

Tarrant County York Rite The Keystone



2020 July 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 July 2020 Edition Tarrant County York Rite Association Newsletter

News and Upcoming Schedule

Continue to 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**.

Due to Corona virus, TMRC Pecan Grove will meet (with dispensation) at Arlington Lodge #438 building.
However, we will NOT meet in July (because of our Independence Day Holiday).
We will resume in August.
Tarrant Chapter/Council will also not meet in July (We will resume in August)

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

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UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS – July/August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		June 30 TCYRA Assoc Meeting / YRC 6:45 PM	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4 
July 5	July 6	July 7 Southside and Texas 7:00 pm Texas: Elections and Installation	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
Aug 2	Aug 3	Aug 4 Southside and Texas 7:00 pm	Aug 5 Goodnight-Loving Chapter and Council 7 PM	Aug 6	Aug 7	Aug 8
Aug 9	Aug 10 Riverside 7:00 PM Arlington 6:45 PM	Aug 11	Aug 12 York Rite Ridglea 7:30 PM	Aug 13	Aug 14	Aug 15
Aug 16	Aug 17 NE Tarrant at Estelle Lodge 7pm	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21	Aug 22
Aug 23	Aug 24 Stephenville York Rite 7 pm	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28	Aug 29



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
 Ricky Cox**

For the TCYRA meeting agenda, President Billy Hamilton wishes to focus on a discussion with the participating bodies on if the annual York Rite Festival should continue or not due to the pandemic.

With the Governor and city re-enacting social distancing policies, we need to examine if it makes sense to postpone or cancel. Companions, please be aware of the importance of attending the meeting to help decide the issue.

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

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

- 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.

Ricky Cox.

This is a good lesson for all of us, no matter what stage of life you're in. You'll see what I mean.

A young woman went to her grandmother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her – her husband had cheated on her and she was devastated. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as soon as one problem was solved, a new one arose.

Her grandmother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to boil. In the first she placed carrots, in the second she placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She let them sit and boil; without saying a word.

grandmawoman1

In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl.

Turning to her granddaughter, she asked, 'Tell me what you see.'

'Carrots, eggs, and coffee,' she replied.

Her grandmother brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. The grandmother then asked the granddaughter to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg.

Finally, the grandmother asked the granddaughter to sip the coffee. The granddaughter smiled as she tasted its rich aroma. The granddaughter then asked, 'What does it mean, grandmother?'

Her grandmother explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity: boiling water. Each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened. The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were in the boiling water, they had changed the water.

grandmawoman2

"Which are you?" she asked her granddaughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?"

Think of this: Which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong, but with pain and adversity? Do I wilt and become soft and lose my strength?

Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit, but after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship or some other trial, have I become hardened and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside, am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and hardened heart?

Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water, the very circumstance that brings the pain. When the water gets hot, it releases the fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and change the situation around you. When the hour is the darkest and trials are their greatest, do you elevate yourself to another level?

How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?

May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way. The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches.

When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so at the end, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

May we all be like the COFFEE.

New Grand Commandery Officers – 2020-2021



**Sir Knight Gary H. Freedman
Right Eminent Grand Commandery 2020-2021**

Gary Howard Freedman was born July 20, 1964, in San Pedro, California. Prior to military service, he was involved in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and law enforcement in the Los Angeles area. He holds three college degrees with majors in Criminal Justice, Nuclear Technology, and Information Technology. Gary spent eight years in the U.S. Navy as a nuclear engineer and ship's diver on Thresher-Class attack submarines, from 1987 through the Gulf War and beyond. After an honorable discharge, he spent several years as an Environmental Engineer at the Washington State Dept. of Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program, where he earned the state's Environmental Stewardship Award as project manager for the cleanup and release of the 90,000-acre military buffer zone surrounding the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. He changed focus to the computer and networking field at Ecology, and in 2001, relocated to Amarillo, Texas, where he continues to serve as a Network Administrator at Amarillo National Bank.

Gary began his Masonic journey in 2004, and has served his lodges four times as Worshipful Master. He is a member of San Jacinto, Amarillo, and Hansford Lodges, and served as District Deputy Grand Master of District 99 in 2012. He is currently District Instructor At-Large, and Treasurer of Amarillo Lodge where he is also a recipient of the Golden Trowel Award.

He joined the Lubbock Valley Scottish Rite in 2006, received his 32 degree KCCH in 2011, has served as Wise Master of the Lubbock Chapter of Rose Croix, and is the Charter Recorder of the Lubbock Valley Marshal of the Court of Honor. He currently serves Khiva Shrine as York Rite Liaison, has served A.E. Shirley Chapter O.E.S. multiple times as Worthy Patron and Treasurer, and was on the Amarillo Rainbow and DeMolay Boards for several years.

Having joined the York Rite in 2005, Gary served as High Priest and Thrice Illustrious Master of Amarillo Chapter and Council. He has had the honor to serve as DDGHP of the Grand Chapter R.A.M. and DDGM of the Grand Council R.S.M. in 2012, and was appointed Grand Marshal of the Grand Chapter by V.E.P.G.H.P. W. David Melear from 2015-16. He was honored with the Royal Purple Service Award by V.I.P.G.M. Terry Flippo in 2016.

Gary belongs to Amarillo, High Plains and Borger commanderies, served four times as Commander, and is now serving as Treasurer for the Amarillo York Rite bodies. He was elected Grand Sentinel of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas in April 2011, was appointed Grand Representative of California in Texas, and served as Grand Commander from 2020-2021 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. He is an active member of Texas Priory K.Y.C.H., the Order of High Priesthood, the Order of the Silver Trowel where he served as Chaplain from 2018-19, and is a grand officer in the Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill. Gary has been an active member of the Amarillo Commandery Ritual and Field Drill teams since 2005, having won multiple state ritual championships, and multiple state and national drill championships as Captain of the Amarillo Field Drill Team. Gary is an Associate Regent and recipient of the Order of the Purple Cross, and is currently an officer of West Texas York Rite College. He is also in the officer lines of the Knights Preceptor, Crusader Conclave R.C.C., Ascension Tabernacle XX H.R.A.K.T.P., and Golden Spread Council A.M.D.

Gary is a member of the Catholic Church, has been a life member of J.E. Pietzsch Chapter of Disabled American Veterans for 15 years, and is active in community and veteran services. He has been married for 30 years to his beautiful and supportive wife, Jeanne, who is also a Navy veteran whom he met while she was fixing his submarine. They have two grown children, daughter Lindy, and son Keelan, who is currently serving in the U.S. Navy attached to the U.S.S. Theodore Roosevelt.

Grand Office	Grand Officer	Email
Right Eminent Grand Commander	Gary H. Freedman	gary.freedman@hotmail.com
Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander	Ronnie W. Wilsom	ronnie.wilson@gapac.com
Eminent Grand Generalissimo	Richard R. Jernigan	ricjernigan@gmail.com
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Eminent Grand Junior Warden	Jason L. Lesikar	J.l.lesikar@tcu.edu
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Eminent Grand Treasurer	Thomas W. Snyder, PGC	twstx3star@aol.com
Eminent Grand Recorder	Jerry N. Kirby, PGC	tx3star@att.net
Eminent Grand Standard Bearer	Gary E. Rock	garyrck32@yahoo.com
Eminent Grand Sword Bearer	Ralph Royall	rroyall@reagan.com
Eminent Grand Warder	Ricky D. Cox	rcox70@gmail.com
Eminent Grand Sentinel	Tommy F. Chapman	tomkat6265@aol.com

Much gratitude to Sir Knight **Chris Little**, my honorable friend, Brother and Companion who made himself available for the office of Eminent Grand Sentinel, as he continues to be a gracious person, and example of being a true brother.

Congratulations to all the new officers for 2020-2021.

The Grand Commandery is in excellent hands with **Gary H. Freedman** and the rest of the officers.

We salute you.

The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas
Office of the Grand Commander
Amarillo, Texas
June 26, 2020

GENERAL ORDER NO. 4, SERIES 2020-2021

Subject: Patriotic Message (Saturday, July 4th, 2020)

To: The Grand Officers, Past Grand Commanders, Officers and Members of the Constituent Commanderies of Texas.

Greetings, Sir Knights:

"AMERICAN PATRIOT"

This title belongs to all of us. Every Masonic Lodge, and any other gathering of good men made better by their Masonic teachings, who will continue to honor their oath by taking that title to their hearts as a nation.

Listen closely my fellow Knights Templar. I am your nation. I was born on July 4, 1776, and the Declaration of Independence is my birth certificate. The bloodlines of the world run in my veins, because I alone offered freedom to the oppressed. I am many things and many persons. I am 330 million living souls, and the ghost of the millions who have lived and died for me.

I am Nathan Hale and Paul Revere. I stood at Lexington and heard the shot heard around the world. I am Washington, Jefferson, and Patrick Henry. I am John Paul Jones, the Green Mountain Boys and Davey Crockett. I am Abe Lincoln, Grant and Roosevelt, Alvin York and Audie Murphey.

I remember the Alamo, the Maine, and Pearl Harbor. When freedom called, I answered and stayed until it was over, over there. I left my heroic dead in Flanders Field, on the rocks of Corregidor, on the frozen slopes of Korea, and in the steaming jungles of Vietnam. My citizens lie dead in the sands of Afghanistan and Iraq.

I am the Brooklyn Bridge, the granite hills of Vermont, and the golden wheat fields of Kansas. I am the coal mines of Virginia and Pennsylvania, the fertile lands of Ohio and Iowa. I am the Golden Gate and the Grand Canyon. I am Independence Hall and the Monitor and Merrimac, and I am big. I sprawl from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and my arms stretch out to embrace Alaska and Hawaii. I am over 4 million square miles. I am over 12 million farms and ranches. I am forests, fields, mountains, and deserts. I am quiet, peaceful villages, and I am huge raucous cities that never sleep.

You can gaze upon me and see Ben Franklin walking in the streets of Philadelphia. You can see Betsy Ross with her needle and thread. You can see the lights of Christmas and hear the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" when the calendar turns. You can witness the sounds and colors of fireworks on the Independence Day.

Furthermore, I am Babe Ruth and the World Series. I am Daytona and Talladega. I am the NFL, and high school ball on Friday nights. I am 415,000 schools and colleges, and the 530,000 churches where my people worship God as they feel is best for them. I am a ballot dropped in a box or recorded on a computer. I am the roar of a crowd in a stadium, and the voices of choirs in cathedrals. I am an editorial in a newspaper, and a letter to a Congressman.

I am Eli Whitney, Stephen Foster, Thomas Edison, and Billy Graham. I am Horace Greely, Will Rogers, the Wright brothers, and George Washington Carver. I am Jonas Salk, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr, and Longfellow. I am Harriet Beecher Stowe, Walt Whitman, Thomas Paine, and John Wayne. Some of these men were Masons, some were not, but all were great men and women.

YES! I am *the* nation, and these are some of the things that I am. I was conceived in freedom, and with God willing, I will spend the rest of my days as such. May I always possess the integrity and the strength to keep myself unshackled, and to remain the citadel of freedom. With the beacon of hope carried in each Sir Knight present, I will continue to shine my light and my patriotism to the world.

Freedom Is Not Free

I watched the flag pass by one day. It fluttered in the breeze. A young MARINE saluted it, and then he stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform. So young, so tall, so proud. His hair cut square, his eyes alert. He stands out in any crowd.

I thought how many men like him had fallen through the years. How many died on foreign soil? How many mother's tears?

How many pilots' planes shot down? How many died at sea? How many foxholes were soldiers' graves? No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of "TAPS" one night, when everything was still. I listened to the bugler play, and felt a sudden chill.

I wondered how many times that "TAPS" had meant "AMEN". When a flag had draped the coffin of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children, of the mothers and the wives. Of fathers, sons, and husbands, with interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea. Of the unmarked graves in Arlington-

No, Freedom is not free.

This message was prepared by Sir Knight Dallas Alford, U.S. Army, P.H., Vietnam Veteran, P.C. Amarillo Commandery #48.

Luxury High-Rise Living

The Keystone

New High-Rise Luxury Living at Texas Masonic Retirement Center

A photograph of an elderly couple smiling warmly. The woman on the left has short, styled white hair and is wearing a dark patterned top. The man on the right has short grey hair and is wearing a light blue button-down shirt. They are positioned in front of a dense background of green leaves. The image is framed by a dark teal border.

New!
Now Open

Texas Masonic Retirement Center
The Keystone
Luxury High-Rise Living

No Deposit!

- Lovely Views
- Sophisticated Interiors
- Huge Patio/Balcony
- Chef-Inspired Dining
- Tons of Storage
- Weekly Housekeeping

Schedule a tour today
817-275-2893
Info@YourTMRC.org

See floorplans and learn more at YourTMRC.org

Luxurious High-Rise Living at Texas Masonic Retirement Center

Texas Masonic Retirement Center proudly offers luxury high-rise apartment living at The Keystone (just opened!) and Royal Arch.

Both buildings are conveniently connected to our dining plaza and within a few steps of all amenities offered at our **Historic Main Building**.

Set amid 100 acres of rolling meadow and a century-old pecan orchard, both buildings offer a variety of floor plans (see below) and sophisticated amenities.

All high-rise apartments offer upscale interiors featuring the latest styles in hardwood cabinetry, custom ceramic tile floors and back splashes, gorgeous counter tops, and stylish carpeting. You'll enjoy major appliances including a refrigerator, dishwasher, washer, and dryer. Each upper floor unit includes a private covered balcony. Covered parking and weekly housekeeping are included in the amenities available to residents.

Your Life — Even Better! Many Convenient Amenities & Services

- Chef-inspired meals served three times a day
- Weekly housekeeping
- Parties, games, and holiday celebrations
- Entertainment trips to live theater, musicals, museums, and movies
- Trips to Masonic events including Grand Lodge and local meetings
- Shopping at local malls and grocery centers
- Beauty shop & barber
- Fitness Center
- Two chapels
- Transportation to local doctor visits
- Nursing area offering custodial care as residents' needs change

Payment Plans & Eligibility

Residents of Royal Arch Plaza and The Keystone participate in the payment for services plan.

Schedule a Tour Today!

For more information or to schedule an appointment for a tour, please contact us at 817.275.2893 or email to info@YourTMRC.org.

Check Out Floor Plans – The Keystone & Royal Arch Plaza

We're glad to answer questions and provide information. Feel free to check out our **Frequently Asked Questions**. We also welcome your call to **817.275.2893** or email to **info@YourTMRC.org**

Website for new high rise apartments:

<https://yourtmrc.org/our-community/apartments-duplexes/high-rise/>

Family Day 2020 Cancelled

We'll meet again next year--

With a heavy heart, we announce the cancellation of Texas Masonic Family Day 2020. This decision includes cancellation of the Masonic BBQ Cook Off and Classic Car Show.

As you know, we lost a resident to COVID-19 in early March. We also provided support to two staff and two additional residents who contracted this dangerous and highly contagious virus. While we have had no cases since, we cannot let down our guard. We must continue to err on the side of extreme caution to ensure the health and safety of our residents and staff.

Because Family Day often attracts about 4,500, we cannot justify the risk to our residents, staff, or guests by allowing exposure to a crowd of this magnitude.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to meeting you again when this pandemic is resolved.

James Kirkpatrick, Editor

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