

## The SMITHsonian

### Senior Officers

- Worshipful Master Fred Smith 972-342-0813
- Senior Warden Chris Rhodes 972-384-0405
- Junior Warden JJ Miller 214-733-1814
- Treasurer Warner Richeson 972 422-4268
- Secretary Harry F. Powell II 972 424-7153

### Junior Officers

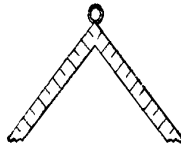
- Senior Deacon Scott Shaeffer 214-384-0317
- Junior Deacon Adam DeMasellis 214-244-7830
- Senior Steward Clay Smith 972-881-8341
- Junior Steward Kevin Main 214-796-9054
- Marshal Scott Reynolds 972-922-8411
- Chaplain Brian Chaput 469-831-3993
- Master of Ceremonies Chao Teng 469-417-9300
- Tiler Larry Moyer 214-317-9550

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Is the lodge website under your favorites? If not, go to [www.planomasoniclodge.org](http://www.planomasoniclodge.org) and add it. Visit it often.



From The East,

### November 2006 – Prayer

As we all know prayer is an essential part of every lodge stated or called meeting, and is a part of the opening of each lodge, as well as the closing. We are taught that before beginning in any important activity we must first invoke the blessing of God. The second question, which also show the importance of prayer to Masons, put to a candidate for the EA degree is to determine his belief in a Supreme Being.

Sometimes this fact that prayer is a key part of Masonic ceremonies leads to the question, "Is Masonry a religion?" Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. It requires of its members belief in God as part of the obligation of every responsible adult, but advocates no sectarian faith or practice. Masonic ceremonies include prayers, both traditional and extempore, to reaffirm each individual's dependence on God and to seek divine guidance. Freemasonry is open to men of any faith, but religion may not be discussed at Masonic meetings.

Masons believe that there is one God and that people employ many different ways to seek, and to express what they

know of, God. Masonry primarily uses the appellation, "Grand Architect of the Universe," and other nonsectarian titles, to address Deity, In this way, persons of different faiths may join together in prayer, concentrating on God, rather than differences among themselves. Masonry believes in religious freedom and that the relationship between the individual and God is personal, private, and sacred.

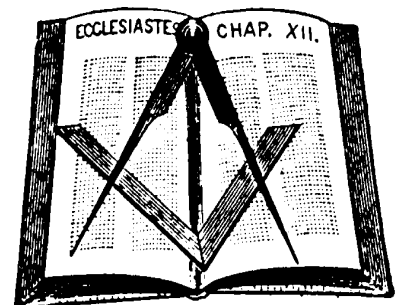
November is a particularly opportune time to be considering the subject of Masonry and prayer as it is the time of our great American Thanksgiving holiday, which was officially set to be the fourth Thursday in November during the term of Brother Franklin Roosevelt, a Mason.

See you in lodge. We have another busy month ahead.

Fraternally,

Fred Smith

Worshipful Master



# CONGRATULATIONS

to Scott Shaeffer for all of his hard work in a Successful Blood Drive.

As a Lodge we donated

# 112

units of blood

to benefit the

Texas Scottish Rite

Children's Hospital.

Special thanks to David Carter for being the lead recruiter for the blood drive and to our stewards for providing good food throughout the day.



## The Rhodes Goes on Forever

Brethren,

We have had quite a lot of activity at Plano Lodge lately. This comes as no surprise to us though; Plano is always very busy toward the end of the year. Along with our normal meetings and degree work, we have the fall blood drive benefiting the Gift of Life program, we give away candy on Halloween, and we prepare for Grand Lodge.

Also, as most of you know we have taken another step along the path for the North Texas Masonic Museum and Library. The Library now occupies the bottom floor of the lodge building. Hopefully, this will extend our reach in the community while allowing us to provide a safe repository for North Texas Masonic artifacts, texts and memorabilia. This has gotten off to a great start. We have had a few donations to the Library, and we have a workspace set up to catalog and track what has been given. There is still a lot of work to do but we are finally on our way.

Finally, we look to the first weekend in December and The Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in Waco. This will be an important year for Plano Lodge at Grand Lodge since we have one of our own Brother Charles McKay available for the Grand Junior Warden position. Let's have a great turn out in Waco to support Brother McKay in his effort to take a seat in the Grand South.

Fraternally,

**Chris Rhodes**

**Senior Warden**

### Museum & Library Takes Over Space Below Lodge

Brethren,




The time has come to begin consolidating all of the books and artifacts documenting Masonry in Plano and North Texas. The North Texas Masonic Historical Museum & Library has taken over the space below the Lodge. This space will provide the Museum & Library a physical workspace in which to acquire books, collections, and displays which would ultimately provide the foundation for a fully operational Museum & Library. Please bring any books, texts, documents, and artifacts you wish to donate so we may begin. We also need people who will help support the monthly operating expenses of this facility. All donations are tax deductible as charitable donations. If you are interested in donating time, books, artifacts, or money, please contact JJ Miller 214-733-1814 or any of the members of the Museum & Library.

Thanks for your continued support!

Fraternally,

JJ Miller

# Calendar of Events for September

<p align="center"><b>Plano Lodge Events</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Eye on Grand Lodge</b></p>		<p align="center"><b>Plano Order of the Eastern Star #703</b></p>																								
<p>November 2 - Stated meeting "Family night"</p> <p>November 9 - Entered Apprentice</p> <p>November 16 - Fellowcraft</p> <p>November 23 - Thanksgiving, Plano lodge is Dark</p> <p>November 30 - GRAND LODGE, Plano lodge is Dark</p>	<p align="center"><b>Grand Lodge</b></p> <p align="center">Is November 30 through December 2nd, Make your plans now.</p> <p align="center"><i>It's not too late to take a certificate examination. Just see Tiny about when and where they are being held in the Dallas Area or you can one at Grand Lodge.</i></p>	<p>November 13 - Stated Meeting</p> <p><i>Remember brethren, any wife, daughter or relative of a mason is eligible for Eastern Star membership. Get them involved</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Plano Rainbow Assembly #320</b></p>																								
<p align="center"> <b>The chuck wagon</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Around District 9</b></p>		<p>November 7 - Board Meeting</p> <p>November 14 - Stated Meeting</p> <p>November 21 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>November 28 - Initiation</p>																								
<p><b>November 2 - Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</b></p> <p><b>November 9 - Ham &amp; Turkey</b></p> <p><b>November 16 - Chicken Alfredo</b></p> <p><b>November 23 - Dark for Thanksgiving</b></p> <p><b>November 30 - Dark for Grand Lodge</b></p> <p>All EA's, Fellowcrafts, and new Master Masons are reminded that they should help in the kitchen at least one week. Talk to the stewards about scheduling a time to help.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stated meetings in District 9 -             <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Thu. 11/2</td> <td>Plano - 7 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tue. 11/7</td> <td>Lebanon - 7 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>St. John's - 7:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>East Fork - 7:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Th. 11/9</td> <td>Lee - 7:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Melissa - 7:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Empire - 8 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mo. 11/13</td> <td>Celina - 7 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Blue Ridge - 7:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tu. 11/14</td> <td>Allen - 7:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tu. 11/21</td> <td>Farmersville - 7:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tu. 11/28</td> <td>Princeton - 7:30p.m.</td> </tr> </table> </li> </ul>	Thu. 11/2	Plano - 7 p.m.	Tue. 11/7	Lebanon - 7 p.m.		St. John's - 7:30 p.m.		East Fork - 7:30 p.m.	Th. 11/9	Lee - 7:30 p.m.		Melissa - 7:30 p.m.		Empire - 8 p.m.	Mo. 11/13	Celina - 7 p.m.		Blue Ridge - 7:30 p.m.	Tu. 11/14	Allen - 7:30 p.m.	Tu. 11/21	Farmersville - 7:30 p.m.	Tu. 11/28	Princeton - 7:30p.m.	<p>November 7 - Board Meeting</p> <p>November 14 - Stated Meeting</p> <p>November 21 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>November 28 - Initiation</p> <p><u>Get your daughter or grand-daughter involved in Plano Rainbow</u></p> <p>Please support The rainbow charity of the year by purchasing support bracelets. Plano's very own Jarah Foster, Grand Worthy Advisor for the Rainbow Girls, has selected the Templar Eye Foundation.</p> <p align="center">Bracelets are \$5 each. Donations also accepted.</p>	<p align="center"><b>PLANO Gift of Life</b></p> <p align="center"><b>BLOOD DRIVE</b></p> <p align="center">SATURDAY APRIL 28, 2007</p> <p align="center"><i>Cutoff dates:</i></p> <p><i>You cannot give 2RBC after January 6, 2007,</i></p> <p><i>You cannot give Whole Blood after March 3, 2007, if you are going to give at the Plano Blood Drive</i></p> <p align="center"><b>Blood donors are eligible to give a whole blood donation every 56 days and double red blood cells every 112 days</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Mark your Calendars now and start recruiting your office, church, and family to give for this good cause.</i></p>
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<p align="center"><b>Events for the Super-Mason</b></p>	<p><b>Charity-</b></p> <p><i>Def. : A benevolent goodwill towards or love of humanity; aiding those in need or who are suffering.</i></p> <p>A lesson learned and frequently seen in Masonry. As we enter the fall, ask yourself this question....</p> <p>When was the last time I truly gave? (time, money, blood)</p> <p>You'd be surprised how much you are needed.</p>																										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting November 13.</li> <li>Grand Chapter and Grand Council Annual Sessions are December 3-5</li> <li>Plano Shrine Club meeting November 28</li> </ul>																											
<p align="center"><b>Adopt a Chair Program</b></p> <p align="center"><b>ONLY 30 CHAIRS LEFT!!!</b></p> <p align="center">Remember a loved one forever, and help grow the Plano Lodge Building Fund.</p> <p>Chairs are \$100.00 each and new name tags are available at a special price of \$10.00 each.</p> <p align="center">Contact Larry Kester for more info.</p> <p align="center"><i>lhkester@comcast.net</i></p>																											

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

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PLANO, TEXAS



## *Stock the Store Campaign:*

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Brother Clay Smith is continuing the "Stock the Store" campaign which provides the "Country Store" where the residents of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center can pick up personal items - for free. **This is where YOU can help.** When you buy these types of products for yourselves, please buy one or two extra and bring them to the lodge. Here is a list of items they will always need.

Kleenex, Cough Drops, Sugar Free Cough Drops, Talcum and Medicated Talcum, Polygrip and Polydent brands, Williams Pre-shave, Stockings: Knee-highs and panty hose (beige or nude), Aloe Vera and Cocoa Butter creams, Oil of Olay, Cleansing cream, Ponds Cold Cream, Moisturizing Cream (day and night creams), Toner and Astringent, Liquid make up (light color), eye pencils, eye shadow, blush, lipstick, Compacts, loose face powder (light), Chapstick, Cologne, men's and women's, Softsoap, Dove bar soap, Brand name toothpaste: Colgate, Crest and Sensodyne, Toothbrushes, Mouthwash (Listerine – it's what they are used to), Peanut Butter or cheese filled cracker snacks, hard candy, moonpies, Trident Gum and regular gum, V05 Grey for men, Flushable moist wipes, Room deodorizers, aerosol and solid, Spray Starch, Brand name Hair Spray (Suave, V05).

*Write a special note for the holidays and put it in the box. There is no better gift than knowing you are loved.*