

# The HILL CITY LIGHT

December 2016

## 2016 - 2017 Lodge Officers

W. M.	Charles E. Maddox
S. W.	Oscar Orum, P.M.
J. W.	Bob Wheelless, P.M.
Treasurer	Kent Kinkade, P.M.
Secretary	Philippe Dewailly, P.M.
Chaplain	Robert Eschenburg, P.M.
S. D.	Aaron Evans
J. D.	Luke Michels
S. S.	Doug Freyburger, P.M.
J. S.	Richard Garrett
Marshal	Hunt Armistead
M. C.	Weston Floyd, P.M.
Musician	
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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(Subscribe to receive Lodge email communications on website)

1876  2016

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

### December 2016

December 6	Stated Meeting
December 13	Past Master Dinner Golden Trowel Food Committee
December 20	Master Mason Practice
December 27	Dark (New Year's)

### January 2017

January 3	Stated Meeting
January 10	Master Mason Practice Food Committee
January 17	50-Year Service Award Family Night Master Mason Degree
January 19-22	Grand Lodge – Waco
January 24	EA Practice
January 31	MWSA-50 Meeting

### February 2017

February 7	Stated Meeting
February 14	Sweetheart Dinner Food Committee
February 21	EA Degree Practice
February 28	25/40 Year Award

## From the East

Brethren,

The Masonic Year is half way done. Some people look at this point and look back at the work that was accomplished. Others look forward to the work left to do. You'll forgive me brethren, but I find myself in the latter category. As one of the youngest Worshipful Masters in not only Hill City's history, but the District, Region, and probably the State, I have a unique perspective. I get to look back on the 6 months' worth of accomplishments the lodge has performed, and the previous 10 years I've enjoyed in the lodge. But I also get to look forward to decades of growth, opportunities, and trials by fire. I am excited and encouraged by the future this lodge will enjoy 25 years from now, 50 years from now, and further into the future.

But before we can look forward to the 2017 half of the Masonic Year, take some time out this holiday break to help take stock in the wonderful things and people in your lives. I appreciate the help of all the members of Hill City, and of course the staff and members at the Grand Lodge who continue to mentor and guide me through this year, and the decisions needing to be made.

Also, December 27<sup>th</sup> is a sacrosanct day for Masons: The Feast of St. John the Evangelist. The author of the Gospel that bore his name, John, was one of the Chosen Twelve. He

## From the East (cont'd)

## From the West

is recognized among the Apostles as a beacon of light and love, giving a shoulder to grieve on in times of need, and offering help, aid, and assistance to those who request it. If you have the chance this Holiday Break, take the opportunity to learn about St. John the Evangelist and his importance to Freemasonry.

It has always intrigued and fascinated me that the Feast Days for the Sts. John should occur near the Solstices. December is also the time of the Winter Solstice, when the day is shortest and the night longest. As an optimist, this has always excited my curiosity because while many feel downtrodden that the day is short, I am excited that spring will arrive soon, and days get longer. I enjoy the symbolism because the year, like life, has its extended periods of darkness, but we all know that this is merely a phase, and soon, the darkness gives way to the light.

Don't forget that this month, the lodge will be dark December 27. Spend this time with your families and loved ones.

Finally, please be in attendance at our January Stated Meeting. Many of you are aware that the Grand Lodge date was moved to January 19 – January 21, 2017. We will have a brief discussion of the various resolutions authored this year, and speaking on behalf of my two Wardens and myself, we will appreciate the feel of the lodge, if any.

Thank you again brethren! So have a Merry Christmas, a Happy Chanukah, a Crazy Kwanzaa, a Tip Top Tet, and a solemn, eventful Ramadan.

Fraternally,  
Charles E. Maddox, Worshipful Master  
Hill City Lodge No. 456 AF&AM  
(512) 567-6744

### Who was the "Widow's Son"?

This question might seem easily answered, but when one reads of legends, scripture writings, the Apocrypha and other historical documents it becomes apparent that perhaps we cannot answer this question so easily.

In the writings of Masonic scholars, we learn of Hiram Abiff, "The Widow's Son". There are others referred to as "The Widow's Son". It seems this is a title to which more than one can be named. The use of the title is traced back to the Grail lore traditions which speak of a descended blood line and specifically reference Ruth.

Ruth, a woman of the Moabite tribe, was married to Boaz, and she was a heroine of the Old Testament. She was also the Great Grandmother of King David. That King David, the father of King Solomon, who built the Temple? Ruth became pregnant, and married Boaz. He was quite a bit older being 80, while Ruth was 40. The book says that Boaz dies the next day.

From this point on, all the descendants of Ruth, were known simply as "Sons of the Widow". A genetic title if you will. A genealogy can be traced. Ruth gives birth to the first "Son of the Widow", Obed, who grows up and bears his son Jesse, who bears his son David who bears his sons Solomon and Nathan.

Using the lineage given in the Gospels of the Christian Bible, Jesus the Nazarene is a descendant of Ruth, making him also, a "Son of the Widow" or "Widow's Son". There are forty-five generations from Ruth to Jesus. This leaves an interesting problem for us as Masons. Nowhere in the lineage mentioned in the Bible does it refer to Hiram Abiff.

*(continued on page 5)*

## December 2016 Crossword Puzzle

### Across

1. Garlicky mayonnaise
6. Ammonia derivative
11. Freon letters
14. Physics lab device, for short
15. Après-ski drink
16. www.yahoo.com, e.g.
17. Earns his dollars one by one
19. \_\_\_ jacket
20. Lovely, like lassie
21. Corrupt
23. Business person
27. Grain-eating bug
28. It played Bing Crosby
32. Breezing through
33. Hawkeye
34. Back talk
37. Marathon
38. Thickening gum
39. Ashcroft's predecessor
40. "Gimme \_\_\_!" (start of an Iowa State cheer)
41. Assassinated
42. Autostrada sights
43. Binoculars for the Met
45. Moves on all fours
48. Flimflam
49. Safari sight
50. Past times
53. "\_\_\_ the fields we go"
54. Violently stormy
60. Morgue, for one
61. Palmlike tree
62. Dark area
63. Dash lengths
64. Makes better
65. Like a cactus

### Down

1. Matterhorn, e.g.
2. "Rocky \_\_\_"
3. "\_\_\_ moment"
4. Anita Brookner's "Hotel du \_\_\_"

### Down (continued)

5. Shipping hazard
6. Clickable image
7. "September \_\_\_" (Neil Diamond hit)
8. Gross
9. \_\_\_-eyed
10. Made of clay
11. Curry herb
12. Swiss capital
13. Car seat option
18. Microsoft product
22. Balloon filler
23. Start of a refrain
24. Scout's mission
25. Gland parts
26. Bell sound
27. Blue hue
29. "For whom the Bell Tolls" woman
30. Messianic utterances
31. Blowing away
34. Chow line?
35. \_\_\_ alia
36. Chasers
38. Brews
39. Computer architecture acronym
41. Dab
42. Marlowe title character
43. Control
44. Bottom of the barrel
45. 10,000,000 rupees
46. Case of the sniffles
47. Buenos \_\_\_
50. Pool site, maybe
51. "How \_\_\_ Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild, and Got a Life" (Kaavya Viswanathan novel in the news)
52. 1990 World Series champs
55. #13
56. Person in a mask
57. \_\_\_-Wan Kenobi
58. Ashes holder
59. "Come to think of it ..."

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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63				64						65			

## November 2016 Puzzle Solution

H	U	B	S		B	O	M	B	E		M	A	S	T
O	S	L	O		I	L	I	A	D		U	N	C	O
W	H	I	S	T	L	E	S	T	O	P	T	O	U	R
T	E	N		A	L	O	E	S		H	U	N	T	S
O	R	D	U	R	E	S			B	O	A			
			S	E	T		P	R	O	B	L	E	M	S
O	N	E	S			C	O	A	T	I		D	I	E
T	E	T	R	A	S	A	C	C	H	A	R	I	D	E
I	R	A		R	I	S	K	Y			S	T	I	R
C	O	L	O	G	N	E	S		L	A	V			
			B	Y	E			D	I	S	P	O	R	T
S	W	I	R	L		C	O	O	P	T		V	I	I
L	A	D	I	E	S	I	N	W	A	I	T	I	N	G
O	G	E	E		O	A	T	E	S		A	N	K	H
W	E	A	N		P	O	O	L	E		T	E	S	T

**Funeral Procedures**

Title III—Chapter 3 Article 359. **To Whom Extended.** it shall be the duty of each lodge, with some exceptions, to conduct the funeral ceremonies in accordance with Masonic customs and usages, in all cases where it was the expressed wish of a member in good standing and is concurred in by his near relatives In the absence of such expressed wish, the ceremonies shall be performed over the remains of such deceased member when requested by his near relatives after his death. The Master at his discretion may extend the right to non-affiliated Masons and worth Masons who have been suspended for non-payment of dues.

Article 360. **To Whom Not Extended** Mason under charges of disciplinary violation or laboring under charges and dies before such issues have been resolved or die under circumstances that are discreditable or that may be subject his memory to reproach the Worshipful Master may refuse to allow him a funeral.

No expelled or suspended Mason shall be accorded a Masonic funeral, further no Mason suspended for non-payment of dues who at the time of his death is in arrears cannot be restored to membership.

The privilege of a Masonic funeral, when requested, shall be extended to entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts who die within twelve months of the conferral of the E:A: or F:C: degree upon them or have petitioned and been favorably balloted upon for advancement subject to other provisions.

Article 361. **Who May Conduct Ceremonies.** The Worshipful Master or a Warden in his absence or a competent brother shall conduct the funeral ceremonies during which, the Lodge shall be called off. After the ceremony the brothers shall return to the Lodge room and the Lodge shall be called on and closed, or the Lodge may open a Lodge of Sorrow and that it be called from labor for the purpose of conducting funerals and once opened and called off can remain in force throughout the term of the Worshipful Master for his Masonic year. Only Master Masons may participate in the ceremonies.

Article 362. **Regarding Ceremonies and Processions.** The Masonic ceremony is not meant to usurp the religious services and the Masonic service begins when the religious official concludes his service. When Masons and non-Masons are pallbearers, Masons may be clothed as Masons While it is necessary that a Lodge have charge of a funeral procession and ceremony, it must be recognized that the needs and desires of the family must be the paramount consideration.

Article 363. **In Open Air: On Sundays: Other Days.** In conducting funeral ceremonies in the open air, no rule of Masonic propriety requires of the members the uncovering of the head except when the Name or Blessings of the Deity are invoked Funerals can be conducted on Sunday or any other day.

Fraternally,  
Bob Wheelless, Junior Warden  
Hill City Lodge, No. 456

Knowing this, it seems the trail grows cold in the search for Hiram Abiff's title of "The Widow's Son". The Grail legends were written in a way that lends itself to allegory and therefore, the story cannot be just assumed to mean that Hiram was literally just a son of woman who lost her husband. These legends early on establish this title and what it means, which is a descendant of Ruth or more aptly a descendant of Boaz, either the 31st or 30th generation from Adam if you rely on Luke's genealogy.

Could Hiram Abiff be related somehow to the historical Jesus the Nazarene? The Gospels leave either a cold trail or a definitive "no," since he isn't mentioned at all in the genealogy given by Luke or Mathew.

Determining that the term "Widow's Son," a flip flop of the term "Sons of the Widow," was not actually meant to refer to a man whose father had passed, but rather the epithet given to the offspring and lineage of Ruth, heroine of "The Book of Ruth" or "Scroll of Ruth" presented in the Old Testament. When Hiram Abiff is referenced as being a "Widow's Son", it is implied that he was of the line of Ruth, who was married to Boaz and from them, according to Luke, a continued line to King David, King Solomon and eventually to Jesus the Nazarene. The problem here is that nowhere in the lineages mentioned in Luke or Mathew does Hiram show up. Was he a distant relative or cousin?

King Solomon was also a "Widow's Son" in the sense of being of the lineage of Ruth. Is this why King Solomon called for a Tyrian which was handpicked to be the architect of the Jewish Temple of the God of Israel? Could Solomon have hired Hiram since they were family?

*Continued in the January 2017 Light*

**Octavio Tripp Garza**, of Rollingwood Texas passed away on December 1, 2016, surrounded by his family and loved ones at the age of 86.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Luz Garza of Austin and his brothers Arthur, Ronald, and Jesse, Jr. Tripp was born in Austin April 5, 1930 and is survived by his daughters, grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, brothers, sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Tripp graduated from old Austin High School in 1948, and joined the Navy where he served with distinction in the [Korean War](#). His ability to learn and speak several languages including Korean made him a very valuable asset to the military. When he returned stateside, he was stationed in San Diego and began what became a lifelong career in the music industry by becoming a disc jockey for a San Diego radio station where he met a DJ named Les Paul. Tripp moved back to Austin, fell in love and married Gaynell Lewis, had two daughters, and graduated from the [University of Texas](#) with a BBA in 1958.

They moved to San Antonio and Tripp went to work for Capital Records selling vinyl to record stores. This led him to work for Gibson Guitars selling their product as well as other lines of musical instruments across a five-state area. Tripp could pick up and play any type of musical instrument. He was intimately involved in the music scene throughout the southwest and knew many of the greats, several of whom stayed with the family when they were in town. Les Paul made his deal with Gibson Guitar for his new electric guitar pick up and included representation of this new product by his good friend Tripp. The two traveled together demonstrating the new electric guitar sound.

In 1975 Tripp moved back to the Austin area and bought a house in Rollingwood where he later became a City Elder and Mayor. He was very involved in the Ben Hur Shrine, was Past Master of several Masonic Lodges in the Austin area and was a 32nd degree Mason in the Scottish Rite. He spent several years on the board of directors of the [Shriner's Hospital for Children](#) and volunteered for decades at Breckenridge hospital and the Veterans Clinic in Austin. He lived to helped anyone and everyone in need.

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## **Food Committee for February 7<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting**

Stanley Chester Anderson	Clarence Joe Haney	Paul Melvin McCarty, Jr.	Michael Blake Olson
Donald D. Beach	John Ross Hepburn	B. Rex Melton	William Oscar Orum
Roberto Salinas Cantu	Huie H. Lamb, Jr.	Chad Wright Miller	Lavan Riley Parker, Jr.
Jesse Charles Copeland	Robert Leon Ligon, Jr.	Richard Scott Miller	Bill R Pierce
Kenneth Wayne Evans	Charles Edward Maddox	Kenneth Christian Nicolas	

**Food Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, January 10<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.