

Onion Creek No. 220 A.F. & A.M.
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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>



December 2021

Lodge Officers 2021 - 2022

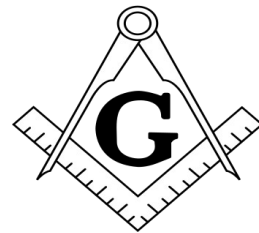
WM: **Troy J. Shugart, PM**
 SW: **Ernest Owney**
 JW: **Richard Alonso**
 Treas: **Curtis A. Gilgan, PM**
 Sec: **Raul J. Scully, PM**
 Chap: **William L. Lewis, PM**
 SD: **Abram R. Wallace**
 JD: **Bobby D. Clakley**
 SS: **Mike Barefield**
 JS: **Mike Aufdencamp**
 Mar: **Dennis J. Ross, PM**
 MC: **Ben B. Rauschke, PM**
 Mus: **Wilfredo "JR" Vera**
 Tiler: **Anthony T. Farmer-Guerra**

Living Onion Creek Lodge Past Masters

1969- Tommie J. Conner
 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
 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
 2001- Jonathan D. Walker

Living Affiliated Past Masters

J. Roland Brown
 Gerald T. Dawson
 Allen W. Deaver
 Robert Eschenburg
 Reagan W. Hammett
 Bennie L. Hudson
 Howard Kimball
 James M. King
 Don R. Long
 Wes Mersiovsky
 Jorge A. Millan
 Ernest Owney
 James C. Wells



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



December Birthdays

Paul S. Hinchliffe, Scott L. Lehman 2; Christopher A. Preece 3; Sidney Q. Strength 5; Jerry T. Jarmon 6; Jacob A. Carroll, Wilfredo "J.R." Vera 8; John E. Waggoner, Ronald L. Angell, Thomas S. Estes 9; Tommie J. Conner, Marvin G. Gammage 10; Ronald B. Norwood, Jr. 11; Everet J. Sharp III 15; John N. McFarling 17; Sidney L. Ellis, Mack Gerald 18; Michael M. Zombola 25; Kenneth O. Shiga 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; Howard D. Hall 70; Bobby J. Doherty 72; Matias S. Ruiz 77; 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; James R. Darrell 06; William "Bill" Lewis, Jr., Charles W. Pickering 10; Jason C. Shoumaker 11; Ernest Owney 14.

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

Stated Meeting

**Second Thursday
 December 9th, 2021**

Master Mason's Lodge

Family Night

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

Onion Creek Lodge Committee Chairmen:

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

From The East

Merry Christmas everyone! I hope this finds you all in good health and spirits. It amazes me how fast this year has passed. Unlike in years past we will not be having a Christmas Raffle this year; we will instead have a raffle in February or March in concert with a Lodge Carnival being put together by our Junior Deacon, Brother Bobby Clakely. It should turn out to be a fun time for you and your families, and I really hope you see you there!

Things have been quite calm around the Lodge lately, but I'm hoping that as the world gets closer to being normal again the Lodge will also. We will be voting on a new candidate at the December Stated Meeting which is exciting. It has been some time since our last initiation. (By the way, the December Stated Meeting will be on the SECOND Thursday as it always is in December) I hope to see you there as well.

We have been working on getting bids to have the Lodge building Tuck-Pointed which involves replacement and sealing of the mortar holding the building together. This work is desperately needed to maintain the integrity of the stone around the building. There are many hundreds of areas where moisture is getting between our walls and if we don't do something our magnificent old and historical building will not be around for our future brothers to enjoy. The first bid we received was more than \$230,000.00. Obviously, we can't do it all at once, but we must start somewhere. This endeavor has been addressed and kicked down the road for years and it is time to move on it. If you are able, any amount of donations or ideas for fund raising would be welcomed to the building fund!

Grand Lodge 2022 Annual Communication is coming up on January 20-22 in Waco and will prove to be another fun and enlightening Masonic experience. This is your opportunity to voice your opinion and vote on the resolutions and recommendations while at the same time catch up with old friends from around the state and meet new ones. If you plan on going, you need to log into your member portal on the GL website to register. We also have a block of rooms reserved at the Homewood Suites in S. Waco. If you plan on staying, you should grab a room while they last.

Until we meet again, I wish you all a happy, safe Christmas holiday period. Travel safe, share your love, and come on back to Lodge in the new year. I love you all!

Troy J. Shugart, Worshipful Master

Onion Creek Lodge Theater

Come join us every 2nd Saturday as we enjoy a movie at the lodge. The movies are displayed on a 16 foot screen indoors (or outdoors, drive-in style when weather permits). Popcorn and sodas are available, or bring your own snacks. Sit back and relax with a first-rate movie.

Now playing: December 11th @7pm

Finch

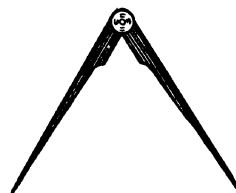
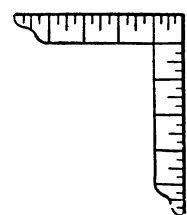


On a post-apocalyptic earth, a robot, built to protect the life of his creator's beloved dog, learns about life, love, friendship and what it means to be human.

Director: Miguel Sapochnik

Stars: Tom Hanks, Caleb Landry Jones, Marie Wagenman

David "Tide" Williams, PM



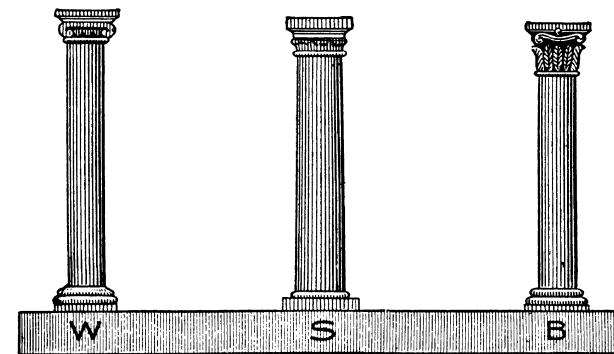
The Grand Lodge is Born

It was 184 years ago this month that Sam Houston, President of the Republic of Texas, presided over a convention in Houston to form the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas. At the time, there were already three Lodges in Texas: Holland Lodge No. 36 in Brazoria, Milam Lodge No. 40 in Nacogdoches, and McFarland Lodge No. 41 in San Augustine. But each of these Lodges had been chartered by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

On December 20th, 1837, President Sam Houston along with representatives of the three existing Lodges established the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas and elected Anson Jones as the first Grand Master of Masons in Texas. As a result, the existing Lodges were renumbered. Holland Lodge became No. 1, Milam Lodge became No. 2, and McFarland Lodge became No. 3.

While the resolution to form a Grand Lodge was approved and a Grand Master was elected, the convention resolved that the first meeting of the Grand Lodge should be held on the third Monday of the following April. As a result, it wasn't until April 16th, 1838 that the first meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas was held in Houston.

David Karhi, Editor



SAMC Hospital Volunteers

During the month of October, 2 Masons contributed over 6 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): Max Fisher with 3 hours, and David Karhi with 3 hours.

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: Teo Arredondo (Ab's nephew), Walter Boyd, Jack Brassil, De & 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), Doris Cruse (Forest's wife), Zoey Curry (Gerald's widow), Elouise Duckworth (Roland Brown's sister), Sidney Ellis, Boyce Freitag, Lily Forman (Troy Shugart's niece), Curtis Gilgan, Jimmy Gower (RW Mike Gower's son), RW Mike & Barbara Gower, Reagan & Betty Hammett, Arnold Holden, Bennie Hudson, Ethel Johnson (Roland Brown's stepdaughter), Amy Karotkin (Alan's daughter), Eva Jean Kestner, Murphy Kidder (Jim Wells' son-in-law), Don & Johnnie Long, Patricia McGinnis, Ann Merica (Ed's mom), Nicole Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's sister-in-law), Edna Missildine, Cliff O'Quin (Troy Shugart's brother-in-law), Orlando Perez, Ellen Pietrzak (David Hoke's mother-in-law), Bob Roda's family, Archie Scott, 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), Bobby Tiner, Troy Wells (Jim's son), and Willis Woods (Michael's father).

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

