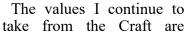


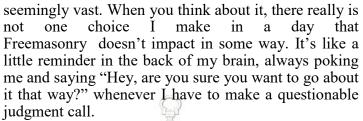
Volume 724 Issue 5 May 2023

# Activities for All Brothers, Pick one or ALL

# FROM THE EAST

I sometimes wonder how different my work ethic would be if I did not take the values of Freemasonry to work with me.





And where did I learn to do this? Well at the place all Masons are first prepared to become a Mason. In my heart, but those qualities are contained in the lodge room.

At the end of the day, I can say that Freemasonry lends itself to a professional and meaningful experience in the work place. These virtues which we are taught and employ don't stop at the threshold of any door, especially the work place. Freemasonry is not just a weekly meeting, it's a way of life, and so you should employ it for everything contained within your life.

Fraternally,
Shawn Hunter,
Worshipful Master
F&AM Scottsdale Lodge #43

# **FROM THE WEST**

In the wake of recent losses in our Craft and in my personal world, and as we emerge from a short but more precipitous spring, I have been taking stock of the vast scope of flowers abloom throughout our arid state and a certain verdancy



amidst the sage brush and cacti. This has left me considering once again the turning of seasons and the variety of scenes and lessons with which we are presented thereby. As speculative Masons, we are taught to reflect upon the deeper meanings and mysteries of this experience we call Life, drawing associations and parallels between Nature and our imitations thereof. This cyclical nature of the seasons, is one such mystery. The changing seasons brings us into stark presentation with the transient nature of Life and the cyclical nature of all existence. Just as the seasons follow one another in a continuous cycle, so, too, do our lives follow a similar pattern of birth, growth, decline, and renewal.

By our ritual, we are frequently reminded that the Sun is the symbol of Truth and constancy, even as He rises and sets and slowly drifts from radiance to weakness, so too do we experience periods of light and darkness in our lives; as also illustrated by our Mosaic pavement. Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter remind us that life is a continual process of change, growth, and transformation, that nothing in Life is permanent. Like Nature, as Masons, we are charged to embrace the changes in our seasons using them as opportunities for growth and development as the Architect moves within and without in order to bring us into harmony with His plan and timing.

Continued on page 2





The West Continued from page 1

The Architect's design of and direction of cyclical beautifully seasons illustrates interconnectedness of all things. We are all part of the same cycle of Life and Death, growth and decay, art and destruction. While assisting with a Chamber of Reflection this past week, I was reminded by the words of Plutarch that initiation is a similitude of death, letting go of an old self as a profane man, in order to move toward a wiser version as an initiate in search of Light. Just as the trees shed their leaves in the fall, our beautiful ritual regularly reminds us that we must be willing to let go of our past selves in order to embrace the new opportunities that Providence wills for us. This process of letting go and embracing change, of moving through the seasons, is essential for our personal and spiritual growth.

The great cycles ceaselessly evinced by the vast book of Nature and Revelation all around us, also reminds us of the importance of balance. Just as the seasons alternate between light and darkness, growth and decline, enthusiasm and frigidity - so we too must strive for balance in our lives and our Lodge. Not stagnancy and fixedness, but rather an easy equilibrium as we move with the pendulum. We are frequently reminded in our degrees that we must seek balance in all areas of our lives, including our physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being. This balance is essential for our progression through the seasons of life and continual refinement and better harmonization with the Architect's providential Plan.

These lessons we gain from Nature and her changing seasons are also well applied to the Craft of our Lodge as our rituals also pointedly illustrate the importance of being connected to larger body of men, a Lodge that is greater than the individual. When we apply these principles and work together as a body, we enjoy great achievements and conversely can experience disruption of our growth and fruition when disunity and disharmony prevail. As we learn to embrace our personal and unique role in the great Universal Lodge of the Architect, we can hold greater celebration in recognizing the good and the beauty that we bring into fruition as a both as a Lodge and as individuals in our families and communities, even beyond death, into and throughout the generations of time, by our daily efforts and their radiations into our relations and intersections.

These changing seasons, both within and without, remind us of the importance of gratitude and

appreciation. By their consideration we are able to learn to appreciate the beauty and abundance that surround us in the spring and summer, and also to be grateful for the challenges and opportunities for growth that come our way in the fall and winters. By the indented trestle, we are reminded that the manifold blessings and comforts that surround us are only available through a faithful reliance upon a Providence that has an infinitely greater perspective than our own. That very same Providence which once brought us to a bounteous summer will ultimately return us there once again, in greater and greater magnitude as we allow for our own growth and development, through the seasons of introspection and withdrawal.

Fraternally,
Brother Senior Warden
Michael D. Valecourt





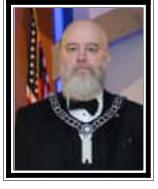




#### From the South

Greetings from the South,

As the days grow longer and the weather gets warmer, it's the perfect time to get outdoors and enjoy all the beauty that nature has to offer. I would like to encourage all of you to take advantage of this time of year



and participate in outdoor activities while also being involved in the community.

One way to get involved in the community is to participate in local volunteer events that take place during the Spring and Summer months. Many organizations are in need of volunteers to help with outdoor events such as park clean-ups, community gardens, and charity walks or runs. This is a great way to give back to the community while also enjoying the outdoors. Don't forget to bring your Masonic attire with you on these trips, as it's important to represent our fraternity even when we're away from the lodge.

Another great way to get outdoors is to plan a camping or hiking trip with fellow lodge members. Not only is this a great way to bond with your brothers, but it's also an opportunity to explore the beauty of the natural world around us.

Additionally, outdoor Masonic events such as picnics or barbecues can be a fun way to enjoy the company of your brothers while also enjoying the sunshine and fresh air. These events can be great opportunities to invite non-Masonic friends and family to learn more about our fraternity.

As we enjoy the outdoors this Spring and Summer, let's remember to stay safe and be mindful of our surroundings. We must also continue to represent our fraternity with pride, especially when engaging in public activities.

Here are a few upcoming events that are publicly available in Scottsdale during the months of May, June, and July:

1. Scottsdale Culinary Festival - May 14-15, 2023: This

annual festival features over 35 local restaurants, live music, wine tastings, and cooking demonstrations. It's a great way to experience the local cuisine and culture while enjoying the beautiful weather.

- 2. Scottsdale ArtWalk Every Thursday evening in May, June, and July: This free event takes place in the heart of Scottsdale's Arts District and features over 100 galleries, shops, and restaurants. It's a great opportunity to explore the local art scene and socialize with fellow art lovers.
- 3. Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show May 25-29, 2023: This world-renowned event showcases the beauty and grace of Arabian horses through a variety of competitions and exhibitions. It's a must-see event for horse enthusiasts and animal lovers alike.
- 4. Independence Day Celebration July 4th, 2023: This annual event features a parade, live music, food vendors, and a spectacular fireworks display. It's a great way to celebrate our nation's independence while enjoying the beautiful Arizona weather.

Scottsdale Shakespeare Festival - June 3-5, 2023: This outdoor festival features performances of some of Shakespeare's most beloved plays, as well as workshops and educational activities for all ages. It's a great way to enjoy the outdoors and immerse yourself in the world of Shakespeare.

I hope these events provide some inspiration for outdoor activities and community involvement during the coming months. Let's continue to enjoy the beauty of Scottsdale and strengthen our bonds of brotherhood as we do so.

Fraternally,
David Earney
Junior Warden







### NEEDED...RETIRED BROTHERS

We need retired brothers who would be willing to serve on the <u>Celestial Journey Team</u> (Funeral Team). We don't have too many funerals throughout the year normally. Sometimes there is not a lot of notice (a few days) and right now most of our list is comprised of working brothers who can't respond that quickly. Usually, the funerals only take an hour or less. Please consider dedicating your efforts to your departed brothers by serving on the Celestial Journey Team. contact Brother Brian Zeman



# Fred LaBell, CRS

ASSOCIATE BROKER

Direct: 480.717.7716 eFax: 602.749.6983 flabell2@gmail.com www.TheLaBells.com



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# The 2023 Lodge Dues

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

If you have not yet submitted yours, it is now past due.

\*If you have a \$\$ problem, call the Secretary

Please submit payment by check to the Secretary or by credit card via Zelle on the lodge website

Dues are \$196 for 2022.

If paying by credit card, add \$6 so it's \$202.



# **Brothers Working With Brothers**

Brothers, If you haven't seen this new Facebook Group to find Masonic Brothers' business and services or just to sell something, look it up and join in.

This is also a good place to find help, just ask.

# **Scottsdale #43 Masonic Shirts for Sale**

Contact the Secretary for details and cost.

To place your order call (480) 946-1072.







Remember, while you are at

Lodge check out our Masonic jewelry case for various Masonic themed pins, emblems, ties and many other items.





#### THE NOTARY

William F. Wilkins Notary Public - Arizona

707.332.9973

wfw1015@gmail.com www.wfwre.com

# Brothers,

We handle the following legal matters:

Injury Cases, including – Motor Vehicle Accidents, Camp Lejeune Water Contamination Exposure, and Harmful and Defective Products

Estate Planning - Trusts, VA Aid and Attendance and Medicare Planning

Did you know that a Veteran or a Surviving Spouse could qualify for a little known tax free VA pension (Aid and Attendance) benefit of \$2,642 per month for a married veteran, or \$1,432 per month for a surviving spouse? Do to a 3 year look back period, you may need to plan ahead to ensure eligibility for this benefit.

Contact Bro Stephen Wall, Attorney Discounts for Brothers and their Families

Free Consultations

Law Office of Stephen M. Wall 480.222.3888





# **OES News**

- -Scottsdale Chapter #43, Order of the Eastern Star initiated Gary Nelson as a new member on Monday, April 10.
- -Election of officers will be held on May 8.

Installation needs to be scheduled.

Last meeting before going dark for the summer will be on Monday, June 12.

—Arizona Grand Chapter is scheduled for August 1-5 at the Scottsdale Resort at

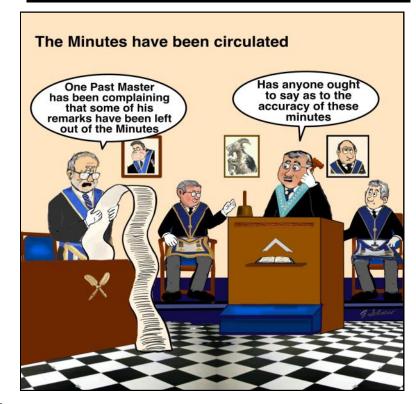
McCormick Ranch (7700 McCormick Ranch Blvd,

Diana Hutchinson, Reporter



#### **Masonic License Plates**

We all have license plates on our vehicles, but do you have a MASONIC PLATE on yours? For only \$25 per year ADOT will issue you a Masonic Plate and a portion of that goes to the Arizona Grand Lodge.









#### **Masonic Education**

# **COMMUNICATION**

Plato probably said it best a long time ago: "Wise men speak because they have something to say. Fools when they have to say something". Communication, the art of the word, is always the human connection, no matter how transmitted. It can share ideas, be encouraging, or cause despair, but always the language of leadership.

Communication is not only the means of spreading forth the word, but ideas as expressed in those words. It is an ever flowing, collaborating explanation of information, and what has formed civilizations. Information held captive is a lifeless asset, good to no one. We know the value of dialogue, but not communicated, it does not exist. Basic concepts of the learning experience are teaching and communicating what is being taught. As a formative force in establishing civilizations, communication leads community understanding of it's purpose, and of each other.

Communication, person to person, is the adhesiveness of the personal attachment of family, the force we call bonding.

A closing thought...We have two ears and one mouth so we can listen twice as much as we can speak.

### David Woodland, PM

#### **Editor's Comment**

#### WRITERS NEEDED

The Trestleboard is a great communication tool for our Lodge. You too can share your ideas, Masonic thoughts or jokes through the Trestleboard. Just submit what you have in writing to the editor for review.

# Fred LaBell Trestleboard Editor



### **Masonic Education**

# Great Mysteries Of God. By Hank Kraychir. Edited by Lance Rommerdahl

Search: The Mysterious Unakoti Bas-Reliefs

Pike relates the mysteries of God to our limited mental understanding. Think about it, do we really know what God wants; and if we think we do, how arrogant have we become. That is why Masonry respects everyone's vision of God:

The mysteries of the Great Universe of God! How can we with our limited mental vision expect to grasp and comprehend them! Infinite SPACE, stretching out from us every way, without limit: infinite TIME, without beginning or end; and WE, HERE, and NOW, in the centre of each! An infinity of suns, the nearest of which only *diminish* in size, viewed with the most powerful telescope:each with its retinue of worlds; **infinite numbers of such suns**, so remote from us that their light would not reach us, journeying during an infinity of time, while the light that has reached us, from some that we seem to see, has been upon its journey for fifty centuries: our world spinning upon its axis, and rushing ever in its circuit round the sun; and it, the sun, and all our system revolving around some great central point; and that, and suns, stars, and worlds evermore flashing onward with incredible rapidity through illimitable space: and then, in every drop of water that we drink, in every morsel of much of our food, in the air, in the earth, in the sea, incredible multitudes of living creatures, invisible to the naked eye, of a minuteness beyond belief, yet

organized, living, feeding, *perhaps* with consciousness of identity, and memory and instinct.

Such are some of the mysteries of the great Universe of God. And yet we, whose life and that of the world on which we live form but a point in the centre of infinite Time: we, who nourish animalcule within, and on whom vegetables grow without, would fain learn "how God created this Universe, would understand His Powers, His Attributes, His Emanations, His Mode of Existence and of Action; would fain know the plan according to which all events proceed, that plan profound as God Himself; would know the laws by which He controls His Universe; would fain see and talk to Him face to face, as man talks to man: and we try not to believe, because we do not understand (Albert Pike, Morals and Dogma, 1871, p. 529-530).





# **Education Committee**

Greetings Brethren,

As Masons, we are called upon to practice charity in our daily lives and interactions with others. While it may be easy to practice charity towards those who share our views and opinions, it can be much more challenging to extend this same level of charity towards those with whom we disagree.

However, it is precisely in these situations that practicing charity can be most impactful. When we approach those with whom we disagree with a charitable attitude, we create a space for respectful dialogue and understanding, rather than conflict and division.

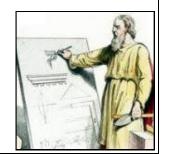
Practicing charity towards those with whom we disagree does not mean that we need to compromise our own values or beliefs. Rather, it means approaching these situations with an open mind and a willingness to listen and learn from others.

In doing so, we not only create a space for productive dialogue, but we also demonstrate the principles of brotherly love and relief that are at the heart of our Masonic journey. By extending charity towards those with whom we disagree, we show respect for their dignity as human beings and demonstrate our commitment to the betterment of society as a whole.

It is important to remember that charity does not always have to take the form of material giving. In fact, one of the most powerful forms of charity is simply listening to and empathizing with others, even when we do not agree with them.

In conclusion, let us strive to extend charity towards those with whom we disagree, both within and outside of the lodge. Let us approach these situations with an open mind and a willingness to learn from others, creating a space for respectful dialogue and understanding. By doing so, we can demonstrate the principles of brotherly love and relief that are at the heart of our Masonic journey.

Fraternally, **David Earney Education Committee** Junior Warden



#### It is Lodge Night

He slowly opened the door to his locker. He hung his police uniform on the hooks and took out his suit. It was Lodge night.

He watched as the last employee left his business, locked the building and made the evening bank drop. He then headed off with a whistle on his lips and a spring in his step. It was Lodge night.

The young man helped his wife clear the table. He then said good night to his children and snuck into his room to change his clothes. Upon leaving he smiled at his wife and kissed her. It was Lodge night.

It had been a hard day. Navigating through the complexities of the legal system was rewarding work. It was all so tiring. Normally he would have been headed home for a relaxing evening. But tonight was not normal and he felt none of the usual fatigue as tonight was Lodge night.

Life had not been pleasant since his wife died. His family lived far away and with each passing year it became harder and harder to do the simple things in life. And most of all he missed his life long partner. Tonight he felt a little less pain and life didn't seem nearly as bad. It was Lodge night.

The accident had been terrible. But there was some consolation that his skills as a doctor had saved a life. Still it would not be easy and there were possibilities of complications. But for a while he could place his worries in the hands of others as tonight was Lodge night.

It is hard looking for work when the job market is scarce. Each day he faced the nameless horde of people who continue to tell him that he was not needed. He faced rejection and the possibility of hardship at every turn. Tonight he knew he was wanted and needed, it was Lodge night.

He sat alone in the small room wearing clothes that were not his. He had received warm welcomes from a number of men he didn't know and a few he did. Now with an ancient relic of a bygone age they told him to wait patiently, yet he looked forward to it with anticipation. It was his first Lodge night.

From all walks of life we come. We donate our time to an age honored tradition. We donate our money to help those who cannot help themselves. We gather in fellowship and part in peace. For a while we can lay aside our differences and worries to bask in our shared experiences. We can talk with men who are our equals, men who work to better themselves.

Tonight is Lodge night and I am glad I am a Mason.

Wayne Anderson, FCF, MPS D.D.G.M. Frontenac District 2015-16





# May 2023 Masonic Anniversaries Celebrating Another Year in the Light

Michael Friend Bohlman	5/17/2003
Joseph Wesley Carroll	5/18/1963
Michael Frank Dorffi	5/8/1997
David Harry Dudley	5/6/2000
Gary Edward Giss	5/8/2008
Robert Lee Hancock	5/26/1965
Duncan Stewart Harvey	5/9/2002
Jerald Lee Hill	5/31/1979
Michael James Livingston	5/28/1981
Bradley Andrew Manhoff	5/16/2013
Joseph John Martoccia	5/26/2007

William N. McLemore Jr	5/31/1960
Gregory K. Miskovsky	5/12/2011
Mark Kent Moore	5/6/2000
Jerry Wayne Moran	5/26/1994
John Kirk Nail	5/9/2000
Leo Guy Paletta	5/24/1973
Shawn Peter Sawaqed	5/8/2019
Russell R. Sayre PM	5/29/1975
Jeffrey J Schwarz	5/22/2007
Jack Lewis Shaw	5/30/1974
Michael Simonson	5/22/1986

Floyd Lyle Smethurst	5/8/2008
Christopher Wade Stelzer	5/20/2010
Charles Richard Sykes	5/23/1974
Matthew Henry Teusink	5/27/1999
Jacob William Thompson	5/13/2021
JohnnyMichael E.Walters	5/31/1973
Rex Trussell Ward	5/19/2005
Edward Russell Whitlow	5/27/1999
David J Woodland PM	5/21/1952

# **A Noteworthy Brother**

**Brother George Doimas** was recently awarded Lion of the Year by the Camelback Mountain Lions Club (which, incidentally was Barry Goldwater Sr.'s original Club)





# Scottsdale #43 Masonic Lodge Building HAVING A SPECIAL EVENT? - WE WELCOME RENTALS

\*\*\*\*

The Lodge building is suitable for a variety of occasions Weddings, Dances, Bar or Bat Mitzvah Parties, Graduation Parties, Religious Life Milestones, Business Meetings.

Updated Kitchen Serving Facilities, Free Parking, Variable Effects Lighting, 2–70" HD TVs and an Overhead Projector, Groups up to 100 people.

Contact the Secretary for details on cost and availability.

Photos and bldg. diagram on the website: <a href="http://scottsdalelodge43.com/">http://scottsdalelodge43.com/</a>
Call (480) 946-1072 for details and prices





# SCOTTSDALE LODGE MASONIC JEWLERY CASE

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# 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.

There is also a master list of #43 Masons accessible through "Grandview" on the website. You must log in to use it.

http://www.azmasons.org Fraternally, Jim Rowan PGM, Secretary

9





# Scottsdale's Bro. Bill Keim Receives WWII Honors

In March of this year, Bro Bill Keim of Scottsdale Lodge #43, attended a reunion of WWII Merchant Marine Veterans in Las Vagas, Nevada, where he was awarded the Convoy Cup Medal by the American Merchant Marine Veterans Association. This Award honors the bravery and service of WWII Merchant Marines who served in convoys that experienced combat. Even more notably, Bro. Bill has recently been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his service as a Merchant Marine during World War II. Brother Bill served in the Merchant Marine from 1943 to 1946.

Congratulations Brother Bill! You are truly one of our country's, and our Lodge's, greatest treasures!

### By Bro. Curt Hills PM



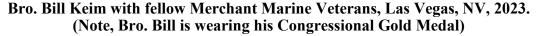
Bro. Bill Keim

#### **Below**

Bro. Bill Keim receiving the Convoy Cup Medal,

Las Vegas, NV, 2023.







### **President Lincoln: Masonic Brother or Not?**

While there have been some claims and disputes regarding whether or not Abraham Lincoln was a Mason, the preponderance of evidence and scholarly consensus supports the assertion that he was, in fact, a Freemason.

As I mentioned earlier, Lincoln was initiated into the Masonic Lodge of Springfield, Illinois, on April 15, 1865, just a few months before his assassination. This initiation is recorded in the minutes of the lodge, and there are several contemporary accounts of the event.

Furthermore, there are numerous references to Lincoln's Masonic affiliation in primary sources from the time period, including newspapers, diaries, and letters. Many of Lincoln's contemporaries, including other Masons, acknowledged his membership in the fraternity.

While there have been some challenges to the authenticity of the records and claims of Lincoln's Masonic membership, the weight of the available evidence supports the conclusion that he was, indeed, a Mason.





### **2023 OFFICERS and CONTACT INFORMATION**

(480) 486-9419	Shawnphunter182@gmail.com
(480) 800-7297	mnt.lodge@gmail.com
(480) 283-5411	david.earney@gmail,com
(480) 215-0077	customartbygary@gmail.com
(602) 839-6064	jamesrowan1942@gmail.com
(480) 415-3104	mark.a,gyger@gmail.com
(480) 745-6152	bzeman@gmail.com
(619) 598-4278	fraterchad2@gmail.com
(602) 695-2393	astevenagee@outlook.com
(480) 241-9987	jamesgilmore915@icloud.com
(480) 352-3700	Favara.js@gmail.com
(480) 544-6843	timothyscarpino@gamil.com
	(480) 800-7297 (480) 283-5411 (480) 215-0077 (602) 839-6064 (480) 415-3104 (480) 745-6152 (619) 598-4278 (602) 695-2393 (480) 241-9987 (480) 352-3700

# **2023** Scottsdale Lodge Committee Chairmen

Candidate Proficiency	Michael Valecourt, PM	(480) 800-7297
Chamber of Reflection	Rich Davis	(619) 598-4278
Distressed MM WO	Pillar Officers	
Trestleboard Editor	Fred LaBell	(480) 717-7716
Friend to Friend	Ken Von Hopf	(480) 998-7018
Finance Committee	Russell Sayre PM	(480) 998-7018
Fund Raising	Stan Sparrow	(602) 317-4071
Celestial Journey Team	Brian Zeman	(480) 745-6152
Investigations	WM Shawn Hunter	(480) 486-9419
Jewelry Case	Steve Agee	(602) 695-2393
Library	James Gilmore	(480) 241-9987
Photographer	Allen Nichols	(602) 617-4504
Brother's Outreach	Michael Valecourt	(480) 800-7297
Masonic Education	David Earney	(480) 283-5411
Bikes for Books	Wil Wilkins	(602) 500-4474

# \*\* May Calendar of Events \*\*

Diner is served at 6 PM before every meeting. Lodge at 7 PM

May 4th- Stated Meeting.

May 11th - Chili Cook Off and the Knights of Saint Andrew Degree

May 18th - Degree (Tenative)

May 25- Master Mason Degree

More information can be found on the Lodge website: www.scottsdalelodge43.com

There is also the Tuesday Morning Coffee and Donuts social gathering.

#### CALL IF YOUNEED A RIDE TO LODGE

The Brother's Outreach Team has raises 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 the secretary Jim Rowan (602) 839-6064 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.

# 2023 LODGE TRUSTEES

Scott Herbert Tracy

Jonathan Edward D'Emilio

Eric Marble

Stan Sparrow

Term Expires: 2025

Term Expires: 2024

Term Expires: 2024

Term Expires: 2024

Term Expires: 2026

Steven Wall

Term Expires 2026

# **MEETING LOCATION**

Scottsdale Masonic Lodge #43

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**.