

TRESTLEBOARD

Scottsdale Lodge 43 F&AM

Volume 724 Issue 9

October 2023



Happy Halloween



FROM THE EAST

In our day to day lives, while just moving through our day, how many times would you say you stop and think about the outcome of a choice you're about to make? Perhaps the big decisions--sure, you think about them. But those everyday choices, the ones that don't seem so big--the ones that add up and have outcomes that seem to be just a part of daily living. Are we giving those decisions the thought and foresight we would when making other decisions?



When we think about the big decisions, we often think about how those outcomes will impact our lives first, and if we're extra mindful, we take the extra step of thinking about how those choices impact our friends and family. It's kind of like Chess. In Chess, you're always thinking about the next move. The best players think about the next several moves and the outcomes. I love Chess, but I'm terrible at it.

What makes choices easy? When we think about whatever choice we're going to make, we immediately process the previous occasions we made similar choices. Our brains determine the probability that things will go the way they did previously. This gives us comfort in our decision. "This is just like last time. I'll make the same decision, and the outcome will be the same." A warm fuzzy blanket. Emotional complacency is born.

Rather than think about each choice we make and deal with the emotional and sometimes headache-inducing internal debate, we develop an easy road--scratch that--a lazy road. The lazy road allows us to develop an unwillingness to rationalize scenarios and outcomes

Continued on page 2

FROM THE WEST

Choosing Happiness - The Cornerstone of Character Development

Brethren,

In our lifelong journey as Masons, we are bound by the principles of morality, virtue, and self-improvement. It is crucial to remember that at the heart of this journey lies the pursuit of happiness, for it is through happiness that the quality of our character is revealed. As we delve into the wisdom of authors, sages, and timeless proverbs, we shall explore how the pursuit of happiness intertwines with our Masonic principles.



Solomon, the wisest of kings, once said, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine, a broken spirit dryeth up the bones ." His words remind us that a joyful spirit is essential not only for physical well-being but also for nurturing a virtuous character. In our Masonic work, we must approach our tasks with a joyful heart, as it not only elevates our own spirits but also inspires those around us.

The Dutch proverb wisely claims, "A happy person is never wicked." (Incidentally, this has been studied in psychology departments of various Universities and found to be accurate.) This echoes the idea that true happiness is rooted in morality and virtue. In our Masonic endeavors, we must understand that our happiness is directly linked to our adherence to the principles of Truth, integrity, and Brotherly Love. A truly happy Mason can never stray from the path of righteousness.

Proverbs from various cultures emphasize the importance of cultivating happiness within ourselves. "The joy of the Lord is your strength,"

Continued on page 2

From the East continued

and instead, always rely on similar situations we've experienced ourselves, or within our peer circles.

Not every choice needs this deep dive. But some of them, we may benefit from taking the time to calculate the outcomes. "I should water my plant. Well, maybe not. I didn't water it yesterday, and it's fine." We know where this leads. Get up and water the plant. "Extra tablespoon of sugar in my coffee today. Well, I'm supposed to watch the sugar. Nope. Just one tablespoon today." These are small decisions. But they have a measurable impact when we think about them and their long term or cumulative effect.

What does Freemasonry say about making choices? Well, it gives us a few virtues that give us some good insight. Fortitude allows us to stick to our guns once we've made a choice. In the classical sense, justice will enable us to weigh in on an outcome's equity—selfishness versus selflessness. Temperance allows us to remain moderate in our decisions. But Prudence—prudence is what we're talking about here. Prudence is deliberation. It means to take into account all possible perceived outcomes of a situation and make your choice based on the aim of the person making the decision. Do you want to affect the most people? The least people? The questions are innumerable.

My charge to you is to attempt to bring prudence back into your life by taking small pauses when you recognize that you're about to make a decision. Think about the outcomes. Maybe you do the thing you always do. Maybe, you change your mind. Remember, not every single thing needs a panic-inducing brain cloud. Just be mindful and try this out when you can.

Fraternally,
Shawn Hunter, Worshipful Master
F&AM Scottsdale Lodge 43

From the West continued from page 1

reminds us that our connection to a higher purpose and our faith can be a source of profound happiness. Likewise, the saying, "Happiness is not something ready made. It comes from your own actions," underscores the active role we must play in shaping our own happiness.

In the realm of psychology, we find that the pursuit of happiness is linked to positive character traits. Studies suggest that happier individuals tend to be more compassionate, charitable, and forgiving. As Masons, this reinforces the idea that our pursuit of happiness must align with our commitment to improving ourselves and society.

In conclusion, my brethren, let us never forget that the pursuit of happiness is not a selfish endeavor but a noble one deeply intertwined with our Masonic principles. When we choose happiness, we elevate the quality of our character, following the wisdom of Solomon, the guidance of proverbs, and the insights of psychology. Remember, as we tread this Masonic path, it is not so much the final destination that matters but rather the happiness and goodness that we cultivate along the way. May your hearts be merry, and may your Masonic journey be filled with joy.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Michael D. Valecourt,
Senior Warden



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**

From the South

As the vibrant colors of autumn paint the world, October beckons us to engage in a season of reflection and renewal. Like the falling leaves, life's experiences shape and mold us, reminding us that change is an inevitable part of our journey. Let us explore the profound significance of self-assessment, personal growth, and the embrace of change in both our Masonic journey and daily lives.



October's scenery reflects the cyclical nature of life, as nature's tapestry transforms from lush greens to an array of warm hues. Just as the leaves gracefully fall, we, too, encounter changes and transitions throughout our lives. As Freemasons, we learn to accept and embrace change, understanding that it is an inherent part of the journey towards self-improvement. Through the lessons of our Craft, we gain the wisdom to adapt and thrive amidst life's seasons, finding strength in the impermanence of the world around us.

As the year draws to a close, October invites us to take a moment for introspection. Reflecting on our actions, accomplishments, and challenges allows us to assess our growth as individuals and as Freemasons. By examining our decisions and conduct, we gain invaluable insights into our strengths and areas for improvement. This self-reflection paves the way for growth, empowering us to move forward with renewed purpose and clarity.

October serves as a poignant reminder that growth often follows change. Just as the barren branches will sprout fresh buds in spring, our lives hold untapped potential for progress. In Freemasonry, we find a supportive environment to nurture personal growth. Through the pursuit of knowledge, moral principles, and brotherly love, we cultivate our characters and contribute positively to our communities. The transformative power of self-improvement enables us to reach new heights and make a lasting impact on the world around us.

Within the Masonic brotherhood, October signifies a time for renewal and strengthening of bonds. As we gather for meetings and celebrations, we renew our commitment to the principles and teachings of Freemasonry. The Lodge provides a sanctuary where brethren can share their experiences, offer support, and

find inspiration in one another's journeys. In this collective renewal, we reinforce the foundations of our Craft and invigorate our pursuit of Masonic ideals.

As October draws to a close, the essence of reflection and renewal does not wane. The lessons we learn during this season resonate throughout the year, guiding us in our Masonic endeavors and daily interactions. The embrace of change, the commitment to self-reflection, and the dedication to personal growth lay the groundwork for an enriched Masonic experience and a purpose-driven life. By continuously seeking improvement and embracing the ebb and flow of life, we honor the teachings of our Craft and inspire others to do the same.

October's theme of "Reflection and Renewal" offers us a timely reminder of the importance of self-assessment and personal growth. Like the changing colors of autumn, our lives evolve, and it is through the embrace of change that we uncover new opportunities for improvement. As Freemasons, we find solace in the journey of self-discovery, nurturing our characters and supporting our brethren along the way. By carrying the lessons of reflection and renewal forward, we enrich our Masonic journey and leave a lasting legacy of positive change in the world.

Fraternally,
David Earney
Junior Warden
Scottsdale Lodge 43






"Time Proven Professional", Since 1977
Fred LaBell, CRS
 ASSOCIATE BROKER



Direct: 480.717.7716
 eFax: 602.749.6983
 flabel2@gmail.com
 www.TheLaBells.com



10601 N Hayden Rd. Ste I-100 · Scottsdale, AZ 85260




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.

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

Our Lodge was called back from being dark over the Summer for the first Stated Meeting of the Fall. The Steak Dinner was great and well attended as was the Meeting with the Seeker group meeting in the dining room during the Lodge meeting.

CRAFT DEVELOPMENT CORP.
 5608 NORFOLK AVE.
 LUBBOCK, TX 79413

TRUETT CRAFT 806.794.6800
 FAX 806.368.7500



THE NOTARY

William F. Wilkins
 Notary Public - Arizona 707.332.9973
 wfw1015@gmail.com
 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.

Attention Sideliners

First, Sideliners are those Brothers who regularly sit along the sides of the room to watch ritual and events in Lodge. Some may never had held office and others may be past officers or simply do not desire to be a Lodge officer.

You too, are important to the Lodge. You let new Brothers know you care and are welcoming them into the fraternity. You also sit with visiting Brothers and guests and make them feel the warmth of sitting with Brothers.

Do not take this lightly as your presence is needed in Lodge, so please attend Lodge as often as possible. Appendant bodies are important to all Masons, but your mother Lodge should not be set aside.

Remember to come down to Lodge on October 21 for our monthly Pancake Breakfast



Masonic Education

FREEDOM

When we think of freedom, our first thoughts are about the country that shelters us, the liberty it provides, the security it extends to comfort us, the nationalism that makes us proud. We have different views among us about the extent, value, and availability of these freedoms, even sometimes the reality.

Apart from the expressed freedoms, other freedoms do exist. Our minds and thoughts are free to choose joy, happiness, even negativity and pain. These are free to interact with each other as in recovering from pain, experiencing an event that multiplies our joy, and positive actions that reduce negativity. We can embrace the freedom to make mistakes, and to improve our choices.

There are freedoms around us that we may not recognize. That blindness of not knowing them often results from fear of the unknown. Your vision will clear as we believe in ourselves, and expand our horizons. Fear can be transformed into into freedom of thought and expression, two great freedoms.

Freedoms usually have questionable shelf life. Use your freedoms to advantage, appreciate them, know them, and protect them from extinction.

David Woodland, PM

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



From the Secretary's Desk

Brethren all,

This is a reminder that dues for 2023 are due and payable. For those of you have paid, thank you on behalf of the lodge. Your prompt payment is crucial to the running of the lodge. I would also like the perpetual members who have contributed to the lodge, above your perpetual memberships.

For those who have not yet paid, please remit your dues payments immediately, or if there is a problem, please contact the secretary at secretary@scottsdalelodge43.com. If you have the envelope that was sent to you at the first of the year, please update your contact information with your remittance (address, zip code, phone number). It is very difficult to contact you with invalid information.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Jim Rowan, PM, PGM
Secretary

Editor comment:

Officer Responsibility and Honor

Those Brothers who step forward to accept a role as an officer of the Lodge, gain the respect of all Brothers for their willingness to serve Masonry at a higher level.

This honor comes with the price of responsibility to carry out the duties of that office. Attendance at meetings is part of that responsibility as well as the assigned duties of that office, that were delineated at the installation.

A famous general in WW2 stated that to be a good officer you need to **lead by example**. Not doing so can present problems for the future of the Lodge and the future leaders. A do not care attitude, incomplete projects, even ritual not properly performed for those seeking to join our fraternity.

Sometimes a personal event can interfere with the commitment to the Lodge, that is when a call to the WM or Secretary is needed so arrangements can be made to temporarily fill in.

Fred LaBell
Trestleboard Editor

Hello from the members of Kinishba Court, Order of the Amaranth!

Amaranth is very excited to get back into the swing of things. The October meeting will be our Official Visit of the Grand Royal Matron Barbara Wunder and the Grand Royal Patron, our very own Russel Sayre. We are looking forward to their visit. Kinishba Court is very proud of our members who have served the Grand Court as Grand Royal Matron or Grand Royal Patron and we know that Russel will have a fabulous year this year. We had a fabulous Christmas in July where over 70 members and guests enjoyed a Turkey dinner with all the fixin's - a fun time was had by all.

At Supreme Council this year, Amaranth donated over \$474,000 to the American Diabetes Association. This put Amaranth over 18 million dollar mark as a cumulative total for the organization. We are very proud of our support to help fight this dreaded disease.

Thank you always for your support!

Bizzy Herbolsheimer, Supreme Associate Matron



Some Masonic Wages paid to Brother Joe Martocchia for sponsoring the Lodge Dinner on Sept. 28 for his Birthday, with all dinner proceeds donated to the Lodge. He and his wife cooked an authentic Italian dinner for all who joined in.



Set the outside world aside for a while, when you enter Lodge with your Brothers. Time to regenerate thoughts on the good things in your life and be thankful to the GAOTU.

He means well





American Dry Cleaning 

8120 E McDowell Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85257
480-941-0157

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

SCOTTSDALE MASONIC LODGE #43

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

Salvatore John Augone	2018-10-18	Marc Charles Gross	2002-10-12	Michael J Seltzer	2018-10-18
Robert Gerald Beer	2013-10-26	John Frederick Herchet	1968-10-25	Dennis Gerald Sens	2001-10-25
Jonathan Martin Beffel	2013-10-10	Shawn Patrick Hunter	2018-10-18	Richard John Shields	2002-10-24
Marvin A. Bellefeuille	1974-10-24	Dennis G. Agapito Ira	2012-10-11	Loren Burrell Smith	1995-10-12
Steven Brian Bonanno	2015-10-15	Christopher K. Johnson	2010-10-14	Prescott Raymond Smith	2006-10-26
Leo B*	2005-10-27	Walter Breck King	1981-10-29	Scott Allen Smith	2015-10-31
George Joseph Brookler	2018-10-11	Jesse Bishop Lee	1982-10-28	Kurt Alan Stancl	2012-10-11
Joseph Carlyle Brown Jr	2007-10-25	Michael Wayne Lempke	1968-10-30	Michael Dennis Strauber	1990-10-18
Christian Paul Burns	2017-10-12	Carl Albert Lueck	2018-10-18	Charles Joseph Sutton	1956-10-11
Carl David Chadwick	1985-10-03	Steven Joseph Lueder	2016-10-13	Christopher D. G. Titular	2012-10-11
Frank Michael Crawford	2022-10-12	Larry Ray Marshbanks	1996-10-24	Fred Robert Townsend	2021-10-28
Blake Tyler Davis	1998-10-15	Christopher E. Mumfrey	1997-10-30	Clynton Fabella Tupas II	2018-10-11
William Judson Duke III	2014-10-09	Jasper Sheridan Nichols Sr	2006-10-26	Carl Bailey Warren	1992-10-29
Edward Thomas Fridlund	1975-10-30	Brian Alexander Oliver	2008-10-09	Russell Wade Warren	1966-10-27
Harvey Bennett Friedman	1964-10-20	Rowan Jay Pickering	2018-10-11	William Frank Wilkins	2015-10-15
William T Gesswein	1960-10-27	Carlos Rausch PM	1988-10-25	Chad Robert Wolahan	2011-10-13
Robert James Gray Jr	1956-10-18	Elliot Ben Rovinsky	2009-10-29	Peter Frederick Yauch	2014-10-09
David Keith Griffiths	1963-10-31	Timothy Charles Scarpino	2016-10-12		

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 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.

CHARLES PARKER, CEO
 AZ Credit Medix, LLC

Toll Free: (888) 959-8893
 Office: (480) 264-6649
 Fax: (480) 535-6820

4500 S Lakeshore Dr #515 Tempe, AZ 85282
 www.azcreditmedix.com
 cwarker@azcreditmedix.com



William F. Wilkins, REALTOR®

m 602.500.4474
 o 707.332.9973
 t @azrealtorwil
 e azrealtorwil@gmail.com

HomeSmart - BILTMORE
 3333 E. Camelback Road, Suite 150
 Phoenix, AZ 85018
Each Brokerage Independently owned and operated




SALT RIVER EYE CARE

Taylor McMullen, OD
Optometrist

8415 N. Pima Rd. Suite 155 | Scottsdale AZ 85258
 ph: (480) 278-7732 | www.SaltRiverEyeCare.com



Bill Gesswein
 Owner

The **CLOCK DOCTOR**
 & Music Box Co
 We have the time for you
 Expert Repairs

(480) 951-8994
 1-888-clockdr
 www.clockdr.com
 E-Mail: clockdr@clockdr.com

10610 N. 71st Place
 Scottsdale, AZ 85254



Tracy & Associates
TAPS
 Professional Services

Scott Tracy
 Cell: (602)697-1132

Extermination Services
 Pest, weed, varmint, bees, wasps, termites, scorpions, bedbugs, & more...

4101 E. Meadow Dr. Work: (480)788-4431
 Phoenix, AZ 85032 E-Mail: scott@calltaps.com
 TAPS Lic #9459 www.calltaps.com

Arizona Grand Lodge Website

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

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

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

<http://www.azmasons.org>

Fraternally,
Jim Rowan PGM, Secretary

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

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

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.

**** October Calendar of Events ****

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

October 5th - Stated Meeting

October 12th - Master Mason Degree

October 19th - Fellowcraft Degree in Bisbee, AZ

October 28th - School of Instruction (presentation on Masonic Etiquette)

More information can be found on the Lodge website:
www.scottsdalelodge43.com

There is also the Tuesday Morning Coffee and Donuts social gathering.