

# David Elliott Lodge # 364 Monthly Update

174 CR 3347  
Omaha, Texas 75571-4071

## Issue # 10 --- April 02, 2024



Worshipful Master  
Garrett Lyons  
2023/2024



David Elliott Lodge # 364  
Omaha, Texas  
Chartered June 09, 1873



Most Worshipful Grand Master  
Tommy F. Chapman  
2024/2025

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**NEXT STATED MEETING: Tuesday, May 07, 2024 @ 7:00 PM**

**MEAL AT 6:15 PM**

1. The meal was furnished by Rex McGee for April. Brother Rook will provide the May SM meal.
2. Marietta Property Disposal Committee: The Lodge voted to allow the Committee of WM Lyons, SW Reinhart, Treasurer McGee, Secretary Munkres, Jodie Harris & Ken Breedlove to carry forth with the sale or listing, as appropriate, without further approval of the Lodge.
3. [Please remember your sick brothers and their families and pray for them.](#)
4. Scholarship & Lamar Award Committee: Brother Holcomb reported on the two nominations for the annual scholarship and the two Lamar Medals to be presented this year.
5. Pancake Fundraiser Breakfast. The next fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2024. Brother McGee will start public announcements related to the fundraiser the day after the April stated meeting.
6. The Lodge renewed **CD with FF S & L in Mt. Pleasant for 13 months @ 4.67%**. Matures 03/05/2025.
7. A new plaque with names of additional endowments was acquired and placed on wall in the dining room.
8. Brother McGee will present a list of Rules & Regulations to be discussed & voted on at next meeting.

***Support the Shriners, Scottish Rite & St. Jude's Hospital systems for Children.***

- Freedom has a price the protected will never know!
- I understand that darkness is not necessarily an absence of light.  
It is a rich tapestry of emotions, experiences, and unspoken truths.

- On many days memories are all I have to cling to!

Some memories are pleasant, some are unpleasant and some eternally frightening.

## **\*\*A Masonic lesson from one of the years when I was DEO\*\***

### *The District Education Officers Perspective....*

## **The Tiler—or—(tyler)**

Researched, edited and current accepted language applied By Rex McGee

**DISCLAIMER:** These articles are written for the purpose of stimulating the thought process and providing talking points as it relates to history and the development of Freemasonry, its offices, titles, and customs. Titles, offices, and customs vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and sometimes from lodge to lodge. These articles do not recommend or condemn any practice established by lodges or jurisdictions. The articles represent research, history and practices as documented in a historical perspective. Even though you may or may not practice some of the ideas you may find some relevance in their thinking and results of said practices. One must realize that researchers disagree among themselves as to specific information or findings on a subject and you as readers of said material must be aware that some of these disagreements and prejudice toward specific information or ideas may be present in any compilation of research.

Both spellings are used in various sources ... but "Tiler" is the more common of the two (and thus should be listed as the primary spelling, with "Tyler" being the alternate).

The Tiler is sometimes known as the 'Outer Guard' of the lodge. His duty is to guard the door (from the outside), with a drawn sword and whose duty it is to guard the door of the Lodge, and to permit no one to pass in who is not duly qualified, and who has not the permission of the Master. A necessary qualification in many Jurisdictions of a Tiler is, therefore, that he should be a Master Mason. Although the Lodge may be opened in an inferior Degree, no one who has not advanced to the Third Degree can legally discharge the functions of Tiler.

In some Jurisdictions the Tyler is a Past Master of the Lodge while in others he may be an employed brother from another lodge. The position has often been given to a deserving Mason who has fallen on challenging times, as a form of Lodge assistance, or to a senior Lodge member who can help and advise those kept waiting outside. In some cases, the Tyler may not be an unpaid member of the lodge, but a mason from another lodge employed for the purpose. The Tiler need not be a member of the Lodge which he tiles; and in fact, in large cities, one Brother very often performs the duties of Tiler of several Lodges.

His Jewel is the Sword, by which he symbolically refuses entrance to anyone who is uninitiated in the Craft. The sword has no scabbard, as it is his symbolic duty to always have his sword drawn, ready for the defense of his post. The Tiler's duties and principle role is to ensure that only those who are duly qualified are allowed to enter the Lodge Room. He guards against cowans and eavesdroppers. During the Middle Ages, a cowan was a man who built stone walls of inferior quality. He was an uninitiated or non-apprenticed stonemason...a "jackleg" if you will. While the Tiler is sometimes called upon to assist in the preparation of candidates, his chief duty is to (symbolically) keep unskilled workmen from overhearing the conversation within the Lodge Room. After the lodge members are inside the Lodge Room, the door closes, and it is the Tiler's duty to decide whether late arrivals may enter. It is also his duty to make sure that each visitor is "properly clothed", which means they must be wearing their Masonic apron. To be fully and properly dressed before entrance into the Lodge Room, the visitor must be wearing their apron over the outside of their suit coat and the apron strings must be fully tied before the Tiler will allow the visitor entrance. Some jurisdictions call this position the Outer Guard.

Masonic lodges throughout history may have met in rooms in taverns and other public meeting places, and all Lodges appointed a Tiler to guard the door from the outside against ineligible masons or malicious or curious people, to check the eligibility of latecomers, and to ensure that candidates for ceremonies in the Lodge are properly prepared.: Other duties have traditionally involved preparing the room for meetings, supplying regalia and equipment, serving as bar steward or acting as permanent, and sometimes resident, caretaker of the furniture and premises.

In some Jurisdictions the Tyler is appointed by the Worshipful Master, while in others the members of the Lodge elect him. He is charged with examining the Masonic credentials of anyone wishing to enter the Lodge and keeping unqualified persons from infiltrating Masonic meetings, and admitting only those qualified to attend the current business.

In some jurisdictions, the Worshipful Master has the authority to permit or direct the Tyler to "tile from within" during the non-ritualistic portions of a meeting. If tiling from within, the Tyler must first secure the outer doors of the Tyler's anteroom. He would then leave the inner door open between the lodge room and the Tyler's anteroom, and sit at the seat closest to the door, still holding his drawn sword. Tiling from within enables the Tyler to participate in the business portions of the meeting, voice his opinions, volunteer for committees, deliver reports, and receive instruction if any be given. In other jurisdictions, such as the United Grand Lodge of England, the Tyler is always expected to be outside the closed door of the lodge; on the rare occasions when the Tyler enters the lodge room, another lodge member (typically the Inner Guard or, in the U.S., the Junior Deacon) goes outside to take temporary responsibility for guarding the door.

The origins of the term are uncertain, and a number of hypotheses have been presented over time. Masonic lodges originally met in inns or taverns, and Tyler is an Old English word for the keeper of an inn door. Alternatively, the name may simply come from the occupation of Tiler—a person who lays roof and floor tiles. More fanciful suggestions have included:

- Possibly related to the name of Wat Tyler, or Walter the Tyler, the leader of the Peasants' Revolt of 1381.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Possibly a revision of the word tether, used to tie the door closed!
- Possibly owing to the tiles being those stones or bricks which seal the structural masonry, whether they are on floors, walls, or roofs. Likewise, the Tyler seals the remainder of the activities of the lodge

Traditionally, if the Tyler is a member of the Lodge he tiles and is paid he is considered as the servant of the Lodge. It has, therefore, been his duty to prepare the Lodge for its meetings, to arrange the furniture in its proper place, and to make all other arrangements for the convenience of the Lodge. This is a very important office, and, like that of the Master and Wardens, owes its existence, not to any conventional regulations, but to the very landmarks of the order; for, from the peculiar nature of our Institution, it is evident that there never could have been a meeting of Freemasons for Masonic purposes, unless a Tyler had been present to guard the Lodge from intrusion. The title is derived from the Operative Art; for as in Operative Masonry the Tyler, when the edifice is erected, finishes and covers it with the roof of tiles, so in Speculative Masonry, when the Lodge is duly organized, the Tyler closes the door and covers the sacred precincts from all intrusion.



**Nightmare from above**  
**The Mighty "BUFF"--- Queen of Freedom**  
**GOD Bless America & keep our *Constitutional Republic* strong**