

Onion Creek No. 220 A.F. & A.M.
Post Office Box 150727
Austin, TX. 78715-0727

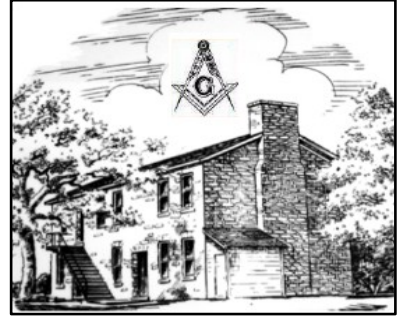
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THE BEACON

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>



February 2021

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: **Anthony 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
James C. Wells



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



February Birthdays

Howard K. Kimball, Reagan L. Dunklin 2; Manuel A. Hernandez, Stephen M. Preece 3; Ralph L. Cearley, David H. Eickbusch 4; Samuel N. Lanham, Jr. 5; David J. Faria 7; Michael D. Aufdenkamp 8; Kenneth W. Patton, Jonathan L. Ramirez 11; L.A. Westling 12; Dennis W. Mingua 14; David A. Karhi 15; Larry G. Richter 18; Donald W. Dickerson 19; Darin W. Isaacs 20; Kirk W. Reasoner 21; Jose M. Chirinos 25; Bradley J. Hardin, Chadwyck W. Preece 26; Kenath T. Carver 27; Robert L. Roda, and Michael C. Owens 28.

Happy Birthday, Brothers!

May the Supreme Architect bless you with many more!

Masonic Birthdays; raised in February (year)

Roland J. Brown 60; Harrell E. McCaslin, Sr. 61; Stanley A. Penner 63; Allyn R. Anderson, Marion P. Kerr 65; William E. Powell, David S. Solverson 66; David H. Eickbusch 74; Stephen A. Barlow, H. Max Fisher 79; Stephen M. Preece 80; Marvin G. Gammage 82; Michael C. Owens 84; Bobby J. Tiner 85; Sidney Q. Strength 87; Andrew W. James 88; Michael A. Lee 92; Robert M. Mallett, Michael E. Sanders 95; Johnathan D. Walker, David M. Harnden 98; James E. Meeks III, Samuel E. Taylor, Sr. 01; Russell M. Tidwell II 02; Donn E. Hile 03; Richard Alonso 07; Johnny G. Camarillo 08; Curtis Alan Gilgan 09; David A. Karhi 10; Orlando Perez 12; Bobby D. Clakley, Dennis W. Mingua 18.

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

Stated Meeting

**First Thursday
February 4th, 2021**

Master Mason's Lodge

**No Meal Served
Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

Onion Creek Lodge Committee Chairmen:

Activities: Chris Dawson, PM
Arbitration: Orlando Perez
Audit: Richard Alonso
Beacon Editor: David Karhi
Breakfast Socials: Jeromy Odom
Building: Abram Wallace
Cemetery: Dale Flatt, PM
Communications: Raul Scully, PM
Community Builder: H. Max Fisher
Fantastic Teeth: Dennis Ross, PM
Finance: Curtis Gilgan, PM
Fraternal Assistance: Troy Shugart, PM
Funeral: Troy Shugart, PM
Golden Trowel: Tide Williams, PM
Grand Lodge Business: Curtis Gilgan, PM
Historian: H. Max Fisher
Hospital: David Karhi
Lodge Education: Abram Wallace
Members in Arrears: Orlando Perez
Past Masters' Night: Dennis Ross, PM
Pleasant Hill Advisory: H. Max Fisher
Raffle: David Hoke
Scholarship: H. Max Fisher
Sick and Distressed: Troy Shugart, PM
Vanguard: Richard Alonso

From the East

Greetings all. As we enter the second month of 2021, it is nice to put 2020 farther and farther behind. This year is already starting to look better around the Lodge. Although attendance has been very low on our study nights, we managed to pull off a mighty fine Master Mason Degree on January 21st. I would like to congratulate Brother Mike Barefield for being the first Master Mason of Onion Creek raised in the first month, the 21st day of the 21st year of the 21st century! We had some distinguished guests that evening; Brother Barefield's father, a Tennessee Mason, and his son, a South Carolina Mason, both traveled great distances to be there. It was an emotional evening having three generations of the same family come together in Masonry. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the brothers who came together to make the degree happen. My gratitude also goes out to our stewards, Brothers Bobby Clakely and Ed Merica, for getting the lodge in "ship shape" condition.

Sadly, we have lost two members of our Lodge in the recent past. We found out only a few days ago of Brother Rodney Lay's passing on December 28, 2020. Brother Lay had a long but courageous battle with cancer. We also lost Brother Joe Pickering on January 14 of this year after being hospitalized with complications from COVID-19. Please keep the families of our late brothers in your thoughts and prayers.

Some of you may not have heard Reverend Brother Don Long and his wife Johnnie also were affected by this awful virus. I spoke with Brother Long at length this past week and he assured me they are better. He spent some time in the hospital, but they released him because he insisted on being at home to take care of Johnnie. Nothing like true love, huh! Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as well.

We had our Annual Grand Communication a couple of weeks ago. It was quite different this year as many of us attended virtually. Personally, I think the virtual concept played out very well. Although we lost the opportunity for fellowship, we gained the opportunity to "not" have to travel to and from Waco! There were several resolutions and Grand Master's Recommendations voted on as well as voting for incoming Grand Lodge officers and other positions within the library and museum. You can find all this information on the Grand Lodge website. I would like to say "Congratulations" to MW:. Ken Curry as our

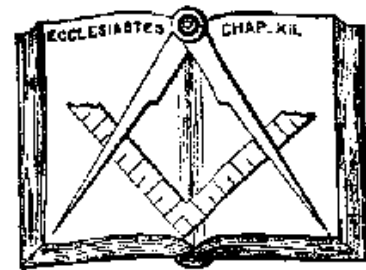
new Grand Master and to RW:. Brad Billings as our new Deputy Grand Master; two very fine men and Masons who will do us well as our leaders for this year.

Moving forward this year, I would compel each of the members to join us in Lodge. We continue to wear masks and practice social distancing and to my knowledge there has been no transmission of COVID among the brothers attending on a regular basis. I truly understand if you decide not to attend, safety, after all, is most important. Those of us there will try to keep the rituals going!

On a lighter note, we have the on-line auction going until our Stated Meeting night of February 4th. Please log on to the Onion Creek website for a link to get to the auction. There are some very nice items to bid on and please keep in mind this is our only opportunity to raise money for the Lodge; even if there is nothing for you personally, there are many items that will make fine gifts for friends or loved ones.

I will close for now but look forward to seeing you all as soon as it is safe for all! Please know that I love and miss you all more than you know.

Troy J. Shugart, Worshipful Master



**Called to the
Celestial Lodge**

Rodney E. Lay
December 28, 2020

Joe A. Pickering
January 14, 2021

Resilience

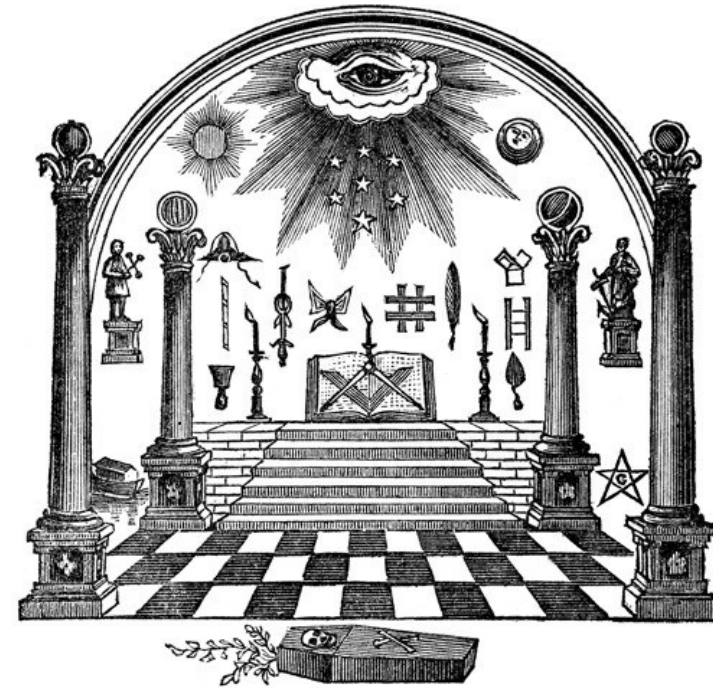
"Resilience is what humans have and resilience is what humans need to take advantage of—their ability to explore and to understand and then to react positively and with motivation, not as a defeatist, to the constant flow of challenges. Negativity doesn't get anybody anywhere. It takes reacting to all of life in a positive way to make the most out of what you've experienced and to make a better life and a better world."

Bro. Buzz Aldrin

This Month in Masonic History

- February 7th, 1981, the Grand Lodge of Alaska was formed.
- February 9th, 1909, Harry S. Truman received his 1st degree in Belton Lodge #450, Missouri.
- February 11th, 1988, masonic leaders met with President Ronald Reagan, presenting him with a certificate of honor and making him an honorary Scottish Rite mason.
- February 18th, 1909, William Howard Taft received his 1st degree in Kilwinning Lodge #356, Ohio.
- February 19th, 1811, the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was formed.
- February 23rd, 1887, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle received his 2nd degree.
- February 24th, 1853, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota was formed.

David Karhi, Editor



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, Madeline Carter (Richard Alonso's mother-in-law), Brett Chandler-Finch, Doris Cruse (Forest's wife), Zoey Curry (Gerald's widow), Elouise Duckworth (Roland Brown's sister), Linda Dyess, Sidney Ellis, James Farmer (Anthoney's grandfather), Lily Forman (Troy Shugart's niece), Curtis Gilgan, Jimmy Gower (RW Mike Gower's son), RW Mike & Barbara Gower, Reagan Hammett, Sam Hill, Arnold Holden, Ethel Johnson (Roland Brown's stepdaughter), Amy Karotkin (Alan's daughter), Eva Jean Kestner, Rodney Lay's family, Don & Johnnie Long, Jamie & Glendene Marlow, Patricia McGinnis, Ann Merica (Ed's mom), Nicole Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's sister-in-law), Dennis W. Mingua, Sr. (William's dad), Orlando Perez, William Phillip (Bobby Clakley's sister-in-law's father), Joe Pickering's family, 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), Kenneth Smith, Mike Smith (Curtis Gilgan's sister-in-law's husband), David Solverson, Melissa Springer (Ben Rauschke's mother), 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

