

FOR MORE LIGHT GO YORK RITE  
SEPTEMBER 6 AND 7, 2019

# Explanation of Degrees



## 2019 ANNUAL TARRANT COUNTY YORK RITE FESTIVAL

Location: Fort Worth Temple



## Capitular Masonry

The Royal Arch Chapter includes the four degrees of Capitular Masonry. It is the Masonry of Recovery. It teaches that the great beliefs in Freemasonry are never eternally lost. All things in due time will be recovered.

Honoring **Ben Lewark**

Sponsored by TEXAS CHAPTER 362 / COUNCIL 321  
High Priest / Thrice Illustrious Master: **Billy Hamilton**  
Festival Registrar: **Jerry Taylor**

## Cryptic Masonry



The Council of Royal and Select Master Masons includes the three degrees of the Masonry of Preservation. Teaching that immortal truths will never be destroyed, that the approach of destruction will lead to a safe and secure deposit of these truths. This is Cryptic Masonry . . . the Alpha and Omega of the Ancient Craft.

Coordinated by TARRANT COUNTY YORK RITE ASSOCIATION

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



I: **Ricky Cox, President**

Billy Hamilton, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Ernie Runyon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Robert Cagley, Treasurer

Hobie Henderson, Secretary

Corey Harris, Master of Ceremonies

Pre-Eminent Wayne Roberson, Governor Trinity 154



## Chivalric Masonry



The Commandery of Knights Templar confers three Orders: The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, the Order of Malta and the Order of the Temple. They are called orders rather than degrees because of their chivalric nature. The teachings center on knightly virtues, are based on feudal knighthood or the military nobility. Charity and hospitality are characteristics which underlie the Templar program.

### PURPOSES AND AIMS:

Advancement of York Rite Masonry

Participating bodies include:

- Trinity York Rite College #154 (co-coordinator)
- Texas Masonic Retirement Center (TMRC)
- St Timothy Conclave, Order of Red Cross of Constantine
- 2 chapels of St Thomas of Acon
- Worth Shamrock #54, Knight Masons
- Our Redeemer Tabernacle IX, H.R.A.K.T.P.
- Several Allied Masonic Degrees Councils



## TEXAS YORK RITE GRAND OFFICERS

### GRAND CHAPTER

Most Excellent Grand High Priest ----- Joe Schriever  
R: E: Deputy Grand High Priest ----- David M. Baskin  
R: E: Grand King ----- Mark D. Myer  
R: E: Grand Scribe ----- Frances Edwin "Skip" Smith, Jr.  
R: E: Grand Treasurer ----- Orville L. O'Neill  
R: E: Grand Secretary ----- Kenneth E. Cooley  
R: E: D. D. Grand High Priest 18 ----- Kevin Caraway  
R: E: D. D. Grand High Priest 26 ----- Neal Addy  
E: Grand Chaplain ----- Jack Magee Harper, II  
E: Grand Orator ----- Brian R. Dodson  
E: Grand Marshal ----- Richard R. Jernigan  
E: Grand Captain of the Host ----- Jimmy M. Henley  
E: Grand Principial Sojourner ----- Bradley French  
E: Grand Royal Arch Captain ----- Kenneth W. Sheats  
E: Grand Master of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Veil ----- Frank R. Torres  
E: Grand Master of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Veil ----- Christian D. Moore  
E: Grand Master of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil ----- Robert L. "Bob" Clemmons  
E: Grand Senior Steward ----- Jack E. Beeler  
E: Grand Junior Steward ----- Ronald D. Park  
E: Grand Organist ----- Robert C. Madison  
E: Grand Photographer ----- Hobie Henderson  
E: Grand Guard ----- Samuel C. Reid

### GRAND COUNCIL

Most Illustrious Grand Master ----- James Dale Kirkpatrick  
R: I: Deputy Grand Master ----- Don Paul Payton  
R: I: Grand PCW ----- Jackie Wayne Matthews  
R: I: Grand Treasurer ----- Orville L. O'Neill  
R: I: Grand Recorder ----- Kenneth E. Cooley  
R: I: D. D. Grand Master 18 ----- Michael Wayne Roberson  
R: I: D. D. Grand Master 26 ----- Robert Cagley  
I: Grand Captain of the Guards ----- Robert C. "Bob" Brunk  
I: Grand Conductor of the Council ----- Alfredo Gonzalez  
I: Grand Chaplain ----- Edwin S. Malone, III  
I: Grand Marshal ----- Charles E. Maddox  
I: Grand Organist ----- Mark W. Paris  
I: Grand Steward ----- Ricky Cox  
I: Grand Photographer ----- Hobie Henderson  
I: Grand Sentinel ----- Michael Blair

### GRAND COMMANDERY

Right Eminent Grand Commander ----- Clarence Joy Laney  
V: E: Deputy Grand Commander ----- Gary H. Freedman  
E: Grand Generalissimo ----- Ronnie Wilson  
E: Grand Captain General ----- Richard Jernigan  
E: Grand Senior Warden ----- Tommy Chance Chapman  
E: Grand Junior Warden ----- Justin Bauer  
E: Grand Prelate ----- Justin Winch  
E: Grand Treasurer ----- Thomas W. Snyder, P.G.C.  
E: Grand Recorder ----- Jerry Nelson Kirby, P.G.C.  
E: Grand Standard Bearer ----- Jason Lesikar  
E: Grand Sword Bearer ----- Gary Rock  
E: Grand Warder ----- Ralph Royal  
E: Grand Sentinel ----- Ricky Cox

## Festival Honorees: Brother Ben Lewark

Benjamin Edward Lewark was born on June 29, 1928 on the south side of Fort Worth to Mary Belle Hyde Lewark and James Edward Lewark. The family moved to Polytechnic where Ben started school at D. Mac Rea Elem. At five years old, his mother enrolled him in the National Institute of Music to learn how to play the Violin. In April 1937 the family moved to Arlington Heights 2 blocks from the city limits of Fort Worth. At this time Arlington Heights Elementary was in the country. He then attended Stripling Jr, and Arlington Heights High where he graduated on May 24, 1946. On September 3, 1946 Ben joined the US Air Force where after basic training at Lackland in San Antonio he was sent to Washington DC to play with the Official Air Force Band for three months. On Jan 27th 1947 he was assigned to the 585th Air Force Band at Fort Worth Army Air Field as a Tuba and Bass violin player. During his Air Force time the band played all over Texas, including ground breaking and completion of Benbrook Lake, Grapevine Lake, Amon Carter SW Airport, Bell Helicopter and the first TV broadcast in the southwest when President Truman came to T&P Station while running for re-election.

On July 25th 1949 he met Marion Laverne Headrick who became his wife on March 18, 1950. They were married for 67 years. Four children were born to them Conn, Paula, Wilson (Eddie) and Terri. Ben got out of the Air Force on 9-4-1953 and went to work as a letter carrier for the United States Postal Service on 1-3-1954 where he worked till 10-3-1990.

During these years he was a volunteer fireman for 16yres, Voice of the Brewer Bears Football for 11 years, Schoolboard member, North Texas High School Rodeo Association Announcer for 20 years, Weekly youth rodeo reporter on WBAP for 7 years.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

DINNER (**Robert Cagley**) ----- 6:00 PM  
 Prayer (**V.:E.: V.:I.: Joe Orona**)

Candidate Registration – Sign In  
**Jerry Taylor** ----- 6:00 PM – 6:30 PM  
 PROGRAM ----- 6:30 PM

Master of Ceremonies ----- **I.: Ricky Cox**

**Program Schedule**

<b>Invocation</b>	<b>Zachary Haston</b>	<b>6:45 PM</b>
<b>Introductions &amp; Pledge to the US/Texas Flags</b>	<b>Billy Hamilton Vice President, TCYRA</b>	
<b>Mark Master's Degree</b>	<b>Southside Micah Frost</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>Break</b>		
<b>Past Master's Degree</b>	<b>Arlington Zach Haston</b>	<b>8:40 PM</b>
<b>Most Excellent Master's Degree</b>	<b>Ridglea Chapter V.:I.: James D. Manley</b>	<b>9:15 PM</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	<b>Corey Harris</b>	<b>10:00 PM</b>



**SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

BREAKFAST (**Rainbow**) ----- 7:00 AM  
 Prayer (**Wayne Roberson, Governor**)

Candidate Registration – Sign In  
**Jerry Taylor** ----- 7:00 AM – 7:30 AM  
 PROGRAM ----- 7:30 AM

Master of Ceremonies ----- **E.: Ricky Cox**

**Program Schedule**

<b>Invocation</b>	<b>Chuck Seward</b>	<b>7:45 AM</b>
<b>Introductions</b>	<b>I.: Ricky Cox, President / TCYRA</b>	
<b>Pledge to the US/Texas Flags</b>	<b>Billy Hamilton Vice President, TCYRA</b>	
<b>Royal Arch Degree</b>	<b>Tarrant, Fort Worth R.:E.: R.:I.: Joe Orona</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Break</b>		
<b>Royal Master's Degree</b>	<b>Riverside Council Ernie Runyon</b>	<b>10:50AM</b>
<b>Select Master's Degree</b>	<b>Texas Council Gabriel Jagush</b>	<b>11:25AM</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	<b>R.:E.: R.:I.: Joe Orona</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>



**SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MONTH XX, 2019**

Lunch (Rainbow) ----- 12:30 PM  
 Prayer (**Dwight Von Heeder**)  
 Commandery Candidate Registration – Sign In  
**Jerry Taylor** ----- 1:15PM

**PROGRAM / TRIBUTE** ----- 1:30 PM  
**Honoring Ben Lewark**  
 Master of Ceremonies ----- **I.: Ricky Cox**

*Commandery Program Schedule*

<b>Invocation</b>	<b>Jerry Taylor</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
<b>Tribute</b>	<b>To: Ben Lewark</b>	
<b>Illustrious Order of the Red Cross</b>	<b>Southside Commandery Corey Hale</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
<b>Mediterranean Pass and the Order of Malta</b>	<b>Arlington Commandery Butch Blackman R.: E.: Past Grand Commander (Kansas)</b>	<b>3:15 PM</b>
<b>Break</b>		
<b>Order of the Temple</b>	<b>Worth Commandery John Goodman</b>	<b>4:30 PM</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>



**Honoree: Companion Ben Lewark**

Ben's son Eddie came to him in 1991 and told him that he was going to become a Mason. This caused Ben to go to Ridglea Lodge #1941 and ask the brothers to teach him how to confer degrees. Ben then conferred all his son's degrees and his son is very active in masonry.

Brother Lewark joined White Settlement Lodge № 1372, AF&AM and was initiated an Entered Apprentice on June 22, 1961, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on April 1, 1963, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 6, 1963. He served as Master of Ridglea Lodge № 1341 AF&AM in 2002-2003. Brother Ben was the charter Senior Warden of Fort Worth Stock Show Lodge № 1460 AF&AM and served as its Master in 2012-2013. He holds a plural membership with Phoenix Lodge № 275 AF&AM.

On February 2, 1971, Companion Ben was advanced to the honorary degree of Mark Master, regularly seated in the Oriental Chair, received and acknowledged a Most Excellent Master, and exalted to the sublime degree of Royal Arch Mason. He was advanced to the rights and honors of a Royal Master and greeted as a Select Master on April 3, 1971. Companion Ben was introduced into the mysteries of the degree of Super Excellent Master on June 8, 2013. He served as the Most Excellent High Priest of Ridglea Chapter № 485 RAM, and as the Thrice Illustrious Master of Ridglea Council № 400 RSM in 2009-2010, and is serving in those roles again for 2019-2020. He was the charter Thrice Illustrious Master of Goodnight-Loving Council № 47 RSM in 2011. Companion Ben received the Cornerstone Award and the Cryptic Triangle Award in 2013.

He is also a 54-year Grotto Member and a proud Shriner.