

# Hempstead Lodge #749

Volume 108, Issue 4

April 2001

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - David Hartley  
SENIOR WARDEN - Ted W. Wren Jr.  
JUNIOR WARDEN - T. Roy Shields  
SENIOR DEACON - Kenneth Harvey  
JUNIOR DEACON - Junior Bridges  
SENIOR STEWARD - L.M. Jim Ferguson



JUNIOR STEWARD - J. Keith Styers  
SECRETARY - - Steve York  
TREASURER - - H. Doug Holloman  
CHAPLAIN - - John Garrett  
TYLER - - - R. Wayne Kluna  
EDITOR - - - John "Corky" Daut



**THE NEXT STATED MEETING April 12, 2001**

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



## Fate Or Future For Masonry

The following thoughts were taken from a posting on the "soc.org.freemasonry" newsgroup on the Internet.

The dictionary on my desk defines "FATE" as "Predetermined and inevitable necessity, Evil Destiny, Doom or Destruction"

"FUTURE", on the other hand, is defined as "The time yet to come, Prospects, or Outlook" in a positive sense.

I, and many others, believe the global Masonic community is at a crossroads in it's life. We - you, me, all of us - and our Masonic groups can have a "FATE" or a "FUTURE"

The outcome is in our hands. We can easily fade into oblivion by staying home from meetings and activities. All you have to do is to do nothing.

Sit back, prop up your feet, turn on the TV and let that clique at the Masonic Lodge Hall run things.

Don't stop to think that the only reason they became "The Clique" was because they were the only ones who cared enough to show up for the meetings every month and be involved.

The time to act is now. All it takes for Evil to triumph over Good is for good men (and women) to do nothing.

## The Big Bicycle Race

Once again, the Hempstead Lodge pulled off a winner with a brisket sale. And of course the Sausage Wraps sold well enough to consider selling them again at future fund raisers. The big Bicycle Race was operated out of the VF Discount Mall Parking lot in Hempstead March 18th. The parking lot, the drive behind the mall was filled to the brim with the cars of race participants. Some cars were even parked on FM1488. The Lodge sold 12 briskets sliced, chopped and made into sandwiches and a number of hunks of Chappel Hill sausage and Bar-B-Que sauce wrapped in a slice of bread, "Sausage Wraps".

There were 3 different race courses. 40 miles, 50 miles and 60 miles and all of them were long enough to leave some mighty hungry riders by the time they got back to the VF Discount Mall.

A great job was done by Wayne, Betty, David, Steve, John, Ted, John, Jimmy, Kenneth, Junior, John and all those I may have missed.

## Masonic Questions and Answers

**Q:** Why Is Freemasonry A Secret Organization?

**.A:** The real reason, one that every Mason discovers and Non-Masons don't want to hear, is that Freemasonry is not a secret organization.

If the Masonic Lodge was really a secret organization, no one but the Masons would know that it even existed. Every Masonic Lodge has a sign on the outside of the building that states the time and day of the meetings. Many Lodges also have a sign at the city limits advertising the time and location of the meeting

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**Don't Forget The  
Annual "Country Life Festival"  
Joint Fund Raiser At The  
Liendo Plantation on April 21 and 22**



### **The Editors Corner**

This old house that Nellie and I have lived in the past 44 years spent it's first 42 years looking toward the north. A place of darkness, where we sat in our living room looking at the houses across the street and the airplanes flying just above their roof lines as the planes landed and took off at Houston's Intercontinental Airport.

Now, for the last 2 years, we look through those same windows toward the south and watch the contented cows grazing in Menke's pasture all the way to the skyline. Now the winter sun shines through those same windows making it a place of light.

Looking toward the north now from our kitchen windows we see the trees lining Three Mile Creek a quarter of a mile behind the house. I look across the same fields that my Great Grandparents William Jonas Milam and Mary Jane Garrett started farming in 1893 and see the steeple of The Pine Island Baptist Church in the distance.

What the heck does that have to do with Masonry you may ask? In the same way that Nellie and I now know what we have been missing all those years in our home, I have also discovered what I have been missing in the Lodge all those years before we moved, house and all to Pine Island.

After we recovered from the move I demited my memberships in the Cedar Bayou #321 and Humble #979 Lodges and took dual memberships in the Hempstead and Waller Lodges.

I remember one night after a year or so in the Humble Lodge when the Senior Deacon ask me to stand up and introduce myself and give the name of my Lodge. I guess he was just about as embarrassed as I was when I said, "John Daut, Humble #979".

Now, after only 6 months, just about everyone who attends the Hempstead and Waller Lodge meetings knows and recognizes Corky. And at these Lodges, I am ask to serve on committees, work fund raisers, write this newsletter and serve Pro Tempora as a Lodge officers on many occasions.

I guess what I am trying to say is that I think a lot of the Hempstead and Waller Brethren do not realize how lucky they are to be a Brother in a "Small Town Texas Lodge" where you are greeted with a smile and a handshake that has honest enthusiasm behind it.



I guess some of our brothers don't remember the pleasure you get from handshakes, pats on the back, greetings from across the room and a shared meal, but brothers, I know exactly what you're missing every month because I am enjoying it.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

To all Hempstead Lodge #749 A.F. & A.M. Brothers who live on a Hempstead Rural Route. The Lodge needs to have your new residence number and street or road name. **We are rapidly approaching the deadline where mail will no longer be delivered when addressed to a Rural Route and Box Number.**

Please give me your new address at your earliest convenience. You certainly don't want to miss a single exciting issue of this newsletter.

Call Corky at 979-826-6267 or mail

### **REMEMBER**

David Hartley recovering from surgery.  
Ted Wren Jr. not good, but better.  
Roy Shields feeling poorly, but better.  
Bob Scarborough of Waller, hand operation.  
Doug Holloman's wife Gale has been sick.  
Steve York's wife Pam is on the mend.

### **IN YOUR PRAYERS**

#### **MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES**

McWilliams, Robert Lee 4-15-63

#### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO**

Wallingford, George G.. 4-25-20



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Many Lodges also have the meetings advertised in the newspapers. So much for being a so called "Secret Organization".

Do Masonic Lodges have secrets? NO they do not. Do Masons tell what goes on during their their meetings and ceremonies? No, they do not Don't those last 2 statements form a contradiction? No they do not, because descriptions, words, grips and signs have been published in various books for the past 250 years. They can be repeated by anyone who takes the trouble to do some research. How can something be a secret when anyone may know it.

Reading a cook book reveals all of the "secrets" of cooking, but you have to actually cook the recipe to taste the food. By the same token, a person has to be prepared in order to grasp their meaning, to see their significance, to hear their message.

Much is made, by Non-Masons, of "Secret Oaths" to keep the secrets of Masonry when a man is initiated. Silence, not secret is what the Entered Apprentice actually promises to observe. What secrets does

he know ? .... none ! So it is not keeping secrets that matters, but only being able to keep silent.

Almost any man who desires to "Learn the teachings of Masonry" is welcomed. If he is of good moral character and believes in God, all he has to do is ask a mason for a petition to become a Mason. No one ever asks you to go any further then you want to go.

The real, so called "Secret" teachings of Masonry should have been learned from your mother's knee when you were a small child.

**First, Love "YOUR" God  
Second, Love Your Country  
Third, Love Your Brother**

*This "Masonic Questions and Answers" column is designed for new Masons, Masonic wives and their children. However, we may all benefit from being reminded sometime.*

**BROTHER LAWRENCE MORROW**  
**The Brothers at Hempstead Lodge send our best wishes and our congratulations to you as our newest 50 year Mason.**

## It's Masonic Law In Texas

### Suspension For Non-payment Of Dues

**Art. 319. Automatic Suspension.** Lodge dues are due and payable one year in advance on January 1st of each year (unless otherwise exempt) and if not paid on or before that date a member shall be in arrears for his dues; and on or before thirty days before the last stated meeting of the Lodge held on or before June 24th of each year, it shall be the duty of the secretary to notify each member, in writing, who may be in arrears for any dues and if such member fails to pay such dues on or before June 23rd of such year, he shall stand automatically suspended for non-payment of dues without action by the Lodge, and such suspension shall be recorded in the minutes at the first subsequent stated meeting of the Lodge.

**Art. 323 Effect of Suspension.** Suspension for non-payment Of dues has the same effect, except as to instruction for advancement, as suspension for un-Masonic conduct, except that upon payment of all dues to date of suspension and the current dues, the brother becomes reinstated without any action of the Lodge unless such suspension has continued for more then one year.

*↔ 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.  
Corky (979) 826-6267*

### 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>

**Hempstead Lodge #749**  
<http://www.geocities.com/hempstead749/>

**Waller Lodge #808**  
<http://www.geocities.com/waller808/>

It seems that another Mason, Master of his Lodge, went to Heaven and met with St. Peter. He identified himself as a member of the Craft and St. Peter asked, "What Lodge?"

Proudly the Master replied, "Old Adage Lodge #1."

St. Peter immediately took him to the Masonic Clock Room. The Master, in puzzlement, looked around the room which was filled with clocks. Each clock had a Lodge's name on a brass plate and, strangely enough, each clock was at a different time.

He asked why and St. Peter informed him that the hands only moved when someone in that Lodge made a mistake in the Ritual.

The Master then asked where his Lodge's clock was, as he couldn't see it. St. Peter replied, "Why, it's in the kitchen, of course."

"The kitchen," said the Master?

"Yes, you see, our fan broke down and we needed something to stir the air."

**HEMPSTEAD LODGE #749**

**P.O. Box 1251**

**Hempstead, TX 77445**

