

**David Elliott Lodge # 364 Monthly Update**

**94 CR 1440**

**Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455**

**Issue # 18 ---February 04, 2025**



**David Davey**  
Worshipful Master



**David Elliott Lodge # 364**  
Chartered June 09, 1873



**Most Worshipful**  
**Raborn L. Reader, Jr**

**2024/2025**

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**NEXT STATED MEETING: Tuesday, March 04, 2025 @ 7:00 PM**  
**MEAL AT 6:15 PM**

1. The meal was furnished & served by ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter 997, Omaha. The WM thanked all the ladies for the meal.
2. Rick Holland volunteered himself, Garrett Lyons & Rusty Hughes, to prepare the meal for the next Stated Meeting on March 04, 2025.
3. Please remember your sick brothers and their families and pray for them.
4. The Lodge will start Lodge Education Training focused on new officers, advancing officers & others needing to practice and learn about their roles within the Lodge. The LEO will present training in various areas such as avouchment, balloting, receiving the DDGM, opening & closing, etc. The first training will be held at 6:30 pm on February 17, 2025, (Third Monday of the Month) & at the same time and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month through May 2025.
5. The Lodge discussed the Scholarship & Lamar program for the coming year and activated the Committee that will implement the program.

6. The Community Builder Award Committee was activated and will make their nomination for the award and plan the program.
7. The WM approved the OES to use the Lodge on June 07, 2025, all day, for their yearly installation.
8. The Pancake Fundraiser was held on January 25, 2025, had adequate staffing. The pace was a little slower than usual, but we had a good crowd and then the Lodge presented the Golden Trowel Award to a member. Refreshments were served after the ceremony.

## **L.E.O. EDUCATION MINUTE**

Why does the Worshipful Master of a lodge wear a hat?

The question should rather be: “Why does no one else wear a hat?”

Wearing a hat in a lodge is a privilege that is afforded only to the Worshipful Master of a lodge. While the lodge is in session, no one else is allowed to wear a hat. The hat worn by a Master is a reference to the crown that was worn on the head of King Solomon. In history, kings wore crowns as a sign of their rank. Those in his presence removed their hats as a sign of respect to the king.

The ancient Romans prayed with their heads covered. Those that were free born wore pileus or woolen caps. Roman slaves were not allowed to cover their heads while praying.

In the United States, Worshipful Masters wear Masonic hats whenever a lodge is in session. Some Grand Lodges require that hats must have a brim. Others do not have this requirement. They only insist that the head of the Worshipful Master must be covered.

The choice of headwear is left to the Worshipful Master himself. In England, Scotland and Ireland the tradition is that the Worshipful Master wears a top hat. This tradition moved to the USA when the first Grand Lodges were established in this country. Several Grand Lodges such as Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Virginia still follow this tradition. Other places such as Texas use more regional options. In Texas a nice cowboy hat is a common hat you will encounter. But in most Grand Lodges it is the choice of

the officer himself, and can be as far ranging as a fedora,

### **TEXAS HAT POLICY**

**Art. 278. Master Presiding “Covered.”** The ancient custom of the Master presiding “covered” must be complied with, except that the Brother presiding at Masonic funerals, memorial services, grave side services, or during open meetings of the Lodge, may at his discretion, preside over such services and ceremonies uncovered. To be “covered” shall mean the wearing of a hat, and a hat is described as a head covering with a shaped crown and a full circle brim. No person other than the presiding Master shall wear any type of head covering, except for required religious head coverings, while in Lodge or at other Masonic ceremonies. (Revised 2010)

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