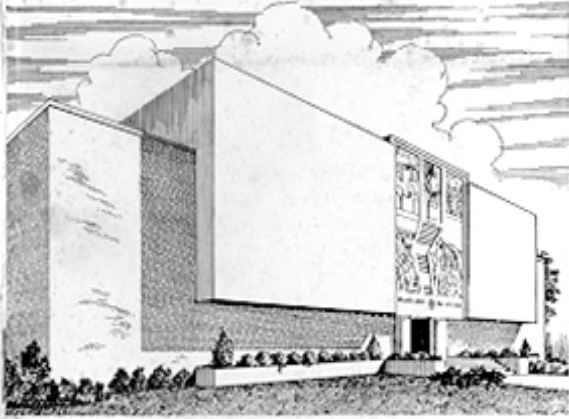


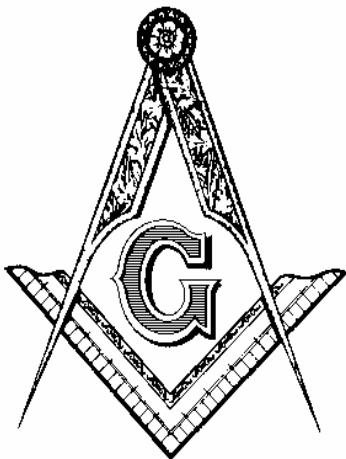
The Alpha

Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M.
4911 Montrose Boulevard,
Houston TX 77006
(713) 529-0912
www.hollandlodge.org
November 2007
Volume 38 Number 5
Bill Sessums, Jr. P.M. – Editor



The Next Stated Meeting
November 14, 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,

We continue to have a great time down at Holland Lodge and feel it is important that you all decide to come down to see us. The lodge is a busy place lately, we did two Fellowcraft and two Entered Apprentice degrees last month, and the schedule seems to be constantly in danger of getting out of hand.

Our lodge room and dining hall is filling up more and more. We are being visited by good brothers from other lodges and other jurisdictions all the time. It is always a lot of fun to sit with someone at dinner and learn about Masonry in a different place and be able to share with him some Texas style Masonry and hospitality.

We have several members that are progressing through their work at lightening speed and I would fully expect that we aren't going to have to cut back on the number of Fellowcraft degrees we do this coming month.

Exciting times my Brothers.

Other exciting news of note, we held two fundraisers this month. One was a motorcycle ride out to La Grange, Texas to visit a lodge out there. Brother Abe Latelle and Brother Brad Reel did a fantastic job of making that ride happen. In the inaugural ride they did an amazing job of organizing and putting something into motion which prior to then was only a concept. I would like to applaud the amount of initiative and work that those brothers put into this. These are the kind of Masons that we need more of at Holland Lodge. These brothers were not content to sit on the sidelines and were interested in actively making a difference. Where would we be as a Lodge if members did not show initiative?

Would we have an Alpha? Would we have a Sam Houston Lecture?
Would we have a scholarship brisket sale?

Did you know that we had our brisket sale this past month? I know that I will be looking forward to a report from the Senior Warden as to how it all turned out at the Stated Meeting in November. I know that a lot of work went into it. I will certainly personally thank all the brothers that contributed to the success of the scholarship fundraiser. Brother Chapman has done a lot to make it a success and I would like to extend some personal thanks his way.

Finally, the Masonic tailgate before the Rice v. UH game was a nice time. The game proved to be a good one, and the burgers, dogs, cookies and peanuts only contributed to a beautiful afternoon. I would like to thank Brothers Behrman, Mahoney, Thompson, and Van Cleve in putting that event in order. I know were pictures taken and you should contact one of them to find out where you can see them.

Again Brothers, thank you all for your support and I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge.

Fraternally Patrick Porter, W.M.

From the South...

As I was doing some research, I encountered a commission that I never knew it existed. It is called the Commission on Information for Recognition.

This commission was organized in 1951 as a facility to gather, collate, and from time to time, revise information on Grand Lodges in other lands, as a service to the Grand Lodges of this Conference.

The commission neither advises nor recommends that recognition be given to any Grand Lodges, but merely indicates whether or not it considers that a Grand Lodge in question satisfies the conditions of regularity.

Until 2003, the commission had consisted of six members selected from a wide geographical distribution. One new member, usually a Deputy Grand Master, was selected each year and served for six years. In 2003, the conference of Grand Masters expanded the Commission to seven members, with each to serve a term of seven years. This will eventually assure that each of the seven Regional Masonic Conferences will be represented on the commission.

After each Annual Meeting of the Conference of Grand Masters, the report, given to and adopted by the Conference, is printed and copies mailed to the Grand Secretaries and to the Chairmen of the Committees on Fraternal Relations of the Grand Lodges of the Conference. Copies are mailed to many interested Grand Lodges who are not members of the Conference. This report is based upon the most recent information available, and, in some cases, after a presentation by representatives of the Grand Lodges mentioned in the report.

This commission requires certain standards that allow a Grand Lodge to be recognized.

The standards of Recognition are summarized as follows:

1. Legitimacy of Origin.
2. Exclusive Territorial Jurisdiction, except by mutual consent and/or treaty.
3. Adherence to the Ancient Landmarks specifically, a Belief in God, the Volume of Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the Furniture of the Lodge, and the prohibition of the discussion of politics and religion.

This actually made me prouder of my Masonic affiliation knowing that there was Grand Masters in this world devoting their time and effort, trying to get all the different jurisdictions closer to each other. This is one thing that will help our fraternity flourish, grow and prosper.

I hope that you, my brethren, have enjoyed this month's article and I will see you again next month.

Fraternally, Wael Semaan, Junior Warden

Tun Tavern Submitted By Bro. Brad Reel

Ask any Marine. Just ask. He will tell you that the Marine Corps was born in Tun Tavern on 10 November 1775.

But, beyond that the Marine's recollection for detail will probably get fuzzy. So, here is the straight scoop: In the year 1685, Samuel Carpenter built a huge "brew house" in Philadelphia. He located this tavern on the waterfront at the corner of Water Street and Tun Alley. The old English word tun means a cask, barrel, or keg of beer. So, with his new beer tavern on Tun Alley, Carpenter elected to christen the new waterfront brewery with a logical name, Tun Tavern. Tun Tavern quickly gained a reputation for serving fine beer. Beginning 47 years later in 1732, the first meetings of the St. John's No. 1 Lodge of the Grand Lodge of the Masonic Temple were held in the tavern. An American of note, Benjamin Franklin, was its third Grand Master. Even today the Masonic Temple of Philadelphia recognizes Tun Tavern as the birthplace of Masonic teachings in America.

In 1756, then Col. Benjamin Franklin organized the Pennsylvania Militia. He used Tun Tavern as a gathering place to recruit a regiment of soldiers to go into battle against the Indian uprisings that were plaguing the American colonies. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and the Continental Congress later met in Tun Tavern as the American colonies prepared for independence from the English Crown.

On November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress commissioned Bro. Samuel Nicholas to raise two Battalions of Marines. That very day, Nicholas set up shop in Tun Tavern. He appointed Bro. Robert Mullan, then the proprietor of the tavern, to the job of chief Marine Recruiter -- serving, of course, from his place of business at Tun Tavern. Both Nicholas and Mullan were said to be members of the Tun Tavern Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. Nicholas became the first commandant of the Marine Corps with the rank of Major.

Prospective recruits flocked to the tavern, lured by (1) cold beer and (2) the opportunity to serve in the new Corps of Marines. So, yes, the U.S. Marine Corps was indeed born in Tun Tavern. There are an estimated three million active and retired U.S. Marines worldwide who have been exposed in their military training to the historical significance of Tun Tavern. Each year on November 10th, around the world Marines toast the Marine's birthplace on the most significant date in the history of the Corps.

(excerpts from Warrior Culture of the U.S. Marines, copyright 2001 Marion F. Sturkey)

Additional information from:

- Tun Tavern Brewing Company, Inc. – website
- "History of Military Lodges in Freemasonry" - Gen. Wilkerson

From the Secretary

Subject: Recommendations for stolen wallet or purse; by Owen Popham, continued. Credit cards when stolen should be cancelled immediately. The key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to credit Providers you were diligent, and this is a first step toward an investigation. MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, call the 3 national credit reporting organizations IMMEDIATELY to place a fraud alert on your name and also call the Social Security fraud line number. The alert means any company that checks your Credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by PHONE to authorize new credit. You need these numbers: Equifax: 800-525-6285, Experian: 888-397-3742, Trans Union: 800-680-7289, & Social Security 800-269-0271.

Did You Know

BEAST OF THE EARTH: Where is the basis of the penalties recorded in the Bible?

This expression is recorded in the book of Jeremiah, and is a part of the basis of the system of Speculative Science. Jer. 34:18-20.

Lodge Activities/Calendar

November 14, 2007

Stated Meeting

December 12, 2007

Stated Meeting

January 9, 2008

Stated Meeting

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

Welcome to Our Newest Affiliated Member

Myron Hawryluk, affiliated on 10-10-2007,
from Minnesota River Valley No. 6.

From the Kitchen

October was another fun and busy month at Holland Lodge. Did you participate?

Holland Lodge Oktoberfest was held before Stated Meeting. The hot meal included freshly cooked braised Wurst in a bed of red cabbage, assorted side dishes, fresh pumpernickel breads, assorted desserts, and a medium amber imported from Germany. Our DDGM (R:W: Mark Love) again joined us for the special evening. A tailgating party was held before the Rice at UofH football game. The annual brisket sale prepping and cooking was good working time for all involved. The dining area is rearranged to accommodate increasing attendances.

Holland Lodge has a fresh 33°, Grand Council's new Deputy Grand Master, more York Rite Masons, along with further recognitions and honors accruing.

Degrees were bestowed during October with more planned this month. Ever onwards and upwards for together we build.

We have some new folks joining us in our building. The fine boys of Houston Chapter 201 of the Order of DeMolay will this month begin meeting here on Wednesday evenings. They continue performing excellent ritual work and continue building a bright future for us all. To them we say, Welcome!

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 and I always look forwards to shaking your hands and filling your plates.

**We look forward to shaking your hands and
filling your plates.**

F & S, Brother Meier

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

		<u>HOME</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>e-mail</u>
Worshipful Master	Patrick Porter	713-796-1131	713-294-3704	Worshipfulmaster@hollandlodge.org
Senior Warden	Jerry Jones	713-667-2817	713-201-0366	Seniorwarden@hollandlodge.org
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
Senior Deacon	Kurtis Kasper	832-216-3519	713-348-3027	Seniordeacon@hollandlodge.org
Junior Deacon	Robert Welch	713-526-0029	713-941-7800	Juniordeacon@hollandlodge.org
Senior Steward	Michael Meier	713-729-6426	713-529-0912	SeniorSteward@hollandlodge.org
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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