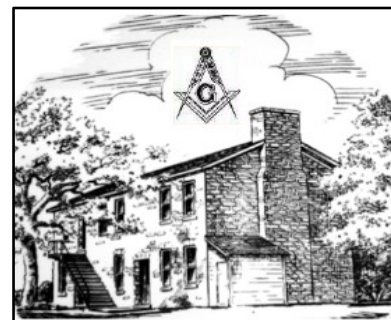


# THE BEACON

April 2023

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**  
**April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

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

### **Family Night**

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

### **Activities:**

**Arbitration:**

**Audit:**

**Beacon Editor:**

**Breakfast Socials:**

**Building:**

**By-Laws, Policies:**

**Cemetery:**

**Communications:**

**Fantastic Teeth:**

**Finance:**

**Fraternal Assistance:**

**Funeral:**

**Golden Trowel:**

**Grand Lodge Business:**

**Hospital:**

**Library:**

**Lodge Education:**

**Members in Arrears:**

**Photography:**

**Past Masters' Night:**

**Raffle:**

**Scholarship:**

**Sick and Distressed:**

**Vanguard:**

**Bobby Clakley**

**Richard Alonso**

**Abram Wallace**

**David Karhi**

**Michael Barefield**

**Bobby Clakley**

**Robert Darrell, PM**

**Dale Flatt, PM**

**RW Raul Scully, PM**

**Dennis Ross, PM**

**Curtis Gilgan, PM**

**Ernest Owney, PM**

**Ernest Owney, PM**

**Troy Shugart, PM**

**Curtis Gilgan, PM**

**David Karhi**

**Christopher Dawson, PM**

**Bobby Clakley**

**Richard Alonso**

**Ricardo Avila**

**Robert Eschenburg, PM**

**David Hoke**

**Charles Foreman**

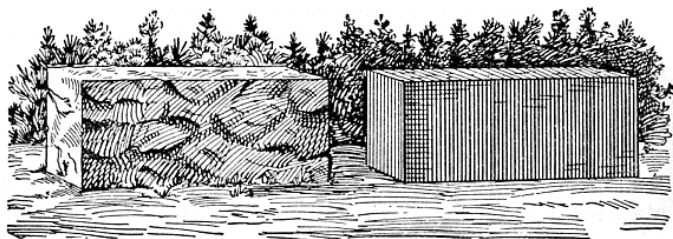
**Ernest Owney, PM**

**Abram Wallace**

## *From the East*

Greetings from the East, Brethren. I hope all is well with you and your families. As we have only 3 months left of Stated Meetings 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. We will be having our final Breakfast Social under my watch on May 6, 2023.

***Ernest Owney, PM, Worshipful Master***



## *Library Update*

On Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, the Library Committee facilitated a workday to finalize the sorting of the books that were left to the lodge by Max Fisher. Committee Chair Christopher Dawson, PM, was joined by WM Ernest Owney, PM, Tide Williams, PM, SD Bobby Clakely, and Bros. Charlie Foreman & Dave Faria. WM Owney, PM started the day by cooking breakfast tacos for everyone.

Beginning the work, the brethren first removed all the books and tchotchkes from the Library & Heritage Room, the inventory taking up nearly all of the space on the mess hall tables. Next, they emptied the library space of all the bookshelves and furniture. One of the old desks was so large, it couldn't be moved through the doorway. Also, it was built so well, they weren't able to dismantle it with screwdrivers or hammers. So, PM Williams decided to use a chainsaw to reduce its size, finally being able to remove it.

SW Abe Wallace and Bro. Ricardo Avila visited with some cleaning solvents and mops to allow the group to clean and scrub the wood paneling in the room. Then the floors were vacuumed. PMs Dawson and Williams left with Bro. Foreman to load all the bookshelves that Max left the lodge into a truck and bring them back to the lodge. SD Clakely also cleaned out the utility closet, under the staircase, as it was well overdue for a cleaning.

After unloading the shelves, the group then

cleaned the Library blinds and window, inside and out, and moved the shelves into the Library. The new shelves were cleaned, and all the books & knick-knacks were moved back in. There were some items that did not make it back in the Library, as the goal is to preserve this space as a place of study. Over the years, it's been cleaned a few times, but clutter always seems to find its way back. It's the intention of the committee to have this space cleaned once and for all after the last of Max's books are moved in. This means that if it isn't a book, or related to study, it shouldn't find its way there.

Thanks to everyone who helped and contributed to the work, and to WM Owney, PM for providing the food to keep us going. There are two more workdays scheduled in April: Saturdays 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. On both of these days, we will be moving many boxes of books to the lodge so they can be sorted. Our goal is to have all of the books out before the end of April. Anyone is welcome to come help, and the committee would be grateful. Hope to see you this month!

***Christopher Dawson, PM***

## *Movie Night @ Onion Creek*

April 8<sup>th</sup> @7pm  
*The Whale*



A reclusive, morbidly obese English teacher attempts to reconnect with his estranged teenage daughter.

*Director - Darren Aronofsky*

*Stars - Brendan Fraser, Sadie Sink, Ty Simpkins*

***David "Tide" Williams, PM***

## Merchandise Announcement

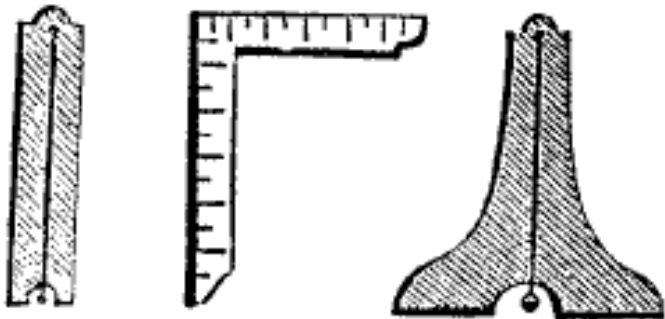
Greetings Brethren. The Merchandise Committee needs your assistance. Many of you know, over the years we've had a program in place that allows you to select a specific numbered small or large Grand Masters belt buckle, knife set or a knife set with a matching numbered Fine Silver coin.

Last year sales were very brisk and we were forced to replenish our regular stock with reserved buckles that were not picked up. Currently, at our most recent Grand Communication, we sold every knife set with the silver coin we had in our regular stock. Less than 50% of the reserved sets were purchased. This amounts thousands of dollars in inventory dollars tied up due to absent owners. A like percentage is left in reserved small and large buckles.

If you were unable to attend our Annual Communication and would like to purchase your item, please contact Brother Justin Hancock in the Grand Secretary's Office and you can make your purchase and arrange for shipping if needed. This is urgent on your part, which will help us cull the unneeded items and prepare for the upcoming Grand Master's Conference and Officer Leadership Training season.

Sincerely, fraternally and respectfully,

**Robert D. Riley, PM, Merchandise  
Committee Chairman**



## This Month in Masonic History

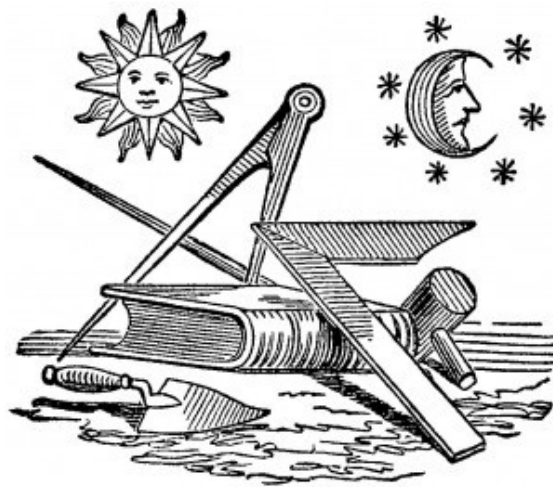
- April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1886, Rudyard Kipling received his 1<sup>st</sup> degree
- April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1785, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart received his 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1901, President Theodore Roosevelt received his 3<sup>rd</sup> degree

**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), Odie Eschenburg (Robert's mom), 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, Ann Merica (Ed's mom), Liz Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's mother-in-law), Wes Mersiovsky (Curtis Gilgan's father-in-law), Ernest Owney, Jr., Ellen Pietrzak (David Hoke's mother-in-law), Theresa Shugart (Troy's mother), and Melissa Springer (Ben Rauschke's mother).

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



## SAMC Hospital Volunteers

During the month of February, 3 Masons contributed over 59 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 19 hours, and Bobby Tiner with 34 hours.

***Thank you folks for a job well done!***

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

Luis M. Ramirez 1; John C. Preece, Andrew W. James 2; Wilbert H. Else, Marion P. Kerr 4; Gerald C. Carruth, William L. Hatten, David "Tide" Williams 8; Franklin E. Merica III 9; Joe D. Beaver 10; Hamilton B. Carter 11; Lawrence I. Falk, Jamie S. Marlow 14; James K. Miller 15; Jesus P. Velazquez 16; Brett M. Chandler-Finch 17; Benjamin B. Rauschke 18; James W. Dobbs, Joe S. Park 20; Isaac E. Carroll, James E. Meeks III 24; Frank C. Hankins 26.

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

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

Donald W. Dickerson 57; Forest M. Cruse, Sr. 59; Raymond D. Hannah, Ladare V. Benoit 62; Rodney H. Lewis, Donn C. Winner 65; Wayne E. Moore 66; David J. Faria 78; Daniel P. Vasquez 80; James W. Fouts 86; David C. Kestner, Joe L. Ruiz 87; Robert F. Simo 88; William S. Lear 92; Thomas S. Estes 03; Omar Chavez 07; Christopher R. Dawson 10; Larry L. Haney 12.

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