


# The HILL CITY LIGHT

March 2013

<p><b>2012 - 2013 Lodge Officers</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>Hill City No. 456 A.F. &amp; A.M.</b>          Chartered June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1876</p> <p>Austin Scottish Rite Theater &amp; Museum          Lavaca St. at 18<sup>th</sup> St., Austin, Texas          Mail: P.O. Box 1456, Austin, TX 78767-1456          Phone: (512) 479-0990          Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@hillcitylodge.org">secretary@hillcitylodge.org</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.hillcitylodge.org">www.hillcitylodge.org</a></p> <p>(Subscribe to receive Lodge email communications on website)</p> <p>1876  2013</p> <p><u>Stated Meeting:</u> First Tuesday at 7:30 pm.          Dinner at 6:30 pm.</p> <p><u>Called Meetings:</u> Other Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.          Dinner at 6:30 pm.</p>
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<b>Work Schedule</b>	<b>From the East</b>
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<p><b>March 2013</b></p> <p>March 5 Stated Meeting          March 12 Family Night          Food Committee          March 19 Work Night          Masonic Education          March 26 Work Night</p> <p><b>April 2013</b></p> <p>April 2 Stated Meeting          April 9 Work Night          Food Committee          April 16 Work Night          April 23 Family Night          Service Recognition          April 30 Work Night</p> <p><b>May 2013</b></p> <p>May 7 Stated Meeting          May 14 Family Night          Raffle Drawing          May 21 Work Night          Food Committee          May 28 Charity Presentation</p>	<p>Greetings Brethren:</p> <p>Welcome to the March 2013 Hill City Light News Letter. March always reminds me of new beginnings in season and life. March 20th brings the first day of spring. This is when I typically till over the overgrown areas of my garden, find the rich soil beneath and plant for future food and flowers. My redbuds and mountain laurels begin their first bloom cycle. My all-time favorite is the pecan tree. Watch closely for the pecan tree to put off its first shoots – it always signals the end of winter freezes and the true beginning of planting season. How the pecan trees know this I do not know. But there is great truth to it. I also notice that this is that small window of time in Texas when the families are out in large numbers. The weather is perfect, blue skies, puffy clouds and children run and play by my place of work. Soon the Texas summer will strike, and likely, we will stay near our air conditioners to keep cool.</p> <p>Our Masonic year follows a different path – we are quickly drawing our season to a close. We are in the final days of ‘harvesting’ our charitable efforts for Austin Meals on Wheels and More. This organization is a key to the elderly who need assistance with a meal, time-of-life focused programs, and help towards comfortable living. If you have not donated to this charity through raffle</p>
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**From the East** (continued)

ticket purchase or by a direct donation I ask you to please consider a small or large gift to our cause this year. Every \$5 you provide gets us closer to a meaningful contribution to Austin Meals on Wheels and More. Please take a moment to find those tickets on the desk and send them with a donation, or stop by the lodge and make a contribution. Our raffle drawing is May 14, 2013 which will mark the end of our campaign. Simply put, we need your help to make a significant gift – I need your help to realize one of my important platforms of this Masonic year. I truly appreciate your generosity.

This brings me to another thought on contribution. (Stay with me on this one.) Masonry and Hill City have run smack into the 21st century. Many of us juggle school, work or school and work. Some of us own our own businesses that require many hours 6 days a week. We operate in a complicated world of multitasked labor forces -a “Do more with less” mentality. The social media tools we have today communicate faster than ever before. Our message can reach thousands if not millions of people in an instant. Information is at the push of a few buttons on our smart phones. We are in the new era of Social Ethics, Sensitivity and Responsibility. Through the force of fast moving media we are seeing large groups of citizens of governments moving in defiance or defense of the ways that were once 20th century. We contribute in a one paragraph post or a 144 character tweet.

**From the East** (continued)

(Are you still with me here?) Yet in Masonry we contribute with time. Simply put the most valuable commodity we have. Take a moment to think about one of our degrees. The ‘play’ that teaches the core lessons of our fraternity. To learn the parts of one of the major ‘characters’ took time. I can count on one hand those that do those parts again and again and again. I can count on one hand the new masons who have stepped forward to learn the parts. I can count on a few fingers those who know our degrees in total. We young masons are challenged with meeting the level of Contribution, Integrity and Dedication of our brothers who have given us mentorship, their dedication and their time. These degrees are learned only by the oldest fashion of communication. Face to face, talking, listening and observation. We simply cannot nor should not learn this through facebook, twitter, tumblr, pinterest, youtube, internet forums, weblogs, social blogs, microblogging, wikis, social networks, or podcasts. PM Uncle “Bob” probably hasn’t heard of any of these but you know what? He knows our degrees. PM Kent Kinkade may know a few of the above, but you know what? He knows our degrees.

(Are you still with me gentle reader?) Masonry is crossing a very unique and challenging moment in time-the fast consumption and dissemination of information crossing a venerable way of learning and reproducing the lessons of the “plays” in Masonry. As I stated in my message on our charity –

**we need you!** The venerable ones have carried the torch into a very unusual and perhaps uncomfortable place in time for them – the 21st century, for us, the young masons. We should honor these men by meeting them on the level, extending our hand of friendship and brotherly love and accept the torch -still burning with the same flame that it had when it was passed to them decades ago. If we do not do this with Social Ethics, Sensitivity, and Responsibility then we may lose something that has been a part of our social fiber for centuries if not from time immemorial.

So, where does social media fit in? Use it to engage the next group of Masons. Once you have a solid understanding of the social and ethical messages of Masonry through the learning and memorizing of the degrees, lectures, and charges then shout the message but NOT the ritual to the world. Communicate the good lessons in your posts, your tweets, your music, your pictures, your pod casts. You will reach hundreds if not thousands and perhaps millions of people with one of the most powerful social messages ever to be taught. But the lessons begin in a little lodge room, situated due east and west, face to face, listening, learning, reciting and loving the work. Are you with me on this -because, if you are not – Error 404 Website not found.

It is evident that every secret association must have some conventional mode of distinguishing strangers from those who are its members, and Masonry in this respect, must have followed the universal custom of adopting such modes of recognition. The Abbe Granddier (*Essais Historiques et Topgraphiques*, page 422) says that when Josse Dotzinger, as architect of the Cathedral of Strasburg, founded in 1452, organized all the Master Masons in Germany into one body, “he gave them a word and a particular sign by which they might recognize those who were of their confraternity.” Martene, who wrote a treatise on the ancient rites of the Monds, says that in the mystery of Herschau, where many Masons were incorporated as lay brethren, one of the officers was called the master of the works, and the Masons under him had a sign. He also says, and other writers confirm the statement, that in the Middle Ages, the Monks had a system of signs by which they were enabled to recognize the members of their different orders. So does Apuleius describe the action of one of the devotees of the mystery of Isis, and says, “he walked faintly, with a hesitating step, the ankle of the left foot being slightly bent, in order, no doubt, that he might afford some sign by which he might recognize him.” And in another work, “*Aplogia*,” he says, “if anyone happens to be present that has been initiated into the same rites as myself, if he will give me the sign, he will then be at liberty to hear what it is, that, that I keep with so much care.” Plautus thus alludes to this custom in one of his plays (*Miles Gloniosus IV, 42*) when he says, “Give me the sign if you are one of the Bacchantes.”

Signs belong to all secret associations including Masonry. The forms differ but the principle always existed.

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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.

## Celestial Lodge

## Celestial Lodge (continued)

It is our sad duty to report the passing of Brothers **Willis D. Goodlett, James V. Motsinger., Virgil L. Williams,** and **Gilbert L. Harper.**

**Brother Goodlett**, age 70, was born September 8, 1942 in Austin, Texas. He was initiated on February 9, 1984, passed on September 15, 1988 and raised to the sublime degree on March 9, 1989. He affiliated with Hill City 456 on January 2, 2001 and entered the Celestial Lodge on December 23, 2012.

**Brother Motsinger**, age 72, of Manor, Texas, was born March 8, 1941 in Baltimore, Maryland. He was initiated May 4, 1976, passed August 17, 1976 and raised to the sublime degree on September 14, 1976. Brother Motsinger received his 25 year service award on September 14, 2001 and entered the Celestial Lodge on March 12, 2013.

**Brother Williams** was born June, 6 1935 in Andice, Texas. He was initiated August 11, 1959, passed May 9, 1961, and raised to the sublime degree on June, 27 1961. He received his 25 year service award on June 27, 1986 and entered the Celestial Lodge on January 11, 2011.

**Brother Harper** was born February 8, 1937 in Austin, Texas. He was initiated on March 11, 1980, passed on February 16, 1981, and raised to the sublime degree on April 11, 1981. He received his 25 year service award on April 11, 2010 and entered the Celestial Lodge on January 7, 2013.

We also report the sad news of the wife of Past Master Charles E. Bryant, **Joyce Bryant**, age 80 of Austin, Texas, who went to her heavenly home on March 11, 2012.

Please keep the families of these gentle souls, who have gone on before us, in your thoughts and prayers.

I place this article in the memorial section as it seems as appropriate today as when I sat in the Junior Warden's Station. I invite your thoughtful readership.

"My heart is sad but my spirit is joyful for these who have passed. I will not see them again in our lodge. I will not hear their stories. I will not feel their friendly grip. But my faith and the teachings of the Master assure me there is a joy to the spirit - as the immortality of our soul is realized. As we stand within the great temple - that house not made with mortal hands.

As officers we each have a duty to the craft. Some inherent and some inferred. What is my (then Junior Warden) duty to these masons who have passed from us? My formal declaration of duty at open and close is to watch the time and call the craft from work to rest and so forth at the will and pleasure of W:M:

I apply these duties to my brothers in this instance and in this, somewhat, figurative manner. From my station I have seen these men travel through the beauty and glory of the day. They have reached their "meridian height." One definition of meridian is "a point or period of highest development, greatest prosperity or the like." It was at this time that they labored greatly. They labored for their families, their faith and their fraternity.

And now The Great Architect has exercised His will and pleasure according to His design. He has so ordered that these craftsmen be called from labor to rest. So what is my duty to them as departed craftsmen? I call them to rest; no longer requiring their worldly labor; it is their time for the great reward. To be paid their just and final wages by the Senior Warden and to finally rest with their Master. To these men I say, "Pass on Worthy Brother."

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

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## **Food Committee for May 7th Stated Meeting**

Robert Leonard Andrews, III	Mark Dwain Chapman	Christopher John Graff	Max Louis Noe
Fereidoun Bakhshi	Tommy Paul Cox	Robert J Hueffmeier	Joe Oscar Parrish
Bruce Edward Barton	Harry W. "Hal" Elliott	Theodore J. Kalenterides	Harold Pearson
John David Baylor	Ernie T. French	Dell Laclair Martin, Jr.	Ronald Eugene Roberts
George David Bryan	Carl W. Goericke	Ronald P. McDavid	David S Solverson
Ernest L Butler	James Mitchell Goforth, Sr.	Clyde Junior Medlock	James Wilson Tindel

**Food Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, April 9<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.