

# The HILL CITY LIGHT

March 2018

## 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 1876

Austin Scottish Rite Theater & Museum  
18<sup>th</sup> St. at Lavaca St., Austin, Texas

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1876  2018

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

### March 2018

March 2	Texas Independence Day
March 6	Stated Meeting Food Committee
March 13	Work Night or Degree
March 20	Ritual Practice
March 27	Certificate Practice

### April 2018

April 3	Stated Meeting Food Committee
April 10	Work Night or Degree
April 17	Ritual Practice
April 21	Road Trip to the Beach
April 24	Certificate Practice

### May 2018

May 1	Stated Meeting Food Committee
May 8	Work Night or Degree
May 15	Family Night for Scholarships, Lamar Medal, and Community Builder Award
May 22	Ritual Practice
May 29	Certificate Practice

## When Laughter Is Sad

Oh, it's going to be rich. The poor fish is scared to death. And you know when Albert does the work in the third degree how, era.....well, let's call it impressive, he is.

The Young Mason chuckled at the thought.

"That's not going to be the only funny thing that will happen Tuesday night," answered another newly raised brother. I happen to know my friend Ted is going to do the Senior Deacon's part. Ted gets stage fright. He doesn't lose his memory or anything, but his voice goes up about an octave and a half; Oh, it's funny. The last time I heard him... I had a good laugh at one of the members of my class when I went in," Chimed in a third voice. "He couldn't understand what was going on and objected to every move and generally reminded me of a bucking Billy goat. I laughed until I cried. I shall look forward to Tuesday night...."

"I wonder, broke in a quiet voice, "I wonder if you gentlemen realize what you are saying?"

"Why...why...why of course, we do. We haven't said anything wrong, have we?" inquired the first speaker of the Old Past Master sitting quietly in the corner of the ante-room, listening.

**From the East (continued)**

“I am and old, old man, “countered the Old Past Master, gently. “I have lived a long, long time, and the longer I live the less able I am to classify anything as wholly right of wholly wrong. I wouldn't say that what you say is wrong in the sense of intentional evil. It is wholly wrong from my point of view, to bite the hand that feeds you, to abuse hospitality, to belittle the agency that helps you, to deride and make sport of holy things, to injure that which is valuable to others even though valueless to yourself.”

“But, good heavens, man. We haven't done any of those things. Why, I only said that Albert is so impressive he'd make a good laugh come out on Tuesday's degree....”

“That's good enough my brother. Is there a church into which you could go with the idea of laughing at penitent at the Altar? Is there a church into which you would think it is right to laugh at a communicant partaking of bread and wine? Is there a church where the spectacle on a man on his knees would make you laugh, no matter how odd or peculiar he was or how he was dressed?”

“Of course not. I don't laugh in church....”

“Then why laugh in lodge? In all the third degree, is there humor? Do you know that it is a tragedy which the third degree portrays, a tragedy no less that it teaches and inspiring lesson, and has the inspiration of all that is best and noblest in a good man's character?

“What do you think a candidate, when the most solemn, the most sacred, the most secret of a Master Mason's lessons is being given to him, if from you, and you, and you on the benches come smothered laughter? Will it add anything of impressiveness to the degree in his eyes? Will he feel that what he is being given is sacred, valuable precious to his heard? Or will he say to himself, 'evidently there is a catch in this somewhere.... I guess it's a joke and I am it!”

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**From the West**

Brethren,

Thanks to all of our members and their families that came to our Sweethearts night on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Although there was not a prepared program, there was a lot of good fellowship and opportunities to renew old friendships.

I want to take this opportunity to brag about our one and only Steward, Brother Elan Mendoza. He also happens to be our newest Master Mason. He is a realtor, plays in a band named Pongo and is an audio engineer. When I've talked to him, he told me that he believes that starting in the kitchen was great. He loves cooking and said that he has learned so much and been taught so many different cooking techniques from the many brothers that have helped him this year. In addition, he said that he enjoys interacting with the brothers and has gotten to know many on a personal level.

We received Right Worshipful Raul Javier Scully, DDGM for Masonic District 50 for his first official visit at our March 6th Stated Meeting. He was accompanied by the three members of his District team: Brother Dennis Ross, his District Education Officer; Brother George Moxley, his District Instructor and our own Brother Robert Eschenburg, his District Communications Officer. Right Worshipful Scully brought fraternal greetings from our Most Worshipful Grand Master Tommy F. Chapman. The Grand Master's theme this year is “Freemasonry: A way of life.”

Although we haven't had the opportunity to bring new masons into our lodge, we have been practicing for the time when we do. I invite any brother that wants to refresh his memory work to come down on Tuesdays

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## Obituary

### Norman Glenn Montgomery

Brother Norman Glenn Montgomery passed away on January 30th, 2018 in Lakeway, Texas. He was born in Austin on September 15, 1931 to Rachel Elizabeth "Peggy" (Owens) and Jonathan "John" William Franklin Montgomery. Norman was the first born of their four children, followed by three sisters Dorothy Nell, Emma Jeanne and Rita Jan. His sisters often spoke of Norman as a fun loving, wonderful brother who was always there for them. Those of us left behind will miss him greatly but we know he is with our Lord and doing the Lord's work.

Norman was a full-blooded Texan, went to Austin High School and loved watching the Texas Longhorns and Dallas Cowboys play football. In 1950, Norman joined the U.S. Marine Corps, stationed at Camp Pendleton, San Diego, California when his was deployed to the Korean War.

Texas Parks and Wildlife employed Norman for his 34-year career where he enjoyed mentoring many throughout his professional life. He enjoyed playing golf and spending time with his family and friends. Norman loved his Lord and gave himself unselfishly doing whatever was needed to further the Word. He was a Free Mason, Shriner and served as Head Potentate, spending many hours volunteering to help at the Shriner Hospital and Shrine events to raise money for the hospital.

## Obituary (continued)

Norman Glenn Montgomery was a member of Hill City Lodge No. 456 A. F. & A. M. Brother Montgomery was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on November 23, 1965, Passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft on March 15, 1966, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on April 26, 1966. He also received 25 Years of Service Award on April 7, 1992 and his 40 Years' Service Award from The Grand Lodge of Texas on September 15, 2015.

His parents John and Peggy Montgomery, his sisters Dorothy and Rita, and his former wife Doris Montgomery precede him in death.

He is survived by his wife Dina (Eitelman) Montgomery, two children Mickie Hillman and Leighann Heine; four stepchildren Cindy Swor, Jan Braboy, Ray Lewis and Roderick Edens, along with numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, one great-great grandchild, and sister Jeanne (Montgomery) Burch and many close friends.

Memorial gifts in Normans' memory can be made to the American Cancer Foundation and Shriners Hospital.

A memorial service was held at 10:00 AM on February 10, 2018 at Cook Walden Funeral Home, 6100 North Lamar Blvd, Austin, Texas 78752.

And so it has come to pass, a Brother Master Mason having completed all the design's laid down on the Tresleboard 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.

**From the East (continued)**

“You have spoken to Filby, was the stage fright and whose voice raises and octave because of it. Filby wasn't blessed by nature with a wonderful voice, but God gave him something precious to Masonry and that is earnest, sincere, genuine enthusiasm. I have been in the lodge for more years than you have been on earth, and I have never known a Senior Deacon to be more into his work than Filby does, though he has a poor voice. The words Filby uses are inspired words; the degree he puts on is a noble degree. And Filby does it as if inspired by its nobility. Would you laugh at a hero saving a life because he is dressed in cap and bells? Can't you hear, beyond poor Filby's cracked vocal cords, the chimes pealing in his heart as he tried to make his words impressive and beautiful?

“Another of you have found it funny when a candidate for the third degree has not part and make it difficult for the team to put him through the ceremony. At Receiving Hospital last week, a young man suffering from a broken arm. He was very ignorant; one of those foreigners who understands little or nothing of Americans ideas and ideals, and he was frightened almost to death and struggled and fought, while the surgeons tried to control him that they might set his arm. Was it funny? Or was it sad, that ignorant people had so destroyed his faith in his kind that he couldn't recognize kindness and help when he saw it?

The man who was too frightened to understand and so made his third degree difficult was a victim of those who had tormented an imaginative mind with the idea of goats and pain and indignity in a Masonic lodge. I find nothing funny in it; only sadness.

“Don't think of me as an old kill-joy. A good laugh at some wit in a business meeting, a good laugh at some clever entertainer at

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**From the South**

Brethren,

Men become interested in Masonry for many reasons (fraternity, service, the ceremonial and mystical, and more). How often does anyone mention their interest came from watching an opera?

In my case, the initial interest came after watching Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's The Magic Flute. Reading the program in Bass Concert Hall before the show, there was a section on the Masonic symbolism of the opera. It informed me that without eyes to see I wouldn't even notice the esoteric presence (although the stage designers did incorporate a square and compass into the scenery, just to put too fine a point on it).

And it made me wonder, what is so special about Masonry that someone would bother to write an opera about it -- and how does this fairy tale even relate to what Masonry might want to teach me?

The Masonic connections are deep (apparently E flat major is known musically as the Masonic key) but let's look at the story: Tamino, a prince, wandering in a wild landscape, meets a new friend. Together with his friend and the gift of a magic flute he can undergo rites of purification enabling him to enter the temple of wisdom as an enlightened servant.

What was Mozart trying to tell us? Enlightenment thinking advocated the advancement of human consciousness through education (both secular and spiritual). That spiritual education took the form of initiation, instructing us in basic moral truths.

In this case, Prince Tamino, through purification and his entry into the temple of wisdom, becomes the Priest of that temple. What is the Masonic message of that? Well... I wouldn't want to put too fine a point on it.

Aaron Evans  
Junior Warden, Hill City 456

<b>From the East (continued)</b>	<b>From the West (continued)</b>
<p>refreshment, a good laugh at a good story after lodge: these are well and good; wholesome and natural. Whether they are located in a lodge, a church or a home, they are good.”</p> <p>“But not in a church during service, not in a lodge during a degree. There is no laugh in the lodge during any degree which is not an insult to the officers, and the badge of ignorance and ill manners for him who laughs. Charity we preach; charity we should practice toward those who do not do so well in the degrees as we think <i>we</i> might; the fraternity which we honor and reverence as a whole is not to be laughed at because there are some who make one part of the third degree less real than strenuous.”</p> <p>“Look, my brother, for what lies beneath; regard not so much the outward form as the inward meaning, and you will not again be tempted to consider a degree as a substitute for a vaudeville performance, a lodge as a temple of laughter.”</p> <p>The Old Past Master ceased and sat quiet, waiting.</p> <p>“But I say!” cried the young Mason, “Don't you think you are a little rough with us?”</p> <p>“You are all much too good material to allow it to spoil for the sake of your feelings,” answered the Old Past Master with a smile.</p> <p>“But you sure take a chance we'll dislike you for plain speaking”</p> <p>“What do I matter? You may dislike me.... but I don't believe you will laugh in lodge again!”</p> <p>Oscar Orum, P.M. Worshipful Master, Hill City 456</p>	<p>and join us. Parking remains an issue around the lodge. There are some parking spaces in the Scottish Rite parking lot and in addition we can park in the state parking garage just south of the Hampton Inn after 5:00 pm.</p> <p>We have some brothers that have not yet paid their dues. If you are among them and need assistance or if any of you know any brother that needs assistance with his dues please let the Secretary know and we can help.</p> <p>I hope to see all of y'all at our April 2<sup>nd</sup> Stated Meeting.</p> <p>Bob Wheelless, P.M. Senior Warden, Hill City 456</p>
<b>Thank You!</b>	
<p>Brethren,</p> <p>Let's give a big hand for an excellent meal on February 13<sup>th</sup> for our sweetheart night – which consisted of Chicken Fried Steak, real mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, and apple cobbler, coffee and tea. The following brothers helped prepare the meal: Fred Bakhshi, Chairman, Richard, Bardin, Clyde Medlock, Tom Jackson, Chuck Stewart, and Weston Floyd. (If I've missed any Brothers, I'm sorry.)</p> <p>Yours Fraternaly, Uncle Bob, P.M.</p>	
<b>Beach Clean-Up</b>	
<p>Volunteers from Hill City Lodge are traveling to Port Aransas to participate in Texas Adopt-A-Beach 2018 Cleanup. This event will take place from 9 am to noon on Saturday, April 21st. Texas Adopt-a-Beach will provide the supplies and logistics for removing trash; we only need to bring whatever personal supplies are necessary to be safe and comfortable working on the beach (sunscreen, gloves, etc.).</p> <p>This is an opportunity, as Masons, to work for our community and raise awareness of Masonry as an institution serving the public good.</p> <p>Contact Aaron Evans at 512-921-4160 to participate.</p>	

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

Robert Leonard Andrews, III	Mark Dwain Chapman	Robert J. Hueffmeier	David S. Solverson
Fereidoun Bakhshi	Harry W. Elliott	Theodore J. Kalenterides	James Wilson Tindel
Bruce Edward Barton	Ernie T. French	Dell Leclair Martin, Jr.	William K. Turner
John David Baylor	James Mitchell Goforth, Sr.	Clyde Junior Medlock	
George D. Bryan	Ahmad Mahmoud Hammoudeh	Ronald Eugene Roberts	

**Food Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</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 from the food committee members at the food committee meeting unless you included your food committee donation with your Lodge dues in December.