

TRESTLEBOARD

Scottsdale Lodge 43 F&AM



Volume 69 Issue 10

December Issue 2018

Happy Hanukah and Merry Christmas.

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST

Dear-Brothers,
 This will be the last Trestleboard for 2018 and my last article as Master of our Lodge. I look back on the year with some pleasure, some pain, and some knowledge that I have served Masonry in a capacity that has allowed me to experience our Lodge and our Masons from a point of view that I could not before have imagined. We are a community; a living, breathing, dynamic entity, with strengths, weaknesses, and goals. We are made up of many different personalities and backgrounds, and achieving a common goal is sometimes a monumental task. I have come to believe that the real purpose of Masonry is to help us know the true nature of men, and to help us learn to work together in harmony that we may live in peace. Masonry, in its concepts and ritual, is flawless. It is its participants that are the variable in the equation. *It* brings us together, *it* gives us a reason to be together in pursuit of its performance, and *it* challenges us with its constant moralistic teachings and positive influence. It then falls to us, the imperfect, to simply follow its precepts. We may not even realize it, but its very structure and process forces us to learn to work in harmony. Its text admonishes us in words to get along, yes, but more than that, its quiet genius requires us, without option, to work as a team, as a community, and ultimately as a family, in pursuit of its ultimate purpose, *brotherhood*.



Brothers, I thank you very much for the privilege of being your Worshipful Master. I hope you will remember my strengths, forgive my weaknesses,

Continued on Page 2

GREETINGS FROM THE WEST

"What I hope to learn in the coming year."

Often we hear that adage, "we learn from our mistakes". This is true. But I believe that we learn more from good decisions that follow from great preparation.

To quote Eleanor Roosevelt "Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself." So Don't do what that guy did.

Learning is like drinking from the fountain of wisdom. In the coming year I hope to learn that I made good decisions prior to arrive where I am and that I invested in the right people. I intend to learn more about the friendships I have with my brethren. I look forward enriching my life with many experiences to be shared in 2019. I hold expectations to create fond memories that I may enjoy in my years after.

**Fraternally,
 Bandon Valentine PM
 Senior Warden**



Continued from page 1

appreciate my contributions to the Lodge, and most importantly, remember that I love you, I love the craft, and I love Scottsdale Lodge #43, Free and Accepted Masons of the great state of Arizona.

**In Brotherly Love,
Curt Hills**

**Worshipful Master 2018
Scottsdale Lodge #43**

GREETINGS

FROM THE SOUTH

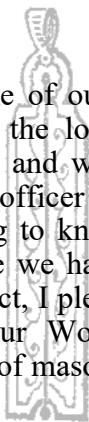
As my term in the south comes to a close, I have spent some time reflecting on the previous year, as well as a look toward the next. I want to thank all the brothers that helped throughout the year.

Whether it was preparing a meal for the brothers or even setting the table, you know who you are and I thank you. We had our share of challenges, but like masons do, we prevailed and succeeded in one more year of fellowship and growth.

It is my hope that some of our newest Master Masons will take on a role in the lodge. Consider chairing a committee or an event, and when you are feeling bold make a move into the officer line. The upcoming year will be exciting, getting to know our new brothers and reconnecting with some we have not seen in while. As your Senior Warden elect, I pledge to honor the office in the west and assist our Worshipful Master elect in another successful year of masonry.

In closing, my congratulations to our Worshipful Master and our brothers for another incredible year at Scottsdale Lodge #43.

**Fraternally,
Bradley Manhoff,
Junior Warden**



From the Organist

ATTITUDES

Attitudes can be anything you make them to be. That definition alone expresses how attitudes are formed. An attitude can be momentary, or last a lifetime. They can be a definition of a fact or action, your reactions doing what you think is best at the moment, or how you react to certain situations at most times, a dip and flow.

Attitudes become an overt part of your personality, based on experiences, environment, beliefs, habits, finances, health, sanity, and almost endless factors that shape our existence. Someone of a dour personality is often described as a "grouch with a bad attitude". The obverse is the one with "sunny attitude" who almost always finds the bright side of any situation. These kinds of attitudes usually are not switched around in life's choices, but can usually adapt to the seriousness of a situation.

We have described personal attitudes, the term as applied to the inanimate, which really are characteristics. Certain attitudes are what form style, human or not. Examine your recipes of life, stir well, bake, and decorate...That's life.

**Fraternally,
Dave Woodland PM
Organist**

**The Human brain
is an amazing
organ. It
functions
24 hours a day
from the day we
are born and only
stops when we
are performing
ritual**



I WANT YOU.

Brethren, we are reaching out to the fraternity in search of a new Treasurer. Russ Sayre is retiring from the position. We hope to find a suitable candidate to become our next treasurer so that Russ Sayre may teach and advise the candidate before he retires.

I am asking you to step up if you have an interest in becoming the next Treasurer for the lodge.

Applicants should contact Brandon Valentine to discuss the matter.

Arizona Grand Lodge Website

In an ongoing effort to keep in touch with the Masons of Arizona, the Social Media Committee of the Grand Lodge of Arizona has launched an online Social Media monthly newsletter to recap some of the items each month that are trending around the State.

We hope that it will encourage communication and share knowledge around the State while also giving another outlet to the activities of our many Lodges in Arizona. As is the case with Social Media, we intend for it to be enjoyable and informative and hope that it will grow and adapt to the needs and wants of our Craft as it progresses.
<http://www.azmasons.org>

Fraternally,
Tom LaFountain,
Secretary

BROTHERS TRANSPORTATION TO LODGE

CALL IF YOU NEED A RIDE TO LODGE

The Brother's Outreach Team has decided to raise funds for our brothers who don't drive after dark or don't drive at all so they can come to Lodge to enjoy the fellowship. ***If you would like to attend Lodge***, contact Michael Trumbull @ 480-800-7297 to arrange for a ride to and from at no cost to you (Valley area only). If you would like to support this worthy cause, please send a check to Scottsdale Lodge 43 POB 486 Scottsdale, AZ 85252. On the check write "Transportation Fund" or use credit card by calling the Secretary at 480-946-1072.



"DON'T GET ME WRONG BROTHER. I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE. JUST TRY NOT TO BE SO OBVIOUS AS TO WHY YOU ARE HERE"

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Junior Deacon

“While working on the efforts of moving my family, and thus engaged in packing my carpentry tools, I came across a drawer of hammers. Incidentally, this drawer is where I store all the hammers, mallets, and mauls - that I have both collected and which have been gifted to me. These hammers represent all sorts of trades and crafts, from carpentry to metallurgy, and from leather working to sculpting. Of course, I could not help but to think on the working tools of our craft, and the manner of presentation with which they are issued to the Entered Apprentice Mason.

The more Noble and Glorious purpose with which we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to wield this Common Gavel, is that endeavor to divest our very beings of all the vices and superfluities of life. Earlier this week a dear friend asked me to define “vice” from my own point of view. As I considered my response, I realized that my thoughts were only communicable through a series of simple questions that I often ask myself, which were roughly thus - 1. Is this behavior rational in the current set of circumstances? 2. Does the behavior interfere with any element of healthy living? 3. Is the urge to pursue the behavior compulsory or conscious? 4. Does the behavior have the effect of relieving me of any measure of reality (including emotion)? Presumably, a mature human being ought to be able to identify vices among their own behavior if, that is, one can objectively ask these questions of oneself and honestly answer them.

Now, we’ve looked at Vices. Why combine this term with the word - Superfluities? I mean, most of us can safely presume from its use in our ritual that this must be an allusion to imprudent matters. Which, incidentally, is not so far from the mark. For a moment however, let us look at this word in its singular form - Superfluity or in its adjective form Superfluous. When we hear these words spoken, we tend to recognize and place the accent on the SU portion of the word and it becomes easy to overlook its root and compound nature. The word and its indications are made up of two informative portions and an associative ending. Thus we have “super” - meaning great or more than the norm; and “flu” - indicating a dynamic state of or having a nature similar to fluid; finally the suffix giving us context with which to associate the manner in which it is being applied.

Many of you that know me well, will certainly attest that I love efficiency, even better if it is consistent efficiency! On a deep and fundamental level, I have an incommunicable yearning to adjust and hone circumstance, actions, and processes firmly and steadily, with the sole purpose of enhancement. Something innate within my person deeply wants to make all good things unceasingly and exponentially better. However, this drive has often evinced itself throughout my life, as a striking resistance to change. As I thought of this aversion to change which

insidiously seems to plague much of humankind, I realized that this is probably the single imprudence in my own life, that has had the most gravitational effect on my health and happiness.

When I was about two years old, while still teething and furthermore only beginning to adjust to the stage-left entrance of my younger brother, who was now embezzling of the majority of MY parental attention.... my mother had put me down for a nap and decided to do some deep cleaning. During the course of her cleaning, she decided to re-arrange the living room to make it more accommodating. When I woke up, and as I meandered into the living room, little did I know that I would be encountering my first opportunity to learn one of life’s most important lessons. Needless to say, with the onslaught of the numerous mounting changes - my world was rocked! upheaved! and overturned! My mother loves to tell the story of how I came stumbling into the room, still rubbing my eyes; glancing around, I took several sharp breaths and then simply sat down in the middle of the room and cried...

As I was considering all of this, while still packing my tools, I realized my music was still playing in the background, and at this particular moment I was struck by the magnificent and yet conspicuously familiar harmony of one of my most favorite songs - the sharp, almost nasal sound of a British-intoned voice astride deep, rich piano chords, both of which seemed to be accompanied by some of the most interestingly communicated ideas of our modern world. Imagine - by Mr. John Lennon.

While the ideas of this song seem to promote the forgetting of modern themes and perspectives that many of us view as implicit, what becomes most acutely apparent is that, in setting aside these things, we are forced to realize that conventions, possessions, words, and ideas are all bereft of their value if we forget that we are people. Forgetting the constructs of countries and borders, foregoing the drive for greedy acquisition of material wealth, even setting aside our many divergent ideas of deities and afterlives, we come to the realization that it is very easy to hold onto many superfluous tediums that wedge relationships asunder, disrupt harmony, and obstruct progress.

As Imagine ended, I was carried further down this path as The Beatles next invited and encouraged me to “Let it Be.” I found myself contemplating these “words of wisdom” and how many great Adepts and Masters have entreated us to do just that - accept what is and let go of what is not - Let it Be. My Brothers, this year has taught me much! Not the least of which is - to love and enjoy with reckless abandon the bounty that is today, to let go of what is no longer and with prudence and preparation, let be - whatever adventure tomorrow may hold.

**Fraternally,
Brother Michael Trumbull
Junior Deacon**



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The Circle of Life and Learning

I visited you today. Seeing you lying there it appeared like you were sleeping, like so many times I visited your house and you had fell asleep on the couch to the television show you were watching. The white lambskin apron around your waist and the sprig of acacia in your hand jolted me back to reality.

While I stood there looking at you I realized u my life would be different now. No more would I walk into the lodge room and see your smiling face and feel the clasp of your hand in mine. No more would I hear you say "Good evening Brother", with a cheerfulness that made even the most boring Masonic meeting seem worthwhile.

Sitting with you on my back porch on a beautiful summer evening. Puffing cigars and watching the puffs of smoke dancing with the lightening bugs. Discussing the esoteric symbolism of a Masonic degree to the sounds of crickets and the tinkling of the ice cubes as it mixes with the scotch in our glasses. These things would be no more. I keep thinking you now know the answers to all those mysterious questions we posed. In a way I envy you, that the hoodwink of the world has been removed from your eyes.

You were my rock when I was an officer of the lodge. Your advice and constant encouragement not only kept me from quitting when times got difficult but you gave me the confidence to carry on. I couldn't have done it without your guidance and encouragement.

I imagine there will be several times a day I'll pick up my phone to call you to arrange for a lunch date and run lines for an upcoming degree. I'm sure every time I realize that you won't be answering, I'll begin to grieve your loss all over again, slowly putting my phone down.

For so many years you have been there for me. From the night I was raised to the Sublime degree, to being one of my groomsmen on my wedding day. I remember the smile on your face as I handed you a cigar in the waiting room of the hospital the night my kids were born. You were not just my Masonic brother you were part of my family.

You weren't just there for me in the good times. You

held me as tears fell down my cheeks when my parents passed away. You seemed to know just the right thing to say to comfort me. I also remember the time when you showed up on my doorstep with groceries and Christmas presents when times were tough. You were always there, good times and bad. No matter how I tried you wouldn't let me pay you back. "That's what Brothers are for!", you would say. "If you want to pay me back, extend a charitable hand to another Brother in need someday." I never forgot that and you taught me a great lesson.

You have been a part of me and my family for most of my adult life. You have taught me so much. Not just how to be a good Mason, but how to be a good husband, father and most of all, to be a good man. I realize I never truly got to thank you for all the good you have done for me and all you have taught me.

As our last visit is now over and I take my place with five other Brethren to carry you to your final resting place I am having trouble holding my tears. So many memories of you continue to flash through my mind, like a movie on a loop.

I realize now as we slowly walk to that final spot, you have been preparing me for this day since I became an Entered Apprentice.

Like the days of the operative Masons, when I became an Entered Apprentice, I also became your apprentice and you became my mentor. You didn't teach me how to cut stone or work in the quarry with a builders tools, but you taught me about life, using the working tools of a Master Mason .


You have been preparing me for the day you could no longer walk with me, and now now I must make that first upright step on my own without you. I know now is time for the student to assume the role of the teacher.

Your memory will always live in my heart and to continue your memory. I will find a poor, blind candidate desiring to be brought from darkness to light and use the tools you placed in my hands and help him form his ashlar into a living stone, which I pray will keep your memory alive in all Masons. It's the circle of life and learning.

Bill Hosler, PM

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SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

*November Masonic Anniversaries
Celebrating Another Year in the Light*

Bruce E Fischer	12/7/1954	Erik Allen Easton	12/13/2007	David Watson	12/8/2011
Wayne Eugene Allen	12/1/1959	Matthew James Smith	12/11/2008	John Dean Covington	12/15/2012
Bruce William Genthner	12/14/1961	Justin Keith Taylor	12/11/2008	Mark Andrew Marsillo	12/15/2012
Sidney Lee Magness	12/7/1963	Patrick Robert Kaminsky	12/18/2008	John Michael Pierce	12/15/2012
David Allen Smith	12/5/1987	Robert Gale Stepp	12/18/2008	Bryan Nicholas Thomas	12/15/2012
Wilhelm Hartmann	12/19/1991	Bruce Ira LaBell	12/10/2009	Edward John Bandyk	12/10/2015
Ronald W Buksbaum	12/28/1992	Michael Addison Fuller	12/4/2010	Justin Lee Garrett	12/10/2015
Sean Daniel Weiland	12/17/2005	Gary Allen Nichols	12/9/2010	Ryan Johnathon Wilson	12/8/2016

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Check out our own library's many books to learn more about Masonry and it's very long history.

**Brothers! If you haven't received any Lodge mail lately,
CONTACT THE SECRETARY
(480)-946-1072 or
secretary@scottsdalelodge43.com**

FROM EASTERN STAR

As we move into the holiday season, I am reminded how important families are. There are many kinds of families besides the traditional ones. Our Masonic families are so very important. We certainly are able to get loving support from them.

Our Eastern Star Heroines demonstrate love and family support. It is a strong life lesson. Enjoy joy from and to your own personal families this holiday season. Relish what you have.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and Happy New Year.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

**Fraternally,
Janet Mielke
Past Matron**

Scottsdale #43 Order of the Eastern Star



SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

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Contact Bro. Fred LaBell at FLaBell@cox.net if you would like to place a business card ad in the Trestleboard. The cost is \$100 per calendar year.



**** December Calendar of Events ****

Thursday, Dec. 6 - Stated Meeting

Sunday, Dec. 9 - 2019 Officer Installation

Thursday, Dec. 13 - Degree or other activity

Thursday, Dec. 20 - Annual Holiday Party

Thursday, Dec 27 - TBD

Dinner precedes all meetings at 6:00PM

***CHECK THE LODGE WEB SITE FOR THE MOST CURRENT SCHEDULE and DETAILS**

<http://www.scottsdalelodge43.com>

URGENT! 2018 Dues are now past due.

If you have not yet paid yours please

CONTACT THE SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY

480 946 1072 or EMAIL :

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2018 Paid Dues Cards have been mailed.



MEETING PLACE

Scottsdale Masonic Lodge,
2531 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, AZ.

Stated Meeting: The first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm, except July and August.

Dinner at 6:00pm.

For further information call (480) 946-1072 or visit www.scottsdalelodge43.com.

2018 Scottsdale Lodge Committee Chairmen

Candidate Proficiency	Brandon Valentine PM	480-639-9040
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Junior Deacon	Michael Trumbull	480-800-7297
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Tyler	John Favara	
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Treasurer	Russell Sayre PM	480-998-7018
Secretary	Tom LaFountain	480-544-7052