



PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Volume 186 - September 2009

Senior Officers

Worshipful Master	Scott Shaeffer	972-509-5252
Senior Warden	Adam DeMasellis	972-509-5252
Junior Warden	Clay Smith	972-881-8341
Treasurer	Barry Parrish	214-876-6819
Secretary	Harry F. Powell II	972 424-7153

Junior Officers

Senior Deacon	Kevin Main	214-796-9054
Junior Deacon	Bill Goodell	214-288-1838
Senior Steward	Brian Chaput	972-599-7789
Junior Steward	David Carter	469-467-0633
Marshal	Guy Haskell	469-667-1272
Chaplain	Bob Pannell	972-596-4416
Master of Ceremonies	Jim Harbor	
Tiler	James Drennan	

FROM THE EAST

Brethren of Plano Lodge,

At the recent meeting of The Texas Young Masons, several questions arose pertaining to new candidates. I would like to share these questions, and provide answers that may assist all of us in bringing new members to the fraternity.

1. Can we solicit members?
2. What information can be shared with prospective members?
3. How do we bring members into the lodge without compromising our laws?

In past generations, there was very little discussed about becoming a mason. This idea still holds true with many that will read this. 2B1ASK1, sound familiar? It was, and is believed that a man has to seek out the fraternity alone with no bias or prejudice. My father, who is very involved in Scottish Rite and Shrine, would only say to me "son, masonry is something you should look into some day; it's a fine group of men". How vague this is to a young man that is seeking more information about the fraternity that was so important to generations before him.

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For the latest on Lodge news and events and to download an electronic copy of the Trestleboard, go to:

<http://www.planomasoniclodge.org/>



PLANO LODGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS & DINNER MENU

September 3	Stated Meeting (Family Night)	Lasagna
	<i>Dinner 5:30 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.</i>	
September 10	2 EA Degrees	Burgers & Dogs
	<i>Dinner 6:00 P.M. / Degree 7:00 P.M.</i>	
September 14	Certificate Exam	Sandwiches
	<i>6:30 P.M.</i>	
September 17	Masters Degree	Chicken Pomegranate
	<i>Dinner 6:00 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.</i>	
September 24	Masters Degree	Brisket
	<i>Dinner 6:00 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.</i>	
September 26	Widow's Honor Night	Chicken Caesar Salad
	<i>6:00 P.M.</i>	
October 1	Stated Meeting (Family Night)	Jambalaya
	<i>Dinner 5:30 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.</i>	

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FROM THE EAST

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There must be things we can discuss openly to men of good moral character. Well there is, and I hope to give you a few of the tools that will help bring good men to the fraternity. There is no mention of soliciting members in the Plano Lodge By-laws except to say "This lodge subscribes to and shall be governed by the Constitution, Resolutions and Edicts of the Grand Lodge of Texas". So our guidance on this matter will come from The Laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas. You are now wondering what Grand Lodge Law states in reference to candidate qualifications and solicitation. Candidate discussion is found on pages 166-173, Title IV Chapter I, Articles 393-414, of the Laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas. We will focus on Articles 393 "Qualifications" and 393a "Solicitation".

If your belief is nothing can be discussed with a prospective candidate, then this article may not be for you. In the October article, I will dive further into the questions that have been raised in your mind regarding candidates. My goal is to give you questions to ask, comments to make and hope to bring a comfort level to a vital (and often misunderstood) part of the future success of Plano Lodge and the whole of Freemasonry.

Your Worshipful Master,
Scott Shaeffer
214-384-0317
master@planomasoniclodge.org

FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

As we move into the Fall, we are moving into a very busy season for our lodge. We have several candidates and brothers going through their degrees. This means that we have many opportunities for people to try new parts in degrees. I wanted to challenge each of you to seek out ways to participate in these degrees.

For those who haven't darkened the door of the lodge in a while, I want to encourage you to come back and see us. The fellowship in masonry is an encouragement to us all. The time we spend together builds multigenerational friendships that are uncommon in today's society. We would love to see you again.

For those of you who regularly attend, I encourage you to learn a new part in a degree. We have many brothers who are more than willing to instruct you in any part that you wish to learn. If you don't have time to sit with a brother and learn a new part, I want to challenge you to learn a charge for one of the degrees. The charges are meaningful instructions that we give our candidates and they sound so much better when they are recited rather than read. This will also give some of you your first opportunity to be the acting Master of the lodge.

I can only hope that some of you will accept this challenge and that your interest in learning the work will continue to grow. See you in lodge.

Fraternally,
Adam DeMasellis
SW, Plano 768

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

Brethren,

I have often heard the question "how can I help in the Lodge". I have the answer as we move toward the new Masonic year. There are several committees that will be finalized over the next few weeks, and I would like the membership to fill some of these positions. If you are interested, please contact me to offer your time. Everyone has a skill set or knowledge base that can contribute to the success of a committee. I need your help in filling these positions.

Committee opportunities available in a support capacity:

- **Widows:** Ensure communication between Lodge and Widows
- **Lodge communication:** Ensure website is updated, communicate with Lodge members
- **Museum & Library liason:** Keep the Lodge updated on M&L happenings
- **Prospect committee:** Communicate with new non-mason visitors to the Lodge
- **By-Laws committee:** Update our By-Laws & roster during 2009

I look forward to hearing from you on filling these positions. Together the Lodge will grow and prosper.

Your Worshipful Master,
Scott Shaeffer
214-384-0317
scott_wrs@verizon.net

FIVE POINTS OF FELLOWSHIP

by William R. Fischer

There are duties owing by every Mason to his brethren. By allusion to certain points of the body, we are taught the "The Five Points of Fellowship."

1. To serve
2. Pray for
3. Keep the secrets of
4. Support
5. Counsel

We must be constantly reminded of these points so we will not lose sight of them, once we leave the Lodge. More the brother who does not attend than he who attends regularly.

As always, we forgive the brother who does not frequent the Lodge. We should, because we know not the reason for his absence.

The five points of fellowship are a daily responsibility, and should become a habit. They should be so familiar to us, that we would act upon them with no more thought, than would be give to washing your hands or opening a door.

We constantly help, or serve our family, our brothers, our friends, and even strangers when we see the need.

We pray for others and ourselves, for strength and for peace.

We diligently keep the secrets from our detractors, from the ignorant, from the obsessed.

We support those who try to make life better, and we support those who fail. Then we counsel them, so they may have more knowledge, more understanding.....more light.

WEEKLY CERTIFICATE PRACTICES

We are meeting every Monday evening at 6:30 P.M. in the Museum and Library downstairs for certificate practices. All those wanting to learn the work and those studying for the exam are welcome. The certificate exam will take place on Monday, September 14th at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is

strongly encouraged to pursue a certificate this year, and if this is your first time, these practices are the best place to start. As a reminder, here are the requirements for each class:

“C” Certificate – Questions and answers from all three Degrees, the Tiler’s Oath, and how to open, close, and call to and from labor all three Lodges and the Master Mason’s Lodge of Sorrow

“B” Certificate – All requirements for “C” certificate and the floor work for all three Degrees

“A” Certificate - All requirements for “B” certificate and the short-form lectures for all three Degrees

ADOPT A CHAIR PROGRAM

ONLY 18 CHAIRS LEFT!!!

Remember a loved one forever, and help grow the Plano Lodge Building Fund.

Chairs are \$100.00 each and new name tags are available at a special price of \$10.00 each.

Contact Larry Kester for more information.

lhkester1@verizon.net

DISTRICT 9 STATED MEETINGS

First Tuesday	East Fork - 7:30 P.M. Lebanon - 7:00 P.M. St. John’s - 7:30 P.M.
First Thursday	Plano - 7:00 P.M.
Second Monday	Blue Ridge - 7:30 P.M. Celina - 7:00 P.M.
Second Tuesday	Allen - 7:30 P.M.
Second Thursday	Empire - 7:30 P.M. Lee - 7:30 P.M. Melissa - 7:30 P.M.
Third Tuesday	Farmersville - 7:30 P.M.
Fourth Tuesday	Princeton - 7:30 P.M.



PLANO ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR #703

JSeptember 21 - Stated Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

Brethren, as a Mason, you, your wife, your daughters or any other female relative at least 18 years of age is eligible for membership in the Order of the Eastern Star.



PLANO RAINBOW ASSEMBLY #320

September 1 - Advisory Board Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

September 8 - Stated Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

September 15 - Lodge Cleanup - 7:30 P.M.

September 22 - Rainbow Initiation Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

If your daughter is involved in Rainbow, please help with lodge clean up!

Brethren, your daughters and granddaughters aged 11 to 20 should be a part of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

APPENDANT BODIES

September 21 - Scottish Rite (Dallas) Stated Meeting - Dinner 6:30 P.M. / Meeting 7:00 P.M.

September 22 - Plano Shrine Club Dinner

ANNOUNCEMENT

Kitchen Announcement:

The kitchen will be conducting a food-drive through the month of September. All food items (canned, dry-goods) will be delivered to the North Texas Food Bank with Temple Emanu-El Dallas at the end of September.

You are asked to bring at item for each week you have a meal at Lodge through September.

You are encouraged to participate towards this worthy cause.

Fraternally,
The Stewards of Plano Lodge #768

TRAVELING MAN IN MASONRY

by Brother Jeff Godwin

In the ancient world of Operative Masonry the masons were often required to move from job to job much as in our modern time. It was further explained that ancient master masons, just as 1st class masons of today of today, were more likely to travel great distances than those of lesser ranks (FC & EA). Due to their experience (and today, usually a membership in the labor union representing the craft) they could move freely from job to job. Those doing so were normally members of a Masonic guild, whose members would, if known, vouch for the qualifications of (or recommend) another 'traveling' mason.

In speculative masonry we as Master Masons may freely move from Lodge to Lodge (either visiting or moving membership) and upon proper avouchment or by testing be found worthy to attend another Master Mason Lodge. This is much the same as moving from one job to another or from one ancient Masonic guild to another.

Also, a Master Mason is a traveler from west to east, as east is the where the sun comes up, hence the source of light. This is why the master sits in the East. Because it is the source of light. Thus being a traveling man represents our journey from darkness to Masonic light (enlightenment). We "traveled" symbolically when we were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Remember the words, "It will be necessary for you to travel"? and the condition of the road we would have to travel?

In Masonry we are told to seek the light. Light in Masonry is knowledge and from that knowledge comes information and understanding.



STOCK THE STORE CAMPAIGN

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. There is a large box at the top of the stairs to drop the items as you come in.

Here is a list of items they will always need:

Kleenex, Cough Drops, Sugar Free Cough Drops, Talcum and Medicated Talcum, Lectric Pre-shave, Williams Pre-shave, knee-high stockings (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, eyeshadow, blush, lipstick, Compacts, loose face powder (light), Chapstick, Cologne: men's and women's, Soft soap, 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 used VHS and DVD movies, Spray Starch, Hair Spray, V05 Hair Styling products.

FREEMASONRY AND THE INTERNET

Plano Lodge

www.planomasoniclodge.org

Plano Lodge Member Forum

www.planomasoniclodge.org/forum

Texas Young Masons

www.texasyoungmasons.org

MWSA - District 9

www.9thmws.ntxmason.org

Grand Lodge of Texas

www.grandlodgeoftexas.org

**North Texas Masonic Historical
Museum & Library**

www.northtexashistory.org

Featured Website for September:

<http://web.mit.edu/dryfoo/masonry/>