

**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

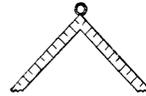
**Inside this issue: Page**

Light from the East	1
Museum and Library	2
Calendar of Events	3
Menu	3
A lodge full of information	3
Senior Warden's Column	4

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



**The SMITHsonian**



**From The East,**

**January – Open the Lodge**

As we open each Lodge in the name of God and the Holy Saints John, we open this new year of 2007 shortly after the recognition of the day of St. John the Evangelist on December 27th. We open our Masonic year with the recognition of Saint John the Baptist on or shortly after June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Some Masonic scholars believe that the real explanation of Freemasonry's connection with the Holy Saints John Festival Days is not to be found in the history of the Craft – but, rather, in the history of ancient religions. These festival days are as old as the ancient systems of worship of fire and Sun and recognized the mysteries of the shortening and lengthening of days. Primitive people tried to explain these “mysteries” in terms of their daily lives. What could be more natural than to think these phenomena were the actions of an Unknown Deity who held very their lives and well-being in His hands?

The early Church wanted these pagan festivals stopped, but they were very popular with the people. The solution to the problem was simple; substitute Christian meanings and Saints for pagan gods on these holidays and continue to celebrate the same ceremonies on the same dates – but under a different name. Therefore, the celebration of the Summer Solstice became the Festival of Saint John the Baptist and the celebration of the Winter Solstice

became the Festival of Saint John the Evangelist.

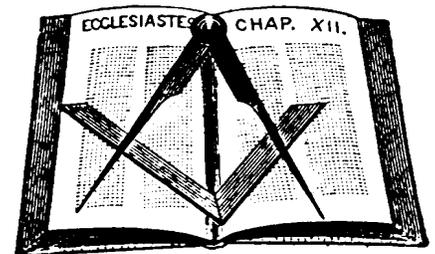
The Plano Lodge celebration of George Washington's birthday has been scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup>, and, will be held as usual at the Plano East High school. Please put this on your calendar and invite your family and friends.

See you in lodge. We have another busy month ahead. And I wish everyone a very Happy New Year,

Fraternally,

Fred Smith

Worshipful Master



Museum & Library members,

Listed below are the topics covered by this e-mail which is being sent out to the Board of Directors and committee members. If you are receiving this e-mail it is because you have expressed an interest in the Museum & Library to me. Please feel free to forward this to anyone else who may be interested.

**1. \$100 monthly support**

I have spoken to several of you about a 12 month commitment of \$100 each month to support a trial stage for the Museum & Library. We have leased the retail space downstairs from the Lodge and we need your support. All contributions will be deductible for income tax purposes and the list of donors will be confidential. Please reply to me with what you can contribute (more or less is acceptable) and I will send you a monthly reminder going forward. I will also send you an annual "contribution report" in January for your income taxes. We need a minimum of \$700 a month to keep moving forward.

**2. Furniture and equipment needed**

The Museum and Library needs furniture and equipment! We are in need of several desks, chairs, tables, bookshelves, computers, and printers. All donations are tax deductible for income tax purposes.

**3. List of Board and committee members**

Board of Directors:

3 year term: Chris Rhodes, Steve Sullivan, JJ Miller

2 year term: Larry Moyer, Fred Smith, Warner Richeson

1 year term: Jeff Forrester, Billy Meeks, Joe Moses

Committees:

Historical: Kevin Main, Bill Goodell, Brian Chaput, Larry Moyer, Page Thomas

Legal: Michael Myers

Building: Steve Sullivan, Scott Shaeffer, Cliff Martin, Jerrad Jasperson, Chris Rhodes, Brian Chaput

Finance: Chris Rhodes, JJ Miller, Chao Teng, Mark Paul, Eric Beck, Bill Goodell, Cory Dodd, Warner Richeson

Events: Jeff Forrester, Fred Smith, Mark Paul

**4. Election of Board of Directors and Officers in January, 2007.**

In January, there will be 4 opening on the Board of Directors - 3, 3 year terms, and 1, 1 year term. Warner has notified me he will resign from the Board because of the conflict of interest created by renting the Museum & Library space from him. We are going to be looking for people who are interested in getting very active in the next year's operations and have the time available to make this commitment. If you are interested, or know of someone who is, please contact me.

We will also be looking to elect Officers who can make the Museum & Library a top priority for the next year. So if you are ready to make that commitment, please let me know.

**5. Masonic Museum & Library trip to Bryan and Houston**

Sometime in January or February we are going to schedule a trip to the Masonic Museum & Library in Bryan, Texas (near College Station...actually it is as close to College Station as you can legally have a library) and in Houston, Texas. It will be on a Saturday and the plan will be to visit one first thing in the morning - have a meeting, then travel to the other for a late afternoon meeting. If you are interested in attending, please let me know.

Thank you for all of your help.

Sincerely,

JJ Miller  
214-733-1814



## This Month in Plano Masonic History

*Plano Lodge #768* was formally constituted on Monday, January 7, 1895 with Sam R. Hamilton of Farmersville presiding over the ceremony and the installation of the charter lodge officers. R.W. Brother Hamilton served as Grand Master of Masons in Texas in 1899 and became the principle compiler of the Taylor-Hamilton Monitor of Symbolic Masonry, which was the official monitor for Texas Masons from 1908 to 1921. James F. Rowland was installed as the charter Worshipful Master of Plano Lodge, with Frank R. Ball serving as Senior Warden and James Mitchell as Junior Warden. The lodge adopted bylaws according to the example provided within the Taylor Monitor (in use at that time). The stated meetings were set to occur on the first Tuesday or the Tuesday following each full moon at 7PM, and annual dues were set at \$6 (which is over \$136 today, adjusted for inflation). Several petitions were received this day, among which was the petition for initiation of our well-known brother, Wallace Hughston, who received the Entered Apprentice degree the following February and ultimately served as Grand Master of Masons in Texas in 1932. The first official stated meeting occurred after the next full moon on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Do you have an interest in history and research? The Historical Committee needs your help. We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 5:30 PM at the lodge. For further information, please contact Kevin Main at [history@planomasoniclodge.org](mailto:history@planomasoniclodge.org).

# Calendar of Events for September

<p><b>Plano Lodge Events</b></p>	<p><b>Eye on Grand Lodge</b></p>		<p><b>Plano Order of the Eastern Star #703</b></p>
<p>January 4 - Stated meeting "Family night"</p> <p>January 11 - Entered Apprentice</p> <p>January 18 - Fellowcraft</p> <p>January 25 - Fellowcraft (possibly a Masters)</p> <p>Please check the Calendar on the website for updates.</p>	<p> Grand Master Donny Broughton is making an official visit to Empire Lodge 586 in Nevada on January 11, 2006.</p> <p>This is first official visit to our area, so if you get the chance, go listen to our new Grand Master</p>	<p>January 15 - 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>January 15 - 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> <b>The chuck wagon</b></p>	<p><b>Around District 9</b></p>		<p><b>Plano Rainbow Assembly #320</b></p>
<p><b>January 4 - Sausage and Rice Casserole</b></p> <p><b>January 11- Chicken Spaghetti Casserole</b></p> <p><b>January 18 - Beef Stroganoff</b></p> <p><b>January 25 - Lasagna</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>	<p>• Stated meetings in District 9 -</p> <p>Thu. 1/4 Plano - 7 p.m. Tue. 1/2 Lebanon - 7 p.m. St. John's - 7:30 p.m. East Fork - 7:30 p.m. Th. 1/11 Lee - 7:30 p.m. Melissa - 7:30 p.m. Empire - 8 p.m. Mo. 1/8 Celina - 7 p.m. Blue Ridge - 7:30 p.m. Tu. 1/9 Allen - 7:30 p.m. Tu. 1/16 Farmersville - 7:30 p.m. Tu. 1/23 Princeton - 7:30p.m.</p>	<p>January 2 - Board Meeting</p> <p>January 9 - Stated Meeting</p> <p>January 16 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>January 23 - 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>Bracelets are \$5 each.</p> <p>Donations also accepted.</p>	<p>January 2 - Board Meeting</p> <p>January 9 - Stated Meeting</p> <p>January 16 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>January 23 - 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>Bracelets are \$5 each.</p> <p>Donations also accepted.</p>
<p><b>Events for the Super-Mason</b></p>	<p><b><u>Stock the Store Campaign:</u></b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting January 8.</li> <li>Plano Shrine Club meeting January 30</li> <li>MWSA meeting Monday January 22, 2006 Dinner at 6:30 and Meeting at 7:30</li> <li>Annual Board Meeting for the Museum and Library will be Thursday January 25, 2006</li> </ul>	<p>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. <b>This is where YOU can help.</b> 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.</p>		
<p><b>Adopt a Chair Program</b></p> <p><b>ONLY 28 CHAIRS LEFT!!!</b></p> <p>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>Contact Larry Kester for more info.</p> <p><i>lhkester@comcast.net</i></p>	<p>Kleenex, Cough Drops, Sugar Free Cough Drops, Talcum and Medicated Talcum, Lectric Pre-shave, Williams Pre-shave, Stockings: Knee-highs, thigh-highs (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, Toothpaste: Colgate, Crest and Sensodyne, Toothbrushes, Individually wrapped snacks and candy (mini candy bars), Trident Gum and regular gum, Sleep caps, Flushable moist wipes, Room deodorizers, aerosol and solid, New and use VHS and DVD movies, Spray Starch, Hair Spray</p>		

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

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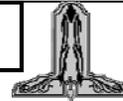
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PLANO, TEXAS



## The Rhodes Goes on Forever



PAGE 4

Brethren,

I hope the Holidays have treated you all well and you and yours had wonderful celebrations to mark the occasions.

We have had yet another busy month in Plano Lodge. We made 4 new masons and raised a brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Not to mention the fun and fellowship we all shared at dinner and for those who attended the annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, you got to see some very interesting developments.

During the Grand Lodge Communication we saw what some would consider significant milestones for Freemasonry in Texas. These include the recognition of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge in Texas as regular masons, although without the privileges of visitation or affiliation, the consideration and great debate over the use of "code books" for the esoteric work, and the lowering of the statutory age to become a mason in Texas to 18 years old. Things seem to be changing, although slowly, and catching up with the times and values of the growing population of the State of Texas.

I expect another great year of growth for Plano Lodge. We are truly blessed to have such interest in masonry in Plano.

On the level,  
Chris Rhodes  
Senior Warden

## PLANO Gift of Life

### BLOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY APRIL 28,  
2007

*Cutoff dates:*

*You cannot give 2RBC after  
January 6, 2007,*

*You cannot give Whole Blood  
after*

*March 3, 2007, if you are  
going to*

*give at the Plano Blood Drive*

*Mark your Calendars now  
and start recruiting your of-  
fice, church, and family to  
give for this good cause.*