

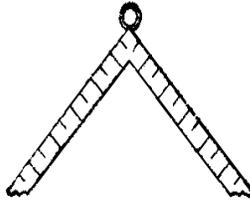
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- Senior Warden Fred Smith 972-342-0813
- Junior Warden Chris Rhodes 972-384-0405
- Treasurer Warner Richeson 972 422-4268
- Secretary Harry F. Powell II 972 424-7153

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- Junior Deacon Scott Shaeffer 214-384-0317
- Senior Steward Adam DeMasellis 214-244-7830
- Junior Steward Clay Smith 972-881-8341
- Marshal Robert Tate 972-672-4587
- Chaplain David Raucher 214-636-0486
- Master of Ceremonies Pieter Van Meeteren 972-822-7364
- Tiler Ron Lawrence 972-422-8467

**The Chronicles of Moses**



Brethren,

As you may or may not know, I am a veteran of the United States Marine Corp. I am very proud of all those that have served and continue to serve the Armed Forces of this great country.

I would like to compare the beginnings of Masonry in America, as well as, the beginning of The Marine Corps.

This story begins in Philadelphia in 1685. Mr. Samuel Carpenter built a brew house, or Tavern, on the historic waterfront near what is today known as "Penn's Landing". The name of this brew house is "Tun Tavern".

During the years following the inception of the Tavern, several events occurred at the Tavern, which are of historical significance.

In 1732, the first meetings of the St. John's #1 Lodge, a Grand Lodge of the Masonic Temple, were held at the Tavern. The election of the first Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was held there; subsequently Benjamin Franklin was its third Grand Master.

The Masonic Temple in Philadelphia recognizes the Tavern as the birthplace of Masonic teachings in this country.

In the early 1740's, the then proprietor expanded the Tavern which was

known to host George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin and on occasion the 1st and 2nd Continental Congress.

In 1756, Colonel Benjamin Franklin organized the Pennsylvania Militia and utilized the Tavern as a gathering place to recruit the area's 1st regiment of soldiers to suppress Indian uprisings.

On November 10, 1775, Robert Mullan, the proprietor of the Tavern, was commissioned by an act of Congress to raise the first two battalions of Marines, under the leadership of Samuel Nicholas, the first appointed Commandant of the Continental Marines. Nicholas's grandfather was also a member of the Tun Tavern Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons and it is this relationship between Mullan, Nicholas and the Tavern which has resulted in Tun Tavern being acknowledged as the birthplace of the United States Marine Corps.

Each year on Nov. 10th, around the world Marines toast the Marine's birthplace on the most significant date in the history of the Corps.

As always, I look forward to seeing all of you.

Fraternally,

Your Worshipful Master,

Joe Moses



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Another outstanding member of the early history of Plano and Plano lodges was Dr. James Wilson. Brother Wilson was the charter WM of Plano #235 in 1859 and was Wm of Plano #768 in 1901-1902. He served as DDGM in 1898. He died on 5 May 1905 with a Masonic burial service. He spent his last days working on a book called "Masonic Gems" that you can get from Tiny Powell.

For more lodge history, visit our website at: [www.planomasoniclodge.org](http://www.planomasoniclodge.org)





## Who were the Knights Templar?

The Knights Templar were a monastic military order formed at the end of the First Crusade with the mandate of protecting Christian pilgrims on route to the Holy Land. Never before had a group of secular knights banded together and taken the monastic vows. In this sense they were the first of the Warrior Monks. The Templars fought along side King Richard I (Richard The Lion Hearted) and other Crusaders in the battles for the Holy Lands.

From humble beginnings of poverty when the order relied on alms from the traveling pilgrims, the Order would go on to have the backing of the Holy See and the collective European monarchies.

Within two centuries they had become powerful enough to defy all but the Papal throne. Feared as warriors, respected for their charity and sought out for their wealth, there is no doubt that the Templar Knights were the key players of the monastic fighting Orders. Due to their vast wealth and surplus of materials the Templars essentially invented banking, as we know it. The church forbade the lending of money for interest, which they called usury. The Templars, being the clever sort they were, changed the manner in which loans were paid and were able to skirt the issue and finance even kings.

They were destroyed, perhaps because of this wealth or fear of their seemingly limitless powers. In either case, the Order met with a rather untimely demise at the hands of the Pope and the King of France in 1307 and by 1314, "The Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and the Temple of Solomon" ceased to exist, at least officially.

Although originally a small group of nine knights, they quickly gained fame largely due to the backing of Bernard of Clairvaux and his "In Praise of the New Knighthood". Bernard at that time was

often called the Second Pope and was the chief spokesman of Christendom. He is also the one responsible for helping to draw up the Order's rules of conduct.

In European political circles, they became very powerful and influential. This was because they were immune from any authority save that of the Papal Throne. (Pope Innocent II exempted the Templars from all authority except the Pope.) After the crusades were over, the knights returned to their Chapters throughout Europe and became known as moneylenders to the monarchs. In the process many historians believe they invented the Banking System.

The secret meetings and rituals of the knights would eventually cause their downfall. The King of France, Philip the Fair used these rituals and meetings to his advantage to destroy the knights. The real reason for his crushing the Templars was that he felt threatened by their power and immunity. In 1307, Philip, who desperately needed funds, to support his war against England's Edward I made his move against the Knights Templar.

On October 13th, 1307, King Philip had all the Templars arrested on the grounds of heresy, since this was the only charge that would allow the seizing of their money and assets. The Templars were tortured and as a result, ridiculous confessions were given. These confessions included:

- \* trampling and spitting on the cross
- \* homosexuality and sodomy
- \* worshipping of the Baphomet

Philip was successful in ridding the Templars of their power and wealth and urged all fellow Christian leaders to do the same thing. On March 19th, 1314 the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, Jacques de Molay was burned at the stake. De Molay is said to have cursed King Philip and Pope Clement, as he burned, asking both men to join him within a year. Whether he actually uttered the curse or if it is simply an apocryphal tale; what remains as fact is that Clement died only one month later and Philip IV seven months after that.

## History of the Order of Masonic Knights Templar, in North America

The first Templar to be initiated in the United States was William Davis who was given the degrees of Excellent, Super Excellent, Royal Arch, and Knight Templar by the St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge on August 28th, 1769. Davis owned an apothecary business in Boston, but is perhaps most noted for his efforts at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Here it was Davis who suggested the "Barrel Defense" in which barrels full of earth and stone were rolled down on the attacking units.

Of course other Revolutionary War notables would be invested with the honor of being Knights Templar, among them Paul Revere and Joseph Warren (another war hero).

In Canada the first Provincial Grand Conclave was organized in 1855, under the direction of Colonel William James Curry Mcleod who took the role of Provincial Grand Commander. Thirteen years later the first Grand Priory was formed at the dominion of Canada and once again Col. Moore presided as the first Grand Prior.

Today the order encompasses all of Canada and goes by the name of The Sovereign Great Priory of Canada of the United Religious and Military Orders of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, and of the Temple.

Unlike the U.S.A. where individuals bodies are referred to as Commanderies and the principle officer is called a Commander, in Canada these bodies are called Preceptories and the principle officer is the Presiding Preceptor. Generally Preceptories and Commanderies alike will take the name of a key player in Templar or medieval history, for example King Baldwin Preceptory Number 6 or Hughes de Payens Commandry Number 12.

# Calendar of Events for January

Plano Lodge Events	Eye on Grand Lodge	<p>Come one, come all. Let us all celebrate the birthday of a Great American Mason!!!! Who is it you ask? Is his name:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. George Marshall</li> <li>2. George W. Bush</li> <li>3. George Washington</li> </ol> <p>You knew all along didn't you!</p> <p>Mark your calendars on <b>February 25</b> for the <b>George Washington Birthday Celebration</b>. Bring family and friends!</p> <p>The location is Plano East High School. Live entertainment, dancing, and good fun will be had by all.</p> <p>And the best thing will be the entertainment in the kitchen where "Al Drew and the Stewards" will be serving up great brisket and fix-ins. If you would like to help out in the kitchen, contact Adam or Clay.</p>
<p>February 2 - Stated Meeting "family night"</p> <p>February 9 - 2 FC's</p> <p>February 16 - FC</p> <p>February 23 - Masters</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p><b>The chuck wagon</b></p> </div> </div>	<p>2006 Grand Master's Town Hall Meetings will be held at the following locations that are close to Plano Lodge.</p> <p>2/1 - Dallas - TX Scottish Rite Hospital</p> <p>2/8 - Ft. Worth - Masonic Temple</p> <p>2/20 - Waco - Lee Lockwood Library</p> <p>Most meetings will focus discussion on two of three topics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• catechism and proficiency</li> <li>• one day classes</li> <li>• qualifications for membership</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Feb. 2 - Pulled pork</b> "Family night"</p> <p><b>Feb. 9 - Meat Loaf</b></p> <p><b>Feb. 16 - Chicken Cacciatore</b></p> <p><b>Feb. 23 - Venison Chili</b></p> <p><b>Feb. 25 - George Washington Dinner</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Events for the Super-Mason</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting Feb. 14..</li> <li>• York Rite Dallas Feb. 8.</li> <li>• Hella Shrine.</li> <li>• Plano Shrine Club meeting</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scottish Rite Announcement</b></p>	
<p><u>Plano Order of Eastern Star #703</u></p> <p>Feb. 20 - Stated Meeting</p> <p><i>Remember brethren, any wife daughter or relative of a mason is eligible for Eastern Star membership. Bring your wife or daughter to a meeting this month.</i></p> <p><u>Plano Rainbow Assembly #320</u></p> <p>Feb. 14 - Stated Meeting</p> <p>Feb. 28 - Initiation</p> <p><u>Get your daughter or grand-daughter involved in Plano Rainbow</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Around District 9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stated meetings in District 9 - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thu. 2/2 Plano - 7 p.m.</li> <li>Tue. 2/7 Lebanon - 7 p.m.</li> <li>St. John's - 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>East Fork - 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Th. 2/9 Lee - 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Melissa - 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Empire - 8 p.m.</li> <li>Mo. 2/13 Celina - 7 p.m.</li> <li>Blue Ridge - 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Tu. 2/14 Allen - 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Tu. 2/21 Farmersville - 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Tu. 2/28 Princeton - 7:30p.m.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Adopt a Chair Program</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ONLY 31 CHAIRS LEFT!!!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Remember a loved one forever, and help grow the Plano Lodge Building Fund.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chairs are \$100.00 each.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>New name tags are available at a special price of \$10.00 each.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Contact Larry Kester for more info.</b></p>		

Plano Masonic Lodge #768  
P. O. Box 860282  
Plano, TX 75086

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***Riddle me this Batman***

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1. What am I?

I'm as small as an ant, as big as a whale. I'll approach like a breeze, but can come like a gale. By some I get hit, but all have shown fear. I'll dance to the music, though I can't hear. Of names I have many, of names I have one. I'm as slow as a snail, but from me you can't run.

2. The Beggar

A beggar's brother died, but the man who died had no brother. How could that be?

3. Sliced but stays whole

What can be driven although it doesn't have wheels, sliced but stays whole?

4. Two occupants

A structure with two occupants, sometimes one, rarely three. Break the walls, eat the borders, then throw away me. What am I?

5. What am I?

I am always hungry, I must always be fed, the finger I lick, will soon turn red.

***If you want the answers, bring this to lodge and ask the Stewards.***