



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

August 1st

Stated Meeting

August 8th

EA Degree

August 15th

FC Degree

August 22nd

FC Degree

August 29th

FC Degree

[Online Calendar](#)

WHO COMES HERE?

IT'S TIME TO ATTEND LODGE!

At our August Stated Meeting, R.:W.: Jeff Forrester, District Deputy Grand Master of District 9B, delivered the Grand Master's Message to Texas Masons.

One of the highlights was Grand Master Rogers encouraging all Texas Masons to attend lodge.

The required items for a Texas Mason to gain admission into a Texas lodge are a current dues card and a picture I.D. No further examination is required by Grand Lodge.

If you or someone you know has not been attending lodge because they are a little rusty on the memory work, don't let that keep you away.

Now is a great time to come see what your lodge is doing!



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FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

The August stated meeting was our official visit from Right Worshipful Jeff Forrester, District Deputy Grand Master for our district. I would like to thank Brother Forrester and Brother Keith Stephens, our District Instructor, for their attendance. As always, it was a pleasure and informative for me to visit with them.

I would like to talk a little bit about one of the initiatives that I propose for the upcoming Masonic Year. We have talked a great deal about getting new brothers into the Fraternity, but not so much about how to keep them. What I'm proposing is that we begin a mentorship program for newly initiated Brothers. Going forward, I will expect the top-line signer(s) of a petition to take the lead in coordinating the activities of the new Brother. He should assist the Brother in finding an instructor if he is unable to teach the Brother himself and monitor his progress in learning the work. If the Brother hasn't been attending Lodge, check on him and see if there is any assistance required from the Officers of the Lodge, or anyone else. Encourage him to attend Lodge functions that are permitted to him and assist him in attending functions and activities that may be occurring outside our Lodge. If he would like to participate in Lodge activities, such as degree work and education sessions help him with that also.

Please give my suggestion some thought and provide me any comments that you think advisable.

- Bill Goodell, Worshipful Master

Committee on Work

CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION PRACTICES

Ricky Brown with the Grand Lodge Committee on Work is scheduled to conduct the Certificate Exam at Plano Lodge on Monday, September 9th at 6:00 p.m. A light dinner will be served preceding the examination.

Lecture practice sessions for "A" CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES will be held each Wednesday preceding Monthly Stated meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Lodge room.

The all-inclusive "dress rehearsal" practice will be held at Plano Lodge on Saturday, September 7th, at 8:00 a.m.

NOTE: Floor-work, Opening/Closing, and Q&A will be practiced on remaining Wednesday nights prior to Called meetings as part of degree team practice.

As a reminder, here are the requirements for each class:

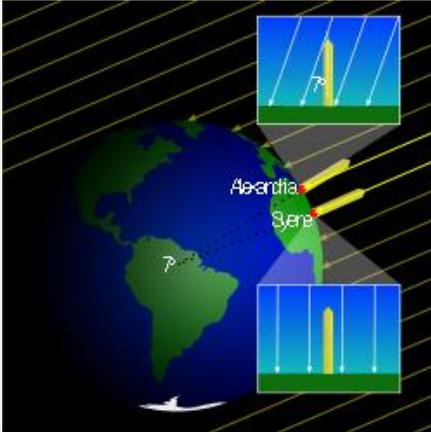
- **"C" Certificate** – Questions and answers from all three Degrees, the Tiler's Oath, and how to open, close, and call to and from labor all three Lodges and the Master Mason's Lodge of Sorrow
- **"B" Certificate** – All requirements for "C" certificate and the floor work for all three Degrees
- **"A" Certificate** - All requirements for "B" certificate and the short-form lectures for all three Degrees

Contact Jim Harbor at jim.harbor@gmail.com or 469-744-6028 for more information.

The South at Meridian Height

By Barry Parrish, Junior Warden

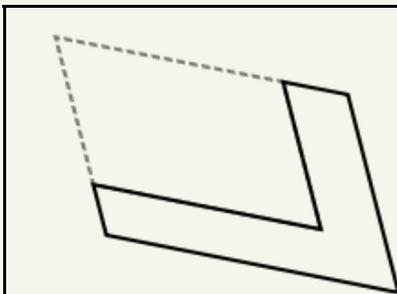
Circumference of the Earth



Who was first to discover the radius and circumference of the earth and how and when did they do it? Most probably think it was done with a slide rule or maybe even a sexton by some ancient ship's Captain but in reality it was accomplished around 236 BC by the third chief librarian of the Great Library of Alexandria. In *On the Circular Motions of the Celestial Bodies*, by Cleomedes, he is credited with this achievement by using knowledge of the angle of elevation of the sun at noon on the summer solstice in Alexandria and on Elephantine Island near Aswan, Egypt.

The entire calculation was solved without leaving Egypt. Knowing that on the summer solstice, at noon in Aswan on the Tropic of Cancer, the sun would appear overhead at its zenith.

It had been believed that a man's shadow when looking down a deep well would totally block the reflection of the sun. Assuming this true, and utilizing a gnomon, (the triangular blade of a sun dial) the sun's angle of elevation was measured in Alexandria and in Aswan at the same time and was found to be 1/50 of a circle. Knowing, from the past bookkeeping history of surveying by the Pharaohs logged the distance between the two locations at 5,000 strata or 500 geographical miles. Since there are different measurements of Stade as shown what did he use and what was exact?

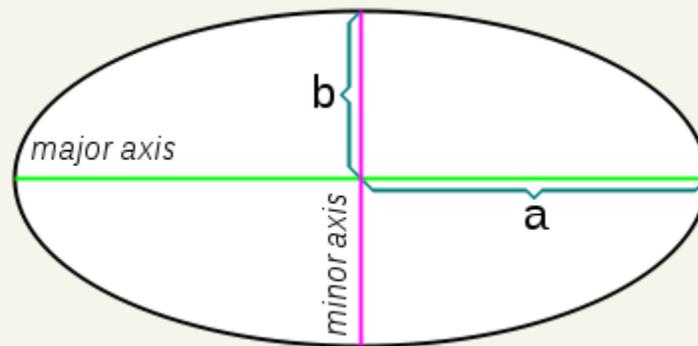


A gnomon as in Euclid book II
Anaximander (610–546 BC) is credited with introducing this Babylonian instrument to the Greeks

STADE NAME	LENGTH (Approximate)
Itinerary	157 m
Olympic	176 m
Attic/Italic	185 m
Babylonian-Persian	196 m
Phoenician-Egyptian	209 m

Circumference of the Earth, Continued

Geographical mile length is defined by 1 minute of arc along the earth's equator. The distance was also double checked by the travel time by camel between the two locations. Assuming the Earth was a 360 degree sphere and that the distance between Alexandria and Aswan was, rounding to 700 Strata miles per degree, implies a distance of 252,000 stadia or 25,200 geographical miles. Assuming the stade utilized was the Attic stade of 185m, the circumference was 46,620 km which is off by 16.3% as to the actual measurement of 40,076 km or 24,902 miles.



Keep in mind, the Earth is not perfectly round, its true description is of an Oblate Spheroid as shown above. What is the true form of the symbolic lodge? Maybe our ancient brethren knew more than what we have given them credit.

If the Phoenician-Egyptian Stade of 209 m was utilized, assuming he was in Egypt during this calculation, the measurement is 39,690 km, an error of a mere 386 stadia or .96 %, by using angle math and a gnomon 2,249 years ago. The Greek Eratosthenes, scholar, librarian, poet and inventor was the 1st to measure and mathematically prove the Earth's circumference.

**OCTOBER
26th**

BLOOD

The Gift Of Life

The "Gift of Life" program sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Texas helps children throughout the Lone Star State. Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, the Shrine Burn Center in Galveston, and the Shrine Orthopedic Hospital in Houston require approximately 9,000 units of blood each year. Statistics show that the population of Texas uses more blood and blood products than its citizens are donating; therefore, blood is being imported into the state from other areas of the country. This places our hospitals in the position of bargaining for available blood with every other hospital in the state. In some cases, medical personnel have had to resort to walking the halls to secure blood donors for necessary surgeries.

The Gift of Life program in Texas is meeting the blood requirements of our hospitals and providing an annual surplus to be used in emergencies, both public and fraternal.

This not only meets an essential need for our hospitals but also helps our communities by making fresh blood available whenever it is needed and by providing an easy means of donation. It is important to understand that the Gift of Life program is not designed to secure donations only from Masons. All donations are important and welcome. The strength of the Gift of Life effort is in providing an easy opportunity for the general public to donate through our Masonic Lodges. There is a Masonic Lodge nearby for everyone in the state, and we have found that people want to donate blood, especially when children are involved.

By providing an easy means of donation, with the proper publicity, we can easily provide 20,000 units of blood annually. By unifying all of the Masonic Lodges in Texas under the common Gift of Life banner, we all gain the benefit of each local drive's publicity. We do this annually each fall. This provides fresh blood when the supplies are most critical and when demand is at its peak. The program also gives the public a sense of what Freemasons do in the community, especially our help for children.

To date, the Gift of Life program has produced the following results:

- Thousands of units of blood have been collected.
- Lodges have been visited by hundreds of non-Masons.
- Several petitions for membership have been received.
- Local Masons have demonstrated to their community the viability and involvement of the Masonic Fraternity.

Today, the Gift of Life effort is making a difference, and we all win—our hospitals, our communities, our Lodges and, most importantly, the children we serve. There are no losers. **You, too, can be a winner by participating in the Plano Lodge Blood Drive on October 26, 2013.**



<https://www.facebook.com/events/336043503195412/>

TEXAS MASONIC FAMILY DAY

Live Entertainment www.TexasMasonicFamilyDay.org

All Day

Sponsored by

Fort Worth

Scottish Rite

Gift of Life

Blood Drive

Carter Blood Care

Guided Tours

TMRC Facilities

&

Museum

Meet

Representatives from
Grand Lodge of Texas
Grand Chapter R.A.M.
Grand Council R.&S.M.
Grand Commandery
Grand Chapter O.E.S.

Children's Activities

Hay Ride

Jump Houses

Pumpkin Patch

Dunkin' Booth

And Much More...



SATURDAY OCTOBER 12, 2013

10:00—4:00

Hosted by

TEXAS MASONIC RETIREMENT CENTER
1501 WEST DIVISION
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012



Vendor Door Prizes

Sponsored by

Grand Chapter

Order of the Eastern Star

Grand Commandery of Texas

Contact

Gary Blair (817) 275-2893

Jimmy Emmons (214) 212-5501

Steve McCoy (817) 247-3733

5th Annual

Masonic

Barbeque Cook-off

Sponsored by

Grand Royal Arch
Chapter of Texas

4th Annual

Classic Car

&

Motorcycle

Show

Sponsored by

14th & 64th

M.W.S.A.

Food and
Drink

Concessions

Fund Raising
Opportunities
for

Masonic

Organizations

Petting Zoo

Pony Rides

Sponsored by

Dallas Scottish
Rite

Plano Masonic Lodge #768

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

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