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# Holland Lodge #1 AFAM 1835-2010



**175 Years of Masonry  
in Texas**

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## FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

We are coming up to the end of the Masonic year with the 2011-2012 instillation of officers set of June 25<sup>th</sup>. The June stated meeting should be very interesting and I do hope you all can attend.

Before then we have an even bigger event to celebrate. The Celebration commemorating the founding of Holland Lodge and Freemasonry in Texas will be held at Holland Lodge No. 1 on Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> with opening ceremonies commencing at 10:30 a.m. outside in front of the Lodge. **Family, friends, neighbors and anyone interested in Freemasonry is invited.**

There will be speakers, including Grand Master, T.E. Gene Carnes, and Sam Houston IV. You will see (and hear!) Frontier Lodge make what is expected to be a Great Presentation. Be There!

Your attendance will contribute to this important Celebration. We can make this a Great Day. Our Senior Deacon, Matt Murphy, has once again exceeded his duty in putting this most important event together. Many thanks to him and all the brothers who have joined in this effort. Support the Lodge with a great turnout.

Holland Lodge has been very busy in the last couple of months. I believe that at the April stated meeting we read more minutes of meetings of the preceding month than I have seen before. Lots of degrees, and lots of interest in Masonry at Holland Lodge No. 1. I strongly recommend your participation. Lots of fun and lots of Masonry is found in our esteemed lodge.

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The May stated meeting is May 11<sup>th</sup> and we will be honored by the attendance of Brother and Harris County Sheriff, Adrian Garcia, who is scheduled to deliver a short-talk.

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Bob Welch  
Worshipful Master

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BOB WELCH, WORSHIPFUL MASTER 2010-2011



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FROM THE SECRETARY

Holland Lodge No. 36 at Brazoria, TX. began with a lodge meeting on December 27, 1835 consisting of the following brethren. Brothers John H. Wharton, Asa Brigham, James A.E. Phelps, Alexander J. Russell, Anson Jones and J. P. Caldwell. They met in a growth of wild peach near the John Austin place and decided to petition the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for dispensation for a lodge at Brazoria. This year on May 15, 2011 Grand Master T.E. Gene Carnes will officiate during the dedication of a life oak tree taken from one of the acorns of the existing Masonic Oak to honor our late Brother Juan Nepomucena Seguin.

Juan N. Seguin a real hero and loyal Texas patriot was appointed chief administrator of the San Antonio district. An outspoken champion of the Texans' demand for more self-government, and was very critical of the dictatorial policies of President Santa Anna. In September of 1835, with the advance of Mexican General Cos against the rebellious Texans, Juan N. Seguin recruited a company of Mexican ranchers and joined the Texan forces at the Battle of Bexar. His conduct in the resulting victory was so distinguished that he was commissioned a captain of cavalry in the regular Texas Army. February 3, 1836, he along with 25 men accompanied Colonel Wm. Travis into the Alamo. On February 25 he was selected to carry an urgent plea for reinforcements to the Texan commander at Gonzales. He served at the battle of San Jacinto, was promoted to Lt. Colonel and returned to San Antonio, where he gave an honorable burial to the ashes of the Alamo dead.

Juan N. Seguin later served three terms in the Texas Senate. While serving as Mayor of Bexar, he was branded a Mexican sympathizer and was forced to flee for his life. He died at Nuevo Laredo in 1889, unappreciated for his service to Texas.

This will be the tenth tree dedicated at Brazoria from an acorn of the existing Masonic Oak. Of these ten oak trees eight of them were for former members of Holland Lodge No. 36. They were Anson Jones, James A. E. Phelps, James Peckham Caldwell, John A. Whorton, Alexander Russell, Asa Brigham James Walker Fannin Jr., and Juan N. Seguin all of Holland Lodge No. 1, A. F. & A. M. 4911 Montrose Blvd. Houston, TX.

Your humble servant,  
Phillip von Stephens, secretary of Holland Lodge No. 1.

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FROM THE SENIOR DEACON

# Holland Lodge #1 AFAM 1835-2010

**175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Holland Lodge #1 AFAM  
Saturday, May 14, 10:30am-1:30pm**

## SUMMARY OF EVENTS

To celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of Holland Lodge and the establishment of organized Freemasonry in Texas, we will gather at the Lodge building (4911 Montrose Boulevard, Houston TX 77006) on Saturday, May 14 2011 at 10:30 a.m.. Members of Frontier Lodge #28 and the Texas Army will give a historical presentation touching on the delivery of a charter from Louisiana to our founding brothers and discussion of the Texas revolution. Most Worshipful T.E. "Gene" Carnes, Grand Master of Texas, will speak about the past and future of Texas Masonry. We warmly welcome all members, visitors, family, and friends to participate in this historical event.

RSVP notices will be sent via email, or you may contact the senior deacon at [Murphy@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:Murphy@alumni.rice.edu). Keep up to date with this and other events by visiting the website: [www.hollandlodge.org](http://www.hollandlodge.org)

S&F

Matthew B. Murphy  
**175 Years of Masonry  
in Texas**

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MATTHEW B. MURPHY, SENIOR DEACON - 2010-2011

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FROM THE SENIOR DEACON

# Holland Lodge #1 AFAM 1835-2010

Saturday May 14, 2011

Holland Lodge #1 4911 Montrose Blvd. Houston TX 77006

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## SCHEDULE of EVENTS

- 10:45 Raising of flags, Pledge of Allegiance to US and Texas flags  
10:50 Introduction - WM Bob Welch (OUTDOORS)  
11:00 - 11:30 Presentation by members of the Texas Army/  
Frontier Lodge  
11:30 Cannon/musket fire  
11:35 - 11:50 Presentation by Sam Houston IV  
11:50 - 12:00 Presentation by Brother Ron Brown  
12:00 - 1:00 Address by GM Gene Carnes on the future of Texas  
Masonry (HOLLAND LODGE BLUE ROOM)  
1:00 - 1:30 Refreshments (HOLLAND LODGE KITCHEN)  
Closing remarks - WM Bob Welch

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MATTHEW B. MURPHY, SENIOR DEACON - 2010-2011

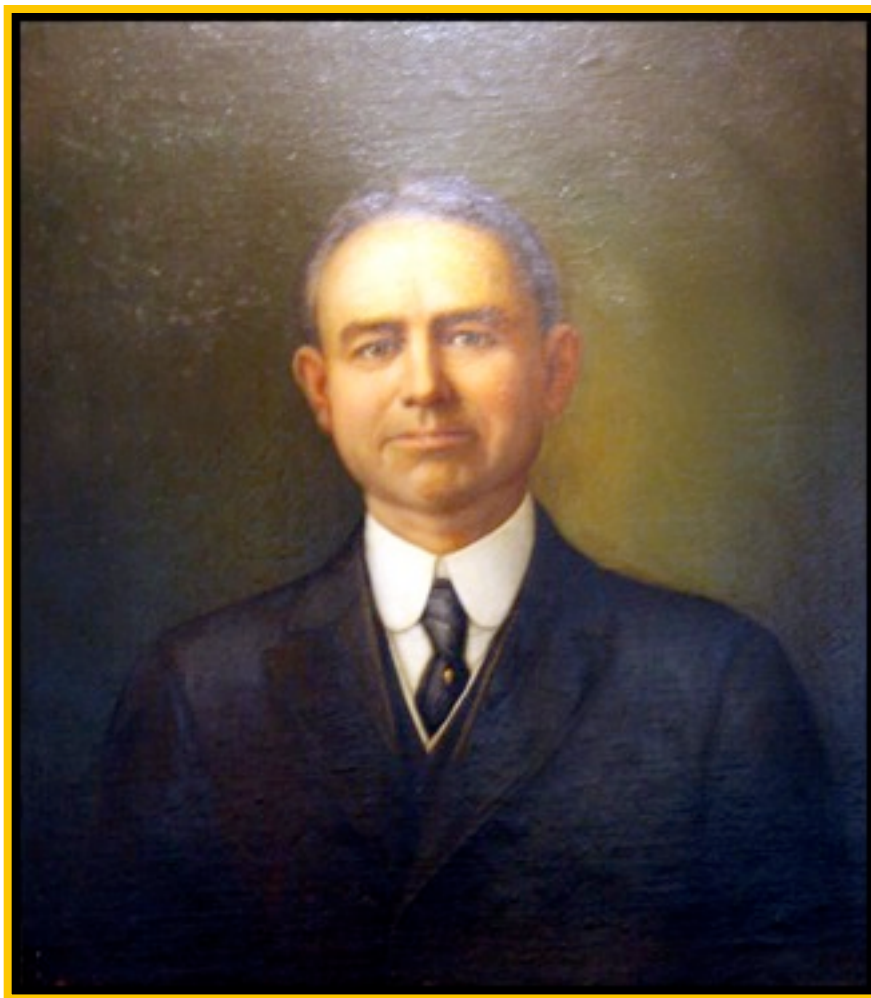
REMINDER!

The Texas Mason Monthly Magazine Will Be  
Available In An Electronic Format Only  
Spring & Summer  
2011



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HOLLAND LODGE CELEBRATES  
175 YEARS OF MASONRY IN TEXAS  
1835-2010



FRANK C. JONES  
WORSHIPFUL MASTER  
HOLLAND LODGE NO. 1  
1906-1907  
GRAND MASTER OF TEXAS  
1916-1917

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## FROM THE KITCHEN

### **The Tiler: Cowans and Evesdroppers**

The Tiler is a symbol of secrecy and a protector from intrusion. The word comes from the word “tile”.

This was a ceramic product used to cover a roof to make it wind, rain and light proof. The “tiles” cover a house or temple. He who places the “tile” is called a “Tiler”.

The Tiler of a lodge “covers” the lodge against intrusion, especially against cowans and eavesdroppers.

An eavesdropper climbs the outside of a building and listens to what goes on inside through openings in the roof for ventilation or the “eves”. If it rains, he receives upon himself the “droppings” from the roof or eves. If in the outdoors, they might climb a tree or listen from an adjacent rock.

The “cowan” (a Scotch term) was an uninstructed operative mason, one who might build a wall without mortar or cement or an unskilled workman.

In modern usage, an eavesdropper is one who attempts to gain admission to a lodge by a false document and a knowledge of the ritual through some “expose”.

A cowan could also be an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft who innocently but ignorantly attempts to gain admission into a Master’s lodge.

Source: Encyclopedia of Masonic Symbols. The Masonic Service Association (1964).

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JUNIOR STEWARD ROBERT MCCASLIN, 2010 - 2011

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## Memorial Day 2011

Remembering those who served and those who gave the  
ultimate sacrifice for the freedom we cherish



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- May 2, 2011 - **Masonic Symbolism Discussion** - Holland Lodge Library at 7:00 p.m. Astrology & Freemasonry Part 1 of 2. Master Masons only. Dinner at 6:00 p. m.  
**Esoteric Studies** for all Freemasons will also be occurring.
- May 11, 2011 - **Stated Meeting** - The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the stated meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Speaker will be Sheriff Adrian Garcia, Sheriff of Harris County Texas.
- May 14, 2011 - **Celebration of 175th Anniversary of Holland Lodge No. 1** at Holland Lodge No.1 and to begin at 10:45 a.m. The Most Worshipful Grand Master T.E. "Gene" Carnes will speak and Frontier Lodge No. 28 will re-enact some of the historical events relevant to the 175th Anniversary of Holland Lodge No. 1 and Texas.
- May 15, 2011 - **Masonic Oak Annual Picnic / Brazoria, Texas** - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- June 6, 2011 - **Masonic Symbolism Discussion** - Holland Lodge Library at 7:00 p.m. Astrology & Freemasonry Part 2 of 2. Master Masons only. Dinner at 6:00 p. m.  
**Esoteric Studies** for all Freemasons will also be occurring.
- June 8, 2011 - **Stated Meeting** - Officer Elections - The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the stated meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.
- June ? 2011 - **2011-2012 Officer Installation** - TBA

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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*Morality*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*Freemasons are a group of men that believe in God and from that belief they understand that one may live a moral life. Morality can be defined from many different points of view and may be understood in a variety of ways. However, this brief article will only consider morality for a Master Mason.*

*The notion of correct social behavior and incorrect social behavior is not new to the understanding of morality. The macro view could be society generally or a micro view might be a view of morality from a specific view of a select society. Whether these two views are mutually exclusive or inclusive is not the subject of this article. However, the micro select society, specifically Freemasonry, will be touched on briefly.*

*Simply, morality is the conformity of an individual's conduct with a specific group's understanding of right conduct. For Master Masons that conduct is regulated by our ritual, Holy Bible and Grand Lodge Laws. An important question is not only what is moral conduct but how does one act morally, or live according to the square, plumb and level.*

*Take some time this month to think more about what it means to be a gentleman in conformity with our Masonic Brotherhood.*

*Fraternally Yours, Brother Greg*

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# York Kite Masonry

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Ruthven Commandery No. 2

6:00 p.m. Meal and 7:00 p.m. Stated Meeting

May 13, 2011

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Washington Chapter No. 2 Royal Arch Masons

6:00 p.m. Meal and 7:00 Stated Meeting - Red Room

May 9, 2011

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*Scottish Rite Freemasonry*

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*Houston Scottish Rite Bodies*

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July 18 & 19, 2011

REUNION

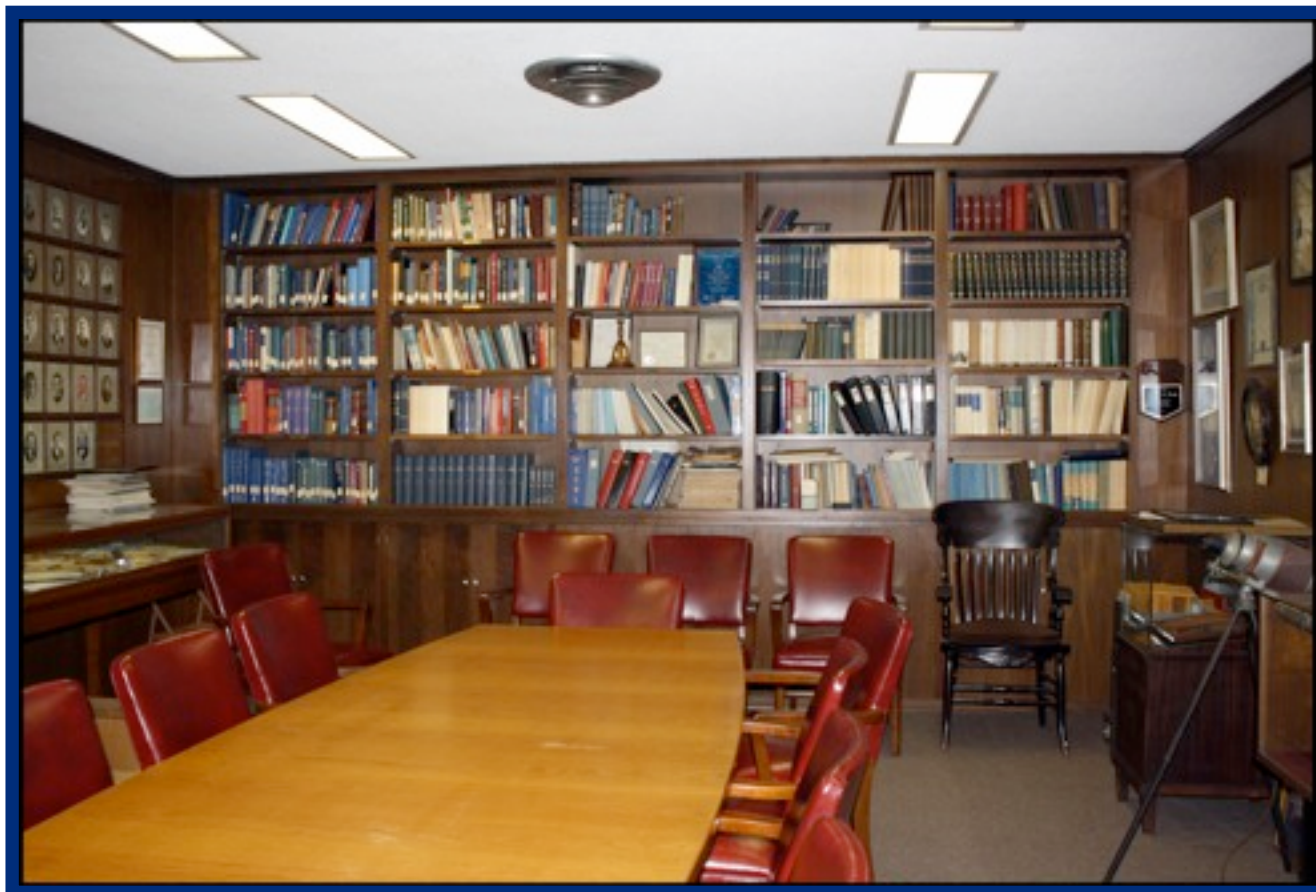
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# Texas Lodge of Research A.F. & A. M

Texas Lodge of Research is dedicated to Masonic research not only for Texas Freemasonry but also for Freemasonry generally. Please visit their web-page for more information.

[www.texaslodgeofresearch.org](http://www.texaslodgeofresearch.org)



Come Join Us at Holland Lodge No. 1 On the First Monday of Each  
Month for the Masonic Discussion Group Held in the  
Holland Lodge Library  
Master Masons Only

*Letters to Holland Lodge No. 1*

Worshipful Brother Bob,

I am very glad to see and proud to say I like the direction Holland Lodge No. 1 is headed. I really like the newsletter and glad to see you brought it back.

S&F,

Roberto M. Sanchez  
Senior Steward & Full Member  
Texas Lodge of Research

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Please write us and let us know your thoughts concerning Holland Lodge No.1.

(PEACE & HARMONY)





Walter A. Chatham, 33  
Secretary of Holland Lodge No. 1 1952-1987

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## Notes:

Any member of Holland Lodge No. 1 that requests and submits an article for inclusion in future Alpha's will be considered for publication. Freemasons who are not members of Holland Lodge No. 1 who submit articles may be considered for publication. Deadline for submission is the last day of the month. The first week of each month is the week of publication. Ones request and article may be sent to the Worshipful Master at his email address.

If one desires to have the Alpha delivered as a PDF do so by sending the request to the Worshipful Master at his e-mail address. Receiving the Alpha in a PDF format will allow for printing of either the whole Alpha or individual pages. Additionally, one may request to be placed on the Alpha distribution list. Further, back issues of the Alpha are located on the web-page, [www.hollandlodge.org](http://www.hollandlodge.org)

Finally, we want to thank Burnett Marketing, the creator of the logo art work for allowing the Alpha to use of the Holland Lodge No. 1 Masonic Logo used in the electronic Alpha publications.



**The Alpha is the official publication of Holland Lodge No.1. All articles, letters or commentary reflect personal points of view and are not the official position of Holland Lodge No. 1 or The Grand Lodge of Texas unless explicitly stated as such.**

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2010 - 2011 Officers

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*Holland Lodge No. 1*  
*A. F. & A. M.*



**Houston, Texas**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN  
LEARNING MORE ABOUT HOLLAND  
LODGE NO.1 AND THE EVENTS  
SCHEDULED PLEASE LOOK AT THE  
CALENDAR LOCATED ON THE  
LODGE'S WEB-PAGE,  
[WWW.HOLLANDLODGE.ORG](http://WWW.HOLLANDLODGE.ORG)

**EDITOR GREG BUTTER, CHAPLAIN 2010-2011**

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