

## **The Alpha**

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

**4911 Montrose Boulevard,**

**Houston TX 77006**

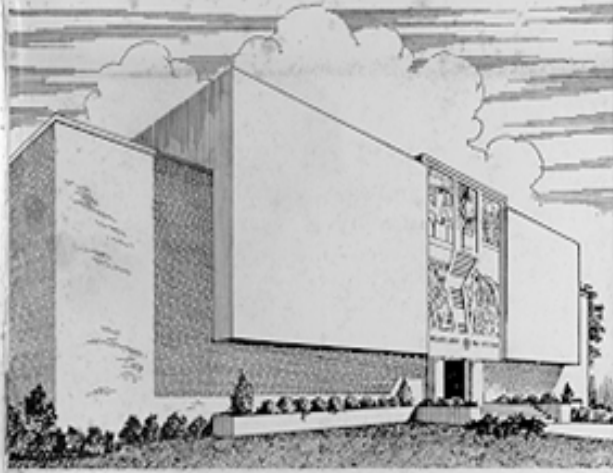
**(713) 529-0912**

**www.hollandlodge.org**

**July 2004**

**Volume 35 Number 1**

**Bill Sessums, Jr. P.M. – Editor**



### **STATED MEETING**

**July 14, 2004**

**Dinner at 6:30 P.M.**

**Lodge opens at 7:30 P.M.**

**Program will be**

**Annual Plan, Budget and  
Committee Appointments  
will be announced.**

**Be Involved!**

**Come on Down to the Lodge on**

**Saturday, July 17th  
as we Pass two Brothers from  
EA'S to Fellowcrafts!**

**Breakfast at 8am.  
Degrees start at 9a.m.**

**Come out and support the  
degree team and your new officers!**

### ***From the East..***

In June of 2004 or 6004, Tradition prevailed at Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M. and the 169<sup>th</sup> Worshipful Master and other elected and appointed officers were chosen to lead and serve the Brethren of the Lodge for the Masonic year 2004-2005. As you read this first message the installation is complete and the change of command has been completed. The installing officers were chosen for special reasons and I wish to thank each one of them in print. Bill Sessums, Sr, PM 99-2000 helped me to fulfill a long standing desire to follow in my Dad's footsteps and become a Master Mason. On February 22, 1999, Bro. George Washington's birthday, Bill conferred my degree and then continued to teach me my work. Brother Sessums then appointed me Steward and has provided guidance and counsel through out my Masonic career. The sitting Master was Mark Jay Sandler, PM 1998-99 our installing Marshal. Mark's leadership and guidance helped me through that first year of work and prepared me for my journey to the East. Installing Secretary, "The Skipper" Luther Van Cleve, PM 2003-04 showed a group of us that together we could make things work for the benefit of all and improve the future. Bro. Van Cleve began a tradition of planning ahead and moving forward together and the leadership shown by this fellow veteran set a safe path to follow. "Safe footprints through the minefields of life." Our installing Chaplain, Clarence Brown PM 1959-60, Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Houston Council, Past High Priest of Washington Chapter, and Past Commander Ruthven Commandery as well as Texas A&M class of 1949, Is a true Gentleman and Masonic Leader for all of us to follow. Gentlemen, I thank each of you for being a model for Masons and all men to follow and emulate.

I am sure you all enjoyed the pipers from "American Bagpipes" and the Color Guard from Ruthven #2 as well as the wonderful lunch catered by "Outback Steakhouse" I hope you and your families enjoyed the day. June 26, 2004 will always be special to me and my family and my Masonic Brothers.

On June 18 I had a luncheon for the new officers and Past Masters whom I had asked for "sage counsel" and I received the following anonymous note :

Your very kind invitation to join you at noonday repast of "Bloomin' Onion" and Sage Counsel is both overly generous and very brave. When taken in moderation Sage is, indeed, a wondrous ingredient for an otherwise bland concoction. But to ASK for such Counsel from a group of Past Masters is somewhat hazardous in light of the "Counsel" so freely and often given on a voluntary bases. Herewith is a liberal quantity of the finest "SAGE" without the odorous " Counsel". Good Luck - A Past Master.

My bottle of "SAGE" will be in the East with me at all functions of the Lodge.

I take this opportunity to THANK all the Brethren of Holland Lodge No. 1 for the journey to the East and the opportunity to serve as Worshipful Master 2004-2005. The phone numbers and e-mail addresses of each officer is listed on the back of the ALPHA and you are welcome to call or e-mail any and all questions and concerns to your officers of Holland Lodge.

**Fraternally, Earl Thompson**

## ***"From the South"...***

BRETHREN,

THIS COLUMN HAS BEEN USED OVER THE YEARS TO REPORT HOLLAND AND GRAND LODGE FUNCTIONS, TO GIVE ADVICE ON MASONRY AND AS A GENERAL DISCUSSION BOARD ABOUT WHAT MASONRY IS AND WHAT IS GOOD OR BAD FOR THE ORDER.

All of the above is well and good, and is as it should be, but for me to try and explain Masonry to a group of men that know more, have done more and have been in the order longer than I would be like trying to potty train a duck. That being said I would like to provide you with something I do know about.

### **WATER HEATER SAFETY!**

Did you know that there was 1880 water heater related accidents and 14 deaths in the united States from 1996 to 1999.

That the water Heater is the most dangerous piece of equipment in your home.

That water temperature above 120 degrees can cause scalding, especially in young children.

That sediment build up in you heater can cause premature tank failure.

That the temperature safety valve (T&P) should be tripped every six months.

That the T&P drain line should never go up, it should be installed in a manner that will allow the water to drain out.

That the water to your heater should never be turned off unless you have first turned off the gas.

That your flue (gas heaters) should have a one inch clearance from all combustion able materials.

Shingles, wood, Sheetrock, insulation etc.

That you should never never store anything next to your water heater.

That you should always keep the area around your heater clean. Mops, dust, rags, lawnmowers, drink cartons and paint have caused fires.

That a water heater located in your garage should be elevated 18 inches off the floor.

That a water Heater that malfunctions can become a missile go through your ceiling and roof and set your home on fire.

There is some good news.

Since July 1st 2003 residential gas fired water heaters have been required to meet (A.N.S.I.) American National Standard Institutes, standards. Water Heaters must now be designed so that the pilot lights and burners will not ignite flammable vapors.

Please inspect your water heater, use common sense and listen to it, if you here it making noise it has a build up of sediment and is trying to tell you something is wrong. It can be dangerous, It has lost its efficiency and is costing you money.

I hope this may be of some benefit to some of you.

Masonry is helping your brothers.

**Fraternally,  
Duncan Chapman**

**Be sure you visit [www.HollandLodge.org](http://www.HollandLodge.org)  
For the Latest Pictures, Masonic News, Masonic Links and  
the Most Up to date schedule as well as the e-Alpha!**



### Fifty Years of Service

**Houston Lodge No. 1189 A.F. & A.M.  
&  
Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F.&A.M.**

**Invites you to attend an evening of  
Good food and Fellowship  
On the occasion of the presentation of  
the  
Grand Lodge Fifty-Year Service Award  
to**

**Right Worshipful Dan Boswell Jordan  
Past Grand Master 1974**

**Thursday - August 12, 2004 at 6:30 p.m.  
Houston Scottish Rite Temple  
Scottish Rite Lodge Room  
7575 Brompton  
Houston, Texas**

## **The Life Cycle**

**We will miss our departed Brothers...**

**Robert Lee Dailey**

**Passed away, May 9, 2004**

**Michael C Ebert**

**Passed away June 16, 2004**

**Dennis Leach**

**Passed away June 12, 2004**

**R.: W.: Joseph W Regian**

**Past Grandmaster 1997**

**Are you online?**

**Have you been to [www.HollandLodge.org](http://www.HollandLodge.org) ?**

**Do you get the e-Alpha notices on your email?**

**Send you email address to [billjr@insper.com](mailto:billjr@insper.com)  
and get online with your Lodge!**

## **Lodge Activities/Calendar**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| July 5    | Dark- Happy B-Day USA!                        |
| July 7    | EA Exam                                       |
| July 12   | Dark (Chapter and Council)                    |
| July 14   | Stated Meeting                                |
| July 17   | <b>Two FC Degrees! 8 a.m. for breakfast!!</b> |
| July 19   | School of Instruction (SOI)                   |
| July 21   | EA Degree Practice                            |
| July 26   | EA/FC Festival                                |
| July 28   | EA Exam & Degree or EA Work                   |
| August 2  | EA/FC Festival                                |
| August 4  | MM Exam & Degree or MM Work                   |
| August 9  | Dark  |
| August 11 | Stated Meeting                                |

**More dates will be published  
on the  
website in the coming weeks.**

**Be sure to check our the  
website at  
[www.hollandlodge.org](http://www.hollandlodge.org)  
for updates!**

## Officers Of Holland Lodge No. 1

|                     |                      | HOME           | OFFICE         | e-mail                            |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Worshipful Master   | Earl A. Thompson     | (713) 466-8452 | (281) 376-5530 | WorshipfulMaster@HollandLodge.org |
| Senior Warden       | Tom Behrman          | (713) 721-6003 | (713) 426-6114 | SeniorWarden@HollandLodge.org     |
| Junior Warder       | Duncan Chapman       | (281) 447-8200 | (832) 212-3181 | 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            | Max Bernstein        | (713) 667-5697 |                | max.bernstein@lswc.net            |
| Senior Deacon       | Patrick Porter       | (713) 796-1131 | (713) 316-4961 | SeniorDeacon@HollandLodge.org     |
| Junior Deacon       | Jerry B. Jones       | (713) 667-2817 | (713) 201-0366 | JuniorDeacon@HollandLodge.org     |
| Senior Steward      | Wael Semaan          | (713) 530-9786 |                | SeniorSteward@HollandLodge.org    |
| Marshal             | Robert Welch, II     | (713) 526-0026 | (713) 941-7800 | Marshall@HollandLodge.org         |
| Mstr. Of Ceremonies | Michael Orr, Jr.     | (713) 290-1934 | (713) 613-2830 | MasterCeremonies@HollandLodge.org |
| Musician            | Rodney Elliot        | (713) 236-0359 |                | Rodney@CommerceStreet.org         |
| Tiler               | Budd Baumgardner     | (713) 666-3625 |                |                                   |
| Immediate PM        | Patrick D. Mahoney   | (713) 932-1993 | (713) 552-1700 | Patrick@mahoney-associates.com    |

