

Gray Line



NEWSLETTER OF GRAY MASONIC LODGE No. 329, A.F. & A.M.

SEPTEMBER 2022

2370 BARKER OAKS DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77077

(713) 730-9329

CHARTERED JUNE 24, 1870

OFFICERS FOR 2022-2023

GARY A. WIENER

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

STEVEN E. COBB

SENIOR WARDEN

VIGIL M. ROXAS

JUNIOR WARDEN

DANIEL R. SWEET

TREASURER

DARRIN I. PITTS, PM

SECRETARY

DOUG W. HISSONG, PM

CHAPLAIN

ZACH D. WILLNER

SENIOR DEACON

LEO I. BARNUEVO

JUNIOR DEACON

M. POLYCHRONOPOULOS

SENIOR STEWARD

YOUSSEF JAMAL DIALLO

JUNIOR STEWARD

RICHARD H. COBB, SR.

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Greetings from the East



Brethren,

Our 2022-23 year is off to a solid start — but I'll be honest, your Lodge is facing a budget shortfall that must be addressed. At the August stated meeting, the Brethren discussed and approved an increase in our annual dues, to bring them in line with those of other Texas lodges and improve Gray Lodge's financial health.

While we are working diligently to eliminate waste in other areas (cutting back on grass cutting and watering, switching to cheaper and more efficient utility options), an increase in our annual dues is inevitable: if we don't do it this year, we will absolutely have to do it the next. Gray Lodge will be stronger for biting the bullet now, and raise our dues sooner rather than later.

While a motion to increase dues to \$250 per year passed at the August meeting, after reviewing Grand Lodge law I have voided the results and am placing this back on the agenda for a re-vote at our September 7 stated meeting. To use parliamentary

language, the "question has been called" and there will be no further discussion on the motion; it will face a straight up-or-down vote by our Members. I encourage you to join us this Wednesday and have your vote counted.

Now that the bad news is out of the way, I'm happy to tell you that Gray Lodge is recovering nicely from the last two years' effects from the pandemic, and this month we will

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- Dues Are Due!
- A Busy November
- 13th Richardson Lecture
- Bro. Alexander Di Caro
- Upcoming Events
- Master Mason Anniversaries

Greetings From the East

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be raising TWO of our very worthy (and very patient) Fellowcrafts to the Sublime Degree. Please join us on Thursday, Sept. 8 and again on Sept. 22 to help us celebrate one of the most significant events that can happen in any Mason's life!

We also have a LOT of activities planned, with more being added to the schedule all the time. Please see the information below, and elsewhere in this edition of the *Gray Line*, to learn about everything your Lodge is putting together for you. Last year, Past Grand Master Ken Curry asked Texas Masons to consider, not what each lodge's Members could do for the lodge, but what their lodge could provide for their Members. This principle seems very basic, but is frequently overlooked — but *not* by us. Your officers take R.:W.: Curry's charge very seriously, and we hope you will participate in the educational, family, social, and fundraising events we are planning, in the next few months and beyond!

Fraternally and Sincerely,

Gary Wiener
Worshipful Master

Mark Your Calendars Now!

There are a LOT of great activities coming up soon at Gray Lodge No. 329! Here is just a taste of what we have planned:

- October 22 — The 14th annual A.S. Richardson Lecture & Festive Board (see the separate note on Pages 3 and 4). Tickets are \$65 and are on sale now; all Masons are invited to join us. Use the QR code on page 3 for a convenient PayPal option, or see any Gray Lodge officer for tickets at the cash price.
- November 12 — Gray Lodge will host a blood drive to benefit local hospitals, particularly M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, and are going to make it a family day! Please see the information on Page 5, and contact JW Vigil Roxas at jwarden@gray329.org to reserve a time slot for your donation.
- Our February 1 Stated Meeting will be a very special one, as Gray hosts its first "Sweethearts' Dinner"! Every Mason is encouraged to bring the ladies of his family for a special meal (ticket prices and menu will be announced later) and the "Blue Slipper" presentation from Bro. Cody Cockroft, chair of the Grand Lodge Masonic Education and Service Committee. Following Bro. Cockroft's presentation, we will excuse the ladies for our stated meeting (we're planning an additional program for the ladies to enjoy).
- Lodge improvement projects are set to take place one Saturday each month, beginning with a breakfast and fellowship on September 24th. If you can join us, please plan to arrive about 9:00 am; contact WM Wiener at master@gray329.org or SD Zach Willner at sdeacon@gray329.org to coordinate!



GRAY LODGE No. 329



14TH ANNUAL A.S. RICHARDSON LECTURE & FESTIVE BOARD

OCT. 22, 2021 6:30 PM

Embassy Suites Houston - Energy Corridor

Guest Speaker: Ben Williams

*Past Grand Orator, Grand Lodge of Colorado
Publisher, Rocky Mountain Mason*

**\$65 Per Brother
Seating is Limited**

**BLACK TIE OR DARK SUIT
SUGGESTED**



**Reception at 6:30 PM
Dinner at 7:00 PM, Program to follow**

**Embassy Suites - Houston Energy Corridor
11730 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77079**

Gray Lodge Committees 2022-2023 (part II)

Our Masonic Year is underway, and with it, the Standing and Special Committees of Gray Lodge are getting the important work of our Fraternity done! Participation in our Committees is open to all lodge Members, as well as our EAs and FCs. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to the appropriate Committee chairman:

Building & Grounds Maintenance — SD Zach Willner (sdeacon@gray329.org)

By-Laws, Rules & Regulations—SW Steve Cobb (swarden@gray329.org)

Charitable Endeavors—SD Willner

Communications — WM Gary Wiener (master@gray329.org)

Community Relations—WM Wiener

Finance — TR Dan Sweet (treasurer@gray329.org)

Fraternal Assistance — WM Wiener

Fundraising—SW Cobb

Funeral—CH Doug Hissong (chaplain@gray329.org)

Investment—TR Sweet

Masonic Education—JPM Erickson Ybarra (jpm@gray329.org)

Membership, Sickness & Distress—JW Vigil Roxas (jwarden@gray329.org)

Membership Outreach—SD Willner

Ritual Proficiency—SW Cobb

Social Activities—JW Roxas

SAVE THE DATE—October 22!

A.S. Richardson Lecture and Festive Board

Make your plans now to join us Saturday evening, October 22, 2022, for our 14th Annual A.S. Richardson Lecture, this year to be combined with our Festive Board. Our speaker will be Ben Williams, longtime publisher of *Rocky Mountain Mason* magazine (<http://www.rockymountainmason.com>), Past Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Colorado, current Secretary for Research Lodge of Colorado, and Past Master of Colorado lodges Norwood #111 and Telluride #56.



Bro. Williams was voted “Mason of the Year” in Colorado for 2015. He has served in numerous leadership capacities within both the Scottish Rite and York Rite, and in 2017 served as the grand commander for the Grand Commandery of the Knights Templar of Colorado.

Tickets will be \$65 per Brother (plus a \$2.44 convenience fee for PayPal); please use the QR code on Page 3. Bro. Williams’ lecture topic is to be determined. However, we expect this year’s Richardson event to sell out — so mark your calendars now!

DONATE BLOOD

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, November 12, 2022



Gray Lodge
#329 A.F.A.M.
 of the Grand Lodge of Texas

Why should your family and friends donate with MD Anderson?

All blood donated at MD Anderson goes directly to our cancer patients. On average, 1,300 individual patients receive transfusions each month.

You can positively impact the health care of a cancer patient by donating blood to MD Anderson and by encouraging others to donate, too.

You can donate in as little as 30 minutes.

Donor Eligibility Checklist

- ✓ I am 17 years or older
- ✓ I weigh at least 110 lbs.
- ✓ I am not pregnant
- ✓ I am in good general health and feeling well
- ✓ I have a photo ID

Time Commitment and Donor Frequency

- Blood donations take 30-45 minutes, and donors can give every 8 weeks.

Know Before You Go

Most medications, such as those treating blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, thyroid disorders, anxiety or depression, pose no issue.

If you have questions about donation eligibility, please visit mdanderson.org/bloodbank or call 713-792-7788.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MD Anderson
 Cancer Center



Blood donation is vital for MD Anderson patients.

Appointments are available daily. Visit mdandersonbloodbank.org to sign up to donate at one of our Blood Donation Centers or at a blood drive near you.

Make an appointment today!



Contact Us

MD Anderson Cancer Center – Blood Bank

2555 Holly Hall St.,
 Houston, TX 77054
 Open daily from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 713-792-7788

Have You Joined the “151 Club” (Master’s Club) Yet?

WM Wiener wishes to heartily thank the members (so far) of this year’s Master’s Club:

R.:W.:Mike Nanny, PM/PGM
Mario Reyna, PM
MC Marshall Collins



The “151 Club” is open to any Gray Lodge member who provides extra support to the Lodge by contributing an amount equal to annual dues, in addition to their Endowed, Life or 50-Year Membership or regular dues.



The Club provides extra income to Gray Lodge to be spent at the Master's discretion, but only for the benefit of the Lodge (and the Master's Club members). Members receive a special lapel pin and will be recognized on a plaque for their support of the Lodge! Use the QR code to the left to become a 151 Club Member!

“... that Important Lesson of Charity”

The **Humphrey Benevolent Fund** was established from the bequest of the estate of Brother W. S. Humphrey to Gray Lodge in 1929, The property in the estate of Brother Humphrey was set aside by the membership of Gray Lodge as an endowment for charitable purposes, primarily to relieve the distresses of Gray Lodge Brethren and their wives, widows, mothers, sisters and daughters. In addition, the Fund may be used for appropriate Community Charity Projects.

Although many Brethren don’t know about the Humphrey Fund, rest assured that the mission of its Administrative Board (composed of the five principal Elected Officers and two Brethren appointed at the Worshipful Master’s discretion) is to provide emergency financial help when it is critically needed — no questions asked, no identities disclosed. The Fund was able to provide assistance most recently to several Brethren during Hurricane Harvey.

The gifts from the Humphrey Fund are just that — gifts — and the Fund does not require nor expect to be reimbursed. However, that means that from time to time, the available cash in the Fund dips to an alarmingly low level. When that happens, it is up to those Brethren whose cable tow will permit to share their generosity, so that it can be put to best use when it is needed. Please donate if you can, either via cash or check to our Lodge Secretary, or via PayPal using this QR code . The money will be available for a very worthy cause (and, in case of emergency, it will be available for you, too!).



UPCOMING LOCAL MASONIC EVENTS

Please note that all plans are subject to change and should be confirmed before attending. The most up-to-date calendar info is always available at <http://www.GRAY329.org/calendar>.

We are working to repair the online calendar feed and will have new links for you soon.

SEPTEMBER 2022

7	Wed.	Gray Lodge Stated Meeting	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
8	Thurs.	Master Mason's Degree	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Degree 7:00 pm
9	Fri.	Ruthven Cmdry #2 Stated Meeting	Holland #1	Meeting 7:00 pm
12	Mon.	Washington Chapt #2 Meeting	Holland #1	Meeting 7:00 pm
13	Tues.	Bluebell Chapter OES Meeting	Gray #329	7:30 pm
15	Thurs.	Lodge Education Roundtable	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
17	Sat.	GLoT Forum & Certificate Exam	Aldine #1412	Forum 9:00 am / Exam to follow
19	Mon.	Arabia Shrine Stated Meeting	Arabia Shrine Temple	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
22	Thurs.	Scottish Rite Stated Meeting	Scottish Rite Temple	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
22	Thurs.	Master Mason's Degree	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Degree 7:00 pm
24	Sat.	Lodge Work Saturday	Gray #329	Begins 9:00 am
28	Wed.	District 30 MWSA Meeting	Reagan #1057	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
29	Thurs.	Lodge Education & Esoteric Work	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm

OCTOBER 2022

5	Wed.	Gray Lodge Stated Meeting	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
6	Thurs.	Lodge Masonic Education	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
8	Sat.	GLoT Forum & Certificate Exam	Sugar Land #1141	Forum 9:00 am / Exam to follow
10	Mon.	Houston Council #1 Meeting	Holland #1	Meeting 7:00 pm
11	Tues.	Bluebell Chapter OES Meeting	Gray #329	7:30 pm
13	Thurs.	Lodge Education & Esoteric Work	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
14	Fri.	Ruthven Cmdry #2 Stated Meeting	Holland Lodge #1	Meeting 7:00 pm
17	Mon.	Arabia Shrine Stated Meeting	Arabia Shrine Temple	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
20	Thurs.	Lodge Education Roundtable	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
22	Sat.	A.S. Richardson Lecture & FB	TBA	Registration begins 6:30 pm
26	Wed.	District 30 MWSA Meeting	Reagan #1057	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
27	Thurs.	Scottish Rite Stated Meeting	Scottish Rite Temple	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
27	Thurs.	Lodge Education & Esoteric Work	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm

NOVEMBER 2022

2	Wed.	Gray Lodge Stated Meeting	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
3	Thurs.	Lodge Masonic Education	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
5	Sat.	GLoT Forum & Certificate Exam	Holland #1	Forum 9:00 am / Exam to follow
8	Tues.	Bluebell Chapter OES Meeting	Gray #329	7:30 pm
10	Thurs.	Lodge Education & Esoteric Work	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
11	Fri.	Ruthven Cmdry #2 Stated Meeting	Holland #1	Meeting 7:00 pm
12	Sat.	Gray Lodge Blood Drive	Gray #329	9:00 am—2:00 pm
14	Mon.	Washington Chapt #2 Meeting	Holland #1	Meeting 7:00 pm
17	Thurs.	Lodge Education Roundtable	Gray #329	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
17	Thurs.	Scottish Rite Stated Meeting	Scottish Rite Temple	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
19	Sat.	Lodge Work Saturday	Gray #329	Begins 9:00 am
21	Mon.	Arabia Shrine Stated Meeting	Arabia Shrine Temple	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm
23	Wed.	District 30 MWSA Meeting	Reagan #1057	Dinner 6:00 pm / Meeting 7:00 pm

September Stated Meeting

Please plan now to join us for our Stated Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 7. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., with an Entered Apprentice Mason's lodge to open at 7 p.m.

Also, please plan now to attend our October 5 Stated Meeting, featuring the second and final official visit of D.D.G.M. Hunter Schappaugh to Gray No. 329. A Master's lodge will open at 7 p.m.

Keep Us Posted

If you have moved, or updated your email address or phone number, please update your record at grandlodgeoftexas.org (in the Member Portal), call us at 713-730-9329, or email Bro. Darrin Pitts at secretary@gray329.org with your new information so we can stay in touch.

Also, please let the Secretary know if you have any personal announcements you would like us to pass along to the Brethren.

MASTER MASON ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER 2022

5	Dwight Hollon (22 yrs)	18	Roger Castillo (20)
6	Mark Vonderau (38)	19	Abdel Fustok (21)
7	Bob Martin (16)	22	Jim Hoffman (6)
9	Alexander Di Caro (52)	22	Christopher Spry (29) *
10	Norman Dow (42)	23	Roy Shaw (58)
10	John McGalin (7)	24	Chris Haist (7)
11	Gregory McCoy (31)	29	Merle Zimmerman (51)
15	Larry Gabriel (46)	30	James Gilbert (55)
17	Miguel Grajeda, Sr. (45)		<i>* Past Master of Gray Lodge</i>

OCTOBER 2022

1	Joseph Reynolds (7 yrs)	16	Danny Fuller Sr. (14)
1	Shearn Smith (71) *	17	David Murray (32)
4	Samuel Ayers (19)	17	Harold Pascoe (42)
4	Kleber Siqueira (42)	18	Collin Wilson (4)
7	Samuel Sikes (51)	20	Richard Ferrari (12)
8	Jerry Chumley (36)	21	Sean Martin (12)
8	Wayne Huddleston (36) *	22	Darryl Puckett (47)
11	Alvin Schimming (44)	24	Richard Longino (21)
11	Gary Wiener (38) †	28	Keith Schmidt (41)
15	Bill Page (36)		† <i>Current Master of Gray Lodge</i>
			* <i>Past Master of Gray Lodge</i>

NOVEMBER 2022

9	Daniel Krukewitt (16 yrs)	20	Chuck Mitchell (8)
11	Arlison Nunes De Souza (1)	20	Charles Percy (23)
12	Erickson Ybarra (7) *	20	Randon Reaves (23) *
13	Thomas Kenyon (20)	21	Clarence Givens (52)
15	Joseph Saber (38)	26	Richard Fawcett (10) *
19	Mike Adal (25)	27	William Kent (48)
19	Iain Clark (19)	29	Ernest Bugh (32)
19	David Cousins (17) *	29	Billy Moreno (10) *
19	Timothy Crump (17)	29	Mario Reyna (32) *
19	Joshua Perez (7)	30	Dan Grosu (11)
19	Roberto Sanchez (17) *	30	Duke Isak (33)
20	Jimmy Albers (37)	30	Norman Tucker (24)
			<i>* Past Master of Gray Lodge</i>

"As we continue to improve ourselves in Masonry, we are indeed improving life. We know from history that without ideals to guide us, the garden of a man's life will not grow into a place of beauty."

~ Stanley F. Naxwell