

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

A Friendly Neighborhood For Your Permanent Masonic Home

Volume 109, Issue 1

January 2002

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - Ted W. Wren Jr.
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JUNIOR WARDEN - Kenneth Harvey
SENIOR DEACON. - Steven D. Lyons
JUNIOR DEACON - L.M. Jim Ferguson
SENIOR STEWARD. - John N. Daut



JUNIOR STEWARD - Malcolm A. Carter
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TREASURER. - - - Malcolm P. Carter
CHAPLAIN - - - John Garrett
TYLER - - - R. Wayne Kluna
BULLETIN EDITOR - John "Corky" Daut



THE NEXT STATED MEETING January 10, 2002

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

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



Texas Masonic Heroes

EDWARD BURLESON

Fourth Vice President of the Republic

Edward Burleson was known as the man who "had killed more Indians and Mexicans than any other Texan", when he ran against Anson Jones for the Presidency of the Republic of Texas in 1844.

Born in 1793 in Buncombe County, North Carolina, Burleson moved with his family to Alabama, where he married Sarah Owen of Madison County in 1813. Between 1814 and 1830 he commanded several different regiments of militia in Missouri and Tennessee.

Burleson came to Texas in 1830 and settled on land in present Bastrop County, as a part of Stephen F. Austin's second colony. He was with that small band at Gonzales that raised the "Come and Take It" cannon flag and, on October 2, 1835, he saw Eli Mitchell fire the first cannon shot of the Texas Revolution. In November 1835, as the Texas Army besieged the Mexican force at Bexar, Colonel Burleson's popularity with the men got him elected to succeed Austin as Commander. At the Battle of San Jacinto, Burleson commanded the First Regiment of Texas Volunteers. As a brigadier general in 1839, he led his regiment in the Cherokee War and, during the Mexican War, he served under Governor J. Pinckney Henderson.

In the fall of 1841 he was elected Vice-President of the Republic of Texas, and in 1844 he ran against Anson Jones for the Presidency. A supporter of Mirabeau Lamar's Policy

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Masonry During The War Between The States

The Civil War was the single most divisive event in our nation's long history. No other war, political event, or national crisis has ever approached the levels of animosity and hatred that the Civil War caused. Brother fought against brother. Fathers against sons. Families were forever split over the idealism of the War. They were not alone. Major national organizations, notably the Baptist Churches, also broke up over the issues of slavery and States' Rights. The War seemed to destroy the bonds of any organization it touched.

All the organizations, that is, except one: Freemasonry. While the War raged around them, Freemasons held on to the ties and the idealism that brought them together in the first place. Thousands of Masons fought in the War, and many died. But the tenets of the Craft, those ideals and moral codes that we, as Freemasons,[2] strive to abide by, were able to overcome the hatred and the animosity that the War generated.

There are a number of reasons why Freemasons, more than other, was able to survive the tumult of the Civil War. A major reason is the long and storied history of the Craft. The beliefs and tenets of the Lodge predate not only the Civil War, but the Constitution, the discovery of the New World, and, according to some, even the birth of Christ. When a tradition of that many years exists, it is difficult to ignore.

A second reason why Masonry held together is that membership in a Masonic Lodge is by choice only. No man has ever been recruited into joining a Lodge. Our

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The Star Corner

Robert Morris

- 1818 (Aug 31) - Born Robert Williams Peckham in New York City
- 1825 - At the death of his father, was placed in a foster home in Western NY where he took the name of his Foster Father, John Morris.
- 1849 (Mar 5) - Became a Master Mason in Oxford, Miss.
- 1849/50 - Began writing first ritual for O.E.S
- 1855 - Organized "Supreme Constellation" headquartered in New York.
- 1858/59 - Served as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in KY.
- 1860 - Drafted Constitution of the Grand Lodge - Constellation Organization discontinued - Organization of Families issued
- 1867 - Transferred authority to Robert McCoy who published a ritual using Morris' "The Rosary of the Eastern Star" as a guide - First Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star organized in Michigan.
- 1870 - Grand Chapters organized in MS, NJ and NY.
- 1876 (Nov. 16) - All Grand Chapters united under General Grand Chapter in Indianapolis, IN.
- 1880 - Title of Master Builder of the Order of the Eastern Star conferred upon Dr. Morris by the General Grand Chapter.
- 1884 - Named Poet Laureate of Masonry.
- 1888 (July 31) - Died. Buried at LaGrange, KY.

Please send your Comments and Suggestions For the Eastern Star column to Corky at 979-826-6267 or E-mail to pineilse@swbell.net



**From The
Secretary's
Desk**

VALENTINE BANQUET

On **FEBRUARY 9, 2002**, Masons of District #108 will be holding the second annual Sweetheart Valentine Banquet to honor the ladies in our lives. Once again it will be held in the Hempstead Junior/Senior High School cafeteria in Hempstead at 7:00 PM. **There is no charge**, but please let your Worshipful Master or myself how many people will be attending with you.

With all that good news about the successful fund raisers last month, I forgot to mention my first trip to the Grand Lodge Of Texas this past December. Brothers Roy, Kenneth, John Sr. and I left Roy's house about 5:15 AM Saturday, December 8, 2001. We stopped at the Dixie Cafe in Hearne for breakfast. Pretty good place to eat. After we got to Waco and found the Grand Lodge and a parking place near by. There are more things to do then just listening to the speechifying.

We had heard many good things about the Masonic Museum and we wanted to see it while we were there. It really is something that no one should miss. We must have spent a couple of hours viewing the exhibits. It alone is worth the trip. We also visited the library for awhile. It's another place you should spend some time when you visit the Grand Lodge. Of course we stopped at the Dixie cafe again on the way back.

**Visit The Hempstead Lodge
Web Site On The Internet At,
<http://www.geocities.com/hempstead749/>**



Edward Burleson
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of extermination of the Indian, Burleson was defeated largely through the efforts of that old adopted Cherokee, Sam Houston.

After annexation, Burleson remained active in politics and was elected to the Texas Senate, where he served as President Pro Tempore until his death in December 1851. A member of McFarland Lodge No. 3 at San Augustine, he was buried with Masonic honors at the State Cemetary by Austin Lodge No. 12.

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

Masonic Questions and Answers

Q: Is Masonry "guilty" of teaching toleration?

A: Yes. And proud of it! It seems a strange accusation, but anti-Masonic writers often charge that we accept people with many different religious viewpoints as Brothers. They are correct.

In Romans 13: 8 -10 Jesus said "**Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law**" and in John 13: 34, 35 Jesus said "**A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you.**"

Jesus **did not** say to us, "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another - as long as he goes to the same church you do, or if he belongs to the same political party."

When Jesus commands us to "love one another", did he mean we should only love Catholics or Baptists, or Methodists or some "self appointed splinter preacher" who makes a living by selling hatred literature.

Yet **one anti-Masonic writer claims that this toleration is the blackest sin of Masonry.** Toleration, he says, "springs from the pits of hell and from the father of lies, Lucifer."

When you consider what **Intolerance** has produced in this world, the Inquisition, the massacre of the inhabitants of Jerusalem by the Crusaders, the burning of Protestants at the stake, the horrors of Hitler, the mass murders of Stalin, the "killing fields" of Cambodia -- it is hard to believe that toleration springs from the devil.

(The civil War - Continued From Page 1)

rules in fact prohibit Masons from actively pursuing someone for initiation. Instead, a man interested in becoming a Mason must, "of his own free will and accord," actively seek out a member of the Lodge which he wishes to join and ask him for a petition for membership.

The third reason is the structure of the Craft itself. There are a number of internal rules and customs that helped the Lodge as a whole avoid the turbulent politics and divisiveness of the War. This allowed the Lodge to continue to function as a place a man could go when he needed help, or a quiet haven from the storms that raged outside the Craft. It was then, and continues to be today, a place where true brotherhood exists.

It's Masonic Law In Texas

Art 388. Who May Vote. Only members of the Lodge petitioned may vote on a petition for affiliation.

Art 389. Protest Not Allowed. A petition for affiliation can be rejected only if more then 3 members present cast black balls. If 3 or less black balls are cast, the petitioner shall be elected. A protest against affiliation shall not be entertained. If more than 3 black balls are cast, the petitioner shall be rejected, but not for no definite period. He may present a new petition at any time.

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Banks, Daniel	01-07-48
Daut, John N. Sr.	01-07-53
Moseley, Darryl E.	01-05-48
Smith, Huey D.	01-08-32
Stasny, Roland E.	01-14-50

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Carter, Malcolm A.	01-24-72
Lay, Thomas Fox	01-27-50
Lyons, Steven Dale	01-12-85
McWilliams, James Kevin	01-12-85
Stanley, William J.	01-30-64

An Amish boy and his father were visiting a nearby mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially two shiny, silver walls in the hotel lobby that could move apart and back together again.

The boy asked his father,

"What is this father?"

The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life. I don't know what it is."

While the boy and his father were watching wide-eyed, an older lady, limping slightly with a cane, slowly walks up to the moving walls and pressed a button.

The walls opened and the lady walks between them and into a small room. The walls closed and the boy and his father watched, small circles of light with numbers above the wall light up. They continued to watch the circles light up in the reverse direction.

The walls opened up again and a beautiful 24-year-old woman stepped out.

The father said to his son, "Quick go get your Mother."

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