



# Hempstead Masonic Lodge

## #749 AF & AM

Worshipful Master Kenneth Harvey Secretary John "Corky" Daut  
 Hempstead Masonic Lodge Was Chartered December 6, 1893

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Hempstead Masonic Lodge  
 #749 AF & AM  
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*Special points of interest:*

- Meetings every second Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
- Family style meals before the meetings at 6:30 P.M.
- Study nights, Degrees and floor work, Mondays 7:00 P.M. at Waller Lodge.
- Waller Lodge meets on the second Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.
- Waller Lodge family style meals before the meetings at 6:30 P.M.

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### Old Faces Back

Many Brothers at the June stated meeting of Hempstead Lodge were surprised to see Kevin and Robert McWilliams sitting in Lodge after an 8 year absence .

For newer members who don't recognize the names, they have both sat in many chairs in Hempstead Lodge and have both been Worshipful Masters more then once. They were very active in Hempstead Lodge until sometime about 1996.

During the past 8 years or so both have been Worshipful Master and very active in Hubert Lodge #67 at Chappell Hill. Both have been deeply involved in the operation and guidance of Hubert Lodge for years.

Robert was also the District Deputy Grand Master in Masonic District #44 in 1999. (Hubert Lodge's District)

### "Burdens" - An Old Tiler Story

I AM inclined to think that Masons do too much for each other," announced the New Brother.

"Who has been doing too much for you?" asked the Old Tiler.

"Why, no one, that I know of."

"Well, who have you been doing too much for?"

"Well, er--I wouldn't say I had been doing too much. But we all do too much. It gets to be a burden sometimes. "

"What do you mean, burden?" countered the Old Tiler.

"A burden is something heavy which you carry, isn't it?" asked the New Brother.

"You think what we do for our brethren is a burden?"

"Sometimes it seems that way. Too many calls on our time. Too many calls on our

sympathy. Too many calls on our charity. Yes, I think it's a burden."

"Last week I walked to work" answered the Old Tiler. "I don't usually because my rheumatism says walking is too hard a job. My legs," his eyes twinkled, "are a burden to me! But that day it was so bright that the old legs forgot to growl, so I walked. I saw a little lad of about ten looking after a small child of about two, who toppled on his nose and yelled. Ten years old picked up the squalling baby and soothed him, then put him across his shoulder and staggered up the sidewalk with him.

"I asked him, 'Sonny, isn't that child too heavy for you?' 'Heavy?' he answered me, 'Heavy? Why, sir, he's my brother.'

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### Hempstead Masonic Lodge Wins Second Place, Kinda

Thanks to our Waller/Hempstead plural members and some borrowed Waller members the Masonic District #108 Entered Apprentice Degree Team Contest held at Hempstead Lodge June 12th. was a big success for Hempstead Lodge.

The Degree Team representing Hempstead Lodge included plural members

Kelly Cox as Worshipful Master, "Bob" Podvin as Senior Warden, and "Corky" Daut as Junior Warden along with borrowed regular Waller Lodge Brothers "Jim" Brown as the Candidate, "Bob" Scarborough as Secretary, "Mike" Risley as Senior Deacon and Calvin Trapp as Master of Ceremonies.

Hempstead Lodge won second place in the contest. Waller Lodge took third place, Brookshire Lodge was in fourth place and Morton Lodge #70 of Richmond, Texas took first place.

Our Masonic District #108 Instructor Mike McEvilly was the judge for the contest again this year.

## “Burdens” *(The Old Tiler Stories) Continued From Page 1*

"Little brother would have been too heavy for me -- maybe because of my old legs and perhaps because he wasn't my brother! The facts are that one weighed 60 pounds and the other 30 pounds. The stagger and the straining arms were facts. The cheek flushed with effort was a fact. But two years old was brother to ten, and that made him 'not too heavy.'

"A burden is, after all, what we think it. You would look desperately at the task of carrying a 200-pound sack on your back. But if it were 200 pounds of gold, and it was to be yours after a mile, it wouldn't be too heavy.

"Years ago a brother of this lodge went to Alaska in the gold rush days. He and his partner had to tramp five miles through a blinding snowstorm and heavy drifts to get food to a starving camp. On the way this brother played out, or thought he did. He told his partner he was all in and they'd better abandon the load and try to get back before they died.

"Oh, no,' said the partner. 'I'll pull it!' Which he proceeded to do. Whereupon the man who was 'all in' became so ashamed and angry at himself that he stepped back into the sled harness and pulled, too, and together they got the load to camp. It was 'too heavy' only while he thought it was.

"Masonry my son, is a state of mind. You can't put it on the scales or measure it with a scoop. Because it has no material existence it cannot carry a child of two, or a sack of flour. Its burdens are burdens of the heart.

"Minds and hearts have unlimited strength, if we but know how to call it up. The tired business man who can barely get up the steps at night and falls in bed as soon as dinner is over, forgets the physical weariness if his child is sick. He sits up all night nor thinks it a burden.

"I rather like you, my son; you say

what you think and while you very seldom do think, you think you think. But I cannot agree that Masonry does too much for her brethren or that anything Masonry or a Lodge or an individual brother may do in the name of Masonry is a burden."

"Not all brethren are real Masons, any more than all that looks the part is real gold. Lots of men wear the pin and know the words and give the signs who are but shadow Masons; they are all show on the outside and as full of meat as a balloon. To these, doubtless, there are Masonic burdens. But to the real Mason, any weight which must be carried is not heavy because 'it's my brother!'"

"I will not be called a Masonic balloon!" objected the New Brother. "As I cannot quarrel with what you have said I will fill that balloon with a new attitude of mind. I will never think a Masonic duty is a burden again."

"It is your Masonic duty, my son," smiled the Old Tiler, "to give me a cigar if you have it."

"And here is a match and I'll light it for you, too!" agreed the New Brother.

Bob and Sue were having one of their regular fights that ended with neither of them speaking to the other.

Sue stomped off to the bedroom, leaving Bob watching the TV. Sometime after midnight he remembered that he had to get up at 6 AM the next morning in order to meet his buddies for a round of golf.

He rushed in the bedroom to ask Sue to wake him up at six but he remembered the big fight and knew he couldn't ask a favor without having to apologize. So he wrote a note asking her to wake him at 6 AM and laid it beside her pillow.

When he woke up, the clock said 9 AM. He saw a note beside his pillow when he jumped up. It said "It's 6:00 AM. Time to get up"

## Are The Small Town Lodges In Trouble?

I was talking to my friend, Brother Joe Noblin, the other day. Joe is the Secretary at Hubert Lodge #67 A.F. & A. M. over in Chappell Hill. We both have many worries concerning the survival of small town Lodges .

Are the small town Lodges of Texas in trouble? YES, many things including increasing prices, the shrinking number of new petitions, lack of participation from members and shrinking income are all taking their toll on small town Lodges .

Brother Joe mentioned that Hubert Lodge has been on a downhill financial slide for the last five or six years and is in worse shape now than in memory. Hubert Lodge has about 33 members and like Hempstead Lodge their income is also greatly reduced due to endowments and 50 year members. Hempstead Lodge had 54 members as of June 24 and only 22, or 40% of those paid dues for 2004.

Joe mentioned that Hubert Lodge suffered from was some very expensive projects over in last 5 or 6 years. The Travis Monument, a new roof, a new air conditioning system (never finished), revising the electrical system and re-keying locks in the Lodge hit them very hard. Joe stated these projects have cost Hubert Lodge between \$60,000 and \$70,000 during that few year period .

If Hempstead Lodge doesn't want to follow in Hubert's footsteps we have to find ways to encourage younger, good men to discover Masonry and encourage existing member participation. We also need to be very careful in choosing our future Lodge leaders. We must make sure that they will be diligent and not allow things like building maintenance and Masonic sponsored projects to over extend our resources as happened at Hubert Lodge during the last few years.

## Waller Lodge Installation

The Waller Lodge #808 Installation ceremonies were held Saturday evening June 28, 2004. Three Hempstead officers elect were installed as officers in Waller Lodge.

Hempstead Treasurer elect, outgoing Waller Worshipful Master, John Daut Sr. as Chaplain. Hempstead Secretary, John "Corky" Daut as Senior Warden. Hempstead Senior Warden elect, Robert Podvin, as Senior Steward.

Worshipful Master elect Mike Risley provided a colorful meal with rice, chili, corn chips, shredded coconut, chopped nuts, chili con queso, A sandwich tray and all kind of fixings and deserts for about 50 or more people attending the ceremonies.

P.M. Wes Mersiovsky was the installing Master and P.M. Richard Ventra was the Installing Marshall. Both did an outstanding job as usual.

Under their excellent guidance the ceremony was almost flawless.

Some of the older Brothers did express concern however because the traditional public Past Master Apron presentation ceremony was 'omitted'.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Buffington, Bobby	7-07-43
Culberson, Al S.	7-07-36
Lay, Thomas Fox	7-12-28
McWilliams, J.K.	7-21-63
Parker, Monte P	7-13-58
Smith, Lavohn	7-28-21

### Brother Larkin C. Eakin Sr.

Born Nov. 4, 1913  
Died June 3, 2004

Brother Larkin was raised to the Degree Of Master Mason on August 30, 1940 in Hempstead Lodge.

He was survived by his daughter Katie Eakin Holt and husband E.M. Holt III; son Larken Eakin Jr. and wife June Jackson-Eakin; Brother, Charles R. Eakin; sisters; Elizabeth McGowan and husband Roy and Nina Jean Dicus and husband Joe.

## Freemasonry is a Fraternity

Freemasonry is the oldest, and by far, the largest fraternal order in the world. Its Lodges stretch around the globe and like the British Empire, it might well be said that the sun never sets upon the Masonic Lodge. Fraternity an association of brothers, and that is exactly what Freemasonry is: a society of friends and brothers. It is not a benefit society in the sense that one becomes a member of it because of the insurance benefits he may receive or which may insure to his family at his death. It is not an eleemosynary institution, founded to collect and disburse charity, or based on the giving of alms.

It is not a secret society in that its Temples are openly marked and almost everyone in the community knows where they are located. The Grand Lodge publishes a list of the members of every Lodge. Many of the Lodges have individual bulletins, which carry the names of officers and members as well. Thus it is, in the strictest sense of the word, a society with secrets, which are limited to its obligation: its modes of recognitions, such as pass-words and grips, etc; and certain parts of its ritual.

It is religious in character, but it is not a religion. It is founded upon the basic principle of the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God, and everyone who comes into its Lodges must express a belief in God. No one is asked to express a particular belief about God, for this is the privilege of each individual and is not infringed upon by our Fraternity.

Freemasonry practices a selective charity, founded on the principle of brotherly need which is not applicable in all cases that have a surface likeness. No member has a specific claim upon the society for its charity, for this is not a right acquired by becoming a member of the society; rather, it is a privilege.

## Hempstead Masonic Lodge Will Be Opening Under New Management

First, we need to thank Worshipful Master Kenneth Harvey for guiding Hempstead Lodge through another very good year for Hempstead Masonic Lodge.

After the Installation Ceremonies July 10 the new Officers will be,

W. M.,	Kelly Cox
S.W.	"Bob" Podvin
J.W.	"Bubba" Schiel
Treasurer	John Daut Sr.
Secretary	"Corky" Daut
S. D.	Jimmy Zepeda
J. D.	Bill Parham
Tiler	Junior Bridges
Chaplin	Roy Shields
S. S.	Malcolm A. Carter
J. S.	

And, I would add that we will look forward to Brother Kelly Cox as the new Worshipful Master doing at least as well or maybe even better?

## Thoughts From The Secretary

Speaking of faces seldom seen lately, W.M. Harvey noted he was happy to see Brothers Steve York and Freddie Zack at the June meeting. We were also happy to see that daylight lasts long enough now that Brother Malcolm A. Carter can see to drive to Lodge again. After a couple of cataract operations Brother Ted Wren is active again. And, we are happy to see Brother Junior Bridges' smiling face sitting in an officers chair again

### MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Buffington, Bobby	7-29-71
Culberson, Al S.	7-09-59
Moseley, Darryl	7-22-80
Shields, Roy	7-20-40
Smith, Kenneth L.	7-31-65
<i>And for Bob who was accidentally left out last month.</i>	
Podvin, Robert	06-23-03

As you may already know, it is a sin for a taliban male to see any woman other than his wife naked, and that he must commit suicide if he does.

This Sunday at 4 p.m. eastern time, all American women are asked to walk out of their houses completely naked to help weed out any neighborhood terrorists. Circling your block for at least one hour is recommended for this anti-terrorist effort.

All men are to position themselves in lawn chairs in front of their houses to prove they are not taliban, and to think it's okay to see nude women other than their wives and to show support for all American women.

Since the taliban also does not approve of alcohol, a cold 6-pack at your side is further proof of your anti-taliban sentiment.

For good measure, have various pork products cooking on your bar-b-que grill.

The American government appreciates your efforts to root out terrorists and applauds your participation in this anti-terrorist activity. GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!!

***Hempstead  
Lodge Is On  
The Internet  
www.  
geocities/  
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**HEMPSTEAD LODGE #749**

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