


The HILL CITY LIGHT

January 2016

<p>2014 - 2015 Lodge Officers</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 Michels J. S. Doug Freyburger, P.M. Marshal Hunt Armistead M. C. Weston Floyd, P.M. Musician Brandon Jenkins Tiler Ralph Layne</p>	<p>Hill City No. 456 A.F. & A.M. Chartered June 10th, 1876</p> <p>Austin Scottish Rite Theater & Museum Lavaca St. at 18th St., Austin, Texas Mail: P.O. Box 1456, Austin, TX 78767-1456 Phone: (512) 655-9858 Email: secretary@hillcitylodge.org Website: www.hillcitylodge.org</p> <p>(Subscribe to receive Lodge email communications on website)</p> <p>1876  2016</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>Work Schedule</p>	<p>From the East</p>
<p>January 2016</p> <p>January 5 Stated Meeting January 12 Work Night Food Committee January 19 Lodge Service Awards Family Night January 26 Work Night</p>	<p>Brethren,</p> <p>Happy New Year!! I hope each of you had a blessed 2015 and are looking forward to an even greater 2016.</p> <p>We have an exciting Masonic year ahead of us and the Lodge needs all members to be engaged for us to be successful. If you have not been to Hill City Lodge in a while, please make it your New Year's resolution to come back and see your Brothers. We miss you!!</p>
<p>February 2016</p> <p>February 2 Stated Meeting February 9 Work Night Food Committee February 16 Sweetheart Dinner Family Night February 23 Work Night</p>	<p>A few endeavors from 2015 will remain current in 2016. Our dry and canned food drive brought in 235 pounds of food in 6 weeks that we delivered to the Food Bank. Past Master Robert Eschenburg, Sr., Steward Luke Michels, and Jason White spearheaded the Toys for Tots drive and delivered the toys before Christmas while we are still raising money from the Christmas Ornaments that Jr. Past Master Philippe Dewailly handcrafted and sold for our fundraiser. Please keep your vision in focus on these as we move into the New Year.</p>
<p>March 2016</p> <p>March 1 Stated Meeting March 8 Work Night Food Committee March 15 Work Night March 22 Work Night March 29 Work Night</p>	<p>For 2016, we will continue to represent Masonry in the Lodge as well as in the community. In January, we will have a Lodge Awards Family Night honoring our 25 and 40 year members, in February, we will celebrate Presidents day with Masonic Education focusing on George Washington. In March, we will celebrate Public School Week with the</p>

From the East (continued)

presentation of a Lamar medal to one of our valued educators in the Austin area. April will mark the presentation of our Community Builder Award to recognize an outstanding non-Mason that has distinguished themselves through their service to the community and in May, we will award scholarships to some of the most outstanding high school students in Austin.

We have all been blessed to be a member of the oldest and finest fraternity. We have been given all the working tools necessary to fulfill our obligations as good men and Masons. We have also been given the greatest gift, the gift of Masonic Light. The Holy Bible is the most complete set of plans ever given to man. We all may use it in different ways, but one thing is certain; it will never fail you.

I hope that 2016 exceeds your expectations. Make sure to keep God and family your top priorities. Love your Brothers, encourage them, forgive them, and push them to new heights. We are ALL the face of Masonry, let your light shine on my Brothers.

Fraternally,
Chuck Stewart
Worshipful Master
Hill City Lodge 456 AF&AM

From the West

With the New Year comes a renewal of resolutions, of reassurance, of rejuvenation, and of rebirth. As we look back on 2015 and rejoice in what we accomplished, and re-examine what we sinfully did or slothfully failed to do, let us remember that we are all brothers both in Masonry and in humanity.

I am excited for a variety of reasons for the 2016 year. Your principal officers are already working on a plethora of activities within the quarries and without to keep us busy. Remember to stay current with the lodge and the activities thereof by attending business meetings to receive accurate and in depth updates.

On those two notes, many members likely accumulated community service hours during this holiday season. Please remember to continue logging those hours (and mileage) with me and/or the Secretary of the Lodge for our Community Service Drive.

Finally, I want to give a personal thanks and appreciation to each and every one of you, my brothers, for your support and assistance as I progress through law school. I look back on my previous semester with both awe and relief having survived. I know I could not have succeeded the way I have if not for the support of consideration from you, my brothers. I thank you all.

From Emily and me, Happy New Year!

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

The Checkered Floor (cont'd)

From "Stellar Theology & Masonic Astronomy" by Robert Hewitt Brown.

(Cont'd from the December Hill City Light)

The real and scientific reasons why the corner-stone placed with such care in the northeast corner having been concealed by the priests, in process of time, when their religion was superseded, were entirely lost. The custom, however, was first established under all the sanction and requirements of religion, and came at last to be superstitiously followed, not only as to temples, but all other buildings of any importance, whether built so as to face the east or not. The custom has even descended to this day, which shows that some very important reasons must have led to its adoption in the first place. It is thus that the superstitious observance of this custom continued for centuries after the real scientific and the pretended religious reasons for it had not only ceased, but been forgotten.

January 2016 Crossword Puzzle

Across

1. Indian dish made with stewed legumes
5. "C'___ la vie!"
8. Grand ___
13. Dash
14. Portable home
16. Bro, nowadays
17. Small ox
18. Arabic for "commander"
19. Fix firmly
20. It lives in your computer
23. Nonets
24. "Krazy ___"
25. ___ Wednesday
28. Unluckily
33. Census datum
36. "Don't give up!"
37. Followed
38. Could be a beacon
41. Helmsman
42. Inclined
43. Pillbox, e.g.
44. In-flight info, for short
45. He is also a mathematician
49. Clairvoyance, e.g.
50. Corn holder
51. Former times
55. The sea will reach it at high tide
60. ___ dark space (region in a vacuum tube)
62. Real
63. Decorative sewing case
64. Flax fabric
65. Perlman of "Cheers"
66. Houston university
67. Sanctified
68. ___ and outs
69. Merlin, e.g.

Down

1. drained
2. Asian capital
3. ___ squash
4. Regular, once
5. Appraiser
6. Clash of heavyweights
7. Mischievous
8. "Get ___!"
9. ___ erectus
10. Military architecture term
11. "A pox on you!"
12. "First Blood" director Kotcheff
15. Milk-Bone biscuit, e.g.
21. Telekinesis, e.g.
22. Overlapping parts of fugue
26. Cold shower?
27. Serpent with nine heads
29. Duration
30. "Raiders of the Lost ___"
31. "___ moment"
32. "It's no ___!"
33. Metal die
34. Facilitates
35. Marimba kin
39. Delivery person?
40. "Tarzan" extra
41. Amniotic ___
43. Japanese barbecue
46. Crew member
47. 30-day mo.
48. Parents, usually
52. "Socrate" composer
53. It's signaled by a white flag
54. Downhill racer
56. Bad day for Caesar
57. Chap
58. Accordingly
59. Flight data, briefly
60. Priestly garb
61. Bubkes

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December 2015 Puzzle Solution

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I	N	A	N	E		P	A	P	A		E	R	A	S					
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O	S	L	O		A	R	T		L	U	P	I	N	E					
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The Conundrum of Hiram

The Conundrum of Hiram (cont'd)

One of my takes on the lost ancient Grand Master has to do with the design of the Scientific Method. Back in 1717 when grand lodge Masonry was founded and rituals started to be written down the codification of the Scientific Method was still historically new and the memory of society before capital-S Science was still fresh.

One feature of the Scientific Method is the credit goes to the person who first publishes a discovery not necessarily to the person who first makes a discovery. Scientists in the first generations of the new method, especially Newton, took this as a trick and a personal affront. This particular conundrum is featured widely in our ritual with it's discussion of secrecy mixed with the reality of dissemination.

Before capital-S Science discoveries were kept secret. Discovery after discovery was made and then a generation several generations later it was lost. Because art and industry depended on human memory that could be attained in one lifetime, progress happened at a creep and often just stuck for centuries at a time.

After capital-S Science discoveries were published in journals that were carried by every major library in Europe and eventually the world. Discoveries went from being lost to being known. The worst case went from totally losing a discovery to having it stored in archives in a language that needs translation. The best case went from some scholar keeping his discovery secret to the entire world knowing about it and how to use it. Ever since progress has been rapid.

Hiram Abiff was a lower-case-s scientist, an artist, an artisan and a visionary. He kept his advances secret and he only told his inner circle. That inner circle included kings who were too busy doing statecraft to teach apprentices. When Abiff died, the ability to move his discoveries forward died with him.

In Masonry we have secret rituals and we have those rituals either written out in full with a tiny number of words removed, or we have them in cipher form. We keep both the old AND the new traditions. We keep secrets. We publish our discoveries. It's one of our many conundrums that we restrict something to be better able to lead in it. We forbid women members but we led the world in equal rights across genders. We forbid atheist members but we led the world in actually living up to our principles of religious freedom. We keep secrets that are actually in the open and we publish more about philosophy than most of the universities of the world combined.

To me that's why Abiff is both dead AND remembered. He's both the least of the three in rank but the one we look up to the most. He's a symbol for that dynamic tension between keeping a secret and teaching the world, between forgetting as an individual and remembering as a society. He symbolizes not just specific lost knowledge, but the entire body of ancient knowledge that was discovered and lost across prehistory. He reminds us that publishing knowledge is the goal. And he teaches us that the worthy learn but the stupid chose to remain ignorant.

That's what I think of when I ask what was lost as the ancient "word". What do you think was lost?

Fraternal regards,
Doug Freyburger Junior Steward

From the South

From the South (continued)

Announcing Leader-Officer Development

It is essential that Officers serving the Lodge be, or become, **leaders**, so it is inherent in the Lodge's duty to see that every Mason serving as a Leader-Officer, or who wants to serve as an Officer, has every resource, opportunity and assistance to excel with confidence in those positions. Your principal officers are putting together a Lodge Leader-Officer Development Training program to inspire, enable and support the Officers, in the course of each Masonic year, to collectively make the Lodge better, stronger, bigger, and more appreciated by its members and in its community than it was at the beginning of their year.

This Development program will include three content areas: (1) Masonic opening and closing rituals, degree work and esoteric questions and answers, (2) officers duties and best practices in operating the Lodge, and (3) leadership and organization and administrative functions that apply to both the Leader-Officer's duties in the Lodge and his contributions to family, vocation, community and other activities.

This training will be conducted in one or two weekend days each month in sessions of 2-3 hours and mentoring as appropriate. The format of each session will be highly interactive in roundtable discussions and activities lead by various leaders from our Lodge, from District 50 and other Masonic bodies. Masons who participate in the continuous Lodge Leader-Officer Development Training will hopefully look at it as an opportunity and a benefit in their own objectives and certainly not as a burden or source of stress. The spirit of the training will always be that we are all in this together, working together and helping each other at every step along the way.

The Worshipful Master has announced that all current officers are to participate. Any other Brothers interested in serving as a Leader-Officer in the future, or in helping to organize and delivery this training or serve as a mentor, are invited to contact me at dbjarrell@pristacorp.com or (512) 289-3986 participate.

It is the sincere intention of your Worshipful Master and Wardens that this undertaking will enrich the Lodge while encouraging and preparing our Brothers to serve in the line of officers.

Fraternally,
Don Jarrell, Junior Warden
Hill City Lodge 456

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Food Committee for March 1st, 2016 Stated Meeting

George W Botbyl	Riley Felps	William Donn Haffelder	Robert Lehman Roberts, Jr.
Alfred Williams Boulter	David Edward Ferguson	Randall Dale Hobson	Michael William Roy
Vernon L. Bracewell, Jr.	Myron James Fischer	George Curtis Holland, Jr.	Khalil H. Sakakini
Jonathan Charles Cearley	Milton Eugene Francis	Russell Monroe Hur	Calvin Stokes Story, Jr.
Bradley Cooper Cole	Richard Lee Garrett	George Albert Pipes	Raymond Lum Toungate, II
Justin Alan Dressen	Frank Hubbard Gore	Isadore Reichek	Alfred Munoz Vasquez
			Weldon L. Welch

Food Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, February 9th 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.