

**David Elliott Lodge # 364 Monthly Update**

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**Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455**

**Issue # 33---May 05, 2026**

<http://www.davidelliott364.org/>



**W.H. "Bill" Guy**  
**Worshipful Master**  
**2025/2026**



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



**Most Worshipful**  
**Jim Rumsey**  
**2026/2027**

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**NEXT STATED MEETING: Tuesday, June 02, 2026 @ 7:00 PM MEAL AT 6:15 PM**

1. The Stated Meeting meal for May 2026 was provided by Rex McGee. The June 2026 meeting meal will be provided by Bill Guy.
2. Please remember your sick brothers and their families and pray for them. Remember our bereaved brethren and pray for God's caressing hands upon them.
3. LEO Training for May is cancelled.
4. The final Pancake Fundraiser for MY 2025/2026 was held on April 25, 2026. It was successful as were the two previous Fundraisers this Masonic Year. The three combined fundraisers produced the best year since we started tracking such activities. The revenue from the fundraisers covered all the expenses of the Lodge related to Scholarships, Awards and various charitable activities such as Christmas for needy families, Widows programs, Community Charitable Grant,

Honorarium for the School System, deceased brethren memorials and other miscellaneous charitable activities.

5. The Scholarship & Lamar Medal Committee will present the Lodge Scholarships and Lamar Medals at the annual Paul Pewitt Scholarships Awards night on May 12, 2026. The committee consists of Fred Holcomb, chair, Casey Betts & Ricky Holland.
6. It is time to start thinking about availability for Lodge offices for the coming year.  
**Please remember that Progressive Line Officers have special eligibility requirements.**  
The Worshipful Master appointed a nominating committee of Rick Holland, Rex McGee & Mark Munkres. The committee will be contacting members to determine their desires and availability for positions.
7. The Building & Property Committee had a meeting and evaluated our current coverage along with potential coverage. Several questions arose from the discussion, and the Secretary was charged with getting answers to the questions & issues. After relevant questions were satisfactorily answered and an agreed upon value of the Lodge property was determined, Brother McGee made a motion to change coverage upon expiration of the current coverage for the amount voted on in the stated meeting. The motion carried.
8. Temple Lodge # 70 in Mt. Pleasant and Oasis Lodge # 79 in Daingerfield will have their 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations on May 23, 2026, at 11:00 am and 3:00 pm respectively at their lodges. The MWGM and other GL officers are scheduled to be in attendance.
9. The Order of the Eastern Star will be honoring Carole McGee, OES Grand Chapter Chaplain and Abby Foreman, Deputy Grand Matron, both Omaha Chapter # 997 members, with a tea on Saturday May 23, 2026, at 2:00 pm at David Elliott Lodge in Omaha.
10. Omaha Chapter #997 will be having its installation of Officers on Friday, June 05, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

### **LEO TRAINING**

The Tiler plays a vital role in the functioning of a Masonic Lodge in Texas, ensuring that the environment remains secure and that only qualified individuals participate in the lodge's activities. This position is not only practical but also carries significant symbolic meaning within the Masonic tradition.

#### Key Responsibilities of the Tiler

1. **Guarding the Lodge:** The Tiler is responsible for guarding the entrance to the Lodge Room, often referred to as the "West Gate." This involves ensuring that only those who are duly qualified and properly attired are allowed to enter.
2. **Managing Entry:** The Tiler decides whether late arrivals may enter the lodge after it has been opened. He must verify that each visitor is wearing their Masonic apron correctly, which signifies their status as a Mason.
3. **Preventing Unauthorized Access:** The Tiler protects the lodge from "cowans" (unqualified individuals) and eavesdroppers. This role is crucial for maintaining the confidentiality of the lodge's discussions and activities.
4. **Assisting with Candidate Preparation:** While the Tiler's main duty is security, he may also assist in preparing candidates for initiation or advancement within the lodge.

5. Communication with Other Officers: The Tiler communicates with the Junior Deacon regarding the entry of qualified Masons. He informs the Junior Deacon when someone wishes to enter the lodge, ensuring that the lodge's activities proceed smoothly.
6. Symbolic Role: Symbolically, the Tiler represents the need for vigilance and protection in both the lodge and personal conduct. His presence serves as a reminder to members to guard their thoughts and actions.

**The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Jim Rumsey, has seen fit to clarify several issues in relation to the Tiler performing his duties. These clarifications are listed below.**

#### **DECISION No. 1 - 2026**

QUESTION: Is it permissible for the Tiler of a lodge to enter the room and sit in on the meeting once the opening ceremony has been concluded?

DECISION: No. The term *tile* is handed down to us from the stonemasons of the medieval era and is derived from the Latin *tegula*. Masonically, to tile is to seal a building to protect it from intrusion. A tiled meeting cannot be tiled if there is not a Tiler tiling the door. Every officer has a station or a place. The Tiler's place is outside the door. To permit him to enter the lodge room during a tiled meeting would be essentially the same as allowing the Senior Deacon to sit with the Secretary at his desk during the meeting.

The uniform code of bylaws for constituent lodges (Form 23) specifies that the Tiler shall be exempt from the payment of dues. He is not permitted to sit in on or participate in the business of the Lodge, so he is not required to pay dues.

*The Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas* allow for some flexibility if a lodge does not desire to have one of its members missing out on the business of the lodge. Article 265 allows a lodge to appoint a Master Mason from another lodge to serve as tiler. Additionally, Article 221 allows for the payment of a salary to the Tiler for his services.

#### **DECISION No. 2 - 2026**

QUESTION: Can an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason serve as Tiler for a Master Mason's Lodge

DECISION: No. The tiler (elected or *pro-tempore*) must be a Mason of the degree upon which the lodge being tiled is opened.

#### **DECISION 5-2026**

QUESTION: Does the Tiler of a constituent lodge count as a member for establishing a quorum at stated or called meetings?

DECISION: No. The Tiler is to be without the door. He does not participate in the business of the lodge and is not in the lodge room while the lodge is open and conducting business, therefore his presence while attending to his duties outside of the lodge does not count toward the minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum.

*Support the Shriners Children Hospital System, The Scottish Rite Hospital, and the St. Jude Children's Hospital System with a monthly contribution.*

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