

TRESTLEBOARD

Scottsdale Lodge 43 F&AM



Volume 724 Issue 7

June 2023

Lodge may be Going DARK, but Brothers will be Active

FROM THE EAST

This month Bro. Fred LaBell is the Guest Writer for our Worshipful Master.

Thoughts on Wise Council

With the fifth point of fellowship, we are encouraged to give wise



counsel to our Brother Freemason and to support him in his time of need. In Ancient Craft Masonry, the hand symbolized the support, while the whispered counsel, if found worthy, was equally common. The key is to see the responsibility of communicating good advice and providing support and help in implementing that advice. No matter who we are, we will need some help at some time, and, as Freemasons, we should strive to be available to offer our assistance to others when needed. This can have different interpretations in its meaning, but I want to share my personal thoughts on this within our lodge.

As a DeMolay over 50 years ago, I was taught the Master Councilor and officers of the chapter rose up from the ranks and returned to the ranks after their term of office. This is also true today within a lodge of Master Masons. First on the lodge level, I hear some brothers spending much time complaining about the actions of current officers, because they are not content with an action or decision. Some of these same brothers' whether sideliners or past officers voice their discontent to small groups or everyone within earshot, *except* directly to the individual or WM, instead of sitting down one on one, providing wise council and

FROM THE WEST

The Power of Accountability: The Quest to "Make Good Men Better"



While we may call it by various terms, accountability forms a primary cornerstone of our fraternity's mission to "make good men better." Through our commitment to mutual support and personal growth, we as Masons strive to exemplify the importance of accountability in fostering individual improvement. This is especially the case where we discuss the first lesson of Masonry - to be good and true. Truth as a divine attribute teaches us to act without hypocrisy and deceit, and to distinguish ourselves by plain speaking and fair dealings. How can we do any of these things, unless we have first learned to do so with our individual selves? Do we as individual masons seek accountability, or perhaps we might say - do we strive for congruency between our words and deeds? Do we reach out to others regarding things that we do not understand or cannot see in ourselves? Do we work to overcome our own ignorances by seeking out input, perspective or education?

I have recently been enjoying various excerpts from Carl Claudy's book *Old Tyler Talks*. In one of these short stories called "On Finding Out," Claudy narrates an encounter between an old Tyler and a young Mason, who despite being esteemed within the fraternity, is revealed to have concealed some frustration at receiving corrections from his more educated brethren. As this young protagonist grapples with this hurt, he seeks advice from the old Tyler, who enlightens him about the significance of accountability. Masons, through their oaths and obligations, hold themselves and each other accountable for their actions, both within and without the lodge. This commitment to accountability ensures that members uphold the highest moral

Continued on page 2

From the East continued

finding out why and how certain decisions were being made. We need to be mindful of the responsibilities that a sitting Master has taken upon himself with the approval of his lodge brothers. Members of the lodge are then looked to by every Master and the officers for wise council during their year. It is through this wise council that the Master is helped to make his decisions for the benefit of the lodge as a whole.

As we journey through Masonry, wise council is not meant to be only for airing personal complaints, it should be to help improve our lodge and to help our brothers benefit from positive thoughts and ideas on a personal level as well as for the lodge itself. As men we see different ways of getting to the same place or goal and sometimes the process of getting to that goal is not what we individually, would choose to do. That is why the final decision must be left to those given the authority by virtue of the office they hold to make that decision.

On an individual level a brother should feel comfortable in asking another for wise council without hesitation and knowing that that discussion will be kept in confidence. A Brother seeing that another Brother appears to be in need of wise council shall not feel any hesitation to approach that brother and ask if he can offer some help or wise council. We are a fraternal family of Brothers from many backgrounds and with a wide range of ages and life experiences. While we will have occasional disagreements, as Masons we should always come together as brothers to mutually resolve them.

Fraternally,

Brother Fred LaBell 32°

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Support our Lodge with a business card ad in our Trestleboard. \$100 per year.

**Contact Bro. Fred LaBell at
FLaBell@cox.net**

From the West continued from page 1

self-reflection. Experienced Masons often take on the responsibility of guiding and mentoring younger members, in both formal and informal companionships. Whether they bear a title or not, whether they realize it or not, they are constantly imparting wisdom, and encouraging personal growth, by precept and example. Through these interactions (even when they are sometimes difficult and challenging), Masonry strives to foster an environment of trust, where we as members can openly discuss various struggles of manhood and

life, seek guidance from other men who have alternate perspectives and often greater experience, and most importantly to be held accountable for our actions and our inactions. This dynamic reinforces the fraternity's commitment to helping good men improve themselves.

Beyond the benefit of external accountability, our fraternity also teaches us to recognize the importance of self-responsibility. In the renowned tale "*The Richest Man in Babylon*," George S. Clason emphasizes the principle of seeking knowledge and self-improvement, of ones own accord. Similarly, we are asked frequently if we are making this advancement of our own free will and accord. Masonry understands that personal growth requires a proactive approach. No one else, but we ourselves, can read our minds or analyze our experiences to determine a scarcity of understanding or a lack of education in a given area. Masonry can encourage the cultivation and promote a thirst for knowledge, but only we can continuously seek opportunities for self-improvement. Only we can say, "I don't know or understand what the appropriate thing is, in this circumstance - please enlighten me, Brother." Furthermore, only we can say - "thank you for that correction, I did not understand that before, I appreciate the value that I must represent, for you to make the time to give me better direction." By taking ownership of our own development, just as we seized ownership in our desire to become affiliated with this great institution, we as Masons, demonstrate our commitment to becoming better individuals.

If we stop and truly consider the fact, we in fact rely on one another, as brothers, specifically as a community of accountability; wherein we are strengthened and empowered for self-improvement, individually and collectively. Very few places, institutions or persons, in this western world offer a constructive beneficent environment where men can be held accountable from a perspective of Love and support. Through our rituals, ceremonies, and shared experiences,

From the West continued on page 3

From the West continued from page 2

we have an opportunity to reinforce our commitment to the principles of brotherhood and personal development in

a manner that is quite unique in this world and has been proven effective for countless generations. Within the lodge, we are taught to aid, support, and protect each other, to challenge one another in our capacity to fulfill and achieve, and to hold each other accountable for our actions. While it may at times be difficult to see, this collective accountability strengthens the bond among us and creates an environment conducive to growth and improvement.

The accountability we practice as Masons, extends beyond the confines of the lodge. As individuals, we embrace our various respective roles; as responsible citizens, we uphold the domestic and public virtues and invite and remind one another to be exemplary in these efforts. We understand that our actions reflect not only on ourselves but also each one of our Brothers, not to mention the broader body of Masonry at large. This awareness encourages each of us to reflect the true nature of our principles and concerns by our own examples, demonstrating integrity, compassion, and accountability in all aspects of life.

Fraternally,
Brother Senior Warden
Michael D. Valecourt



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.

From the South

Embracing the Summer of Mid-Life: A Grateful Journey Forward



As we find ourselves entering the vibrant embrace of summer, with its warmth and endless possibilities, it serves as a perfect reminder of the remarkable journey of mid-life. I invite you to take a moment to reflect upon the beauty of this juncture, where the summer season intertwines with the metaphorical mid-point of our lives.

Mid-life is often portrayed as a time of self-reflection, contemplation, and evaluation. It is a season where we can pause, assess our accomplishments, and eagerly look forward to the years ahead. Just as summer brings forth its abundance of energy and growth, we too can embrace this vibrant period of life with gratitude and excitement.

First and foremost, let us express our gratitude for the experiences and lessons learned during the first half of our lives. Every step, every challenge, and every achievement has shaped us into the Freemasons we are today. We are the embodiment of the values and teachings that have been passed down through generations, and we carry them forward with pride and reverence.

Mid-life presents us with a unique opportunity for self-discovery and self-realization. It is a time to reconnect with our passions, revisit our aspirations, and reevaluate our purpose. Just as summer inspires us to soak in the sun's warmth and embrace nature's bounty, let us embrace the warmth of our Masonic fraternity and the wisdom it imparts. Together, we can embark on a journey of renewed enthusiasm and fulfillment.

Looking ahead, we can approach the coming months with a sense of wonder and anticipation. Just as summer is a season of growth and harvest, mid-life holds the promise of abundant opportunities for personal and Masonic growth. It is a time to further our understanding of the Craft, deepen our bonds of brotherhood, and engage in meaningful acts of service to our communities.

As we bask in the radiance of summer, let us remember that we are not alone on this journey. We have our brothers by our side, offering support, guidance, and camaraderie. We are surrounded by the wisdom of those who have walked this path before us, and we have the privilege of passing on our knowledge to the next

From the South continued on page 4

From the South continued from page 3

generation. And let us always remember, and provide comfort to, the brothers among us who are a season ahead in their lives. Let us show our care and commitment to the brothers who are in their autumn and winter years.

So, my fellow brethren, let us embrace this summer of mid-life with hearts full of gratitude and minds open to the possibilities that lie ahead. Let us cherish the memories of the past while eagerly embracing the future. Together, we will continue to build upon the strong foundation laid by our predecessors, creating a legacy that will endure for generations to come.

May this summer be a time of reflection, renewal, and recommitment as we embark on the second half of our lives, inspired by the warmth of the sun and the everlasting light of Freemasonry.

Fraternally wishing you all a joyous and fulfilling summer,

**David Earney
Junior Warden**

NEEDED...RETIRED BROTHERS

We need retired brothers who would be willing to serve on the Celestial Journey Team (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**

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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.

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Brothers,

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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
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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.

The Minutes have been circulated



OES News

Scottsdale Chapter #43 will have their annual Installation of Officers at 7:00 pm on Friday, June 9.

Sheila Kelley will be WM and Bob Beer will be WP. Linda Sayre will be AM and Russell Sayre will be AP.

Our last meeting before going dark for the summer will be at 7:30 pm on Monday, June 12.

We look forward to joining with you for your Pancake Breakfasts during the summer.

Diana Hutchinson, Reporter



Birthdays are good for your health. Studies show those who have the most birthdays tend to live the longest

The Birthday Party



Masonic Education

LIGHT

The meaning of the word, and the diverse references over a long time, and in many places and usages, are sustaining in many civilizations, show no signs of slackening. Given often during difficult times; Gives us light, and we find the way".

Light in real time comes to us from all directions, and is defined simply as the absence of darkness. Keep the thought that we need darkness to see the light from the stars. We need the light to reveal what is good, and not felt or seen in darkness. One can believe that the light of dawns will shine without announcement, and sunsets need no fanfare.

In another sense, light is a term to describe weight, the burdens we carry through our lifetimes. We find the ways to lighten our loads, physically, and by inspiration.

Among sources of light, there are of course the sun and moon, ambience, speakers of life's hopes and dreams, from those who disperse dismay, and dispense help, and from the inner self. Sudden inspiration, relates to sudden light, illumination of the mind.

Thomas Jefferson tells us: A candle loses nothing when lights another candle".

David Woodland, PM

Education Committee

Symbolism of the Summer Sun: Illuminating Masonic Enlightenment

Introduction:

As the warmth of summer surrounds us, nature's bounty and the brilliance of the sun remind us of the profound symbolism embedded within Freemasonry. In this Masonic education article, we explore the significance of the summer sun as a powerful symbol of enlightenment, guiding us on our Masonic journey of self-improvement and knowledge.

The Radiant Sun:

The summer sun, with its radiance and life-giving energy, has long captivated humanity's imagination. Within Freemasonry, it serves as a symbol of light, wisdom, and divine guidance. Just as the sun illuminates the world, Masonry encourages us to seek enlightenment through the acquisition of knowledge and the pursuit of truth.

The Sun's Journey:

During the summer solstice, the sun reaches its zenith, casting its longest shadows and illuminating the world for the longest duration of the year. This celestial event offers a profound lesson for Masons: the importance of balance and the recognition of our own spiritual and intellectual growth. Just as the sun's path reaches its peak, so too should our efforts to reach our highest potential as Freemasons.

The Light of Knowledge:

The sun's radiance not only represents the external light that guides our daily lives but also the internal light of knowledge and self-awareness. Freemasonry encourages us to seek wisdom, to broaden our intellectual horizons, and to develop a deeper understanding of the world around us. Through study, contemplation, and discussion, we can illuminate our minds and bring light to the darkness of ignorance.

Education Com. continued on page 7



Education Com. continued from page 7

Harvesting the Fruits of Enlightenment:

Summer is also a season of abundance, where the fruits of labor manifest in their full glory. Similarly, our Masonic education efforts yield bountiful rewards when we actively engage in the pursuit of knowledge. By delving into Masonic texts, engaging in thoughtful discourse, and embracing the mentorship of seasoned Masons, we reap the harvest of intellectual and moral growth.

Applying the Sun's Lessons:

Just as the sun's energy sustains life on Earth, the lessons learned from its symbolism can enrich our Masonic journey. We are encouraged to be a source of light and inspiration for others, sharing our knowledge and experiences with brethren who seek enlightenment. By radiating the warmth of brotherly love, compassion, and understanding, we create an environment where Masonic education flourishes.

Conclusion:

As we bask in the glow of summer, let us remember the significance of the sun as a symbol of enlightenment within Freemasonry. By embracing the lessons of balance, knowledge, and abundance, we can strive for personal growth and contribute to the collective advancement of our fraternity. Let the summer sun guide us on our Masonic path, illuminating our minds and hearts as we continue to seek light, wisdom, and truth.

Wishing you a season of enlightenment and growth,

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



A Mason's Wife

Freemasonry Squared

From active Masons, resolute,
Our wives and families we salute;
We surely know the price you pay,
Who sit alone while we're away.

No high degrees on you conferred,
In Lodge, your name is seldom heard;
You serve our cause though out of sight,
While sitting home alone tonight.

Masonic papers list our names,
Awards are given, fit to frame;
But yours is absent...you who strive,
To keep our fortitude alive.

You're part of every helpful deed,
On your encouragement we feed;
Without your blessings, how could we,
Continue acts of charity?

And so, this poem, we dedicate,
To every Master Mason's mate;
And offer our undying love,
Rewards await in Heaven above.

FRIENDSHIP

BENEVOLENCE

by Robert Pinkerton



SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

*June 2023 Masonic Anniversaries
Celebrating Another Year in the Light*

Geoffrey W. Adams	2002-06-27	Daniel Paul Garcia	2018-06-14	Wayne Paul Marsh	1995-06-29
Jeffrey Lynn Arnett	2016-06-16	Daniel Chester Goldfarb	2014-06-26	Paul Raymond Messinger	1956-06-25
Joseph B. Barksdale	2009-06-18	James Gordon Grant	2001-06-28	James Garbett Miller Jr	2000-06-29
Christopher E. Bergeron	2005-06-30	James Richard Hartsock	2004-06-17	Roger Kent Morehead	1970-06-20
Manuel James Birch	1985-06-15	Herman Carl Haueisen	1985-06-27	Bryan Pisarski	1996-06-27
Riley Edward Bivins Jr	2001-06-28	Gregory Thomas Haus	2018-06-14	James W. Rowan PGM	1977-06-09
Ira Milton Bossert	1962-06-30	Charles Henry Hess Jr	1972-06-22	Gary Robert Sanford	1997-06-09
Fredrick M. Carrington	2014-06-19	Clarence Michael Hutto	1992-06-25	Thomas Welke Schwartz	1967-06-22
Timothy James Coffey	2012-06-14	Gary Kains	1981-06-26	David Hunter Shaff	2015-06-18
Philip Joseph Constantin	2005-06-30	Emil Joseph Kashouh	2000-06-20	Donald Collins Smith	1971-06-24
Perry G Contos	2005-06-30	Brian Christopher Kovacs	2021-06-17	Robert Kendall Smith	1969-06-28
Jeremy Andrew Corgan	2017-06-15	Thomas A. LaFountain Jr	2011-06-18	Mark Jeffrey Spitzer	1983-06-23
Anthony Michael Cuciti	2016-06-16	Jacob Lazar	1986-06-18	Noubar Taykalderanian	2022-06-16
Josue Cuevas PM	2001-06-28	Gary Vaughn LeBlanc	2009-06-18	John William Weldy	1957-06-28
Boyce Wayne Davis	1962-06-28	John W. Longendyke Jr	2002-06-27	Henry Ritchie Yorston PM	1992-06-11
Richard K. Dulyea PM	1998-06-25	Michael Anton Luzaich	2011-06-16		
Matthew Levi C. Dunn	2021-06-17	Miguel Marrero PM	2006-06-29		

Scottsdale #43 Masonic Lodge Building

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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

LODGE OFFICE HOURS
 Regular Office Hours for the Secretary:
 Wednesday through Friday
 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

2023 Lodge Chili Cook-off was won by WB Steve Sampson with a Chicken Chili Recipe



WM Shawn Hunter presenting WB Steve Sampson with the Chili Cook-off Trophy

Out of this world Masons

"Level, Plumb & Square"

There were a lot Freemasons amongst NASA astronauts --members of the craft were well represented. Freemason astronauts include Buzz Aldrin, Leroy Gordon Cooper, Donn Eisle, John Glenn, Gus Grissom, James Irwin, Edgar Mitchell, Walter Schirra, Thomas Stafford, and Paul Weitz. Astonaut Neil Armstrong, Jr was not a member of the Craft; his father, Neil Armstrong Sr was a very active Mason.

As a matter of fact, Buzz Aldrin took a personal item on the *Apollo 11* mission--a hand embroidered flag of the Scottish Rite Southern jurisdiction.

Courtesy of WB Bill Gesswein

Words of comfort from Director of Ceremonies



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SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

2023 OFFICERS and CONTACT INFORMATION

Worshipful Master Shawn Hunter	(480) 486-9419	Shawnphunter182@gmail.com
Senior Warden Michael Valecourt	(480) 800-7297	mnt.lodge@gmail.com
Junior Warden David Earney	(480) 283-5411	david.earney@gmail.com
Treasurer Gary Nelson	(480) 215-0077	customartbygary@gmail.com
Secretary James Rowan PGM	(602) 839-6064	jamesrowan1942@gmail.com
Senior Deacon Mark Allen Gyger	(480) 415-3104	mark.a.gyger@gmail.com
Junior Deacon Brian David Zeman	(480) 745-6152	bzeman@gmail.com
Senior Steward Richard Nicholas Davis	(619) 598-4278	fraterchad2@gmail.com
Junior Steward Steven Agee	(602) 695-2393	astevenagee@outlook.com
Marshal James Gilmore	(480) 241-9987	jamesgilmore915@icloud.com
Tyler John Favara	(480) 352-3700	Favara.js@gmail.com
Chaplain Timothy Scarpino PM	(480) 544-6843	timothyscarpino@gamil.com

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

**** June Calendar of Events ****

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

- **6/01/2023 Thursday - Grand Communication (No Stated Meeting)**
- **6/08/2023 Thursday - Stated Meeting 7PM**
- **6/15/2023 Thursday - Master Mason Degree 7PM**

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 YOU NEED 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	Term Expires: 2025
Jonathan Edward D'Emilio	Term Expires: 2025
Eric Marble	Term Expires: 2024
Stan Sparrow	Term Expires: 2024
Tim Scarpino	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.