

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

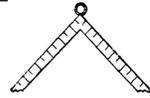
- Senior Deacon Scott Shaeffer 214-384-0317
- Junior Deacon Adam DeMasellis 214-244-7830
- Senior Steward Clay Smith 972-881-8341
- Junior Steward Kevin Main 214-796-9054
- Marshal Scott Reynolds 972-922-8411
- Chaplain Brian Chaput 469-831-3993
- Master of Ceremonies Chao Teng 469-417-9300
- Tiler Larry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

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Is the lodge website under your favorites? If not, go to www.planomasoniclodge.org and add it. Visit it often.



From The East,
April 2007

Duties of officers

In our opening and closing ritual we recite the various duties of the officers of the lodge. These duties remind of us of our unusual organizational structure as well as serving to connect us to our brother lodges throughout the world having this same structure. In some way each office is responsible for some aspect of finding, teaching and retaining good men in our fraternity. In our Plano lodge we have raised six new Master Masons this month. We all, officers or not, should review our responsibilities to these new Masons, realizing that this month is not the norm in Masonry and each of these new Masters should be greeted with the greatest of enthusiasm.

The Grand Master's Conferences and Masonic workshops addresses the topic of the way we treat our new brothers, (EA's, FC,s or MM's.) And, I urge all of you that have not attended one of these to do so, especially current and future officers. There are still three workshops in our area scheduled in April and four Grand Master's Conferences. See the schedule on the Grand Lodge website.

We have firmed up our plans to visit our brothers in Claremore, Oklahoma and to confer a Texas style Master

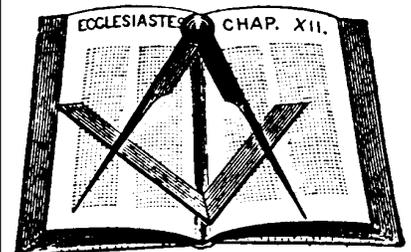
Masons degree there. The date of the trip is May 19th. Our degree won't start until afternoon so most of us will probably travel there on Saturday morning, (about 4 1/2 hour drive.) The Claremore lodge will have a dinner for us at the lodge after the degree. If you want to spend the night in Claremore, (most will,) we usually stay at the Days Inn, (918 341-2323,) they would offer a group rate on 10 or more rooms of \$59, single or double.

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

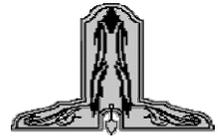
Fraternally,

Fred Smith

Worshipful Master



The Rhodes Goes on Forever



Within the Master Mason's degree is contained the charge that "The ancient landmarks of the order, entrusted to your care, you are to carefully preserve," along with no infringement, or deviation from the ancient usage and customs. When raising a new Brother and giving this charge, we are referred to these "landmarks," which govern our responsibilities to the Craft, our Ritual, and our God. In early times, landmarks were stones placed to mark property lines, roads, and places of importance. Their removal or change was considered to be most serious, and carried great penalty if done unlawfully.

Within the Fraternity, one of our great landmarks is commitment to have equality among the Brothers. The symbol used to remind us is the Level and it is found as the jewel of the Senior Warden. This officer is charged to watch over the Craft when it is at labor and insure that harmony exists within the Lodge. When installed he is instructed that we come from the same stock, live in the same world, and are Brothers. Each of us is deserving of regard and respect, for when death, the Grand Leveler, comes, all of us are the same. Thus, we see the Senior Warden's duty is to insure a state of equality exists within the Lodge when it is at labor. The Brothers are to be treated with mutual respect and trust at all times, but more especially when assembled in the Lodge room.

Admittedly the Master and Wardens are extended preferment as officers, but they, too, are Brothers of equal status on our Lodge Trestle-Board. The many references to the Level teach us we are all traveling upon the same "level of time" and with the same destination. Regardless of status, wealth, or titles outside the Lodge, within the Lodge we are bound together by equality and mutual respect for the dignity of one another.

In our closing, we always are reminded that we meet upon this level. Time and again, the message is the same as how we should meet as Masons. The ageless lesson of "doing unto others, as you wish done unto you" clearly expresses the level of respect and equality of conduct gained by being a Mason. Each of us is a creation of the Grand Architect of the Universe and His Way is what each of us seeks. Through the support of our Brothers as equals, we labor to improve our conduct, our understanding, and sense of brotherly love. So, when we hear "upon the level" or the "level of time," we should reflect upon both the tool and its inner meaning. The lessons of equality, rectitude of conduct, and brotherly love bind us all.

Let us then keep in mind that, although we have each seen our share of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Masons degrees, this is a special event for the man experiencing that particular rite of passage. As such let us act as though it is as special to us as it is to him, for now he is on our level.

May Brotherly Love Prevail,

Chris

Adopt a Bookcase! ...and we will put YOUR NAME on it!

Brethren,

Beginning April 28, the Museum & Library will be erecting 10 desperately needed oak bookcases to hold our rapidly growing collection of books. These bookcases will be cast in Plano, between Allen and Richardson. They will be 4.8 cubits in height, by 1.8 cubits in width, by .8 cubits in breadth (8'x3'x16") in order to preserve the archives of Masonry. They will be adorned by two wooden doors with glass inserts of 4.5 cubits in height. They will be still further beautified by crown molding, fluted trim, and Masonic scrollwork. They will be still further adorned by a deep, grain enhancing stain and other fine particulars.

These bookcases are being built for the purpose of being used for 50 years and they will be prominently displayed in our permanent facility once it is completed. Your name and generosity will be recognized by members of this Lodge and members of the community who have not been born yet. We are offering the legacy naming rights for each bookcase for the low, low price of \$500. This amount will cover the materials for your bookcase and will be deductible for income tax purposes. To adopt your bookcase, please contact JJ Miller at 214-733-1814 or e-mail me at jjmiller768@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your support.

Calendar of Events for September

<p>Plano Lodge Events</p>	<p>Around District 9</p>		<p>Plano Order of the Eastern Star #703</p>
<p>April 5 - Stated meeting "Family night"</p> <p>April 12 - Entered Apprentice</p> <p>April 19 - FellowCraft</p> <p>April 26 - Master Mason</p> <p>Please check the Calendar on the website for updates.</p>	<p>• Stated meetings in District 9 -</p> <p>Thu. 4/5 Plano - 7 p.m. Tue. 4/3 Lebanon - 7 p.m. St. John's - 7:30 p.m. East Fork - 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Th. 4/12 Lee - 7:30 p.m. Melissa - 7:30 p.m. Empire - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Mo. 4/9 Celina - 7 p.m. Blue Ridge - 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Tu. 4/10 Allen - 7:30 p.m. Tu. 4/17 Farmersville - 7:30 p.m. Tu. 4/24 Princeton - 7:30p.m.</p>	<p>April 16 - 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>April 16 - 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>The chuck wagon</p>		<p>Plano Rainbow Assembly #320</p>
<p>April 5 - Sausage & Rice Casserole</p> <p>April 12- Mexican Casserole</p> <p>April 19 - Lasagna</p> <p>April 26 - Swedish Meatballs</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 style="text-align: center;">Blood Drive</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APRIL 28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bring Friends</p>	<p>April 3 - Board Meeting</p> <p>April 10 - Stated Meeting</p> <p>April 17 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>April 24 - 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>April 3 - Board Meeting</p> <p>April 10 - Stated Meeting</p> <p>April 17 - Lodge Clean-up</p> <p>April 24 - 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>Adopt a Chair Program</p> <p>ONLY 18 CHAIRS LEFT!!!</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>lhkester@comcast.net</p>		<p><i>Stock the Store Campaign:</i></p> <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. 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.</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>	<p><i>Stock the Store Campaign:</i></p> <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. 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.</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>
<p>Events for the Super-Mason</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting April 9. • Plano Shrine Club meeting April 24 • Scottish Rite One Day Degree April 7 	<p>Events for the Super-Mason</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting April 9. • Plano Shrine Club meeting April 24 • Scottish Rite One Day Degree April 7 		<p>Events for the Super-Mason</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting April 9. • Plano Shrine Club meeting April 24 • Scottish Rite One Day Degree April 7

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

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PLANO, TEXAS



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BLOOD DRIVE
OCTOBER 28, 2006
FROM 7 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

Brothers are encouraged to bring their friends and family to donate. We need volunteers to help with setting up and taking down the equipment. Set-up begins at 5:45 a.m. and we start taking down at 3 p.m. Please contact Scott Shaeffer to volunteer at scott_wrs@comcast.net

Brethren there are still 54 members of Plano Lodge whose 2007 dues are delinquent! Check your dues card and if the expiration date is December 31, 2006, then you are in arrears. The automatic suspension date is June 24, 2007 at which time you will be suspended in all Lodges. If you are having difficulty paying these dues please contact the Secretary so that arrangements can be made to assist you.

Send dues (\$108.00) to: Plano Lodge #768

P.O. Box 860282

Plano, TX 75086

or Contact the secretary at (972) 424-7153 or tinypowell@tx.rr.com

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from each of you,

Harry Powell, Secretary