

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>



May 2022

Lodge Officers 2021 - 2022

WM: **Troy J. Shugart, PM**
 SW: **Ernest Owney, PM**
 JW: **Richard Alonso**
 Treas: **Curtis A. Gilgan, PM**
 Sec: **RW 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**

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
 J. Robert Darrell
 Gerald T. Dawson
 Allen W. Deaver
 Robert Eschenburg
 Larry Faulk
 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



May Birthdays

Sebastian A. C. Franklin, Matias H. Ruiz 1; Joseph E. Simpson, James C. Stewart IV 2; Connor R. Williams 3; James E. Greybeck, Richard P. Rayborn 5; Abram R. Wallace 8; Alfred R. Bell II, Harrell E. McCaslin, Sr. 12; Orlando Perez 13; Allen W. Deaver 15; Sherrell D. Cole 16; David S. Solverson 17; James L. Brown 18; Kenneth P. Wood, Terrence P. Murphy, Dennis J. Ross, Vernon W. Miears 19; Daniel V. Andrade, Raymond Gonzalez 23; Donnie F. Carter 26; Rodney W. Angell 28; Johnny G. Camarillo 29; Ronald B. Norwood 30; Clyde J. Medlock 31.

Happy Birthday, Brothers!

May the Supreme Architect bless you with many more!

Masonic Birthdays; raised in May (year)

John J. Brassil 64; Billy R. Capps 65; Tommy R. Teykl 66; Carl H. Robinson, Sr. 67; Ronald B. Norwood, Raymond M. Williams 73; David M. Prescott 74; Samuel T. Hill 78; Elliott R. Wilson 79; Albert A. Mehlhaff 83; Harrell E. McCaslin, Jr. 86; Daniel V. Andrade 88; John H. Schlueter II 94; James R. Robinson II 95; Robert N. Crawford 96; Frank C. Hankins 98; Fransisco Reyes, Jr. 01; Troy J. Shugart 07; Daniel W. McCarter 10; James C. Wells 11; Samuel E. Taylor, Jr. 12; Jacob A. Carroll, Raymond Gonzalez, James C. Stewart IV 13; Tyler G. Lane 16; Jeromy W. Odom 17.

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

Stated Meeting

First Thursday
May 5th, 2022

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>RW Raul Scully, PM</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>RW Tide Williams, PM</u>
Grand Lodge Business:	<u>Curtis Gilgan, PM</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>
Raffle:	<u>David Hoke</u>
Sick and Distressed:	<u>Troy Shugart, PM</u>
Vanguard:	<u>Richard Alonso</u>

From the East

Greetings everyone! We are nearing the end of another Masonic year and it seems like yesterday we were just beginning. As usual, during this time of year we are preparing for a couple of special occasions. During our May Stated Meeting we will be awarding the Golden Trowel to a very worthy brother. This will be an open meeting, so bring your friends and families and join us in presenting this coveted award to one of our very own. The Scholarship Committee has chosen five very deserving students to receive a one thousand dollar scholarship each. Brother Charlie Foreman headed up this committee and did a fine job. There were thirteen applicants, all worthy students, but the committee was required to reduce it to the five most deserving. Thank you to the entire committee. If we get the medals and certificates in time, we will be presenting the scholarships at the May meeting as well. If we don't, we will push it to the June meeting. Regardless of the date, each student will have a host member of Onion Creek to introduce them and comment on their accomplishments and aspirations. Please plan on attending, and help us congratulate these very deserving students.

We held our annual Raffle at the April Stated Meeting, and several folks took home some cool prizes. Brother David Hoke headed the committee with the help of Brother Bobby Clakely and R.:W.: Tide Williams as well as other brothers who helped by selling tickets. Thank you all for a job well done. We will have the final tally at the May meeting as well as other information regarding the raffle.

Our Spring Breakfast Social will be on May 7th from 8-11 AM. This is Mother's Day weekend, so plan on joining us and make it a family event! There is always some really good food and a very fair all you can eat price tag. Memorial Day Weekend is nearing as well, so the Lodge will be dark on Monday, May 30th so you can enjoy this time with your family and friends. We are going to have our first ever OCL Carnival on Saturday, June 4th from 10 AM - 4 PM. This should prove to be a fun day and give us a little visibility in the community. We are planning on several types of games, a dunking booth, cakewalk, and many more fun things to do, so grab you friends, neighbors and family and join us!

I reckon that's about all for now. I hope to see you at Lodge as well the other events on the calendar. I love you all!

Troy J. Shugart, Worshipful Master

The Masonic Oak

When the first colonist arrived in Texas their life was one of survival without the benefit of churches, schools and lodges, or even homes as they put together shanties of one kind or another until they could find the time and means to build something more substantial. By March of 1835, there were six brethren in Brazoria who had decided that the time had come for making an attempt to have a lodge in Texas.

On March 10, 1835, John A. Wharton, Asa Brigham, James A. E. Phelps, Alexander Russell, Anson Jones and J. P. Caldwell met in a secluded grove near Brazoria and petitioned the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for a dispensation to form a new Lodge to be called Holland Lodge. The dispensation was granted and the first meeting of Holland Lodge No. 36 was conducted on December 27, 1835. The charter for this new lodge was eventually delivered to Anson Jones just before the battle at San Jacinto, and the charter remained in his saddlebags through the battle.

Today, special efforts continue to be made to preserve the Brazoria Oak where the March 10th meeting took place. Brethren from the various lodges in the area have maintained the grounds and once a year Masons from all over the state make the pilgrimage to be a part of the annual picnic to celebrate and commemorate that first meeting. All Texas Masons are encouraged to attend this annual picnic.

It is said that from little acorns, mighty oaks grow. Such was the case in about the year 1600 when an acorn fell to the ground in the vast coastal forest area near the present City of Brazoria. It was an acorn from which to grow a tree destined to play a part in the history of Masonry in Texas.

To survive under the then virgin growth conditions, the acorn has to escape natural enemies. It had to anchor its roots deep in the soil to secure needed food and moisture. But, above all, the tree which was produced from this acorn had to fight, and fight hard for survival and to secure dominance among other trees. This it did.

When the acorn fell to the ground, Columbus had discovered America only about 100 years earlier. The area comprising Texas was then under Spanish rule since the Aztecs and the Kingdom of Tezcuso had been conquered by the Spaniards under Cortez in 1519-21. Masonry was then struggling in England with "Ancient" and "Modern" Lodges based on class distinction, a condition which at that time did not bode well for our fraternity. It was in 1821, under the Plan of Iquala*, that Mexico proclaimed herself as an

independent monarchy. The nation of Mexico then included what is now California, Arizona, Utah and Texas, among other areas. By this period in history the oak tree had grown to maturity. It was ready to play a role in Texas Masonic history.

The tree was subsequently to be known by Masons as the Charter Oak, Masonic Charter Oak, or Masonic Oak, for it was under its spreading branches that Masons met to establish the first Masonic Lodge in the Republic of Texas.

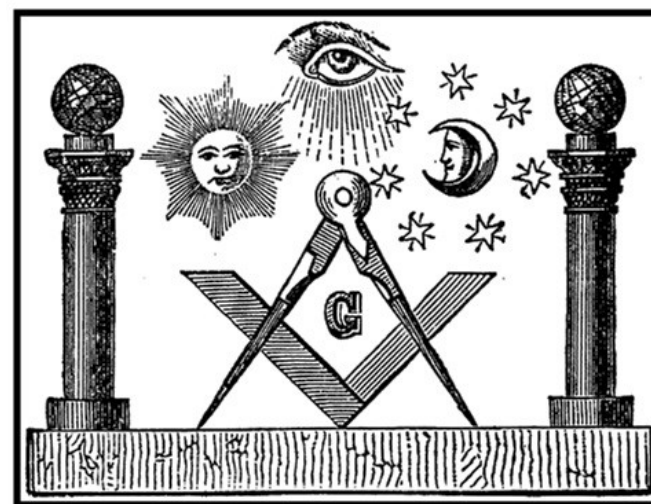
<https://grandlodgeoftexas.org/masonic-oak>



May Menu

May Food Committee Chairman Dale Flatt reports they will be serving King Ranch chicken with green beans, salad, bread & butter, fruit cocktail, and ice cream.

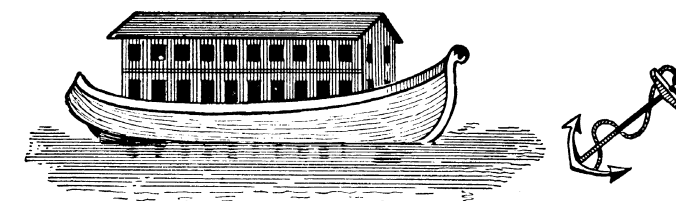
Thank you for a fine meal!



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: Judy Alonso (Richard's wife), Teo Arredondo (Ab's nephew), Mike Aufdenkamp, Mike Barefield, Walter Boyd, Jack Brassil, De & Roland Brown, Scott Brown (Roland's son), Johnny Camarillo, Johnnie G. Camarillo, Sr. (Johnny's father), Billy Capps, Lucas Carroll (Jeff's son), Madeline Carter (Richard Alonso's mother-in-law), Tammy Clakley (Bobby's sister), Doris Cruse (Forest's wife), Zoey Curry (Gerald's widow), Elouise Duckworth (Roland Brown's sister), Lily Forman (Troy Shugart's niece), Curtis Gilgan, Jimmy Gower (RW Mike Gower's son), RW Mike & Barbara Gower, Reagan & Betty Hammett, Arnold Holden, Ethel Johnson (Roland Brown's stepdaughter), Amy Karotkin (Alan's daughter), Eva Jean Kestner, Don & Johnnie Long, Patricia McGinnis, Ann Merica (Ed's mom), Nicole Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's sister-in-law), Edna Missildine, Mike Owens, Orlando Perez, Ellen Pietrzak (David Hoke's mother-in-law), Chuck Ramsey, Archie Scott, Jay Sharp, Theresa Shugart (Troy's mother), Kenneth Smith, David Solverson, Melissa Springer (Ben Rauschke's mother), Henry Tindell (Ricky's father), and Willis Woods (Michael's father).

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



SAMC Hospital Volunteers

During the month of March, 2 Masons contributed over 12 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): David Karhi with 6 hours, and Bobby Tiner with 6 hours.

Thank you folks for a job well done!