

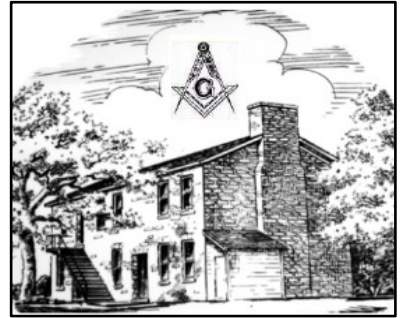
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# THE BEACON

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 2020

### Lodge Officers 2020 - 2021

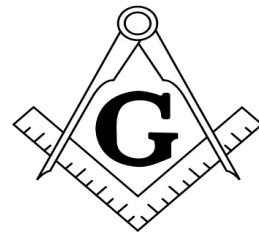
WM: **Troy J. Shugart, PM**  
 SW: **Orlando Perez**  
 JW: **Richard Alonso**  
 Treas: **Curtis A. Gilgan, PM**  
 Sec: **Raul J. Scully, PM**  
 Chap: **William L. Lewis, PM**  
 SD: **Abram R. Wallace**  
 JD: **Jeromy W. Odom**  
 SS: **Bobby D. Clakley**  
 JS: **Franklin "Ed" Merica**  
 Mar: **Dennis J. Ross, PM**  
 MC: **Ben B. Rauschke, PM**  
 Mus: **Wilfredo "JR" Vera**  
 Tiler: **Anthoney T. Farmer-Guerra**

### 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  
 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  
 2000- Walter E. Sanders

### Living Affiliated Past Masters

J. Roland Brown  
 Gerald T. Dawson  
 Allen W. Deaver  
 Carlton L. Edwards  
 Robert Eschenburg  
 Elbert I. Franks  
 Reagan W. Hammett  
 Bennie L. Hudson  
 Howard Kimball  
 James M. King  
 Don R. Long  
 Wes Mersiovsky  
 Jorge A. Millan  
 Ernest Owey  
 Troy J. Shugart  
 Bill Weathers  
 James C. Wells  
 Roni Zulu



Onion Creek No. 220 A.F. & A.M. South Austin, Texas



### August Birthdays

Michael L. Poe 01; Marvin H. Kelly, Henry Trevino 02; Robert A. Carnes 03; Raymond M. Williams 05; David M. Harnden 07; Darrell W. Boyd, Gordon V. Powell, Jr. 08; John O. Adams, Lawrence F. Crook, Jr. 09; Julius M. Abella 10; Wayne V. Frye, David C. Allen 12; William S. Haire 13; Leon D. Ross 14; Albert A. Mehlhaff 17; George G. Watkins 18; Larry L. Haney, Terry L. Sharp, Jerry W. Wranischar 20; 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; 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; Rodney E. Lay 97; Reagan L. Dunklin, Henry Trevino, Johnny S. Turner 99; Albert J. Stowell 01; Daniel E. Barber 02; Raul J. Scully 08; David "Tide" Williams 13; Julius M. Abella 17.

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

*Happy Birthday, Brothers!*

*May the Supreme Architect bless you with many more!*

### Stated Meeting

**First Thursday  
 August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Entered Apprentice  
 Mason's Lodge**

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

### Onion Creek Lodge Committee Chairmen:

**Beacon Editor:** David Karhi  
**Breakfast Socials:** Jeromy Odom  
**Building:** Jeromy Odom  
Abram Wallace  
**Cemetery:** Dale Flatt, PM  
**Communications:** Troy Shugart, PM  
**Esoteric Instruction:** Richard Alonso  
**Finance:** Curtis Gilgan, PM  
**Funeral:** Troy Shugart, PM  
**Historian:** H. Max Fisher  
**Hospital:** David Karhi  
**Ill and Visitation:** Troy Shugart, PM  
**Vanguard:** Raul Scully, PM  
**Pleasant Hill Advisory:** H. Max Fisher  
**Special Events:** Chris Dawson, PM

## From the East

Greetings Brethren all,

It has been quite some time since I have communicated with you through *The Beacon*. All this COVID-19 stuff has had a drastic impact on all our lives, as such, I hope this finds you and your loved ones in good health and spirits. I would like to start out by saying, "I miss you all very much!" I miss going to lodge, I miss the camaraderie, the meals and all the other things that make our fraternity and more especially our Lodge such a great and fulfilling place to be.

I am extremely proud that you have elected me as Worshipful Master of the most awesome Lodge in Texas, and I promise to do the best job possible. I am also very fortunate to have such an impressive and inspiring list of Past Masters and line of officers to help me to guide the Lodge.

As you know we were unable to have our normal installation ceremony due to gathering restrictions and because a few of the incoming officers felt uncomfortable gathering together due to so many unknowns and I completely understand. Because of this situation and others like it, Grand Master Paul D. Underwood's Decision No. 4 states:

"If a local, state, national or world crisis exists that would warrant such action. This would include pandemics or other crises that result in national, state and/or local orders directing or requiring such suspension of such meetings. Although, at present, there is no specific authority in our Grand Lodge law authorizing such action, nevertheless, the Grand Master has the power and duty to superintend and direct Masonic activities and to ensure compliance with all national, state or local orders directly pertaining to the operations of the Craft. A Lodge may continue to install officers pursuant to the provisions of Art. 295-306 if that Lodge feels that the installation can be conducted in a safe and lawful manner on or before July 31, 2020. All other Texas Lodges that have held elections pursuant to Art. 292 and do not have an installation of officers in accordance with the provisions of Art. 295-306 will be deemed to have all elected and installed officers duly installed on July 31, 2020. Some Lodges are not able to install all their officers because of absence or illness. In such a case, these

officers are also deemed to be duly installed on July 31, 2020. The requirements of Art. 297 will continue to be in effect."

I would like to welcome all the brothers in our new line of officers. I look forward to working beside each of you in the coming year. Hopefully, things will get back to something close to normal soon.

Lodge activities as we know them may be in limbo for some time to come; activities such as our Breakfast Socials and Lady Luck Bingo will most certainly be on hold until the restrictions are lifted. We will work together on finding ways to have fund raisers and to move forward with the Christmas Raffle in a safe and legal manner.

We are currently prohibited from having called meetings, so our brothers who are ready to advance will have to remain patient. I promise as soon as we are authorized to do so we will knock down the door to get you guys on your way! We have one Master Mason and two Fellowcrafts ready to go, and I know you are antsy to advance.

Our next stated meeting is scheduled for August 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. I plan on opening a Master Mason Lodge and having an MM Proficiency Examination then calling down to an Entered Apprentice Lodge to have an EA Proficiency Examination. The stated meeting will be conducted in the EA Lodge and called back to a MM Lodge for closing. Seating will be limited. In fact, if nothing changes between now and then, we will be limited to ten people. You may reach out to me or Secretary Raul Scully (it felt good to say that!) for the most current information.

Lastly, I cannot begin to thank you enough for the honor and privilege to be your secretary for the past 8 years. I have enjoyed it more than you can imagine, even when the trying times, although few, were there! I learned much about the ins and outs of our fraternity which I will carry with me the rest of my life. I know some of the things I learned will enhance my ability to lead the Lodge this year. I must say we are leaving the secretary position to a very knowledgeable and capable man in Brother Raul Scully, so we remain in good hands, if not better!

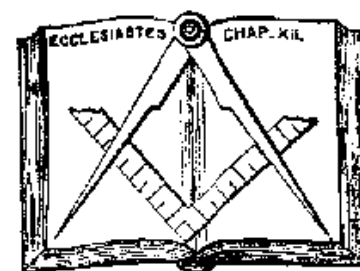
Thanks again, and please know I love you all very much.

**Troy J. Shugart, Worshipful Master**

## This Month in Masonic History

- August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1861, the Grand Lodge of Colorado was formed.
- August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1753, George Washington received his Master Mason degree in Fredericksburg Lodge in Virginia.
- August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1877, the Grand Lodge of New Mexico was formed.
- August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1826, William Morgan obtained a copyright for *Illustrations of Masonry, By One of the Fraternity Who Has Devoted Thirty Years to the Subject*, a book that publicly exposed the secrets of Masonic ritual. Although many similar books had been published before, this caused great excitement, and led to the "Morgan affair" and the Antimasonic Party of the 1820s and 1830s.
- August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1851, the Grand Lodge of Oregon was founded.
- August 21<sup>st</sup>, 1993, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and thousands of Freemasons dedicated the Friend to Friend Masonic Monument in the cemetery in Gettysburg, commemorating acts of kindness between Freemasons who fought on opposite sides in the American Civil War.
- August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1920, Warren G. Harding (U.S. President 1921-1923) received his 3<sup>rd</sup> degree in Marion Lodge #70 in Ohio.

**David Karhi, Editor**



**Called to the  
Celestial Lodge**

**Elijio Arjona, Jr.  
July 16, 2020**

## SAMC Hospital Volunteers

Due to COVID-19, we haven't been volunteering at St. David's South Austin Medical Center recently, but we hope to see our friends at St. David's again soon!

**Thank you folks for a job well done!**

## 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: Tanya Besch (Bobby Clakley's niece), Walter Boyd, Jack Brassil, Glenn & Wanda Brodderick, Roland Brown, Scott Brown (Roland's son), Johnny Camarillo, Johnnie G. Camarillo, Sr. (Johnny's father), Billy Capps, Thomas Carroll (Jeff's father), Madeline Carter (Richard Alonso's mother-in-law), Brett Chandler-Finch, Doris Cruse (Forest's wife), Zoey Curry (Gerald's widow), Linda Dyess, Sidney Ellis, Robert & Mary Eschenburg, James Farmer (Anthony's grandfather), Lily Forman (Troy Shugart's niece), Curtis & Lauren Gilgan, RW Mike Gower, Reagan Hammett, Sam Hill, Arnold Holden, Ethel Johnson (Roland Brown's stepdaughter), Amy Karotkin (Alan's daughter), Fred Khoury (Jeff's father-in-law), Eva Jean Kestner, Larry Korts' family, Don & Johnnie Long, Glendene Marlow, Patricia McGinnis & Thurman McGinnis' family, Liz Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's mother-in-law), Nicole Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's sister-in-law), Wes Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's father-in-law), PGM Orville L. O'Neill's family, Orlando Perez, Joe Pickering, Ellen Pietrzak (David Hoke's mother-in-law), Angela Ross (Dennis' wife), Linda Russel, Jeanine Robinson (Carl's wife), Jay Sharp, Theresa Shugart (Troy's mother), Melissa Springer (Ben Rauschke's mother), April Tinajero (Larry Haney's daughter), Henry Tindell (Ricky's father), Willis Woods (Michael's father), and Louis Ugarte (SW Orlando Perez's cousin).

**If you know of others who should be  
on this list, please contact WM Troy  
Shugart, PM or Chaplain Bill Lewis, PM**

