

# Tarrant County York Rite

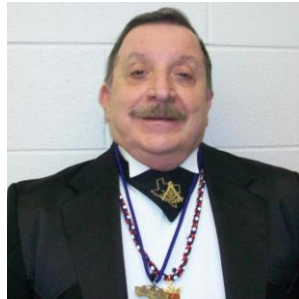


# The Keystone

2016 August Edition - [www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org](http://www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org) and <http://64th.org>



**Hobie Henderson**  
President, TCYRA



**Joe Spencer**  
Vice President, TCYRA



**Robert Cagley**  
Treasurer, TCYRA



**Jason Lesikar**  
Secretary, TCYRA

## Welcome to the August 2016 edition Tarrant County York Rite Association Newsletter

### Monthly Quote – Matt Pickell:

*The struggle you're in today is the strength you need for tomorrow.*

### **YORK RITE Degree and Practice Schedule**

Monday Aug 1 7:00 PM – Arlington Commandery – Practice Opening and Closing

Saturday Aug 13 8:00 AM – San Marcos Festival (Work Day), San Marcos Lodge

Saturday Aug 20 6:00 AM – Gulf Coast Summer Festival in Melrose Lodge, Houston

### **Friday Sep 9, Sat Sep 10 – Tarrant County York Rite Festival**

Monday Sep 19 7:00 PM – Arlington Commandery – Practice Order of the Temple

Friday Sep 23, Sat Sep 24 – San Antonio York Rite Festival, Scottish Rite Cathedral

Monday Oct 3 7:00 PM – Arlington Commandery – Practice Order of the Temple

### **Congratulations to the new officers of the 64<sup>th</sup> District Masters, Wardens and Secretaries**

On Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, the following officers were elected.

**Patrick Wentworth** – President

**Jason Wiggs** – Vice President

**Corey Harris** – Secretary

**Mark Myers** – Treasurer



**Patrick Wentworth**

Important Events/Calendar – pages 2-4

TMRC Happenings – pages 5-7, Fort Worth Article – page 8

Washington Week – pages 9-11, Tisha B'av – last page

# UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS – Aug/Sep 2016 also <http://64th.org>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 31	Aug 1 Arlington Commandery Practice 7:00 PM	Aug 2 Chapter/Council Southside and Texas – Eat 6PM	Aug 3 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM	Aug 4 Worth and Southside Commanderies Eat 6:00 PM	Aug 5	Aug 6
Aug 7 	Aug 8 York Rite Arlington – Eat 6 Riverside – Eat 6 Hurst – Eat 6:30	Aug 9	Aug 10 Springtown Chapter/ Council Eat 6:30 PM	Aug 11 Tarrant Chapter/Council Eat 6:00 PM Practice Mark Master Degree	Aug 12	Aug 13 York Rite Degrees in San Marcos Lodge Eat at 8:00AM
Aug 14 Tisha B'Av Jewish Day of mourning	Aug 15 Stephenville Commandery Eat 6:30 PM	Aug 16 Denton Commandery Mtg 7:30 PM	Aug 17 Ridglea Chapter/ Council Eat 6:30 PM	Aug 18 7 pm - Cleburne Commandery 6 pm – Fort Worth Scottish Rite Stated Mtg	Aug 19	Aug 20 York Rite Degrees in Melrose Lodge in Houston Eat at 6:00AM
Aug 21 Senior Citizens Day	Aug 22 Stephenville Chapter and Council Eat 6:00 PM	Aug 23	Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27 LBJ Day Texas
Aug 28	Aug 29	Aug 30 Tarrant County York Rite Association 6:45 PM	Aug 31	Sep 1 Worth and Southside Commanderies Eat 6:00 PM	Sep 2	Sep 3
Sep 4	Sep 5 	Sep 6 Chapter/Council Southside and Texas – Eat 6PM	Sep 7 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM	Sep 8 Tarrant Chapter/Council Eat 6:00 PM	Fri Sep 9 and Sat Sep 10 Tarrant County York Rite Festival Fri 6:00 PM Dinner Sat 7:00 AM Breakfast Sat 1:30 PM tribute to Jimmy Henley	
Sep 11 	Sep 12 York Rite Arlington – Eat 6 Riverside – Eat 6 Hurst – Eat 6:30	Sep 13	Sep 14 Springtown Chapter/ Council Eat 6:30 PM	Sep 15 7 pm - Cleburne Commandery 6 pm – Fort Worth Scottish Rite Stated Mtg	Sep 16 National POW/MIA Recognition Day	Sep 17 York Rite College Banquet TMRC 6:00 PM
Sep 18 	Sep 19 Stephenville Commandery Eat 6:30 PM Arlington Commandery Practice 7:00 PM	Sep 20 Denton Commandery Mtg 7:30 PM	Sep 21 Ridglea Chapter/ Council Eat 6:30 PM	Sep 22 September Equinox	Fri Sep 23 and Sat Sep 24 York Rite Degrees in San Antonio Scottish Rite Cathedral Fri 6:30 PM Sat 8:30 AM	
Sep 25	Sep 26 Stephenville Chapter and Council Eat 6:00 PM	Sep 27	Sep 28	Sep 29	Sep 30	Oct 1

**TARRANT COUNTY YORK RITE ASSOCIATION MEETING**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2016 AT 6:45 PM**

**ALL MASONS INVITED!!!!**  
**FORT WORTH TEMPLE**  
**1100 HENDERSON STREET**  
**FORT WORTH TEXAS**



**AFTERWARD: TRINITY YORK RITE COLLEGE MEETING.**  
**Beforehand, some of us will meet at the Mexican Inn at 5:00 PM (On Henderson Street).**

FOR MORE LIGHT GO YORK RITE  
**SEPTEMBER 9 & 10, 2016**



**2016 ANNUAL TARRANT COUNTY YORK RITE FESTIVAL**

1100 Henderson Street, Fort Worth Texas  
On the corner of Henderson and Lancaster Streets  
**Honoring Right Worshipful Jimmy Henley**



Sponsored by TEXAS CHAPTER 362 / TEXAS COUNCIL 321  
High Priest / Thrice Illustrious Master: **Joe Pearson**  
Festival Registrars: **Robert D. Collier** and **Jerry Taylor**

Coordinated by TARRANT COUNTY YORK RITE ASSOCIATION

[www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org](http://www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org)

**Hobie Henderson, President**

Joseph Spencer, Vice President

Robert Cagley, Treasurer

Jason Lesikar, Secretary

Neal Addy, Festival Committee Chairman

Floyd E. Hall, Master of Ceremonies

Pre-Eminent Hobie Henderson, Governor Trinity 154



Friday, September 9 –  
Supper at 6 PM, Degrees at 7 PM  
Saturday, September 10 –  
Breakfast at 7 AM, Degrees at 8 AM  
Courtesy Candidates Welcome

**Full Degree Schedule:**

Mark Masters Degree – Tarrant and Hurst  
Past Masters Degree – Riverside Chapter  
Most Excellent Masters – Texas Chapter  
Royal Arch – Southside Chapter

Royal Masters Degree – Arlington/Ft Worth  
Select Masters Degree - Ridglea Council

**Illustrious Order of the Red Cross -**  
**Southside Commandery**  
**Order of Malta –**  
**Arlington Commandery**  
**Order of the Temple –**  
**Worth Commandery**



**R.:W.: Jimmy Henley**  
**Past Committee on Work**  
**21 years – 5 times Chairman**



**Fort Worth Masonic Temple**  
**1100 Henderson Street, Fort Worth Texas**

**Worshipful Masters Banquet  
Trinity York Rite College #154  
Saturday, September 17, 2016**



Trinity York Rite College no. 154 is holding its annual Banquet to honor all newly installed Worshipful Masters. It will be held at the Texas Masonic Retirement Center on September 17, 2016.

A fantastic meal prepared by the chef from Texas Masonic Retirement Center will be served at 6:00 pm.

All Worshipful Masters attending will be introduced and honored, along with their ladies, and Worshipful Masters will receive a certificate recognizing them and your Lodge. Following this, the keynote speaker will be Right Worshipful Tommy F. Chapman, Grand Senior Warden of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. R.W. Chapman is also a Very Excellent Past Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Royal Arch Chapter of Texas and a Very Illustrious Past Grand Master of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and select Masters of Texas.

This is an open meeting, and all are invited. Tickets must be purchased in advance to insure having the correct amount of food.

Tickets are \$25 per person. Ladies and friends are definitely invited. Please come and support all the Worshipful Masters and the great things they are going to bring to your Lodges. This will be a great event to kick off the new Masonic year, and show your support for the Brethren who have stepped up to lead the area Lodges.

To purchase tickets, contact:

Hobie Henderson - Preeminent Governor 817-313-9402

Jason Lesikar - Eminent Secretary 817-726-7998

Website: <http://trinity154.yorkritetexas.org>



2016-2017 Pre-Eminent Governor, **Hobie Henderson**



# TMRC HAPPENINGS!!!!

July 4<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION. TMRC celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with a Patriotic party and entertainment by **The Achord Trio**. Pictured below left is Lead Singer **B.J. Maclin**, her sister **Cary Maclin**, and Pianist **George Gasliardi**.



**WATERMELON AT HIGH NOON.**  
 A BIG "THANK YOU!" to the High Noon Club of Dallas for providing watermelon and entertainment for the residents of TMRC. The High Noon Club of Dallas provides a Summer and Holiday celebration every year to the delight of all who reside at TMRC. Many thanks Club Members for all you do for TMRC! **Steve Gooch, Jerry Reddy Jr., Kenny Mezell, Steve Eason, Roger Fuller, S.K. Choudury, Victor Hancock, and Hella Shrine Clown "ACE"**



**Ms. Julie Funston, entertainer**



Congratulations to Sweet Home Lodge # 576 Brothers!

Brothers **Billy Jack Davis** and **Arnold Nalls** receive their Endowment, shown here being congratulated by the 2015-2016 Worshipful Master **Floyd Edward Hall**.



Sweet Home Lodge #576 members were privileged to honor three Brothers for their long and dedicated service to the Grand Lodge of Texas. Honorees pictured below in the Front Row, from left to right

**R: W: Robert H. “Bob” Waters** (Past Grand Master) – for 65 years of service, **Gene Stephens** (Inaugural Golden Trowel Recipient) – 60 years and **Charles Garner** – 50 years, all current residents of TMRC.

Back row: **R: W: Orville O’Neill** (Grand Secretary, Past Grand Master) – **Billy Ray Bell** (Worshipful Master).



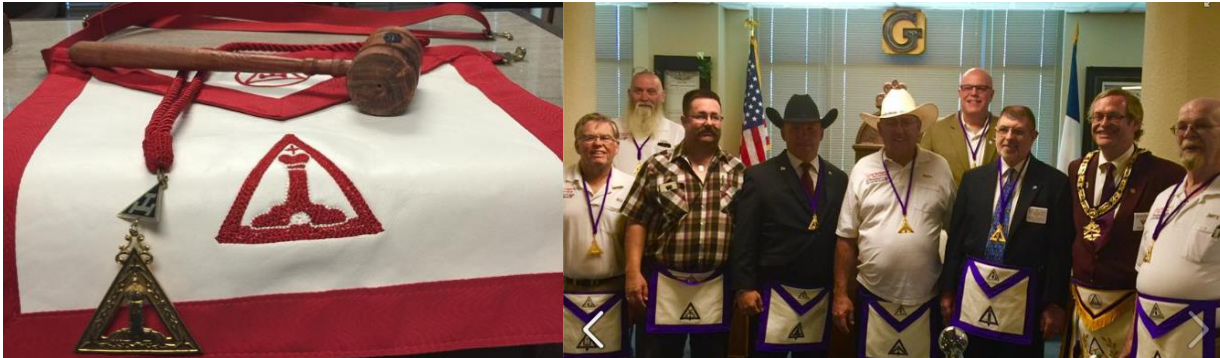


## WATCH FOR US ON TV! TMRC

Residents got a big surprise when the Chord Busters came to play their ukulele's and other string instruments in July. The Channel 8 News Team came to interview the residents and the band. The news reporter **Lauren Zakalik**, and camera man **Cody Marcom** interviewed TMRC resident **C. B. Jack Wood**. Can we get your autograph?



# FORT WORTH CHAPTER/COUNCIL



Pictured Left to Right: **Billy Howell, Lynn Taylor, Ron Baker, Ricky Cox, Rudy Rudiwick (HP/TIM), Keith Arteburn, Dwight Von Heeder, James Kirkpatrick, Jerry Taylor**

What an exciting time in Texas York Rite Masonry. Fort Worth Chapter 58 and Council 42 held its installation of officers this past week. Many guests were present and many new companions filled leadership roles. With the mixture of past leadership and the new companions who are joining this Chapter and Council this writer feels the oldest Chapter and Council in Tarrant County has a bright and growing future. As most know FTW Chapter will celebrate our 160th anniversary in 2018 and next year our 110th year in the Council.

This Historic Organization has seen ups and downs as most organizations in our fraternity have seen. Our first High Priest Dr. **Thos. M. Mathews** PGM was High Priest 8 times during our first 10 years he and honorable men such as **Julian Feild** and **John Peter Smith**, all Past High Priests, laid not only the foundation for our fraternity in Tarrant County but their leadership help lay the foundation for this area of our great state. Leadership and York Rite Masonry has gone hand in hand throughout the history of our State. Most of you know York Rite Masonry was established in Texas before an organized Grand Lodge. The Grand Chapter and Council of Texas along with the Grand Commandery of our Great State has developed men into leaders throughout their history. Leaders not only for our fraternity but, for Texas and our Country.

Fort Worth Chapter and Council being an iconic organization in Tarrant County makes its home at the historic Texas Masonic Retirement Center in Arlington Texas a suburb of Tarrant County. The TMRC is owned and operated by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas so it's only fitting that Tarrant County's oldest York Rite body make its home at this beautiful place with its own history in our fraternity and State. Through hard work and dedication from great men and leaders in our fraternity the excitement is becoming contagious and this Chapter and Council is reviving itself and becoming relevant in York Rite Masonry and in the lives of Blue Lodge Masons in our fraternity. If you haven't visited Fort Worth Chapter and Council or you are looking for a growing revived Chapter and Council with an amazing history, then come visit us on the 2nd Saturday.... Texas York Rite Masonry is still relevant, still producing leaders, still changing men.

Article submitted by **Ricky Cox**,  
Excellent King and Right Illustrious Deputy Master of Fort Worth Chapter 58, Council 42

Facebook Reference: <https://www.facebook.com/Fwchapter58council42/>



# MASONIC WEEK IN WASHINGTON DC - 2016

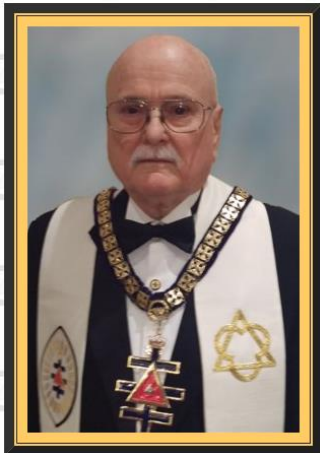
This year, in the various editions of our Tarrant County York Rite Association Newsletter, we have included the results for the various activities that occurred in Masonic Week in Washington DC in 2016.

This month, we highlight “**The Grand College of America Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests HRAKTP**”. An Honorary and Invitation Masonic Organization with Membership Limitations.

The Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests is an honorary and invitational organization with membership limitations and cannot be applied for. Members are selected and extended invitations on the basis of outstanding performance as a Commander of a Commandery of Knights Templar.

The order has historic roots in England that trace back to 1786, with references back to 1686, the traditional year of revival. The "Priestly Order" was referred to within the ceremonies of "The High Knights Templar" in Ireland in 1755. There are records of the conferral of this Order in the United States during the 1800's but the authority is unknown.

The Grand College of America, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests was formed in the United States in 1931. The limit of Regular Members in a Tabernacle is 33. The number of Tabernacles in a state is dependent on the number of active Commanderies in each state.



**M.E. Lloyd Adam Hebert, K.G.C., G.C.**  
Grand Preceptor  
2016-2017  
Website: <http://www.hraktp.org>



**2016-2017 Grand Officers**

## Grand Officers – 2016 – 2017

Grand Preceptor	M.E. Lloyd Adam Hebert
Deputy Grand Preceptor	V.E. Luther Alvin Hill, Sr.
Grand Registrar	R.E. Lawrence Eugene Tucker
Grand Treasurer	R.E. Stanley Phillip Boyd
Grand Director of Ritual	R.E. W. Bruce Pruitt, K.G.C., G.C.
Grand VII Pillar	V.E. Reese Lenwood Harrison, Jr.
Grand VI Pillar	V.E. Blaine H. Simons
Grand V Pillar	V.W. James C. Herndon
Grand IV Pillar	V.E. Terry L. Plemons
Grand III Pillar	V.E. J. William Riggs
Grand II Pillar	V.E. Duane L. Vaught
Grand I Pillar	V.E. James E. Wizenreid
Grand Inner Guard	V.E. F. Douglas Mitchell
Grand Outer Guard	V.E. Jeffrey N. Nelson
Grand Organist	W.E. Chriss M. Jessen
Trustee – Term Expiring 2016	M.E. William Jackson Jones, K.G.C., G.C.
Trustee – Term Expiring 2017	M.E. Gary Deane Hermann, K.G.C., K.C.
Trustee – Term Expiring 2018	M.E. W. Brice Pruitt, K.G.C., G.C.

A complete list of Past Grand Preceptors is available on the website:

<http://www.hraktp.org/PGP.html>

Included in this list is our very own recent Past Grand Preceptors from Texas

**Kenneth Bernard Fischer** K.G.C. who was installed in 2008

And our esteemed recently departed **James McCrorry Willson, Jr** K.G.C. who was installed in 1993

## HISTORY OF THE HRAKTP



# The Grand College of America Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests HRAKTP

MARCH 23, 1933

An Honorary and Invitational Masonic Organization with Membership Limitations

These introductory notes have mainly been drawn from: The Knights Templar Priests by **Harold V.B. VOORHIS**, 1957; What is the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, by **Wylie B. WENDT**, 1962; O.S.T. Reports, Vol. I, Grand College of America, 1935; and The Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees, by **Harold H.C. PRESTIGE**, 2nd edition by Frederick SMITH, London, 1998. (Reference: <http://www.glmddf.org/uk/ctpsar/Historique> )

The Order should not be confused with the System of "Temple Clerics" established in 1767 by **Johann-Augustus VON STARCK** who probably took his inspiration from the degree of Magnus Sacerdos Templarium or Clerc of the Temple, fourth and last degree of the system created in Russia by Count MELESINO, an Officer of Greek origin who had joined the Tsar forces. **Count MELESINO** in his time also possibly took his inspiration from a Higher Degree brought into Russia by **Baron de TSCHOUDY**, a native of Metz, France, who in 1760 was Orator in a Lodge in Petersburg.....

It is not clear when the Order first appeared, but the date is probably between 1770 & 1780 in Ireland firstly, and then in Bristol in a particular version of the Sovereign Rose Croix Princes of the Mountains of Calvary and of Heredom. (VII<sup>o</sup> Degree of the Baldwyn Rite)

At that time, it was customary, when a Lodge had too few members holding a particular degree to work it autonomously, to join with another or several other Lodges and thus form a Union Band in order to able confer the Degree.

In the early years of the 1800's, the degree was known in Lodges on the Eastern coast of England . . . and then Scotland, by means of the Early Grand Rite, but only on reaching Newcastle upon Tyne did it achieve a haven where to settle and survive with some stability. Thus was formed the Illustrious Order of Knights Grand Cross of the Holy Temple of Jerusalem.

After a first period in history, from 1820 to 1830, it seems the Order almost completely disappeared except in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

A re-birth was attempted by some Brethren, apparently more enthusiastic then competent, in the years 1850-1870 in the Manchester region. This renewal died almost as fast as it had started.

By the end of the 19th century, the Illustrious Order of Knights Grand Cross of the Holy Temple of Jerusalem controlled a number of Degrees, probably inherited from the "Antients" Grand Lodge.

The Order was maintained in The Royal Kent Tabernacle in Newcastle, which originated at least in 1809, together with several other Degrees. The complete series amounted to some forty or so Degrees . . . many of which had totally disappeared. This Tabernacle had been working the Red Cross of Babylon along with the Royal Arch from 1822, and the Cryptic Degrees of Royal, Select and Super-Excellent Masters since 1830.

Noteworthy, a variant of the Order, the Order of High Priesthood was retained within the Concord Tabernacle, holding a warrant from the Peace, Truth and Light Tabernacle in Manchester.



When in 1893, Cryptic Masons members of the Royal Kent Tabernacle petitioned, rather belatedly, the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in London, founded in 1873, the then Grand Recorder, **Charles Fitzgerald MATIER** discovered to his surprise that other Degrees he had no knowledge of, were also worked there.

Forty-one odd Degrees were being communicated without any central warranting authority. Paramount amongst them was the Order of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests or Order of Holy Wisdom. Eighteen of them seemed to descend from the Early Grand Rite of Scotland and five only could be traced to the United States, another six were mere Side Degrees conferred without fee or registration, while the remainder can now only be found in the United States, without the least trace of them in England.

On 1st January 1897, an agreement was reached, placing the Order of Knight Templar Priests with an imposing array of other Degrees, under the jurisdiction of The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees, while the Tabernacle in Newcastle retained the right to confer the rank and dignity of Knight Grand Cross of the Holy Temple of Jerusalem, a privilege it still possess but scarcely exercises.

In 1920, Colonel **C.W. NAPIER-CLAVERING** became Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees who, renouncing the prerogatives of the Grand Council over the Order of The Secret Monitor, brought to a happy end thirty seven years of feud, and recommended to the Royal Kent Council, heir to the similarly titled Tabernacle, to erect itself as a Grand College for England, Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown of The Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests. This was done on either 23rd May 1923 or 15th May 1924, the date being uncertain. The Allied Grand Council officially resigning all claims over the Order on 17th November 1924.

In the United States, the first mention of this order dates back to 1829, in Rhode Island State.

Five Tabernacles were subsequently constituted between 1840 and 1931, but none remained active for long.

On the 31st October 1931, the Knight-Priest **Sidney Clifton Bingham** of Christchurch, New Zealand, having had no news from his English Grand College for several years, thought it must have closed down. He therefore admitted to the Order **John Raymond Shute II**, **John Edward Allen** and **Luther Thompson Harstell Jr.**, three Knights Templars from North Carolina. He justified his action by quoting Article 3 of the Antient Constitutions of 1813, which Article permitted such an act in case of emergency. He also granted three Warrants, constituting Tabernacles in North Carolina.

On the 14th May 1933, the Preceptors of these three Tabernacles met at a Convention in Raleigh, North Carolina, and agreed to form themselves into a Sovereign Body, which they did on the 27th of the same month, constituting the Great Priory of America, Priestly Order of the Temple.

In 1934 the Knight-Priests learned that the Order they had thought extinct was in fact still active in England. Seeking an exchange of representatives, they were informed that the circumstances of their Constitution were considered irregular.

A delegation was sent to England during 1935, and it was suggested to the English Body that they might Regularize the American Grand College.

**John Edward Allen**, an American Knight-Priest, was in consequence received on the 16th August 1935 by the Royal Kent Tabernacle (T.I.). He was Installed, and presented with a Warrant to form the United States Tabernacle, No. 9.

On his return to the United States, he re-consecrated the existing Tabernacles using the English ritual, and on the 27th October 1935 qualified all adherents of the previously organized Tabernacles.

The actions of the American Great Priory were confirmed, and at the Annual Ingathering of 1936 the Patent confirming English recognition could at last be displayed. It was explained that the English Jurisdiction was entitled the "Grand College for England of the Order of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, or Order of Holy Wisdom" and a similar nomenclature was adopted for America.

# Tisha B'Av – Day of Mourning

Many Jewish Americans observe Tisha B'Av, which is the ninth day of the month of Av in the Jewish calendar. It is a day of mourning to remember various events such as the destruction of the First Temple and Second Temple in Jerusalem. When Tisha B'Av falls on Shabbat (Saturday), it is deferred to Sunday, 10th of Av.

Many traditional mourning practices are observed, such as refraining from smiling and laughing. Those who observe Tisha B'Av are allowed to study only certain portions of the Torah and Talmud on Tisha B'Av. The book of Lamentations is read and mourning prayers are recited in the synagogue. The ark (cabinet where the Torah is kept) is draped in black.

Some universities or learning centers give those who observe Tisha B'Av the chance to sit exams at other dates, on the proviso that certain requirements are met. Some Jewish centers offer a program for observing Tisha B'Av. People who are sick are exempted from fasting on the day.

Tisha B'Av, also known as the Jewish Fast of Av, is a period of fasting, lamentation and prayer to remember the destruction of the First and Second Temples of Jerusalem. The Jewish people still continued the fast day even after they rebuilt the First Temple after the Babylonians destroyed it in 586 BCE. The Romans destroyed the Second Temple by burning it in 70 CE and this marked the start of a long exile period for Jewish people. These are two of five sad events or calamities that occurred on the ninth day of the month of Av. The other three were when:

Ten of the 12 scouts sent by Moses to Canaan gave negative reports of the area, leading to the Israelites' despair.

The Romans captured the fortress city of Beitar, the last stronghold of the leaders of the Bar Kochba revolt, and thousands of Jewish people, including Bar Kokhba (or Kochba), were massacred in 135 CE.

The city of Jerusalem was destroyed in 136 CE.

Tisha B'Av is a sad day that observes other major disasters and tragedies that Jewish people experienced throughout history, including the expulsion of the Jewish people from England in 1290 and from Spain in 1492, as well as the mass deportation of Jewish people from the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II.

Tisha B'Av begins at sunset on the previous day and lasts for more than 24 hours. It is the culmination of a three-week period of mourning. Weddings and other parties are generally not permitted and people refrain from cutting their hair during this period. It is customary to refrain from activities such as eating meat or drinking wine (except on the Shabbat) from the first to the ninth day of Av.

Ref: [www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/tisha-b-av](http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/tisha-b-av)

Editor: James Kirkpatrick

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

Contributors include: Matt Pickell, Mona Parker, Ricky Cox, Hobie Henderson (Governor), Dan Pushee, K.C. (webmaster) and others.