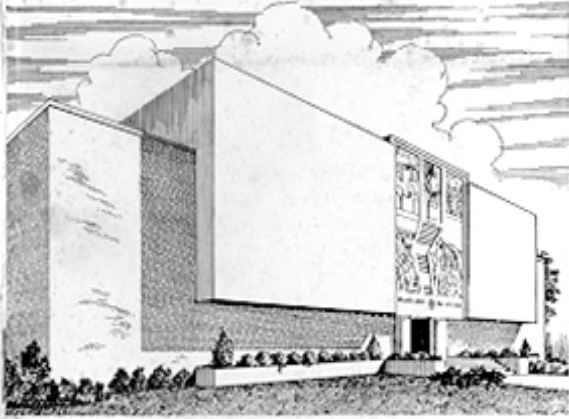


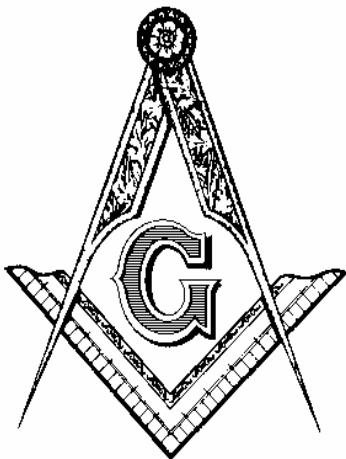
The Alpha

Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M.
4911 Montrose Boulevard,
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(713) 529-0912
www.hollandlodge.org
December 2007
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Bill Sessums, Jr. P.M. – Editor



The Next Stated Meeting
December 12, 2007
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Lodge opens at 7:30 p.m.

**Please join us for a great dinner and
then the Stated Meeting where the
business of your Lodge
will be conducted.**



Brethren,

I know it might sound like I'm repeating myself every time that you read the Alpha, but I must let you know that times are good at Holland Lodge. During our November stated meeting we had what seemed to be a record number of men visiting Holland who were interested in joining. I estimate that I receive about two or three emails a month from people who are interested from the internet. Brothers Kurt Kasper and Chris Revell have also been combing the Rice University graduate students to find other quality brothers.

While Holland has never been a University of Houston, a Texas A&M or University of Texas lodge, the momentum at the moment is definitely swinging towards Rice. Given the small numbers of students that Rice University puts out every year the swell in numbers is quite impressive. I would like to think that there are other good men out there needing a solid place to spend quality time in positive manner out there. Let's find them and start answering their questions.

Between the time that I am writing this and the time that you are mostly likely reading this Holland will have put on four Master Mason's degrees in about a month. We had a newly raised brother attend his first stated meeting this November and he was able to see us vote on the various resolutions that will be considered in December at the Grand Annual Communication in Waco.

Brethren, speaking about the newly raised brother, you missed a fun degree if you were not able to be there. While it certainly would not have won any certificates, I believe that it was exceptionally meaningful for the candidate and for his father which we were able to get to help out in the degree, and who had flown in from Michigan to see his son's raising. All present felt that a good night's work had been done and that the degree was executed with the perfect mix of solemnity, fraternity, and fun.

Brethren, there is always room for an interested brother to participate on a degree team. If you'd like to perform a part, please let Jerry Jones know for the Masters degree, Wael Semman know for the Fellowcrafts degree and Kurt Kasper know for the Entered Apprentice degree. I know that they are more than willing to accommodate you whenever possible. We always love volunteers and encouraging new and old members to come and participate. What better way to connect with a new brother than to participate in his degrees or to reconnect with a brother that you haven't seen in a while.

Hope that you all have had a great Thanksgiving and along that note I would like to remind everyone that we will be having the annual Holland Holiday dinner on December 19th. I have convinced Past Master Earl Thompson to create a nice meal for us: roast and fried turkey, dressing, pralined sweet potatoes, and whatever else he might come up with. If you are available on the afternoon of the 19th, come help cook. I'll be there, it was a lot of fun the last time, and with all the brothers and families that we expect to be there, every hand on deck will be a help. I'm looking forward to the preparation and the consumption.

Happy Holidays my brothers and stay safe into the New Year.

Fraternally Patrick Porter, W.M.

From the South...

Brethren, I enjoyed November stated meeting for several reasons. Primarily, it was my first and probably my last time introducing and explaining the resolutions for Grand Lodge. Secondly, it made me happy to see some of the brethren back in our meetings. We missed you guys; keep coming this is your lodge. Then to top that we read three petitions, this amazing we are putting close to five degrees a month, brother Senior Deacon (Kurt) you are doing an amazing job in making it happen.

Brethren we have a great wave of young blood that is petitioning the lodge. We need your wisdom and instruction so we can lead them into the right path. I encourage every member from Holland Lodge to come back and become more active because your advice will keep the fraternity rolling towards the future.

The holidays are around the corner, I would like to send a fraternal greeting to all the masons out there, and hope they celebrate it with lot of happiness and joy

The lodge with the help of the stewards and our guest chef past master Earl Thompson will be cooking Christmas dinner on the 19th of December. Please come bring your wives, girlfriends, parents, families and friends and enjoy a warm brotherly dinner.

Finally I would like to congratulate our newest member brother Bass who was just admitted into our lodge as a member and as endowed member also. We need brethren like you who are dedicated to masonry. Welcome my brother!

I will see you guys next month with another article, hope I did not bore you with my joy and my happiness that our lodge is moving forward and surviving.

Fraternally, Wael Semaan, Junior Warden

***Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all!
This will be the last Alpha
you will receive before 2008!***

What can Holland Lodge do for You?

What Can You Do For Holland Lodge?

***How long has it been since you visited your
“Home Lodge?” Well, that’s just to long!
Resolve to be involved!***

Make 2008 the year you get back to Masonry!

From the Secretary

Do not be caught in your WHITE ZONE where most young and unobservant persons find themselves most of the time. Try to be in your YELLOW ZONE. When approaching your car look in the back set for unwanted strangers. Look for strangers that appear to be waiting for you to get to your car. Get in quickly, lock doors put on set belt, start engine and move on quickly. Do not linger and allow yourself to become a victim. ORANGE ZONE your inner "6th" sense tells you something is not quite right, you may not see the problem: But once again do not allow your self to become a victim. Trust your instincts and go somewhere else right then. RED ZONE requires that you have a plan and your plan must be put into action now. Any delay and you may very well be on the 6:00 o'clock news as another statistic.

Did You Know

BENAI: Who were these particular workers at the building of the Temple?

The Benai were setters, layers, or builders, at the erection of King Solomon's Temple, and were able and ingenious Fellowcrafts; they were distributed by Solomon into separate lodges, with a Master and Warden in each, that they might receive Commands in a regular manner, take care of their tools and jewels, be paid regularly, and be duly fed and clothed, that the work might proceed with harmony and order. 1 Kings 5:18.

Lodge Activities/Calendar

December 12, 2007

Stated Meeting

December 19, 2007

Holiday Family Dinner at Lodge!

January 9, 2008

Stated Meeting

February 13, 2008

Stated Meeting

March 12, 2008

Stated Meeting

Please be sure to check the website at www.HollandLodge.org for updates & announcements.

From the Kitchen

December. A good time with Peace and Harmony. A good time with family and friends. Please bring your family with you and join one another for our annual Holland Lodge holiday meal on Wednesday evening December 19th, 2007.

So much has been going on in and around our lodge for another month. This includes Brother Carl T. Reilly, P:M: affiliated, as our freshly recognized 3rd Steward. Come hear the rest of the good news yourself. Refer to our online calendar at <http://www.HollandLodge.Org>

We continue recognizing birthdays before the meals each Wednesday. Join us to receive your cake and your token gift for YOUR birthday, and let's together continue singing to others in honoring them. Every member of Holland Lodge (including you!) is worthy.

Brother Adams and I remain honored serving as your Holland Lodge Stewards for 2007-2008 and continue with ongoing mealtime surprises. Join with us early and often to experience everything happening and to sample our meals. We have an impromptu Kitchen Klatch every Wednesday evening wherein all Freemasons are welcome to polish the Work, visit, and generally have a Masonically good time. Holland Lodge is YOUR home!

Brother Adams, Brother Reilly, and I always look forwards to shaking your hands and filling your plates.

F & S, Brother Meier

Welcome to Our Newest Affiliated Member

Andrew H. Bass, 11-14-2007
from Jacques DeMolay No. 1390.

Congratulations and Thanks to Two Newly
Endowed Members of Holland Lodge

Brother Andrew H. Bass

&

Howard G. Butter

We will miss our departed Brother

George J. Maczali Born 3-17-1928,
Raised 1-3-1968 Died November 1, 2007.

Bro. Brad Reel has organized monthly "snowball" visitations. Each month a group of Holland Lodge members are visiting another lodge. While visiting each month's lodge, we will recruit two members from that lodge to join us on upcoming months lodge visits. Our "snowball" will grow until June, 2008 when we will have our final visit at Holland Lodge! Each month, there will be a new sign up sheet. Members will only be committed for the month that they sign up to participate. Each month the number of Holland participants will decrease to accommodate the growing number of "snowballers". Join in the fun, contact Bro. Brad Reel at bradreel@gmail.com for information on the next visit!

Officers Of Holland Lodge No. 1

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Worshipful Master	Patrick Porter	713-796-1131	713-294-3704	Worshipfulmaster@hollandlodge.org
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Junior Warden	Wael Semaan	832-251-7051	713-935-8109	Juniorwarden@hollandlodge.org
Treasurer	Emile A. Bussemey	713-729-1348	713-260-7453	Treasurer@hollandlodge.org
Secretary	Phillip von Stephens	713-723-2009	713-723-2009	Secretary@hollandlodge.org
Chaplain	Steven Lattelle			Chaplain@hollandlodge.org
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Junior Deacon	Robert Welch	713-526-0029	713-941-7800	Juniordeacon@hollandlodge.org
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Junior Steward	Ronald Adams	713-681-7359	713-882-3823	JuniorSteward@hollandlodge.org
Marshal	Nicolas Evanoff			Marshal@hollandlodge.org
Mstr. Of Ceremonies	Nicholas Rocha		713-645-7200	Masterofceromonies@hollandlodge.org
Musician	Rodney Elliott	713-236-0359	713-236-0359	Musician@hollandlodge.org
Tiler	Budd Baumgardner	713-666-3625	713-666-3625	None
Immediate P M	Duncan Chapman	281-447-8200	832-212-3181	ImmediatePM@hollandlodge.org

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