

Onion Creek Masonic Lodge #220
 AF&AM
 Post Office Box 150727
 Austin, TX. 78715-0727

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THE BEACON

Onion Creek Masonic Lodge #220
 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
 Chartered by the Grand Lodge of Texas – June 16, 1858

Visit our website at <http://www.onioncreeklodge220.org>



December 2017

Lodge Officers 2017 - 2018

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

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- Elijio 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

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
 Bobby J. Norris
 Boyce Oakes
 Gene C. Payne
 Troy J. Shugart
 Bill Weathers
 James C. Wells
 Roni Zulu



December Birthdays

Javier R. Gonzalez, Paul S. Hinchliffe 2; Christopher A. Preece 3; Sidney Q. Strength 5; Jerry T. Jarmon 6; Jacob A. Carroll, Wilfredo "J.R." Vera 8; John E. Waggoner, Jr., Ronald L. Angell, Thomas S. Estes 9; Tommie J. Conner, Marvin G. Gammage; Samuel T. Hill 14; Elijio Arjona, Jr., Gregory S. Self 15; Atlan J. Eschberger 16; John N. McFarling 17; Mack Gerald 18; Steven N. Moore 21; Michael M. Zombola 25; William H. Bargainer, Jr. 26; Sidney L. Ellis 28; Michael W. Carter 30; Harley M. Fisher, and Randall J. Storm 31.

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

Masonic Birthdays; raised in December (year)

Arnold J. Holden, Edward L. Weeren 57; Wayne V. Frye 60; Charles L. Ames 65; Felix R. Vickers 68; Gordon W. Kelso 69; Howard D. Hall 70; Bobby J. Doherty 72; William L. Weathers 79; Melvin E. Johnson 83; Robert F. Park, Jr. 85; Gerald T. Dawson, Dennis J. Ross 89; Terry L. Sharp 94; Charles E. Gray, Jr. 96; Howard K. Kimball 98; Hamilton B. Carter 01; William "Bill" Lewis, Charles W. Pickering 10; Gary P. Bernfeld 11; Jason C. Shoumaker 11; Ernest Owney 14.

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

Stated Meeting

**Second Thursday
 December 14th, 2017**

**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 A. Karhi**
Breakfast Socials: **Ernest Owney**
Building: **David "Tide" Williams**
Cemetery: **Dennis J. Ross, PM**
Communications: **Raul J. Scully, PM**
Esoteric Instruction: **Orlando Perez**
Funeral: **Troy J. Shugart, PM**
Golden Trowel: **Jeff J. Carroll, PM**
Historian: **H. Max Fisher**
Hospital: **Carl H. Robinson**
Ill and Visitation: **William L. Lewis**
Social Activities: **Raul J. Scully, PM**
Vanguard: **David "Tide" Williams**

Greetings from the East

Wow! The holidays are fast approaching.

I want to express my gratitude and thanks to all the brethren that have made my time in the East so memorable and wonderful and for all that you have done to support our Lodge. I have no doubt that our Past Masters who have had the honor of serving in the East feel the same way.

We should all remember, as brethren, we are part of a very large family that helps define who we are or would like to become.

During this holiday season we can reflect upon our traditions, both oral and written, that inspire many of us to reach out to those who are in need. The Great Light in Masonry in 1st Corinthians reminds us with these words, “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity”, that we should consider how we can reach out with love and help others. It is a time when we celebrate the traditions of our faiths. For my family, that celebration is Christmas. The story of the birth of Christ as related in Luke defines for me the true meaning of Christmas. I also enjoy the many traditions of the season – picking out a Christmas tree, caroling, decorating the house, looking at neighborhood light displays, preparing (and eating) the meal, and sharing the time with family.

A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each of you and your families. In the memorable words of Tiny Tim in Dickens’ novel, *A Christmas Carol*, “God bless us, every one!”

Looking Forward

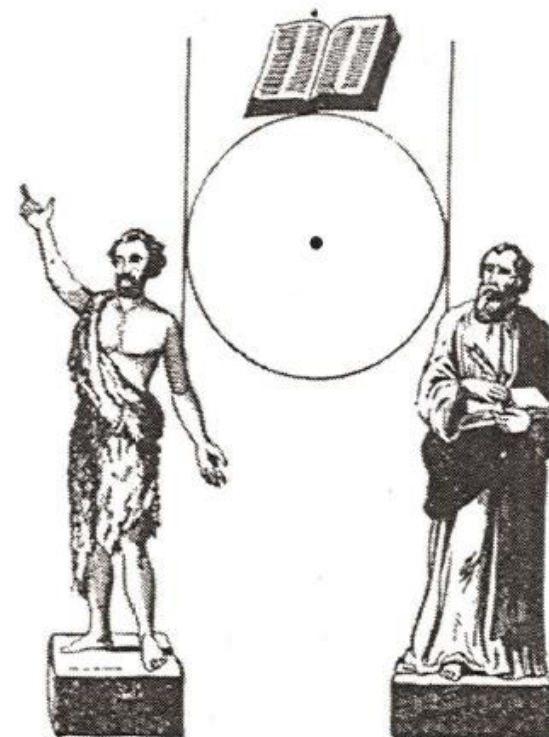
- The stated meeting will be on Thursday, December 14th
- The Lodge will be dark from the December stated meeting to the January stated meeting on January 4th
- OCL will be hosting the stated meeting of Tranquility Lodge #2000 on Saturday, January 13th beginning at 10:00 AM.
- Grand Lodge Communication will be held January 19th - 21st in Waco
- 4th Wednesday floor practice will resume on Wednesday, January 24th
- Next MWSA meeting will be hosted by Onion Creek on Thursday, January 25th

William Lewis, Worshipful Master

Greater and Better Things in Us All

“We all not only have better intimations, but are capable of better things than we know. The pressure of some great emergency would develop in us powers, beyond the worldly bias of our spirits; and Heaven so deals with us, from time to time, as to call forth those better things. There is hardly a family so selfish in the world, but that, if one in it were doomed to die—one, to be selected by the others,—it would be utterly impossible for its members, parents and children, to choose out that victim; but that each would say, 'I will die; but I cannot choose.' And in how many, if that dire extremity had come, would not one and another step forth, freed from the vile meshes of ordinary selfishness, and say, like the Roman father and son, 'Let the blow fall on me!' There are greater and better things in us all, than the world takes account of, or than we take note of; if we would but find them out.”

Albert Pike



A Universe of Infinite Benevolence

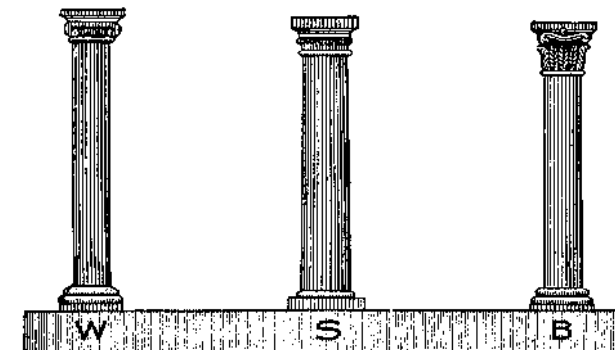
“And in this great struggle to survive as an individual entity, the soul burdens itself with all the errors and illusions of mortality. Thus it happens that though men believe in God and in a universe of infinite benevolence, they still live in fear and constant anxiety, being far more inclined to cling to this flesh to the last possible moment, than to take a chance of going into the unknown, even though they accept it intellectually as a better state. Thus the struggle for the preservation of the known causes man’s greatest confusion, for it causes him to cling to the evils he now has, rather than to fly to others he knows not of. There is a total lack of the true faith and insight that enable man to move out into space, realizing that this space is God, and that there cannot, therefore, be any evil thing in it. By faith, man should know that as surely as he himself exists, so surely is his existence essentially good, if he knows how to attain this goodness; and the evil of his existence is in his own fears and uncertainties. He is not really in danger of losing anything real, but only what he has fashioned himself, which has no foundation in reality.”

Manly P. Hall

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, Shawon Carroll (Jeff’s brother), Thomas Carroll (Jeff’s dad), Gerald & Zoey Curry, Izabella Dawson, Glenn Dyess, Sidney Ellis, Lily Forman (Troy Shugart’s niece), Curtis Gilgan, Harold Gilgan, Lauren Gilgan, RW Mike Gower, Reagan Hammett, Sam Hill, Freddie Hite, Arnold Holden, Ethel Johnson (Roland Brown’s stepdaughter), Doris Karotkin, Johnnie Long, Thurman McGinnis, Bob & Milly Oakes, Tom Peters, Joe Pickering, Tony Ramirez, Bertha Salinas, Theresa Shugart (Troy’s mother), Wanda Stewart, April Tinajero (Larry Haney’s daughter), and Ray Tiner.

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



SAMC Hospital Volunteers

During the month of October, 11 Masons, wives, and friends contributed over 156 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 21 hours, Glen Broddrick with 3 hours, Max Fisher with 10 hours, Norman Hayes with 4 hours, Dwane Ideker with 4 hours, David Karhi with 2 hours, Larry Korts with 17 hours, Carl Robinson with 30 hours, Jeanine Robinson with 30 hours, Dennis Ross with 3 hours, and Bobby Tiner with 32 hours.

Thank you folks for a job well done!