

LaBelle No. 379 F&AM

Trestle Board — October 2026

LaBelleLodge379.org



Greetings from the East



Everyone, mark Saturday, **October 17th** on your calendar! We will be conferring an Entered Apprentice Degree that morning, beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you'd like to join us for breakfast, come a little early. We'll begin serving around 7:30 a.m., so come hungry and enjoy some good food and fellowship before the degree.

Also, don't forget about our planned Outdoor Master Mason Degree on Saturday, **November 7th**. I'll share more information as we get closer to the date.

I encourage everyone to come out to the lodge for our stated communications. If you haven't been in a while, you've been missing some great fellowship—and some pretty great meals prepared by our Junior Warden!

We are also still collecting teddy bears to donate to the Sheriff's Department for the children they encounter while responding to emergency calls. A simple teddy bear can provide comfort and help put a smile on a child's face during what may be a difficult and frightening time.

Yours in Christ,

W∴ Bill Maddox, PM / Worshipful Master
Phone: (863) 673-2192

Chaplain's Corner



Masons enjoy reading and talking about Americans in our past who have been well known in music, literature and politics. There are now such men we all know but either didn't realize, or as in my case, had forgotten they carried the square and compass with them as they lived their lives making history.

Sam Houston's name is perhaps the best known one in all of Texas, even in modern days. It's mention is also followed by two more men, also Freemasons but not necessarily residents of the Lone Star State. General Santa Anna, the Mexican leader who led the famed attack on the Alamo, and President and General Andew Jackson who led American forces in the battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812.

President Jackson urged Houston not to execute Santa Anna following his defeat in the battle of San Jacinto. Legend says that when his army was destroyed, Santa Anna ran across the battle field and made the Masonic signs indicating his dire situation. In my mind's ear, I can hear Houston's victorious troops' shouts of "Remember the Alamo!"

Freemasonry membership in Texas is similar to that of other states. Membership is in a transitional state with declining numbers of men participating. But the fraternity has a strong history in its favor. Many of the first Americans to migrate into Texas in the 1820s were Masons and the earliest attempt to organize a Lodge was in 1828 by Stephen Austin and six other men. A second attempt came in 1838 when another group met under the "Masonic Oak" in Brazoria and successfully petitioned the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for a Charter.

Phil Keyes / Chaplain
Phone: (863) 675-3813
Email:philkeys@embarqmail.com

STATED COMMUNICATIONS
SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAYS

OCTOBER 13
6:30pm Dinner / 7:30pm Meeting

OCTOBER 27
6:30pm Dinner / 7:30pm Meeting

CALLED COMMUICATION
ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

OCTOBER 17
7:30am Breakfast / 9:00am Degree

DID YOU KNOW?



Bram Stoker was initiated into London's Buckingham and Chandos Lodge No. 1150 in 1883, listing his occupation as "author" over a decade before publishing *Dracula*. While he never held a formal leadership role, his six years of active membership and his close relationship with prominent Masons heavily influenced his writing. Stoker subtly embedded fraternal phrases into his work and explicit references to a "tiled" room in *The Lair of the White Worm*. Surrounded by Masonic literary peers like Arthur Conan Doyle and Oscar Wilde, Stoker seamlessly wove the era's fascination with secret societies and ritualistic imagery into the fabric of classic Gothic horror.

Secretary's Desk



If you need to get in touch with the Lodge Secretary, send an email message to offcrplaca@icloud.com or call (239) 462-2101.

W∴ Isidro Lopez / Secretary

Social Media
https://www.facebook.com/Labelle379

One of 99



SEPTEMBER 15: Nine members of LaBelle Lodge No. 379 travelled up to participate in Placid Lodge No. 282's Annual One of 99 event.

Masons from more than 40 lodges gathered for the occasion, with a total of 130 Brothers in attendance. The evening began with a delicious meal, followed by the presentation of several Lifetime Achievement and recognition awards, as well as numerous door prizes—including a numbered America 250 / One of 99 commemorative coin.

It was a wonderful evening of fellowship, recognition, and celebration among Brothers from across the fraternity



Worshipful Master Bill Maddox and Brother Junior Warden Ernest Hollingworth



Right Worshipful Rob Estell (Senior Grand Warden), Worshipful Tony Weems, Brother George Benjamin, and Worshipful Izzy Lopez.

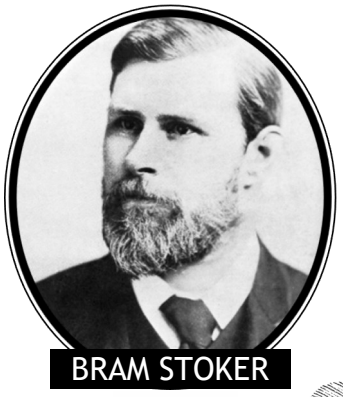


Lifetime Achievement

SEPTEMBER 22: Although he was not able to make it to the One of 99 event, Brother John Smith was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award by Worshipful Master Bill Maddox for his many years of selfless service and dedication to making our Lodge a great place for great fellowship. Thanks for everything you do!



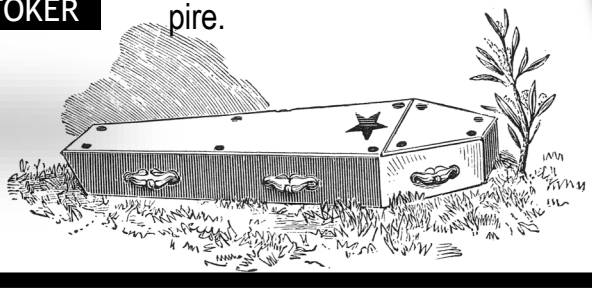
Quote from a Famous Mason



BRAM STOKER

"Welcome to my house! Enter freely and of your own will!"

This is the Count's greeting to Jonathan Harker in *Dracula*, which carries both standard hospitality and a sinister, binding invitation for a vampire.





Past Masters

JAMES PENDRY*	1977-1978	J.S. HARRIS	1994	BRUCE ARMSTRONG	2010
CHARLES MACDOWELL*	1979	MIKE GUTHRIE	1995	JOHN W. NELSON	2011
EDWIN RENOLDS*	1980	J. THOMAS PAXON*	1996	M. MATT HECKERT	2012
THOMAS K. WOOSLEY*	1981	JAMES JENNINGS*	1997	RAY NAVOR*	2013
KENNETH PICKLES	1982	JIM MARSHALL*	1998	NICHOLAS FIDANZA*	2014
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1983	CARL W. SWANSON*	1999	GREG GUNTER	2015
JOSEPH H. FUTCH*	1984	JIM CIANFRANI*	2000	L.E. RICHARDSON, JR.	2016
WILLARD BRYANT*	1985	JERRY HUBBART*	2001	THOMAS BOARDMAN	2017
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1986	STEVE POLHEMUS	2002	TONY WEEMS	2018
GLENN R. MICKEY*	1987	GLENN R. MICKEY*	2003	ADRIAN SANCHEZ	2019
EASTON BURCHARD*	1988-1989	RUSS BUCCINI*	2004	ED LANHAM*	2020
LEWIS WHIDDEN*	1990	JACK ROSE*	2005	BILL MADDOX	2021-2022
MICHAEL BOYLE	1991	KEVIN NELSON	2006-2007	ISIDRO LOPEZ	2023-2025
L.E. RICHARDSON, SR.*	1992	HERBERT HOLLENBECK*	2008	BILL MADDOX	2026
DOUG SCRATCHLEY, SR.*	1993	CURTIS DODD	2009		

Local Appendant Bodies in Freemasonry

Scottish Rite | York Rite | Shriners | Eastern Star | Grotto | Sojourners

2026 Officers

Worshipful Master
Bill Maddox, PM

Senior Warden
George Benjamin

Junior Warden
Ernest Hollingsworth

Treasurer
Bob Coleman

Secretary
Isidro Lopez, PM

Chaplain
Phil Keyes

Marshall
Antonio Weems, PM

Senior Deacon
James McVay

Junior Deacon
Matt Rentz

Senior Steward
Jacob Cuellar

Junior Steward
Mike Nguyen

Tyler
Kevin Gourley, PM

DISTRICT 24

District Deputy Grand Master
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District Instructor
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