

**OCTOBER
2006
VOLUME 1
ISSUE 4**

ON THE LEVEL

THE NEWSLETTER OF HARMONY LODGE No. 6 A. F. & A. M.

Chartered by the Grand Lodge of Texas on January 30, 1840



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Letter From the Editor	1
Corrections	1
Article	1
Contact Info	2
Article	2
Calendar	3
Festive Board	3
9/11	3
Article	3
Book Review	4
DDGM Visit	4
Birthdays	4
Lodge Officers	5
Article	5
Deceased Brethren	5
Bro. Bill Snipes 50 yr	6
From the East	7

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome Brethren to the fourth issue of *On The Level*. I was told by several brothers that their newsletters were getting destroyed by the mail carriers before it was delivered, so I made it a tri-fold instead of a bi-fold. If this makes a difference please let me know because this has to be done by hand and takes a lot more work. The best way to get a pristine newsletter every time is to receive it via email as a PDF. You can read it on screen or print it out on your own printer. If you would like to take advantage of this service please email myself or the Lodge and request to be added to the list (see contact info on page 2). I encourage all Brothers, regardless of whether they come to meetings or not, to send in any items of interest to keep our newsletter representing the entire Lodge. And don't be afraid to send feedback, good or bad, to help keep us *On The Level*.

Bro. Clyde Wood -
Editor

CORRECTIONS

Unlike your local newspaper, I want to make a habit of printing any corrections or apologies on the front page and not hidden in the back somewhere. First, I would like to apologize to Bro. Abbie Hughes for misspelling his name several times in past issues. Secondly, in the last issue I misrepresented Ursula as the Worshipful Master's daughter-in-law. She is in fact Gloria's daughter and is, I am told, single.

TO BE A FREEMASON

Throughout my fifty years in Masonry one topic that continues to surface is character. The question is: Can a man be a Freemason who harbors ill will in his bosom against another? The answer is absolutely *No!* He may be a member in good standing, but by no means a Freemason. Current or past titles do not enter into the equation. It is contrary to the principles and teachings of the Craft to entertain any animosities or dislikes that endeavor to injure the character of any Brother. Let us not forget that we all have knelt at the same mystic altar and have taken the same obligations. It is my sincere belief that such conduct as we see today reflects ones lack of knowledge and understanding of Freemasonry. This is not an isolated situation, but in fact it is one that is jeopardizing our future. If you desire to discover the philosophy of Masonry and how it may improve your life, may I recommend witnessing the first through the thirty-second degrees as frequently as possible followed by reading the commentaries. Albert Pike's *Morals and Dogma* and Rex Hutchens' *A Bridge to Light* will work very nicely for a start. If a Brother has wronged another he must humble himself in life to amend this situation. Is this not a better course than for years to allow unkind feelings to grow into bitter dislikes? Freemasonry is a fraternity built upon divine principles and common sense. The great purpose of our fraternity is to build character. Character that is a reflection of our Creator.

Are you a Freemason?
Roy "Abbie" Hughes

**ON THE LEVEL
PAGE 2**



**STATED
MEETINGS
1ST & 3RD
MONDAYS
2128 CHURCH ST.
GALVESTON, TX
77550**

**FOOD AND
FELLOWSHIP
6-7PM**

**MEETING
7PM**

CONTACT US

Harmony Lodge No. 6
P. O. Box 479
Galveston, TX 77553

409-621-1300

harmonylodgeno6@
hotmail.com

Editor
ranger9663@
hotmail.com

**FROM GENERATION
TO GENERATION**

Each of us has heard the words that our work has been handed down from generation to generation, but for some members of our Lodge this phrase has an even deeper meaning. Wouldn't it be nice that the phrase actually meant what it said. Sure, most of our members when they get started say something like, "I remember one of my uncles was a Mason" or "My father was a Mason in another state." But what if a member could say "I joined because my father was a member of this Lodge, and his father before him was a member of this Lodge, and his father before him was a member of this same Lodge. What a statement that would make. Well Brethren we have just that in our Lodge. Our Lodge has been in Galveston long enough for generation after generation to join and they have. Many years ago, in a time forgotten by the generation of today, a man joined Harmony Lodge of his own free will and accord. His name was Luther Starnes. Some years later, his son-in-law, Dan Williams, also became a member of the Lodge. Two generations in the same Lodge is not unusual, but Dan Williams' son became interested in Masonry and also joined the Lodge as a third generation Mason. He worked in the Lodge and became Worshipful Master almost twenty years ago and has stayed active in the Lodge. That was me, Frank Williams, Sr., now serving as Worshipful Master of my Lodge again. My brother also started as a third generation Mason about ten or twelve years ago, but due to conflict of work and family was unable to complete the esoteric work. Now here we are today. In the last two years, my sons Adam Williams, Frank Williams, Jr. (who is Secretary of the Lodge), and my brother's son Daniel Williams have

joined the Lodge all becoming fourth generation Masons all of Harmony Lodge with their father being a member of the same Lodge, their grandfather being a member and their great grandfather being a member. If all these Williams names sound confusing, you should come to the Lodge sometime and yell "Hey Williams!" and see how many heads turn. But the story doesn't end yet. My brother has now started back and his son, Daniel Williams, who is now the Senior Warden of the Lodge, had the privilege of conferring the F.C. degree on his father and is teaching him his work. He is now looking forward very soon to conferring the Master Mason degree on his father. And yes there is still more, another of my sons, Frank and Adam's brother and Daniel's cousin, has recently become an E.A. in the Lodge and is being taught his work by his brother Frank, Jr.. As far as me personally, I have had the privilege and honor of conferring the E.A. degree on my brother, and all of the degrees on my sons and nephew. It indeed is a great story to tell that a family has supported Harmony Lodge No. 6 for four generations and is still very active today. And if the Great Architect of the Universe is willing to keep on building this wonderful edifice, there will be still yet another generation of our family as a member of Harmony Lodge No. 6 in Galveston.
Frank H. Williams, Sr.

Who Gets Our Newsletter

Anyone who would like to receive our newsletter should call Clyde Wood at 409-789-9799 or email to ranger9663@hotmail.com and request to be added to our mailing list.

**ON THE LEVEL
PAGE 3**



**OCTOBER
CALENDAR**

Monday 2nd
Stated Meeting

Monday 9th
Visit Texas City Lodge
No. 1118

Monday 16th
Stated Meeting

Tuesday 17th
Visit LaMarque Lodge
No. 1325

Monday 23rd
MM degree or Wood-
shed

Monday 30th
FC degree or Woodshed

Visit Us Online
www.grandlodgeoftexas.org/locate.php?act=view&id=6

2006 FESTIVE BOARD

On Saturday August 26, 2006 the Masonic Festive Board, hosted by the Houston Scottish Rite and Arabia Shrine, was held at the Arabia Shrine Center Ballroom in Houston. Harmony Lodge No. 6 was represented by the officers below. From left to right they are Junior Warden Clyde Wood, Treasurer Ted Armstrong, Worshipful Master Frank Williams, Sr., Senior Warden Daniel Williams and Secretary Frank Williams, Jr..



9/11

On September 11, 2006 America remembered the tragic loss of innocent life and the destruction of the twin towers of the World Trade Center five years ago. On this same night last month our Lodge symbolically raised two towers in the form of two Master Masons, Brothers Samuel Blackwell and Donald Duke pictured here with our Worshipful Master.



A FATHER AND SON STORY

By W/Bro. John E. Bostock L.G.R.

In memory of

W/Bro. John (Jack) W. Bostock L.G.R. (1913 – 1984)

My father was initiated into the Brondesbury Loge No. 2698 of the Grand Lodge of England in 1955; he became the Worshipful Master of that lodge on the 3rd April 1966. He was honoured by the Grand Lodge of England with the rank of London Grand Rank (equivalent to District or Provincial Grand Officer) in 1976 for all his work in freemasonry. He was the lodge chaplain from 1976 until his death in 1984.

My father took the Worshipful Master's chair once again to initiate me into the same lodge on the 4th December 1975, 20 years after his initiation. He once again took the chair to raise me on the 14th October 1976. Unfortunately my father passed away in 1984 while I was Junior Warden so was unable to see me installed as the 89th Worshipful Master of his lodge on the 3rd April 1986 – exactly 20 years to the day after his installation. I too received the honour of London Grand Rank from the Grand Lodge of England in 1996, once again 20 years after my father. At the last regular meeting of the Harmony Lodge No. 6 of the Grand Lodge of Texas of which I am now a member, I acted as the Lodge Chaplain; this duty truly brought home to me how Freemasonry has brought me closer to the footsteps of my father, a man I will always think of as my biggest hero. As I stood and said the prayer, I could not see the brethren of the lodge, or the lodge itself, I could only see my father standing in our mother lodge, just and upright as he was, saying the closing prayer. I thank the Worshipful Master and Officers of the Harmony Lodge No.6 for giving me the opportunity to relieve that wonderful memory.

**ON THE LEVEL
PAGE 4**



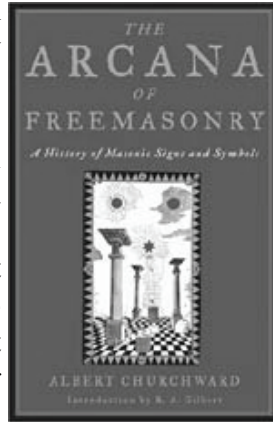
**FREE
KNOWLEDGE
BRING YOUR
OWN
CONTAINER!**

*“ What we
have done for
ourselves alone
dies with us;
what we have
done for others
and the world
remains and is
immortal.”
-Albert Pike*



BOOK REVIEW

This book has turned my understanding of Freemasonry upside down. That’s probably why it was out of print for so long. Originally published in 1915, this is a 2005 edition of Albert Churchward’s *The Arcana of Freemasonry; A History of Masonic Signs and Symbols*. If you believe the origin of Freemasonry dates from the early 18th century, this book will shock you. Did you know that one African tribe that can be traced directly to Ancient Egypt still use our signs and symbols today? This is from the back cover: Churchward weaves a tale of Masonry’s origins in ancient Egypt and its continuance through history all told via Masonic symbols and symbolism. From Egyptian history and Mayan carvings through Greek mathematicians, philosophers, and metaphysicians, Churchward traces the most basic symbols of Freemasonry to the hidden meaning in the signs and tools of contemporary freemasonry. Included are the two triangles—one upright, one reversed—which form the ubiquitous square and compasses called the “Key of Hiram,” to the Three Master Squares, whose geometric arrangement was the key to operative Masonry in ancient times and of great symbolic meaning even today. What results is the opportunity for readers to find hidden meanings in all walks of life—art, architecture, geometry, poetry, and particularly contemporary novels and movies that lean heavily on Masonic histories as plot devices.



OFFICIAL VISIT

Right Worshipful Frank Schurwon, Sr., District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 31-B made his official visit to Harmony Lodge No.6 Monday September 18, 2006. The meal was excellent and the ceremony was flawless and we were complimented on both. He relayed this message from the Most Worshipful Brian Dodson, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas:
Guard your gates; All Masons should be good men, but not all good men should be Masons.

**CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH**

Austin C. Frame, Jr.	10/5
Robert P. Walker	10/24
Solomon Garcia	10/17
George Z. Kidwell	10/15
Lewis S. Milutin, Jr.	10/3
Dan L. Rogers	10/31
Paul Spencer Allen	10/9
Howard L. Crockett	10/18
Bruce W. Roberts	10/17
Jay Carl Camp	10/31
David P. Allnutt	10/22
Byron Brooks Rosson	10/11
Edward Rodriguez	10/28
Duane E. Wheat	10/10
Mason D. McMurray	10/31
Samuel Stephen Blackwell	10/1

Happy Birthday Brothers!!!



NO HARRY, NOT A BRANCH OF ACACIA !



LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

Frank Williams, Sr.
409-256-4231

Senior Warden

Daniel Williams
409-354-3468

Junior Warden

Clyde Wood
409-789-9799

Treasurer

Ted Armstrong
281-709-5830

Secretary

Frank Williams, Jr.
409-682-6927

Chaplain

Jimmy Kessler

Senior Deacon

Mason McMurray

Junior Deacon

Christopher Travis

Marshal

Al Leal

M/C

Fabian Aguilera

Tiler

Bill Snipes, Sr.

TO BE A LEADER

Perhaps no higher honor will ever come your way than to serve as an officer in your Blue Lodge or Scottish Rite. To be obedient to the task and maintain a reservoir of Masonic skills must be paramount in your career. Let not you or other officers become intoxicated with power. Your primary duty will be to lead with candor, authority, and dignity. Incite the craft to fulfill the Masonic dream that make better fathers, better sons, better husbands and above all better men.

As an officer you must be both responsive and responsible when dealing with the Craft. Never, never base your actions on hear say or unsubstantiated statements. Remember the success or failure of your Lodge depends on its officers. It is the duty of the officers to motivate the Craft, not the Craft to motivate the officers. How many times have you heard it said "It is up to the Craft to make the Lodge successful." My response to that statement is, BULL! A famous football coach once said, "Good coaches have successful teams, poor coaches have unsuccessful teams. Don't ever forget they fire football coaches not football teams." It is spiritual inspiration and divine wisdom that pave the road to success in this life. All good men are not ritualistic geniuses, but many are skilled in other areas that can be of great value to Freemasonry. In the past our fraternity was extremely successful when a diverse membership was fully involved. If we have any hope of returning to the successful days of yesteryear it will take an active diverse membership. The principle dogma of our fraternity must never change. To live by its ethics is what success is all about. To make a positive change in your life and that of others be active in your Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite beginning today.
Roy "Abbie" Hughes

DECEASED BRETHERN

We mourn the loss of our Brothers whose spirits have been summoned into the presence of the Lord and Father of all men.

Stephen B. Barnett

Born 8/13/1923
Died 8/8/2006
MM 12/23/1946

Bro. Barnett had a highly honorable career in the U. S. Navy being a Pearl Harbor survivor and served throughout every conflict through Vietnam. His ashes will be brought to Houston National Cemetery for a memorial service near the end of October. Contact the Lodge for more information.



Marcus Lamar Ross

Born 6/29/1914
Died 9/24/2006
MM 10/10/1947



Bro. Ross founded the Family Medicine Dept. at UTMB, was a city councilman in Galveston from 1963-69, was mayor from 1971-73 and chaired the Historical Foundation during the development and restoration of the historic Strand area.



*“ We represent a fraternity which believes in justice and truth and honorable action in your community... men who are endeavoring to be better citizens... [and] to make a great country greater. This is the only institution in the world where we can meet **on the level** all sorts of people who want to live rightly.”*
-Harry S. Truman
President of the United States

FIFTY YEARS

On Saturday, September 23, 2006 at La-Marque, the York Rite of Freemasonry honored our own Bro. Bill Snipes, Sr. for over fifty years of dedicated service. Bro. Snipes' Masonic record was read at the award ceremony and is most impressive. We should all be very proud to have him as a member of our Lodge.



Bro. Bill D. Snipes, Sr.

Masonic Offices Held:

Worshipful Master Harmony Lodge No. 6
1965-66
Tiler Harmony Lodge No. 6
1971 to present
Tiler Tucker Lodge No. 297
1983-2004
Chairman, Masonic Board of Relief
1970-2004
Thrice Illustrious Master Galveston
Council No. 16 Royal and Select Masters
1973-74
Treasurer, Royal and Select Masters
1986-2005
High Priest, San Felipe de Austin
Chapter No. 1 Royal Arch Masons
1974-75
Eminent Commander, San Felipe de Austin
Commandery No. 1 Knights Templar
1975
Prelate, Knights Templar No. 1
1957 to present
Almoner, Galveston Scottish Rite Bodies
1977 to present
Chaplain, El Mina Shrine Temple
1968-2005
Ambassador
1982

Worthy Patron, Mizpah Chapter No. 2
Order of the Eastern Star
1972-73

Offices held in Grand Bodies:

District Deputy Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Texas, AF&AM
1971-72
Grand Chaplain, Grand Council
Royal and Select Masters of Texas
1975-76
Grand Prelate, Grand Commandery
Knights Templar of Texas
1975-76
Grand Chaplain, Grand Lodge of Texas
1977-78
District Deputy Grand High Priest
Royal Arch Masons of Texas
1978-79
Grand Chaplain, Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons of Texas
1982-83
District Deputy Grand Master
Royal and Select Masters of Texas
1981-82
Grand Representative of the Grand
Commandery of North Carolina near the
Grand Commandery of Texas
1976-2001
Appointed Chairman of the Masonic Board
of Relief
1972-2004
Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge
of Cuba near the Grand Lodge of Texas
1983-2000
Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter
of Kentucky, Royal Arch Masons, near the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of
Texas
1983 to present
Grand Representative of the Grand Council
of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario,
Canada near the Grand Council of Royal
and Select Masters of Texas
1983 to present
Served 14 years on the Grievances and
Appeals Committee, Grand Lodge of
Texas, AF&AM
Continued next page

**ON THE LEVEL
PAGE 7**



WEBSITES



www.grandlodgeoftexas.org



<http://galveston-scottishrite.org>



www.texasYorkrite.org



elminashriners.org

Trustee, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Dallas, Texas
1981-2001
Grand Commandery Chairman, Voluntary Campaign, Knights Templar, Eye Foundation, Grand Commandery of Texas
1967-88

Member Of:

Texas Lodge of Research
Life Member, The Philaethes Society.
Order of the Silver Trowel.
Order of High Priesthood.
Super Excellent Master, Royal and Select Masters.
Past Preceptor of Resurrection Tabernacle No. XXI, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.
Texas York Rite College.
The Royal Order of Scotland.
Knights of the York Cross of Honor, Texas Priory No.23.

Past Sovereign, San Felipe Conclave Red Cross of Constantine No.50.
Member of Grand Cross of Color,
Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Awards:

Knights Templar Cross of Honor presented from the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas 1972.
Golden Trowel Award
Grand Lodge of Texas 1996.
Excalibur Award
Service to Knight Templar Masonry 1996.
Cornerstone Award
Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas 1997.
Cryptic Triangle Award
Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Texas 2001.
Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas
Golden Keystone Award 2001.
Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Texas, Time, Talent and Service Award 2001.

Bro. Snipes' complete Masonic Record is a full four pages long, but these are the highlights.

FROM THE EAST

It has been another productive and satisfying month for the Lodge. We did well. Our degrees continue to be excellent and will get even better as the year progresses. We have had so much activity that it is difficult to plan degrees or practices and the holidays will be on us in no time. I will make every effort possible to ensure that when a Brother is ready for his next degree, that the Lodge will support him and his efforts with cheerfulness and plan the degree for the earliest possible time. I truly believe that everything we have been doing has been for the good of the Lodge and for Masonry as a whole. It has turned into a great year so far. I want to thank my officers and all of the members of the Lodge for their support in coming to Lodge and the degrees.

I am trying to make the Lodge a place where people would like to be. Gloria and I had hoped that more ladies would be attending by this time so please if you read this, bring your lady to the meeting. She may enjoy it more than you think. I am planning a ride on the Moody Gardens paddle boat and afterwards a nice dinner at the restaurant. The meal is very reasonable and I think we will have a great time.

Frank Williams, Sr.
Worshipful Master

DID YOU KNOW?

Music written by Bro. John Stafford Smith (1750-1836) of Inverness Lodge No.4 in London was, at one time, used by an Irish Masonic Orphan's Home as their song. Later it became a popular drinking song for many years known as *To Anncreon in Heaven*. Then some years later, the music was adopted by Francis Scott Key to which he wrote the words to our national anthem, *The Star Spangled Banner*.

HARMONY LODGE NO. 6
P. O. BOX 479
GALVESTON, TX 77553

