

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

A Friendly Neighborhood For Your Permanent Masonic Home

Volume 108, Issue 10

October 2001

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



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 October 11, 2001

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

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



Texas Masonic Heroes

R. E. B. BAYLOR

"Pro Ecclesia -- Pro Texana"

For over twenty years, Robert Emmett Bledsoe Baylor traveled on horseback with a Texas lawbook in one saddle-bag and the Holy Bible in the other, dispensing justice and preaching the gospel.

Born May 10, 1793, in Lincoln County, Kentucky, Baylor's formal education had been interrupted by service in the War of 1812. Completing his education after the war, he went to Alabama in 1821, was elected to the Alabama Legislature in 1824 and to the U.S. Congress in 1828. In 1836 he commanded a battalion of Alabama volunteers against the Creek Indian uprising, and in 1839 was ordained a Baptist minister.

Two years later Baylor came to Texas and settled in Fayette County, establishing a missionary school. He also assisted in establishing the Texas Baptist Union Association and the Texas Baptist Education Society. This latter formed Baylor University at Independence, which opened its doors in 1846, but was later moved and combined with Waco University and rechartered in 1886.

Baylor was elected District Judge and Associate Justice of the Texas Supreme Court. He was a delegate from Fayette County to the Convention of 1845, and supported the establishment of free public schools, homestead exemptions, annual elections, and exclusion of the clergy from the legislature.

A Mason since 1825, he served as Grand Chaplain of

Continued On Page 3

What is Eastern Star?

The Order of the Eastern Star is a Masonic-related fraternity of women and men dedicated to charity, truth and loving kindness. Although not a part of the Masonic fraternity, membership is based on a Masonic affiliation or relationship, a belief in God, and a desire to acquire additional knowledge and for self improvement.

The degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star teach lessons of fidelity, constancy, loyalty, faith and love. These degrees are presented in a beautiful ritualistic ceremony designed to not only teach the lessons, but also to provide insight for future study and understanding.

Local Eastern Star Chapters select their own charities and places of service in their own communities.

Some statewide projects include scholarships for ministerial students, other general scholarships for youth, and supporting a home for aged members. Each year special charities are selected for that year's emphasis and might include volunteer programs in elementary schools or volunteers in literacy programs and specific community outreach.

Eastern Star proudly support young women's organizations such as Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters. Many Chapters actively support DeMolay for Boys.

The Eastern Star is also a social organization with frequent formal events and ceremonies. Being a member is a wonderful and a fulfilling way of life. Please ask an Eastern Star to tell you more about it! It is now the largest Fraternal organization in the world to which both men and women belong.



I AM FREEMASONRY

I was born in antiquity, in the ancient days when men first dreamed of God. I have been tried through the ages, and found true. The crossroads of the world bear the imprint of my feet, and the cathedrals of all nations mark the skill of my hands. I strive for beauty and for symmetry. In my heart is wisdom and strength and courage for those who ask. Upon my alters is the Book of Holy Writ, and my prayers are to the One Omnipotent God, my sons work and pray together, without rank or discord, in the public mart and in the inner chamber. By signs and symbols I teach the lessons of life and of death and the relationship of man with God and of man with man. My arms are widespread to receive those of lawful age and good report who seek me of their own free will. I accept them and teach them to use my tools in the building of men, and thereafter, find direction in their own quest for perfection so much desired and so difficult to attain. I lift up the fallen and shelter the sick. I hark to the orphans' cry, the widows tears, the pain of the old and destitute. I am not church, nor party, nor school, yet my sons bear a full share of responsibility to God, to country, to neighbor and themselves. They are freemen, tenacious of their liberties and alert to lurking danger. At the end I commit them as each one undertakes the journey beyond the vale into the glory of everlasting life. I ponder the sand within the glass and think how small is a single life in the eternal universe. Always have I taught immortality, and even as I raise men from darkness into light, I am a way of life. I Am Freemasonry.

Hempstead Lodge By Laws

Section 4. Tiler - It shall be the duty of the tiler to see that the Lodge room is kept clean and in order; and that the various articles of furniture are in the appropriate places; to strictly guard the door during the sitting of the Lodge; to summons the members of the Lodge to all called meetings where a summons is necessary, and be punctual in his duties.

(4.1) For the performance of these, and such other duties as may appertain to this office, he shall be exempt for dues!



From The Secretary's Desk

By Corky

Bob Scarborough, the secretary of Waller Lodge #808, and I attended a "Lodge Secretary's Seminar at the Cade-Rothwell Lodge #1115 in Houston on September 22, 2001. Brother Steve Orlando organized the program and the Right Worshipful James D. Ward, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas, who drove down from Waco, was the speaker. There was approximately 25 Lodge Secretaries attending the meeting, mostly from small town around Houston in attendance.

Many subjects regarding the Secretary's job were discussed and many points were clarified by Right Worshipful Ward including information about the new exemption from Ad Valorem taxes being worked on by the State Comptroller's office at this time. These taxes are approximately 20 percent of our annual budget. Brother Steve Orlando did an excellent job of hosting the event, even to providing peach cobbler and ice cream along with other goodies and drinks.

It was my first visit to The Cade-Rothwell Lodge and I was very impressed with their facilities.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO

Chamberland, Clarence Calvin	10-04-36
Holloman, Harold Douglas	10-19-41
Shields, Thomas Roy	10-30-16
York, Steven Wayne	10-08-51

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Parker, Monte Paul	10-7-82
--------------------	---------

Remember These In Your Prayers

David Hartley is still having trouble with his shoulder. Steve York feeling poorly with breathing problems. Junior Bridges' brother is in bad shape.



Masonic Questions and Answers

Q: Why The Holy Saints John

A: There have been several stories and theories relating to the connection between Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist and the Masonic Fraternity. There is no question that the two are patron saints of Masonry, but some of the stories concerning them are as frivolous as those claiming that Noah, Moses and King Solomon were Freemasons and those claiming that the first Masonic lodge was located in Jerusalem.

In 1737, the Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of France, Chevalier Ramsey, made a speech ascribing origin of Freemasonry to an order of crusading knights who had fought so valiantly for possession the Holy Land, saying that, "Some times after, this order was united with that of the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem, for which reason in all countries our lodges are called lodges of Saint John." Many Masons believed Ramsey, but no evidence has ever been found to substantiate his claim.

What is felt to be closest to the truth is this. Centuries ago, the early Christian churches adopted the pagan customs of celebrating the summer and winter solstices. These celebrations were dedicated Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist and took place on June 24 and December 27, respectively. In later years, as building guilds and other associations were formed, the civil and religious authorities required each chartered body to name one or more patron saints and to observe that saint's day as a holiday. By the sixteenth century, the Masonic guilds, like the churches, were associating themselves with both Saints John. This probably explains where the idea got started that both had been members of the fraternity.

The bottom line is this. The two saints are eminent patrons of Masonry because we have preserved and continued the ancient customs of observing the summer and winter solstices and the naming of patron saints. An interesting question is why don't we dedicate our lodges to Saint Thomas, the patron saint of Architecture? In England, lodges are dedicated to King Solomon.

Finally, modern Masons should keep in mind that the connection with the Saints John is entirely

symbolic and not meant to be historic.

"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.

R.E.B. Baylor (Continued from page 1)

of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1843, 1846 and 1847. In 1853 he helped establish Baylor Lodge No. 125 at Gay Hill, Washington County. Author of the charter of his namesake university, Baylor served on its Board of Trustees and as a professor of law from 1845 until his death. Baylor died in 1874 at Gay Hill. Baylor Lodge No. 125 demised in 1888.

This month's "Texas Masonic Heroes" column in this Newsletter is the second of a new series on the famous Masons who made Texans History.

It's Masonic Law In Texas

Art. 228 Meetings: Frequency

Every Lodge shall meet at least once in three months, and a lodge failing to do so shall forfeit all its rights and privileges. It shall stand suspended, and its charter may be ordered returned; provided, the Grand Master, in his judgement, may grant such Lodge a dispensation to continue its work until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, at which time its charter shall be forfeited, unless the Grand Lodge otherwise directs.

If you have a question or suggestion regarding the wording or meaning of Masonic law, please let me know and I'll try to help in this column.

Visit These Masonic Sites On The Internet.

The Grand Lodge Of Texas
<http://www.gltexas.org/index.htm>

Small Town Texas Lodges
(Waller County Lodges and Eastern Star Pages)
<http://www.geocities.com/corkyscorner/lodge.htm>
E-mail Corky - pineilse@swbell.net

I received this new computer virus the other day and thought I would pass it on to all of our Brothers who have a computer.

NOTICE!

You have just received da Cajun Virus. Sance we ain't got no programin sperience, dis virus woks on da honor system.

Please d'leet all da files on u hard driver,

Den, manually forward dis virus to averybody on u maleing list.

Tank ya'll for u cooperation.

Boudreaux and Thibodaux

HEMPSTEAD LODGE #749

P.O. Box 1251

Hempstead, TX 77445

