

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

P.O. Box 1251

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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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Q AND A FROM THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND

Q. Aren't you a religion or a rival to religion?

A. Emphatically not. Freemasonry requires a belief in God and its principles are common to many of the world's great religions. Freemasonry does not try to replace religion or substitute for it. Every candidate is exhorted to practice his religion and to regard its holy book as the unerring standard of truth. Freemasonry does not instruct its members in what their religious beliefs should be, nor does it offer sacraments. Freemasonry deals in relations between men; religion deals in a man's relationship with his God.

Q. Why do some churches dislike Freemasonry?

A. There are elements within certain churches who misunderstand Freemasonry and confuse secular rituals

with religious liturgy. Although the Methodist Conference and the General Synod of the Anglican Church have occasionally criticized Freemasonry, in both Churches there are many Masons and indeed others who are dismayed that the Churches should attack Freemasonry, an organization which has always encouraged its members to be active in their own religion.

Q Why do Freemasons take oaths?

A New members make solemn promises concerning their conduct in Lodge and in society. Each member also promises to keep confidential the traditional methods of proving that he is a Freemason which he would use when visiting a lodge where he is not known. Freemasons do not swear

allegiances to each other or to Freemasonry. Freemasons promise to support others in times of need, but only if that support does not conflict with their duties to God, the law, their family or with their responsibilities as a Citizen.

Q What are the secrets of Freemasonry?

A The secrets in Freemasonry are the traditional modes of recognition which are not used indiscriminately, but solely as a test of membership, e.g. when visiting a Lodge where you are not known.

Q Why do you wear regalia?

A Wearing regalia is historical and symbolic and, like a uniform, serves to indicate to members where they rank in the organization.

The End Of The Knight Templars

By 1306, King Philippe IV, of France, had undertaken to bring the Papacy under his own influence. He had killed at least one Pope and installed his own puppet on the papal throne, even relocating the Papacy itself onto French soil. He was indeed an enemy of Rome.

When Philippe asked to become an honorary Knight Templar he was refused,

something you shouldn't do to a vain man. Subsequently he learned that the Templars were wealthy and he was jealous of that wealth, so he set out to destroy the Templars with insidious charges, most of which were simply fictitious.

The charges were of demonic worship, kidnapping, infanticide, abortion,

obscene kisses, and homosexuality. Indeed, he even charged them with crimes against the Church:

"These soldiers of Christ, who had fought and laid down their lives for Christendom by the hundreds, were accused of ritually denying Christ, of repudiating, trampling and spitting on the Cross." (Baigent & Leigh)

Why Did You? From The Masonic Bulletin, Grand Lodge of British Columbia

As Freemasons we are known by the way we affect other people, and by the works of ourselves as a group. The following story illustrates how two men came to present their petitions for Freemasonry.

A young man passed a pawnbroker's shop. The moneylender was standing in front of his shop and the young man noted that he was wearing a large, beautiful Masonic emblem. After going on a whole block, apparently lost in thought, the young man turned back, stepped up to the pawnbroker and addressed him, "I see you're wearing a Masonic emblem. I'm a Freemason too. It happens that I'm in desperate need of \$25.00 just now. I shall be able to repay it within ten days. You don't know me, but, I wonder whether the fact that you are a Freemason and that I am a Freemason is sufficient to induce you to lend me the money on my personal note?"

The pawnbroker mentally appraised the young man, who was clean-cut, neat, and well-dressed. After a moment's thought, he agreed to make the loan on the strength of the young man's being a Freemason. Within a few days the young man repaid the loan as agreed and went on his way.

About four months later the young man was in a Lodge receiving the Entered Apprentice Degree; he had not really been a Mason when he borrowed the \$25.00. After he had been admitted for the second section of the degree, the young man looked across the Lodge Room and saw the pawnbroker from whom he had borrowed the money. His face turned crimson and he became nervous and jittery. He wondered whether he had been recognized by the pawnbroker and would be caught in his lie. Apparently not, so he planned at the first op-

portunity to leave the Lodge Room and avoid his benefactor.

As soon as the Lodge was closed he moved quickly for the door, but the pawnbroker, who had recognized the young man, headed him off, and, to the young man's astonishment, approached him and greeted him with a smile and an outstretched hand.

"Well, I see you weren't a Freemason after all when you borrowed that \$25.00, the pawnbroker commented.

The blood rushed to the young man's face as he stammered, "No, I wasn't, but I wish you'd let me explain. I had always heard that Freemasons were charitable and ready to aid a brother in distress. When I passed your shop that day I didn't need that \$25.00. I had plenty of money in my wallet, but when I saw the Masonic emblem you were wearing I decided to find out whether the things I'd heard about Freemasonry were true. You let me have the money on the strength of my being a Freemason, so I concluded that they are charitable, that they do aid Brethren in distress. That made such a deep impression on me that I presented my petition to this Lodge and here I am. I trust that with this explanation you will forgive me for having lied to you."

The pawnbroker responded, "Don't let that worry you too much. I wasn't a Freemason when I let you have the money. I had no business wearing the Masonic emblem you saw. Another man had just borrowed some money on it, and it was so pretty that I put it on my lapel for a few minutes. I took it off the moment you left. I didn't want anyone else borrowing money on the same basis. When you asked for the \$25.00 I remembered what I had heard about

Masons: that they were honest, upright, and cared for their obligations promptly. It seemed to me that \$25.00 wouldn't be too much to lose to learn if what I'd heard was true, so I lent you the money, and you repaid it exactly as you said you would. That convinced me that what I'd heard about Masons was true, so I presented my petition to this Lodge. I was the candidate just ahead of you.

THE PLUMB:

Build up your life like the temple of old,
With stones that are polished and true;
Cement it with love, and adorn it with gold,
As all Master builders should do.
Upon a foundation, well chosen and strong,
Build now for the ages to come:
Make use of the good, while rejecting the wrong
And test all your work with the plumb.

(Neal A. McAulay)

Why Rednecks Are Not Paramedics

A couple of rednecks were out in the woods hunting when one of them suddenly grabbed his chest and fell to the ground. He didn't seem to be breathing and his eyes were rolled back in his head.

The other guy whips out his cell phone and calls 911. He gasps to the operator, "I think Bubba is dead! What should I do?"

The operator, in a calm soothing voice says, "Just take it easy and follow my instructions. First, let's make sure he's dead."

There was a silence . . . and then a shot was heard.

The guy's voice comes back on the line, "Okay, now what?"

HEMPSTEAD MASONIC LODGE AF & AM MARCH 2004 ISSUE

THE CANDIDATE

There he stands without our portals, on the threshold of his new Masonic life, in darkness, helplessness and ignorance. Having been wandering amid the errors and covered over with the pollutions of the outer and profane world, he comes inquiringly to our door, seeking the new birth, and asking a withdrawal of the veil which conceals divine truth from his uninitiated sight.

Albert G. Mackey, **Masonic Ritualist**, p22-23

The Hempstead And Waller Lodges Honor Randy Lewis

Hempstead and Waller Lodge joined forces to host a dinner and present a blue marble plaque as a "True Blue" award to Randy Lewis of Lewis Grocery for his dedication to the people of Waller County and the city of Hempstead and especially the help he has given to our 2 Lodges.

Hempstead Lodge dues only pay about 1/3 of the annual expenses needed to keep the Lodge running and help support various charities. Randy giving us a good price break on the supplies we purchase for fund raisers lets us earn the rest with only 3 or 4 annual fundraisers, instead of 5 or 6 it would require otherwise.

About 60 people joined to enjoy some delicious cheeseburgers, chips, cold drinks and a huge cake and to show our appreciation to Randy for his dedication to helping the people of Waller County, Hempstead, his church and the Lodges.

THE LADDER:

The rung of a ladder was never meant to rest upon, but only to hold a man's foot long enough to enable him to put his other foot somewhat higher. (Thomas Huxley)

DO YOU HAVE YOUR 2004 DUES CARD?

Do you have your 2004 Masonic Lodge dues card? If so, as Martha Stewart says, that's a good thing.

You could visit just about any other Lodge in the country if you wanted to. And, you could have a Masonic funeral if the worse should happen.

There are still some Hempstead Lodge members who couldn't visit another Masonic Lodge because they haven't paid their dues yet and don't have a current dues card to show.

And, since their dues have not been paid, they are not "members in good standing" and should the need arise, they would not be eligible to have a Masonic funeral.

Lewie Mayo "Jim" Ferguson

Brother Jim was born September 30, 1927 and passed away February 20, 2004 in the hospital at Brenham, where he was recovering from a broken hip.

Jim was a veteran of World War II. He was raised to the degree of a Master Mason in Hempstead Masonic Lodge on March 2, 1999 and was a member of the Eastern Star. He was the ranch foreman of the 9-Bar Ranch for 55 years

The viewing was at Cannon Funereal Home Sunday February 22 and the services were held Monday February 23, 2004 at the First United Methodist Church in Hempstead, Texas. Burial was in the Garden of Memories in Lufkin, Texas.

John N. Daut, the Worshipful Master of Waller Lodge and Hempstead Lodge Brother, is proud to announce his marriage to Mrs. Becky Snook on the 5th of March 2004

THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

The Hempstead Masonic Lodge received a very generous donation to honor the memory of Brother Jim Ferguson from Mrs. Edis M. Schwarz and another very generous donation to honor the memory of Brother Jim Ferguson from H.D. "Trey" and one from Joe Schwarz

All of us are always looking for reasons to feel proud of Hempstead Lodge. At the dinner and award to honor Randy Lewis, We had two things to be proud of. First, that 3 Brothers, members of Hempstead Lodge only, were there to show their support for Randy. Second, we can be proud of those 6 of the 9 members from Waller Lodge who love Masonry enough to pay another \$80.00 a year as plural members of Hempstead and donate the many hours of work needed to help keep Hempstead Lodge from failing. They were there to represent Hempstead Lodge as well as Waller Lodge.

We received a very good, informative VHS video tape from the Grand Lodge of Texas entitled "Additional Lodge Light".

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Daut, John "Corky" 3-31-28
Smith, Gary Lynn 3-01-54

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Daut, John N. SR 3-26-90
Herrin, Harold E. 3-25-76
Lewis, Donald R. 3-23-73
York, Steven Wayne 3-25-75

A woman awakes during the night, and her husband isn't in bed with her. So, she goes downstairs to look for him. She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a cup of coffee in front of him.

He appears to be in deep thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of his coffee.

"What's the matter, dear?" she asks. "Why are you down here at this time of night?"

The husband looks up from his coffee, "Do you remember 20 years ago when we were dating, and you were only 16?" he asks solemnly.

"Yes, I do," she replies.

"Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car making love?"

"Yes, I remember," says the wife, lowering herself into a chair beside him.

The husband continues, "Do you remember when he shoved the shotgun in my face and said, 'Either you marry my daughter, or I'll send you to jail for 20 years?'"

"I remember that, too," she replies softly.

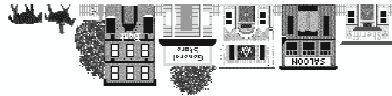
He wipes another tear from his cheek and says, "I would have gotten out TODAY

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

Own Web Site

Visit Hempstead Lodge's

Small Town Texas Masons



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