


# The HILL CITY LIGHT

October 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	1876  2022	
Treasurer	Kent Kinkade, P.M.		
Secretary	Charles Maddox P.M.	<u>Stated Meeting:</u> First Tuesday at 7:30 pm Dinner at 6:30 pm	
Chaplain	Chuck Stewart, P.M.		
S.D.	Ryan DiVincenzo	<u>Called Meetings:</u> Other Tuesdays at 7:00 pm Dinner at 6:30 pm	
J.D.	Sean Williams		
S.S.	Nick Grossman	<b>Work Schedule</b>	
J. S.	Mark Huerta		
Marshal	Robert Darrel	<b>From the East</b>	
M.C.	Tanner Dennis		
Tiler	Dennis Hill, P.M.	Greetings Brethren,  I hope all are doing well this month. I'm happy to say that this Masonic year has started of great! We, as a lodge, have been working nonstop on both Fellow Craft and Entered Apprentice degrees. It has been wonderful to have so many new brothers join the craft this past year. I joined in 2016 and membership was declining. I am not sure what has since changed but I do love seeing more interest in our fraternity. We have been lucky enough to have two EA degrees just within the past couple months. Since we are spending so much time practicing and trying to perfect these degrees, I think it would be a good idea for Hill City to have a graded degree. I have been a Master Mason for 6 years and within those 6 years I have never seen a graded degree. I think it's time Hill City works together to achieve this goal.  The holidays are approaching fast, and I would also like to fill you all in on some ideas I have for the coming months. As you hopefully already know, we are going to sign up for Feast of Sharing this Thanksgiving season. Registration opens later this month, so once I am able to register us as a lodge, I will be able to share the information in detail with you all. Another idea that Luke Michaels brought to my attention is the Coats for Kids program. Registration for this event opens in this month as well but the dates for the event are November 30th thru December	
<b>September 2022</b>			
September 6	Stated Meeting		
September 13	EA & FC Practice		
September 20	EA Practice		
September 27	FC Practice		
<b>October 2022</b>			
October 4	Stated Meeting		
October 11	Family Night		
October 18	MM Practice		
October 25	MM Degree		
<b>November 2022</b>			
November 1	Stated Meeting DDGM Visit		
November 8	EA Practice		
November 15	Veterans Day Flag Program		
November 22	Dark		
November 29	EA Practice		

## From the East (continued)

11th. We cannot volunteer on that Tuesday since it will be our stated meeting but I was thinking we could get a good size group together and volunteer out time on a Sunday, December 4th. Please let me know if you think another day would be better for us and we can bring this up in our November stated meeting for those who have questions. Also, if you have any other ideas on how our lodge can contribute to our community, please feel free to bring them to the attention of any of the officers and we will try our best to make it happen, if within length of our cable tow.

Our lodge did not meet at our nomad building this past 11th because we were lucky enough to join the brethren of T. Neil Porter for their annual fish fry and monthly stated meeting. I want to thank all of the brothers who joined us at their lodge. I know they enjoyed hosting for us and it was great to meet other Masons in the area. This is something I would like to see us do more of in the future.

Brother Nate Stilwell has put together social events in the past that bring us together outside of the lodge. I would like to keep this going with more events in the future. Any suggestions for event like another pool hall night or a Masonic bowling night would be great. The escape room he planned for us was my favorite so far. I must say it was really nice seeing us work together as a team to accomplish a goal.

On my last note I would like to say that I am trying to put together an event that Hill City can host. This event will be an educational discussion about Masonry and we will welcome brothers from all over central Texas to join us for this event. I would love it in Hill City Lodge is known for hosting events that bring brethren and the community closer together. Remember, it wasn't just one man who built King Solomon's temple.

Fraternally,

Elan Mendoza

Worshipful Master, Hill City 456

## From the West

Hello Brethren All,

I have been having intestinal problems lately for which my doctor has not been able to find a cause. As my Brother Masons have reached out to me with well wishes, it reminds me that "We are our Brothers keeper ". We must keep in mind that there are many Brothers in our fraternity that are going through health, emotional and family problems that we don't know about. Always remember to reach out to Brothers who are absent from Lodge are show a difference in behavior that may seem uncharacteristic from their normal behavior.

Back to the business of the Lodge. We are starting to get several petitions for the Degrees of Masonry, as well as several Degrees that we have done recently. Men are looking for a place to belong coming out of two years of Covid-19. As always, we need Brothers to learn and preform parts in the Degrees. I am very encouraged that several of our newer Master Masons have stepped up and are taking on major roles in the work. There is always room for more Brothers to work in raising new members.

We always enjoy a delicious hot meal at Lodge, thanks to our hard working Stewards. Remember to thank our Stewards because it is a very hard job. Inflation has caused the cost of our meals at Lodge to go up about 30 percent. When you receive your dues notice there is a place to make an additional donation for food. I now we are all struggling financially, but if you can please help with the cost derived from our hot meals. You can also kick in a little extra when you eat. If you are struggling with your own food cost, don't hesitate to reach out to your Brothers.

In closing I ask you all to take care of yourselves and when you can, take care of your Brothers. Attend Lodge when you are able, so we can continue to grow the craft. If you need help getting to Lodge, please reach out to your Lodge Officers and we will do all we can to get you there.

Fraternally,

Hilton Crocker, P.M.

Senior Warden, Hill City 456

## October 2022 Crossword Puzzle

### Across

1. A chorus line
5. Place to play
9. Arctic native
13. Bookbinding leather
14. Drill or awl
15. Berry at health
16. Certain jurist
19. Area
20. Challenge, metaphorically
21. "The Matrix" hero
22. Fancy marbles
24. Speaking indistinctly
26. Charlotte-to-Raleigh dir.
29. Art \_\_\_\_
31. "The Three Faces of \_\_\_\_"
32. Bank guarantee of payment
37. Atlantic City attraction
38. Adaptable truck, for short
39. Ingredient in some soothing gels
41. Judgement time
46. Australian runner
47. Nonexistent
48. "Give it \_\_\_\_!"
49. Purchasers
53. Wet soils
55. "\_\_\_\_ Ng" (They Might Be Giants song)
56. Garden bloom, informally
58. Obiter
62. Unbleached
65. Artificial bait
66. Host
67. Channel
68. Ticket info, maybe
69. Water barrier
70. "Dang!"

### Down

1. Parentheses, e.g.
2. Aerial maneuver
3. Math symbol
4. Attack
5. "\_\_\_\_ rang?"
6. Bow
7. Adjust, as laces
8. Team leader on a rig
9. PC linkup
10. Grape seeds, in botany
11. Leisurely walk
12. Base point for climber's spike
14. Ale maker placing jug under empty counter
17. Barter
18. Antipasto morsel
23. Use elbow grease on
25. Alternative to a convertible
26. \_\_\_\_ Grove Village, Ill.
27. Call for
28. "Empedocles on \_\_\_\_" (Matthew Arnold poem)
30. "Come here \_\_\_\_?"
33. Trifled (with)
34. Large intestine part
35. Hip bones
36. Chinese dynasty
40. "I" problem
42. Alpha's opposite
43. Filled with petrol
44. Inelegant solution
45. Any Platters platter
49. Safe place
50. Boredom
51. Bead material
52. Game ragout
54. Almost boil
57. Clobber
59. Alpine transport
60. Arm bone
61. Convene
63. "\_\_\_\_ Town Too" (1981 hit)
64. Sounds like a refusal to be born

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13					14					15				
16				17					18					
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	41			42	43				44	45				
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49	50	51				52		53			54			
55				56			57		58			59	60	61
62			63					64						
65					66						67			
68					69						70			

## August 2022 Puzzle Solution

C	A	R	A	T		E	N	D			D	O	P	E	
O	V	O	L	O		P	A	Y			R	E	M	I	X
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P	S	Y	C	H	I	C		E	O	L	I	T	H	S	
			K	E	N		E	S	P	Y					
A	B	C		E	F	T	S		T	O	I	L	E	T	
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I	D	I	O	T		H	E	R		C	R	E	D	O	
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A	S	H	Y			A	R	E		T	I	L	E	R	

## Obituary

### Charles David Collier

Charles “Charlie” David Collier, age 75, of Gatesville, Texas, passed peacefully in his home on Thursday, August 11, 2022, with his wife, Nancy Barrington Collier, by his side.

Born January 23, 1947 to Damon Ernest Collier and Ruth Josephine Collier, Charlie lived a full and warm life, filled with joy and a passion for sharing wisdom with others wherever he went.

Charlie never met a person he didn’t like and make his friend. He will be fondly remembered and sorely missed by so many.

A master electrician and very skilled at his trade, Charlie had a true passion for electrical and construction work.

An avid fisherman, Charlie loved nothing more than spending his time with family and friends on a lake or river somewhere idling away the day and “reeling them in”.

Charlie was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Bonnie Volek.

Charlie is survived by his wife, Nancy, of 15 years, the one true love of his life, his soulmate, and best friend.

Charles is also survived by brothers, Carroll Collier, Kendall Collier and Cindy, and Ed and Linda Volek; children, Chad Collier and Lyndy Baker, Clint and Trudy Collier, and Chandler Collier and Seth Grandberry; stepchildren, Andy and Laura Rice, Chad Smith and Krista Foster; 15 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; numerous cousins, nieces and nephews; and his friends, too numerous to list. He will be missed forever by all.

No services will be held at this time, but a celebration of his life will be hosted by Nancy at his Gatesville home, dates and details to be announced at a later date.

Brother Charles David Collier was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on October 12, 1982, Passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft on February 15, 1983, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on March 22, 1983.

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

## Masonic Education

What if, without warning, you were to die right now? How happy would you be with your life up to this point? How do you think you will be remembered? How selfish or selfless have you lived your life? What good have you done for yourself, family, friends, God, your brothers, or the fraternity? And then ask yourself this question: “What more could you have done?”

Instead of giving simple answers, give deep thought to these questions. Be honest with yourself and your answers. Reflect on your life up to this point and compare what you have done with the charges you have received. Are you living up to the name of which you were made?

Some people are able to give more time, some money, or some laughter. Whatever it may be, we all have something to give to others for the benefit of mankind. For something bigger than ourselves. What more can you give?

When you think about it, life is really short. Tomorrow isn’t promised so live for today, but live selflessly.

Mark Huerta

## From the South

## Masonic Talk

Brethren,

October is a special month here in Texas. This is the month where the weather changes, and grilling in the backyard becomes pleasant! For Austinites, we have a music festival to contend with. Where the city is flooded with thousands of people from across the world. Crowding the streets and hotels. And don't forget Halloween! The Shrine is having their annual trunk-or-treat at the Ben Hur temple parking lot on the 16th. Hill city #456 has been busy with degree work and investigating new candidates. And I for one am excited to have such strong men joining our lodge and fraternity. Let's keep the momentum up and support our new Entered apprentices, Fellowcrafts, and Master masons. If you have the time and want to volunteer to teach please let us know. I'd like to close this in a spooktacular way. By sharing Vincent Price's classic outro monologue from Thriller. Enjoy.

“Darkness falls across the land, the midnight hour is close at hand. Creatures crawl in search for blood, to terrorize y'all's neighborhood. And whomsoever shall be found, without the soul for getting down. Must stand and face the hounds of hell, and rot inside a corpse's shell. The foulest stench is in the air, the funk of forty thousand years. And grizzly ghouls from every tomb, are closing in to seal your doom. And though you fight to stay alive, your body starts to shiver. For no mere mortal can resist, the evil of the thriller!”

Have fun trick-or-treating out there. And don't be a stranger, come and visit if you haven't attended in a while. We would love to share what Hill city #456 has planned for the future.

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

With Tanner Dennis...

*Article continued from the August Light*

Our first Most Excellent Grand Master, himself, pray as a young man, for wisdom to judge and discern. I urge you, this day, to pray! Pray for guidance! Pray for Wisdom! Pray, for further Light in Masonry! Once your Circum Punctum contains the rest of the space in the universe, and not just the circumference of the Earth, you will feel this light on a cellular level, for it is Micro/Macro-cosmic. Your Circum Punctum, of your mind, has received a cosmic understanding to the response, as do the cells in your body. As the lessons of Masonry become more comprehensive, you may become more energetic, your understanding of the liberal arts and sciences become more literal. You become, a Master Mason.

**HILL CITY LODGE No. 456, A.F. & A.M.**  
**P.O. BOX 1456**  
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## October Birthdays

Michael James Adiano	Gerald L. Grier	Kenneth Ray Pruitt	Wesley Keith Symank
William C. Bennett	Nicholas Paul Grossman	Randall Ray Reynolds	Michael Anthony Von Ohlen
George Jason Burnett	Blair Davis Hibbert	Jeremiah Petra Spence	Kervin W. Warnken
Jacob L. Cavazos	Charles Wayne Jackson	Ronald Starry	Foy W. Watson, III
Jon Alan Cohorn	Joe Alan Kindred	Nathan Wade Stilwell	Kelly D. Webb
Forest Mark Cruse, Sr.	Charles Richard Maddox	Michael Wayne Stone	Patrick Lee Wheelless
James Robert Darrell	Calvin Cleave Nolen	Frank B. Sykes	Sean Thurkelle Williams

### 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.**