

David Elliott Lodge # 364 Monthly Update

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Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455

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



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



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



**Most Worshipful
Raborn L. Reader, Jr
2025/2026**

Office	Name	Phone Number	email
WM	Bill Guy	903/434-3759	roosterioof@yahoo.com
SW	Rusty Hughes	903/806-5071	RustyHughes1983@gmail.com
JW	Joe Reynolds	903/717-1009	joe@larryjoereynolds.com
TREAS	Garrett Lyons	903/563-3126	lyons_garrett20@yahoo.com
SEC	Rex McGee	903/235-7931	alvinrexmcgee@hotmail.com

NEXT STATED MEETING: November 04, 2025, 7:00 PM MEAL AT 6:15 PM

1. The Stated Meeting meal for October 2025 was provided & served by Wayne Cason & Mark Munkres. Brother Holland provided the dessert. The November meeting meal will be provided by Rusty Hughes and Rick Holland will furnish the dessert.
2. Please remember your sick brothers and their families and pray for them.
3. The next LEO Training scheduled for **Monday, October 20, 2025 @ 6:30 pm.** The training will focus on the Grand Lodge pamphlet for investigating petitioners to the Lodge. Also, open/Close of Master Masons Lodge.
4. The recipient of the Golden Trowel Award will inform the Lodge of his award date.

5. The first Fundraiser will be on **Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 8:00 am until 11:00 am**. Please arrange your schedule to attend in order to have sufficient staff to man critical positions and to have masons to greet & socialize with visitors.
6. The Dues notices for the upcoming year have an enclosed letter asking the endowed members without a Per Capita exemption to; (A) pay their per capita of \$27.50 per member (B) everyone is asked to furnish their current & accurate phone number, address, & email address and return the information to the Lodge secretary. Dues are payable no later than December 31, 2025, in order to remain in good standing with your Lodge.
7. Brother Betts continues to work on the Masonic sign on the road and will have it completed ASAP.

LEO TRAINING

The Lodge Structure and use of Committees

Larry M. FitzPatrick, Past Chair Masonic Education Committee

Why the Masonic Lodge uses Committees

The committee structure is how we achieve a uniform and equitable division of labor within the Lodge of today, while at the same time providing a training system for leadership and organizational development. The committee structure is the working force at the heart of a Lodge. How successful a Lodge is in accomplishing its goals and improving the lives of its members is directly related to the effectiveness of its committees.

The work of committees saves time at Stated Meetings and keeps the business of the Lodge moving at an efficient pace

Purpose of Committees

It is important for committees to have clear goals and responsibilities. You should be able to answer the following questions before any committee is established:

- How are members selected for the committee?
- What is the purpose and authority of the committee?
- What are the goals, responsibilities, and specific tasks of the committee?
- What are the time constraints or limitations for the committee?
- What type of reporting to the Lodge is expected?
- What is the spending authority of the committee, if any? Is this spending authority documented in By-laws or the rules & regulations of the Lodge.
- What is the term of office for members? Does this committee meet a temporary need or fulfill long term strategic goals of the Lodge? How are vacancies filled?
- What resources does the committee have, and what will it need to complete its goals?

Committee Membership

Carefully selecting committee members is the best way to ensure that you get the members with the right skills, interests, and commitment to the task. Committees should be made up of members with the proper skills, education, background, ability & knowledge to execute the initiatives or goals of the committee. Some committees have inherent chairs due to qualifications required to fill the position. Some committees have certain permanent members due to their position in the Lodge such as the Secretary and Treasurer. Major committees should have vice chairs. Three to five members is usually a good starting point for most committees.

Responsibilities of the chair include preparing and presenting committee reports, ensuring a successor is groomed to assume the chair's role in the future, setting agendas, calling meetings, and ensuring that all members can contribute.

Committee Reporting

Committees are directly responsible to the Lodge leadership and members. The committee chair usually provides a preliminary report at the Stated Meeting

Reports that are for information only do not require motion. If a committee wants to bring ideas, actions, or recommendations to the members through their report, the committee chair should say, "By consensus or recommendation of the committee, I move . . ."

To be a good committee person they must be willing to accept the work and recommendation of the committee and support it after it is made public. It is also important for the individual members to realize that it is considered unethical for an individual member to attempt to stir up an unfavorable opinion of a committee decision by inappropriately discussing the issues prior to presentation of the initiative by the committee. The committee chair shall be responsible for ensuring that no member on the committee has a conflict of interest on any issues brought before it. If the committee chair feels that any member has such conflict, he must discuss it with the member and not allow him to vote on the issue unless the conflict is properly resolved.

Making Committees Work Effectively

Summary

The committee is really a work unit of the Lodge. It is the best way to take work, break it into meaningful and manageable components and to get things done. Effective committees remove time-consuming details from Lodge Stated meetings. They allow more people to be involved and expand the support base of the Lodge. Committees build commitment of members to the Lodge, afford members an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities, and give them a sense of worth and accomplishment.

Committees provide an effective division of labor and ensure an efficient means of ascertaining the status of the activities of the Lodge by minimizing the number of people with which the Worshipful Master must communicate.

Committees have no chance of succeeding unless the Worshipful Master appoints them with expectations of the committee meeting the goals of the Lodge.

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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