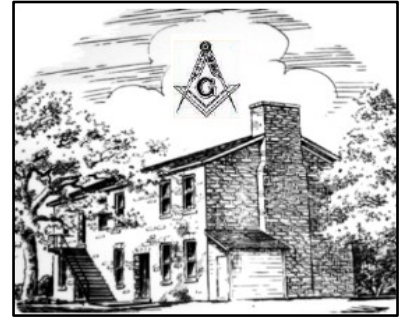


# THE BEACON

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>



## *Lodge Officers 2022- 2023*

WM: **Ernest Owney, PM**  
 SW: **Richard Alonso**  
 JW: **Abram R. Wallace**  
 Treas: **Curtis A. Gilgan, PM**  
 Sec: **RW Raul J. Scully, PM**  
 Chap: **William L. Lewis, PM**  
 SD: **Bobby D. Clakley**  
 JD: **Mike G. Barefield**  
 SS: **Jacob A. Carroll**  
 JS: **Isaac E. Carroll**  
 Mar: **Dennis J. Ross, PM**  
 MC: **Jeff J. Carroll, PM**  
 Mus: **Troy J. Shugart, PM**  
 Tiler: **Dennis W. Mingua, Jr.**

## *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  
 1997- William S. Lear  
 1998- John W. Turner  
 2000- Walter E. Sanders  
 2001- Jonathan D. Walker  
 2003- Ricky J. Tindell  
 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  
 2017- William L. Lewis  
 2018- Christopher R. Dawson  
 2019- David "Tide" Williams  
 2020- Troy J. Shugart  
 2021- Troy J. Shugart

## *Living Affiliated Past Masters*

J. Roland Brown  
 J. Robert Darrell  
 Gerald T. Dawson  
 Allen W. Deaver  
 Robert Eschenburg  
 Larry Faulk  
 Reagan W. Hammett  
 Howard Kimball  
 James M. King  
 Don R. Long  
 Wes Mersiovsky  
 Jorge A. Millan  
 Ernest Owney  
 Byron Webster  
 James C. Wells

## *Onion Creek Lodge Committee Chairmen:*

### **Stated Meeting**

**First Thursday**  
**March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

### **Master Mason's Lodge**

### **Family Night**

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

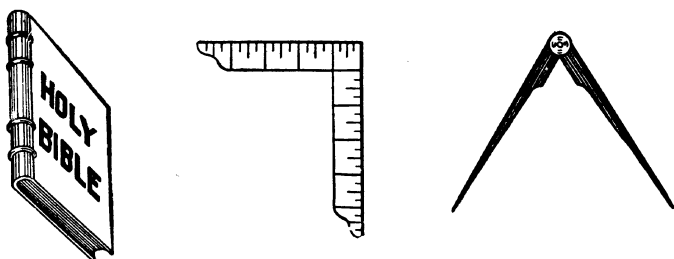
***Activities:*** **Bobby Clakley**  
***Arbitration:*** **Richard Alonso**  
***Audit:*** **Abram Wallace**  
***Beacon Editor:*** **David Karhi**  
***Breakfast Socials:*** **Michael Barefield**  
***Building:*** **Bobby Clakley**  
***By-Laws, Policies:*** **Robert Darrell, PM**  
***Cemetery:*** **Dale Flatt, PM**  
***Communications:*** **RW Raul Scully, PM**  
***Fantastic Teeth:*** **Dennis Ross, PM**  
***Finance:*** **Curtis Gilgan, PM**  
***Fraternal Assistance:*** **Ernest Owney, PM**  
***Funeral:*** **Ernest Owney, PM**  
***Golden Trowel:*** **Troy Shugart, PM**  
***Grand Lodge Business:*** **Curtis Gilgan, PM**  
***Hospital:*** **David Karhi**  
***Library:*** **Christopher Dawson, PM**  
***Lodge Education:*** **Bobby Clakley**  
***Members in Arrears:*** **Richard Alonso**  
***Photography:*** **Ricardo Avila**  
***Past Masters' Night:*** **Robert Eschenburg, PM**  
***Raffle:*** **David Hoke**  
***Scholarship:*** **Charles Foreman**  
***Sick and Distressed:*** **Ernest Owney, PM**  
***Vanguard:*** **Abram Wallace**

## *From the East*

Greetings from the East, Brethren. I hope all is well with you and your families. As we have a quarter of stated meetings left under my watch, it would be nice to see some of you brothers that have not been to lodge this year. Please, if you are able to, come out and see what's going on at the lodge, see old brothers and meet the new brothers.

At the March Stated Meeting we will be doing our raffle drawing. We will also be receiving our DDGM. I would like to take the time to thank all the brothers that helped and came out for our EA Degree, those that helped with tree trimmings at the lodge and at the cemetery, and those that put on the Bingo.

*Ernest Owney, PM, Worshipful Master*



## *The Meaning Behind the Masonic Letter "G"*

For a new student of Freemasonry, embarking on an expedition into the symbolism and history of the brotherhood can be one of endless reward and wonder. The fraternity's teachings are rich, its philosophies multifaceted, with a plethora of symbols that are vital to unlocking Masonry's complexity. Indeed, the opportunities to learn from our ancient brotherhood are boundless, and a dedicated pupil may spend a lifetime in pursuit of its more excellent knowledge and insight.

While there is much about Freemasonry that can only be learned through the completion of its degrees, even the average person has come to recognize certain Masonic symbols in their day-to-day. Perhaps most notably, the square and compasses are distinctly identifiable as Masonic to even those outside the craft. This icon appears with slight variations throughout the world, but it is commonly seen with the letter G nestled in its center in the United States. The square and compasses today can be found on everything from Masonic lodges to rings and bumper stickers, leading many to associate the letter G with Freemasonry.

To Freemasons, the letter G, rife with symbolism and fertile history, is significant for a

myriad of reasons. Let us delve deeper and learn more about what the Masonic letter G means and how this came to be.

In the fraternity itself, the letter G represents a multitude of meanings. For one, it refers to geometry, the mathematical science, which is the foundation of stonemasonry, and the ancient discipline from which Freemasonry derives. Indeed, the principles of geometry and the tools of the medieval stonemasons inform the lessons of Freemasonry. Members of the craft use metaphor and allegory to apply geometric law to our lives to guide our work as we build ourselves into better men.

One of the core requirements of becoming a Mason is professing a belief in a god. This belief is necessary to receive and appreciate the fraternity's lessons, which is why it is generally agreed upon that the letter G in the context of Freemasonry refers to God. Our brotherhood welcomes men of all religions and backgrounds, which is why we refer to the "Architect of the Universe" in the sanctity of the lodge room. The letter G is meant to remind Freemasons that all our lives and actions are performed in the presence of God, The Grand Architect. This allusion to this G's meaning is made quite clear and confirmed during The Tracing Board lecture of the Second Degree.

The letter G derives from ancient languages, with early variations found in several ancient languages, including Aramaic, Phoenician, Syriac, Greek, and Hebrew. Examples of the letter in these languages include:

- Hebrew: Gimel
- Phoenician: Gamma
- Aramaic: Gammal
- Syriac: Gamal/Gomal
- Greek: Gamma

In Hebrew, Gimel notably appears as the third letter in the alphabet and is assigned the numerical symbol three. Throughout history, the number three is used as a reference to God or the Master Architect.

It remains unclear exactly when the letter G became part of the square and compasses. In the United States, it is speculated to have risen to prominence sometime during the mid-18th century. Today, there is no symbol more readily identifiable and strongly associated with Freemasonry. It also serves as a reminder that God watches over us and guides us as we strive to live a life of integrity.

*Originally published at [scottishritennmj.org](http://scottishritennmj.org)*

## *This Month in Masonic History*

- March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1753, George Washington received his Fellow Craft degree in Fredericksburg Lodge in Virginia
- March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1792, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was formed
- March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1775, several black men, including Prince Hall, were initiated into Freemasonry in Boston, beginning Prince Hall Masonry
- March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1822, a national masonic Congress was held in the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C.
- March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1856, the Grand Lodge of Kansas was formed
- March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1848, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington, D.C. was formed
- March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1902, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon was incorporated in Trenton, New Jersey
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1887, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle received his 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1882, the Grand Lodge of Arizona was formed
- March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1902, Sir Winston Churchill received his 3<sup>rd</sup> degree in Studholme Lodge #1591, London

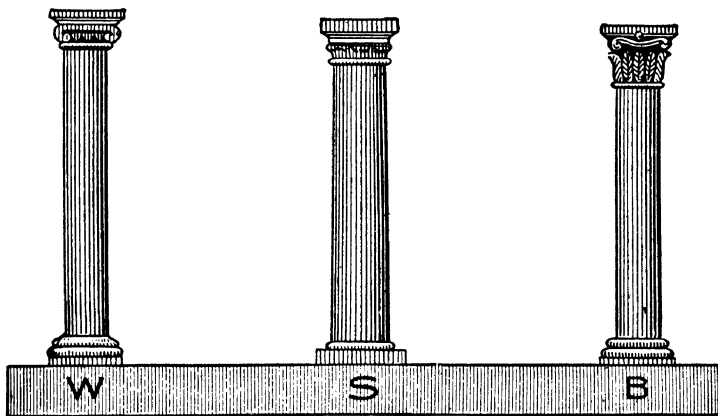
*David Karhi, Editor*



## *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: Scott Brown (Roland's son), Carol Camarillo (John's step mom), John Camarillo, Johnnie G. Camarillo, Sr. (John's father), Billy & Evelyn Capps, Madeline Carter (Richard Alonso's mother-in-law), Doris Cruse (Forest's wife), Bill Farr, Lily Forman (Troy Shugart's niece), RW Mike & Barbara Gower, Reagan & Betty Hammett, Dorothy Hill (Sam's wife), Amy Karotkin (Alan's daughter), Eva Jean Kestner, Don & Johnnie Long, Randy Martin, Ann Merica (Ed's mom), Liz Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's mother-in-law), Wes Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's father-in-law), Mike Owens, Ernest Owey, Jr., Orlando Perez, Ellen Pietrzak (David Hoke's mother-in-law), Theresa Shugart (Troy's mother), Melissa Springer (Ben Rauschke's mother), Henry Tindell (Ricky's father), and Verla Tindell's family (Ricky's mother).

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



## *SAMC Hospital Volunteers*

During the month of January, 3 Masons contributed over 90 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, Carl Robinson with 44 hours, and Bobby Tiner with 40 hours.

*Thank you folks for a job well done!*

**Onion Creek No. 220 A.F. & A.M.  
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***March Birthdays***

Michael E. Sanders 1; Ronnie W. Moreau 2; Charles R. Caudill, J. Roland Brown 3; Roy L. Hamor, Jr. 4; John E. Altis, Keith W. Caron 6; Troy J. Shugart 11; Walter H. Argall, Ferril C. Smith, Jonathan D. Walker, James C. Wells 13; Willis C. Woods 14; Charles P. Foreman 17; Omar V. Greene III, Richard N. Benoit 18; James M. King 19; Johnny S. Turner 20; Gary A. Crain 21; Stanley A. Penner 24; James L. Younger 28; Robert E. Allen, Michael J. Brode 29; William B. Tamminga, James E. Sterling 30; Fransisco Reyes, Sr. 31.

***Masonic Birthdays; raised in March (year)***

Ronnie W. Moreau 63; Clifford C. Cody 66; Dennie J. Jackson 67; James L. Brown 71; Jeffrey L. Wilbur 74; Alan L. Karotkin 76; Armand C. Ablanado, John C. Wood 79; Joe D. Beaver 83; Charles A. Snoddy, Omar V. Green III, Jimmy L. Preece, Billy R. Seguin 86; Terry D. Phillips 87; Stanley A. Mitchusson 88; William R. Harrison 90; Paul D. Pennybacker 93; Walter E. Sanders, Randall J. Storm, Michael J. Brode, Michael W. Carter 94; Jeffrey L. Dotterer 95; Jason S. Lyde 97; Dale L. Flatt 02; Jonathan L. Ramirez 07; Brett M. Chandler-Finch 09; Wilfredo Vera 14.

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

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