

TRESTLEBOARD



Scottsdale Lodge 43 F&AM

Volume 724 Issue 11

December 2023

Special Past and Present Photos

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

It is with a profound sense of gratitude and pride that I reflect on the honor bestowed upon me to serve as the Worshipful Master of Scottsdale Lodge. This journey has been nothing short of extraordinary, filled with moments of camaraderie, growth, and shared purpose.



As Worshipful Master, the responsibility to guide our lodge and foster a sense of unity among its members has been both a privilege and a challenge. Together, we have navigated the rituals, upheld the traditions, and worked towards the shared ideals that define our Masonic community.

This experience has allowed me to witness the strength of our lodge, along with the bonds we forge, and the positive impact we make in Scottsdale and beyond. The values of Freemasonry—brotherhood, charity, and enlightenment—have been guiding lights, shaping our actions and decisions.

I extend my deepest gratitude to each member of Scottsdale Lodge for their unwavering support and commitment during my tenure. Together, we have upheld the principles that make our lodge a beacon in the great state of Arizona.

As my term as Worshipful Master concludes, I am filled with appreciation for the lessons learned, the friendships forged, and the shared commitment to making a positive difference. It has been an honor to serve, and I look forward to continuing my journey alongside you as a devoted member of Scottsdale Lodge.

Fraternally,

Shawn Hunter, Worshipful Master

F&AM Scottsdale Lodge 43

FROM THE WEST

My Dear Brothers,

As we approach the joyous holiday season, I find it fitting to reflect upon the principles that bind us together as Masons, transcending the boundaries of religious and political affiliations. Freemasonry, with its timeless teachings, encourages unity and brotherhood among individuals from diverse backgrounds. Our Craft teaches us to embrace the common threads that unite us, fostering a spirit of understanding and respect for one another.



In the Masonic journey, we are reminded that the foundations of our fraternity are supported by the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. These foundations of virtue guide us in our interactions, urging us to look beyond the differences that may exist in our individual beliefs and perspectives. Just as the holiday season brings people together in celebration, let us, as Masons, come together with open hearts, recognizing the shared values that connect us as members of this ancient and honorable fraternity.

In the spirit of unity, let us celebrate the rich tapestry of spiritual diversity within our Lodge. Freemasonry encourages each Brother to practice his own faith, fostering an environment where we appreciate the beauty of various traditions among us. This holiday season, let us extend a hand of fellowship to our Brothers of different faiths and creeds, thereby exemplifying for the world the truth that we are, as a species, indeed one Family, strengthening the bonds that make our Lodge a haven for harmony and mutual understanding, even in the most perilous of times.

Continued on page 2

From the West continued from page 1

Moreover, as we navigate a world often divided by political, economical, and philosophical differences, let Scottsdale Lodge be a sanctuary where Men and Masons find common ground, in Brotherhood under the Fatherhood of our Great Creator. In our Masonic journey, we are taught to rise above divisive discord and focus on the shared principles that unite us as builders of a better world. Remember, regardless of political affiliations, religious ties, and/or sectarian category, we are bound together by a deeply mystic tie, symbolized by the tools of our craft, symbols that remind us to govern our actions in accordance with the cardinal Virtues and the lessons they impart.

Brothers, in these ever-evolving times which may have a tendency to subvert much of the world from the goal of unity, let us remember (and remind one another) to embody the most beautiful of Masonic precepts of tolerance and respect. During this holiday season, let Scottsdale Lodge be a shining example of Harmony, demonstrating to the whole of humanity that, despite our differences, we stand united in our commitment to making a positive impact. May this season of celebration be a time when the Light of Brotherhood shines brightest, illuminating our path as Masons on a shared journey toward improvement of all the world around us.

**Sincerely and Fraternally,
Michael D. Valecourt,
Senior Warden**



*Happy Chanukah and Merry
Christmas
From the Brothers
Of Scottsdale Masonic
Lodge #43*



CELESTIAL JOURNEY TEAM

Our Celestial Journey team bids farewell to the Brothers moving to the Celestial Lodge Above.



From the South

Dear Brethren,

Sitting in the south, where I observe the time and call the Craft from Labor to refreshment, I am reminded of the significance of this moment, especially as we approach the end of the year and the beginning of a new one. This December, as we prepare for the installation of a new line of officers, it is not just a transition; it is a continuation of the enduring legacy of the Craft.



The installation of new officers represents a passing of the torch from those who have faithfully served to those who are eager to take up the mantle of leadership. Just as the Junior Warden calls the Craft from Labor to refreshment, we collectively pause to reflect on our journey so far. We consider the tasks completed, the challenges overcome, and the knowledge gained. It's a moment of refreshment, a time to recharge and prepare for what lies ahead.

In the Craft, every transition carries with it the weight of tradition and the responsibility of stewardship. As we approach the end of the year, we should look back with gratitude for the efforts of those who have guided us. Their contributions have shaped our lodge, fostering growth and continuity. Now, as we welcome new officers, we do so with anticipation, knowing that they will carry on the legacy of the Craft with honor and dedication, and humility.

In this season of change and renewal, let us remember that the Craft is not bound by time or place; it is an unbroken chain of knowledge and brotherhood that stretches back through the ages. The installation of officers is a reminder that we are part of something greater than ourselves, a continuum of Masonic ideals and principles that have endured for centuries.

As we gather for the installation ceremony, may we carry with us the wisdom of the past, the enthusiasm of the present, and the hope of the future. Let us refresh our commitment to the Craft, strengthen our bonds of brotherhood, and pass the jewels of leadership with a sense of duty and reverence.

From the south, as I observe the time, I am reminded that our Masonic journey is an ongoing one. It is a journey that transcends the boundaries of the calendar, continuing year after year, generation after generation. May this December installation be a testament to the enduring legacy of the Craft and a beacon of light guiding us into the new year.

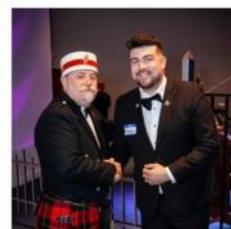
Fraternally,

David Earney
Junior Warden
Scottsdale Lodge 43

WB Shawn Hunter

As you depart the East, Thank You for all you have done for the Lodge this past year, while also becoming a first time father and member of the Scottish Rite of Masonry.

Just to name a few things, the monthly Pancake Breakfasts have been a huge success. Many travels to other Lodges, including retrieving our Lodge banner. Our almost rained out annual Lodge picnic was another successful event. At the Grand Lodge Session, you brought back yet another Master Architect Award and Web Site Award for Scottsdale 43.



Brothers Through the Years





THE NOTARY

William F. Wilkins
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www.wfwre.com

Brothers,

We handle the following legal matters:

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

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

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

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

Free Consultations

Law Office of Stephen M. Wall
480.222.3888



U.S. Department of
Veterans Affairs
Accredited Attorney



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



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

CHARACTER

Think of character as being a tree. It can stand strong and tall, visible, and provide willingly. We stand and look at something real, displaying strength and beauty. It will cast a shadow advertising its presence and give direction, but in the end, just a shadow of its cause, the tree, the real thing, that will be there tonight and tomorrow, rain or shine.

Consider the parallel to a person's character, standing tall and casting value on society. Good character branches out in all directions, affecting all those who surround us. Think of the effects of one's beneficent good character as the shade of the tree, giving protection to all who approach it. As would a tree grow in height, our values should grow with the years.

In comparing relative values, we naturally view comparative environments, worldly or naturally. As a tree in an arid landscape must struggle to survive, so must a person's character often struggle in difficult surroundings.

In a simple sentence from Abraham Lincoln, we hear that a tree casts a shadow easily noticed, but the tree is the real thing.

David Woodland, PM

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



From the Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

The office has received the 2024 Dues Cards and notices will be sent out shortly. Dues cards for those who have paid will also be mailed.

Please give your attention to the notice and remit your dues to the secretary as soon as possible, as it helps the Master in managing the lodge budget. Any additional donations you may wish to donate will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

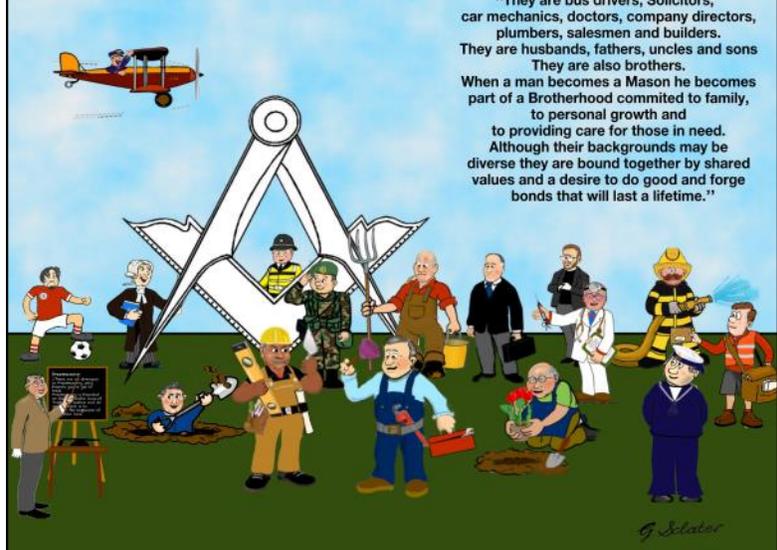
Congratulations to the newly elected and appointed officers for the 2024 Masonic year. I hope you'll come to lodge and see the fine work these young officers are doing.

Please pay attention to the emails and the Trestle Board for all the activities this year, and plan on attending as many as you can. It promised to be a fun filled year.

Fraternally,

Jim Rowan, PM/PGM

Who are the Freemasons?



Kinishba Court #6, Order of the Amaranth

Happy Holidays to all! In December, we will be having our Friendship Night where members from across the state come together to socialize and meet up with their corresponding officers from the different courts. It will be great to be with our Amaranth friends from around the jurisdiction. We look forward to attending the installation of officers of Scottsdale #43. We look forward to working with you in 2024!

November was National Diabetes Month. The Amaranth Diabetes Foundation is the international philanthropic arm of the Order of the Amaranth. We have partnered with the American Diabetes Association since 1979 to help fight this devastating disease. This year Amaranth surpassed donating over 18 million dollars. We are very proud of the work we do for the ADF foundation.

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season.

Bizzy Herbolsheimer,
Supreme Associate Matron



Arizona Grand Lodge Website

In an ongoing effort to keep in touch with the Masons of Arizona, the Social Media Committee of the Grand Lodge of Arizona has launched an online Social Media monthly newsletter to recap some of the items each month that are trending around the State.

We hope that it will encourage communication and share knowledge around the State while also giving another outlet to the activities of our many Lodges in Arizona. As is the case with Social Media, we intend for it to be enjoyable and informative and hope that it will grow and adapt to the needs and wants of our Craft as it progresses.

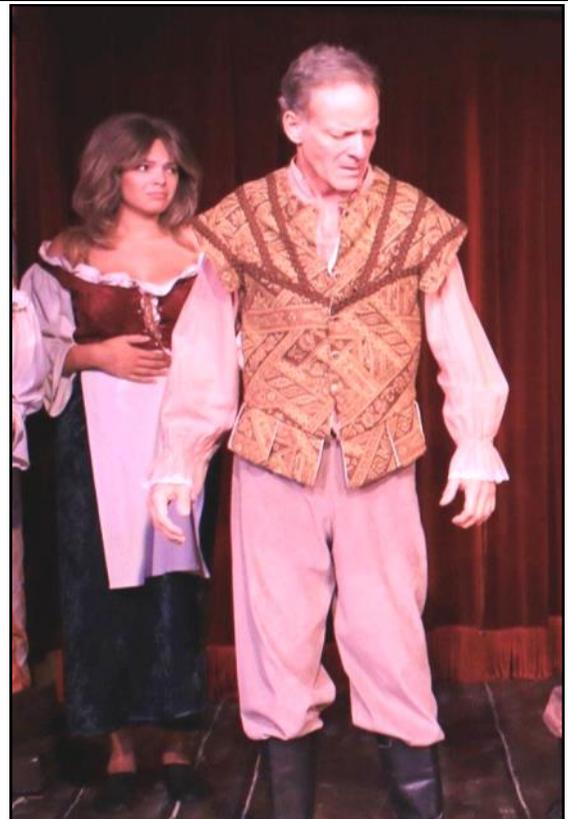
There is also a master list of #43 Masons accessible through “Grandview” on the website. You must log in to use it.

<http://www.azmasons.org>

Fraternally,
Jim Rowan PGM, Secretary

Our own thespian, WB Curt Hills

Curt played 3 different roles, one was a bodyguard to a merchant, he played a player in a play (Romeo & Juliette) within the play, and he played Juliette’s mother (in the 1600’s women were not allowed to play on stage and female parts were played by men).



**SCOTTSDALE LODGE 43
INVITES YOU TO ITS**

**74TH ANNUAL
INSTALLATION**

**December 10, 2023
At 2:00pm**

Reception with light refreshments to follow

SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

*December 2023 Masonic 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
John Dean Covington	2012-12-15	Wilhelm Hartmann	1991-12-19	Robert Gale Stepp	2008-12-18
Eric Enrique Dispo	2018-12-11	Patrick Robert Kaminsky	2008-12-18	Justin Keith Taylor	2008-12-11
Erik Allen Easton	2007-12-13	Bruce Ira LaBell	2009-12-10	David Watson	2011-12-08
Jerry Thomas Estruth	1968-12-05	Mark Andrew Marsillo	2012-12-15	Ryan Johnathan Wilson	2016-12-08
Bruce E Fischer	1954-12-07	William Ed. McCusker, Jr.	2021-12-16		
Michael Addison Fuller	2010-12-04	Gary Allen Nichols	2010-12-09		



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

**The Lodge building is suitable for a variety of occasions
Weddings, Dances, Bar or Bat Mitzvah Parties, Graduation Parties,
Religious Life Milestones, Business Meetings.
Updated Kitchen Serving Facilities, Free Parking, Variable Effects Lighting,
2- 70" HD TVs and an Overhead Projector, Groups up to 100 people.
Contact the Secretary for details on cost and availability.**

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

Call (480) 946-1072 for details and prices

SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

SCOTTSDALE LODGE MASONIC JEWELRY CASE

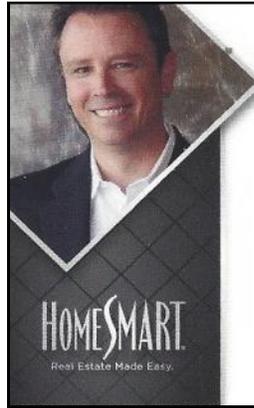
The jewelry case has been restocked with all the most popular Masonic items.
Shirts, Pins, Car Decals, Bolo Ties and much more.

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Saturday - Sunday: Closed

SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

2023 OFFICERS and CONTACT INFORMATION

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

2023 Scottsdale Lodge Committee Chairmen

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

December Calendar of Events

- December 7** - Stated Meeting
 - December 10th** - 2024 Installation of Officers- **2 PM**
 - December 14** - Special meeting to review events and expectations. All Brethren are welcome. Q&A Time too.
 - December 16th** - Lodge Pancake Breakfast 9AM
 - December 21** - Holiday Party (Tree and Cookie decorating followed by caroling to shut-ins) Refreshments and Entertainment. Gift Collection, new unwrapped toys for donation
 - December 28th** - **No Lodge Meeting**
- There is also the Tuesday Morning Coffee and Donuts social gathering.

CALL IF YOU NEED A RIDE TO LODGE

The Brother's Outreach Team has raises funds for our brothers who don't drive after dark or don't drive at all so they can come to Lodge to enjoy the fellowship. ***If you would like to attend Lodge***, contact the secretary Jim Rowan (602) 839-6064 to arrange for a ride to and from at no cost to you (Valley area only).

If you would like to support this worthy cause, please send a check to Scottsdale Lodge 43, POB 486 Scottsdale, AZ 85252. On the check write "Transportation Fund" or use credit card by calling the Secretary at 480-946-1072.

2023 LODGE TRUSTEES

Scott Herbert Tracy	Term Expires: 2025
Jonathan Edward D'Emilio	Term Expires: 2025
Eric Marble	Term Expires: 2024
Stan Sparrow	Term Expires: 2024
Tim Scarpino	Term Expires 2026
Steven Wall	Term Expires 2026

MEETING LOCATION

Scottsdale Masonic Lodge #43
 2531 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, AZ.
Stated Meeting: The first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm, except July and August.
 Dinner at 6:00pm.
 For further information call (480) 946-1072 or visit www.scottsdalelodge43.com.