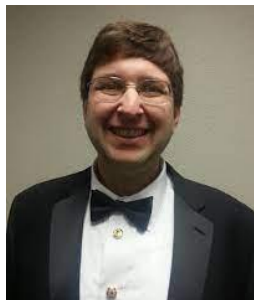




2024 May Edition - [www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org](http://www.tarrant.yorkritetexas.org) and <http://64th.org>



**P.: E.: Zach Haston**  
President, TCYRA



**R.: E.: Bob Brunk**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres., TCYRA



**Joe Perrin**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres., TCYRA



**Robert Cagley**  
Treasurer, TCYRA



**Hobie Henderson**  
Secretary, TCYRA

Welcome to the May 2024 Edition  
Tarrant County York Rite Association Newsletter

### Degrees and Events Schedule

May 8 – Fort Worth Masonic Service Bureau – Lake Worth Lodge – Eat 6 pm – Meeting 7 pm

May 11 – TMRC Ascension Service at the TMRC – 2 pm

May 15 – TMRC Pecan Grove Past Master's Degree – 6:30 pm

May 18 – York Rite College Conferral in Weatherford – Breakfast at 7 am

May 18 – Sweet Home Lodge at TMRC – 1:30 pm

May 23 – Sherman Council Degrees – Eat at 6:00 pm

May 31 and June 1 – TAMDA in Waco (members only)

June 19 – TMRC Pecan Grove Most Excellent Master's Degree – 6:30 pm

June 21 and 22 – Statewide York Rite Festival in Waco

Biography of Right Excellent, Right Illustrious Companion John A. Hughes – Page 3

Tarrant County York Rite Festival Report – Page 4

Grand Commander's Message (Sir Knight Justin Bauer, Right Eminent Grand Commander) – Page 5

New Grand Commandery Officers – Page 6

Grand Prelate's Message (Sir Knight Brad Billing, Eminent Grand Prelate) – Page 7

TMRC News – Pages 8-10

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS – May and June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 5	May 6	May 7 Texas Chapter Council Southside Chapter Council 6:30 pm	May 8 FTW MSB Lake Worth 6 pm	May 9	May 10 Grand Prairie York Rite 6:30 pm	May 11 Ascension Service TMRC 2 pm
May 12	May 13 Arlington Chapter/Council Eat at 6 pm	May 14	May 15 Past Master's Degree at TMRC 6:30pm	May 16	May 17	May 18 Sweet Home Lodge 1:30 pm York Rite College Conferral in Weatherford am breakfast
May 19	May 20 Goodnight Loving York Rite 6 pm Stephenville and Arlington Commandery Eat 6 pm	May 21 Denton Commandery Eat 6:30 pm	May 22	May 23 Sherman Council Degrees with GM Aaron Tyksinski and GHP Jim Manley Eat 6 pm	May 24	May 25
May 26	May 27 Stephenville York Rite 6 pm	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31 – June 1 TAMDA in Waco	
						June 1 Pecan Grove York Rite 9 am
June 2	June 3	June 4 Texas Chapter Council Southside Chapter Council 6:30 pm	June 5 Tarrant York Rite Eat 6 pm Meeting 7 pm	June 6 Southside and Worth Commandery Eat at 6 pm	June 7	June 8
June 9	June 10 Arlington Chapter/Council Eat at 6 pm	June 11	June 12 FTW MSB 6 pm	June 13	June 14 Grand Prairie York Rite 6:30 pm	June 15 Sweet Home Lodge 1:30 pm
June 16	June 17 Goodnight Loving York Rite 6 pm Stephenville and Arlington Commandery Eat 6 pm	June 18 Denton Commandery Eat 6:30 pm 18	June 19 Most Excellent Master's Degree at TMRC 6:30pm	June 20	June 21 and June 22 State-Wide York Rite Festival Waco Texas	
June 23	June 24 Stephenville York Rite 6 pm	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29
June 30	June 31	July 1 Texas and Southside Chapter Council 6:30 pm	July 2 Tarrant York Rite Eat 6 pm Meeting 7 pm	July 4 Southside and Worth Commandery Eat at 6 pm	July 4 	July 5 Pecan Grove York Rite 9 am

**The 2024 Tarrant County York Rite Honoree:  
Right Excellent, Right Illustrious **John A., Hughes****



Companion **Hughes** was born in Corsicana, Texas and grew up in Arlington, Texas where he resides today. He is a product of the Arlington Independent School District and graduated from The University of Texas at Arlington with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

John is currently employed by Lockheed Martin Corporation in Fort Worth as a Software Engineer. He and **Becky** were married in 1975 and have two daughters, both living in the area. They have five grandchildren.  
John was raised in Arlington Lodge No. 438 in 1972.

During the spring of 1973 he joined Arlington Chapter No. 376 R. A. M., serving as High Priest in 1992-93, Arlington Council No. 317 R. & S. M., serving as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1993-94.

He is a member of Arlington Commandery No. 107. John affiliated with Panther City Lodge No. 1183 in 1991 and served as Worshipful Master in 1994-95, followed by 10 years as Secretary.

He is a Past President of the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association of the 64<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master by G.M. **Harry G. Cunningham** in 1998.

John was appointed to the Fraternal Relations Committee of the Grand Lodge and is served as its chairman. He joined the Fort Worth Scottish Rite in 1979 and received the 32° KCCH in 1985. For his service he was Coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary in 2005.

He served as Treasurer and currently is serving on Finance Committee. He is the 21° Degree Master. He has been a member of Moslah Shrine Center since 1978.

He is a Past Sovereign Master of Tejas Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees having received the Red Branch of Eri.

In Trinity York Rite College he is a Past Governor and Past Treasurer. He is an Associate Regent of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America, where he served as **Deputy Grand Governor** in Texas for four years.

Companion Hughes was installed into Saint Timothy Conclave in 1988 and advanced through the officer line to serve as Sovereign in 2002. He was commissioned **Intendant General of the Division of Texas Northern in 2013**, serving for 10 years.

John is a Senior DeMolay, having been a member of Arlington Chapter, where is served as Master Councilor in 1968. He was elected to the DeMolay State Executive Committee. From DeMolay he holds the Degree of Chevalier, the Cross of Honor, and the Legion of Honor.

Companion Hughes is currently serving as the Right Excellent and Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer of the **Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas** and the **Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas** serving since 2019. He served as DDGM in 2018.

John is a VI° member of San Jacinto Assemblage of the Worshipful Society of Freemasons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plaisterers and Bricklayers (a. k. a., the Operatives).

He is Secretary and VIII grade member in Texas College of the S.R.I.C.F.



The Tarrant County York Rite Festival was very successful. I think we had **28945** Companions present, and we initiated approximately **1493** Companions. (At last count).

In the Past Master's Degree, we had shocking news –

Gary Blair did not vote “against” the resolution to donate to the Texas Masonic Retirement Community’s “No Mason Left Behind” program.

It was the first time that I can remember Gary Blair not voting against a resolution to spend Monday.



**Sir Knight Justin Bauer, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Texas** conferred and knighted our candidates in the Tarrant County York Rite Festival. **Most Excellent Jim Manley, Grand High Priest** also conferred and worked in the Chapter Degrees.



Sir Knight  
**Justin C. Bauer, KCT**  
 Right Eminent Grand  
 Commander of Texas  
 2618 Dove Creek Ln.  
 Carrollton, Texas 75006  
 (214) 766-5145  
 justin.bauer@gmail.com

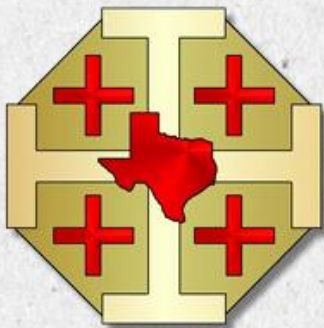


Photo Courtesy:  
 SK Charles Broussard

Sir Knights,

I am honored to serve all the Knights across our great state as your Grand Commander. Your Grand Commandery is already hard at work.

I am happy to report The Texas Holy Land Pilgrimage Foundation corporation paperwork has been filed with the state. Our board has already submitted the required IRS request for a 501(c)(3) designation. The Texas Holy Land Pilgrimage badges are ordered and we expect to receive them by the end of May. With your generous contributions, we have raised over \$12,000 in two short weeks since our Grand Conclave!

On April 27th, I had the honor of Knighting 13 new members in Lubbock. That same day, almost 400 miles away, your newly-elected Grand Sentinel, Hardy Nevill, and the Knights of Colorado No. 4 knighted a new member. Neither Sir Knight Hardy, nor I could have done this without you. Your energy is contagious.

The Grand Commandery of Texas is only as strong as its constituent commanderies. Your engagement at your local commandery makes us great. Your actions to spread Chivalric Masonry across Texas make us great. Simply by showing up, attending a conferral, a stated meeting, or a festival, you help increase our engagement.

Get engaged! Stay engaged! Encourage others to be engaged! Through your activity, we will achieve greatness!

In His Service.

# 2024-2025 GRAND OFFICERS



Justin Bauer  
Grand Commander



Jason Lesikar  
Deputy Grand Commander



Gary Rock  
Grand Generalissimo



Ralph Royall  
Grand Captain General



Ricky Cox  
Grand Senior Warden



Tommy Chapman  
Grand Junior Warden



Brad Billings  
Grand Prelate



Hunter Schappaugh  
Grand Treasurer



Ronnie Wilson, PGC  
Grand Recorder



Judge Risley  
Grand Standard Bearer



Christopher Little  
Grand Sword Bearer



Gabriel Jagush  
Grand Warden



Hardy Nevill  
Grand Sentinel

# PRELATE'S CORNER



## A MESSAGE FROM THE EMINENT GRAND PRELATE SK BRAD BILLINGS, KCT

Sir Knights,

If you've ever had hesitation, doubt, feelings of unworthiness, imperfections, weakness or fear you are NOT alone. When asked to serve as Grand Prelate I gave my usual response of "let me think and pray about it." While I feel this is the best advice anyone can utilize before making a decision, I must admit this time it was more of a way to pause while I found a way to respectfully decline the invitation. While I was thankful, excited even, for the awesome opportunity of filling a vital role within our Grand Commandery, I couldn't shake the feeling of unworthiness (which I still feel to this day).

As I prayed over the next few days one thought remained constant in my mind: God uses imperfect people! Moses couldn't speak well. David was an adulterer, and the argument can be made that he was a murderer too. Paul persecuted Christians. Peter denied Christ. Jacob stole his birthright. God's chosen people, the Israelites, despite being led out of captivity by a pillar of fire at night and a pillar of smoke during the day and even having seen the miracle of the Red Sea parted, chose to worship an idol. Even Solomon, the wisest man to ever live, and a key character in our Masonic journey, fell victim to the lust for women and wine. In fact, every commandment, all ten, were broken at some point by someone God chose to represent him in the greatest story ever told. WHY?

If you grew up in the revival era you, like me, were probably told that people who broke the laws of God were destined for "fire and brimstone." Further, we were told that is what they deserved. But if that is the case, why would an all-powerful God choose to tell his story through these imperfect examples? Is it possible that these were the best representatives He could find? I can't imagine that is the case. So, the only plausible answer is, He CHOSE to use imperfect people.

Now, it comes as no surprise to anyone reading this that I am NOT perfect. It is, however, the greatest source of hope for modern Christians that despite our many flaws and daily shortcomings to the expectations of God, He, through His grace and mercy to mankind, can and will use us in spite of our imperfect nature.

Even you may be the example! I hope you will continue to pray for me, as I pray for you, to be the best in whatever role God has seen fit to bless us with. In doing so, I believe we live out the journey He has planned for us, a part only we can play.

Please pray with me:

*Heavenly Father, I come before you today with a humble heart, fully acknowledging my flaws and where I have fallen short of your expectations. I am amazed and aware of your ability to use imperfect people to the honor and glory of Your holy Name, and I ask that you use me according to your design. Use the brokenness in me to complete your story and make my weakness strength in you. Help me to recognize when I am called to step out in faith to accomplish Your will and give me the courage and fortitude to do so. In the strong Name of Jesus, I pray, Amen.*



## Texas Masonic Retirement Community

April 19 at 9:59 AM · 🌐

Moving the body and the mind with Dan and his Tai Chi program at [Texas Masonic Retirement Community](#).





# 2024

Donations Received September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024

## Honor Roll

Your donation helps older Masons, their wives, widows, mothers, never-married sisters, & never-married daughters live with dignity in safe, comfortable surroundings at Texas Masonic Retirement Community – ALWAYS.

### 2024 Regency Contributors

**\$5,000 or More**

Donations Received September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024

**Family Day Planning Team**  
**Grady & Doris Evans Endowment Foundation**  
**Floyd Hall**  
**Doyle Harvey**  
**Lee & Maxine Grote Family Fund**

### 2024 Legacy Contributors

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Donations Received September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024

**Gene Blackmore**  
**Gary Blair**  
**Nazario Cantu**  
**Suraj Choudhury**  
**Joe & Janice Corthay**  
**Gene Brookshire Family Ltd Partnership**  
**Dr. Richard & Rozelle Gilman**  
**Robert Guytine**

**Sidney Hayes**  
**James and Donna Kirkpatrick**  
**Ernest Lisle**  
**Paul S. Hollis Trust**  
**Alan Rowe**  
**Jim Sains**  
**Stephens Living Trust**  
**Raymond Tomlinson**

## Masonic Organizations

**Dallas Commandery #6**  
**Goodnight Loving Chapel #12 Order of Acon**  
**Grand Council Royal & Select Masters of TX**  
**Kerrville Chapter #305 & Council #240**  
**Oak Forest Lodge #1398**

**Our Redeemer Tabernacle #9**  
**Rose of Sharon Council #49**  
**Sam P Cochran Lodge #1335**  
**Seagoville Chapter #419**  
**Tejas Council #282**

## 2024 Tribute Contributors

**\$500 - \$999**

Donations Received September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024

### Donor Anonymous

**Joseph Batrice**  
**Richard Brett**  
**William Bright**  
**Douglas Brown**  
**Robert L. Choate**  
**Sally Conroy**  
**James Davies**  
**Tom Dearing**  
**Larry Hall**

### William (Matt) Harpole

**David J. Harris**  
**Ronnie Hawthorne**  
**H. Bart Henderson**  
**Mitchel Huffman**  
**Rodney Hutto**  
**Paul Kopyar**  
**Dr. Steven Kushel**  
**Garry Lloyd**  
**Joe Lovelady**

### Donald Mafrige

**Brandon Moore**  
**Guy Niles**  
**Floyd Rust**  
**Paul Schroeder**  
**Juan Soriano**  
**Texas Instruments Foundation**  
**Albert Wiggers**

### Masonic Organizations

**Arlington Chapter #376 & Arlington Council #314**  
**Fredericksburg Lodge #794**

**High Noon Club of Dallas**  
**Julian Feild Lodge #908**

For the remaining contribution list, check out this website:

<https://yourtmrc.org/donate/honor-roll-current-year/>

to make a personal donation, click here:

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/WebLink.aspx?name=E333484&id=8>

to make a lodge donation, click here:

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/WebLink.aspx?name=E333484&id=9>

**James Kirkpatrick**, Editor

May the God of Love and Peace delight to dwell with and bless you.