

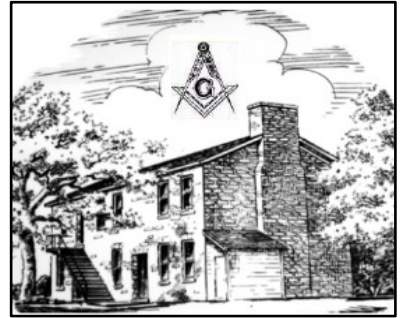
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THE BEACON

Onion Creek No. 220
 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
 Chartered by the Grand Lodge of Texas – June 16, 1858
 Visit our website at <http://www.onioncreeklodge220.org>



August 2018

Lodge Officers 2018 - 2019

WM: **Christopher R. Dawson**
 SW: **David "Tide" Williams**
 JW: **Orlando Perez**
 Treas: **Dennis C. Kestner, PM**
 Sec: **Troy J. Shugart, PM**
 Chap: **Raul J. Scully, PM**
 SD: **Ernest Owney**
 JD: **Richard Alonso**
 SS: **Jeromy W. Odom**
 JS: **Abram Wallace**
 Mar: **Dennis J. Ross, PM**
 MC: **Curtis A. Gilgan, PM**
 Mus: **William L. Lewis, PM**
 Tiler: **Bobby Clakley**

Living Onion Creek Lodge Past Masters

1969- Tommie J. Conner
 1970- Ralph L. Cearley
 1974- Jimmy M. Hodges
 1977- Roy L. Hamor
 1978- Bobby J. Doherty
 1980- Ronald B. Norwood
 1981- Howard D. Hall
 1982- Alan L. Karotkin
 1984- Matias H. Ruiz
 1987- Elliott R. Wilson
 1988- Jerry T. Jarmon
 1989- Dennis C. Kestner
 1991- Ronnie H. Lee
 1993- Albert A. Mehlhaff
 1994- Walter H. Argall
 1995- Javier R. Gonzalez
 1996- Kenneth P. Wood
 1997- William S. Lear
 1998- John W. Turner

1999- James F. Keese
 2000- Walter E. Sanders
 2001- Jonathan D. Walker
 2002- Robert L. Roda
 2003- Ricky J. Tindell
 2004- Elijo Arjona, Jr.
 2005- Hamilton B. Carter
 2006- Russell M. Tidwell II
 2007- Michael E. Sanders
 2008- Daniel E. Barber
 2009- Dale L. Flatt
 2010- Tony M. Ramirez
 2011- Dennis J. Ross
 2012- Adrian W. Edmundson
 2013- Raul J. Scully
 2014- Ben B. Rauschke
 2015- Curtis A. Gilgan
 2016- Jeff J. Carroll
 2017- William L. Lewis

Living Affiliated Past Masters

J. Roland Brown
 Don R. Cowley
 Gerald T. Dawson
 Allen W. Deaver
 Carlton L. Edwards
 Robert Eschenburg
 Elbert I. Franks
 Reagan W. Hammett
 Bennie L. Hudson
 Gordon W. Kelso
 Howard Kimball
 James M. King
 Don R. Long
 Wes Mersiovsky
 Bobby J. Norris
 Boyce Oakes
 Gene C. Payne
 Troy J. Shugart
 Bill Weathers
 James C. Wells
 Roni Zulu



August Birthdays

Charles W. Hampton, Michael L. Poe 01; Marvin H. Kelly, Henry Treveno 02; Robert A. Carnes 03; Joseph M. Hurtado 04; Raymond M. Williams 05; David M. Harnden 07; Darrell W. Boyd, Gordon V. Powell, Jr. 08; Lawrence F. Crook, Jr., John O. Adams 09; Julius M. Abella 10; Wayne V. Frye, David C. Allen 12; Arthur N. Wagner, William S. Haire 13; Dennis L. Warner 14; Leon D. Ross, Albert A. Mehlhaff 17; George G. Watkins 18; Larry L. Haney, Terry L. Sharp, Jerry W. Wranischar 20; Boyce V. Oakes, Dennie J. Jackson 21; Bobby O. Brown, Bobby D. Clakley 22; John J. Brassil, Charles E. Gray, Jr., Melvin E. Johnson 24; William B. Farr 25; Stephen C. Dowell, Jeromy W. Odom, Raul J. Scully 27; Patrick N. Franklin, Samuel E. Taylor, Sr. 29; David H. Lewis 31.

Masonic Birthdays; raised in August (year)

Sidney L. Ellis 59; Robert C. Williams 66; Joseph E. Simpson 67; Louis C. Martin 69; Rodney W. Angell, Willis C. Woods 70; John W. Turner 73; Jerry T. Jarmon 79; Walter H. Argall 81; Eddie E. Daffern, Ronnie H. Lee 82; Elbert I. Franks, David H. Lewis 86; Robin B. Shannon, Kenneth R. Smith 87; Kenneth P. Wood 90; Bradley J. Hardin 92; James M. Collins 93; Rodney E. Lay 97; Reagan L. Dunklin, Henry Trevino 99; Timothy S. Crook, Albert J. Stowell 01; Daniel E. Barber 02; Raul J. Scully 08; David "Tide" Williams 13; Kevin W. Ruiz 16; Julius M. Abella 17.

*And God said, "Let there be light,"
 and there was light!*

Stated Meeting

**First Thursday
 August 2nd, 2018**

**Entered Apprentice
 Mason's Lodge**

Family Night

**Meal at 6:30 p.m.
 Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

Onion Creek Lodge Committee Chairmen:

Beacon Editor: **David Karhi**
Breakfast Socials: **Richard Alonso**
Building: **Jeromy Odom**
Cemetery: **Abram Wallace**
Communications: **Dale Flatt, PM**
Esoteric Instruction: **Troy Shugart, PM**
Finance: **Ernest Owney**
Funeral: **Curtis Gilgan, PM**
Historian: **Troy Shugart, PM**
Hospital: **H. Max Fisher**
Ill and Visitation: **Carl Robinson**
Vanguard: **Christopher Dawson**
Orlando Perez

***Happy Birthday, Brothers!
 May the Supreme Architect bless you with many more!***

From the East

Greetings Brethren, and happy August.

We've been pretty busy the last few weeks! On June 30th, Onion Creek held its installation of Lodge Officers. It was wonderful to see so many of our Masonic family and friends together. After a short week, Onion Creek's Ernest Owey was installed as Master of Rambo No. 426 on July 7th. A touching ceremony was followed by fellowship through the evening. Congratulations to all of the 2018-2019 Officers of both lodges!

The Brethren have also been busy on study nights and improving our buildings. There are three EAs and one FC steadily learning their work, as well as officers learning ritual. It's great to have so many brethren investing their energies, teaching and learning at one time. We are planning to introduce new ways to teach and learn in our Lodge, so be on the lookout!

On July 16th, the Building Committee Chairs, Senior Steward Jeromy Odom and Junior Steward Abram Wallace, partnered with Senior Warden Tide Williams to repair the light in the East. They weathered the heat of our attic and ran new wiring, then installed a new LED bulb. Not only will we have new light in the East, but also it won't give our Masters sunburn! Thank so much, gentlemen!

Coming up, our next Stated Meeting is on August 2nd and we will be opening an Entered Apprentice Lodge. All Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are invited to attend. As usual, it will be a Family Night. Please bring your families and friends to Onion Creek to share in fellowship. Speaking of fellowship, there are a couple of fun events coming up: First, on August 11th, Senior Deacon Richard Alonso will be hosting the Summer Breakfast Social. As always, it's a great opportunity for good food and fellowship. Be sure to come on by for a fantastic, all-you-can-eat breakfast. Also, August 4th will be ideal for those with an appetite for good food and a desire for good company. At Camp Ben McCulloch in Driftwood, Tx., The Hill Country Rally for Kids will be holding a BBQ Competition. I hear it's a fantastic time, despite the heat. If you're interested, you can find out more information online or by contacting PM Robert Eschenburg.

For those that don't know, August 4th is a special day in Masonry. In 1753, Brother George Washington was raised as a Master Mason at Fredericksburg Lodge in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He

was 21 years old. Bro. Washington believed that becoming a Mason gave him an opportunity to demonstrate his belief in civil service and responsibility. When Bro. Washington was inaugurated as the first President of the United States in 1789 he was also serving as Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge.

In 1922, a Masonic memorial to Washington was proposed on a 36-acre tract of land, situated on a hilltop in Alexandria, Virginia. It is said that Thomas Jefferson first proposed the building site for America's Capitol. During the building of the Memorial, even during the Great Depression, no loans were taken - only contributions from Masons. This tradition continues today, as all Entered Apprentices in Texas contribute a portion of their Initiation fee to the maintenance of the Washington Memorial. This donation is commemorated with a certificate, presented to the new Brother after the close of their Initiation. The work on the Memorial continued until it was opened to the public in 1970. In 1999, a large Square and Compass was added to the front lawn, which easily communicates the builders of the Memorial and the namesake it preserves. There are many artifacts of American and Masonic history at the Memorial, including those of Bro. Washington, which are on display to the public.

Our Fraternity has a rich history and deep traditions. I have to occasionally remind myself to pause and reflect on why practicing the principles of the Order are so important. It's why being mindful of my thoughts, words, and behavior is necessary. It's because I not only represent myself, and my Brethren, when I leave the Lodge and move about society. I also represent men whose distinguished service built a foundation that our entire Nation is built upon, not just our gentle Fraternity.

Have a terrific month – stay cool and hydrated – and be well this month. See you at lodge!

Christopher Dawson, Worshipful Master



The Ritual and its Importance

It is said that the ritual of Freemasonry is the thread that binds us to all Masons who have preceded us. It will also bind us to all Masons who come after us as we pass down the ritual from generation to generation. One of the greatest appeals of Masonry to the individual Mason is "The Work" as its rituals constitute the source books from which our Craft can prove where it came from. While principles, duties, and virtues can be taught without ritual, properly executed ritual is the perfect way to consistently instruct as our crafts original teachers desired. Once a ritual is stabilized in human belief, it tends to stay uncontaminated by modern ideas. Many have thought to improve the ritual of Freemasonry, but none have succeeded. After all, how can one make something better which is already best? Our ritual's contents were, and are, living, breathing truths which are conveyed in words, actions, and symbols which by their antiquity prove that they are best for the purpose.

Orlando Perez, Junior Warden

The First Documented Initiation of a Freemason

Elias Ashmole, a chemist and antiquarian, recorded the proceedings of his initiation in his diary, where he used to write notes about his life with the intention of writing an autobiography. This entry, written in October of 1646, is important because it is the first evidence known of the making of a speculative Mason, and the first one to be recorded in writing.

Elias Ashmole is not the first speculative Mason in history, but he is the first one who recorded the proceedings of his initiation in writing (or at least his is the first record that was ever found), and he even took down the names of the other Masons that were present during his initiation.

David Karhi, Editor

August Menu

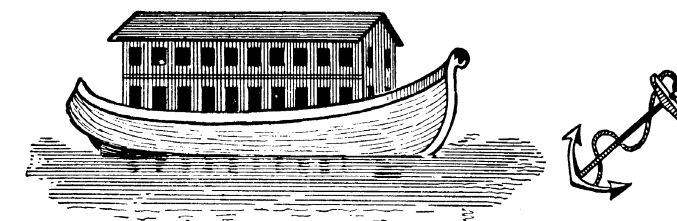
August Food Committee Chairman Roland Brown, PM reports that they will be serving Cajun jambalaya with appropriate sides, ice cream, and cake from Upper Crust Bakery.

Thank you Brethren for a fine meal!

Prayer List

Please remember the following people in your prayers as they seek comfort and healing. They are or have been ill, recovering from medical procedures or have limited mobility: RW T.K. Anthony, Walter Boyd, Jack Brassil, Johnnie Camarillo, Shawon Carroll (Jeff's brother), Thomas Carroll (Jeff's dad), Madeline Carter (Richard Alonso's Mother in-law), Gerald & Zoey Curry, Glenn Dyess, Sidney Ellis, Robert Flores (PM Blanco), Lily Forman (Troy Shugart's niece), Curtis Gilgan, Barbara Gower (RW Mike Gower's wife), Reagan Hammett, Alba Haney (Larry's wife), Sam Hill, Freddie Hite, Arnold Holden, Ethel Johnson (Roland Brown's stepdaughter), Amy Karotkin (Alan's daughter), Larry Korts, Johnnie Long, Ken Loveless, Thurman McGinnis, Tony Moreno, Bob Oakes, Tom Peters, Joe Pickering, Tony Ramirez, Bertha Salinas, JT Shugart (Troy's dad), Theresa Shugart (Troy's mother), David Solverson, Wanda Stewart, April Tinajero (Larry Haney's daughter), and Tracy Williams (Tide's wife).

If you know of others who should be on this list, please contact WM Chris Dawson or Chaplain Raul Scully, PM



SAMC Hospital Volunteers

During the month of June, 8 Masons, wives, and friends contributed over 132 hours assisting our friends and neighbors over at St. David's South Austin Medical Center.

The outstanding volunteers who made this possible are (in alphabetical order): Linda Boyd with 18 hours, Max Fisher with 5 hours, Dwane Idecker with 3 hours, David Karhi with 5 hours, Carl Robinson with 35 hours, Jeanine Robinson with 33 hours, Dennis Ross with 2 hours, and Bobby Tiner with 38 hours.

Thank you folks for a job well done!