


The HILL CITY LIGHT

August 2022

| 2022-2023 Lodge Officers | | Hill City No. 456 A.F. & A.M. Chartered June 10, 1876 | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| W.M. | Elan Mendoza | Austin Scottish Rite Theatre & Museum 18th St. at Lavaca St., Austin, Texas Mail: P.O. Box 1456, Austin, Texas 78767-1456 Phone: (512) 655-9858 Email: secretary@hillcitylodge.org Website: www.hillcitylodge.org | |
| S.W. | Hilton Crocker | | |
| J.W. | Nate Stilwell | | |
| Treasurer | Kent Kinkade, P.M. | | |
| Secretary | Charles Maddox P.M. | | |
| Chaplain | Chuck Stewart, P.M. | | |
| S.D. | Ryan DiVincenzo | | |
| J.D. | Sean Williams | | |
| S.S. | Nick Grossman | | |
| J. S. | Mark Huerta | | |
| Marshal | Robert Darrel | 1876  2022 | |
| M.C. | Tanner Dennis | | |
| Tiler | Dennis Hill, P.M. | <u>Stated Meeting:</u> First Tuesday at 7:30 pm Dinner at 6:30 pm <u>Called Meetings:</u> Other Tuesdays at 7:00 pm Dinner at 6:30 pm | |
| Work Schedule | | From the East | |
| August 2022 | | Greetings Brethren, I hope all are doing well in these hot summer days. It was great seeing some familiar faces this past stated meeting. I want to use this time to fill in those who were not able to make it this month. Overall, it was a normal stated meeting. I was able to announce some of my committees for this masonic year. I want to thank all of you brothers who agreed to participate in the committees. Your involvement helps to push our lodge to a greater place! It is my pleasure to announce that during this meeting we were able to vote in the affirmative on the petition of a candidate. We were also able to read petition of another individual who is looking to join our lodge. I am happy to announce that we have another brother who is wanting to turn in his work this week. I am very happy to have people moving forward with their masonic journey and know that it will better our lodge in the future. I want to take this time to thank Mark Huerta and Jeremy Stenglein for help this brother along the way. I know it takes time and energy but just like a seed, we can water it and watch it grow into something great. During lodge, our Junior Warden, Nate Stilwell, told us that he found an escape room that he thinks the brethren might be interested in. An escape room, for those who do not know, is a group activity where you are locked in a room and you must work together as a group, finding clues and solving the puzzle | |
| August 2 | Stated Meeting | | |
| August 9 | EA Practice | | |
| August 16 | EA Practice | | |
| August 23 | EA and FC Practice | | |
| August 30 | TBD | | |
| September 2022 | | | |
| September 6 | Stated Meeting | | |
| September 13 | EA & FC Practice | | |
| September 20 | EA Practice | | |
| September 27 | FC Practice | | |
| October 2022 | | | |
| October 4 | Stated Meeting | | |
| October 11 | Family Night | | |
| October 18 | MM Practice | | |
| October 25 | MM Degree | | |

From the East (continued)

to unlock the door. Nate has done a great job of putting together outdoor social events for our lodge so far and he really hit the mark this time, finding us a Freemasonry themed escape room. We will have more events like this planned in the future so if you are interested in joining us, please either come join us at lodge, or feel free to contact me or any officer to get more details. I would like to put on a fundraiser this year. Something we haven't done before. I have only been a member of this lodge for a little over half a decade and I don't seem to remember doing any fundraisers where we can work together as a group. We have done auctions or raffles but that doesn't really get us together as an organization. If you have any idea on what we can do together as a lodge, please feel free to reach out. We love hearing about the ways we can involve ourselves and loved one outside of lodge. Remember, outside of lodge is where most of our Masonic work is done.

This month's plan is to prepare for the new candidates that are entering the craft as well as get ready for those who are progressing towards more light. All of this month's called meetings will be degree practices. I hope to see you all there!

List of Committees and members:

- Lease Committee: Hilton Crocker – Chair, Kent Kinkade, Dennis Hill
- Audit Committee: Larry Miller – Chair, Philippe DeWailly, Nathan Stilwell
- IT Committee: Robert Darrell – Chair, Sean Williams, Jeremy Stenglin, Robert Eschenburg, Philippe DeWailly
- Dues and Arrears Committee: Bob Wheelless – Chair, Ryan DiVincenzo, Mark Huerta
- Permanent Fund – Lee Kinser

Fraternally,

Elan Mendoza

Worshipful Master, Hill City 456

From the West

Hello Brethren, This month, I share this article by Albert Pike...

I. God is the Eternal, Omnipotent WISDOM and Supreme INTELLIGENCE and Exhaustless LOVE. Thou shalt adore, revere, and love Him! Thou shalt honor Him by practicing the virtues! **II.** The religion shall be to do good because it is a pleasure to thee, and not merely because it is a duty. That thou mayest become the friend of the wise man, thou shalt obey his precepts! Thy soul immortal! Thou shalt do nothing to degrade it! **III.** Thou shalt unceasingly war against vice! Thou shalt not do unto others that which thou wouldst not wish them to do unto thee! Thou shalt be submissive to thy fortunes, and keep burning the light of wisdom. **IV.** Thou shalt honor thy parents! Thou shalt pay respect and homage to the god! Thou shalt instruct the young! Thou shalt protect and defend infancy and innocence! **V.** Thou shalt cherish thy wife and thy children! Thou shalt love thy country, and obey it's laws! **VI.** Thy friend shall be to thee a second self! Misfortune shall not estrange thee from him. Thou shalt do for his memory whatever wouldest do for him, if he were living! **VII.** Thou shalt avoid and flee from insincere friendships! Thou shalt in everything refrain from excess. Thou shalt fear to be the cause of a stain on thy memory **VIII.** Thou shalt allow no passions to become thy master! Thou shalt make the passions of others profitable lessons to thyself! Thou shalt be indulgent to error! **IX.** Thou shalt hear much! Thou shalt speak little! Thou shalt act well! Thou shalt forget injuries Thou shalt render good for evil! Thou shalt not misuse either thy strength or the superiority! **X.** Thou shalt study to know men! That thereby you mayest learn to know thyself! Thou shalt ever seek after virtue! Thou shalt be just! Thou shalt avoid idleness! Thou shalt avoid idleness.

But the great commandment of Masonry is this: "A new commandment give I unto you, that ye love one another! He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, remaineth still in the darkness."

Respectfully and with Brotherly love your friend,

Fraternally,

Hilton Crocker, P.M.

Senior Warden, Hill City 456

August 2022 Crossword Puzzle

Across

1. 200 milligrams
6. Armageddon
9. Blockhead
13. Convex molding
14. Be worthwhile
15. Altered recording
16. Further shorten, maybe
17. Publicity, slangily
18. A-list
19. Medium
21. Old stones tools
23. Barbie's beau
24. Catch a glimpse of
25. "20/20" network
28. New newts
30. Sitting room?
35. Bundle
37. "___ on Down the Road"
39. Bing, bang or boom
40. ___ and terminer
41. Boxer's stat
43. ___ bag
44. Haunted house sounds
46. Harp's cousin
47. Soon, to a bard
48. News office
50. 100 cents
52. 007, for one
53. "Back in the ___"
55. "How ___ Has the Banshee Cried" (Thomas Moore poem)
57. Its frequency is about 262 Hertz
61. Never blinking a eye
65. Dostoyevsky novel, with "The"
66. "___ Town Too" (1981 hit)
68. Belief
69. Breaks
70. Card
71. Grammar topic
72. Far from ruddy
73. "___ we having fun yet?"

Down

1. Fullness and bounciness of hair
2. Ancient greetings
3. Like Santa's cheeks
4. "Wellaway!"
5. Long-tailed finch
6. "Beowulf," e.g.
7. Masefield play "The Tragedy of ___"
8. Flood defenses
9. Kosher ___
10. Bypass
11. Core
12. Donald and Ivana, e.g.
15. Trust
20. Deduce
22. Decide to leave, with "out"
24. He attempts treatise with hesitation
25. Muscle holding up Mafia Killer
26. Cajun country stream
27. Cloudless
29. Old Chinese money
31. Bit
32. Ancient arena beasts
33. Bar, at the bar
34. Itsy-bitsy
36. Coastal raptor
38. Almond
42. Graceful bird
45. Waterfalls
49. "It's no ___!"
51. Scrap rotten bit of meat
54. Pronunciation symbol
56. Anklebones
57. Actress Sorvino
58. Bad day for Caesar
59. Gossip, slangily
60. Decayed, as wood
61. Advocate
62. Ardor
63. Halftime lead, e.g.
64. Live wire, so to speak
67. Ring bearer, maybe

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July 2022 Puzzle Solution

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Masonic Education

PRINCIPLE TENETS

BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH

A **tenet** is some theory or teaching so universally accepted that no one questions its truth. It is something that has held true in every instance in every instance with out question for so long that that every one takes it for granted. There are many tenets included in Masonic teachings. One of the most important is the Principle Tenets, Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

Brotherly Love – Brotherly Love is one of the closest associations that could possibly exist between two people. We love our blood brothers just because they are our brothers. We have no hope of material gain by associating with them. We would refuse such gain if it were offered. We enjoy being with them just for the pleasure we receive from their presence. We want to aid and assist them without thought of gain or reward. Their presence satisfies an inner desire that nothing else can. We overlook faults of our brothers that would be repulsive in others. We would come to their rescue even if we were convinced they were wrong. Petty grievances and peculiarities are overlooked or ignored. There are bonds of attraction which are most unbreakable but cannot reasonably explained. All these things exist because we are brothers.

In the Masonic sense we must strive to achieve that feeling with our Masonic brethren. We must be willing to overlook or forget petty grievances or peculiarities. We must strive to see the good things in our brethren that will make us love them. We must cast aside our passions and prejudices and remember that, “All men are my brethren,” By the exercise of brotherly love, we are taught to regard the whole human species as one great family; and that we must aid, support and protect each other.

Relief -The most common interpretation of relief is some form of charity. The word relief immediately suggests relief form pauperism. Organized charity is set up in most every community to relieve the distressed. This charity is supported by the taxation and public subscription. Its purpose is to assist worthy people who, from some misfortune beyond their control, become destitute. It is the duty of every normal person to contribute to their relief.

Masonic Education (continued)

Masonic relief has a much deeper meaning. To contribute to public charity is the responsibility of everyone. Every normal citizen is obligated to society to carry his normal share of worthy charity expense. Unless he contributes this share of this burden, he does not pay his lawful debt to society. A person must contribute more than his natural share before he can be classed as one who has donated to relief.

Masonic relief has still another meaning. A person may be distressed in many ways other than financial. He may have a business or family problem that discourages him, and a helpful suggestion may give him the relief he needs. He may be lonely because he lacks proper associations; then a cheerful word may give the relief he seeks. We claim that there are many ways of giving relief.

To relieve the distressed is a duty incumbent on all men. To sympathize with them in their misfortunes, to console them in their sorrows and restore peace to their troubled minds – these are the great aims we have a view. We, as Masons, must be alert to recognize these opportunities and offer our services in the ways that will best giving relief.

Truth – We commonly think of truth as the opposite of falsehood. When a person’s word is as good as his bond, he is classed as being truthful. To be good and true is one of the first lessons taught in Masonry. Unless a person has a reputation of being truthful, he is not morally qualified to become a member of our Order. Truthfulness is one of the fundamental requirements to become a member of our Order. Truthfulness is one of the fundamental requirements of good citizenship. Without truth there would be no foundation for trust and fellowship.

Freemasonry’s motto is, “Let there be light,” In this sense truth has a much deeper meaning. In Masonry there is never ending search for more truth and light. There is a great storehouse of truth for every Mason to explore. It cannot be transferred from person to person in the same manner in which we communicate our ritual and our secrets. To each person it presents a different interpretation. With this in mind we urge you to consider carefully the teachings of the Craft as you progress in you Masonic journey.

From the South

Brethren,

The Art of war was written by Sun Tzu somewhere between 475 and 221 B.C.E. The lessons found within have been used by generals and business owners alike. The Goal: to ultimately win by using strategy, tactics, and resolve. Wherein, learning that you must change tactics when the battlefield changes. This is an important key lesson to consider. Fighting in order to adapt as our surroundings change is not only a good idea but necessary to be victorious in battle. As we are not only members, but we are also guardians and protectors of our charter. It is necessary therefore, to change “the way It’s always been done” from time to time. In order to maintain our edge as a lodge. I, for one, believe that traditions are a major part of the foundation of the structure of any organization. But it takes an insightful leader to see the things that need to be changed and come up with solutions to change them. Often this goes against the suggestions of an experienced advisor. But it is simply because they cannot see what a strong leader can. A good example of this is when Steve Jobs bought back a failing apple corp., and was advised to sell the rights. Instead, he did the opposite. Because he knew the value and could see the inherent problems and had plans to fix them, where the average board member could not. After doing so, apple’s worth soared. And they were then positioned as the #1 leader in technology worldwide. This takes competency, confidence, courage and vision. Vision to see in your mind’s eye, what will happen when given a set of likely scenarios. Vision to take the lodge forward into the future, with a target to shoot for. And the kind of vision that can for-see the pitfalls and errors of an outdated strategy. We must maintain our traditions while simultaneously reforming any bad habits. It takes a strong leader to spot the nuanced issues and specific particulars. And Hill City #456 is currently filled with strong leaders and men with vision. Ready to fight for our charter, and guide our fraternity and lodge forward to victory. Let’s all support our lodge officers in sincere unity to ensure the strength of Texas Masonry far into the future. In short, may brotherly love prevail, and may the great architect of the universe continue to inspire and preserve our craft for many generations to come.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Nate Stilwell,
Junior Warden, Hill City 456

Masonic Talk

With Tanner Dennis...

Using symbolism to express ideals has been around, since, well, time immemorial. Teaching with symbols can be easy. But for the profane mind, distillation and application can be a life long endeavor. In discussing particular symbols, we can broaden our understanding of what is expressed and attach a lesson of reason, eventually, an application of the said lesson will lead to wisdom and actual truths. In this lesson, we visit the Circum Punctum, and the ideals of faith and conception. We are told that the 3rd degree in Masonry is the highest possible degree to be bestowed and that the “other” degrees, simply, supplement or “broaden” or “expand” our Masonic experience, in terms of degrees, why is that? Well, it is the opinion, yet also the truth of many, that the expansion of degrees can be likened to the Circum Punctum, in the sense that the circle represents the expansion. The literal size, or circumference of the circle, is the expansion, but only to the diameter of the faith the individual is in belief of. In other words, the circle around the dot, grows bigger with application. The dot, if laid on a horizontal plain, represents the highest heaven. A beam of light that runs vertically through infinitum. In the teachings of the New Testament of the Holy Bible, the Great teacher explains to his students, that each one will receive, in accordance to their faith. What does this mean? It means, that The Supreme Architect will not place anything upon you that you cannot handle, or you will not receive anything that you do not have the capacity to receive or understand. So, how do we obtain further understanding? How do we expand the circumference of our circle to include the Moon, stars, and other planets (the universe?) We as Men and Masons, well know what to do before any Great and Laudable undertaking, in order to obtain higher levels of faith, in order to obtain further light in Masonry, in order to obtain further Wisdom, we must pray!

Article to be continued in September Light

**HILL CITY LODGE No. 456, A.F. & A.M.
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| July Birthdays | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Henry Winston Ault | Raymond Lewis Etter, Jr. | Amanollah Masoomikolahloo | Jason Scott Mutchler |
| James Mark Batson | Roger Lee Gunter | Raymond Clifford Mathews, Jr. | Thomas Ray Schnautz |
| John C. Burkhardt | Thomas R. Jackson | Jim Conway McLendon | Todd Malcolm Smith |
| Ernest L. Butler | Robert Wade Jones, Jr. | Charles Henry Meyer, Jr. | Eulojio R. Sosa |
| Warren Pierce Darnell | James R. Lafosse | Joe McCoy Moore, Jr. | Carl Larry Templeton |
| Philippe Paul Dewailly | Larry D. Little | Eugene Karim Mostofi | Garvid H. Wilson, Jr. |
| | | | James G. Wilson |

Important Announcement Regarding COVID-19

We have fully reinstated meals. Austin is now at level 2 Covid stage.

Masks and hand sanitizer will be provided for those who want them
Stay healthy and have a blessed New Year.

Food Committee is suspended until we are able to reconvene.