

Scottsdale Lodge #43 F&AM



Volume 725 Issue 9

November 2024



The Good Times are Rolling Again

SAVE THE DATE

November 10 - Lodge Family Picnic

Chaparral Park - 5401 N Hayden Rd (Map inside page 4)

From the East

As the year wanes and we find ourselves on the cusp of darker days, there is a stillness that calls us inward. The shortening daylight signals not just the closing of another chapter, but an invitation—a summons to pause and consider all that has unfolded. In the cool air, as the final leaves spiral to their resting place, we, too, must gather our thoughts, our feelings, and our experiences. This is a time to take stock, not only of what we have gained, but also what we have lost. For both are worthy of reflection, both are deserving of our gratitude.



Gratitude, in this context, does not come as a fleeting feeling of joy for what we hold in our hands, but as a deeper, more solemn recognition of the journey we have walked. The harvest we reap is not merely a collection of physical fruits, but the culmination of

Continued on page 2

From the West

As we approach Veterans Day, it is fitting that we reflect on the profound connection between the values upheld by our fraternity and those exemplified by the brave men and women who have served in our nation's armed forces. Veterans Day, observed annually on November 11th, is a time to honor and recognize these individuals who have dedicated themselves to protecting our freedoms and way of life.



Continued on page 2

From the South

The Masonic Connection to Thanksgiving

In 1621, the settlers from the Mayflower created a tradition that would last for centuries to come. This celebration was to thank God for the harvest and his many blessings. Members of the Wampanoag tribe in Plymouth, Massachusetts were also invited to the feast. This feast is what we now call Thanksgiving where we are pushed to reflect on all that we have to be grateful for.



Continued on page 3

From the Editor

In view of the increasing anti-Semitism spreading in our county and around the world, affecting many of our Brothers and their families, I'm sharing the below letter from the First US President and a Worshipful Master of Masons it is a very timely reminder of our religious freedom.

SUMMARY

On August 21, 1790, President George Washington composed a letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, Rhode Island, and to its leader, Moses Seixas. Seixas had written a letter to Washington four days earlier. In this letter, Seixas described the benefits that his community received under the new Constitution and expressed his "deep sense of gratitude to the Almighty" for "a Government . . . erected by the Majesty of the People," committed to the "liberty of conscience," and "deeming every one, of whatever Nation, tongue, or language equal parts of the great governmental Machine." Washington responded with a brief but powerful letter, expressing America's enduring commitment to the principle of tolerance and the freedom of conscience.

Full Text is on Page 4

Fred LaBell, Trestleboard Editor

SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43



From the East continued from page 1

efforts, of trials and of perseverance. Our achievements, as Masons, are never ours alone. They are a testament to the hands we have shaken, the guidance we have received, and the Light we have followed. Each degree, each lesson, has been a seed planted, nurtured, and now—at this season—brought to fruition.

Yet, with every harvest, there is also a reckoning. We cannot speak of our bounty without acknowledging the barren fields, the seeds that failed to grow. Our losses, whether they be personal, emotional, or spiritual, are as much a part of our journey as our triumphs. It is in this acknowledgment that gratitude takes on its full meaning, for it is only by facing the shadow that we can truly appreciate the light. As we look upon the year, we must remember that the disappointments, the missed opportunities, and the shortcomings have also taught us, sharpened us, and refined us.

This season invites us to reflect on the balance of life—the duality that defines our existence as Masons and as human beings. We are reminded of the eternal cycle of death and rebirth, of endings and beginnings. Just as the leaves fall to nourish the soil, so too must we allow the lessons of our failures and losses to feed the roots of our growth. Gratitude, in this context, is not a passive acceptance of fate, but an active engagement with our own becoming. It is in the turning of the wheel that we see our own evolution.

As brothers, we are not alone in this reflective process. Our bonds, forged through shared rites and symbols, remind us that we are part of a greater whole. Together, we face the darkness with courage, knowing that the Light is always present, even if dimmed. In our lodges and in our hearts, we find strength in the collective wisdom of those who came before us, and in the shared hope for what lies ahead. This time of year asks us to gather not just in fellowship, but in mutual contemplation, to recognize that the labor of our hands and minds is never in vain, even when it does not yield the results we envisioned.

And so, as the year fades, let us hold gratitude in our hearts, not just for the easy blessings, but for the entire journey—the hardships, the triumphs, the lessons, and the losses. For in the fullness of this reflection, we find the truth of our own path, ever seeking the Light, even in the twilight of the year.

Fraternally,
Michael D. Valecourt
Worshipful Master 2024

From the West continued from page 1

Our Grand Master has placed special emphasis this year on three principles: Honor, Courage, and Commitment. These principles form the bedrock of our fraternal obligations and resonate deeply with the ethos of military service. As Masons, we are called to honor the obligations we have made to Freemasonry, demonstrating unwavering commitment to our Craft and our Brethren. This sense of honor aligns closely with the code of conduct upheld by our veterans throughout their service and beyond.

The values of integrity, brotherhood, respect, and charity also play a crucial role in defining our Masonic path. These principles, which are fundamental to both Freemasonry and military service, create a natural affinity between our fraternity and those who have served our nation. Veterans, like Freemasons, understand the importance of personal integrity, the strength found in true friendship and brotherhood, the necessity of respect for all individuals, and the fulfillment that comes from charitable service.

Both Freemasons and veterans understand the importance of service to others and to their communities. Veterans have demonstrated their commitment to service through their military careers, while Masons are called to serve their lodges, their communities and to support those in need. This shared dedication to service creates a strong connection between our fraternity and veterans, often leading to collaborative efforts in community outreach and charitable activities.

Integrity and honor are paramount in both Freemasonry and military service. As Masons, we are taught to be men of honor and integrity, a principle that aligns closely with the military's emphasis on ethical conduct and moral courage. This shared commitment to upright behavior and moral standards forms a strong foundation for mutual respect and understanding between Masons and veterans.

Freemasonry has a long history of supporting veterans and active-duty military personnel. Many Masonic lodges and Grand Lodges continue this tradition by supporting veterans' organizations and initiatives, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to those who have served.

For veterans transitioning to civilian life, Freemasonry can provide a sense of belonging and purpose similar to what they experienced in the military. Our lodges offer a

supportive environment where veterans can find friendship, mentorship, and opportunities for continued service. This welcoming atmosphere can be particularly valuable for those seeking to maintain the sense of brotherhood and shared purpose they experienced during their military service.

As we celebrate Veterans Day, let us reflect on these shared values between Freemasonry and military service. Let us also reaffirm our commitment to supporting and honoring those who have served our nation. By embracing these shared principles, we strengthen both our fraternity and our support for veterans.

To all our Masonic brethren who have served in the armed forces, I extend my deepest gratitude and respect. Your service embodies the highest ideals of both our nation and our fraternity. May we continue to learn from your examples of courage, sacrifice, and dedication, and may we always strive to uphold the values that you have so nobly defended.

Fraternally,
David Earney
 MM, 32 AASR, KT, Noble
 (480)283-5411
david@davidearney.com



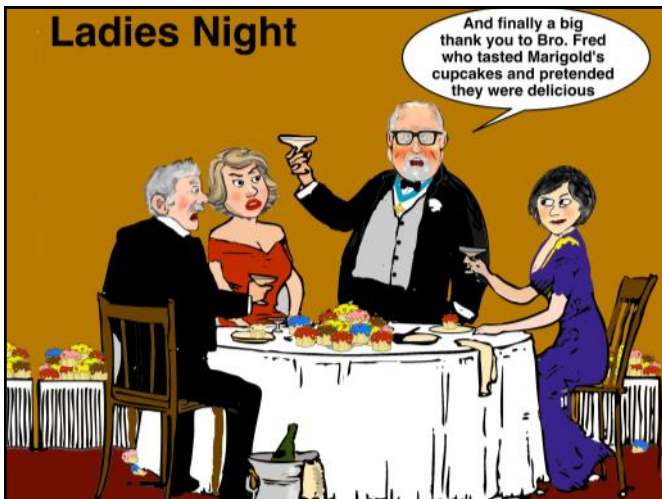
From the South continued

On September 25th, 1789 Congressman and Brother Elias Boudinot of Burlington, New Jersey appeared in front of the House of Representatives with a proposition. Brother Boudinot asked that the government create a committee to persuade the President and Freemason, George Washington, to declare a national day of thanks and prayer. Without his Masonic values, Brother Boudinot may have never been inclined to rally for this national day of thanks.

In 1789, President George Washington delivered the Proclamation of 1789 that assigned November 26th as the National Holiday of Thanksgiving. This proclamation was also a symbol to our former monarchy that the colonies were a self-governing and legitimate state. Washington remarked, "both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

It goes without doubt that our national holiday of Thanksgiving would not have been established without the help of two Freemasons. Brother Elias Boudinot and President George Washington are two strong foundations of our Thanksgiving tradition. As Freemasons, we should take this time to practice gratitude for our fellow Brethren, lodges, and local communities. Happy Thanksgiving from the Grand Lodge of Ohio!

Fraternally,
Brian Zeman, Junior Warden



SAVE THE DATE

November, First Friday at Organ Stop Pizza? Gathering will begin at 5:00 pm. RSVP is required, and reservations will be for 30 people. It's open to members and families, and everyone is on their own for their meals.

From Editor Comments on front page

Full Text*Gentlemen.*

While I receive, with much satisfaction, your Address replete with expressions of affection and esteem; I rejoice in the opportunity of assuring you, that I shall always retain a grateful remembrance of the cordial welcome I experienced in my visit to Newport, from all classes of Citizens.

The reflection on the days of difficulty and danger which are past is rendered the more sweet, from a consciousness that they are succeeded by days of uncommon prosperity and security. If we have wisdom to make the best use of the advantages with which we are now favored, we cannot fail, under the just administration of a good Government, to become a great and a happy people.

The Citizens of the United States of America have a right to applaud themselves for having given to mankind examples of an enlarged and liberal policy: a policy worthy of imitation. All possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship. It is now no more that toleration is spoken of, as if it was by the indulgence of one class of people, that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights. For happily the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens, in giving it on all occasions their effectual support.

It would be inconsistent with the frankness of my character not to avow that I am pleased with your favorable opinion of my Administration, and fervent wishes for my felicity. May the Children of the Stock of Abraham, who dwell in this land, continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other Inhabitants; while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and figtree, and there shall be none to make him afraid. May the father of all mercies scatter light and not darkness in our paths, and make us all in our several vocations useful here, and in his own due time and way everlastingly happy.

Go: Washington**FIRST FRIDAY – NOVEMBER 1, 2024****LODGE GATHERS AT ORGAN STOP PIZZA FOR A NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP**

WE HAVE RESERVATIONS FOR 30 PEOPLE AT 5:00 pm. YOU MUST RSVP TO THE SECRETARY NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29. IF YOU DON'T REVP, YOU WILL TAKE YOUR CHANCES ON SITTING WITH THE GROUP.

RSVP TO secretary@scottsdalelodge43@gmail.com

EVERYONE IS ON THEIR OWN FOR THEIR MEAL AND BEVERAGES.**COME OUT AND JOIN THE FUN WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Scottsdale Lodge Calendar for November

- Friday, 11/01 - First Friday Family Event - @ 6:00 pm (Organ Stop!) **Pleased a Note to the Secretary, that you plan to attend.**
- Tuesday, 11/05 - Coffee & Donuts - @ 9:00 am
- Wednesday, 11/06 - Wednesday, 10/02 - Trustee Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Thursday, 11/07 - Lodge Meeting - Dinner @ 6:00 pm / Gavel @7:00 pm
- **Sunday 11/10 - Scottsdale Lodge Picnic @ 11:00 am to 3:00 pm (which will be at Chaparral Park, until El Dorado is finished with construction)**
- Tuesday, 11/12 - Coffee & Donuts - @ 9:00 am
- Thursday, 11/14 - Lodge Meeting - Dinner @ 6:00 pm / Gavel @7:00 pm
- Saturday, 11/16 - Masonic Breakfast - @ 9:00 am
- Tuesday, 11/19 - Coffee & Donuts - @ 9:00 am
- Thursday, 11/21 - Lodge Meeting - Dinner @ 6:00 pm / Gavel @7:00 pm
- Thursday, 11/28 - Coffee & Donuts - @ 9:00 am



Come on over for the Pancake Breakfast

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

Saturday, November 16

From 9am until 11am

**Great way to start your
weekend.**





Who are the Freemasons?

"They are bus drivers, Solicitors, car mechanics, doctors, company directors, plumbers, salesmen and builders. They are husbands, fathers, uncles and sons. They are also brothers. When a man becomes a Mason he becomes part of a Brotherhood committed to family, to personal growth and to providing care for those in need. Although their backgrounds may be diverse they are bound together by shared values and a desire to do good and forge bonds that will last a lifetime."

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.

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

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

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

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.

Masonic Education

FREEDOM

Freedom is not a heartfelt trait. It has been fought for, practiced, loved, and protected. Passed on to the children, taught, and well explained. It is then passed on as the treasure we know it to be.

Freedom may be passed on to new generations, it may be acquired, but never recovered if once lost. It must be seen as a conscious and a priceless asset, relying on our consciousness of necessity. Freedom doesn't exist in doses, which vary in strength and quality. There is nothing akin to a little bit of freedom, only being free or not. It cannot operate in pieces here and there, like a cleared field with an acreage partly missing.

Behold a popular expression, that freedom is not free. It must be guarded like Fort Knox gold times ten.

David Woodland, PM

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

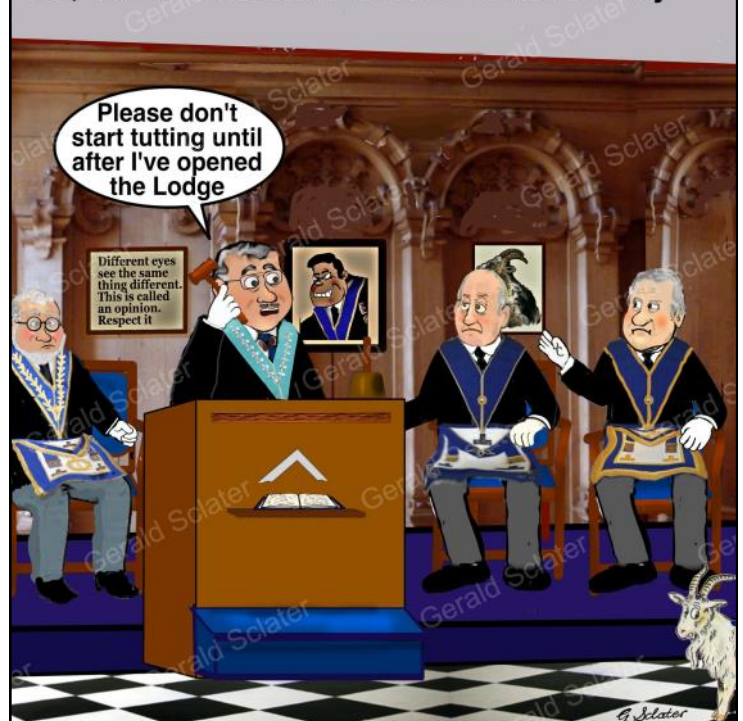
The Master & Wardens check the action replay to check that everyone had adhered to the ritual book



Jokes at the Festive Board



Tut, Tut It looks as if advice is on the way



SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43



From the Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

It's that time of year, if you have not remitted your dues or made arrangements with the Secretary you will have been suspended at a Stated Meeting.

To be reinstated, 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

Scottsdale Eastern Star has been busy in September and October. Arizona is proud that we will have one of our members installed as the Most Worthy Grand Matron, of the entire International Order for the next 3 year term. Billie Bradfield from Bullhead will be installed at the end of October. Billie is the widow of Bob Bradfield, Past Grand Master of Arizona.

Scottsdale Chapter looks forward to joining you and your family members at the Lodge picnic and breakfasts. In November we will honor Veterans on our meeting on the 11th. We will share the feeling of gratitude on the 25th before Thanksgiving. Our last meeting for 2024 will be Dec 9 our Holiday Friendship Night.

Diana Hutchinson



Kinishba Court #6

Happy Fall All!

As we close October and look towards November and Thanksgiving, we are reminded of how lucky we are to have a wonderful Scottsdale Masonic Family. We are grateful to be a part of it.

In October, Kinishba held a reception for our own Honored Lady Karen Machamer, Grand Royal Matron, and her Grand Royal Patron, John Munster. Everyone had a fabulous time.

November brings National Diabetes Month. Our Amaranth Diabetes Foundation works hard with the American Diabetes Association to hand pick research projects that we support. The newest project is from Yale University working on Kidney disease and Diabetes. Arizona Amaranth is looking to have an amazing year raising funds for Diabetes, and our court is hoping to give a wonderful donation as part of the Arizona donation at Grand Court in May. If you would like to help in our donation, please reach out to any Amaranth Member.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and gets to spend time with family and friends.

Bizzy Herbolsheimer
Kinishb Court #6
Supreme Royal Matron



November 2024 Master Mason Anniversaries Celebrating Another Year in the Light

Jonathan E. Bauman	2018-11-08	James Alexander Gilmore	2022-11-10	Landon Paul Pickering	2023-11-30
Lynn Bowen	1973-11-29	Alfred John Hagan	1987-11-12	Jon Charles Shawl	1980-11-06
Jeffrey Paul Carpenter	2018-11-28	Jerry Dennis Hardiman Jr	2007-11-29	William G. Solomon	1973-11-29
Stephen Owen Clarke	2013-11-14	Ronald Dale Jackson	1981-11-19	Lionel H. Uhlmann III	2004-11-11
Anthony Joseph Darin	2000-11-15	Robert Weldon Martin	1968-11-26	Frank Vass	2013-11-14
David James Earney	2017-11-09	Michael John Ozee	2000-11-11	Vincent James Watson	2007-11-29
Gregory Randall Gaskill	2017-11-09	Anthony Michael Pagliuca	2022-11-10		

**The Phoenix Scottish Rite Celebrated their 80th Anniversary on October 17.
Pictured below are some of the Brothers that attended the meeting.**



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,
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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


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 480-941-0157

Monday - Friday
 6:00 am - 6:00 pm
 Saturday - Sunday: Closed

THE NOTARY

William F. Wilkins
 Notary Public - Arizona
 wfw1015@gmail.com
 www.wfwre.com

707.332.9973

SCOTTSDALE LODGE MASONIC JEWELRY CASE
 Shirts, Pins, Car Decals, Bolo Ties and much more.

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.

November Events

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

NOVEMBER - SAVE THE DATE

November, First Friday is at Organ Stop Pizza? Gathering will begin at 5:00 pm. RSVP is required, and reservations will be for 30 people. It's open to members and families, and everyone is on their own for their meals.