

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

A Friendly Neighborhood For Your Permanent Masonic Home

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It's time for the Big Bicycle Race Fund Raiser to be held March 17, 2002 at the V.F. Discount Mall on Business Hwy. 290 and Factory Outlet Drive. All Brothers are invited to work and or buy



Texas Masonic Heroes

It's Masonic Law In Texas

DAVID CROCKETT

King of the Wilderness

A legend in his own time, by 1836 Davy Crockett shared billing with Jim Bowie as one of the two most famous men west of the Appalachians. Born on August 17, 1786, in northeastern Tennessee, he ran away from home at age twelve because of his dislike of school. He returned home three years later and paid for his own education.

Crockett was the archetype of the American frontiersman, and was famous for his ability to shoot the flame off a candle at 100 yards. He once killed 105 bears in a single season, some with a knife.

After serving two terms in the state Legislature, Crockett was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1827, 1829, and 1833. Popular for his honesty and homespun forthrightness, he loudly opposed President Jackson's mistreatment of the Indians. Following his defeat in the election of 1835, an angry Crockett told his Tennessee constituents, "You all can go to hell - I'm goin' to Texas!"

On February 8, 1836, Davy and his twelve "Tennessee Boys" rode into the Alamo. His tall tales and quick wit held the morale of the men high during the worst days of the siege. On the morning of March 6, as the Mexicans finally overwhelmed the Alamo garrison, Davy Crockett was among the last to die.

Proof that Crockett was a Mason is based mainly on the survival of his Masonic Apron, made for him by

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Art. 423. (462). When And By Whom. Any member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction may protest, either orally or in writing, a candidate for any degree, either before or after his election. In each case the protester must give clearly his name and the name, number, and location of his Lodge. Protest may be made by telephone if the person called is satisfied as to the identity and qualification of the Protester; in each such case the person called must in the same telephone conversation advise the caller whether or not the protest is accepted. The Worshipful Master, shall not disclose the identify of the Brother who made the protest, but shall immediately upon receipt of the protest notify the Wardens and the Secretary that it has been made.

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.

—An Editorial Comment—

I think that the above is one of the best of the Grand Lodge laws because it has helped keep many an unworthy candidate from becoming a Brother Mason for reasons not found by the investigators.

At the same time however, I feel that it is also one of the worse of the Grand Lodge laws. It allows Brothers who have forgotten or ignore the teachings of Freemasonry to keep a good man from becoming an asset to Freemasonry.

It makes it too easy for an unscrupulous "Brother" to retaliate against a man for race, religion, some petty slight or even an imagined insult by protesting him. For

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The Star Corner

Q. Just what is Fraternal Life?

A. The Order of the Eastern Star provides us with a means of compassion and concern - not only for our fellow Sisters and Brothers in the Order of the Eastern Star, but to ourselves, our Country, and our faith. In addition, it enters us into a way of life that all of us inwardly want for ourselves and our families.

Q. What does the Eastern Star have to offer that other organizations do not?

A. Each of us has an inner need to do something for others. Sometimes it is difficult to determine just how to begin. The Order of the Eastern Star offers that guidance and provides an outlet as well as serving as a resource center and support group.

Q. Is there any social involvement?

A. Yes. The Chapter has numerous fun activities for all members and their family and friends. Usually, the Worthy Matron has a Social Enjoyment Chairman to supplement her planned activities.

Q. Is there any Fraternal friendship?

A. Both women and men join a Fraternal Order to make friends and enjoy the fellowship that is displayed. Members and their families can enjoy interacting with others who share their beliefs.

Q. Will I become a better person?

A. Yes. The Order of the Eastern Star takes good citizens and makes them even better. We continue to be central in the development of the American promise of human opportunity and personal fulfillment.

Q. Does the Order of the Eastern Star give support to any affiliated youth groups?

A. Yes. The Order of the Eastern Star provides support to members of the **Rainbow for Girls** (ages 11 through 21) and **Job's Daughters** (ages 11 through 20). The purpose of these youth groups is to train these fine young citizens to be leaders in the community and to be future members and leaders in the Order of the Eastern Star. The Masons also sponsor **DeMolay for Boys** (ages 13 through 21).

Q. Does the Order of the Eastern Star have any special projects?

A. Yes. Our Order of the Eastern Star membership supports E.S.T.A.R.L (Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership) and college or university scholarship awards to students of any race, creed, or

**A Note From The
Secretary's Desk**

Who is that guy that the members of Hempstead Lodge depended on for the last decade or so to cut the grass for the Lodge, do all of the little maintenance jobs on the Lodge building, come down and open the Lodge building when someone needed to get in, come running when a brother needed help and who ran a hundred little errands to buy whatever was needed for the Lodge without compensation for time or gasoline?

It's that guy that a bunch of us lovingly call "Uncle Roy". Now, all of us know that "Uncle Roy" lives alone and has no close family members living near by. We also know that he has an assortment of illnesses and physical conditions that any one of, would be hard to live with and make it hard for him to do many things he used to do.

It is my opinion that over the years "Uncle Roy" has earned a whole lot of payback. I think it would make a big difference in his life if he knew we all cared enough to get on the phone every so often and/or stop by his house to say hello Brother Roy how are you feeling today, can I do something for you.

It's Masonic Law In Texas Continued from Page 1
that reason I hope that some day the Grand Lodge Of Texas will consider amending the law to require all protesters to make their protest in open Lodge.

I feel that any Brother who knows of a legitimate reason to exclude a man from Freemasonry, should be proud to stand in the full light of the Lodge and present the facts. After all, Freemasonry's first teaching is that we should work toward obtaining more Light.

color; Eastern Star Home for its senior members in California; J. Clifford Lee and Marguerite Rennie Memorial Cancer Funds; Memorial Cancer Dressing Stations; Heart Research Foundation and a Benevolent Fund for the relief of qualified indigent and distressed members or Chapters. Additional charities are also supported.

Please send your Comments and suggestions to Corky at 979-826-6267 pineilse@swbell.net



Davy Crocket *Continued From Page 1*

Mrs. A.C. Massie of Washington, D.C., during his tenure in Congress. Before leaving for Texas, he entrusted the apron to the sheriff of Weakley County, Tennessee, and it was inherited and preserved by the sheriff's nephew, E.M. Taylor of Paducah, Kentucky.

The lodge at Weakley County, near the Crockett home, burned during the Civil War destroying all the lodge records.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Daut, John W. "Corky" | 3-31-28 |
| Gratehouse, Woodrow W. | 3-11-13 |
| Smith, Gary Lynn | 3-1-54 |

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Daut, John N. SR | 3-26-90 |
| Ferguson, Lewie Mayo | 3-2-99 |
| Herrin, Harold Edward | 3-25-76 |
| Lewis, Donald R. | 3-23-73 |
| York, Steven Wayne | 3-25-75 |

Masonic Questions and Answers

**Q: So what do Masons mean by "secrecy?"
What kind of secrecy do we teach?**

A:The first and most important kind is the ability to keep confidences. All of us value those friends to whom we can talk, "blow off steam," really open ourselves to, and still know without any question that the friend will never tell anyone else or use those moments of sometimes painful honesty against us in any way. As it says in Proverbs 11:13, "A talebearer revealeth secrets, but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter." Masons are taught that it is important to be such a friend.

The second kind of secrecy we teach is the idea of "doing good in silence." One of the Masonic Degrees says it this way: "Be careful that you do not contribute to showy charities in order to have the reputation of being a charitable man, while sending away from your door the poor whom God has sent to test you."



Did You Know???

In these days where many people carry Cell Phones, there is an 1-800 telephone number on the back of your Drivers License, just above the Bar Code. It is put there for citizens who have trouble on a Texas highway and need roadside assistance. The number is 1-800-525-5555.

It is a state operated program, paid for with our tax dollars and is there for us to use when needed.

The Knife And Fork Degree

Floorwork:

This Degree should be exemplified in the dining hall after the Chaplain **has given the blessing.**

Lecture:

My Brother the working tools of the Knife and Fork degree or explained as follows:

The Knife is an instrument made use of by operative Masons for the purpose of keeping the wild animals at bay, in the event of an attack. But we work in speculative Masonry only, so, we are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of slicing our Steaks, and Vegetables prior to ingesting them.

The Fork is an instrument made use of by the operative Mason for the purpose of gathering the brush and plants, when clearing a building site. But we work in speculative Masonry only, so we are taught to use it for the more noble and glorious purpose of skewering the Steak, or Vegetables, prior to slicing, and then again, for the purpose of lifting the said morsel from the plate to our mouths, for ingestion.

Signs:

Mouth open ready for food.

Words:

I could tell you, but then I'd have to FEED you.

Secrecy, in those senses, is a virtue, and it is in those senses it is taught in Masonry. The first and most important kind is the ability to keep confidences. All of us value those friends to whom we can talk, or "blow off steam," with in a really open manner.

Old Bubba bought two horses, and couldn't ever remember which one was which.

A neighbor suggested that he cut the tail of one horse and that worked great until the other horse got his tail caught in a bush. It tore just right and looked exactly like the other horse's tail and old Bubba was stuck again.

The neighbor suggested Jon notch the ear of one horse. That worked fine until the other horse caught his ear on a barbed wire fence. Once again old Bubba couldn't tell them apart.

The neighbor suggested he measure the horses for height. When he did, he was very pleased to find that the white horse was 2 inches taller than the black one.

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