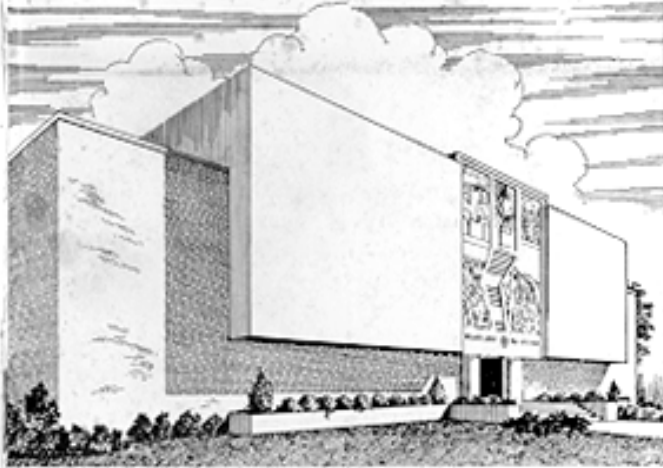


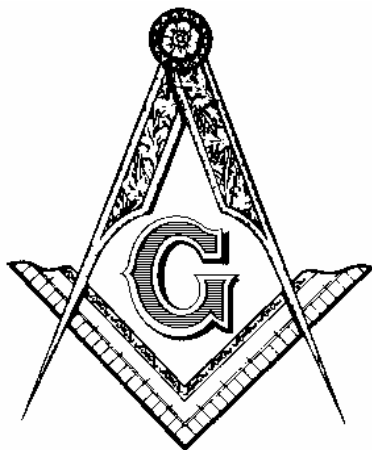
## The Alpha

Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M.  
4911 Montrose Boulevard,  
Houston TX 77006  
(713) 529-0912  
[www.hollandlodge.org](http://www.hollandlodge.org)  
August 2006  
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Bill Sessums, Jr. P.M. – Editor



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

Please join us as the  
business of Your Lodge is conducted!



## From the East...

Brethren

For some time now I have been watching one of our members evolve into one of the most valuable tools in Texas Masonry. Fortunately for us Holland Lodge has this tool in our midst. He is smooth, He is unobtrusive, He is extremely knowledgeable, He works countless hours for the craft, He knows the work inside and out, front wards and backwards, left to right. You can call him and give him almost any word in our work and he will tell you the next sentence or paragraph. He does not complain, he slowly and methodically works to improve the knowledge of our esoteric work. He travels across Texas at his own expense and will go anywhere to teach, just give him a phone call and you will see that he almost never says no. He gives all he can give and ask for nothing in return.

If you have not been to a forum, you should go, do not miss the opportunity to learn from one of our own. R.:W.: Brother Sessums Sr. Holland Lodge is proud of you, Texas Masons are proud of you. Keep up the good work.

Brethren, R.:W.: DDGM Tom Staton was received at Holland lodge at the August Stated Meeting for an official visit. R.:W.: Staton was escorted to the Alter by his long time friend and Holland Past Master Paul Stolnacke and Past Master Owen Popham. R.:W.: Brother Stanton presented a fifty year award to Holland member Earl Stolnacke and a 25 year pin to Brother Earl's son, our own Past master Brother Paul Stolnacke. It was a privilege to have the opportunity to assist the DDGM and I bet it will be a long time before we will again be able to present a 50 year and a 25 year award to a father and son. Congratulation to both of you.

Brethren I have asked the President of the MBA to call a meeting for the purpose of finding the best possible solution for cleaning our building. It is evident that it has been some time since it has been cleaned. We must put our best foot forward, the removal of the black mold from the limestone would be a good step in the right direction. Hopefully in the not to distant future the home of Holland Lodge No. 1 will again be an attractive part of our community and a shining beacon to draw interest to Masonry in Houston.

Thanks to all Holland Members that give of there time to make Holland a valuable viable lodge. You, the members are what make Holland Lodge Great. Our Lodge's History is full of members who have made a difference in Houston, Texas and the Nation.

**Do good unto all, Duncan Chapman, W.M.**

## From the South...

In the last few days I have heard several accounts of individuals gaining admission into Masonic Lodges who had no business being there. They were not Masons.

The first account dealt with a person who attempted to gain admission by presenting a dues card that looked like the real thing. This person presented a picture I.D. The name on the card matched the other identification presented to the Deacon. It looked real because it was real. He did, however, have some difficulty answering the questions asked him, (which is not unusual). The Secretary of that lodge (in East Texas) took the time to contact the Secretary of the lodge that had issued the card. That lodge was in Vermont. That Secretary assured the Texas Secretary that the card was authentic. The only problem was the brother named on the dues card in question had passed away a few months earlier. The holder of the card was the son of the person named on the card. He was asked why he would do such a thing. The son said he just wanted to know what they did in there (in the lodge room). He was sent packing. Another account was passed along to me by Brother Harold Park of Forest Lodge in Huntsville. Brother Park is Secretary of that lodge and a Past Master of Memorial Lodge here in Houston. It seems that an individual visited that Forest lodge, presented a dues card along with the proper identification. He knew all the grips and words and answered all questions put to him. He entered the lodge room after dinner and attended several meetings after that. During one of these meetings he did witness a Master Mason degree. He then began the paper work necessary to become a member of that lodge. That very same night he was recognized by Brother Woody Wilson, one of the correction officers from the Walls Unit in downtown Huntsville as a former inmate that had been discharged from the Walls Unit several months earlier. It turned out that this person was a former death row inmate whose sentence was commuted to life behind bars by the U.S. Supreme Court, and was later discharged to join the rest of us on the streets of America. The dues card and other identification were printed in the prison printing shop where he worked. The Masonic knowledge he obtained was gleaned from the prison library. Which brings to mind an interesting but true point made by Brother Albert Pike in his last work entitled Esoterika, in which he points out that any person with the desire to learn about Masonry can find anything about that subject in a public library. (This was before the internet.) And to prove his point he spells out the American, British and French version of the Word of a Master Mason, i.e., the Substitute Word. One can only wonder if Brother Pike took the same obligation as I did not too many years ago when the Word was whispered in my ear, which I was told that I was never to give except in the manor in which I had received it that night. Brother Pike's book which is four hundred pages plus, including the index makes for interesting reading. I am now reading it for the third time. I am beginning to understand it. Some of it! I would like to make a more detailed account of this scholarly work at a future date, when I figure out what it says.

Several years ago, in the dining room of Holland Lodge, before the meal was to be served I joined a group of brothers whom were carrying on a detailed discussion about Masonry. I did not recognize a certain young man who was sitting at that table listening to the discussion. I asked him "are you a Master Mason?" He looked at me and with a smile said "Yes!" The table then became very quiet. The next question he was also unable to answer. That same young man made application to receive the Mysteries of Freemasonry. He was, however rejected by the investigating committee.

We must never let our guard down when it comes to examining strangers who appear at our door seeking admission. Even when they enter while the door is left standing open, clothed as Master Masons, and are in the company of men we know to be Master Masons. For the most part cowens and eavesdroppers are easily detected by those who listen. So, listen well brethren! Listen well!  
Jerry Brainard Jones J.W. Holland Lodge Number one

**Fraternally, Jerry Jones, J.W., Holland Lodge Number one**

### Editorial Input, Fear Not True and Faithful Brothers

**If you are a Mason who just has not been to Lodge in a while you should not worry about being "rejected" for admission. Surely you will have with you your dues card, identification and if asked you will well remember certain parts of your "Masonic Life" that will allow you to sit with your Brethren.**

**Your officers at Holland Lodge are well aware of the Texas Grand Lodge Laws and will help you to be comfortable in your visit to Lodge.**

## From the Secretary

### **Special notice:**

Grand Lodge reservations are now being made with the Secretary of Holland Lodge. Please make your check payable to Holland Lodge for \$160.00 to reserve your room and meals offered at Waco, Texas on November 30, December 1,2, of 2006. Rooms are limited to first come first paid. All rooms will be non-smoking. If you wish to take your spouse add \$134.00. Each room will feature two double beds. Please make your intentions known if you wish to be pre-registered for the 2006 Grand Lodge.

### Welcome to our New Affiliated Members

**James L. Anderson Jr. and  
Lloyd De La Rosa Jr.**

### We will miss our Departed Brother...

**Joseph F. Blanton  
died on 8-1-2006, raised on 11-2-1960.**

## Lodge Activities/Calendar

### **September, 2006**

September 13 Wednesday - **September Stated Meeting**

### **October, 2006**

October 11 Wednesday - **October Stated Meeting**

### **November, 2006**

November 9 Wednesday - **November Stated Meeting**

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

### Masonic Secrets

There are fewer secrets to Freemasonry than most non-members imagine; even many Masons are not entirely clear on what is and is not secret in Masonry. The moral principles of Masonry are the same as those taught you in Sunday school or at your mother's knee (sometimes over it!); it is only the exact procedures and words by which those principles are taught in Masonry that are secret, for it is the knowledge of those that distinguishes a Mason from those who are not members. To be entitled to the fellowship peculiar to the Lodge, a Mason must be able to identify himself, and these secrets provide the means for doing so.

## **IN DUE AND ANCIENT FORM**

*by Archie P. McDonald*

The origin of Freemasonry is traced from the building of King Solomon's temple, and you can read all about it in the Old Testament of the Bible. That is "operative" Masonry, or brothers who literally earned their bread in the building trades.

"Speculative" Masonry, which hopes to build better lives of men engaged in various occupations, began in the British Isles in the seventeenth century, then crossed the Atlantic to America as York Rite Masonry, and to Spanish colonies as Scottish Rite Masonry. The two forms of Masonry, which have the first three degrees of Masonic work in common, eventually met in Texas. Masons were among the earliest Anglos to arrive in Texas, including those who came illicitly prior to legal immigration. When bonafied settlers arrived, Masons among them naturally wanted to establish lodges.

The first authorization to organize lodges came from John Henry Holland, grand master of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, of York Rite orientation. Holland sent the first charter as the result of a request of Masons led by Anson Jones, and their group was to be known as Holland Lodge No. 36.

The courier bearing the charter arrived in time to participate in the Battle of San Jacinto in April 1836, but when he finally delivered it the action had moved to the new city of Houston, located on Buffalo Bayou, so that is where Holland lodge was established. Meanwhile, Holland also sent charters for Milam Lodge No. 40 in Nacogdoches, named in honor of Ben Milam, who had fallen in the Texas Revolutionary Battle of San Antonio, and McFarland Lodge No. 41 in San Augustine. Both began operating in mid-1837.

Then, in December 1837, members of Holland Lodge hosted a meeting in Houston with a plan to establish a Grand Lodge of Texas. The lodge in Nacogdoches sent Adolphus Sterne and other delegates, also authorized to act in behalf of Masons in San Augustine. Sam Houston, president of the Republic of Texas, presided at the organizational meeting, and delegates selected Anson Jones as Grand Master and Sterne as Deputy Grand Master. In the registry of the new Grand Lodge, Holland Lodge became No. 1, Milam in Nacogdoches No. 2, and McFarland in San Augustine No. 3.

Masonry in Texas, then, was launched in East Texas "in due and ancient form."

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(Distributed by the East Texas Historical Association. Archie P. McDonald is director of the Association and author of more than 20 books on Texas)

[www.texasescapes.com](http://www.texasescapes.com)

## Officers Of Holland Lodge No. 1

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Worshipful Master	Duncan Chapman	281- 447-8200	832- 212-3181	dcc624@yahoo.com
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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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