

TRESTLEBOARD

Scottsdale Lodge 43 F&AM

Volume 725 Issue 4

April 2024

Have you talked with a Brother this month?

From the East

Brethren, as Masons, we are bound by the noble tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Among these precepts, Charity stands as a cornerstone of our fraternity, embodying our commitment to benevolence and service. It is through acts of Charity that we exemplify the values we hold dear and make a tangible difference in the lives of others.

Charity, in its truest form, extends beyond mere monetary donations. While financial assistance is undoubtedly valuable, the essence of Charity lies in the personal touch, the act of reaching out and offering support to those in need. Whether it be through lending a helping hand, offering guidance, or simply providing companionship, each act of service strengthens the bonds of brotherhood and enriches our communities.



Continued on page 2

From the West

Brethren,

Greetings from the West. As we progress through the year, it is essential to reflect on the core principles of Freemasonry and how we can embody them in our daily lives. Two key tenets of our Craft are Brotherly Love and Relief, which can be exemplified through our commitment to Masonic outreach and community service.

Masonic outreach involves extending a helping hand to our fellow Brethren and their families, particularly in times of need. It is our duty to support one another, offering assistance, guidance, and companionship. Whether it's reaching out to a Brother who hasn't attended Lodge in a while, visiting those who are ill or in distress, or providing aid to widows and orphans, our actions demonstrate the strength of our fraternal bonds.



Continued on page 2

From the South

Greetings from the South!

If March represents preparing ourselves for Spring's renewal and rebirth, then in April we have bloomed with a new innocence and purity of life. Well...at least that is the hope, prescription, and the idea. The word "April" comes from the Latin word *aperio*, which means "awakening". It is the true spring-time, in which we "have surely bloomed again" after having been destroyed by the "cold winds of Autumn". This idea of April also reflects nature back to us - the spring equinox, the birth of new life, regeneration, and our beginning to prepare the seeds and soil for next Fall's harvest. Hope and creativity are awoken within and without. We are alive and invigorated, and all of nature bids us to open our eyes to new possibilities and greater calls to being who we are created to be.



Continued on page 3

From the East continued from page 1

In practicing Charity, we not only uplift those we assist but also elevate ourselves. Through selfless acts of kindness, we cultivate empathy, compassion, and a deeper understanding of the human experience. In serving others, we find fulfillment and purpose, transcending our individual concerns to contribute to the greater good.

Our Masonic lodges serve as beacons of Light in our communities, embodying the spirit of charity through various initiatives and outreach programs. From organizing food drives and blood donation campaigns to volunteering at local shelters and schools, our lodges are at the forefront of making a positive impact on society.

As Freemasons, we recognize that Charity knows no bounds. Whether it be extending a helping hand to a brother in need or reaching out to support our neighbors and fellow citizens, the principle of Charity compels us to act with kindness and generosity. By embracing the value of Charity, we not only honor the legacy of our fraternity but also contribute to building a more compassionate and inclusive world for all.

May we continue to embody the spirit of Brotherly Love by extending a helping hand to those in need and uplifting our communities through acts of kindness and compassion. Together, let us strive to make a difference in the lives of others and leave a lasting legacy of benevolence for generations to come.

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

From the West continued from page 1

Similarly, engaging in community outreach activities allows us to make a positive impact on the world around us. By participating in charitable events, fundraisers, and volunteer projects, we showcase the values of Freemasonry to the public and contribute to the betterment of society. Some potential community outreach activities include:

- Organizing a food drive for a local food bank
- Participating in a park or beach clean-up
- Volunteering at a homeless shelter or soup kitchen

Supporting local youth organizations through mentorship or fundraising

We each have an opportunity to make a difference both as part of the Lodge collectively, and as part of the community individually. Charity doesn't require us to organize as a group. We can do it ourselves, as individual Brothers.

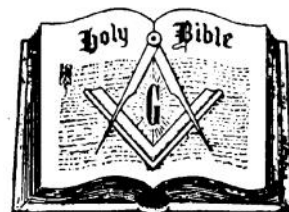
As Freemasons, we have a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others. By actively engaging in Masonic outreach and community service, we not only strengthen the bonds within our Lodge but also demonstrate the relevance and importance of our Craft to the outside world.

I encourage each of you to reflect on how you can contribute to these efforts. Together, we can build a stronger, more compassionate community and exemplify the true spirit of Freemasonry.

**Fraternally,
David Earney
Senior Warden**



The problem with being an expert on everything is that you cannot turn to anyone else for advice



From the South continued

This signification of purity and innocence reminds me of something so essential and emblematically Masonic - the lambskin or white leathern apron (also somewhat interesting to note that both April and Apron consist of five letters and start with the letter "A"). It said that the Masonic apron represents the purity and innocence we are expected to pursue in life as a Freemason; that rectitude of conduct and record of actions as pure and spotless as the fair emblem itself. A tall order indeed, but it is the essential pursuit and singular mentality required of us, as Masons, to be worthy of being bestowed just such an honor.

The Masonic apron represents our beginning and our end, the Alpha and the Omega of the Masonic experience. We receive our lambskins immediately as brothers first-born. We are instructed that they are to be worn through an honorable life, and at our death to be placed upon the coffin which contains our earthly remains.

In *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, Dr Albert Mackey writes, "There is no one of the symbols of Speculative Masonry more important in its teachings, or more interesting in its history, than the lambskin, or white leather apron. Commencing its lessons at an early period in the Mason's progress, it is impressed upon his memory as the first gift which he receives, the first symbol which is explained to him, and the first tangible evidence which he possesses of his admission into the Fraternity."

This is the spring-time of our brotherhood, our Masonic April, and despite the fear of stepping out into the unknown and newly bloomed, the newly open-minded and initiated stride forward with the positive injunction to prepare the soil and plant the seeds to be harvested in our coming fall. Enjoy and fulfill the Spring, my Brothers!

**Fraternally,
Brian Zeman
Junior Warden**



THE POWER OF WORDS

We've all heard the old saying, "actions speak louder than words." We've all said it many times. It's almost a cliché. It's been repeated so often that. People really believe it. But it is the words that frame the ideas and ideals that give rise to actions and determine the direction of ur lives. So it is our words that have the power to guide our action. For behavior is the outward expression of the words that animate it.

Words fraught with deep and profound meaning have the power to change lives and inspire noble thoughts and great deeds. Words spoken in humor have the power to create a mood that heightens the effect of a message and help us remember it. Words have the power to connect us with each other, to reinforce foundational beliefs. Words have the power to become medicine to the suffering soul. Words also have the power to become weapons of debasement and hate; they can tear down as easily as they build up. So we need to choose our worlds wisely.

The challenge for each of us is to choose the words that will define ourselves, that will communicate who we are and who we strive to be, that can become healing for others. Most importantly, words that will frame the actions we want to present to the world around us.

Masonic lessons are taught and learned with the words of our ritual. They are more than just words to be memorized and recited. They have the power to articulate the masonic principles that make us better men. While the he ritual can sometimes seem archaic and awkward it has been around for hundreds of years. When approached thoughtfully they can have a great impact on our lives. And the repetitive performance of them sears in our memory the ideals we teach. Indeed, they become the fodder that makes us better men.

There are times, to be sure, when words seem inadequate, where words do not come easily. Sometimes the power of our words, still thoughts, are communicated in silence. Our presence with a gentle smile and a warm token of friendship and brotherly love express care and concern. In those situations when words are hard and sometimes just not there, I find four small words to be helpful: God be with you.

The next time you witness or participate in one of our degrees, hear and feel the power of the words that in all ages have inspired men "preeminent for their moral and intellectual attainments" who populate the annals of history, and ordinary men living noble lives spreading brotherly love and friendship that make them better men and their communities better places to live. And pray that the candidate, who is hearing them for the first time, will come to appreciate and honor them as we do.

**God be with you, my brothers
Carl Eschenbrenner
Junior Deacon**

Masonic Education

The Marine Corps has a saying: “We’re looking for a few good men” We as Masons say.” We make good men better” additionally, over the years Masons did not advertise or solicit men to join, men had to ask three times to join.

My Brothers times have changed and the composition of Lodges has also changed. Historically, if you traveled around our country you would have seen most Lodges, in spite of the words in our ritual, were homogenous in their membership. Some were not open to certain men e.g. Jewish men, Catholic men and men of color, etc. to their local Lodge membership. Today we see in Scottsdale Lodge and others, men from all backgrounds, educational, ethnic, sexual orientation and racial backgrounds that believe in a supreme being, yet we still have an issue of “*recruitment and retention*” of members for many reasons.

Recruitment One of the best ways to attract men to Masonry is for lodges and individual members to be visible in their community organizations and not hide the fact of their membership in Masonic organizations. Participation in clubs, community events like parades, wearing Masonic labeled shirts, and lapel pins etc. all help. A famous general said “Lead by example”. If we hold to our Masonic teachings, men will look to Masonry to improve themselves and be like the role models we strive to be and seek membership in a Masonic lodge. Let men know we have a SEEKERS group they can come to and learn about Masonry.

Retention This starts with the leaders of the lodge and goes down to each member. *We are all responsible* for encouraging our Brothers to participate in Lodge activities as best they can. A variety of activities, e.g. a sick and goodwill committee to call or visit Brothers who we don’t see in Lodge, family based events, athletic teams as well as computer or tables games, updating our mail, email and phone contact list needs to be ongoing. Unpaid dues can be due to many factors and those Brothers need to be reached out to. There is no limit on what can be done. Scottsdale Lodge is a great example this. We are in parades, have a monthly pancake breakfast, Bikes for Books program a yearly family picnic and much more. We can always do better and by having established committees with a continuity of members in place. We cannot let ourselves become complacent, expecting men to just come to us or members once raised, will never leave.

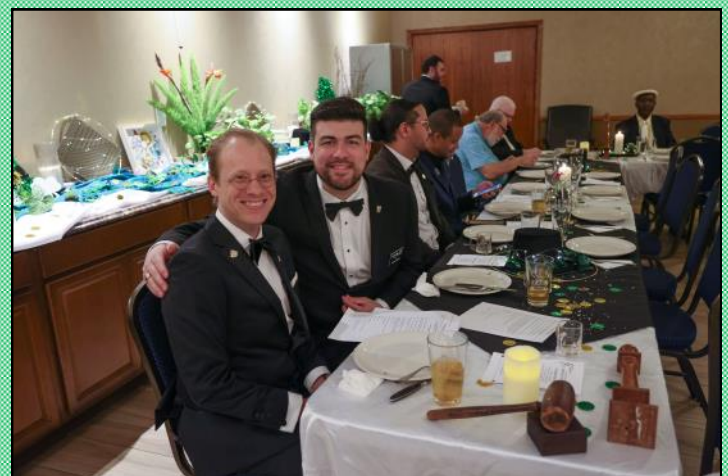
Fraternally,

**Fred LaBell,
Trestleboard Editor**

March First Friday - Feed My Starving Children



Festive Board Night of Fun



Continued on page 6

Scottsdale Lodge 2024 Calendar

- Legend:**
- Stated Meeting
 - Breakfast
 - Degree Night
 - Social Event
 - Special Event
 - Parada Del Sol
 - Summer Proj.
 - Other

January

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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December

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

*Subject to change

Scottsdale Lodge 43 Calendar of Events

- Regular Events:**
- Stated Meeting - First Thursday at 7 pm
 - Officer Meeting - 1st Monday at 6 pm
 - Trustee Meeting - Wednesday before Stated Mtg at 7 pm
 - Mentor/Seeker Roundtable - 1st Monday at 7 pm
 - First Friday Socials at 6 pm
 - Breakfast - 3rd Saturday at 9 am

- | | |
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| <p>January:
5th - Wine and Cheese Social, 6 pm
13th - Ladies Brunch, 10:30 am</p> <p>February:
2nd - Feed My Starving Children*
3rd - Parada Del Sol*
12th - Gila Valley Lunar Lodge Visit, 7 pm
22nd - Colonial Degree
29th - Open Lodge Education, 7 pm</p> <p>March:
1st - Karaoke & Snacks
9th - White Mountain (Globe) Visit, 7:30 am
14th - Festive Board w/ Mrs. Maddens, 6 pm*
21st - Military Degree
22-24th - Masonic Leadership Conference</p> <p>April:
5th - Casino Night Fundraiser, 7 pm
13th - Karchner Caverns*
18th - KSA Degree
25th - Sitting Master's Night</p> <p>May:
3rd - Celebration of Ladies (Play), 7 pm
30th - Masonic Education, 7 pm</p> | <p>June:
6-5th - Grand Communication
(Grand Master's Banquet, Friday)*</p> <p>July:
5th - Family Bowling*</p> <p>August:
No First Friday Social</p> <p>September:
6th - Appetizers & Games, 6 pm
28th - An Evening w/the Brethren, 5 pm
(Third Degree & Charity Event)</p> <p>October:
4th - Organ Stop Pizza, 6 pm*
24-25th - Bisbee Degree, 3 pm (Overnight)
31st - Halloween Party, 6 pm</p> <p>November:
1st - First Friday Social - TBA
24th - Lodge Picnic, 3 pm</p> <p>December:
Installation - TBA
19th - Holiday Celebration, 6 pm</p> |
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* More details and registration to follow

Advertise in our Trestleboard!
\$10/publication or \$100/year

Disclaimer: General calendar, adjustments may occur



CELESTIAL JOURNEY TEAM

Roll Of The Workmen

The roll of the workmen has been called, and three Master Masons have not answered to their name. 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 heart 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.

Worshipful Brother George Craig Hutchinson

Born: December 2, 1931
EA Degree: January 11, 1973
FC Degree: January 18, 1973
Raised: February 22, 1973
Deceased: March 11, 2024

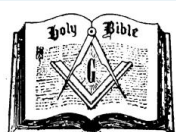
Worshipful Brother Terance (Terry) Kelly

Born: April 12, 1947
EA Degree: November 19, 1991
FC Degree: February 18, 1992
MM Degree: March 17, 1992
Deceased: March 15, 2024



Robert James Gray Jr

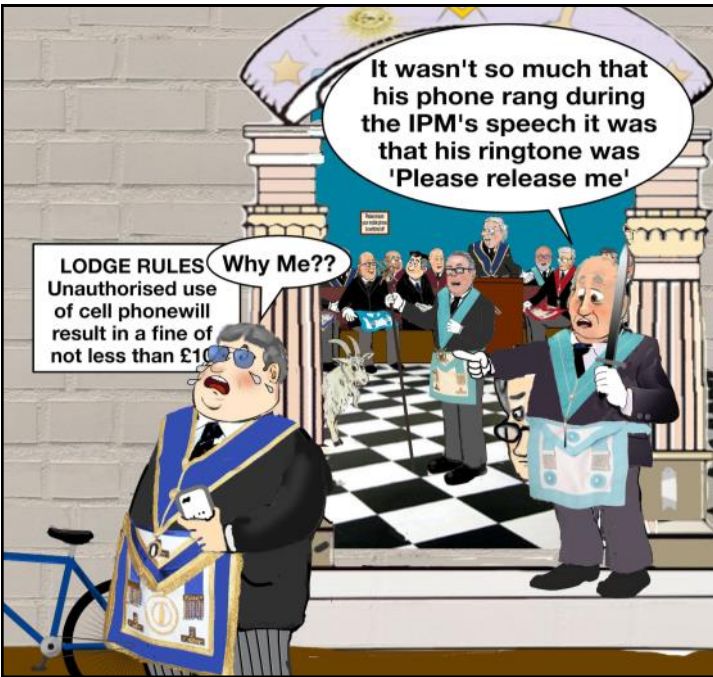
Born: August 27, 1932
EA Degree: May 15, 1956
FC Degree: June 26, 1956
MM Degree: October 18, 1956
Deceased: March 16, 2024



Military Degree Night

Scottsdale Lodge was honored to have former members of the Armed Forces who comprise the Military Degree Team perform the Fellowcraft Degree for one of our Brothers





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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

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

CHANGE

In lifetimes, change is in many situations, inevitably. Not once, not twice, but constantly. In an ideal setting, change is a planned and organized process. But how often is planning anything an organized process? A need for a change can come to you after a long term difficulty, or come at you like a cannon shot as the result of immediate difficulty.

The interpreter of a need for change could well be one who has been affected by a difficulty, or perhaps a faulty sector of society needing a change in social justice. The change making process may involve debate, personel changing, perhaps a public vote. The importance of the need, the justification for change, and the authority do do so, is broadly determined and justified.

It has been said that "Fools wonder why, but the wise ask". Some have confused chance with change. No matter how trifling, or of great importance, it is not a chance taking gamble to attempt change.

Often said, "Everybody wants to change the world, but nobody wants to change". Anyone know how to change that declaration?

David Woodland, PM

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

Festive Board Night of Fun

Celebrating the 100th Birthday of our beloved Maestro Carlos Rausch PM



From the Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

It's that time of year when your lodge dues are due. Almost half of you have remitted your 2024 dues and it is greatly appreciated, as it helps the Master plan his year and execute his programs. Please Continue to remit your dues, and if there is a problem, please contact the secretary via email at secretary@scottsdalelodge43.com.

Thank you for your continued support, as I continue to learn this job.

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

Kinishba Court #6, Order of the Amaranth

Happy Spring to everyone! At Kinishba Court we are getting excited for the Grand Court in May where we will see our own Grand Royal Patron Sir Knight Russell Sayre fulfill his duties. We are very proud of the work he has done all year to promote Amaranth throughout Arizona. In March, we had an Honor Night for Honored Lady Bizzy Herbolsheimer, Supreme Associate Matron. In early July, she will be taking over the international reigns of all of Amaranth throughout the world. We are doing what we can to support her in her endeavors. In April, we will be having our elections and electing our new slate of officers. It is definitely an exciting spring!

We hope that everyone stays healthy and safe as the weather warms. Thank you to all who support us and our fundraising efforts for the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation.

HL Bizzy Herbolsheimer
Supreme Associate Matron
Kinishba Court #6



April 2024 Masonic Anniversaries *Celebrating Another Year in the Light*

Arnold Arthur Amaru	1974-04-25	Robert Hess	2016-04-21	James Ray Raynovic	2009-04-09
Wilhelm A. Amstutz III	1998-04-18	Terry Nicholas Highland	2010-04-29	John H. Reynolds PM	2005-04-28
Phillip Lee Bartling	2006-04-13	Oliver Ndubuisi Ibeh	2015-04-09	Steven J. Sampson PM	2003-04-10
Robert Russell Beffel PM	2010-04-15	Paul David Jump	2021-04-08	Sergey V Sheleg	2006-04-13
James William Brown	1988-04-28	Erik James Kilbo	1998-04-04	Austin Robert Spalla	2019-04-11
James Mikeal Callahan	2010-04-08	William Eugene Lamb	2002-04-13	Robert L. Swoboda	2015-04-09
Mark Harold Conner	2000-04-27	Danny Abraham Lazar	2005-04-16	Jerome Maurice Taylor	1985-04-01
John Joseph Cummins IV	2005-04-14	Carsten Loelke	2013-04-11	Jeffery D. Thomas	2008-04-12
Timothy Brian Curran	2014-04-10	Harry Edward Markham	1974-04-16	Kyle A. Thomas	2010-04-15
Richard Nicholas Davis	2011-04-14	Patrick Joseph McGill	2004-04-15	Scott A. Thomas PGM	2005-04-14
Louay George	2010-04-29	Bradley Lee Minor	2003-04-24	Bruce Henry Usher	1993-04-29
Frederick Hilary Goldinov	1979-04-26	Donald William Poppe	1962-04-26	Stephen M. Wall	2016-04-14
David Aaron Harris	2010-04-08	Herman Perry Ransom	2017-04-13	Jonathan R. Winchester	1995-04-22

Pancake Breakfast

**Including Bacon, Eggs and
Hash Browns**

Saturday, April 20th

From 9am until 11am



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,

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Contact the Secretary for details on cost and availability.

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

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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 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

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.

****April Events****

- Monday, 4/1 - Officer Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, 4/2 - Coffee & Donuts @ 9:00 am
- Wednesday, 4/3 - Trustee Meeting
- Thursday, 4/4 - Stated Meeting @7:00 pm / Dinner @ 6:00 pm
- First Friday, 4/5 - Karaoke & Appetizers @ 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, 4/9 - Coffee & Donuts @ 9:00 am
- Thursday, 4/11 - Lodge Meeting @ 7:00 pm / Dinner @ 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, 4/13 - Coffee & Donuts @ 9:00 am