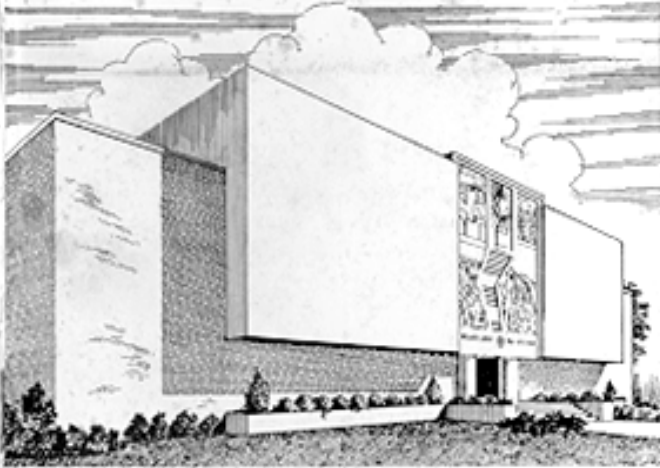


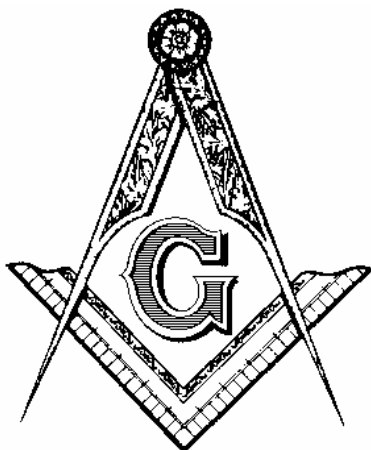
The Alpha

Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M.
4911 Montrose Boulevard,
Houston TX 77006
(713) 529-0912
www.hollandlodge.org
August 2006
Volume 37 Number 2
Bill Sessums, Jr. P.M. – Editor



**Stated Meeting:
August 9, 2006
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Lodge opens at 7:30 p.m.**

Please come out and
help welcome
R.: W.: Tom Stanton
District Deputy Grand Master
of our Masonic District
as he makes an official visit.



From the East...

Brethren,

The time has come for the members of Holland Lodge to tighten up their respective belts. As your newly elected Worshipful Master I feel it is my duty to lead our lodge in a new direction, one which will encompass many changes, some of which may not sit well with all of you. I do pray that you will put your personal feelings aside and work with the officers of our lodge during this time of change.

In my first message in the Alpha I promised to keep you informed, and be opened to your questions and or suggestions. In the short span of 21 days I have answered many questions about our Lodge, most of which were in regard to my intentions for the upcoming year.

Here are my goals for this Masonic year many of which are subject to your vote and may or may not come to fruition.

- #1 Be positive, open and informative about all things concerning our lodge.
- #2 Save as much money as possible for the lodge without the elimination of necessary programs.
- #3 Assist the Stewards in the operation of the kitchen.
- #4 Present a clean positive Honorable appearance to the public.
- #5 Present to the lodge A CALL TO ACTION by asking members to be on committees. We need members who want to step up and make a difference for our Lodge, whether it is a charitable fundraising, building restoration or and attempt to get a handle on our taxes. You can make a difference!
- #6 Encourage our committees to contact members and ask them to participate by contributing time, talent or money to help improve Holland Lodge.
- #7 Raise the dues from \$75.00 to \$100.00
- #8 Clean the exterior of the building.
- #9 Publish a current roster.
- #10 Work closely with all the related Masonic bodies thus creating good will and Brotherly love.
- #11 Provide all committees with the information needed to perform their duties to the best of their abilities.
- #12 Allow anyone desiring to work toward the improvement of our Lodge and Masonry in general the opportunity to do so.
- #13 Rent the facility as often as possible while following Grand Lodge and our Lodge rules and regulations.
- #14 Provide financial information about the Lodge to the members.
- #15 Improve our web site.

Brethren, we have already taken some miraculous steps forward! Come to the August meeting and see, feel and find out about the changes. After all, this is your Lodge and your vote counts. But above all come to vote, come to express your feelings, come to let the officers know what you expect. At each meeting you can expect to have a motion made that will in some way affect your lodge, be there and be a part of the greatest and oldest Lodge in Texas! Do good unto all, Duncan Chapman, W.M.

From the South...

The following is a recap of the most recent meeting of the Masonic Building Association (M.B.A) and some excerpts from the July Stated Meeting. The M.B.A. quarterly meeting was opened at six p.m. for the purpose of discussing the upcoming problems with which the membership must deal during the coming Masonic year. The meeting was opened with a prayer and the election of officers. The officers elected are Duncan Chapman, Worshipful Master, James Stone, Eminent Commander, Martin Saldua, (Chapter and Council), Phillip von Stephens P.M, President, Milton McGenty Jr. Vice President, Gary A. Held P.M., Secretary. Emile A. Bussemy, Treasurer, Patrick B. Porter, Senior Warden, Jerry B. Jones, Junior Warden, Jimmy Brill, legal adviser to the M.B.A., J. Weldon Clampitte, Secretary of the Commandry, Grand Lodge Officer and officer of the M.B.A. and Gregg Wood. Secretary Held read the minutes from the last meeting of the M.B.A. Treasurer Bussemy then read his report on the financial condition of the lodge. This report was presented to the lodge membership at the last stated meeting which was conducted July 12. The next order of business had to do with the air conditioning system. The compressor was struck by lightning some time ago and was damaged beyond repair; therefore, a new compressor had to be installed at great expense to the lodge. The M.B.A. of course, carried insurance covering such an event, however, the insurance company seems to have some issues as to how much they should have to pay for a new compressor. The matter is still pending.

Before closing, there was an open discussion as to cleaning the limestone on the front of the building which has never been cleaned as far as anyone knew. The Worshipful master has contacted several companies who do that kind of work. This will be bought before the lodge during a future stated meeting. The Worshipful Master is also exploring the possible renting of different rooms of the lodge building for different functions. The subject of raising lodge dues was also discussed and this subject will also be presented to the membership in the near future. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 P.M. after a closing prayer, peace and harmony prevailing.

It is the wish of the Worshipful Master that all future M.B.A. meetings be open to all members of Holland Lodge (as observers only) the time and date of said meetings will be announced.

Fraternally, Jerry Jones, J.W.

About the Order Of The Eastern Star

What It Is: The Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world to which both men and women may belong. Worldwide, there are approximately 1 million members under the General Grand Chapter.

Eastern Star is a social order comprised of persons with spiritual values but it is not a religion. Its appeal rests in the true beauty of the refreshing and character-building lessons that are so sincerely portrayed in its ritualistic work. A deep fraternal bond exists between its members. It is the wholesome relationship of sisterly and brotherly love brought about through high principles exemplified in our lives which makes us near and dear to each other.

While this is an Order composed of people of deep spiritual convictions, it is open to all faiths, except no faith. The personal welfare of our members is vital to all of those in the Eastern Star and it is considered a privilege to help another member whenever we can.

Purposes. The stated purposes of the organization are: Charitable, Educational, Fraternal and Scientific; but there is much more to it than that. Dr. Rob Morris, the Poet Laureate of Masonry, founded the Order using beautiful and inspiring biblical examples of heroic conduct and moral values. These portray the noble principles which should adorn the personal lives of Eastern Star members. Eastern Star strives to take good people and through uplifting and elevating associations of love and service, and through precept and example, build an Order which is truly dedicated to charity, truth and loving kindness.

Projects. Concrete evidence of the charitable nature of the organization as it affects others is the millions of dollars which have been raised within the membership to support national, jurisdictional, and local charities. Many Grand Jurisdictions have homes for their senior members.

Did you know, Eastern Star Chapter 385 meets at Holland Lodge and has been an active part in many of our Lodge events. If you are interested in finding out more about the Eastern Star please contact the Worthy Matron Carolyn Risley at 281-7998-6423 or see one of the Chapter members.

Famous Texas Masons

Stephen F. Austin "The Father of Texas"
Sam Houston "Hero of San Jacinto"
William B. Travis "God and Texas. Victory or Death."
James Bowie "Greatest Fighter in the Southwest"
David Crockett "King of the Wilderness"
James Bonham "Faithful to His Trust"
Ben Milam "Who will follow old Ben Milam?"
David G. Burnet "Elder Statesman of the Republic"
James Fannin "Commander at Goliad"
Mirabeau B. Lamar "Father of Education in Texas"
Anson Jones "First President of the Republic and First Grand Master"
Lorenzo de Zavala "First Vice President of the Republic"
Edward Burlinson "Fourth Vice President of the Republic"
Jose Navarro "Texas Patriot and Legislator"
Adolphus Sterne "First Scottish Rite Mason in Texas"
Thomas Rusk "Chief Justice"
Robert M. Williamson "The Patrick Henry of the Texas Revolution"
Juan N. Seguin "Tejano Patriot"
R. E. B. Baylor "Pro Ecclesia -- Pro Texana"

How many of these Brothers were members of Holland Lodge? Know of other Texas Masons who should be on this list? Submit your answers to sessumsjr@gmail.com
The above list was obtained by a Google search for Texas Masonic History. You will be amazed what all you can find if you just search a little!

Grab a calculator and have a little fun...

Key in the first three digits of your phone number (not your area code) Multiply by 80. Add 1. Multiply by 250. Add the last 4 digits of your phone number. Now Add the last 4 digits of your phone number...yes, again. Subtract 250. And finally Divide that number by 2.
Now how did that happen?

The Mason's Ring

I met a man the other day and noticed the ring on his finger was that with a square and compass emblazoned in the crest. I stopped immediately and pondered this singular circumstance.

Here was a gentleman that I could tell a lot about on the spot. I knew, for instance; that this person was a man of honor, of good character and well recommended by his Brethren.

I knew if he was married, he was a good and loving husband. If he had children, he was an attentive and caring father.

I knew for sure that he was a law abiding person with a healthy respect for the jurisprudence of his city, state and nation. A patriotic soul who would defend this great country with his life if need be.

I was rather certain that he had that reverential awe for the Creator and held the belief that there is a gift to man yielded to us from above by the power of prayer, a church going type with the opinion that there is a Brotherhood of man through the Fatherhood of God and the soul will continue into eternity.

Here was a man that I could trust to protect my wife, sister, mother or daughter without question, from any harm that might beset them.

I thought of him as a confidant that would give good advice when asked and keep my deepest secrets when told to him as such.

All this came to me as I pondered the square and compass on his ring, then it dawned on me... I didn't even know his name.

Author unknown

Lodge Activities/Calendar

August, 2006

August 9 Wednesday - **HL #1 August Stated Meeting**

September, 2006

September 13 Wednesday - **HL #1 September Stated Meeting**

October, 2006

October 11 Wednesday - **HL #1 October Stated Meeting**

Please check the website at www.HollandLodge.org for updates and meeting announcements.

Officers Of Holland Lodge No. 1

		<u>HOME</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>e-mail</u>
Worshipful Master	Duncan Chapman	281- 447-8200	832- 212-3181	dcc624@yahoo.com
Senior Warden	Patrick Porter	713- 796-1131	713- 294-3704	pporter78@gmail.com
Junior Warden	Jerry Jones	713-667-2817	713-201-0366	JBX@Texas.net
Treasurer	Emile A.Bussemey	713- 729-1348	713- 260-7453	bizme@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Phillip von Stephens	713- 723-2009	713-723-2009	pvs@insurer.com
Chaplain	Robert Welch	713-526-0029	713-941-7800	texaswelch@hotmail.com
Senior Deacon	Wael Semaan	713-530-9786	713-530-9786	the_semaans@hotmail.com
Junior Deacon	Michael Orr, Jr.	832-477-3624	832-477-3624	michelorr@gmx.de
Senior Steward	Kurtis Kasper	832-216-3519	713-348-3027	kasper@rice.edu
Junior Steward	Christopher Clemence	832-466-1803	832-466-1803	conagher78@yahoo.com
Marshal	Duke Keller	281-497-6019	281-589-9000	dkeller@kellerallenlaw.com
Mstr. Of Ceremonies	Carl Reilly	713-474-2223	713-474-2223	ctreilly@gmail.com
Musician	Rodney Elliott	713- 236-0359	713-236-0359	rodney@CommerceStreet.org
Tiler	Budd Baumgardner	713- 666-3625	713-666-3625	None
Immediate PM	Tom Behrman	713- 721-6003	713-339-9420	tbehrman@mindspring.com

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