



# TUCSON LODGE #4 F. & A. M.



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## FROM THE EAST



*"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." — John F. Kennedy*

Hello from the East,

As we begin a new year together, I find myself both grateful for what has been accomplished and genuinely excited for what lies ahead. Freemasonry teaches us that nothing of value is built by standing still. Progress requires motion, effort, and most importantly, participation. A new year is not simply a change on the calendar. It is an invitation to take part in the work before us.

This coming year will be an active one for our lodge. We have several degrees scheduled, and each one represents more than a ceremony. They are moments where we welcome new men into our fraternity, reinforce our values, and remind ourselves why this work matters. Degrees do not succeed because of one officer or a small group. They succeed when brethren show up, take part, and lend their presence and support. I encourage each of you to be involved where you can. Your attendance makes a difference.

I also want to recognize the success of our Winterhaven parking fundraiser. Once again, it proved to be one of our most important sources of support for the lodge. That success did not happen by accident. It happened because brethren volunteered their time, worked together, and understood that participation turns opportunity into results. This effort directly supports our ability to operate, improve, and plan for the future.

Freemasonry is a living tradition. It moves forward only when we do. I look forward to a year filled with fellowship, labor, and shared purpose, and I hope to see each of you walking that path with us.

May this month again be a time of fellowship and shared growth. May we attend our gatherings with open hearts, ready to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood. Let our lodge be a testament to the transformative power of Masonry, where harmony prevails, and the light of wisdom shines bright.

Time is fleeting, and each of us is only given so much. It's not too late to do the things today you said you'd do yesterday or tell those you love how much you care.

Your brother,

*Trevor Janzillo*

## FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

As I follow in the footsteps of the brothers who have served in this station before me, I can't help but to contemplate the year ahead in light of my professional work. In mining, we never start digging blindly. First, we assay: we conduct a thorough analysis of core samples for the presence and content of some valuable minerals and metals. This establishes the "cut-off grade," below which the mining operation considers the ore not worth processing. In other words, if the ore in the target area doesn't meet the "cut-off grade", it is considered as waste rock.

My duty in the West is to pay the Craft their wages and see that "none go away dissatisfied." In our Lodge, the "wages" you receive are not materialistic. They are what you should get in exchange for your time. A night at the Lodge is a real commitment: preparation, driving for 30 minutes, hours away from family and other pursuits. If that time feels wasted, irrelevant, or lacking real fellowship, then the ore grade for the evening has been unfortunately low. And you may feel you've have been paid in waste rock. My goal for this year is to ensure that every meeting passes a high cut-off grade for value.

But I think that exactly what qualifies as 'high-grade ore' for a Lodge meeting isn't a decision for me to take entirely on my own. In my classes, I've learned not to assign specific project topics. As I explain to my students, if I assign the topic, it will reflect my interests. If you choose the topic, it will reflect your passion. In the past this has worked out really well as when students pick their own topic, the quality of the work is always better, and the level of engagement is always higher.

I am applying this same philosophy to our Lodge's educational and programmatic agenda. I could easily fill a program with talks on the history of Masonic ritual, the constellations of winter, or esoteric symbolism, topics that I find fascinating. But such a program would be more mine than yours. I can't pay you an appropriate wage unless I know what commodity you are looking for.

So, I'm calling this January our 'exploration phase.' Before we dig, we need to assay, or in plain terms, figure out what matters to you: your interests, what you want to learn, what makes coming here worth the drive and your time.

I've put together a short survey. Please click on the link (<https://forms.gle/p2dLEwp9kyJAVPCW7>) and fill it out. Tell me what topics interest you, what conversations you want to have, what skills you want to develop. Or just tell me what would make your evenings here feel well spent. Because when the gavel comes down in the East and you leave the Lodge, I want you to feel like your time was well spent; that's the wage I'm responsible for paying.

Fraternally,

Moe Momayez - Senior Warden

### Our Sick and Distressed Brothers

Brethren, please keep the following ailing brethren and family members in your prayers. If you would like to send a card, please contact the secretary for their address.

*Jim Wadley, Ron Hill, Earl Starr, Earl Shambo, and Mary Yandell (Wes' wife)*

If you know of any brothers or family members who are sick or in distress please let the Senior Warden or the Secretary know. If you would like to send a card, please contact the secretary for the appropriate address.

William E. Wilkinson, P.L.L.C.  
Arizona Attorney



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William E. Wilkinson, J.D., Dr.P.H.



## FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings, Brethren,

I am honored that you have selected me to serve as Junior Warden, and I sincerely appreciate the work that Worshipful Brother Trevor put into making it a memorable and historic installation ceremony.

As Junior Warden, I am excited to take on the responsibility of ensuring we have refreshments for our stated meetings and other Lodge events. As many of you know, the members of Saguaro Chapter No. 48, Order of the Eastern Star, have been preparing the dinner before our stated meetings for the past several months.

Some of you may not know that my wife, Shelby, and I currently sit in the West of the chapter as Associate Matron and Associate Patron. This summer, at the beginning of the Eastern Star year, we are expected to progress to the East and assume leadership of the chapter. This places me in the unique position of overseeing dinner for the Blue Lodge while also helping lead the organization that provides it.

Credit for the dinner belongs to Shelby and the dedicated team of Eastern Star sisters and brothers who prepare it. Their goal is to serve meals that are delicious, filling, and seasonally appropriate, nourishing us physically while we enjoy the fellowship that sustains us spiritually. If you have dietary restrictions or special requests, please let me know so we can accommodate you whenever possible.

**Dinner remains \$15 per plate, with reservations due to Brother Paul Simpson by noon on Monday prior to the stated meeting. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m., ahead of our usual 7:00 p.m. gavel.** The dinner for the January meeting will be Caesar Salad, Chicken, broccoli, and pasta with an alfredo sauce, along with fruit and cream parfaits.

I would also ask that you keep in mind the old saying, "*a reservation made is a reservation paid.*" The Eastern Star chapter provides these dinners as an at-risk fundraiser, and food purchases are based on the reservation count as of Monday. When a reservation is made and not attended or canceled by that deadline, the chapter is still left covering that cost. In those cases, it is appropriate to cover the cost of the reserved meal as a donation to the Lodge, which can then pass it along to the Chapter.

I encourage all of you to attend our stated meeting dinners and to bring your families, brothers from other lodges, and friends who may be interested in seeing Masonry firsthand. These dinners are a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and a meaningful way to support those who so graciously support us.

Logan Gaither  
Junior Warden



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## JANUARY CALENDAR

Mon Jan 5	Dinner Reservations Due	Noon
Wed Jan 7	Stated Meeting	7:00 pm
Wed Jan 14	MM Degree/Practice	7:00 pm
Wed Jan 21	MM Degree/Practice	7:00 pm
Wed Jan 28	MM Degree/Practice	7:00 pm
Fri Jan 30	Cigar Night (Anthony's)	7:00 pm
Wed Feb 4	Stated Meeting	7:00 pm

*Please refer to the Worshipful Master's weekly email for the latest updates as the details of the events are not yet fully known when this edition is sent out.*



## MASONIC MUSINGS ON MORTALITY

### Old Age IS Coming to You—Teamwork in Freemasonry

#### The Importance of Teamwork in Freemasonry

Our productivity is enhanced when we work in teams. Throughout history, many men who have achieved greatness in fields such as science, military strategy, the arts, and other disciplines—Masons such as Amadeus Mozart, Booker T. Washington, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Winston Churchill, the Marquis de Lafayette, John Wayne, Red Skelton, Cecil B. DeMille, Alexander Fleming, John Glenn, Henry Ford, Craig Gross, Robert Conrad, Leigh Creighton, Harry Truman, Douglas MacArthur, Simon Bolivar, Michael Clark, Matthew Dupee, Jared Kichline, Kevin Hokerk, Alexander Pope, Jonathan Swift, and Buzz Aldrin—have found success by surrounding themselves with creative, talented, and trustworthy individuals. Through teamwork, we can accomplish feats that would be impossible for anyone alone. This idea is encapsulated by H. Richard Niebuhr, a theologian and professor at Yale University School of Divinity, who stated, “No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play a symphony.” In the same way, no single person can confer a Masonic degree by himself; it takes all of us working together as a team to welcome a new Mason.

#### Learning Teamwork in the Lodge

One of the many valuable traits that Masons can develop within their lodge is the ability to work effectively as part of a team. Placing the team’s goals above our own personal objectives can ultimately yield tremendous rewards. Consider the collaborative effort required to confer any degree—a true demonstration of teamwork in action.

#### Five Reasons to Value Teamwork in Freemasonry

1. Efficiency: When individuals contribute separate pieces of a project in isolation and then combine their efforts at the end, the process can be more efficient and effective. However, without clear outlines, working separately can lead to overlapping and duplication. Teams that communicate regularly about their progress can more easily assign degree parts and ensure smooth collaboration.
2. Diverse Skill Sets: In specialized fields, the constant evolution of knowledge makes it impossible for one person to know everything. By bringing together subject matter experts for distinct aspects of the degree, the team can accomplish tasks more efficiently than any individual could alone.
3. Speed: The old saying, “many hands make light work,” holds true in Freemasonry. When the leader expresses a clear desire for speed and divides the work thoughtfully, the team can complete tasks far faster than any individual could. Attempting to learn and present all degree parts alone would require far more time than sharing those responsibilities among several members.
4. Accountability and Motivation: Teamwork encourages friendly pressure to meet deadlines. Knowing that others depend on them motivates team members to work harder and invest more effort, helping ensure timely completion of responsibilities. In general, Brothers strive to learn their lines and fulfill their roles to avoid letting the team down.
5. Reliability: Team productivity ensures that when one member is unavailable due to illness or vacation, another cross-trained member can step in to keep the work moving forward. If only one person knows a degree part, progress can stall in their absence. By mentoring understudies and sharing responsibilities, the workload is lightened for everyone, and new Masons can continue to be initiated.

#### Teamwork in Nature and Human Society

The most intelligent animals on earth—great apes, elephants, wolves, dolphins, and crows—naturally live and cooperate in groups. We, too, should embrace our human tendency to work together for the benefit of all, even if we sometimes prefer solitude. This cooperative spirit is a fundamental aspect of human nature, and working in unity as a team may be easier to cultivate than we assume.

#### Conclusion

By embracing teamwork, we not only accomplish our shared goals but also nurture enduring relationships and a deeper sense of brotherhood. The collaborative spirit within the lodge strengthens our bonds and empowers each member to make unique contributions to our collective success. Through unity and mutual support, we establish a foundation that uplifts everyone and ensures that our traditions thrive for generations to come.



## BRETHREN WE LOST IN 2025

### FRANK FLORES CARLEY

Born: 5-8-1938

Raised: 10-28-1975

Died: 2-22-2025

### RALPH ROSCOE FRANCIS

Born: 9-16-1932

Raised: 8-28-1974

Died: 9-16-2025

### ROBERT LEE REID

Born: 6-26-1939

Raised: 10-8-1980

Died: 6-5-2025

### SAMEUL ALLEN STEPHENSON

Born: 2-29-1940

Raised: 10-20-1976

Died: 3-10-2025

### JAMES RUSSELL STITH

Born: 3-27-1947

Raised: 7-20-1968

Died: 12-15-2025

## JANUARY MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DAY	YEARS
ROBERT GRAHAM KITCHELL	5	13
RICHARD EUGENE TOLER	8	51
IAN PAUL DAVEY	16	41
GABRIEL CLASS	20	5
STEVEN ORVAL ZIMMERMAN	21	48
MICHAEL JOSEPH IRVINE	24	19
ENRIQUE PARES	27	5
WILLIAM JOSEPH ARAGON, Jr	28	22
DON LEE KING, Sr	28	45
DAVID WAYNE EATON	29	40
KENNETH LEROY HUNT, Jr	30	55
CHAD MICHAEL RICHEY	31	25

*Mention it is your masonic birthday month and get a free meal at that month's stated meeting.*

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DAY
DANIEL LEE SWANGO	1
MARK ALLAN VIRAMONTES	2
JAMES EDWARD MOORE	4
JOHN EDWARD NEVITT	4
JOHN BABAUTA PANGELINAN	4
MORRIS VAN ELROD	7
JAMES GEORGE ELDORADO	10
GEROGE CHARLES PARKER, II	11
DONALD DUGALD STEVENSON	13
CHARLES JUDE SOULLIARD	16
ERIC ROGER IVEY	18
DESMOND LEWIS HOOEY	23
ROBERT FRANCIS GOEMANS	24
ELMER IVAN ACUNA	26
TODD MICHAEL CANALE	26
JOHN WESLEY "WES" STOKES	28
JOHN RUSSELL PROKOP	29
WILLIAM BENARD PREDGO	30
WILLIAM JOSEPH ARAGON, II	31



## TUCSON LODGE MASONIC FAMILY SCHEDULES

Saguaro Chapter #48 OES, Second & Fourth Mondays	7:00PM
Olana Temple #131, Daughters of the Nile, Third Monday	6:00PM
Oasis Court #75, Ladies Oriental Shrine, First Monday	6:00PM
Daughters of Scotia, Second Friday	7:00 PM
DeMolay—Arizona Chapter	For info Contact Arizona.Chair@AzDeMolay.org
Bethel #25, Job's Daughters	For info Contact Michelle at bethel25azjdi@gmail.com
Assembly #2, Rainbow Girls	For info Contact Paul Simpson at psimpson130@gmail.com

For use of the Lodge Building contact the Lodge Secretary at tl4so@outlook.com



## FROM THE SECRETARY



"Be at war with your vices, at Peace with your neighbors, and let every New Year find you a better man."

Benjamin Franklin

As I do ever year at this time, I prepare a report on the numbers for the lodge. We started the year with 208 members. We had five members pass to the Celestial Lodge above, two to demits/withdrawals and five to non-payment of dues, one of which because he was suspended in another jurisdiction. On a plus side, we raised one brother, reinstated another from non-payment of dues, and had three members join us through affiliation.

As of December 28th, we have 201 members on the books. This includes 47 Perpetual Members (5 are also Senior Life), 27 Senior Life, and 10 under Section 9-106. We pay per capita on 164 members and have 127 dues paying members. Between per capita and other fees, we should owe Grand Lodge about \$7730 as part of our annual return. There was a significant increase in per capita when it was raised from \$38 to \$45. Even though we figured 2025 dues using \$38, we still have to pay \$45 on each assessable member. It may seem unfair, but this is the way the system works. Now you know why I am always asking you to pay your dues. By the way, dues are still **\$129** and are due by **December 31st**. We are now offering payment via Zelle. Please see the secretary if you want to use Zelle.

Now, let's look at candidates. We have 8 who are at some stage in their degree work. We have one brother who is receiving his degrees by courtesy as he lives in New York. This is done on a regular basis between lodges and jurisdictions. We also have 11 active inquirers (conversation group).

We are an old, established lodge in more ways than you may realize. Looking at a breakdown in the age of our membership we see that 56% (112) are 70 and older, 32% (64) are 80 and over. On the other end of the spectrum, 14% (29) are 39 or less with 3 younger than 29. Now you can see why it is imperative we reach out to those in the younger age groups. This will help ensure our prosperity and ultimate survival.

Another Winterhaven fundraiser is in the books. We were very successful especially compared to last year. Part of this was the addition of the capability to take payments via Zelle. While still in the process of reconciliation, we had over 60 people pay using Zelle. Many thanx to all who helped, especially those who filled in at the last minute on Christmas Eve. I will have a list of the participants at the stated meeting as well as a full report. We had one night that the lot was manned by three of our MWs—Leigh, Craig, and Steve. I wasn't scheduled, but showed up as

well figuring someone had to ride herd on our MWs. Thank you for your support my brothers.

And for those of you making New Year's resolutions, let's add this one— Come to Lodge! If you can't, reach out to a brother you haven't seen for a while and see how they are doing.

Paul A. Simpson, PM, Secretary

## BETHEL 25—JDI

Bethel No. 25, Tucson, AZ, is excited to begin 2026 with a spirit of service and sisterhood! As part of Job's Daughters International® (JDI), we provide young women ages 10–19 opportunities to grow as confident leaders while honoring tradition and building lifelong friendships. Since 1920, JDI has empowered generations to develop leadership skills, serve their communities, and strengthen their voices—guided by respect, responsibility, and devotion.

Our Bethel meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 10 a.m. at Tucson Lodge No. 4. These gatherings help members practice leadership, plan activities, and connect. Families and prospective members are welcome to learn more by emailing [Bethel25azjdi@gmail.com](mailto:Bethel25azjdi@gmail.com).

### Upcoming Events

- **Desert Sky Leadership Retreat & Miss Desert Sky Pageant (Jan. 30–Feb. 1):** This exciting new jurisdiction event will take place in **Winslow, Arizona**, bringing together daughters from Las Vegas, Arizona, and New Mexico for workshops, team building, and the first pageant to select our representative. We would love your support to help our daughters attend this leadership workshop! Donations are greatly appreciated and will make a big difference. To commemorate the event, we'll also have a **limited run of custom pins available for purchase**—a perfect keepsake and a way to show your support.
- **Flocking Fundraiser (February):** Sponsor a flock of flamingos to surprise friends and support Bethel activities! Be on the look out for more information in January.

**Installation of Officers (Feb. 21):** A meaningful ceremony honoring outgoing officers and welcoming new leaders. Families, friends, and the Masonic community are invited to attend.

As we reflect on 2025, Bethel No. 25 extends heartfelt gratitude to the Arizona Masonic Family. Your guidance, generosity, and support have helped our daughters grow into confident young women. From mentorship to financial assistance and event participation, you've been a cornerstone of our success. We look forward to another year of shared service, growth, and celebration! If you'd like to learn more check out different ways to follow us here:

[Bethel No. 25 Tucson, AZ](#) | [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) | [Linktree](#)

## SECRET SOCIETIES

Richard Chimblo

In 2013, TIME Books published a special edition of its magazine. It remained on the newsstands until October 25, 2013. My Son recently gave me the copy he received from his neighbor in Tulsa because it has a section titled the "Mason's Mark".

This special edition includes many other "Secret Societies", for example, The Rosicrucians, The Illuminati, The Knights Templar and more. So what?

Having read some of the books and references from our own Lodge including *The Builders*, I thought it might be interesting to read something that is written in contemporary "American" English. Let's face it Brothers, some of the old language stuff can put us to sleep in a New York Minute.

The other part of the title to this article from TIME is "How history's master builders, the Freemasons, lost their mojo – and how pop culture brought it back". Not knowing what is meant by that "subtitle" and having to look up the definitions of "mojo" and "pop culture", I felt compelled to be enlightened – better written, informed.

"Mojo" - a magic charm, talisman, or spell. And, "pop culture" – a set of practices, beliefs, artistic output that are dominant or prevalent in society at a given point in time.

Firstly, there is no reference in the article to magic charms, spells or objects with special powers. Boring! And, of course, we have never lost our signs, symbols, tokens or words.

Likewise, the article claims the pop culture that has brought us "back into the light" are books and movies that mention our organization ... author Dan Brown's *The Lost Symbol* and the movie *National Treasure*. Right or wrong, this free publicity caused many people to search for more information about our "secret society".

The article continues with a "textbook" history of Freemasonry focused on medieval times when guarding the secrets and skills needed to construct lofty cathedrals "arose from practical necessity and caution, rather than the desire to cultivate an aura of mystery".

The article also points out something that we all know and, that is also confronting other similar "service" organizations, there is "a period of decline, as membership ages and the next cohort of initiates is nowhere on the horizon".

From *The Builders*, Page 223-225, in giving short and long "elevator descriptions" of Freemasonry, we find several: "A system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols". Unfortunately, none of which are magical. And, my

personal favorite, although a bit long for a short elevator ride: "Masonry is the activity of closely united men who, employing symbolical forms borrowed principally from the mason's trade and from architecture, work for the welfare of mankind, striving morally to ennoble themselves and others, and thereby to bring about a universal league of mankind, which they aspire to exhibit even now on a small scale".

Together Brothers, as we meet on the level, with humility and brotherly love to work for the welfare of mankind and to improve ourselves, let us "*Strive to live with love and care, Upon the level, by the square.*" So simple and so elegant.

## GASLIGHT THEATRE

Secret Agent, Alex Starr, travels the globe fighting evil, meeting beautiful women, and singing songs. After infiltrating the gang of criminal mastermind, Victor Vector, and his sinister henchwoman, Venus, Starr must thwart their evil plans for world domination. Will this "Secret Agent Man" find Vector's underwater lair in time? Will he save the world from nefarious schemes? Will he still have time for a cocktail?! Make your reservations today to find out! Reservations can be made to the secretary.

As is tradition, not quite masonic tradition as it is based on fact, we will be making our semi-annual pilgrimage to the far east side of Tucson (Broadway and Kolb) to the Gaslight Theatre on **Friday, April 17th at 8:30 pm**. Tickets will be \$25 for adults and \$20 for children after 12. We have 40 seats reserved in our "usual" area.

## ADVERTISING IN TUCSON 4 NEWSLETTER

Would you like to get your business out to your Masonic Brothers? If so, consider taking out an ad in the Tucson Lodge 4 Newsletter. It is published monthly and gets sent out all over the State. You will also be helping your Lodge continue to provide its members and friends with current articles and information. A 1/8 page (business card) is only \$75.00, a 1/4 page ad is \$150.00, a 1/2 page ad is \$300.00 and a full page ad is \$600.00. If interested please contact the Lodge secretary and we will set you up. Thanks for your support.



## 2026 LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master.....Trevor Tanzillo (Isela)  
Senior Warden .....Moe Momayez (Caroline)  
Junior Warden.....Logan Gaither (Shelby)  
Treasurer.....Jon Schmidt, PM (Shari).  
Deputy Treasurer.....Ronald Hill, PM (Linda)  
Secretary .....Paul Simpson, PM (Catheryn)  
Secretary Emeritus .....Bob Conrad, PGM (Jackie)  
Senior Deacon .....Sam Greer, PM (Paddy) , PM  
Junior Deacon .....Anthony Covello-Blinn)  
Senior Steward .....P Scott Ceravolo  
Junior Steward.....Rafael Leidy-Escabi  
Marshal .....Jose Gonzalez  
Chaplain .....  
Tyler .....  
Trustee 2026 .....Samuel Greer (Paddy)  
Trustee 2026 .....Rafael Leidy-Escabi  
Trustee 2026.....Gabriel Class (Rosa)  
Trustee 2027.....William Wilkinson, PM (Laurie)  
Trustee 2027 .....Hannes Meyer (Joyce)  
Website Editor .....John Prokop (Sharlot)  
Widow's Assistance .....Paul Simpson, PM (Catheryn)  
Newsletter Editors .....Catheryn & Paul Simpson



**SPEAK WITH  
HONESTY**

**THINK WITH  
SINCERITY**

**ACT WITH  
INTEGRITY**

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



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