


The HILL CITY LIGHT

April 2023

<p>2022-2023 Lodge Officers</p>	<p>Hill City No. 456 A.F. & A.M. Chartered June 10, 1876</p> <p>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</p>
<p>W.M. Elan Mendoza 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 M.C. Tanner Dennis Tiler Dennis Hill, P.M.</p>	<p>1876  2023</p> <p><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</p>
<p>Work Schedule</p>	<p>From the East</p>
<p>April 2023</p>	<p>Greetings Brethren,</p> <p>I hope everyone has had a great month so far. First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone who joined us last month to honor Brother Forest Cruz with his Golden Trowel award. It was so great to see so many brothers come together to honor someone who has done so much good for this lodge, not to mention other lodges around Texas.</p> <p>I want to remind everyone that we are set up to volunteer for the beach cleanup in Port Aransas on April 22nd. Please contact me for more information or if you are interested in attending and I can give you the details. I'm hoping to see a good handful of us out there supporting our community.</p> <p>I am happy to announce that we are almost ready for our graded degree! We have a few more practices to really push us over the edge and make sure we get the highest degree possible. I want to thank all of those who have helped our degree team get to where we are, and I would personally like to thank the degree team for sticking in there and pushing through to the end. Our last big practice is April 25th. Brother Moxley will be joining us for this practice so come on down and share some fellowship with us. The graded degree is scheduled for May 23rd.</p>
<p>April 4 Stated Meeting April 11 Master's Turn-In April 18 25-40 Year Awards April 22 Beach Clean-Up April 25 EA Practice</p>	
<p>May 2023</p>	
<p>May 2 Stated Meeting May 9 EA Degree May 16 50-60 Year Awards May 23 Graded Degree May 30 FC Practice</p>	
<p>June 2023</p>	
<p>June 6 Stated Meeting Officer Elections June 13 Fellowcraft Practice June 20 Memorial Service June 27 Fellowcraft Practice</p>	

From the East (continued)

I would like to remind everyone that we have our 25–40 year awards as well as our scholarships coming up on April 18th. It would be nice to have as many members as possible and their families join us for this event. We want to celebrate those brothers who have put in the time and work to be members of our lodge for so long. It takes a lot of commitment to be a part of the craft, and this is the way we, as Masons, show our appreciation. I would also like to show those young folks who are receiving scholarships and about to start their lives what we are all about here at Hill City Lodge. Community service is a big part of Masonry and we want to make sure the community we serve understands who we really are.

Lastly, I would like to say a special hello to Brother Oscar Orum, P.M. Oscar has severed this lodge for as long as I've been a member. He is also the one that put me in the line, and I thank him for kicking off my masonic progression. Oscar hasn't been able to join us at lodge for a while now and those of you who attend know that we talk about him almost every meeting. I would like to take this time to tell Oscar that we all miss having you around at lodge, and though you may not physically be in attendance, you are still always with us.

I hope everyone has a good remainder of the month and we'll see you at our events!

Fraternally,
Elan Mendoza
Worshipful Master, Hill City 456

From the West

Hello Brethren All,

Another month has passed at Hill City Lodge. I hope this article finds you doing well. Keep your Brothers and their family in your thoughts and prayers. If you haven't been to Lodge lately please come back and renew your relationships, we miss you. We are making a lot of new Masons and they need the guidance and support of all the members of Hill City Lodge.

March 14th we planned to practice the EA Degree, however we did not have enough members show up, so we did a round table practice with our new EAs. Three Master Masons joined in to help our new Brothers learn their work.

March 21st was a very special night at Hill City Lodge. A wonderful meal was served by our Stewards, followed by presentation of The Golden Trowel award to Brother Forrest Cruze. Forrest was very emotional over receiving this well deserved award. The event was well attended.

It's easy to take the meals at Hill City Lodge, but only because every single one is wonderful. The Stewards knocked another one out of the park on March 28th. The meal was followed by a very nice Entered Apprentice Masons Degree. We are making a lot of new Masons and we need the help of all our members. There are several more men waiting to become Masons.

April 4th was The Stated Meeting of Hill City Lodge. We had a great meal of chicken smothered in mushroom gravy with fresh green beans and new potatoes. This was a tiled meeting so I will not give details, except to say that we took ballots on 2 new members and investigation committees on 2 more potential new members.

Tradition prevailing, I will be installed as Worshipful Master on June 27th. I invite all members of Hill City Lodge, your family and friends to attend. This will be my second trip through the East and I am hoping to hold a re-obligation of the Lodge. If you haven't seen one before, the Chaplin takes his place at the alter with all Brethren behind him, while the Worshipful Master administers the Master Masons Obligation.

Fraternally,
Hilton Crocker, P.M.
Senior Warden, Hill City 456

April 2023 Crossword Puzzle

Across

1. Acts the blowhard
6. "Malcolm X" director
9. Approach
13. French coin discontinued in 1794
14. Setting for TV's "Newhart"
15. "Las Vegas of Asia"
16. Arctic ____
17. Gun, as an engine
18. Certain exams
19. Capital of Spain under Moorish rule
21. Leather source
23. "To ____ is human ..."
24. Don't believe it
25. Bluecoat
28. "Eh"
30. Frothy
35. Gulf V.I.P.
37. "Hold it right there!"
39. Adjust, as laces
40. Kosher ____
41. Civil War side
43. Feed bag contents
44. Cast out
46. 10 C-notes
47. "Blue" or "White" river
48. "Meditation in motion" discipline
50. Prize since 1949
52. ____ gestae
53. Brio
55. Away
57. Rocket launcher
61. "Father Murphy" extras
65. French romance
66. AIDS - causing virus
68. Live in squalor
69. Like a dryer trap
70. Victorian, for one
71. Absurd
72. Bad day for Caesar
73. Indian dish or ingredient
74. "Snowy" bird

Down

1. Alliance
2. "Little Caesar" role
3. Affirm
4. Mark
5. Mexican men
6. 100 kurus
7. Charlotte-to-Raleigh dir.
8. Representative
9. Henry VIII's last wife
10. "Superfruit" from South America
11. After-bath powder
12. "Pipe down!"
15. Whistler subject
20. Toast
22. Chester White's home
24. Common water bird
25. Citadel student
26. Alpha's opposite
27. Mushroom caps, technically
29. Attempt
31. Long, long time
32. Flight segment
33. Deed
34. Affirmatives
36. Type of microprocessor architecture
38. Bit
42. What some fail to see
45. The alternative is close by an hypothesis
49. Breed
51. Young professional pup, one working in yen and euro
54. Reacted to a baby
56. Addams Family member
57. "____ Ha'i"
58. During
59. Area
60. Ballpark figure
61. Elliptical
62. Biology lab supply
63. Opening time, maybe
64. "Let it stand"
67. Bank offering, for short

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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69						70				71				
72						73				74				

March 2023 Puzzle Solution

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

The Square and Compasses: Symbolism and Meaning in Freemasonry

The Square and Compasses are perhaps the most recognizable symbols of Freemasonry. These tools have been used by stonemasons for centuries and have come to represent the moral and ethical teachings of the Masonic fraternity. In this article, we will explore the symbolism and meaning of the Square and Compasses in Freemasonry.

The Square represents morality and integrity, and serves as a reminder to Masons to "square their actions" and be upright in all their dealings with others. It is a symbol of fairness, honesty, and justice, and reminds Masons to always act with honor and integrity in their personal and professional lives.

The Compasses represent the spiritual aspect of Freemasonry, reminding Masons to keep their actions within the bounds of God's will. They also symbolize the importance of self-control and discipline, reminding Masons to keep their passions and desires in check and to strive for balance and harmony in all aspects of their lives.

Together, the Square and Compasses represent the perfect balance of the physical and spiritual aspects of life. They remind Masons to strive for balance and harmony in their thoughts, words, and deeds, and to always keep their actions within the bounds of morality and spirituality.

In addition to their individual meanings, the Square and Compasses also have a combined symbolism. When the two tools are overlaid, they form the "Square and Compasses" emblem, which is often seen on Masonic regalia and other items associated with the fraternity.

The Square and Compasses emblem has a variety of interpretations, but most commonly it is seen as representing the unity of the physical and spiritual aspects of life, as well as the harmony between God and humanity. It is a symbol of the Masonic fraternity's commitment to moral and ethical values, and a reminder to all Masons to strive for excellence in all aspects of their lives.

In conclusion, the Square and Compasses are powerful symbols of the Masonic fraternity, representing the importance of morality, spirituality, balance, and harmony in all aspects of life. These tools serve as a constant reminder to Masons to always act with honor, integrity, and self-discipline, and to strive for excellence in all their endeavors.

Woe is me!

For better or for worse, Man has been endowed with free will. The Supreme Architect of the Universe hath decreed it be, and so it was.

Yet, that's not the end of the decree, the first 5 Books of the Old Testament of the Holy Bible, also known as the Pentateuch, or the Torah, are all about what God has decreed. It follows the story of the Law God gave to the Jewish people, beginning with the first commandments given to Moses after their exodus from the Pharaoh, Ramseys, to the fate of all the generations that followed, exposing the true nature of Man to exercise his free will, and the true nature of God, and the nature of his own attributes.

These texts offer universal truths through Hermetic principles and offer a glimpse of the power of allegory and the spoken word.

Upon truly dissecting the text, one may find that there are pro's and con's to both obeying and disobeying God's Holy Commandments.

As it turns out, Gods law and commandments aren't always the easiest things to accomplish and can include seemingly outlandish things like allowing yourself to be okay with being slaves, sacrificing your first and only son, or killing the inhabitants of a land that God gives you. Women and children.

This doesn't much seem like an easy task for anyone, yet was exactly some of the circumstances surrounding the biblical story of the Jewish people. Many tasks, which by today's (any) standards are seemingly impossible.

But, what the Supreme Architect has promised us in return of obeying his law is also, seemingly impossible, yet, believers of the Word know it to be true.

Leviticus:

3 "This is what I will do if you will live by my laws and carefully obey my commands:

4 "I will give you rain at the right time. The land will produce its crops, and the trees in the field will produce their fruit. 5 Threshing time will last until grape gathering, and grape gathering will last until planting. You will eat all you want and live securely in your land.

6 "I will bring peace to your land. You will lie down with no one to scare you. I will remove dangerous animals, and there will be no war in your land. 7 You will chase your

Science in Masonry

Freemasons have always encouraged the advancement of society with virtuous habits. These include, but are not limited to; integrity, honor, charity, and square dealing. Another important virtue is industriousness. This is symbolically represented by the beehive. The industrious bee rises early to the labors of the summer day, gathering from the masonic carpet of nature an ample supply for the winter of his year. By imitating this example, man might enjoy all the necessaries, and even the luxuries of life; while he would avoid vice and temptation, and merit the respect of mankind. So, how does one begin to invent/create/build? It starts by celebrating and rewarding those who have made advancements in science and technology, to make our current lives possible. And opening our minds to new ideas and ways of life. Where would we be without electricity to power our homes, or indoor plumbing? Simple, everyday things, such as Velcro, to the complex fiber optic networks that carry information through light help to make life a bit more convenient. And opens our world to so many possibilities, that simply were not available before their invention. This poem, composed by Companion S. Brown, helps to express this beautifully.

When Science first came to enlighten mankind,
She sought, through the world, for a home to her mind,
Where Genius might lend her the aid of his fire,
And Art, with her generous efforts, conspire.

She landed, at first, on the banks of the Nile;
Then visited Tyrus, the sea-circled Isle
In Greece she had travelled, but fled,
In despair, of finding her favorite residence there.

At length, half resolved to remount on her wing,
she heard of the wisdom of Israel's king,
Then straight to Moriah she hid her
away. And high, on its summit, recumbent she lay.

King Solomon saw her reclined on the cliff.
And sent the glad message to Hiram Abiff,
who flew to the Vision that blazed on
his sight. And clasp'd to his bosom the Spirit of Light.

She taught him the use of the compass and square
and how to erect the grand column in air;
She taught him to work by the level and line.
And gave him the corn and the oil and the wine.

She led him by threes, and by fives, and by sevens,
And show'd him the pathway that leads to the heavens,
where sits the Grand Master who surely will know
the craft that have zealously serv'd him below.

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

enemies, and you will defeat them. 8 Five of you will chase a hundred of them, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand of them. You will defeat your enemies, 9 and I will be pleased with you.

Moses says in Deuteronomy 4:

“If Israel obeys the laws, it shows God’s righteousness to the nations”

But , not everyone agrees with the Supreme Grand Architect’s Laws but, there are laws that pertain to this, also, in which he makes examples of the people.

For then it says in Deuteronomy 28.15:

“But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:”

The text then begins to list a multitude of curses that many wouldn’t think would come from our Supreme Architect, but even in the Book of Daniel it says that the evil comes from the Lord.

Daniel 9:14 says

“Therefore hath the LORD watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the LORD our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice.”

But even in disobedience to his law comes total forgiveness and redemption, as well as growth and so much potential to learn and to gain wisdom to teach others. As soon as we become aware of our offense and try to make right the wrong, something wonderful happens that we can’t explain that seems to help us grow in ways that bring us closer to God, closer to our families, and closer to our Brothers. Masonry is said to reveal its secrets to those who are faithful to its precepts, yet those precepts come from the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe. When we use our Bible as a guide to our faith and practice, we see that we are among the privileged people within the text and chosen by Supreme Architect himself.

1 Peter 2:9

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

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April Birthdays

April Birthdays			
Hugh Larry Adkins	Bob Day, Jr.	Doug D. Gullickson	Hayden Dwayne Pettigrew
James E. Bailey	Christopher M. Enders	William Leo Hatten	Margarito R. Sosa
Mark Edward Bennett	Douglas J. Freyburger	Bennie Len Hudson	Leslie John Whetham
John C. Casey	Mario Humberto Guel, II	Michael Eugene Kinser	

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.