

Onion Creek No. 220 A.F. & A.M.  
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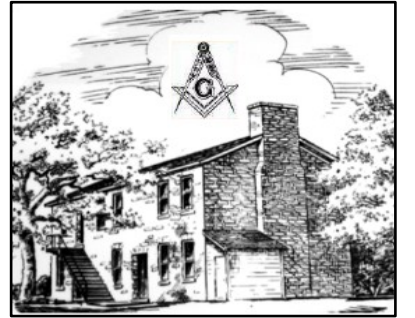
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# THE BEACON

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>



October 2020

### Lodge Officers 2020 - 2021

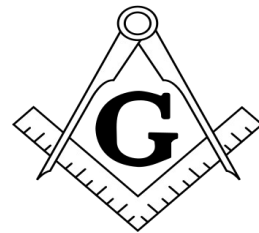
WM: **Troy J. Shugart, PM**  
 SW: **Orlando Perez**  
 JW: **Richard Alonso**  
 Treas: **Curtis A. Gilgan, PM**  
 Sec: **Raul J. Scully, PM**  
 Chap: **William L. Lewis, PM**  
 SD: **Abram R. Wallace**  
 JD: **Jeromy W. Odom**  
 SS: **Bobby D. Clakley**  
 JS: **Franklin "Ed" Merica**  
 Mar: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



### October Birthdays

Albert J. Stowell 1; Christopher R. Dawson, Robin B. Shannon 2; Forest M. Cruse, Sr. 4; Wayne E. Moore 5; Gerald T. Dawson 6; Bobby J. Tiner, John H. Schlueter II 7; James T. Harris, Charles W. Pickering, Kenneth J. Polk 8; Richard K. Bledsoe 9; Harrell E. McCaslin, Jr. 10; Don R. Long, Matias S. Ruiz 11; Robert M. Mallett 12; Ronnie H. Lee, David M. Prescott, Robert F. Simo, Randy A. Martin 13; Maxie E. Brune 16; Ben E. Gray 18; Ladare V. Benoit 19; Donn E. Hile 22; Paul D. Pennybacker 23; Bobby J. Norris 25; Tyler G. Lane 26; Juan A. Rivera, Jr. 29; Donn C. Winner 30.

*Happy Birthday, Brothers!*

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

### Masonic Birthdays; raised in October (year)

Norman L. Smith III 49; Edward V. Hill 56; Tommie J. Conner 59; Bobby J. Norris 60; Glenn M. Groth, John W. Jackson II 61; Billy L. Penry 62; Roy L. Hamor, Jr., Ralph D. Morren 63; William B. Farr, Don R. Long 68; Gary A. Crain 72; Kendell Holcomb 73; Jerry F. Trammell 82; Robert C. Cowan, James L. Younger 83; Michael L. Poe 85; James B. Harris, John N. McFarling 88; Scott A. Freng, William W. Winnie III 91; James K. Miller 93; Todd A. Reynolds 94; Jason P. Harrell, Jesus P. Velazquez 05; T. David Hoke 07.

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

### Stated Meeting

**First Thursday  
 October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

### 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 Brethren,

Another month has rapidly slipped us by. I find it difficult to believe we are nearing the holiday season and we really have not had a real opportunity to get together with our Masonic families and friends in over 6 months. I do believe things are starting to get better. However, I feel it will be quite some time before we will be able to have our family nights or put on degrees. All we can do is hope and pray for an end to all of this.

I want to apologize to a few of the brothers whom I neglected to recognize in last month's Beacon. Brothers Billy Capps, Dave Faria, Max Fisher, Curtis Gilgan, PM, and Howard Kimball have spent several days in the past few weeks working at our cemetery. They have managed to keep the north and west portions looking pretty darn good. Thank you, brethren, your deeds have not gone unnoticed.

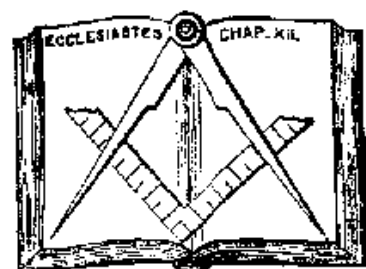
On a bit of not so good news, after a very hard look at our financial situation at the Lodge, I asked Bro. Treasurer, Past Master Curtis Gilgan, to put together a budget for this year. As we all know, we have not had the opportunity to have our breakfast socials and other fund-raising activities. Our monthly bills for the lodge have not gone down but our income has. Bro. Gilgan provided us with a comprehensive break-down regarding our financial status and offered a couple of different ways to rectify our situation. Ultimately, after the treasurer's presentation and discussion among the members present, we voted to raise the Lodge dues to \$200.00 per year effective immediately. There will be a copy of the report available to anyone who would like to review it by contacting the secretary or myself. We are also trying to come up with creative ways to raise money for the Lodge and will be discussing these more in depth at the next Stated Meeting on October 1st. We will also be receiving RW Bob Wheelless, DDGM of Masonic District 50 for his second official visit. Per the mayor's instruction, seating will be limited to 10 persons, and no meal will be served.

We are still actively looking for someone to repair the lift at the lodge as well getting rid of the bees. We have resolved to sealing up the areas where the bees are getting in because trying to save them would require removing the stone from the building and that just can not happen. We will keep you posted.

The Grand Master has authorized us to have two practice nights per month, and we have decided they will be on the 2nd and 4th Mondays. Although we cannot put on degrees at this point, we can certainly stay in practice, so when the time comes, we will be able to give our candidates a fine degree. They have certainly waited long enough, and they deserve the best. Take a chance and stop by, there just may be room for one or two more!

I will leave you now knowing we are all anxious to get back to normal. I look forward to the day we can once again assemble for fellowship and brotherly love. Please continue to stay safe. I love you all more than you know.

**Troy J. Shugart, Worshipful Master**



**Called to the  
Celestial Lodge**

**Edward V. Hill  
July 6, 2020**

**This Month in Masonic History**

- October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1928, the Philalethes Society was organized.
- October 5<sup>th</sup>, 1874, the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma (Indian Territory) was formed.
- October 11<sup>th</sup>, 1911, Franklin D. Roosevelt (U.S. President 1933-1945) received his 1st degree in Holland Lodge #8, New York City.
- October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1778, the Grand Lodge of Virginia was organized.
- October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1989, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut recognized the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut, the first U.S. recognition of Prince Hall Masonry that remained in force.
- October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1794, the Grand Lodge of Vermont was organized.
- October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1800, the Grand Lodge of Kentucky was established.
- October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1937, Lyndon B. Johnson (U.S. President 1963-1969) received his 1<sup>st</sup> degree in Texas.

**David Karhi, Editor**

**The Lamb Skin**

It is not ornamental, the cost is not great,  
There are other things far more useful, yet truly I state,  
Though of all my possessions, there's none can compare,  
With that white leather apron, which all Masons wear.

As a young lad I wondered just what it all meant,  
When Dad hustled around, and so much time was spent  
On shaving and dressing and looking just right,  
Until Mother would say: "It's the Masons tonight."

And some winter nights she said: "What makes you go,  
Way up there tonight thru the sleet and the snow?  
You see the same things every month of the year."  
Then Dad would reply: "Yes, I know it, my dear."

"Forty years I have seen the same things, it is true.  
And though they are old, they always seem new,  
For the hands that I clasp, and the friends that I greet,  
Seem a little bit closer each time that we meet."

Years later I stood at that very same door,  
With good men and true who had entered before,  
I knelt at the alter, and there I was taught  
That virtue and honor can never be bought.

That the spotless white lambskin all Masons revere,  
If worthily worn grows more precious each year,  
That service to others brings blessings untold,  
That man may be poor tho surrounded by gold.

I learned that true brotherhood flourishes there,  
That enmities fade 'neath the compass and square,  
That wealth and position are all thrust aside,  
As there on the level men meet and abide.

So, honor the lambskin, may it always remain  
Forever unblemished, and free from all stain,  
And when we are called to the Great Father's love,  
May we all take our place in that Lodge up above.

**Brother Edgar A. Guest**



**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), 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 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, Don & Johnnie Long, Glendene Marlow, Patricia McGinnis & Thurman McGinnis' family, Nicole Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's sister-in-law), Wes Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's father-in-law), 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), Kenneth Smith, Mike Smith (Curtis Gilgan's sister-in-law's husband), Melissa Springer (Ben Rauschke's mother), Henry Tindell (Ricky's father), Tracy Williams (Tide's wife), 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**

\* \* \* \* \*

**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!**