

# The HILL CITY LIGHT

April 2017

## 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

Mail: P.O. Box 1456, Austin, TX 78767-1456

Phone: (512) 655-9858

Email: [secretary@hillcitylodge.org](mailto:secretary@hillcitylodge.org)

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

(Subscribe to receive Lodge email communications on website)

1876  2017

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

### April 2017

April 4	Stated Meeting DDGM Reception
April 11	EA Degree Practice Food Committee
April 18	Scholarship Awards Family Night
April 25	EA Practice

### May 2017

May 2	Stated Meeting
May 9	EA Degree Practice Food Committee
May 16	Community Builder Family Night
May 23	Opening/Closing Certification
May 27	Open House (Hosted by Austin 12)
May 30	BBQ Social Family Night

### June 2017

June 6	Stated Meeting Election of Officers
June 13	Work night

Brethren,

Growing up, April always felt like the quickest month. While I know time is fixed and has no actual variance in its speed (except near a black hole or approaching the speed of light), April 1<sup>st</sup> always seemed to come, then I'd wake up and it was already April 30<sup>th</sup>. Nothing really can logically explain this feeling, but I've always had it.

I'm writing about this because the days of the Masonic year are starting to creep closer and closer to the end. Before we know it, a new Worshipful Master will preside in the East. With the year winding down, it is not the time to begin to rest or walk to the finish line; quite the contrary, the schedule between now and the end of June is busy with events where your attendance and participation is earnestly solicited both in the lodge and outside.

Perhaps none is more important that the upcoming York Rite Festival.

When you were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, you were told by the Worshipful Master that you are entitled to receive all the secrets that this lodge could bestow. But, have you thought about the word "THIS" ? What about other lodges ? Other bodies ? Are there more secrets ?

## From the East (cont'd)

And what of M.W. King Solomon's order that the first word given will govern Freemasonry until future generations shall find out the right. That was 3,000 years ago. Have other generations discovered the secrets that died with our Great and Good Grand Master? If not, could ours be that generation that solves that ancient mystery?

The good news is that the mystery has already been solved. The York Rite Degrees provide the crucial narrative of what happened after a new government for Masons was set up by King Solomon, through the destruction of the first temple, and finally, providing that crucial Masonic link between classical antiquity and chivalric lore. In the York Rite, the Master Mason learns that all is never lost, and through faith and zeal, hope springs eternal, much like if a tree is cut down, it will sprout again (Job 14:7)

The Austin York Rite will be having a two-weekend Festival to confer the Degrees this Spring. The Chapter and Council Degrees will be conferred on Saturday, May 20, at the Historic Austin York Rite Temple located on 311 W. 7<sup>th</sup> St., between Guadalupe and Lavaca Sts. The Commandery Orders will be conferred on Saturday, June 3, at the same location.

The Chapter degrees continue the story of the erection of the Temple, and progress the legend of King Solomon. Eventually, you'll learn the history of Babylonian Exile, and the emancipation of the Judeans back to their homeland to build the Second Temple. The Council degrees give a back story to King Solomon and our Grand and Good Grand Master. Finally, the story shifts to the crusades, as the Commandery tells the story of the Knights Templar, climaxing with the Order of the Temple, perhaps the most beautiful degree in all of Freemasonry.

Brethren, if you are interested in becoming a companion in the Austin York Rite, please reach out to me!

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

## From the West

Brethren,

Travel and visitation have always been an integral and important part of Masonry. I read this paper written by Brother Bill Holser. He was made a Master Mason in 2002 in Three Rivers Lodge #733 in Indiana. He has affiliated with Roff Lodge #169 in Oklahoma and Lebanon Lodge #837 in Frisco, Texas.

### Dangerous Travels

Recently, I've been thinking about the founding of my mother Grand Lodge in Indiana. In 2018, the Grand Lodge of Indiana will celebrate their bicentennial. In January 1818, Freemasons from nine lodges, working under charters by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and the Grand Lodge of Ohio gathered in Madison, Indiana to start the process of organizing their own future. Back in that day, there were very few choices of transportation by which you could travel across a newly formed state; you could travel by riverboat down the Ohio river (if your town was near the river and you could afford the fare), you could travel via horseback (down rough paths which could hardly qualify as a trail) and if you didn't own a horse, you walked.

No matter which mode of transportation you chose, the journey was guaranteed to be uncomfortable; muddy trails, snow and high winds combined to make the trip difficult. Depending on where you lived, your destination may be several days (or even weeks) away. In the winter, you slept on the cold ground, shivering under a blanket near a fire, eating what meager provisions you brought.

*(To be continued in the May Light...)*

Oscar Orum, Senior Warden  
Hill City Lodge, No. 456 AF & AM

## April 2017 Crossword Puzzle

### Across

1. Tool for bending metal
6. Warp-Knit fabrics
13. Play on the banjo
14. Bombast
15. Libertines
16. Vessel to the New World
17. Eyes, poetically
18. Saddle horn
19. In-flight info, for short
20. Mail, maybe
22. Applaud
23. Grimm lad
24. Sweet, in music
25. Place for patrol
26. Indonesian dyed textiles
27. Pertaining to the animal life of a region
28. Some mouths
29. Edible seaweeds
30. Kind of candy
31. Broke off
32. Attach securely, as metal plating
33. Attends
34. Winter woe
38. Victorian, for one
39. Constitution writer
40. "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
41. Urban music genre with Jamaican and Latin roots
43. Contemptuous look
44. Late additions to a jury
45. "Haste makes waste," e.g.
46. Rained hard?
47. Fermented apple juice

### Down (continued)

1. Razor sharpener
2. Part of a fingerprint
3. Caribbean cruise stop
4. Where guest stay for the night
5. Dash lengths
6. Herbal supplement
7. Allude
8. "\_\_\_ be a cold day in hell ..."
9. Bill and \_\_\_
10. Like "1984"
11. Haberdashery pins
12. Tough spots
14. Pile driver, e.g.
16. Choice bit
18. Kung fu bears
21. Deserved
22. Carnival treat
24. One of the Bonds
25. USA symbol
26. High roller, e.g.
27. Last good-bye
28. Stone monument
29. Abandons
30. as opposed to rare
32. Sailed
34. Heart of an Oreo
35. Companion of Artemis
36. Feudal lord
37. Risk taker
39. Certain protest
42. "Fancy that!"
43. Amniotic \_\_\_

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### March 2016 Puzzle Solution

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**Report of Steering Committee on the State of Masonry in the Local Community**

At the January 3<sup>rd</sup> Stated Meeting of Hill City Lodge # 456 AF & AM, Worshipful Master Charles Maddox created a steering committee to investigate and report back on the state of Masonry in and around the jurisdiction of Hill City Lodge. He instructed the committee to report back by the March 7<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting with the opportunity to request additional time if necessary. In order to organize and schedule visits to the various neighboring lodges the committee did request additional time.

The Worshipful Master assigned Brothers Bob Wheelless, Lee Kinser, Robert Eschenburg, Larry Miller, Chuck Stewart, Don Jarrell, and Richard Garrett to the committee. Brother Jarrell encountered business conflicts with his duties on the committee and was replaced by Brother Luke Michaels.

The first task the committee tackled was the development of survey questions. All total the committee developed over forty questions that were eventually reduced to eight general questions related to: Attendance, New Members, Communications, and Community Involvement and three questions specifically related to Hill City Lodge. A copy of the survey is attached to this report. Surprisingly the survey was not as well received as the committee expected. The responses however were forthright and did contain valuable insights.

The following comments are how the respondents thought Masonry could improve its image and increase attendance. The number one way to get attention is to seek it. It is much easier to reach a larger audience via electronic communications so we have to follow the audience. Hill City has a web page: <http://hillcitylodge.org>. There is a warning concerning the security of this site and advising not to post sensitive information on it. On first glance, the first page is not an attention getter. Our target audience for new Masons is

the millennial generation. The lodge might reach this target audience by enlisting a young web master or paying to have the webpage maintained and updated with images of younger masons and Masonic mantras that relate to their thoughts and ideas.

The lodge has at least two confusing Face Book pages, Hill City 456 and hill city lodge #456, A.F.& A.M. - Austin, Texas. Both Facebook pages are rarely used, outdated and poorly organized. There are only thirteen brethren that are friends on the Face Book Page.

Twitter is an online news and social networking service where users post and interact with messages, "tweets," restricted to 140 characters. Registered users can post tweets, but those who are unregistered can only read them. Hill City Lodge does not have a Twitter account at this time.

One section of the survey focused on ways to increase and maintain attendance. Some of the responses were critical of masonry but they offer insight into how lodges can improve. If these responses are adopted masonry has a chance to reverse the current downward trend of interest and attendance.

Why would a lodge member want to attend a meeting that the lodge officers won't attend? Every lodge officer has a responsibility to his lodge. Every lodge officer has a specific job. When lodge officers understand and practice their jobs in the lodge building as well as in the lodge room, the brethren are served well.

One suggestion was to have all top line signers become mentors for the brethren they bring into masonry. These new brothers thought enough of a Mason to ask him to sign the top line of his petition. Masonry tends to become disinterested in new members once they have fulfilled the requirements of admission. This disinterest caused many to feel used and left by the wayside. Lodges must encourage involvement in degrees

York Rite Summer Festival 2017



*The Austin York Rite Bodies  
Spring Festival 2017*

**CHAPTER: Saturday May 20, 2017**

**COUNCIL: Saturday May 20, 2017**

**COMMANDERY: Saturday June 3, 2017**

Coffee & Registration – 7:30 AM Degree

Conferral - 9:00 AM

Lunch 12:30 PM

**Degree Fees (2017 dues included): \$105 Chapter; \$90 Council; \$185 Commandery**

**Annual Dues: \$35 Chapter; \$30 (Council); \$76 Commandery**

**Endowed Memberships: \$500 Chapter; \$500 Council; \$1,000 Commandery**

Please make 3 separate checks payable to:

**Lone Star Chapter No. 6 RAM**

Austin Council No. 2 R&SM

Colorado Commandery No. 4 KT

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2017**

Contact: Mark Dermit

[yorkriteaustin@gmail.com](mailto:yorkriteaustin@gmail.com)

(512) 478-7030

**From the South (continued)**

and committees. In addition, opportunities that offer family involvement, social and volunteer activities are appealing to younger generations. Finally the most simple and most effective way to increase involvement is to keep in touch with our new members.

Social cliques, shyness and disinterest cause visitors and members to feel unwelcome. Masons need to be more open and welcoming. Use games and relationship building activities to provide opportunities for brethren to get to know each other better.

The apparent lack of convenient parking is one of the major obstacles than hinder attendance. The lodges that meet in the Scottish Rite Temple can park for free after five o'clock in the state parking lot located just south of the Hampton Inn. The Lodges that meet in the York Rite Building have four permitted spots in front of the building and can park in the garage next door for \$10. There may be negotiations in progress to access the garage free of charge.

Many respondents felt that Stated Meetings last too long. Unfortunately, lodges have to follow the order of business approved by the Grand Lodge. There may be items that could be taken care of during meals; standing committee reports, the JW's reading from Grand Lodge Law and the Masonic Education topic but this question must be referred to the DDGM for his advice.

An excellent suggestion is to establish revolving Stated Meeting committees; ask brothers to form kitchen committees to be responsible for the planning, cooking, serving and cleaning up.

Bearing in mind that in Masonry it is the internal and not the external, no lodge has a written dress code. Most encourage officers to dress per the occasion. Business attire for officers at Stated Meetings and casual business for Called meetings. Most lodges frown on shirts with offensive slogans, and shorts.

No lodge is going to attract the attention of a non-mason without some effort. Current members have friends, relatives, and friends of relatives that could

**From the South (continued)**

be mined for members. Community involvement at festivals and other public functions are excellent sources to be visible. Also the above mentioned online resources generate interest. Right now, Lodge 12 is the only lodge with a defined program for non-masons. The other lodges in District 50 rely on open installations and award ceremonies as opportunities to introduce visitors to the lodge buildings and masonry.

The committee was interested in knowing if local lodges participated in actives outside of the lodge. This question drew more of a social response. Responders listed picnics, drinks after lodge, charitable events, concerts, lodge visitations, card games and small gatherings as member's homes.

When asked about community oriented programs the responders listed: participation in Grand Lodge Programs directed at school age children, Scholarship and Lamar Medal presentations, direct involvement with public schools, volunteer involvement in hospitals, cook-offs and blood drives.

The committee wanted to find out how Hill City is perceived in the local Masonic community. Two questions were about familiarly and frequency of visitation to our lodge. The most important question dealt with how Hill City is perceived in the Masonic community. There is a persistent rumor that our lodge is racist. This response did not surface in any of the responses, instead the response was that our lodge is respected and considered as vital to the District. One respondent said that Hill City Lodge is the most influential lodge in the district and we need to start acting like it.

While this survey was not well received in the district, the respondents provided useful insights that if taken to heart provide an excellent opportunity for Hill City Lodge to grow and create an atmosphere of true brotherly love.

Respectfully Submitted:

*The Hill City Lodge Steering Committee on the State of Masonry in the Local Community*

## Obituary

### William (Bill) Wendell Reynolds

**Brother William (Bill) Wendell Reynolds**, 88, of Austin, Texas went to be with his Lord and Savior on March 10, 2017. He was born July 2, 1928 in Terrell, Texas. And at the age of 8, moved to Austin where he lived and worked the rest of his life.

Bill is survived by his wife, Joyce L. Reynolds; son, Dale W. Reynolds; daughter, Vicki J. Stotts and her husband Dennis M. Stotts; grandchildren, Sandy Bradford and her husband Michael Bradford, and Dennis David Stotts; great-grandchildren, Austin and Jaxon Bradford.

At the age of 18, Bill joined the United States Army and served during the Korean War. After returning to civilian life, he enrolled in business school where he met and later married Joyce, his wife of 66 years. Bill's career spanned approximately 43 years with the State of Texas; working first for the Texas Highway Department and later, the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Brother Reynolds was a 59-year Mason. He was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on October 15, 1957, passed to the degree of Fellow Craft on December 17, 1957, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on January 28, 1958 in Hill City Lodge, No. 456. Bill's father, William Mason Reynolds was also a Mason.

A memorial service was held in Bill's memory at 1:30pm on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center Drive, Austin, Texas followed by a reception and visitation in the Family Life Center of the church immediately following the service.

Honorary Pallbearers are: Dennis M. Stotts, Travis L. Engelbrecht, Neal Bouldin, Wolf Bouldin, Jay Bouldin, Robert Schmidt, Bob Wheelless and Dennis Hill.

## Obituary (continued)

### Eulogies given by Bill's children...

Dad was a man who was difficult to figure out. Even though he came across as being hard and gruff, deep down inside, he was a very caring, loving, and sensitive man. Yes, you heard right, sensitive man. You see, Dad just had a difficult time showing that sensitive side! After all, he came from an era where sensitive men didn't exist, especially one from Texas. With him, everything was black or white; there was no grey in his world. Even though he would find it difficult to forgive, I know that deep down inside, he was a forgiving man. You see, he just didn't know how to show it. I remember there being many times Dad would cry at the outcome of a football game and more especially one of his proudest moments, when Dale became a Mason. He would even cry looking at my spring landscape pictures (chip off the old block), not to mention when Dennis bought him a rather large bird feeder. Of course, he had to "HELP" Dennis mount the feeder (ha-ha!) but we all know who really mounted it – but good old Dad, took credit for it. This crying phenomenon would start with a quiver of the lower lip and would eventually succumb to a flood of tears. So you see, Dad was a very unique man and certainly special to our family. We love you Dad. You'll be missed by all of us. We know you're no longer in pain and are finally at peace. Please don't worry about Mom; we'll take very good care of her so rest easy!

Love you Dad,  
Vic

**William Wendell Reynolds**, or as I called him "Mr. Bill", was my father-in-law for over 38 years and also a 59 year member of Hill City Lodge #456 A.F.& A.M.

Mr. Bill was proud of being a Mason and loved the brotherhood and sense of community that Masonry provided. He was our brother and once told me; as Masons, we build no foundations we did not lay, we warm ourselves by fires we did not light, we sit in the shade of trees we did not plant, we drink from wells we did not dig.

Bill was a humble man, proud of his accomplishments, sincere in his friendships, and generous to the core. Mr. Bill loved his family so much, protected and cared for them, and once told me how proud he was that Dale had become a Mason.

We ALL will miss you Mr. Bill.

Dennis M. Stotts, PM, Mountain Park Lodge #729

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

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## **Food Committee for June 6<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting**

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Bobbie Neal Atkinson  
Gerard M. Brohman  
Bernard R Burk  
Roberto M. Cantu, Jr.  
Clarence Lynn Cossey  
Billy Don Edmondson

Donald Ray Francis  
Elbert I Franks  
Watt P. Gee  
Harold D Jobes  
Leslie Eugene Law  
Larry Gene Miller

Christopher Chad Montey  
Edwin Veniece Morrison  
Robert Vernon Myers, Jr.  
Earl Douglas Robertson  
James Wallace Roby  
Archie William Scott

George Frances Vanderhule, Jr.  
David Lynn Von Ohlen  
Konrad Johannes Waldhauser  
Robert A. Weissman  
Jason Dean White

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