


# The HILL CITY LIGHT

July 2015

2014 - 2015 Lodge Officers	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hill City No. 456 A.F. &amp; A.M.</b> Chartered June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1876</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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) 655-9858 Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@hillcitylodge.org">secretary@hillcitylodge.org</a> Website: <a href="http://www.hillcitylodge.org">www.hillcitylodge.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Subscribe to receive Lodge email communications on website)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1876  2015</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>
<p>W. M. Chuck Stewart S. W. Charles Maddox J. W. Don Jarrell Treasurer Kent Kinkade, P.M. Secretary Oscar Orum, P.M. Chaplain John Baylor, P.M. S. D. Nick Maulding J. D. Aaron Evans S. S. Luke Michaels J. S. Doug Freyburger, P.M. Marshal Hunt Armistead M. C. Weston Floyd Musician Brandon Jenkins Tiler Ralph Layne</p>	

Work Schedule	From the East
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>July 2015</b></p> <p>July 7 Stated Meeting July 14 Work Night Food Committee July 21 PM Appreciation Family Night July 28 Work Night</p>	<p>Brethren,</p> <p>It is with great honor and humility that I move to the East to follow the great men who have come before me. I want to thank all the Past Masters who have guided and mentored me throughout my Masonic journey.</p> <p>Our installation of officers was fantastic. Many thanks go to Past Masters John Baylor, P.M., Thom Jackson, P.M., Larry Miller, P.M., J.D. Lafosse, P.M., Robert Eschenburg, P.M. and Ron Roberts, P.M. for their great work as our installation team. I would also like to thank P.M. Fred Bakhshi for all the hard work and preparation that went into our delicious meal.</p> <p>Congratulations to all elected and appointed officers. I have asked much from each man, and without exception, each man is willing to go above and beyond to ensure a successful year.</p> <p>I am planning an aggressive year for our Lodge. It is my plan to increase our community service, charitable contributions, Masonic education, communications to the sick, distressed and widows. I have asked our Past Masters to step up and mentor our line officers, new and potential Masons as well as the Masons that are sitting on the sidelines.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>August 2015</b></p> <p>August 4 Stated Meeting August 11 Work Night Food Committee August 18 Work Night August 25 Work Night</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>September 2015</b></p> <p>September 1 Stated Meeting September 8 Work Night Food Committee September 15 Work Night September 22 Grand Lodge Awards Family Night September 29 Work Night</p>	

**From the East (continued)**

**From the West**

Speaking of sitting on the sidelines; I don't feel that any good man joined Hill City to observe. We joined to serve. We joined to become better men. I'm asking that we all remember our obligation and remember why we are Masons. You are not gaining further Light in Masonry by being raised to a Master Mason, then disappearing from all activities. There is little to be gained by coming to dinner and leaving before the meeting begins. Fellowship is great, but service is our duty. This is my personal invitation to our entire membership to get back to Lodge, serve the Lodge and fulfill our obligation.

There are many good Masonic quotes given by great men. I would like to share two that I feel reflect my thoughts as we begin this new Masonic year:

If you want to know where the future of Freemasonry will grow and prosper it's simple: in the heart, in your heart, in my heart, and in the hearts of those who follow us. - Conrad Hahn

“Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value.” —Albert Einstein

I am here to serve this Lodge to the best of my ability. Thank you all in advance for rolling up your sleeves and getting to work. When we work together, the possibilities are endless.

Fraternally,  
Chuck Stewart  
Worshipful Master  
Hill City Lodge 456

Brethren,

With the 2014-15 Masonic Year behind us, I am proud to report that Hill City Masonic Lodge cumulatively volunteered over 1,100 hours of community service! That more than dwarfs the initial goal of 500 hours I challenged the lodge to perform. Ranging from assistance at a Church, to Search and Rescue, I am proud of the hours we as Masons volunteered to the community!

For the 2015-16 Masonic Year, I want ask that the lodge again repeat the feat of donating our time and individual resources to the community to the tune of 1,000 hours. We've already accomplished this feat, and now I think we can do it again! Remember, to please report the hours you donate to either me (charlesemaddox@gmail.com or 512-567-6744) or Oscar Orum, the Lodge Secretary to make sure your hours are properly documented.

I also want to remind the lodge about the various other philanthropies within which they can become involved with in our Masonic Family. Consider donating your time and money to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to assist underprivileged children with ocular diseases and their need for eyeglasses. Or if you want, you can volunteer with the Shrines and help raise funds the benefit their two hospitals in Houston and Galveston. The Scottish Rite Children's Hospital is located in Dallas, if you'd like to donate your time and talents to their benefit. The Grotto raises money to help children with special needs with their dental expenses and needs.

I also encourage you to consider joining an appendant body. The York Rite and Scottish Rite will help teach you philosophies and lessons that will aid you in looking at your Blue Lodge work in a whole new light, and give it a new depth and meaning for you. Remember, we are here to learn, among other things.

Fraternally,  
Charles E. Maddox,  
Senior Warden,  
Hill City No. 456 AF&AM

## July 2015 Crossword Puzzle

### Across

1. Warm, so to speak
5. Leaf beet
10. The America's Cup trophy, e.g.
14. "\_\_\_ and the King of Siam"
15. Pie cuts, essentially
16. Inside shot?
17. Bad day for Caesar
18. Bumper sticker word
19. Combustible heap
20. Where to have lunch
23. Bristles
24. Gizmos
28. Arctic dwellers
32. Finger or toe
33. Apprehend
36. A branch of Paleontology
39. Not much
41. Odd-numbered page
42. And others, for short
43. "Fiddlesticks!"
46. "... \_\_\_ he drove out of sight"
47. Blatant
48. "Beat it!"
50. Deprive through death
53. Safe place
57. Political refugee
61. Decree
64. Block house?
65. Auto parts giant
66. Advocate
67. Mary Poppins, e.g.
68. \_\_\_ Spumante
69. Indian bread
70. Ground cover
71. Campus bigwig

### Down

1. Manicurist's concern
2. Provide, as with a quality
3. About
4. Imp
5. Algonquian Indian
6. Angelic circle
7. Gulf of \_\_\_\_, off the coast of Yemen
8. Like some potatoes
9. "Likewise"
10. Handle efficiently
11. Crooked
12. Ring bearer, maybe
13. "The Catcher in the \_\_\_"
21. Bucket of bolts
22. \_\_\_ list
25. Banded stone
26. Void
27. Class
29. Henry VIII's last wife
30. "Guilty," e.g.
31. Divisions
33. Bigwig
34. Beyond's partner
35. Snappy one
37. Auditory
38. Crude dude
40. Loom
44. Flight data, briefly
45. Church part
49. Bacchante
51. Competing
52. "Enigma Variations" composer
54. Decree
55. 100th part of a drachma
56. Coach
58. Arm bone
59. Extraterrestrial peaks
60. Some beans
61. Good times
62. Bank offering, for short
63. \_\_\_ Khan

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### June 2015 Puzzle Solution

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## Amos and the Plumb Line

## Amos and the Plumb Line (cont'd)

The plumb line is a working tool that appears in the public installation and also elsewhere in the degrees.

The contemplative Mason is supposed to ponder on our symbols, statements in our ritual, history, legend and other topics to find deeper meaning. Every brother will find different meanings but they should all fall within a range. Here is the meaning I find when I contemplate the plumb line.

First, while all of the jurisdictions I know use the plumb line in the open installation, not all of them use the Amos quote elsewhere in the ritual. Some jurisdictions use the quote about faith, hope and charity while other jurisdictions use the quote about the plumb line in their degrees. I am not sure how many jurisdictions use each. I wonder if it correlates with lineage from the Ancients versus the Moderns. Unfortunately in the US the terms "Ancient Free and Accepted Masons" versus "Free and Accepted Masons" is not a good guide to lineage. Also as Masonry moved west many jurisdictions formed from lodges chartered by more than one state so often a state's lineage is mixed.

I see the plumb line with the usual symbolic meaning of moral rectitude as explained with the working tool. An example is set in the next degree and we are to emulate that integrity. The working tool also hints at the Masonic attitude towards freedom - Who we walk uprightly in the company of can suggest who we might not be willing to kneel down before. Thus we are loved by free men and despised by tyrants and theocrats. Brothers in the Scottish Rite may recall that there is an entire degree that discusses our reaction to tyrants and theocrats.

I also see the plumb in the form of what it is used to create, walls. Walls isolate in more than one way. The Great Wall of China was made as much to keep their civilization within its due

bounds to keep it focused as it was to keep the barbarians out. Pour water onto a plate and it flows away - barbaric. Pour water into a glass and its level goes up - civilized. This applies in tiling our meetings as well. By separating from the mundane world our works within can rise higher.

Wrapping these up they are a veiled message to the side-liners as well as to the candidate - You are now set apart from the outside mundane society. We set a higher example among ourselves. We are taught by veiled messages that soak in very slowly as we learn. Be the plumb line in your actions and set yourself apart by your own example. Be proud of being a member of our family and bow to none.

The ambiguous history of the next part of various translations of the Amos quote is even more fascinating to me. Some translations use "forsake" others use "pass by". Does the "pass by" part mean the divine will always be with them or does it mean now that the lesson is in learned the divine will no longer need to intervene? It's both. Steadfast persistence appears in the story of the servitude before the exodus, in Job, in our degrees, on the cross and on and on through history and legend old and new. "If you strike me down, Darth, I will become greater than you can know" even in legend so modern we saw the movie in its first run.

This image sets Masonry among all groups that isolate themselves by choice. All such groups tend to be respected by the intellectual, despised by the ignorant. We chose to stand at the same time together among ourselves and apart from the mundane.

So mote it be.

Fraternal regards,  
Doug Freyburger, P.M.  
Junior Steward

## From the South

## Obituaries

We are all excited to begin a new Masonic year for which several of the officers have been making concrete plans to improve and build the Lodge. Those of you who were present at our July Stated Meeting heard some thoughts about plans for Masonic Education this year. We believe that in addition to Masonic ritual work, history, law and philosophy, *all activity* in the Lodge, including projects, committees, events and serving as an officer, are important parts of Masonic education. Through such activities Masons learn and practice a variety of skills to become better men – better leaders and stronger contributors to their families, communities, employers and, of course, their Lodges.

Your officers will be working on details about a Mentoring program in the coming weeks. We will match up any Mason raised within the past two years, or affiliated with Hill City Lodge within the past year, with a Mentor who is a volunteer Past Master. This is beyond the teaching of esoteric work, so Mentors do not need certificates. The purpose is to answer questions and provide guidance on anything about Masonry or generally about anything that helps either of them. Remember, Mentoring is, and should be, a two-way street because everyone has something to learn and something to teach.

We sometimes hear our Brothers admit – and sometimes *boast* – that they know nothing about using a computer. Realistically, the Internet and all kinds of digital information are everywhere and involved in everything. Most people can benefit and even derive enjoyment from exchanging email with friends or browsing the web for shopping, news, research or just fun. We want to help that happen and will have monthly computer classes beginning with the very basic stuff.

For ALL these things we need the support from members of the Lodge, not just the verbal kind. I pledge to demonstrate MASON ENERGY and invite the same. I don't say "Masonic" energy because that usually makes us think of something that is just *here* like the atmosphere. Mason Energy is the effort an *individual* Mason commits to put forth and that is what really makes a difference.

Fraternally,  
Don Jarrell, Junior Warden  
Hill City Lodge 456

Brethren, it is my sad duty to report the passing of brother James Charlie Hester.

**James Charlie Hester** was born in Austin, TX on November 24, 1933 to Charlie Hester and Evelyn Smith Hester. He went home to be with the Lord on May 16, 2015.

James married Virginia Callahan on December 31, 1951. He was a master stonemason and bricklayer in the Austin area for all of his working life. He oversaw much of the brick and granite work on several buildings in Austin. He was the masonry supervisor for the Fine Arts Complex on the University of Texas campus, the downtown police station, the Marriot hotel, and several other major buildings in the area.

He spent most of his adult life in Cedar Park, TX. After moving to Cedar Park in 1969, he was a founding member of the Cedar Park Volunteer Fire Department in 1972. He served as the departments 2nd fire chief for 8 years beginning in 1974. He was recognized as the "Fireman of the Year" in 1979 by the Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce for his "outstanding service." James was also a part of incorporating of the City of Cedar Park serving on its second city council.

James Charlie Hester was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on December 11, 1956, Passed to the degree of Fellow Craft on January 22, 1957, and Raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on February 26, 1957. Brother Hester received his 50 Year Service Award in December 2007.

And so it has come to pass, a Brother Master Mason having completed all the design's laid down on the Trestleboard of Life, has answered the summons of the Grand Warden of Heaven and Earth and has entered into the Grand Lodge over which the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe presides.

**HILL CITY LODGE No. 456, A.F. & A.M.  
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## **Food Committee for September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 Stated Meeting**

James Ray Barber	Patrick K Graham	Rodney D Kothmann	David Edward Schnautz
Hilton Vern Crocker	Leo L Herrera	John Tate McFarland	Abner Ross Schulle
Fred Joseph Crooks	Philip Edward Hornsey	Norman Glen Montgomery	Ernest Serrano
Jerry Seburn Daniel	James David Hurt	Harold Ray Pack	Leroy Eugene Steadman
Marcos de Leon, Jr.	Michael Lee Johnson	Michael Anthony Payne	Byron Wayne Weaver
Lance Barrett Dean	Sammy Ronald Jones	Kip Lee Portis	Robert Charles Williams
Robert Carson Fisk	David Lee Kinser, Jr.	Jack Lavern Ryle	Arthur Cyril Williams
			Rudolph Edgar Willie, Jr.

**Food Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, August 11<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 \$20 donation is requested of the food committee members unless you include a food committee donation with your Lodge dues in December.