

Tarrant County York Rite



The Keystone

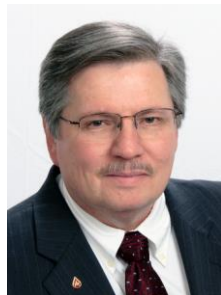
2019 February Edition - www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org and <http://64th.org>



I.: Ricky Cox
President, TCYRA



Billy Hamilton
1st Vice Pres., TCYRA



Ernest Runyon
2nd Vice Pres., TCYRA



R.: I.: Robert Cagley
Treasurer, TCYRA



R.: I.: Hobie Henderson
Secretary, TCYRA

Welcome to the February 2019 edition
Tarrant County York Rite Association Newsletter

Upcoming Schedule

Monday, February 4 – Council Degrees at Arlington 314 – Eat 6 (Jon Wych and Justin Watson)
Wednesday, February 6 – Mark Master's Degree at Tarrant Chapter 416 – Eat 6 (Michael Cote II candidate)
Monday, February 11 – Royal Arch Degree at Goodnight Loving Chapter 75 – Eat at 6 pm
Saturday, February 16 – Gulf Coast York Rite College Festival in Houston – starting at 7 am
Saturday, February 23 – Scottish Rite Leadership Program by Joe Schriever – Registration 8 am
Wednesday, February 27 – Council Degrees at Goodnight Loving Council 47 – Eat at 6 pm
Wednesday, March 6 – Past Master's Degree at Tarrant Chapter 416 – Eat 6 pm
Saturday, March 9 – McKinney Chapter 53 York Rite Festival – Breakfast at 8 am
Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16 – Wichita Falls Festival (See Flyer)
Saturday, March 16, Leander Chapter Degrees at Norton Moses Lodge at 8 am (See Flyer)
Saturday, March 23 – First Ever Fiat Lux – Ritus Eboracum Conference at the TMRC – Registration 9 am
Saturday, March 23 – Texas Council 100-year celebration – 6 pm
Saturday, March 30 – Fiat Lux – Ritus Eboracum Conference in Tyler Texas – Registration 9 am
Saturday, March 30 – Red Cross and Malta Orders in Stephenville, Time TBD – published next month
Monday, April 8 – Arlington Council 100-year celebration – 6 pm
Saturday, June 22 – Super Excellent Master's Degree at the Fort Worth Temple
Saturday, October 12, 2019 – Family Day 2019 – 10 AM to 4 PM

News

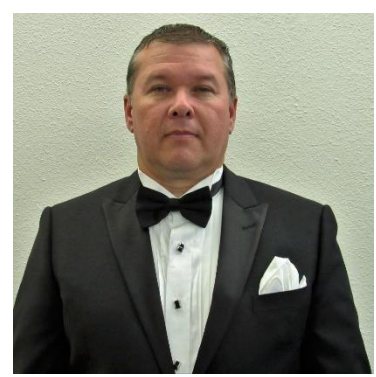
Congratulations to M.: W.: Terry Wayne Stogner, our new Grand Master of Masons in Texas
R.: W.: Brad Billings, our newly elected Grand Junior Warden
Hurst Chapter/Council moved to Estelle Lodge, Tarrant meetings moved to 1st Wednesday

Education Material

R.:W.: Fred Allen passed away, pages 18-19
Brother Rudyard Kipling Article page 13
Right Worshipful David B. Dibrell's thoughts on Civility on pages 14-16

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS – Feb, Mar 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Saturday, Feb 2 nd - Fort Worth York Rite - TMRC 9 AM - Breakfast 7:30 (\$5)						
Feb 3 Popcorn Day	Feb 4 Arlington Council Degrees Eat at 6:00 PM	Feb 5 Texas Official Visit Eat at 6:00 PM	Feb 6 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM	Feb 7 Southside and Worth Commandery Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 8	Feb 9 National Bagel Day National Pizza Day
		Southside Meeting Eat at 6:00 PM	Tarrant Mark Master Degree Eat 6 pm			
Feb 10	Feb 11 Riverside Official Visit 7:30 Arlington Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 12	Feb 13 Goodnight-Loving Official Visit Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 14 	Feb 15 Susan B. Anthony Day	Feb 16 Gulf Coast York Rite Festival 7:00 am Melrose Lodge
	Goodnight Loving Royal Arch 6 pm					
Feb 17	Feb 18 York Rite Hurst at Estelle Lodge Eat 6 PM	Feb 19 Denton Commandery Eat 6:00 PM	Feb 20 York Rite Ridglea Meeting Eat 6:30 PM	Feb 21 Cleburne Commandery 7:00 PM	Feb 22	Feb 23 Scottish Rite Leadership Program by Joe Schriever Fort Worth Temple 8am
	6 pm Stephenville 6 pm Arlington Commandery			Fort Worth Scottish Rite Meeting		
				Masonic Week in Washington DC		
Feb 24 Masonic Week in Wash DC	Feb 25 Stephenville Official Visit Eat 6 pm	Feb 26	Feb 27 Goodnight-Loving Council Degrees Eat 6 pm	Feb 28 National Chili Day	Mar 1 Irish-American Heritage Month	Mar 2 Fort Worth TMRC 9 AM Official Visit Breakfast 7:30 (\$5)
Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5 Southside Official Visit Eat at 6:00 PM	Mar 6 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM	Mar 7 Southside and Worth Commandery Eat 6:00 PM	Mar 8	Mar 9 McKinney York Rite Festival 8:00 am Breakfast
		Texas Meeting Eat at 6:00 PM	Tarrant Past Master Degree Eat at 6 pm			
Mar 10 Daylight Savings 	Mar 11 Riverside Meet at 7:30 PM Arlington Eat 6:00 PM	Mar 12	Mar 13 Goodnight-Loving Official Visit Eat 6:00 PM	Mar 14	Mar 15 Fort Worth Crusader St Thomas of Acon Meeting.	Mar 16 Wichita Falls Festival Fri/Sat Leander Chapter Degrees
Mar 17 St Patrick's Day 	Mar 18 Hurst Official Visit at Estelle Lodge Eat 6 PM	Mar 19 Denton Commandery Eat 6:00 PM	Mar 20 York Rite Ridglea Official Visit Eat 6:30 PM	Mar 21 Cleburne Commandery 7:00 PM	Mar 22	Mar 23 Fiat Lux Ritus Eboracum Conference TMRC 9am
	6 pm Stephenville 6 pm Arlington Commandery		Spring Begins Vernal Equinox	Fort Worth Scottish Rite Meeting		Texas Council 100th Anniversary 6pm
Mar 24	Mar 25 Stephenville Official Visit Eat 6 pm	Mar 26	Mar 27	Mar 28	Mar 29	Mar 30 Fiat Lux Ritus Eboracum Tyler - 9am Stephenville Malta / Red Cross Orders



Neal Addy
R: E: DDGHP-26

Robert Cagley
R: I: DDGM-26

Kevin Caraway
R: E: DDGHP-18

Wayne Roberson
R: I: DDGM-18

W.A. Parry Award Grading – Official Visits

Remaining Schedule

District 18 / 26

Year: 2019

DATE/ TIME	NAME	CHAPTER	COUNCIL	STATED
02/05/2019 Eat 6PM / 7:00 PM	Texas @ Fort Worth Temple 3 rd Floor Red Room	362	321	1 st Tuesday
02/11/2019 7:30 PM	Riverside @ Smithfield Lodge	468	384	2 nd Monday
02/13/2019 Eat 6PM / 7:00 PM	Goodnight-Loving Chapter Weatherford	75		2 nd Even Wednesday
02/25/2019 Eat 6PM / 7:00 PM	Stephenville Council		85	4 th Even Monday
03/02/2019 9:00 AM	Fort Worth @ TMRC	58	42	1 st Saturday
03/05/2019 Eat 6PM / 7:00 PM	Southside @ Southside 1114	378	315	1 st Tuesday
03/13/2019 Eat 6PM / 7:00 PM	Goodnight-Loving Council Weatherford		47	2 nd Odd Wednesday
03/18/2019 Eat 6:30 / 7:30 PM	Hurst @ Estelle Lodge	492	407	3 rd Monday
03/20/2019 Eat 6:30 / 7:30 PM	Ridglea @ Ridglea Lodge 1341	485	400	3 rd Wednesday
03/25/2019 Eat 6PM / 7:00 PM	Stephenville Chapter	140		4 th Odd Monday

(Fort Worth at TMRC, breakfast at 7:30 am)
(Riverside no meal)

R: E: Neal Addy
DDGHP – District 26
Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

R: I: Robert Cagley
DDGM – District 26
Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas

R: E: Kevin Caraway
DDGHP – District 18
Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

R: I: Wayne Roberson
DDGM – District 18
Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas

Fiat Lux – Ritus Eboracum
at the TMRC – More than a conference
March 23rd – Registration at 9:00 AM -
Conference Begins 10:00 AM



Logo by I.: **Alfredo Gonzalez**, Grand Conductor of the Council

See flyer on the next page ...

Join us for “**Fiat Lux – Ritus Eboracum**”

Let there be light – In the York Rite

Contact and scheduling coordinator for the Dallas/Tarrant Conference – **Brad Billings**

Superintendent of the TMRC – **Gary Blair**

Conference Planner – **S. Lane Pierce**

Schedule

03/23/2019 – At TMRC – Registration at 9:00 am – contact – **Brad Billings**

03/30/2019 - Tyler Texas – Registration – 9:00 am – contact – **Richard Gaiser**

04/20/2019 – Nederland – Registration 8:00 am – contact – **Chance Chapman**

04/20/2019 – Houston – Lunch 12-1 (after YRC) – contact – **Roberto Sanchez**

04/27/2019 – San Marcos (Covering Austin/San Antonio)

Cryptic Degrees / breakfast 8 am / lunch noon

Conference starts at 2:00 PM – contact I.: **Charles Maddox**

05/11/2019 – Floydada – Coordinate w/ Parade – 1:00 PM – contact **Wes Campbell**

05/25/2019 – El Paso – Registration at 8:00 am – Starts at 9 am – contact **Alfredo Gonzalez**



*FLAT LUX
"MORE THAN*



*RITUS EBORACUM
A CONFERENCE"*



"Morally teach us that we should lift from our minds and hearts"



"Where you will behold that divine foundation stone on which rest eternal truth"



History



Esoterica



Improvement

TMRC York Rite Conference Saturday, March 23, 2019

9:00 AM Registration – 10:00 AM Conference

1501 West Division St. Arlington, Texas

Conference Coordinator - Bradley Billings

806-787-7600, bradleybst@yahoo.com



**TEXAS COUNCIL #321,
ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS**

**CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION
AND CANNED FOOD DRIVE**

6 PM, Saturday, March 23, 2019
1100 Henderson Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76111

\$20 per meal ticket.

Event to benefit the Tarrant Area Food Bank.
Please bring canned food!

For tickets, contact us at:
TexasChapterAndCouncil@gmail.com

FIAT LUX RITUS EBORACUM

"LET THERE BE YORK RITE LIGHT"

PROUD OF OUR

Legacy and History



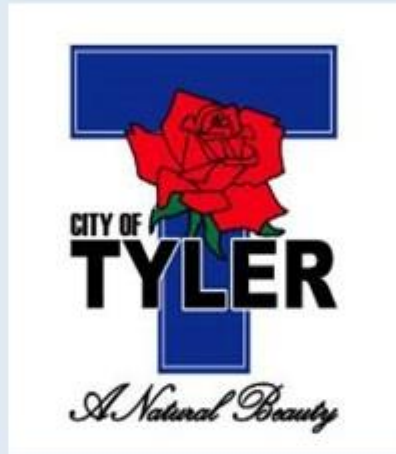
Esoteric Work



Together for the Future



"THIS IS THE STONE WHO ON WALSBURY
DOROUGH OF YOU BUT LOBBS WHO ON IS
BECOME THE HEAD OF THE CORNER"



"MAY IT STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF
THE FROTHERNOL LOVE BETWEEN US,
UNITE OUR HEARDS TO DUTY, AND
OUR DESIRES TO WISDOM MAY BORN
MORAL PRINCIPLE WHICH IS THE
MYSTIC CEMENT"

Tyler York Rite

Conference

Saturday, March 30, 2019

9:00 AM Registration

10:00 AM Conference

323 W. Front St

Tyler, Texas



"WITH GRACE AND HUMILITY YOU
SHOULD LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE
BEFORE MEN THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR
GOOD WORKS"

Conference Coordinator

Richard Gaiser

903-571-3841

rgaiser0@gmail.com



Leadership Development Program

Fort Worth Scottish Rite, 1100 Henderson St, Fort Worth, TX 76102

February 23, 2019

Registration begins at 8:00 am,

Program begins at 8:30 am and ends at noon



Masonic Values are expected to add value to members, their families and communities. But how does that happen? What are the ingredients to success?

Come participate in a *Leadership Development Program* that is appropriate for the members all Masonic and Affiliated bodies. The Program offers information that will be useful to officers, aspiring officers, and all members who seek value from their Masonic membership.

Topics addressed in the Program include:

- **Basic Job Skills:** Description of skills that an officer can be expected to have; skills that will contribute to the success of the body and its members.
- **Leader's Notebook:** A technique that organizes the information a presiding officer needs to plan, schedule and execute leadership responsibilities.
- **Operating the Body:** The basic tasks involved in managing and leading a body; using job skills to run the organization.
- **Planning:** Strategic, operations and activity planning techniques.
- **Financial Analysis:** Analyzing Actual-to-Budget performance to determine real financial position throughout the year.
- **Masonic Value Proposition:** Creating value for members, families and the community through public demonstration of Masonic Values.
- **Membership:** Barriers and solutions to membership retention and growth.
- **Participation:** Barriers and solutions to active participation by members and their families in Masonic activities.
- **Proliferation:** Barriers and solutions to growth and spread of membership and Masonic Values.
- **Expectations for Officers' Duties:** Suggested assignments of duties for York and Scottish Rite officers that can be modified to fit any Masonic body.

"Everyone" is invited: Lodges, Chapters, Council, Commanderies, Scottish Rite Valleys, Eastern Star Chapters, Rainbow Assemblies, and DeMolay Chapters. The content is designed to benefit to all.

The Program will be presented by *Joe F. Schriever, Most Excellent Grand High Priest*. Aside from Masonic titles and honors, Joe's professional resume includes his position as Director of Contracts, Procurement & Support Services at the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, Retired; three university degrees; and seven professional certifications. He has given presentations on leadership and professional topics at numerous regional, national and international conferences.

(For more information call the Scottish Rite office: 817-335-6004)

2019 McKINNEY YORK RITE FESTIVAL



Conferral of the Chapter and Council Degrees

Saturday, March 9, 2019

The degrees of the Chapter and Council equip the Mason with a completed Temple, the discovery and preservation of the Word, and an explanation of the symbolism to which he has been introduced in the fundamental degrees.

Conferral of the Commandery Orders

Saturday, March 16, 2019

After receiving the degrees of the Chapter and Council, a Mason of the Christian faith will want to adorn his Masonic edifice with the principles of the Christian religion by receiving the Orders of Christian Knighthood.

Breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m. each day, and the Degrees/Orders will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. at the
McKinney Masonic Temple
215 ½ N. Kentucky Street
McKinney, TX 75069

Petitions are available at
McKinneyYorkRite.com/join

Honoring Right Eminent H. David Moore



Past Grand Commander of the
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas

Degree Fees

(For Candidates Joining the McKinney York Rite Bodies*)

Haggai Chapter No. 53: \$100
Haggai Council No. 38: \$60
McKinney Commandery No. 34: \$75

Annual Dues

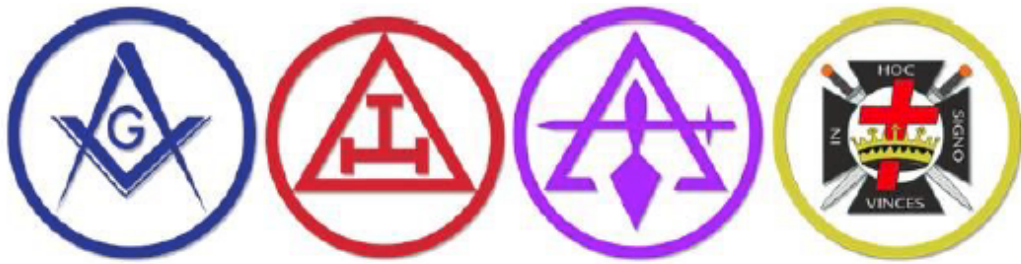
(For Candidates Joining the McKinney York Rite Bodies*)

Haggai Chapter No. 53: \$43 per year
Haggai Council No. 38: \$43 per year
McKinney Commandery No. 34: \$50 per year

*Courtesy Candidates should contact the Secretary/Recorder of their Chapter/Council/Commandery for fees and dues information.

Courtesy candidates are welcome!
Contact McKinneyYorkRite@gmail.com for additional details.

www.McKinneyYorkRite.com



Wichita Falls York Rite Festival

March 15 and 16th, 2019

3503 Kemp Blvd, Wichita Falls, TX 76308

Contact Jordan Roland (940-867-9412)

Friday, March 15th

- **Registration - 5:30pm**
- **Opening Ceremonies - 6:30pm**
- **Mark Master Degree - 7:00pm**
- **Break**
- **Past Masters Degree - 8:40pm**
- **Most Excellent Masters Degree - 9:15pm**
- **Closing Ceremonies**

Saturday, March 16th

- **Breakfast Starts at 6:30am**
- **Royal Arch Degree - 8:00am**
- **Break**
- **Royal Masters Degree - 10:50am**
- **Select Masters Degree - 11:25am**
- **Break for Lunch (provided)**
- **Illustrious Order of the Red Cross - 2:00pm**
- **The Order of Malta - 3:15pm**
- **Break**
- **Order of the Temple - 4:30pm**
- **Closing Ceremonies**



The Austin York Rite Bodies Spring Festival 2019

CHAPTER DEGREES: SATURDAY MARCH 16, 2019
- AT C.O. JONES CHAPTER (LEANDER - NORTON MOSES LODGE)

COUNCIL DEGREES: SATURDAY APRIL 27, 2019
- AT SAN MARCOS COUNCIL (SAN MARCOS LODGE)

COMMANDERY ORDERS: SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2019
- AT COLORADO COMMANDERY (AUSTIN YORK RITE TEMPLE)

Coffee & Registration - 8:00 AM

Degree Conferral - 9:00 AM

Lunch 12:30 PM

Degree Fees (2019 dues included): \$110 (Chapter); \$110 (Council); \$110 (Commandery)

Annual Dues: \$40 (Chapter); \$35 (Council); \$75 (Commandery)

Endowed Memberships: \$500 (Chapter); \$500 (Council); \$1000 (Commandery)

Please make 3 separate checks payable to:

Lone Star Chapter No. 6 RAM

Austin Council No. 2 R&SM

Colorado Commandery No. 4 KT

Contact: George Moxley

utband1@aol.com • (512) 422-7443

Super Excellent Master

R. & S. M.



of Texas

Super Excellent Master Degree

Saturday June 22, 2019

Fort Worth Masonic Temple - 1100 Henderson St. Fort Worth, TX

Registration 9:30 AM ★ Lunch 11:30 AM ★ Degree 1:00 PM

Petitions must be turned in by May 31st to receive card, certificate and lapel pin at conferral. All others will be mailed to your Council for distribution. Total Cost for the Degree is \$60.00 including lunch for the candidate and his wife (no children). Meal Tickets for all other members are \$15.00 in advance. If there is food left after everyone with a ticket has been served, meals may be purchased for \$15.

**For more information please contact:
Brad Billings @ 806.787.7600
or email Kurt Joye @ Kurt820@aol.com**

**Make checks payable to:
Lyle L. Cross York Rite College #147**

**Mail checks and Petitions to:
Kurt Joye
2425 Clearview Dr.
Midlothian, TX 76065**



PETITION FOR THE SUPER EXCELLENT MASTER'S DEGREE

Name _____ Grand Lodge ID # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

I certify on My Honor that I am a Member in Good Standing of _____

Council # _____ under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas and request the Conferral of the Super Excellent Masters Degree.

Signature _____

How name is to appear on certificate (Print): _____

The Conferral will be on **Saturday June 22, 2019**, at the **Ft. Worth Masonic Temple** (1100 Henderson St., Ft. Worth, TX) beginning with Registration at 10:00 A.M., Lunch at 11:30 P.M., and Degree Conferral to begin at 1:00 P.M. The Degree Fee is \$60.00 which pays for the Degree, Life Membership, Pin, Membership Card, Membership Certificate, and Lunch for the Candidate and his Wife. The Ladies will be permitted to watch the Degree Conferral. If a proper petition (with check enclosed) is received before **May 31, 2019**, all cards and certificates will be presented on the conferral date. If not received by May 31, 2019, then they will be mailed to the Recorder of listed Council for distribution.

If your wife is attending, please fill out the following:
Name: _____ Total for Lunch: _____

Make Checks payable to: **Lyle L. Cross York Rite College No. 147** in the amount of **\$60.00**, and send petition with check to:

Companion Kurt Joye
2425 Clearview Dr.
Midlothian, Texas 76065

Lunch for all others is \$15.00 if purchased by May 31, 2019. If you do not reserve your meal ticket ahead of time, it will be first come first serve after all pre-registered attendees have gone through the line.

For further information you may contact Brad Billings at 806.787.7600 or email Kurt Joye at Kurt820@aol.com

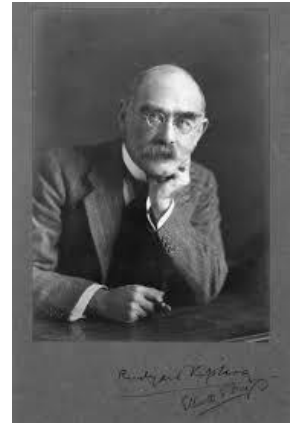
If sending money for multiple meal tickets, please designate the person's name the tickets are to be listed under and how many. Pick up meal tickets and degree packets at the registration desk.

(Duplicate As Necessary)

EDUCATION



Brother Rudyard Kipling



➤ **Early Masonic Diversity: Brother Rudyard Kipling** was born December 30, 1865 in Bombay, India, but was educated at the United Services College, North Devon, England. He returned to India in 1880 where he joined the editorial staff of the Civil and Military Gazette and Pioneer at Lahore, serving until 1889. He began writing verse and tales while in India, and continued after his return to England in 1889. His writing contained frequent Masonic references.

In 1886, he published his first volume of verse, and his first prose collection was published in January 1888, a month after his 22nd birthday. In early 1889, he returned to England by way of Japan, across the United States and Canada, and thence to Liverpool. His writings flourished, and in 1891 his health forced him to make another sea voyage; before his return he proposed, via telegraph, to his wife-to-be. Following his marriage, they lived for a time in the United States in the state of Vermont. They returned to England in 1896, but continued to travel periodically. His writing continued unabated until the 1930s. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907, being the youngest individual to receive it. He succumbed to a perforated duodenal ulcer in the Middlesex Hospital in London on January 18, 1936. Rudyard Kipling is pictured on a stamp issued by Sweden on December 9, 1967, to honor the 1907 Nobel Prize winners.

Brother Kipling was initiated in Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 872, Punjab, India, in 1886 by a special dispensation, because he was only 20 years and six months old. He recorded his own raising in the minutes, as he was immediately elected secretary of the Lodge. In an article which appeared in "The Freemason" (London) in 1925, he wrote "I was secretary for some years of Hope and Perseverance No. 782, E.C., Lahore, which included Brethren of at least four creeds. I was entered by a member of Brahma Somaj, a Hindu; passed by a Mohammedan; and raised by an Englishman. Our Tyler was an Indian Jew. We met, of course, on the level, and the only difference anyone would notice was that at our banquets, some of the Brethren, who were debarred by caste rules from eating food not ceremonially prepared, sat over empty plates."

He received his Mark Master degree in the Mark Lodge "Fidelity" on April 12, 1887, and Royal Ark Mariners degree in the Lodge "Mt. Ararat" at Lahore, on April 17, 1888. He affiliated with the Independence and Philanthropy Lodge No. 391, Allahabad, Bengal in 1888. On his return to England, he became a founder of the Lodge Builders of the Silent Cities No. 4848 in 1927, and of Author's Lodge No. 3456. He was also appointed poet laureate of the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge No. 2 of Edinburgh, Scotland.

~thanks to the **Philatelic Freemason VOL. 42, NO. 3 September-October 2017 Whole No. 241.**
<http://www.masonicphilatelicclub.org.uk/>



CIVILITY

An Excerpt from Right Worshipful
David B. Dibrell, Past Grand Master of
the Most Worshipful
Grand Lodge of Texas in 2001

An excerpt from a speech by the late great Right Worshipful **David B. Dibrell** at the Scottish Rite honors day in 2015, who had personally given me (James Kirkpatrick) permission (before he passed away) to use his material as appropriate.

... I suggest that we focus our attention on “Civility” which we could define as basic dignity and respect. Our core Masonic values are life, liberty, equality, justice, truth, pursuit of happiness, popular sovereignty, separation of powers, rule of law, sanctity of family, and so on. We assume the simple, non-aggression principle of civility. Yet, I believe, and I think each of you will agree, that we have very serious problems in the World and in Society today as seemingly everyone is becoming increasingly un-civil, unkind, rude, disrespectful, and even unlawful. Hostile speech permeates the news. Uncivil behavior has become an epidemic. The World seems to be dominated by factions that are rude, confrontational and hostile. Religious intolerance and bigotry fractures the World today, even in our own cities and neighborhoods. We need what I call, “A Return to Civility”, a return to kindness, consideration and love!

... As Masons we need to focus on a return to kindness, a return to consideration, “A Return to Civility” and help guide all those around us to those principles that will influence a return to greater respect, a greater attitude of a life of civility. The World is politically divided and antagonistic; however, Masons are taught to be good citizens and respectful of the opinions of others. The World may be fractured by religious intolerance and bigotry; but, in Masonry, we are taught to respect all religions and welcome all believers in The Great Architect of the Universe - in whatever form that belief may take.

So, it is apparent that society hungers for a return to civility. I ask you this question - If we, as Masons, have the common language, the tools, the values and the desire to create a better world, isn't it our duty to do all that we can to breed civility back into society? Aren't we uniquely positioned to tackle this problem?

When we first crossed the threshold into our Lodge as an Entered Apprentice, our brothers impressed upon us the importance of learning to subdue our passions, and keeping our desires within due bounds toward all mankind. While it is perfectly acceptable, and even encouraged, that we debate policies where we have disagreement, we must always respect the individuals and the opinions they hold.

Thomas Jefferson often disagreed with George Washington on policy matters but they always remained friends. Jefferson once said to William Hamilton, “I never consider a difference of opinion in politics, in religion or in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend.”

And we can go further, my brothers. The need for safe and open dialogue about difficult and complex subjects has certainly not diminished. There just seems to be fewer places and opportunities for this to occur. We need to communicate in more than sound bites and we need to return to real, face-to-face conversations; and we, as Masons, can provide the forums to do just that.

Masons can also serve as catalysts for change and be facilitators of civil dialogue. We are well skilled and aptly qualified to teach those in our midst the means of treating each other with dignity and respect. And perhaps most importantly, we can be instrumental in this effort because we have what I refer to as a perfect and unique “delivery system” to promote civil dialogue.

... Freemasonry provides the opportunity for ordinary men, who hold a shared set of morals and values, to do extraordinary things. And each of us has been honored with this very special opportunity. Those of you that are honored today have a special opportunity and challenge. More is now expected from you than ever before. This is a time of honor as well as a time of renewal. We must not let our brethren down. We cannot let society down.

... I therefore ask you, my brethren, if not us, then who? And if not now, then when? I shudder to even consider the consequences of our inaction. America can have the courage to incorporate our Masonic tools and enlightenment to help to repair our world. Do we have the fortitude to take full advantage of this opportunity, to breed civility back into our society, and into our own communities, which are so desperately in need of our leadership? We can demonstrate our relevance in our communities. We can say, with conviction that, due to our efforts, our world is a better place. And then my brethren, harmony will forever prevail!

George Washington was a perfect example of civility, of living in a loving and respectful manner. At age sixteen, George Washington copied by hand “110 Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation”. These rules were originally

written by French Jesuits in 1595. He may have copied these only as an exercise in penmanship, but these rules of decency and politeness permeated Washington's life and should also permeate ours.

Here are a few of those rules for your consideration:

1. Pay attention – listen to what others say.
2. Acknowledge others and respect their right to disagree.
3. Treat everyone with respect.
4. Be considerate of others. Do not embarrass others.
5. Accept and give praise.
6. Don't draw attention to yourself.
7. When a person does their best and fails, do not criticize them.
8. Do not make fun of anything important to others.
9. Apologize earnestly and sincerely.
10. When you speak, be concise. (*James Kirkpatrick is really trying, ok*)
11. Associate with good people. It is better to be alone than be in bad company.
12. A person should not overly value their own accomplishments.
13. Assert yourself
14. Avoid personal questions
15. Accept and give constructive criticism

These are only fifteen. I'll let you look up and read the other 95.

... How can we make a positive difference? One very simple way to make a difference is for each of us to become better leaders. We must be leaders in our Lodges, we must take that giant step forward to become, if we are not already, leaders in our churches, in our schools and in our communities.

... As the poet has said:

You are writing a Gospel, a chapter each day,
By deeds that you do, and by words that you say.
Men will read what you have written, whether faulty or true.
Ask yourself every day, what is the Masonic Gospel, according to YOU?

May we always ask ourselves:

“What Would George Washington Do?”

I believe that George Washington would be kind, considerate, respectful, loving and civil.

Now, more importantly, ask ourselves:

“What Would A True and Dedicated Mason Do?” “What are YOU going to Do?”

Fred E. Allen, PGM



Right Worshipful Fred E. Allen passed away.

We have incorporated a tribute to him, as published on the Grand Lodge of Texas website.

When you first meet **Fred Allen**, you do not immediately get the impression of a highly successful salesman.

Quiet, dignified and unassuming – almost shy – Fred Allen’s ability to convince – to sell – becomes more and more apparent as you are exposed to his sincerity and obvious dedication to his purpose.

For, without question, he has proven his sales ability. After graduation from East Texas University at Commerce, he taught school in Ennis for three years before entering the Army. After returning from military service in Germany, he decided to try his hand at selling, and rose quickly to Sales and Advertising Manager for Robotyper Corporation in 1954. Five years later, he joined the parent organization, Royal Typewriter Company, as Western Regional Sales Manager, Chicago, and just one short year later moved to New York City as National Sales Manager. In 1963 he stepped up to become Sales Manager for Litton Industries Business Equipment Group.

Striking out on his own, he founded his own company in 1966, but in 1972, he tired of New York state and returned to Texas to operate the family ranch near Mt. Pleasant. But the sales instinct was too strong, and he soon founded his present highly successful direct mail management business, with a nationwide clientele. He was elected Charter President of the Mailing List Industry Association in New York City, and was the keynote speaker at the International Direct Marketing Symposium in Montreux, Switzerland. He’s been listed in South and Southwest Who’s Who since 1978.

While teaching in Ennis, he decided to follow his father into Masonry, and was raised in Ennis Lodge 369 on February 28, 1950. During his sojourn in New York, his work prevented him from being active, but upon his return to his birthplace in Titus County in 1972, he affiliated with Temple Lodge 70 at Mount Pleasant, and served as Master of the Lodge in 1978-79. Later, he served as District Deputy Grand Master in 1983, and in 1987, doubled as Grand Marshal and State Coordinator. He is also a Charter member of both Roy Stanley Lodge 1367 and Claud L. Austin Daylight Lodge 1450, both in Dallas, and is still a member of his mother lodge, Ennis 369. He is an Endowed Member of all four lodges.

He has been a member of all York Rite Bodies since 1950, serving as Thrice Illustrious Master of Rob Morris Council 31 in 82-83; and as High Priest of Rob Morris Chapter 40 in 1981-82. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest in 1981-82, and District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1983-84. In the Knights Templar, he served as Generalissimo of Pittsburg Commandery in 1987.

Active in Scottish Rite since 1978, he now serves as Membership Chairman for the Valley of Dallas, the largest Scottish Rite Valley in the Southern Jurisdiction. He was invested with the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1983, and was coroneted a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1987.

A noble of the Mystic Shrine, he belongs to Hella Shrine Temple, and is a Past President of the Knights of Mecca, the Temple's Blue Lodge Degree Team. Other Masonic and Masonic-affiliated memberships include the Order of High Priesthood; Order of the Silver Trowel; York Rite College; Red Cross of Constantine; Royal Order of Scotland; Philalethes Society; the Texas Lodge of Research; Texas College, Masonic Rosicrucians; and the Order of Eastern Star.

To Fred Allen, public and community relations are absolutely vital to the success and growth of Freemasonry at the grassroots. He practices what he preaches.

He is past Chairman of the Foundation Board of East Texas University and was honored by the University as a Distinguished Alumnus in 1985. He is past President of the East Texas Angus Association and a past member of the Board of the Texas Angus Association. He has served as a member of the Board of Titus County Hospital District, and of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, for a number of years he served as a member and Chairman of the Board of the American National Bank of Mount Pleasant. In Masonry, he was one of the principal architects of the highly successful Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Grand Lodge of Texas. A large share of the very positive public impact of the 150th birthday of Texas Masonry was a result of his outstanding efforts.

He strongly believes that every Mason should support the church or synagogue of his choice. He is a very active member of Tennison United Methodist Church of Mount Pleasant, where he was a Lay Delegate to the Annual Conference from 1978 to 1989. He has served as President of the Methodist Men twice, has ushered and served in many other tasks in the Church.

He has been very happily married to the former Mildred Craghead for over 35 years. Their daughter, Linda, is the wife of Lee Miche, a young and active Mason and East Texas businessman.

What is the Grand Master's hobby? Freemasonry!

My Brethren, there is an old saying, "The speed of the leader determines the rate of the pack." The speed of THIS leader will keep the pack out of breath!

Editor: M:• I:• James Kirkpatrick, Grand Master, Grand Council of Texas
May the God of Love and Peace delight to dwell with and bless you.