



BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON THE

PAST GRAND MASTERS OF ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

IN THE JURISDICTION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS
from the 1838 A.D. (5838 A.L.) until 2022 A.D. (6022 A.L.)

A compilation of biographies and autobiographies of the Masons that once held the title of honor of Grand Master. Elected by Freemasons to hold the Supreme Head office in the Jurisdiction and preside over the Grand Lodge during its labors & while at refreshment.

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DECEMBER 23, 2022

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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Preface

To the Craft,

this compilation is gifted to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.

“The noblest monuments that mark the progress of man are not of stone, but of men.”

“The history of the world is the biography of great men, and the children of our children will always be interest and inspired by the accomplished.”

This work is compiled from a number of sources and it was my attempt to give credit to the authors.

-A. Craig Enderli Jr.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Anson Jones

Year In Office: 1838 Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1



ANSON JONES
Grand Master 1838

Remembered by historians as the last President of the Republic of Texas, Anson Jones is remembered by Texas Masons as their first Grand Master.

Jones was born on January 20, 1798, at Great Barrington, Massachusetts. He studied and practiced medicine in New York and Philadelphia until 1824, when he went to Venezuela for two years. Returning to Philadelphia, he completed his M.D. degree, joined Harmony Lodge No. 52, and soon was elected Master of the lodge. In October 1832 he moved to New Orleans. He came to Texas a year later, and set up a successful medical practice in Brazoria.

On March 1, 1835, Jones met with four other Masons at Brazoria and petitioned the Grand Master of Louisiana for a dispensation and a charter to form the first Masonic lodge in Texas. In December, when the lodge was set to labor, Jones was elected its first Master. The charter for Holland Lodge No. 36 arrived in April 1836, and Jones carried it in his saddlebags during the Battle of San Jacinto. At the formation of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas in December 1837, he was elected its first Grand Master.

In 1838 President Sam Houston appointed Jones Minister to the U.S. and, a year later, he was elected to the Texas Senate. Married in 1840, he returned to his medical practice in 1841, but was appointed Secretary of State before the end of the year. Elected President of the Republic of Texas in 1844, he was recognized as the "Architect of Annexation", and presided over the annexation ceremonies in 1846, where he declared "The Republic of Texas is no more."

Texas became the thirty-fifth state, and Jones retired to his plantation at Washington-on-the-Brazos, where he compiled his memoirs.

Despondent that history had not recognized and appreciated his contribution to Texas, Anson Jones took his own life on January 9, 1858.

Source:

From The Texas Mason By Pete Normand, PM Texas Lodge of Research

The Texas Masons The Fraternity of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons in the History of Texas by Pete Normand, © 1986

Branch T. Archer

Year In Office: 1839 Parent Lodge: St. John's No. 5



BRANCH T. ARCHER
Grand Master 1839

Bio goes here

Branch Tanner Archer (December 13, 1790 – September 22, 1856) was a Texan who served as Commissioner to the United States and Speaker of the House of the Republic of Texas House of Representatives and Secretary of War of the Republic of Texas.

Early life

Archer was born in Fauquier County, Virginia on December 13, 1790 to Major Peter Field Archer and Frances Tanner.[1] He attended the College of William and Mary and received his medical degree in 1808 from the University of Pennsylvania.[2] Archer married Eloisa Clarke on January 20, 1813; their union produced six children. Archer practiced medicine and was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates representing Powhatan County from 1819–1820. Archer was elected as a presidential elector in the 1820 United States presidential election, casting his vote for Virginia's native son, James Monroe (Democratic-Republican).[1] On May 13, 1828, Archer killed his cousin, Dr. James Ottway Crump, in a duel fought with pistols near Scottsville, Virginia, in Powhatan County.

In service to Texas

Archer arrived in Texas about 1831, residing in Brazoria County. Archer was an active Mason and helped organize a Masonic Lodge in Brazoria. He was also an outspoken advocate of Texas' independence from Mexico and was elected to represent Brazoria at the Convention of 1833.[1] In October 1835, Archer fought at the Battle of Gonzales which ended in a Mexican withdrawal. The next month he was elected Chairman of the Consultation of 1835, meeting in San Felipe de Austin which formed a provisional government for Texas. Although Archer was a hard-liner in favor of independence, he acceded to the will of the majority which voted to support a return to the Mexican Constitution of 1824.[1]

The Consultation subsequently elected Archer, along with Stephen F. Austin and William H. Wharton to serve as Commissioners of Texas in the United States. Their purpose was to raise funds, recruit troops and gain support among Americans for the cause of Texas.[2] The trio sailed from Galveston to New Orleans in late December 1835 and moved up the Mississippi River over the next several weeks making speeches to crowds before moving east to Washington, D.C.[3] While the Commissioners were in Washington, on March 2, 1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico. The United States refused to recognize the nascent republic at that point.

Archer returned to Texas and was elected to the Texas House of Representatives representing Brazoria. He also supported the election of his former colleague Austin to be President of Texas.[1] Austin died before the election was held and Sam Houston was elected president. In 1837, during the Second Session of the First Congress, Archer was elected Speaker of the Texas House.[1]

While in Congress, Archer joined James Collinsworth in sponsoring legislation to set up the Texas Railroad, Navigation, and Banking Company.[2] Even though President Houston supported the establishment of the company, it later failed primarily due to its banking provisions and because of public opposition led by President Anson Jones.

In 1838–1839, Archer achieved the position of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.[2]

During the administration of President Mirabeau B. Lamar, Archer was chosen to serve as Secretary of War from February 1840 until December 13, 1841.[1]

Final years

Archer remained politically active throughout his life. He died on September 22, 1856, at Brazoria and was buried at William H. Wharton's Eagle Island Plantation on Oyster Creek in Brazoria County.[1] Archer City and Archer County, Texas, the brig Archer of the Second Texas Navy were all named in his honor.

References

[1] Minor, David. "Branch Tanner Archer". Handbook of Texas Online. Texas State Historical Association.

[2] "Branch Tanner Archer". Lone Star Junction. Lyman Hardeman. 4 December 2020.

[3] Boyd, Bob (1986). The Texas Revolution: A Day-by-Day Account. San Angelo Standard, Inc. pp. 54, 62, 85. ISBN 9996165280.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

S. M. Williams

Year In Office: 1840 **Parent Lodge: Harmony No. 6**



S. M. WILLIAMS
Grand Master 1840

"WILLIAMS, SAMUEL MAY (1795-1858). Samuel May Williams, entrepreneur and associate of Stephen F. Austin, was the eldest child of Howell and Dorothy (Wheat) Williams. He was born on October 4, 1795, in Providence, Rhode Island, where his father, a descendant of Robert Williams, the founder of Roxbury, Massachusetts, was a sea captain. Three of Williams's four brothers lived in Texas during the 1840s and 1850s, and two of his three sisters made an extended visit. Henry Howell Williams of Baltimore served as Texas consul from 1836 to 1838 and moved to Galveston in 1842 to assume control of the McKinney and Williams commission house, where he remained off and on until the 1850s. In 1838 Matthew Reed and Nathaniel Felton Williams opened a sugar plantation on Oyster Creek in Fort Bend County purchased from their brother; it became Imperial Sugar Company in the twentieth century. Samuel Williams was educated

in Providence and apprenticed around the age of fifteen to his uncle, Nathaniel F. Williams, a Baltimore commission merchant. He journeyed as supercargo to Buenos Aires, where he remained for a time mastering Spanish and Latin American business practice. He settled in New Orleans in 1819 before departing for Texas in 1822 using an assumed name, E. Eccleston. He resumed his true identity in 1823 when Stephen F. Austin employed him as translator and clerk. For the next thirteen years Williams was Austin's lieutenant; he wrote deeds, kept records, and directed colonial activities during the empresario's absences. In 1826 he was named postmaster of San Felipe and was appointed revenue collector and dispenser of stamped paper by the state of Coahuila and Texas the following year. He became secretary to the ayuntamiento of San Felipe in 1828. For these services he received eleven leagues (49,000 acres) of land which he selected on strategic waterways including Oyster Creek and Buffalo Bayou.

Williams earned notoriety in 1835 while attending the legislature at Monclova by contracting for two of the 400-league grants offered by the state government as a means to raise funds to oppose President Antonio López de Santa Anna. He and six others were proscribed as revolutionaries, but he escaped arrest by going to the United States. He entered a partnership with Thomas F. McKinney in 1833 and used his family's mercantile contacts in the United States to secure credit for the firm. Their commission house, located at Quintana, dominated the Brazos cotton trade until 1838, when they moved to Galveston. The firm of McKinney and Williams used its credit in the United States to purchase arms and raise funds for the Texas Revolution in 1835-36. Neither the republic nor the state was able to repay the \$99,000 debt in full, and the partners realized only a small portion of their investment in addition to the passage of favorable relief legislation. As investors in the Galveston City Company, McKinney and Williams aided in developing the city by helping to construct the Tremont Hotel as well as the commission house and wharf. McKinney withdrew from the partnership in 1842, when Henry Howell Williams assumed his brother's interest in the firm, which became H. H. Williams and Company.

Sam Williams concentrated on banking after 1841, when the commission house received special permission from the Texas Congress to found a bank to issue and circulate paper money as an aid to commerce. In 1848 he activated his 1835 charter, obtained from Coahuila and Texas and approved by

the republic in 1836, to open the Commercial and Agricultural Bank of Galveston, which also printed its own money. Jacksonian antibanking sentiment inspired his enemies to attack the bank through the state courts on the grounds that it violated constitutional prohibitions against banks. The Texas Supreme Court sustained the bank in 1852, but subsequent suits brought its demise in 1859. Williams, a political supporter of Sam Houston, represented the Brazos district in the Coahuila and Texas legislature in 1835 and Galveston County in the lower house of the Texas Congress in 1839. He was an unsuccessful candidate for the United States Congress in 1846. In 1838 he received a commission to negotiate a \$5 million loan in the United States and to purchase seven ships for the Texas Navy. President Houston sent him to Matamoros in 1843 to seek an armistice with Mexico, an unsuccessful ploy. Williams lived quietly with his wife, Sarah Patterson Scott, on a country estate west of the city. His home, a one-story, frame, Greek Revival residence on brick piers, is operated by the Galveston Historical Foundation as a house museum and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (see SAMUEL MAY WILLIAMS HOUSE). Built between 1839 and 1844, it is among the oldest structures on the island. Williams died September 13, 1858, and was buried by the Knights Templars whose chapter he had founded. He was survived by his wife and four of his nine children. One son, William Howell Williams, was Galveston county judge from 1875 to 1880.

Source:

Margaret S. Henson, Samuel May Williams: Early Texas Entrepreneur (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1976). Samuel May Williams Papers, Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/WW/fwi35.html>"

Anthony Butler

Year In Office: 1841 Parent Lodge: Milam No. 11

"BUTLER, ANTHONY (1787?-1849?). Anthony Butler, lawyer, soldier, and politician, was born in South Carolina, probably in 1787 in Clarendon County, and established a sizable plantation in Russellville, Kentucky. At the outbreak of the War of 1812 he was commissioned a lieutenant colonel of the Twenty-eighth United States Infantry, on March 11, 1813. On February 21, 1814, he was promoted to colonel of the Second Rifle Regiment. After discharge he served as a member of the Kentucky legislature for two terms, 1818-19, but failed in a run for governor of that state in 1820. Butler was a resident of Mississippi in 1829 when his friend President Andrew Jackson, appointed him to succeed Joel Poinsett as United States chargé d'affaires in Mexico City.

Historian Justin H. Smith commented that Butler's only qualifications for the post ""were an acquaintance with Texas and a strong desire to see the United States obtain it."" He had been through bankruptcy more than once, spoke no Spanish, was ignorant of the forms of diplomacy, and ""was personally a bully and a swashbuckler."" Further, Smith maintained, Butler was ""shamefully careless,"" unprincipled in his methods, and ""openly scandalous in his conduct...In brief, he was a national disgrace."" Sam Houston wrote of Butler in 1832, ""Such men as he is, would destroy a country, but take my word for it, he will never gain one!""

Butler was recalled to Washington early in January 1836 but remained in Mexico on his own authority and continued to report to Jackson on the actions and intentions of the Mexican government toward Texas. He at last returned to the United States in May 1836. He then took residence in Washington County, Texas, and in September 1838 was elected to the House of Representatives of the Third Texas Legislature. At the outbreak of the Mexican War he offered his services to Gen. Zachary Taylor, believing that his knowledge of the country would be useful. Butler moved to the North in 1847 or 1848. As a Mason he was Grand Master of Kentucky in 1812-13 and of Texas in 1840-41. In 1849 or 1850 he died on the Mississippi River attempting to save his fellow passengers from the burning wreck of the steamboat Anthony Wayne. His papers are preserved at the Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin.

Source:

Eugene C. Barker, ""The Private Papers of Anthony Butler,"" Nation 92 (June 15, 1911). Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army (2 vols., Washington: GPO, 1903; rpt., Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1965). John H. Jenkins, ed., The Papers of the Texas Revolution, 1835-1836 (10 vols., Austin: Presidial Press, 1973). Justin H. Smith, The War with Mexico (2 vols., New York: Macmillan, 1919). Texas House of Representatives, Biographical Directory of the Texan Conventions and Congresses, 1832-1845 (Austin: Book Exchange, 1941). Amelia W. Williams and Eugene C. Barker, eds., The Writings of Sam Houston, 1813-1863 (8 vols., Austin: University of Texas Press, 1938-43; rpt., Austin and New York: Pemberton Press, 1970).

Handbook of Texas Online, s.v., ""<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/BB/fbu63.html>

John A. Greer

Year In Office: 1842 **Parent Lodge: Redland No. 3**



JOHN A. GREER
Grand Master 1842

John Alexander Greer (July 18, 1802 – July 4, 1855) was a Texan politician, and the second Lieutenant Governor of Texas serving under Governors George T. Wood and Peter H. Bell.

Greer was born at Shelbyville, Tennessee on July 18, 1802. He was in Kentucky before moving to Texas in 1830. He represented San Augustine as a senator in the Congress of the Republic of Texas from 1837–1845. Anson Jones, the last president of the Republic of Texas, appointed him as secretary of the treasury in July 1845. He was the Lieutenant Governor of Texas from 1847–1851. He died on July 4, 1855.[1]

John A. Greer is the namesake of Greer County, Oklahoma.[2]

Sources:

[1] *John Alexander Greer from the Handbook of Texas Online*. Retrieved on July 31, 2009.

[2] *Gannett, Henry (1905). The origin of certain place names in the United States. Govt. Print. Off. pp. 144.*

Draft dated 06/29/2023

James Webb

Year In Office: 1843 - 1844 Parent Lodge: Austin No. 12



JAMES WEBB
Grand Master 1843-1844

James Webb (1792 – 1856) was an attorney, judge, and politician in the Republic of Texas and during the early days of statehood after its annexation by the United States. Webb was born in Virginia in 1792 and spent part of his early years in Georgia and Florida. He taught school as a teenager, worked in the office of the county clerk and studied for the bar. He became an attorney in 1816.

He moved back to Florida in 1823 where he established the community of Webbville in Jackson County. He served as one of the trustees of the first public school in the area, Webbville Academy. In 1828 he was named a federal judge for the newly created Southern District of Florida by President John Quincy Adams.

In 1838, he moved to Texas where he caught the attention of President Mirabeau Lamar, who made him Secretary of State, Secretary of Treasury, and Attorney General of the young republic. In 1841 he was named minister to Mexico. He attempted to establish diplomatic relations during this time, but was unsuccessful. Returning promptly to Texas, he served for three years in the Republic of Texas Senate (1841-1844).

He served again as Secretary of State after statehood. In 1854, Webb was appointed judge of the Texas Fourteenth Judicial Circuit Court, based in Corpus Christi, his new home. He was still serving when he died on November 1, 1856, en route to Goliad, Texas, for a court session. He was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Goliad.

Webb County, Texas is named in his honor.

Early life

James Webb was born to Francis and Frances (née Walker) Webb in Fairfax County, Virginia, on March 31, 1792. In 1810, the family moved to Janes County, Georgia, then to Hancock County, where the father died. At age 17, James went to work teaching school for one year, then moved to Essex County, Virginia, where he was hired to work in the county clerk's office. During this time he began "reading law," a prerequisite for becoming a lawyer in lieu of attending law school. He served a tour of duty in the War of 1812, then resumed his studies and was admitted to the Virginia bar in 1819.[1]

Life in Florida

In 1823, James Webb moved his residence and law practice from Georgia to Jackson County, Florida. He had already married Rachel Elizabeth Lamar, and they were expecting a second child.[a] In time, she bore a son, Thomas Francis Webb. Rachel and her two children traveled south to reunite the family in 1824. In 1825, the Webb family welcomed a second son, James William.[2]

There were few attorneys in the Florida Panhandle, so James claimed about 400 acres (1.6 km²) of land near a community known only as Chipola Settlement. He opened a law office in Chipola, and soon took on Peter W. Gautier, already a prominent figure in Florida, as his partner. Chipola had become established only a year before Webb arrived, and the area was already attracting many settlers. Chipola Settlement grew from fewer than 200 inhabitants in 1822 to more than 2000 in 1825. The land was well

watered by several creeks and rivers, and soon proved highly suitable for agriculture, especially for raising either cotton or sugar. The Florida Territorial Legislature appointed a commission in 1827 to choose a final site for the county seat, survey it, and begin selling lots. James Webb was selected as one of the commissioners.[2] Webbville Academy, Jackson County's first public school, was established in the new town in 1827. James Webb was named as one of the trustees.

The commission selected an unnamed village as the temporary county seat. It happened that the village also contained Webb's law office and a general store owned by Colonel L. M. Stone. The legislative council also decreed that the Jackson County courts would meet henceforth at Stone's Store. A year earlier, Stone's place had been established as the site of a U.S. Post Office. In February 1827, an advertisement in the Pensacola, Florida newspaper announced that the village had been named Webbville, Florida.

The U.S. Congress approved creation of a Federal superior court for the Southern District of Florida on May 23, 1828. President John Quincy Adams signed the Act and, three days later, Webb was the new district's first judge. He accepted the appointment, resigned his Jackson County seat in the Territorial Legislature, put his farm up for sale and prepared to move to Key West, the seat of the new court.[3] Hardly had he left Webbville when a rival group from Marianna, Florida announced its intention to move the proposed county seat to Marianna, quickly swinging into action, lining up political support, even as Webbville businesses were moving to Marianna. Dissident members of the Territorial Legislature pushed forward an act threatening fines for any officials who failed to conduct their official business from Marianna. County officials scrambled to relocate their offices to the de facto county seat. Webbville became the county's first incorporated town on November 19, 1828, but it was a hollow victory. The reality was that effectively moving the county seat to Marianna ended the rise of Webbville. The buildings were soon scavenged to erect buildings in Marianna and elsewhere. Before the outbreak of the American Civil War, Webbville had become a ghost town.[3]

Powerless to alter the events dismantling the town named for him, James Webb continued to work and live in Key West. He and Rachel welcomed a fourth child, Charles John Webb. Webb's term of office would expire in 1838. He then resigned his post and moved to Houston, already a booming port in the Republic of Texas.[3]

Gone to Texas

The President of the Republic of Texas, Mirabeau B. Lamar was related to Webb's wife through the Lamar family. Apparently he had heard through the family grapevine that a very talented relative was coming to Texas and would be available for work. Lamar sent word requesting Webb to come quickly to Austin, the capital of the new republic. Lamar needed a new Secretary of State. Webb agreed to take the position, effective November 18, 1839. He remained there for nearly two years before President Lamar asked him to serve as full-time Minister to Mexico, beginning March 20, 1841. Mexico had no desire to negotiate anything and refused to accept Webb. Unable to accomplish anything, Webb returned to Austin, where he became a member of the Texas Senate, representing the Travis-Bastrop-Fayette-Gonzales district from 1841-1844, and serving as chairman of the Judiciary Committee and as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee.[3]

President Lamar's term ended in 1841, so Webb opened a private law practice in Texas. Williamson S. Oldham, a former speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives and onetime Associate Justice on

the Arkansas Supreme Court, joined Webb's office as partner. Oldham was a member of the Convention of 1845 that cleared the way for Texas to become part of the United States, so he was already well known across the state.[3]

Post statehood in Texas

After Texas became a state in 1845, Webb became a reporter for the state supreme court. He and Thomas H. Duval collaborated to produce the first three volumes of Texas Reports.[b] In 1849, Webb was appointed Secretary of the State by the newly elected third governor of the state, Peter Hansborough Bell. He served until he resigned in 1851 and moved his residence to Corpus Christi, Texas.[3]

In 1854, Webb was appointed judge of the Texas Fourteenth Judicial Circuit Court. He was still serving when he died en route to Goliad for a court session November 1, 1856.[3] He was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Goliad, Texas.[4]

Legacy

Webb County, Texas, formed from Nueces County, Texas, was named to honor James Webb for his services to both the Republic of Texas and the modern State of Texas.[3]

Notes

The first child was a 10-year old daughter named Mary Elizabeth. The mother and daughter decided to live with Rachel's family until James obtained land and built a house for them.[2]

Duval was the son of Florida's former governor, William P. Duval, who was also the namesake of Duval County, Texas.[3]

Source:

[1] Huson, Hobart. "Webb, James". *Texas State Historical Association*.

[2] Cox, Dale (January 31, 2017). "James Webb and Webbville: A remarkable man and Jackson County's first town".

[3] Cox, Dale (February 3, 2017). "James Webb and Webbville (Part 2)".

[4] "Webb, James (1792-1856). *Index to Politicians*. *Political Graveyard.com*. Accessed January 5, 2018.

N. H. Darnell

Year In Office: 1845 **Parent Lodge: Sam Houston No. 32**



N. H. DARNELL
Grand Master 1845

DARNELL, NICHOLAS HENRY (1807–1885), legislator and soldier, was born in Williamson County, Tennessee, on April 20, 1807, the youngest child of Nicholas and Nannie (Flewellen) Darnell. He was reared by his grandfather, William Flewellen. As candidate for the Tennessee legislature in 1835, Darnell was defeated by only eight votes. He was elected without opposition in 1837 but resigned in 1838 to move to Texas. He settled at San Augustine and was elected from that county to the Sixth and Seventh congresses. On November 24, 1842, he was elected speaker of the House. He was a member of the Convention of 1845 and ran against Albert C. Horton for lieutenant governor that year. When the ballots were canvassed, Darnell was shown to be the winner by a few votes, but he declined to take the oath of office until all the votes had been returned.

Horton was elected.

Darnell moved to Dallas in 1858. He was speaker of the House in the Ninth Legislature but resigned in 1862 to enter the Confederate Army as colonel of the Eighteenth Texas Cavalry. The flag of the regiment, made at his home, was placed in the Capitol at Austin. Darnell was assistant doorkeeper of the House of Representatives of the Fourteenth Legislature, 1874–75. He represented Dallas, Tarrant, and Ellis counties at the Constitutional Convention of 1875 and returned to the House of Representatives of the Fifteenth Legislature in 1876 as the member from Tarrant County. He served as doorkeeper and assistant doorkeeper, respectively, in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth legislatures. Darnell helped to organize the Masonic lodge at San Augustine and held all offices of the Grand Lodge of Texas, including most worshipful grand master in 1844. He and his wife, the former Isabella Cozart, had seven children. Darnell died at Fort Worth in July 1885 and was buried in the Masonic Cemetery at Dallas.

DARNELL, Nicholas Henry, Congressman and soldier, was born in Williamson County, Tennessee, April 20, 1807, and was elected to his state's Legislature in 1837. Resigning his seat in 1838, he came to Texas and settled at San Augustine. He was a participant in the Cherokee War in 1839. Beginning his political career in Texas in 1841, he represented his county in the Sixth and Seventh Congresses, and served as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Seventh. A member of the Convention in 1845, he was chosen to carry the new State Constitution to the United States Congress, but announced himself a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor before departing for Washington, D. C. Apparently elected by a small margin, Darnell took office, but was forced to retire when belated returns proved his opponent, Albert C. Horton, the winner. In about 1858, Darnell moved to Dallas; and in 1860, from June 1 until November 10, was a private in Captain T. J. Johnson's Ranger Company. Dallas County's Representative in the House of the Ninth Legislature, 1861-63, Darnell served as Speaker during the regular session, but resigned in 1862 to re-join the Confederate Army. He had served until June 1, 1861, as a private in Captain John J. Good's Company of Dallas Light Artillery, the Thirteenth Brigade. Later he was a colonel in command of the Eighteenth Texas Cavalry. Returning after the war to politics, Colonel Darnell acted as Assistant Doorkeeper in the House of the Fourteenth Legislature, 1874-75; he was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1875; he returned to the House of Representatives of the Fifteenth Legislature, in 1876, as the member from Tarrant County; and in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth

Legislatures, 1881-84, he served in the House as Doorkeeper and Assistant Doorkeeper, respectively. In July, 1885, Colonel Darnell died at Fort Worth, with burial in the Masonic Cemetery at Dallas. A prominent Mason, he had helped to organize the lodge at San Augustine, and had held all the offices of the Grand Lodge of Texas: Junior Grand Warden in 1841; Grand Senior Warden :n 1843; and Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1844.

Source:

DARNELL, NICHOLAS HENRY (1807-1885). Handbook of Texas Online

Biographical and Historical Notes, Texas State Archives;

Encyclopedia of the New West, 577;

Crocket, Two Centuries in East Texas,240;

Confederate Index, Texas State Archives;

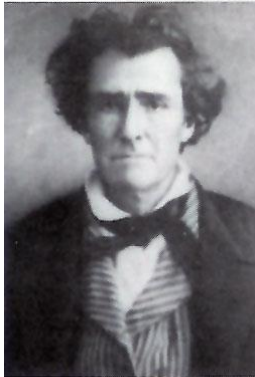
House Journals of the Sixth and Seventh Congresses;

Members of the Legislature of the State of Texas, 1846-1939; Journal of the Convention of 1845.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Barry Gillespie

Year In Office: 1846 **Parent Lodge: Matagorda No. 7**



BARRY GILLESPIE
Grand Master 1846

Barry Gillespie was born on December 27, 1802, and died on May 7, 1851. Grand Lodge of Texas records show him to have been a Mason in Lafayette Lodge No. 60 in Tennessee. There is no record of his degree dates. Gillespie shows to have served as the Most Excellent High Priest of Lone Star Chapter No. 3 in Austin, Texas, prior to the Convention establishing the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the Republic of Texas.

Gillespie served as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Republic of Texas from 1841 to 1843, the first to do so. He is buried in Prairie Lea Cemetery Brenham, Washington County, Texas

Draft dated 06/29/2023

A. S. Ruthven

Year In Office: 1847 **Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1**



A. S. RUTHVEN
Grand Master 1847

Archibald St. Clair (Sinclair) Ruthven was born on September 25, 1813 in Edinburgh (Canongate parish) to James Ruthven Jr., a printer in Edinburgh, and his wife Margaret Sinclair. He was the youngest of four siblings: Jean St. Clair (born 1807), James (1809), and Margaret (1811).

Little is known about Ruthven's early years in Edinburgh, as he immigrated to the United States in 1832, and, apart from occasional travel, remained in the States until around the time of his death.

By age 23, Ruthven was a merchant pursuing business in the New York City area, and it is likely that he met and married his wife, a native New Yorker by the name of Jane Ann Coats, around this time. In 1840, the couple moved to Houston, Texas where A.S. Ruthven and his associate Charles Power operated an English Importing House that sold a variety of imported dry goods, hardware, groceries and other "articles," and where he sold passage on ships bound for England.

Just one year after his arrival in Houston, Ruthven was initiated into the state's first Masonic lodge, Holland Lodge No. 1, and very quickly advanced through its ranks, serving first as Senior Warden in 1842, and later in a wide variety of both elective and appointive offices for the Grand Lodge of Texas, chief among which being those of Grand Master (1846-1847), and Grand Secretary (1848-1861). It was during his time as Grand Secretary that Ruthven compiled the two-volume Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas: 1837-1857, a chronicle of the early history and important records of the organization for which he is most recognized by Texas Freemasons.

Ruthven was also active other Masonic Bodies. He served as Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1857-1858. He was a member of the Knights Templar of the Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1 at New Orleans and later the Ruthven Commandery No. 2 at Houston which was so named in his honor. He was Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Texas in 1855.

Both he and his wife Jane were members of Christ Church in Houston.

In 1844, Ruthven became involved in protesting the annexation of the Republic of Texas to the United States. Along with a group of other British residents in the area, Ruthven composed a Memorial to the Earl of Aberdeen, Queen Victoria's principal Secretary of State, urging "Her Majesty's Govt...to guard against any project inconsistent with the Political Independence of the Republic." Most of the 32 signers of the Memorial were, like Ruthven, "engaged in Commercial pursuits," and feared that annexation would give the United States the "power to establish a Monopoly of North American Commerce" as well as "complete ascendancy" in the affairs of the continent. Though ultimately unsuccessful, the Memorial serves as another testament to Ruthven's continued involvement in business and community affairs both locally and internationally.

Around 1855, Ruthven and his wife relocated 50 miles Southeast to Galveston, Texas, at which time he began serving as the Texas Representative in cotton purchasing of Nelson, Clements & Co. of New York,

and by 1857, of Powell & Ruthven of Galveston. Business appears to have been steady for Ruthven – so much so that in 1860 a steamboat, the A.S. Ruthven, was commissioned to haul cotton along the Trinity River between the ports of Magnolia and Galveston. By 1861, however, she had been leased to the Texas Marine Department for use as a transport vessel during the Civil War. The vessel survived the war and was in use into the 1870's. The recovered anchor of the A.S. Ruthven remains on display in Palestine, Texas as a tourist attraction to this day.

Ruthven was himself involved in running the blockade of the Texas coast during the war, and was even incarcerated for a time in Matamoros as a result of a freight mishap which purportedly violated the revenue and neutrality laws of Mexico. Near the end of the war, Ruthven and his wife returned to Scotland for a visit, at which point he appears to have fallen ill for several months.

A.S. Ruthven died of tuberculosis on July 24, 1865 at Broomhill Cottage in Pollokshields. He was interred in an unmarked grave in the Iota section of the Necropolis on July 27th. Ruthven was remembered by the Grand Lodge of Texas as “much beloved by all who knew him for his many qualities of heart and mind, for his genial nature and generous impulses.” He left behind his wife Jane who returned to Texas after his death, and survived him by two years. She was interred at a Masonic cemetery in Houston, Texas. The couple had no children.

Over a century after his death, the Most Worshipful R. Bruce Brannon, a past Grand Master of the Texas Freemasons, arranged for a monument to be commissioned in the Glasgow Necropolis to honor Ruthven and to serve as a proper grave marker. A commemorative dedication ceremony was held on June 25, 1969, and was attended by several members of both the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Texas

E. W. Taylor

Year In Office: 1848 **Parent Lodge: Milam No. 11**



E. W. TAYLOR
Grand Master 1848

Edward Wyllys Taylor was born June 14, 1814, and died on November 5, 1886. He was a New England transplant to northeastern Texas, originally hailing from Deerfield, Massachusetts.

Edward W. Taylor was an important figure in the establishment of formal education in Texas in the years of the Republic and the early years of statehood.

E. W. Taylor was instrumental in the founding of Baylor University. In 1845, the last year of the existence of Independence Academy, Taylor acquired the property at a sheriff's sale and donated it to Baylor University in Waco.

At its eleventh annual communication held at Austin in January, 1848, the Grand Lodge authorized its Grand Master to appoint a Superintendent of Education, who should have the custody and management of the Masonic Education Fund, have general supervision of all the educational interests of the Order, and who should recommend, for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, such measures for the promotion of education as he might deem advisable. E. W. Taylor was appointed the first Masonic Superintendent of Education in Texas.

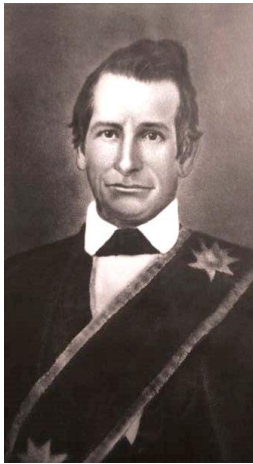
Edward W. Taylor was the first president of the Houston School Board.

Taylor served in later years as president of the Houston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade and was an active member of Christ Episcopal Church.

Brother Taylor served as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1863-1864 Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master of Texas in 1856, and Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Texas in 1857. He is one of the few to have held the senior position on all four York Rite Bodies in Texas

George M. Patrick

Year In Office: 1849 - 1850 **Parent Lodge: Orphan's Friend No. 17**



George Moffitt Patrick, physician and soldier, was born on September 30, 1801, in Albemarle County, Virginia. In 1803 he accompanied his parents to Fayette County, Kentucky, where he received his primary education. He subsequently earned a medical degree at Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky. He immigrated to the Harrisburg district of the Austin colony, Texas, in January 1828 and established himself as a farmer. In 1831 he was elected second alcalde of Anahuac and in 1832 was chosen regidor.

Patrick was among the volunteers under the command of Capt. William B. Travis who captured the Mexican fort and garrison at Anahuac in July 1835.

He represented Liberty Municipality in the Consultation of 1835 and on November 13 signed the articles that established the provisional government of Texas. He withdrew from the Consultation due to illness in his family but served as a liaison officer between the provisional government at San Felipe and the army then besieging Bexar. On November 30, with William A. Pettus, he reported "much dissatisfaction and inquietude pervading the army" but assured the council that "if their wants are supplied—no fears can be entertained of their abandoning the siege of Bexar." On March 25, 1836, the council appointed Patrick to organize the Harrisburg County militia and instructed him to order two-thirds of the troops immediately into active duty. "At great personal expense and labor" he mustered twenty recruits into what became Capt. Moseley Baker's company of Gen. Sam Houston's army. During the Runaway Scrape Patrick's farm, Deepwater, was for a time the seat of the Texas government, and as the Mexican army approached, he accompanied President David G. Burnet and his cabinet first to Morgan's Point and then to Galveston where he served as captain of the schooner Flash. Following the battle of San Jacinto, Houston moved his army from the battlefield onto Patrick's farm on Buffalo Bayou because, according to Robert H. Hunter, "the de[a]d Mexicans began [to] smell." A Texas Centennial marker was erected in 1936 at the site of the former home of Patrick in the present community of Deer Park.

In 1837 Patrick was named surveyor of Harris County. In 1840 he owned 6,166 acres in Grimes County, fifteen town lots in the Jefferson County speculative community of Sabine Pass, and 350 acres in Montgomery County. On February 13 of that year he married Martha Scaife, a native of Maryport, England. The couple had five children. Martha died at Anderson September 26, 1855. The Patricks' youngest child and only son, George Moffitt, Jr., was killed on June 1, 1865, at age eleven by the accidental explosion of a gunpowder magazine.

Before 1860 Patrick married a woman named Augusta. Patrick had moved to Grimes County, where he owned \$9,200 in real estate. By 1860 he owned \$19,367 worth of real estate and \$8,620 in personal property and was serving as the county's chief justice. He died at his home at Anderson on June 28, 1889. His remains and those of his wife were later removed to the State Cemetery in Austin.

He was a member of the Church of Christ and of the Sons of Temperance.

Dr. Patrick holds several other distinctions pertaining to Ancient York Masonry. He is the only Texas Mason to have been elected to two full terms as the Grand Master of Masons in Texas in 1849 and again

in 1850. Brother Patrick was the second Texas Mason to serve as presiding officer of all four bodies of the York Rite of Freemasonry. He served as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1849 and 1853, Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master of Texas in 1858, and Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Texas in 1859.

George M. Patrick, M.D. was the seventh and last Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas from 1848 to 1849.

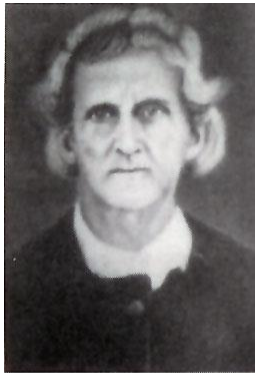
George M. Patrick, M.D. (September 30, 1801 to June 28, 1889) was made a Mason in Benevolent Lodge No. 58 in Kentucky, and was initiated, passed and raised in 1827, his date of demission is not known. Dr. Patrick's Royal Arch affiliation prior to his coming to Texas is also not known. Except that at that time the Royal Arch Degree was conferred in Craft Lodges under a Master's warrant by Lodges who received their Warrant or Charter from a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

Other Masonic affiliations included Temple Lodge No. 4 in Houston, Texas, in 1837, according to biographical information. Dr. Patrick may have served as Worshipful Master of this Lodge. But no Lodge records can substantiate this.

In 1842, Dr. Patrick was also a charter member of Orphan's Friend Lodge No. 17 located in Anderson Texas and served as its Worshipful Master in 1844, 1846, 1847, 1849, 1850, 1852, and 1853. Dr. Patrick was the Charter High Priest for Jerusalem Chapter No. 7 under the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas in 1846, and would later be the Charter High Priest for Jerusalem Chapter No. 3 in 1850 under this current Grand Jurisdiction. Dr. Patrick was the only Companion to have served as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest for the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas and for the current Grand Jurisdiction in 1852 to 1853.

Thomas J. Hardeman

Year In Office: 1851 **Parent Lodge: Bastrop No. 58**



THOMAS J. HARDEMAN
Grand Master 1851

Thomas Jones Hardeman, soldier, pioneer Texas settler, judge, and politician, child of Thomas and Mary (Perkins) Hardeman, was born at Hardeman's Stockade near Nashville, Tennessee, on January 31, 1788. His father represented back-country North Carolina at the convention that ratified the United States Constitution and with his close friend Andrew Jackson was a delegate at the Tennessee State Constitutional Convention. Hardeman moved with his family to Williamson County, Tennessee, in 1803. In 1814 he married Mary Ophelia Polk, the aunt of future president James K. Polk. Later that year, as a captain, Hardeman fought under General Jackson in the closing campaign of the War of 1812 at New Orleans. He was captured by the British and wounded in the head by a sabre for refusing to divulge military secrets to the enemy.

In 1818, applying his legal training, he helped to settle and organize Hardeman County, Tennessee. His wife died there in 1835. In the same year, accompanied by his brothers Blackstone and Bailey Hardeman he moved to Texas, where he and his four sons became involved in the move for Texas independence. Hardeman, a devout Episcopalian and an active Mason, served in the Congress of the Republic of Texas from Matagorda County from 1837 to 1839 and spent two terms in the state legislature from Bastrop and Travis Counties from 1847 to 1851. In the 1840s he served both as associate and chief justice of Bastrop County. At his suggestion the capital of Texas was named Austin.

Hardeman's second wife was a widow, Eliza DeWitt Hamilton, daughter of empresario Green DeWitt. Hardeman had five children by his first wife and three by the second. The four sons of his first marriage, Thomas Monroe Hardeman, William Polk Hardeman, Owen Bailey Hardeman, and Leonidas Polk Hardeman, were all venturesome types. They participated in scores of military campaigns of the Texas Revolution, the Mexican War, Indian wars, and the War Between the States.

Hardeman died on January 15, 1854, and was buried in Bastrop County. In 1937 his remains were removed to the State Cemetery in Austin. Hardeman County, Texas, and Hardeman Lodge No. 179 in Luling were named in his honor.

W. B. Ochiltree

Year In Office: 1852 **Parent Lodge: Redland No. 3**



W. B. OCHILTREE
Grand Master 1852

William Beck Ochiltree, pioneer settler, judge, and legislator, was born on October 18, 1811, at Fayetteville, North Carolina, the son of David and Kezia (Beck) Ochiltree. The family lived for a time in Florida and after 1820 in Alabama, where Ochiltree began practicing law and in 1834 married Novaline Peck. In 1839 he moved to Nacogdoches, Texas, and continued the practice of law.

During the Republic of Texas era he was judge of the Fifth Judicial District, Secretary of the Treasury in 1844, Adjutant General in 1845, and a delegate to the Convention of 1845. After annexation by the United States he was active in Texas's fledgling Whig Party, serving as an elector for the party in 1848 and a delegate to its national convention in 1852. He represented Nacogdoches in the House of the Sixth Legislature in 1855-1857. At some point, his first wife died, having given birth to five children. He then married Mariah Louisa Smith, who bore at least four more children. Upon her death, he married a third wife, Atala T. Hotchkiss.

Ochiltree moved to Marshall in 1859 and was a delegate to the Secession Convention in 1861. He strongly supported disunion and was elected to the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States but resigned after a short time to return to Texas and raise a regiment. He organized the Eighteenth Texas Infantry and was elected its colonel. Ochiltree served with the unit until 1863 when he resigned his position because of ill health and returned to Jefferson.

Following the War Between the States practiced law at Jefferson until his death on December 27, 1867. He was buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Jefferson. Ochiltree County, created in 1876 and organized in 1889, and Ochiltree Lodge No. 910 in Perryton were named in his honor.

John Sayles

Year In Office: 1853 **Parent Lodge: Graham No. 20**



JOHN SAYLES
Grand Master 1853

John Sayles, lawyer, legal scholar, and public official, son of Welcome and Harriett Elizabeth (Sergeant) Sayles, was born in Ithaca, New York, on March 9, 1825. In 1840 he began to teach in New York. He later taught in Georgia, attended college between school terms, and secured a B.A. degree from Hamilton College, New York, in 1845.

Shortly thereafter Sayles moved to Brenham, Texas, where he taught school, read law, and was admitted to the bar in 1846. He acquired a plantation near Brenham and a number of slaves. In 1849 he married Mary Elizabeth Gillespie; they had six children. In 1855–56 Sayles represented Washington County in the House of the Sixth Texas Legislature. He taught law at Baylor University from 1857 to 1860 and was connected with the institution again after its reorganization in 1867. During

the Civil War he attained the rank of brigadier general of the militia.

As a writer on Texas law, Sayles turned out more than fifteen works, usually of several volumes each. A Treatise on the Practice of the District and Supreme Courts of the State of Texas appeared in 1858 and was the forerunner of special studies on probate law, justice of the peace jurisdiction, business transactions, and Masonic jurisprudence. Particularly well known were his Constitution of the State of Texas (1872), Rules of Pleading and Practice in the Courts of Record in the State of Texas (1882), and Sayles' Annotated Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, edited with his son Henry in 1897. After 1886 Sayles moved to Abilene, where he practiced with his son in the firm of Sayles and Sayles. He died on May 22, 1897.

John Sayles Lodge No. 1408 in Abilene is named in his honor

Andrew Neill

Year In Office: 1854 **Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1**



Andrew Neill, lawyer and soldier, was born at Lochfergus farm, Ayrshire, Scotland, on January 8, 1813, the son of John and Margaret (Fergusson) Neill. In his youth he immigrated to Willsburg, West Virginia, where he studied law.

He was living in Mississippi and had become a probate judge before 1836 when he moved to Texas as captain of a company of volunteers under Felix Huston. Although his group arrived after the battle of San Jacinto, Neill served in the army until 1837. He practiced law for a brief time in Gonzales and then moved to Seguin, where he was an original shareholder in the town laid out in 1838. He

participated in various Indian campaigns and took part in the expedition to repulse Rafael Vásquez from San Antonio in March 1842. While trying a case in district court in San Antonio in the fall of 1842 he was captured by Mexican forces under General Adrián Woll and taken as a prisoner to Mexico. Because he was a British subject, Charles Elliot worked for Neill's release, but Neill managed to escape, traveled to Veracruz, sailed for New Orleans, and was back in Texas in January 1843. His account of the capture and imprisonment was dated January 29, 1843.

Neill married Agnes Nancy Brown on September 19, 1844. He was a candidate for lieutenant governor in 1855 but was defeated in the party primary. During the War Between the States he moved to Galveston for service in the Confederate Army as a lieutenant colonel in the First Texas Partisan Rangers commanded by Walter P. Lane.

Following his wife's death in Galveston in 1867 he married Virginia Wright Chapman on August 5, 1868. They had two children. Neill moved to Austin in 1875 and lived in the Neill-Cochran house.

He died on March 26, 1883, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Austin.

W. M. Taylor

Year In Office: 1855 **Parent Lodge: Lothrop No. 21**



W. M. TAYLOR
Grand Master 1855

William Martin Taylor was born in Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio, on April 17, 1817. He left Lancaster at age seventeen and enrolled at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 1835. He graduated from Miami University in 1839 and headed south. He spent time in both Mississippi and Louisiana before arriving in the Republic of Texas in 1843. First settling in Brazoria County, he was admitted to the Bar in Galveston in 1844 and moved to Houston that same year. He stayed in Houston until his law practice took him to Huntsville in 1848 and then to Crockett in 1850. He traveled extensively as a circuit attorney for the Ninth Judicial District of Texas until 1854. In 1855, he was elected State Senator representing Anderson and Houston counties. He was re-elected in 1857 to the same post. In 1858, he was appointed school examiner in Houston and was responsible for the issuance of teacher certificates. In 1862, he was elected District Judge, a post he held through the end of the Civil War until he was removed by the Reconstruction government. During the Civil War, he received a commission as a Brigadier General, and served as a recruiter for the Confederate Army. After the war, he served as a delegate to the Reconstruction Convention in Austin at the direction of Jack Hamilton, Military Governor of Texas.

It was while living in Houston, however (soon after emigrating to the Republic) that he petitioned for the Degrees in Freemasonry. Taylor was initiated at Holland Lodge No. 1 on March 15, 1845. He was passed to the second degree on his twenty-eighth birthday – April 17, and was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason five weeks later on May 22, 1845. It is worth noting that Taylor received his degrees from two of the most celebrated ritualists of the era – Archibald Sinclair Ruthven conferred the Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft degrees, and John Walton conferred the Master Mason degree.

Taylor took the ritual almost immediately. Upon his death in 1871, a Resolution of Memoriam was published which read in part, “When examined in Passing and Raising, he went through the entire degrees without missing a question.” It is important to note that the examination at passing would have been the Entered Apprentice trial lecture and the examination at raising would have been the Fellowcraft trial lecture. At the time, demonstrating proficiency in the Master Mason trial lecture was uncommon. Then in 1848, only three years after being raised, he was elected Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

His law practice took him to Huntsville in 1848 and he affiliated with Forrest Lodge No. 19. He was promptly elected Worshipful Master in 1849. There is no record that he ever held any other office in Forrest Lodge. While living in Huntsville and a member of Forrest Lodge, he maintained his position as Grand Lecturer and was able to coordinate his travels with the Ninth Judicial Circuit with his duties as Grand Lecturer. As he traveled, he would spend the day practicing law in the courthouse and the evening practicing Freemasonry in a lodge. In 1850, he was elected Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas. He had been a Mason for only five years and a Past Master less than one year. He dimitted from Forrest Lodge in 1851 and affiliated with Lothrop Lodge No. 21 in Crockett. He was elected Worshipful Master of Lothrop the following year (1852). He was re-elected in 1853 and held the office six more times between 1856 and 1867.

A mere nine years after being made a Mason, Taylor was nominated from the floor and elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas on Wednesday, January 18, 1854. Grand Master, however was not his first Grand presiding office; nor was it his last. A year before (1853) he served as the Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas. During his tenure as Grand Master, he attended and participated in the formation of the Grand Encampment (Commandery) of Knights Templar of Texas. He was elected Grand Generalissimo that year and served as Grand Commander of the Grand Encampment of Texas in 1856. Also in 1856, he presided over the convention to organize a Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in Texas. He was elected Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1857. Thus, Taylor was the first Texas Mason to hold the designation of being a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, a Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, a Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas, and a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Encampment (Commandery), Knights Templar of Texas. Despite all these grand titles, it is yet another component of our fraternity for which he is best known: the ritual.

The Grand Lodge of Texas was struggling to find its ritualistic identity in the mid-1850s. In 1844 Cross' The True Masonic Chart, or Hieroglyphic Monitor (published in 1819) was adopted for use in Texas. In 1852 and in 1853, resolutions were proposed to standardize the Texas ritual; neither of which were adopted. In 1855, Past Grand Master Taylor was elected as the first chairman of the newly formed Committee on Work. The charge of the Committee on Work was to develop a Texas Masonic Ritual. It took that committee three years to develop a ritualistic ceremony for opening and closing a lodge and for the conferral of the three degrees. In 1858, the Committee on Work exemplified its ritual at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas (which happened to be held in Huntsville at Forrest Lodge) and it was adopted.

Past Grand Master Taylor's attention to detail and understanding of Freemasonry are manifested in the time it took him to hone the ritual. Masonic scholars will note that Taylor was a student of the York Rite work published by Thomas Smith Webb and Jeremy Ladd Cross. The ritual he developed builds upon the foundations of both but differed enough to be uniquely Texan.

After the "Taylor Work" (as it was then called) was adopted, there was a need for a lodge manual to accompany it. It was noted that a monitor must agree with the esoteric work of the jurisdiction. Cross' monitor was therefore no longer relevant. In 1859, the Grand Lodge of Texas approved and adopted A Manual of Freemasonry: Adopted to the Work and Government of the Lodges Subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Texas, which became known as the Taylor Monitor. The Taylor Monitor was the standard in Texas Freemasonry for fifty years, until it was revised in 1908 by Past Grand Master Sam R. Hamilton (himself a former member of the Committee on Work) and styled the Taylor-Hamilton Monitor.

Taylor continued to serve the Masons of Texas. In 1858 he served as a District Deputy Grand Master. After the "Taylor Work" was adopted, the charge of the Committee on Work changed from the development of a ritual to the preservation of it. Under his leadership, the Committee began to hold examinations during the annual Grand Communication and issued Certificates of Proficiency in the work and lectures of the ritual. He continued as chairman of the Committee on Work until his death in 1871.

Past Grand Master Taylor attended the triennial conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1871. While there, he became ill and died on September 21, 1871 of pneumonia which was exacerbated by erysipelas. He was interred at Baltimore, and the Masonic Graveside Service was attended by Fidelity Lodge No. 136 (Grand Lodge of Maryland) and officiated by

Grand Master (Maryland) John H. Latrobe. A century later, the Masons of Texas brought Past Grand Master Taylor home. He was re-interred at Glenwood Cemetery in Crockett, Texas in 1970.

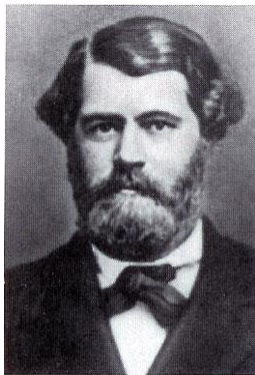
William Martin Taylor was a statesman, a judge, a general, an author, and a Freemason. He was the first Texas Masonic Four Star, having presided over all four grand bodies. He is credited with developing the Texas Masonic Ritual and the first Texas monitor. He recognized in the mid-nineteenth century the need for ritualistic proficiency. His dedication to our craft has, perhaps, had more influence on the fraternity than any other. He is the Father of the Texas Masonic Ritual.

(Note: This biography of W. M. Taylor was written by Jim Rumsey, Past Master of the Texas Lodge of Research and at the time a member of the Committee on Work for the Grand Lodge of Texas. The article was published in the Summer 2019 issue of the Texas Freemason Magazine.)

Draft dated 06/29/2023

E. B. Nichols

Year In Office: 1856 **Parent Lodge: Harmony No. 6**



E. B. NICHOLS
Grand Master 1856

Ebenezer B. Nichols, merchant, banker, soldier, and Confederate official, the son of William and Catharine Hamilton (Wood) Nichols, was born on October 12, 1815, in Cooperstown, New York. After attending the Lutheran Academy at Hartwick, New York, and serving as a broker in New York City, he traveled to Texas with a load of lumber in 1838. In Texas he fought Indians and Mexicans with the Texas Rifles on the frontier and then settled in Houston. With money from speculation in pecans, Nichols entered into a partnership with William M. Rice that was known as Rice and Nichols, "dealers in dry goods, groceries, hardware, crockery, etc., at wholesale and retail." Rice and Nichols were among public-spirited citizens who made the plank road from the Brazos to Houston a possibility, and Nichols supported filibustering efforts in Central America.

Having acquired business interests in Galveston, Nichols moved there in 1850. Around the same time a settlement called Dickinson was established on Dickinson's Bayou, in the northwest corner of Galveston County. The Galveston, Houston and Henderson Railroad, one of the earliest chartered in Texas, was built to run straight through the new community of Dickinson. In 1857, Nichols, one of the directors of the GH&H Railroad, built a summer estate on Dickinson Bayou. The home, named Nicholstone, is still owned by Ebenezer Nichol's descendants.

Nichols became an officer in the Galveston Brazos Navigation Company, and gradually withdrew from the Houston scene. In Galveston, E. B. Nichols and Company, cotton factors (brokers) and commission merchants, which Nichols formed with Julius Frederick, took over the Brick Wharf, so-called because a brick building walled it on each side. The firm represented the Peirce and Bacon line of vessels, which operated between Galveston and Boston. As cotton factors the firm advanced money, received deposits, and performed other banking services. In 1860 Nichols had real property valued at \$100,000, personal property valued at \$20,000, and six slaves. In 1861 he had twelve slaves and as late as 1870 reported over \$100,000 in property. Though he was initially opposed to secession, he changed his mind and served as a delegate to the Texas Secession Convention. He was there made state commissioner to raise and disburse funds for the public safety, negotiate the surrender of Fort Brown and other forts, and handle ammunition and stores at Brownsville and Point Isabel. Nichols was a captain in the Galveston Rifles, converted his home on the Galveston Strand into an armory and headquarters for Gen. John B. Magruder, and served on Magruder's staff and as a financial agent for the Confederacy. According to some sources he obtained the rank of Brigadier General.

In 1866 Nichols organized the Bank of Galveston, which later merged to form the National Bank of Texas, with himself as president. This bank, the second national bank in the state, cannily kept cash reserves almost equal to its deposits. Nichols also dealt in Galveston real estate, was president of the Galveston City Company, and took part in forming the Galveston Gas Company, the Galveston Wharf Company, the Texas Ice and Cold Storage Company, and the Galveston, Houston and Henderson Railroad. He was a founder of Trinity Episcopal Church.

He also served as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1851-1852.

Nichols married Margaret Clayton Stone on August 7, 1842, and the couple had seven sons. Nichols died at his home in Galveston on November 30, 1872 and is buried in the Trinity Episcopal Cemetery.

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Franklin B. Sexton

Year In Office: 1857 **Parent Lodge: Redland No. 3**



Bio goes here

FRANKLIN B. SEXTON
Grand Master 1857

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William Stedman

Year In Office: 1858 **Parent Lodge: Clinton No. 23**



Bio goes here

WILLIAM STEDMAN
Grand Master 1858

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Henry Sampson

Year In Office: 1859 **Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1**



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HENRY SAMPSON
Grand Master 1859

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James E. Taylor

Year In Office: 1860 **Parent Lodge: Marshall No. 22**



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JAMES F. TAYLOR
Grand Master 1860

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John B. McMahon

Year In Office: 1861 **Parent Lodge: Gonzales No. 30**



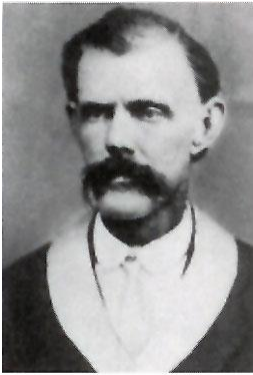
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JOHN B. McMAHON
Grand Master 1861

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George W. VanVleck

Year In Office: 1862 **Parent Lodge: Woodville No. 62**



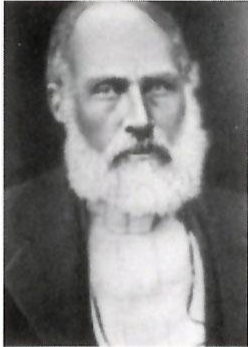
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GEORGE W. VAN VLECK
Grand Master 1862

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Samual Mather

Year In Office: 1863 **Parent Lodge: Sam Houston No. 32**



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SAMUEL MATHER
Grand Master 1863

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W. P. Brittain

Year In Office: 1864 **Parent Lodge: Euclid No. 45**

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J. D. Giddings

Year In Office: 1865 **Parent Lodge: Graham No. 20**



Bio goes here

J. D. GIDDINGS
Grand Master 1865

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Robert M. Elgin

Year In Office: 1866 **Parent Lodge: Austin No. 12**



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ROBERT M. ELGIN
Grand Master 1866

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Richard Duglass

Year In Office: 1867 **Parent Lodge: Lothrop No. 21**

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Draft dated 06/29/2023

John R. Fretwell

Year In Office: 1868 **Parent Lodge: Lavaca No. 36**

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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Peter W. Gray

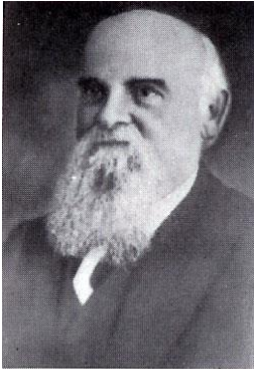
Year In Office: 1869 **Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1**

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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Philip C. Tucker Jr.

Year In Office: 1870 **Parent Lodge: Harmony No. 6**



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PHILIP C. TUCKER, JR.
Grand Master 1870

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Clinton M. Winkler

Year In Office: 1871 **Parent Lodge: Corsicana No. 174**



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CLINTON M. WINKLER
Grand Master 1871

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T. J. H. Anderson

Year In Office: 1872 **Parent Lodge: St. Paul No. 177**



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T.J.H. ANDERSON
Grand Master 1872

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WM. Bramlette

Year In Office: 1873 **Parent Lodge: Paris No. 27**



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WM. BRAMLETTE
Grand Master 1873

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James F. Miller

Year In Office: 1874 **Parent Lodge: Gonzales No. 30**

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Thomas R. Bonner

Year In Office: 1875 **Parent Lodge: Saint John's No. 53**

Bio goes here

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Joseph D. Sayers

Year In Office: 1876 **Parent Lodge: Gamble No. 224**



Bio goes here

JOSEPH D. SAYERS
Grand Master 1876

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Marcus F. Mott

Year In Office: 1877 **Parent Lodge: Harmony No. 6**



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MARCUS F. MOTT
Grand Master 1877

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Norton Moses

Year In Office: 1878 **Parent Lodge: Robert E. Lee No. 431**



Bio goes here

NORTON MOSES
Grand Master 1878

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John B. Jones

Year In Office: 1879 **Parent Lodge: Corsicana No. 174**



Bio goes here

JOHN B. JONES
Grand Master 1879

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Edwin G. Bower

Year In Office: 1880 **Parent Lodge: Tannehill No. 52**



Bio goes here

EDWIN G. BOWER
Grand Master 1880

Draft dated 06/29/2023

James H. McLeary

Year In Office: 1881 **Parent Lodge: Alamo No. 44**



Bio goes here

JAMES H. McLEARY
Grand Master 1881

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T. M. Matthews

Year In Office: 1882 **Parent Lodge: Pine No. 203**



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T. M. MATTHEWS
Grand Master 1882

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Charles Stewart

Year In Office: 1883 Parent Lodge: Gray No. 329



CHARLES STEWART
Grand Master 1883

Charles Stewart was born in Memphis, Tennessee, on May 30, 1836. He came with his parents to Galveston, Texas in 1845 and a few years later moved to Houston. He began the study of law in 1852 under James W. Henderson and completed his legal preparation in the offices of Jones & Bollinger. He was admitted to the bar in 1854 when eighteen years of age.

He began the practice of law in Falls County and was elected Prosecuting Attorney of the Thirteenth Judicial District in 1856 and re-elected in 1858.

He was a delegate to the Secession Convention of 1861, where he was an ardent supporter of the Southern view. He then enlisted in the Tenth Texas Infantry, afterward Baylor's Cavalry, and served throughout the war.

In 1866 he moved to Houston where he resided for the remainder of his life. His reputation as a lawyer rose rapidly and he became one of the most brilliant in Texas. In 1874 he was elected City Attorney and then to the Texas Senate in 1878, where he served for four years. He was then elected to Congress and served ten years, when he retired to private life.

In 1860 he married Miss Rachel Barry at Marlin, the daughter of Bryan Barry. One child, John S. Stewart, survived the father.

Charles Stewart died in the Santa Rosa Hospital in San Antonio on September 21, 1895. A devoted member of the First Baptist Church, he was laid to rest in Glenwood Cemetery with Masonic honors by Gray Lodge.

Charles Stewart received his craft degrees in Marlin Lodge No. 152, the 1st March 9, 1860; 2nd April 6, 1860, and 3rd December 28, 1860. He demitted from Marlin Lodge on October 29, 1866, and affiliated with Holland Lodge No. 1 on April 24, 1867. He was one of the charter members that formed Gray Lodge in 1870 and served as Senior Warden of Gray in 1874 and as Worshipful Master in 1875. While Master of Gray Lodge he also served as Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In December, 1879, he was elected Grand Junior Warden and served during the year of 1883 as Grand Master of Masons in Texas. His duties in Congress prevented him from being present to preside over the 48th Grand Communication in 1883.

He received the Royal Arch Degree in Washington Chapter No. 2, April 2, 1874, and the Order of the Temple in Ruthven Commandery No. 2, K. T., November 1, 1876.

The Standard History of Houston, Texas, described him thus:

"Another of the great criminal lawyers of Houston was the Hon. Charles Stewart. He was a man of unsullied character and too big in every way for little things. He was of splendid physique and personal appearance and is described [as] one of the most superb orators that ever faced a jury. He handled many of the most famous criminal cases tried in Harris County in the late seventies and eighties, one of the most famous being that of a young man named Crisom, who had killed a doctor for reproving him for swearing in the presence of ladies. The case was a desperate one, and at the first trial Crisom had

been sentenced to death, but was granted a “new trial because of irregularity on the part of the jury that condemned him. At the second trial the prosecution was powerful and it is said that but for the eloquence of Colonel Stewart, Crisom would have undoubtedly been hanged. As it was he escaped with a verdict of manslaughter and a short term in the penitentiary!

Another account refers to him as “earnest, liberal, progressive, and charitable. ..a logical thinker, an eloquent speaker, ripe lawyer, able legislator, good citizen [and] kind.”

Citation:

Donavon Duncan Tidwell, A History of Gray Lodge No. 329 A.F. & A.M., Houston, Texas (Fort Worth, TX: Department of Printing, Masonic Home and School of Texas, 1970), 302.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

W. H. Nichols

Year In Office: 1884 **Parent Lodge: Harmony No. 6**



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W. H. NICHOLS
Grand Master 1884

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Benjamin A. Botts

Year In Office: 1885 **Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1**



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BENJAMIN A. BOTTS
Grand Master 1885

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Z. E. Coombes

Year In Office: 1886 **Parent Lodge: Tannehill No. 52**



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Z. E. COOMBES
Grand Master 1886

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A. J. Rose

Year In Office: 1887 **Parent Lodge: Salado No. 296**



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A. J. ROSE
Grand Master 1887

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Anson Rainey

Year In Office: 1888 **Parent Lodge: Waxahachie No. 90**



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ANSON RAINEY
Grand Master 1888

Draft dated 06/29/2023

W. S. Fly

Year In Office: 1889 **Parent Lodge: Gonzales No. 30**



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W. S. FLY
Grand Master 1889

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A. S. Richardson

Year In Office: 1890 **Parent Lodge: Gray No. 329**



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A. S. RICHARDSON
Grand Master 1890

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George W. Tyler

Year In Office: 1891 **Parent Lodge: Salado No. 296**



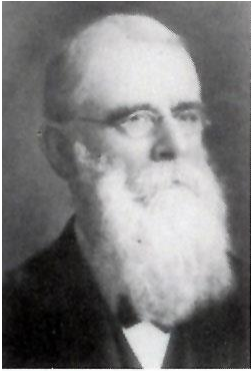
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GEORGE W. TYLER
Grand Master 1891

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John Watson

Year In Office: 1892 **Parent Lodge: Friendship No. 16**



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JOHN WATSON
Grand Master 1892

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Thomas B. Cochran

Year In Office: 1893 **Parent Lodge: San Gabriel No. 89**



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THOMAS B. COCHRAN
Grand Master 1893

Draft dated 06/29/2023

B. F. Frymier

Year In Office: 1894 **Parent Lodge: Wharton No. 621**



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B. F. FRYMIER
Grand Master 1894

Draft dated 06/29/2023

H. A. Garrison

Year In Office: 1895 **Parent Lodge: Sulphur Springs No. 221**



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H. A. GARRISON
Grand Master 1895

Draft dated 06/29/2023

B. R. Abernethy

Year In Office: 1896 **Parent Lodge: Gonzales No. 30**



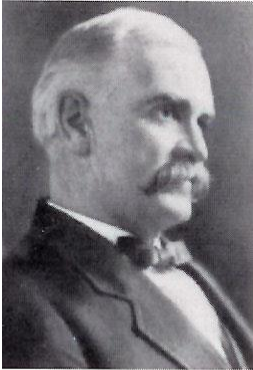
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B. R. ABERNETHY
Grand Master 1896

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Albert B. Watkins

Year In Office: 1897 **Parent Lodge: Athens No. 165**



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ALBERT B. WATKINS
Grand Master 1897

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John L. Terrell

Year In Office: 1898 **Parent Lodge: Artesia No. 406**



Bio goes here

JOHN L. TERRELL
Grand Master 1898

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Sam R. Hamilton

Year In Office: 1899 **Parent Lodge: Farmersville No. 214**



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SAM R. HAMILTON
Grand Master 1899

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Robert M. Lusk

Year In Office: 1900 **Parent Lodge: Constantine No. 13**



ROBERT M. LUSK
Grand Master 1900

Robert Martin Lusk was born on January 28th, 1851 on a plantation in Bradley County, Tennessee, near the Georgia border to William Hogan Lusk and Mary Pauline Johnston Lusk.

He received his education there and obtained a law degree from Cumberland University in Tennessee. After graduating he moved from there to Bonham Texas in 1873.

He married Clara A. Pope on June 4th, 1874 and they had eight children.

He served as Mayor of Bonham from 1876 to 1880. He then served as County judge, District Attorney and in 1885 as a member of the Texas State Legislature.

In 1888 he was appointed Judge of the Superior Court and served one term. He also served as the President of the Board of Trustees for Trinity University.

He began his Masonic journey at Kelley Chappel Lodge #347 in Tennessee where he was initiated and passed. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Constantine Lodge #13 in Bonham Texas on November 29th, 1873. He served the lodge as Junior Warden in 1876 and as Worshipful Master from 1891 to 1896.

Brother Lusk was appointed Grand Orator in 1893 and served on several committees in the Grand Lodge including Committee on Returns in 1891, Grievances and Appeals from 1892 to 1896, Credentials Committee 1895 to 1896 and Masonic History from 1897 to 1905.

He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1897 and was elected Grand Master in 1900. He was serving as Grand Master when the Galveston hurricane occurred and was instrumental in the distribution of thousands of dollars to aid in the relief of the brothers affected by the hurricane.

He was involved in several appendant bodies. He received the RAM degrees at Honey Grove Chapter #142 RAM and the Commandery Degrees at Invisible Friends Commandery #13 in Sherman Texas.

He moved to Los Angeles California in 1902 and was elected to the City Council in 1909 and served as president of the council in 1910. During his time in office the Los Angeles Aqueduct was built.

Brother Lusk passed away on February 23rd, 1913, in Los Angeles and was buried in the Evergreen Cemetery in Los Angeles.

Nathan M. Washer

Year In Office: 1901 **Parent Lodge: Fort Worth No. 148**



NATHAN M. WASHER
Grand Master 1901

Nathan Moses Washer was born on April 12th, 1861 in Somerville Tennessee to Benjamin Washer and Eva Greenwald Washer. Nathan's plan for a college education were derailed when his father died and he had to go to work to provide for the family. He began working in the mercantile business as a junior clerk in Memphis when he was fourteen years old. At eighteen he moved to St. Louis where he continued working in the mercantile business. In 1882 he moved to Fort Worth Texas where he and his older brother Jacob established the Washer Brothers mercantile store. In 1899 they opened a branch in San Antonio. He quickly became known in San Antonio as an enterprising and progressive business man. He later became a Director of the National Bank of Commerce in San Antonio. He belonged to several civic of Commerce.

On February 17th, 1891 he married Isabelle Schloss and they had two children, Pauline and Joy. Both children later became active in the social and civic activities in San Antonio as well. Nathan was known as a very good after dinner speaker and was a singer and poet. He served many years as President of the San Antonio School Board and the Masonic Orphans Home in Fort Worth for over thirty years.

His Masonic journey began at Fort Worth Lodge #148 where he was initiated on May 21st 1888, Passed on June 21st, 1888 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on July 23rd 1888. Brother Washer served as Worshipful Master of Fort Worth 148 in 1892. Served as District Deputy Grand Master from 1892 to 1896. Brother Washer was a Charter Member and first Worshipful Master of Julian Feild Lodge #908 in 1855.

He was elected Grand Junior Warden in December 1897 and was later elected Grand Master in December 1900 as the 63rd Grand Master. Brother Washer served on several committees including the Committee on Returns of Lodges in 1893, Committee on Petitions, 1894 to 1897, Credentials Committee, 1894, Grand Officer Reports, 1903 to 1917, 1919, 1928 to 1934. He also served on the Masonic History Committee in 1912 to 1917, Memorials Committee, 1913 to 1918 and 1920 to 1934 and Masonic Jurisprudence in 1927.

Brother Washer was also active in the appendent bodies. He received his Royal Arch Mason degrees on August 14th, 1873 at Fort Worth Chapter #58. He served as High Priest in 1894 to 1895 and served as Grand Captain of the Host for the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1916. Her received the Royal and Select Masters degrees on August 23rd, 1888 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1894 to 1895. Brother Washer became a Scottish Rite Mason at the spring reunion at the Fort Worth Scottish Rite in 1889. He was also active in the Galveston Scottish Rite. He moved his membership to San Antonio when the San Antonio Scottish Rite was formed and was a charter member of the San Antonio Scottish Rite Lodge of Perfection and served as its first Venerable Master. He also served as head of Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh and San Antonio Consistory. He became a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in October 1913 and was coronated a 33rd Degree IGH in October 1915.

Brother Washer passed away on February 6th, 1935 after being in ill health for several months. He was buried at Temple Beth El Cemetery in San Antonio.

William Clark

Year In Office: 1902 **Parent Lodge: Jefferson No. 38**



WILLIAM CLARK
Grand Master 1902

William Clark was born on October 1st, 1848 near Trenton Kentucky. He moved to Jefferson Texas September 12th, 1877. He owned a mercantile store in Jefferson. He was active in the Presbyterian Church and was instrumental in the building of a church in Jefferson, which became known as Mr. Clark's Church. He also served as Post Master for Jefferson Texas for many years. He was married to Fannie S. Clark.

William Clark began his Masonic journey at Jefferson Lodge #38 where he was Initiated an Entered Apprentice on March 14th, 1884. Passed to Fellowcraft, April 8th, 1884 and Raised to Sublime Degree of Master Mason on May 13th, 1884.

Clark served as Worshipful Master of Jefferson Lodge #38 in 1888 to 1889, again in 1893 to 1894. He served as Secretary of the lodge from 1893 to 1899.

Brother Clark served the Grand Lodge of Texas as District Deputy Grand Master of District 4 from 1893 to 1899. He served on the Petitions Committee in 1898 and Grand Lodge Officer Reports in 1898 and 1903 to 1904 and again from 1913 to 1917.

Brother Clark was elected as Grand Junior Warden in 1899 and Grand Master for 1902.

Brother Clark was active in the appendant bodies as well. He received the Royal Arch Masons Degree in Cyrus Chapter #32 in January 1885 and served as High Priest in 1888 to 1895. He served the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas as Grand Orator in 1896, Grand Principal Sojourner in 1897 and Grand Excellent King in 1898. He received his Royal and Select Masters Degrees in January 1885 at Cyrus Council in Jefferson Texas. He served as Thrice Illustrious Master from 1888 to 1895. He received the Commandery Degrees in November 1885 at Gray Commandery #16 in Marshall Texas.

Brother Clark passed away on January 13th, 1928 in Jefferson Texas. He is buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Jefferson Texas.

W. Madden Fly

Year In Office: 1903 **Parent Lodge: Gonzales No. 30**



W. MADDEN FLY
Grand Master 1903

William Madden Fly was born on December 26th, 1857 in Big Hill, Gonzalez County, Texas to George and Mary Fly. He grew up around Gonzalez Texas and attended the Old Stonewall Institute, in Big Hill Texas which was one of the early learning institution in Texas that was founded and operated by his father. William married Clara Lee Belding on April 4th, 1883 in Gonzalez. They had two daughters, Clara Madeline Fly and Mary Ella Fly. Clara Fly passed away December 26th, 1916.

William was very active in the Methodist Church and served in several capacities and boards for the church. He served in the Texas House of Representatives for fifteen years. William became known at the time as the "Father of the Texas Highway System". In November 1879 he partnered with B.N. Peck to form Peck and Fly law firm. In 1913, following Mr. Peck's death he joined with Warren Taylor and that firm lasted until June 1942.

William Fly's Masonic journey began in Gonzalez Lodge #30 on June 4th, 1883 when he was initiated as an Entered Apprentice, Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on July 9th, 1883 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on October 13th, 1883. He served as Worshipful Master of Gonzalez Lodge #30 from 1888 to 1890, again in 1894 to 1895 and in 1914 to 1915. He served as Secretary of the lodge from 1884 to 1886. He served as District Deputy Grand Master for District 30 from 1890 to 1898. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1900 and Grand Master in 1903. He served on many Grand Lodge committees.

He was a member of several appendant bodies. He received the Royal Arch Degrees in January 1886 in Gonzalez Chapter #51 and served as High Priest in 1888 to 1889. He served the Grand Chapter as Grand Scribe 1912 to 1913, and was elected Grand High Priest in 1915. He served on the Committee for the Home for Aged Masons and the Jurisprudence Committee. He received the Royal and Select Masters degrees also in January 1886 at Gonzalez Council #11. On October 4th, 1887 he received the Commandery degrees at Gonzalez Commandery #11. He served as Commander from 1894 to 1895. He served the Grand Commandery in several positions and was elected Grand Commander of Texas for 1911 to 1912. He served on several Grand Commandery committees. He received his Scottish Rite 14th to 18th degrees at Austin Scottish Rite in 1915 and his 19th to 32nd degrees at the San Antonio Scottish Rite in 1916. He was coroneted a 33rd Degree IGH in Washington D.C. in 1918. He joined the Arabia Shrine and transferred his membership to become a charter member of Alzafar Shrine in San Antonio in the fall of 1931.

Brother Fly passed away on June 26th, 1944 in Gonzalez, Texas and was buried at the Gonzalez Masonic Cemetery.

William James

Year In Office: 1904 **Parent Lodge: Cleburne No. 315**



WILLIAM JAMES
Grand Master 1904

William James was born March 24th, 1862 in Butler County, Georgia.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

A. W. Campbell

Year In Office: 1905 **Parent Lodge: Tannehill No. 52**



A. W. CAMPBELL
Grand Master 1905

Archibald William Campbell was born April 23rd, 1844 in Cannington, Ontario, Canada to Allan and Ann McLean Campbell. He moved to Dallas Texas in 1872 with his parents on a farm located in what is now the business portion of Dallas. He married Sarah Helena Clarke and they had three sons and one daughter.

Brother Campbell became a wealthy business man, investing in property in and around the Dallas area and what is now known as the Dallas business section.

Brother Campbell began his Masonic journey on January 10th, 1882 when he was initiated in Tannehill Lodge #52 in Dallas. He was passed to Fellowcraft on February 14th, 1882 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on March 14th, 1882. He served Tannehill Lodge as Senior Warden in 1886, Worshipful Master in 1887 and Tiler in 1888. He served as District Deputy Grand

Master for the 19th Masonic District in 1893 and again in 1896 to 1898. He was a member of the Committee on Work from 1896 to 1901. He served on a number of Grand Lodge Committees including Petitions (1887, 1893), By Laws (1894-1895), Credentials (1899-1890), Masonic Jurisprudence (1906-1917), Cornerstones (1912). He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1902, Grand Senior Warden, 1903, Deputy Grand Master, 1904 and Grand Master in December 1905.

Brother Campbell served the Committee on Work for several years and taught many men their work. He was also recognized for his service to the Jurisprudence Committee because of knowledge of the laws and usages and interpretations of the Grand Lodge laws.

Brother Campbell was also active in the appendent Masonic bodies as a member of Dallas Chapter #47 RAM, Dallas Council #47 R&SM, Dallas Commandery #6 and Dallas Scottish Rite as a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason.

Brother Campbell died on April 1st, 1917 when the vehicle he was driving was hit by a train in Dallas. He was buried with Masonic services at Greenwood Cemetery in Dallas Texas.

Stephen M. Bradley

Year In Office: 1906 **Parent Lodge: Stanfield No. 217**



STEPHEN M. BRADLEY
Grand Master 1906

Stephen Monroe Bradley was born in Anderson County, Tennessee on June 16th, 1852 to Timothy R. and Tirza Taylor Bradley. The family moved to Texas after the Civil War and settled in Grapevine where his father was a farmer. He attended school at the District School before finishing his education at the Masonic Seminary in Grapevine. After leaving school he worked the family farm and taught school for several years to earn money to attend law school. He moved to Denton in 1880 to work with Judge Piner while attending law school. He was admitted to the bar in 1882. He opened his own law firm, specializing in civil law. In 1885 he was elected County Judge of Denton County. He served as County Judge for eight years. After retiring from the bench he went back to his civil law practice and farming.

He married Nannie Allen on December 23rd, 1883. They had four children, two sons and two daughters.

He began his Masonic journey at Grapevine Lodge #288 where he was initiated on April 10th, 1875, Passed on May 8th, 1875 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on June 12th, 1875. Brother Bradley affiliated with Stanfield Lodge #217 on September 20th, 1882. He served as Senior Warden in 1886 and Worshipful Master in 1887, 1890, 1892 and 1902.

He was present for the laying of the Cornerstone for the first building at the Masonic Home and School and also at the laying of the Cornerstone for the Grand Lodge Building in Waco.

Brother Bradley became a member of Denton Chapter #80 RAM, and Denton Council in 1902 and Denton Commandery #45 in 1905.

He served as District Deputy Grand Master for District 44 in 1890, 1896 and 1902. He also served on several Grand Lodge Committees, including Chair of Credentials Committee, 1890, Chair of Committee on Returns, 1901 to 1902, Grand Lodge Officer Reports, 1907, 1913 to 1914, and 1918, Masonic History Committee, 1907, Memorials, 1932 and 1934 and Foreign Correspondence several times between 1909 and 1929. He was elected to Grand Junior Warden in 1902, Grand Senior Warden in 1903, Deputy Grand Master in 1904 and in December 1905 was elected Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

Brother Bradley passed away on December 23rd, 1935 after a lengthy illness and was buried at the IOOF Cemetery in Denton with a large gathering of Masons for his Masonic funeral.

John P. Bell

Year In Office: 1907 **Parent Lodge: Bellville No. 223**



JOHN P. BELL
Grand Master 1907

On April 3, 1918, our own beloved Past Grand Master, Bro. John P. Bell, answered the final summons and peacefully passed away at his residence in San Angelo, Texas. Bro. Bell was born at Industry, Austin County, Texas, December 22, 1844. At the age of 17 he enlisted in the service of the Confederacy and remained a soldier in the cause until the conclusion of the Civil War. He then took up his residence at Bellville, where he studied law in his father's office and later under Judge A. Chesley in that town. He was admitted to practice in 1868 and rose rapidly in his profession, being honored thereafter by election to the position of County Judge of Austin County, which office he filled with credit for more than twenty years.

Bro. Bell's Grand Lodge history is as follows:

Elected Grand Junior Warden, December, 1903; elected Grand Senior Warden, December, 1904; elected Deputy Grand Master, 1905; elected Grand Master, 1906.

Bro. Bell served the term of 1906-07 and presided with honor to himself and credit to the Craft.

Bro. Bell was exalted to the Royal Arch degree in May, 1872, in R. E. Lee Chapter No. 109, located at Nelsonville, Austin County, Texas, and was a charter member of Bellville Chapter No. 151, Bellville, Texas, which was constituted December 11, 1880. He held all of the elective offices of the chapter for more than two years each, and was a member of the said chapter until he moved to San Angelo, and affiliated with San Angelo Chapter No. 151, May 20, 1911.

Grand Chapter Record: Elected Grand Scribe, 1887; Grand King, 138B; Grand Deputy High Priest, 1889; and Grand High Priest, 1890, where he served the companions with honor. He received the Council degrees while the council was appended to the chapter in 1872. At the time of his death he was a member of Bellville Council.

W. Lee Moore

Year In Office: 1908 **Parent Lodge: Wichita Falls No. 635**



W. LEE MOORE
Grand Master 1908

Watson Lee Moore was born in Danville, Iowa on August 30th, 1858. He moved to Wichita Falls Texas in 1884 where he was a General Contractor until 1906 when he went into the lumber business. In 1896 he started a partnership with J.A. Richolt opening Moore and Richolt, lumber dealers and real estate building houses in Wichita Falls. He continued working until ill health forced him to retire. He was an active member of the Chamber of Commerce for many years and served on its board of directors. He served four years as a member of the board of aldermen. He was very instrumental in the development of Wichita Falls.

On March 8th, 1888 he married Katie Ora Moore and they had four sons and a daughter.

Watson Moore's Masonic journey began when he was initiated in Wichita Falls Lodge #635 on March 14th, 1890, Passed to Fellowcraft on April 25th, 1890 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on June 17th, 1890. He served as Worshipful Master of Wichita Falls Lodge #635 in 1894 to 1895, again in 1897 to 1898 and finally 1909 to 1910. He served as Secretary of the lodge from 1901 to 1905 and Treasurer from 1906 to 1908.

Brother Moore served as District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District #38 from 1896 to 1903. He served as Grand Junior Deacon in 1904. He was on several Grand Lodge committees including, Returns of Chartered Lodges, 1894, Credentials, 1898-1899, Petitions, 1902, Chairman Special Committee to Transfer Widows from Widows and Orphans Home to Home for Aged Masons, 1909, Grand Officer's reports 1912, Cornerstones, 1912, Foreign Correspondence, 1920. Brother Moore was elected Grand Junior Warden in December 1904 and was elected as Grand Master in December 1907.

Brother Moore was active in the appendant bodies. He received his Royal Arch Degrees on March 24th, 1893 at Henrietta Chapter in Henrietta Texas. He affiliated with Wichita Falls Chapter #202 on April 7th, 1894 where he served as High Priest in 1895 to 1896 and again from 1900 to 1901. He served as Treasurer from 1909 to 1917. He received the Council Degrees also on March 24th, 1893 in Henrietta Council. He affiliated with Wichita Falls Council and served as Treasurer from 1909 to 1917. He affiliated with Wichita Falls Commandery in 1905.

Brother Moore passed away on March 5th, 1935 after a lengthy illness. He was buried in Riverside Cemetery in Wichita Falls with Masonic burial honors.

James J. Davis

Year In Office: 1909 **Parent Lodge: Harmony No. 6**



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JAMES J. DAVIS
Grand Master 1909

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Thomas C. Yantis

Year In Office: 1910 **Parent Lodge: Brownwood No. 279**



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THOMAS C. YANTIS
Grand Master 1910

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Walter L. Ackers

Year In Office: 1911 **Parent Lodge: Waxahachie No. 90**



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WALTER L. ACKER
Grand Master 1911

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Samuel P. Cochran

Year In Office: 1912 **Parent Lodge: Dallas No. 760**



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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Joseph J. Mansfield

Year In Office: 1913 **Parent Lodge: Caledonia No. 68**



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JOSEPH J. MANSFIELD
Grand Master 1913

Draft dated 06/29/2023

A. W. Houston

Year In Office: 1914 **Parent Lodge: Alamo No. 44**



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A. W. HOUSTON
Grand Master 1914

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Jewel P. Lightfoot

Year In Office: 1915 **Parent Lodge: Frank Sexton No. 206**



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JEWEL P. LIGHTFOOT
Grand Master 1915

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Dan S. McMillin

Year In Office: 1916 **Parent Lodge: Whitewright No. 167**



DAN S. McMILLIN
Grand Master 1916

Dan Scott McMillin was born August 1st, 1858 near Greenfield Missouri. At age 7 his family moved to Monroe County Kentucky where he grew up.

In 1881 he began working in the lumber business. In 1885 he moved to Rock Bridge Kentucky and opened a merchantile business. In 1889 he sold the merchantile business and moved to Whitewright Texas where he later became President of Whitewright Cotton and Oil Company and also served as Vice President of Planters National Bank. He also had several real estate properties.

On January 1st, 1885 he married Evie Dickerson. They had six children however two died in infancy. The other three sons and a daughter all grew up in Whitewright.

In January 28th 1893 he was initiated in Whitewright Lodge #167, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on March 6th, 1893 and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on April 4th, 1893, in Whitewright Lodge #167. In June 1893 he was appointed Senior Deacon and in June 1893, Senior Warden in 1894 and served four times as Worshipful Master in 1895, 1897, 1904 and again in 1912. Brother McMillin served as Worshipful Master four times. He was also involved in the appendent bodies He served as Grand High Priest in the Royal Arch Chapter in Whitewright four times and served as Thrice Illustrious Master of the Whitewright Council of Royal and Select Masters also serving four times in that position.

He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1901 by then Deputy Grand Master Nat M. Washer and served as District Deputy Grand Master again in 1903, 1909 to 1911. He served on several Grand Lodge committees and was commended for being a hard working committee member. Brother McMillin was elected Grand Junior Warden on December 5th, 1912 and elected Grand Master in December 2015 becoming the 70th Grand Master in Texas.

Brother McMillin served as a trustee of the Masonic Home for the Aged in Arlington, now known as the Texas Masonic Retirement Community. He also served the State of Texas in the House of Representatives and also in the Texas Senate, serving on numerous committees.

Brother McMillin died on February 6th, 1930 after a brief illness. He was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Fannin County.

Frank C. Jones

Year In Office: 1917 **Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1**



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FRANK C. JONES
Grand Master 1917

Draft dated 06/29/2023

John R. Arnold

Year In Office: 1918 **Parent Lodge: Clinton No. 23**



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JOHN R. ARNOLD
Grand Master 1918

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Alonzo A. Ross

Year In Office: 1919 **Parent Lodge: Lockhart No. 690**



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ALONZO A. ROSS
Grand Master 1919

Draft dated 06/29/2023

George F. Morgan

Year In Office: 1920 **Parent Lodge: Five Points No. 1137**



GEORGE F. MORGAN
Grand Master 1920

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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Andrew L. Randell

Year In Office: 1921 **Parent Lodge: Travis No. 117**



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ANDREW L. RANDELL
Grand Master 1921

Draft dated 06/29/2023

David F. Johnson

Year In Office: 1922 **Parent Lodge: Brownwood No. 279**



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DAVID F. JOHNSON
Grand Master 1922

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Michael H. Thomas

Year In Office: 1923 Parent Lodge: Dallas No. 760



MICHAEL H. THOMAS
Grand Master 1923

Michael Huffman Thomas was born April 10th, 1866 in Dallas County Texas to James Pinkney Thomas and Sara Elizabeth Thomas.

Michael Huffman Thomas rose from humble beginnings to become one of Texas most outstanding and leading citizens and led a very active life. He was always loyal and steadfast to the Masonic principles.

He married Emma E. Moss on October 16th, 1889 and they had a son, Bryan Logan Thomas.

He began his Masonic journey on September 4th, 1900 when he was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason in Dallas Lodge #760. He was passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on October 8th, 1900 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on November 12th, 1900.

He served Dallas Lodge #760 as Senior Steward in 1901, Junior Deacon in 1902, Senior Deacon in 1903, Junior Warden in 1904, Senior Warden in 1905 and Worshipful Master in 1906.

He served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 14th Masonic District in 1912. He was appointed Grand Senior Deacon in 1915. He served on several committees including Committee on Credentials 1917 to 1920, serving as Chairman in 1917. He also served on Committee on Grand Officers Reports from 1925 to 1927, and again from 1932-1934. Served on the Committee on Masonic Education and Service from 1927 to 1929, Committee on Foreign Correspondence in 1920 and 1931 and Again on Grand Officers Reports from 1935 to 1943. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Masonic Home and School from 1923 to 1943.

He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1920, Grand Senior Warden in 1921, Deputy Grand Master in 1922 and elected to serve as the 77th Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Texas for 1923.

Grand Master Thomas passed away on April 3rd, 1943 and was buried with Masonic services at Grove Hill Cemetery in Dallas Texas.

Gus A. Brandt

Year In Office: 1924 **Parent Lodge: Holland No. 1**



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GUS A. BRANDT
Grand Master 1924

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Guinn Williams

Year In Office: 1925 **Parent Lodge: Decatur No. 447**



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GUINN WILLIAMS
Grand Master 1925

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Edwin R. Bryan

Year In Office: 1926 **Parent Lodge: Midland No. 623**



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EDWIN R. BRYAN
Grand Master 1926

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Marvin A. Childers

Year In Office: 1927 **Parent Lodge: Sinton No. 1012**



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Draft dated 06/29/2023

G. R. M. Montgomery

Year In Office: 1928 **Parent Lodge: Fort Worth No. 148**



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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Frank Hartgraves

Year In Office: 1929 **Parent Lodge: Ft. San Saba No. 784**



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Draft dated 06/29/2023

Hiram F. Lively

Year In Office: 1930 **Parent Lodge: Dallas No. 760**



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Draft dated 06/29/2023

James W. McClendon

Year In Office: 1931 **Parent Lodge: Hill City No. 456**



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Alva Bryan

Year In Office: 1932 **Parent Lodge: Waco No. 92**



Alva Bryan was born July 4, 1880 in Mt. Calm but grew up in Hubbard where he attended public schools before leaving for Baylor where he earned a bachelor's degree and played on one of the school's very first football teams. Bryan then attended UT Law School in Austin before returning to Waco where he firmly established himself in the arena of law as a capable attorney with his law firm, Bryan and Maxwell.

For years, he was the head of Baylor's Board of Trustees as well as the Board of Water Commissioners of Waco. He remained active at Baylor in many ways, was often a program coordinator for alumni events, and even served as the equivalent of athletic director for Baylor during the 1940s. Alva Bryan was a major proponent that made Cameron Park possible after he was inspired by the Progressive Era's City Beautiful Movement. After returning from a trip to San Antonio, Bryan led the initiative during the mid-20s that sought to fully pave Waco's streets for the first time. He was always an active member of Columbus Avenue Baptist Church and he was a director for the Liberty National Bank.

Politically, Bryan was very active and was elected to the statewide democratic executive committee. In the late 20s, Bryan represented Waco citizens against W.W. Cameron in the efforts to build a dam and create a new lake for the purposes of boosting the economy and social life of Wacoans. The citizens had already voted to approve the project but Cameron used his enormous wealth to fight it. The battle was long and drawn out, even rising as high as the state Supreme Court, but eventually, Waco got its lake and one Baylor historian recently said that the creation of Lake Waco could be considered the "single biggest factor in the progress of Waco in the last hundred years."

Alva Bryan became a Mason at Hubbard Lodge #530 on June 7, 1902. He affiliated with Waco 92 on January 20, 1905 and ascended to the East in June three years later. By 1911, his talents as a guest speaker already had him in high demand by business leagues, churches, college groups, and generally all sorts of civic associations. This high demand would only grow over the next several decades. There can be no doubt that Bryan's elocutionary skills were surpassed by none. At a tremendous ceremony where most masonic bodies in the area installed their officers for 1918-19, Alva presented three finely crafted past master jewels to JP Alexander, Judge JN Gallager, and Judge Marshall Surratt. At a banquet honoring Past Master Surratt in 1924, it was Alva Bryan who gave a rousing speech consisting of biographical details about Surratt's life. Locating a copy of that speech (or any of Bryan's speeches) would be a most celebrated find for the membership of 92 today.

In 1925, we sent a special musical degree team to West, Texas on invite and after the degree, Alva gave a speech on "George Washington, Man and Mason." When Waco 92 celebrated its 75th anniversary with a well-attended four day Diamond Jubilee, Alva Bryan was the current Grand Orator for masons of Texas and he provided a speech that was very well received. In August of 1927, He was also chosen to introduce the infamous Joseph Fort Newton when the masonic and Episcopalian author came on a special visit to speak in Waco to Texas masons; this event enjoyed a massive attendance by masons from all over and beyond the state. In 1933, he was selected as chairman of the Grand committee charged

with planning the centennial celebration of masonry in Texas. Part of that committee's job was to begin the process of building a new Grand Lodge temple (the one we have today). In 1947, Bryan joined the likes of William Quebe, Tom Connally, Pat Neff, and Lee Lockwood as a member of the special Shrine committee that welcomed President Harry Truman to Waco, granting him honorary membership to the Karem Shrine, which he graciously received.

Bryan's masonic resume is strikingly impressive as he worked on the degree team for Dallas Consistory No. 2, was elected by the Supreme Council as Knight Commander Court of Honor in 1937, and was crowned Inspector General Honorary of the 33rd degree in 1943. Bryan was the first Texan to be elected to the grand council of the Order of Demolay headquartered in Washington, D.C. This Demolay council was composed of just 50 masons across the country and at the time, President Franklin D. Roosevelt was serving as its Grand Master. Bryan also held the following presiding offices: Past High Priest of Waco's Royal Arch Chapter No. 45, Past Eminent Commander of Waco Commandery No. 10, Past Potentate of Karem Shrine in 1948, Advisory Councillor for Waco's Demolay and various positions at Grand Lodge culminating in the ultimate achievement of Grand Master of Texas masons in 1932. It was said that Bryan's election to the Grand South a few years prior marked the first time in Texas history that a Grand Junior Warden was elected unanimously.

During his year in the Grand East, Bryan enjoyed a most successful series of visits across the states and even across the country. In May, Grand Master Bryan took a large number of Texas masons across the United States to Virginia where he and the Grand Lodge of Texas received the incredible privilege of being the first masonic meeting of any kind to assemble in the newly dedicated George Washington Masonic Memorial. At the 97th Grand Convocation, he addressed the brethren assembled and made the following resolutions:

that seats at Grand Lodge be designated for district deputy grand masters and their roles be better utilized in their various districts

that the Grand charity fund be removed from the office of Grand Master and placed instead with an appropriate committee

It was the ides of March, 1950 when Alva Bryan was in the Liberty Building in downtown Waco. He suddenly fell victim to a heart attack and died. Masons, Baptists, and Texans in general mourned across the state. Baylor University's flag flew at half-mast.

In a December 1925 speech about a civic service program, Bryan said:

"Every man and woman must participate; it is not what one does but combined effort that counts. The man that gives most feels best. He that quits his business to work in this campaign is building an ideal. By combined effort there can be erected in the arts of the poor and unfortunate a mighty and grand cathedral."

Might those words offer a fine example for how men should meet, act and part? When he ascended to the Grand East for 1932, Alva Bryan addressed the Masons of Texas with a speech that left a lasting impact. In part, he said,

"Regarding what Masonry is: if translated correctly in mind and in heart and in soul that Masonry is that institution comprised of not only men that think the same thoughts together but of men who in coming

together constantly and thinking those thoughts together form a lasting friendship. Truest friends today are those that attended the same Masonic lodge in years past and who then formed friendships that have stayed with them until now.

If there ever was a time when men should think and think right, it is now; and if there ever was a place in which to think right, it is on the inside of a Masonic lodge. There are three million five hundred thousand Masons thinking the same thoughts and with this large group of thinking people working together, what a great bearing it could have on the outcome of present world conditions.

If I understand Masonry correctly, it not only love and affection but something more. It calls on you and me to aid and succor and support the man who has taken the same vows we have and in addition to extend that same helping hand to all who need it. And the world is full of those who need it now.

The whole world is looking to Masonry for leadership.

The aim of all Masons is to strive to be better men and better citizens and as we walk down the pathway of human life in this day of strife, Masons should grip each other's hand and understand together that there is a greater power than we, and we should first look to Him for help in this hour of need."

At the funeral of Alva Bryan, Baylor president W.R. White(also a member of Waco Lodge) had this to say:

"Baylor lost one of its staunchest friends. He has given to me as president of the university his unqualified support. He was an outstanding Christian Mason and citizen. The loss to us and to the community is tremendous and I deeply mourn his going."

Wallace Hughston

Year In Office: 1933 **Parent Lodge: Plano No. 768**



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Draft dated 06/29/2023

William S. Cooke

Year In Office: 1934 **Parent Lodge: Cooke-Peavy No. 1162**



"On December 5, 1934, at Waco, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas was opened in ample form for its 99th Annual Communication. The Most Worshipful Grand Master, William Stephenson Cooke, presided and the gavel used by him during the session was fashioned from a black walnut hand-hewn pillar taken from the home in which he was born, which gavel had previous to the opening of the Grand Lodge been presented to him by Masonic brethren of the City of Fort Worth.

Our immediate Junior Past Grand Master, Brother Cooke, is of Scotch-English ancestors, who settled early in Virginia and contributed distinguished officers in the fight for America's freedom in the Revolutionary War and again championed the side of the South during the conflict between the States.

Brother Cooke was the son of William Locke Cooke and Beatrice Stephenson Cooke, and was born at Thyatira, Tate County, Mississippi, on August 14, 1883, being one of three children. His parents inculcated in him those high religious ideals which were a part of their family life, and he was taught early the habits of industry and thrift and the lessons of honesty in all of his dealings with his fellowmen. Steve, as he is affectionately and widely known to his multitude of friends throughout the state, received his early education in the states of Mississippi and Texas, spending some time at the famous Webb Preparatory School at Bellbuckle, Tennessee, the Thomas Arnold High School at Salado, Texas, and the G. R. C. College at Henderson, Tennessee. For his business career he prepared himself by attending Eastman's Business College at Poughkeepsie, New York.

In the early part of 1903 he took up his residence at Fort Worth, Texas, with his father, and immediately thereafter entered into the livestock business. After the lapse of some three years he disposed of this former business and became one of the organizers and executive officers of the Harkrider-Morrison & Company, the name of which company was later changed to Harkrider-Keith-Cooke Company, which carried on a wholesale fruit and produce business, having and maintaining its principal office in the City of Fort Worth, with many branch offices throughout the State. Brother Cooke moved to Brownwood, Texas, as an officer of this company, and remained at Brownwood for about a year and a half. After leaving Brownwood he returned to Fort Worth, and the company grew to be a concern of large proportions and quite successful, and after a period of some ten years Brother Cooke disposed of his interest in the Harkrider-Keith-Cooke Company and immediately thereafter organized an automobile sales agency, representing in Fort Worth Dodge Brothers, and has remained in this business continuously since 1916, owning and operating what is now nationally known and recognized as one of the outstanding Dodge agencies in the United States, under the name of Steve Cooke Motor Company.

Back in Tennessee, while still a small boy in school, he became acquainted with Miss Ella Ozier, who in 1907 moved to Amarillo, Texas, from Tennessee, and during the interim of childhood to manhood this childhood friendship developed into true and lasting affection, which resulted in their marriage in April, 1913. Texas has no more charming and gracious lady than Brother Cooke's wife, and certainly no man has ever had a more helpful and understanding wife and cornpanion than she. Brother Cooke's ability to

give so much of his time down through the years to Masonry is due in a great measure to the unselfishness of this delightful and attractive lady.

Early in life Brother Cooke allied himself with the Christian church, and he has for many years been an active member of the First Christian Church of Fort Worth, an officer of this institution,, and in addition has served for many years as one of the members of the board of the Texas Christian University. He has been tendered on many occasions positions of high political preferment, but has steadfastly refused to accept the same, though he has at all times been active and sympathetic in all matters of civic and social welfare of this city, and was on the first board of directors of the Fort Worth and Tarrant County Improvement District and is a member of the Civil Service Board of his city.

So far the above is a sketch of our Brother's personal, public and Christian activities, and it is not amiss to give in this sketch something of the personal characteristics which have dominated his life and which are outstanding and apparent to those who know him best. He is a gentleman of the very finest instincts, good natured at all times, calm under the most stressing of circumstances, democratic, and always has time to discuss any subject with those who may seek his advice and counsel.

Sincerity, frankness and personal honesty stamp his every action and word, and while he is noted for his tenacity of purpose in anything that he undertakes to accomplish, still at the same time he is at all times amenable to reason and never hesitates to seek the counsel and advice of those in whom he has confidence and respect. It would naturally follow that one who has led such a busy and active life and been the recipient of so many preferments and honors, has had to engage in controversies concerning which there was a difference of opinion; yet his adversaries have always recognized his ability and courage and at the same time maintained the friendliest of feeling and admiration for him. He is gifted with that power of executive ability which at the same time secures from those who work with or under him their desire to succeed in order that he himself will be successful.

It was these outstanding qualities, his business experience, his executive ability, coupled with his Scotch-English commonsense, that stamped his administration as Grand Master as one that is not only outstanding in Texas but will be quoted and pointed out during the years to come. It was fortunate that the Masons of Texas placed in his hands the gavel of leadership at a time when his talents were so sorely needed and desired.

The mystery of Brother Steve Cooke's life to those who know him best, has been how he could find the time that he devotes to Masonry. Probably outside of his family he has but two hobbies or interests in life, that is, Masonry and horseback riding, and while he does not have the time to indulge in the latter sport he probably has one of the finest Masonic libraries in the country. He is constantly seeking to educate and inform himself on matters pertaining to the ancient Craft. So far as it is humanly possible to do there is no doubt but that he has lived, since reaching manhood, according to the great moral principles and truths of Masonry. He has never shirked a Masonic responsibility or duty, regardless of the sacrifice involved or how humble that duty or responsibility may have been. Through his wholehearted service to the Craft, his interest in the order, the exemplification of its teachings in his daily life, and his devotion to its causes and principles, he justly merited the position of Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Some small idea at least can be gotten of his loyalty, service and devotion to the Craft by a synopsis of his Masonic activities as follows:

Brother Cooke was initiated on March 13, 1911, passed April 17, 1911, and raised May 16, 1911, in Brownwood Lodge No. 279, Brownwood, Texas; he later demitted and affiliated with Julian Feild Lodge No. 908 at Fort Worth, and in December, 1922, became a charter member of W. W. Peavy Lodge No. 1162 of Fort Worth and at the same time its first Senior Warden. He served as Worshipful Master of W. W. Peavy Lodge in 1923, and served as District Deputy Grand Master in the 64th Masonic District in 1924; was Grand Marshal in 1927-1928; Committee on Lodges under Dispensation No. 1, 1922-1923; Committee on Finance, Grand Lodge, 1926-1930; Grand Junior Warden, 1931; Grand Senior Warden, 1932; Deputy Grand Master, 1933; Grand Master, 1934; Chairman Committee on Policies and Purposes, 1935; The Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

He received his degree of Marked Master, Past Master, Accepted Most Excellent Master, and exalted to the Royal Arch in Brownwood Chapter No. 141, R.A.M., at Brownwood, Texas, in June, 1911, there-after affiliating with Fort Worth Chapter No. 58 of Fort Worth, Texas. He was admitted Royal Master and Select Master in August, 1911, in Brownwood Council No. 86, of Brownwood, Texas, later affiliating with Fort Worth Council No. 42, Fort Worth, Texas.

Brother W. S. Cooke was knighted in Brownwood Commandery, Brownwood, Texas, and later affiliated with Worth Commandery No. 19 at Fort Worth, Texas, and is now Past Commander of Worth Commandery No. 19; Committee on Grievances and Appeals, 1933-1934; Committee Doings of Grand Officers, 1934-1935, Grand Commandery of Texas.

Brother Cooke received the Scottish Rite Degrees in 1916 at Dallas Consistory, and has been a member of the 27th and 29th Degree Teams since 1916 and at the present is Master of the 29th Degree, Dallas Consistory. He received the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in October, 1921; was crowned 33rd Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, S.J.U.S.A., receiving the rank and dignity thereof at the House of the Temple in Washington, D.C., on October 23, 1925; was received in the Royal Order of Scotland in Washington, D. C., on October 24, 1925; received the order of Red Cross of Constantine in Saint Mark's Conclave No. 13 of Dallas, Texas, later transferring and becoming a charter member of Saint Timothy Conclave No. 65, Fort Worth, Texas, and was Puissant Sovereign of Saint Timothy Conclave 1932-1933.

Brother Cooke joined Hella Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., in August, 1912, became a charter member of Moslah Temple at Fort Worth on July 4, 1914, served as its Illustrious Potentate during the year 1920, and has for many years been Moslah Temple's Imperial representative.

While Brother Steve Cooke has earned a respite and rest from his strenuous labors ""for the good of the Craft"" in this Grand Jurisdiction, we hope and we know that Masonry will continue to receive the benefit of his wise counsel and active efforts for many years to come. He is the type of leadership that Texas Masonry not only needs but appreciates, and as the years got by and the annual communications of our Grand Lodge convene, it is safe to say that in the forefront of the outstanding members of that august body will be found one of its most devoted, loyal and sincere members and workers, our beloved Past Grand Master, William Stephenson Cooke."

John H. Crooker

Year In Office: 1935 **Parent Lodge: Gray No. 329**



"When appraisalment is made of what was done during the Masonic year closing with the One Hundredth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, it will be found to have been notably a year of quickening among the Craft, of aroused interest among the rank and file, of renewed and increased activity, particularly among the smaller Lodges and those more remote from large centers. Somehow, over and above the administration of his office and the governing of the Craft, Brother John H. Crooker as Grand Master has reached out and enveloped in his interest the great body of members from the far reaches of the jurisdiction, and started a rejuvenation and awakening which will increase and gain momentum in succeeding years. It was natural and to be expected that his career as Grand Master would take just that course.

Brother Crooker was born on a farm near Mobile, Alabama, on July 15, 1884, the youngest of seven children. When he was two years of age—so young that recollection of it is by way of tradition only and not of memory—his father was stricken and passed away. There was left a noble mother—in her care seven children to whom she must be father also—who with indomitable spirit carried on and reared her children to useful manhood and womanhood. Deeply religious herself, she imbued her children with the same reverence for Deity, the same fundamental faith in the all wise Creator. Somehow she managed that her children went to school and received a common-school education. By example and by precept she showed them as well as taught them the necessity for action, the dignity of work, and the priceless value of character. For several years she continued to reside near Mobile, Alabama, and there the earliest years of Brother Crooker's life were spent. But the dark pall of economic wreckage which followed the Civil War still hung over the Old South. This mother, thinking of her children and their future—had the vision to see that a different environment, a new state, would probably offer greater opportunities for their welfare. And while her youngest child, Johnnie, was still only eight years old, she moved with her family to Houston, in the new state of Texas. This was just prior to what we now call the panic of 1893.

As a matter of fact, the earlier stages of this panic or depression came in 1892, and the full impact of it hit the newly-arrived family.

The result was that John Crooker's boyhood had more than its measure of privations and lacked many of the privileges usually experienced by growing children. Faced early in life with responsibilities far beyond his age, required to assist in support of the family while still a youngster, there was forced upon his attention during those young and impressionable years, something of the problems, the difficulties, the injustices that come to the underprivileged and to the unfortunate. And as he has made his way through life, as industry has carried him forward, as fortune has smiled upon him, and as he has taken his place among the leaders, somehow his concern and his regard has remained primarily for those who are still in the rank and file and for those upon whom perhaps fortune has not smiled.

In the every-day affairs of life, it is the man who lives by the sweat of his brow and the brawn of his arm for whom Brother Crooker seems to have the most regard and concern. In Masonry, again it is of the rank and file, the member ""seated among the brethren"" as distinguished from the leader and the

officer and the past officer, of whom he seems to think most and with whom he appears to like best to associate—for whose welfare he is most concerned. So it is that the matters of instruction and of education among the Craft have received far more consideration during his tenure of office than any other one matter and that the whole trend of his administration has been directed generally less toward distinction or aggrandisement of particular individuals and more to development, help and benefit—perhaps pleasure—of the great body of men who actually constitute Masonry in Texas and who furnish not only its backbone and strength but its adornment and very vitality itself. It was the poet who, describing a great man, spoke of him as being one who "never lost the common touch" and if this language had not already been preempted, it would be particularly apt in description of our (now Past) Grand Master Crooker.

It is appropriate that something be given by way of description of Brother Crooker's early years—particularly because of the influence that this early environment and training must have had upon his approach toward life and living—his attitude toward men and matters. It explains as nothing else can the "why" of the common man, so-called, being always first in his consideration—why position and leadership have not and cannot take from him the "common touch."

Following his arrival as an eight-year-old boy in Houston, Brother Crooker attended the public schools there, from time to time seeking and doing such work out of school hours as could be found. Then early—too early—school had to be dropped in favor of full time work for the family support. But, when study as a major duty with work on the side had to be changed to work as a major duty, then study took its place "on the side." During those early years of regular work, consistent study was a definite part of John Crooker's program, culminating finally in admission to the bar and a place as one of the lawyers with right to practice in the courts of Texas. Followed rapidly election and a tenure of office as Judge of one of the inferior courts in Houston, then election to the office of District Attorney of Harris County—the County in which the City of Houston is located. Brother Crooker's administration of this office was a notable one, and brought him prestige and distinction as lawyer, administrator and citizen. Men of affairs in Houston and leaders in public life then took notice of the achievements of the young District Attorney and his work in that office planted his feet firmly upon the ladder of success. However, during Brother Crooker's term as District Attorney, the United States entered the World War. When this occurred, Brother Crooker resigned his office and enlisted in the military forces of his country. A little later he was appointed an officer in the Judge Advocate General's Department, served as Division Judge Advocate of the 16th Division with the rank of Major and later, after the Armistice, served in the office of the Judge Advocate General of the Army, in Washington.

The war emergency over, Brother Crooker returned to Houston and has resided there ever since, engaged in the private practice of law. In this he has been signally successful, and has participated in many of the most notable civil trials occurring in the State during the past fifteen to twenty years. Primarily an advocate, it is in the trial of cases before courts and juries, in the development of evidence, the examination of witnesses, the putting on of testimony and its effective presentation, that his most brilliant work has been done. But he has not limited himself to trial work—and the reports of the various appellate courts, both State and Federal, up to the United States Supreme Court, show the frequency of his appearance before those tribunals and the splendid manner in which he has discharged in those courts his responsibilities to his clients. While the law has been his vocation and he has been unusually active in its practice, he has yet found time for participation in civic affairs and public matters

generally—bringing to these the same combination of happy enthusiasm and earnest purpose which have characterized and rendered outstanding his administration in the Grand Lodge.

On December 31, 1913, Brother Crooker was married to Miss Rita Malsch. No true picture of the man could be presented nor understanding had of his career without taking into account the influence and help of the little lady who, on that New Year's Eve, became Mrs. John H. Crooker. A beautiful family and home life has followed through the years and the two have climbed the heights together. Gracious, cultured, charming—finding her chief joy in motherhood and her greatest pleasure in home and family, this good wife has furnished much of inspiration for her husband's accomplishments. Their marriage has always been a real partnership in life and living, and neither would be quite complete without the other. They have been blessed with two sons, the first, John H., Jr., being some ten years older than the second son, Robert. These four, father, mother, and two sons, constitute the family. Naturally, Brother Crooker has given large measure of his thought and effort to the proper rearing and training of these two sons, and from this has followed, of course, an interest in boys' work and in educational matters generally. This brief sketch does not permit of more than mention of these activities and details of them must be omitted.

He is a communicant of the Protestant Episcopal Church, a member of Trinity Church of Houston, has served more than once on its vestry and is recognized as one of the lay leaders of its congregation.

Brother Crooker is a member of Gray No. 329, at Houston, where he was raised in 1908. He served his Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1916. He has served the Grand Lodge of Texas on various of its committees during intervening years and at the communication in 1931 was elected and installed as Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, passing regularly through the several chairs to installation as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas in December, 1934.

He is a member of Washington Chapter No. 2, Royal Arch Masons, and of Houston Council No. 1. He was knighted in Ruthven Commandery No. 2 at Houston and is a member of that Commandery.

Brother Croaker received his Scottish Rite degrees in Galveston Consistory and is now a member of Houston Consistory, his Shrine membership being in Arabia Temple at Houston.

Brother Crooker has given unstintedly of himself and his efforts. The achievements under his leadership have been notable. His energy has been infectious, his leadership inspiring and wise, his influence dynamic and positive. It has been his privilege to serve Masonry—he has served well—he has earned and has the gratitude of the Craft."

W. M. Weatherred

Year In Office: 1936 Parent Lodge: Coleman No. 946



"At the Grand Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M., held in the City of Waco, Texas, on the 5th day of December, A. D. 1935, Brother W. M. Marcus Weatherred was elected, and on December 6th was installed as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M. He served through the year 1936 until his successor was elected and installed in December of that year. The administration of the affairs of the Grand Lodge were handled in a most capable and distinguished manner and his administration stands out among his illustrious predecessors as one of the most successful and satisfactory to the membership of this Grand Jurisdiction. He visited many of the Lodges

throughout the state and the zeal manifested by him in arousing the spirit of the membership had much to do with checking the decline in membership due to the unfavorable economic conditions prevailing throughout the country. He maintained on all occasions the loftiest ideals and ancient traditions of the Order. He retired from the duties of the office with the love and affection and hearty approbation of the entire membership.

Brother Weatherred was born near Osceola, Hill County, Texas, on February 5, 1887. His father was named W. W. Weatherred and mother Anna M. Brown Weatherred. The family later moved to Itasca, Hill County, Texas, where he received his first education in the public schools of that progressive little city. He later entered Southwestern University at Georgetown, Texas, and completed his education at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas, and was a member in that institution of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

He moved to Coleman, Texas, his present residence, in 1903. He was admitted to the bar in 1908 and has had a distinguished career as a lawyer in that section of the state. He was elected County Judge of Coleman County, Texas, and served from 1914 to 1919 in that office, resigning during his third term to resume the private practice of the law. He considered the public service rendered as County judge as fulfilling his duties to the public as an office holder and has never sought, held or cared for public office since that time.

He married Miss Lottie John Stevens, daughter of John A. Stevens and Mary Elizabeth Gathings Stevens, at Covington, Texas. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of Coleman, Texas, and president of its Board of Trustees and has taught the Men's Bible Class of that church for more than twenty-five years. His interest in humanity made his election as president of the Overall Memorial Hospital at Coleman, Texas a natural one.

Brother Weatherred was initiated as an Entered Apprentice February 23, 1918; Passed: March 23, 1918; Raised: April 27, 1918, in Coleman Lodge No. 496, A. F. & A. M., and is a Past Master of that Lodge. He received all of the Chapter degrees and is a member of Coleman Chapter No. 287, Royal Arch Masons, and Coleman Council of Royal and Select Masters No. 222. He was knighted a Knight Templar in Brownwood Commandery No. 22, Brownwood, Texas. He received the thirty-two degrees of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in Dallas Consistory No. 2 and is a member of Hella Temple of the Order of the Mystic Shrine. He served with distinction on various committees of the Grand Lodge, among which may be mentioned the committee on "Grievances and Appeals," on "Masonic jurisprudence" and

the committee on ""Purposes and Policies,"" being chairman of the latter committee at the present time.

Possessed of a pleasing personality, gentle and kind in his nature, firm and steadfast in his conviction of right and justice, eloquent in diction and address, profound in his knowledge of Masonic traditions, customs and usages, his administration has taken its place among the most illustrious of the Grand Masters of Texas, of which he was the 98th in line.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Galloway Calhoun

Year In Office: 1937 **Parent Lodge: Saint John's No. 53**



"Charles Galloway Calhoun was born in Athens, Texas, on August 22nd, 1894, the son of Reverend J. C. Calhoun and wife, Bettie Calhoun. His parents are of the sturdy, upright, and God-fearing stock typical of the men and women who pioneered the paths of civilization in the early days of our state.

His father was a Methodist minister who moved from Henry County, Alabama, to Texas when he was twenty-one years of age and accepted his first ministerial appointment as pastor in charge of a circuit of Methodist churches in and near Alto, Texas. His mother, nee Bettie Moore, was a native Texan, having been born at Winona, in Smith County, about twelve miles distant from Tyler. Reverend Calhoun continued to be active in the ministry until a few years prior to his death in April, 1935. His wife still resides in Tyler. Two children were born of their marriage, a daughter five years older than Galloway died at the age of nine years.

Galloway Calhoun received the greater part of his secondary education in the public schools of Tyler, from which he graduated in the year 1912. His college education was obtained in the University of Texas and Cumberland University, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Law in 1915.

Immediately upon his graduation from Law School he was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Texas and began the practice of law in Tyler. Shortly thereafter he was appointed County Attorney of Smith County, and from such position he was elevated in 1920 to the position of District Attorney of the Seventh Judicial District comprising the counties of Smith, Wood, and Upshur. He was elected to this office for three terms, and during his tenure he established an enviable record as one of the most vigorous and successful prosecuting attorneys who has ever served the people of Texas.

In 1927 Mr. Calhoun was appointed Assistant Attorney General of Texas by Hon. Claude Pollard, and in 1928 he was designated as First Assistant Attorney General of Texas, which position he held until March 1st, 1930, when he resigned to re-enter the private practice of law at Tyler with Tom B. Ramey and Bryan Marsh under the firm name of Ramey, Calhoun & Marsh. This association has continued to the present time.

While he was a member of the staff of the Attorney General's Department he was given many important assignments and on several occasions he was sent to various sections of the state to represent the State as special prosecutor in unusually difficult situations.

In the private practice of law Mr. Calhoun has participated in many important trials, and his reputation as a successful trial lawyer and jury advocate has become widespread.

Although the demands of his profession upon his time are many and constant, he has evidenced a willingness to devote his best efforts to many other worthwhile activities, religious, civic, political, and fraternal. Being a devout member of the Methodist Church, he has taken a most active part in all of its programs. For more than twenty years he has been a member of the Board of Stewards of his church, and at numerous Annual Conferences he has represented his church as delegate. In 1934 he was delegate from his church conference to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church

South, held at Jackson, Mississippi. Perhaps his outstanding service to his church has been in the capacity of teacher of the Friendly Class of Marvin Methodist Church of Tyler, which is recognized as one of the largest men's Sunday School classes in Texas Methodism.

His record as a good citizen is worthy of emulation. He has ever been found to have been willing and ready to contribute his time, talents, and means to all commendable undertakings for the upbuilding of his city, state, and nation. He is a member of the Rotary Club and has served as president of such organization in Tyler. As a member of the Federal Centennial Advisory Committee he contributed to the success of the Texas Centennial celebrations in 1936. During 1935 he was designated and acted as Director of the Federal Housing Administration for the Northeastern District of Texas, and in such capacity directed the establishment of the program of such agency in a large portion of the state.

Mr. Calhoun's political affiliations have ever been with the Democratic party. He has served his party in various capacities, and on three separate occasions he was selected as a delegate from Texas to the Democratic National Convention. Accordingly, he attended the Conventions which were held in New York in 1924, in Chicago in 1932, and in Philadelphia in 1936.

Mr. Calhoun's service and achievements in Masonry are unusually notable. He is a member of St. John's Lodge No. 53 of Tyler, wherein he was made a Master Mason on August 18, 1916. He became Worshipful Master of such Lodge in 1922. He is a member of Tyler Chapter No. 24, Royal Arch Masons; Ascension Commandery No. 25, Knights Templar; Dallas Consistory of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, and Karem Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He has served as Eminent Commander of his Commandery of Knights Templar, and as Potentate of Karem Temple. He has been President of the Texas Shrine Council, and has been the official representative of his Temple to the Imperial Council of the Shrine each year from 1926 to 1937, inclusive. In 1931 he was appointed as Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and in 1933 he was elected Grand Junior Warden. Thereafter he served successively as Grand Senior Warden and Deputy Grand Master, becoming Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas in December, 1936.

Many other noteworthy Masonic distinctions have been conferred upon Brother Calhoun, among them being membership in the Knights Commander of the Court of Honor, the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, and the recipient of the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in honor of the founder of Masonry in the United States.

During the World War Mr. Calhoun served his country in organizing and leading the band of the One Hundred Forty-fourth Infantry, Thirty-sixth Division.

On June 25th, 1922, Mr. Calhoun married Miss Dorothy Callaway of Mineola, Texas. They have two children, a daughter, Elizabeth, age fourteen, and a son, Charles Galloway, Jr., age six. Their lovely home is situated in a beautiful woodland setting about two miles south of Tyler."

John Temple Rice

Year In Office: 1938 **Parent Lodge: El Paso No. 13**



"Happy was El Paso Lodge No. 130, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, on December 2nd, 1937, when its illustrious Brother, John Temple Rice, was elected Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. Thrice happy was El Paso Lodge No. 130, and the rank and file of Texas Masons on December 7th, 1938, when Most Worshipful John Temple Rice, as Grand Master, let fall the gavel that called to labor the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, in its 103rd Grand Communication, and reported a year of service at least equal to that of any of his illustrious predecessors in that high office, and announced to the Craft the good news that there had been a net increase in the membership of the subordinate

Lodges in this Grand jurisdiction during the year of about 1500, and a spirit of Masonry prevailing throughout our vast domain that foretokens greater enthusiasm and interest for years to come.

For more than twenty-seven years, John Temple Rice has been a true Craftsman of El Paso Lodge No. 130, having been initiated therein on February 10th, 1911 ; passed March 17th, 1911, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on April 14th, 1911, and throughout all those years, our esteemed Brother and leader for 1938 has brought up good work, square work, just such work as is needed for the completion of the Temple, serving it as its Worshipful Master in 1915-1916.

Born on December 9th, 1888, at Danville, Virginia, where his early years were spent, Grand Master moved with his parents to Greensboro, North Carolina, and in 1904 removed to El Paso, Texas, where he has since continuously resided, and for whose civic advancement he has continually labored.

Believing that the good Mason is ever true to his Country, he heeded his country's call to service during the World War, and on June 22nd, 1917, enlisted in Texas Field Hospital No. 2, Texas National Guard, which organization subsequently changed to Field Hospital No. 141, 111th Sanitary Train, 36th Division, training at Camp Bowie, Texas, and served with the American Expeditionary Forces in France from July 18th, 1918, to June 3rd, 1919, being a Sergeant, First Class, Medical Department. As such, he engaged in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive (Champagne) France, and contributed his part for the accomplishment of his country's success in that gigantic struggle.

Interrupted only by his army service, he ministered to suffering humanity in the drug business from the time of the completion of his education until 1927, on June 24th, of which year he was installed as Secretary of El Paso Lodge No. 130, whereupon he retired from business, and since which time he has devoted his entire time to Masonic endeavors, and his life has been one continued round of Masonic labor and achievement.

For twenty-five years Brother Rice has held a certificate from the Committee on Work of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and honored is he who is brought to Light under his instruction. In 1923-1924-1925 and 1926. he served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 60th Masonic District. He served for years on various Committees of Grand Lodge, including those on Credentials; Petitions; Foreign Correspondence; Grievances and Appeals; and Lodges Under Dispensation.

Fitting indeed was it for one who so qualified himself through much service to be elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1934, and to serve through the line through successive years to the highest position and honor in Texas Masonry, that of Grand Master.

He was the recipient of the Henry Price medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1916.

Not only has our Grand Master served the Grand Lodge of Texas and Ancient Craft Masonry, but he has also done much service in Capitular Masonry, having been exalted in El Paso Chapter No. 157, Royal Arch Masons, on October 17th, 1911, serving it as High Priest in 1917-1918. He was consecrated in the Order of High Priesthood on December 2nd, 1919; was Grand Visitor of the 28th District in 1919-1920 and 1921; was appointed Master of the Second Veil, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1926; has served as Grand Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Oregon, near the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas since 1926. He was admitted as a Select Master in El Paso Council No. 98, Royal and Select Masters on March 13th, 1913; served as Thrice Illustrious Master 1919-1920; and as Grand Visitor of the Grand Council, 28th District, in 1919-1920-1921.

Of equal distinction and honor has been his service in Knight Templar Masonry. Having been knighted in El Paso Commandery No. 18, Knights Templar, on November 29, 1911, he served it as Prelate from 1913 to 1915, and from 1924 continuously to the present time. He was elected Commander of El Paso Commandery No. 18 in January, 1921.

He was elected Grand Captain of the Guard, in the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas, in 1923, at the Dallas Conclave, and served through the line, except for the office of Grand Warden, becoming Grand Commander on April 16th, 1931. He is Representative of the Grand Commandrel Knights Templar of Virginia, near Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas. He was elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States July 12th, 1934, and Grand Captain General of same in July, 1937.

Brother Rice received the 32nd Degree of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, in El Paso Consistory No. 3 on April 23rd, 1915; was elected Knight Commander of the Court of Honor on October 15th, 1923; was elected to receive the 33rd Degree October 18th, 1927. He was coroneted Inspector General Honorary, 33rd Degree on January 30th, 1921, by Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Samuel Poyntz Cochran. He served as Venerable Master, Mount Franklin Lodge of Perfection No. 8 in 1923; as Wise Master, Oasis Chapter No. 5, Knights Rose Croix in 1929; as Master of Kadosh El Paso Consistory No. 3 in 1933; and as Commander of Rio Grande Council No. 3, Knights Kadosh in 1934.

Brother Rice was dubbed Knight Companion, Red Cross of Constantine, April 13, 1928, in Saint Anthony Conclave No. 50, San Antonio.

He was Potentate of El Maida Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. in 1932.

He was elected Grand Associate Worthy Patron of Texas Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star in 1937, and Grand Patron in 1938.

Brother Rice is a Communicant of the Church of Saint Clement, Episcopal, in El Paso, Texas, having served as Vestryman in that Church, and now serves it as Senior Warden.

This tersely records the great service of our Beloved Grand Master, John Temple Rice, as a Citizen-Business Man-Soldier-Mason-Christian, and to all of same can rightly be applied the descriptive word-
""GOOD.""

He retires from the office of Grand Master with the plaudits and the love of the Masons of Texas, but will continue in an Abundant Life of Living and Serving.

Lee Lockwood

Year In Office: 1939 **Parent Lodge: Fidelis No. 1127**



"Lee Lockwood, the ninety-eighth Grand Master of all Masons in Texas, was born in Waco, Texas, the domicile of the Grand Lodge of Texas, on November 11, 1900, being the only child of James Harvey Lockwood and Gussie Doss Lockwood. The Grand Master's father was born in Bloomingburgh in the State of New York, but moved to Texas at the age of 12 years, settling shortly thereafter at Waco. Brother Lockwood is a descendant of Peter Crans, one of the distinguished officers of the American Revolution. Brother Lockwood's mother is a native of Texas, having been born at Lagrange, and was the daughter of Richard A. Doss, a civil engineer, who served in the Texas Mounted Volunteers, Company G, Fourth Regiment, of the Confederate Army, having volunteered at San Antonio, Texas, on September 24, 1861.

Brother Lockwood is one of the youngest Masons to have been elevated to the position of Grand Master in Texas; yet none has served in this high office with more distinction and credit to our Grand Jurisdiction. He has brought to this high office unlimited energy, enthusiasm, and demonstrated a sincere attachment to Masonry, its principles and ideals. Immediately after his installation, the District Deputies and Masters of the Lodges were advised in a clear and concise manner of the program which Brother Lockwood intended to follow during his year, and this program has been fruitful again for the second time in thirteen years showing a net increase of more than 2,000 members, the reinstatement of 4,426 Master Masons, and the Lodges have been drawn closer to the Grand Lodge.

As Grand Master he has carried to the officers of every Lodge and to thousands of Master Masons in Texas a message of the duties and responsibilities of these who are privileged to work in the Ancient Quarries, a message that was delivered straight from the shoulder in unmistakable terms and meaning, detailing briefly but forcefully the duties of a Master Mason to God, his country, his family and his fellowman, from which those who have been privileged to hear him have received a lasting inspiration. It can be safely said that no other Grand Master in Texas has ever before met and talked personally to any greater number of Lodge officers and Master Masons than our Grand Master.

The record which Brother Lockwood has made as the head of Masonry in Texas is one from which the Craft will receive continued benefit in the years to come. It is a record that is viewed now by the Masons of Texas with pride and will be referred to down through the years not only as outstanding, but one of constructiveness, and beneficial to the Grand Lodge.

Those who have watched the Grand Master during the year have marveled at his boundless energy, the sacrifices that he has made to further the interest of the Craft, his sympathetic patience, and the lack of confusion in the dispatch of the great amount of detail work with which he has been confronted.

His regional meetings held at central points have been designed so that as Grand Master he could reach representatives of the some 900 constituent Lodges in Texas, and while a novel idea it has been productive of results that undoubtedly will be followed by those who in future years will succeed him as Grand Master.

No Mason can come in contact with our Grand Master but that he will be fired anew with a desire to be of service to Masonry and impressed with the privilege that is his to say that he too is a brother in the Craft.

We turn to the Masonic record of Brother Lee Lockwood and find that on November 29, 1921, or the year that he reached his majority, he was initiated as an Entered Apprentice in Fidelis Lodge No. 1127 at Waco, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on December 28, 1921, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on January 24, 1922.

In June, 1925, he was appointed junior Steward, served as Senior Steward in 1926, Senior Deacon in June, 1927, was elected junior Warden in 1928, Senior Warden in 1929, and Worshipful Master in 1930.

In December, 1933, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 61st Masonic District and two years later, in December, 1935, was elected Grand Junior Warden, elected Grand Senior Warden in 1936, Deputy Grand Master in 1937, and installed as Grand Master at the 103rd Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas in December of 1938. He is at present the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge Valle de Mexico, near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Our brother has always been an active degree worker and received certificates in 1925, 1926, 1927, 1930, 1933, 1936, and 1939.

Brother Lockwood was exalted in Waco Chapter No. 45, Royal Arch Masons, and is a member of Waco Council, receiving the Royal Arch degrees in 1923.

He is a member of Waco Commandery No. 10, having received the Red Cross Malta and Templar degrees in 1924.

For many years he has been active in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, working in several of the degrees at Austin, having received the 32° in Austin Consistory in 1922, and has been honored by the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern jurisdiction, by receiving the preferment of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1933. He is also past president of the Waco Scottish Rite Club.

Brother Lockwood is a member of the Order of Red Cross of Constantine, belonging to St. Timothy's Conclave at Fort Worth.

Brother Lockwood has been a member since April of 1922 of Karem Shrine Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., at Waco.

Brother Lockwood attended and graduated from Waco High School in 1918, attending Baylor University at Waco in 1918 and the University of Texas from 1919 to 1922, being a member of Phi Gamma Delta Society. He distinguished himself in athletics, more particularly in football.

On October 3, 1923, he married Miss Marie Coates, and it has been through the unselfishness of his charming and gracious wife that Brother Lockwood has been able to devote so much of his time to the

advancement of Masonry. She has been since their marriage an inspiration to him in this great work and of constant aid and assistance to him in performing the many responsible duties that the brethren of Texas have placed upon him. The Grand Master and his wife are the parents of two attractive young daughters, Ann Marie and Laurine.

Brother Lockwood is a devout and sincere Christian, being a member of the Central Christian Church in Waco, having joined this church in 1914. For many years he has been a member of the Board of Deacons of this church.

In business Brother Lockwood first became connected with the First State Bank & Trust Company of Waco and later entered the insurance and finance business for himself, and since 1930 has conducted a most successful retail lumber business. He is at present a director of the local Chamber of Commerce.

To us has been assigned the most pleasant duty of writing a brief record of our beloved Grand Master, detailing something of his activities as Grand Master, as a Mason, a citizen, a business man and Christian, and it is to be regretted that space does not permit us to go more into detail regarding the outstanding characteristics that have distinguished him in each of these phases of his life.

Brother Lockwood leaves the position of Grand Master and now becomes a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas. He retires with the respect, affection and admiration of every Master Mason in this Grand Jurisdiction. He has served with honor and credit to himself and the institution which he so loves. We know that in the future he will be as active as in the past. No position in Freemasonry will be too humble for him to accept. Masonry in Texas needs more Lee Lockwoods."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Leo S. Hart

Year In Office: 1940 **Parent Lodge: Bethesda No. 142**



"On July 24th, 1898, there was born in Gilmer, Upshur County, Texas, Leo Shafter Hart, who was destined to become one of Texas' most distinguished and best-known Masons and who, in December, 1939, would become the 99th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Brother Hart is a descendant of one of Texas' most distinguished pioneer families; his grandfather, W. H. Hart, settled in Upshur County in 1840 and was one of Texas' earliest and most active Freemasons. Brother Hart's father, Sterling Carroll Hart, was born on March 5, 1856, in a building that at the time was used as the Court House of Upshur County, located some three miles northwest from the present location of the town of Gilmer; in 1880 he was married to Amanda Jane Horton. Our Grand Master's mother was born in Atlanta, Georgia, May 28, 1858: her family moving to Upshur County in 1860. Brother Hart is the youngest of seven children; having three brothers and three sisters.

Brother Hart attended the Public Schools of Gilmer, graduating in 1916; later attending the University of Texas during the years 1917, 1918 and 1919 and graduating from the Law School of Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1922. He served as County Attorney of Upshur County for the years 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930, but because of a serious sinus and throat ailment, with which he still suffers, he was forced to cease the active practice of his profession and for the past ten years has served as County Auditor of his native county.

Brother Hart is a man of very deep and sincere religious convictions and has been allied with the Methodist Church since early manhood, has taken a most active interest in Sunday School and Church work and for many years teacher of the Men's Sunday School Classes and is now serving on the Board of Stewards, having served in such capacity for several years.

Brother Hart is well-known throughout East Texas for his interested activity for that section of the State and more particularly his city and county and has always taken a lead in the activities of the Gilmer Chamber of Commerce, having served it faithfully as a Director and has given unselfishly of his time and best thought in the advancement of all local civic matters.

In listing the various Masonic activities of our distinguished Brother while they present a picture of Masonic devotion unsurpassed by a man of his years, yet it does not present the full and complete story of the hours, days and nights spent by our Grand Master, not only in his local community, but throughout the State, in rendering service to the Ancient Craft; we believe we would be justified in saying that no other man in this Grand Jurisdiction has attended as many Masonic meetings in the same space of time as Leo Hart.

Brother Hart was initiated in Bethesda Lodge No. 142, of Gilmer, Texas, on September 15, 1919, passed October 11, 1919, and raised November 8, 1919; he served his Lodge as junior Warden in 1922, as Senior Warden in 1924 and Worshipful Master in the years 1925, 1926, 1930, 1931 and 1933.

In 1925 in memory of his mother, he inaugurated in Bethesda Lodge the observance of Mother's Day, which has been observed by his Lodge on the Friday preceding the Sunday of Mother's Day since that

time. Following this custom today, many of the subordinate Lodges in Texas now hold special meetings observing Mother's Day during the month of May.

No Degree Team in Texas is or has ever been better known, more widely travelled or had a larger demand upon its services than the wellknown Gilmer Degree Team of which Brother Hart has served as Degree Captain and has taken an active part in the conferring of the degrees for many years.

In the Grand Lodge of Texas he received his first appointment as a member of the Committee on Titles, Deeds and Properties in 1930, and as a member of the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation in 1932, and was appointed Grand Junior Steward in 1934. He was elected by the Grand Lodge of Texas for a five-year term to the important Committee on Work in 1934 and served through 1936, but did not serve out his full term by reason of the fact that he was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1936. Brother Hart holds a life certificate for proficiency in our esoteric work. He was advanced to Grand Senior Warden in 1937, elected Deputy Grand Master in 1938, and at the 104th Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, in December, 1939, was installed as M.'W.'.Grand Master of Masons in Texas. He is now the Grand Representative of the M.'W.'.Grand Lodge of Arkansas, near the M.'W.'.Grand Lodge of Texas.

In the other Rites of Freemasonry Brother Hart has also been active ,and received Chapter Degrees in Gilmer Chapter No. 49, being marked March 25, 1920, passed March 25, 1920, received April 1, 1920, exalted April 1, 1920, and received the Royal and Select Master's Degrees in Gilmer Council No. 35 by being greeted on April 2, 1920. He was elected Scribe in 1922 and 1923, elected King in 1924, and served as High Priest in 1925, Thrice Illustrious Master Council same year High Priest. On November 19, 1929, he received in Ascension Commandery No. 25, at Tyler, the degrees of Red Cross, Malta and Temple, and at present is a member of Longview Commandery No. 86, having affiliated on February 21, 1938.

He is a Master of the Royal Secret Thirty-second Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Dallas Consistory No. 2, Dallas, Texas, and a member of Karem Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Waco.

Brother Hart is a member of St. Timothy Conclave, Order Red Cross of Constantine, Fort Worth.

Few men in Texas have been called to the oriental chair who have served longer, more faithfully and who desired to be of real service to their Brethren than the subject of this brief sketch. His activities down through the years throughout this Grand jurisdiction have brought to him not only a large personal acquaintanceship with his Masonic Brethren but a knowledge and keen insight into the problems daily confronting the officers of out many Lodges. During the years that he had served the Grand Lodge, prior to his installation as Grand Master, he was constantly inquiring into and zealously studying the difficulties and needs of Freemasonry in our State, and upon his installation he immediately adopted a slogan, or motto, ""Masonry Day by Day,"" believing that during the dark and troublesome year of his administration that the Brethren needed such a motto in the Lodges as well as in their daily contacts with their fellowman. In all of his inspirational addresses, he has dwelt upon this subject, pointing out the privilege of being a Master Mason and reminding of the responsibilities that attach to such an honor with the admonition that one must live, practice, speak, and guard his every action by constantly keeping before himself the principles and tenets of Freemasonry, never forgetting to live Masonry day by day. Coupled with this motto, which will take its place in Texas Masonic history and will be remembered down through the years to come, our beloved Grand Master has in a forceful and

timely manner not neglected to bring to the more than 47,000 Masons before whom he has been privileged to appear and speak, the great principles underlying true Americanism and Patriotism.

In the Grand Master's Report to the 105th Grand Annual Communication in December, 1940, he reported a year of activity that has never been surpassed by any preceding Grand Master and it is doubted if such has ever been equalled.

During the year he has attended one hundred sixty-two meetings and one cannot but marvel and, at the same time, admire the sacrifice and service rendered by this distinguished Brother. These visitations as reported by our Grand Master discloses that he has visited every portion of this vast jurisdiction, covering thousands of miles of travel, in all kinds of weather and all kinds of conditions and yet has allowed no letter or written communication addressed to him to be tardy in reply. Brother Leo Hart has served without any thought or desire of reward actuated only by a love for the institution he so sincerely admires and respects, yet-though the uncertainties of the time, conditions of warring Europe, which were manifest during his term, which were apparent on all sides, yet the Grand Jurisdiction of Texas has shown under his leadership the largest net increase in twelve years, an excellent and outstanding financial condition, probably the largest attendance in our subordinate Lodges, a unified and enthusiastic Masonry with complete peace and harmony prevailing throughout this Grand Jurisdiction.

Brother Leo Hart has carried to the Masons of Texas messages of cheer and inspiration, which will be remembered down through the years in this Grand jurisdiction never to be forgotten by those who have been privileged to hear him and make his acquaintance. Brother Hart is known as a man and as a Mason who has taken his Masonic obligations seriously; his life has been of the strictest integrity actuated always by high ideals and he has lived a Christian life. If there has ever been in Texas a Mason who could impress upon our more than 100,000 Brethren the necessity and duty of living "Masonry, Day by Day," it has been by our Grand Master who has exemplified on every hand in his daily life this motto.

You, Brother Hart, have demonstrated in your life those attributes described in our Ancient Charge which "distinguishes you from the rest of the community and marks your consequence among Masons." While you retire from the office of Grand Master with the highest esteem and congratulations of your Brother Masons, we know that such a man and Mason as you, that the Masons of Texas will down through the years continue to have your active support, your best counsel and service in all things Masonic, large or small, and, in conclusion, we but voice the sentiments of all by saying, "Well done thou good and faithful Brother." May the days upon the land which the Lord thy God hath given thee be long, peaceful and happy."

Sam B. Cantey Jr.

Year In Office: 1941 **Parent Lodge: Julian Feild No. 908**



"Samuel Benton Cantey, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Texas in the year 1941, was born in Fort Worth, Texas, on July 17, 1893, being the fourth child of Samuel Benton Cantey, Sr., and Italia Brooks Cantey. The Grand Master's father was born in Fort Mitchell, Alabama, in 1861, and moved to Texas in 1880 and established in 1881 the law firm of which the Grand Master is a member.

The Grand Master's paternal grandfather was James Cantey, who was born in Kershaw District (Camden), South Carolina, and who practiced law there for several years. He was a Captain in the celebrated Palmetto Regiment of South Carolina in the Mexican War of 1846-1847. After this war he settled in Russell County, Alabama, and married the daughter of Colonel Samuel Benton of that county. At the start of the war between the States in 1861 he was organizer and Colonel of the 15th Alabama Regiment and served during the four years of the war and was commissioned as Brigadier General in 1863.

The Grand Master's maternal grandfather was Samuel Brooks, who was born in Illinois and later moved to Texas.

Brother Cantey received his preparatory education at Culver Military Academy, Culver, Indian, graduating in 1912 and later attending the University of Texas. He received his LL.B. degree in 1914 from Cumberland University. Since his graduation from law school he has practiced law in his native city and is a member of the firm of Cantey, Hanger, McMahan, McKnight & Johnson, and is a director of The First National Bank of Fort Worth.

The Grand Master married in June, 1913, to Miss Grace Ambler, daughter of E. T. Ambler, a native of Connecticut. Her mother, Maide Wynne Ambler, is a native of Texas. The Grand Master has two sons, Samuel Benton Cantey III, and Emory Ambler Cantey, both of whom are Master Masons.

Brother Cantey was made a Master Mason in Julian Feild Lodge No. 908 of Fort Worth in 1914 and served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1933-1934.

Brother Cantey is a member of Texas Chapter No. 362 and Texas Council No. 321, and served as High Priest in 1940 and Thrice Illustrious Master in 1940. He is a member of Worth Commandery No. 19, Knights Templar.

Brother Cantey is a member of the Dallas Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern jurisdiction, and received the rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1923 and was crowned 33° Inspector General honorary in 1929. He has for more than twenty years been active in the degree work of the Scottish Rite, working in several of the degrees.

The Grand Master served as Potentate of Moslah Shrine Temple in 1932 and for many years was Director General of his Temple.

The Grand Master is Past Sovereign of St. Timothy's Conclave No. 65, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

In the Grand Lodge of Texas Brother Cantey served as a member of the Committee on By-Laws and was in 1935 appointed a member of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service and is the Secretary of the Committee.

He has since 1933 been the representative of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

His hobby, if thus it can be described, is and has been for many years the collection of old and rare Masonic books, his chief interest being in the historical records of early Masonry and Masons.

Brother Cantey is and has been a life-long member of the Episcopal Church and is a member of St. Andrew's parish of his home city.

In reviewing his year as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports paid him the following tribute:

""Your Committee believes that in his expressions, Grand Master is too modest and that without being requested, or even invited, Grand Master will be found in the ranks serving by precept and example in furthering all those issues and principles which as Grand Master he has promoted with such signal ability. Your Committee expects R:W: Sam B. Cantey, Jr., Past Grand Master of Texas Masons, to adopt in principle, if not in words, the proudly humble motto of the Black Prince, 'I serve,' and that with or without this shibboleth our friend and brother will always be found in the ranks doing with his might what his hands find to do.

""Your Committee is impressed with the wisdom and statesmanship of the Grand Master's letters reported and respectfully recommends that the Grand Lodge of Texas invites the attention of the constituent Lodges to them and suggests that they be frequently consulted as furnishing a mine of wisdom and Masonic lore well worth preserving in the knowledge of the Craft.""

Ernest M. Wood

Year In Office: 1942 **Parent Lodge: Anson No. 575**



"In December, 1837, delegates from three Masonic Lodges in the Republic of Texas met in Convention Hall in Houston and formed the Grand Lodge of the Republic. Brother Anson Jones, M. D., was duly elected and thereafter installed the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

On December 8, 1939, at the 103rd Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas held in the City of Waco, Brother Ernest Malcolm Wood, M. D., a resident of the City of Anson, Jones County (so named for our first Grand Master) was duly installed Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and thereafter was duly elected and installed in the respective Grand stations of the Grand Lodge, and in December, 1941, was installed Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

Dr. E. M. Wood is the son of Thomas Spencer Wood and Addie D. (Henderson) Wood, both his father and mother being from distinguished pioneer families of Texas, and at the time of his birth his family was residing in McCulloch County, Texas. He attended public schools and the State Normal of Texas and taught school for five years in his early youth, engaged in the drug business for two years, and later graduated from the University of Tennessee Medical Department, and served the State of Texas with honor and distinction as a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners from 1914 to 1916 and on the State Board of Health for six consecutive years.

Few men, if any, have a more outstanding Masonic record reflecting years of sacrifice and labor for the Ancient Craft than our good brother, Dr. Wood, and one cannot help but marvel as to how he could have pursued an active medical career, which has brought him honor and distinction down through the years, and at the same time find time to give so many hours, months and years of his time and services to the Craft, which Masonic service and activity may be in part at least grasped upon an examination of his Masonic records as follows:

He was initiated in Fort McKavett Lodge No. 705 of Fort McKavett, Texas, on December 3, 1898; passed December 30, 1898, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on January 28, 1899, serving as Senior Deacon of this Lodge in 1899. He dimitted on September 15, 1900, and affiliated with Brady Lodge No. 968 at Brady, Texas, on January 5, 1901; served as Secretary in 1901 and dimitted on November 4, 1905. He affiliated with Bertram Lodge No. 583 of Bertram, Texas, on December 16, 1905; served as junior Warden in 1906, Senior Warden in 1907 and Worshipful Master in 1908 and dimitted on April 20, 1913. He affiliated with San Gabriel Lodge No. 89 of Georgetown on May 23, 1913, dimitted February 11, 1916; affiliated with Hutto Lodge No. 801 of Hutto, Texas, on March 25, 1916; dimitted June 14, 1927, and affiliated with Anson Lodge No. 575 on October 6, 1927; served as Worshipful Master in 1929 and Senior Deacon in 1932.

Brother Dr. Wood has served as a member of the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports of the Grand Lodge of Texas and as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge del Territorio Norte de la Baja California near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In the Royal Arch our good and distinguished Brother received the Chapter degrees in Mount Horeb Chapter 57 at Bertram, Texas, being exalted on April 13, 1909; dimitted from Mount Horeb Chapter No.

57 in 1925 and affiliated with Anson Chapter No. 294 on September 1, 1925, serving as High Priest of the latter Chapter in 1927, 1928 and 1931. He was elected Excellent Grand Scribe of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1929 and served with honor as Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1932 and 1933. Brother Dr. Wood has been a director of the Aged Masons Home of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas since 1935. He is at present Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of British Columbia, Royal Arch Masonry, near the Grand Chapter of Texas.

Brother Dr. Wood has been a member also of the Finance Committee of the Grand Chapter of Texas since 1933.

Our Past Grand Master received the Council degrees of the Royal and Select Masters in Mount Horeb Council No. 41 of Bertram, Texas, on April 13, 1909; demitted on May 2, 1925, and affiliated with Anson Council No. 229 on September 1, 1925, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master from 1926 to 1936.

Brother Dr. Wood received the Knight Templar degrees at Abilene, Texas, Commandery and received the Scottish Rite degrees of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, in Dallas Consistory, Dallas, Texas.

R.'.W.'. Brother Dr. E. M. Wood was installed as Grand Master of Masons in Texas on December 4, 1941, and three days thereafter came the unwarranted and treacherous attack on this nation at Pearl Harbor, and the plans and program that our Grand Master at that time had worked out and formulated for the year 1942 were then of necessity abandoned and to view the year of his service from an entirely different standpoint, but without delay or complaint this good and true Mason immediately evolved a patriotic program for the Masons of Texas to follow, and one which embraced in its far-reaching scope service to the Master Masons serving in the armed forces of the United States and located in Texas as well as the sons of Masons who also were wearing the uniform of our nation.

Few, if any, Grand Masters have ever been confronted with more trying times and conditions, which daily changed, but through it all our Grand Master maintained his poise and at the conclusion of his successful and outstanding administration Freemasonry in Texas had been materially strengthened and the bonds of brotherhood more strongly cemented, and the approximately 900 Lodges in Texas drawn closer to their Grand Lodge.

Much could be said of the outstanding work and service rendered by the Grand Master, but space does not permit. It is felt, however, that the Grand Officers' Reports Committee of the Grand Lodge of Texas is best qualified to pass upon Brother Dr. Wood's year of service and activity, and they have paid him a most deserving and well merited tribute in their report to our Grand Lodge and in part have written upon the pages of Masonic history in Texas their tribute to him as follows:

""Three days after his installation this country was savagely attacked by the most cruel, brutal and uncivilized nation on EARTH, not excluding the unspeakable HUNS. Small wonder that Grand Master has devoted the lion's share of his time to some kind of service to our Armed Forces. He has spent weary days, sleepless nights, trying to promulgate methods to pass the benefits of Freemasonry on to our boys and other boys of sister Grand Jurisdictions. That he felt, with our great government, through its multitudinous agencies sponsoring the accumulation and disbursement of multiplied millions for recreation and entertainment-that he could not launch an ambitious program or indeed compete in any way with Uncle Sam is NOT surprising, INDEED WAS TO BE EXPECTED. Your Committee refrains from

discussing the Grand Master's address in that regard, but confidently expects that from the action taken this year by Texas Freemasonry -and the discussion of the situation by the appropriate Committee, great good will accrue and Texas Freemasonry will live up to her traditions and her TRUST.

""Your Committee believes that Grand Master has served Texas Freemasonry with fidelity and singleness of purpose; that he has been actuated by the highest and noblest motives; that he has been bowed down under great responsibilities; that he has met these fearlessly, in the light of his life time experience as a Craftsman in the Quarries, and that any material mistakes he may have made-and we allege none-have been such as were unavoidable and peculiarly appertaining to the TIMES.

""We believe that his contribution to Freemasonry may be termed 'good and square work' and that he will take his place in the ranks of Past Grand Masters enshrined in the esteem and affection of the Craft.""

The Masons of Texas join with this Committee above quoted in saying, ""Your Committee would place the stamp of its approval on this outstanding work of Grand Master through the year, and assure him of the grateful appreciation of this Grand Lodge.""

Wherever Masons meet, there will be found Brother Dr. Wood. Whatever duty is to be performed, whether it be large or small, we know that the first to volunteer for service to the Craft will be our beloved Past Grand Master, R.'W.'.Brother Dr. E. M. Wood."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Rogers C. Kelly

Year In Office: 1943 **Parent Lodge: Hidalgo No. 1036**



"Brother Rogers Kelley was born at Henrietta, Clay County, Texas, on December 11, 1902, the son of Luther A. Kelley and Ethel R. Kelley. His father, Luther A. Kelley, was born in Saline County, Missouri, near the town of Cambridge, moving to Clay County, Texas, with his father in 1890, and was one of the pioneer merchants of Henrietta, residing there until 1925, when he moved to Mercedes in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, where he still resides.

Ethel R. Goodenough (Kelley) was born in Litchfield, Montgomery County, Illinois, and moved to Galveston, Texas, in 1894, and from there to Henrietta in 1895, where she met the Grand Master's father and married him in 1901. Her father, A. D. Goodenough, was one of the pioneer settlers and residents of Henrietta, Texas.

Brother Kelley attended the public schools at Henrietta, Texas, through the tenth grade and in September, 1918, entered St. John's Military Academy at Delafield, Wisconsin, graduating therefrom in June, 1920. In September, 1920, he entered the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, remaining there for one school year, taking pre-law work. In January, 1923, he entered the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he completed one school year of pre-law work and three school years of study in the law school. He graduated and received an LL.B. degree in June, 1926. Shortly thereafter he commenced the active practice of his chosen profession at Edinburg, Hidalgo County (in the Magic Valley), Texas.

In May, 1927, Brother Kelley was appointed Assistant District Attorney of Hidalgo County, serving in that capacity until January 1, 1931. In 1934 he was elected to the combined offices of County and District Attorney of Hidalgo County, known and designated as the office of Criminal District Attorney.

Brother Kelley was elected in 1938 to the important office of State Senator from the large 27th Senatorial District of Texas and was re-elected in 1942.

Brother Kelley's well-known law firm was composed of himself, judge J. C. Looney and Judge J. R. Norvell, which firm is still engaged in the practice of law at Edinburg under the name of Kelley & Looney.

On May 17, 1931, Brother Kelley married Miss Lorene Morrow of Mercedes, Texas, and they have maintained their home at Edinburg, Texas, and are both devout members of the Episcopal Church.

Few men of the age of our Brother have more distinguished themselves in the history of Texas before the courts and in the legislative halls than our distinguished Brother and Past Grand Master. He has appeared as counsel in many important and far-reaching causes in Texas and as State Senator has served on most of the important committees of the Senate and his courage, leadership and oratorical ability are well known and respected in the Lone Star State.

In February, 1927, he petitioned Hidalgo Lodge No. 1036 and was raised on April 20, 1927, and served as Worshipful Master in 1932. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 40th Masonic District in 1934 and received his first committee appointment in the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1933 and 1934, serving on the By-Laws Committee. He thereafter was given a five-year appointment on the Committee

on Masonic Education and Service, serving from 1935 to 1938, and was at the conclusion of his year as Grand Master reappointed to this committee for a term of seven years.

In 1940 Brother Kelley was elected Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden and each year thereafter was advanced and was installed as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas in December, 1942, and served until December, 1943.

In the Royal Arch he holds membership in Hidalgo Chapter No. 434 at Edinburg, was marked in January, 1928, passed January, 1928, received February, 1928, and exalted in February, 1928, and greeted in the Council of Royal and Select Masters, Hidalgo No. 353, in March, 1928.

Brother Kelley holds membership in Hidalgo Commandery No. 94.

He is a member of the San Antonio Consistory, A. & A. S. R. of F. M., a member of Alzafar Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Antonio, and a member of St. Timothy's Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, at Fort Worth, Texas.

Almost immediately after the attack upon this nation by Japan, Brother Kelley, though by virtue of his position as a State Senator was deferred from Selective Service, offered his services to the United States Government in whatever capacity he might be of the most benefit. He was accepted and commissioned in the Intelligence Division of the Army Air Forces and during his service has graduated from the Army Air School at Miami, Florida, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. During his entire year as Grand Master Brother Kelley was in the uniform of the armed forces of our nation. Brother Kelley by his unselfish and patriotic service has added another glorious and imperishable page to the unsurpassed and romantic history of our Grand Lodge. He holds the unique position in Texas of being the only Grand Master who has served as such and at the same time been a member of the armed forces of our nation.

The Masons of Texas have marveled at the service Brother Kelley rendered to the Masons of Texas during the some seven months that he was stationed in Texas while Grand Master. During this period of time he carried on an exceedingly large and laborious correspondence, talked to many officers of our Lodges over the telephone and made several visitations throughout the State, again demonstrating by his actions his love and devotion to the Ancient Craft.

There is nothing that we can add to the eloquent and stirring conclusion of the report of our distinguished Committee on Grand Officers' Reports, which we take the liberty of quoting:

""Most Worshipful Grand Master (Rogers Kelley), your Committee believes that this Grand Lodge, speaking for 112,000 good and true Master Masons in this Grand jurisdiction, will accept your stirring challenge and unite with you in the petitions that you have so eloquently enjoined. Surely, while our sons and brothers are fighting and dying for freedom, Texas Masons will join our Grand Master, who wears the uniform of our country, and supplicate divine grace and divine intervention on civilization's 'darkest night.' The Grand Master's final sentence of benediction implored for the Craft 'that peace which surpasseth all human understanding.' Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Rogers Kelley, your Committee on Grand Officers' Reports congratulates you on the outstanding service which, notwithstanding many handicaps, you have performed. This Grand Lodge knows, and Texas Masons believe, that you will step down into the ranks and continue to do with your might what your hands find to do. We welcome you into the ranks of Past Grand Masters with the assurance of our affectionate

esteem and good will and that you will always remain enshrined in the hearts of the Masons of Texas, whom you have served with such fidelity and distinction.""

Following this beautiful tribute and upon motion of the Chairman of the Committee, this report was adopted by the Grand Lodge as a whole by a rising vote in honor and in tribute to Brother Rogers Kelley, our then Grand Master, who was unable to be at Grand Lodge by reason of his military duties.

Surely no Grand Master was or is entitled to a greater tribute than you, our beloved Past Grand Master, Rogers Kelley."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Claud L. Austin

Year In Office: 1944 Parent Lodge: A. C. Garrett No. 1216



"To us has been given a most pleasant assignment, but one that we regret that we do not have the power of expression to convey concerning Claud Lee Austin, who served as Grand Master of Masons in Texas, having been installed at our 108th Grand Annual Communication in December, 1943, and presiding over the 109th Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas in December, 1944.

Brother Austin was born July 23, 1898, the son of James M. Austin and Ida Bowen Austin. His father was born in Paducah, Kentucky, in 1857 and his mother was born in Dallas, Texas, in 1868. The Grand Master was born in Dallas, Texas, and has resided there from that time up to January 1, 1945, when he moved to the City of Fort Worth. Early in life- Brother Austin turned to the accounting field and has been a valued employee in the accounting department of the Magnolia Petroleum Company for twenty-five years.

On February 10, 1920, he was married to Miss Mildred Robinson, also of Dallas, and they are the proud parents of an only son, Claud L. Austin, Jr., a petty officer now serving in the United States Navy and stationed somewhere in the Pacific area of war. Brother Austin was privileged to confer each of the three degrees upon his splendid son, conferring the degrees while serving as Grand Senior Warden.

Brother Claud, as he is affectionately known in Texas, was initiated in Oak Cliff Lodge No. 705 of Dallas on December 6, 1919, and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in the same lodge on February 14, 1920. To him comes a most unique and unusual distinction in that exactly twenty-five years from the date that he was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason he presided as Grand Master over one of the most largely attended meetings of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1944.

Brother Austin was a charter member of A. C. Garrett Lodge and served as its first Senior Deacon in 1925. He served as Worshipful Master in 1928 and still retains his membership in this lodge.

Brother Austin received the Chapter degrees on October 6, 1922, in Oak Cliff Chapter 373, R. A. M., and the Council degrees in Oak Cliff Council 310 on October 25, 1922. The Commandery degrees were received in Tancred Commandery No. 82, the Order of the Temple being conferred on March 13, 1923.

He received the Scottish Rite degrees in November, 1926, and May, 1927, and has been active for many years in the conferring of the eleventh degree in the Dallas Consistory.

Brother Austin was initiated into Hella. Temple, A. A. O. _N. M. S., on November 17, 1923.

Brother Austin and his wife are both members of A. C. Garrett Chapter No. 774, O. E. S., and served as Matron and Patron together in 1930.

Our immediate Past Junior Grand Master is a member of St. Mark's Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, located at Dallas.

In 1933-1934 Brother Austin served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 14th Masonic District of Dallas County, under Past Grand Master Steve Cooke, and in 1931-1932 was Grand Visitor of the 14th District, R. A. M, under P. G. H. P. Hardy Petty.

In the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, Brother Austin served as a member of the Credentials Committee in 1932-1933, as Grand Master of the First Veil in 1933-1934 and as Grand Orator in 1944.

In 1939 he served as chairman of the Committee on Memorials and was elected a member of the important Committee on Work of the Grand Lodge in 1937 and 1938, serving as chairman of this committee in 1939.

At the Grand Annual Communication in 1940 he was elected Grand Junior Warden and installed Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1943.

Due to the fact that the Grand Master of 1943, Right Worshipful Brother Rogers Kelley, was serving as an officer in the United States armed forces and was out of the State, again Brother Claud had the unique experience of presiding as Grand Master in 1943 over the 108th Grand Annual Communication.

For many years while holding no official position in our Grand Lodge, this good man and devout Mason was quietly and unobtrusively going about the Grand Jurisdiction of Texas assisting and counseling with untold numbers of Masons and lodge officers. Probably during those years and the years that he was serving as a member of the Committee on Work and as an elective officer of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Brother Claud visited more lodges, met more Masons and knew more Masons by their names than any other Mason in the history of our Grand Lodge. No lodge has been too small, no lodge has been too far distant, no weather has been too inclement, and no private business has been too pressing and important to prevent Brother Austin from responding day and night in answering calls from lodges in Texas to visit them, to exemplify the work for the brethren, or to lend his presence at countless Masonic meetings.

The Masons of Texas expected big things from Brother Claud as Grand Master during his year as such, but the results were far beyond their expectations. Serving as Grand Master in 1944, he was confronted by many obstacles caused by the disruption of ordinary modes of transportation and other matters due to the exigencies of the times by virtue of war conditions. His mail naturally reached an all-time peak, and the demands upon his time were far beyond that which an ordinary Mason could understand and appreciate; yet with it all the record discloses that he made about one hundred thirty visitations, visited more than one hundred families whose loved ones were serving in the armed forces, and made several trips out of the State of Texas upon Masonic business; and at no time was any complaint heard from this good man, nor was there ever absent from his face the gracious smile for which he is so well known; nor could any detect a lack of strength or warmth in his friendly handshake.

During the year Brother Austin coined, so to speak, as the foundation for his administration and to be carried out by every Mason in Texas, the slogan "Service-Happiness," and at each of his meetings the attending brethren were given a miniature 24-inch gauge, and using his slogan and the explanation of the gauge, so well known to all Masons, he brought home to all who were privileged to hear him the crying need and dire necessity of carrying out his slogan and the meaning of the 24-inch gauge each and every hour of the day. The Masons of Texas know that he himself down through the years has practiced daily the things that he preached; and his unselfish service, his adherence to the principles, tenets and landmarks of the Ancient Craft, his unfaltering faith and belief in God, his active and never-failing support of the churches of this nation, his devotion to his wife and son, and his unflinching friendship demonstrated on so many occasions have won him a place in the hearts of the Masons of Texas second to no living man.

The directors of our great Masonic Home and School at the close of Brother Claud's administration announced that by reason of resignation the superintendency of our Home and School was vacant, and that they had unanimously appointed Brother Claud as superintendent, placing in his hands the moral, intellectual and spiritual guidance and training of those boys and girls who now reside at the Home and School and that may enroll in the future. This announcement brought the unanimous approval of more than fifteen hundred Masons gathered on this memorable occasion.

Masonry in Texas needs, and we know will continue to receive, the services of Brother Austin, his leadership and his endeavors to bring happiness to his fellowman by living Masonry each day of his life."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Bascom Giles

Year In Office: 1945 **Parent Lodge: Austin No. 12**



Born September 21, 1900, on a farm near Manor, Travis County, Texas, where he now resides, having reoccupied the old Giles homestead, "Farmhaven", established in 1850 by his great grandfather, Samuel Bolivar Giles.

He is the son of Banton W. Giles and Leora Norwood Giles, both members of pioneer Travis County families. The Giles arrived in the Republic of Texas on Christmas Day 1836, stopping at old Washington on the Brazos, later settling in Travis County in 1850; and Mrs. Giles' family, the Washingtons, settled in Travis County in 1845. Each generation of these families has contributed its share in the development of Travis County and Texas, identified with every constructive effort in our agricultural, educational, legislative, religious and social advancement and furnishing its quota of soldiers for our wars.

Brother Giles married Miss Effie Dean Rogan in 1921. Has two sons, Lt. James Bascom Giles, Jr., a graduate of West Point, now in the United States Army, and Sgt. Rogan Banton Giles, with the Army Air Forces.

Brother Bascom Giles entered the General Land Office in September, 1919, as a draftsman, and during the seventeen years spent in that office he was advanced to examining engineer. In November, 1936, he became associated with the State Tax Board as Chief Abstractor, which position he resigned on April 8, 1938, to make his first race for public office, Commissioner of the General Land Office. He was elected in 1938 to this most important office and as Land Commissioner has rendered to his State outstanding service.

Brother Giles applied for the degrees of Masonry in Austin Lodge No. 12 in October, 1921, which was the first stated meeting after his twenty first birthday, and his membership has remained continuously in the same Lodge. He received a Masonic Certificate in the Esoteric Work at the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and has held one continuously since. Was very active in the Blue Lodge for a number of years, advancing through all the chairs, both appointive and elective. Served as Master in 1932 and 1933. He received the Scottish Rite Degrees in 1926 and was very active in the conferring of these degrees, having served as degree master of the 30th Degree for several years. A member of Ben Hur Shrine Temple, was captain of the Patrol Drill Team for a number of years, and was elected and served as potentate in 1939. He has been regular in attendance at the Grand Lodge since 1922, served on the Finance and several other committees and as Grand Pursuivant before being elected Grand Junior Warden in 1941. A member of the Jurisprudence Committee.

Those of us who know of the tremendous burden that was placed upon his shoulders cannot help but marvel at the efficiency and dispatch with which he discharged his duties as Grand Master during the year. The correspondence of the Grand Master's office reached an all-time high; yet was answered promptly and efficiently and, though carrying the added responsibilities of one of the State's busiest and most important positions, at no time during his administration did anyone hear any complaint or excuse from Brother Giles when called upon to serve the Craft.

In addition to the constructive program carried on by him throughout the State during the year, a major part of his program was his desire to have the Grand Lodge approve the building of a new Masonic Memorial Temple sufficient to house the ever-growing needs of our Grand Lodge, with auditorium space to accommodate the constantly increasing attendance on our Grand Annual Communications, and to serve as a memorial to the many Texas Masons who have served in the armed forces of our nation in defending those great principles for which Freemasonry has always stood. Suffice it to say, that when his building program was submitted to the Grand Lodge, it was adopted practically unanimously.

During his administration the Grand Lodge showed its greatest increase in membership, and during no other period of.

VETERANS LAND BOARD SCANDAL

Following serve as Grand Master, Giles conceived of a plan to reward Texas' veterans with the ability to buy land at low interest rates subsidized by the taxpayers. In 1946, the voters amended the state constitution to authorize \$100 million in public funds to enable veterans to buy land, creating the Texas Veterans Land Board. Under the program, qualified veterans could purchase ranch or farmland for a 5% down payment, with 40 years to pay off the balance. The state furnished the unpaid balance and held title until the veteran had retired the loan.[1]

In November 1954, a reporter for the Cuero Record, Roland Kenneth "Ken" Towery discovered that there was fraud going on in the Texas Veterans Land program. Many of the veterans who purchased land in block sales were not even aware that they had purchased land. In fact, many were led to believe that they were getting free land as part of a veteran entitlement program or else were receiving some type of veterans' compensation from the state. Towery arranged a meeting with Giles, and before Towery could ask a question, Giles denied involvement, attributing the irregularities to local land speculators. Struck by the fact that Giles had defended himself before even being accused of anything, Towery ran the story.

Giles was reelected as land commissioner in 1954, but faced criminal investigation by Texas attorney general, John Ben Shepperd. Giles failed to appear to take the oath of office in January, 1955 and was eventually convicted of fraud and bribery and served three years of a six-year prison term. Towery won the Pulitzer Prize for his investigative reporting.[2]

Final years

Giles moved to Venice, Florida, where he died in a car accident in 1993.

Sources:

[1] "Bonus for the Boys". *Time*. August 8, 1955.

[2] "Bascom Giles Handed Six-Year Term". *The Victoria Advocate*. August 17, 1955. via Google News Archive.

Pat Morris Neff

Year In Office: 1946 **Parent Lodge: Levelland No. 1236**



"Truly one of Texas' most distinguished and brilliant sons, born on a farm-ranch near McGregor, Texas, -the seventh and youngest child of Noah and Isabella Shephard Neff, formerly of Roanoke, Va., who were married in 1854, and set out almost immediately in a private conveyance for Texas. Their farm, where they first built a small log house, was bought from the State of Texas. In 1921, while her son, Pat M. Neff, was Governor of Texas, Mother Neff, as she was called, made a gift of a portion of this land to the State of Texas for Park purposes, and this was the beginning of the Texas State Park System. Brother Neff received his education at Eagle Springs, the McGregor High School, received the Bachelor of Arts Degree from Baylor University in 1894, the Bachelor of Laws Degree from the University of Texas in 1897 and the Master of Arts Degree from Baylor University in 1908. His reputation as a college orator and debator has attended him through life. He has spoken in all the counties of Texas and in most of the States of the Nation. After his graduation from Baylor, he taught school in Magnolia, Ark.

Brother Neff is a member of the First Baptist Church of Waco. He served as Moderator of Waco Baptist Association for many years and as President of the Board of Trustees of Baylor University from 1903 until his election as President of the University in 1932. He has been President of Texas Baptist Convention, and President of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Brother Neff was admitted to the bar in 1897 and first practiced law in Waco. He served as a member of the Texas Legislature from 1901 to 1905, during the last two years of this time being Speaker of the House of Representatives, the youngest Speaker up -to that time ever to preside over the House of Representatives in Texas. He was nominated for the position of Speaker by Brother Senator Tom Connally, then a member of the Texas House of Representatives.

During the entire Session of Legislature, he never missed a roll call and never failed to record his vote on any question placed before the Body. From his rulings, there was never an appeal.

Brother Neff was elected Prosecuting Attorney of McLennan County in 1906 and served continuously until 1912 where he made for himself a State-wide reputation for fearless, and conscientious enforcement of the laws. In these six years he tried 422 cases and secured convictions in all except 16. He was the first Prosecuting Attorney in Texas to send a man to the penitentiary for allowing gambling on the premises under his control. He was the first Prosecuting Attorney in Texas to send a person to the penitentiary for pursuing the business of selling liquor in prohibition territory.

Brother Neff was elected and served as Governor of the State of Texas from 1921 to 1925. During his terms as Governor he promoted large appropriations for conservation and reclamation work. He advocated the bringing of factories to Texas; he championed a magnificent system of parks and playgrounds; he created the State Historical Board, under whose guidance the localities and spots of historical significance in Texas has been marked; he was the Father of Texas Centennial movement; he inaugurated the education survey system; he advocated the building of the Texas Technological College; he preached economical progress; he secured liberal appropriations for rural schools and institutions of higher learning; he was elected President of University of Texas, but declined, giving his reason he

wished to return in private life and practice of law. In 1927, he was appointed by President Coolidge as a member of the National Board of Mediation.

In 1929, Governor Dan Moody appointed him as Chairman of the Railroad Commission of Texas; where he served until he was elected President of Baylor University in 1932 and which place he now holds. He is author of three books:

""Twenty-three Addresses""; ""Battles of Peace,"" and ""Making Texans."" He has written numerous articles and pamphlets containing historical, informational, and inspirational matter about Texas. ""Let us make Texas the best place in all the world in which to live,"" is always and everyway the thought and theme of his articles and addresses.

On May 31, 1899, Brother Neff was married at Lovelady, Texas, to Miss Myrtie Mainer, a classmate of his at Baylor University. They have two children, Mrs. Frank Wilcox (Hallie Maud Neff), of Waco, and Pat M. Neff, Jr., Attorney of Houston, Texas.

Brother Neff received his Degrees in Masonry in Waco Lodge No. 92, A. F. & A. M., in 1909, where he held membership until he affiliated as a Charter Member of Baylor Lodge No. 1235, A. F. & A. M., in 1926. He received the Chapter and Council degrees in Waco in December, 1945, and the Commandery in February, 1946; received as a member of St. Timothy Conclave No. 65, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, March 30, 1946. He received the Scottish Rite Degrees in Austin Consistory in 1921 and was made a Shriner in Karem Temple in 1921. Brother Neff served as Worshipful Master of Baylor Lodge No. 1235 during the year 1938-39.

Brother Neff is renowned as an Orator and during his year as Grand Master made visits to several sections of the State, impressing upon his Brethren the importance of, and necessity for true Masonic living. The Grand Lodge of Texas showed its largest increase of membership during his year and reached a total of 153,668 members or a net gain for the year in membership of 14,981."

R. Bruce Brannon Year In Office: 1947 Parent Lodge: Hillsboro No. 196 "Wherever
Masons gather there will be but one Brother Bruce, as he is affectionately known and called throughout
the length and breadth of Texas, where he served the Craft so faithfully, and with such distinction in
1947.

Brother Brannon was born in Mounds, Illinois, November 12, 1900, and shortly thereafter was carried to Arkansas by his parents, where he grew up, attending public school in Newport and Walnut Ridge.

Brother Brannon attended Arkansas College at Batesville, graduating with a B. A. degree and, pursuing his early determination, entered Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1925, graduating in 1925 with a B. D. degree. Immediately thereafter he entered the ministerial service and has held pastorates at Laredo, Hillsboro and is now located at Commerce.

Few Masons in Texas of similar age have a more impressive, outstanding, Masonic history and record than our distinguished Brother. This record only in part reveals the years of active and unselfish service given to all the Rites and Bodies of Freemasonry. His Masonic record is as follows:

Raised in Pierce No. 144, A. F. & A. M., Calvert, Texas, July 29, 1927.

Affiliated with San Marcos No. 342, A. F. & A. M., San Marcos, Texas, August 7, 1929.

Affiliated Laredo Lodge No. 547, A. F. & A. M., Laredo, Texas, March 15, 1930.

Affiliated Hillsboro No. 196, A. F. & A. M., Hillsboro, Texas, February 5, 1940. Now a life member of Hillsboro Lodge.

Affiliated as a dual member of Commerce Lodge No. 439, Commerce, Texas, May 13, 1946.

Served as Worshipful Master Laredo Lodge No. 547, A. F. & A. M., Laredo, Texas, during the year 1935. D. D. G. M. of the 41st Masonic District 1937. Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M., during the years 1941 and 1943.

Member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Service and Education 1938-39-40-41-42-45-48.

Served as Grand Junior Warden, Grand Lodge of Texas 1944. Served as Grand Senior Warden, Grand Lodge of Texas, 1945. Served as Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Texas, 1946. Most Worshipful Grand Master 1947.

Exalted Royal Arch Mason in the San Marcos Chapter Royal Arch Masons No. 129, April 25, 1929. Now a member of Hillsboro Chapter No. 152, Royal Arch Masons. Served as High Priest of the Hillsboro Chapter No. 152, R. A. M., 1942. Given honorary membership Commerce Chapter No. 201, R. A. M., September 16, 1946.

Hailed and greeted a Royal and Select Master in San Marcos Council, Royal and Select Masters, May 23, 1929.

Now a member of Hillsboro Council No. 94, R. & S. M. Served as R. I. D. M. Hillsboro Council No. 94, R. & S. M., 1942. Given Honorary Membership in Commerce Council No. 139, R. & S. M., September 16, 1946.

Made a Knight Templar in Hillsboro Commandery No. 39, K. T., Hillsboro, Texas, April 21, 1941. Served as Commander of Hillsboro Commandery No. 39, K. T., 1943.

Received the 32nd Degree in San Antonio Consistory Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, San Antonio, Texas, on November 13, 1930. At present, a life member of San Antonio Consistory. Elected K. C. C. H. November, 1947.

Initiated a member of the Mystic Shrine in Alzafar Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., San Antonio, Texas, November 14, 1930. Now a member of Karem Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Waco, Texas.

Received the Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine in St. Timothy Conclave, Fort Worth, Texas, March 30, 1946.

Brother Brannon and his charming wife are the happy and proud parents of three fine boys and two lovely daughters. Their oldest son served in the United States Navy during World War II and is now studying to enter the ministry at the close of his college education.

To fully record in the short space here allotted the many things that distinguished Brother Bruce as an American patriot, a distinguished citizen of Texas, an outstanding minister of the Gospel, a Freemason and a friend of every man is not only difficult but impossible. The Grand Lodge of Texas has a history of romance and tradition second to none, and to this great history and proud tradition Bruce Brannon, the man and Mason, has added much, and in the years that lie ahead, when a true history is written of the

Grand Lodge of Texas, the life, activities and examples set by Brother Bruce will occupy one of the most prominent places in that history.

He is the first ordained minister to serve the Grand Lodge of Texas as Grand Master. He is the only elective Grand Lodge officer to have been installed in a foreign jurisdiction, this being accomplished at San Francisco in 1944 when through the courtesy of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of California he was installed Grand Senior Warden. He is the only Grand Master in Texas to have twice worn the uniform of the armed forces of our nation in two major wars, having served with honor and distinction as a seaman in the United States Navy in World War I and as a Chaplain for three years in World War II in the United States Navy. While a Grand Lodge officer and wearing the uniform of the United States Navy in World War II he was stationed in New London, Connecticut, as Station Chaplain of the United States Guard Training Station, was Ship's Chaplain on the U. S. S. Republic, one of the large troop carriers in the Pacific, and Base Chaplain in the Russell Islands and at Noumea in New Caledonia. While in the Pacific area he was most active in all the Masonic Square and Compass Clubs of the various islands where he was stationed or which he visited.

During the year that he served as Grand Master the message that he carried to the many thousands of Brethren who heard him in more than one hundred Masonic visitations was built around the theme ""Militant Master Masons."" From his Masonic experience, his experience in two wars, and as an ordained minister of the Gospel, he was indeed well qualified in inspiring the many who heard him toward leading a life of service based upon the Brotherhood of Man and the Fatherhood of God.

No man who has occupied the high position of Grand Master has stepped down from that position carrying with him more affection and admiration than R. Bruce Brannon.

We feel that the beautiful remarks made concerning him and his administration by the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports cannot be improved upon and reflect the unanimous as well as the sincere thoughts of the Masons of Texas. This committee in speaking of Brother Bruce in part said:

""Honorably discharged when his services were no longer needed, he returned from hostilities steadied by discipline; broadened by experience and observation; mellowed by contact with 'man's inhumanity to man,' apparent everywhere he served his country; and chastened by years of absence from his loved onesthis sailor-preacher returned to his charge... .

""Your committee believes that his administration of the duties of his office, just at what seemed to be and we hoped was the end of the world's greatest catastrophe has been marked with diligence, efficiency, wisdom and conservatism and will rank with Masonic historians as among our BEST....

""MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER, R. BRUCE BRANNON, God bless you, Sir, for the work you have done for Freemasonry and the church of your choice; and for the service you have rendered your country in two wars, in foreign lands, on the high seas, and here at home.

""God give you, and us, the PEACE you have fought for, and restore you completely to your life work, but keep you active and interested in this great and honorable Fraternity we love so much and you have served with such fidelity and distinction.

""May our Supreme Grand Master have you always in His sacred keeping.""MILITANT MASTER MASONS"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Horace K. Jackson

Year In Office: 1948 **Parent Lodge: Gatesville No. 197**



"Horace Kellard Jackson, Grand Master of Masons of Texas in the year of 1948, was born at Sunset, Montague County, Texas, on the second day of September, 1899, and lived there until 1909, moved to Burkburnett and resided there until 1917. He then attended Baylor University for four years and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1921 and thereafter resided at Seymour, Texas, until 1936, when he moved to Gatesville, where he has resided since that time.

Brother Jackson served in the First World War in the Infantry during 1918.

Brother Jackson has given outstanding and unselfish service to all the Bodies of Masonry. His Masonic record is as follows:

Raised in Mineral Wells No. 611, A. F. & A. M., Mineral Wells, Texas, on July 12, 1921.

Affiliated with Seymour No. 604, A. F. & A. M., Seymour, Texas, on May 24, 1926.

Affiliated with Gatesville No. 197, A. F. & A. M., Gatesville, Texas, on September 25, 1936.

Served as Worshipful Master of Seymour No. 604 during the year 1930. D. D. G. M. of the 91st Masonic District for two years, 1934 and 1935. D. D. G. M. of the 69th Masonic District 1940.

Member of the Committee on Work 1941 to 1944, inclusive, and was Chairman of the Committee in 1942. Member of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School 1947 and 1948.

Served as Grand Junior Warden, Grand Lodge of Texas, 1945. Served as Grand Senior Warden, Grand Lodge of Texas, 1946. Served as Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Texas, 1947. Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, 1948.

Exalted Royal Arch Mason in Seymour Chapter No. 326, November 7, 1922, and served as High Priest in 1925.

Demitted and became a member of Waco Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 45, on October 8, 1943.

Royal and Select Master in Seymour Council No. 262, November 17, 1922.

Made a Knight Templar in Seymour Commandery No. 78, K. T., on February 16, 1928, and served as Commander in 1934.

Demitted and became a member of Waco Commandery No. 10 on July 2, 1943.

Received the 32nd Degree in Austin Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Austin, Texas, in 1945.

Initiated a member of Mystic Shrine in Karem Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Waco, Texas, on October 7, 1943.

Received the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine in St. Timothy Conclave No. 65, Fort Worth, Texas, March 30, 1946.

Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Brother Jackson married Bessie Earle Gilder of Gatesville, Texas, February 8, 1922, and they are the proud parents of an outstanding son, Horace K., Jr., and a lovely daughter, Hallie Jo, and the chief joy and pride of their hearts is their grandson Horace K. Jackson, III. Horace K. Jackson, Jr., served in the United States Air Forces during the second World War, and is now associated in the insurance business with his father in Gatesville.

Brother Jackson, in his daily life, truly exemplifies the American and Masonic way of life by serving his church, the Masonic Lodge, his city and state in many capacities, namely: Deacon, First Baptist Church, Gatesville; Trustee of Baylor University, Waco; Trustee of Hillcrest Hospital, Waco; Mayor of the City of Gatesville; President of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce; and member of the Highway Association.

Brother Jackson worked tirelessly and traveled extensively in the service of Masonry during this year as Grand Master. His Recommendations to the Grand Lodge, which were adopted, will be of untold value to Masonry in the years to come, and will contribute to carrying out his motto: "MASONS, NOT MEMBERS."

The Masons of Texas are proud of the accomplishments of Grand Master Jackson and know in the years to come he will continue to render to the Craft the unselfish devotion and service which he has rendered in the past."

Draft dated 06/23/2023

Hugh M. Craig

Year In Office: 1949 **Parent Lodge: Fort Worth No. 148**



"Hugh M. Craig was born on December 8th, 1897, in Bowie, Montague County, Texas. While an infant, his parents moved to Fort Worth, where he has since made his home. Upon the death of his father in February, 1910, Craig and his two younger sisters were admitted to the Masonic Home and School as wards of Fort Worth No. 148.

Immediately after graduating from this School, he was employed on July 17th, 1918, as stenographer-clerk in the Executive Department of Gulf Oil Corporation's Fort Worth office, which had just been opened, and on January 1st, 1924, was appointed Assistant to the General Agent, Fort Worth District, which position he now holds.

On June 28th, 1919, Craig married Miss Ruth Wimberly, an ex-student of Masonic Home and School. They have no children.

Craig is active in church work, being president of the Men's Bible Class of Hemphill Presbyterian Church for the past ten years, and an elder and trustee of the same church. He is also active in civic affairs.

His Masonic record follows:

Received Master's Degree in Fort Worth No. 148 on March 22nd, 1919.

Exalted to the Sublime Degree of Royal Arch Mason in Fort Worth Chapter No. 58 on May 10th, 1919.

Hailed and Greeted a Royal and Select Master in Fort Worth Council No. 42 on May 29th, 1919.

Knighthood in Worth Commandery No. 19, Knights Templar on June 10th, 1919.

Received 32nd Degree in Dallas Consistory on April 25th, 1944.

Initiated a member in Moslah Temple Shrine on July 4th, 1919, and became a member of Saint Timothy Conclave No. 65, Red Cross of Constantine in Fort Worth on May 5th, 1945.

Served as Worshipful Master of Fort Worth No. 148 in 1941-1942.

Commander of Worth Commandery No. 19, Knights Templar in 1944.

Member Masonic Graduates Advisory Committee 1940 - 1941 - 1942 - 1943.

Grand Tiler 1944.

Grand Orator 1945.

Grand Junior Warden 1946.

Grand Senior Warden 1947.

Deputy Grand Master 1948.

Grand Master 1949.

This splendid Christian gentleman has the distinction of being the only graduate of the Home and School to be elected Grand Master of Masons in Texas and the second in the world, the other being a graduate of Kentucky's school.

It was a happy coincidence that he was privileged to dedicate the beautiful Grand Lodge Memorial Temple. The manner in which this Master Craftsman conducted the solemn ceremonies incident thereto was an inspiration as well as a benediction.

During his year, as is abundantly demonstrated elsewhere in these "Proceedings," Brother Craig had many problems of greatest moment and concern to Grand Lodge, questions intricate and complex. These he disposed of in such a manner as to reveal for our admiration a mind saturated in the jurisprudence as well as the traditions, edicts, customs and practices established of old for the government of the Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction.

His year's work, his Masonic philosophy, character and courage are epitomized in the closing paragraphs of the report of the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports:

"We would call your attention to the fact, as here exhibited, that the Grand Master has treated those matters thus retained with such an understanding and definite disposition as to evidence a commendable knowledge and interpretation of all that enters into the duties and prerogatives of one occupying the high and exalted position of Grand Master of this great jurisdiction. A cultivated mind, a loving heart, a zeal for and determination to support and maintain the high and exalted purposes of Freemasonry as applied to the fixed policies, practices and traditions of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, have ever been his.

Especially would we commend him for his 'Upon the tenets of Freemasonry we stand firm and unyielding in opposition to those evil forces which are abhorrent to the Constitution of our beloved country.'"

This well merited tribute was, on motion of the Grand Master pro tem, adopted by the Grand Lodge as a whole by a rising vote."

Albert J. Delange

Year In Office: 1950 Parent Lodge: Houston No. 1189



"On the afternoon of December 9, 1949, the Grand Lodge of Texas, at its Annual Communication held in Waco, Texas, installed Brother Albert J. De Lange of Houston, Texas, as Most Worshipful Grand Master. It was then prophesied that, ""When his term of office has expired, when the final accounting of his stewardship has been filed of record, may those who succeed him in that exalted position recall, with grateful appreciation, the record of his deeds and accomplishments."" How true was the prophecy made at that time! The report of the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports made at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in December 1950 confirms in no uncertain terms the accuracy of the above

mentioned prophecy. This committee, headed by Right Worshipful George R. M. Montgomery, P. G. M., made the following observations concerning Brother De Lange's report, and final accounting of his stewardship:

""Taking as his text 'Fundamental Masonry,' this splendid gentleman, this erudite scholar, this great hearted man and Mason, has traveled the length and breadth of this immense domain, from El Paso to Texarkana, from the Red River to the sea, ever emphasizing the strength and beauty of Ancient Craft Masonry, exhorting us to study, to familiarize ourselves with 'the ancient landmarks, the purposes and policies, and the mission of Masonry.' May we particularly stress his familiarity with esoteric work is not knowledge of Masonry.' Yes, we agree. This is only a passport to the outer porch of the sanctuary. He who would penetrate the veil must needs go beyond the ritual. To those who follow the Grand Master's appeal awaits the dawning of an admiration for the Institution, a love for its principles and an appreciation of the great and glorious role the Order has played and must continue to play in this age of Godless confusion.""

Born in Denison, Texas, on September 17, 1892, this outstanding lawyer and citizen, who has labored so long and so diligently in the Masonic Vineyard, is the oldest of seven sons born to John A. and Eleanor Godwin De Lange. While still a young boy, his parents moved from Denison, Texas, to Sherman, Texas, where Brother De Lange completed his high school education. He attended Austin College at Sherman, Texas, and later entered the University of Texas Law School, from which he graduated in 1916. While attending the University of Texas, he was elected to membership in two honorary law fraternities, based on scholarships, Phi Delta Phi and the Chancellors. During his senior year, he served as quizmaster in the law department. He is a member of the Episcopal Church.

Within less than a year after graduating from the University of Texas April 4, 1917, to be exact-Brother De Lange was married to his boyhood sweetheart, Demaris Crowley of Sherman, Texas. This marriage was blessed with one daughter, Demaris Eleanor, now a very charming young woman whose husband, C. M. Hudspeth, is associated with Brother De Lange in the practice of law.

The De Langes have three grandchildren-Jim, Tom and Helen-and they are just as sweet and adorable as any three children could possibly be.

Shortly after graduating from the University of Texas in 1916, Brother De Lange started his professional career as an attorney in the City of Galveston. He remained in Galveston until 1921, except for a short

period of time which he spent in the army. In January, 1921, he moved to Houston, where he has resided ever since.

In addition to being engaged in the private practice of law under the firm name of De Lange & Hudspeth, Brother De Lange also holds the following important positions in the business world:

Chairman of the Board and General Counsel of the Stewart Title Guaranty Co.

Chairman of the Board and General Counsel of the Houston Title Guaranty Co.

Chairman of the Board and General Counsel of the Guaranty Federal Savings & Loan Assn.

Chairman of the Board, President and General Counsel of the Stewart Petroleum Co.

In addition to the above, he is also a member of the Board and Counsel of several other important and successful business corporations.

During his entire career as a practicing attorney, Brother De Lange has always enjoyed the respect of both the Bar and the Bench. Ever ready to contribute his share of service to the success of the legal profession, he has always manifested an active interest in State and National Bar Association activities. He is a past president of the Houston Bar Association.

Notwithstanding the fact that Brother De Lange's many professional activities have constituted a heavy load, he has been very active in Masonry for many years. In 1915, he was made a Master Mason in Travis Lodge No. 117, of Sherman, Texas. While in law school at the University of Texas he belonged to the Acacia Fraternity. Brother De Lange became a charter member of Houston Lodge No. 1189 on December 21, 1922. He was appointed junior Steward the following June, serving through all the chairs, and was Worshipful Master in 1929-1930. He was District Deputy Grand Master of the 30th Masonic District in 1932-33; this was during the term of Brother Wallace Hughston, then Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Brother De Lange played an important role in getting the foundation stone to the San Jacinto Memorial donated by the 30th Masonic District. It was dedicated by the Grand Lodge of Texas on April 22, 1935, while the Memorial was dedicated a year later on April 21, 1936. He presided at both of the ceremonies.

In the Grand Lodge he has served on a number of committees, among which was the important Grievances and Appeals Committee. He has represented the Grand Lodge on several occasions in Washington. He was appointed Grand Senior Steward in December of 1944, and Grand Orator in 1945. In 1946 he was elected Grand Junior Warden; he was advanced each year, and on December 9, 1949, was installed as Grand Master.

Brother De Lange received his Scottish Rite Degrees in Galveston. He affiliated with the Houston Scottish Rite Bodies on November 24, 1924. Since his affiliation in 1924, he has been very active in Scottish Rite Masonry. He has served for the past several years as the Reunion Director and for many years has been Degree Master of the 31st Degree. He is a Past Master of two of the Scottish Rite Bodies, the Council and the Consistory; and at present he is in line in the Chapter and the Lodge of Perfection. He has served on a number of important committees for the Scottish Rite Bodies. In 1935 he was chosen by the Supreme Council to receive the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor, and in 1945 he was made a 33° Inspector General Honorary.

His other Masonic memberships include Washington Chapter No. 2, R. A. M.; Houston Council No. 1, R. & S. M.; Houston Commandery No. 95, K. T.; Chinar Grotto and Arabia Shrine Temple, all of Houston, Texas. He is a member of St. Timothy Conclave No. 65, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine at Fort Worth, Texas,- as well as a member of the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor.

Always an active and zealous worker in the cause of Masonry, Brother De Lange, during his term of office as Grand Master, attained the extreme heights both as to quality and quantity of service rendered to the Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction. His address on "Fundamental Masonry," delivered before the 115th Grand Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, will even stand as a "classic" and an inspiration to those Masons who were privileged to hear same. His annual report-one of the most comprehensive even presented to the Grand Lodge-is worthy of consideration and study by every Mason of this great State.

Notwithstanding the high position to which the members of the Craft had elevated him, he was intensely human. Being human, he was even conscious of his own frailties. No choice of words could more adequately epitomize the character of this outstanding man and Mason than the following excerpts from his own annual address:

"There have been many mistakes during the year, especially by the Grand Master, errors of commission as well as of omission. We will not pause to lament them. We shall adopt the philosophy of Omar Khayyam:

"The Moving Finger writes; and having writ,

Moves on: nor all thy Piety on Wit

Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,

Nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.

Errors and failures can become profit and assets if we properly avail ourselves of the lessons taught. Trial and error is the basis of all truth and all progress. The obstacles of today are the stepping-stones of tomorrow. We need not bewail nor lament imperfections-we must build with what we have."

William J. Burris

Year In Office: 1951 **Parent Lodge: McAllen No. 1110**



"William Jennings (Bill) Burris, Grand Master of Masons in Texas during 1951, was born near Kemp, Kaufman County, Texas, on July 7, 1900, the son of John Quincy Adams Burris and Alma Harrell Burris.

The Grand Master attended the public schools at Kemp. He enlisted and served in the U. S. Navy in World War I from 1918 to 1919. He attended the University of Texas from 1922 to 1926.

On July 31, 1926, Brother Burris married Miss Marian Ross of Marshall, Texas. Since December 2, 1929, they have maintained their home at McAllen, in the Lower Rio Grand Valley of Texas, and are both devout members of the Methodist Church. They have one son, John Edward Burris, who is a Master Mason, and two daughters, Mrs. Albert Lee Green and Maryanna Burris.

Brother Burris has always been a loyal supporter of and tremendously interested in the welfare of our Texas Public Schools. From 1938 until 1947 he rendered outstanding service as a member of the Board of Trustees of the McAllen Independent School District.

Since establishing his residence in McAllen, Brother Burris has been engaged in the Textile Maintenance Industries (laundry and dry cleaning) in which field of business he has enjoyed notable success, while at the same time taking an active and prominent part in the civic affairs of his community and county.

The Grand Master was made a Master Mason in Kemp No. 528 on November 25, 1922. While a student at the University of Texas, he affiliated with University No. 1190, at Austin, Texas, on June 15, 1924. After moving to the Rio Grande Valley, he affiliated with McAllen No. 1110 on January 19, 1932.

Brother Burris served several years as Secretary of McAllen Lodge and served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1937-1938. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 40th Masonic District under the then Grand Master, Brother Leo Hart, from December, 1939, to December, 1940. In 1942, Brother Burris was appointed Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of Texas. In addition, he has served on several Grand Lodge Committees, including By-Laws, Foreign Correspondence, Finance, and the Committee on Work. In December, 1947, he was elected chairman of the Committee on Work.

In December, 1948, Brother Burris was elected Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden. By reason of the death, in 1949, of R...W.'.Gabe P. Allen, the then Grand Senior Warden, Brother Burris was advanced in December, 1949, from Grand Junior Warden to Deputy Grand Master. In December, 1950, he was elected and installed as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas and served until December, 1951.

The Grand Master is a member of Hidalgo Chapter No. 434, Hidalgo Council No. 353 and Hidalgo Commandery No. 94, all of which are located at Edinburg, Texas. He is a member of the San Antonio Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, a member of Alzafar Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Antonio, and a member of St. Timothy's Conclave No. 65, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

From 1940 until 1950, Brother Burris was the representative of the Grand Lodge of Arizona, and since 1950, has been the representative of the York Grand Lodge of Mexico, F. & A. M., near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Few men in Texas have been called to the East who have served longer, more assiduously or more faithfully than Grand Master Burris. His activities, through the years, have brought to him, not only a large personal acquaintanceship with his Masonic Brethren, but a peculiar knowledge and keen insight into the numerous and difficult problems daily confronting the officers of our more than 900 Lodges.

In the Grand Master's report of his stewardship to the Grand Lodge, Brother Burns reported a year of activity that has never been surpassed by any preceding Grand Master. In reviewing his report, the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports paid him the following tribute:

""Grand Master has been a busy man-50,000 miles has he traveled during the past twelve months-roughly, 1000 miles each week-in his endeavors to awaken us to the crying need for a re-dedication of ourselves to those principles of morality, decency and ethics, laid down by our Founding Fathers.

""Running through his address, as a scarlet thread, is the thought that if we are to keep the priceless jewels of Freedom, Liberty and Equality before the Law, handed down by our fathers, we must have courage-moral and political -to place principles above men, and stand firm and steadfast, in support of them. This we would applaud.""

Among all the many achievements attained by our Grand Master, during the past year, there is one outstanding accomplishment which, alone, would place this good Brother in the Halls of Masonic immortality and would carve his name and record in the Archives of Texas Masonry for all time. For some time prior to his elevation as Grand Master, Brother Burris made an extensive search and study for some outstanding and unusual program to guide his activities-and to chart a course during his year as Grand Master.

Brother Burris was not interested in formulating a Masonic program in a strict, narrow or dogmatic sense-one that would expire with his term of office-and soon be forgotten. Rather, he had in mind the need for a long range program-one that could and would be continued through the years with increased effectiveness-a program not limited or restricted to the members of our Order, but one that would invite the active participation and support of all loyal and patriotic citizens, groups and organizations-both public and private, under the leadership of our great Fraternity.

It was only natural that in his quest for such a program, the thoughts of our Grand Master should turn to the Public Schools of Texas-and to the necessity for a greater understanding by and co-operation and support of, all our people in this, the most fundamental-the most fragile and preciousand, undoubtedly, the most important of all our public institutions.

And so, the first Public Schools Week program in Texas was conceived and inaugurated during the week of March 5 to 10, 1951. The instantaneous and tremendous success of this project is a tribute to the ingenuity and farsightedness, as well as the unusual human qualities of our Grand Master.

The Masons of Texas are justly proud of the accomplishments of Grand Master Burris and are confident that, though his term of office has ended, he will continue to render to the Craft the same unselfish devotion and service he has rendered in the past. He retires from the office of Grand Master with the

plaudits and the love of the Masons of Texas. We know that in the future, he will be as active as in the past, and that it will always be his privilege to serve Masonry-and to serve well."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Gibb Gilchrist

Year In Office: 1952 **Parent Lodge: Sul Ross No. 1300**



"During the Masonic Year of 1952, the office of Grand Master of Masons in Texas was ably filled by Gibb Gilchrist, who was born at Wills Point, Texas, on December 23, 1887, the youngest of eight children born to Angus Jackson Gilchrist and Kate Douglass Gilchrist. He finished high school at Wills Point and then entered Southwestern University at Georgetown, where he studied for one year before attending the University of Texas, from which he graduated with the degree of Civil Engineer in 1909.

After graduation from the university, Gibb Gilchrist started at the bottom of the engineering ladder as a surveyor's chainman for the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad. Eight years later he was a special assistant to the chief engineer of the line.

During World War I he was with the Army Corps of Engineers, returning from France in 1919 as a captain. He then joined the State Highway Department, as a resident engineer, and rose to the position of State Highway Engineer, in 1924. A year later he entered private practice with a firm of consulting engineers in Dallas, where he remained until 1927.

In 1928 he was again named State Highway Engineer of Texas, in which capacity he served until 1937. Under his administration, the Texas Highway system saw great growth and advancement. Recognition of his outstanding service in this capacity came when he was elected President of the American Association of Highway Officials, in 1935. He has also served as a member of the Special Committee on Design Practices of the Association, Chairman of the Engineering Committee of the Governor's Highway Safety Conference and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Highway Division of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Since its inauguration he has served as Chairman of the Advisory Group on Engineering of the President's Highway Safety Conference.

Major wartime posts to which he has been appointed include Chairman of the Texas Postwar Economic Planning Commission, member of the U. S. Office of Education, National Advisory Committee on Engineering, Science and Management War Training,, and member of the Naval Advisory Educational Council.

In 1937 Brother Gibb Gilchrist accepted the position of Dean of Engineering at the A. & M. College of Texas, and in May, 1944, was appointed President of the College. In 1948, when the Texas A. & M. College System, was formed he was named as its first administrative head, with the title of Chancellor, which position he holds today. (This System comprises the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, Arlington State College, Tarleton State College, Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Forest Service, Texas Engineering Experiment Station and the Texas Engineering Extension Service.) Under his capable leadership, and through his alertness to the problems that need to be solved, the Texas A. & M. College System has made great strides in its ever-increasing service to the people of Texas.

Brother Gibb Gilchrist has been awarded honorary degrees by Austin College, in 1939, (D.Sc.); Baylor University, in 1946, (L.L.D.); and Southwestern University, in 1946, (L.L.D.). He holds membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers, Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, Texas Society

for Professional Engineers, Texas State Historical Association, Philosophical Society of Texas, Tau Beta Pi, and the Newcomen Society.

Upon his return from war service in France, Gibb Gilchrist was married, in 1920, to Vesta Weaver, Cumby, Texas. They have one son, Henry, a graduate of both the A. & M. College of Texas and of Texas University, and who is a practicing lawyer in Dallas.

The Grand Master is a man of close family ties, strong and enduring friendships, and decided beliefs. His careers in engineering, education and public service have been marked by drive, determination and unalterable integrity.

He is an ardent Texan, and large portraits of Robert E. Lee, Sam Houston, Governor Richard Coke and Lawrence Sulliyian Ross are the principal decorations of his office.

The Grand Master is of Scottish descent. The name "Gilchrist" means "Servant of Christ." He is deeply religious and enjoys nothing more than an old-fashioned gathering, where the Hymnal is a prerequisite and a couple of hours are devoted to the singing of familiar hymns. He joined the Methodist Church in 1896 and has long been an active lay worker in his church.

Brother Gibb Gilchrist was made a Master Mason in Tucker No. 297, Galveston, Texas, on May 5, 1916. Notwithstanding the heavy demands upon his time and energy, he found opportunities for study in Masonry and has held a Certificate for Proficiency for several years. In 1946 he participated actively in the movement for the establishment of a Masonic Lodge on the campus of the A. & M. College. Authorization was received in 1947 for such a Lodge to work under dispensation, and a charter was granted in December at the Annual Communication to Sul Ross Lodge No. 1300. Gibb Gilchrist served as Worshipful Master of the U. D. Lodge and as first Worshipful Master of the chartered Lodge.

The Grand Master received his York Rite Degrees in Bryan, Texas. He is a member of W. '1 Austin Chapter No. 87, R. A. M.; W. T. Austin Council No. 52, R. & S. M., and Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8, K. T. He is also a member of the Galveston Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry; a member of Karem Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. of Waco, and a member of San Jacinto Conclave No. 93, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, at Houston, Texas.

In the Grand Lodge he has served as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico near the Grand Lodge of Texas, and at this time similarly represents the Grand Lodge. He was appointed Grand Orator in December, 1948; in 1949 he was elected Grand Junior Warden and advanced to Grand Senior Warden in 1950. Due to the untimely passing of Brother Henry M. Bell, Deputy Grand Master, Brother Gibb Gilchrist was elected and installed as Grand Master on December 6, 1951.

During the past year, as demonstrated elsewhere in these Proceedings, the strengthening of the foundations of Masonry has been the constant care of our Grand Master. In this program he has received the whole-hearted support of the Craft, and as his year of service to the Fraternity comes to a close it is well to recall the grand principle which he outlined for us at the installation ceremony on December 6, 1951:

"As a professional Civil Engineer, I have always been interested in foundations and have studied the results of foundations resting on different kinds and types of soils or rock . . . The heart of Masonry is sound because it rests upon an abiding trust in Him who notes the sparrow's fall. When we get away

from those teachings we imperil our foundations. Apathy and neglect add to the weakness, but with a strong, firm foundation and a zealous fraternity, apathy cannot exist, and in our brotherhood of men our differences and troubles soon fall away."

John McKee

Year In Office: 1953 **Parent Lodge: Trinity Valley No. 1048**



"In the City of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on August 18, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Warren McKee became the proud parents of a son, whom they named John. These descendants of the great Scotch clan Mackay, saw to it that their son and heir was reared in an atmosphere and environment conducive to the building of character, instilling in his heart and mind a deep and abiding love of country, respect for his fellow man and a belief in and devotion to Almighty God.

In due time he graduated from the Harrisburg High School, attended New York University and completed his academic education at Southern Methodist University, from which he holds a Bachelor of Law degree.

Brother McKee came to Texas in February, 1930. On Saint John the Evangelist Day of that year, he persuaded Miss Leo Fern Armstrong, of Cottle County, to accept him ""for better or worse."" They have been blessed with one child, a daughter, Janice Areta, a student at the University of Texas.

He has been associated with the Ford Motor Company of Dallas for a number of years and now holds the very responsible executive position of Manager of the Industrial Relations Department. Among various memberships in business organizations, we note that he is a member of the Legislative Committee of the Texas Manufacturers Association.

Throughout the years, Brother McKee has stressed the point that the ""good Mason"" is one who takes an active interest in civic and public affairs.

That he practices what he preaches is abundantly demonstrated by the following:

Director, Dallas Community Chest Director, American Red Cross

Secretary, Democratic Executive Committee

Chairman, Citizens Committee on Public Schools and others

He is active in the councils of his church, Lakewood Methodist, being a member of the Board of Stewards and President of Methodist Men of Lakewood.

His Masonic record follows:

Received the Master's Degree in Pentagon No. 1080, which Lodge conferred the degree as a courtesy for Trinity Valley No. 1048, on December 19, 1939.

Worshipful Master, Trinity Valley No. 1048, 1946-47.

District Deputy Grand Master, 14th Masonic District, 1947-48.

Elected Grand Junior Warden, December, 1950. Elected Deputy Grand Master, 1951. Elected Grand Master, 1952.

Member of Masonic Service and Education Committee since 1947, and its Secretary since 1948.

Member of Washington Chapter No. 422, R. A. M.

Member of Dallas Council No. 18, R. & S. M. Member of Dallas Commandery No. 6, K. T. Member of Hella Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

Member of St. Timothy Conclave No. 65, Red Cross of Constantine. Member of the Sojourners.

Member of Dallas Consistory, A. & A. S. R.

He is very active in the Consistory, being Chairman of the Executive Committee, Chairman of the Committee on Membership, etc. He was honored by this Rite in 1951 when he received the rank and decoration of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, and was coroneted in 1953, receiving the rank and dignity of the 33rd Degree, which was conferred in Washington, D. C., at the House of the Temple.

Brother McKee has for some years been concerned regarding the apathy of the general populace toward the Public Schools, desiring, above all else, to rekindle and awaken the public's interest therein. In order to acquaint himself with the methods used in California, which state has achieved outstanding success along this line, he spent several days in this great state, studying their methods—all of this at his own expense. We are familiar with the results of this study. Last year over a million citizens visited our Public Schools, and 1954 gives promise of substantially increasing this total. The Masons and citizens of Texas owe a deep debt of gratitude to Brother McKee for his outstanding service in establishing "Public Schools Week." Of a verity, it is "Democracy in Action."

In his first official communication as Grand Master, he called our attention to the "purposes of the Grand Lodge;" nor did he deviate one iota from these "purposes" during the year. He stressed the dignity of Freemasonry and reminded us that the degrees were conferred "for the edification of the candidate, rather than the entertainment of the members."

One of the Committees of the Grand Lodge, in summing up his year's work, had this to say; "This modest, God-fearing, Christian gentleman; this courageous, fervent, consecrated Mason, has endeavored to rekindle in our hearts respect for and devotion to the ideals of our beloved Fraternity. He has stressed the thought that the aims, tenants and philosophy of Freemasonry are needed today as never before, and that the truths it would inculcate in the hearts of its members are not now, nor can they ever be, out of date; nor can its purpose of training and developing men into charitable, God-loving, individuals of character be ever changed so long as time shall last. He has earned the plaudits of his Brethren and stands before you today as `a workman who needeth not to be ashamed.'"

To this, we would add—not only "he needeth not to be ashamed" but rather "should he be proud of his year as Grand Master." Proud of his courageous handling of vexing problems. Proud of his awakening of the Craft to their responsibilities and proud of the love and esteem in which the Craft has enshrined his memory."

W. B. Jack Ball

Year In Office: 1954 **Parent Lodge: Albert Pike No. 1169**



"W. B. Jack Ball, Grand Master of Masons in Texas in the year of 1954, was born in Farmersville, Collin County, Texas, on the twenty-first day of September, 1896, the son of T. E. Ball and Mary Philpot Ball.

Brother Ball attended public schools in Farmersville, Texas, and was Class Salutatorian in the graduating class of 1914. He attended the University of Texas and the Law School of the University of Texas, receiving B. A. Degree in August of 1919 and L. L. B. Degree in June 1921. For the B. A. Degree he majored in History (particularly Latin-American) and minored in Government. He did outstanding work while in University, serving as Student Assistant in government and Quiz Master (Student assistant) in Law School at the University of Texas. His scholarship and popularity was further acknowledged by his being admitted to the following: Acacia Fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Delta Phi, Phi Sigma Alpha and Chancellors.

During World War I Brother Ball withdrew from the University and voluntarily enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. After completion of recruit training he was assigned to the N.C.O. School at Paris Island, South Carolina. After completing N.C.O. School he was promoted to Non-Com and assigned back to the Marine N.C.O. School, Paris Island, South Carolina as an instructor. He was honorably discharged in December, 1918.

Again, during World War II, Brother Ball served his country in a civilian status as a member of the Staff of the Chief Air Raid Warden of Bexar County and San Antonio Metropolitan area.

Upon graduation from Law School, University of Texas, Brother Ball entered law practice in June of 1921 in San Antonio, Texas, with the law firm of Taliáferro, Cunningham and Moursund. On January 1, 1925, he entered independent practice and continued in this capacity until November of 1935 when he formed partnership with the firm of Moursund, Ball, Moursund and Bergstrom. For years he has been a member of the San Antonio Bar Association, the State Bar of Texas and the American Bar Association. He is a Past President and Past Director of the San Antonio Bar Association. He served on various committees of the State Bar Association of Texas, having been State Chairman of two committees. At one time was member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association.

Brother Ball has always shown a keen interest in church and civic affairs. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, San Antonio, Texas, of the San Antonio Country Club, of the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, of the San Antonio Conopus Club and formerly of the San Antonio Council of Presidents, having served as President and as Director of this Council and active in various other civic organizations of the city. He was a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee of Texas during 1941-1942.

Brother Ball married Alice Munson of Brazoria County, Texas, in 1921, and to this union was born one son, T. Armour Ball, who is a member of Albert Pike No. 1169, San Antonio, Texas. Mrs. Ball passed way February 28, 1945.

Brother Ball was initiated in Farmersville Lodge No. 214, of Farmersville, Texas, on November 27, 1918, passed July 19, 1919, and raised August 9, 1919, the degrees having been conferred by courtesy by

other Lodges. He affiliated as a Charter Member of Albert Pike No. 1169 in 1921 and served as Worshipful Master in 1928-1929.

In the Grand Lodge of Texas he served on the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, as District Deputy Grand Master of the 39th Masonic District, as Grand Senior Warden in 1952, Deputy Grand Master in 1953 and at 118th Annual Grand Communication was installed as M.'W.'.Grand Master of Masons in Texas. He is now Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Kansas near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Brother Ball is a member of the Scottish Rite, the York Rite Bodies and Alzar Shrine Temple of San Antonio. He was coroneted 33° Inspector General Honorary by the Supreme Council in 1945 and is a member of the Red Cross of Constantine. He served as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Scottish Rite Bodies of San Antonio for several years.

Upon installation as Grand Master he stated that it would be his purpose to dedicate himself to the task of ""Carrying Masonry to Every Mason in Texas."" Regarding this task one of the Committees of Grand Lodge had this to say:

""He has of a verity, applied himself to his announced objective, `Carrying Masonry to every Mason in Texas'; from border to border, north, south, east and west, has this Apostle of Fraternity and Brotherly love developed his theme. With the zeal of a crusader, the wisdom of a philosopher, the fortitude of Atlas and the patience of Job, has he endeavored to `make darkness light before us and crooked things straight'.""

You, Brother Ball, have earned the love, esteem and admiration of the rank and file of the Craft and are enshrined in the hearts of over two hundred and twenty-three thousand Masons in the Grand Jurisdiction of Texas."

Draft dated 06/19/2023

George C. Moffett

Year In Office: 1955 **Parent Lodge: Chillicothe No. 876**



"When the Grand Lodge of Texas, on the afternoon of December 2, 1954, installed Brother George Moffett of Chillicothe, Texas, as Grand Master for the ensuing year, it extended recognition to the large number of Brethren in the northwestern part of Texas. Brother Moffett is a native of that region and resides further from the permanent headquarters of the Grand Lodge than any other Grand Master who has ever served from that large and expanding area.

His parents, Frank L. and Ina M. (Farrington) Moffett, each came to Hardeman County in a covered wagon in the late 1880's, the pioneer days of that region. They were married on December 27, 1894, and celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on the same date in 1955. Their only son, George, was born on a ranch near Chillicothe, Hardeman County, Texas, on November 20, 1895.

He attended one-room rural schools for six years; graduated from Chillicothe High School in 1911; sought further high school training in Chico, Wise County, Texas, and was graduated with honors in 1912; attended the A. & M. College of Texas, and was graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Agriculture in 1916. He served in World War I in the Infantry and Air Service, was engaged in retail business in Wichita Falls and Graham, Texas, during 1920-23, and since that time, has resided at Chillicothe, Texas, where he has managed his father's farming and ranching interests and is considered an outstanding thinker on agricultural problems.

In 1930 Brother Moffett became a candidate for the House of Representatives in the Texas Legislature, was elected and served eight years in that body, and was then elected a member of the State Senate, a position which he has held until the present time. His service in the Texas Legislature embraces a longer period of years than the service of any other individual who has ever been a member of that body. He has been a leader in agricultural legislation and has vigorously espoused the principle that, expanded and increased scientific research for new markets for agricultural products is the fundamental key to the solution of many agricultural problems. He has been the author of numerous bills for the benefit of the veterans of both World War I and II, and is the author of more amendments to the Constitution of Texas than any other member of the Legislature, past or present.

His Masonic Record began at an early date, having signed a petition for the Mysteries of Freemasonry the day after becoming 21 years of age. His Masonic record follows:

Initiated-December 9, 1916; Passed-January 13, 1917, and received the Master Mason Degree on February 12, 1917, in Chillicothe No. 876, Chillicothe, Texas.

Worshipful Master of Chillicothe No. 876, A. F. & A. M., 1926-27. District Deputy Grand Master of the 90th Masonic District in 1928. Member of Chillicothe Chapter No. 319, R. A. M.-since February, 1917.

Member of Chillicothe Council No. 255, R. & S. M.-since February, 1917.

Member of Vernon Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar-since April, 1917.

Charter Member of Maskat Shrine Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Wichita Falls, Texas-1920.

Member of Prairie Gem Chapter, O. E. S., Chillicothe, Texas-since 1917. Member of Dallas Scottish Rite Consistory, A. & A. S. R.-since 1945.

Member of St. Timothy Conclave No. 65, Order of Red Cross of Constantine-1952.

In the Grand Lodge of Texas, Brother George Moffett has served as a member of the following Committees:

Grievances and Appeals No. 3-1943. Masonic Education and Service-1946-47.

Finance-1948-49-50-51.

He has filled the following Grand Lodge offices: Grand Tiler-1945.

Grand Marshal-1950. Grand Orator-1951.

Grand Junior Warden-1952. Grand Senior Warden-1953.

Deputy Grand Master-1954. Grand Master-1955.

He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In 1953 he was chosen by the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite to receive the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.

Brother Moffett has always been active in civic, church, and political activities and became a member of the Methodist Church while a college student and has served as a trustee of the Chillicothe Methodist Church for more than fifteen years. He is a charter member and the first president of the Chillicothe Lions Club and later Deputy District Governor of District 2-E.

On August 1, 1933, Brother Moffett was married to Miss Hilda Rabb of Fort Worth, Texas. To this union two children were born, Patricia Joy and Frank Lee, both of whom are now college students.

Brother Moffett has always had an inclination to preserve and profit by the lessons of history, of which he is a constant student. In line with this inclination, he espoused the expansion of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum as one of the principal objectives of his term as Grand Master. His efforts have produced unexpectedly successful results in that a very large number of peculiarly fitting and appropriate museum items have been placed in the Grand Lodge Museum during his term as Grand Master. Likewise, the Library has been materially enlarged with volumes of a Masonic, historical, inspirational, and educational nature-both ancient and modern."

William W. Boothe

Year In Office: 1956 Parent Lodge: Paris No. 27



"William Wesley (Bill) Boothe was born in Starrville, Smith County, Texas, November 23, 1888, moved to Paris, Texas, at an early age and received his education in the Paris schools. He is a member and an ardent worker in the First Methodist Church of Paris. He owned and operated a Sheet Metal Shop from February 1, 1908, until his retirement on April 19, 1953, and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Paris, Texas.

On August 13, 1910, Brother Boothe married Florence Isora Moore of Campti, Louisiana. They have two children, William Roscoe Boothe and Frances Ellen Boothe (Mrs. Frances Vaught) and two grandchildren.

His Masonic Record began when he was Initiated in Paris No. 27, Paris, Texas, on December 29, 1916, Passed January 29, 1917, and Raised March 5, 1917. Shortly after his admission, he was appointed Senior Deacon for 1917-1918. He assisted in the formation, and became a Charter Member, of Lamar No. 1191, Paris, Texas, and served as its Worshipful Master in 1927-1928, later demitting to Paris No. 27 and has remained a member of that Lodge.

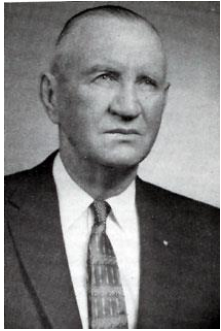
He served as Grand Pursuivant of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1944, as a member of the Committee on Work of the Grand Lodge of Texas from 1944 to December, 1952, as Grand Junior Warden in 1953, Grand Senior Warden in 1954, Deputy Grand Master in 1955, and was installed Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Texas at the One Hundred and Twentieth Annual Grand Communication. He is now Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Sao Paulo near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

As a member of the York Rite Bodies, Brother Boothe has served as High Priest of LaFayette Chapter No. 48, Royal Arch Masons, Paris, Texas, as Thrice Illustrious Master of LaFayette Council No. 34. Royal and Select Masters, Paris, Texas, and as Eminent Commander of Paris Commandery No. 9, Knights Templar. He is a member of Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of the York Cross of Honour. He served the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas as Grand Principal Sojourner in 1942, and as Grand Visitor in 1933, also serving that same year as Grand Visitor of the Grand Council of Texas Royal and Select Masters. He has been a member of Dallas Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry since 1938, and a member of Hella Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Dallas, Texas, since 1920.

Brother Boothe has been a very zealous Mason and has traveled more than 35,000 miles, during his year as Most Worshipful Grand Master, visiting Lodges over this Grand jurisdiction and has visited many, many Lodges in conformity with his slogan, "" I Am My Brother's Keeper. ""

Paul Turney

Year In Office: 1957 **Parent Lodge: Dee Ora No. 715**



"Valrious Paul Turney, a prominent rancher of Sonora, Texas, was born in Comstock, Val Verde County, Texas, October 19, 1893. He attended elementary school at Sonora, Texas, Coronal Institute at San Marcos and San Angelo Business College at San Angelo. He is a member of the Sonora Methodist Church and has served for several years on the Board of Stewards.

On October 30, 1914, Brother Turney married Mary Ethel Adams of Sonora, Texas. They have two children, Thomas Jackson Turney and Mary Pauline Turney (Mrs. Harold Friess), and three grandchildren.

The Masonic Record of Brother Turney began when he petitioned Dee Ora Lodge No. 715, A. F. & A. M., Sonora, Texas, for the Mysteries of Freemasonry and was Initiated February 10, 1917, Passed June 29, 1917, and Raised July 27, 1917, in that Lodge. He has been active in the work of his Lodge and served as its Worshipful Master for two years-1937 and 1939.

Brother Turney served as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fifty-fifth Masonic District in 1941 and as a member of the Committee on Work of the Grand Lodge of Texas from 1946 to December, 1953, as Grand Junior Warden in 1954, Grand Senior Warden in 1955, Deputy Grand Master in 1956, and was installed Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Texas at the One Hundred and Twenty-first Annual Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. He is Grand Representative of the Grande Loge Nacional de la Syrie et du Liban Syria and the Lebanon near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

He is a member and Past High Priest of Sonora Chapter No. 355, Royal Arch Masons, and Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Sonora Council No. 292, Royal and Select Masters, member of San Angelo Commandery No. 28, Knights Templar, member of Suez Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, member of Saint Timothy Conclave No. 65, Red Cross of Constantine, member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a member of Omala Grotto. Brother Turney is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies of San Antonio, was elected as Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, October 1953, and was coroneted 33° Inspector General Honorary on December 11, 1957.

Brother Turney is the type of Mason who lives his Masonry and is noted for his outstanding, sterling qualities of character. We feel that the remarks made concerning him and his administration by the Committee on Masonic jurisprudence reflect the thoughts of the Masons of Texas. This Committee said in part:

""In the discharge of the arduous duties of his office, our Beloved Grand Master has displayed wisdom, strength, humility, love for God, and love for man. We sincerely commend him for his great service to the Craft. While our Grand Lodge is governed by men such as he, we may rest assured that it will make progress in all things good.

""It must have been such men as Paul Turney that the poet had in mind when he wrote:

'My friend is one who knows me well

Yet loves me just the same.

Who is honest, earnest, loyal, true

And always plays the game.

Who dares to tell me when I'm wrong,

Helps me keep brave and true,

Whose cheery smile is so worth while,

A friend, dear friend, like you.'

""Most Worshipful Grand Master, you have enshrined yourself in the hearts of your Brethren, which is the greatest honor that can come to any man.""

Draft dated 06/29/2023

John G. Kemmerer

Year In Office: 1958 Parent Lodge: Julian Feild No. 908



"A Biographical sketch, such as this, can only strive to touch upon some of the more salient facets of the personality under review. But first, a word concerning his early days.

On February 28th, 1904, "Dr. Stork" arrived in Lehigh, Pa., with a baby boy whom he delivered to George H. and Ella P. Kemmerer who promptly christened him John George. His school "vacations" were spent in attending Culver Military Academy. After graduation from High School he was associated with the Fourth Street National Bank of Philadelphia for two years then back to his books for three years at Columbia University. A vacation with his sister in Dallas proved to be the cross road of his life. He fell in love with Texas and Texans, more especially Miss Catherine Sanford, whom he married in 1929. They have two lovely, talented daughters, Mary Ellen and Catherine Ann.

He started his business career with a Dallas firm; was soon manager of its Fort Worth branch, and when they decided to close it, he organized the Service Plumbing Supply Co., which today is recognized as one of the leaders in its field. He is President of this Company. He is also Vice President and Director of the Western Fidelity Life Insurance Co.; Vice President and Director of Texas Consumer Finance Co., and a director of The Hurst State Bank.

A dedicated Christian, he has for years been active in the affairs of his church, at present serving as a member of the Board of Trustees as well as the building committee of St. Stephen Presbyterian Church.

He is a citizen, par excellence; Director of the Chamber of Commerce; active member of its committees on Education, Civic Affairs, etc.; Member of Tarrant County Crime Commission; and associate member Texas Police Association. Has been and is vitally interested in the Public Schools, is President of the Dad's Club of W. C. Stripling Junior High School. As Co-Chairman of the Committee on Public Schools Week Observance in Fort Worth and Tarrant County, has been largely responsible for its consistently leading the State both in interest and attendance.

A lover of music, he organized and played in his High School's Band, the Culver Military Academy Band, was a member of the band at Columbia University, likewise of Moslah's Shrine Band. Is one of the underwriters of the Dallas Grand Opera Association and a sponsor of the Fort Worth Civic Opera Association.

Before becoming a member of the Philadelphia Order of DeMolay, in 1923; he promised himself that some day he would try to become a Mason. This promise reached fruition in 1931 when he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Riverside Lodge No. 1194 on July 9th. He affiliated with Julian Feild Lodge No. 908 January 3, 1940. Served as Worshipful Master in 1951-52.

Exalted April 14, 1936, in Texas Chapter No. 362, R.A.M. High Priest 1952-53.

Greeted May 24, 1938, Texas Council No. 321. Thrice Illustrious Master 1952-53.

Created April 25, 1936, Worth Commandery No. 19. Eminent Ccmmander 1955.

He is also:

Viceroy-St. Timothy Conclave Red Cross of Constantine.

Knight of the York Cross of Honor, Texas Priory No. 23

Past Venerable Master, Dallas Consistory

Senior Warden-Dallas Lodge of Perfection.

Coroneted 33° Inspector General Honorary, 1956.

General Chairman-Fort Worth Scottish Rite Membership Committee.

Past President-Fort Worth Scottish Rite Association.

Past President-Fort Worth Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association.

Past President-Fort Worth Masonic Service Bureau.

Past District Deputy Grand Master, 64th Masonic District.

Grand Senior Steward in 1954.

Is also a member of El Texa Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R., Moslah Shrine Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., and the Royal Order of Scotland.

Last, but by no means least in importance, he is President of the Masonic Home Independent School District. No Mason in Texas has given as liberally of his time and fortune to this, the greatest of our activities. Through his efforts and under his direction hundreds of others have contributed thousands of dollars to assist our graduates in obtaining a college education.

In the discharge of the duties devolving upon him as Master of his Lodge, as District Deputy Grand Master and as the presiding officer of various appendant organizations, he exhibited such a dynamic personality, such devotion to the very Spirit of Freemasonry that his brethren placed him in the Grand Junior Wardens station at the Grand Annual Commuication held in December 1954. Even though he was considered at this period a ""Well-read Mason,"" being a perfectionist, he applied himself to the study of the Jurisprudence, traditions, edicts, customs and practices established in the long ago for the government of the Craft in Texas. That he succeeded in acquiring such knowledge is clearly demonstrated by the masterly manner in which he has acquitted himself during his year of service. With consummate zeal, vision and uncanny ability he has administered the affairs of Grand Lodge in such a manner as to warrant the bestowal of the highest encomiums. Masonry, and Masons in Texas, will feel the impact of his stewardship and be in his debt for many years to come."

Randall E. Briscoe

Year In Office: 1959 **Parent Lodge: Anson Jones No. 1313**



"Randall Eugene Briscoe was born in Houston, Harris County, Texas, on the second day of September, 1908, the only son of Dr. and Mrs. Sam Mason Briscoe.

He spent his childhood years with his parents at Houston, Texas, Las Cruces, New Mexico, and Harlingen, Lovelady, and Trinity, Texas.

In 1934, he returned to Houston, where he was employed by The Hunt Tool Company until the latter part of 1959, serving as its Secretary and Treasurer, and Office Manager.

On November 1st, 1959, he moved his residence to El Paso, Texas, as Mrs. Briscoe's health required a drier climate. In El Paso, he accepted a position as Administrative Assistant to the County Judge and Commissioners' Court of El Paso County.

In 1936 he married the charming and gracious Elizabeth Sanders of Houston.

In addition to attending various grade and local high schools, he attended Allen Academy in Bryan, Texas, and Eastman College in Poughkeepsie; New York.

He is a member of the Episcopal Church, Texas State Historical Association, Harris County Historical Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Republic of Texas, Houston Club, and Houston Turn-Verein.

His Masonic Record is as follows:

Symbolic Lodge

He received the Symbolic Degrees in Joe Werner Lodge No. 553, Trinity, Texas, in 1934, being Entered on January 23rd, Passed on February 22nd, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on March 24th. Each of the three degrees were conferred upon him by his dearly loved and highly respected father, Dr. Sam M. Briscoe, a Past Master of Lovelady Lodge No. 539, Lovelady, Texas.

On November 6th, 1934, he affiliated with Houston Lodge No. 1189, Houston, Texas, as a dual member, and served as its Master in 1943-44.

In 1948, as required by Masonic law at that time, he demitted from both Lodges, and became the first Master of Anson Jones Lodge, U. D., Houston, Texas, which he helped to organize. In December of that year, he was installed as Master of Anson Jones Lodge No. 1313, Houston, Texas.

In 1958, he re-affiliated with Joe Werner Lodge No. 553, Trinity, Texas, as a dual member.

York Rite

He received the Capitular Degrees in Washington Chapter No. 2, R. A. M., Houston, Texas, in 1938, and served as its High Priest in 1946-47. He received the Order of High Priesthood in 1946.

He received the Cryptic Degrees in Houston Council No. 1, R. & S. M., Houston, Texas, in 1938, and served as its Thrice Illustrious Master in 1947-48. He received the Order of the Silver Trowel in 1955.

He received the Orders of Knighthood in Ruthven Commandery No. 2, K. T., Houston, Texas, in 1938 and served as its Commander in 1945. He is a member of Resurrection Tabernacle No. XXI, H. R. A. K. T. P., and was its first Preceptor in 1950.

He is a member of Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, and served as its Prior in 1950.

He served as Grand Orator of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1948, and again in 1951, and is presently serving as the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of New York near the Grand Chapter of Texas.

Scottish Rite

He received the Ineffable Degrees in San Jacinto Lodge of Perfection, Houston, Texas, on April 15, 1944.

He received the Historical and Religious Degrees in Houston Chapter of Rose Croix, Houston, Texas, on October 22, 1944, and served as its Wise Master in 1950.

He received the Philosophical and Chivalric Degrees in Houston Council, Knights Kadosh, Houston, Texas, on October 22, 1944, and served as its Commander in 1955.

He received the Ceremonial and Official Degrees in Houston Consistory, Houston, Texas, on October 23, 1944, and served as its Master of Kadosh in 1952.

He was Invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour on October 18th, 1949.

He was Coroneted a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General Honorary on December 14th, 1957.

Other

He is a member of Arabia Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Houston, Texas, and served for several years as its Ceremonial Potentate.

He is a member of Chinar Grotto, M. O. V. P. E. R., Houston, Texas.

He is a member of San Jacinto Conclave No. 93, Red Cross of Constantine, Houston, Texas.

He has received the DeMolay Legion of Honor Degree.

He is a member of Ransford Chapter No. 135, Order of the Eastern Star, Houston, Texas, and served as its Patron in 1946-47.

Grand Lodge

He served on the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in 1943-44, and two five-year terms on the Committee on Work from 1944 to 1954, being Chairman of the Committee for five years during this period. On May 9th, 1959, he was examined by the entire Committee on Work. The Committee proudly recommended a Life Certificate, this being his twenty-fifth year to hold a Certificate of Proficiency in the esoteric work.

He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Missouri near the Grand Lodge of Texas and has been elected an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodges of Oklahoma and Arkansas.

He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1955, Grand Senior Warden in 1956, Deputy Grand Master in 1957, and on December 4th, 1958, he was elected and installed Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

Through his untiring and unselfish efforts-walking down the sunny side of life's journey, has given this outstanding Mason a deep understanding of the truly great principles and teachings of Freemasonry. He has applied and exemplified his depth of knowledge and understanding through many long hours of devoted service to the Craft. To mention only one of his outstanding and worthwhile undertakings as Grand Master, he introduced to this great state ""The Lodge System of Masonic Education."" This achievement will ever serve as an inspiration for those who have already become Masons, as well as those thousands who will seek light in the future."

Draft dated 06/29/2020

John T. Bean

Year In Office: 1960 **Parent Lodge: Ysleta No. 1333**



"John Thomas Bean, Grand Master of Masons in Texas in 1960, was born at Esperanza, Hudspeth County, Texas, on June 30, 1912. He entered the Masonic Home and School of Texas on August 28, 1920, after the death of his father, Brother James B. Bean, Texas Ranger and United States Mounted Custom Inspector. His mother was Isabel McGovern Bean, a prominent church and civic worker at Esperanza, Texas.

After graduating from the Masonic Home and School of Texas, Brother Bean entered Texas A. & M. College where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and a Master's degree in Education. He married Miss Mabel Wilma Mantooth of McKinney, Texas, on June 4, 1936. They have one daughter, Annabelle Bean, a lovely and talented girl, who was Valedictorian of her class when she graduated from Ysleta High School, an Honor Student, a graduate of Texas Western College and is presently attending Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

Brother Bean served as a Vocational Agriculture Teacher in Whitewright, Sherman, Ysleta and El Paso. In 1951 he was elected Superintendent of the El Paso County Schools and is serving in that capacity at the present time. In addition to his educational work, he has active farming and ranching interest in El Paso, Hudspeth and Culbertson Counties.

Brother Bean is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, El Paso, Texas, and a member of the Ysleta Lions Club. He has served as Director of the Marfa Production Credit Association, as Director of Esperanza Co-op Gin Association and is presently serving as Director of Buford Cooperative Gin and Director of Southwestern Irrigation Cotton Growers Association. He is a member of the Trans-Pecos and Texas State Teachers Association, a member of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, a member of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association and a member of the El Paso Valley Cotton Growers Association.

His Masonic Record is as follows: He became a Master Mason on December 27, 1935, in Sierra Blanca Lodge No. 1063; affiliated with Whitewright Lodge No. 167 in 1936 and served as Worshipful Master of that Lodge in 1939; affiliated with Fabens Lodge No. 1202 in 1944 and served as Charter Member and first Worshipful Master of Ysleta Lodge No. 1333. He is presently a dual member of Ysleta Lodge No. 1333 and Fabens Lodge No. 1202.

Brother Bean has not missed a Grand Lodge meeting since he received his Master Mason's Degree in 1935 and has served on the following Grand Lodge Committees: Committee on Grievances and Appeals No. 3, Committee on Credentials No. 1, Committee on Purposes and Policies and is now serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School of Texas. He served as Grand Pursuivant in 1942, Grand Junior Deacon in 1946, Grand Tiler in 1949, District Deputy Grand Master of the 60th Masonic District in 1954, and as Grand Representative of the Gran Logia Cosmos near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Brother Bean was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1956, Grand Senior Warden in 1957, Deputy Grand Master in 1958 and was elevated to the office of Grand Master of Masons in Texas in 1959.

He is a member of El Paso Chapter No. 157, Royal Arch Masons; El Paso Council No. 98, Royal and Select Masters; El Paso Commandery No. 18, K. T.; El Paso Consistory No. 3, receiving the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour October 20, 1953; Ysleta Chapter No. 991, Order of the Eastern Star, and El Maida Shrine of El Paso, Texas.

Brother Bean, a zealous and dedicated Mason, has traveled many miles on his visitations of this Grand jurisdiction and has endeared himself to the Brethren of Texas. He became associated with Masonry much earlier than most Brethren as he entered the Masonic Home and School at an early age. He has exemplified the teachings of Masonry and has been untiring and unselfish in his promulgation of the great principles of Masonry. He brought honor to Masonry in Texas when he was elected Chairman of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masonry in North America in February, 1960. Also, he was selected as the Chairman of the Committee to make the annual visit to Mount Vernon to place a wreath upon the tomb of Brother George Washington.

Brother Bean, affectionately called "Johnnie" by all Brethren who know him, has best expressed his feeling for Masonry and the Masons of Texas in stating that "he was raised twice—once in the Masonic Home and School of Texas and another time as a Master Mason and that he had been able to do so little for Masonry in return."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

William G. Proctor

Year In Office: 1961 **Parent Lodge: Saint John's No. 51**



"William Green Proctor was born in Dixon County, Tennessee, on December 26, 1901.

Brother Proctor moved to Texas at the age of fourteen and settled with the family at Emory, Texas, in 1915. In 1926, he moved to McKinney, Texas, established a business for himself and has been in that town ever since.

In 1921 Brother Proctor married Willie Susie Bass at Paris, Texas, and they have two sons, Loey Preston Proctor, L.C.D.R., Navy Air Corps, Berkeley, Calif., and Reverend William Howell Proctor of Dallas.

He is a member of the Central Presbyterian U. S. A. Church.

Brother Proctor was raised as a Master Mason in St. Johns Lodge No. 51 in McKinney on February 21, 1936, and served as Worshipful Master in 1939-40, and again in 1949-50. He was Treasurer of this Lodge in 1940-45.

He served as Grand Junior Steward in 1941, Grand Senior Deacon in 1953, and was District Deputy Grand Master in 1944. Other Grand Lodge offices he has held are: Memorials Committee 1949-51; Petitions No. 1 Committee 1952; Committee on Work 1954-57; Grand Junior Warden 1958; Grand Senior Warden 1959, and Deputy Grand Master in 1960. He served on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School in 1960 and 1961. He was elected Grand Master of Masons, December 8, 1960.

He has served through successive offices of Haggai Chapter and Council in McKinney, and McKinney Commandery No. 34. In addition he has served as District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, and Grand Visitor of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Texas. Other York Rite honors include Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Order of High Priesthood, Super Excellent Master and Order of Silver Trowel. He is an Honorary member of Chinar Grotto of Houston. He is a member of the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies and a 33° Inspector General Honorary. A member of Red Cross of Constantine, Fort Worth and Hella Shrine, Dallas.

In addition to his extensive Masonic work, Brother Proctor has found time to work for the good of his community, having served as President of the McKinney Lions Club, Director of the McKinney Chamber of Commerce and a Director of the McKinney Retail Merchants Association.

Brother Proctor selected as his theme for the year, AWAKEREDEDICATE. He has forcibly impressed upon all Masons the great need of rededicating themselves to God, their homes, their churches, their schools and to their fellow man. He has asked them to live up to the high ideals of our fathers and mothers and the great teachings of Freemasonry in order that the freedom of man might continue to bless all humanity. He suggested that to rededicate themselves they should ""get down on your knees, at your home, church, business, on the banks of the creek, or any other place, and promise God that you will live up to the teachings of our fathers and mothers, our churches and of Freemasonry. Then live those principles each day.""

The Masons of Texas are indeed fortunate to have a man of the character of William G. Proctor as their leader in 1961 and his timely words will remain with us in the years ahead."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Robert L. Dillard Jr.

Year In Office: 1962 **Parent Lodge: Dallas No. 760**



"Robert L. Dillard, Jr., Dallas, Texas, was born in Corsicana, Texas, in 1913. He attended Wichita Falls High School and Junior College, Southern Methodist University (B. S. 1934; and LL.B., 1935); and Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (LL.M., 1936). He practiced law with Saner, Saner and Jack in Dallas from 1936 to 1941, at which time he became Assistant City Attorney of Dallas.

Brother Dillard became associated with Southland Life Insurance Company in 1945 in the capacity of General Attorney. In 1949, he was named a Director of Southland Life Insurance Company and in 1951 was elected Vice President and General Counsel. He is City Attorney for Carrollton, Texas. Brother Dillard is a member of Alpha Tau Omega, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity (formerly District Chancellor), Order of the Woolsack.

He is a member of the Dallas, Texas, American and Inter-American Bar Associations, American Judicature Society and the National Legal Aid Society, having served as President of the Dallas Bar Association in 1948 and Director of the Texas Bar, 1952 to 1956. He was Chairman in 1957 of the State Bar's Diamond Anniversary Committee. He was a member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association from 1956 to 1958, and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He is a member and former Chairman of the Insurance Division of the Southwestern Legal Foundation, and also a Research Fellow of the Southwestern Legal Foundation. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the SMU Law Alumni Association and in 1958 was the second graduate of the law school to receive a Citation as a distinguished alumnus of Southern Methodist University Law School.

He is author of the following published articles: ""Felony Cases in Dallas County in 1929 and 1933-An Analysis of Their Disposition"" 14 Texas Law Review 128; ""Basic Problems in Eminent Domain"" 21 Tex. Bar Journal No. 5, p. 297; ""A Brief Summary of the Law of Zoning in Texas"" 1946, The Bureau of Municipal Research, University of Texas and ""Investments of Life Insurance Companies"" 16 The Dallas Bar Speaks, p. 205.

In the Life Insurance Industry, he is a member of the Texas Life Convention's Senior Section, and Chairman of its Legislative Committee. He is a member of the Association of Life Insurance Counsel and a member of the Legislative Committee of the Life Insurers Conference and of the Joint Legislative Committee of the American Life Convention and the Life Insurance Association of America.

He was elected a member of the Board of Education of the Dallas Independent School District in 1952 and re-elected in 1955 and 1959 and was President of the Board 1961-62. He is Vice President of the Area Educational Television Foundation, which operates Station KERA, the educational television station for Dallas.

He is a Director of the Dallas Council of Social Agencies. He was President of the Dallas Council of Camp Fire Girls, Inc., 1960-61, and is a member of the Executive Committee of Region IV (5 states) of Camp Fire, and a member of the National Board of Directors of Camp Fire. He is a Member-at-Large of Circle 10, Council of Boy Scouts of America. He is a Director of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Dallas and Campaign Chairman for United Cerebral Palsy Association of Texas, Inc. He is a member of the

Board of Management of SMU-YMCA of which he was Chairman in 1958-59. He is a Director and advisory member of the Executive Committee of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

He is a member and Vice Chairman of the Official Board of Highland Park Methodist Church and teaches an Adult Sunday School Class in that Church.

In 1937, Brother Dillard married Miss Dundee Sheeks, who has been a source of strength and inspiration to the Grand Master and has endeared herself to the Masons and their wives and friends, not only in Texas, but in other Grand Jurisdictions. They have a son and two daughters: Rob, age 22; Diane, age 20; and Deborah, age 17.

Robert L. Dillard, Jr., was initiated in Dallas No. 760, A. F. & A. M., January 14, 1938, Passed July 19, 1938 and Raised November 25, 1938. He was Master of Dallas No. 760 in 1947-48, and District Deputy Grand Master for the 14th Masonic District in 1950.

He was Grand Junior Steward in 1950-51 and served on the Committee on Grievances and Appeals No. 2 from 1950 to 1958 and was Chairman in 1954-55 and 1956-58; and was on the Committee on Fraternal Relations in the years 1953 and 1954. In December, 1958, he was elected Grand Junior Warden, served as Grand Senior Warden in 1959-60 and in December, 1960, was elevated to the office of Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas. He became Grand Master of Masons in Texas on December 7, 1961.

He is now serving as Vice President and a member of the Executive Committee of the Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth, and as Chairman of the Board of Special Trustees of the Main and Pearl Street Property of Dallas No. 760 and Tannehill Lodge No. 52.

He received the Scottish Rite Degrees in Dallas Consistory completing the 32° on April 25, 1944. He was designated as a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in October, 1949. On October 23, 1953, he received the highest honor conferred by the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry when he was coroneted a 33°, Inspector General Honorary. He served as Wise Master of the Dallas Chapter of Rose Croix in 1954-55. He participates in conferring a number of Scottish Rite Degrees and at the present time is Master of the 31' in the Spring Reunion.

He is a member of York Rite Bodies, belonging to Dallas Chapter No. 47, R.A.M. (September 17, 1945), Dallas Council No. 18, R. & S. M. (December 16, 1946) and Dallas Commandery No. 6, K. T. (April 9, 1949). On February 11, 1961, he was initiated as a member of the Red Cross of Constantine in Saint Mark's Conclave.

He is also a member of the Texas Lodge of Research (1961), the Royal Order of Scotland, (October 22, 1953), Hella Temple Shrine (April 26, 1944), and Dallas Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, (May, 1961).

Grand Master Dillard stated, immediately after his installation, that it would be his purpose to endeavor to improve the Image of Masonry and to instill in the Masons of Texas a larger measure of enthusiasm. He has been highly successful and carried his program to all parts of this Grand Jurisdiction, and the Image which he has presented to the Masons of Texas will long reflect honor and glory on his administration.

There is nowhere to be found a more ardent and enthusiastic member of the Craft. His sterling integrity and wise counsel will continue to be of untold value, in the future as it has been in the past. The

splendid results of his labors will be seen for many years, and his devotion to the principles and teachings of our Order will be an inspiration to all who will come after him."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Jim W. Weatherby

Year In Office: 1963 **Parent Lodge: Kerrville No. 697**



"Jim W. Weatherby, Kerrville, Texas, was born in Hubbard, Texas, November 28, 1910. He attended Hubbard High School, Schreiner Institute, Kerrville, and Baylor University, Waco, receiving the degrees of B.A. and L.L.B.

Brother Weatherby is President of the Chas. Schreiner Bank, Kerrville, Texas. He has served as County Attorney and County Judge of Kerr County; District Attorney of the 38th Judicial District and District judge second 38th judicial District. He is a member of the State Bar Association of Texas, the Kiwanis Club, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

He is married to the former Elizabeth Talmage Carter and they belong to the Baptist Church. He served in World War II and is presently a Lt. Colonel in the J.A.G.D. Reserve.

Jim W. Weatherby was initiated in Baylor Lodge No. 1235, Waco, on November 5, 1936, Passed December 7, 1936, and Raised January 4, 1937. He affiliated with Kerrville Lodge No. 697 on February 20, 1940, and served as Worshipful Master in 1948. He was District Deputy Grand Master of the 51st Masonic District in 1954. He was Grand Marshal in 1952, Grand Orator in 1957; served on the Committee on Titles, Deeds and Property in 1949-1951 and Grand Officers' Reports for the years 1959 and 1960. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1960, Grand Senior Warden in 1961, Deputy Grand Master in 1962 and Grand Master in 1963.

He is a member of Kerrville No. 305, R.A.M., Kerrville Council No. 240, R. & S. M., San Antonio Commandery No. 7, K. T., San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies; Karem Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Waco; and the Red Cross of Constantine, DeMolay Conclave, Waco.

In the beginning of his administration, Grand Master Weatherby stated that the motto for the year would be, ""LIVE MASONRY, UNDER GOD, TO INSURE FREEDOM.""

In his program the Grand Master expressed the hope that there would be perfect harmony throughout our Fraternity. That to accomplish this objective we should remember our Masonic obligations and carry them out. That as Master Masons we should live each day the lessons taught in our obligations and to live a life that would be an example to others. He requested that we exert our best efforts in encouraging men to be Masons, to seek men. not numbers, who would live exemplary Masonic lives as did those pioneers who gave us our start in Texas when they organized under the Masonic Oak.

During his year as Grand Master, Brother Weatherby rendered a great service, both as to quality and quantity, to the Masons of the Grand Jurisdiction of Texas, and his exemplary conduct is an example to the Masons of this State."

John R. Collard Jr.

Year In Office: 1964 **Parent Lodge: Hansford No. 1040**



"Brother John R. Collard, Jr., was born at Hansford, Texas, on October 14, 1914. He received his early education in Spearman and Vernon grade schools, later attending Amarillo High School and New Mexico Military Institute. He continued his education in Texas Military College, Texas A. & M. and Southern California, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

During World War II he served in the United States Navy-1942 to 1945 and held the rank of Lieutenant Senior Grade.

From the year 1933 to 1942, Brother Collard was engaged in the banking business, first in Spearman and later in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and since 1945 he has been engaged in real estate, insurance, farming and ranching at Spearman, Texas.

His wife is Majorie Davis Collard and they have three children: Carolynne Susanne, Helen Lucylle and Thomas Randle.

They worship at the First Methodist Church, Spearman, Texas. Brother Collard has been interested in the Boy Scouts of America several years, having been a member of that Organization for twenty-five years and a Scoutmaster for twelve years.

Brother Collard received the Master Mason Degree in Hansford Lodge No. 1040, Spearman, Texas, on November 9, 1936, and was elected Worshipful Master of that Lodge for the term 1952-1953. During the years 1955-1956 he served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 102nd Masonic District and was a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Credentials in 1959-1960. He was elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Texas December 8, 1960, was elevated to the office of Grand Senior Warden December 7, 1961, to Deputy Grand Master in December of 1962, and was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas in December 1963.

In Capitular Masonry he was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree in Dumas Chapter No. 474, R. A. M. In Cryptic Masonry he was greeted in Dumas Council No. 388, R. & S. M., later transferring his membership in those Bodies to Borger Chapter No. 437 and Borger Council No. 354 in Borger, Texas. Brother Collard was Knighted in Amarillo Commandery No. 48, K. T., and transferred his membership to Borger Commandery No. 96.

In the Scottish Rite he received the Degrees in Dallas Consistory and is presently a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies in El Paso, Texas. He was initiated a member of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in Khiva Temple on April 24, 1947, elected Oriental Guide of Khiva Temple in 1958 and progressed through the various offices of Khiva Temple and was installed as Potentate in January 1962. Also, Brother Collard served as Vice-President of the Texas Shrine Association and was elected President of that Organization in 1961. He was installed March 25, 1961, in St. Timothy Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine and is a member of Amarillo Court No. 140, Royal Order of Jesters.

In his first message to the Craft, as Grand Master, December, 1963, Brother Collard expressed the following: ""I pray that, by the grace of God, I may serve you well."" We feel that the remarks made by a

Committee of the Grand Lodge of Texas concerning him and his administration reflect the thoughts of the Masons of Texas. This Committee said in part:

""Most Worshipful Brother Collard, upon ascending to the office as Grand Master, appears to have accepted this command as his `Marching Orders.' He has visited in hundreds of Lodges, large and small, giving words of encouragement, exhorting all to live, contribute, observe, practice and perform, so that each in his own way might create in his own life and his Lodge, that `perfect unity of thought and action which is Freemasonry.'""

Anyone associating with this great friend and Brother for any length of time cannot help but reach the conclusion that here is a man who lends inspiration to inspiration. His sincere devotion and service to the Craft and his earnest desire to promote its growth and welfare are best expressed in his statement that during his term of office he traveled over 138,318 miles in the discharge of his official duties. What a wonderful testimony of unselfish devotion and service, one which, we feel certain, may not be equalled in many years."

Draft dated 06/29/2013

J. Carroll Hinsley

Year In Office: 1965 **Parent Lodge: Austin No. 12**



"In the little town of Gurdon, Clark County, Arkansas, on August 28, 1908, their first son was born to William Jefferson and Mattie Hinsley, who named him John Carroll. The father was at that time Pastor of the Baptist Church in Gurdon. Subsequent moves brought the family, then consisting of the father and mother, the son, and two daughters, to the small town of Booneville in the western part of Arkansas, where the father was Pastor of the First Baptist Church for the next 14 years and where J. Carroll Hinsley entered and completed the public schools.

The family then moved to Arkadelphia, where the young son of the family attended Ouachita Baptist College, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts Summa Cum Laude in 1929. Brother Hinsley then taught in the public schools at Hope, Arkansas, for the next two years.

In 1931 J. Carroll Hinsley came to Texas and entered the Law School of the University of Texas at Austin, from which he graduated in 1934 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, with Highest Honors. He immediately went to work for the Supreme Court of Texas in June, 1934, in which employment he continued until May, 1936, when he entered the private practice of law in Austin.

Brother Hinsley continued in the practice of law in Austin until the present time, with the exception of the period during World War II, when he served in the Armed Forces of the United States from December, 1942, until June, 1946. He entered the Army as a Private and advanced to the rank of Captain before his release from service.

In 1940 Brother Hinsley was married to Miss Louise M. Conrad, a native of Ohio who had moved to Austin with her family in 1931. This couple has continued to reside in Austin since that time with the exception of the period of Brother Hinsley's military service.

Early in his professional life Brother Hinsley began to specialize in the field of public school law and has come to be recognized as the outstanding authority in this field of law in Texas. He has been the editor of three separate editions of "The Handbook of Texas School Law," and since 1946 has been Editor and Publisher of "Texas School Law News," a periodical published primarily for school Administrators and Attorneys representing school authorities. Brother Hinsley has been a prolific writer, many of his articles having been published in periodicals such as the "Texas Law Review," "Texas Bar Journal," "The Texas Outlook," "The New Age," "The Texas Grand Lodge Magazine," and "The Texas Freemason."

A Baptist, Brother Hinsley has been active in several Baptist Churches in Austin, having been a member at various times of the First Baptist Church and the West Austin Baptist Church, and having been a charter member and one of the organizers of the Central Baptist Church. He has served in various capacities in these churches, having been Sunday School Teacher, Sunday School Superintendent and Church Organist, among others.

The Masonic Record of Brother J. Carroll Hinsley is as follows:

SYMBOLIC LODGE

He was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on December 16, 1950, in Austin Lodge No. 12, Austin, Texas. After serving in successive offices in Austin Lodge No. 12 he was installed Master of the Lodge in June, 1958, serving as Master in 1958-1959. During the same period he was President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of the 50th Masonic District.

He was one of the signers of the petition for a dispensation for the Texas Lodge of Research and was a charter member of Texas Lodge of Research, having been a member from that time.

YORK RITE

He received the Capitular Degrees in Lone Star Chapter No. 6, R. A. M., Austin, Texas, in 1953. He served that Chapter as its High Priest in 1959-1960.

He received the Cryptic Degrees in Austin Council No. 2, R. & S. M., Austin, Texas, in 1953, serving as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1959-1960.

He received the Orders of Knighthood in Colorado Commandery No. 4, K. T., Austin, Texas, in 1953, and served as Commander of that Commandery in 1960.

He is a member of Nazareth Tabernacle No. XXXIV, H. R. A. K. T. P. and Texas York Rite College No. 14.

He is a member of Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, serving as Warder in 1965.

He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest, 21st District, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1961 and 1963, and as District Deputy Grand Master, 21st District, Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas, in 1963.

He received the Order of High Priesthood and Order of the Silver Trowel in 1959.

He served as Chairman of the Grievances and Appeals Committee of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas from 1960 to 1962 and in 1964-1965, and as member of the Committee on Templar jurisprudence from 1962 to 1966, serving as Chairman of that Committee in 1965-1966.

SCOTTISH RITE

He received the Scottish Rite Degrees in the Austin Scottish Rite Bodies in October, 1951. Since that time he has served as Venerable Master of Fidelity Lodge of Perfection, Wise Master of Philip C. Tucker Chapter of Rose Croix, and Commander of James D. Richardson Council of Knights Kadosh. In 1965 he held the office of Preceptor in Austin Consistory.

He was Invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1959 and was coroneted a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General Honorary on November 30, 1963.

He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Texas, Inc., since 1962, of the Texas Scottish Rite Schools Committee since 1962, and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Scottish Rite Educational Association of Texas from 1963 to 1965.

OTHER

He has been a member of Austin Chapter No. 304, Order of the Eastern Star, since 1951.

He was a charter member of St. Austin Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Austin, Texas, serving as Senior General in 1965.

He is a member of Ben Hur Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Austin, Texas, and has been prominent in many of the activities of that Temple, having been Potentate in 1961.

He was elected Representative to the Imperial Council, A. A. O. N. M. S., for six consecutive years from 1960 to 1965, declining further election to that office. In 1964-1965 he was a member of the Finance and Accounts Committee of the Imperial Council, A. A. O. N. M. S.

He is a member of Texas Chapter of Acacia Fraternity.

GRAND LODGE

Shortly after he became a Past Master of Austin Lodge No. 12, he was appointed to a vacancy on the Committee on Grievances and Appeals No. 2 in 1959. He then served as a member of the Committee on Masonic jurisprudence in 1960 and 1961, resigning the balance of his 7-year term when he was elected Grand Junior Warden.

He was Chairman of the Special Committee on Study of Public Schools Week Program in 1960, a member of the Special Committee on Establishment of a Home or Homes for Aged Masons and their wives Who Are Able to Pay in 1962, 1963 and 1964, a member of the Special Committee on Formulation of Rules for Lodges to Follow in Sponsoring Chapters of The Order of DeMolay for Boys and Assemblies of The Order of Rainbow for Girls in 1963 and 1964, serving as Chairman in the latter year, and of the Special Committee to Study Revisions of Grand Lodge Monitor in 1962, 1963 and 1964.

He has held a Certificate from the Committee on Work since 1951.

He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1961, Grand Senior Warden in 1962, Deputy Grand Master in 1963, and was elected and installed Grand Master of Masons in Texas on December 3, 1964.

While Grand Master he gave the Keynote Address at the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America in Washington, D. C., on February 23, 1965. He was also the principal speaker at the Grand Master's Banquet at the Communication of The Grand Lodge of Arizona in Mesa, at the Centennial Communication of The Grand Lodge of West Virginia in Wheeling, and at the Grand Master's Banquet at the Communication of The Grand Lodge of Iowa in Burlington. In addition, he also addressed the Communication of The Grand Lodge of Wyoming on the subject Civil Rights. Soon after he became a Past Grand Master he brought the principal address at the Stated Communication for the Installation of Grand Officers and Celebration of the Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on December 27, 1965. On this occasion he was presented with the Henry Price Medal, the highest and most honored gift in the power of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to bestow.

The following comments, in the closing moments of the One Hundred Thirtieth Grand Annual Communication, are indicative of the character and personality of this sincere and dedicated Mason: ""I shall always work for the eventual advancement of this Fraternity, regardless of anything else that may come. We may have temporary setbacks in our Fraternity, we may disagree as to methods of solving our problems, but let us always work together in brotherhood, let us work together in unity, and let us have no other purpose except the eventual good of the Fraternity, the development of the brotherhood and the final great glory of the Supreme Architect of the Universe.""

Grand Master Hinsley has contributed the kind of leadership that is in keeping with the Heritage of this Grand Lodge. Resolute and steadfast in his conviction of right and justice, eloquent in diction and address, possessing a thorough knowledge of Masonic Laws, customs, usages and traditions, his administration is deemed one of the most efficient and productive in the history of this Grand Lodge."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

H. W. Fullingim

Year In Office: 1966 **Parent Lodge: H. A. McFarland No. 1338**



"The first settlers of Wise County, Texas, were the grandparents and other relatives of Henry William Fullingim, who was born October 17, 1914, on a farm three miles north of Decatur. His parents were Alfred Baker Fullingim and Mahala Ball Fullingim, both natives of Wise County. He is the youngest of eight brothers and sisters, Estelle Mills, Archer, Lena Finke, Ford, Virginia Sims and Alf, all of whom are living.

His parents were descendants of English stock who settled in Virginia and were later Revolutionary War patriots. Henry Fullingim, his greatgrandfather, was a Minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Talledaga, Alabama, in 1842. The Fullingims came to Texas in 1849 by way of Georgia and Alabama, living for several years in Lamar and Red River Counties before moving to Wise. His grandfather, Archibald Fullingim, and John Hale, who later married Archibald's sister, first came to Wise County as surveyors. They then went back to Red River County for their families and settled near Decatur. During the Indian raids of the 1860's, they were forced to leave, and moved to Dallas County for a short time.

Both of H. W. Fullingim's grandfathers, Archibald Fullingim and Carlo Bonaparte Ball, were enrolled in the Confederate Army during the War Between the States. Ball and his wife, Clenda Conley, were natives of Kentucky and came to Wise County in 1849. In 1906, he moved to another frontier, Ochiltree County in the Texas Panhandle. Years before, he had donated the land for the Decatur Cemetery. Mrs. Archibald Fullingim (nee Virginia Morris) gave the land for the Oak Grove Methodist Church, located five miles north of Decatur, which is still in use.

In 1916, Bill's father moved the family to Lynn County, Texas, on the South Plains, where he had bought a section of land. During the great 1917-18 drought, the Fullingims ""dried out,"" and moved to Cottle County, traveling in wagons through Yellow House Canyon and the Matador Ranch. Fullingim bought another farm located six miles southwest of Paducah, on Salt Creek.

Here, Bill grew up beside a colorful canyon of rainbow hues, dotted with plum thickets and cottonwood trees. He attended his first school at Salt Creek in a two-teacher school. His sister, Lena, was the principal. Bill and his brother Alf, now of Silsbee, Texas, learned to hunt and trap fur bearing animals, selling the furs to Funsten Brothers of St. Louis, Missouri. When Lena became the English teacher at Paducah High School, Bill attended school there. Lena, now Mrs. Carl Finke of Anahuac, Texas, later became a nurse and taught 25 years as a Professor at the University of Texas College of Nursing at Galveston.

In 1928, the Fullingims and the two children remaining at home, Alf and Bill, moved back to Wise County, near the Decatur Cemetery land. When their father died in 1931, they went to live with their oldest brother, Archer, at Panhandle, Texas, where he was editor of the Panhandle Herald, a weekly newspaper. Both Alf and Bill played on Panhandle athletic teams. Archer was a U. S. Naval officer in the Pacific theater during World War II, and for the past eighteen years has been editor and publisher of The Kountze News, in the heart of the Big Thicket at Kountze, Texas.

When Archer moved to nearby Pampa to work in the editorial department of the Pampa Daily News, Bill went with him and attended Pampa High School, where he played as a regular on the Harvester football,

basketball and track teams, captaining each. He was a good enough athlete to win an athletic scholarship to Texas Military College at Terrell, Texas, playing under famed SWC coach, Frank Bridges. He was a regular on all teams the two years he attended TMC, which won the Texas Junior College Football Championship in 1933.

After finishing TMC, Bill enrolled at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, which was his brother Archer's alma mater, and where Alf received his degree also. At Norman, Bill met Lucy Glee Hooper, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Issac Wayne Hooper, M.D. (nee Myrtle M. M. Richey), who had been a frontier Oklahoma doctor before statehood in 1907. She was a student in the OU School of Fine Arts and was a member of Orchesis, honorary dance fraternity, and had the leading interpretative part in The Juggler of Notre Dame dance drama, which is still annually produced and televised at Christmas each year. Bill and Glee were married in 1935. She is the youngest daughter of seven living children, Estelle Stucker, Winnie Hooper, Vival Barber, Henry Wade Hooper, Myrtle Belle Wilson, and Richey Lorette.

During the years 1936 through 1940, Bill and Glee lived in several communities along the Texas Gulf Coast, where Bill worked in the oil fields. Their son, William Embry, was born in 1936 at Galveston and their daughter, Patricia Bernayz was born at Houston in 1939. In 1941, they moved to Washington, D. C., where Bill attended night law school for two years at George Washington College of Law. During this time, he worked in the office of Congressman Eugene Worley of Pampa, a friend of Archer's. During the war years of 1942-46, Bill was production Superintendent at Briggs Filtration Company, a Naval Department defense plant at Bethesda, Maryland, where he was responsible for 300 employees working in shifts on a 24-hour basis. Briggs received the Navy E Award.

In 1947, Bill and Glee returned to Texas where he went into the oil well servicing business at Odessa. The company grew a truck-unit at a time into an operation that, during the years 1950-60, employed an average of 35 permanent employees. Their children both graduated from Odessa High School and the University of Texas. William Embry was a U. S. Army officer in France for three years, where he married Chantal Ameslon, the daughter of Monsieur and Madame Andre Ameslon, longtime restaurateurs of Verdun, France. They have two daughters, Sophia, 5, and Diane, 4. Young Bill is an attorney with the Dallas law firm of Thompson, Coe, Cousins, & Irons. Patricia is the wife of Jeremiah Handy, also a lawyer, who is an Assistant U. S. District Attorney at San Antonio. He is the son of Mrs. Grace Handy and the late John F. Handy of Tennants Harbor, Maine, The Handys have a son, Jonathan, 1.

Besides being a fine mother and homemaker, Glee has been the inspirational force behind her husband. She served as a Sunday School teacher in the First Methodist Church, Odessa, for many years and is a member of the Women's Society of Christian Service. She was Regent of the Nathaniel Davis Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, first President of the Mathew D. Ector Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and a member of the 17th Century Colonial Dames of America.

Also, she was a charter member of the Odessa Jayceettes, a charter member of the Odessa Art Association, and a member of the Odessa Garden Club. Further, she has served on the Ector County Historical Survey Committee since its formation in 1957, is a charter member of the Permian State Historical Society, and was the first woman to be invited to participate in ""Civil War Round Table,"" Odessa. In 1960 Glee was the Chairman of the Ector County Democratic Women for LBJ. Among the civic contributions of which she is most proud are her Odessa Y.W.C.A. service in 1948, being Blue Bird then Brownie Leader for girls, and a charter member of DeMolay Mothers Circle, she also has worked with Rainbow Girls. She is a charter member of Chapter 1009, Order of Eastern Star.

Bill Fullingim has been successful in his endeavors all his life. When he was an athlete, he gave it everything he had. He gave the same devotion to his studies, as in high school, when he won the Texas division of the National Oratorical Contest and competed in the regional finals at Kansas City, Missouri, or when he was the organizer and Editor of the Pampa High School newspaper, the Harvester. He achieved his goals in business. He has always been active in his church's affairs, working through the years as a Steward, Sunday School teacher, and on the building committees of the First Methodist Church and Boy Scouts of America, Odessa. His civic work includes service as a member of the Odessa Jaycees, the Odessa Chamber of Commerce, and as a member of the Ector County Hospital Board during the major building of Medical Center Hospital in Odessa.

But since entering Masonry in 1948, the Masonic Lodge and Masonic organizations have been first in his interests. He is proud to declare that his father-in-law, Dr. I. W. Hooper, was a Mason, and that his brothers in-law, H. W. Hooper of Midland, and D. L. Barber of Woodward, Oklahoma, are Masons as is W. L. Lorette of Odessa, upon whom Bill had the pleasure of conferring the Degrees. Further, two nephews, Jerry Bing Hooper of Edmond, Oklahoma, and Bob Hooper of Peoria, Illinois, are Masons. On his side of the family, his brother Archer Fullingim of Kountze and his brother-in-law Carl Finke of Anahuac are Masons. Among his greatest satisfactions was conferring the three Degrees in Masonry on his son, William Embry, in 1958 while serving as D.D.G.M. under Grand Master John G. Kemmerer, who, along with John T. Bean, G.S.W., also worked in the MM Degree. While serving as Grand Master, he conferred the three Degrees in Masonry on his son-in-law Jeremiah Handy, his brother-in-law Carl Finke, and his nephew Linneaus Hooper Lorette. He has never ceased to seek more light. He is a Mason 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

He was raised to the Degree of Master Mason on August 7, 1948, in Odessa Lodge No. 955, A. F. & A. M., and affiliated with H. A. McFarland Lodge No. 1338, Odessa, Texas, on June 27, 1953. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 82nd Masonic District in 1958. Also was a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Grievances and Appeals No. 3 that same year. He served as a member of the Committee on Returns of Lodges U.D. No. 1 for the years 1961 and 1962, and was Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge in 1960.

Brother Fullingim is a member of Sam J. Helm Chapter No. 445, R.A.M.; Sam J. Helm Council No. 363, R. & S. M., and Odessa Commandery No. 110. He is also Herald of Saint Timothy Conclave, Fort Worth, Texas, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, a 32° Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of El Paso, having received the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1955, an Associate Patron of the Order of Eastern Star, a member of El Mina Shrine Temple, El Paso, Texas, and member of Royal Order of Jesters, Court 34, El Paso, Texas, a member of the Advisory Council of DeMolay and for his outstanding work with boys was decorated with the Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honor.

This dedicated Christian gentleman has poured his heart and his soul into living and exemplifying the great principles of Freemasonry. His genuine love for his fellowman, his great compassion, his warm handclasp and utter dedication will ever be remembered by those who knew and loved him. His footprints upon the sands of time of the Grand Lodge of Texas and in the hearts of our children at the Home and School have left a mark that will long endure. And as future generations of Masons review his record they, too, will say, as do we now, ""here was a Mason.""

J. D. Tomme Jr.

Year In Office: 1967 **Parent Lodge: Panther City No. 1183**



"The man who led Texas Masonry as Grand Master of Masons in Texas for 1966-1967 was born in Orange, Texas, on August 25, 1923. He was destined to follow in his father's footsteps in two respects; he would become a dentist and he would become a Mason. After leading the Craft, he would also see his father receive his 50-Year Masonic Service Award in March of 1968.

Five years after the birth of J. D. Tomme, Jr., the family moved to Fort Worth, where young Tomme was educated in the Fort Worth public schools. Following his graduation from Paschal High School, he attended Texas Wesleyan College and Texas Christian University, both in Fort Worth.

After deciding to become a dentist like his father, J. D. Tomme, Jr., moved to Houston to attend the University of Texas School of Dentistry. In 1944, he became the youngest person to ever receive a D. D. S. degree from that institution, being only 21 years of age at the time.

The same year he received his D.D.S., Dr. Tomme entered the United States Navy, where he served as an officer until discharged in 1947. He then entered private practice of dentistry in partnership with his father in Fort Worth.

Dr. Tomme wasted little time in becoming a Mason. He was Raised to the Sublime Degree in Panther City Lodge No. 1183 of Fort Worth in 1948. With steady progress, he served the Lodge as Master in 1957-1958.

During this period of time, Brother Tomme married the former Barbara Dunn of Fort Worth in 1952. They now have three children: Mildred Jane, 12; John Paul, 9; and David, 8.

Scarcely had he completed his term as Master of his Lodge than he took an active interest in the Grand Lodge of Texas. He served as a member of the By-Laws Committee of the Grand Lodge in 1958, 1959 and 1960. In 1960, he also served as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District 64.

The following year, Brother Tomme was Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Memorials. In 1962, he was also Chairman of the Special Committee of the Grand Lodge to investigate a Home for Aged Masons Who Have the Ability to Pay. During that year, he was also a member of the Masonic Home and School Development Committee.

Brother Tomme was elected president of the Board of Trustees of Masonic Home Independent School District in 1960 and continues to hold that post.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Temple Association in Fort Worth. Brother Tomme belongs to Fort Worth Chapter No. 58, R.A.M.; Fort Worth Council No. 52, R. & S. M.; Worth Commandery No. 19 K.T., and Moslah Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. He served as 2nd Ceremonial Master in 1960 and currently is Marshal. He is an honorary member of the Moslah Temple Drum and Bugle Corps.

Additionally, Brother Tomme is a member of the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies, holding the Degree of 33rd Inspector General Honorary. He is Senior Warden in the 12th Degree and Degree Master in the 29th

Degree in the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies. Brother Tomme is past president of the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Association.

Since 1959, Brother Tomme has been chairman of the Committee on Grand Master's Visitation of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of the 64th Masonic District. He is an officer in St. Timothy Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine and a member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

A Past Master Counselor of the Fort Worth Chapter of the Order of DeMolay, Brother Tomme is also a Deputy of the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay.

In addition to this remarkable list of Masonic activities, Brother Tomme has been a very active community, professional and church leader. He is a past president of the Rotary Club of South Fort Worth, vice chairman of the Fort Worth Public Schools Week Committee and a member of the Education Committee of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce.

Brother Tomme is also a member of the Fort Worth Chapter of the People to People Program and a former member of the Zoning Board of the City of Fort Worth. He belongs to the Fort Worth Club and Colonial Country Club as well as numerous professional groups and associations in dentistry.

Brother Tomme is an active member of the Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

As Grand Master, Brother Tomme emphasized the Development Program which was inaugurated during his term for the Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth. As his term was concluded, the program was well under way and a successful conclusion of the five-year program was foreseen.

The Grand Lodge of Texas has seldom before been led by a man who could point to such a vast record of Masonic, civic, professional and religious activities at so young an age. The enthusiasm and vitality of Brother J. D. Tomme, Jr., which he brought to Grand Lodge activities, has given the Grand Lodge of Texas a boost which will carry over for many years and will benefit Masonry for succeeding generations."

J. W. Chandler

Year In Office: 1968 **Parent Lodge: Reagan No. 1037**



"J. W. Chandler, who served as Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas for 1967-1968, was born at Falfurrias, Texas, on November 21, 1919.

In 1930 he moved to Houston, Texas, where he attended public schools and Lamar High School. In addition, Brother Chandler attended Business College, Houston Vocational College and has completed numerous Extension and Correspondence courses in Accounting, Finance and Management.

Brother Chandler, an accountant by profession, is President of Southern States Optical Company, Inc., in Houston. He is very active in community affairs, and is a member of the National Optical Wholesalers Association, Texas Ophthalmic Dispenser Association, American Board of Opticianry, Houston Chamber of Commerce, and American Legion. In addition, Brother Chandler has served as President of the Southwest Association of Independent Optical Suppliers, and on the Advisory Board of the University of Houston, receiving the Outstanding Service Award from the College of Optometry, University of Houston, in 1959.

During World War II Brother Chandler served in the United States Army. He is a member of the West University Methodist Church in Houston and has served on its Board of Stewards.

On October 30, 1948, Brother Chandler was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason in Reagan Lodge No. 1037, Houston, Texas. He served this Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1955-1956. He was District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 30-B in 1961, and served on the Committee on Purposes and Policies from 1961 to 1964.

Brother Chandler belongs to Will N. Kidd Chapter No. 424, R. A. M., having served as High Priest in 1957-1958, and as District Deputy Grand High Priest of District No. 5 in 1963. He is a member of San Jacinto Council No. 347, R. & S. M., and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1958-1959. Also, he is a member of Ruthven Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar, Arabia Shrine Temple and has received the Super Excellent Master's Degree, the Order of High Priesthood and the Order of the Silver Trowel.

In 1963, Brother Chandler received the Scottish Rite Degrees. He is a 32nd Degree Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, and is the Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas for the Valley of Houston.

Brother Chandler has taken an active part with youth groups and is Chairman of the Advisory Board of Reagan Chapter, Order of DeMolay. He is a Past Worthy Patron of Houston Heights Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

""Masonry by Example"" was the theme adopted by Grand Master J. W. Chandler and he is a splendid example of a great leader, a great citizen, and a great Mason. In his first message to the Brethren he said:

""We are all proud of the part Masons had in the formation of this great Republic of ours . . . in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, guaranteeing

freedom of religion, the separation of church and state and forbidding appropriation of monies to private or parochial schools.

""We are proud of the influence Masons have had in good government, respect for duly-constituted authority, the support of our churches and the establishment of our system of public free education. And proud we should be!""

The Masons of Texas are proud of the leadership, zeal and ability of Brother Chandler, and wish for him many years of continued service to the Craft."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

J. Guy Smith

Year In Office: 1969 **Parent Lodge: Tyler No. 1233**



"A Texas law enforcement agency has again furnished one of its fine personnel as an officer in The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M., in Joseph Guy Smith. He is Regional Commander of the Department of Public Safety, Region Number 1, Dallas, Texas, and he served the Masons of Texas as their Grand Master 1968-69.

Bro. Smith was born in Comanche, Texas, on March 23, 1909, and spent his early years in that community. He completed his elementary training in their schools. He moved with his parents to Austin in 1923 and there completed his high school work and attended Nixon-Clay Commercial College. It was in Austin that he began his law enforcement career as a motorcycle officer.

The Department of Public Safety had a new Highway Patrolman on September 1, 1935, and J. Guy Smith was launched on the career to which he is still dedicated. As a patrolman he was stationed at El Paso, Harlingen and Waco. The Department moved him to Tyler as Captain on July 1, 1944, and on September 1, 1957, he went to Dallas as Regional Commander of Region No. 1, his present position.

Dedication and interest in his chosen profession has been indicated by the further training he has taken at the Department of Public Safety Academy, Texas A&M University, Southern Methodist University and Northeastern University, Evanston, Illinois. The organizations of which he has been a member clearly outline the reasons for the advancements in his chosen field, they are: Texas Police Association, East Texas Peace Officers' Association, North Texas Peace Officers' Association, Dallas County Chiefs' of Police Association, International Association of Chiefs' of Police and Sheriffs' Association of Texas.

In private life Bro. Smith is the husband of Heritage Sprouse Smith, the father of Jo Ann Smith Lewis of Dallas, Texas, and James Guy Smith of Mineral Wells, Texas, and the proud Grandfather of eight lovely children. As a member of the First Baptist Church of Dallas he contributes to the spiritual life of his fellow citizens and also gives of himself in civic endeavors.

Fishing and Masonry are listed as hobbies of this busy man. His active Masonic life indicates that his Masonry is much more than a hobby. He was raised to Master Mason in George N. Denton Lodge No. 24, Waco, Texas, on September 24, 1943.

When he was transferred to Tyler he demitted and affiliated with Tyler Lodge No. 1233. He served as their Worshipful Master in 1953 and still maintains his membership there, as well as in East Dallas Lodge No. 1200, Dallas, Texas. His influence has been felt in the other branches of Masonry as he has worked actively in the Royal Arch Chapter and the Council of Royal and Select Masters. He was Chairman of the Scottish Rite Association of Texas and received his Honorary Inspector General 33° January 4, 1964, and is a member of Hella Shrine.

During the years he has faithfully served the Grand Lodge in several important capacities. In 1953 he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 16 and he was elected to the Committee on Work in 1958 devotedly performed his duties there until he was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1965. Three of those intervening years, 1962, 1963 and 1964, he led the Committee as their

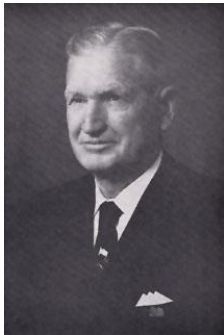
Chairman. As inspiration and aid he filled his place as Grand Junior Warder., Grand Senior Warden, Deputy Grand Master and finally led the Masons of Texas as Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1968-1969.

One of our Committees expressed our feelings with these words: ""In thinking back over our distinguished Grand Master's year. of service as a whole, we are impressed with the enormous quantity of time and effort he must have put in to accomplish what he did. The stewardship of this quiet and modest but very efficient man, is of the highest quality. Brother Smith has done `good and square work' and the image of Freemasonry is much improved by reason of his outstanding service to the Craft during the past year. Your Committee believes he has made us an excellent Grand Master.""

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Hal Burnett

Year In Office: 1970 **Parent Lodge: Alpine No. 766**



"Hal Burnett was born in San Saba County, Texas, on October 21, 1898, to W. J. and Emma Burnett. When Hal was eight years old he came with his parents to Pecos County. There the family made their home in a two room house. Rather crowded for eight people but none the less home. His early memories are vivid as he tells of the coming of the first automobile to Pecos and graphically brings to life his first business venture when at the age of fifteen he took a partner and went into business for himself. They lived in a cave at Nations Canyon and herded goats and looked after their cows. He still calls himself a ""goat herder.""

Ranches in Pecos and Jeff Davis Counties where his home and business until he enlisted in the Army during World War I, signing up for duty in Fort Worth, being sent to Fort Sam Houston for his first training and then on to Galveston to be trained in the Coast Artillery. He saw service in England, France and Germany. After the war he returned to Fort Davis where he worked as bookkeeper in a bank and later owned and operated his own grocery and feed store. In 1924 he decided to return to the land so he sold the store and returned to Pecos County to again take up farming and ranching. In 1950 he moved to Alpine and later leased out his holdings to Pecos County.

On February 12, 1922, he was married to Rachel Johns of Imperial, Texas. They have four children, Hal, Jr., Lee, Margie and Rachel Ann. There are now seven grandchildren. Early training tells and is reflected in the lives of the children are the teachings of the father. They all serve in positions that contribute to the welfare of their neighbors and their country.

Bro. Hal has always practiced what he preached by serving his neighbors and his community. For ten years he was County Commissioner and served as Vice-President of the Texas Judges and Commissioners Association. He also backed the schools actively by being one of the school trustees. In addition he was on the State Labor Advisory Board and active in the promotion of Red Bluff irrigation reservoir project. Always busy for the good of those around him.

Being a deeply religious man it is not surprising to see that he is active in his church. He is a Methodist and has served as a Steward, Sunday-School Superintendent and teacher. Filling the pulpit many times, he carries into his daily life his spiritual beliefs.

In 1923 Hal and Rachel established an eating shed at Boys Camp Meeting Association, 17 miles west of Ft. Davis in the beautiful Davis Mountains. For many years Rachel and Hal did the cooking in dutch ovens for the crowds. After some 25 years stoves and barbeque pits were added. About 1960 the Burnetts and others organized a corporation and the directors appointed Lee Burnett food superintendent. All the Burnett children were at this camp meeting before they were one year of age. This camp meeting of four denominations has been and still is very dear to the Burnetts. This establishment has very fine equipment now to assist five other such cook sheds in feeding those who come.

Masonry has held an important place in Bro. Hal's life and he has held a place of service in many of the Masonic Orders. On December 10, 1948, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Imperial Lodge No. 1285, Imperial, Texas. In 1950 he affiliated with Alpine Lodge No. 766, Alpine, Texas, and in 1958 with Jeff Davis Lodge No. 896, Fort Davis, Texas. He held offices in all three Lodges and was

chosen as Worshipful Master of Jeff Davis Lodge No. 896 in 1961. His service to Masonry has been recognized by the conferment of offices and honors by all the Bodies of which he is a member. He has filled the East in all the local Bodies and been on committees in all the Grand Bodies. He is a 33° Inspector General Honorary; Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas and Past Grand Patron, Order of Eastern Star of Texas. He has served as Registrar and Preceptor of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest, Nazareth Tabernacle; member of K.Y.C.H.; Order of Silver Trowel; Order of High Priesthood and has received the Super Excellent Council Degree. He is a member of El Maida Shrine of El Paso and has served on several Shrine committees in his temple. He was chosen by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas to serve as their Most Worshipful Grand Master, the greatest honor that they have to bestow. Now, 1971, is serving as Prior of Texas Pryor Knights of the York Cross of Honor of Texas.

A committee so aptly expressed the feelings of the Masons of Texas for this great man that it is well to include them here.

""In thinking back over our beloved Grand Master's year of service we are reminded of the words he used to preface his remarks during his many visitations: 'What a privilege it is . . .' Just a few simple words that he used to preface his expressions of affection and esteem for us. Just a few simple words with a volume of meaning. Just a few simple words that we now use to preface our remarks of affection and esteem for him. What a privilege it is to reflect upon the inflexible fidelity to his trust our Grand Master has maintained throughout this Masonic year. What a privilege it is to have his great lessons of Creations-Masonry-America presented to us through beautiful and meaningful Masonic symbolism. What a privilege it is to witness this Master Craftsman spreading the cement of brotherly love and affection and to become engulfed in it. What a privilege it is to be touched by his humbleness of spirit and gratitude. What a privilege it is to have this great Mason, this tall cedar from the Davis Mountains, as our beloved Grand Master during this Masonic year.""

Joe W. Steed

Year In Office: 1971 **Parent Lodge: Temple No. 70**



"Native Texan, Joe Weldon Steed, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, A F. & A. M., has had a varied and interesting career. He was born on August 31, 1910, in Winnsboro, Wood County, Texas. It was there he spent his early life and completed his Public School training. He continued his education at East Texas State University in Commerce, Texas, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree.

A lovely wife, Lillie Dora, and two lovely daughters are the Joe Steed family. Mary Jo is a teacher in the Richardson Public Schools, Richardson, Texas, and Martha Ann is an employee of the Titus County Memorial Hospital, Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

Since 1934 when Mr. Steed completed his education he has been involved in various fields of endeavor. For a time he taught in the Omaha Public Schools, Omaha, Texas, and later he served as Field Worker in Gilmer, and as Area Supervisor for the Texas Department of Public Welfare in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Later in Mt. Pleasant he was in the insurance business and for two years was Acting Postmaster. At present he is employed as Field Representative and land appraiser for the General Land Office of Texas in Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

During the years our Grand Master has been active in the religious and civic life of the community. As a member of Tenneson Methodist Church he has served as Chairman of the Official Board, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and a delegate to the Annual Conference on several occasions. He has worked for the betterment of the community as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Titus County Memorial Hospital in Mt. Pleasant and for better government as a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee and as Chairman of the Titus County Democratic Committee and is now a member of the Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce.

A long career in service to the Fraternity began when he was raised a Master Mason in Commerce Lodge No. 439, Commerce, Texas, in 1934. He affiliated with Bethesda Lodge No. 142, Gilmer, Texas, in 1937 and served them as Tiler in 1940 and 1941, Senior Warden in 1943 and Worshipful Master in 1944.

In 1944 he affiliated as dual member with Temple Lodge No. 90, Mt. Pleasant, Texas, and served as Senior Steward in 1947 and again in 1954. In 1949 he was chosen Tiler. This Lodge is his home Lodge now since he demitted from Gilmer Lodge No. 142 in 1948. He has since become a dual member of this Lodge where he served as Worshipful Master.

District Deputy Grand Master of the 6th Masonic District was Mr. Steed's first service to the Grand Lodge. Since then he has been active in all of its business, serving as Grand Senior Deacon in 1946 and for many years on the Grand Lodge By-Laws Committee; ten of those sixteen years was its chairman. In 1968 he was elected to the post of Grand Junior Warden and thus began the steps that led him to the position of Grand Master in 1971.

It is well to list the Masonic Organizations of which he has been a member in order to see the scope of his influence in the past and for the future.

Rob Morris Chapter No. 40, R. A. M., Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Rob Morris Council No. 31, R. & S. M., Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

Pittsburg Commandery No. 43, Knights Templar, Pittsburg, Texas. DeMolay Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Waco, Texas. Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies, Dallas, Texas. Hella Shrine Temple, Dallas, Texas, Sharon Shrine Temple, Tyler, Texas. Order of the Eastern Star, Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

Honors have been conferred on Mr. Steed by the Order of the Eastern Star when they elected him as Patron of the Chapter in Mt. Pleasant and the Order of DeMolay by conferring on him the Legion of Honour. He holds the Honorary Inspector General 33° in the Scottish Rite Bodies and an Honorary Life Membership in Sharon Shrine Temple, Tyler, Texas.

During the Annual Communication in December, 1971, he was elected to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School for a five year term. The Board then elected him to serve as treasurer for this great institution.

His theme for the year was ""Masonry Helps Today to Save the U. S. A."" and from all reports this theme was well received and appreciated by the Masons of Texas.

From past performance it can be seen that Brother Steed is just beginning his career in Masonry rather than ending it and his experience and ideas will enrich the Order for years to come."

Jack Hightower Year In Office: 1972 Parent Lodge: Vernon No. 655 "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas had as its Most Worshipful Grand Master during the year 1972, Jack Hightower, a Mason well suited to the honors and qualified for the responsibility conferred upon him by his fellow Masons.

Brother Hightower is a native Texan having been born September 6, 1926, in Memphis, Hall County, Texas, the son of Walter Thomas Hightower, now deceased, a member of Memphis Lodge No. 729, and Mrs. Floy English Hightower. He graduated from Memphis High School with honors in 1944. Before entering Baylor University, he served in the United States Navy, returning to civilian life to complete his education. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Baylor University in 1949 and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the same school in 1951.

Upon completion of his education, Brother Hightower returned to his native west Texas and began the practice of law in Vernon. Shortly, thereafter, in 1952, he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives without opposition. He did not seek re-election but was appointed District Attorney for the 46th judicial District in January, 1955. During this period of service he was named one of the state's Outstanding District Attorneys.

Since his election to the Texas Senate in 1964, Brother Hightower has served on all of the major committees of that body and has made an enviable record for himself. In the regular session of 1971, he was elected President Pro Tempore, a position which placed him third in line for the governorship. On April 3, 1971, during the absence from the state of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor, he served as Acting Governor.

Governor Price Daniel appointed Jack Hightower to the Board of Regents of Midwestern University in 1962, where he served as Vice-Chairman until his election to the Texas Senate. He has also served as President of the Texas District and County Attorneys Association, on the Texas Law Enforcement Commission and as Vice-President of the Texas Junior Bar Association.

Colleen Ward Hightower and three daughters, Ann, Amy and Alison lend warmth and glamour to the Hightower home at Vernon and give support to their husband and father in his public life.

Civic, professional and church responsibilities have played an important role in the life of the Jack Hightower family. Mrs. Hightower is a talented musician and serves as organist for their church. Brother Hightower teaches a Men's Bible Class and serves as a Deacon of the First Baptist Church of Vernon. He has also served the Baptists of Texas on the Board of Directors of The Baptist Standard, the Board of Directors of the Texas Baptist Children's Home, and is now serving on the Human Welfare Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and on the Board of Trustees of Baylor University. In May, 1971, he was honored by Howard Payne College with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. In his community he has served as President of the Vernon Lions Club, as a director of the Vernon Chamber of Commerce, and other places of civic responsibility.

Jack Hightower has also had a distinguished record of service in the Masonic fraternity. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on August 29, 1953, in Vernon Lodge No. 651, in Vernon, Texas with his friend of many years, Brother George Moffett, then serving as Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Texas, acting as Worshipful Master of the Lodge. He held various offices in the Lodge and was elected Worshipful Master in 1960. His service to the craft has been recognized by conferment of offices and honors by all of the Bodies in which he is a member. From 1964 to 1966 he served as High Priest of Vernon Chapter No. 192, Royal Arch Masons and as Thrice Illustrious Master of Vernon Council No. 130, Royal and Select Masters. He is a member of Vernon Commandery No. 33, Knights Templar, and served as Commander in 1959. He holds membership in the Knights of the York Cross of Honor and the Red Cross of Constantine. He is a 33° Inspector General Honorary in the Dallas 'Scottish Rite Bodies, and is a member of Maskat Shrine Temple in Wichita Falls, Texas.

His service to the Grand Lodge of Texas began in 1961, when he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 90th Masonic District. He served on the Committee on Grand Officer Reports in 1964 and on the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee from 1965 to 1969, serving as Chairman in 1968 and 1969. He was Grand Orator in 1966 and was elected Grand Senior Warden in 1970. In 1971 he served as Deputy Grand Master and as Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School of Texas. On December 2, 1971, he was elevated to the office of Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, serving earnestly in this place of leadership until December 7, 1972."

Duncan C. Howard

Year In Office: 1973 Parent Lodge: Fidelis No. 1127



"On December 7, 1972, a Waco dentist, Dr. Duncan Carnes Howard, was elected and installed as the 135th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas. The installing officer was Past Grand Master Lee Lockwood. It is thought that this combination made for a "first" in Texas Masonry since Brother Lockwood is the father-in-law of the Grand Master whom he installed.

The English and Scottish ancestry of Brother Howard came to this country during the colonial period and settled in Kentucky and Tennessee and on into Texas. Duncan was born as the youngest of two sons to V. C. and Gladys Duncan Howard. His early life was spent on a farm between Moody and Eddy. In 1939 the family moved to Waco where Duncan has become established as a permanent citizen.

Brother Howard began his education in Eddy and continued it in Waco. He attended Waco High School and was outstanding in sports as well as academically. He earned a listing in Who's Who Among High School Students in Texas. He was president of his class during his senior year and graduated as valedictorian. His pre-dental studies were completed at the University of Texas at Austin and his dental training at the Texas School of Dentistry, from which he received a Doctor of Dental Surgery. An internship was taken in general anesthesia in Baylor Hospital, Dallas, Texas. For fifteen years he specialized in dentistry for children and only began general practice when his Masonic obligations required more time than the practice of children's dentistry would permit.

In checking over the activities of Dr. Howard during his school and professional life it is evident that he has an interest in people as well as a love for his profession. He was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity while in college and is a life member of the Silver Spur Service Organization and the Texas Ex-Students Association. The professional organizations cover all fields in which he has worked. They began with the Society of Dentistry for Children, Southwest Society of Pedodontics, American Academy of Pedodontics, Xi Psi Phi Professional Fraternity of which he is a life member. Through the years he has been a member of the National, State and Local Dental Societies and has been active, serving in several offices in the Central Texas Dental Society even as its President. In addition, he is a Fellow in the Academy International of Dentistry.

Dr. Howard served his country as a Captain in the United States Dental Department in the Philippine Islands. He was made an honorary member of the Philippine Dental Association in appreciation for his dental lectures to the Philippine dentists. As usual he was serving those around him in any way that he could.

On June 22, 1946, Duncan married Miss Ann Marie Lockwood, the daughter of Past Grand Master and Mrs. Lee Lockwood. They had known each other since he was fourteen and went together through High School and college and were married at the end of his junior year in dental school. The Howards have two daughters, Ann Marie and Linda. Both are married, Ann Marie to a local attorney, Charles L. Cantrell. Linda is married to Rodney S. Goble, both attending Baylor University. The Cantrells have a daughter, Jennifer, making Dr. Howard a grandfather.

The community and the business interests in which he has been concerned have profited by the activity and drive he has always brought into anything in which he has a part. He is a past director of the Heart of Texas Fair and Goodwill Industries; a past member of the Waco Action Committee and past vice-president of the Waco Advancement Committee. At presents he is a member of the Waco Chamber of Commerce and a Director of the Community State Bank of Waco.

As is true of most well rounded men, Brother Howard is active in his church. He is a member of the Official Board of the Austin Avenue Methodist Church and a former Sunday School teacher in the Old Testament. His family has a long history of Methodist activity and his grandmother, Mrs. Florence Howard of Moody, Texas, built the first cottage-type living quarters, called the "Howard Home," for the Methodist Orphanage in Waco.

Grand Master Howard became a Mason in Fidelis Lodge No. 1127, Waco, Texas, in 1949. In 1950, he received a Certificate of Proficiency in the Esoteric Work and has continuously retained his certificate throughout the years. In 1952 he was appointed Senior Steward and progressed through the places and stations of Fidelis Lodge No. 1127, to serve as Worshipful Master in 1958-59. He also holds a dual membership in James H. Lockwood No. 1343, and was a charter member of this Lodge that was named for his wife's grandfather.

Brother Howard's service to the Grand Lodge began with his appointment as junior Deacon in 1959, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 61-B in 1961 and he served on the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports.

In the tradition of the Grand Lodge of Texas Brother Howard resigned from the Committee on Grand Officers Reports upon being elected to the Station of Grand Junior Warden in 1969; advanced to Grand Senior Warden in 1970, served as Deputy Grand Master in 1971 and was elevated to Grand Master for the Masonic Year 1972-1973.

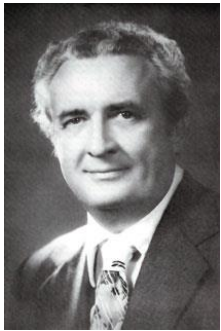
In addition to his Lodges, Brother Howard belongs to Waco Chanter No. 45, R.A.M., Waco Council No. 33, R. & S. M., and Waco Commandery No. 10. He became a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies in Austin, Texas, and later became charter member No. 1 in Waco Scottish Rite Bodies. He was elected Venerable Master in the Waco Lodge of Perfection, Waco, Texas, when they received their permanent charter. He was coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary in 1961 and is still serving in all of their activities. Additional related organizations to which Dr. Howard belongs are Karen, Shrine; National Sojourners, Inc. Heroes of 76; and DeMolay Legion of Honor, Honorary.

Brother Howard is thoroughly convinced that the Masons in our generation have a greater opportunity to serve mankind than ever before and if we work together, the "Golden Years" for Masonry are still to come. Traveling from one meeting to another throughout the state and spreading his philosophy of service and cooperation he may be likened to a lamplighter. The story goes that as the lamplighter comes down the street, he climbs up the lamp post, lights the lamp, climbs down and continues down the street to the next light. He climbs up, lights the lamp and comes down and goes to the next light. As he continues down the street the evening becomes ever darker and the lamplighter ever more indistinct as he goes about his work. Finally the man cannot be seen, it is too dark. The lights that he left show clearly and it can be seen where he has been. As time passes and Brother Howard fades into the shadows the lights that he had lit will show that he passed this way."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Dan B. Jordan

Year In Office: 1974 **Parent Lodge: Houston No. 1189**



Dan Boswell Jordan, who became Grand Master of Texas Masons on December 6, 1973, is a native of Georgia, where he was born April 4, 1918 in Warm Springs, the son of Enoch Pope and Clifford Aline (Boswell) Jordan. The family moved to Molena, Georgia when he was eighteen months old and here he received his public school education through high school. From 1935 to 1937 he was a student at Emory Junior College, where he was president to the student body in his final year.

After graduating from Emory Junior College, he taught school for two years at Milner, Georgia. A year at Piedmont College followed on a basketball and baseball scholarship. In 1940-1941 he taught and coached basketball at Austell High School in Austell, Georgia.

From 1941 to September, 1945 he was in military service where he attained the rank of Captain in the U.S. Air Force. He was a navigator on B-17's in the 8th Air Force during late 1943 and early 1944. While serving in England he was decorated with the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Presidential Unit Citation and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Following his military service, he came to Texas, where he was employed by the Sinclair Refining Company at Houston. At night he attended the University of Houston. In 1945 he married Vivian Hill, a native of El Paso. They have three lovely daughters-Nancy, Dana, and Sherry.

Grand Master Jordan is the Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Petroleum Marketer' Association, a jewelry store owner and is also engaged in the real estate business. He is a member of the Houston Board of Realtors, Texas Association of Realtors and National Association of Real Estate Brokers.

His impressive Masonic career started in 1954 in Houston Lodge No. 1189. He was initiated February 26th, passed June 1st and raised a Master Mason on September 14, 1954. He was Master of Houston Lodge in 1962-1963 and later served as Treasurer.

In 1955 he received the Scottish Rite degrees and in 1965 received the 33 Honorary. He is a Past Wise Master of Houston Chapter, Knights Rose Croix and is now Commander of Houston Council of Knights Kadosh. In 1963 he received the degrees and orders of the York Rite in Washington Chapter No.2, R.A.M., Houston Council No.1, R. & S.M. and in Ruthven Commandery No.2, Knights Templar. He is a member of Arabia Shrine Temple, the Royal Order of Scotland, the National Sojourners, Texas Lodge of Research, the Red Cross of Constantine, Houston Chapter No. 258, Order of the Eastern Star, and other appendant orders. He is a recipient of the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

He was elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Texas in December 1970 and advanced regularly to Grand Master in December 1973. A Committee expressed the feelings of the Masons of Texas so well that we include here a portion of its remarks.

Each year since 1838, when Sam Houston presided over the first meeting to form this Grand Lodge, dedicated Masons have given of their time and talents to preside over the Grand Lodge as its Grand Master. Surely our Most Worshipful Grand Master Dan B. Jordan is one of these.

Our Most Worshipful Grand Master made this statement in discussing World War II and the bombing of Berlin, Germany: "I do not know why I was spared when so many of my comrades were lost in combat." He then said that he guessed the Lord had some Mission for him to fill or perform on the Earth.

We think he was right. He certainly has fulfilled that mission in the courageous way he has filled the exalted office of Grand Master ... and in the courageous manner he has kept symbolic Lodge Masonry and the Grand Lodge of Texas as the Supreme Masonic Body in Texas with the Grand Master as the Supreme Head of all appendant Bodies, so long as they remain appendant Bodies.

Never has this Grand Lodge had a more dedicated or more talented Mason, or one whose ability as a speaker, or one who has been appreciated more by the Masons and appendant bodies before whom he has appeared, than our Most Worshipful Grand Master.

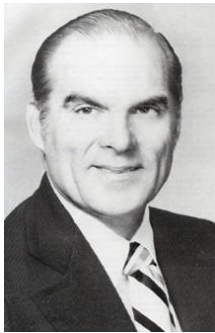
Many pioneers and heros of Texas came from the State of Georgia to help establish this great State. Many have come through the years to assist in making it the finest place in the world to live and make a home and raise a family.

In each generation one comes destined to be a great leader. Certainly one has come in this generation to lead us in the person of our Grand Master, M: W: Dan B. Jordan. He has taken the Grand Lodge of Texas to the Masons of Texas by traveling from one end to the other and from side to side, talking symbolic Lodge Masonry to his Brethren.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Robert B. O'Connor

Year In Office: 1975 **Parent Lodge: Anchor No. 424**



"Robert Burns O'Connor, attorney of San Antonio, became the 137th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, on December 5, 1974. Occupying the highest position in the Masonic fraternity, he guided the approximately 230,000 Masons of Texas during 1975.

A native of San Antonio, Grand Master O'Connor was born April 25, 1919 and received his education in the public schools of that city, graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1937. He then attended San Antonio Junior College for two years and pursued his studies in law at the University of Texas Law School where he received the LL.B. degree in 1942. He was in military service from 1942 to 1945 in the Army Air Corps. Since 1946 he has been engaged in the private practice of law.

He is a member of the San Antonio Bar Association and served as president in 1963-1964. In addition, he has held various other offices and committee assignments. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the State Bar Association of Texas and is a member of the American Bar Association.

In 1951 he married Neida Wright and they have four children: Deneice, Dona, Brian and Patrick. An active member of Trinity Episcopal Church since 1946, he has been a Licensed Lay Leader since 1948, served several times on the Vestry and was Senior Warden from 1956 to 1958. He was a representative to the Dioscean Council in 1956 and 1961.

Robert B. O'Connor began his Masonic career in 1943 in Anchor No. 424 of San Antonio, receiving the Entered Apprentice degree on January 20, 1943, the Fellowcraft on February 22, 1946 and became a Master Mason on March 26, 1946. (He was called into military service after receiving E.A. Degree, hence the reason for the three year delay.) Since 1961 he has held dual membership with Perfect Union No. 10. Master of Anchor Lodge in 1954-1955, he was District Deputy Grand Master of District 39-A in 1957. He has served on such Grand Lodge Committees as Grievances and Appeals (Chairman 1959 and 1963), Grand Officers' Reports, Public Education, Respect for Law and Order and Director of the Masonic Home and School. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in December, 1971 and after regular advancement became Grand Master of Texas Masons on December 5, 1974.

He has been a member of the San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies since 1946, awarded the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1957 and coroneted as a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1967. He began his York Rite membership in 1961, receiving the Capitular degrees in Burlison Chapter No. 21, R.A.M. and the Cryptic degrees in San Antonio Council No. 14, R. & S.M. He was made a Knight Templar in San Antonio Commandery No. 6, K.T., in 1962. Potentate of Alzafar Shrine Temple in 1965, he also served that year as President of the Texas Shrine Association. A member of various other Masonic organizations such as the Red Cross of Constantine, etc. He received the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1965.

As one of our Committees so fittingly stated in its report to Grand Lodge:

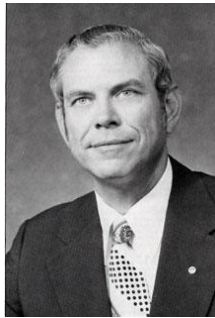
""The proceedings of this Masonic year will bear the name ""O'Connor"" not alone on the back of the written proceedings but also upon the lives and actions of Texas Masons. The year of ""O'Connor"" has

been well planned and purposeful. Before he was installed as Grand Master he had chartered his course for this year and with unflagging endeavor he has carried the plan into execution. He has challenged our thoughts and our actions with his messages in The Texas Freemason giving clarity and deeper meaning to the universal ethics and morals of God and country. He has applied tried and true principles of organization and leadership to the administration of his office and performed his duties with zeal and fidelity. He has studied our Laws, organization structure and modes of operation and made constructive and definite recommendations for their improvement. He has traveled many miles over the great state of Texas bringing his wisdom, strength, and brotherly love to Texas Masons everywhere. Through it all he has remained ""Bob O'Connor"" untouched by honors and fanfare, purposeful and untiring in his efforts and always a brother Mason. Yes, this has indeed been the Year of ""O'Connor"" and we are deeply thankful for it.""

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Thomas C. Yantis

Year In Office: 1976 **Parent Lodge: Brownwood No. 297**



"Thomas C. Yantis of Brownwood comes from a rich Masonic heritage, being the fourth generation of the Yantis family to hold membership in Brownwood Lodge No. 279 and bearing the name of his grandfather, Thomas Caldwell Yantis, who also was Grand Master of Texas Masons in 1909-1910. The son of John T. Yantis (deceased PM of Brownwood Lodge) and Hope Arledge Yantis, he was born November 3, 1923 and attended the Brownwood public schools. A member of the class of 1944 at Texas A&M, he received a B.S. degree in 1947 after his college career was interrupted by military service in WWII as an Infantry Officer. His combat duty with the 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division in France, Germany and Austria earned him the Bronze Star for Valor with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Continuing in the 36th Division, Texas National Guard following the war, he retired in 1963 with the rank of Lt. Col.

Upon receiving his degree from Texas A&M in 1947 he entered the banking profession and served 21 years with the First National Bank in Brownwood, resigning as Executive Vice President in 1968 to devote full time to ranching interests in Brown and McCulloch Counties. He is currently the managing partner of the Lazy Y Ranch, raising registered Horned Hereford cattle. While with the bank, he served three years on the State Administrative Council of the Texas Bankers Association.

In 1948 he married Kathleen Alef Henley, familiarly known as "'Muff', and they have three children: John, an officer in the U. S. Air Force; Kathleen, a graduate of Texas Christian University; and Edward, in the fifth grade of Brownwood public schools.

The Yantis family are active members of the First United Methodist Church of Brownwood, all having served in the Sanctuary Choir at various times and in other official capacities. Tom has served as Chairman of the Official Board, Sunday School teacher, Lay Leader and many other positions.

Member of the Brownwood Rotary Club since 1947 and President in 1962, he has been active in civic and community affairs. He has held various offices in the Brownwood Junior Chamber of Commerce, Brownwood Chamber of Commerce, Comanche Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America, and Brown County United Fund. For many years he has been on the Executive Board and Vice President of the Boy Scout Council. He is a licensed amateur radio operator and aircraft pilot.

Tom Yantis began his Masonic career in 1948 in Brownwood Lodge No. 279, receiving the Entered Apprentice degree on February 10, the Fellowcraft degree on March 9 and became a Master Mason on April 6. In 1975 he took dual membership with Indian Creek Lodge No. 807, also in Brownwood. Master in 1962-63, he served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 109th Masonic District in 1967 and as Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1972. He has held a certificate of proficiency in the esoteric work of Masonry since 1948, the same year he was initiated, and a Life Certificate since 1973.

Brother Yantis belongs to all of the affiliated bodies of Masonry and many of their honorary organizations. A 25 year member of the York Rite, he became a member of Brownwood Chapter No. 141, R.A.M., Brownwood Council No. 86, R. & S.M., and Brownwood Commandery No. 22, K.T., all in 1948. As a past presiding officer of each of these bodies, he received the Knight York Cross of Honour in 1969. He received the Order of High Priesthood and the Order of the Silver Trowel in 1962 and has been

a member of St. Timothy Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine in Fort Worth since 1968. He also belongs to West Texas York Rite College No. 36 in Lubbock and Nazareth Tabernacle XXXIV H.R.A.K.T.P. in San Angelo. He served the Grand Chapter of Texas as Grand Orator in 1963 and the Grand Council of Texas as Grand Conductor of the Council in 1962.

Active in the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, he received the 32nd Degree in Dallas Consistory in 1968 and affiliated with the Waco Scottish Rite Bodies in 1970. There he serves as the Prior of the 32nd degree team and holds a Life Membership since 1971. In 1973 he served as President of the Brownwood Scottish Rite Association, and in that year was awarded the rank and decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honour.

A Shriner since 1950, he was initiated in Moslah Temple at Fort Worth and affiliated with Suez Temple in 1953, serving the latter as Potentate in 1970 and representative to the Imperial Council for several years. He is presently serving as Vice President of the Cabin International, the international order of the Past Potentates of North America and destined to become President of that group in the near future.

Brother Yantis was elected Grand Junior Warden of The Grand Lodge of Texas at its 137th Grand Annual Communication in Waco on December 7, 1972, and after regular advancement, became Grand Master of Texas Masons on December 4, 1975. An ardent and zealous Mason, he has devoted a great deal of time and effort to the Fraternity and is a popular Masonic speaker.

One of the Grand Lodge Committees expressed our grateful appreciation and thanks to Most Worshipful Grand Master Thomas C. Yantis for his contribution and service to Masonry in these words:

During this year our Grand Master's Messages have been outstanding in discussing his plans for Masonic participation in the National Bicentennial Celebration, making clear to the individual Mason the relationship and participation of Masonry in building our great nation and pointing out the relationship of God, Masonry and patriotism in the tremendous accomplishments of our country. He has inspired us to go further with his clear outline of Masonic opportunity and responsibility for the future. With ever increasing frequency he has included very pertinent quotations from the Holy Bible, the Great Light in Masonry, as guides and incentives to our future actions. If there ever was a time when our great nation needs the morality and ethics so clearly outlined in the Great Light of all Masonry, it is now and our Grand Master has led us unerringly to it.

The Bicentennial Celebration will be known and remembered as historical and inspirational facts, and the accomplishment of this year will still be having their impact on the sons and citizens of that great day. Most Worshipful Grand Master, you have written history for future generations during your term of office as Grand Master of Texas Masons and this and future generations will call you blessed for it. You have won a place in our hearts with your inspired and dedicated service to our great Fraternity and we humbly and gratefully say thank you for your great leadership."

Herman Vinyard

Year In Office: 1977 **Parent Lodge: McAllen No. 1110**



"Herman Vinyard, installed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas on December 2, 1976, is a native of Illinois, where he was born April 26, 1925 at Harrisburg. He received his education in the public schools of Harrisburg and the University of Illinois. From July 9, 1943 to June 19, 1946, he was in the U. S. Marine Corps, serving as Corporal in the South Pacific area.

Grand Master Vinyard and his wife, Betty (Freda Elizabeth), reside at 620 Jonquil Avenue, McAllen, where they are members of the Methodist Church. Their daughter, Kathryn Gray, now Mrs. Gary Allan Goodnight, resides in San Jose, California.

The Vinyards came to Texas in October, 1951 and after a brief residence at several Gulf Coast cities became a resident of McAllen in August, 1953, where they have since resided. He was employed by two oil companies and the Valley Monitor at McAllen before becoming associated with Tide Products, Incorporated, an agricultural chemical firm where he is presently an administrative assistant.

Our Grand Master received the three craft degrees in Harrisburg No. 325, A. F. & A. M., at Harrisburg, Illinois in 1946, the Entered Apprentice August 23rd, the Fellowcraft September 20th and the Master Mason October 25th. He affiliated with McAllen No. 1110 on July 4, 1961 and served as Master in 1965-66. Since then, he has been Secretary, an office he will continue to fill while Grand Master. He has served on several Grand Lodge Committees, as District Deputy Grand Master and as Grand Senior Deacon and an elective Grand Officer since December 6, 1973.

Grand Master Vinyard is a Scottish Rite and York Rite Mason. He is a member of the San Antonio Scottish Rite with the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. He is a member of St. Timothy Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Fort Worth, Texas. He is a member of Hidalgo Chapter No. 434, Royal Arch Masons of Edinburg and Hidalgo Council No. 353, Royal and Select Masters of the same city. He completed his York Rite Masonry as a Knight of Hidalgo Commandery No. 94, K. T. of Edinburg.

One of our Grand Lodge Committees expressed our feelings in the following manner:

""We note that he has repeatedly tried to impart to our minds and thoughts the personal and individual responsibility which each of us as a Mason owes to one's family, community, associates, Lodge, and one's self. We feel that his illustration of the Altar upon which rests the Holy Writings and Square and Compass, accompanied by the phrase ""The Place of Beginning Again"" was not just a gimmick or contrivance to adorn a metal piece or memento of his year as Grand Master, but a sincere and fraternal pleading to each of us to remember the basic principles and teachings of our great fraternity.""

R. Furman Vinson

Year In Office: 1978 **Parent Lodge: Matador No. 824**



"Roy Furman Vinson, farmer and rancher of Flomot, Texas was installed as the 139th Grand Master of Texas Masons on December 3, 1977. A native Texan, Grand Master Vinson was born April 15, 1921, at Matador, Texas, the son of Oscar and Maud Vinson. He was educated in the public schools of Matador and attended Texas Tech until called into military service during World War II. He spent four years in the military service with the rank of First Lieutenant of Infantry in the 77th Division. He received Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart and is a past commander of his American Legion post.

He married Beverly Gray on November 27, 1943, and they have two children: a son, Roger, of Matador, who is now serving as Worshipful Master of Matador Lodge No. 824; and a daughter, Linda Perryman of Afton, Texas. There are also three grandchildren: Shannon and Dana Roy Vinson and Wendy Perryman.

The Vinsons are members of the First United Methodist Church of Matador, where he is Lay Leader and Sunday School teacher.

Grand Master Vinson started his Masonic career in 1946, receiving the Entered Apprentice degree on July 13th, the Fellowcraft on October 5th and the Master Mason degree on November 9th in Matador Lodge No. 824. He was Master of this Lodge in 1950-1951 and District Deputy Grand Master of District 119 in 1952. He has served on the Committee on Grievances and Appeals No. 2 and Masonic Education and Service. He was elected Grand Junior Warden on December 5, 1974, and advanced successively to the position of Grand Master.

The Grand Master received the Chapter and Council degrees in 1947 in Matador Chapter No. 283 and Matador Council No. 218. He is a Past High Priest of his Chapter and Past Thrice Illustrious Master of his Council and has served as District Deputy for both the Grand Chapter and Grand Council. He received the Orders of the Commander in 1949 in Plainview Commandery No. 53. He is a Past Commander and was Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery in 1973-1974. He was Grand Master of the Second Wail and Grand Chaplain of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter in 1969 and 1974. He is also Past Grand High Priest of the Order of High Priesthood, Past Prior of Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Past Governor of West Texas York Rite College No. 26 and a holder of the Knight Templar Cross of Honour and the DeMolay Legion of Honour.

He is charter member of the Lubbock Scottish Rite Bodies and was coroneted with the honorary 33° on December 1, 1973.

Other Masonic memberships and honors include: Past Preceptor of Ascension Tabernacle XX, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; Texas Lodge of Research; Past Sovereign of Crusader Conclave Red Cross of Constantine; Royal Order of Scotland; Khiva Shrine Temple; Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia; Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Idaho, Royal and Select Masters; and Grand Representative of the Grand Commander of Colorado. He is also a Past Patron of Matador Chapter No. 66, Order of the Eastern Star.

One of our Grand Lodge Committees best expressed his character and striking qualities in these words:

""At the on-set of Tenure in office, our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother R. Furman Vinson, chose an emblem of the Square, Compasses, and the letter ""G"" fashioned in the shape of a branding iron; which he referred to as the ""Brand of a Mason."" No doubt this idea originated partially as a result of his heritage and profession, being that of a rancher and farmer. He felt a closeness with all of those things earthly and natural as provided by the Supreme Architect of the Universe. As has been the custom for the rancher or farmer to set his brand upon his properties, not only because it signified ownership, but more especially because it professed the pride he felt of having produced goods of sound stock; thus has our Grand Master tried to convey to each of us that our hearts should always carry the brand of a Mason. We should never forget, nor lay aside, the basic principal teachings and tenets of Freemasonry. The extended points of the compasses should always remind us of our reception into the Master Masons' Lodge, the Square we must always assign to the Master, never forgetting the significance of the letter ""G"". If these things be emblazoned in our hearts and minds, then we have the right to wear the ""Brand of a Mason.""

Most Worshipful Grand Master, many of us have had the pleasure of being with you on some of your visitations. Some of us have noticed that prior to the time we would assemble in the Lodge Room, you always withdrew to a quiet corner or outside the building, knowing well that this was the time you had set aside to seek Divine blessings and guidance. You truly wear the ""Brand of a Mason"" with all of the dignity of a leader and friend.

Your Committee of Grand Officers' Reports appreciate the trust you have placed in us, and we say to you:

Gah Lo nay duh stah le go say ste.

May The Great Spirit be with you"

Draft dated 06/21/2022

W. P. Lamb

Year In Office: 1979 **Parent Lodge: Cedar Bayou No. 321**



"William Patrick Lamb, of Baytown, Texas was installed as the 140th Grand Master of Texas Masons on December 2, 1978. Brother Lamb was born on May 28, 1914 in Merryville, Louisiana, and has resided in Texas since May 1920, first at Kirbyville and at Baytown since 1940.

He was an employee of the Humble Oil and Refining Company (Exxon) from 1941 to 1970 and since then has operated his own Real Estate and Insurance business.

He is married to Anna Wright and they have two children: a son, Clark Virgil Powell of Baytown and a daughter, Mrs. Paul (Gail) Stewart of Deer Park. The Lambs are members of the Central Baptist Church of Baytown.

Brother Lamb is a graduate of Kirbyville High School and attended Louisiana State Northwestern from 1932 to 1934.

His Masonic career began in 1952 when he received the Entered Apprentice degree on September 8th. The Fellowcraft degree followed on October 10th and he became a Master Mason on January 6, 1953 in Cedar Bayou Lodge No. 321 of Baytown. After serving as Junior and Senior Warden, he was Master of Cedar Bayou Lodge in 1959-1960. In 1967 he was District Deputy Grand Master of District 30-A.

He is a member of Goose Creek Chapter No. 408, R.A.M., Goose Creek Council No. 339, R. & S.M., and Kenedy Commandery No. 61, K.T., all of Baytown. He served Kenedy Commandery as Prelate 10 years and is an Honorary Commander of his Commandery.

He is a 32° Mason of the Houston Scottish Rite Bodies, a member of Arabia Shrine Temple and a Past Patron of Cedar Bayou Chapter No. 11, O.E.S. He is a member of Chinar Grotto in Houston. He was the recipient of the DeMolay Legion of Honor. He was honored with the investiture of KCCH and he is also a member of the Texas Lodge of Research."

Sam E. Hillburn

Year In Office: 1980 **Parent Lodge: Midland No. 623**



"Sam E. Hillburn was installed as the 141st Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons on December 8, 1979.

He was born in Grandfield, Oklahoma June 15, 1921. His early education was in Wichita Falls, Texas and graduated from Wichita Falls High School in 1938. He attended Tarleton State University and Texas A&M prior to military service, and graduated from Oklahoma University with degrees in Geology and Petroleum Engineering. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Texas and a member of various Geological and Engineering Societies, both state and national.

He is an independent oil operator of Midland, Texas, where he has resided for 36 years, during which time he served in various civic capacities, including six years as member and president of the Midland School Board. He and his wife, Millie, have been married 38 years and have three children, Sam, Jr., Caren Lynne and Sandra Kay - also five grandchildren. They are members of St. Luke's Methodist Church of Midland, where he is a past Chairman of the Board, lay leader, trustee and adult Sunday School teacher.

His Masonic career began on December 1, 1949 when he was initiated an Entered Apprentice. He was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft January 19, 1950 and was raised a Master Mason February 19, 1950 in Midland Lodge No. 623. He served as Worshipful Master of Midland Lodge in 1959-60 and was District Deputy Grand Master of the 81st Masonic District in 1962. He was Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1970 and was elected Grand Junior Warden December 2, 1976. He is a life member of Midland Lodge No. 623.

He was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Keystone Chapter No. 172, R. A. M. on March 15, 1950 and served that Chapter as High Priest in 1955-1956. He was District Deputy Grand High Priest of the 44th Capitular District in 1975 and Grand Orator of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1977. He received the Order of High Priesthood on December 2, 1957.

He was greeted as a Select Master in Keystone Council No. 112, R. & S. M. on April 4, 1950, served as Thrice Illustrious Master of this Council in 1953-1954, and as District Deputy Grand Master of the 44th Cryptic District in 1972. He received the Super Excellent Master's Degree on April 18, 1953 and the Order of the Silver Trowel on December 3, 1957.

He was Knighted in Midland Commandery No. 84, K. T. on June 28, 1950, served as Commander of Midland Commandery in 1955 and as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas in 1975-76. He is currently serving as a member of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

He received the Scottish Rite degrees in the El Paso Scottish Rite bodies becoming a 32° Mason on October 22, 1953. He was invested with the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor on October 17, 1961 and 33° on November 17, 1973. He is currently serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Dormitory at the University of Texas.

He was initiated as a Noble and Charter member of Suez Temple, A.A.O.N.O.M.S. on October 14, 1950 and is a permanent contributing member.

He was ordained a member of Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of the York Cross of Honor in December, 1959, and is a life member. He was elected Herald of Texas Priory No. 23 in December, 1980.

He became a member of Nazareth Tabernacle XXXIV Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests on December 17, 1955 and served as Preceptor in 1962.

He was Sovereign of St. Alphege Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine in 1966 and was elected Grand Junior General of the Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine in June, 1980.

He is a member of Texas York Rite College No. 14 and a dual member of West Texas York Rite College No. 36.

He is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, a life member of Chinar Grotto in Houston and a dual member of Omala Grotto in San Antonio.

He is a Past Patron (1958-1959) of Midland Chapter No. 253, Order of the Eastern Star, Past Chapter Advisor of the Midland Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and has received the Cross of Honor and Honorary Legion of Honor, Order of DeMolay.

During the 145th Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, he was elected to a full term as member of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School.

The thanks of the Brethren of Texas go to Grand Master Sam E. Hilburn for the excellent manner with which he administered the affairs of the Grand Lodge of Texas during his year as Grand Master.

His enthusiasm and love for Masonry and for the Brethren had much to do with the success and progress of Masonry not only during the year 1980 but will have a long and lasting effect upon Texas Masonry in the future."

Tom Land

Year In Office: 1981 **Parent Lodge: Polytechnic No. 925**



"Most Worshipful Brother Land was born on August 6, 1922, in Krum, Texas. He is a 1941 graduate of our Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth, Texas. After the death of his father in Krum, Texas, Brother Land spent 11 years at the Home with two brothers and two sisters, where he received his elementary and high school education. While at the Home, he was a member of the famous Mighty Mites football team, and participated in all sports and academic activities. His freshman and sophomore years in college were spent at S.M.U. in Dallas, with financial assistance coming from the L.A. Pires York Rite Scholarship Fund.

During World War II, Brother Land served as a staff sergeant in Europe with the 84th Infantry Division, was captured by the Germans, and was held in a prison camp until the end of the war.

After 3½ years in the U.S. Army, he transferred to North Texas University in Denton, Texas and received his bachelor of science degree in 1948, and his master of science degree in 1949.

After returning to Fort Worth, he became associated with the State Life Insurance Company, and has been with it for the past 23 years. In the business world, he is past president and member of the Board of Directors of the Fort Worth Association of Life Underwriters; past National and State Committeeman of the Association of Life Underwriters; Life member of the Texas Leaders Round Table; and a National Quality award winner for 17 consecutive years. In civic activities, he is a life and charter member and past president of the Sertoma International Club; past president of the Masonic Home Ex-Students Association of Texas; trustee and secretary of the McCaulay Memorial Masonic Foundation; and a member of the Texas Golden Gloves Double "G" Club.

Brother Land is married to the former Sylvia Ann Holder of San Antonio, and they are members of the University Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, where he has been a deacon and Sunday School director for the past 17 years. They have two children, David Michael Land (27) and Susan Kay Land (20).

Most Worshipful Brother Land was raised a Master Mason in Polytechnic Lodge No. 925 in 1946 in Fort Worth, and served as Worshipful Master in 1964-65. He received his Chapter and Council degrees in Polytechnic Chapter and Council, and currently is serving his Chapter as Royal Arch Captain. He is also a member of Worth Commandery No. 19; of Moslah Shrine Temple; of Fort Worth Scottish Rite Bodies; and of Polytechnic Chapter No. 420, Order of the Eastern Star. He has been honored as a member of the St. Timothy Conclave of Red Cross of Constantine; holds the DeMolay Legion of Honor; is a Scottish Rite Knight Commander of the Court of Honour; a member of the Texas Lodge of Research, and of the High Noon Club of Dallas.

Brother Land served the Grand Lodge of Texas as Chairman of the Masonic Graduate Advisory Committee from 1970 to 1977; served as District Deputy Grand Master, Masonic District No. 64-A in 1973-74; was elected Grand Junior Warden in December, 1977; elected Grand Senior Warden in December, 1978; and was elected Deputy Master in December, 1979. He has the distinction of being the third Texas Grand Master to be a graduate of our Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth."

J. M. Willson Jr.

Year In Office: 1982 **Parent Lodge: Floydada No. 712**



"James McCrory Willson, Jr. of Floydada was elected and installed as Grand Master of Texas Masons on December 5, 1981, for the Masonic year 1981-1982.

Most Worshipful Brother Willson was born at Hale Center, Texas on November 30, 1921, the son of James M. Willson and Mavis L. Terry Willson. He attended the public schools of Floydada and graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1943 with the BBA degree. He served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946.

He married Anne O'Berry Newman of Cary, North Carolina in 1946 and they have five children. The Willsons are members of the First United Methodist Church of Floydada and Mr. Willson has served as a Sunday School teacher, Chairman of the Administrative Board, Trustee, Finance Committee, District Lay Leader of Plainview District, Conference Lay Leader, 1968-70, and member and Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Home in Waco.

Active in community affairs he has served three terms on the City Council of Floydada and two terms as Mayor. He has been Treasurer, Secretary, President and District Governor of the Rotary Club; Past President of the Floydada Jaycees; Past Director of the Floydada Chamber of Commerce and West Texas Chamber of Commerce; member Board of Directors and Past President Floydada Development Company; served as Vice President, District Chairman, Commissioner and Executive Board Member of South Plains Council, Boy Scouts of America; Director of Texas Lumberman's Association and High Plains Research Foundation; Director of Methodist Hospital Board in Lubbock; member of Advisory Board of Small Business Administration; Past Commander and Adjutant of American Legion Post; registered with Boy Scouts of America and received Eagle Award, Silver Beaver Award and Distinguished Eagle Award.

He was raised a Master Mason on February 22, 1947 in Floydada Lodge No. 712 and served as Master in 1956-1957, District Deputy Grand Master of the 96th District in 1958, Grand Marshal in 1976, and State Regional Conference Coordinator for three years. He also served as Workshop Chairman three years, Grand Orator in 1978 and Chairman Finance Committee in 1978. He was elected Grand Junior Warden on December 2, 1978.

He was exalted as a Royal Arch Mason on May 21, 1947 in Floydada Chapter No. 227, High Priest in 1961-1962, District Deputy Grand High Priest of the 39th Capitular District in 1963, Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of New Mexico and Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in 1978.

He was greeted in Floydada Council, Royal and Select Masters, No. 163 on June 9, 1947, served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1960-1961, District Deputy Grand Master of the 39th Cryptic District in 1965 and Grand Representative of the Grand Council of New Mexico.

Knighted in Plainview Commandery No. 53, K.T. on September 22, 1947, he served as Commander in 1962. He was a member of Lubbock Commandery No. 60 and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Texas in 1973-1974.

He received the honorary 330 at Dallas on December 16, 1965, and is now a charter and life member of the Lubbock Scottish Rite.

Other Masonic memberships include Philalethes Society, Texas College Societas Rosicrucians, Great Priory of America Chevaliers Bienfaisants de la Cite Sainte, the Order of High Priesthood, Order of the Silver Trowel, Super Excellent Master, Past Prior of Texas Prior No. 23, Knights of the York Cross of Honor, Past Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine, Texas York Rite College No. 14 and dual member of West Texas York Rite College No. 36. He has served as Deputy Governor of the York Rite College of North America for Texas, Past Preceptor of Ascension Tabernacle XX of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, life member of the Royal Order of Scotland, life member of Khiva Shrine Temple and honorary member of El Mina Shrine Temple, Maskat Shrine Temple, El Mida Shrine Temple, Moslah Shrine Temple, Hella Shrine Temple, Arabia Shrine Temple, Suez Shrine Temple, Alzafar Shrine Temple, Sharon Shrine Temple, Ben Hur Shrine Temple, Al Amin Shrine Temple and Karem Shrine Temple."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

J. D. "Buddy" Baccus

Year In Office: 1983 **Parent Lodge: Park Place No. 1172**



"On December 4, 1982, The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M., elected James D. Buddy Baccus as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Texas Masons for the ensuing Masonic year.

James D. Baccus was born in Teague, Texas, on July 24, 1924, and was educated in the Public Schools of Teague, Texas, and Sulphur Springs, Texas, graduating from Sulphur Springs High School. He became employed by the Port Terminal Railroad Association on July 17, 1947, in Houston, Texas. He married Bettye Zeve Schoenfeld of Fort Worth. There are four children, one son and three daughters, and seven grandchildren.

M:W: Brother Baccus began his illustrious career in Masonry when he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in Park Place Lodge No. 1172, Houston, Texas, on May 2, 1956, and has been active in all bodies of Masonry ever since. He served as Worshipful Master of Park Place Lodge in 1963-64; District Deputy Grand Master of District 30D in 1974; Grand Tiler of The Grand Lodge of Texas in 1976; elected Secretary of Park Place Lodge in 1975; elected as Grand Junior Warden of The Grand Lodge of Texas in 1979, and advanced each year through the line. He has also served on several committees of The Grand Lodge, and as Regional Coordinator of Region 4 for The Grand Lodge for several years. He received a Life Certificate for Proficiency in the Esoteric Work in December 1981.

In the York Rite, he was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Park Place Chapter No. 458, on April 15, 1957, and served as High Priest of that Chapter in 1968-69; was District Deputy Grand High Priest, Capitular District 5-B in 1971; received the Order of High Priesthood in December 1969, and has been a member of the Credentials Committee of the Grand Chapter, RAM, since 1969. He was greeted a Royal & Select Master in Park Place Council No. 373, on April 26, 1957, and received the Super Excellent Master's degree that same year. He served as Thrice Illustrious Master of that Council in 1968-69; was Grand Marshal of the Grand Council Royal & Select Masters of Texas in 1972; District Deputy Grand Master of District 5-A of the Grand Council in 1973; received the Order of the Silver Trowel in 1969; and has served on the Credentials Committee of the Grand Council since 1969. He was knighted in Park Place Commandery No. 106, Knights Templar, on November 23, 1957, and served as Commander of that Commandery in 1967. He is a dual member of Ruthven Commandery No. 2, and for nineteen years has drilled with Houston Commandery No. 95, Melrose Commandery No. 109, Ruthven Commandery No. 2, and Park Place Commandery No. 106. He served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas in 1977-78.

As a Scottish Rite Mason, M:W: Brother Baccus received the 320 in the Houston Scottish Rite Bodies on November 2, 1963. He is active in those Bodies and was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor on October 31, 1969 and Coroneted a 330 Inspector General Honorary on November 19, 1975. He is a Past Master of Kadosh of the Houston Consistory and is Past General Membership Chairman of the Houston Bodies.

M:W: Brother Baccus became a member of Arabia Temple, Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine on May 14, 1960; is a member of the Past Master's Association; an honorary member of the Clown Jewels and Motor Corps; and is presently serving as Oriental Guide.

Other membership, orders, and honors received by M:W: Brother Baccus are: Life Member and Past Prior of Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of York Cross of Honor; Past Preceptor of Resurrection Tabernacle XXI, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; Past Sovereign of St. Austin Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; and is a member of Texas York Rite College No. 14; Royal Order of Scotland; Chinar Grotto; Park Place Chapter No. 731, Order of the Eastern Star; and Texas College Masonic Rosicrucians of the United States of America. He has received the DeMolay Cross of Honor; the Honorary Legion of Honor, Order of DeMolay; and the Grand Cross of Color, Order of Rainbow for Girls. In addition, he has received honors from the Texas Lodge of Research, the Philaethes Society, Royal Order of Jesters and the National Sojourners."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

R. H. "Bob" Waters

Year In Office: 1984 **Parent Lodge: Sunset No. 1388**



"R. H. "Bob" Waters was born in Honey Grove, Texas on May 11, 1929. He was educated in the Public Schools of Honey Grove, Texas, graduating from High School in 1946. He attended Paris Junior College, Southern Methodist University, North Texas State University and Dallas Bible College. He served in the U.S. Navy, Pacific Theatre during 1946-1950 and was an active Reservist during the years 1958 through 1981. He received the First Reserve Seabee Brigade Certificate of Achievement in 1974; became the 22nd Reserve Seabee Battalion "Seabee of the Year" in 1976. He retired from the Naval Reserve Service on February 1, 1981.

Most Worshipful Brother Waters and Minne Salazar of Bellville, Texas were married on August 20, 1949. They have two children and two grandchildren. They are members of North Lake Baptist Church in Garland, Texas. Brother Waters' civic activities have included service with the Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Garland Police Monitor and the Optimist Club, where he served four years as Secretary.

Brother Waters was raised as a Master Mason in Honey Grove Lodge No. 164, on March 27, 1951, and having a strong belief in local lodge membership, his affiliation has been with Trinity Valley No. 1048, Anchor No. 424, and Sunset Lodge No. 1388, where he served as Worshipful Master in 1970. He currently holds life membership in Sunset Lodge No. 1388, Corpus Christi, and in Garland Lodge No. 441, Garland, Texas. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 14-D during 1978-1979. He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas near the Grand Lodge of Florida. He was elected Grand Junior Warden on December 6, 1980.

He was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Garland Chapter No. 451, on October 7, 1954, and served as High Priest in 1960-1961. He is a life member of Garland Chapter No. 451 and A. C. Garrett Chapter No. 420, Dallas, Texas. He served as President of the Interim Board of Directors, Home for Aged Masons, during 1977. He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas. He was elected Grand Scribe in 1975, passed through the Chairs and was elected and installed Most Excellent Grand High Priest on December 5, 1978, and served during the year 1979.

He was greeted in A. C. Garrett Council No. 382, Royal and Select Masters, on October 20, 1954. He affiliated as a dual member with Garland Council No. 118, Garland, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1974. He is a life member of Garland Council No. 118 and A. C. Garrett Council No. 382. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of Cryptic District 51-A in 1976-77. He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Council of New Jersey near the Grand Council of Texas.

He was Knighted in Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 103, K. T., Dallas, on October 1, 1960 and served as Commander in 1979. He is a life member of A. C. Garrett Commandery No. 103 and Dallas Commandery No. 6. He served as District One Membership Chairman 1977 through 1983.

He became a Scottish Rite Mason in the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies on March 4, 1972, and was decorated a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor on December 10, 1981. He is a life member of the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies.

He became a Shriner in Alzafar Shrine Temple, San Antonio, in 1969; was a charter member of Al Amin Temple in Corpus Christi; and currently holds membership in Hella Temple, Dallas.

He is a member of the Order of High Priesthood; Order of the Silver Trowel; Super Excellent Master; Texas York Rite College No. 14; Royal Order of Scotland; Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of the York Cross of Honor; Our Redeemer Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; Ascension Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Texas College, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis; Garland Chapter No. 156 and Electra Chapter No. 872, Order of the Eastern Star.

Most Worshipful Brother Waters served as a DeMolay Advisor during the years 1958 through 1975 and was Chairman of the Advisory Council in Garland when Garland Chapter won the Texas Sweepstakes Award in 1960. He was awarded the DeMolay Cross of Honor in 1963 and was invested with the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1973."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

George R. Scott

Year In Office: 1985 **Parent Lodge: J. H. Gurley No. 337**



"On December 8, 1984, Brother George Robert Scott was elected and installed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas for the ensuing year.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Scott was born in Waco, Texas on January 26, 1920. After graduating from Waco High School in 1938, he was employed by the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Waco until the Texas 36th Infantry Division (National Guard) was mobilized on November 25, 1940. He served as First Sergeant of Regimental Headquarters Company of the 143rd Infantry Regiment until he was selected to attend Officer Candidate School in February, 1942. He graduated a second lieutenant of infantry at Fort Benning, Georgia in June, 1942.

His war-time service with the 24th Infantry Division included duty in Australia, New Guinea and the Philippine Islands. He participated in seven beach landings and the recapture of Bataan and Corregidor.

Following World War II, Brother Scott became a career military officer and served in Europe; Korea; and Hawaii as well as stateside assignments at Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and Fort Hood, Texas. He retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel in October, 1962. He has been awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Bronze Star, the Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and other service medals.

Although many of our Grand Masters have distinguished military records, Brother Scott is the first career member of the military to serve as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Brother Scott and Rochelle Walters were married in Waco on July 18, 1946. They have two children and three grandchildren. The Scotts are members of the Columbus Avenue Baptist Church in Waco. Brother Scott is a member of the Downtown Bible Class, taught by the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Texas, R:W: Clarence C. Burnett. Brother Scott was president of the class in 1977-1980. Also, it is interesting to note that our Grand Master Scott and Grand Chaplain, Dr. Joe Weldon Bailey, became acquainted during their military service. Their relationship developed into a life-long friendship while Dr. Bailey served as pastor of Columbus Avenue Baptist Church and continues as Grand Master and Grand Chaplain this year.

Brother Scott is active in community affairs. He has completed a three-year term with the Waco Airports Board; and is especially interested in his service with the Waco Boys Club and the DeMolay organization. He is chairman of the DeMolay Advisory Council, Waco Chapter of DeMolay and has been honored with the Honorary Legion of Honor and the DeMolay Cross of Honor. In addition, he serves as Dean of Huaco Preceptory of the Legion of Honor.

Brother Scott was raised a Master Mason in J. H. Gurley Lodge No. 337 in Waco on August 2, 1951. He was appointed as Junior Steward in 1964; and progressed through the places and stations to become Worshipful Master in 1971-72. He is a Past President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association for the 61st Masonic District and has served as Chairman of the local Grand Lodge Arrangement Committee. He is a member of the Texas Lodge of Research.

Brother Scott has served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Master in 1971-72; Grand Junior Steward in 1972-73; Grand Junior Deacon in 1980-81; he was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1981; Grand Senior Warden in 1982; Deputy Grand Master in 1983; and Grand Master in 1984.

Active in the appendant orders of Freemasonry, Brother Scott was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Waco Chapter No. 45, R.A.M. on January 11, 1956; he was greeted in Waco Council No. 33 R.&S.M. on January 12, 1957; he was greeted in Waco Commandery No. 10 K.T. on August 13, 1957. He is a member of Texas York Rite College No. 14 and is a Past Sovereign of the DeMolay Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine.

He is a member of Karem Shrine Temple in Waco; and is an honorary member of Sharon Shrine Temple, Tyler; Suez Shrine Temple, San Angelo; Ben Hur Shrine Temple, Austin; and Arabia Shrine Temple, Houston.

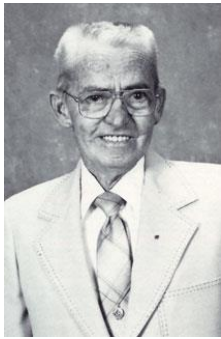
He is a charter member of Waco Scottish Rite Bodies and is Coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary. Presently, he serves as Secretary of the Waco Scottish Rite Bodies and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Girls in Austin; an advisory trustee of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children at Dallas; Executive Administrator of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Texas and the Scottish Rite Educational and Fellowship Program of Texas; and is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

In addition, Brother Scott is a member of the Philaethes Society; Masonic Rosicrusians, Chinar Grotto; National Sojourners, Inc.; and Heroes of '76. He received the Houghton Memorial Award as the Most Outstanding Sojourner of the year for 1984.

It is often said, ""if you want a job done well, pick a busy man."" Certainly, the Masons in Texas picked a busy man to be Grand Master."

Perry M. Parker

Year In Office: 1986 **Parent Lodge: Cosmopolitan No. 872**



"On December 7, 1985, our Most Worshipful Grand Master Perry M. Parker was installed as Grand Master of The Grand Lodge of Texas in a very unique ceremony. In 1968, M:W: Parker served as District Deputy Grand Master_ under the Installing Officer, Past Grand Master J. W. Chandler; and, the Installing Marshal and the Installing Chaplain, Past Grand Masters Herman Vinyard and Dan B. Jordan also served as District Deputy Grand Masters under R:W: J. W. Chandler in 1968. As far as it is known this is the first time that a Grand Master has been installed by the Past Grand Master he served as District Deputy Grand Master and two fellow District Deputy Grand Masters, now Past Grand Masters.

Certainly, it seems that 1968 was a good year for District Deputy Grand Masters to become Grand Masters and the Masons in Texas look forward to another great year of Masonry from this heritage.

MW: Perry Parker was born in Kosse, Texas on March 27, 1916; and was one of ten children: seven girls and three boys, born to W. P. and A'Della Parker. After completing his education, M:W: Parker entered the construction business in Elizabeth, New Jersey. In 1950, he returned to Texas and resided in Waco until 1955, when he moved to Port Arthur, Texas, to establish his permanent home. M:W: Parker attends the Trinity Baptist Church and retired as a construction supervisor in the heavy steel industry on February 1, 1978.

In Port Arthur, M:W: Parker met and married Ada Venable and between them they have one son, Brady L. Parker of Hewitt, Texas, and three daughters, Mrs. Bill (Dorothy) Worl of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; Linda Nell Parker of Lorena, Texas; and Mrs. Robert (Gay) McCauley of Port Arthur, Texas. The Parkers have a close and devoted marriage and share the love of six grandchildren.

While living in Waco, M:W: Parker was raised a Master Mason in Herring Lodge No. 1224 on January 2, 1952. Upon moving to Port Arthur, he continued his Masonic career by affiliating with Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 872 on November 15, 1956. He served Cosmopolitan Lodge as Senior Steward, held other offices and became Worshipful Master for the term 1964-1965. He was elected secretary of the Lodge in 1975 and continues to serve in that office.

M:W: Parker has served Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District 26-A in 1968; he was elected to the Committee on Work in 1969 and continued to serve on this committee until his election as Grand Junior Warden in 1982; he was elected Grand Senior Warden in 1983; Deputy Grand Master in 1984; and Grand Master in 1985.

Active in the appendant orders of Freemasonry, our Grand Master is a member of Port Arthur Chapter No. 250, RAM; Port Arthur Council No. 185, R&SM; Port Arthur Commandery No. 73, K.T.; and a charter member of York Rite College No. 90 of Port Arthur. He is a member of the Galveston Scottish Rite Bodies and was coroneted a 33rd Degree, Inspector General Honorary on November 22, 1983.

In addition, he is a member of El Mina Shrine in Galveston; Casbin Grotto of Port Arthur; Waco Chapter No. 7 of the Order of the Eastern Star; and the Royal Order of Scotland. M:W: Parker has been awarded

the Legion of Honour (Honorary) of the DeMolay; and currently serves as Eminent Viceroy of San Felipe Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine at Galveston.

Certainly, the long hours of dedicated Masonic labors have granted our Grand Master with the wisdom of Masonic law, custom and tradition which is essential to the government of our Fraternity. But more than this, his kindness and thoughtfulness for his fellow man will leave an impact upon Masonry in Texas through the years ahead."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

John E. "Jack" Kelly

Year In Office: 1987 **Parent Lodge: Blue Bonnet No. 1219**



"John E. Jack Kelly, age 85 past Grand Master of Texas Masonry, died May 13, 2007. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Helen; son-in-law, Dr. Wayne Mundahl; grandson, Michael Mundahl and his wife, Judy; and by a host of his Masonic brethren and friends from Texas and throughout the United States.

John E. Kelly was born in Florida, his parents moved to Ohio in 1937, and moved to Texas in 1940. He served 32 years as an Air Force Civilian at Kelly Air Force Base, retiring as Deputy for Material Services in 1973, with detours in the Navy in WWII and Korea.

He served as Master of Blue Bonnet Masonic Lodge in 1959 and 1960, and was District Deputy Grand Master in 1962 under Grand Master R.L. Dillard, Jr. of Dallas. In the same year, he was appointed to the State-level Committee on Masonic Education and Service, where he served for a total of 12 years, and as Chairman for 9 years. In 1963, Grand Master Jim Weatherby of Kerrville appointed him founding Editor of the TEXAS FREEMASON magazine, and he served as Managing Editor for 5 years.

In 1989, he was again asked to reorganize the magazine, and served as Editorial Director until February 1992. During the same period, he served three years as the Chairman of the Committee on Public Relations.

Other Grand Lodge assignments included service as State Conference Coordinator for 4 years, as Grand Orator and the Grand Tiler. He also wrote, narrated and produced two movies for the Grand Lodge, ""This is Freemasonry"", and ""Glimpses of our Texas Masonic Heritage"", in 1979 and 1983.

He was elected Grand Junior Warden in December 1983, and served as Sesquicentennial Grand Master in 1987. He served as Vice Chairman of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America in 1987, and delivered the Keynote Address at the 1993 Conference of Grand Masters of North America. He served on the Executive Committee of the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America, under the Conference of Grand Masters, for three years.

Over the years, he became nationally known as a leader in the field of Masonic education and administration, and presented papers in numerous conferences, from Washington D.C. to Washington State. He was a Past Master and Fellow in Masonic Research of Texas Lodge of Research, and in 1976 wrote and published a book, ""Behold, How Good"".

He was elected a Fellow of the International Philalethes Society in 1998. A member of all York Rite Bodies, he held the Purple Cross of York. He served as President of Fort Sam Houston Chapter, National Sojourners, in 1995-96. He was a member of the Grotto; Knight Masons; Royal Order of Scotland; Grand College of Rites; and served as President of San Antonio Chapter, High Twelve International. He was coroneted a 33rd Degree in Scottish Rite, and was both an endowed member of the Million Dollar Club.

After retirement from Civil Service served as General Secretary of the San Antonio Bodies for 9 years, and upon retirement was appointed Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the South Texas area.

He served on the Executive Committee of the famous Texas Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in Dallas from 1992 to November 2002. He was Charter Sovereign Master of San Antonio Council, Allied Masonic Degrees, 1990-91; Secretary of the Texas College of Masonic Rosicrucians, 1982-2003; and Sovereign of St. Anthony Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine.

In the Order of DeMoly for Boys, he held its highest honors, the Honorary Legion of Honor and the Cross of Honor.

He was twice Patron on his Eastern Star Chapter and was a Deputy Chief of Staff and an Ambassador of Alzafar Shrine Temple.

He was an endowed member of C.W. Anderson Masonic Lodge, Blue Bonnet Lodge, and Claud Austin Daylight Lodge, Dallas; and a charter member of St. Alban's Lodge of College Station.

In 2005, after a lifetime of service, he was awarded the Grand Cross, the highest award on the Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction.

In the community he served on the Bexar Metro Board of Directors of the Cancer Society, with the American Heart Association, and Optimist International.

He served two years as State Executive Secretary of the Air Force Association. More recently, he served as President of Ralph Kaye Chapter, United Ostomy Association, affiliated with the American Cancer Society, and was elected to a second term in October, 1997.

Memorial services were held on Saturday, May 19, 2007 at Woodland Baptist Church, Reverend Jud Edwards, officiating. A Masonic Memorial service followed, conducted by Leonard P. Harvey, Past Grand Master, of Dallas, and statewide leaders of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas. Honorary pallbearers were Past Grand Masters and Past Masters of Blue Bonnet Masonic Lodge. The body was cremated and entombed in Sunset Mausoleum II.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Scottish Rite Learning Center for dyslexic children, P.O. Box 2239, San Antonio, TX 78298 or Woodland Baptist Church, 15315 Huebner, San Antonio, TX 78248."

Graham H. Childress

Year In Office: 1988 **Parent Lodge: Sanderson No. 988**



"On December 5, 1987, Graham H. Childress became the fifth Mason from west of the Pecos and the one hundred and fiftieth individual to be installed as Grand Master of The Grand Lodge of Texas.

Our Grand Master, the only son of Hugh (deceased) and Rachael Childress, was born in San Angelo, on February 17, 1936. He is a fifth generation Texan and shares the heritage of Texas history through ancestral relationship to George C. Childress, author of the Texas Declaration of Independence. His father and both of his grandfathers were members of Ozona Lodge No. 747 where his father and one grandfather received 50-Year Masonic Service Awards.

Most Worshipful Childress attended the Ozona public schools and graduated as salutatorian of Ozona High School in 1954. After graduating from Rice University in 1958, he was commissioned in the U.S. Navy through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps and was stationed in New London, Connecticut, to attend the Officer Submarine School. While in New London, he met the former Miss Marion Ward. They were married in 1960 and have two children, a daughter, Connie, and a son, Hugh Ward. Both Connie and Hugh Ward are graduates of Sanderson High School. Presently Connie attends business school in San Angelo and Hugh Ward attends San Angelo State University.

In 1967, Grand Master Childress became a rancher in Terrell County and active in his church and community affairs. He served as a county commissioner for twelve years; he has served on the Terrell County Appraisal District Board of Directors; and continues to serve as a director of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association. He is past chairman of the Official Board and past treasurer of the Sanderson United Methodist Church where he serves as lay speaker.

Raised a Master Mason in Sanderson Lodge No. 988, Grand Master Childress served as Worshipful Master in 1972-73. He received his first Esoteric Certificate in 1974 and has continued to retain his proficiency throughout the years. He served as District Deputy Grand Master in 1974-75; Grand Marshal in 1979-80; and Grand Orator in 1980-81. In addition, he has served as assistant regional coordinator for the Grand Master's Regional Conference Program in the Alpine Region and was a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education and Service until his election to the station of Grand Junior Warden in December, 1984.

Most Worshipful Brother Childress is an active member of the appendant orders of Freemasonry. He is a past presiding officer of the chapter, council, and commandery in Alpine; past Sovereign of the Permian Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine; a member of Texian York Rite College No. 60; member of the Texas Priory No. 23, KYCH; and served as Grand Prelate of The Grand Commandery in 1981 and 1985. He is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies in San Antonio and is coroneted with the thirtythird degree. He is a trustee of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children and a member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

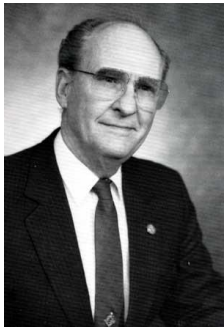
His memberships in other organizations include the Shrine, the Grotto, the Eastern Star, the Masonic Rosicrucians and the National Sojourner Organization. He was recently awarded the Honorary Legion of Honor in Alamo Chapter No. 58 of the Order of DeMolay.

Our Grand Master is noted for his outstanding qualities of leadership in community, church and Masonic endeavors. Truly, he has earned our respect and admiration. And we rest assured that Masonry in Texas will be enriched and advanced as our Most Worshipful Brother Childress leads our fraternity in this Masonic year."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Leonard P. Harvey

Year In Office: 1989 Parent Lodge: Keystone No. 1143



"Anyone who has known Leonard Harvey and his record of pulling himself up ""by his own bootstraps"" from farm boy to successful businessman and outstanding Masonic leader knew exactly what to expect that day in December of 1988 when he leaned forward and had the collar of the Grand Master placed around his neck.

The twelve months of leadership of the Grand Lodge of Texas by Grand Master Leonard Harvey have been months of enthusiastic work, driving determination, steady guidance, warm understanding and great accomplishment - all tempered by his depth of understanding and keen sense of humor.

Proud of his Piney Woods upbringing, Leonard Harvey still has a deep and abiding love of the land. He still retreats at every opportunity to the calm serenity of his farm near Alto in Cherokee County (which he describes as being ""a wagon's greasing from Weches, between Central High and Atoy"") close to his place of birth.

He will quickly tell you that his favorite occupation, and one that he would follow every weekend if he could, is that of a part-time farmer. So, if you wish to see Leonard Harvey totally in his element, catch him at the farm. There, in his overalls and battered straw hat, his love of the land literally glows in his face. That's where he relaxes. And that's the real Leonard Harvey!

He grew up during the Great Depression in a family which he says was ""not 'poor; but pore!' Tragedy tested young Leonard when, in a brief span of time, his father, a brother and a sister died.

In order to keep the remaining family together, his mother took a position at Buckner Orphans' Home, near Dallas. The small family lived there until the summer of 1943, when they moved to Dallas.

Adversity and circumstances were strong teachers for young Leonard. Typically, he deals with this subject humorously by proudly displaying a plaque in his office reading, ""When you ain't got no education, you gotta use your brains.""

It's not that he doesn't value education. To the contrary, he constantly promotes it. But he feels that people can rise to amazing heights through ""inspiration, dedication, perspiration - and buckets of good old-fashioned horse sense.""

That's what he thinks. And, his life has proved it very true!

After moving to Dallas, while attending Gaston Avenue Baptist Church, he met and courted a young lady named Lena Ruth Wiley, who became his wife in 1948. (Today, Leonard and Lena Ruth Harvey are members of Royal Haven Baptist Church, where he is an ordained Deacon.)

During World War II, young Harvey tried the Merchant Marines. He almost made it, but they discovered he was just 15, and ""suggested"" he return home.

He then tried the Army Signal Corps, ending up wearing a parka in the bitter cold of Alaska for 18 months.

After the War, he became an employee and protege of a great man and Mason, T. Raymey. At Brother Raymey's death, Harvey purchased the T. Raymey Company, which he still owns and manages.

His father-in-law, C. P. Wiley, a Past Master of Keystone Lodge 1143, inspired him to ask for a petition for Freemasonry in 1954, and he hasn't slowed down since.

He served as Master of Keystone Lodge in 1961-1962, and his superb lodge management program caught the attention of Past Grand Master Randall Briscoe, who used it as a model in the 1962 Grand Lodge Workshop Program throughout the state.

His outstanding year as Master was rewarded by his appointment as District Deputy Grand Master by Grand Master Jim Weatherby in 1963, and in 1964-1967 as Dallas Area Workshop Chairman.

Later, as a member of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service, he participated in the development of many Grand Lodge programs, and wrote the book that is still presented to all new Texas Master Masons, "Masonry and the Mason." In 1982, he was appointed to the Grand Lodge Regional Conference team.

It was a series of presentations on Grand Lodge Law that really brought him to the attention of Masons in Texas and gained him the monicker, "The Grand Armadillo." He repeatedly urged any hesitant Lodge Officer to participate in the program, saying: "Remember, Brethren, not every armadillo makes it across the road." From that bit of humor developed a Texas Masonic phrase and his nickname.

From 1982 to his election as Grand Junior Warden in December, 1985, he participated in or directed a total of 80 Grand Master's Conferences in every corner of Texas. Also in 1982, he was appointed to the Grand Lodge Committee on Purposes and Policies. In the next four years, he played a major part in shaping statewide Masonic policy.

Active in the Texas Lodge of Research, he was Master of the Lodge in 1987-1988.

Because of his extremely heavy Grand Lodge activities over 25 years, he has not been active in other Masonic bodies, but he is a proud member of all York Rite Bodies, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine, and was elevated to the 33rd Degree in 1987.

He is also a member of DeMolay Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, the Philaethes Society, Masonic Rosicrucians, Order of the Eastern Star, Alla Grotto and is a Charter Member of the Lyle L. Cross York Rite College.

He is a member in perpetuity of both the Fort Sam Houston Chapter of the National Sojourners and the Alamo Camp of the Heroes of '76.

He is especially proud to be an Endowed Member of Keystone Lodge, Terrell Lodge 83, the Texas Lodge of Research, all York Rite Bodies and the Scottish Rite.

Simple son of the soil he may be as he claims, but Leonard Harvey is also an accomplished Masonic educator, an inspirational example for young and old and a dynamic leader.

Masons and their families today see the new and fresh Texas Mason magazine, heightened interest in sound lodge management, a powerful new thrust in Masonic public relations, sensible new legislation, more purposeful leadership, increasing fellowship and a stirring in the Fraternity to increase vitality and

ensure growth - all furthered by the ""inspiration, dedication, perspiration and buckets of good, old-fashioned horse sense"" of a simple son of the Cherokee County soil, Leonard Philip Harvey."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

A.D. Hanna

Year In Office: 1990 Parent Lodge: Iowa Park No. 713



"A. D. Hanna's Masonic background is unusual: ""sort of a roundabout road to the top."" Raised in Joseph A. Kemp Lodge No. 1287 in September, 1946, he became active in Maskat Temple in 1951. A member of the Director's Staff for several years, he was elected to the Divan in 1958 and served as Potentate in 1962.

Over the years, he was never very far away from his Blue Lodge beginnings, and after his service as Potentate, he felt responsibility to become active in the Lodge. He affiliated with Iowa Park Lodge No. 713, and served as Master in 1972.

Appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1979, he was Grand Junior Deacon in 1980. He has served as Regional Coordinator for the Grand Master's Conferences and Workshops since 1982, he was State Coordinator in 1986. Until elected Grand Junior Warden, he served on a number of Grand Lodge committees, including the Committees on Finance and Membership Maintenance. He is the Grand Representative to the Netherlands for the Grand Lodge of Texas.

His activities in other Masonic organizations have been equally energetic. Joining Scottish Rite in Dallas in 1951, he worked on degree teams and membership teams, was awarded a life membership in 1968, and was invested with the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1963. He became a Charter member of the Lubbock Scottish Rite Bodies, and was coroneted a Thirty-Third Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1977. He is also a dual member of the Fort Worth Bodies and serves as Chairman of the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Bodies.

In the York Rite, he has been a member of Wichita Falls Chapter No. 202, Wichita Falls Council No. 140, and Wichita Falls Commandery No. 59 since 1958. He is a member of Texas York Rite College; the Royal Order of Scotland; a Past Sovereign of Star of Bethlehem Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; the Texas Lodge of Research; Texas College, Masonic Rosicrucians; member of General William J. Worth, Heroes of '76, Cowpens Camps Chapter No. 463 and a member of the William J. Worth Chapter No. 463, National Sojourners. A member of the Wichita Falls Chapter, Eastern Star, he is also a Past Advisor of Hope Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and holds DeMolay's highest award, the honorary Legion of Honor.

A strong supporter of Masonry's Endowed Membership programs, he is an endowed member of four Lodges, and a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame, in support of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.

PERSONAL HISTORY

Born January 9, 1922, in Throckmorton, Texas, his parents moved to Breckenridge, where he graduated from high school in 1940. After two years at John Tarleton College in Stephenville, he ""deserted"" Texas for Alabama, where he quickly married his high school sweetheart, Cletha Brookins, and became a department head at Gulf Ship Building in Mobile. Enlisting in the Navy in 1943, he served as an instructor on Navy aircraft until his discharge as an Aviation Machinists Mate First Class in December 1945.

Returning to Wichita Falls in the same month, he became a partner in the Wichita Tool Supply Company. In 1964, he became sole owner.

He and Cletha have two daughters, Marsha Hanna May, A Math Professor at Midwestern State University, and Debora Lynn Hanna Bigot, who teaches kindergarten. They have three grandchildren, Brett Hanna May, Jennifer Hanna May and Guy Hanna Bigot.

In his "spare time" he raises cattle on his farm in Clay County, and he and the family enjoy rare visits there for relaxation and recreation.

CHURCH AND CIVIC AFFAIRS

The Hanna family are members of Floral Heights United Methodist Church, where A. D. is a member of the Board of Trustees, the Finance Committee, and has served as Chairman of Stewardship, and President of the Couples Class and Methodist Men.

A member of the Downtown Rotary Club, he has a 29-year perfect attendance record. He is a Paul Harris Fellow, and has served as a Director and Vice President. This is only the beginning in a long record of civic service, including Vice President and member of the Board of the School of Listening Eyes; a Trustee of United Fund; past member of the Board of North Texas Crippled Children's Society; Texas Manufactures Association; North Texas Field and Stream; and the American Association of Oil Field Drilling Contractors. He is a member of the Wichita Falls Country Club.

In the language of old Texas, regardless of where you come from or where you're going, A. D. Hanna "is a man to ride the river with."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Fred E. Allen

Year In Office: 1991 **Parent Lodge: Temple No. 70**



"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; Philaethes 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 as 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!"

J. P. Vogel

Year In Office: 1992 **Parent Lodge: Vidor No. 1286**



"J. P. Vogel was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on April 1, 1919. His family moved to Texas when he was quite young and he was educated in the Beaumont, Texas Schools and attended Lamar University, Texas A&M and the Defense Industrial Security Institute in Richmond, Virginia. During World War II, Brother Vogel served five years with the famous 36th Division, Texas National Guard, 143rd Infantry, Company ""C"", from Beaumont, Texas. He was wounded twice in combat during his period of gallant service to his country and was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant.

Brother Vogel and Frances Lopez of Hardin, Texas were married on June 3, 1945 in Beaumont, Texas. They have three lovely children: Morris John, Miriam Vogel Hodges and Jerome Paul, II and three beautiful grandchildren: Donna Rachel Hodges, Deana Rachel Hodges and Donald Russell Hodges, Jr. Brother Vogel and Frances are active members of the First Baptist Church of Vidor, Texas and Frances spends much time with the Templo Bautista Mission, a bilingual outreach church.

Brother Vogel's civilian employment was with Mobil Oil Company, and he traveled extensively throughout the United States. He was a security director from the Beaumont Refinery and retired in 1981 with 37 years of exemplary service.

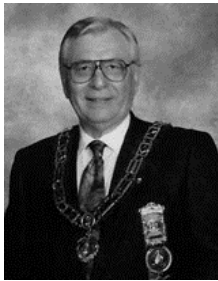
Brother Vogel was raised a Master Mason in 1955 in Tolerance Lodge No. 1165, Beaumont, Texas. He is a Past Master, Life Member and Endowed Member of both Tolerance Lodge No. 1165 and Vidor Lodge No. 1286 of Vidor, Texas. He served as Worshipful Master of Tolerance Lodge in 1962-63 and Worshipful Master of Vidor Lodge in 1974-75. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 25 in 1976 and during 1987 when the District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 26 became ill, Brother Vogel was invited by our then Grand Master to serve during the District Deputy's illness. He was elected to the Committee on Work in 1983 and served a total of six years and as Chairman in 1984. He is the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana near the Grand Lodge of Texas. Brother Vogel was elected Grand Junior Warden in December, 1988.

He is a member of the Houston Scottish Rite Bodies, the York Rite Bodies in Beaumont, St. Timothy Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Cashan Grotto, Arabia Shrine in Houston, El Mina Shrine in Galveston, Royal Order of Scotland, Texas Lodge of Research, York Rite College and the Order of Eastern Star.

J. P. Vogel is widely known around the State as the ""Mason's Mason"" and certainly we all will see a great movement ahead during his tenure as Grand Master. - by Robert H. (Bob) Waters, PGM"

R. O. "Bob" Schnell

Year In Office: 1993 **Parent Lodge: Adobe Walls No. 1355**



"Banker, cattleman, electrician, pilot, Sunday School teacher, community leader; just a few of the varied interests of Most Worshipful Robert O. "Bob" Schnell - 154th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, who was elevated to the highest office in Texas Masonry on December 5, 1992.

Born on August 10, 1924 at Okeene, Oklahoma, he attended grade school at Tyrone, Oklahoma - Follett and Spearman, Texas, and graduated from Spearman High School. Soon after graduation from high school, Bob entered the United States Army Air Force, and following basic training at Keesler Field, Mississippi, was stationed in England for the balance of World War II. Following his honorable discharge from service in 1946, Bob returned to Spearman to work with his father as an electrician, and soon thereafter established his own electrical contracting business. He entered the banking business in 1954, joining the First State Bank in Spearman as an officer and later as Director. His firm belief that careful planning is essential to satisfactory results led him to attend the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. On May 15, 1962, Bob moved to Borger and joined the staff of First National Bank of that city where he continues as Senior Vice-President; still maintaining various interests in farming and ranching, as well as in the oil and gas industries.

His interests in community affairs are many, including service on the district advisory committee of The Boy Scouts of America, as financial and district chairman of Adobe Walls Council of Boy Scouts, and the Panhandle Regional Planning Committee Board. He has served as Director of the Salvation Army Board, a member of the Hutchinson County Airport Board, the Hutchinson County Extension Service Program Committee and Chairman of the Hutchinson County Veterans' Land Board. he is a member of the Borger Chamber of Commerce.

It has been Bob's interests in farming and ranching that have influenced his labor in various capacities with F.F.A. and 4-H livestock programs.

A dedicated churchman, Bob is a member of the First Christian Church of Borger where he has served as Chairman of the Finance Board, Elder, and Chairman of the Church Board. He presently serves as a Trustee, frequently teaching the Sunday School class which he has taught on a regular basis for several years.

It comes as no surprise that Bob has been equally active as a Mason. He was raised a Master Mason on October 25, 1948 in Hansford Lodge No. 1040 at Spearman and served as Worshipful Master of that lodge in 1959-1960. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 102 under appointment by Grand Master Robert B. O'Connor in 1975, and answered the call of Grand Master Robert H. "Bob" Waters to again serve as District Deputy in 1984. A strong supporter of the Grand Lodge Endowed Membership Program, Bob holds endowed memberships in Hansford, Adobe Walls, Wichita Falls and Holland lodges. In addition, he is a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame, an endowment fund for the maintenance of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum in Waco.

Prior to his election to the office of Grand Junior Warden in December, 1989, Bob served on the Credentials Committee and the Special Assignments Committee of Grand Lodge. His service to our

Grand Lodge from the office of Grand Junior Warden to his election and installation as Most Worshipful Grand Master has left no doubt that he intends to serve well as Grand Master. He is enthusiastic, well prepared and offers 'can do' leadership at a time when enthusiasm and preparedness are essential to progress.

A man who firmly believes that Freemasonry offers something of interest to every Mason, Bob has been active in York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shrine, Eastern Star, DeMolay and many other related orders and organizations.

A member of Borger Royal Arch Chapter No. 437, he served as High Priest and later served as District Deputy Grand High Priest. He holds the Order of High Priesthood. As a member of Borger Council No. 354, Royal and Select Masters, he has served as Thrice Illustrious Master of that body, and has served as District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council. He holds the Order of the Silver Trowel. He is a member of West Texas York Rite College No. 36, Texas Priory No. 23, Knights of The York Cross of Honor. A Past Commander of Borger Commandery No. 96, he holds the Merit Award, and is a member of the Grand Master's Club. Not content to accept honors without assuming continuing responsibility, Bob presently serves as Treasurer of his Chapter, Council and Commandery. As Past Very Eminent Preceptor of Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, and as Past Puissant Sovereign of Crusader Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine at Amarillo, Bob further amplifies his belief that Masons should be involved in those Masonic activities which interest them.

His Scottish Rite accomplishments are equally impressive. A life member of both the Lubbock and El Paso Scottish Rite Bodies, he is active in the conferral of the 18th and 19th degrees, and will serve as Master of the El Paso Consistory while serving as Grand Master in 1993. He was honored by the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1975, and was coroneted and thirty-third degree Inspector General Honorary in 1983, and holds a life membership in the Royal Order of Scotland.

A member and Past Potentate of Khiva Shrine Temple in Amarillo, Bob served as Potentate in 1981 and is a member of the Royal Order of Jesters and the International Order of Cabiri.

He served as Worthy Patron of Spearman Chapter No. 721, Order of the Eastern Star in 1957-1958, and has served as Chapter Advisor, International Order of DeMolay, and holds the Honorary Legion of Honor from DeMolay.

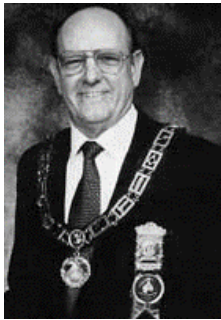
Yes, Robert O. "Bob" Schnell is a busy man and an active Mason! However, he manages to take the time to enjoy his favorite hobbies. A licensed pilot since 1962, he takes to the air occasionally to again view the wonders of the world from the cockpit. If he isn't flying, he enjoys a round of golf now and then, and he admits to some hunting and fishing on occasion - more for relaxation than for results. Also, he has been observed exploring some of the canyons of the Panhandle - just kicking rocks and looking for Indian relics to fit into the puzzle of the past.

Quite an unusually nice and dedicated man to know is Bob Schnell - Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas. A man to cross the river with, no matter how deep the water runs. Quietly dedicated and well prepared to serve, he has earned the love, esteem and admiration of his brethren. His service as Grand Master reflects his depth of knowledge and understanding derived from long and devoted service to our Craft. Bob Schnell is dedicated to the service of this brethren - and it shows! - by Leonard P. Harvey PGM"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Billy W. Tinsley

Year In Office: 1994 **Parent Lodge: Houston No. 1189**



"Billy Wayne Tinsley was born in the rural community of Petteway which is approximately nine miles east of Bremond in Robertson County, Texas on July 27, 1937. The son of Morris Golden and Mary Lillian (Brantner) Tinsley, he attended public school in Houston, Bremond and Calvert, Texas. After graduation from high school in 1955, he moved to Houston and was employed by Texas Gas Corporation which later became a part of Union Texas Petroleum. He advanced to the position of Regional Sales Manager of refined products at Union Texas which he left in 1966 to form A & T Oil Company, Inc., which he currently owns and operates.

While at Union Texas he continued his education by attending the University of Houston at night until his graduation in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics with a minor in Psychology. During this time Brother Tinsley also served as an Air Operations Specialist with the Texas Air National Guard from 1959 until his Honorable Discharge in 1965.

Brother Tinsley and Mary Joyce Owens were married on August 3, 1968 and they have one daughter, Angie, who was born in 1972. Angie is currently attending the University of Houston, majoring in Psychology.

Grand Master Tinsley was raised a Master Mason in Houston Lodge No. 1189 in 1970. He served as Senior Deacon in 1971, advanced regularly through the chairs, serving as Worshipful Master in 1974-1975. He served as Charter Master of J.W Chandler Daylight Lodge No. 1452 in 1988-1989. He is a plural member of Holland Lodge No. 1 and is also a member of the Texas Lodge of Research. A renowned ritualist, Brother Tinsley holds a three year certificate in the Esoteric Work adopted by the Grand Lodge of Texas.

An active Scottish Rite Mason, Grand Master Tinsley became a member of the Houston Scottish Rite Bodies in 1970, serving as Venerable Master of the San Jacinto Lodge of Perfection and Commander of Houston Council of Kadosh in 1987. He was invested with the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1977 and coroneted a Thirty-Third Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1983. Always the ritualist, Tinsley continues to lecture in the 30 and is the head of the Maundy Thursday/Easter Sunday Ceremonial Program.

In 1972 Brother Tinsley received the York Rite Degrees in Washington Chapter No. 2, Houston Council No. 1 and Ruthven Commandery No. 2. He is a member of Gulf Coast York Rite College No. 106 and a Past Sovereign of San Jacinto Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine. He is a member of Arabia Temple Shrine where he is a member of the Ceremonial Divan and the Past Masters Unit. His other memberships include Chinar Grotto, The Philaethes Society, The Royal Order of Scotland and the Royal Order of the Duck.

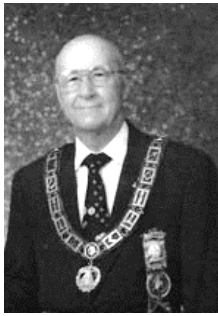
Grand Master Tinsley served as D.D.G.M. in 1982 for Grand Master J.M. ""Jimmy"" Willson and as Assistant State Coordinator for Grand Master Graham H. Childress in 1988. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1990, Grand Senior Warden in 1991, Deputy Grand Master in 1992; and, Masons in Texas look forward to his future service as Grand Master.

Bold and courageous, an independent individual, Brother Tinsley is capable of meeting challenges that face our fraternity. He will provide strong leadership to help Texas Masons work to assure the financial stability of Grand Lodge and our local Lodges, to develop membership potential, and to improve the image of Masonry. His ardent belief in local control rather than bureaucratic regulation will help Texas Lodges reassert their influence and minimize regulation. Texas Masons can be proud to have Billy Wayne Tinsley serve as Grand Master in 1994."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Farris L. Benham

Year In Office: 1995 **Parent Lodge: Odessa No. 995**



"Our Grand Junior Warden Farris L. Benham needs no introduction to Masons in Texas. He has been a Mason for many years and traveled the state as Most Excellent Grand High Priest in 1988-1989.

R:W: Brother Benham, the son of L.F. and Letsy Benham, was born in Clarksville, Texas, on December 7, 1929. After attending public schools and graduation from high school, Farris attended commercial business school. In addition, he attended extension courses in chemistry, electronics, and business management. Since 1963, he has served as president of the Benham National Gas Service, Inc.

During October, 1952, Brother Benham married Miss Olene Leonard of Big Spring, Texas. The Benhams have two sons, Stan and Bruce, and six grandchildren. They are members of the Immanuel Baptist church, where he has served as adult Sunday school teacher and Olene sings in the choir. She is also a member of the Order of the Eastern star and the Beauceant.

Our Grand Junior Warden was raised a Master Mason in Odessa Lodge No. 955, A.F. & A.M. on February 29, 1968. He served as Worshipful Master in 1971 - 1972, and was District Deputy Grand Master in 1981 - 1982. Brother Benham served as Regional Coordinator in 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, and 1987. He has held an esoteric certificate from Grand Lodge since 1969 and is a Life Member of Odessa Lodge No. 955.

Companion Benham was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Sam J. Helm Chapter No. 455 on September 20, 1968. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest in 1977; serves as Grand Representative of Nevada near the Grand Royal Arch Captain in 1981; holds an esoteric certificate; was elected grand Scribe in 1986; served as Acting Grand High Priest in 1988; and was elected as Most Excellent Grand High Priest on November 6, 1988.

He was greeted as a Select Master in Sam J. Helm Council No. 363 on September 30, 1968; served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1973 and 1974; served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 44th Cryptic District in 1984; serves as Grand Representative of Massachusetts; is a member of the finance committee; and holds an esoteric certificate.

Benham was Knighted in Odessa Commandery No. 110 on July 29, 1971, and served as Commander in 1979. He is a member of the membership committee of Grand Commandery; and a life sponsor of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

He received the Scottish Rite degrees in the El Paso Scottish Rite bodies. He is a plural member of the Lubbock Scottish Rite bodies and is invested with the rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. He is Past President of the Odessa Scottish Rite Association; he is Degree Master of the 10th Degree at El Paso in the Spring Reunions; and the alternate Degree Master of the 9th Degree in the Fall Reunion.

He is a member of the El Maida Shrine; a member of the Shrine Mason Golf Tournament; a member of the Odessa Chapter No. 447, Order of the Eastern 'Star; a member and Past President of the Advisory Board of Odessa Chapter, Order of DeMolay and has received the DeMolay Cross of Honor.

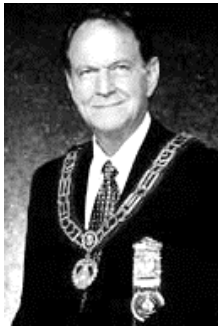
In addition, R:W: Benham is a member of the Order of High Priesthood; Order of the Silver Trowel; Super Excellent Master; Knight York Cross of Honor; York Rite College No. 36; Nazareth Tabernacle No. XXXIV; Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; and is a member and Past Sovereign of Permian Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine.

Brother Benham is experienced in both business and Masonic leadership. And certainly, we look forward to his continued guidance of Masonry in Texas."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Robert P. Walker

Year In Office: 1996 **Parent Lodge: Cosmopolitan No. 872**



"Robert P. Walker was born in Beaufort, Missouri on October 24, 1927, later moving to Dixon, Missouri, where he graduated from Crocker High School in 1944. He attended the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1948. Grand Master Walker later attended Columbia Graduate School of Business and received his Master of Business Administration from New York University in 1957. In addition, he has received a Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree from New York University School of Law in 1962, and to add a touch of Texas to his pursuit of higher learning, he has completed all course work toward a Master of Arts Degree at Sam Houston State University and he has also attended Lamar University.

While a cadet at the Merchant Marine Academy, Grand Master Walker met another cadet's date. Following his graduation from the Academy and a year at sea with the Texaco Fleet, he and Kathleen Nowicke were married on August 18, 1949. They have three sons; Robert, Paul and Timothy and are the proud grandparents of six grandchildren.

The Walkers are members of St. John American Lutheran Church where Grand Master Walker has served as President of the Church Council. A firm believer that a well rounded life includes community involvement, he has served in various positions with Boy Scouts of America and has served as councilman and Mayor pro tem for the City of Port Arthur; the Port Arthur Historical Society; the American Red Cross; Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Maritime Society.

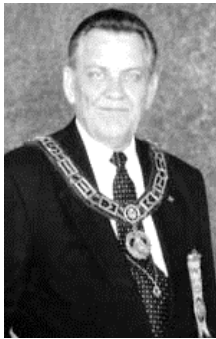
Grand Master Walker was employed by the Texaco Marine Department between 1948 and 1966 as Ship's Captain, Fleet Superintendent and Manager of Personnel. From 1966 to 1971 he served as manager, U.S. Fleet, Texaco Marine Department. In addition to being licensed to practice law, he is a licensed Master of Vessels of any gross tonnage for sailing all oceans and seas. It was his employment with Texaco which brought him to Texas in November, 1963.

From 1971 to 1982, Grand Master Walker worked as a Practicing Attorney and also served as a Municipal Judge. Since 1982, he has served as a Judge of the 279th District Court in Jefferson County, Texas.

He completed his degrees of Craft Masonry on May 10, 1954 in Cosmopolitan Lodge No.872, and later served as Worshipful Master of that Lodge and as President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of the 26th Masonic Districts. His leadership and dedication to Freemasonry was recognized by his Lodge which honored him as a recipient of the Golden Trowel Award. Thus began Robert Paul Walker's climb of the fraternal ladder which has brought him to the top rung, there to have the purple of our fraternity placed upon his honored shoulders."

Joseph W. Regian

Year In Office: 1997 **Parent Lodge: Trinity Valley No. 1048**



""If business and commerce are the engines that drive nations to greatness, and I believe that they are, then there must surely be a similar device that can propel mankind to extraordinary achievement and uncommon contentment. I believe that engine in the World today is Fraternity, through the enduring personal relationships and continued self-improvement that it fosters."" - Joseph Regian

Born in Greer County Oklahoma, Grand Master Regian was reared in North Texas and with his family, moved to Dallas in 1948. He completed his education in the Dallas public schools and Southern Methodist University. While in junior high school, he met Sue Collins of Rusk, Texas. They were married in 1953 and moved to Garland ten years later. They have two daughters, one son, and eight grandchildren.

Grand Master Regian was raised a Master Mason in Trinity Valley Masonic Lodge No. 1048 in Dallas in 1969. He was immediately appointed Master of Ceremonies and served as Junior Deacon in 1970. Advancing regularly through the chairs, Grand Master Regian served as Worshipful Master in 1973-74. He is a Life Member and has held an Esoteric Certificate since 1973. He is a plural member of Garland Masonic Lodge No. 441 and Claude L. Austin Lodge No. 1450, where he served as the Lodge's Charter Junior Warden. He is also a member of the Texas Lodge of Research.

Grand Master Regian served as Grand Master Tom Land's District Deputy Grand Master in 1981. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1993, Grand Senior Warden in 1994 and Deputy Grand Master in 1995. He was installed as Grand Master of Masons in Texas on December 7, 1996.

An active Scottish Rite Mason, Grand Master Regian served the Dallas Lodge of Perfection as Venerable Master in 1989. He was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1987 and was coroneted a ThirtyThird Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1993. He is a member of Hella Shrine Temple, Garland Chapter No. 451 Royal Arch Masons, Garland Council No. 118 Royal and Select Masters and A.C. Garrett Commandery No. 103 Knights Templar.

Grand Master Regian is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, Saint Mark's Conclave-Red Cross of Constantine and Texas College, Societas Rosicruciana. He is also a member of Holy Grail Council No. 287 Allied Masonic Degrees and Anson Jones Council No. 47 Knight Masons of the United States. Grand Master Regian received the Golden Trowel Award in 1992, the Red Branch of Erie in 1994 and the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1995.

Grand Master Regian and Mrs. Regian are members of Garland Chapter No. 156 Order of the Eastern Star and Houston Court No. 2 Order of the Amaranth.

Throughout his life, Grand Master Regian has been firmly convinced that reasonable citizens have a responsibility to be involved in the affairs and activities of the cities and communities of which they are a part. He presently serves as Vice Chairman of the Trinity River Corridor Committee of the North Central Texas Council of Governments, Chairman of the Garland Baseball Association, Chairman of the Crime Stoppers Reward Committee of the Dallas Crime Commission, and as a board member of the W. Cecil Winters Foundation in the city of Garland. He has previously served as an elected member of the

Garland City Council, Mayor Pro Tem, President of the North Central Texas Council of Governments, President of the Greater Dallas League of Municipalities, Vice President of the Texas Municipal League, Chairman of the Garland Shrine Junior College Football Game, Vice Chairman of the Garland Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Garland Chamber of Commerce Legislative Action Committee, Vice Chairman of the Forest Preservation Committee of the City of Garland, President of the Garland Homeowners Association, President of the Garland Industrial Development Authority, President of the Garland Local Development Corporation, and President of the Garland Health Facilities Development Corporation.

Grand Master Regian is a committed and dedicated Freemason, experienced in business, public and Masonic leadership. He believes absolutely that any enterprise, whether it be business, the church, or the Masonic Fraternity, largely holds its destiny in its own hands, and can expect to be successful in direct proportion to the zeal, ability, and dedication with which it identifies and executes the objectives that will lead to the resolution of the challenges of our time and of the future."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Harry. G. Cunningham

Year In Office: 1998 **Parent Lodge: Somerset No. 1205**



"Harry Glen Cunningham, age 73, Past Grand Master of Texas Masonry, died July 8, 2007.

A true and dedicated Texan, Grand Master Harry Glen Cunningham was born on January 24, 1934, on a farm in the rural community of Oak Ridge near Ladonia in Fannin County, Texas. He attended two public schools, Bartley-Woods and Ladonia High School, where he graduated on June 1, 1951. He attended East Texas State Teachers College in 1952 previous to joining the United States Air Force. From June, 1953 to June, 1961, he served in the United States Air Force Security Service during the Korean and at the beginning of the Viet Nam Conflicts. He had two tours of duty overseas in Tripoli, Libya and Nord, Greenland.

After being honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1961, he maintained his residence in San Antonio. He was employed immediately by Sears, Roebuck and Company, where he worked for 28 years in various managerial positions throughout San Antonio and South Texas. He retired from Sears on April 30, 1989. The highlight of Grand Master Cunningham's life is when he met Barbara Harn Davis at Lackland Baptist Church in 1966. They married on May 9, 1969. They have one daughter, Cye, and two sons, Sonny and Scott.

A believer of being active in community affairs, Grand Master Cunningham was very active in church, civic and community affairs in San Antonio since January, 1956. He served Lackland Baptist Church as a Sunday School Teacher, Usher, Member of Finance and Personnel Committees, and Chairman of the Long-Range Steering Committee, and trustee

The Grand Master was very community oriented. The citizens of his community elected him to the Board of Trustees of the Northside Independent School District located in Bexar, Medina and Bandera Counties. He served in this capacity for seven years. He was a former member of the National and State School Board Associations and the Greater San Antonio Builders Association. He was a Past Member and Director of the San Antonio Minority Development Council and Past President of the Parent-Teacher-Student Association of Jay High School in San Antonio. He was also a former member of the Valley-Hi Optimist Club, Heart Association, Boy Scouts of America and Building Committee of Northside Independent School District.

Grand Master Cunningham petitioned Somerset Lodge No. 1205 in January, 1967, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on October 26, 1967. He served on many Lodge Committees throughout the years, serving as Worshipful Master during 1975-1976. He was honored with a Life Membership by the Lodge in 1978. He is also an Endowed Member of Henry Thomas Lodge No. 278 in Smithwick, Texas, and a member of the Texas Lodge of Research. He served as District Deputy Grand Master in 1979 for Grand Master W R Lamb and has also served on various Grand Lodge Committees. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1994, Grand Senior Warden in 1995, Deputy Grand Master in 1996 and was elected to the office of Grand Master in 1997.

Grand Master Cunningham is an Endowed Member of the San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies, serving as Venerable Master of the Consistory in 1990. He was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor

in 1981 and was coroneted a Thirty-Third Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1995. He served on the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Dormitory at the University of Texas in Austin since 1984.

Grand Master Cunningham was a member of San Antonio Chapter No. 381, Royal Arch Masons, San Antonio Council No. 14, Royal and Select Masters, San Antonio Commandery No. 7, Knights Templar, Texian York Rite College No. 60, Saint Anthony Conclave Red Cross of Constantine, Texas College, and Societas Rosicruciana. He was also a member of Alzafar Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. of San Antonio, San Antonio Council No.261, Allied Masonic Degrees, Omala Grotto of San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston No. 17, National Sojourners and invested with an Honorary Legion of Honor, Albert Pike Chapter of DeMolay.

Grand Master Cunningham and his wife, Barbara, were Members of Somerset Chapter No. 730, Order of the Eastern Star, in Somerset, Texas. They were also members of District 5, Section 7, Past Matrons and Past Patrons Association in San Antonio as well as District 5, Past Matrons and Past Patrons Association. The Grand Master served twice as Worthy Patron of Somerset Chapter No. 730. He served as Grand Sentinel (1986-1987), Associate Grand Patron (1987-1988) and as Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Texas (1988-1989)."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

W. M. "Mike" Gower

Year In Office: 1999 Parent Lodge: McAllen No. 1110



"William Michael ""Mike"" Gower II, the 161st Grand Master of Masons in Texas was born on August 8, 1938, in Atlanta, Georgia. It was there that he received his early education in the Atlanta school system. He later attended Georgia State and West Texas State Universities.

It was while in Atlanta that Mike met the beautiful and charming Barbara Jane Brand. They were married on June 14, 1957, and have since been immeasurably blessed with four wonderful children: William Michael III, James, Gail and David, and seven grandchildren have added to the delight of the Gower family.

Mike and Barbara are members of the Calvary Baptist Church in McAllen.

There is little doubt that Barbara's influence played a key roll in their move to Texas in August following their marriage, but it was her father the late J. W. ""Bill"" Brand who tutored Mike in the fine art of marketing onions. Since coming to Texas in August 1957, Mike has been engaged in the development, growing, packaging and marketing of a number of varieties of fruit and vegetables. Mike has often said that he earned his ""Ph.D."" in onion sales from his father-in-law, a man whom he greatly admired and genuinely respected. The Gower family is presently engaged in the ownership and operation of the Fresh Commodity Sales Company in the lower Rio Grande Valley area. His zeal for success in his chosen field of endeavor led him to become involved in the formation, and later his service as president of the Texas Fresh Promotional Board, a trade organization designed to promote Texas grown produce.

An avid hunter, fisherman and sailing enthusiast, Mike firmly believes in family involvement in recreational activities. On occasion, when the press of business and Masonic related activities permit, it is not unusual that Mike and Barbara board their sailboat to make extended trips along the Gulf Coast and beyond. Or, the entire family might gather at their beachfront hideaway at Port Isabel to enjoy one of God's greatest gifts - the love and enjoyment of family. To sit on a deer stand and observe the many wonders of nature is a form of relaxation which Mike enjoys as often as possible. His penchant for sport fishing led him to serve as president of the Texas International Fishing Tournament, a group of fishing enthusiasts whose emphasis on the sport of fishing is combined with preservation and useful management of fish.

An exceptionally friendly and jovial man, Mike Gower is a man who forms lasting friendships quite readily. It was during his service as Area Coordinator of Grand Master's Workshop Programs in the Rio Grande Valley area from 1984 to 1989 that Mike and Barbara endeared themselves to the Texas Masonic family. Their outgoing personalities and unique ability to greet and accommodate visitors to the ""Magic Valley"" combined with a sincere warmth and friendliness is widely acclaimed among Texas Masons.

His military service was with the U.S. Army Transportation Corps, where he received his basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

It is quite evident that Mike Gower was destined to become a Master Mason. His father, grandfather and great-grandfather were Master Masons, as was his father-in-law. As a young man, he was a member

of the Order of DeMolay, and later became a Senior DeMolay in 1956. In 1984 he was honored by his selection to receive the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

It was in 1973 that William Michael Gower II took the first step in his long Masonic journey that led to the purple of the fraternity being placed upon his honored shoulders on December 5, 1998. He was Initiated an Entered Apprentice on November 27, 1973, Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on January 8, 1974, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on February 12, 1974. All of his degrees were conferred in McAllen No. 1110. His favorable impression of the ritual led him to qualify for his first Certificate of Proficiency in 1979.

Mike served as Worshipful Master of McAllen No. 1110 during 1980-1981. His Grand Lodge service began in the fall of 1981, when he was selected by Deputy Grand Master J. M. "Jimmy" Willson, Jr., to serve as District Deputy Grand Master in Masonic District No. 40-A during the 1982 Grand Lodge year. In 1986 he served as Grand Junior Steward by appointment of Grand Junior Warden Leonard P. Harvey, and in 1988 he served as Grand Orator by appointment of Grand Master Graham H. Childress. Mike was appointed to the committee on Grand Lodge Officers' Reports in 1989, and served on the Purposes and Policies Committee from 1992 until his election as Grand Junior Warden in 1995.

Mike Gower is a complete Mason. He received his York Rite Degrees in 1974, being exalted in Hidalgo Chapter No. 434, Royal Arch Masons; greeted in Hidalgo Council No. 353, Royal and Select Masters, and knighted in Hidalgo Commandery No. 94, Knights Templar. While serving as Grand Senior Warden, Mike also served as presiding officer of all three York Rite Bodies. He became a member of South Texas Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine in 1982, and served as Sovereign of that Order in 1992. He is also a member of South Texas York Rite College No. 169.

Brother Gower received the Scottish Rite Degrees in the Valley of San Antonio in 1974, was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1985, and was coroneted a ThirtyThird Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1993. He served as President of the Hidalgo Scottish Rite Club in 1986, and is a participant in the Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday observances of the Scottish Rite. In addition, he is a member of the Scottish Rite Research Society.

A firm believer in the concept that Freemasonry offers something of interest to every member, our Grand Master is a member of Al Amin Shrine at Corpus Christi, and is a member of the Nomad Shrine Club. Other Masonic related activities include: El Wadi Grotto; Texas Lodge of Research; Texas College (Masonic); Societas Rosicruciana; Rose of Sharon Council No. 49, Knight Masons; and La Feria Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. He was received into the Royal Order of Scotland in 1996; Order of Silver Trowel in 1997; Order of High Priesthood 1997; and received his Knight York Cross of Honour in 1998.

A strong supporter of the Grand Lodge Endowed Membership Program, his concern for the future financial stability of all Masonic related organizations, as well as our Grand lodge library and Museum, is clearly evidenced by his ardent support of the endowed membership concept for fiscal stability. He holds endowed memberships in McAllen No. 1110 and the San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies. He is also a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame, an endowment for the future benefit of our Grand Lodge library and Museum.

William Michael "Mike" Gower is a rather busy man and to say that he is a rather active Mason would be an understatement. He is a family man who engages in family activity at every opportunity to do so.

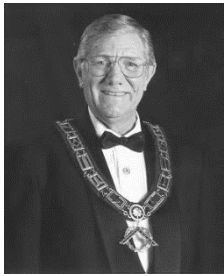
he is a loving, kind and dedicated husband, father and grandfather. he is a decent man of integrity. If he tells you it is going to rain, you can put out your bucket in full confidence that you will catch some water. Mike Gower has the ability to unite men in pursuit of a common goal, and when the Masons of Texas follow his leadership, it might rightly be expected that Texas Masonry will greatly benefit from his unique ability to lead them into the next century of service to mankind.

May God continue to richly bless him, his family, and our Grand lodge. - by Leonard P. Harvey, PGM"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

W. Vernon Burke Jr.

Year In Office: 2000 **Parent Lodge: Saint John's No. 5**



"A native Texan, W. Vernon Burke, Jr. was born in Wharton June 8, 1936. He and Fay K. Primrose were married on October 24, 1976. They have five children: Heather Doughty, Rory Burke and Rikke Graber. Their two other children, Rachel Burke (deceased 1985) and Scot Primrose (deceased 1995) are in their thoughts daily. There are four grandchildren.

Brother Burke holds executive positions with Brazos Pipe and Steel Fabricators, Inc. and with Brazos Industrial Contractors, Inc., both located at Freeport Texas.

A man who strongly believes that good Masons should be active and supportive of various community activities, Grand Master Burke practices those beliefs by his actions and support in his community. He served as a member of the Board of Education of the Columbia-Brazoria Independent School District from 1970 to 1976; served as a member of the Vocational Education-Advisory Council of the Brazosport Community College from 1976 to 1980; coached Little League baseball from 1964 to 1970 and has been a member of the Lake Jackson Police Department Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association since 1995. His concern for the youth of his community and for law and order among citizens has led him to sponsorship and leadership roles of various law enforcement activities.

Our Most Worshipful Grand Master was raised a Master Mason in St. John's Lodge No. 5 at West Columbia on February 22, 1963. He served as Worshipful Master of that Lodge during the 1987-1988 Masonic Year, and has been an Endowed Member there since 1987.

His Grand Lodge service began soon after his term as Worshipful Master of his Lodge. He was selected by Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey to serve as District Deputy of Masonic District No. 31-C during the 1989 Grand Lodge year, served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Grand Officers Reports during 1990, 1993 and 1995; was Chairman of that committee in 1993, and was District Masonic Relations Officer in his district from 1991 through 1995.

Brother Burke was named by Grand Master R. O. "Bob" Schnell to serve as Assistant State Coordinator in 1993; was appointed by Grand Junior Warden Joseph W. Regian to the office of Grand Senior Steward in 1994, and served in the dual roles of State Coordinator and Grand Marshal under Grand Master Robert P. Walker in 1996. It was in December 1996 that W. Vernon Burke, Jr. began his ascent of the Grand Lodge ladder which has led to his election and installation as Most Worshipful Grand Master on December 4, 1999, to serve as Grand Master at the beginning of a new millennium.

An active member of the York Rite Bodies, he is Past High Priest of Columbia Chapter No. 34, Royal Arch Masons, Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Columbia Council No. 29. Royal and Select Masters, and is Past Commander of Litt S. Perry Commandery No. 111. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in 1993, and as District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons in 1994.

Brother Burke is a member of the Galveston Scottish Rite Bodies, and in recognition of his service to Freemasonry he was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1995.

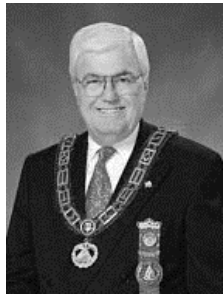
An active Shrine Mason, he is a member and Past Potentate of El Mina Shrine Temple in Galveston. and was president of the Texas Shrine Association in the 1995/1996 Shrine year. His other Masonic memberships include Chinar Grotto of Houston, Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 705 in West Columbia, Gulf Coast York Rite College No. 106, Order of the Amaranth. Court No. 2, Texas Lodge of Research, Masonic Oak Council No. 323 Allied Masonic Degrees, Texas College Societas Rosicruciana (Masonic), Anson Jones Council No. 47 - Knight Masons, the Red Cross of Constantine, Freeport Chapter No. 487 Royal Arch Masons, Freeport Council No. 402 Royal and Select Masters, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Royal Order of Scotland, Order of the High Priesthood, Order of the Silver Trowel, Sam Houston Hall of Fame, honorary member of DeMolay Legion of Honor, Member in Perpetuity National Sojourners - Houston Chapter No. 513 and a Patron of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.

Right Worshipful W. Vernon Burke, Jr., -- Grand Master of Masons in Texas -- is a proud and loyal family man, an astute businessman, a dedicated Mason with a deep sense of duty and displays those leadership qualities which inspire others to follow - simply because he sets the example as a leader. When those attributes are combined with his sincere desire to serve the Masons of Texas; his willingness to test innovative ideas; his willingness to listen to the Masons of Texas, there is reason to anticipate the future of Texas Masonry with confidence. -by Leonard P. Harvey - PGM"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

David B. Dibrell

Year In Office: 2001 **Parent Lodge: Richardson No. 1214**



"David Benton Dibrell was born on May 26, 1938, in San Antonio, to John L. and Juanita (Pounds) Dibrell. He grew up in Big Spring, Texas, graduated from Big Spring High School and completed his education at Howard County Junior College and the University of Texas in Austin. He married his high school sweetheart, Marlene Marie Mann, and they have two daughters, Jo D. Dibrell and Jill; and two grandsons, Steven and Benton. The Dibrell's are active members of the First United Methodist Church in Richardson, having served on the Administrative Board, Finance Committee and sponsors of youth groups.

After college, Grand Master Dibrell worked for Southland Life Insurance Company in Dallas; for Honeywell in Dallas and in Boston; for Tillinghast & Co. in Atlanta; and for Logic, Inc. in Dallas. While serving as President of Logic, he was active in the national trade association ADAPSO and served on its Board and on various committees. After selling his interest in Logic and then a period as an independent computer consultant, he joined Intercon General Agency in 1990 as Vice President of Information Systems. Intercon is a wholly owned subsidiary of Royal & SunAlliance Insurance Company of Charlotte. Grand Master Dibrell currently serves as an Assistant Vice President of the various RSA Insurance Companies. Throughout his professional life, Grand Master Dibrell has specialized in computers and insurance.

Grand Master Dibrell was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason in Richardson Masonic Lodge No. 1214 on December 14, 1971 and raised a Master Mason on March 23, 1972. He served as Master of Ceremonies in 1972-73, advanced through each office and was elected to serve as Worshipful Master in 1979-1980. He has held an esoteric certificate since 1982. An Endowed Member since 1987, he received the Golden Trowel Award in 1992 and was presented a Life Membership in 1995.

A plural member of Holland No. 1 in Houston and Knox Corinthian No. 851 in Richardson, Grand Master Dibrell was instrumental in Knox Corinthian's move to Richardson in 1997. He is also a Past Master of Knox Corinthian. He is a plural member of James Ladd Burgess No. 1305, Mercedes No. 1010 and Tranquility No. 2000.

In 1989 and in 1990, Grand Master Dibrell served as Chairman of the Grand Lodge Special Assignments Committee which developed the Grand Lodge Insurance Program. He served as Assistant State Coordinator in 1993 and later as Grand Pursuivant P. T. for Grand Master R. O. "Bob" Schnell. He began his service as Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service in 1993, continuing until his election as Grand Junior Warden. While serving as Chairman, Grand Master Dibrell developed and implemented the Wardens Retreat Program for Lodge Leadership Training. He served as State Coordinator and Grand Orator in 1994 for Grand Master Billy Tinsley and as Grand Marshal in 1997 for Grand Master Joe Regian.

In 1976 Grand Master Dibrell was made a Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Dallas, where he holds an Endowed Membership. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1985 and coroneted a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1995. Grand Master Dibrell has served on various degree teams and still serves as degree master for the 32nd

Degree. He served the Dallas Chapter of Rose Croix as Wise Master in 1991 and he served the Dallas Scottish Rite Valley as General Membership Chairman until 1998.

He was exalted as a Royal Arch Mason in A. C. Garrett Chapter in 1979, transferred to George Washington Chapter No. 422 in 1988 and served as High Priest of that Chapter. He was greeted as a Royal and Select Master in A. C. Garrett Council in 1980, transferred to John C. Callahan Council No. 408 in 1988 and currently serves that Council as Principal Conductor of the Work. He was knighted in A. C. Garrett Commandery No. 103, Knights Templar, in 1980 and is a member of the Grand Master's Club of Knights Templar Eye Foundation. He has served the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters as its Grand Chaplain in 1998.

Grand Master Dibrell is a member of Hella Shrine A.A.O.N.M.S. in Dallas and is a Past President of the Knights of Mecca, Past Masters Unit. He is a Charter member of Alla Grotto; a member of Lyle L. Cross York Rite College; a member of Anson Jones Council No. 47 of Knight Masons and of Rose of Sharon Council No. 49 of Knight Masons, where he served as Excellent Chief in 1995-96. He is a member of Holy Grail Council No. 287 of the Allied Masonic Degrees; a member of Saint Mark Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; and a member of Texas College Societas Rosicrutiana (Masonic Rosicrutians). He is a Full Member of the Texas Lodge of Research. Grand Master Dibrell is also a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and the Philaethes Society. He is a member of the National Sojourners.

Grand Master Dibrell and Mrs. Dibrell were initiated into Richardson Chapter No. 921, Order of the Eastern Star, affiliated with Dal-Cliff No. 574 and served that Chapter as Worthy Patron and Worthy Matron in 1988-89. He has served Grand Chapter on many Committees and as Grand Sentinel in 1990-91. They are also members of Houston Court No. 2, Order of Amaranth and the Cross of Texas Shrine No. 1, Order of White Shrine of Jerusalem.

Initiated into DeMolay in 1952, he served as Master Councilor of Big Spring Chapter in 1956. Grand Master Dibrell has served as an Advisor of Richardson Chapter and Auvergne Priory in Richardson. He received the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1988, its Cross of Honor in 1977, and Chevalier in 1999. He currently serves as Dean of the North Texas Preceptory of the Legion of Honor. In 2000, he was elected an Honorary Member of the DeMolay Supreme Council.

Grand Master Dibrell has been especially interested in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. It was when his two daughters joined that organization that he was motivated to finally petition the Lodge. He has served Richardson Assembly 291 on its Rainbow Council and Advisory Board. He received the Grand Cross of Color in 1979. He and Marlene have served Grand Assembly for several years. Currently, Marlene serves as the Supreme Deputy in Texas.

An active genealogist, Grand Master Dibrell has traced his Masonic heritage to 1849 when his Great-Great-Grandfather, Henry Eustace McCulloch, was initiated into Austin Lodge No. 12. McCulloch later transferred to Guadalupe No. 109 in Seguin. His Grandfather, John Lee Dibrell, joined San Antonio Lodge No. 1079 in 1922 and later transferred to Anchor No. 424. His Father, John Lee Dibrell, joined Kerrville Lodge No. 697 in 1926 and transferred to Staked Plains No. 598 in Big Spring.

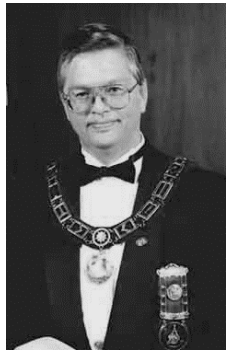
Known as an organizer and a planner as well as a committed and dedicated Freemason, Grand Master Dibrell brings a sense of vision and vitality to the Office of Grand Master, He believes that a positive

attitude linked with meticulous planning will allow us to accomplish great things for ourselves and for Masonry. The Grand Lodge of Texas welcomes this very capable and energetic leader."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Michael D. Nanny

Year In Office: 2002 **Parent Lodge: Gray No. 329**



"The son of Walter and Billye Jean Nanny was born in Houston, Texas on August 22, 1953. He was educated in the Houston Public Schools, and graduated from Westbury Senior High School in 1971. He then enrolled in Texas A&M University where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nuclear Engineering in 1975.

Brother Nanny married Sheri Lynn Marble of Dallas on November 11, 1978. It was Sheri's father, the late Brother Al Marble who inspired Mike to seek membership in the Masonic fraternity. Sheri is currently a math teacher at Robert E. Lee High School where she was named Math Teacher of the Year in 1997, and is currently the Math Department Chairman. He and Sheri are members of the First United

Methodist Church of Houston.

As a registered professional engineer he has worked in the power and petrochemical industries, holding positions at Brown & Root, Stone & Webster and Enron Energy and Operational Services, where he currently holds the position of Project Engineering Manager.

Our Grand Master was raised a Master Mason in Gray No. 329 in Houston on May 30, 1979, where he served in various places and stations of leadership responsibility. In 1984 he became the youngest Worshipful Master at the time of his installation to serve Gray Lodge throughout its 131 years of service in the Houston area and a distinction, which still stands some 17 years after his service as Worshipful Master.

Concurrent with his term as Worshipful Master, Brother Nanny served as President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of the 30th Masonic Districts. An excellent ritualist in just about facet of Masonry, he has held a Certificate of Proficiency since 1981. He served as Secretary in 1993-94. A firm believer in the benefits of Endowed Memberships, he is an Endowed Member of Gray Lodge, Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, Mercedes Lodge No. 1010 and Fairy Lodge No. 751 in District No. 72 where he served as District Deputy Grand Master under Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey in 1989. Such has been his attachment to Fairy Lodge that the Lodge honored him with the Golden Trowel Award in 1994. In addition, he is a full member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame.

Brother Nanny's service to Grand Lodge began with his appointment to the Executive Committee of the Sesquicentennial Commission in 1985. In addition, he served as Grand Senior Steward in 1990, Grand Senior Deacon in 1993, and as Grand Junior Steward in 1998. He has participated in several Grand Master's Conference Planning efforts, and served as Assistant State Coordinator in 1990, 1994 and 1996 – and as State Coordinator under Grand Master R.O. "Bob" Schnell in 1993 and Grand Master Joseph W. Regian in 1997. Other Grand Lodge service includes his membership on the Finance Committee from 1993 through 1997, and as a member of the Masonic Education and Service Committee in 1998.

A member of Bluebell Chapter No. 856, Order of the Eastern Star, he served as Worthy Patron in 1983-84.

His receiving the Rainbow Grand Cross of Color and the DeMolay Legion of Honor reflects his dedication and commitment to the Masonic related youth organizations.

As an active member of the Houston Scottish Rite Bodies, Brother Nanny was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1985; served as Master of Kadosh of the Houston Consistory in 1993, and Venerable Master of the San Jacinto Lodge of Perfection in 1994. He has served on various degree teams, including Commander of the K.C.C.H. Investiture Team, and in recognition of exemplary service to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, he was coroneted a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General Honorary in November 1999.

Brother Nanny demonstrates his complete support of our Texas Masonic Family by his memberships in El Mina Shrine Temple and in Chinar Grotto.

His York Rite memberships include Washington Chapter No. 2, Royal Arch Masons; Houston Council No. 1, Royal and Select Masters; Melrose Commandery No. 109, Knights Templar and Houston Commandery No. 95. He has held various offices in all York Rite Bodies and is also a member of the Gulf Coast York Rite College No. 106 in Houston.

Other Masonic related activities included the Allied Masonic Degrees, Knight Masons, Red Branch of Eri, Royal Order of Scotland, Texas College Societas Rosicruciana (Masonic Rosicrucians), Red Cross of Constantine, and the Texas Lodge of Research.

Man and Mason – good and true – is Most Worshipful Michael D. Nanny. Texas Masons are most proud of his achievements, and look forward to “nobler deeds and greater achievements” as he takes the helm of Texas Masonry. He believes in and lives the lessons of our fraternity to the extent that his vision for our fraternity is centered around the idea that, “the promise of our fraternity lies with the quality and integrity of each and every Texas Mason, and that by a steadfast adherence to Masonic principles and traditions, and the blessings of Almighty God, Masonry in Texas will prosper in and beyond 2002.”

M. Boyd Patterson Jr.

Year In Office: 2003 **Parent Lodge: Washington No. 1117**

"Grand Master Patterson was born in Greenville, Texas on the 13th day of November 1950 and is the son of M. Boyd Patterson, Sr., a member of Greenville Lodge, and Mary Hollon Patterson Smaldino. His family moved to Richardson when he was six years old where he was educated in the public school system, graduating from Richardson High School in 1969. Most Worshipful Brother Patterson graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1972 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree Cum Laude in history and philosophy. While an undergraduate he was elected to membership in Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honors Society. Following the earning of his baccalaureate degree he attended the SMU School of Law, receiving the Degree of Juris Doctor in 1975. During his years on campus he was five times awarded the White Helmet for scholastic achievement.

He met his wife, Susan, while in high school at a DeMolay-Rainbow dance in 1966. They were married in 1974 and have two children, a daughter, Morgan Beth Patterson and a son, Marcus Boyd Patterson. Susan teaches senior English at Berkner High School in Richardson and will complete her thirtieth year in that profession in the spring of 2003. Morgan is employed in the investment industry in Dallas. Marcus is a freshman at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches.

After receiving his license to practice law in 1975 our Grand Master opened his own solo law firm and was a trial attorney from 1975 until 1983. In April of that year he began his service as a Judge when he was appointed to the bench as a Magistrate for the Criminal District Courts of Dallas County. In 1987 he was named Chief Magistrate and still occupies that position. In addition to presiding over a busy trial docket hearing felony criminal cases he has also maintained an active role in legal circles, serving on the Texas Youth Council Advisory Conference, the Dallas County DWI Task Force, the Criminal Justice Management Committee, the Coalition for the Mentally Ill Work Group, the Drug Treatment Court Task Force, the Special Needs Offenders Program, Criminal Justice Forum, 1994 World Cup Soccer Committee and others.

In the community he has served as President of Marywood Adoptive Parents, Inc., President of the Diamond M Club, is a member of the Mustang Club, Dallas Zoological Association, Dallas Museum of Art and Dallas Opera and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Marywood Foundation of Austin. In addition, he has served as a lecturer on Governmental Affairs and on Criminal Law in the Dallas County Community College system and a speaker on Criminal Justice in the Leadership Richardson Program. In 1983 he was elected as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America. As a youth the Grand Master was active in Boy Scouts, having achieved the rank of Star Scout, serving as Senior Patrol Leader and receiving the God and Country Award. His association with Scouting continued in his adult life when he served as Cubmaster for Pack 1001, Committee Chairman for Troop 1001 and was recognized over the years with the Tiger Cub Group Coach Award, the Den Leader Coach Award, Cub Scouter Award, Cubmaster Award, Exceptional Service Award, Boy Scout Leader Training Award and Outstanding Service Award.

Brother Patterson began his association with the Masonic family when he joined Richardson Chapter of the Order of DeMolay in 1966 where he served as Master Councilor in 1968. In addition, while an Active DeMolay, he was Illustrious Knight Commander of Auvergne Priory, District Deputy State Master Councilor and State Registrar of the State Priory. In 1970 the Grand Master was elected as State Master

Councilor of the Texas DeMolay Association. He is the first person to have served as head of both the Masonic youth organization of DeMolay as State Master Councilor and the Grand Lodge of Texas as Grand Master. He has continued his work in Texas DeMolay to this day, having as an adult served as Priory Advisor, Chapter and Priory Advisory Council Chairman, Director on the State Knighthood Staff, District Governor, Director of Adult Leadership for Texas, Grand Commander of Geoffrey de Charnay Court of Chevaliers, Chairman of the 11th District Priory Association and is a Life Member of the Texas State Court of Chevaliers. On the national and international level, Grand Master Patterson is an Active Member of the International Supreme Council, Vice-Chairman of its Committee on Jurisprudence and Legislation, a member of the Board of Directors of DeMolay Canada and a Trustee and Vice-President of the DeMolay Foundation.

DeMolay has honored him with many distinctions. Before becoming a Senior DeMolay he received the Representative DeMolay Award, the Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award, the Past Illustrious Knight Commander's Meritorious Service Award, the Grand Master's Membership Excellence Award and the Degree of Chevalier. For adult service he has been recognized with both the Cross of Honor and the Legion of Honor and was named Priory Advisor of the Year. His activities within the Supreme Council have earned him both the Grand Master's Certificate of Appreciation and Grand Master's Service Award as well as the DeMolay Foundation Certificate of Appreciation. He is the only Texan to have ever been awarded an Eagle Trophy, that being the Visionary Award.

Since being raised as a Master Mason in 1972 our Grand Master has been active in many bodies, rites and organizations within Freemasonry. He served as Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge No. 1117 in 1981-1982 and then as Treasurer until being elected as Grand Junior Warden in 1999. In addition to being a Life Member of Washington Lodge, he is an Endowed Member of James Ladd Burgess Lodge No. 1305. In the York Rite he is a Past High Priest of George Washington Chapter No. 422 R.A.M., Past Thrice Illustrious Master of George Washington Council No. 408 R.&S.M. and has served as District Deputy Grand Master for the Grand Council of Texas. Other memberships include Dallas Commandery, Hella Temple Shrine, the Texas Lodge of Research, the Philaethes Society, and Quatuor Coronati Lodge of London, England. Additionally, he is a Past President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of the 14th Masonic Districts and a Past President of the Dallas High Noon Club. The Grand Master is a member of the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies where he has served as Reunion Director and was Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection.

His offices within the Grand Lodge of Texas have included service as a District Deputy Grand Master in 1995, member of the Committee on Memorials and later the Committee on Purposes and Policies, as well as Grand Orator in 1997. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors for Together Against Drug Abuse, Representative to the Grand Lodge of Costa Rica and is especially proud to have served on the faculty of the Wardens' Retreat Program for six years. Among the invitational bodies of Freemasonry Brother Patterson is a Past Governor of Lyle L. Cross York Rite College, a Past Master of Holy Grail Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees and is currently Junior Deacon of St. Mark Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine. Other memberships are held in the Rose of Sharon Council of Knight Masons, the Royal Order of Scotland, Grand College of Rites and the Societas Rosicruciana In Civitatibus Foederatis. In 2002 he was elected to serve as Chairman of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America during its 2003 term and he is the first Texas Grand Master to have ever held this distinguished position.

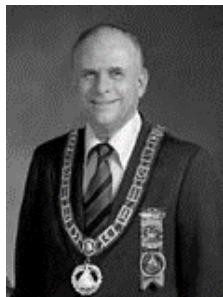
Among the honors conferred he is very proud to have received the Meritorious Service Award from Washington Lodge and to have been presented by his brethren there with the Golden Trowel Award. Other recognitions with which Grand Master Patterson has been presented over the years include the Order of the Silver Trowel, the Order of the Purple Cross, the Red Branch of Eri and the 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary in the Scottish Rite. By his own statement, however, his greatest achievement and award has been the honor which the Masons of Texas have conferred upon him by electing him to serve as Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas in 2003.

""Suscipio Lecessum - I Take Up the Challenge. This motto for 2003 is taken very personally by our Grand Master, Most Worshipful M. Boyd Patterson Jr. Known as an outstanding speaker and communicator, he is also a meticulous planner. His positive 'can-do' attitude and far reaching vision will lead this Fraternity well into the 21st Century. The Grand Lodge of Texas is truly blessed to have a man of his capabilities as our leader.""

Draft dated 06/29/2003

Reese L. Harrison Jr.

Year In Office: 2004 **Parent Lodge: Albert Pike No. 1169**



Grand Master Reese L. Harrison, Jr., was born in San Antonio, Texas, on January 5, 1938 and is the son of Reese L. Harrison, who was a 60-Year Member of Albert Pike Masonic Lodge No. 1169, and Ruth Leona Fischer Harrison, whose father Albert Fischer was a member of Alamo Masonic Lodge No. 44. His father was a forty-year employee of Friedrich Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Company, Inc., and was its President and Treasurer at the time of his retirement. He was raised on a farm and ranch in Caldwell County, Texas. His father was a Knight Companion of the Red Cross of Constantine and a Knight of the Royal Order of Scotland. His mother graduated from Brackenridge High School in the San Antonio Independent School District and was the Valedictorian and Secretary of her senior class in high school. She was an executive secretary in Friedrich Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Company initially and later was a bank executive secretary in the Groos National Bank, which was the oldest bank in San Antonio, and her avocation was being a creative writer, particularly in poetry, which was inherited by her granddaughter Scottie but not by her son Reese Jr. She treasured a congratulatory letter and gift for her high school graduation that she received from Nathan Kimball Tracy, a Past Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Texas, and a close friend of her father Albert Fischer. Most Worshipful Brother Harrison graduated from Brackenridge High School in the San Antonio Independent School District in 1956. He graduated from Baylor University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in three years in 1959 and with a Master of Science in Economics in 1965, attaining membership in Beta Gamma Sigma in the upper ten percent of his class and was admitted to Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Society in Economics, and to Alpha Epsilon Rho Honor Fraternity in Radio and Television. While he was in college he was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha social fraternity and the infamous NOZE Brotherhood social fraternity at Baylor University. He graduated from Southern Methodist University with a Juris Doctor Degree and was a member of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity. He is married to the former Judith Karen Scott and they have two daughters, Judith Karen Scott Harrison, Jr., and Tiffany Farrah Lynn Harrison. His wife Judith Karen is a Past Sweetheart of both Albert Pike Chapter No. 58 Order of DeMolay and Albert Pike Priory No. 38 DeMolay Order of Knighthood, is a Majority Member of San Antonio Assembly No.3 Order of Rainbow for Girls, and is a former Miss Fiesta of the Fiesta San Jacinto Association in San Antonio. Judy is a graduate of Incarnate Word University with a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics and of San Antonio College with an Associates Degree as a Lawyer's or Legal Assistant. She is currently employed as a legal assistant to expert witnesses who are both physicians and engineers in the field of biodynamics. Judy's mother Juanita was a Past Mother Advisor of San Antonio Assembly No. 3 Order of Rainbow for Girls. Judy Jr. (better known as Scottie) is a graduate of Colorado State University with Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Technical Journalism and Communications. Scottie is married to Jared Michael Brown whom she met at Colorado State University where they were in the same graduating class. Presently, Scottie and Jared are living in Maryland. Jared received a Doctors Degree from the University of Montana on May 15, 2004. Scottie and Jared are the proud parents of the Grand Master's grandson, Hadyn William Brown, born October 14, 2003. Tiffany graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Texas at San Antonio and is the manager of several medical evaluation offices in Houston, Texas. Tiffany lives with her Sheltie "The Baron" and her blue-eyed Siberian Husky known as "The Countess." Tiffany is a Past Sweetheart of Albert Pike Priory No. 38 DeMolay Order of Knighthood and is a Past State Sweetheart of

the Texas DeMolay Order of Knighthood. The Grand Master's daughters are Majority Members of the International Order of Job's Daughters and of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls. Judy Jr. and Tiffany are Past Worthy Advisors of San Antonio Assembly No.3 and were awarded the Grand Cross of Color Degree in 1991. Tiffany is a Past Grand Worthy Advisor of the Grand Assembly of Texas, IORG. Their great aunt Tomye Hazel Hall Fischer was a charter officer and member of San Antonio Assembly No. 3 when instituted on November 4, 1922. Both daughters are Charter Members of San Antonio Bethel No. 1 IOJD. Judy Jr. is a Past Honored Queen and Tiffany served as an officer in Bethel No. 1 IOJD. They were initiated into Oklahoma City Bethel No. 2 and are Majority Members of both Bethels. Both Judy Jr. (Scottie) and Tiffany are Endowed Members of Texas Chapter No. 35 Order of the Eastern Star and of Houston Court No. 2 Order of the Amaranth. Scottie and Tiffany are also members of Nekodah Temple No. 44 Daughters of The Nile, Altrui Court No. 89 Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, and Omala Caldron No. 99 Daughters of Mokanna, all in San Antonio. Tiffany is a Charter Member of Cross of Texas Shrine No. 1 Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem in Houston and Scottie is a member of Galilee White Shrine No. 13 in Fort Collins, Colorado. Tiffany is a member of Houston Assembly No. 81 of the Social Order of the Beauceant. The Grand Master General's wife Judy is a member of the same Orders in which Tiffany is a member except that she is a member of Adah Chapter No. 49 Order of the Eastern Star and San Antonio Assembly No. 159 Social Order of the Beauceant and is also a Charter Member of the Daughters of Mokanna, Amaranth and White Shrine. Grand Master Harrison was admitted to the practice of law in September 1962 and was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson and Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy as an Assistant United States Attorney for the United States Department of Justice in the Western District of Texas, serving from 1964 through 1972 and as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in 1972-1973. He entered the private practice of law as a partner in the law firm of Oppenheimer, Blend, Harrison and Tate, Inc. in 1972, and is a former Chief Executive Officer of the law firm, and is a former Chairman of the Litigation Department. He is Board Certified in the field of Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and is a Diplomate of the National Board of Trial Advocacy being board certified in Civil Trial Advocacy. He has been certificated by the University of Houston Law Center as a Mediator. Reese L. Harrison, Jr., Colonel, USAF Retired, was awarded a brevet promotion to the rank of Brigadier General on September 1, 2004, in the Texas Air National Guard. Brigadier General Harrison was State Judge Advocate of the Texas Air National Guard and was assigned to the Judge Advocate General's Department Reserve with the United States Air Force and was a Military Judge in the Texas Air National Guard beginning in 1972. He received the Major General Paul D. Straw Trophy in 1991 as the Airman who best exemplified overall unit excellence and outstanding civic participation and in recognition of superior contribution to the community and to the nation. He retired from the Texas Air National Guard and the United States Air Force in 1998 with almost 35 years of military service. He has been active in a variety of military and veterans organizations. He was selected the Outstanding Young Man in San Antonio for 1973, receiving the Distinguished Service Award from the San Antonio Junior Chamber of Commerce of which he was not a member. He has been listed in the Best Lawyers in America since its inception in 1987 in the field of Business Litigation. In both 2003 and 2004, Texas Monthly Magazine named the Grand Master General a Super Lawyer in Business Litigation. He has been listed in Who's Who in the South and Southwest, Who's Who in Law and the Social Directory of San Antonio. He is a Life Director of the San Antonio Livestock Exposition and Rodeo, is a former Vice President of the San Antonio Charity Horse Show, and is a Director of the Miss Rodeo Texas Pageant among many other civic activities too numerous to mention. Grand Master Harrison is a frequent lecturer at Continuing Legal Education Courses, Institutes and Seminars in the specialties of Civil Trial

Law, Antitrust Law, Federal Criminal Law, Federal Civil Procedure, and Military Law. He is active in eleven Bar Associations and Trial Lawyer's Associations, having served as President of some of the Associations, as Chairman of Committees and Councils in a number of these Associations, and on numerous committees of same. He is a Past President of the San Antonio Alumni Chapter of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity and is a Life Fellow of both the San Antonio and the Texas Bar Foundations. He is admitted to practice law in the Supreme Court of the United States, and in all Article III and Article I Courts of the United States. In addition to being a lawyer, Grand Master Harrison is a business economist and has been granted membership in the American Economics Association, the National Association of Business Economists, the Society of Government Economists and the San Antonio Economics Society, has been a lecturer on antitrust economics and on economic damage measurements, and has served on a number of Committees of these Associations. Grand Master Harrison operates the Bar H Ranches Partnership, Ltd., a cattle ranch in Bexar, Wilson, and Caldwell Counties in Texas, with his sister Janice Lee Harrison Tipton, who is also a graduate of both Brackenridge High School in San Antonio and Baylor University. One of his cattle brands is 02, which has been in his family since the Civil War. He has been honored with membership in a number of National College Fraternities and Societies, including social, professional, honorary, and leadership. He has also been honored with membership in various social organizations in San Antonio. He and his family are members of Trinity Baptist Church, where he served on the legal committee. He is a member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas and the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He has held a number of leadership positions in the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and the Alamo Area Council of Governments. He served as General Counsel to the General Investigating Committee and to the Ethics Committee of the Texas House of Representatives for the Biennium 1983- 1984. He is active in the Democratic Party at the County, State and National levels. Judy and Reese live with Mr. Speaker, aka The Prince, aka Sam, a Shetland Sheepdog. His Masonic history is as follows:

SYMBOLIC BLUE LODGE

Initiated March 14, 1959; Passed April 11, 1959, and Raised May 12, 1959 in Albert Pike Masonic Lodge No. 1169; Life Membership awarded August 11, 1970, Dual Endowed Member of Holland Masonic Lodge No. 1 since 1999, Plural Life Membership in Alamo Masonic Lodge No 44 awarded June 28, 2003.
Worshipful Master of Albert Pike Masonic Lodge No. 1169, 1969-1970;
Treasurer since 1993; and Secretary for three years, 1988-1991.
Worshipful Master of Cibolo Masonic Lodge No. 151, 2004-2005
Senior Warden of DeMolay Masonic Lodge No. 199, 2004-2005
Grand Master of Masons in Texas, 2004.
Grand Orator of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, 1987.
District Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, 1982.
District Education Officer of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000.
President of Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of the 39th Masonic Districts, 1968.
Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland since December 8, 2004.
Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, May 16, 2001- November 12, 2004.
Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Luxembourg, July 11, 1984- May 15, 2001.
Henry Price Medal awarded by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on May 10, 1982.
Pierpoint Edwards Medal in Bronze awarded by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut on April 5, 1983.
W. B. Jack Ball Lecture Medal awarded by Albert Pike Masonic Lodge No. 1169 in 1999.

Golden Trowel Award presented by Albert Pike Masonic Lodge No. 1169 in 1990.
Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas Sesquicentennial Commission and Committee Chairman 1984-1987.
Grand Lodge of Texas Permanent Committee on Jurisprudence 1987-1993, 1994-1996, 1997-2001;
Chairman 1989, 1993, 1996, 1998;
Permanent Committee on Youth Activities 1977-1983, Chairman 1982, 1983.
Permanent Committee on Grievances and Appeals No. 2, 1975.
Permanent Committee on Plans and Objectives, 1989-1991.
Temporary Committee on Petitions No.1, 1972-1973.
Special Committee on Proposed Revisions to Laws of Grand Lodge 1998, 1999.
Certificate of Proficiency in the Esoteric Work 1967-1988.

YORK RITE OF FREEMASONRY

CAPITULAR RITE

Exalted in San Antonio Chapter No. 381 Royal Arch Masons, December 19, 1959; Life Membership awarded July 22, 1970; Dual Life Membership in Monroe Chapter No. 64 Royal Arch Masons of Monroe, North Carolina Awarded 1998; Dual Member of Mt. Ararat Chapter No. 3 Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina since 1999.
High Priest of San Antonio Chapter No. 381 Royal Arch Masons, 1969-1970; and Treasurer since 1970.
District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, 1971.
Grand Orator of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, 1972, 1997
Grand Captain of the Host of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter in Texas, 1973.
Grand Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Netherlands since May 9, 1973.
Grand Chapter Permanent Committee on Jurisprudence 1986-1990, 2004-2008; Chairman, 1988, 1989, 1990.
Life Certificate of Proficiency in the Esoteric Work awarded December 5, 1989.
Honorary Membership awarded in Salisbury Chapter No. 20 Royal Arch Masons of Salisbury, North Carolina, March 1, 1999.

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

Consecrated in the Order of High Priesthood of Texas, December 1, 1969.
Grand High Priest of the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood of Texas, 1987.

CRYPTIC RITE

Greeted in San Antonio Council No.14 Royal & Select Masters, January 25, 1960; Received Super Excellent Master Degree under auspices of Dallas Council No. 18, September 12, 1960; Life Membership awarded July 22, 1970; Dual Life Membership in Solomon of The Silver Trowel Council No. 24 Royal Select Masters of Monroe, North Carolina Awarded 1998; Dual member of Roanoke Council No. 1 Royal & Select Masters of Raleigh, North Carolina since January 11, 1997.
Thrice illustrious Master of San Antonio Council No. 14 Royal & Select Masters, 1969-1970; and Treasurer since 1970.
District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and select Masters of Texas, 1971 and 1974.
Grand Representative of Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the District of Columbia since November 17, 1979.

Grand Council Permanent Committee on Jurisprudence, 1980-1984, 1993-1997, 1999-2003; Chairman 2000,2001,2002,2003.

Life Certificate of Proficiency in the Esoteric Work awarded 1997.

Honorary Membership awarded in South San Antonio (now Helotes) Council No. 362 and in Adoniram Council No.2 Royal and Select Masters of Salisbury, North Carolina, March 1, 1999.

ORDER OF THE SILVER TROWEL

Received in the Order of the Silver Trowel of Texas, November 28, 1969.

Thrice Illustrious Master of the Order of the Silver Trowel of Texas, 1976.

CHIVALRIC RITE

Knighthood in San Antonio Commandery No. 7 Knights Templar, April 23, 1960; Endowed Member December 6, 1989; Dual Life Membership in Malta Commandery No. 19 of Monroe, North Carolina awarded 1998.

Commander of San Antonio Commandery No. 7 Knights Templar, 1974; and Treasurer since 1998.

Knight Grand Cross of the Temple, Constituted July 24, 1999.

Knight Commander of the Temple, Constituted December 7, 1992.

Knight Templar Cross of Honor, awarded February 27, 2001.

Aide de Camp to the Deputy Grand Master of Grand Encampment 2000-2003.

Commanders Merit Award received from Grand Commandery of Texas, 1975.

Grand Commandery Permanent Committee on Templar Jurisprudence 1991-1994; 1994-1999, 2000 - 2005; Chairman 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-

2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005; Committee on Grievances and Appeals 1999-2000.

Honorary Membership awarded in Salisbury Commandery No. 13 Knights Templar in Salisbury, North Carolina, March 1, 1999.

SOVEREIGN ORDER OF KNIGHTS PRECEPTOR

Commissioned a Knight Preceptor April 28, 1996.

Sovereign Grand Preceptor of the Grand Chapter since August 1, 2003.

Eminent Preceptor of Texas Chapter 2000-2001.

Charter Seneschal of Texas Chapter April 28, 1996-1997.

ORDER OF KNIGHTS CRUSADERS OF THE CROSS

Inducted a Knight Crusader of the Cross under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Carolina, April 6, 1996.

YORK RITE COLLEGE

Invited into Texas York Rite College No. 14, June 7, 1969; Charter Dual Member of Texian York Rite College No. 60, April 6, 1977. Charter Governor of Texian York Rite College No. 60, April 1977-June 1977; and June 1977- June 1978 and Secretary 1978 to 1988 (ten terms) and Life Membership awarded 1998. Governor of Texas York Rite College No. 14, 2002-2003.

Governor General of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, 1998-2000.

Regent of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, elected August 1, 1981.

Knight Grand Cross of York, Proclaimed 1999.

Knight Commander of the Purple Cross, Proclaimed 1998.

rank of Associate Regent, August 6, 1977 (No. 680).

Gold Honor Award, August 1982.

Honorary Membership awarded in Colleges Nos. 78, 106, 110, 111, 119, 130, 131,148,150,159,172,183.

Member of the Board of Directors of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America from 1985 through 1994 (nine terms, appointed by four Governors General)

KNIGHT YORK CROSS OF HONOUR

Invited into Texas Priory No. 23 Knights of the York Cross of Honour, April13, 1975 (National No. 15661 and Priory No. 883); and Charter Dual Member of Texian Prior No. 78 Knights of the York Cross of Honour, April 21, 1994 (Priory No. 1).

Knight York Grand Cross of Honour, 1st Quadrant, December 6, 2003.

Knight Grand Cross awarded September 11, 2004.

Prior of Texas Priory No. 23 Knights of the York Cross of Honour, 1993.

Charter Past Prior of Texian Priory No. 78 Knights of the York Cross of Honour, April1994-May 1995.

Grand Master-General of Convent General Knights of the York Cross of Honour, 2004-2005.

SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

Initiated to the 32nd Degree in San Antonio Consistory and Coordinate Bodies, May 18-21, 1959 and was President of Scottish Rite Class; Endowed Life Member, February 14, 1986.

Personal Representative in the Valley. of San Antonio for the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of Texas since July 29, 2002. Chairman of the Executive Committee of the four San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies since July 29, 2002.

Venerable Master of San Antonio Lodge of Perfection, 1978.

Wise Master of San Antonio Chapter Knights Rose Croix, 1981.

Commander of San Antonio Council Knights of Kadosh, 1972.

Venerable Master of Kadosh of San Antonio Consistory, 1981.

Invested with Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, October 18, 1971.

Coroneted 3300 Inspector General, December 11, 1979.

Scottish Rite Research Society Charter Life Member.

ANCIENT ARABIC ORDER NOBLES OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE (SHRINE)

Created a Noble in Alzafar Shrine Temple on May 23,1959, and at the time of initiation into the Shrine was the youngest person ever to have been initiated into the Shrine of North America; Life Membership awarded January 10, 1980.

Potentate of Alzafar Shrine Temple, 1979.

Emeritus Representative to the Imperial Council of the Shrine since June26, 2002, elected fifteen terms.

Honorary Life Membership awarded in 61 Shrine Temples.

Board of Governors, Shrine Burns Institute - Galveston, 1993-1995 (three year term).

Chief Hostler of Alzafar Mounted Patrol Unit, 1981.

President of Alzafar DeMolay Unit, 1974.

President of Alzafar Young Shriners (YOSHI) Unit, 1970.

Life Member of Alzafar Circus Roustabouts Unit.

ROYAL ORDER OF JESTERS

Invited into San Antonio Court No. 60 Royal Order of Jesters, May 2, 1970; Honorary Membership awarded in Los Angeles Court No. 84 Royal Order of Jesters, June 30, 1986. Director of San Antonio Court No. 60 Royal Order of Jesters, 1987. Emeritus Royal Representative to the National Court Royal Order of Jesters since July 4, 1993, Elected fifteen terms.

ORDER OF QUETZACOATL

Artisan Degree conferred June 30, 1996, and made Member at large of the See of North America. Master Artisan Degree conferred October 11, 1997.

Camaxtli (President) of Alamo de Aztlan Teocali No. 1836, 2000 and Charter Chimalma (1st Vice President), 1999 and Treasurer since 2001.

Order of Knights, Eagles and Tigers (OKET), Consecrated November 21, 2000, (No. 1836-1), President 2002, 2003, and 2004.

CABffii INTERNATIONAL PAST POTENTATES ASSOCIATION (THE CABIRI)

Invited into San Antonio Chapter No. 98 Cabiri International Past Potentates Association, January 10, 1980. President of San Antonio Chapter No. 98 Cabiri International Past potentates Association, 1985; Secretary, nine terms, 1990 through 1998. International President Cabiri International Past Potentates Association, 1985-1986.

MYSTIC ORDER OF VEILED PROPHETS OF THE ENCHANTED REALM (GROTTO)

Initiated into Omala Grotto MOVPER on August 31, 1960 (Supreme Council No. 434654 and Grotto No. 311); affiliated with Chinar Grotto MOVPER in 1963 (Grotto No. 2054A); affiliated as a Dual Member in Omala Grotto at Restoration in 1979; Life Member March 8, 1982; and demitted from Chinar Grotto May 11, 1988.

Monarch of Omala Grotto MOVPER, 1979.

Zone director for the Supreme Council of the Grotto, fifteen terms, 1980 through 1994.

Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Grotto Jurisprudence and Law Committee 1992-1993.

Honorary Life Membership awarded by Chinar Grotto January 28, 2004.

Enchanted Lantern Awarded by Alla Grotto February 23, 2004.

INVITATIONAL MASONIC HONORS ORDER OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE

Installed into St. Anthony Conclave No. 50 Red Cross of Constantine, April 29, 1972.

Past Sovereign of St. Anthony Conclave No. 50 Red Cross of Constantine, 1981 and Treasurer since 1988.

Grand Senior General of the United Grand Imperial Council, 2004-2005.

Intendant General for the Division of Texas Southern August 12, 1986-June 2, 2001.

Order of Knight Commander of Constantine, awarded 1998.

Grand Marshal of the United Grand Imperial Council, 1998-1999.

CHEVALIERS BIENFAISANTS DE LA CITE SAINTE <C.B.C.S.> <KNIGHTS BENEFICENT OF THE HOLY CITY)

Initiated into West Prefecture of the Great Priory of America, C.B.C.S., February 22, 1981 (Member No. 128). Great Prior of the Great Priory of America, C.B.C.S., 1998; and Great Chancellor since 2001. Knight

Grand Cross, February 20, 1998. Prefect of West Prefecture of the Great Priory of America, C.B.C.S. , 1994, 1995, 1996 (three terms).

SOCIETAS ROSICRUCIANA IN CIVITATIBUS FOEDERATIS (S.R.I.C.F.F)

Received and Admitted to VII Grade in Oklahoma College S.R.I.C.F. July 8, 1978 and petitioned for revival of Texas College S.R.I.C.F. in 1982, elevated to VIII Grade (No. 211) February 20, 1982, and to IX Grade November 2, 1992. Chief Adept of Texas College S.R.I.C.F. since November 2, 1992. Celebrant of Texas College S.R.I.C.F. from February 20, 1982 to November 2, 1992 (eleven terms). Knight Grand Cross Constituted August 11, 1999. Appointed Fourth Ancient on the High Council S.R.I.C.F., 1994 to 1998 (four terms) and Counsel General on the High Council S.R.I.C.F. since 2003.

HOLY ROYAL ARCH KNIGHT TEMPLAR PRIESTS

Ordained a Knight Priest in Nazareth Tabernacle No. XXXIV Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, December 15, 1984 (Member No. 3870). Preceptor of Nazareth Tabernacle No. XXXIV Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, 1994. Coroneted with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Chapter General of the Order, February 18, 1994 (K.C. No. 2428).

ORDER OF KNIGHT MASONS

Installed into Great Chiefs Council No. 0 Knight Masons, February 21, 1976 (Member No. 2622); Charter Member of Texas Council No. 45, December 11, 1991. Past Excellent Chief of Great Chiefs Council No. 0 Knight Masons, 1986, Life Member, May 23, 1997. Charter Past Excellent Chief of Texas Council No. 45 Knight Masons, 1991 and 1992 and Treasurer 1996-1998 (and Life Member). Great Chief of the Grand Council of Knight Masons of the USA, 1996. Grand Senior Knight of the Grand Council of Knight Masons of Ireland, 1996. Grand Representative of the Knight Masons of Scotland since February 4, 1998. Installed into Shannon Council No. 28 of the Grand Council of the Order of Knight Masons in Ireland, November 26, 1977. Honorary Membership awarded in Celtic Council No. 25 in New York City, April 18, 1986; and in Brian Boru Council No. 38 in Los Angeles, March 17, 1991.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES

Initiated into Grand Master's Council No. A Allied Masonic Degrees, February 21, 1976 (USA No. 3942) and made a Permanent Member, February 20, 1999. Sovereign Master of San Antonio Council No. 261 Allied Masonic Degrees, 1992 and Secretary 1993-1998; (Charter Senior Warden, December 14, 1990). Charter Sovereign Master of Texas Council No. 335 Allied Masonic Degrees, 1995 and 1996. Elected to membership (No. 40) in Nine Muses Council No. 13 (2002) and Senior Deacon (2004). Sovereign Grand Master of the Grand Council Allied Masonic Degrees of the USA, 1999. Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Council Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada, 1999. Knight Grand Cross granted by Grand Council AMD USA February 20, 1999, and granted by Grand Council AMD France, February 19, 2000. Knight of the Red Branch of Eri awarded December 22, 1990. Marvin Edward Fowler Award (No.2) granted February 15, 2003. Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales since December 14, 1998. Honorary Membership awarded in Mecca Council No. 76 of North Carolina.

ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR

Inducted into Washington Conclave No. 123 February 15, 1992 under the authority of the Grand Conclave in the British Isles and in Territories Overseas. Past Grand Supreme Ruler of the Grand Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor of the USA, 1999. Past Supreme Ruler of San Antonio Conclave No. 261 (1992) and of Texas Conclave No. 335 (1995, 1996) Order of the Secret Monitor. Dual member with London Conclave No: 2, London Ontario, Canada under OSM Canadian Constitution, 1997. ROYAL ARK MARINERS

Initiated into Oxford Lodge No. 1 Moored to Josiah H. Drummond Council No. 1A Allied Masonic Degrees, February 11, 1984; Life Member No. 10. Commander Noah of San Antonio Lodge No. 261 and of Texas Lodge No. 335 Royal Ark Mariners. YE ANCIENT ORDER OF CORKS Corked February 21, 1976 (Member No. 1378).

ORDER OF ST. THOMAS OF ACON

Knighthood in Blackheath Chapel Time Immemorial in United Kingdom, October 23, 1999 (No. 180-99), Charter member of Pilgrim Chapel No. 11 and of Trinity Chapel No. 12 in USA, February 17, 2000, (Demitted from Pilgrim Chapel No. 11 December 31, 2004). Worthy Master of Trinity Chapel No. 12 USA, 2004 Charter Deputy Marshal of Trinity Chapel No. 12 USA, 2000. ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND Advanced and Promoted a Knight in the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland for the USA, September 8, 1967; Life Member November 18, 1977.

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS

Initiated into Fort Sam Houston Chapter No. 17 National Sojourners March 16, 1966 and Member in Perpetuity No. 1309 from February 25, 1975; awarded Membership in Perpetuity No. 2711 in Golden Gate Chapter No. 18, May 31, 1979. President of Fort Sam Houston Chapter No. 17 National Sojourners. 1971-1972. National Committee of 33, Elected for three-year term 1974-1977. Area Representative for the South Central Area (Texas and Oklahoma), four terms, 1974 to 1978. Presidential Citation for Exceptional Outstanding Meritorious Achievement for 1974-1975.

HEROES OF '76, Initiated into Alamo Camp Heroes of '76 of National Sojourners, January 6, 1967. Commander of Alamo Camp Heroes of '76 of National Sojourners, 1977-1978.

ROYAL ORDER OF THE BARROW WHEELERS, Awarded Charter Membership June 21, 1974.

APPENDANT MASONIC BODIES

GRAND COLLEGE OF RITES, Initiated as a Fellow, February 18, 1976 (National No. 1526); Life Member, April 8, 1998. Grand High Prelate, 2004. Knight Grand Cross, February 18, 2000.

HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL, Initiated as Charter Member of San Antonio High Twelve Club No. 656, June 11, 1987. Charter President of San Antonio High Twelve Club No. 656, 1987. Honorary Membership awarded in Kansas City High Twelve Club No. 3, March 15, 1983, and in Tejas High Twelve Club No. 685, November 16, 1991. The President's Builder Award, received November 6, 1993.

MASONIC ORDER OF THE BATH, Created a Knight of the Order of the Bath, February 21, 1976 (Member No. 1549) Commander General of the High Council of the Order of the Bath since July 11, 2003.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, Initiated into Texas Chapter No. 35 Order of the Eastern Star, January 15, 1982; Endowed Member 1993. Patron (twice) of Texas Chapter No. 35 Order of the Eastern Star, 1993-1994, and 2000-2001; and Treasurer 1994-1996.

ORDER OF THE AMARANTH, Initiated into Oklahoma City Court No. 1 Order of the Amaranth, November 18, 1991. Affiliated as a Charter Member of Houston Court No. 2 Order of the Amaranth, January 9, 1993; Life Member May 23, 1994. Royal Patron of Houston Court No.2 Order of the Amaranth, 2000-2001.

ORDER OF THE WHITE SHRINE OF JERUSALEM, Initiated as Charter Member into Cross of Texas Shrine No.1 Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, February 11, 1995.

TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON, Initiated into North Central Forest No. 179 Tall Cedars of Lebanon of Ohio, August 5, 1977; Life Member.

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ORDER OF SCIOTS, Initiated into Long Beach Pyramid No. 43 of California, October 10, 1998; Life Member.

MASONIC RESEARCH BODIES

TEXAS LODGE OF RESEARCH, Elected Associate Member September 14, 1963; Active Member March 17, 1973; Endowed Member since 1999; Junior Deacon 1983-1984; and author of five papers: Masonry and the Young man. History of St. Anthony Conclave Order of the Red Cross of Constantine. History of San Antonio Commandery No.7 Knights Templar, in Two Parts. History of the Order of The Silver Trowel of Texas. History of the Texas Shrine Council; Predecessor to the Texas Shrine Association.

PHILALETHES SOCIETY, joined 1965; Life Membership acquired 1976; and Charter Member of Southwest Chapter of the Philalethes Society, October 28, 1978.

SCOTTISH RITE RESEARCH SOCIETY, Charter Life Member No. 115, October 29, 1991.

ALABAMA CONFEDERATE MILITARY LODGE OF RESEARCH, Member No. 83, April 26, 1991.

MASONIC RELATED YOUTH ORDERS

ORDER OF JOB'S DAUGHTERS, Associate Jurisdictional Guardian of Jurisdictional Guardian Council of Texas order of Job's Daughters, 1994-1995. (Under Dispensation) Charter Associate Jurisdictional Guardian of Jurisdictional Guardian Council of Texas Order of Job's Daughters, 1995-1996, 1996-1997. (Under Charter) Past Assisting Supreme Deputy to Texas order of Job's Daughters, December 1989 to August 1993 (four terms). Past Associate Bethel Guardian of San Antonio Bethel No. 1 Order of Job's Daughters, February 1990 to August 1993 (3-1/2 years). Member of Honor, Bethel No. 2, 1996.

ORDER OF RAINBOW FOR GIRLS, Chairman of the Advisory Board of San Antonio Assembly No.3 Order of the Rainbow for Girls, 1975. Grand Cross of Color Degree, 1975.

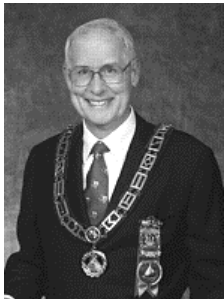
Ad.E.E <ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG MEN SEEKING THE FRATERNITY), Honorary Membership awarded in Ruben Marquez Ramo Lodge No. 35, Tampico, Tamaulipas, Mexico, October 29, 1983.

ORDER OF DEMOLAY, Grand Master of the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay, 1982-1983; Grand Orator 1993-1994 and 2001-2002; Region Representative to the Supreme Council Board of Directors, 1993-1995. ctive Member of the International Supreme Council of the Order of

DeMolay, elected in 1972 (as a Deputy and elected an Active in 1974) to become the first person in the history of DeMolay in San Antonio to have ever been elected to the Supreme Council and the fourth DeMolay in the history of Texas DeMolay to have been elected as an Active Member of Supreme Council; Senior Active Member of the Supreme Council from Texas since 1987. Executive Officer of DeMolay in Texas September 20, 1988 to June 20, 1996. DeMolay International Grand Cross, awarded June 20, 2002. Frank S. Land Fellow, awarded June 20, 2002. Honorary Charter Member of Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay for the Philippines. Initiated into Albert Pike Chapter No. 58 Order of DeMolay on January 25, 1954. Master Councilor, October 1955-January 1956. State Scribe of Texas DeMolay Association, 1960 to 1972 (12 consecutive years). Chapter Advisor, October 1964-September 1965, 1978 through 1987 (11 years). Chairman of Advisory Council since 1978. Order of Knighthood, Invested as Charter member of Waco Priory No. 111 Order of Knighthood, August 2, 1957. Illustrious Knight Commander of Waco Priory No. 111 Order of Knighthood, February-May 1958. Illustrious Knight Commander of Albert Pike Priory No. 38 Order of Knighthood, June 1958. State Illustrious Knight Commander of the DeMolay Order of Knighthood in Texas, 1958-1959. State Registrar of the DeMolay Order of Knighthood in Texas, 1959 to 1971 (an unprecedented 12 consecutive years). Degree of Chevalier, Invested in 1957 in Albert Pike Court of Chevaliers. Commander of Albert Pike Court of Chevaliers since 1975. Commander of Central Texas Court of Chevaliers, 1959-1960. Charter Commander of San Antonio Court of Chevaliers, 1968-1970. State Commander of the Texas State Court of Chevaliers, 1962-1963. Legion of Honor, Invested in 1961 in Albert Pike Preceptory. Dean of Albert Pike Preceptory Legion of Honor since 1972. State Preceptory Sergeant at Arms of Texas State Preceptory Legion of Honor since 2000. Cross of Honor, Invested in 1970. Guild of the Leather Apron Award for Advisor of the Year in Texas 1964. Medal of Appreciation awarded by Albert Pike Chapter No. 58 in 1965 and by Priory No. 117 in 1959. Representative DeMolay Award, Four Blue Honor Keys, Two Freemasons' White Honor Keys, Six Advisors' Honor Keys, and Three Zerubbabel keys. Personal Representative of the Executive Officer in Texas as a Governor at Large 1964-1969, District Governor 1969-1971, State Director of DeMolay Order of Knighthood 1971-1976 State Director of Appendant Organizations 1976-1988; and General Counsel since 1996.

Elmer Murphey III

Year In Office: 2005 **Parent Lodge: Hillcrest No. 1318**



"Grand Master Elmer Murphey, III was born in Houston, Texas on March 19, 1945, the only child of Elmer Murphey, Jr. and Amelia Elizabeth Gehring Murphey. Elmer's father was a union electrician at Petro-Tex Chemical Company located on the Houston Ship Channel. His mother, while initially a homemaker, eventually worked in and later supervised a cafeteria in an elementary school in Pasadena, Texas.

Brother Murphey attended Garden Villas Elementary School, as did his father before him. Following his graduation from Jesse H. Jones High School of Houston in the Spring of 1963, Brother Murphey entered Southern Methodist University in Dallas where he received a Bachelors Degree in History in May, 1967. He entered the Southern Methodist University Law School in the fall of that year. In the summer of 1969 he attended the U.S. Marine Corps Platoon Leaders class in Quantico, Virginia, and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He then returned to Southern Methodist University to graduate with a Juris Doctor Degree in May, 1970 and was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in September of that year, during which time he was promoted to First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in the fall of 1970. He later reported to the U.S. Marine Corps Basic School for Officers at Quantico, Virginia in March, 1971, and upon graduation was promoted to Captain. Following various assignments he was elevated to Staff Judge Advocate, or senior attorney at Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina. In January, 1975 his active service as a Marine ended, but he remained in the Marine Corps Reserves until 1981.

Upon separation from the Marine Corps, Brother Murphey returned to Dallas where he joined the law firm of Stigall, Maxfield and Collier as a trial lawyer, later to become a partner and eventually became managing partner. Judy taught English at Garland High School until 1985 where she chaired the Departments of English, Reading and Foreign Languages. Brother Murphey joined the law firm of Strasburger & Price, LLP as a business and banking partner in 1989, and presently chairs the Financial Services group within that law firm.

Elmer and Julianne ("Judy") Schaub of Mobile, Alabama were married on May 25, 1968, the day before Judy received her Bachelors Degree in English at Southern Methodist University. She received her Masters Degree from SMU in 1970. Both of their sons were born during Brother Murphey's service in the Marine Corps. Matthew Robb ("Matt") was born August 15, 1971 and is currently a Garland, Texas policeman, a volunteer fireman in Rockwall, and a helicopter pilot for the Garland Police Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety. Mark Ryan was born June 4, 1974, and is currently an investigator with the World Wide Security Group of Texas Instruments, Inc. in Dallas. Both of their sons played soccer from age five through their college years. Since 1987, Judy has served on the Board of Directors of the Dallas Cup, Inc., an international youth soccer tournament, and is the current President of that group. Elmer and Judy have two lovely daughters-in-law, Veronica (Matt) and Jenny (Mark) and four grandchildren: Courtney, Luke, Logan and Lauren.

In addition to his admission into the State Bar of Texas, his professional affiliations include admission to the U.S. District Court for the Northern and Western Districts of Texas; U.S. Military Court of Appeals; Dallas Bar Association and American Bar Association, and the Texas Association of Bank Counsel where he served as Director in 2000-2003. Elmer has served as Chairman of the Greater Dallas Crime

Commission, a civic group dedicated to supporting law enforcement and defeating the root causes of crime.

Brother Murphey has been well established in Masonic teachings from the days of his youth. His father, (who died in 1990 in Humble, Texas) was raised as Master Mason in Woodland No. 1157, Houston, Texas, and later transferred his membership to Pearland No. 1384 (which is now C.F. Spencer Lodge No. 1384), Pearland, Texas, where he served as Worshipful Master. Both mother and father were members of the Order of the Eastern Star, and served as Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron of Norma D. Allen Chapter of Houston. Elmer's father was the Chapter Advisor of the Robert E. Lee Chapter, Order of DeMolay at Holland Lodge No. 1 in Houston, and was active in Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine activities.

Elmer entered Robert E. Lee DeMolay Chapter in 1959; served as Master Councilor in 1960; selected as a Representative DeMolay by the International Supreme Council in 1960; received the Chevalier Award in 1961; and was South Texas Area Master Councilor in 1962. It was in 1966 at the age of twenty-one years that he was raised a Master Mason in Holland Lodge No. 1, and then continued his commitment to DeMolay by serving as Ritual Advisor to Robert E. Lee Chapter State Champion DeMolay Degree Team. Additional service to the Order of DeMolay includes that of a member of the Advisory Board of Dallas Chapter, 1986 through 1988. He received the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1986.

In 1977 Brother Murphey affiliated with Hillcrest No. 1318 in Dallas where he holds an Endowed Membership. He served as Worshipful Master of Hillcrest Lodge in 1983-1984, and received twenty-five year recognition in 1991. He again answered the call of his Lodge in 1999, and served as Worshipful Master in 1999-2000.

His service to Grand Lodge began with his appointment in 1987 by Grand Master John E. 'Jack' Kelly to serve as District Deputy Grand Master in Masonic District No. 14-C. During that year he was named Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas to the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. In 1988, Grand Master Graham H. Childress appointed Elmer as Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Titles, Deeds and Civil Law where he served for one year. In 1989, Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey appointed him to a seven-year term on the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, and he later filled an unexpired term on that committee.

Under appointment of Grand Master W .M. 'Mike' Gower, he served as Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1999 while serving as Chairman of the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee. In 2001, Right Worshipful Reese L. Harrison, Jr., the newly elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge, named Brother Murphey to serve as Grand Junior Steward, and at the 2001 Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge, Elmer was elected to the office of Grand Junior Warden.

In 1976 he received the Thirty-Second Degree of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Dallas where he is an endowed member. He was for many years a member of the 17th Degree Team and is the Degree Master of the 31st Degree. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1987, and served as Wise Master of the Dallas Chapter of Rose Croix in 1988. In 1993, he was elevated to the rank of Thirty-Third Degree, Inspector General Honorary by the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, and has served as Director of the Work in the Dallas Valley since 1999.

Companion and Sir Knight Murphey is a member of Love Field Chapter No. 478, Royal Arch Masons; Love Field Council No. 396, Royal and Select Masters and Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 103, Knights Templar. He holds membership in Lyle L. Cross York Rite College No. 147; St. Mark's Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Rose of Sharon Council No. 149, Knight Masons; Holy Grail Council No. 287, Allied Masonic Degrees; Texas College (Masonic), Societas Rosicruciana; Texas Lodge of Research; Hella Shrine; Audie L. Murphy Chapter, National Sojourners; Allah Grotto and is a Charter Endowed Member of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Brian Richard Dodson

Year In Office: 2006 **Parent Lodge: Bellaire No. 1336**



"Grand Master Dodson was born in Bryan, Texas on March 3, 1951, to Carl Elton Dodson, Sr. and Frances Ellen Willis Dodson. Brian's young life was soon to be shattered by the death of his father when Brian was only ten years of age. His mother, however, remarried six years later to A. M. Anderson who would become a very important part of Brian's life.

He moved to Old Ocean, Texas when he was three months old and at age sixteen to Sweeny, Texas with his mother, Frances, and stepfather, A. M. Anderson. A. M. was a prominent person in Sweeny, who owned the local lumberyard and served as Mayor of Sweeny for twenty-three years. Brian's mother still lives in Sweeny, but his stepfather, A. M. Anderson passed away several years ago. Brian was the third of three brothers; the other two were Carl Elton Dodson, Jr. a resident of Lake Jackson, Texas and Jack Arthur Dodson, deceased.

Brian is the father of Kimberly Dodson, a student at the University of Houston and Mary Frances Dodson, a student at Condit Elementary School in Bellaire, Texas.

Most Worshipful Dodson's formal education began in the Sweeny Independent School District where he attended all twelve years of public school. He graduated from Sweeny High School in 1969, Summa Cum Laude. He later attended Southwest Texas University, now known as Texas State University, where he majored in math. He graduated from Southwest Texas University with a BS degree in 1973. He used his math background to go into the Information Technology field and he has been involved in this field ever since, with the last 27 years being in the marketing of many different types of computer software.

He is very active in area organizations and church groups. He is a Life Member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo where he annually spends his time helping the youth in the FFA and Four-H Clubs by volunteering his services as a Committeeman. He has served on Corral Club Committee since 1985, serving as Captain, 1997-2000, and Assistant Club Chairman, 2001-2005. He also served on the Speakers Committee from 1985-1989, serving as Captain in 1989. He also is a member of the Cowboy Lodge at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Brian is a Life Member and Past President of the Alief Jaycees. He also was an Instructor for Dale Carnegie for twenty-four years. He is also a Life Member of Theta Xi Fraternity.

Brian is a member of St. Catherine of Sienna Episcopal Church in Missouri City, Texas where he is very active. He has served or is currently serving as a Member of Bishops Committee, 2003-2005, Junior Warden, 2003-2004, and Bishop's Warden 2005. He frequently conducts Sunday Morning Service in the absence of the Pastor. He has been a member of the Episcopal religion all his life and was the Vice-President of the Diocese of Texas Episcopal Young Churchmen in 1969. He was licensed as a Layreader at the age of 17 years.

Most Worshipful Dodson's Masonic Career began at Bellaire No. 1336. He was Raised a Master Mason on April 1981. He worked hard and served Bellaire Lodge in the following offices: Tiler 1981-1982, Senior Steward 1982-1983, Junior Deacon 1983-1984, Senior Deacon 1984-1985, Junior Warden 1985-1986, Senior Warden 1986-1987, and Worshipful Master 1987-1988. The Lodge honored him with a Life

Membership in 1988 when he went out as Worshipful Master. He later purchased an Endowed Membership in Bellaire Lodge. Brother Dodson has since served on several committees at Bellaire Lodge and they further honored him in 1998 by giving him the Golden Trowel Award.

Brother Dodson has also expanded his Blue Lodge affiliations and is currently an Endowed Member of Gray No. 329, Post Oak Island No. 181, Sugar Land No. 1141, Milam No. 11, and (Charter Member) Tranquility Lodge No. 2000.

He is also a member of the Texas Lodge of Research, having served as its Tiler in 1994, its Master of Ceremonies in 2002.

Most Worshipful Dodson's service to Grand Lodge began in 1992, when he served as the District Educations Officer of Masonic District 30-B. He was later appointed District Deputy Grand Master, Masonic District 30-B, for 1993 by Grand Master Schnell. He also served Grand Lodge as District Masonic Relations Officer in 1998, as State Coordinator in 2000 for Grand Master Burke, as Regional Coordinator Grand Masters Conference 1995, a member of the Memorials Committee in 1990, the Grand Officers Report Committee 1995-1999, and its Chairman in 1999, on the Masonic Education and Service Committee 2000-2002 Warden Retreat Team, Chairman, Special Project Comm. -'Take Time to Read' 1999-2001, and a member the Grand Masters Conference Teams - 1996, 1999, 2000.

He served on Grand Master Planning Committees for Grand Master's Walker, Regian, Gower, Burke, Dibrell, and Patterson. He became a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame in 2003, appointed as the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Indiana in 2005, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School for 2004 and 2005. He was also one of the founding Trustees of the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation and serves as president this year.

Most Worshipful Dodson has further served the Grand Lodge of Texas as its Grand Junior Deacon in 1997, Grand Orator in 2000, Grand Pursuivant in 2002, Grand Junior Warden in 2003, Grand Senior Warden in 2004, Deputy Grand Master in 2005, and was installed as Grand Master of Masons in Texas on December 3, 2005.

Companion Dodson is also an active York Rite Mason. He is a Past High Priest and an Endowed Member of Washington Chapter No. 2, RAM in 1992-1993. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest in 2004. He has also served the Grand Royal Arch Chapter as Grand Senior Steward 1995, Grand Orator 2001, and as Grand Royal Arch Captain in 2005. He has further distinguished himself by serving on the New Chapters Committee as Chairman in 1998, and as a member 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, member of the Fraternal Relations Committee 2005, appointed as Grand Representative to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts in 2005.

He served as the State Coordinator in 2001 for Most Excellent Robert P. Walker and Most Illustrious Mark Meyer.

He is a Past Thrice Illustrious Master and Endowed Member of Houston Council No. 1, R.&S.M., 1992-1993. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1996. He has served as a member of the New Council Committee 1997-1998, Director of the York Rite Development Fund 1996-2001, and as its Secretary in 1999 and as President in 2001.

He also served as Treasurer of Houston Chapter (merged with Washington Chapter) and Sam Houston Council (merged with Houston Council.) He is a member of the Order of the Silver Trowel, and the Order of High Priesthood.

Sir Knight Dodson is a Past Commander and Endowed Member of Houston Commandery No. 95. He also holds memberships with Ruthven Commandery No. 2, Park Place Commandery No. 109, Melrose Commandery No.106, and Fort Bend Commandery No.74. Houston Commandery honored him in 2003 by presenting him with the Excalibur Award.

Sir Knight Dodson has also served Templar Masonry as an Aid to the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America in 2000 and 2003. He was awarded the Knight Companion of the Temple, 2004.

Sir Knight and Driller Dodson has been a Drill Team Member for several Commanderies over the past several years. He has participated with the Drill Teams for Ruthven Commandery No. 2, Melrose Commandery No. 109, Park Place Commandery No. 106, and Houston Commandery No. 95.

He served as President of Ruthven's Drill Team and Captain for Houston Drill Team.

He is a Past President of Ruthven Commandery's Drill Team. He also has or is drilling on Drill Teams at Houston Commandery No. 95, Captain, Park Place No. 106, and as a member of the Grand Commandery of Texas Field Drill Committee in 2000, 2001, and 2002.

He is a member of Thomas H. Ridout, Jr. Chapter No. 75, Knight York Cross of Honor, The Knights Preceptory, a Member of Resurrection Temple No. XXI, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest (serving as the 3rd Pillar, 2005), an Endowed Member and Past Pre-Eminent Governor (1998-1999) of Gulf Coast York Rite College No. 106. The York Rite Sovereign College of North America also honored him with the York Rite Purple Cross in 2001.

Brian joined the Houston Valley of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 1982, and is an Endowed Member of that body. He has served the Houston Valley as Venerable Master of the San Jacinto Lodge of Perfection 2003, Wise Master of the Houston Chapter of Knight Rose Croix 1996, and is the Marshal of Ceremonies in the Houston Consistory (2006.) He also serves on the 33rd Degree Team, Renewal and Remembrance Degree Teams, and Reunion Director 1997-2006.

The Scottish Rite honored him by conferring him with the distinction of Knight Commander Cross of Honor (KCCH) in 1987, and coroneted him with the 33rd Degree Honorary Inspector General in 1997. He is a member of the Royal Order of the Ducks, the Scottish Rite Speakers Bureau, a Trustee on the Scottish Rite Benevolent Association (2003-2009) and the Scottish Rite Foundation of Texas (2005-2007). He is also an Endowed Member of the Scottish Rite Research Society.

Noble Dodson is a member of El Mina Shrine Temple, at Galveston, Texas, an Associate Member of Arabia Shrine Temple in Houston, Texas, and an Honorary Life Member of Joppa Shrine Temple at Biloxi, Mississippi.

Brian is Past Sovereign Master (1995) of Sam Houston Council No. 275, Allied Masonic Degrees and has received the Order of the Red Branch of Eri. He is a Past Excellent Chief (1997) of Anson Jones Council No. 47, Knight Masons of the United States of America, currently serving as Senior General (2005) of San

Jacinto Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine. He served as Worthy Patron (1999-2000) of Blue Bell Chapter No. 856, Order of the Eastern Star and served as Chaplain in 2000-2001.

He is a member of Texas College, Masonic Societas Rosicruciana In Civitatibus Foederatis, Chinar Grotto, Amaranth, Royal Order of Scotland (Life Member), and The Masonic Order of the Bath (2003). He served as Chaplain of the 30th Masonic Districts Masters, Wardens, and Secretary's Association for 2001-2001. He is also a member of the Institute on Masonic Proficiency (2001-2006).

Dad Dodson served as a member of the Advisory Council of Sam B. Cantey, Jr, DeMolay Chapter No. 89, and received the Honorary Legion of Honor in 1998. He served on the Staff of the Executive Officer of Texas, Order of DeMolay 2001-2005, and was the District Governor in the Houston area in 2002.

In 2003, Dad Dodson was selected to be the Charter Treasurer and a Member of the Board of Trustees of the newly formed Texas Masonic Youth Foundation. His term on the Board expires in December of 2005.

Grand Master Brian Dodson brings to the table with him, as head of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, a well-rounded personal life with a multitude of civic and church experiences to enhance his abilities to lead this great Fraternity. His Masonic knowledge is very versatile and includes detailed experiences in all facets of Masonry. His ability to make sound and sensible decisions is based upon his vast background, and he is not hesitant to offer good counsel wherever and whenever he can.

Most Worshipful Dodson is a true believer and practitioner of the five points of Fellowship, which are the main focus of his year as Grand Master. He sincerely believes that if all Masons follow the precepts of the Five Points of Fellowship, we would have a more harmonious and more prosperous fraternity. By J. Weldon Clampitte, MEGHP, 2005"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Donny W. Broughton

Year In Office: 2007 **Parent Lodge: Caddo No. 581**



"Grand Master Donald Wayne Broughton, son of Carlton Edwin and Katherine Holly Broughton, was born August 6, 1952 in Shreveport, Louisiana. His childhood years were spent in North Louisiana with his two brothers, Tommy and Dennis, and his sister, Shirley. He is a proud graduate of Homer High School and Louisiana Tech University where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration in 1974.

While attending Louisiana Tech University, he met and married Susie Brewton. They have two very talented sons, Kris, 33, and Karly, 26, and one grandson, Brooks Wayne, 4, the joy of their lives.

Putting God first in his life has always been a high priority of Grand Master Broughton. He faithfully taught the children's Sunday School class for eight (8) years at the First Baptist Church in Winnfield, Louisiana before moving to Texas. After moving to Texas, he served as a Sunday School Teacher, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Interim Choir Director, and Elder at the Faith Bible Church in Caddo Mills. He continues to be a member of the First Baptist Church in Caddo Mills.

After graduation from Louisiana Tech, Grand Master Broughton was employed as the Manager of T.G. & Y. Corporation in Shreveport, Louisiana. His love for music later led him to an Office Manager position at Williams Music Company in Shreveport. He is a lifetime Commissioned Notary Public in the State of Louisiana. From 1978 through 1998, he was employed by L. L. Brewton Lumber Co., Inc. as a Production Cost Analysis, Sawmill Division, in Winnfield, Louisiana and then as the Plant Manager, Texas Division, beginning in the summer of 1987. He is the President of Donald Broughton Enterprises, Inc. and a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Rockwall, Texas. He is a member of the National Association of Realtors, Texas Association of Realtors and Metro-Tex Association of Realtors, and holds the following certifications: Negotiation Specialist, e-Marketing, and One America-"At Home with Diversity".

Music definitely lives in the heart of our Grand Master. Several bands in the Ark-La-Tex area have claimed him as their lead guitarist and lead vocal. This talent gained him a position with the Staff Band of the famed Louisiana Hayride where he played lead guitar in the mid-1970. He traveled throughout the Ark-La-Tex area for over ten (10) years playing country clubs and College Union Boards with the "Kansas City Southern Band". Although he has limited time to play these days, he still enjoys playing acoustic guitar when presenting programs for lodges and Eastern Star Chapters.

If he wasn't working or singing, he was fishing. This hobby landed him a position on the Tidecraft Bass Pro-Team from 1984-1986. The Grand Master confesses that Susie was always a better bass fisherman than he was and that she usually out-fished him on most occasions.

Grand Master Broughton was raised a Master Mason in Caddo No. 581 in Caddo Mills on June 21, 1990. Advancing immediately through the chairs, he served as Worshipful Master in 1994-1995. He is an Endowed Member of Caddo No. 581, Henry Thomas No. 728, and Milam No. 11, and is a Life Member of Excelsior No. 505. His other Blue Lodge memberships include Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 where he served as the Charter Tiler, the Texas Lodge of Research and the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries

Association of Masonic District No. 8. Grand Master Broughton humbly received the Golden Trowel Award from his home Lodge, Caddo No. 581, in 1997.

This most dedicated Mason has served his Grand Lodge on the Credentials Committee No. 2; Planning Teams for Grand Masters Cunningham, Nanny and Patterson; the Committee on Masonic Education and Service and District Education Officer of Masonic District No. 8. He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas in Delaware and a Member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame. Grand Master Broughton served as Grand Master Joseph Regian's District Deputy Grand Master in 1997, Grand Master Harry Cunningham's Grand Tiler in 1998 and Grand Master M. Boyd Patterson Jr.'s Grand Orator in 2003. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in 2004, Grand Senior Warden in 2005 and Deputy Grand Master in 2006. On December 2, 2006, he was installed as Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

He is an Endowed member of the Dallas Valley of the Scottish Rite where he serves as the 16th Scottish Rite Degree Master. He was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 2005. He is also a member of the Hunt County Scottish Rite Club.

His York Rite affiliations include Past High Priest, Greenville Chapter No. 114, Royal Arch Masons; District Deputy Grand High Priest, Capitular District No. 11; Greenville Council No. 68, Royal and Select Masters; DeMolay Commandery No. 20, Knights Templar; Rose of Sharron Council No. 49, Knight Masons; Lyle L. Cross York Rite College No. 147; Col. William Barrett Travis Council No. 344, Allied Masonic Degrees.

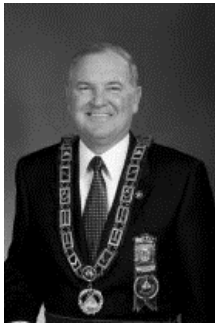
Grand Master Broughton's Masonic memberships also include the Hella Shrine, East Texas Shrine Club, Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Representative Association of Texas, Saint Mark Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine, Texas College of the Societas Rosicruciana in Cibitatibus Foederatis, Au die Leon Murphy Chapter No. 112 of the National Sojourners.

Goliad Camp of the Heroes of '76, and the Alla Grotto. He is a Past Patron of Caddo Mills Chapter No. 82, Order of the Eastern Star and served as the Grand Representative of Australia in Texas during 2000-2002. Grand Master Broughton received the DeMolay Legion of Honor in August of 2006 and was honored to be elected the Co-chairman of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America to be held in Portland, Oregon on February 17-20, 2007.

Grand Master Broughton holds a steadfast belief in the relevance of our great Fraternity and truly believes that Freemasonry is the most viable vehicle to promulgate social morality, ethics, spiritualism, brotherly love and charity to the members of our communities...men need Freemasonry and Freemasonry needs good men!"

Thomas F. Griffin

Year In Office: 2008 **Parent Lodge: Winnie-Stowell No. 1377**



"Grand Master Thomas Frederick Griffin, son of William Levi and Dorothy Griffin, was born on July 25, 1951, in Liberty, Texas. Tommy was raised in the oil fields of southeast Texas along with his two sisters, Patsy and Gerry, and one brother, Bill. Very proud of his roots, Tommy attended East Chambers High School where he excelled in athletics, receiving all-district honors in football, basketball, baseball, tennis and track. After graduating with honors, he attended the University of Houston and Lamar University, majoring in Business Administration with a minor in Accounting. Before completing his education and while attending U of H, Tommy was drafted by Uncle Sam and decided to join the Marine Corps where he proudly served his country in administrative duties in 1st Battalion, 23rd Mar, 4th MarDiv FMF USMC, both active and reserve, from 1971 to 1977.

After returning home in 1973, Brother Griffin attended night school at Lamar University and began working full time with his Dad, who started

Griffin Paraffin Service in 1967, a wireline specialty company, performing sub-surface "slick line" operations in Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana. Being a member of a family that encouraged the work ethic, he began mowing pastures when he was eleven years old and did oil field construction during summer vacations for C.M. and V.W. Frost, the company that employed his Dad. Brother Tommy learned surface operations of oil field production at an early age, which helped him considerably when involved in practical application of wireline procedures. Tommy's Dad passed away in 1985 and although Tommy has run the corporation since 1975, he attributes the success to his Mom and Dad, who struggled in the beginning years of business. Tommy's Mom was the bookkeeper for the business until her retirement in the early 90's. She passed away in 1998.

Tommy is very proud of their business motto, "Another good job done...by Griffin Paraffin Service," and will continue to apply his strong work ethics throughout his year as Grand Master.

Tommy and Vi, the love of his life, have three children, Sandra, Matt, and Kristel and two grandchildren who are spoiled, at least by them. Tommy and Vi met at a Rainbow Girls oyster fry, and the rest is history. They both like to fish and play golf, but not necessarily in that order. Tommy brags about his 3 handicap and Vi admits her handicap is her honesty. We know you have heard fish stories, but guess who caught the biggest flounder? (7 ¼ lbs).

Tommy and Vi are members of the First United Methodist Church of Winnie-Stowell, where Tommy was baptized as an infant. He was a member of the Methodist Youth Foundation when growing up and sang in the choir on Sunday mornings. He has served as Administrative Board Chairman, Chairman of the Council on Ministries, Chairman of the Administrative of the Council, is currently Chairman of Staff Parish Relations Committee and Lay Leader, and is also President of The United Methodist Men (UMM). He has taught the Men's Sunday School Class and is a certified Lay Speaker for the Southeast Texas Conference. He loves to cook and has done so for the UMM's group for the last 20 years, which meets on the 4th Monday night. (Don't expect him to plan anything Masonic on that night.). Past Grand

Master Griffin believes in the Methodist tradition of participation with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your time.

Tommy is President of the Fairview Cemetery Association, Inc. and has been active in community affairs helping with the Texas Rice Festival and being Chairman of the Winnie-Stowell Duck's Unlimited Chapter which he helped establish in 1980.

Brother Tommy was influenced to join Masonry by his Dad, a Charter member of Winnie-Stowell Lodge No. 1377, and his Grandfather, a Past Master of Victoria Lodge No. 40. He was initiated, passed and raised in Winnie-Stowell Lodge No. 1377 in 1978 and earned his "A" proficiency certificate that same year. He served as Worshipful Master of Winnie-Stowell Lodge in 1980-81, then as Chaplain for many years and presently serves as Secretary, since 1992.

An Endowed member of Winnie-Stowell No. 1377 and Milam No. 11, he is also a Life Member in Sul Ross No. 1300 and Bullard No. 785. He received the Golden Trowel Award in 1995 from Winnie-Stowell Lodge, and served on the advisory board of the Order of Rainbow for Girls from 1980-1990 and was presented the Grand Cross of Color honor in 1989.

Brother Tommy was appointed as District Instructor in 1989 and was elected to the Committee-on-Work where he served from 1992-2004. Serving as chairman of that Committee three times, 1995, 1999, and 2002, he received his Life Time "A" Certificate in 2003. He has served as a planning team member for Right Worshipful David Dibrell in 2001 and as area co-coordinator for Right Worshipful Michael Nanny in 2002. Elected as Grand Junior Warden in December, 2004, Grand Senior Warden in 2005, and Deputy Grand Master in 2006, he was installed on December 8, 2007 as Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

Grand Master Griffin received his York Rite Degrees in Beaumont Chapter, Council and Commandery in 1988 and served as High Priest in 1990-91, District Deputy Grand High Priest in 1995, and as By-Laws Committee Chairman for Grand Chapter in 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007. He was Thrice Illustrious Master in 1993-94 and 1997-98, District Deputy Grand Master in 1999, and is currently serving on the By-Laws Committee of Grand Council. Tommy was Eminent Commander of Beaumont Commandery in 1994 and 2003 and Port Arthur Commandery in 1999, and received the Ex-Caliber Award from Beaumont Commandery.

Having served as a member of the Grand Commandery Foreign Relations Committee from 1996-2001, he received the honor of Knight York Court of Honor in 1994, and is a member of Thomas Rideout Chapter. He is a Past Governor of Southeast Texas York Rite College No. 90, received the Order of the Purple Cross in 1996, and is a very proud member of the York Rite Esoteric Association of Texas.

Brother Tommy is a charter member and Past Excellent Chief of Dick Dowling Chapter of Knight Masons and a Charter Member and past Sovereign Master of John Gates Council of Allied Masonic Degrees. He received the honor of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest of Resurrection Tabernacle in 1998 and is a member of St. Thomas of Acon. A past Puissant Sovereign of San Felipe Conclave of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, he was also inducted into the Texas College of Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis in 2005.

Grand Master Griffin is an endowed member of the Galveston Valley Scottish Rite and is a Past Venerable Master of San Felipe Lodge of Perfection, Past Preceptor of Galveston Council of Kadosh, Past Master of Kadosh of Galveston Consistory, and is currently serving as treasurer of the four bodies in the

Galveston Valley. A Degree Master of the 16th Degree Team for many years, he is currently the Degree Master for the 24th Degree Team and the 33rd Degree Team, and a member of the 32nd Degree Team. Having received the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (32nd KCCH) degree in 1993, he was coroneted with the Inspectors General Honorary 33rd degree in 1999. He is also a member of El Mina Shrine of Galveston, where he served as ambassador in 1997 and 2004.

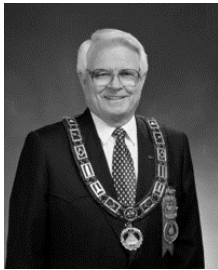
Brother Tommy and his wife are very active in the Order of the Eastern Star and are members of Anahuac Chapter No. 649. Tommy has served as Worthy Patron six times and has served on the Masonic Relations Committee of Grand Chapter six years and the Arrangements Committee twice. He also was Page to the Associate Grand Patron in 1997-98 and served as General Chairman of the Masonic Family Unity Committee that same year.

Grand Master Griffin is a "traditionalist" and believes Masonic education is vital to our continual existence. The ritual being his passion, its promotion will be a top priority. He believes that although we have quite a few Brothers that teach our ritual, we are in need of those Brethren who really know what Freemasonry is all about and are willing to learn that aspect of our education process, and instruct it to our candidates as they enter into the greatest fraternity known to man."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

W. David Counts Jr.

Year In Office: 2009 **Parent Lodge: Orient No. 905**



"The second of three children born to Walter David Counts and Alma Johnston Counts, W. David Counts, Jr. was born at Monday, in Knox County, Texas on July 14, 1936. David shared his childhood with older sister Patsy (Pat) and younger sister Cheryl, now Patsy Grimsley and Cheryl Robinson. His father died in 1983. His mother Alma at this writing remains active and continues to reside in Rule, Texas where David was raised.

David's early education began at Rule where he graduated from that High School in 1954. He attended West Texas State University in Canyon, and North Texas State University in Denton, respectively, during 1954-1956. On July 15, 1956, David married Mary Mullins. They have two children; daughter, Patti Counts Holmes and son W. David Counts, III. Patti and husband Steve reside in Aledo, Texas where both are healthcare professionals. Patti's son Seth, attends college in Colorado. Son David and wife Jill reside in San Antonio where he is an Assistant United States Attorney in his civilian life, and is the State Judge Advocate of the Texas National Guard, holding the rank of Colonel. David and Jill, a teacher and tennis coach, have three children; Jennifer, a college student, Sarah and Matthew. Their four grandchildren are constant blessings to Mary and David and provide plenty of opportunity for them to do those things which grandparents are supposed to do

Military activities began for David in 1953 when he enlisted in the Army National Guard at age seventeen. He graduated from the noncommissioned officers training course at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1957, followed by his graduation in 1959 from Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and in 1979 he graduated from the United States Army Command and Staff College. David retired from the Army National Guard with the rank of Colonel, and in 1999 was promoted to Brigadier General (Brevet) by then Governor George W. Bush. Awards and recognitions earned during his lengthy and honorable military service include the General K. L. Bailey Award for heroism in 1966 and the Minute Man Award for outstanding service.

David returned to Knox County where in 1960 he founded Counts Insurance Agency in Knox City which he owned and operated until 1995. While in the insurance business he formed and still owns and operates Counts Real Estate Agency. From 1968 to 1978 he owned a bookkeeping and tax service. Other business and professional interests have included serving as vice president and director of Rolling Plains Well Service from 1984 until 2004; as president and chairman of Chap Operating, Inc. since 2000, and as director and treasurer of Perry Pump Service from 2000 through 2004. His agricultural interests include growing wheat and cotton crops on family owned farms and ranches in Knox, Stonewall and Haskell counties. In addition to his varied and professional activities, David is a director of First Bank of West Texas and Western Bancshares.

Brother Counts' statewide public service began with his election to the state legislature in 1988. Over a span of fifteen years as an effective and productive legislator David served fourteen years as a member of the House Energy Council; ten years as chairman of the Natural Resources Committee; ten years as a member of the House Redistricting Committee, and several years as a member of several diverse committees including the House Insurance Committee, House State Affairs Committee, Electric Utility Restructuring and Oversight Committee, Telephone Restructuring Legislative Oversight Committee,

House Select Committee on Rural Issues, House Select Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, and Electric Utility Interim Study on Affected Tax Units. David also served as co-chairman of the Committee on Insurance Modernization, and two years on the House Select Committee on State Bond Resources.

Additionally, as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, David coordinated the Grand Lodge of Texas ceremony leveling the cornerstone of the Bob Bullock State Historical Museum in Austin and in 1995 authored the constitutional amendment to exempt Masonic Lodges from ad-valorem taxes. Again in 1999 he co-authored legislation to allow taxing entities the option to exempt Masonic Lodges from ad-valorem taxes.

Active in his community, David has served twenty years as a director of the Knox City Chamber of Commerce, and in 1979 he was honored by the community with his selection as Knox City's Most Appreciated Citizen. He is a member of the Board of Development at Hardin-Simmons University of Abilene, Texas, Texas State Technical College Rolling Plains Technical Foundation in Sweetwater, Texas and of the Texas Association of Realtors. He and Mary are members of the First Baptist Church of Knox City, and David contributes time and resources to the work of Gideons International, an organization of Christian laymen who distribute copies of the Holy Bible in several languages throughout the world.

Every journey begins with the first step, and David's first Masonic step began with his acceptance as a candidate for the degrees of Freemasonry in Orient Lodge No. 905 of Knox City where he was initiated, passed and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on April 24, 1961. Since that time he has served three separate terms as Worshipful Master of his lodge, and was named chairman of the Building Committee. In recognition of his many Masonic and civic contributions, he was awarded the prestigious Golden Trowel Award by his lodge in 1996. In addition he is an endowed plural member of Milam No. 11, Henry Thomas Lodge No. 278, Olive Branch Lodge No.26, Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 and Texas Lodge of Research and is an endowed charter member of Point Isabel Lodge No. 33.

His service to the Grand Lodge of Texas began with his appointment by then Grand Master Jack Hightower to serve as Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 90 during the 1971-1972 Grand Lodge year. He was appointed as Right Worshipful Grand Orator by Grand Master Elmer Murphey, III and served as such during the 2004-2005 Grand Lodge year. At the 2005 Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas he presented a resolution that was adopted to establish The Texas Masonic Foundation. Bro Counts was elected and installed as Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden on December 3, 2005. Normal progression led to his election and installation as Grand Senior Warden on December 9, 2006, as Deputy Grand Master on December 8, 2007 and as Most Worshipful Grand Master, the highest office in Texas Masonry on December 6, 2008 for the term ending on December 5, 2009.

In 1962 David received the Scottish Rite Degrees in the Valley of Dallas, and has since affiliated with the Scottish Rite Valley of Lubbock as a Charter member, and from 1975 through 1988 he was a member of the 17th degree team. He has since affiliated with the Austin Scottish Rite. His recognition by the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry led to his investiture with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. In 2003, the Supreme Council elected him to receive the 33rd Degree when he assumed the title of Inspector General Honorary to become an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council. As a Scottish Rite Mason, David proudly serves as a trustee of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children located in Dallas, Texas.

He became a member of Mascat Shrine in Wichita Falls in 1962, and is a member of Omala Grotto in San Antonio.

It was his desire to become a complete Mason that in 1966 led David to petition Orient Chapter No. 181, Royal Arch Masons of Knox City where he was exalted a Royal Arch Mason, and has served three separate terms of Most Excellent High Priest of that Chapter. His service as District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas was in 2007 while serving as Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. He affiliated with Llano Chapter No. 197 as a plural member, and served as Most Excellent High Priest of that Chapter in 2004.

Having been greeted as a Select Master in Orient Council No. 119, Royal & Select Masters of Knox City he served as Thrice Illustrious Master of that Council on three separate occasions. His affiliation as a plural member of Llano Council No. 135, Royal & Select Masters led to his service as Thrice Illustrious Master in 2004. His service to the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters includes that of Grand Representative to the Grand Council of California and as District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council in 2005 while serving as Right Worshipful Grand Orator of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

It would simply follow that David receive the Orders of the Commandery, being knighted in Haskell Commandery No. 49 in 1967, later affiliating with Stanford Commandery No. 75 where he presided as Eminent Commander of that Commandery in 2006-2007. He is also an affiliated member of Llano Commandery No. 54.

In recognition of his leadership in various York Rite organizations, David has received the Order of High Priesthood, Order of the Silver Trowel, and has been received as a Knight of York Cross of Honor in Texas Priory No. 23. His interest in and his support of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation is indicated by his standing as a Patron member of that charitable endeavor of Knights Templar.

David's continuing service to those organizations affiliated with the York Rite of Freemasonry has brought about activity as a member of Star of Bethlehem Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Past Governor of Texas York Rite College No. 14, dual member of Heart of Texas York Rite College No. 128; Past Excellent Chief of J. M. Willson Council No. 92, dual member of Libertas Council No. 83, Knight Masons and Past Sovereign Master of A. E. Killion Chapter No. 452, dual member of Wichita Falls Chapter 351, Allied Masonic Degrees.

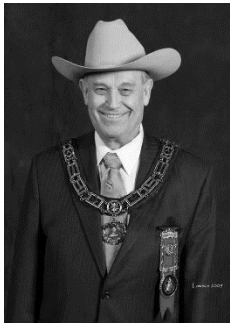
As a member of the National Sojourners, he is a member of Lone Star Chapter No. 149 at Abilene and Audie Leon Murphy Chapter No. 112 of Dallas. He is also a member of Goliad Camp, Heroes of '76, and a member of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum Sam Houston Hall of Fame.

A member of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum Sam Houston Hall of Fame he is also a Patron of the Library and Museum. David has served as treasurer of the Masonic Children and Family Services of Texas (Formerly Masonic Home and School) since September of 2007.

Such a man, husband, father, grandfather, citizen and mason is Walter David Counts, Jr. Dependable, reliable, dedicated and committed to leave a path for the future to chart its course. May God bless his leadership of Texas Masons. --Leonard P. Harvey – Past Grand Master"

Orville L. O'Neill

Year In Office: 2010 **Parent Lodge: White Rock No. 234**

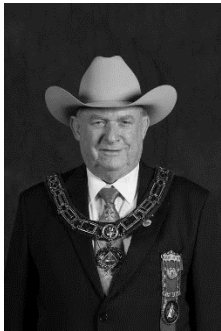


Orville Lee O'Neill, the fifth of seven children born to John Thomas O'Neill and Myrtle Frances Phillips O'Neill in the small community of Neches in Anderson County, Texas on April 4, 1938. His maternal grandfather, Brother W.D. Phillips came to Texas from South Carolina and settled in Fairfield, Texas and eventually received his Masonic Degrees in Fairfield No. 103, and to Orville's knowledge was the only member of his family who was a member of the Masonic fraternity. While Orville was still a young boy, his father moved the family to Dallas where he had secured a job with the City of Dallas in the water department, and Orville began his education in the Dallas Public Schools. Soon after leaving his formal education behind, he began a long career in transportation and operated local and long haul carriers in the motor freight industry. On August 15, 1973, Orville and Roxie Richardson were married. Orville had three children, two daughters and one son from a previous marriage, and Roxie had one son. Together Orville and Roxie have four grandchildren. Tragedy struck in January of 1989, when one of his daughters was killed in an automobile accident. Orville was elected Grand Secretary/Recorder of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter and Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas in December of 2001 and the long time residents of Dallas moved to Hewitt outside Waco in July of 2005 to shorten his commute to the office. Grand Master O'Neill's Masonic journey began in 1978 when he received the Entered Apprentice Degree on April 18th, was passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on May 16th and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on June 13th in White Rock No. 234 in Addison, Texas. His first step upon the ladder that has lead him to the highest office that Texas Masons can bestow was the appointment to the office of Tiler in White Rock Lodge No. 234 where he served through the line of appointive and elective officers to eventually be elected to the office of Worshipful Master to serve in the 1984-1985 Masonic year and again as Worshipful Master in the 2000-2001 Masonic year. He was elected Secretary of White Rock Lodge No. 234 in 1986 and served through 1991, and in 1994, the lodge honored Orville's commitment and dedication to Freemasonry by presenting to him the prestigious Golden Trowel Award. In addition to his parent membership in White Rock Lodge, Orville is a plural member of M. Denton Stanford Lodge No. 594, Riesel Lodge No. 835 and Point Isabel Lodge No. 33, and is a member of Texas Lodge of Research. He is an Endowed Member of White Rock Lodge No.234 and Riesel Lodge No. 835 has elected him a Life Member in that Lodge. It was in 1988 that then Deputy Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey selected him for appointment as District Deputy Grand Master where he served with distinction in Masonic District No. 14-B from December, 3, 1988 to December 2, 1989. On December 4, 1999, Orville was installed as Grand Tiler under the appointment of incoming Grand Master W. Vernon Burke, Jr., and served as such during the 2000 Grand Lodge year. On December 4, 2004, he was installed as Grand Marshal under the appointment of incoming Grand Master Elmer Murphey, III, and served as such during the 2005 Grand Lodge year. Additional service to his Grand Lodge include several terms on the Committee on Credentials as well as member of planning teams for several incoming Grand Masters. Orville served as Assistant State Coordinator in 1993 for Grand Master R.O. 'Bob' Schnell and in 1994 for Grand Master Billy Tinsley. He was the State Coordinator in 1995 for Grand Master Farris L. Benham. It was on December 2, 2006, that Orville was elected and installed as Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden and in the ensuing years his progress up the fraternal ladder that leads to fame in our mystic order to have the purple of our fraternity placed upon his honored shoulders to become the leader of all

Texas Masons as Most Worshipful Grand Master. Orville was elected to the Sam Houston Hall of Fame in 2005. To know Grand Master O'Neill as a man and as a Mason is to fully understand that he is not content to miss opportunities for additional involvement in Masonic activities. It was in 1980 that he took his first steps in the direction of York Rite activities by receiving the Capitular Degrees in Garland Chapter No. 451 of Royal Arch Masons, Garland Council No.118 of Royal and Select Masters and Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No.103 Knights Templar. He later affiliated with Alexander C. Garrett Chapter No. 420 and Alexander C. Garrett Council No. 382 which eventually merged with Dallas Chapter No. 47 and Dallas Council No. 18. He was elevated to the office of High Priest of Alexander C. Garrett Chapter No. 420 of Royal Arch Masons in 1984, Thrice Illustrious Master of Alexander C. Garrett Council No. 382 in 1985 and as Commander of Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 103 in 1989. He received the Excalibur Award from Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 103 in 1996, and the Prestigious Knight Templar Cross of Honour from the Grand Commandery in 2000. He is now a plural member of Love Field Chapter No. 478 and Love Field Council No. 396 where he and other Companions were instrumental in reviving that Chapter and Council. It has been Orville's dedication to York Rite Masonry that led to his eventual election to service as Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas during the 1997-1998 Capitular year. Additional activities and honors earned in various York Rite bodies include The Order of High Priesthood, The Order of the Silver Trowel, Super Excellent Master Degree and his induction into the KYCH. He is a Charter member of Lyle L. Cross York Rite College No. 147 where he has served as Governor. He also has received the Order of the Purple Cross from the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. He is a Charter Member and Past Excellent Chief of Rose of Sharon Council No. 49, Knight Masons; He is a Charter Member and Past Sovereign Master of R. Bruce Brannon Council No. 270, Allied Masonic Degrees; Past Sovereign of Permian Basin Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; a member of Ascension No. XX, Holy Royal Arch, Knight Templar Priests; Past Prior and is the current Registrar of Texas Priory No. 23, Knight York Cross of Honour, and is a member of Texas College, Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. Grand Master O'Neill proudly serves on the Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center, serving elected terms for the years 1998-2004, 2004-2008 and is presently serving a 2008-2013 term. He has served as President of the Board since 2006. Grand Master O'Neill was elected to the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum for the term 2005-2009. He received the fourth through the thirty-second degrees of Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in Dallas in 1981; the Investiture of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1993 and in 1999 was nominated and elected by the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction to receive the Thirty-Third Degree to assume the title of Inspector General Honorary. Orville served as General Secretary of the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies in Dallas from 2001 through 2004 where he is an Endowed Member, and in addition holds Endowed Memberships in the Fort Worth and Waco Scottish Rite Bodies. He serves as a Trustee of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, and is also a member of Hella Shrine, and Alla Grotto. Such a man and Mason is Orville Lee O'Neill. Honest; Dependable; Committed to the Craft. A leader among men and Masons, and his every endeavor has brought up good and square work. His service in every aspect of Freemasonry has been such as to remind those who follow his leadership that the lessons of our gentle Craft are such as to make good men better. Such lessons learned are reflected in his life. May God Bless and prosper his leadership as the One Hundred Seventy-Third Grand Master of Texas Masons. Leonard P. Harvey, Past Grand Master - 1989

T.E. "Gene" Carnes

Year In Office: 2011 **Parent Lodge: Harlandale No. 1213**



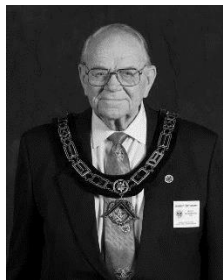
Thomas Eugene "Gene" Carnes was born on September 5, 1938, in San Antonio, Texas, the son of Collins George and Mary Rose Etta Ward Carnes. Gene attended Schools in the Harlandale Independent School District and was in the 1957 graduating class of Harlandale High School. Gene has attended several colleges thru the years including San Antonio College, St Phillips College and Texas State Technical Institute. He married Miss Gay M. Barbour on October 31, 1959, in San Antonio, Texas. Gene and Gay have two sons, Larry Dell Carnes, who lives in Paradise, TX, and James Douglas Carnes, who lives in Pipe Creek, TX. They have been blessed with two granddaughters, one grandson and two step-grandsons. Immediately after graduation from High School, Gene went to work at Perry Shankle Co., a wholesale distributorship. He advanced to head counter salesman in the radio, television and appliance parts department in five years. Gene went to work for the United States Air Force at Kelly AFB in 1962, where he was a maintenance technician on airborne radar and navigational systems. In 1966 Brother Carnes moved his employment to US Air Force Security Service, where he was a technical representative on several cryptographic systems. He later moved to the Command Headquarters of the Air Intelligence Agency as a Logistics Management Specialist and retired in 1994. During his tenure as an employee of the Air Force, he attended many professional schools including the Air Command and Staff College, Air University Seminar program, graduating in 1991. He attended many technical and management schools throughout the country. He was certified as a Level I Acquisition Logistics Professional in 1992. Gay also worked for the same Air Force Unit as Gene where she was a Program Analyst Officer. They both retired from Air Force Civil Service on 31 January 1994. Brother Carnes is a sixth generation Mason. His predecessors go back to the States of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Pennsylvania. His Great-Great Grandfather was the charter Junior Warden of Jonesboro Lodge, Jonesboro, GA. Brother Carnes' Masonic career began in 1962 when he petitioned Harlandale Lodge No. 1213 in San Antonio. He served as Master of Harlandale Lodge in 1969-70. The family moved to Pipe Creek, TX in June of 1969. He affiliated with Bandera No. 1123 as a dual member and served as Master of Bandera Lodge in 1977-78. He also holds plural memberships in Rising Star No. 429, Kendall No. 897, Fredericksburg No. 794, charter member of Point Isabel No. 33, and Tranquility Lodge No. 2000. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 51st Masonic District in 1980 under Grand Master Sam E. Hilburn. In 1982-83 he served as Chairman of the Special Assignments Committee. He was elected as a Member of the Committee on Work in December 1983, serving as Chairman in 1988. He continued service on the Committee on Work until December 1990. He served as a member of the Membership Maintenance Committee from 1998-2001. He was appointed by Grand Master Mike Gower as Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1999. He received the William M. Beck award in 2002. He served as Master of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 in 2003-04. He is the present Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and served on the Purposes and Policies Committee of Grand Lodge from 2000 -2007. Brother Carnes has served on the planning teams and Conference Programs for many Grand Masters and was the State Coordinator for Grand Master Thomas F. Griffin until he was elected Grand Junior Warden in 2007. Brother Carnes received the Demolay Legion of Honor in 2008. He was elected Grand Senior Warden in 2008, Deputy Grand Master in 2009, and Grand Master on December 4, 2010. Brother Carnes is an Endowed member of Helotes Chapter No. 444, RAM and Helotes Council No. 362 R&SM and San

Antonio Commandery No. 7. He is an Endowed member of both the San Antonio and Waco Scottish Rite Valleys and is a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary and has served as the presiding Officer of three of the Scottish Rite Bodies. He is a member of the Texian York Rite College No. 60, St Anthony Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, the Allied Masonic Degrees, Alzafar Shrine, Omala Grotto, Royal Order of Scotland, Texas Lodge of Research, Missouri Lodge of Research, Past President of Ft Sam Houston Chapter No. 17, National Sojourners, Past Commander of Alamo Camp, Heroes of 76, Friendly High Twelve Club No. 744 and Past Patron of Bandera Chapter No. 643 and Boerne Chapter No. 200, Order of the Eastern Star.

Draft dated 06/29/2023

James F. Brumit

Year In Office: 2012 **Parent Lodge: Oak Cliff No. 705**



"James Floyd Brumit was born on January 3, 1930, in Dallas, Texas to Pearl and Floyd Brumit. He grew up in Dallas and graduated from Sunset High School and then Draughan's Business College in Dallas. He married Dorothy Elizabeth Hill in 1950. They both attended the same schools and had been friends since third grade. They have one daughter, Vicki Quesada, and one grandson, Stuart. Elizabeth suffered a fatal heart attack in 1992. They were members of the Presbyterian Church all their married life and Grand Master Brumit continues to be a member, having served as a deacon and an elder.

Grand Master Brumit's professional experience includes being a member of the Dallas Police Department for 29 years serving as a patrolman, detective and sergeant. His assignments included investigating crimes that were committed on school property, sex crimes committed against children, criminal intelligence work and security assignments for visiting dignitaries. Following his career as a police officer, Jim began a career of bookkeeping and tax work and is currently self-employed, and has become an Enrolled Agent with the Internal Revenue Service.

Grand Master Brumit was elected and installed Grand Junior Warden of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas on December 6, 2008. To begin his Masonic journey, he petitioned Gibraltar No. 1179 for membership at the age of 27, and was initiated, passed and raised as a Master Mason in 1958. He is a plural member in Sunshine No. 341, Cedar Hill No. 1380, Northern Star No. 377, Knox-Corinthian No. 851, and with the merger of Gibraltar No. 1179 is now a member in Oak Cliff No. 705. He holds an endowed membership in Oak Cliff No. 705, Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 and the Texas Lodge of Research. Having served his Lodges in many capacities, he has been Worshipful Master in Gibraltar No. 1179 in 1966-67 and Sunshine No. 341 in 2003-2004, as well as serving as Secretary of Sunshine No. 341. Prior to becoming an officer he received his first Esoteric Certificate in 1959 and was presented a Life Certificate in 1984.

Long an active member and supporter of the Texas Lodge of Research, Grand Master Brumit has served on several TLR committees and also as Worshipful Master of the Lodge. His strong belief in Masonic Education led him to serve on the Committee on Masonic Education and Service.

Grand Master Brumit was appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1969 in Masonic District 14-A, and in 2006 served as District Deputy Grand Master-at-Large. He has served as a member and as Chairman on several Grand Lodge Committees, including the Mileage and Transportation Committee, the Youth Activities Committee, Committee on Petitions No. 2. He has also been a member of the Masonic Education and Service Committee, Grievances and Appeals, Affiliation and Reinstatements, and most recently, the Finance Committee. He served for many years in the Grand Master's Conference program as Regional Coordinator, and as State Coordinator for Grand Master A. D. Hanna in 1990, and was Grand Senior Deacon that year.

In 1999, Grand Master Vernon Burke appointed him the Grand Senior Steward and he served as Grand Marshal in 2003 for Grand Master M. Boyd Patterson, Jr. He is currently the Grand Representative to Columbia Nacional Barranquilla. Brother Brumit belongs to numerous Masonic Bodies. Becoming a

member of the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies in 1958, he was coroneted 33° Scottish Rite Mason in 1997. He holds membership in all of the York Rite bodies, Eastern Star, Grotto, Shrine, Knight Masons, Allied Masonic Degrees, Red Cross of Constantine and Masonic Rosicrucians. He served as Sovereign Master of the AMD Chapter in Dallas and later as its Secretary. Grand Master Brumit was honored with the Red Branch of Eri.

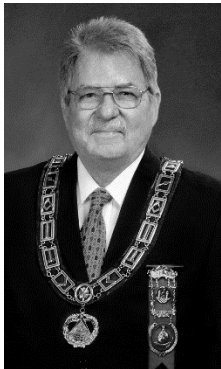
Long active with Masonic youth, Grand Master Brumit received the Grand Cross of Color from the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls for his work with Elmwood Assembly. He and Liz were long-time members of the Rainbow Advisory Board. DeMolay International honored him with the Honorary Legion of Honor in 2009.

Grand Master Jim Brumit has served his Lodges well and has always excelled in any area of endeavor. He is more than ready to serve the Grand Lodge of Texas and looks forward to the new challenge."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Walter W. Rogers

Year In Office: 2013 **Parent Lodge: Bedias No. 651**



"On Saturday, December 5th 2009 the Masons of Texas selected for the office of Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden a seasoned, committed and dedicated laborer in the quarries of Freemasonry. Each succeeding year, he scaled the fraternal ladder of leadership which again brought him reverently before the Holy Altar of Freemasonry on Saturday, December 8, 2012, there to obligate himself to the Masons of Texas as their Grand Master for the 2012-2013 Grand Lodge year.

The third child born to Frances Marcel Williams Rogers and Woodrow Wilson Rogers, Walter W. Rogers was born on August 18, 1944 in Houston, Texas. He had one brother and one sister. When Walt was only one year of age, his mother and father divorced, and his mother remarried Clarence Thomas Little, who while serving aboard the battleship Maryland was a Pearl Harbor survivor and Purple Heart recipient. Two more children, a boy and girl were born in this marriage.

Walt's formal education began at Santa Rosa, Texas and continued through the fourth grade. Then his family moved to Bryan, Texas where his schooling continued through the sixth grade before the family moved to Houston where he attended the Galena Park schools. At age 17, Walt joined the United States Navy in 1961 and served aboard the USS Oak Hill LSD-7 as an Electrician's Mate, Third Class. While serving in the Navy, he took college courses and was honorably discharged.

On January 17th, 1969 he married Ardith Elaine Smith who soon thereafter was employed by the First State Bank of Bedias, later being employed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice until her retirement in 2007. Walt and Ardith had four wonderful daughters: Rebecca Elaine Morris, Gail Linden Williams, Shauna Denise Jenkins, and Kristy Dawn Carroll. Walt and "Miss Ardith" are the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren.

It was in 1965 that Walt began his career in steel fabrication, steel erection and construction management as a field hand with Empire Steel Erectors where he later became general manager. In 1976 he formed Universal Steel Erectors in Bedias, Texas as owner/operator. Later, he was employed by Derr-Gruenwald where he managed some impressive projects such as the Denver International Airport in Denver, Colorado, Bud Walton Arena on the University of Arkansas Campus at Fayetteville, Arkansas, the Cumberland City Powerhouse Retrofit for the Tennessee Valley Authority in Cumberland City, Tennessee and the new Natatorium on the Texas A&M Campus. To demonstrate a rather unique diversity of talent, in 1994 Walt joined up with Fresh Commodity Sales in McAllen, Texas where he worked in produce sales until 2000 when he returned to Universal Steel and Fabrication as owner/operator and General Manager until 2004 when he joined CDI Engineering Solutions as Construction Manager in charge of Huntsman Corporation, relocating five research laboratories from around the United States to The Woodlands, Texas, the new Q-10 Manufacturing plant for Kaneka Corporation in Pasadena, Texas, the expansion of the M.E.M.C. plant in Pasadena, Texas, and retiring in September, 2007.

Walt enjoys golf, hunting, fishing, motorcycle riding and motor home traveling with "Miss Ardith," but his main enjoyment is his love of Freemasonry. His Masonic journey began in Bedias Lodge No. 651

where he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 27, 1978. He served as Worshipful Master of his Lodge in 1980-1981, as Secretary 1986-1991 and

2001-2003 and again from 2007 through 2010. In recognition of Walt's many contributions to his Lodge, his community and to Freemasonry, he was awarded the Golden Trowel in 2003. His concern for maintaining accuracy of the rituals of freemasonry led him to earn and maintain his "A" Certificate of Proficiency since 1979. Walt is an endowed member of Bedias Lodge No. 651 in Bedias, Planters Lodge No. 147 in Plantersville, Park Place Lodge No. 1172 in Houston, Tranquility Lodge no. 2000 and a plural member of Point Isabel Lodge No. 33 in Port Isabel, Texas and also a member of South McAlester Lodge No. 96 in McAlester, OK.

Walt's service to Grand Lodge began with his appointment by Grand Master J.M. "Jimmy" Willson, Jr. as District Deputy Grand Master in District No. 29 for the 1981-1982 Grand Lodge year. Additionally, he has served as Assistant State Coordinator under Grand Master J.D. "Buddy" Baccus in 1983, Grand Master George R. "Bob" Scott in 1985, and under Grand Master John E. "Jack" Kelly in 1987, and as State Coordinator under Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey in 1989 and Grand Master W.M. "Mike" Gower in 1999. Additional service to Texas Masonry has included: Chairman, Special Assignments Committee 1986-1988, member of Committee on Work 1988-1991, Purposes and Policies Committee 2000-2006, Chairman of the Take Time to Read Committee 2001-2004, and Vice Chairman 2007-2009. He served as Grand Junior Deacon in 1985, Grand Senior Deacon in 1999 and Grand Orator in 2002, as has been Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut since 1985 and was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 2010. He was awarded the William M. Beck Award in 1999 and is a member of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum Sam Houston Hall of Fame. In 2012, our Grand Master was elected Chairman of the conference of Grand Masters of North America for the conference to be held in Kansas City in February of 2013.

Walt Rogers is not a man content to look across a river and wonder what is on the other side. He wants to cross the river and see for himself. So, in 1979 he received the 32nd degree in Houston, in 1985 was honored by the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry by his investiture of the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor and in 1997 was coroneted a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary.

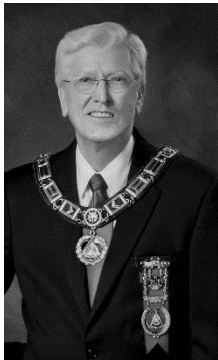
His activities in the York Rite of Freemasonry includes membership in the W.T. Austin Chapter No. 87, Royal Arch Masons and the W.T. Austin Council No. 52, Royal and Select Masters and he is a Past Commander of Ivanhoe Commandery, Knights Templar No. 8. He is a member of Madisonville Chapter No. 193, Order of Eastern Star, and is a Past Patron of Madisonville Chapter. He has served as President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of Masonic District No. 29 in 1983. As a Knight Companion of the Red Cross of Constantine, Walt is a Past Puissant Sovereign of DeMolay Conclave in Waco and held dual membership in Ascension Conclave in Tyler from 2001 until 2008.

Other Masonic affiliations include charter membership in W.M. Taylor Chapter of the Philalathes Society, Chinar Grotto and Arabia Shrine in Houston. He is a member of the Texas Lodge of Research, Scottish Rite Research Society, the Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis and the Star Chamber Council No. 298, Allied Masonic Degrees in Tyler, and Southeast Texas York Rite College No. 90 and is a Member in Perpetuity (MIP), National Sojourners Brazos Valley Chapter No. 378 in College Station, Texas. Walter W. Rogers – a man who does more than set goals. He attains his goals! Leonard P. Harvey Past Grand Master"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Jerry L. Martin

Year In Office: 2014 **Parent Lodge: Parsons No. 222**



"Jerry Lee Martin was born on September 5, 1942 in Brown County, Texas near Lake Brownwood. He was the youngest of three boys and three girls born to George and Addie Martin. Jerry lived in the Brownwood area until he was four years old, at which time the family moved near Longview, in Northeast Texas. He graduated from East Mountain High School and then from Stephen F. Austin State University where he received a B. B. A. in Business Administration with a minor in Economics. He was Vice-President of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity that contributed many services to the University and the community.

In 1998 Jerry lost his wife Carol after a courageous two year battle with cancer. Sometime later he met Betty Capps, a Masonic widow, at an Eastern Star function. There was only one seat left in the dining room and it was next to Betty. Jerry took the seat next to Betty and a close friendship developed that quickly grew into more than just friendship. They were married a year later. Jerry had one son, and Betty had two daughters. Jerry's son Brent joined the Army shortly after graduation from high school. He was a Crew Chief on attack helicopters, and saw combat in Desert Shield. He is now employed by a contractor that provides maintenance for helicopters at Fort Rucker in Alabama. Betty's daughter Theresa is a Marketing Representative for a healthcare provider, and her daughter Sandra is a homemaker. Betty and Jerry are members of the Schertz United Methodist Church where they actively serve as greeters, ushers, and anywhere else they are needed.

After graduation from college in August of 1966, Jerry began his professional career in the J.C. Penney Regional Accounting office in Dallas, Texas that performed the accounting functions for hundreds of stores in six states. Three years later he was employed by Zale Corporation as an Internal Auditor, and one year later was promoted to Controller of the Sporting Goods Division. He later was promoted to Vice President of Administration in addition to serving as Controller. A major accomplishment during his employment at Zale Corporation was replacing conventional cash registers with data terminals that could collect information on items sold for automatic reorder and inventory control, transmit the day's sales and bank deposit to speed the drafting of the funds, transmit payroll data and other information that was usually sent via US Postal Service. While this is common practice today, in the early 1970's this was the first use of this kind of technology in Texas and the second in the United States.

After leaving Zale Corporation, he was employed by Chromalloy American Corporation where he worked on a campaign that ended in the successful election for the passage of a sales tax increase to create and fund a public transportation authority in Austin, Texas. After the election he helped create the Finance and Accounting departments, and served as Assistant Director of Finance and Director of Accounting for the new Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Later he was employed by the State of Texas Department of Human Resources where he was the Director of Information Technology Procurement and Contract Management Department that awarded and managed many multi-million dollar contracts that served not only his agency, but all of the Health and Human Service agencies. He retired in October 2002.

Jerry petitioned Parsons No. 222 in Austin in 1996, where he was initiated, passed, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. He held many offices during the next few years, and served as

Master in 2002-2003. He is an endowed member of Parsons Lodge and also is the recipient of the Golden Trowel. He is a charter and endowed member of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, an endowed member of Blanco No. 216, an endowed member of Randolph No. 1268, a charter member of Point Isabel No. 33, and a member of the Texas Lodge of Research No. 1999.

He served this Grand Lodge on the Masonic Family Convention Team in 2004 and 2005, the Masonic Education and Services Committee from 2006 through 2010, District Deputy Grand Master in 2008, State Coordinator 2009, Grand Orator 2009, and Chairman of the Special Assignments Committee 2009. He is a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame, and is the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Illinois. In an effort to give back to the fraternity he loves, he made himself available and was elected Grand Junior Warden at the Grand Annual Communication in December 2010, Grand Senior Warden in 2011, Deputy Grand Master in 2012, and Grand Master in 2013.

Brother Martin is a member of the Austin Scottish Rite Valley and is a 33rd Degree IGH. He is a member of Austin Council No. 2 R.&S.M., Lone Star Chapter No. 6 R.A.M., Colorado Commandery No. 4, Texas York Rite College No. 14, St. Austin Conclave Red Cross of Constantine, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, and the Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon Fort Worth Crusader Chapel No. 62. He also is a Member in Perpetuity of Anson Jones Chapter No. 507 National Sojourners, Ben Hur Shrine, and Omala Grotto. He served as Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star in 2005, and is an endowed member of Travis Chapter No. 472. He served the General Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star as Ambassador to Hawaii 2009-2012, and as a General Grand Chapter Committee member for Scottish Rite Charities 2012-2015. He received the Grand Cross of Color in 2005 from the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and the Honorary Legion of Honor from the International Supreme Council Order of the DeMolay in 2012.

His love for our fraternity has led him to dedicating himself to the service of the Grand Lodge of Texas with aspirations of laying the ground work to aid in the preservation of our Grand Lodge for future generations. May God bless his leadership of the Masons of Texas. W. David Counts, Jr. PGM 2009"

Michael L. Wiggins

Year In Office: 2015 Parent Lodge: Liberty No. 48



"A seventh generation Texan, Grand Master Michael L. Wiggins was born on October 5, 1956, in Liberty, Texas. He is the oldest child of Dempsey and Glenda Reid Wiggins. All four of his grandparents were descendants of settlers coming to Texas prior to statehood. The earliest, William Ponton, arrived with his family in DeWitt Colony on December 17, 1829, from Boonesville, Missouri. William was later killed by Comanches in 1834. Grand Master Wiggins is quick to point out that while one ancestor was killed by Comanches, another ancestor was related to the last Comanche chief, Quanah Parker.

The Grand Master attended public schools in Liberty, graduating Magna Cum Laude from Liberty High School in 1975. While a high school student, he began working summers and holidays in the oilfield. Many of his early co-workers were Freemasons and he often speaks of the positive influence they had on him. In the Fall of 1975, he enrolled at Texas A&M University in College Station to pursue a degree in Petroleum Engineering. During his first four years at A&M, he was elected to the Petroleum Engineering Honor Society Pi Epsilon Tau and served as an officer in the student chapter of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE). He graduated in 1979 with honors and began his professional career with Sun Oil Company in Lafayette, Louisiana.

From 1979 through 1987, Grand Master Wiggins worked for various oil and gas producers along the Gulf Coast of Texas and Louisiana. In what one of his professors referred to as the "four, eight, and four plan," the Grand Master returned to Texas A&M in June 1987 to pursue advanced degrees in Petroleum Engineering. He completed Master of Engineering and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in 1988 and 1991, respectively.

From 1991 through 2005, the Grand Master taught at the University of Oklahoma, receiving tenure in 1997 and full professor status in 2003. In this role, he taught courses and conducted research related to reservoir engineering, production operations, and petroleum project evaluation. He has authored numerous papers in his areas of expertise and received research funding from various governmental agencies, national oil companies, and international oil companies. In addition, he has conducted short courses in the areas of reservoir management, reservoir engineering, waterflood design and evaluation, well completions, production operations, and petroleum project evaluation.

In January 2006, the Grand Master joined William M. Cobb & Associates, Inc. as Vice President and in January 2011 he was named President of the company. While at Cobb & Associates his expertise in petroleum reservoir management and improved oil recovery took him to every continent but Antarctica. In March 2013, he joined the Mid-Con Energy Companies where he was named Executive Vice President of Mid-Con Energy Partners, LP. On August 1, 2014, Grand Master Wiggins was named President of all Mid-Con Energy entities.

During his career, Grand Master Wiggins has been active in his professional society. He has served on several program committees for SPE technical meetings and served as the General Chairman for the 2003 SPE Production and Operations Symposium. He has served as a technical editor for SPE since 1991, receiving the Peer Apart award in 2007 for reviewing over 300 papers. He was the Executive Editor for

the journal SPE Production and Facilities from 2001 to 2004. The Grand Master was elected a Distinguished Member of SPE in 2003. With over 80,000 international members at the time, he was elected to the SPE Board of Directors for the years 2004 to 2006.

On January 5, 1980, Grand Master Wiggins and Tanya Nannette Steed, a majority member of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, were married in Liberty. Their daughter Jordan Michael was born in 1983 and son Joel Daniel Ponton was born in 1984. Jordan and Joel were no strangers to Freemasonry as they attended open Masonic events with their parents from birth. Jordan is married to Donelo George Lopez, Jr., a member of Bellaire Lodge No. 1316. Joel is a Past Master of St. Alban's Lodge No. 1455 and is married to Melinda Ann Colin. The Grand Master and Tanya are the proud grandparents of two grandsons and three granddaughters. The legacy of Texas Masonry continues in the Wiggins family.

Grand Master Wiggins has applied the lesson of Masonic participation in local activities serving as an Adult Leader of the Boy Scouts of America from 1994 to 2006 and assisting with Thanksgiving Day deliveries for Meals on Wheels from 1995 to 2005. In addition, he served on the Liberty County Historical Commission from 1985 to 1987, being cited for distinguished service in 1988. A member of the Church of Christ, he has served as Bible class leader and deacon in several congregations where he and his family have worshipped.

The Grand Master's Masonic journey began on Texas Independence Day in 1978 when he received the Entered Apprentice degree in Liberty Lodge No. 48. His father, a member of Liberty Lodge No. 48, conferred all of his degrees, a fact of which the Grand Master is most proud. In addition, Tanya's father Warren B Steed, also a member of Liberty Lodge No. 48, gave the charge for all three of his degrees. Grand Master Wiggins was raised to the degree of Master Mason on June 8, 1978.

After working in Lafayette, the Grand Master and Tanya returned to Liberty at the end of 1980 and he quickly became involved with his home lodge. He was elected Treasurer in 1981 and Junior Warden the following year. He progressed through the chairs and served as Master of Liberty Lodge No. 48 during 1984 to 1985, the youngest Master of the Lodge. He became an Endowed Member in 1985. Notwithstanding the heavy demands upon his time and energy, he found opportunities for study in Freemasonry and held a Certificate of Proficiency for several years. In 2007, Liberty No. 48 awarded the Grand Master the Golden Trowel award for his contributions to Masonic education.

A Charter Member of the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association of Masonic District 107 formed in 1983, the Grand Master served as its second President in 1984 to 1985. He is also a plural member of St. Alban's Lodge No. 1455 in College Station.

While serving as a Lodge officer, Grand Master Wiggins became interested in the history of Liberty Lodge No. 48. From his research, he prepared a narrative for a Texas Historical Marker for Liberty Lodge. This application was approved and the marker was dedicated by Grand Master Kelly in 1987. This interest led him to Texas Lodge of Research (TLR). After three years as an associate member, he was elected to membership in TLR in 1989 after presenting his paper, "The Role of Freemasonry in the Development of Liberty County, Texas 1826-1848." For this effort, he received the James D. Carter Award for Literary Excellence.

The family's move to Norman, Oklahoma in 1991 did not prevent the Grand Master from continuing his involvement in TLR. He served as an appointive officer from 1991 through 1993 and in March 1993 was elected Junior Warden. This culminated in his March 1995 election and installation as Master of Texas Lodge of Research. His installation was attended by thirteen Past Masters of TLR. In 2007, Grand Master Wiggins was elected a Fellow in Masonic Research, only the sixteenth member to be elected to receive that honor since 1961 when the first Fellow was recognized.

Grand Master Wiggins was a Charter Member of Guildhall No. 555 when it was set to work by the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma in 2002, serving as Charter Senior Deacon. He was elected and served as Junior Warden in 2005, Senior Warden in 2006, and Worshipful Master in 2007. As a Past Master of both a Texas Lodge and an Oklahoma Lodge, he is a plural member of the Grand Lodge of Texas (1985) and the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma (2007).

The Grand Master's involvement in Texas Grand Lodge activities began with his appointment in 1987 by Grand Master John E. "Jack" Kelly as District Deputy Grand Master for District 107. In 1999, Grand Master William M. "Mike" Gower appointed him to a seven-year term on the Committee on Masonic Education and Service, serving as Chairman of the Committee from 2002 through 2005. In 2005, Grand Senior Warden Donny W. Broughton appointed him to serve as Grand Pursuivant. Grand Master Broughton appointed the Grand Master to a seven year term on the Committee on Purposes and Policies in 2007, where he served until his election as Grand Junior Warden in December 2011.

The Grand Master was named Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of New South Wales in 2007. In addition, he served on Grand Master planning teams for the Grand Lodge years of 2002, 2004, and 2007. Grand Master Reese L. Harrison, Jr. presented him with the John Sayles Award in 2004 for his contributions to Masonic education and in 2007 Grand Master Broughton presented him the Grand Master's Cup for outstanding service during the 2007 Grand Lodge year. Grand Master Wiggins strongly believes in the mission of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas. He is a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame (2005) and is a Patron of the Library and Museum (2008).

Grand Master Wiggins is an endowed member of the Houston, Guthrie, and Dallas Scottish Rite Valleys. He has served as Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection in both the Guthrie and Dallas Valleys and is President of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Educational and Charitable Foundation. He was honored with the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1995 and received the 33o Inspector General Honorary in 2005. He currently serves as the Personal Representative for Education of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas and is a charter member of the Scottish Rite Research Society. He is a member of Dallas Chapter No. 47 of Royal Arch Masons, Dallas Council No. 18 of Royal and Select Masters, and Dallas Commandery No. 6 of Knights Templar.

The Grand Master is also a member of Arabia Shrine, Chinar Grotto, and Caddo Mills Chapter No. 82, Order of the Eastern Star. He holds dual memberships in the Oklahoma and Texas Colleges, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. In addition, he is a member of Saint Mark Conclave, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine; Holy Grail Council No. 287, Allied Masonic Degrees; Trinity Chapel No. 12, Order of St. Thomas of Acon; and, Southwest Lodge of St. Andrew, Great Priory of America CBCS.

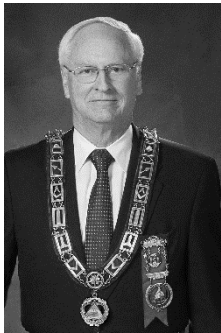
Grand Master Wiggins is a man of close family ties, strong and enduring friendships, and decided beliefs. His careers in engineering and education as well as his Masonic service have been marked by drive, determination, and unalterable integrity. Well-grounded by past experience with attainable plans for

the future and a heart for Freemasonry that throbs with sincerity, the Masons of Texas can look to the leadership of Michael L. Wiggins with confidence. Leonard P. Harvey Past Grand Master – 1989"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Wendell P. Miller

Year In Office: 2016 **Parent Lodge: James Ladd Burgess No. 1305**



"Born on August 26, 1943 in Durant, Oklahoma; his education beginning in Kenefic, Oklahoma, and concluding in Caddo, Oklahoma public schools would lead one to believe that Grand Master Miller might yet have a touch of "Okie" in his system even after migrating to Texas.

Following completion of his high school education, Wendell made several efforts to find his niche from which he might plan his lifetime career. It was in 1963 while working with geophysical service group in New Mexico that he heard of a possible job opportunity with the Chicago Bridge and Iron firm located at Port Isabel in a place called Texas. It was while in the process of making new friends at his new job that someone suggested that Wendell might consider looking into the possibility of building a career in law enforcement which had its beginning in November, 1964 with his employment by the Dallas Police Department where he remained until 1967. It was while with the Dallas Police Department that Wendell decided to enlist in the United States Army Reserve where he served for twenty nine years, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel before his retirement in 1993.

While in the midst of planning his career Wendell decided it was time to give serious thought about who might share the future with him. His thoughts continued to take him back to his school years in Oklahoma where a very attractive girl by the name of Billie Wells was one of his classmates. Wendell had never dated her, but the more he thought about it, the more he wondered why he had waited so long. We have no record indicating whether it was Wendell's persuasive nature or Billie's willingness to give it a try, but their lives and ambitions were united by their marriage on August 5, 1967 and they are still committed to each other – sharing life together and supportive of each other in both joint and individual ventures.

It would naturally follow that although he and Billie had recently married to start their lives together, he was experiencing the challenges of his position with the Dallas Police Department being fulfillment of his expectations for a lifetime career in the field of law enforcement. That question was answered by his acceptance by the Texas Department of Public Safety where he began serving in various capacities, first as a Trooper from 1967 until 1986 when he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, serving as such until his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant in 1991, elevated to the rank of Captain in 1993 and promoted to the rank of Major in 1996 where he served with distinction until his retirement in 2003. Throughout those years in which he has served the State of Texas he and Billie have, at one time or another lived in Dallas, Houston, Midland, Austin and Forney where they retired, later settling in McKinney where they now reside.

Preparation for his chosen career included his attendance at Southeastern State University in Durant, Oklahoma and the School of Police Staff and Command, Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Illinois. Throughout his thirty nine years of service to the citizens of Texas in his chosen field of law enforcement, Wendell has often received special recognition for his exemplary service in connection with his duties. Such recognition has included the C.H. Cheshire Award, given in recognition of his significant contribution to safety in commercial transportation; Director of Safety Professionals Certification (an award shared by less than one hundred people in the State of Texas); Certified Fire Arms

Instructor; promoted and emphasized the Trooper Challenge Program, a program that has been a model for other states participating in the Challenge competition, and Law Enforcement Instructor.

Continuing a longstanding family tradition Wendell was initiated, passed and raised in James Ladd Burgess Lodge No. 1305 in Dallas in 1970 to continue that tradition of masons within the family. When he and Billie relocated to Forney, he affiliated with Brooklyn Lodge No. 386 of that city where he served as Worshipful Master during the 1999--2000 Masonic Year. His plural endowed lodge memberships include Claud L. Austin Lodge No. 1450 in Dallas where he served as Worshipful Master in 2005--2006 Masonic Year, Charter Member and Past Master of reconstituted Scyene Lodge No. 295 in Quinlan in 2004-2005 Masonic Year, Duck Creek Lodge No. 1419 in Garland and Artesia Lodge No. 406 in Terrell. True to his Oklahoma heritage, Wendell is also a plural member of Caddo Lodge No, 3 in Caddo, Oklahoma.

His many activities, accomplishments and contributions to Masonry within the lodges in which he became active, it would seem logical that such be noted by the leadership of Grand Lodge. Such was the case in mid-2000 when incoming Grand Master David B. Dibrell tapped Wendell to serve under his appointment as District Deputy Grand Master in Masonic District 13 during the 2000-2001 Grand Lodge Year. Also, beginning in 2000 through 2006 he served as Coordinator of the Together against Drug Abuse program; on the Grand Master's Planning Committee 2000-2002; a term as a member of the Grievance and Appeals Committee beginning in 2003; Area Conference Coordinator for several years and as District Instructor in District 13 for several years.

It was at the Grand Lodge session held in December, 2013 that the Masons of Texas recognized the commitment of Wendell Miller to the interests of the Grand Lodge and elected him to the office of Grand Junior Warden at that time. Since then he has scaled the ladder of leadership of Texas Masonry to assume the purple of the fraternity, being installed as Most Worshipful Grand Master on December 5, 2015.

Typical of most Masons who complete the first three degrees, Wendell went in search of additional Masonic Light to round out his Masonic experience. He entered the York Rite of Freemasonry by receiving the degrees of Royal Arch Chapter in Dallas Chapter No. 47, Royal Arch Masons, Dallas Council of Royal and Select Masters in Dallas Council No. 18, Royal and Select Masters and the Commandery Orders being received in Dallas Commandery No. 6. He received the 4th through the 32nd Scottish Rite Degrees in the Dallas Valley in 1970, and was installed as Commander of the Council of Kadosh in 2005 was Elevated to the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1999 and in 2005 was elevated by the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry to the rank of 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary. He served as Chairman of the Valley of Dallas under appointment of the Grand Inspector General of Texas from October, 2007 until January, 2010.

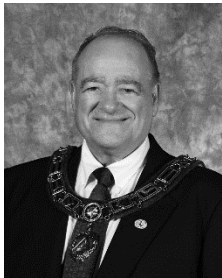
His membership in other Masonic related organizations requiring Masonic membership includes: Hella Shrine Temple, Saint Mark's Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine. Texas College Societas Rosicruciana, Royal Order of Scotland, National Sojourners (President 2006)(Presidential Citation – 2007), Heroes of 76 (Commander 2007), Allied Masonic Degrees, Rose of Sharon Knight Masons, St. Thomas of Acon and Order of the EasternStar Forney -Terrell Chapter No 557, Past Patron.

Committed – Prepared – Qualified Most Worshipful Wendell Paul Miller Grand Master of Masons in Texas 2015-2016 Leonard P. Harvey Past Grand Master-1989"

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Jerry N. Kirby

Year In Office: 2017 **Parent Lodge: Nash Lodge No. 638**



"Jerry Nelson Kirby was born on October 23, 1946, in Avalon, Texas. He graduated from Avalon High School as Valedictorian in 1964. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Math from the University of Texas at Arlington, and a Master of Education from North Texas State University. He has done Post Graduate work at the University of Texas at Arlington, North Texas State University, Texas A & M Commerce, Central Michigan University, and the American College. He retired as Superintendent of the Blum I.S.D after 43 years in education.

Jerry is married to a schoolmate in college, the former Suzanne Beaver of Corsicana, Texas. They have two children, Larry Patrick and Kimberlee Dawn, and 6 grandchildren. Suzanne has a BBA from the University of Texas at Arlington and has retired from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. Pat is a graduate of Texas A & M University and is a plant operator for BASF Chemical Company. He is a Past Master Councilor of Oak Cliff Chapter of DeMolay. Kim has a Bachelors Degree in Government from the University of Texas at Austin and a Juris Doctorate from Texas Wesleyan University Law School, She is currently inactive as an Attorney while raising three children. Kim is Past Grand Worthy Advisor of the Grand Assembly of Texas International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Jerry's Civic and Professional activities have included being President of the Red Oak Lion's Club. He is a certified Lay Speaker at First United Methodist Church in Red Oak for 45 years, and was Delegate to the Methodist Conference for 18 consecutive years. He is an Honorary Life member of the Texas Association of School Administrators, and a life member of the Texas State Teachers Association.

Masonic History:

Jerry received the Entered Apprentice Degree on January 13, 1968. He received the Fellowcraft Degree on March 14, 1968, Jerry was raised a Master Mason in Nash Lodge No. 638, A. F. & A. M. on April 13, 1968. He has been an Officer of Nash Lodge for 43 consecutive years and is the current Treasurer. He served as Worshipful Master in 1970-71, 82-83, 86-87, 89-90, 90-91, 91- 92, 94-95. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of District 18 in 1982. He is a plural and endowed member of Midlothian No. 584, a plural member of Blum No. 607, a plural member of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, a plural member of Sweet Home No. 576 and Texas Lodge of Research. He is a Past Master of Midlothian No. 584. He is an Endowed member and Past Master of Red Oak LodgeNo. 461. He received the Golden Trowel Award presented by Nash Lodge on April 25, 1998. He was appointed to the Grand Lodge Committee on Public Education in 1994-95. He was Chairman of the Committee on Public Education from 1995- to 1999. He has been Chairman of the Committee on Public Education from 2007 – present. He was appointed Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Texas for 2011. Elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Texas December 7, 2013.

He received the Mark Master Degree on 2-6-69, the Past Master Degree on 2- 20-69 and the Most Excellent Master's Degree on 2-20-69. He was exalted to the sublime Degree of Royal Arch Mason in Waxahachie Chapter No. 73 on March 21, 1969. Served as High Priest in 1969-70. He is now a member of Midlothian Chapter No. 211, Dallas Chapter No. 47, and Love Field Chapter No. 478. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest ofCapitular District No. 18 of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch

Chapter of Texas in 1971. He was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Belgium near the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, and was the Grand Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia near the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas and is now the grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of California near the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas. He was elected the Right Excellent Grand Scribe of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas in December, 1987, passed thru the Chairs and was elected and installed Most Excellent Grand High Priest on December 4, 1990. He was appointed Grand Chaplain in 2011.

He is the Ambassador of the General Grand Chapter to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas from 2011-2014. He was greeted a Royal and Select Master in Waxahachie Council No. 46 of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas on April 3, 1969 where he served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1969-70. He is now a member of Midlothian Council No. 148, Dallas Council No. 18, and Love Field Council 396. He served the Grand Council as District Deputy Grand Master of Cryptic District 18 in 1974, Grand Captain of the Guards in 1977, Grand Conductor of the Council in 1979, and District Deputy Grand Master of Cryptic District 51B in 1980. He was elected Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work in 1980, passed through the Chairs, and was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on December 7, 1982. He was appointed and served as Illustrious Grand Chaplain in 1997. He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Illinois near the Grand Council of Texas. Grand Chaplain of the Grand Council 2013-2014. He was the Ambassador of the General Grand Council to the Grand Council of Texas from 2008-2011. He received the Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta on 6-19-1969 in Corsicana.

Jerry was knighted a Knight Templar in Bertrand Du Gueselin Commandery No. 14 K. T. on June 26, 1969. Affiliated with Hillsboro Commandery No. 39 K.T., and served as Eminent Commander in 1973. Jerry is a member of Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 109 K. T., and a Plural Member of Dallas Commandery No. 6 K.T., Hillsboro Commandery No. 39 K.T, Melrose Commandery No. 107 K. T. and Lone Star Commandery No 114, K. T. He served as Eminent Commander of A. C. Garrett No. 103 in 1989-90, and has been recorder of A. C. Garrett No. 103 since 1994. He has been awarded the Grand Encampment Membership Medal with two clusters. He is a member of Dallas No. 6 Drill Team and a Life Sponsor of the Eye Foundation in Hillsboro and A. C. Garrett Commanderies. He was elected Grand Sentinel of the Grand Commandery of Texas on April 28, 1992 in Dallas, Texas. He was elected Grand Warder in 1993, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer in 1994, Eminent Grand Standard Bearer in 1995, Eminent Grand Senior Warden in 1996, Eminent Grand Captain General in 1997, Eminent Grand Generalissimo in 1998, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander in 1999, and Right Eminent Grand Commander in 2000. He was Grand Treasurer from 2003 until 2011. He was elected Grand Recorder in 2011. He was elected Grand Treasurer Emeritus in 2011.

He was elected a Trustee of the Texas Knights Templar Educational Foundation on April 18, 1998, and was elected Vice President in 2000 of the Texas Knights Templar Educational Foundation. He was elected to the Board of the York Rite Development Fund on December 5, 2000 and served as Chairman in 2001-2003 He was made a Knight Commander of the Temple on April 13, 2002. He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Ohio near the Grand Commandery of Texas. He is a Life Sponsor, Associate Patron, Patron, and member of the Grand Master's Club of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. He served on the Grand Encampment Committee on Ritual during the 2003-2006 Triennial and wrote a new ritual for public opening of a Grand Commandery which was adopted at the 2006

Grand Session. He served on the Grand Encampment Committee for the Knight Templar Educational Foundation during the 2006-2009 Triennial.

Companion Kirby is a member of the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies, receiving His Degrees in October 1, 22, 29, 1977. He has been a member of the Twentieth Degree Team, Twenty-Fifth Degree Team, Twenty-Eighth Degree Team, and the Thirtieth Degree Team in Dallas, and the 15th and 17th Degree Teams in Fort Worth. He was elected to receive the 32 KCCH on October 21, 1991. He was coroneted a 33rd in December, 2003. He was Degree Master of the 4111 Degree from 1992 until 2009. He was the Sovereign Grand Commander of the 33rd degree conferred in Dallas for the Dallas, Fort Worth, Waco, El Paso and Lubbock Valleys in 2009. He was the Sovereign Grand Commander of the 33rd degree for Dallas, Ft. Worth, El Paso, Waco, Lubbock, Austin, and San Antonio in 2011. He is a member of the Ellis County Membership Committee. He was appointed Tiler of the Consistory in 2002. He was appointed to the Dallas Scottish Rite Scholarship Committee in 2002. He was elected and installed Orator of the Dallas Lodge of Perfection on December 16, 2002, installed Junior Warden in 2003, Senior Warden in 2004, and Venerable Master in 2005. He was Prelate for all the bodies for 2011.

He received the First Section of Hella Shrine on 3-27-76. He received The Royal Order of Scotland on 10-6-79 and is an endowed member. He received the Super Excellent Masters Degree in 1969; the Order of the Silver Trowel in 1969 and served as the Thrice Illustrious Master of Texas in 1981; the Order of the High Priesthood in 1969 and served as Grand High Priest of that Order in 1986. Jerry was initiated in Nash Chapter No. 320, Order of the Eastern Star in 1968 and is a Past Patron. He is a Dual member of Midlothian Chapter No. 234 and is a Past Patron of that Chapter. He received the Rob Morris Membership Medal from General Grand Chapter in 2002.

Jerry was initiated into El Texa Grotto on April 20, 1984. He is now a Charter member of Alla Grotto in Dallas. He is a member of Texas Priory No. 23 KYCH and North Texas Priory No. 73 KYCH. He is an honorary member of Louisiana Priory No. 43. He is a KYGCH with three (3) Quadrants. He has given all four lectures in the KYCH. He was elected and installed as Prior of Texas Priory No. 23 in December, 2004. Jerry was invested with the Order of Knight of York on June 3, 1976. He was the Charter Governor and served as Secretary of Lyle L. Cross York Rite College No. 147 for ten years. He is a Plural Member of Texas York Rite College No. 14 and Trinity York Rite College No. 154. He received the Order of the Purple Cross and was made an Associate Regent of the Sovereign College at Anaheim, California on August 3, 1991. He is a member of the York Rite Esoteric Association, the Texas Lodge of Research, and is an endowed member of the Scottish Rite Research Society. Jerry received the Grand Cross of Color from The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in June 1986.

He was initiated into the Allied Masonic Degrees on April 21, 1991. He was installed as the Charter Senior Warden of Robert Bruce Brannon Council No. 270, AMO, and has served as Sovereign Master in 1993. He is the current Chaplain. He has been honored with the Order of the Red Branch of Eri; He received the Masonic Order of the Bath on July 19, 2003. He was commissioned Grand Superintendent of North Texas by the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America. He was invested with the Honorary Legion of Honor of the Order of DeMolay on July 20, 1991. He is a Charter and Life Member of the Texas State Priory of the Legion of Honor. He received the Red Cross of Constantine in Saint Austin Conclave on April 3, 1993, and has conferred the Knights of St. John the Evangelist from 1995 to present. He was elected Prelate in December, 2004. He was elected and installed Sovereign in December, 2006.

He was initiated into Rose of Sharon Council No. 49, Knight Masons on November 4, 1993 and was installed as the Charter Scribe, elected and installed Junior Warden on October 31, 1994, elected and installed Senior Warden in 1995, and elected and installed Excellent Chief in 1996. He was commissioned a Knight Preceptor and Charter member in Texas Chapter, Order of Knights Preceptor on April 28, 1996. He was initiated into Texas College of Masonic Societa Rosicruciana In Civitatibus Foederates, Grade VII, on September 19, 1999. Jerry was ordained into Ascension Tabernacle No. XX, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests on December 16, 2000. He was elected Outer Guard for 2005, inner Guard for 2006, 2nd Pillar for 2007, 3rd Pillar for 2008, 411' Pillar for 2009, 5th Pillar for 2010, 61h Pillar for 2011, 7•h Pillar 2012, Deputy 2013, and Elected Sovereign in December, 2013. Jerry was initiated into Trinity Chapel of the Order of St. Thomas of Aeon in July of 2004. He became a charter and founding member of Tejas Chapel in 2006 and was appointed Almoner. He served as Prior in 2008 and Worthy Master in 2009. Jerry was initiated in The Order of the Amaranth in 2010. Jerry became a member of the National Sojourners on December 6, 2011. Initiated into The Operatives in Texas State Capitol Assemblage with the 1st degree on March 29, 2014 in San Antonio, Texas. He received the 2nd degree on August 16, 2014 in San Antonio, Texas."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Tommy Frank Chapman

Year In Office: 2018 **Parent Lodge: Nederland No. 1368**



"Tommy Frank Chapman was born in Port Arthur, Texas to Edward E. Chapman, Sr. and Anna Y. Chapman. He married Kathy on May 10, 1985.

Tommy and Kathy are the parents of two children: Katie Rendon and Chance Chapman. Katie is married to Timothy Rendon, who is also a member of Nederland Lodge. The Chapmans are members of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Nederland, Texas. Following his graduation from Nederland High School in 1980 Tommy attended McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana and Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

Tommy went to work for the Jefferson County Sheriff Department in 1985. He has earned two Masters Certificates from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.

Tommy was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 10, 1983 in Nederland No. 1368. He served as Worshipful Master of Nederland Lodge in 1990-1991. Tommy was presented with the Golden Trowel Award for Exceptional Service by Nederland Lodge in 2002. He currently holds a Class A Certificate which expires in 2019, giving him 23 total years. Tommy served as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 26-A in 1995. He served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Petitions in 1992 and served on the Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee from 2005 until 2011, serving as Chairman in 2008, 2010, and 2011 and Vice-Chairman in 2009. Tommy served as Grand Master Conference Chairman in 2003. He served as Area Coordinator for the Grand Master in 2006. He also has served as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Benin near the Grand Lodge of Texas since 2006. Tommy was appointed to the Texas Masonic Youth Foundation in 2007 and serves on the Grants Committee. He also served on the Special Assignments Committee in 2009 and as its Vice-Chairman in 2010. He was again appointed to serve as Chairman on the Youth Activities Committee in 2013 and 2014. He was appointed Special Deputy to the Most Worshipful Grand Master in 2013. He was elected Grand Junior Warden in December 2014, Grand Senior Warden in December 2015, Deputy Grand Master in January 2017, and Most Worshipful Grand Master in January 2018.

Tommy was exalted in the Port Neches Chapter No. 436, Royal Arch Masons and served as High Priest in 1992-1993. He received the Order of High Priesthood in 1992. Tommy served on the Grand Chapter Credentials Committee in 1995. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest for Capitular District No. 5 in 2000. He also served on the Grand Chapter Committee on Grievances and Appeals from 2007-2009. Also, he served on the Grand Officers Reports Committee in 2009. He was appointed to the Purposes and Polices Committee in 2014 and served as Chairman in 2015 and 2016. In 2010, he was appointed as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Montana near the Grand Chapter of Texas. He was elected Right Excellent Grand Scribe in 2009, Right Excellent Grand King in 2010, Right Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest in 2011, and Most Excellent Grand High Priest in 2012.

Tommy was greeted in Port Neches Council No. 413, Royal and Select Masters and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1993-1994. He received the Order of the Silver Trowel in 1993. Tommy served as District Deputy Grand Master for Cryptic District No. 5 in 1997. He served on the Grand Council By-Laws Committee from 1999-2003 and served as Chairman of that committee in 2004. He served on the Grand Council Purposes and Policies Committee in 2005. Tommy served as Illustrious Grand Conductor of the

Council in 2001 and again in 2005. He served as Special Deputy to the Grand Master in 2005. He has served the Grand Council as Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Portugal near the Grand Council of Texas since 2005. Tommy was elected Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work in 2005, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master in 2006, and Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Texas in 2007. He received the Cryptic Triangle Award in 2009. He served on the Finance Committee from 2009-2014 and served as the Co-Chairman in 2013. He is currently serving on the Jurisprudence Committee.

Tommy was elected as Vice-President of the York Rite Esoteric Association in 2009. In 2010, he was elected to serve as President.

Tommy was knighted as a Knight Templar in Port Arthur Commandery No. 73 and is a dual member of Beaumont Commandery No. 38. He served as Commander of Beaumont Commandery in 2000. He was appointed to the Grand Commandery Dispensations and Charters Committee in 2001. He became a member of the Sovereign Order of the Knights Preceptor in 2011 with his father and son. He was appointed to serve on the Jurisprudence Committee in 2011. He received the Excalibur Award in 2012 from Port Arthur Commandery No. 73. He is serving the Grand Commandery as Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Illinois near the Grand Commandery of Texas. He served as Vice Chairman of the Templar Instruction Committee 2013-2014, and served as Chairman since 2015. He received the Knight Templar Cross of Honor in April 2014.

Tommy is a member of Texas College, Societas Rosicruiana In Civitatibus Foederatis.

Tommy is a member and served as Puissant Sovereign of the San Felipe Conclave Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine in 2011. He received the Red Cross of Constantine in 1998.

Tommy received the Knight of York Cross of Honor in 2001 and is a member of Thomas H. Ridout Priory No. 75. He received the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests in 2006 and is a member of Resurrection Tabernacle No. XXI.

He became a member of Southeast Texas York Rite College in 2003 and is a Past Governor. He received the Order of the Purple Cross in 2013. He was appointed Deputy Grand Governor of Texas in 2016.

Tommy is a member of the Galveston Scottish Rite Bodies. He is Degree Master of the 6th and 15th Degrees and Assistant Degree Master of the 28th Degree, and he has served as Assistant Degree Master of the 32 Degree. He served on the Reunion Staff and works on several Degree teams. He served on the Scholarship and Membership Committees. He served as President of the Mid-South Jefferson County Club in 2000. He has served on the Maundy Thursday and Re-Lighting of the Tapers teams since 1996. Tommy served as Wise Master in 2003, Venerable Master in 2004, Master of Kadosh in 2005, and Commander- Council of Kadosh in 2011. He served on the Executive Committee from 2003-2005 and 2011. He was honored with the Knight Commander Court of Honor in 1999 and was coroneted a Thirty-Third Degree Inspector General Honorary in 2003.

Tommy is a member of El Mina Shriners and served as President of Mid-Jefferson County Shrine Club in 2016-2017.

Tommy is a member of Nederland Chapter No. 1079 Order of the Eastern Star. He served as Worthy Patron in 1999-2000 and 2014-2015. He served on the Grand Chapter of Texas Masonic Centurion

Committee in 1999-2000. He also served on the Grand Chapter of Texas Spring Fling Committee 2000-2001, Arrangements Committee- Security 2011-2012, Roping in the Masons, District 4 Chairman in 2015-2016, and Arrangements Committee- Security 2016-2017.

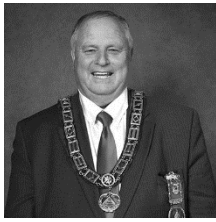
Tommy has served as an Adult Volunteer since 1997 and on the Advisory Board of Port Neches Assembly No. 159 International Order of the Rainbow for Girls from 2003-2013. He received the Grand Cross of Color Degree in 2001.

Tommy is a Life Member of DeMolay International. As an active DeMolay he served as Master Councilor of Nederland Chapter and was awarded the Past Master Councilor Meritorious Service Award. He also received the Representative DeMolay Award, Founders Membership Award, Blue Honor Key award, and the Lamp of Knowledge. He was knighted as a Sir Knight in the Houston Priory. He was elected and served as District Deputy State Master Councilor. He was also elected and served as South East Texas Area Master Councilor. He received the Degree of Chevalier in 1980. Tommy has served as Chairman of the Advisory Council of Nederland Chapter Order of DeMolay since 1993. He has received the Legion of Honor, Cross of Honor, and Advisor's Honor Key. He was made an Honorary State Master Councilor of the Texas DeMolay Association by his son during his term. He is currently serving as Grand Commander of the Texas State Court of Chevaliers. He was elected an Honorary Member of the International Supreme Council of DeMolay International in 2013."

Draft dated 06/23/2019

Terry W. Stogner

Year In Office: 2019 **Parent Lodge: Staked Plains No. 598**



"Terry Wayne Stogner, the son, and only child of Wallace and Juanema Eileen Stogner was born on July 13, 1958, in Lamesa, Texas. Terry spent his youthful days growing up in Lamesa, Texas, where he attended schools in the Lamesa Independent School District. He graduated from Lamesa High School in 1977. Even before graduating from high school, Terry began furthering his education, taking Real Estate courses at Midland College in Midland, Texas.

Terry married the love of his life, Jackie Nell Cave, on July 24, 1979. Jackie graduated from Flower Grove High School and continued her education at Howard Payne University, where she graduated with a BME Degree in music. After graduation, she taught music in Ozona and Lamesa Elementary Schools. She continued to further her education at West Texas State University and taught school for 8 years until she retired and became secretary of the several Stogner businesses. Jackie is very active in the Order of Eastern Star, being a member since 1990. She served as Worthy Matron of her Chapter in 1994 and has served as organist of her Chapter and the Grand Chapter of Texas on several occasions. Jackie enjoys several hobbies other than playing the piano including ham radio, flying Terry's airplane, hunting, fishing, and traveling. Terry and Jackie have been active members of the Second Baptist Church in Lamesa since 1989.

Terry and Jackie are the proud parents of a son, Charles Walter Stogner, and a daughter, Lisa Janell Stogner Collins. They are blessed with four grandchildren; Emerie Raelynn Stogner, Kaesan Brice Stogner, Ellie Grace Stogner, and Gunner Hugh Collins. Charles resides in Graham, Texas with his wife Rachael, and the three Stogner grandchildren. Charlie holds an Associate of Arts Degree from Texas State Technical College and is currently pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration. Additionally, he is currently employed as Operations Manager at Ibederola Renewables, a wind energy generation facility. Charlie is a member of Breckenridge Lodge No. 492 and is also a plural member of Milam No. 11. Lisa and her husband Chuck reside on a ranch near Brownwood, Texas where Chuck is in the ranching business. Lisa holds a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration and a minor in Bible. She received her Master's Degree in Business in 2014 and is currently employed as an Administrative Assistant in Development Services for the city of Brownwood, Texas.

Shortly after graduation from high school, Terry started his first business. In 1978, he established Stogner Pumping Service, Inc., an oil and gas well pumping service and consulting firm, and serves as President. Not being satisfied with just one business, he acquired the Lamesa Radio Paging Service, an RCC Radio Common Carrier Tower, and Repeater Leasing service in 1981, and he established Mr. T's Rental Storage in 1990. Terry is also President/CEO of Associate Water Systems, LLC, which he established in 1991, and he is CEO of Sandy Creek Operations, Inc., an independent oil and gas operation, which he launched in 2003. He is also President/CEO of Rengots, Inc., a successful real estate holding sales and leasing company, which he formed in 2003. Terry has not only used his mechanical and technical skills to establish and grow his various enterprises, he has developed into a very successful manager and businessman. Since their marriage in 1979, Jackie has been an integral part of the businesses; serving as bookkeeper and confidant. Terry's several companies employees two field workers and a staff member (his wife, Jackie).

Terry's hobbies include fishing, hunting, gun collecting, rebuilding boats, outboard motors, and recreational vehicles. Terry is also a private pilot, a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, and holds an FAA Rating as a Private Pilot, Airplane, Single Engine, Land endorsement. Terry is also an amateur radio operator, and is a member of the Amateur Relay Radio League and has a General Class Federal Communications Commission rating. He served as the net manager for the Northwest Texas Emergency Network for 3 years. He also enjoys riding a motorcycle on occasion.

Terry Wayne Stogner began his Masonic career in Lamesa Lodge No. 909, with the submission of his petition in 1989. He was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason on September 9, 1989, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on January 23, 1990, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on February 27, 1990. Terry served Lamesa Lodge in several appointive and elective offices and was elected and served as its Worshipful Master in 1995-96. Lamesa Lodge presented him with the Golden Trowel Award in 1992. Terry currently holds membership in fourteen Texas Masonic Lodges including Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, a special humanitarian Lodge, and is an Endowed Member in all of them. He has also served as Worshipful Master in the following Lodges: Staked Plains No. 598 in 2001-02, Coahoma No. 992 in 2002-03, and Milam No. 11 in 2003-04. He also served as Treasurer of Milam No. 11 for 3 years. He received his 25-Year Service award from Tabernacle No. 1195. Terry has held a Class A Certificate in the Masonic esoteric work of Texas since 1993 and received a Life Esoteric Certificate in 2009 when he served as chairman of the Committee on Work.

Terry served as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 80 in 1997, under Grand Master Joe Regian, and also served as District Deputy Grand Master At-Large in 2013. He was a District Masonic Relations Officer for District No. 80 in 1997-1998, under Grand Master Harry G. Cunningham. He was appointed as a District Instructor in 2002 and served the Grand Lodge of Texas in that capacity for ten years. He is also an active member of the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association of the 80th Masonic District.

His service to The Grand Lodge of Texas has also included the Committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges UD from 2003 through 2005, and the Committee on Special Assignments in 2011-2012. Terry was elected to the Grand Lodge Committee on Work in 2005, and he worked diligently on that Committee, serving twice as Chairman. He continued his service on that committee until elected Grand Junior Warden in 2015. Brother Stogner has served on Planning Teams for Grand Masters T. E. "Gene" Carnes in 2011 and Walter W. Rogers in 2013. He is also a member of the Sam Houston Hall of Fame, which benefits the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.

Terry received his York Rite Degrees in Lamesa Chapter No. 463, in 1990, and presided as Most Excellent High Priest in Big Spring Chapter No. 178 in 1999, where he is also an Endowed Member. He served as District Deputy Grand High Priest of the 33rd Capitular District in 2011. His current membership is in Keystone Chapter No. 174 in Midland. He was greeted as a Royal and Select Master in Lamesa Council No. 378 in 1990 and is currently affiliated with Big Spring Council No. 117, where he is an Endowed Member. He also served as Thrice Illustrious Master of Big Spring Council in 1999 and received the Order of the Silver Trowel in 2005. Terry served as District Deputy Grand Master in the 33rd Cryptic District in 2010 and holds current membership in Keystone Council No. 112.

Terry was created as a Sir Knight in Big Spring Commandery No. 31, in 1991, and presently holds membership in Midland Commandery No. 84, Knights Templar, where he is an endowed member. He

also holds membership in the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, Southeast Texas College No. 90 in Port Arthur.

He received The Red Cross of Constantine in Crusader Conclave in 2018.

Terry is a 32° Degree Scottish Rite Mason, in the Valley of Lubbock, where he received his degrees in 1990. He was elected and received the investiture of the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 2017. He is an Endowed Member in the Lubbock Valley and a plural member of the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Valley.

His membership in the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine is in Suez Temple, in San Angelo.

Terry was inducted into the Texas College of Societas Rosicruciana Civitatibus Foederatis (S.R.I.C.F.) No. 138 in March 2012.

He is an Endowed Member and Past Worthy Patron in Big Spring Chapter No. 67, Order of the Eastern Star.

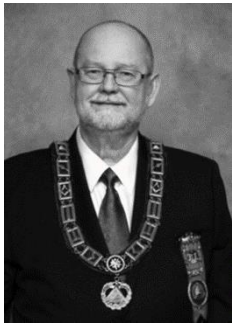
Terry was elected to the office of Grand Junior Warden on December 5, 2015; Grand Senior Warden on January 21, 2017; Deputy Grand Master on January 20, 2018; and the Masons of Texas elevated him to the highest office within their power on January 19, 2019.

Grand Master Terry Wayne Stogner is experienced in both business and Masonic leadership and works with driving determination, integrity, and steadfast dedication to both. He is a committed and dedicated Mason—with a sincere desire to serve the Masons of Texas and The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. His enthusiasm, dedication, study, practice, and love of the Fraternity of Freemasonry is one of a true Mason—from the heart."

Draft dated 05/29/2023

Paul D. Underwood

Year In Office: 2020 **Parent Lodge: Johnson City No. 561**



"Paul Dennis Underwood was born on December 28, 1951 in Hillsboro, Texas as the youngest of 13 children to Dock and Allie Bradford Underwood. His father, a member of Hillsboro Lodge 196 died in 1955. Including his father, Paul has a rich history of Masonry in his extended family. Two of his late brothers, Jim Underwood and Frank Underwood were Masons in Colorado and Illinois respectively. His brother David Underwood is a member of Garland No. 441. His son Phil Underwood is an endowed member of both Sunset No. 1388 and Oso Naval No. 1282. His brother-in-law Steve Cumbie and Steve's son Adam Cumbie are both Past Masters of Eureka No. 371 and Paul's son-in-law Justin Clowdus is a member of Bandera No.

1123.

Paul along with his two youngest brothers, David and Jerry were placed in the Masonic Home and School of Texas in 1962. As was the custom and tradition of many of those before him, Paul was a proud member of the Mighty Mite football team. In 1970 Paul graduated from our Masonic Home High School. He attended Texas A&I University in Kingsville his freshman year before transferring to the University of North Texas where he graduated in 1974 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, majoring in Accounting. He furthered his professional development by attending the University of Michigan, Kambach Management Center in 1982 and the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, NC in 1983.

In 1974, Paul began his professional career working for our fraternal brother Bob Bullock, the Comptroller of Public Accounts. Paul worked in Dallas, Corpus Christi and Austin. Throughout his career there he held several positions, including, Auditor, Supervisor, Regional Manager, Area Manager, Assistant Director and Director in the Audit and the Information Technology Divisions. From 1988-1991, Paul served as Director of Audit and Administration for the Multistate Tax Commission in Washington, DC. In 2005, Paul retired from the Comptroller's Office after 34 years of service. Paul is currently self-employed as a tax consultant living in Corpus Christi.

On May 20, 1971, Paul married Rebecca Cumbie of Fort Worth. They met in Corpus Christi in 1970. During their 48 years of marriage, they have lived in Mesquite, Round Rock, Johnson City, Washington DC and Corpus Christi where they currently reside. Rebecca enjoys reading and tending to her flower bed. She has been a member of the Order of Eastern Star for over 35 years and currently belongs to Aransas Pass Chapter No. 162. She is also active in the Daughters of the Nile – Elidad No. 134, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. When time allows, Paul enjoys doing genealogy research, hunting and fishing.

Paul and Rebecca have three wonderful, successful children and are honored each day to be the parents of, Phil Underwood, Kelly Underwood and Kimberly Underwood Clowdus. Paul and Rebecca are also the proud grandparents of three grandsons and six granddaughters. Phil, Kelly and Kim are actively involved in the lives of their children; including their education, hunting and fishing, camping, and competition shooting.

At the age of 21, Paul was raised a Master Mason in Mesquite Lodge No. 928 on July 9, 1973. He served as Worshipful Master of Johnson City Lodge No. 561 in 2000-2001. He served as Secretary there 2004-2005. Paul is a plural member of Blanco 216 (Endowed), Phoenix 275, Live Oak 304 (Endowed), San Marcos 342 (Endowed), Rambo 426 (Endowed), Sweet Home 576, Buda 800, Park Place 1172 (Endowed), Oso Naval 1282 (Endowed), Sunset 1388 (Endowed), Wimberley 1445 (Endowed), Texas Lodge of Research and Tranquility 2000. He also served as Secretary of Oso Naval 1282 for 2014-2015 and Treasurer of Sunset 1388 for 2014-2015. He received his 25 year service award at Sunset 1388. He received his 40 year service award as well as the Golden Trowel Award at Rambo 426 and Johnson City 561.

In 2009 he was appointed by Grand Master David Counts to serve as his District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District 52. He was honored to be elected and serve on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School 2011-2015 serving as Vice President 2011-2012 and Treasurer 2012-2015. Paul has served on two Grand Lodge committees including serving as Chairman of each. The Take Time to Read Committee he served 2011-2014, and the Masonic Graduates Advisory Committee 2007-2014 and 2016-2017. During the 2009 Grand Communication Paul served as Balloting Chairman for Grand Master David Counts. Paul is also a member of the Dime-A-Day Program supporting our Grand Lodge.

As a graduate of Masonic Home and School, Paul has been involved in the Masonic Ex-Students Association where is served as Treasurer (2007), Vice-President (2008) and President (2008). He also served on the McCaulay Memorial Masonic Scholarship Fund board as Treasurer (2007), Vice-President (2008) and President (2008).

Paul continues to serve on the Shriners Hospital for Children/Houston Board of Governors since 2011. On that board, he has chaired the Credentialing Committee, the Transportation Committee, as well as serves on the Budget and Finance, Process Improvement, and Donor Relations Committees. Paul served as Potentate of Al Amin Shrine in Corpus Christi in 2015. Paul also serves on the Imperial Capital Evaluation Committee for Shriners International.

Paul is a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of San Antonio, KCCH, Corpus Christi Chapter No. 91 Royal Arch Masons, Corpus Christi Council of Royal & Select Masters No. 55, South Texas York Rite College No. 169, Corpus Christi Commandery No. 57, Harry G Cunningham Council No. 475 Allied Masonic Degrees, Royal Order of the Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord, Royal Order of Scotland, Anson Jones Chapter No. 507 and John J. Harris No. 397 National Sojourners, and Aransas Pass Chapter No. 162 Order of Eastern Star.

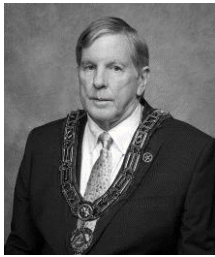
Right Worshipful Paul D. Underwood is humbled to be elected Grand Junior Warden in 2017, Grand Senior Warden in 2018, Deputy Grand Master in 2019 and Grand Master in 2020. He has followed in the footsteps of all the honorable brethren before him, including three former graduates of Masonic Home and School; PGM Hugh Craig (1949), PGM Johnny Bean (1960), and PGM Tom Land (1981).

Paul likes to say he was raised in Masonry twice; once as a child at Masonic Home and again as a Master Mason. He has committed himself to paying it forward for all our Fraternity has done for him. He has the dedication, business experience and leadership skills needed to serve the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas and Texas Freemasonry. Those that know him know he speaks from his heart and loves Texas Masonry."

Draft dated 06/29/2023

Kenneth Charles Curry

Year In Office: 2021 **Parent Lodge: Handley No. 1140**



"Grand Master Kenneth Charles Curry ("Ken") was born on December 17, 1950 to Richard Paul and Elizabeth Jane Curry in Fort Worth, Texas.

Richard Curry came to Fort Worth from San Diego California in 1941 to help open the bomber plant which is now called Lockheed. His first job, at then Consolidated, included riding a bicycle through the plant picking up timecards so that employees could be paid. Richard Curry had two lifelong values he deeply impressed upon Ken. "Is it the right thing to do?" and "You must get along with everyone." Elizabeth Curry was raised in Quanah and Refugio, Texas. She was from the school of hard knocks. Depression, the early loss of her father, and foreclosure of the family farm made lasting impressions on her. Richard and Elizabeth Curry met during World War II at the bomber plant where she banged a typewriter in support of the war effort and Richard seemed to have an inexhaustible supply of ration coupons. They raised three boys and one girl. Richard retired from General Dynamics as a mid-level manager and passed in 1994. Elizabeth doted on her grandchildren until she passed in 2001. They are buried in Azle, Texas.

Ken started school in Springtown, Texas which was then a small country town with a square and not much else some thirty miles west of Fort Worth. The high school mascot was and still is the Porcupines. His family lived on 160 acres that provided endless diversions, boredom, and opportunities for misadventures. Regular attendance at the First Methodist Church brought early lessons about morality and how to socialize with others. At the beginning of his 9th grade year the family moved to Fort Worth and to the big city schools. In high school Ken played football and ran track.

Ken attended the University of Texas at Arlington where he served as Student Community President, was a charter member of Eta Upsilon Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha International Social Fraternity, served on Student Congress, participated in intramural athletics and various other student and collegiate associations. After receiving his undergraduate degree from UTA, Ken attended the University of Houston, Bates College of Law, receiving his Juris Doctorate in 1976. Among the jobs Ken held while in college were hospital file clerk, cafeteria dish washer, tube bender, student government employee and airport security guard.

After graduating from law school, Ken returned to Fort Worth where he established and maintained a general civil and criminal practice until 1992 when he was elected Judge of the 153rd District Court. That Court dealt exclusively with civil matters such as personal injury, contracts, medical malpractice, and product liability. While judge of the 153rd Ken presided over more than six hundred jury trials and conducted thousands of hearings and non-jury trials. Upon retiring from the district court bench Ken conducted mediations, acted as a referee in insurance disputes and from time to time sat as a visiting judge.

Ken and Gloria Ngai Curry met in 1973 while Ken attended UTA and Gloria was a student at an Arlington fashion college. Their first date was a walk to a 7-Eleven for a cola. In 1975, Ken married the prettiest, nicest, sweetest, kindest person in the world. They have two loving, kind children, Brandon and Elizabeth who have blessed them with five wonderful grandchildren with another child due in 2021.

Gloria's career has been with Southwest Airlines. She has developed her art in cookie baking and decoration. She has decorated and distributed hundreds of cookies to Texas Masons.

Ken and Gloria are members of the First United Methodist Church of Colleyville where they participate in multiple groups and activities and Ken serves on the Board of Trustees.

Ken's involvement with Freemasonry began in 1966 when he knelt at the altar in Handley Chapter, Order of DeMolay and took upon himself obligations akin to those of Freemasonry. Those obligations, the Seven Cardinal Virtues of DeMolay and his father's admonishment "Is it the right thing?" have guided his life journey. In DeMolay Ken served three times as Master Councilor of his Chapter, received two Meritorious Service Awards, was awarded the Representative DeMolay designation and the Blue Honor Key, served as Area Master Councilor and Deputy State Master Councilor, and received the Degree of Chevalier. In more recent times Ken was awarded the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

Ken was raised in Handley Lodge No. 1140 where he served as Worshipful Master in 2009 – 2010. He received the Golden Trowel Award from Handley Lodge No. 1140. He maintains membership in Fort Worth No. 148, Smithfield Lodge No. 455, Sweet Home Lodge No. 576, Sunrise Daylight Lodge No. 1433, the Texas Lodge of Research and Tranquility Lodge No. 2000. Ken served as President of the 64th District Master Wardens and Secretaries Association in 2012. Ken is a Past Worthy Patron of Handley Chapter No. 617 O.E.S.

Ken served Right Worshipful Walter W. Rodgers as District Deputy Grand Master in 2013 and Right Worshipful Michael L. Wiggins as Grand Tiler in 2015. He has served on the Civil Law and Purposes and Policies Grand Lodge Committees.

Ken is an endowed member of the Fort Worth Valley of the Scottish Rite. He has achieved the rank of 33°, Inspector General Honorary. He served the Fort Worth Valley in various capacities culminating in being named the Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas from 2010 to 2019. He currently is a member of the Executive Committee of Fort Worth Scottish Rite and the Board of Trustees of the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Foundation. He led the 15th and 17th Degree teams for Fort Worth Scottish Rite. In 2011 Ken was named a member of the Board of Trustees of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children where he continues to serve. He is a member of the Board's Legal Advisory and Governance committees. The opportunity to be a part of the dedication and work of so many fine individuals at the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital has been and is a crowning point in his life.

Ken is a Past High Priest of Texas Chapter No. 361, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, and a Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Texas Council No. 321, Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas. Ken maintains membership in Worth Commandery No. 19, Tejas Council No. 282, Allied Masonic Degrees, and Trinity Council No. 154, York Rite College. He is a past Puissant Sovereign of Saint Timothy Conclave of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine.

Ken is especially appreciative of his membership in Moslah Temple and the Imperial Shrine. The work those bodies accomplish in support of children is near and dear to his heart and a tribute to Masonic beliefs."

Bradley Scott Billings

Year In Office: 2022 **Parent Lodge: Trinity Valley No. 1048**



"Bradley Scott Billings, the only son of Lee and Pam Billings was born 2 July 1983 in the small West Texas town of Seagraves where he and his older sister T.J. grew up in the shadows of their parents and grandparents.

He attended school at Seagraves High School. While in high school, in addition to participating in a variety of UIL activities, he served as Vice President of his class and served his fellow students as President of the student council. He was very proud to have been inducted into the National Honor Society.

Upon graduating, he enrolled in Texas Tech University, where he resumed his usual practice of participation in student-related activities including one daring appearance as Raider Red, the school's mascot. Grand Master Billings rose through the ranks of student associations and served as President for the top two student organizations on campus; the Ambassadors and the Leadership Council of the Rawls College of Business. Grand Master Billings graduated from Texas Tech University in 2006 with a Bachelor Degree in International Business and Finance.

Professionally, his first venture was with Comerica Bank as a commercial underwriter, but he soon changed direction and joined the pharmaceutical industry. Today he is employed by Althera Inc., a small company focused on cardiovascular health.

Inspired by his Great Grand Father W.P. 'Pa' Scott, Grand Master Billings took his first step into the Masonic fraternity when he petitioned Trinity Valley No. 1048 in Dallas for membership. He was raised a Master Mason in February of 2007 and endowed his membership at that time. He was appointed Senior Steward later that year, and progressed through various places and stations over the next several years. He was installed as Worshipful Master in 2011, and was proud to preside over Trinity Valley Lodge during the lodge's Centennial Year. He is an Endowed Member of Trinity Valley Lodge, and holds Plural Membership in Northern Star Lodge No. 377, Grapevine Lodge No. 288, Claud L. Austin Lodge No. 1450, Sweet Home Lodge No. 576, Crawford Lodge No. 585, Huffman Lodge No. 1428, Blanco Lodge No. 216, and Tyrian Lodge No. 187; as well as Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 and Texas Lodge of Research. He is also a Past President of the Masters', Wardens' and Secretaries' Association of the Fourteenth Masonic District of Texas, and a Past President of the District 14 Masonic Service Bureau. Grand Master Billings is proud to have earned (and continued to renew) a Class A Certificate from the Grand Lodge Committee on Work.

It was Brother Billings' keen interest in the history of The Grand Lodge of Texas which influenced him to petition Texas Lodge of Research. He became a Full Member of the lodge after presenting his first research paper, entitled "The Beginnings of Texas Lodge of Research." On 21 March 2015, at a meeting of Texas Lodge of Research held at Milam Lodge No. 2 in Nacogdoches, he was installed as the fifty-sixth, and so far the youngest, Worshipful Master. Subsequent papers presented by Grand Master Billings explored the history of the Lubbock Study Committee and the Heraldry of Texas Lodge of Research.

Grand Master Billings' planning and execution of his plans as Worshipful Master of Trinity Valley Lodge, and later his term as Worshipful Master of Texas Lodge of Research, have contributed to his active service in the Grand Lodge of Texas. His appointment by Grand Master Jerry Martin in 2013 to the

Purposes and Policies Committee gave him new insights concerning the structure of the organization and the many activities which turn the wheels of the Grand Lodge. He continued to serve on the Purposes and Policies Committee until January of 2019, serving as Vice Chairman in 2018. Grand Junior Warden Tommy F. Chapman appointed him to serve as Grand Junior Steward in 2015. He was appointed by Grand Master Jerry Kirby as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 64-B in 2017. Additionally, he served on Grand Master Chapman's planning team and was appointed to the Special Assignments Committee that year. His interest in Masonic education resulted in his participation in several projects of the Grand Lodge Masonic and Education Committee, including the "Between Friends" video in 2014, the Brotherhood of Light program in 2015, and the update of Masonry and the Mason in 2016, as well as being appointed as District Education Officer of Masonic District No. 14-E in 2018.

Grand Master Billings became a Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Dallas in 2007. He soon became an active member of the Knights of St. Andrew, and served as Worthy Master of that organization in 2010. He served as Degree Master of the 13th Degree, and Orator in the 18th Degree. In October 2011, Grand Master Billings was elected by the Supreme Council to receive the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. Subsequently, he had the opportunity to serve as the Grand Minister of State on the Orient of Texas KCCH Investiture Team. He was honored to serve the Dallas Valley as a Fellow to the Scottish Rite Leadership Conference held in New Orleans. Residing in Tarrant County, the Grand Master is also an affiliated member of the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Valley, where he served as Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection in 2019.

Grand Master Billings also became a member of the York Rite of Freemasonry in 2007. He joined Love Field Chapter No. 478, Royal Arch Masons, where he was elevated to the office of High Priest in 2012. In 2014 he was selected to serve as District Deputy Grand High Priest of Capitular District No. 13. He was appointed in 2015 as Grand Master of the 3rd Veil of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and served as a member of the Purposes and Policies Committee. He was anointed, consecrated, and set apart as a member of the Order of High Priesthood and served for two years as the Grand High Priest of the Order.

Being greeted a Royal and Select Master in Love Field Council No. 396, Royal and Select Masters in 2007, Grand Master Billings assumed leadership of the Council in 2012, when he served as Thrice Illustrious Master. He was exemplar candidate when the Order of the Silver Trowel in 2012. His activities in the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters include serving as District Deputy Grand Master in 2015, Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guards in 2018, and service on the Investments Committee, the Purposes and Policies Committee, and the Awards and Recognitions Committee.

In 2007 Brother Billings was created and dubbed a Knight Templar in Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 103, serving as a member of the drill and ritual teams and as its Commander in 2011. Later that year he joined the Texas Chapter, Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor. He was a member of the Grand Commandery Finance Committee in 2014 and 2016. As a result of his service as presiding officer of all four York Rite bodies, Brad was awarded admission to Texas Priory No. 23 of the Knights of the York Cross of Honor in 2015.

He is an active member in other Masonic bodies as well, including Grand Arcanum Council No. 447, Allied Masonic Degrees; Lyle L. Cross York Rite College No. 147; Rose of Sharon Council No. 89, Knight Masons; Odessa Chapel No. 18 and Thomas Becket Chapel No. 31 of The Commemorative Order of St.

Thomas of Acon, including service as Grand Cellerar of the Grand Province of Texas; Royal Order of Scotland; Masonic Order of the Bath, Grand College of Rites, SRICF, Red Cross of Constantine and Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.

Grand Master Billings is not a man who joins any group only to carry a membership card. Quite to the contrary, his motive is to be of service, to gain more knowledge, and to make use of that knowledge to better serve the Fraternity. Grand Master Billings and his charming wife Brittany, and their loving son Grayson reside in Eules, Texas, a wonderful location from which to serve the Masons of Texas."

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