

The HILL CITY LIGHT

August 2017

2016 - 2017 Lodge Officers

W. M.	Oscar Orum, P.M.
S. W.	Bob Wheelless, P.M.
J. W.	Aaron Evans
Treasurer	Kent Kinkade, P.M.
Secretary	Philippe Dewailly, P.M.
Chaplain	Chuck Stewart, P.M.
S. D.	Luke Michels
J. D.	Richard Garrett
J. S.	Elan Mendoza
Marshal	Hunt Armistead
M. C.	Doug Freyburger, P.M.
Tiler	Dennis Hill, P.M.

Hill City No. 456 A.F. & A.M.

Chartered June 10th, 1876

Austin Scottish Rite Theater & Museum
18th St. at Lavaca St., Austin, Texas

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(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

August 2017

August 1	Stated Meeting
August 8	Work Night or Degree Food Committee
August 15	Grand Lodge Awards 50, 60 & 65 Yr. Service
August 22	Work Night or Degree
August 29	Work Night or Degree

September 2017

September 5	Stated Meeting
September 12	Work Night or Degree Food Committee
September 19	Lodge Service Awards 25 & 40 Year Service
September 26	Work Night or Degree

October 2017

October 3	Stated Meeting
October 10	Work Night or Degree Food Committee
October 17	Golden Trowel Award Family Night
October 24	Work Night or Degree
October 31	Work Night or Degree

From the East

Brethren,

Three past masters were responsible for the wonderful meal on the table for the August 1st stated meeting. Officers of the lodge were ready in assisting as our steward had been called away on family business. I enjoyed seeing such good fellowship in the kitchen and really enjoyed the meal. Brethren, with the good attendance for the E.A. Degree and a great fried fish meal the last Tuesday in September, I can say with confidence that Hill City is back on line with excellent food. I again invite your attendance to lodge.

We have heard so many times that church attendance should be a regular habit. So should it be with lodge. We miss your presence and pray for your return on a regular basis. M.E. "Gene" Johnson is fondly remembered for his saying, "Lodge take a 'little' time and everyone has a 'little' time."

I am grateful for the encouragement of the brethren and their assistance to me as I so often fall short. When studying the role of the worshipful master, I learned there are only 4 times when the Master needs to remove his hat. After all, it is but a badge of his office, like his apron and jewel. The four occasions he need remove his hat are when speaking of or to, Deity, when speaking of death, when the grand master or his deputy comes into the lodge room wearing a hat, or when tendering the gavel of authority to another to preside. I revere

From the West	From the West (continued)	
<p>Brethren,</p> <p>Looking back to late July, a couple of interesting events took place. First on Monday, July 24th the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association met for its quarterly meeting at Colorado Lodge # 96 in Webberville. A majority of the eight lodges in 50th district were in attendance. The Association elected new officers for the coming year. The important thing is I sensed at that meeting is that the district is coming together to support and encourage all of the lodges as a whole. The Association voted to pay the entry fee for Masons in the central Texas area to march in the upcoming Veterans Day parade in November. We are hoping that a large number of brethren will come and show support for our nation's veterans by marching as Masons in the parade.</p> <p>Secondly on the following night (July 25) Hill City initiated an EA. He is the first candidate for the Mysteries we have had in at least two years. WM Master Orum assembled a degree team that included several well versed and competent masons from other lodges and filled in the rest of the team with our members. Congratulations to our new EA.</p> <p>At our August 1st Stated Meeting, our District Deputy Grand Master, James R. Medina made his second official visit. He brought fraternal greetings from the Grand Master Jerry N. Kirby. He also stated that the records of the lodge were in good order and complemented the Treasure and Secretary for their due diligence. RW Medina reminded the brethren that the primary focus of our current Grand Master is charity and encouraged all of us to do our part and contribute to the good of all who need assistance.</p> <p>RW Medina reported that a process is underway to determine if it is necessary to redistrict the state. He didn't give a lot of details on the</p>	<p>subject; he primarily mentioned it to make us aware of the process. He also stated that the Grand Lodge is close to releasing an authorized edition of a Code Book as a memory aid for Texas Masons. Many of you might not know that at last year's Annual Communication, the membership voted to make such code books legal as long as they were not carried into a lodge building or used in front of a brother learning his work.</p> <p>RW Medina emphasized how important it is for all of us to review the signs we use in lodge. It seems that so many masons are leery about coming back to lodge because they are worried about giving the wrong sign. And finally, he spoke about remembering our obligations and how if followed we will be true and faithful brothers both to ourselves and to our community.</p> <p>May peace and brotherly love prevail.</p> <p>Bob Wheelless, P.M. Senior Warden Hill City 456</p>	
	<th data-bbox="821 1207 1518 1281">From the East (continued)</th>	From the East (continued)
	<p>the honor you have bestowed on me and am trying hard to be worthy of that honor and earn you respect.</p> <p>The square is another tool that is familiar is the square. To "part upon the square" signifies that while a square point in different directions, and men "part to go each his own way, it is a known way, not a devious way, a wrong way, a bad way, but a "square way" The Mason who goes his own way, so it is the square way, is never alone, even if out of sight of the lodge and his brethren.</p> <p>Oscar Orum Worshipful Master, Hill City 456</p>	

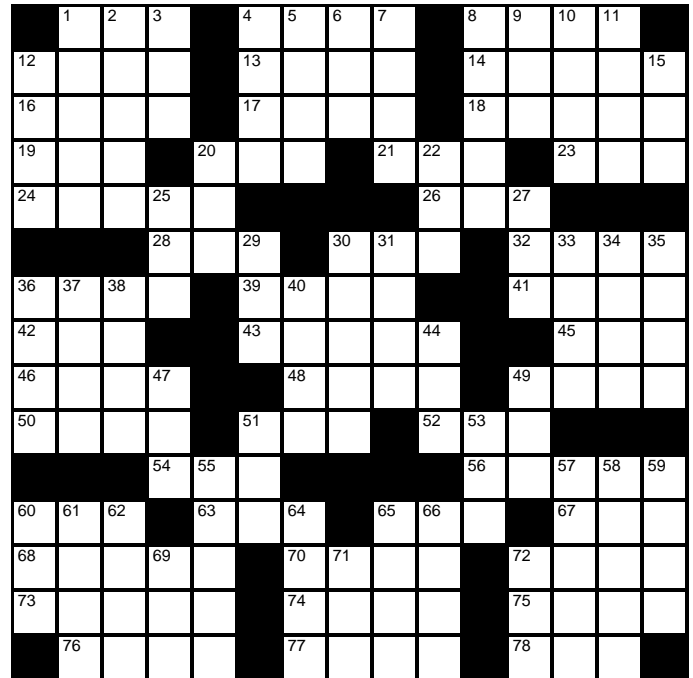
August 2017 Crossword Puzzle

Across

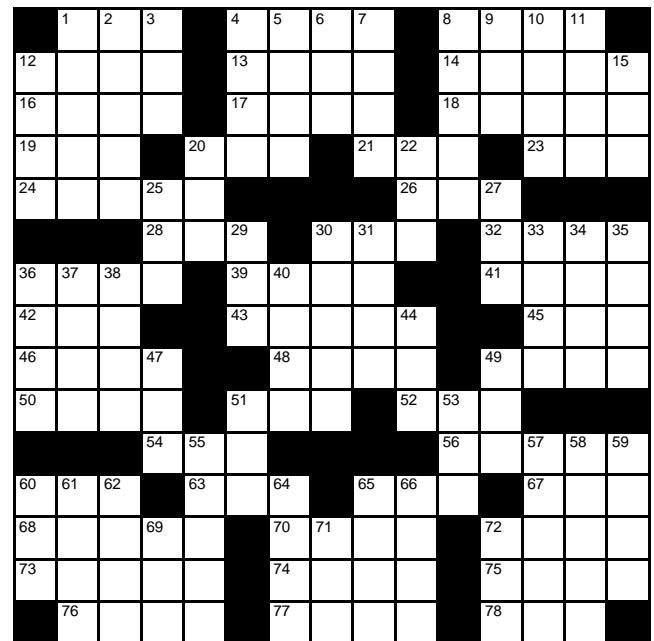
1. Informer
5. Heaters
9. 10 kilogauss
14. Small ox
15. Chill
16. Architectural projection
17. Clickable image
18. In need of resupply, maybe
19. Loosen, as laces
20. Instruments for determining the distance of an object
23. "Absolutely!"
24. Mass communication?
28. Woe, so to speak
31. Kind of dealer
33. "Comprende?"
34. A politician will use it
36. Caribbean, e.g.
37. Novice
38. ___ v. Wade
39. Wanders
40. Victorian, for one
41. Part of mathematical funtion
45. Cambridge sch.
46. Game name
47. Investment option
48. Swipes second
50. Kind of income
51. Doronic orientale
57. "M*A*S*H" role
60. Berry from palms
61. "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
62. Ancient city NW of Carthage
63. Colorful salamander
64. "___ go!"
65. Sideshow performers
66. Coastal raptor
67. Bringing up the rear

Down

1. C-worthy?
2. Ancient Andean
3. "High" time
4. Pocket Books logo
5. Talkathon
6. "Encore!"
7. Go bad
8. Lentil, e.g.
9. Main Hawaiian industry
10. Artist Max
11. Be in session
12. "Fantasy Island" prop
13. A pint, maybe
21. Arabic for "commander"
22. "Desire Under the ___"
25. Lash out at
26. "You ___ bother!"
27. Frothy
28. Tribal towers
29. Apparition
30. More megs to your computer will _____ it.
31. ___ dark space (region in a vacuum tube)
32. Cambodian currency
35. Language of Lahore
39. Sport for blind people
41. Eye coats
42. "Not to mention ..."
43. Learned
44. Exemplars of twinship
49. "Wellaway!"
50. Tied
52. French door part
53. Maple genus
54. Length x width, for a rectangle
55. Pesky insects
56. "___ of Eden"
57. Persian, e.g.
58. Absorbed, as a cost
59. Conk out



July 2017 Puzzle Solution



From the South

Partial Eclipse in Austin

Brethren,

I wanted to take this opportunity to keep you further informed on our progress updating Hill City Lodge's digital presence.

Since my last message, we've corrected our phone number on over 50 internet sites. The phone number listed in the past no longer belongs to Hill City, and the new one goes to a voice message informing the public of our hours and encouraging them to visit.

Our Facebook page is updated to include more recent photos of the lodge brethren, and to put a heavier focus on showing the community who we are as a lodge.

Additionally, most internet directories (e.g. Yelp, Google Maps, Apple Maps) now have better-looking pictures for our lodge (allowing us to stand out in the search results).

These efforts are starting to bear fruit. My gold standard is people searching for "Masonic lodge in Austin;" for those terms, we now appear first in Apple Maps, second on Facebook, and third on Yelp.

There are improvements we have made to how we look in Google search results, but our rank there still lags behind (usually the 8th result to appear -- too low on the page for much attention).

Improving our Google page rank is the most difficult problem to solve but will also pay greater dividends. The solution, in this case, involves more frequently posting content the users find compelling. Fortunately, since we currently post very little content on our site, it's easy to make improvements in this area.

These efforts will continue, and I hope to have more good news to share in future newsletters.

Aaron Evans, Junior Warden
Hill City Lodge, No. 456 AF & AM

Astronomy is the final entry in the list of the seven liberal arts and sciences. There is a partial solar eclipse on the 21st day of this month so this is the month of astronomy. The path of totality runs across the center of the United States. The nearest it gets to us in northern Arkansas. Motels along the path have been sold out for months. Near cities' motels along the path have been sold out for over a year.

When I was a kid there was a solar eclipse that came within a similar distance of us. It stayed light at noon but it got noticeably colder for a while because so much of the Sun's light was blotted out by the Moon. Even without getting dark, it was a memorable occurrence. People who witness totality never forget the experience.

The ancient Greek Thales is said to have been the first man to map a prediction of the path of totality. When his prediction came true he was hailed as the greatest sage of the ancient Greeks and he was declared the founder of philosophy. While we often discuss people mentioned in the Old Testament as people who supplied material on which Masonry was built, we also drew on knowledge of the Greeks and Romans as well as less ancient cultures. The only ancient Greek person mentioned in our degrees is Pythagoras who lived centuries after Thales.

Imagine having geometry as your only tool to try to map the path of totality of a solar eclipse! He had neither algebra nor telescopes to work with and he managed it. Clearly some methods of geometry have been lost in the millennia since Thales.

This month the 21st is on a Monday. I love the coincidence that the day the Moon passes in front of the Sun is a Moon Day.

Doug Freyburger, P.M., Master of Ceremonies

Attendance

Attendance (continued)

“There are a lot of Masons in this old lodge tonight”, began the Old Past Master, “see the new faces? Must be most of two hundred. Pretty good attendance, what?”

“But, is this a good attendance?” asked the Very New Mason. “Why, there must be six hundred members on the rolls. Seems such a pity they all can’t get out to enjoy this kind of an evening, doesn’t it? It seems to me Masonry fails when she has so many on the rolls wo do not regularly come to lodge.”

“I don’t agree with you!” answered the Old Past Master. “Masonry succeeds because she gets so many of her members to take an interest! True, she might...if she was a wizard...so interest every one of her devotes that all could crowd the lodge room every meeting night. Then, I think there would be no use for Masonry because the millennium would have come. But, in place of being discouraged because only a third or a fourth of our membership attends, I am always highly encouraged because so many do attend.”

“You see, by brother, Masons are picked from the general body of men by two processes and neither one of the them works out for the best interest of the Order. The first process is a man making of his mind that he wants to be a Mason. If we could go to the best men and ask them, we would get a lot better men than we do, of course. Equally, of course, we would vastly injure the Order by making it seek the man instead of the man seeking it. I would not change that unwritten law for anything but, the fact remains that, as the first selection of Masons is made by the profane, it isn’t always for the best interest of the Order.”

“The second selective work is done be a committee. Now, in theory, every one appointed on a committee to examine a petitioner is sort of a cross between a criminal lawyer and an experienced detective, a minister

of the gospel, a super-perfect man, a will-read Mason, and an Abraham Lincoln for judgment! But, as a matter of fact, most committeemen are just average men like you and me, and we do our work on committees in just an average sort of way, with the result that many a self-selected candidate slips into our rank who has no real reason for being there. The theory is that all men become Masons because of a veneration for our principals. The fact is that a lot become Masons because their brother is one or their boss is one or they want to wear a pin and be a secret society member or they hope it will help them in business.”

“They get into the lodge and find it quite different from what they expected. They learn that they can’t pass out business cards and that it doesn’t help them that their boss belongs, and they don’t have to come to lodge in order to wear a pin. If they are the kind of men to who Masonry doesn’t appeal because of her truth, her philosophy, her Light, her aide in living, they wander away. They become mere dues-payers and, often, stomach Masons who come around for the food or the entertainment.”

“Don’t let that distress you. It takes all sorts of people to make a world and it would be a very stupid place indeed if we all thought alike. There is room in the world for the man who doesn’t care for Masonry. He has his part to play in the world as well as the man to whom Masonry makes great appeal. Do not condemn him because he has become a member of a fraternity and found it is not to his liking. At least there is something in his heart which was not there before.”

To be continued in the September Hill City Light

This work was written by Carl H. Claudy, P.G.M of Washington, D.C. in 1943

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Food Committee for October 3rd Stated Meeting

Michael James Adiano	Gerald Lee Grier	Kenneth Ray Pruitt	Kervin W. Warnken
William C. Bennett	Blair Davis Hibbert	Randall Ray Reynolds	Foy Wallace Watson, III
George Jason Burnett	Charles Wayne Jackson	Jeremiah Petra Spence	Kelly D. Webb
Jon Alan Cohorn	Joe Alan Kindred	Ronald Starry	Patrick L. Wheelless
Forest Mark Cruse, Sr.	Charles R. Maddox	Michael Wayne Stone	Raymond Lee Whitaker
Edward Charles Fritsch	Calvin Cleave Nolen	Michael Anthony Von Ohlen	

Food Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, September 12th 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 from the food committee members at the food committee meeting unless you included your food committee donation with your Lodge dues in December.