trowel Award. I never expected something like that to happen to me.

In closing this month's column I want to thank each and every one of you and give you my promise to do my best to continue to improve this Lodge and never let it down.

Thanks to all of you for being my Brother and my chosen family.

W.M. T. Roy Shields

Most people don't realize that back in 1912, Hellmann's Mayonnaise was manufactured in England. The Titanic was carrying 12,000 quart jars of the condiment that was scheduled for delivery in Vera Cruz, Mexico, which was to be the next port of call for the great ship after New York City.

The people of Mexico had eagerly awaited their first large delivery of Hellmann's Mayonnaise and were very upset at the news of the sinking. So much so much that they declared it a national day of mourning. The Mexican people long grieved about the loss and it eventually became a national holiday that is celebrated each year, even to this day.

Of course, the new holiday quickly became known, as Sinko de Mayo.

HEMPSTEAD LODGE #749

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