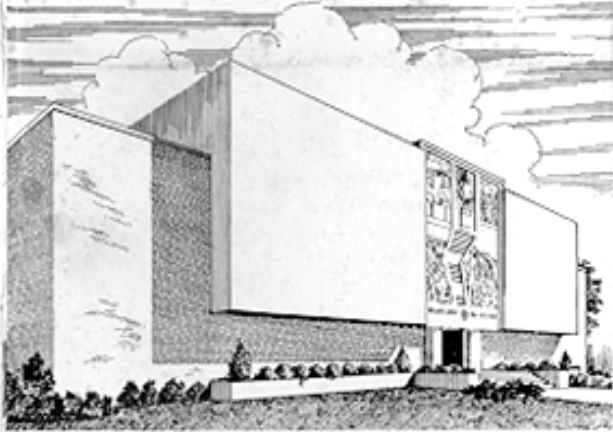


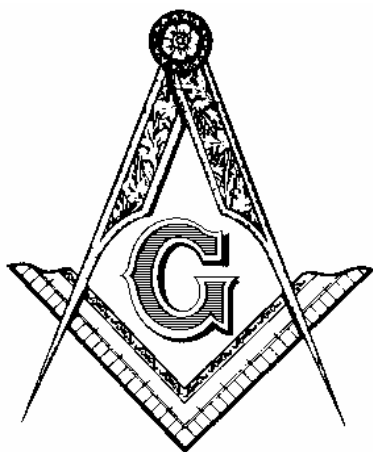
# The Alpha

**Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M.**  
**4911 Montrose Boulevard,**  
**Houston TX 77006**  
**(713) 529-0912**  
**www.hollandlodge.org**  
**December 2006**  
**Volume 37 Number 6**  
**Bill Sessums, Jr. P.M. – Editor**



**Stated Meeting:**  
**December 13, 2006**  
**Dinner at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Lodge opens at 7:30 p.m.**

Please join us for Dinner ,  
that is being hosted by  
The Order of Eastern Star  
&  
for the Stated Meeting where the  
business of Your Lodge is conducted!



## From the East...

November was a wonderful month for Holland Lodge! The front of the building was cleaned and it looks great, we reviewed and the Lodge voted their will on the Grand Lodge proposed Resolutions and at the Master's Warden's and Secretary's meeting we were honored for having the most lodge members present, we had 10!

Holland Lodge sponsored a Committee on Work forum on November 11th with R.:W.: Bill Sessums, Sr. acting as Moderator. Brother Sessums is an elected member of the Committee on Work and travels many miles around Texas teaching our Esoteric Work. There were 40 masons present for this forum and enjoyed continental breakfast with pigs in a blanket, donuts, coffee, milk and juice and a hearty lunch of grilled hamburgers, french fry's and beans. Bet you can guess Holland Lodge is proud of Brother Sessums! When you see R.:W.: Sessums please let him know you appreciate what he is doing for Masonry.

In the November Stated Meeting the members present voted to raise the dues and initiation fees. Holland Lodge dues will now be \$125.00 per year. Hopefully the dues increase will help offset the high cost of tax's and the cost of maintaining our property as these were the primary reasons for this much needed increase.

On a brighter note, our Scholarship Fund Raiser was a howling success! With over 140 briskets sold it looks like Holland Lodge will be able to provide a very good scholarship to a qualified Harris County Student! In the criteria for consideration the Scholarship Committee is including "Masonic" connections so please let me know if you have someone you think should be considered and I will get the information to the committee.

This fund raiser was successful to many Brethren and Volunteers who worked many hours and had a lot of fun putting together it together, including: Terry Morton, Allen Johnson, Gregg Wood, Patrick Porter, Kurt Kasper, Brad Reel, David Herzog, Nico Rocha, Chris Clemence, Aaron Duncan, Ron Adams, Rafael Enrique, Wael Semaan, Ollie Wenker and Ollie's daughter Dana Wenker (who was a big help in the kitchen), Thomas Jefferson Burnett, Emile Bussemey and Phillip von Stephens. Mr. Mike Feehery of SPI Corporation, a friend of Brother Terry Morton, provided his expertise and the rotating pits that the briskets were cooked in, Mr. Sterling Rich of the Accurate Air company came by and helped, many thanks to Sterling. Brother Patrick Porter gave his prized Texan football tickets to the person that sold the most briskets and they went to Brother Nico Rocha from Park Place Lodge. Brother Rocha sold 18 briskets. Brother Ollie Wenker provided another set of Texan's Tickets with a parking pass (I understand that these tickets were as good as you can get!) Everybody that purchased two or more briskets had there name included in the drawing and the lucky winner was Brother Carl Reilly. Congratulations Brother Reilly and thanks for your support! The Order of the Eastern Star provided the desert, set up the tables, decorated the dinning hall and sold arts and crafts, many thanks to Worthy Matron Carolyn Risley and the members of the OES for all the help they provided during this event. Thanks also go out to Oak Forest 1306 Lodge who, while in the midst of their own fund raiser, purchased 8 briskets. But the biggest congratulation for the successful scholarship fund raiser goes to all of you who purchased a brisket so that Holland Lodge can make a positive impact in a deserving student's life and education!

Please mark your calendar for two important dates, first, December 13th, the Stated Meeting as our dinner will be hosted by the Order of the Easter Star and our meeting will include a review of the new Grand Lodge resolutions. Secondly, December 20th, Holland Lodge is having a Christmas party, come out and enjoy your friends and Lodge members, this is for all members there family and friends. The OES will again be graciously providing the refreshments.

**Duncan Chapman, W.M.**

## From the South...

"Lucifer", the Light-bearer! Strange and mysterious name to give to the Spirit of Darkness! Lucifer, the Son of the Morning! It is He who bears the Light. And with it's splendors intolerable blinds feeble, sensual, or selfish souls? Doubt it not! " (1)

This statement quoted from Morals and Dogma which was written by Brother Albert Pike in the year 1871, has for more than one hundred years (taken out of context) served as fodder for the anti-Masonic movement to attack Freemasonry, and to this day continues to haunt the Craft.

One part of the misunderstanding seems of stem from the year 1611 when the Catholic King of England James I took it upon himself to translate the Bible from Latin to English so the common folk could receive the word of the Almighty. Although there is no doubt that James was one of that most intellectual of all the early English Monarchs, it is doubtful that he did anything more than designate the task of translating to Catholic scribes who did not translate from the original Hebrew texts, but versions taken from the Catholic Vulgate Bible, produced for the most part by St. Jerome in the fourth century. It seems that Jerome had misinterpreted the term Day Star, Bearer of Light as Lucifer the fallen angel. Lucifer the Fallen Angel, cast out of Heaven to rule Hell became synonymous with Satan, the Devil and the Prince of Darkness. The name Lucifer is not a Hebrew name but a Latin name given by Roman astronomers to the Morning Star. We now refer to that same star as Venus, another Latin name.

The King James Version of the Bible is slowly being replaced by a new and more accurate work, The New English Bible that was translated from the original Hebrew manuscripts and has been published since 1946. There is no reference of Lucifer plunging from the heavens to hell.

The second part of the Lucifer hoax seems to be a result of a man named Gabriel Jogand-Pages who was born in Marseille, France, March 21, 1854. He wrote under the pen- name of Leo Taxil. Taxil was educated at a Jesuit reform school, which turned him away from Catholicism and religion in general. He then became associated with a group of free thinkers where he and his bizarre ideas were well received. He arrived at Paris in 1879. Endowed with a lively imagination he began to publish anti-Catholic literature and in a short while became known as one of the most dangerous enemies of the Catholic faith. Taxil then became a Mason while living in Paris. His anti-Catholic credentials opened the door of Masonry to him. He was however, expelled for some sort of wrongdoing shortly after passing through the first degree. He then took the same attitude toward Masonry as he had for the Church. Then there was a famous article in which Taxil concocted a story which accused Pike of making a statement in a speech to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors Generals. "If Lucifer were not God would Adoney whose deeds prove his cruelty? Yes, Lucifer is God! But unfortunately Adoney is also God!" These words were never spoken nor written by Pike. Taxil in an effort to discredit Pike and Freemasonry perpetrated a hoax which was and has become as famous as Pike himself. The anti-Masonic movement latched on to these false words and has never let go. Even after Taxil admitted that it was a hoax. On April 17, 1897 Taxil appeared at a public gathering which was crowded into the Hall of the Geographical Society at Paris and admitted that he had carried this and other hoaxes on for more than twelve years. He barely escaped with his life thanks to the Paris police. To this day the Hoax dreamed up by this strange man continues to influence the Fraternity.

1. Morals and Dogma, pp321 Albert Pike

**Jerry Brainard Jones, J.W. Holland Lodge Number one, Houston, Texas**

**Happy Holidays! May You and Yours enjoy Your celebrations with friends and family.  
May the New Year Bring You Good Health, Happiness and even some Wealth!**

**When making your new years resolutions don't forget  
Your Brother Masons and Your Lodge!  
Your goal to provide an article of interest to your ALPHA!**

### The Principles of Freemasonry

Freemasonry is a fraternal organization dedicated to Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Brotherly Love: How a man chooses to practice his personal religious beliefs is left entirely up to him, but Freemasonry recognizes the strong bond which unites all people under One Creator. Our members include men from a wide range of religious backgrounds, but each of them shares a commitment to this important principle.

Relief: Because of our strong bond of Brotherly Love, Masons provide Relief to help those who are in need. This includes the notion of charity, and Masons provide much assistance to worthy charities, but it also means offering a helping hand, in other ways, to people that need assistance.

Truth: As Masons, we are committed to being honest and truthful with other people. The Masonic Fraternity teaches a man to be faithful to his responsibilities to God, his Country, his fellow man, his family and himself. The Masonic principle of Truth also teaches a man to search for wisdom and understanding. For only in this way can he grow and become a better person. The pursuit of knowledge is at the very heart of our purpose.

### **Lodge Activities/Calendar**

#### **December, 2006**

December 13 Wednesday - **December Stated Meeting**  
December 20th Wednesday- Holland Lodge is having a Christmas party with Dinner hosted by the OES!

#### **January, 2007**

January 1, 2007—**Good Luck this New Year!**  
January 10 Wednesday - **January Stated Meeting**

**Please check the website at  
[www.HollandLodge.org](http://www.HollandLodge.org) for updates  
and meeting announcements.**

### **FRANKLIN ON FREEMASONRY:**

Freemasonry has tenets peculiar to itself. They serve as testimonials of character and qualifications, which are only conferred after due course of instruction and examination. These are of no small value; they speak a universal language, and act as a passport to the attentions and support of the initiated in all parts of the world. They cannot be lost as long as memory retains its power. Let the possessor of them be expatriated, shipwrecked or imprisoned, let him be stripped of everything he has got in the world, still those credentials remain, and are available for use as circumstances require. The good effects they have produced are established by the most incontestable facts of history. They have stayed the uplifted hand of the destroyer; they have softened the asperities of the tyrant; they have mitigated the horrors of captivity; they have subdued the rancor of malevolence; and broken down the barriers of political animosity and sectarian alienation. On the field of battle, in the solitudes of the uncultivated forest, or in the busy haunts of the crowded city, they have made men of the most hostile feelings, the most distant regions, and diversified conditions, rush to the aid of each other, and feel a special joy and satisfaction that they have been able to afford relief to a Brother Mason.

Benjamin Franklin

### **We will miss our departed Brother...**

**Joe Watson passed  
Raised March 22, 1972  
passed away November 2, 2006.**

## 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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