

Tarrant County York Rite The Keystone



2020 June 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 June 2020 Edition Tarrant County York Rite Association Newsletter

News and Upcoming Schedule

Check out the awesome new website <http://Tarrant.yorkritetexas.org>.

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

Ricky Cox has been elected as our new Pre-Eminent Governor for Trinity York Rite college 154 Installation is on Saturday, June 6th at Phoenix Lodge at 8:00 am.

Due to Corona virus, TMRC Pecan Grove will meet (with dispensation) at Arlington Lodge #438 building. On Saturday, June 6th at 9:00 am. 1415 West Abram Street. Thanks to the kind generosity of Arlington Lodge, And Worshipful Master **Travis Lile**.

Continue to pray for our World, Country, State and counties and all citizens:

Grand Master's Proclamation on page 2 is still in effect, from Most Worshipful Paul Underwood.

Blue Lodges may conduct Stated Meetings and limited Called Meetings for Lodge of Sorrow and Installations Strict Rules are to be enforced. Similar restrictions for Chapter and Council.

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Tentative Fort Worth Festival Details Page 4

Grand Commander General Order Number 2 – Grand Session Teleconference – Page 6

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Texas Masonic Retirement Center Update from Gary Blair – Good news – Page 8 and 9

The Grand Lodge of Texas

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

Message from the Grand Master

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Grand Master's Proclamation

On April 27, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued new orders to open the State of Texas through the "Open Texas" plan. The Governor's Report to Open Texas can be found at

<https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>.

This plan is both a road map and guideline as to how various businesses and entities are to re-open. In light of this action, Texas Masonic Lodges are authorized to resume some activities by closely adhering to the following directives:

1. Commencing May 25, 2020, Lodges may hold stated meetings for the primary purpose of election of Lodge officers for the ensuing year. In addition, Lodges can conduct regular business appropriate to a stated meeting.
2. Lodges may not have called meetings until further proclamation from the Grand Master, other than one Lodge of Sorrow, or a called meeting for the purpose of installing officers.
3. No degrees will be conducted until further proclamation from the Grand Master.
4. No meals will be cooked or consumed at stated or called meetings at this time.
5. Strict social distancing rules as established in Governor Abbott's "Open Texas" will be followed, including the following:
 - (a) All Masons MUST keep a six-foot distance from other Masons.
 - (b) Masons are strongly urged, but are not required, to wear face masks;
 - (c) Lodges are encouraged to have hand sanitizer available at numerous places in the Lodge building;
 - (d) To maintain proper social distancing, Masons should not shake hands;
 - (e) Masons are encouraged to only attend their own Lodges, and not to visit other Lodges at this time;
6. Lodges that meet quarterly may hold a stated meeting on or after May 25, 2020, and prior to June 24, 2020, for the purpose of electing Lodge officers and other business appropriate to a stated meeting.
7. Most importantly, all Texas Masons are strongly encouraged NOT to attend Lodge if they have any signs of illness or do not feel comfortable in attending. Masons must self-screen for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 before attending any Lodge meeting. Those individuals considered to be "at-risk", including those who are 65 or older, and especially those with chronic lung disease; moderate to severe asthma; chronic heart disease; severe obesity; diabetes; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; weakened immune system or other risk factors are encouraged not to attend Lodge. You are the sole decision-maker as to whether you should attend Lodge. There is nothing more important at this time than the health and well-being of our Texas Masons.

Further Proclamations will be issued when it is deemed both safe and prudent to do so while, at the same time, adhering to the directives of the State of Texas on re-opening.



Paul D. Underwood
Grand Master, 2020



UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS – June 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 25, Blue Lodge Stated Meetings open. Calendar is tentative. Elections scheduled for June for Lodge, Chapter, Council						
May 31  Pentecost	June 1	June 2 Southside and Texas Chapter and Council 7:00 pm	June 3 Tarrant Chapter Council 7:00 PM	June 4	June 5  National Doughnut Day	June 6 TMRC Pecan Grove At Arlington Lodge – 9 am Trinity York Rite College Installation at Phoenix Lodge at 8am
June 7 Trinity Sunday	June 8 Riverside 7:00 PM Arlington 6:45 PM	June 9	June 10 Goodnight-Loving Chapter and Council 7 PM	June 11 Feast of Corpus Christi	June 12	June 13
June 14  Flag Day	June 15 NE Tarrant at Estelle Lodge 7pm	June 16	June 17 York Rite Ridglea 7:30 PM	June 18	June 19 Grand Commandery Teleconference June 19 – 7pm Details Page 5	June 20  Summer Solstice
June 21	June 22 Stephenville York Rite 7 pm	June 23	June 24 St John the Baptist Day	June 25  NATIONAL HANDSHAKE DAY Cancelled	June 26	June 27  National Ice Cream Cake Day
June 28	June 29 Feast of St. Peter Day	June 30 TCYRA Assoc Meeting / YRC 6:45 PM	July 1 Tarrant Chapter and Council 7pm	July 2	July 3	July 4 TMRC Pecan Grove At Arlington Lodge – 9 am
July 5	July 6	July 7 Southside and Texas 7:00 pm	July 8 Goodnight-Loving Chapter and Council 7 PM	July 9	July 10	July 11
July 12	July 13 Riverside 7:00 PM Arlington 6:45 PM	July 14	July 15 York Rite Ridglea 7:30 PM	July 16	July 17	July 18
July 19	July 20 NE Tarrant at Estelle Lodge 7pm	July 21	July 22	July 23	July 24	July 25
July 26	July 27 Stephenville York Rite 7 pm	July 28 School of Instruction Ft Worth Temple Red Room at 6:30 pm	July 29	July 30	July 31	Aug 1 TMRC Pecan Grove At Arlington Lodge – 9 am



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

Meeting Tuesday June 30th at 6:45

**FORT WORTH TEMPLE
 1100 HENDERSON STREET
 FORT WORTH TEXAS**



President
Billy Hamilton



Pre-Eminent Governor – as of June 6th, 2020
Ricky Cox

At Phoenix Lodge, Trinity York Rite College will install new officers on Saturday, June 6 at 8 am.

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

**FRIDAY – AUGUST 28, 2020 and SATURDAY – AUGUST 29, 2020
 (TENTATIVE SCHEDULE)**

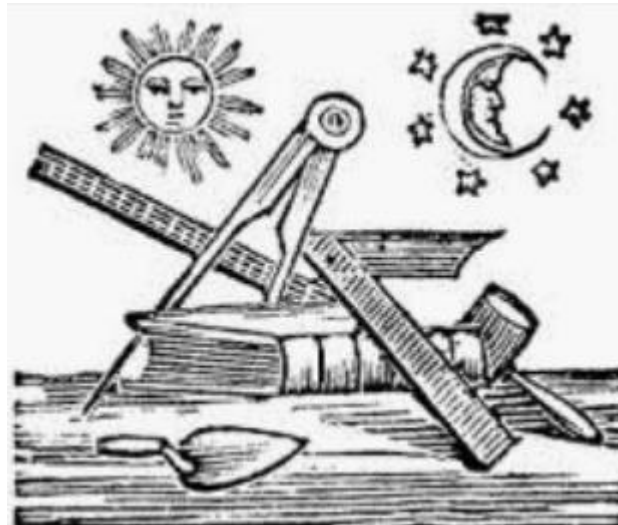
2020 Festival Degree teams are as follows:

- 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**

York Rite School Of Instruction

Tuesday, July 28 at 6:30 PM
Fort Worth Temple 3rd Floor
1100 Henderson Street
Fort Worth Texas

Work will focus on opening and closing and include a discussion of unique York Rite customs and protocols. This will be a great opportunity for newly installed officers to dig into their new parts. All area Companions are welcome and encouraged to attend.



E.: and I.: Neal Addy, Grand Photographer
Our beloved Instructor.

GRAND CONCLAVE & COVID - 19 UPDATE

GENERAL ORDER NO. 3, SERIES 2019-2020

APRIL 27, 2020

To the Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas:

This General Order, like that of General Order No. 2, is an Emergency Order.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and with guidance from the Grand Lodge of Texas and the Grand Encampment of the U.S.A., we have had to make the difficult decision to postpone the 2020 Annual Conclave. With the understanding of the guidelines that have been sent us to operate, we cannot meet as we normally do. With an affirmative vote of the Grand Commandery Officers, I have decided that we will meet using teleconferencing. This event will take place on Friday, the 19th of June 2020, at 7:00 pm until we conclude.

Please reserve the date and time if you plan to attend via teleconference. This will require the use of a computer or tablet with the appropriate software, or a phone for audio only access. Details for how to access the teleconference will be sent soon. For the purpose of conducting business, registration will still be required. The registration team is working on those details and will send a notice soon.

The business that we will need to conduct will include:

1. Grand Commander's Report
2. Grand Recorder's Report
3. Grand Treasurer's Report
4. Jurisprudence Report
5. Finance Report and Annual Budget
6. Resolutions
7. Election of Officers
8. Installation of Officers



We are having to do all of this because of the pandemic, but we need to perform these duties. I hope all of you will understand that this has been difficult for all of us, so it is going to require unusual things to happen. The main thing is that we need to conclude the business of the Grand Commandery this year. We have been locked down on our Stated Conclaves and Called Commandery Meetings. I am going to give permission for the Commanderies to do business by the use of teleconferencing only. I know that this will be a hardship for some Commanderies, but the Commanderies still need to pay their bills and take care of business. At this time, we cannot go on with business as usual.

Remember, the 2020 Annual Grand Conclave will be held on June 19th, 2020 at 7:00PM via teleconference. Details to follow.

I pray to God that everyone is staying safe during these trying times.

Thank you for your understanding and patience and God bless you all.

In His Name,

Clarence J. Laney cjvision2020@zoho.com

Grand Prelate's Message Ascension Message 2020

Lonely, But Never Alone

The remaining 11 disciples went to Galilee following the message Jesus had given them through Mary Magdalene. The message was to meet him on a mountain in Galilee.

When they arrived on the mountain, they found Jesus and worshiped him. They knew He was the Son of God, but some of the apostles still had questions. How could it be possible that this man who they had followed for the past three years stood before them? Some of the disciples still had doubts.

Jesus answered them saying: "All power in heaven and earth has been given to me. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." Jesus empowered the disciples to spread the word. "Teach them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo I am with you always, even to the end of the age." He knew his words would give them comfort during times when they felt lonely or discouraged.

The disciples were sent to change the world. They were given the massive task of spreading the word. The Lord said, "Know that I am with you, always." The disciples were not the only ones who felt alone after the Lord left them and Ascended to the Father. The feeling of being deserted, alone in life, are very human and very real. Throughout our lives, from the youngest child to the oldest adult, we will sometimes feel alone in the world. Fears, struggles and anxiety affect us all throughout life.

Jesus also knows what it is like to be alone. Jesus, who felt the hurt and loss of his Father's presence cried out, "My God, My God, Why has thou forsaken me?" He experienced the human feeling of loneliness. Now no one who cries out to Jesus will ever be truly alone. "Lo, I am with you always, even until the end of the world." I believe there aren't any more reassuring words of Scripture than those. We are not alone. Jesus is with us. In fact the name he is given in this same Gospel is Emmanuel, God with Us. He will never desert us or leave us alone.

When He ascended into heaven, it was not to leave us. He returned to prepare a place for us. He entered into heaven so we could experience his presence in our hearts and souls and bring his existence to the world. He desires to have us near him, always. This is why we are never alone in spirit. In this time of the corona pandemic, a time of social distancing, loneliness, isolation and loss, let us remember His words. "Lo, I am with you always, even until the end of the world." He is forever present. We are never alone. Call to the Lord our God and he WILL comfort you.

This message was prepared by
Sir Knight Justin Winch,
Grand Prelate 2019-2020.



Texas Masonic Retirement Center News

Information Updates Regarding COVID-19

Update from Gary Blair, Superintendent, Texas Masonic Retirement Center As of May 29, 2020

Effective June 1, 2020 — New changes to the current COVID-19 Action Plan :

Leaving Campus No Longer Requires Quarantine

Residents who leave the campus will no longer be required to quarantine for 14 days upon their return. If a resident is currently in quarantine, this must be completed prior to a lift in restrictions.

Residents should take all precautions to protect themselves while off campus —

- Avoid large crowds
- Wash your hands often
- Don't touch your face
- Practice social distancing at all times
- Wear a mask if you can

Remember, your age group is the most likely to have bad results from this virus!

Group Gatherings On Campus Allowed – With Restrictions

Residents will be allowed to gather in groups of up to 8, however, social distancing precautions must be taken.

Group dining remains on hold. We will continue to deliver meals to your rooms.

The Activity Department will not schedule any group activities.

The Transportation Department will only schedule "Medically Necessary" appointments.

Temperature Checks – Need Your Cooperation

Residents are still required to report their temperatures to the Wellness Department daily. Please help the staff do this by calling in your temperature. This is a tremendous help and your participation is greatly appreciated.

If you show any signs or symptoms of the COVID virus, or any other illness, you must remain in your room and notify the Wellness Nurse.

Visitation Policy Updates

There will be NO CHANGE to the current policies of the nursing home area at this time.

There will be NO CHANGE to the visitation policy for visitors entering buildings on campus. No person other than those deemed, by the Superintendent, to be "Critically Necessary" will be allowed to enter any building on the campus. HOWEVER, residents may meet with visitors outdoors in a well-ventilated area.

While it is not recommended, you may meet with your family or friends OUTDOORS with these restrictions:

- No more than 3 visitors at any one time
- Social distancing is practiced at all times
- Visitors must wear a mask at all times
- Residents must wear a mask at all times
- Limit your visit to no more than 30 minutes
- No visitor enters any building on the TMRC campus — for any reason!

Let us continue to work together to protect the health and safety of you, your neighbors, and our staff!

Updates from Gary Blair, Superintendent, Texas Masonic Retirement Center As of April 23, 2020

New Milestone – No COVID-19 Positive Tests on TMRC Campus Today

Today we reached another milestone as we put additional distance between COVID-19 and our staff and residents. We are grateful to announce that we no longer have any person on our campus with a positive test for COVID-19.

Until today, we continued to closely monitor and support the one resident in the independent living area who, although feeling completely healthy, had continued to test positive. We are happy for this person and cautiously celebrate today.

We also give a virtual hug to every resident, every employee, and every person who has stood with us as we practice strict social distancing, hand washing, disinfecting regimens, and phone or online fellowship. As we've said before, we MUST continue to protect ourselves. We cannot let down our guard with this insidious virus.



James Kirkpatrick, Editor

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