

# Hempstead Lodge #749

Volume 108, Issue 6

June 2001

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - David Hartley  
SENIOR WARDEN - Ted W. Wren Jr.  
JUNIOR WARDEN - T. Roy Shields  
SENIOR DEACON - Kenneth Harvey  
JUNIOR DEACON - Junior Bridges  
SENIOR STEWARD - L.M. Jim Ferguson



JUNIOR STEWARD - J. Keith Styers  
SECRETARY - - Steve York  
TREASURER - - H. Doug Holloman  
CHAPLAIN - - John Garrett  
TYLER - - - R. Wayne Kluna  
EDITOR - - - John "Corky" Daut



**THE NEXT STATED MEETING June 14, 2001**

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



## EGIUS MANUSCRIPT

The oldest of the known manuscript charges of Freemasonry, written about 1390, is in the old English of Chaucer's time, and is very difficult to read. This old manuscript contains 15 articles and 15 points, of which the following is a free transcript, care being taken to convey the spirit of the thought rather than literary accuracy:

### Articles

- (1) The Master must be a trusty man, an honorable and impartial medium between the lords who hire and the operatives who labor.
- (2) He must be punctual in his attendance at the assemblies.
- (3) He must take no apprentice for a term of less than seven years.
- (4) He must take no apprentices, save the free and well born.
- (5) He must take no mutilated person for an apprentice.
- (6) He must not take Craftsman's wages for apprentices' labor.
- (7) He must take no immoral or depraved person for an apprentice.
- (8) Finding an employee incompetent, he must immediately discharge him.
- (9) He must undertake no work that he cannot finish.
- (10) No master shall supplant another in his business.
- (11) He shall not require his workmen to work by night, except in search of knowledge.
- (12) He shall speak no evil of his fellows' work.

(Continued on Page 3)

## The Big Wally World Bar-B-Que Fund Raiser

That's Wal Mart to all you city slickers. It appears that the Hempstead Masonic Lodge has held another modestly successful fund raiser. The Lodge only cleared about \$125.00 after expenses this time.

However, the Lodge has enough "already paid for" briskets left to supply our next fund raiser which will allow however much we take in it to be almost all profit.

Many thanks to each of the brothers (and Sister) who volunteered their time and labor to made the fund-raiser a success.

## Masonic Questions and Answers

**Q:** Why the Square?

**A:** In China the implements of architecture were used in a system of moral philosophy at a very early date. Mencius, who wrote about 300 B.C., said: "A master Mason, in teaching his apprentices, makes use of the compasses and the square.

Ye who are engaged in the pursuit of Wisdom, must also make use of the compasses and the square."

In a book called Great Learning, 500 B.C., we find that "A man should abstain from doing unto others what he would not they should do unto him; and this is called the principle of acting on the square."

*"Masonic Questions and Answers" is basically for new Masons, Masonic wives and children. However, we may all benefit from being reminded sometime. PLEASE let the editor know if you have a question.*



**EGIUS MANUSCRIPT**

(Continued From Page 1)

(13) He must instruct his apprentices in the Masonic science.

(14) The Master shall take no apprentices for whom he has not sufficient labor.

(15) He shall not compromise with his fellows in their sins for any profit.

**Points**

(1) The Mason must love God and his brethren.

(2) He must work diligently in working hours that he may lawfully refresh himself in the hours of rest.

(3) He must keep the secrets of the brethren with fidelity.

(4) He must be true to the Craft.

(5) He shall receive his wages without murmuring.

(6) He shall not turn a working day into a holiday.

(7) He shall not carnally lie with a brother's wife.

(8) He must be just and true to his Master and brethren in every capacity.

(9) He shall treat his brethren with equity and in the spirit of brotherly love.

(10) He must live peacefully and without contention with his brethren.

(11) Seeing a brother about to err he must admonish him with kindness.

(12) He must maintain the general regulations of the Craft.

(13) He shall commit no theft or succor a thief.

(14) He must be steadfast to these laws and to the laws of his country.

(15) He shall submit to the lawful penalty for what ever offenses he may commit.

# The Editors Corner

The old oak tree in the alley at the west end of the Lodge building is gone. It is no longer a threat to the building or the brothers walking by. The major limbs and trunk are being saved for bar-b-que wood.

In spite of a majority vote of the lodge, that decreed Brother Roy could not be involved in cutting or splitting the fire wood in this summer heat, Guess who has been out there with his chain saw.

↔  
The election for new officers for the Masonic year 2001/2002 will be held at this month's meeting of the Hempstead Masonic Lodge. Come on down and sit with us, maybe you'll get elected to a chair.

↔  
There are still a few brothers who have not paid their dues for the year 2001. If a member fails to pay his dues on or before June 23rd of such year (Which is just over a week away), he shall stand automatically suspended for non-payment of dues without action by the Lodge. Hempstead Lodge is currently down to 60 members and we certainly don't want to loose any more. If any Brother has a problem paying his dues, please contact me or one of the other Lodge officers before the June Meeting. Remember, Brothers helping Brothers in need is part of what Masonry is all about.

If ~~anyone wants to buy the new 2001 version~~ of "The Laws Of The Grand lodge of Texas A.F. & A. M." book, Please see Corky. Price \$10.75

Did ~~you ever watch the movie "True Grit"~~ with John Wayne. Did you catch the part where the little girl said, "Grandpa wanted to be buried in his Masonic Apron."? (Thanks to Jimmy Zepeda)

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## Remember Them In Your Prayers

Nathan York, Steve York's uncle who is very ill.  
Chief Joe Hester's father who is very ill.  
Brother Roy Shields is having circulatory problems.  
Ted Wren Jr.'s uncle who is back in the hospital.

### MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Crow, John E.	6-10-68
Hester, Sidney Joe Jr.	6-30-80

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO

Garrett, William F. "Bill"	6-26-38
Geisendorff, Fred W.	6-17-28
Sweetman, Clyde O.	6-10-21
Vines, James Ray	6-13-46



## **TEXAS MASONIC HISTORY**

### **"The M.W. Grand Lodge of Texas A. F. and A. M.**

Office of the Grand Master  
1501 Praetorian Building  
Dallas, Texas

September 24, 1921

To the Worshipful Master and Secretary

My Dear Brethren,

"I enclose two official communications to the Members of your Lodge together with a blank form to be filled out and mailed to me immediately after the meeting at which these communications are read."

"You are instructed to summons every member of your Lodge to this meeting, to be held on some evening selected by you to be the most convenient for your membership during the week beginning Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>."

". . . Please make it clear in your summons that the meeting is called under the instructions of the Grand Master and obedience to the summons is obligatory upon every member of the Lodge. . ."

*Now when you receive a letter like that from the Grand Master of Texas, you know it's time to get serious. The Communications was four, 2 column pages, and in small print. The short version skipping the flowery language is as follows.*

". . . An Organization known as the Ku Klux Klan has recently come into this State and has become the subject of wide popular discussion. It appropriates the name and some of the methods of the original Ku Klux Klan, for the temporary existence of which there was ample excuse in the chaotic conditions, prevailing in the South immediately after the Civil War, because of which there was no protection to life and property until law and order were restored."

". . . It is a secret organization with a secret Membership, and therefore wholly irresponsible to the very government whose laws it claims to uphold."

". . . The Ku Klux Klan is a serious menace to Masonry both internally and externally, and the

imminent dangers therefrom are causing the Masonic leadership of the Nation deep concern. It is because of this menace that I am compelled to speak plainly to all Texas Masons. The public in this and other states are holding Masonry responsible for the Klan. They have been given to understand that Masons compose the membership of the Klan to a very large degree and that the Klan is really a militant branch of Masonry, organized and operated by Masons to do things as Klansmen that it would not be proper for them to do as Masons. Organizers, speakers and members of the Klan are responsible for this belief among the people at large, which even to the school children in some of our cities and towns. Everywhere the Klansmen claim their membership is Masonic and everywhere the public charges the Klan to Masonry"

". . . It is because of this deplorable situation that my sense of duty compels me to remind you that neither the Ku Klux Klan or any other order or organization is Masonic unless recognized as such by proper Grand Lodge authority. Nor will the tying of the Ku Klux Klan to Masonry by claims of Masonic membership be permitted or tolerated for one moment. . ."

*This correspondence was found in some of the old minutes and papers in the Lodge. It just goes to show that a Masons life runs over a few speed bumps now and then.*

*If anyone would to read a copy of the full letter, it will be in the secretaries office, all four, 2 column small print pages of it.*

## **It's Masonic Law In Texas**

**Art. 331 (367) All Meetings Opened in Master's Degree.**

At all meetings, the Lodge must be opened on the Master's Degree and if a stated meeting, the regular business transacted. If work in a lower degree is to be done the Masters Lodge must be called from labor and a Lodge opened on the proper degree. When the work is completed such lodge must be closed and labor resumed in the Master's Degree.

*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.*

*Corky (979) 826-6267*

Have you heard of the Lodge that was holding its meetings in the ball room of the local hotel while its building was undergoing renovations?

One night a traveling salesman asked the desk clerk who all those men going into the room were. The desk clerk replied "Oh, those are the Masons."

The salesman said, "Oh, I've always wanted to join that lodge. Do you think they would let me in?"

"Oh, no," said the clerk. "They're awful exclusive. Why, you see that poor guy standing outside the door with a sword? He's been

**HEMPSTEAD LODGE #749**

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