

HEMPSTEAD MASONIC LODGE



#749 AF & AM



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Worshipful Master T. Roy Shields
Secretary John "Corky" Daut

October 2002

TEXAS MASONIC HEROES

THOMAS RUSK

"Chief Justice"

Considered by many to be the only peer of Sam Houston in the esteem, admiration, and love of the people of Texas, Thomas Jefferson Rusk actually surpassed Houston in almost everything but fame.

Born December 5, 1803, at Pendleton, South Carolina, Rusk was influenced early in life by John C. Calhoun, who encouraged him to study law. In 1832, after several partners in a gold mining scheme absconded with the company money, Rusk decided to follow them to Texas. He never recovered the money but decided to stay in Texas.

In the fall of 1835 he raised a company of volunteers at Nacogdoches, and was soon appointed Inspector General of the Texas Army. A signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence, he was elected Secretary of War. During the Battle of San Jacinto he took command of the charge after General Houston was wounded and remained in command of the Army until October 1836.

After serving in the Second Congress of the Republic, Rusk refused to seek election for the Presidency. He became Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court in 1838. In 1839 he endangered his friendship with Houston by commanding the troops that removed the Cherokee

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In Memory of Yvonne Ann Daut, who passed away on September 26, 2002 after having a triple bypass operation. Von was 50 years old and is survived by her husband John N. Daut Sr., daughter Wendy M. Evens, son John N. Daut Jr. and

THE GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC TEXAS

To separate the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas from the Republic of Texas is not easily accomplished. Since a large number of the participants were Masons, it is akin to watching plays on two stages with the same actors scurrying back and forth. Independence from Mexico had been won at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, and during the next months the infant republic struggled to establish itself.

As 1837 dawned, the Treasury was almost devoid of funds, plans for the defense of the republic had hardly begun, and the economy was shaky. Yet, it was a society full of hope, a society still predominantly masculine. As historian Archie McDonald put it, "Masonry in such a society could perform many functions, including that of fraternity for lonely men, and it could act as a force for morality for men with

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FREEMASONRY DURING THE WAR

THE UNDIVIDED CRAFT

By A Mason's Son

My father had been a soldier in the army and was made a Mason in a Military Lodge. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Arkansas Post. he was carried up the Mississippi river to rock island, Illinois.

There my father became desperately ill, and he made himself know as a Mason to an officer of the camp. the Brother officer took him into his home and nursed him back to life.

When the war ended, he loaned father money to pay his way back to his Texas home, and gave him a peal-handled pistol to protect himself. This experience of my father, had a very great influence upon my life. the fact that such a fraternity of men could exist, mitigating the harshness of war, and remain unbroken when states and churches were torn in two.

FUND RAISER

On October 12, 2002. At The Railroad Track And Austin St. In Hempstead. Bar-B-Que Brisket And Chickens. If You Can't Help Work During The Fund Raiser, You Can Still Help By Buying Something.

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Texas Heroes

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from Texas. He continued his law practice in partnership with J. Pinckney Henderson, and was elected President of the Annexation Convention of 1845.

In 1846 Rusk received more votes than Houston as both were elected Texas' first two U.S. Senators. A strong voice for Texas, Rusk was able to secure a \$10 million payment for Texas' New Mexican territory. In 1856 there was support for his candidacy for President of the United States, and in 1857 was elected President Pro Tempore of the Senate. But after his wife's death, he took his own life at his home in Nacogdoches on July 29, 1857. He was a member of Milam Lodge No. 2 at Nacogdoches.

Remember These In Your Prayers

W.M. Roy Shields - Recovering from throat surgery.

John N. Daut Sr. - Lost his wife, Yvonne on September 26, 2002.

David Hartley - Still having neck and

back problems.

Ted Wren Jr. - Still having breathing problems.

Pam York York - Still having knee problems.

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Parker, Monte Paul . 10-7-82

Smith, Huey D. 10-16-81

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO

Chamberland, Clarence 10-04-36

Holloman, "Doug" 10-19-41

Shields, Thomas Roy 10-30-16

York, Steven Wayne 10-08-51

MASONRY ISN'T FOR KIDS

Did you know that the average age of our Hempstead Brothers is 60.5 years old. The youngest is Brother Christopher Zenneno who is only 29 years old and the oldest member is Walter A. Weaver at 92 years old.

FREEMASONRY

What Is A Mason

The answer is simple. A Mason (or Freemason) is a member of a fraternity known as Masonry (or Freemasonry). A fraternity is a group of men (just as a sorority is a group of women) who join together.

What Is Masonry?

Masonry (or Freemasonry) is the oldest fraternity in the world. No one knows just how old it is because the actual origins have been lost in time. Probably, it arose from the guilds of stonemasons who built the castles and cathedrals of the Middle Ages. Possibly, they were influenced by the Knights Templar, a group of Christian warrior monks formed in 1118 to help protect pilgrims making trips to the Holy Land.

In 1717, Masonry created a formal organization in England when the first Grand Lodge was formed. A Grand Lodge is the administrative body in charge of Masonry in a particular geographical area.

In the United States, there is a Grand Lodge in each state.

In Canada, there is a Grand Lodge in each province.

Local organizations of Masons are called Lodges. There are Lodges in most towns, and large cities usually have several. There are about 13,200 lodges in the United States.

THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

The fund raiser scheduled for October 5th has been changed to October 12th because the 5th will be the sale day for the Waller County Fair.

We are looking forward to the next railroad track fundraiser to be held on the 12th of October. If it's anywhere near as successful as the last one on August 31, Hempstead Lodge will be well on the road to financial recovery. Then there'll be November's Liendo Plantation Reenactment and the Bull Ridding event.

The exemption from Ad Valorem taxes will be a big help with our financial situation this year. We owe a vote of thanks to W.M. Roy.

One of the first things Brother Roy did as the Worshipful Master was to take the exemption resolutions to the City of Hempstead, Waller County and The Hempstead Independent School District to get their approvals and start the wheels turning for the exemption.

The Lodge also owes both Brother Roy and Mr. Randy Lewis of Lewis Grocery some very special thanks for donating some of the food supplies that has helped make the past and next Railroad Track fund raisers a big success.

I have to mention an outstanding example of Masonic Brotherhood. Brother Mike Risley of Waller Lodge went to the hospital with John and Yvonne on the 25th.. After her by-pass operation went sour, Brother Mike stayed overnight at the hospital with John. He went home and took a nap the next morning and came back.

Spending close to 2 days in a hospital waiting room with a Brother is really being a Masonic Brother.

**The Texas Masonic District
108 Masters, Wardens, and
Secretaries Association**

It is an organization composed of the current Worshipful Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens, and Secretaries of the 8 Masonic Lodges of Ft. Bend, Waller and the southwest corner of Harris Counties, Texas. We may be one of the smallest MWS Associations in the state, but we are proud to represent the grass roots "Small Town Texas Masons" in our section of southeast Texas.

If you are a Mason in one of the Lodges of the 108th District, we ask you to join in our efforts as we try to spread light to all. Please make it a point to attend the meetings and participate in the events we have planned for the year. You do not have to be a Master, Warden or Secretary to attend the meetings.



A Favorite Quote

By Walter Cronkite's Wife

"I couldn't have ever had an affair because I couldn't hold my stomach in for that long."

.....
■ A Brother who had just ■
■ been installed as Master of ■
■ his Lodge and was duly ■
■ attending all the functions he ■
■ could, was having a hard ■
■ time with his wife, who said, ■
■ "All those Masters-in- ■
■ office have to do is click ■
■ their fingers and you would ■
■ be there. wouldn't you? I ■
■ wish I was a Master!" ■
■ After due thought, he said, ■
■ "So do I dear, we swap them ■
■ for a new one every year!!" ■
■
.....

**Grand Lodge Of The
Republic Of Texas**

out other, more ordinary, restraint."

Anson Jones had returned to Houston and re-opened Holland Lodge No. 1. Milan Lodge No. 2 at Nacogdoches and McFarland Lodge No. 3 at San Augustine had formed. In November, 1837, Holland Lodge passed a resolution inviting the lodges at Nacogdoches and San Augustine to meet with Holland Lodge in Houston on the 27th of December for the purpose of forming a Grand Lodge.

The assembly actually was held on December 20 in the Senate Chamber of the capitol building with Sam Houston presiding. Anson Jones moved that the several lodges "consider it a matter of right, and for the general benefit of the Order" to organize themselves "into a Grand Lodge within the Republic, and that they now proceed to organize the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, and the Masonic Jurisdiction there unto belonging." The motion passed unanimously. Adolphus Sterne of Milan Lodge then moved that all Master Masons present be made members of the Grand Lodge, and, in a second motion, that they proceed to elect Grand Officers. Anson Jones was elected Grand Master. The rules and by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana were adopted "for present government so far as it is applicable to our situation," and a committee was appointed to draft a Constitution.

At the first communication of the Grand Lodge held in April 1838, the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee was adopted "with such changes in its regulations and phraseology as will adapt it to the local conditions and wants of this

Grand Lodge."

No reason for switching from the Louisiana Constitution to that of Tennessee was given. Meanwhile, the committee appointed to draft a Constitution continued its work, and on 19 May 1838, the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas adopted its own Constitution. <P>

From three small but all-important lodges sprang what was to become a mighty Grand Grand Lodge, the Masonic heritage of which had followed a clear path. Out of the Ancient Grand Lodge of England came the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania which in turn chartered four of the five lodges that formed the Grand Lodge of Louisiana; and out of that body came the charters for the original three lodges in Texas. Like its forebears, the Constitution of the Texas Grand Lodge stated that its members were Ancient York Rite Masons practicing Masonry as it was agreed to at York, England, in 926 A.D. The words "York Rite Masons" were dropped from the Constitution in 1858, and since that time we have been Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. In 1846, the "Act to Incorporate the Society of Free Masons, composed of Lodges and Chapters" was adopted. Finally, in 1849, came the "Act to Incorporate The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in and for the State of Texas, under and by the name and style of The Grand Lodge of Texas, and so it has been to this day

"Although constituting only about 1% of the population [of Texas], Masons filled some 80 percent of the Republic's higher offices. All of the presidents, vice presidents, and secretaries of state were

A certain private school in Victoria, BC, recently was faced with a unique problem. A number of grade 12 girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom.

That was fine, but after they put on their lipstick they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night, the maintenance man would remove them and the next day, the girls would put them back. Finally the principal decided that something had to be done. She called all of the girls into the bathroom and met them there with the maintenance man. She explained that all these prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every night.

To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, she asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required.

He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it. Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror.

There are teachers and there are educators.



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