

Hempstead Lodge #749

Volume 107, Issue 12

December 2000

W.M. - David Hartley
S.W. - Ted W. Wren Jr.
J.W. - T. Roy Shields
S.D. - Kenneth Harvey
J.D. - Junior Bridges
S.S. - L.M. Jim Ferguson



J.S. - J. Keith Styers
SECRETARY - Steve York
TREASURER - H. Doug Holloman
CHAPLAIN - John Garrett
TYLER - R. Wayne Kluna



THE NEXT STATED MEETING December 14, 2000
Meal Served 6:30 PM — Meeting Starts 7:30 PM



Big Valentine Day Party

Masonic wives, widows, sweethearts and daughters, This party is for you.

The Waller County Lodges, Hempstead #749, Waller #808, Pleasant Hill #380 and Brookshire #1066 are joining together to host a big Valentine Day party for the ladies in our lives, our wives, widows, sweethearts and daughters.

The men folks will cook and serve a fabulous meal for the ladies at the Hempstead High School cafeteria located at 801 Donoho Street. The party will begin at 6:00 PM on February 10, 2001. This will be a family affair, so bring the kids along.

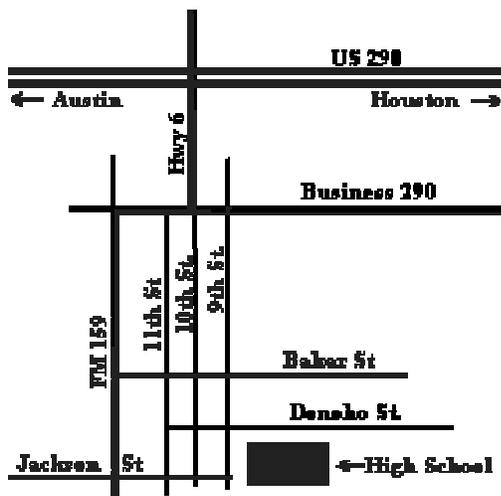
Right Worshipful Arvol Willingham, The Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Texas will be the featured speaker and provide the entertainment.

The War Between The States* Reenactment At Liendo Plantation

"We was living about 18 miles from Lookout Mountain, but we could hear the canons firing all day during the 'Battle of Chickamauga'. Then General Sherman's men stole everything eatable on the Garrett's farm, to provision the yankees march to the sea."

The above story was told long ago by great great grandma Susan Jane Garrett. This Saturday, if she had been in Pine Island she would have heard those canons again, from 5 miles away at the Liendo Plantation reenactment where the soldier from each side and the visitors ate about 45 pounds of baked stuffed potatoes and a dozen briskets cut up for bar-b-que sandwiches.

The Hempstead and Waller Lodges held a joint fund raising Bar-B-Que at the Liendo Plantation. The turnout was somewhat less then expected since it was about 40 degrees Saturday, with a strong north wind blowing and a continual rain. It did clear up for Sunday, but the damage was done. The profit was pretty low, but the fellowship among brothers was very high. **Sorry, I just couldn't use the term "Civil War" as it is often referred to in error. Great Great Grandpa Milam who was captured in 1864 in Georgia and held as a yankee prisoner of war said there wasn't a dern thing civil about the war.*



Montgomery Lodge #25

Is hosting a Masonic Christmas Party
with Santa, music and dance at 6:30 PM
on December 9, 2000



The Editors Corner By "Corky"

It is my opinion that a newsletter for the Hempstead Lodge should contain any stories and notices that may be of interest to the Hempstead Masons and their families, rather than to just be strictly about the Hempstead Lodge.

Since many of us hold dual membership with Waller Lodge and have friends in Fields Store, Montgomery, Plantersville, Chappel Hill and other Lodges in the area I intend to include occasional notices and information about those Lodges and their members.

If any of the readers have ideas for improvement to this newsletter please let me know.

On another subject The following is a quote from an article in last months issue.

"How often do we find Lodges in the same town acting as if they were in competition with one another for membership, prestige, or leadership positions in the Grand Lodge"

This month, I wanted to add that that it may be true in some cities or areas, but not in Waller County. The number of dual memberships (including my own) and the spirit of cooperation between the Hempstead and Waller Lodges should be a major source of pride for these two Lodges and an example of cooperation for all other Texas Lodges. It is definitely a source of pride for me.

Remember Us In Your Prayers

Raymond Paschall is still very ill.
Charlie Hill is feeling somewhat better.
"Bill" Garrett's vision is improving.
Ted Wren is still troubled with his lungs.
Malcomn Carter, whose mother Lucille died.
Roy Shields having trouble with his Asthma

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Carter, Richard Albert	12-12-88
Daut, John W. "Corky"	12-22-92
Hartley, David Wade	12-8-97
Kluna, Robert Wayne	12-1-73
Stasny, Roland E.	12-1-73
Zepeda, Jimmy Nazario Jr	12-11-80

Masonry In The Digital Age

Although some of the younger Masons feel that the Grand Lodge of Texas seems to move slowly, it does move forward. A good example is the Grand Lodge's move toward using the Internet for the advancement of Masonry.

"The Internet Committee was formed to develop the Grand Lodge's presence on the Internet, disseminate information to both Masons and Non-Masons, assist the secretaries, and offer dependable Internet service to our lodges and members. If you know of any Texas Masons that are interested in receiving periodic E-mailings from the Grand Lodge Of Texas Internet Committee, E-mail them at e-news@gltxas.org

The grand Lodge of Texas E-mail list will not be released to anyone, nor will it be sold or given to anyone. If you or your Lodge has news that is of interest to all Texas Masons, you may submit that news via E-mail to the Grand Lodge Internet Committee at: glic@gltxas.org

Please note: information on Lodge events, activities, etc. should be reported to the Grand Lodge of Texas Webmason at webmason@gltxas.org for inclusion in the "Events" section of the Grand Lodge Website.

**Visit These Masonic Sites
On The Internet.**

"Small Town Texas Lodges"

An "Unofficial" home place for Hempstead and Waller Lodges and Eastern Star Chapters (Also Contains the Pleasant Hill and Brookshire Lodges and the new Hempstead Newsletter archives) at, <http://www.geocities.com/corkyscorner/lodge.htm>

The Grand Lodge Of Texas

<http://www.gltxas.org/index.htm>

Texas Master Masons

<http://www.tx-mm.org/>

Hempstead Lodge #749

<http://www.geocities.com/hempstead749/>

Waller Lodge #808

<http://www.geocities.com/waller808/>



It's Masonic Law In Texas

“Art. 393a. Solicitation

This Grand Lodge supports and practices the ancient custom and usage among Masons that a man is required to present himself for the Degrees of Masonry of his own free will and accord. At the same time, it acknowledges to all Masons of its obedience, **that it is permissible to extend a neutrally-worded invitation to petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry to a man whom you have strong reason to believe is of good moral character and reputation, who is otherwise qualified to petition under the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas.** After answering the non-Mason's questions about the Fraternity (those proper to be discussed) and explaining the procedure for petitioning, the candidate should be left to make his own decision and to proceed of his own free will.”



I remember, back before I was initiated, asking my son-in-law Peter, why he wasn't a Mason.

“Well, no body ever ask me.” He replied.

Shortly afterward, we ask my son John to get us a couple of petitions and Peter and I joined the Lodge.

Since then, I have wondered many times, how many potentially good Masonic brothers have been lost to Texas Lodges because they didn't know you had to ask and back then we were taught that you could not ever invite a man to become a mason, period.



I hope to make this “It's Masonic Law In Texas” column a regular column in future issues of this newsletter. If you have a question regarding the wording or meaning of Masonic law, please ask and I'll try to help in this column.

**OLD TIME MASONIC STUDY
NIGHTS ARE COMING BACK
To Hempstead Lodge # 749
On Wednesday Nights At 7:30 PM
All Masons are invited. Come and Learn**

In Memoiam

of

Henry Weisse

The Worshipful Master Of Montgomery Lodge #25 who passed away with a heart attack about the first of November. Brother Weisse left a wife and 2 daughters. He had been retired from the U.S. Post Office after 27 years service.

(From Brother Tommy Saunders, Montgomery Lodge #25)

Withdrawal Of Petition

Submitted By Brother Evertt “Bo” Bozarth

Worshipful Master Of Pleasant Hill Lodge

It is a law of Freemasonry in the United States of America that a petition for initiation having been presented to a lodge, cannot be withdrawn. It must be submitted to the action of the Lodge. The rule is founded on prudential reasons. The candidate having submitted his character for inspection, the inspection must be made. It is not for interests of freemasonry (the only thing to be considered) that on the prospect of an unfavorable judgment, he should be permitted to decline the inspection, and have the opportunity of applying to another lodge, where carelessness or ignorance might lead to acceptance. Initiation is not like an article of merchandise sold by rival dealers, and to be purchased after repeated trails, from the most accommodating seller.

St. John 5:15

Outdoor Degrees and Mother Nature

Well, the Pleasant Hill Lodge #380 outdoor robe degree was, in a sense, a disaster. Mother Nature's 3 or 4 inches of rain on the newly cleared area of ground in the woods ended any thoughts that program.

The Pleasant Hill indoor robe degree held inside the Waller Lodge #808 was a big success however. Approximately 40 brothers attended the degree in spite of the rotten weather.

By the way, I missed my big chance as a participant with a 3 word speaking part by being in the doctor's office in Kingwood that Saturday morning

Q: How many Masons does it take to screw in a lightbulb?
A: Three. One to screw it in, one to read the minutes of the previous lightbulb replacement, and one to sit on the sidelines and complain that it's not the way they used to screw in lightbulbs.

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