

# The HILL CITY LIGHT

January 2013

## 2012 - 2013 Lodge Officers

W. M.	Anthony Clark
S. W.	Ricky Wilson
J. W.	Philippe Dewailly
Treas.	Kent Kinkade, P.M.
Sec.	Oscar Orum, DDGM
Chaplain	Chuck Stewart
S. D.	Charles Maddox
J. D.	Jon Cohorn
S. S.	Dale Reynolds
J. S.	Marcus Mosley
Marshal	Hunt Armistead
M. C.	Philip Marshal
Musician	Brandon Jenkins
Tiler	Ralph Layne

## Hill City No. 456 A.F. & A.M.

Chartered June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1876

Austin Scottish Rite Theater & Museum  
Lavaca St. at 18<sup>th</sup> St., Austin, Texas

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Website: [www.hillcitylodge.org](http://www.hillcitylodge.org)

(Subscribe to receive Lodge email communications on website)

1876  2012

Stated Meeting: First Tuesday at 7:30 pm.  
Dinner at 6:30 pm.

Called Meetings: Other Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.  
Dinner at 6:30 pm.

## Work Schedule

## From the East

### January 2013

January 1	Dark for New Years'
January 8	Stated Meeting
January 15	Work Night Food Committee
January 22	Work Night Masonic Education
January 29	Work Night

### February 2013

February 5	Stated Meeting
February 12	Family Night Sweetheart Dinner
February 19	Work Night Food Committee
February 26	Work Night

### March 2013

March 5	Stated Meeting
March 12	Work Night Food Committee
March 19	Work Night
March 26	Work Night

Greetings Brethren:

**Welcome:** Welcome to the Hill City 456 January 2013 newsletter. I hope you each had the opportunity to spend time with loved ones over the past holidays. With our compressed and busy schedule in December, I did not get a December issue published. This newsletter should get us back on track and communicating with our membership and Masonic community. This newsletter will cover some important events from December and look forward into the next several months at Hill City 456. I thank you for your readership of our newsletter.

**Goodbye 2012:** We began December with our Stated Meeting and Grand Lodge the following week. At our December meeting we earmarked our charitable donations to a couple of our Masonic Charities. Through the beneficence of our members of years past we are able to annually contribute at Grand Lodge to Masonic organizations such as the Texas Masonic Retirement Center. This recipient is important to me for reasons I would happily discuss with any of you in person. Briefly, here are some admissions criteria:

**TEXAS MASONIC RETIREMENT CENTER**

Texas Master Masons, who have continuously been in good standing in a Texas Lodge working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas or a Texas Chapter working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas for five (5) years preceding the application, are eligible to move into the TMRC.

Requirements for Family Members of Eligible Masons:

- Widows
- Wives
- Mothers
- Never-married daughters
- Never-married sisters

Wives, widows, divorced or widowed mothers, never-married sisters, and never-married daughters are eligible if the related eligible Texas Master Mason is(was) in good standing with their Texas Lodge or Chapter. When the wife or widow of a Master Mason applies for admission, she must have been continuously married to the eligible Mason for three (3) years prior to the time of application.

It gives me great personal satisfaction that Hill City 456 has the ability to annually support the Texas Masonic Retirement Center. This is one of the ways that Masonry can affect lives. If you have questions about TMRC, eligibility requirements, or payment options, please contact them at 817.275.2893 or email them at [information@txmrc.org](mailto:information@txmrc.org). Their website is [www.txmrc.org](http://www.txmrc.org).

**GRAND LODGE ANNUAL MEETING**

The second week of December, your elected officers were in attendance at the Grand Lodge of Texas annual communication and business meeting. This is the time of year when subordinate lodges and the Grand Lodge come together to review and vote on legislation. The legislation is not only put forward by the Grand Lodge but also by the subordinate lodges. It is an opportunity to strengthen and secure Texas Masonry for years to come. It is vitally important to our existence and I strongly urge you to attend a Grand Lodge Annual meeting. They are always held on the first full weekend of December, starting on Thursday and continuing through Saturday. Voting on legislation is restricted to Past Masters (Grand Lodge members) and the three ‘dais’ officers, the W: M, S: W and J: W. A proxy is also assigned in case the three principle officers are not at a specific vote.

I have noticed a common theme over the past several years at Grand Lodge and at the Warden’s Retreat. One of our most important duties as Masons is to “Guard the West Gate.” Recall your lectures from your degrees. Recommend only those to Masonry who you know to be good men. Do not be too quick to sign a petition. Have you met with the petitioner? Have you talked with them at the dinner table - several times? As an Investigation Committee Member have you followed up on their references? Did you meet them at their

house and meet their family. Does the wife have a question that needs to be addressed? If the petitioner or family has questions that you cannot answer please involve a Past Master and the secretary's office. Please facilitate further meetings with the petitioner and/or family with the lodge. Yes, we need membership to be a strong fraternity but remember quality of quantity. Always, "Guard the West gate."

**PAST MASTERS/HOLIDAY MEAL**

In the month of December we also celebrated our Past Master/Holiday dinner! This is an annual event at the lodge where we thank our Past Masters (by them making dinner for us) for their support of our lodge. I know it's an odd way of going about things but it's one of those lodge traditions. We had a full dining hall - I believe we ran a count of over 80 in attendance. Our lodge musician Bro. Jenkins entertained us with song and traditional season sing-a-longs. After the dinner friends and families were invited to tour the first floor of the Scottish Rite Theater which is a remarkable reminder of the importance of Freemasonry to Texas. We thank all the Past Masters who contributed their time, food, money and laudable efforts to this event. I personally thank each Past Masters of the lodge. Through their efforts in their year in the East and their active nature at lodge they strengthen and support the lodge. Through their 'support' we are strengthened and through their 'strength' we are supported. They are the true 'pillars' of Hill City 456.

We wrapped up 2012 in classic Hill City style by passing two brothers to the degree of Fellowcraft. I would like to extend a thank you to Past Master "Uncle" Bob Schmidt for all his efforts in fielding degree teams for our candidates.

**2013 LOOKING FORWARD**

Although the calendar year ended on December 31, 2012, we are only sitting at the halfway point of our Masonic year. The Masonic year runs from June 24 to June 24. Why June 24<sup>th</sup> you ask? On this date in 1717, what is referred to as the premiere Grand Lodge, was formed in London, at the Goose and Gridiron Ale-house, on this date is the first entry, for 1731, of a Lodge meeting in the colonies that became the United States, in an account book of St. John's Lodge in Philadelphia and, on this date in 1734, Benjamin Franklin became Grand Master of what would be known as the "Moderns" Grand Lodge in Pennsylvania.

There is even another, greater meaning to our June 24th date but I will leave that for you to discover - perhaps you would share your research with us at lodge.

**UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS**

January 2013 begins the official kick off of our Annual Charity Raffle. You should each be receiving an envelope from the lodge. It will contain a letter, a flyer and 10 raffle tickets. The contents of the letter will provide an explanation of our Charity for this Masonic year. If you do not receive a letter, please contact the lodge secretary or me directly at [clarkan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clarkan@sbcglobal.net). We have a few tickets available at the lodge but the numbers are limited.

We sent out over 4000 tickets to our membership. Please give what you can, your generosity is appreciated and helps to promote our fraternity to our community.

January 22nd will be a very important day at Hill City Lodge. Through a formal proclamation, I am summoning the membership to our lodge for a "Training"

and "Masonic Education" program. PM Bob Wheelless will conduct the program on Tuesday, January 22, at the lodge. This program is focused towards all members with 3 years or less of seniority in masonry, and the Hill City Lodge. It is not limited to the previously mentioned target group, because we have many "affiliated" masons who need to understand Hill City protocols and policies. PM Wheelless will have other Past Masters assisting him with the program. On this same night the three principle officers and our Secretary will be attending the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association meeting. We will be representing Hill City to the 50th Masonic District.

At our February 5, 2013 Stated Meeting, we will be receiving our DDGM of District 50, R: W: George Moxley. A DDGM is the Direct Representative of the G:M: of the Grand Lodge of Texas. He will be accompanied by our District Instructor who will grade our opening and closing of the lodge. R: W: Moxley will also review other aspects of the bookkeeping of our lodge. And, he will address Hill City at the end of our stated meeting. He will bring important information from our newly elected G: M: The M:W: Walter W. Rogers of the Grand Lodge of Texas. These Official Visits are important to Texas Masonry as it ensures that Texas lodges are conforming to Federal, State, and Grand Lodge laws. This also greatly facilitates your visits to other Texas lodges as you can expect to see conformity in the operation of the lodge. Please be sure to welcome our Honorable Guest and afford him the many thanks and appreciation of a dignitary representing the Grand Lodge of Texas.

On February 12, 2013 we will have a family night and Sweetheart Dinner. I hope to

**“Texas Masons” license plates are now available!**



You may order online at,

**[www.txdmv.gov/vehicles/license\\_plates.htm](http://www.txdmv.gov/vehicles/license_plates.htm)**

(please note the \_ between license and plates)

Click on Order Specialty Plates Online (on the left side of the page).

Click on organizations. Scroll down to Texas Masons and click...and there you go!

You may also order by mail using the online process or...

Go to your local County Tax Assessor’s office and make your purchase there. If they are not aware of the availability of the Texas Mason plates, have them check online (their screen is different from your computer). The TEXAS MASONS plates were not posted until early on the morning of June 1, 2011. Your County Tax Assessor would not have known about them prior to June 1 and may mistakenly send you to MyPlates. The TEXAS MASONS plates are NOT available through MyPlates.

Our plates are listed with the TxDMV as TEXAS MASONS and that is how to ask for them not (Masonic plates, etc.). There may be problems finding the application form, however, the generic form VTR-999 is being used successfully.

The Grand Lodge benefits from each sale and each renewal.

**From the East (continued)**

**Charity Prize Valuation**

schedule a representative from our local DeMolay Chapter to present the “Flower Talk” The Order of DeMolay teaches many beautiful lessons, but none is more important than honour and true respect for womanhood, and more especially for motherhood. The flower talk is an open ceremony that has been traditionally used following induction into the Order of DeMolay, at installations, and other appropriate public functions to highlight the Virtue of Filial Love; love of parents and family. Through this virtue we seek to emphasize that abiding devotion we bear to those who raised us from infancy, or who cared for us in our youth, whether they be a mother, father, a relative or other primary care giver.

Looking further ahead please watch for March to be a month honouring public schools. Texas Masonry has always had a close relationship with the public schools of Texas. The Grand Lodge selects March as a time to focus on the public schools. Hill City will take this opportunity to honour an Elementary School in our community. Vic Robertson Elementary is at the top of the committees list to receive our earmarked charitable funds.

April will bring another family night where we will honour Hill City masons who have served the fraternity for 25 years. Please mark April 23, 2013 on your calendar for this event.

The month of May we will draw for our raffle items and present the commitment of proceeds to our selected main charity group Austin Meals on Wheels and More.

I thank each of you for your support for the first half of our Masonic year. I look forward to the few months ahead as we continue to meet as brothers and contribute to the future of Texas Masonry.

Please join us on Tuesdays for our meetings. I look forward to seeing each of you!!

Tony Clark, W.M.  
Hill City #456

42” Vizio LCD Television  
1080p/60HZ with warranty- \$566

Visa Gift Card (2) - \$100 Each

Hand Crafted Ring 1 – Yellow,  
White, Rose gold tri-band set with  
diamonds - \$1,999

Hand Crafted Ring 2 – Serpentine  
with Rubies, Sapphire, and  
Diamond set in yellow gold - \$1,700

Hand Crafted Ring 3 – Oval Pink  
Tourmaline set in Silver and Gold  
\$600

Please see the raffle flyer for  
images of the rings.

*All prizes are held in the Secretary’s  
office at Hill City Lodge #456 for  
inspection.*

**Thank you for your generous support.**

**HILL CITY LODGE No. 456, A.F. & A.M.  
P.O. BOX 1456  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767-1456**

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## **Food Committee for March 5<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting**

George W Botbyl  
Alfred Williams Boulter  
Vernon L. Bracewell, Jr.  
Jonathan Charles Cearley  
Bradley Cooper Cole  
David Edward Ferguson  
Myron James Fischer

Milton Eugene Francis  
Richard Lee Garrett  
Frank Hubbard Gore  
William Donn Haffelder  
Randall Dale Hobson  
George Curtis Holland, Jr.

Russell Monroe Hur  
Leonard Carl Molberg, Jr.  
James Valery Motsinger  
George Albert Pipes  
Isadore Reichek  
Robert Lehman Roberts, Jr.  
Joe Thaddeus Robertson

Michael William Roy  
Khalil H. Sakakini  
Ralph H Seibt  
Calvin Stokes Story, Jr.  
Raymond Lum Toungate, II  
Alfred Munoz Vasquez  
Weldon L. Welch

**Food Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.**

Duties of the food committee: We don't place many demands on our food committee members. The only business at the food committee meeting is to set the menu for the coming stated meeting. Then, on the afternoon of the stated meeting, your presence is earnestly solicited. Help cook if willing and able, or just sit in the kitchen and keep the Stewards company – it gives our future Masters the opportunity to get to know you.

A \$15 donation is requested of the food committee members unless you include a food committee donation with your Lodge dues in December.