

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

A Friendly Neighborhood For Your Permanent Masonic Home

Volume 108, Issue 12



December 2001

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - Ted W. Wren Jr.
SENIOR WARDEN - T. Roy Shields
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
SECRETARY - - - John "Corky" Daut
TREASURER - - - Malcolm P. Carter
CHAPLAIN - - - John Garrett
TYLER - - - R. Wayne Kluna
BULLETIN EDITOR - John "Corky" Daut



THE NEXT STATED MEETING December 13, 2001

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

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



Texas Masonic Heroes

JAMES BOWIE

"Greatest Fighter in the Southwest"

One of the most popular characters of the old Southwest was the legendary Jim Bowie. He was born in Tennessee in 1795, grew up along the bayous of Louisiana, and gained a fierce reputation as an alligator-rider, an indian-fighter, and a deadly duelist. He killed the son of Jean Lafitte in one of a number of fights that were an occupational hazard of Bowie's many business ventures. He and his brothers, John and Rezin, had made and lost several fortunes in land speculation and slaverunning before Jim's thirtieth birthday.

Henry Clay declared Bowie "the greatest fighter in the Southwest." Clay had witnessed a confrontation between Bowie and an obnoxious pipe smoker on a stagecoach in 1832. When a lady's request that the pipe be extinguished was ignored, the gallant and daring Bowie produced his famous knife and caused the fellow to reconsider.

Although the records were destroyed by fire in 1850, he is recognized as a member of Loge L'Humble Chaumiere (Humble Cottage Lodge) No. 19 at

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The Fund Raisers

Once again, the Hempstead Lodge #749 and Waller Lodge #808 Lodges joined forces to sponsor two major fund raising events.

On Saturday November 17th and Sunday the 18th we put on a Bar-B-Que sale at the Liendo Plantation Civil War Reenactment. If we used a rough estimate of \$5.00 per person, we served about 600 people during the two day period.

The "Bull Riding Extravaganza", that was presented against the better judgment of many Lodge elders, was held on Sunday afternoon, November 18th.

It was planned, sponsored and arranged almost single handed by Ted "Trey" Wren III, Worshipful Master of Waller Lodge. He was joined early by Brother Kelly Cox of Waller Lodge and then by Ted Wren Jr., Worshipful Master of Hempstead Lodge who assisted him in the earlier stages. After discovering that almost all of the expenses were already paid by the sale of advertisements and donations, other members joined in as time drew near and helped with the actual performance.

The show proved to be such a success that some former skeptics are now talking "Annual Event". While others are saying "No Sir, it should be a semi-annual

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WARNING THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER

If it is addressed to a Hempstead Rural Route and Box number the Hempstead Post Office **WILL NOT** deliver to you after December 31, 2001. Please notify "Corky" at P. O. BOX 1251 Hempstead, TX 77445 or at 979-826-

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner

Members of the Hempstead Masonic Lodge are invited to attend a dinner at the Lodge, at 6:30 PM on December 13, 2001 given by The Ladies of The Hempstead Order of the Eastern Star



Fund Raisers Continued from page 1

event, in the future, 1 in the spring and 1 in the fall.

Each Lodge added over \$2,200.00 to their bank accounts for one week end's work from the two events.

We have to admit that the "Bull Riding Extravaganza" earned more in six hours than the Bar-B-Que sale did in 2 full days, not counting all the preliminary work of selling advertising and soliciting donations.

Maybe now, supporting a "Turkey Shoot" would look better to some of our more skeptical members. A s John N. Daut Sr. was quoted by someone as saying, "If we trust a man enough that we elect him as the Worshipful Master of the Lodge then we should support his programs 100% even if he wants to have a cow patty throwing contest."

A Note From The Secretary's Desk

First, you have to remember that Waller Lodge is my home Lodge and Hempstead is my plural membership Lodge. For that reason, in spite of being an officer in Hempstead Lodge, my interests are equally divided between these two Lodges. My observations suggest that we are both very small Lodges with only 35 or 40 **dues paying** members in each Lodge. We do not come even close to being able to pay our Lodge's operating expenses with dues money alone therefore we must raise other funds.

Second, having 12 or 15 members present at regular stated meetings at either Lodge is a pretty good turnout. This handicaps both Lodges when we have individual Lodge fund raisers with only 2 or 3 men doing most of the preliminary work. With joint fund raisers, however we always have plenty of help in planning and in the operation and usually do very well.

Third, we currently have 11 men who are dual members in both Lodges and 1 petition in hand for another and the promise of at least 1 more in the very near future. There are about 6 of the dual members along with 1 or 2 single member brothers from each Lodge who usually do 99% of the planning and ground work of our fund raisers for either Lodge. For that reason, plus the fact that our fund raisers seem to be getting bigger and better, I feel that the two Lodges would be much better off to have joint fund raisers in the future.

I would like to make the motion that both Lodges should have more joint fund raisers in the future and work together to share equally in their profits. Are there any seconds to the motion?

Think about it, working together with just a little luck, the Liendo Bar-B-Ques, a "Bull Riding Show", and maybe a couple of Turkey Shoots could provide all the money (Over Dues) needed for operating both Lodges.

Then individual fund raisers like Waller's Chicken Bar-B-Ques and Hempstead's Bicycle Race would bring the Lodges enough extra for any special projects.

It's Masonic Law In Texas

Art. 374 Widows and Orphan's. On the death of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master mason, in good standing pursuant to Art.359 and 360, the Lodge may furnish his widow and orphans with a certificate of his good standing.

Art. 376 Widows with Other Masonic Affiliation. A widow whose father or brother is a Master mason, but whose deceased husband was a non-Mason is entitled to Masonic recognition as the daughter or sister of a Master Mason

Art. 376 Remarriage. Upon remarriage to a non-Mason, the widow of a Mason loses her status as such, and any certificate theretofore issued to her is invalidated. Such remarriage does not affect the Masonic obligation to orphaned children of a deceased Mason.

If you have question or suggestion regarding the wording or meaning of Masonic law, please let me know and I'll try to help in this column.

Congratulations are in order for our
Worshipful Master, Ted Wren Jr.
He has a brand new Grandson named
Jeffery Seth Murray. Actually, Ted's
daughter, Jennifer should get all the
Congratulations, all Ted did was smile.



The Star Corner

A Short History Of The Order

The Order of the Eastern Star is an adoptive rite of Freemasonry with teachings based on the Bible and objectives that are charitable and benevolent.

The founder of OES was Dr. Robert Morris, a lawyer and educator from Boston, Massachusetts, who was a Master Mason and Past Grand Master of Kentucky. Dr. Morris intended his creation to become a female branch of Freemasonry, but he failed to overcome the great opposition this idea engendered.

After his first published ritual in 1849-50, he became associated with Robert Macoy who wrote and published a ritual based on Morris' in 1867.

The first Grand Chapter was organized in Michigan in the same year. (There is evidence for an organization of the same name founded variously in 1788 or 1793, but this group was defunct by 1867.) Subordinate (local) chapters operate under charter from state level grand chapters which are responsible to the General Grand Chapter at the International Eastern Star temple in Washington, D.C.

Members must be eighteen years or older and either Master Masons in good standing or properly related to a Master Mason in good standing. The latter category includes wives; widows; sisters; daughters; mothers; granddaughters; step-mothers; step daughters; step-sisters; and half-sisters. In 1994 this was expanded to include nieces, daughters-in-law, and grandmothers.

Each chapter has eighteen officers, some elected and others appointed. Two offices are specifically male (Patron and Associate Patron) while nine offices are specifically female (including Matron and Associate Matron). While the Worthy Matron is considered to be the presiding officer of the chapter, the degrees cannot be conferred without a presiding brother in good standing (hence the Patron and Associate Patron).

Each chapter retains the right to decide who shall be a member of the organization. Election to the degrees must be unanimous, without debate, and secret. The successful candidate must profess a belief in a Supreme Being and is initiated in five degrees, which are conferred in one ceremony. (When Eastern Star was created, it was intended to be the first of a three degree series. The second and third degrees were Queen of the South and the Order of the Amaranth, respectively.)

I intend to try including an Eastern Star Column in this newsletter for awhile. Your Comments and ideas will be appreciated. Corky at 979-826-6267 pineilse@swbell.net

(JAMES BOWIE Continued From Page 1)

Opelousas, Louisiana. Bowie came to Texas in 1830 and settled in San Antonio, where he married the beautiful Ursula Veramendi, daughter of the Vice-Governor of Coahuila and Texas. With these connections to the established aristocracy, Bowie became one of the most trusted Americans in Texas. But just when the future seemed brightest, his wife and two children died in the great cholera epidemic of 1833.

Bowie joined the struggle for Texas Independence at the siege of Bexar, and accepted the command of the volunteers at the Alamo. On February 2, 1836, he wrote, "we will rather die in these ditches than give them up" True to his word, he chose to remain with the defenders of the Alamo, although confined to his cot with pneumonia.

The British historian Thomas Carlyle said of Bowie, "By Hercules! The man was greater than Caesar The Texans ought to build him an altar."

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

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Carter, Richard Albert Jr.	12-12-88
Daut, John W. "Corky"	12-22-92
Hartley, David Wade	12-08-97
Kluna, Robert Wayne	12-01-73
Stasny, Roland E.	12-01-73
Zepeda, Jimmy Nazario Jr.	12-11-80

Happy Birthday To

Carter, Malcolm Pierce	12-10-52
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A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17." The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

Bubba and Joe Bob were a couple of good old boys from the flat lands down around Waller. One pretty fall day they decided to do a little hunting in the Brazos river bottoms. After a couple of hours of tramping through the trees and brush they discovered that they were hopelessly lost.

After they sat on a log for awhile, ol' Bubba's face brightened up and he said, "You know, Joe Bob I read in that there deer hunting magazine one time, that when you are lost, you should shoot into the air 3 times and help will come. You reckon we autta try it."

Joe Bob quickly got off three shots and they waited. No one came.

After waiting an hour with nothing happening Bubba said, "Maybe you outta shoot in the air 3 more times. Joe Bob did and still no one came.

After another hour, Bubba said "Well it ain't worked yet maybe you better try shooting one more time."

"Well okay," said Joe Bob, "I will, but we're almost out of arrows!"

HEMPSTEAD LODGE #749

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