

Tarrant County York Rite

The Keystone



2015 February Edition - www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org



Ed Counts
President, TCYRA



Scott James
Vice President, TCYRA

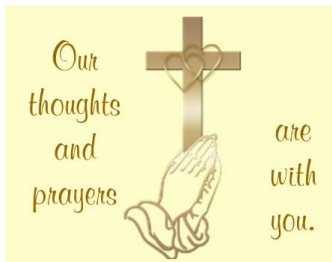


R. E. Hobie Henderson
Treasurer, TCYRA, DDGHP-18



R. E. Jason Lesikar
Secretary, TCYRA, DDGHP-26

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the new Tarrant County York Association Newsletter: www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org



Please continue to remember the family of those who passed away, and are hurting, which have been reported in earlier newsletters.

Paul Pinkerton, with his “heart”, is doing real good. Please continue to remember **Steve Maxwell** with his foot. **Paul Blakely** had a stroke, but has made good progress since. **Alford Havens** has had some medical challenges, but he is going well now. **Jeff Litchfield** and **Herb Fain** passed away.

Let us remember these and other Companions.

Fort Worth Chapter/Council now meets at the **TMRC**. Second Saturdays at 2:00 PM.

All York Rite Masons are heartily welcome. Check out the “page 2 CALENDAR” for remaining Parry Award Schedule.



64th Masonic District of Texas
Tarrant County Freemasonry's information nexus.

Check out the new 64th district masonic website.

<http://64th.org>

Webmaster: **Daniel Queen** and web asst. **John Hrisco**

Many thanks to **R. W. Ernie Runyon** who faithfully maintained the previous site for many years. This new site has new calendar features, and the submission form for events to be added to the calendar for officers, secretaries, etc, to use. Check out <http://64th.org> for more information.

A school of instruction was held at Worth Commandery on January the 10th. Coffee, Orange Juice and donuts were provided for breakfast. With 7-8 sir knights in attendance including Mighty Joe Orona. More would have attended if not for the Midlothian Chapter/Council Festival. But for those who attended, especially some of the newer sir knights, it was said to be time well spent, that we all walked away with something new that we did not know before.

We went over the modified opening or Intermediate opening recently approved by the Grand Commandery of Texas. We would like to hold more frequent County wide practices in the future and welcome suggestions and participation. Look for future newsletters on more of these “area-wide” Commandery Schools.

John Hrisco

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS – For **FEBRUARY / MARCH 2015**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 1	Feb 2	Feb 3 Southside Parry Award Grading Eat 6PM Texas – Eat 6PM	Feb 4 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM Mtg 7:30 PM	Feb 5 Worth and Southside Commanderies Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 6	Feb 7 2nd York Rite Conference in Nederland 8:00 AM
Feb 8	Feb 9 Riverside Parry Award Grading Eat 6PM Hurst eat 6:30 Arlington eat 6pm	Feb 10	Feb 11 Springtown Parry Award Grading Eat 6:30 PM Mtg 7:30 PM	Feb 12 Tarrant Parry Award Grading Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 13	Feb 14 Fort Worth Parry Award Grading 2:00 PM No meal.
Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17 Denton Commandery 7:30 PM	Feb 18 Ridglea Parry Award Eat 6:30 PM	Feb 19 7 pm - Cleburne Commandery <u>6pm Scottish Rite Stated Mtg</u>	Feb 20	Feb 21 3rd York Rite Conference in San Antonio 8:00 AM
Feb 22	Feb 23 Stephenville Parry Award Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 24 Stephenville Commandery Eat 6:30 PM	Feb 25	Feb 26 Granbury Council Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 27 Amaranth Rehearsal Play-TMRC	Feb 28 Amaranth Play Richland Hills Lodge – 6 PM
Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3 Texas Parry Award Grading Eat 6PM Southside Eat 6	Mar 4 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM Mtg 7:30 PM	Mar 5 Worth and Southside Commanderies Eat 6:00 PM	Mar 6	Mar 7 5th York Rite Conference in Tyler – 8AM <u>Scottish Rite Reunion</u>
Mar 8	Mar 9 Arlington Parry Award Eat 6 PM Riverside Eat 6 Hurst Eat 6:30	Mar 10	Mar 11 Springtown Chapter Eat 6:30 PM	Mar 12 Tarrant Chapter / Council Eat 6:00 PM	Mar 13	Mar 14 6th York Rite Conference at TMRC - 8AM <u>Scottish Rite Reunion</u>
Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17 Denton Commandery 7:30 PM	Mar 18 Ridglea York Rite Eat 6:30 PM	Mar 19 7 pm - Cleburne Commandery <u>6pm Scottish Rite Stated Mtg</u>	Mar 20	Mar 21
Mar 22	Mar 23 Stephenville Chapter Eat 6:00PM	Mar 24 Stephenville Commandery Eat 6:30 PM	Mar 25	Mar 26 Granbury Chapter Eat 6:00 PM	Mar 27	Mar 28 7th York Rite Conference in Dallas – 8AM
Mar 29	Mar 30	Mar 31 Tarrant County York Rite Assn + College 6:45 PM Fort Worth Temple	Apr 1 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM Mtg 7:30 PM	Apr 2 Worth and Southside Commanderies Eat 6:00 PM	Apr 3	Apr 4
Apr 5 Easter	Apr 6	Apr 7 Texas – Eat 6pm Southside – Eat 6	Apr 8 Springtown Council Eat 6:30 PM	Apr 9 Tarrant Chapter / Council Eat 6:00 PM	Apr 10 and Apr 11 Scottish Rite Convocation http://texasscottishrite.org	

TARRANT COUNTY YORK RITE ASSOCIATION MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2015 - MEETING AT 6:45 PM
3RD FLOOR **RED ROOM**
FORT WORTH TEMPLE - 1100 HENDERSON STREET, FORT WORTH
YORK RITE COLLEGE MEETING TO FOLLOW
OFFICIAL VISIT FROM OUR DEPUTY GRAND GOVERNOR
JAMES ROY ELLIOTT

**BEFORE-HAND, WE WILL DINE ABOUT 5:00 PM AT
LITTLE GERMANY RESTAURANT
703 North Henderson Street, Fort Worth TX**

Website: <http://www.littlegermanyfortworth.com/>

Website News ---- <http://tarrant.yorkritetexas.org>

We have updated content for the "Tarrant County District Deputies".
We now have information back-dated to 1911 through today, of the "area" District Deputies for Tarrant County.
Click on the "Tarrant County District Deputies" Link on the left hand side to view them.

We also have the "updated" Tarrant County Certificate Holders List. Congratulations to these companions.

LIFE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS

Collier, Robert Davis ; Henley, Jimmy M. ; Hagood, Melvin Thomas ; Graham, William F. ;
Jeter, John Henry "Jack" Jr. ; Mullinax, Lewis C. ; Shelton, Joseph W. ; Orona, Joe ; Parker, Gerald E. ;
Modesitt, Charles W. ; Mitchell, Frank Douglas ; Sutton Deward Oliver ; Jones, Mitchell Ray ; Long, Gerald H. ;
McCament, Paul H. ; Cox, Raymond Ray ; Windle, Danny Wayne.

Note: J. F. Litchfield was a lifetime certificate holder, and he passed away. We miss him.

THREE YEAR CERTIFICATE HOLDERS:

Barkley, B. B. ; Neal, Douglas E ; Smith, Dale Melvin ; Manley, James D. ; Jones, Merle Wayne "Wally" ;
Wolfe, Charles Steven ; Hash, Henry B. ; Fester, James A. ; Hall, Floyd Edward ; Whitfield, Herschel Larry ;
Carr, W. Eugene ; Kirkpatrick, James Dale

TWO YEAR CERTIFICATE HOLDERS:

Buckner, David ; Griffin, S. Kenneth

ONE YEAR CERTIFICATE HOLDERS

Rodriguez, Robert Y. ; Seets, Charles E. ; Ellis, Jessie Edward ; Bennett, Jeffrey Scott ; Bond, Les ;
Burriss, Robert ; Cagley, Robert L. ; Pinkerton, Paul E. ; Lewark, Ben ; Knott, Ed

FIRST YEAR CERTIFICATE HOLDERS

Young, Buford John ; Hale, Corey D. ; Lowthorp, Michael ; Rogerson, James Aubrey ; Taylor, Jerry ;
Reid, Samuel C. ; Piland, John ; Fredeking, Steve R., Jr. ; Henderson, Hobie ; Howell, Billy ; Hrisco, John ;
Maxwell, Steve ; Orona, Joe, Jr. ; Addy, Neal



FORT WORTH YORK RITE CONFERENCE

At the Texas Masonic Retirement Center (TMRC)
Owned and Operated by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

Saturday, March 14, 2015
Registration at 8:00 AM

Contact: **Roy Dean Foster**, Pre-Eminent Governor
Trinity York Rite College #154
817-229-0251 Email: jfoster51@verizon.net

Speakers: Texas Grand York Rite Officers

Most Excellent **Steve Wolfe**, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter
Most Illustrious **Richard C. Sharp**, Grand Master of the Grand Council
Right Eminent **Robert Milton Loflin**, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery

York Rite School of Instruction

Texas Chapter #326 and Texas Council #321
will host a York Rite School of Instruction on Saturday, May 2, 2015.

Location:

3rd Floor **Red Room**
Ft Worth Masonic Temple
1100 Henderson Street
Ft Worth Texas

When: Saturday May 2, 2015, Breakfast at 7 AM

R.: E.: and R.: I.: David Rogers and Joe Orona,
Committee on Work Members
Will be conducting the school



For further information, contact
Neal Addy at neal.addy@att.net

Bluebonnet Court #3 Order of the Amaranth
Presents - The 7th Annual Murder Mystery Dinner

MURDER AT Rosa's Cantina



By: Patricia Johnson
Edited by Audress Johnson and Annette Olsen

Richland Hills Masonic Lodge
3310 Popplewell
Richland Hills, Texas

*Gross Proceeds from Ticket Sales and Donations benefit the
Amaranth Diabetes Foundation of the
American Diabetes Association Research Foundation*



Saturday, Feb. 28, 2015
6 pm Dinner—Performance follows
Tickets \$15 from Any Member
Get Tickets Early

No-Show Policy Applies Amaranth Diabetes Foundation is a non-Profit Organization (501-C3)

**TEXAS SCOTTISH RITE LEGACY CONVOCATION
FRIDAY, APRIL 10 AND SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015**

Register on the website: <http://texasscottishrite.org>

Also:
**SCOTTISH RITE REUNION
Saturdays March 7 and March 14, 2015**

Friday & Saturday
April 10 & 11
Fort Worth
Masonic Temple



Royal Arch Masonry In Texas

Most of us know organized masonry started in Texas when Holland lodge #36 was opened on December 27th 1835 by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. Less than two years later, on December 20th 1837, The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas was organized in Houston, Texas.

The start of organized masonry in Texas fueled the desire to seek more light in the fraternity. On November 12th 1838, the first chapter of the Royal Arch Masons was formed in Matagorda, Texas. Twelve master masons, who were members of Matagorda Lodge #7, came together and started the Cyrus Chapter. This chapter worked off the charter of Lodge #7. With the beginning of the Cyrus Chapter, other Royal Arch Chapters were born in Texas including the creation of the McFarland and Lonestar Royal Arch Chapters.

Many are unaware of is that prior to organized masonry in Texas, Sam Williams traveled from what is now the Austin area of Texas to New York in 1835. While in New York, he received the first three degrees in masonry on November 21st 1835. Then on the 25th of November, 1835 he received the four degrees of the Royal Arch at Jerusalem Chapter #8 and was later knighted in the Morton Commandery #4 on November 31, 1835.

Shortly thereafter in December 1835, the General Grand Chapter was in session in Washington DC. While this session convened, an application was made to charter a Royal Arch Chapter in Texas by Companions Sam Williams, James Miller and others. The Chapter was called San Felipe de Austin Chapter 1 of Texas. Companion Williams was installed as High Priest of the new Chapter and Companion Miller as king. Miller never returned to Texas. In December of 1835, Mexico invaded Texas and destroyed San Felipe de Austin in the early part of 1836. This made it impossible to open a chapter in the location of San Felipe de Austin or locate other Royal Arch Masons. Williams held on to the Charter for the next four years and three months, at which time he opened a Royal Arch Chapter in the city of Galveston during June of 1840 This Chapter was approved by the General Grand Chapter.

Meanwhile, The Grand Lodge of Texas, and the now Grand Chapter of Texas had formed and asked the General Grand Chapter to relinquish all authority of any RAC and RA masons in this jurisdiction. The request was denied and the San Felipe de Austin Chapter refused to join the Grand Chapter of Texas or hold any communication with other chapters under the authority of the Grand Chapter of Texas. They did so based on the principle that the chapters under the authority of the Grand Chapter of Texas were formed illegally and without authorization of the General Grand Chapter. The General Grand Chapter and its subordinate chapters refused to recognize the Grand Chapter of Texas and its subordinate chapters. This brought the dissolve of the Grand Chapter of Texas in 1849 and the dissolution of the thirteen chapters under its jurisdiction. By 1850, the General Grand Chapter had chartered nine Royal Arch Chapters in Texas. The independent unauthorized body in Texas was closed (grand royal arch chapter) and Royal Arch Masonry was flourishing in Texas. In 1850, representatives of chapters in Texas met and petitioned the General Grand Chapter for a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Texas and was granted a charter. But In 1859 the Grand Chapter of Texas severed its ties with the General Grand Chapter of the United States due to differences in amendments made in the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Since that time, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas has exercised exclusive sovereignty over the Capitular or Chapter degrees in Texas, and met in session each and every year.

References:

- 'History of Royal Arch Masonry' by General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International
- 'The York Rite of Freemasonry' by Speidel
- 'History of Royal Arch Masonry' by Turnbull and Denslow 1956
- Grand Chapter of Texas website

Submitted, Ricky Cox



May the God of Love and Peace delight to dwell with and bless you.

Contributors: James Kirkpatrick, Editor; Ricky Cox; Neal Addy; John Hrisco; Ken Johnson; Ken Curry