

Tarrant County York Rite The Keystone



2020 April Edition - www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org and <http://64th.org>



Billy Hamilton
President, TCYRA



Ernest Runyon
1st Vice Pres., TCYRA



E. and I. Neal Addy
2nd Vice Pres., TCYRA



Robert Cagley
Treasurer, TCYRA



Hobie Henderson
Secretary, TCYRA

**Welcome to the April 2020 Edition
Tarrant County York Rite Association Newsletter**

News and Upcoming Schedule

The website <http://Tarrant.yorkritetexas.org> has been upgraded.

Does it ever look sweet? Great job by Billy Hamilton and R. I. Gabriel Jagush.

When you get opportunity, please check it out ...

Continue to pray for our World, Country, State and counties.

Grand Master's latest edict on page 2 is attached, from Most Worshipful Paul Underwood.

Calendar on Page 3

Fort Worth Festival Details Page 4

Graham York Rite Festival (tentatively scheduled for May 9th) Page 8

Florence Council Donates Tree to TMRC every day for Arbor Day (for the next FIFTY Years) Page 9

We mourn the loss of **Pat James** and R.W. and V.E. **Orville O'Neill**



The Grand Lodge of Texas

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

Message from the Grand Master

Saturday, March 21st, 2020



The COVID-19 pandemic has caused substantial and material disruptions in the lives of all Americans, including the activities of Texas Masonic Lodges. For this reason, I issued an Order cancelling all gatherings of Texas Masons which were anticipated to exceed ten in number. This Order included stated meetings of Lodges for an indefinite period of time unless, in the discretion of the officers and members of the Lodge, the meeting would be in the best interest of the Lodge and, most importantly, would not pose a risk to the health of those attending.

Since that time, the Governor of Texas and state public health officials have strongly discouraged all meetings of ten or more individuals. At this time, it is not known when the pandemic will end or whether the conditions that are now occurring in Texas will worsen.

The charge of the Worshipful Master given and accepted at every installation requires, among other things, that he “cheerfully conform to the laws of the country in which he resides”. The action taken in this proclamation is consistent with the above affirmation.

Because of danger to human life that presently exists, and the directions of various officials of the State of Texas concerning the risks of holding meetings, I am today issuing the following Proclamation:

It is ORDERED that no Texas Lodge may hold a stated or called meeting until this order is rescinded by subsequent proclamation of the Grand Master.

I and your Grand Lodge Trustees are well aware that this Order will cause substantial disruption in the operations of Texas Lodges, including perhaps the election and installation of Lodge officers. However, the existing world-wide crisis requires the Grand Lodge of Texas to take extraordinary action to protect the lives of its members & follow the lawful directives of Federal, State, & local authorities.

Paul D. Underwood, Grand Master - 2020

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS – Apr, May 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
For March and April All Masonic Activities are suspended. At press time, I hope Masonic Labors are resumed somewhere on May 1st. That date, of course, is tentative and unofficial. Let us all continue to display the traits of Friendship and Brotherly Love			Apr 1  April Fool's Day	Apr 2  World Autism Awareness Day	Apr 3	Apr 4 Int'l Mine awareness
Apr 5 Palm Sunday	Apr 6  National Tartan Day	Apr 7  NATIONAL BEER DAY	Apr 8	Apr 9 Holy Thursday Passover	Apr 10 Good Friday Passover Continued	Apr 11  Passover
Apr 12 Easter Sunday Passover	Apr 13 Passover Continued	Apr 14 Passover Continued	Apr 15 Passover Continued	Apr 16, 17, 18, 19 Grand Commandery in Waco - Postponed April 16 Passover Ends		
Apr 19 Divine Mercy Sunday	Apr 20	Apr 21 San Jacinto Day Holocaust Remembrance Day	Apr 22	Apr 23	Apr 24 Arbor Day Possible First New Tree at TMRC	Apr 25
Apr 26	Apr 27  Yom HaZikaron	Apr 28  Yom HaAtzma'ut	Apr 29  INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY	Apr 30  International Jazz Day	May 1 James Kirkpatrick hopes Resumption of Masonic Activities	May 2 TMRC Pecan Grove Degree 9 am
May 3	May 4	May 5 Southside and Texas Eat at 6:00 PM	May 6 Weatherford Commandery Eat 6:30 PM Tarrant Meeting. Eat 6 Official Visit	May 7 Southside and Worth Commandery Eat 6:00 PM	May 8	May 9 York Rite Festival in Graham Degrees at 8am
May 10	May 11 Riverside Meet at 7:00 PM Official Visit Arlington Eat 6:00 PM	May 12	May 13 Goodnight-Loving Eat 6:00 PM	May 14	May 15	May 16 Grand Chapter Rally Temple 10 am
May 17	May 18 NE Tarrant at Estelle Lodge 6pm 6 pm Stephenville 6 pm Arlington Commandery	May 19 Denton Commandery Eat 6:00 PM	May 20 York Rite Ridglea Eat 6:30 PM	May 21 Cleburne Commandery 7:00 PM	May 22	May 23
May 24	May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30 Grand Chapter Rally Baytown 10 am



TRINITY YORK RITE COLLEGE #154 REGULAR MEETING
TARRANT COUNTY YORK RITE ASSOCIATION MEETING

Meetings CANCELLED
Until further notice.
FORT WORTH TEMPLE
1100 HENDERSON STREET
FORT WORTH TEXAS



President
Billy Hamilton



Pre-Eminent Governor
Wayne Roberson

2020 FORT WORTH FESTIVAL DATES AND DETAILS ANNOUNCED at the JANUARY 28 meeting.

FRIDAY – AUGUST 28, 2020 and SATURDAY – AUGUST 29, 2020

2020 Festival Degree teams are as follows:

- MARK MASTERS → Texas Chapter**
- PAST MASTERS → Southside Chapter**
- MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS → Arlington Chapter**
- ROYAL ARCH DEGREE → Ridglea Chapter**
- ROYAL MASTERS DEGREE → Tarrant Council**
- SELECT MASTERS DEGREE → Riverside Council**
- ILLUSTRIOUS ORDER OF THE RED CROSS → Worth Commandery**
- ORDER OF MALTA → Southside Commandery**
- ORDER OF THE TEMPLE → Arlington Commandery**

Prelate's Message – THE WORRY TREE

Worth Commandery No. 19

March 22nd, 2020

I recently heard a story about a gentleman who had a rather curious habit. Each evening when coming home from work he would walk over to a tree in his yard and lay his hands on it before entering his home. The next morning, he would walk over to the same tree and lay his hands on it again before getting into his car and driving to work.

Over time his next-door neighbor began noticing this odd little ritual and would watch each morning and evening to try and understand just what exactly the gentleman was doing. After watching for a few days, the only thing he could say for certain was that the routine never changed. Finally, curiosity got the best of the neighbor and he caught up with the gentleman on his way to work one morning to ask what he was doing.

"Oh, that's my Worry Tree", the gentleman replied. "I know I can't help having worries and troubles throughout my work day, but one thing is for sure, troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and children. So, I just hang them on the tree every night when I come home. Then in the morning I pick them up again.

"Funny thing is", he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there ain't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

This story seems particularly apropos at this troublesome time. The pandemic that is sweeping the globe causes us great anxiety for the future. It will pass. Let us use this time of isolation to stop, put our worries aside, and remember what is important to us: family, health, and most importantly, our relationship with our Lord and Savior.

Matthew 6:25-27 states, *"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"*

Phillipians 4:6 tells us, *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."*

As Christians we have a perfect and reliable Worry Tree in our Lord and Savior. Because of His sacrifice on the cross we can confidently leave all of our worries with Him with the assurance that he removed the only worry that can truly do us eternal harm. Consider the words of Paul who said in Romans 8:18, *"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."*

As we go into this period of isolation from the world let us take the time to pause at that Worry Tree. Take the time to meditate on what is important in your life. Take the time to put those things that seem weighty and burdensome to you in perspective. Take the time to lay your worries in His hands. In doing so you may realize that some of the things which seem worrisome today are not nearly as heavy as you thought.

So may the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon thee, give thee peace, and ever keep thee from falling.

Sir Knight Neal Addy, Prelate, Worth Commandery #19



As Freemasons, it is our duty to contribute to the relief of our brethren and their loved ones. Starting in 2020, the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas is contributing to the [No Mason Left Behind Project](#) through the Grand Council's "Grand Master's Fund." Cryptic Masons in Texas and elsewhere can support this effort by purchasing a commemorative jewel.

The No Mason Left Behind Project helps subsidize the living expenses of older Texas Masons, their female relatives, and members of the Order of the Eastern Star at the [Texas Masonic Retirement Center](#) if they can otherwise not afford it. No Mason Left Behind makes a powerful difference for many people.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas recognized long ago that many of our brethren desire to spend their golden years with friends in a peaceful and comfortable setting. The Texas Masonic Retirement Center was created to fill this need. It is owned and operated by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, which has been providing quality care to senior members of the Texas Fraternity since 1911. The Texas Masonic Retirement Center is situated on a 100-acre tract of land in the heart of Arlington, Texas, and provides the best quality care possible along with ideal surroundings for our seniors and the widows of our deceased brethren.

To Order a jewel – go to this link: http://www.yorkritetexas.org/council/forms/gmf_order_form.pdf

FOUNDING MEMBERS

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 To be auctioned at 2020 Grand Banquet | TBD |
| 2 V.:I.: Jerry N. Kirby | Dallas No. 18 |
| 3 V.:I.: Joe F. Schriever | San Angelo No. 110 |
| 4 V.:I.: Thomas W. Snyder | Love Field No. 396 |
| 5 V.:I.: John C. Elkington | Park Place No. 373 |
| 6 V.:I.: Mark D. Myer | Port Neches No. 413 |
| 7 V.:I.: Charles S. Wolfe | Alvord No. 131 |
| 8 Jackie Matthews | Keystone No. 112 |
| 9 V.:I.: W. E. "Bill" Schroeter | Port Neches No. 413 |
| 10 V.:I.: G. Clay Smith | John C. Callahan No. 408 |
| 11 V.:I.: Tommy F. Chapman | Port Neches No. 413 |
| 12 V.:I.: J. Weldon Clampitte | Houston No. 1 |
| 13 V.:I.: Jim Manley | Tarrant No. 349 |
| 14 V.:I.: Reese L. Harrison, Jr. | San Antonio No. 14 |
| 15 Stacey Nobles | Llano No. 135 |
| 16 L. O'Neal Addy, Jr. | Texas No. 321 |
| 17 Robert Loflin | Port Lavaca No. 275 |
| 18 Billy J. Hamilton, Jr. | Texas No. 321 |
| 19 Hunter Schappaugh | Houston No. 1 |
| 20 V.:I.: James D. Kirkpatrick | Arlington No. 314 |
| 21 Russell Brown | Henderson No. 298 |
| 22 Ricky Cox | Goodnight-Loving No. 47 |
| 23 Jack M. Harper II | Hillsboro No. 94 |
| 24 Tommy "Chance" Chapman | Port Neches 413 |
| 25 Jim Rumsey | Longview No. 116 |
| 26 Gary Blair | Fort Worth No. 42 |
| 27 M.:I.: Don Paul Payton | Goodnight-Loving No. 47 |

2020

Donations Received September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020

Honor Roll

Your donation helps older Masons, their wives, widows, mothers, never-married sisters & never-married daughters live with dignity in safe, comfortable surroundings at Texas Masonic Retirement Center - ALWAYS.

Regency Contributors 2020

\$5,000 or More

Donations Received September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020

Sweet Home Lodge #576

Legacy Contributors 2020

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Donations Received September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020

Gary Blair	Vernon Mitchell
Gene Brookshire Family Ltd Partnership	Lawrence Robinson
Grady & Doris Evans Endowment Foundation	Alan Rowe
Floyd Hall	Kirby Rudisill
Wayne James	Raymond Tomlinson
James & Donna Kirkpatrick	Elizabeth & Harold Williams Foundation

Masonic Organizations

Rose of Sharon Council #49 **Trinity York Rite College #154**

Tribute Contributors 2020

\$500 - \$999

Donations Received September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020

Thurman Allred	Ferrell Lake
Rudolph Aue	George Loving
Don Brazeal	Tommy Marshall
Robert Cagley	David Ritz
William Carroll	Paul Schroeder
Gerry Clark	Esther Weigand
Jay Jolley	

Masonic Organizations

High Noon Club of Dallas **Southside Polytechnic Chapter #378/
Southside Polytechnic Council #315**

There are also many "Honor" Contributors and "Membership" Contributors.
Many thanks to all those who contribute for the well-being and support of our No Masons Left Behind program.

YORK RITE FESTIVAL
hosted by
YOUNG COUNTY MASONIC LODGE
AND
GOODNIGHT-LOVING CHAPTER & COUNCIL

Saturday, May 9, 2020
Light Breakfast at 7 AM
Chapter & Council Degrees at 8 AM
Young County Masonic Lodge No. 485
403 3rd St, Graham, TX 76450



For questions or additional information about the upcoming Festival please contact:
Don Paul Payton 817-629-8554 OR David Rogers 214-682-6241

The upcoming York Rite Festival will be held Saturday, May 9, 2020 at Young County Masonic Lodge located at 403 3rd Street in Graham, Texas. Candidates will receive all of the degree work of Ancient Craft Masonry from ritualists from around the state. The Chapter and Council degree conferral will begin with light breakfast and registration at 7:00am on May 9, 2020. Arrive no later than 7:45am as the Mark Master's Degree begins at 8:00am.

Petitions may be downloaded from: <http://commandery.yorkritetexas.org/forms/YorkRitePetition.pdf>. Candidates **MUST petition a Chapter and Council**, pay the applicable degree fees, and be elected **PRIOR to the York Rite Festival**. Candidates not petitioning Goodnight-Loving Chapter & Council must bring a letter from their respective Chapter and Council requesting courtesy degrees.

The important lessons taught in the Blue Lodge are further developed and explained in the York Rite degrees of the Chapter and Council. Having been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, you are entitled to receive more light in Masonry. One such route is that of the York Rite of Freemasonry.

Lux et Veritas

In March, Florence Chapter #275, Superintendent **Gary Blair** presented an excellent program on the history and operations of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center (TMRC).

Florence Council #208, Thrice Illustrious **Wayne Walker** received a motion to donate a “tree” once a year to the TMRC to plant on Arbor Day for the next FIFTY years. The motion was unanimously adopted. The first “donation” was presented to **Gary Blair** at that meeting.



I praise **Keith Arterburn** for coordinating volunteer security work on Friday night and week-ends for the TMRC. He procured a bunch of us masons to serve in that capacity.

I also want to publicly praise Gary Blair for his work. He is solely focused on the care of the residents. Please continue to pray for him.

I listened online to Judge **Glen Whitley** in the **Greg Abbott** conference, where Judge Whitley said he wanted to “applaud” the TMRC because last Wednesday on March 11, they implemented infection control procedures throughout their campus. Now with CDC’s epi team coming on board, they will sit down with them, they will review those procedures, and make any recommendation of changes that might need to be made. **Gary Blair** continues to do an excellent job. Please pray for **Gary’s Father, Charlie Blair**.

Please continue to pray for our residents in the TMRC. We are all Brothers, and guys like **Keith** and so many other Brothers stepping up to meet the challenge, it makes me very proud. Also ---- One of our Grand Commandery Officers, **Gary Rock** is helping with this, **along with so many others**.

James Kirkpatrick, Editor

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