

HEMPSTEAD MASONIC LODGE

#749 AF & AM



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

Volume 111
Issue 2

February 2004

Hempstead Masonic Lodge
#749 AF & AM

P.O. Box 1251

Phone: 979-826-3933

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.

Inside this issue:

"The Forgotten Word" The Old Tiler	2
Our Educated Sports Figures	3
Thoughts From The Secretary Desk	3
Pray For, Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Not One Person	3
D.D.G.M. To Visit Hempstead Lodge	3
Honor Randy Lewis	3
Humor	4

Burial Services By Stephen E. Orlando District Deputy Grand Master 30-C

My brethren,

I would like to address the topic of **Burial Services**. Every regular Mason in good standing is entitled to receive a Masonic burial service. This service is Freemasonry's way of paying tribute to a "true and trusty friend" and brother. It is the Lodge's way of showing its appreciation, on behalf of the Craft, for the many years of membership, the dedication to the Lodge, and the steadfast attachment to Masonry's ethics and obligations by a fallen brother.

Most Masons are not able, for many reasons, to devote any time and serve their Lodge in some capacity. Indeed, the active members themselves are sometimes without the means to tend to the Lodge's many needs. Unfortunately, such is many times the case when the duty of performing a burial service is requested. Consequently, only a sparse

representation of the Lodge can be assembled.

The ritualistic stations and places themselves (the assemblage of which requires a Master, two Wardens, a Chaplain and a Tiler) are usually satisfied. However, seldom are there any additional brethren in attendance to appropriately represent our beloved Fraternity. This scenario gives a poor reflection of the Craft in general and of the Lodge in particular to the public. It is, also, a disservice to our deceased brethren and their families.

The Masonic Burial Service is one of the few opportunities Freemasons have to give an understanding to the world of the honorable and exceptional standards which make up this humble Institution. It is one of the few times the public gains exposure to this ancient Or-

der. It, therefore, becomes indispensably necessary, on these occasions, to put forth our best effort and wear our aprons in true Masonic fashion, wherever so dispersed, for the entire world to see.

Many members of this Lodge are retired or work evenings or nights. Many brethren may be able to arrange some time during the day for a special purpose. My brethren, if you qualify as one of these members, I pray for your assistance. The Lodge needs your service whenever you can afford it; even if it's just once in a while. Here is the opportunity you have longed for to serve your Lodge. For years you have promised yourself you would play an active role in formal Masonry. This is one of the greatest gifts you can give to the Lodge and to yourself.

The Master's Gavel Rules The Lodge

From the Masonic Services Association of North America, Founded 1921

Failure to obey the gavel at once is a grave discourtesy.

The Master is all powerful in the lodge. He can accept or refuse to accept any motion. He can rule any brother out of order on any subject at any time. He can say what he will and will

not permit to be discussed.

Brethren who think he is unfair, arbitrary, unjust, or acting illegally, have redress; the Grand Lodge can be appealed to on any such matter.

But while in the lodge, the gavel, the Master's emblem of authority, is su-

preme. When a brother is rapped down, he should at once obey, without further discussion.

It is very bad manners to do otherwise; indeed, it is very close to the line between bad manners and a Masonic offense.

The Forgotten Word - An Old Tiler Story

The Old Tiler stories first appeared in print in August, 1921

"Never have I been so glad to get to lodge as tonight!" began the New Brother to the Old Tiler in the ante-room.

"Some one here owe you some money or something?" asked the Old Tiler.

"No indeed! But lying awake last night, thinking about Masonry, I tried to recall the word of a Master Mason... and I couldn't! It was a lost word for me, sure enough! I couldn't sleep all night, trying to remember. I couldn't remember today and it bothered me a lot! So I was glad to come to lodge tonight and get instructed!"

"I shouldn't have worried over that," answered the Old Tiler. "Our memories play strange tricks. You didn't need it, did you?"

"No, but a Mason ought not to forget it. It's the most important thing in Masonry. If we don't have it we cannot visit and work as a Master- and everything!"

"So we are told," answered the old Tiler. "Yet don't you mistake the meaning? The syllables you are taught to pronounce are not important."

"Why, Old Tiler! How can you say that?"

"Because it is true," answered the Old Tiler. "Is it important what particular piece of cloth is put in an apron? Is it important what particular piece of iron is used to make a pillar, or what particular copy of a million Bibles is on the Altar, or what particular piece of wood is used in the gavel? Isn't it important that we wear an apron and know why, that we have a pillar to teach a lesson, that we revere the Great Light in Masonry, that we have a gavel for our control? Then are the syllables of the word important, or is the spirit, the meaning, the symbolism important?"

"Masons must know the word, the modes of recognition, the signs and

tokens. But all these may slip from memory and still a brother have Freemasonry in his heart. They are audible symbols of spiritual knowledge.

"We are taught that in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God. Do you read into that statement some particular word? Or is the Word here used in the Old Jewish sense of the truth, the light of knowledge for which man may strive?"

"Masonry's search for the lost word is for far more than a syllable, my brother. The substitute word is more than an exclamation. It is an inward knowledge of oneness with the Great Architect, for which all men of all ages have searched. Not all search in vain; many find their Word. Even the substitute word could only be given under certain circumstances; doubtless those earnest seekers who found the real word could never assemble the circumstances under which it, too, might be given to humanity.

"But we continue to search. Slowly but surely man has come up from barbarianism. The world improves with age. Except in war men are less cruel now than centuries ago; men know more than they did centuries ago. We are all brutes underneath, but to be underneath connotes something above. In our long struggle after the lost word we have put something above the brute. On that we climb, and are by so much nearer the Word we seek.

"It is this which is important. Let not your heart be troubled if that strangest part of all God's works, the human mind, plays a prank on you. Better men than you and I have forgotten their own names. Now and then one forgets the name of Deity. But in the end we remember, in some far place where angels see that our memories work! All you needed was conversation with any brother who had sat in

lodge with you. If you desire, nothing prevents you from giving and receiving it as Masons are taught to do. "Your only cause for worry is that you fail to keep always before you that Masonry in men's hearts searches for a word which no man has yet put into words. The tender lesson of the Master Mason degree has been a solace to millions. The Word, substitute though it is, has meant much more than the scholar translates. It is this which you must never forget, even when your memory temporarily takes from you the recollection of the letters and their pronunciation."

"You should be a traveling lecturer!" cried the New Brother.

"You mean that as a compliment, but I'd rather sit still and tile."

"But you can't get anywhere!" cried the New Brother.

"Neither can a sign post by the road," smiled the Old Tiler. "Yet it points the way."

Bill and wife Sue often played golf together. Bill's drive at the 8th hole fell a little short and didn't quite reach the dogleg. The ball was too close to the trees to go over. Sue noted that she could see the flag through the open ended greens keepers barn. She suggested he drive the ball through the barn with a 2 iron.

The ball bounced back off the barn and hit Sue's head, killing her.

Two months later, while playing a round with Pete, he hit exactly the same shot on the 8th hole. Pete looked it over and suggested that maybe Bill should try to drive the ball through the open ended barn

Bill was suddenly overcome with terrible sobs and Pete asked what he had done wrong.

"I tried that 2 months ago and it cost me 2 extra strokes," answered Bill. (Contributed By John Daut Sr.)

HEMPSTEAD MASONIC LODGE AF & AM FEBRUARY 2004 ISSUE

D.D.G.M. DUKE WOODWARD VISITS HEMPSTEAD LODGE

The February 12, 2004 Stated Meeting will host the annual visit from the new District Deputy Grand Master Duke Woodward.

Our Worshipful Master Kenneth Harvey wants to urge every Brother possible to support our Lodge by attending this meeting. He would like for Hempstead Lodge to make a good impression on our District Officers this year. Every Hempstead Lodge Officers will be expected to attend this meeting. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

MASONIC VIRTUES AND MASONIC ATTRIBUTES

Honesty - to show the Craft as it is, and how we wish it were.

Charity - to forgive those who speak out of malice or ignorance.

Strength - to refrain from being drawn into irrelevant arguments.

Temperance - to moderate the passions, and not rise to taunts.

Fidelity - to ever be mindful of our obligations.

Rectitude - to correct in ourselves what we see wrong in others.

Piety - to understand that our opinions are just that, opinions.

Tolerance - to know that others' opinions are also just opinions.

Courtesy - to observe the rules of etiquette.

Equality - to appear neither condescending nor unduly humble.

Joy - to be happy, and communicate happiness.

- Anonymous

**Don't worry about what
people may think.
They don't do it very often.**

AWARD DINNER FOR RANDY LEWIS WILL BE FEBRUARY 21, 2004

Hempstead #749 and Waller #808 Masonic Lodges are joining together to host an, open to the public, appreciation award dinner for Randy Lewis of Lewis Grocery at the Hempstead Masonic Lodge Hall at 7th and Main.

We are joining together to honor Randy for his support for City of Hempstead and it's citizens and for his assistance in making the many fundraisers the Lodges have held, over the years, the success they have been .

A dinner of cheeseburgers, chips and drinks will be served to all present at the Hempstead Masonic Lodge starting at 6:30 PM on February 21, 2004. All friends of Randy are urged to attend and let him know how much he is appreciated.

THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

At this time we are planning to have our first Bar-B-Que Chicken sale at the railroad tracks on the 6th of March. If you could make it there to help your Lodge and fellow Brothers on that day, it would be greatly appreciated.

The Ten Commandments display was removed from the Alabama Supreme Court building. There was a good reason for the move.

They said you can't post Thou Shall, Not Steal, Thou Shall Not Commit Adultery and Thou Shall Not Lie in a building full of Lawyers and Politicians without creating a hostile work environment.

An Entered Apprentice

From as early as the age of ten, young boys were selected for their physical, mental and moral attributes, and Apprenticed to a Master of the Work. They would begin learning the skills and philosophies of the Craft, and if they showed sufficient promise, their names were entered in the records of the Lodge, making them Entered Apprentices.

For seven years or more, the Master was Teacher, Mentor, Father, Taskmaster, Supporter, Guide and Friend to the young apprentice. The apprentice learned, at the hands of the Master, how to select stones for form and beauty, work the stone into an Ashler and place it strategically in the edifice to become wall, arch, pillar, column, floor, roof, window, sculpture or decoration. At the end of their apprenticeship, once the skills had been mastered, the youth would be tested. His proficiency would be proven by presenting a "Master's piece" to other Masters. If judged worthy, he would be accepted as a Fellow of the Craft.

Say A Prayer

For Brother "Jim" Ferguson who over the past month has suffered a stroke, a broken hip and a bad cut on the head when he fell with the break.

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Bridges, Junior W.	2-01-71
Chamberland, Clarence	2-07-61
Clark, Harold Wayne	2-22-57
Smith, Lavohn H	2-28-58
Wallingford, George G.	2-15-47

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Crow, John E.	2-07-27
Hamner, T. Finley	2-07-21
Hester, Sidney Joe Jr.	2-28-53
Kluna, Robert Wayne	2-08-42
McWilliams, Robert L.	2-15-41
Styers, J. Keith	2-25-69

One dark night outside a small town, a fire started inside the local chemical plant and in a blink it exploded into flames. The alarm went out to the fire departments from miles around.

When the volunteer fire fighters appeared on the scene, the chemical company president rushed to the fire chief and said, "All of our secret formulas are in the vault in the center of the plant. They must be saved. I will give \$50,000 to the fire department that brings them out intact." But the roaring flames held the Firefighters off. Soon more fire departments had to be called in as the situation became desperate. As the firemen arrived, the president shouted out that the offer was now \$100,000 to the fire department who could bring out the company's secret files.

From the distance, a lone siren was heard as another fire truck came into sight. It was the nearby rural township volunteer fire company composed entirely of men over the age of 65. To everyone's amazement, the little run-down fire engine passed all the newer sleek engines parked outside the plant... and drove straight into the middle of the inferno.

Outside the other firemen watched as the old timers jumped off and began to fight the fire with a performance and effort never seen before. Within a short time, the old timers had extinguished the fire and saved the secret formulas. The grateful chemical company president joyfully announced he was upping the reward to \$200,000, and walked over to thank the elderly, firefighters. The local TV news reporters rushed in, after capturing the event on film, asking, "What are you going to do with all that money "?

"Well sir," said the 70-year-old fire chief, "the first thing we are going to do is get the brakes fixed on that darned old truck."

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

**Visit Hempstead Lodge's
Own Web Site**



HEMPSTEAD LODGE #749

P.O. Box 1251

Hempstead, TX 77445

