

Scottsdale Lodge #43 F&AM



Volume 725 Issue 10

December 2024



SPECIAL YEAR END ISSUE

Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas

From the Editor

Brothers. For our **Masonic Education**, in this issue I have included information on both Hanukkah and Christmas from a Masonic standpoint.

Not wanting to ignore our Muslim Brothers, I looked for Muslim holidays in December that would relate to Masonry. While I did not find any significant holidays, I did read that many Muslims also enjoy the spirit of the holidays without the religious aspects. Jesus is respected as a prophet and Mary as a saint. Abraham is also an important figure in Muslim beliefs.

Editorial Comments: While through the past centuries Jews, Christians and Muslims have fought each other in many battles and have never fully come to peace with the fact that they all believe in the same one G'd, Brother Masons accept all beliefs in a Supreme Being. Leaders of Political religious righteousness, many believing that their way to the GAOTU is the only true way, have continued to be at the root of the problem.

I'll leave it to those much smarter than I am to try and solve the issues. I can just say thank you to the GAOTU for our Masonic Brotherhood and United States of America that allows each of us the freedom to choose our own way to believe in G'd.

Fred LaBell,
Trestleboard Editor

From the East

2024 - A Year of Labor, Light, and Brotherhood

As the year wanes and I prepare to relinquish the gavel as Master of Scottsdale Lodge #43, I find myself filled with profound gratitude and a deep sense of humility. This has been a year marked by challenges overcome, goals achieved, and bonds of brotherhood strengthened. From our work within the Lodge to our outreach in the community, 2024 has been a testament to the enduring relevance of Masonic principles in modern times. Together, we have built upon the foundations laid by our predecessors, carrying forward the Light that illuminates our paths as Masons.



Continued on page 2

From the West

Brethren,

As we approach the joyous holiday season, I am reminded of the rich traditions that bind us as Freemasons. One such tradition that holds a special place in our fraternity is the Festive Board, a time-honored practice that allows us to come together in fellowship and celebration.



Continued on page 3

Greetings from the South

Brethren, we have reached Arizona's beautiful December and the final month of the year, 2024. The Holidays are now upon us, and not only do we celebrate with our families and friends, but we celebrate with our Lodge, our Brothers, and Masonry as a whole. So Happy Holidays, my Brothers all!



This is also the season that we end our Masonic year and begin anew. Officers say goodbye to one chair and hello to another, while we welcome in a new Master of the Lodge and show our gratitude for our

Continued on page 3

From the East continued from page 1

Reflecting on the past year, I am struck by the richness of our shared experiences. We celebrated milestones, welcomed new Brothers, and mourned the loss of cherished members whose contributions and Light will forever enrich our Lodge and our Lives. From the joyous camaraderie of our events, such as the Lodge family picnic and the festive gatherings at Organ Stop Pizza, to the quiet solemnity of our Celestial Journey services, every moment has underscored the profound beauty of our shared journey. Each handshake, each word of encouragement, and each act of charity has strengthened the fraternal ties that bind us.

This year, we continued to uphold the tenets of Freemasonry: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Through our philanthropic efforts, we extended relief to those in need, embodying the sacred duty of service that lies at the heart of our Craft. Our Masonic education directives challenged us to seek deeper understanding and personal growth, while our fellowship provided a sanctuary of mutual respect and support. Together, we have demonstrated that the principles of Masonry are not relics of the past but living truths that guide us in shaping a better world.

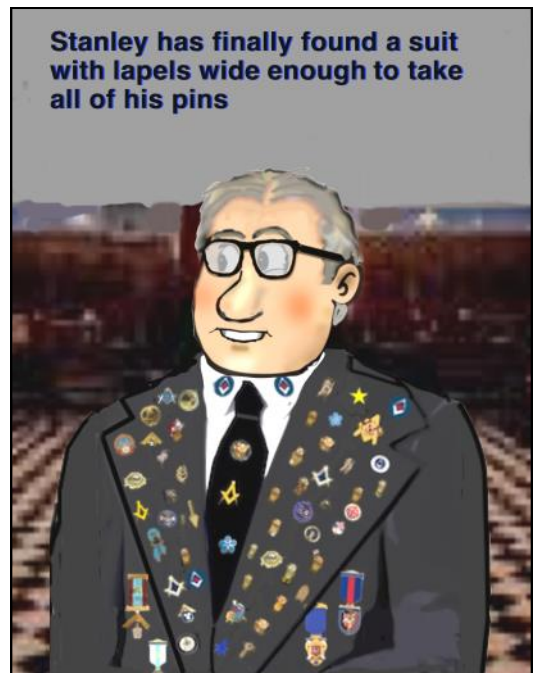
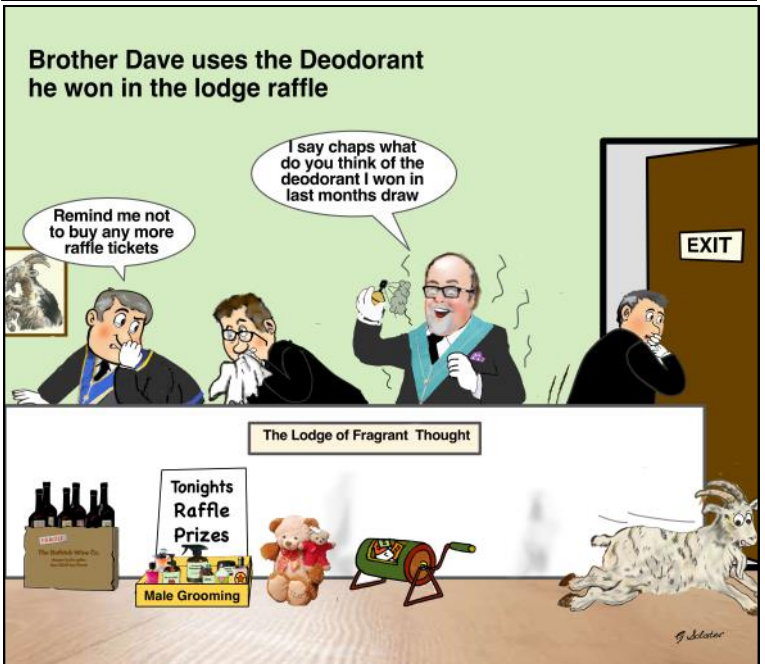
As I prepare to step down, I must express my heartfelt gratitude to all who have supported me during this term. To the officers who have labored tirelessly by my side, your dedication has been a source of inspiration. To the Past Masters whose wisdom has guided me, your counsel has been invaluable. And to every Brother who contributed his Light, no matter how small the gesture may have seemed, your efforts have enriched this Lodge immeasurably. It is through our collective labor that we have achieved so much.

Saying farewell as Master is not easy, for this role has been one of the greatest honors of my life. Yet, I take solace in knowing that the Lodge is in capable hands and that the journey of self-improvement and service will continue. Freemasonry teaches us that endings are but transitions, and I step into this new chapter with the same humility and resolve that marked the beginning of my tenure. The lessons I have learned this year will remain with me, guiding me as I continue to serve our Craft in other capacities.

To my Brothers, my friends, and my extended Masonic family: thank you. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your unwavering belief in the ideals we hold dear. As I pass the gavel, I am reminded of the words often spoken within our sacred walls: "Let us ever strive to be better men." It is with this spirit that I bid you farewell as Master, not as an ending, but as an

invitation to continue the work we have begun together. May the Light of Masonry guide you always, and may our shared labors continue to illuminate the path for generations to come. Fraternally, I remain your Brother in the eternal quest for Truth and Virtue. Now, as my parting reminder - Brethren, Remember who you are... Stewards of all that the Light touches.

**Fraternally,
Michael D. Valecourt
Worshipful Master 2024**



SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

From the West continued from page 1

The Festive Board, also known as the Table Lodge in some jurisdictions, has its roots in the early days of Freemasonry. In fact, one of the primary reasons for forming the Mother Grand Lodge in London in 1717 was to hold an Annual Feast. This was not merely a dinner, but a grand celebration of brotherhood and conviviality.

Traditionally, the Festive Board affords us the opportunity to enjoy the social side of Freemasonry alongside the more formal aspects of our craft. It is a time for breaking bread together, engaging in lively conversation, and strengthening the bonds that unite us as brothers.

As we enter the holiday season, I encourage all brethren to reflect on the significance of our Masonic traditions, particularly those associated with Saint John the Evangelist, whose feast day falls on December 27th. This date has long been of importance to our fraternity, serving as a time for lodges to gather and celebrate the closing of the year.

In the spirit of the season and our Masonic heritage, the Lodge will be having a Lodge Holiday Party on December 13th at 6:00 PM. Let us come together with our families to enjoy good food, partake in fellowship, and revel in the warmth of brotherly love.

Remember, brethren, that our gatherings are more than just meals and meetings. Each of them is an opportunity to create lasting memories, forge stronger bonds, and celebrate the principles that guide us as Freemasons. Let us use this occasion to reflect on the past year, look forward to the future, and reaffirm our commitment to our craft and to one another.

I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Holiday Party. May the spirit of the season fill your hearts with joy and your homes with peace.

Fraternally yours,

David Earney
Senior Warden
(480)283-5411

david@davidearney.com



From the page 1 continued

newest Past Master. I have a lot of gratitude to share to the whole Lodge:

To Worshipful Brother Michael Valecourt: Thank you for your love and guidance of our Lodge. Your light, persistence, and inspiration has shone bright on us officers and members of Scottsdale 43, and we look forward to your wisdom and counsel in the years ahead.

To Worshipful-Elect David Earney: We are excited for your new year and wish you and this line of Officers great success in bringing our Masonry to Scottsdale 43.

To all the Officers new and current: Thank you for all the time, hard work, and love you put into your Lodge and ritual. The work may be more than expected at times, but the rewards within are abundant, and most importantly - all of your Brothers here appreciate all that you do. To our newer Officers - Buckle up, it's going to be a great ride.

To all the Seekers and Kitchen Helpers: Thank you so much for all your help and efforts this past year in the kitchen. The success this year has been a direct result of your efforts in the kitchen and in the dining room. A special thanks to Brother Joshua Hicks, who has greatly assisted me throughout the year.

Finally, thank you to all my Brothers, your families, and friends who have come to dinner this year and supported the Lodge this year. I'm very thankful that everyone has enjoyed the meals and refreshment this year. It has been a wonderful honor to serve and feed you this year. It is honestly an experience I will take with me for the rest of my days. The kitchen is the most excellent hands of Brother Steven Agee, our incoming Junior Warden, for the ensuing year. We will be feasting well!

I wish you all the Happiest of Holidays. May all the Love and Peace rest upon us and Bless in this coming New Year.

Fraternally,

Brother Brian Zeman



Christmas and Freemasonry

At its surface, the Christmas holiday has no intrinsic connection to the fraternity of Freemasonry. What I mean by that is no where in the degrees does it link itself to any particular holiday in its practice, in particular the Christmas holiday season.

The Holy Saints John

There are, however, certain Christmas celebrations that have become a part of the fraternity which are linked to one of the interesting symbols that resides at the heart of the practice. Without any specific reference, Masons are said to come from a Lodge of the [Holy Saints John](#), the specific why and how of this connection is lost in the sands of metaphorical time, but some connection infers a balance to the celestial equinox (from summer to winter and back again).

Through this link, winter is said to be represented by the **Saint John the Evangelist**, whose feast day falls on December 27th.

This Holy Saint John has an interesting symbolic significance, in that, as [John the Baptist](#) (who represents the other Holy Saint John) was the precursor to the coming Christ, John the Evangelist is said to be the first disciple at the Lake of Genesareth who recognized the Christ and believed that he had risen.

Of the Saint it is also said that he was the only disciple of Christ to not to forsake him in the hour of His Passion at the foot of the cross. [John the Evangelist](#) is also called the Apostle of [Charity](#), which may be in part, his connection to Freemasonry in addition to his unwavering resolve and purity of his love of the divine.

In creating the original construct of the two Johns, the conclusion that I came to was that they struck a balance between zeal and knowledge.

The Baptist who was the precursor of the Christ living in his zeal for the coming son of God and the Evangelist as the representation of knowing that the Christ was the son of God. Only in piecing the component of knowing did it become clear to me that it was not about the degree of knowledge gained, but the degree to which the Evangelist trusted his intuition, to know what was before him. An interesting parallel comes in the book of Matthew where this very lesson is communicated to Peter from the Christ

who says in *Matthew 16:15-17*

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven."

This is somewhat out of original context, but illustrative of revealed knowledge based on experience, on learning.

John the Evangelist came to that knowledge by his experience with the Christ.

Another way of looking at this experience is coming *from darkness to light*, an awakening, and if you take it further, the dawning of awareness. This awareness sits squarely with the idea of [Sol Invictus](#), or the conquering sun which overcomes its captivity of night from the summer solstice and again begins to vanquish the night in its ever increasing minutes of daylight.

Looking at some of the other symbolic connections, the Evangelist is said to relate to the alchemical symbol of the up pointed triangle which represents fire, where again we can see a link to light and knowledge. When we combine the alchemical sign of the Baptist with that of the Evangelist, we create the star of solomon, and the duality of fire and water, further, the duality of light and dark and summer and winter.

Pope Adrian I

Further work attributed to John the Evangelist are the *Epistles of John*, and the book of *Revelation*, though his connection to them in later centuries has been contentious, as much of his life from 2000 years ago is lost to time. Within the church his feast day is first mentioned in the Sacramentary of Pope Adrian I near 772 A.D.

The message of the church, and something each of us can take away from John the Evangelist is to *"Apply thyself, therefore, to purity of heart, and thou shalt be like Saint John, a beloved disciple of Jesus, and shalt be filled with heavenly wisdom."*

The feast of the Evangelist is little remembered today, except within Masonry where it is celebrated by a few lodges that still practice the Table Lodge ritual where brothers gather together to celebrate it with toasts to those brothers present and absent. in the

past, it was considered a feast day of high importance for Freemasonry because of its proximity to the holidays and the presence of lodge members being close to home. Because of this, It gave those brothers a festival to meet under to punctuate the closing of the year. Meeting like this though is something less convenient in this modern day as most with families travels abroad to celebrate the holiday.

Because it is celebrated less does not diminish the importance of the day, nor the symbol itself, as in the modern ritual we are reminded that we come from the Holy Saint John's in Jerusalem, and as such we should pause and reflect on just what that means. John the Evangelist gives us an important lesson to pursue knowledge and wake from the darkness and renew our commitment to the awakening light of the Victorious Sun. Even taken out the Christian metaphor, we can salute with Sol Invictus, as knowledge is re-awakened from its cold wintry defeat.

Through the lens of symbolism, John the Evangelist gives us a means to find resonance with the holiday of giving and compassion to the fraternity of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

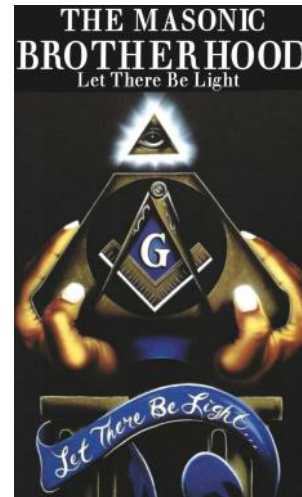
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Scottsdale Lodge Calendar for December

**The Installation of Officers will be
December 8, 2025,
Lunch at 12:00 Noon
Installation at 1:00 pm with Refreshments
and Reception following.**

**December 13 – Lodge Holiday Party
December 21 – Lodge Pancake Breakfast**

Watch your emails for details or changes.



Come on over for the Pancake Breakfast

Including Bacon, Sausage, Eggs and Hash Browns, Omelets to order, Coffee and Juice too.

Saturday, December 21

From 9am until 11am

Great way to start your weekend.



Masonic Chanukah Message - Rabbi Brother Danny Yaffe

The story of ancient Chanukah takes place in the year 167 BCE at the peak of Hellenism and when some of the greatest Greek philosophers we know of today were alive.

The King, Antiochus IV Epiphanes ruled the massive Seleucid Kingdom that also included a tiny area of land called Judea or Israel. The inhabitants of Israel by this point were spread throughout Babylon, Egypt, Spain, Africa and the silk routes.

By this point too, the Hellenistic influences that so many other religions and peoples in the surrounding areas had accepted so readily, while slowly seeping into Jewish culture and various cultural observances including even the office of the High Priest on occasion, nonetheless found serious resistance in affect the ways of the ruling class and more influential groups within the Jewish communities.

You see, politically and religiously, Jews of that era were split into different theological groups with distinct practices and scholars. The most prominent and influential amongst the communities of Jews were the Pharisees which comprised the rabbinical leadership that followed biblical and rabbinic interpretation and the second most influential being the Sadducees and lay leaders who primarily only followed biblical law, denouncing the rabbinical leaders as being simply power hungry.

As part of attempting to gain political control of the current population, they often allied themselves with the Seleucid Kingdom, promoting Hellenistic ideals while the Seleucids used them as a way to control the rather rebellious Pharisees from regaining complete Pharisee sovereign control over Judea and Samaria and the High Priest office.

It is in this bubbling, divided, disjointed melting pot of political and religious upheaval that the story of Chanukah takes place. The Hasmonean family who were part of the Pharisee sect, led by the High Priest at the time, Matityahu, and his 5 sons and daughter, saw that religious life and the slowly following degradation of the moral building blocks that connected the Jews to G-d were crumbling with Hellenistic ideals taking over, decided now it was time to initiate a rebellion that would last for 26 years.

But what was the tipping point though? What was the pinpoint issue that ignited the rebellion and eventual retreat by the Seleucid empire from Judea & Samaria?

Judaism's prime belief is the supranational belief in a one and only powerful G-d that controls every atom of creation and reality with an incomprehensible and infinite plan, while the Hellenistic belief system at that time was based on logic and reasoning, even though they had a hierarchy of gods, nonetheless, each controlled a different aspect of our creation and reality based upon the cause and affect theory.

Practically speaking, this created major uncompromisable differences for the Jewish communities at large, whose very commandments, traditions and laws often had no logical basis or reason, but simply they observed those commandments because they believed G-d had commanded them to, and they believed this maintained their connection to a single all-inclusive G-d. While the Hellenists, including many Jews, allied with the Seleucids felt that while there was no issue with the Torah, it was only good for intellectual study and philosophy, but when it came to practical action and worship, even for a god, it must be for a rational outcome or purpose or it was considered uncultured and contradictory to the development of society and civilization.

Let us Imagine for a minute an observer looking at a mason at work, looking at the working tools such as a trowel or a chisel as being independent like a god having its own power, and the GAOTU being as a Mason is disconnected from his tools, it is foolish and would make no sense. As we know, the working tools are how the Mason makes the stone, while an uninitiated observer will look at the Mason working and not understand the what's and why expecting the works to follow the limits of the observer's logic and reasoning, but that doesn't mean the Mason is any less knowledgeable or skilled or less of an expert. It is not a requirement of the observer to understand the work or the process to validate the master mason being a master, an expert and a professional in his trade nor are his tools able to do anything of themselves unless handled by the master mason in an expert manner.

This was the debate and point of division.

And for as long as the Pharisees encouraged this supranational required belief, the Jews would not and could not be accepted as equal citizens of the Seleucid kingdom, which for obvious reasons, King Antiochus could not accept. Therefore, they placed a ban on all Jewish religious practices such as Kosher, the services in the Temple, circumcision, laws of purity & and impurity and Shabbat.

But after 26 years of Hasmonean-led outmatched rebellion, using guerrilla tactics, it led to costly and

inefficient damages to the Seleucid armies, whereupon they decided to withdraw from Judea and Samaria and the Temple was finally re-established on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev.

As part of that rededication, the Maccabis, (the name that rebels that followed the Hasmonean family called themselves) wanted to light the Golden Temple Menorah which symbolised lighting up the world with G-dly supranational spiritual light. Unfortunately, as part of the conquest by the Seleucids to ban the irrational concept of intangible purity, they desecrated all the spiritually pure oil in the Temple. However, the Hasmoneans found a small bottle which had only 1 day's oil worth, which miraculously lasted 8 days, until they were able to acquire more of the appropriate oil from the tribal lands of Asher to the west.

As we know, light, of all types in Masonic literature and ceremony, signifies the journey from ignorance to enlightenment through personal educational development. However, let us not forget that this enlightenment is first based on trust, faith and hope.

The story of modern Chanukah takes place now in 2023.

The mistaken belief that through the light of education, we are actually freeing ourselves from the ignorance and darkness of faith. Through education one becomes more cultured and has less need for faith and belief when in essence, the exact opposite is true, first, we must solidify our faith, our hope, our trust and our belief in the GAOTU and then through the various vessels of educational progress we make in our lives, through character development, we can work on ourselves to shape our world and personal immediate environments into perfect building blocks of civilization.

Thus, the following year, the Sages and leaders of the Pharisees established an 8-day festival of light, where till today the festival is celebrated globally within the Jewish community by lighting a symbolic Chanukiah in each home, eating deep-fried foods such as doughnuts and potato latkes (pancakes), as a consistent reminder; That the light of belief, education and intellectual discovery will always overwhelm and conquer the darkness of ignorance.

That supranational connection is symbiotic and vital to one's educational growth!

Our belief, trust and hope that drives us as better masons is through enlightening the world via means of cause and effect, through intellect and social and personal development.

CELESTIAL JOURNEY TEAM

Roll Of The Workmen

The roll of the workmen has been called, and two Master Masons have not answered to their names. They have laid down the working tools of the Craft and with them they have left that mortal part for which they no longer have use.

Their labors here have taught them to divest their hearts and conscience of the vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting their minds as a living stone for that spiritual building – that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Strengthened in their labors here by faith in the Supreme Being, and confident of expectation of immortality, they have sought admission to the Celestial Lodge above.

WB Robert Dale Tarr

Born April 18, 1933
 Degrees in Bethel Lodge No. 761
 Initiated Dec. 17, 1955
 Passed January 21, 1956
 Raised February 18, 1956
 Affiliated Scottsdale Lodge No. 43
 January 7, 1971
 Scottsdale Lodge No. 43 Worshipful Master 1982
 Scottsdale Lodge Secretary, 1997 through 2004
 Died November 2, 2004



WB Henry Ritchie Yorston

Born September 14, 1938
 Initiated.... October 24, 1901
 Passed February 13, 1992
 Raised June 11, 1992
 Scottsdale Lodge #43 Worshipful
 Master 2003
 Grand Lodge Secretary of the Year in
 2010.
 Died November 12, 2024







PLACE YOUR AD HERE
 Support our Lodge with a business card ad in our Trestleboard. \$100 per year.
 Contact Bro. Fred LaBell at
FLaBell@cox.net

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.

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

ON THE LEVEL
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.

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

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

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Accredited Attorney


Masonic Education

INSPIRATION

Inspiration drives us to meet our goals in life. Deliberate through this process requires that you must retain interest, stay motivated, even excited. Reaching goals thrives on motivation, pleasure in what you do and a positive view of the future. Try what you like, and own what you try.

Goals are for the short or long term, for tomorrow, or continuing. The short term must reach success quickly, but also be the birth of character that you were as a mantle. This becomes variations of interests, goals, rewards, successes, or failures.

There are no guarantees of accomplishment, but these are mere guides derived from ambition, knowledge, planning, work, continuity, and luck. Know your resources. use them knowingly and wisely, and let them work for you. Familiarity, regularity of effort, and belief in yourself, are the fuels of getting it done.

David Woodland, PM

Although he is gone, in his memory we will continue to publish his articles.

Freemasons Creed

As Freemasons, our commitments and obligations form the bedrock of our fraternity. These sacred vows are not mere formalities but lifelong promises that shape our character and guide our actions both within and beyond the lodge.

The Essence of Masonic Duty

Our Masonic journey calls us to:

- Pursue personal growth and integrity
- Support our brothers in times of need
- Preserve the secrecy of our traditions
- Contribute to our communities

Embody brotherly love, relief, and truth

The Weight of Our Word

When we accept responsibilities, we give our word as men and Masons. This pledge extends beyond lodge walls, binding us in all aspects of life. Our integrity is measured by how well we honor these commitments.

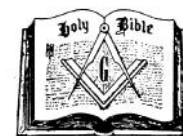
Consequences of Neglect

Failing to meet our obligations weakens the trust within our brotherhood and hinders our personal development. Each unfulfilled promise is a step away from the ideals we strive to uphold.

Building Our Masonic Legacy

Every commitment we honor adds another stone to the edifice of our character. By consistently fulfilling our duties, we not only strengthen our lodges but also become living examples of Masonic virtue in the world.

Let us remember that the strength of our fraternity lies in the reliability of each brother's word. May we always strive to be men of honor, true to our obligations, and worthy of the trust placed in us by our ancient and honorable craft.



SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

From the Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

It's that time of year, The 2025 Dues invoices will be mailed soon. Be on the lookout for it and please pay promptly.

If you have a problem and cannot pay your dues, please contact the Secretary via email at secretary@scottsdalelodge43.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Fraternally,
Jim Rowan, PM/PGM
Secretary



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 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

Scottsdale Chapter #43 Order of the Eastern Star

The members of Eastern Star are looking forward to attending the Lodge Installation of Officers for 2025.

Kudos for the successful projects and activities of the Lodge officers and members during 2024.

Our last meeting of 2024 will be our statewide Holiday Friendship Night on Monday, December 9 at 7:30 pm.

Our first meeting of 2025 will be our statewide Official Visit on Friday, January 3 at 7:00 pm.

We have a stated meeting scheduled for Monday, January 27 at 7:30 pm.

May all enjoy the celebrations of the Holiday Season and look forward to a Happy New Year of 2025.

Diana Hutchinson



Kinishba Court #6

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all!

We at Kinishba are very pleased with the work that has been done for our Amaranth Diabetes Foundation and the fundraisers for the month of November-National Diabetes Awareness Month. We are looking forward to 2025! In the Grand Court, 3 of the top 4 officers are from Kinishba Court. We are excited to see Honored Lady Karen finish up her year and support Honored Lady Alicia and Sir Knight Raddy when they assume the Grand Throne in May. We have lots of helpful support to do for both years!

Honored Lady Bizzy will be travelling to Australia and Canada during this holiday season as she visits Subordinate Courts under Supreme Council Jurisdiction. It's hard to believe that in July we will be helping to host her Supreme Session in Glendale Arizona - it is coming fast. We are very proud of all our members that are serving the state and international levels of our organization.

In this season, we are thankful for the Scottsdale Masonic family and the bonds of fraternal fellowship. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Honored Lady Bizzy Herbolsheimer
Supreme Royal Matron



December 2024 Master Mason Anniversaries Celebrating Another Year in the Light

Edward John Bandyk	2015-12-10	Bruce William Genthner	1961-12-14	John Michael Pierce	2012-12-15
Ronald W Buksbaum	1992-12-28	Barry Morris Goldwater Jr.	2022-12-08	Matthew James Smith	2008-12-11
Barry Louis Collins	2003-12-18	Wilhelm Hartmann	1991-12-19	Robert Gale Stepp	2008-12-18
John Dean Covington	2012-12-15	Patrick Robert Kaminsky	2008-12-18	Justin Keith Taylor	2008-12-11
Eric Enrique Dispo	2018-12-11	Bruce Ira LaBell	2009-12-10	David Watson	2011-12-08
Erik Allen Easton	2007-12-13	Mark Andrew Marsillo	2012-12-15	Ryan Johnathan Wilson	2016-12-08
Jerry Thomas Estruth	1968-12-05	William E McCusker, Jr.	2021-12-16		
Bruce E Fischer	1954-12-07	Gary Allen Nichols	2010-12-09		

2025 Installation of Officers

Join your Brothers in welcoming the 2025 Officers.

Lunch at Noon,

Installation proceedings at 1:00 PM

Refreshments after the Installation

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, Groups up to 100 people.

Contact the Secretary for details on cost and availability.

Photos and bldg. diagram on the website: <http://scottsdalelodge43.com/>

Call (480) 946-1072 for details and prices


SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

ATTENTION ALL BROTHERS
FOLLOWING IS WORSHIP MASTER ELECT DAVID ERNEY'S INTENDED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR. (PRINT AND SAVE)
2025 Prospective Event Calendar
December – 3 events

There will likely be a Conferral of the 2nd Degree of Masonry on Brother Kevin Siefkert in December, on 12 or 19 December. The Widows Sons have asked me to hold his 2nd degree at that time. There will be several visitors from other lodges assisting with this degree, so this will be an opportunity for some of our officers to sit things out and enjoy the degree.

8 – Installation of 2025 Officers

13 – Lodge Holiday Party

21 – Lodge Breakfast

January – 10 events

1 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

2 – Stated Meeting

9 – EA Conferral ¹

15 – Ritual Practice

16 – FC Conferral ¹

18 – Lodge Breakfast

22 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

23 – First Quarter Tenant Meeting

27 – Eastern Star Visit

30 – Lodge of Instruction

February – 10 events

4 – York Rite Official Visit

5 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

6 – Stated Meeting

8 – Parada Del Sol – Tuxedos and Cowboy or Formal Hats (no caps of any kind)

13 – Ladies' Night

15 – Lodge Breakfast

19 – Ritual Practice

20 – EA Conferral ¹

26 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

27 – Mardi Gras Themed Dinner / MM Conferral ¹

March – 9 events

5 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

6 – Stated Meeting

13 – EA Conferral ¹ (Proficiency for Carl Eschenbrenner)

15 – Lodge Breakfast

19 – Ritual Practice

20 – Mrs. Madden's Corned Beef and Cabbage / FC Conferral ¹ (Proficiency for Steven Agee)

21– 23 – Grand Lodge Leadership Conference

26 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

27 – MM Conferral ¹

April – 9 events

2 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

3 – Stated Meeting / First Read of Grand Lodge

Legislation

10 – EA Conferral ¹

11 – Lodge Social Event????

16 – Ritual Practice

17 – Easter Themed Dinner / FC

Conferral ¹ (Proficiency for William Alvarez)

19 – Lodge Breakfast

23 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

24 – MM Conferral ¹

May – 11 events

1 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

2 – Stated Meeting / Second Read of Grand Lodge

Legislation

3 – 75th Anniversary and Lodge Charter Celebration

8 – 2nd Quarter Tenant Meeting

15 – Military Degree / FC Conferral ¹

17 – Lodge Breakfast

21 – Ritual Practice

22 – MM Conferral ¹

28 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

29 – Lodge of Instruction

June – 9 events

5– 7 – Grand Communication

11 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

12 – Stated Meeting

13 – Lodge Social Event

18 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

19 – EA Conferral ¹

21 – Lodge Breakfast

25 – Ritual Practice

26 – Mark Master Degree with Scottsdale York Rite

July – 10 events

3 – Summer Projects ²

9 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

10 – Summer Projects ²

16 – Ritual Practice

17 – Summer Projects ²

19 – Lodge Breakfast

23 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

24 – Summer Projects ²

30 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

31 – Summer Projects ²

August – 8 events

7 – Summer Projects ²

13 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

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14 – Summer Projects ²

16 – Lodge Breakfast

20 – Ritual Practice

21 – Summer Projects ²

27 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

28 – Summer Projects ²

September – 10 events

3 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

4 – Stated Meeting

11 – Colonial Degree – EA Conferral ¹ (Officer's Advance Stations)

12 – Lodge Social Event

17 – Ritual Practice

18 – Chili Cookoff – FC Conferral ¹

19 – 3rd Quarter Tenant Meeting

20 – Lodge Breakfast

24 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

25 – MM Conferral ¹ (Proficiency for Brian Zeman)

October – 9 events

1 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

2 – Stated Meeting

9 – EA Conferral ¹ (Officer's Advance Stations)

15 – Ritual Practice

16 – MM Conferral ¹ (Officer's Advance Stations) (Proficiency for Steven Agee)

18 – Lodge Breakfast

22 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

23 – FC Conferral ¹ (Bisbee) (Master and Pedestal Officer's of Bisbee Lodge)

30 – Fallen Brother's Night (Masonic Funeral Service)

November – 10 events

5 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

6 – Stated Meeting

9 – Lodge Picnic

13 – EA Conferral ¹ (Officer's Advance Stations)

14 - Lodge Social Event

15 – Lodge Breakfast

19 – Ritual Practice

20 – FC Conferral ¹ (Proficiency for Carl Eschenbrenner)(Officer's Advance Stations)

26 – Ritual Practice (Optional)

27 – Thanksgiving Day

December

3 – Officers' Meeting followed by Trustees' Meeting

4 – Stated Meeting

11 – MM Conferral ¹

13 – Installation of 2026 Officers

Footnotes:

¹ Summer Projects may be substituted with Conferrals, or courtesy degrees at other Lodges

² Any Conferral may be substituted with an

Education Night or a Lodge of Instruction. The degree conferral schedule will not be modified from the 3, 2, 1 model each month with the exception of October which will be 3, 1, 2 due to the Bisbee degree. If a candidate has not made the necessary proficiency he will be held over until the following month. There will be no plural conferrals. All candidates will advance individually.

Incoming 2025 Officers

Tyler John Favara
 Marshal Rob Swoboda
 Junior Steward Richard Johnson
 Senior Steward..... Paul Pearson
 ChaplainTBD
 Junior Deacon.....William Alvarez
 Senior Deacon.....Carl Eschenbrenner
 Secretary..... Jim Rowan, PGM
 Treasurer..... Brian Blodgett
 Junior WardenSteven Agee
 Senior Warden..... Brian Zeman
 Worshipful MasterDavid Earney

Lodge Trustees and Terms

Term ending 2027

WB Scott Tracy and WB Michael Valecourt

Term ending 2026

Anthony Darin and Taylor McMullen

Term ending 2025

Joe Martoccia and WB Tim Scarpino




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Scottsdale Lodge Information

2024 OFFICERS and CONTACT INFORMATION

Worshipful Master,	Michael D. Valecourt
Senior Warden,	David J. Earney
Junior Warden,	Brian David Zeman
Treasurer,	Brian D. Blodgett
Secretary,	James Rowan PGM
Senior Deacon,	A Steven Agee
Junior Deacon,	Carl F. Eschenbrenner
Senior Steward,	William M. Alvarez
Junior Steward,	Mohannad Ghannoum
Marshal,	Clayton J. Solomon
Tyler,	John Favara
Chaplain,	Seth K. Hartsock

NOTICE

Due to current Lodge Building security being reviewed and updated, contact the Lodge Office 480-946-1072 for Officer or Committee Chair

Contact Information

2024 Scottsdale Lodge Committees

Audit Committee:	Worshipful Master
Friend to Friend/Seekers:	Worshipful Master
Philanthropic/Charity:	Worshipful Master
Building Resolution:	Worshipful Master
Proficiency & Mentorship:	Sr. Warden
Security and Lodge Safety	Sr. Warden
Sickness & Distress/MMW&O:	Sr. Warden
Brother's Outreach:	Sr. Warden
Labor and Refreshment:	Jr. Warden (assisted by Stewards)
Public Relations/Parades:	Jr. Warden
Celestial Journey:	Jr. Warden (assisted by Jr. Deacon)
Jewelry Case:	Sr. Deacon
Library:	Jr. Deacon
Chamber of Reflection:	Sr. Steward
Technology:	Jr. Steward (assisted by Sr. Warden)
Tenant Relations/Bldg/ Scheduling & Needs:	Secretary

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 480-946-1072.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.

2024 LODGE TRUSTEES

Scott Herbert Tracy	Term Expires: 2025
Jonathan Edward D'Emilio	Term Expires: 2025
Taylor McMullen	Term Expires: 2027
Tony Darin	Term Expires: 2027
Tim Scarpino	Term Expires: 2026
Steven Wall	Term Expires: 2026
Joe Martoccia	Term Expires: 2024

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.

December Events

• Please see page 5 and watch your email for weekly updates on Lodge activities.