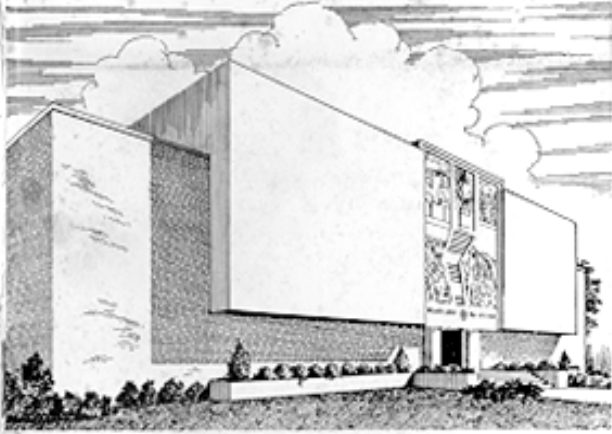


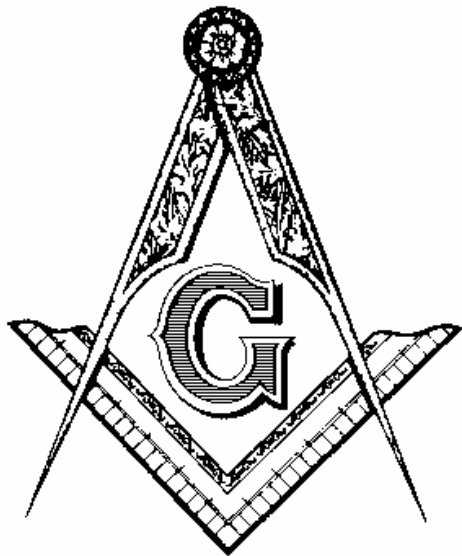
# The Alpha

**Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M.**  
**4911 Montrose Boulevard,**  
**Houston TX 77006**  
**(713) 529-0912**  
**[www.hollandlodge.org](http://www.hollandlodge.org)**  
**January 2007**  
**Volume 37 Number 7**  
**Bill Sessums, Jr. P.M. – Editor**



**Stated Meeting:**  
**January 10, 2007**  
**Dinner at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Lodge opens at 7:30 p.m.**

Please join us for Dinner  
&  
for the Stated Meeting where the  
business of Your Lodge is conducted!



## From the East...

Brother Patrick Porter our Senior Warden reported at the December Stated meeting that the Scholarship fund raiser was a great success with over \$6000.00 having been raised for this program. Brother Porter will have a report at the next stated about the process or method of selecting the recipient or recipients of the scholarship, which will then be brought before the lodge for your approval.

Brother Porter is in the process of updating the pictures on the [hollandlodge.org](http://hollandlodge.org) web site. If you have pictures that you would like to see on the site please email them to me.

The Holland Calendar on our web site [hollandlodge.org](http://hollandlodge.org) is currently being updated and will include all the dates of building usage of all the Masonic bodies that currently use our facility. This should make it easier to see when, what time and who is using the building and thus make it easier to schedule your events.

I have asked the webmaster to provide a place on the website for contact information for each of the bodies that use our facility.

Please make an effort to join us at Lodge on January 10th Holland will be receiving the DDGM Brother RW Mark Love and then on January 17th Holland will be receiving the Grand Master MW Danny Broughton.

I hope all of you have visited our web site or the Grand Lodge web site and looked at the front of Holland, it is just great and projects our best to the community. The building committee is currently raising the money to clean the rest of the building. We welcome any and all contributions.

If you have any questions or just need to talk call me anytime.  
832 212 3181

## Duncan Chapman, W.M.

### January, 2007

January 1, 2007—**Good Luck this New Year!**

January 10 Wednesday - **January Stated Meeting** and Reception of the District Deputy Grand Master, Mark Love

January 15 Monday— Reception of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Danny Broughton for his Official Visit

### February 14, 2007 Stated Meeting

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

## From the South...

Once again Grand Lodge time has come and gone. The trip to Waco usually begins for me around nine o'clock Thursday morning. This year the weather was in the upper thirties and a driving rainstorm stayed with me all the way. The trip up there was a little different also because my usual riding buddy Owen Popham was unable to go this year. This was the first time he missed Grand Lodge in 29 years I'm told. At the last minute Owen came down with pneumonia and had to go to the hospital. So I got to enjoy the company of my wife Tina who also enjoys the trip to Waco and keeps me from making wrong turns and going to sleep at the wheel.

We arrived at the Dixie Café in Hearne around 11:45 A.M. As soon as we walked through the front door I saw the place was crowded with old friends whom I had met in years past and some of whom I had not seen since last year. The two stops at the Dixie Café are always one of the high points for me on the long drive to Waco. The chicken fried steaks are always hot and served in a short time. For years I thought it was impossible to mess up a chicken fried steak until I stopped in Sealy earlier this year where I found out that it is indeed possible. As I walked out the door of the café one of the waitress's told me to be careful out there and that it was snowing in Waco. It was just above 32 degrees in Hearne at that time. I noticed a small amount of sleet had settled on my hood and windshield. The wind was still blowing from the North and the sky was dark and gray. What a great day!

In Waco the temperature was below thirty degrees with a wind chill factor of twenty degrees. The wind had picked up a bit and ice was beginning to form on the street signs. After depositing my stuff in a pile on the bed at the hotel I drove over to The Grand Lodge. Once again I began to recognize people I knew from other lodges and from other cities around the state. Grand Lodge is like one big homecoming. The friendships I have made there have lasted over the years. I walked over to the door of the auditorium and noticed Past Grand Master Buddy Baccus on the stage receiving yet another award for goodness knows what. Brother Baccus has been a Mason for more than fifty years and continues to work daily and tirelessly for the betterment of our great fraternity. He now serves as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Valley of Houston (Scottish Rite) and is the Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General. He has done an outstanding job in all that he has undertaken. I am told he must soon step down from these positions he has held for so many years because he is now, as of last month, eighty years old. Which is another example of age discrimination that is so prevalent in our society today.

Friday morning The Grand Lodge was opened with the usual formalities and the proposed resolutions were read and voted upon. The resolution allowing eighteen-year-olds to become Masons was passed and once again it is contrary to Masonic law to possess a codebook. The lodge did vote to recognize the Prince Hall of Texas as being regular in origin and conduct but that a member of each Grand Lodge cannot visit or join each other's lodges. The Grand Trustees were directed to create a treaty agreement with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas so that both Grand Lodges can operate within the same territorial area (State of Texas) as they have for over 100 years. Also the Grand Lodge Trustees are directed to interact with the Waco Symphony to determine if the Grand Lodge Memorial Building could be shared as a multi-use facility.

Friday night The Grand Master of Masons in Texas did award Dr. Red Duke (Brother Duke) with the San Jacinto Service Award for services to the community, which was followed by a Christmas concert by the Baylor University Symphony Orchestra and choir that was wonderful. I hope to see those young people next year.

Those of you who have not attended Grand Lodge I urge you to do so. It is an event that you will enjoy and not soon forget. The drive back to Houston doesn't seem as long as the drive up there. The stop at the Dixie Café breaks the monotony.

**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 Year's Resolutions don't forget  
Your Brother Masons and Your Lodge and  
your goal to provide an article of interest to your ALPHA!**

**171st Grand Annual Communications Results:  
In summary, the following actions were taken:**

**Resolutions:** The Special Committee Report on 2005 Resolution No. 3 (Standardized Ritual) was postponed until the 172nd Communication. Resolution No. 1 (National Camping Travelers, Inc.) was adopted. Resolution No. 3 (Diverts certain funds to the 501-C-3 Texas Masonic Charities Foundation that would have heretofore been paid to the Masonic Home and School Endowment Fund) was adopted as amended. Resolution No. 4 (Permits 18-year men to petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry) was adopted and is effective immediately. Resolution No. 7 (Permits Lodges to charge more than \$500 for Endowed Memberships, in \$100 increments) was adopted as amended. Resolution No. 15 (Changes the Name of Friendswood Lodge No. 1416 to Anson Jones Lodge No. 1416) was adopted. Resolution No. 16 (Changes the name of Alpine Lodge No. 766 to Frontier Lodge No. 766) was adopted. All other Resolutions were withdrawn or tabled, and will not be included in the 172nd Communication unless a new resolution is presented.

**Grand Master Recommendations:** Grand Master Recommendation No. 1 (Restored Lodges will always retain the same name and number on the original charter) was adopted. Grand Master Recommendation No. 2 (Deletes the recognition of the Order of Job's Daughters in Articles 225 and 339) was adopted.

**Elections:** Grand Master, Donny W. Broughton, Deputy Grand Master, Thomas F. Griffin, Grand Junior Warden, Orville L. O'Neill Grand Treasurer Archie Scott, Grand Secretary Tom Guest, Jack E. Hightower was elected to another term on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas. Elmer Murphey, III, was elected to a full term on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School.

**Other Actions:**

**Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas:** The Grand Lodge of Texas recognized that the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas is regular in origin and conduct, but that members of either Grand Lodge cannot visit or join the other's Lodges. The Grand Lodge Trustees were instructed to create a Treaty agreement with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge Trustees so that both Grand Lodges can operate within the same territorial area (State of Texas) as they have done for more than 131 years.

**Waco Symphony:** The Grand Lodge Trustees were directed to interact with the Waco Symphony and determine if the Grand Lodge Memorial Building could be shared as a multi-use facility with a long-term lease.

**Library & Museum Board:** Authorized the Library & Museum Board of Directors to expand the number on the Board from five to seven and hold elections in the 172nd Grand Annual Communication.

**MHS Investments:** Permitted the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Masonic Home & School Board to create a non-profit holding company to hold the income from the sale of the MHS property in Fort Worth and the development of its minerals, and use these funds for the charitable support of Masonic Widows and orphans and other needy children.

**Constitutional Change:** Amended Article XI (Committee on Work), Section 1, with the enacted 2005 Grand Lodge Law change to permit members that have filled full terms on the Committee on Work to be authorized to retain the title "Right Worshipful" and wear the Committee on Work apron forever.

**Grand Lodge Credit Card:** The Grand Lodge has initiated a contract with the Bank of America to create a Grand Lodge of Texas credit card for use by its members. Members will have their choice of Master Card, Visa, or American Express. The logo on the card will have a square & compasses and letter "G" and Grand Lodge of Texas superimposed. The Grand Lodge will receive quarterly dividends based upon our members' usage. Applications for these cards are expected to be available in the very near future. The Grand Lodge no longer receives credits for members that use the Chase (Bank One) card.

**From the Secretary**

Brethren our dues cards have arrived and are being mailed daily. Enclosed with your dues card is a Kroger Share Card. Please present this card to the cashier when shopping at Krogers. Kroger's sends Holland Lodge 1% of your purchase of groceries on a quarterly basis. The same goes for Randall's but you must stop by the customer service desk and ask that Holland Lodge be added to your Randall's card for the contribution to be made.

At a stated meeting of Holland Lodge November 8, 2009 a dues increase was authorized by the brethren in attendance to begin on January 1, 2008. Beginning on that date the new dues rate will be \$125.00 per year per member. At the same meeting the brethren likewise authorized an increase in degree fee's from \$50.00 to \$100.00 beginning January 1, 2007, to include the E.A., F.C. & M.M. degrees.

## 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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