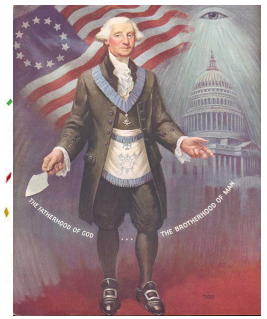




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<http://TucsonLodge4.homestead.com>

**Meets every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. \* Stated Meeting, First Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.**



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**VOLUME 134**

**FEBRUARY 2015**

**NUMBER 2**

**FROM THE EAST**



The question is often asked why the lodge is called a Blue Lodge. One short answer is that “our ancient brethren met on hills and in vales, over which the blue vault of heaven is a ceiling” or “the covering of a lodge is the clouded canopy or starry decked heaven”. These two answers sound familiar as they are part of the ritual lectures and imply that because blue is the color of the sky therefore Masons should meet in a blue lodge and strive for celestial attributes. This is just all too esoteric for many. According to One Hundred One Questions about Freemasonry published by the Masonic Service Association, from which the quotes were taken, there is another source for Blue Lodge. Also in our ritual is a description of the lambskin apron as being more honorable than the star and garter. “The adoption of the color by the early Grand Lodge in imitation of the nobility and the fame of the color of the most famous Order of Knighthood in the world” is another explanation for Blue Lodge. This indicates a desire by the early Grand Lodge for Masonry to be recognized as consisting of honorable men who make significant contributions to the world.

Enough of Masonic education. We are very fortunate in having sixteen brothers in the process of becoming Master Masons. We therefore will continue to have a lot of degree work and continue to have some fun social events. February's stated meeting dinner will have some entertainment focused on the ladies and of course there will be the fellowship breakfast on the first Saturday. There will be an official visit to Marion McDaniel Lodge on February 9 that all brothers are encouraged to attend.

**February 2015 Calendar**

Feb. 4th	Stated Meeting Dinner 6pm Stated Meeting 7pm
Feb. 7th	Fellowship Breakfast 7am to 10am
Feb. 9th	OV Marion McDaniel #56 7pm
Feb 11th	Degree or Practice 7:00pm
Feb. 18th	Degree or Practice 7:00pm
Feb. 19th	Officers Meeting 6pm Ritual Practice 7pm
Feb. 21st	George Washington 3rd Degree at Scottish Rite 10:00am
Feb. 25th	Degree or Practice 7:00pm
Feb 28th	Deadwood 11:30am Laverna's Coffee Shop

The preparation group Bob and Rich are leading will meet every Wednesday at 7:00pm.

Degrees are subject to candidate availability and proficiency.

NOTE: Please do not forget to make

Also, many of the officers will be participating in the George Washington Entered Apprentice degree on February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Scottish Rite Temple. Please join us in the activities and continue your Masonic journey in becoming better men.

Fraternally

*Leigh Creighton*

Worshipful Master



Brethren,

February is the month that we celebrate President's Day. This is a holiday that is celebrated on the third Monday of February in honor of all of the U.S. presidents – not just George Washington and Abraham Lincoln who had their birthdays in this month. There have been 43 U.S. Presidents (under the U.S. Constitution) of which 14 were Master Masons:

1. George Washington - Raised at Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, August 4, 1753
2. James Monroe – Raised at Cumberland Lodge no. 8 in Tennessee, June 8, 1819
3. Andrew Jackson – Raised at Mason in Harmony lodge No. 29 (Later No. 1) in Tennessee, 1800
4. James Polk – Raised at Columbia Lodge No. 31, Columbia, Tenn., 1820
5. James Buchanan – Raised at Lancaster Lodge No. 43, PA in 1817
6. Andrew Johnson – Raised at Greeneville Lodge No. 119 now No. 3 at Greeneville, Tenn. in 1851
7. James Garfield – Raised at Columbus Lodge No. 30, 1864
8. William McKinley – Raised at Hiram Lodge No. 10 in Winchester, West Virginia in 1865
9. Theodore Roosevelt – Raised at Matinecock Lodge No. 806, Oyster Bay, NY in 1901
10. Howard Taft - Made a Master Mason at Sight in Kilwinning Lodge No. 356, in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1901
11. Warren Harding – Raised at Marion Lodge No. 70, Ohio in 1920
12. Franklin Roosevelt – Raised at Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City, in 1911
13. Harry Truman – Raised at Belton Lodge No. 450, Grandview, Missouri, in 1909
14. Gerald Ford – Raised at Columbia Lodge No. 3, Washington, D.C., on May 18, 1951, as a courtesy to Malta Lodge No. 465, in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Abraham Lincoln was not a Freemason. He did apply for membership in Tyrian Lodge, Springfield, Ill., shortly after his nomination for the presidency in 1860 but withdrew the application because he felt that his applying for membership at that time might be construed as a political ruse to obtain votes. He advised the lodge that he would resubmit his application again when he returned from the presidency.

Lincoln never returned. On the death of the president, Tyrian Lodge adopted, on April 17, 1865, a resolution

to say "that the decision of President Lincoln to postpone his application for the honors of Freemasonry, lest his motives be misconstrued, is the highest degree honorable to his memory."

Lyndon Johnson received his first degree on October 30, 1937. After receiving the degree he found that his congressional duties (elected in 1937) took so much time he was unable to pursue the Masonic degrees.

Ronald Reagan has often been referred to as a Freemason. President Reagan is not a Freemason although he is an honorary member of the Imperial Council of the Shrine. President Reagan has on numerous occasions been involved in Shrine and Masonic functions throughout his career.

George Bush has also on numerous occasions been referred to as a Freemason. The confusion as to President Bush being a member arises from the swearing in ceremonies at his inauguration. President Bush took his oath of office on the George Washington Bible which belongs to St. Johns Lodge in New York City. Because the Bible belonged to a Masonic Lodge many writers assumed he was a Freemason. The Bible was used at the request of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

This Bible was first used on April 30, 1789, by the Grand Master of the Masons in New York, to administer the oath of office to George Washington, the first president. Other presidents who took their oath of office with this Bible are Warren G. Harding, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Jimmy Carter.

Fraternally

*Jon Schmidt*

Senior Warden

**February 4, Stated Meeting, the "On Q" quartet from Tucson Desert Harmony will be singing during and after dinner.**

Tucson Desert Harmony, a local chapter of Sweet Adeline's International, has successfully built an award-winning women's chorus in Tucson. This community-wide group of women sing four-part harmony in the "barbershop" style. They sing the familiar songs... the ones people like to hum along with; and they also apply the barbershop style to many popular contemporary songs. Join us at the February Stated Meeting dinner to enjoy a fine dinner and some fun.

From First Lady Nancy

## TO THE STUDY OF GEOMETRY On the Square

The trying-square has been a symbol of morality for over 4,400 years or more. In China, at least 2,400 years before Christ, predating the medieval stone masons and the building of King Solomon's Temple, the try square (See Figure 1) represented doing the right thing to others. A geometric square is a four-sided figure with straight lines of equal length and four right angles. In ancient times, this was referred to as the perfect square. A square with two parallel lines longer than the other two, like the shape of a Masonic lodge room, Noah's Ark, the Ark of the Covenant, the Tabernacle and the Temple of Solomon was called a oblong square. Today "square" refers to only the perfect one. Our country's founding fathers, many of whom were well known Masons, created a 10-mile square in Washington, D.C. This federal city was designed symbolically for our nation to deal "squarely" with other states and nations.

The French Freemasons have always used the traditional, true form symbol of the try square with one leg longer than the other without any surface markings as its primary use is to measure the accuracy of a 90 degree angle. American Freemasons generally show the square having legs of equal length and surface markings with inches as an instrument to measure length and breath, which is not its intended use. In earlier times, the Earth was thought to be a square and the try square was a symbol for our planet to the ancients. The square is applied differently in each Masonic degree. In the First Degree, the square presents as one of the Three Great Lights. In the Second Degree, the square represents of the Fellow Craft Working-tools. In the Third Degree, the square is shown as the official emblem of the Worshipful Master. The oldest Speculative Freemasonry catechism, in 1725, asked the question, "How many make a Lodge?" The answer given: "God and the Square, with five or seven right or perfect Masons."



Figure 1: Try Square

The square has been a use as symbol for moral conduct in Masonry for centuries. In 1830, while building a new bridge near Limerick, Ireland, the architect found an old brass square with "1517" inscribed on it under the foundation stone of the older decaying bridge being replaced. On the squares two arms was inscribed: "I WILL STIVE TO LIVE WITH LOVE AND CARE—UPON THE LEVEL BY THE SQUARE." Proper Lodge furniture outlined in the catechism was declared to be the Bible, Compasses and Square. To

the study of geometry, therefore, your attention is especially directed!

*William Wilkinson, Esq.*

Junior Deacon

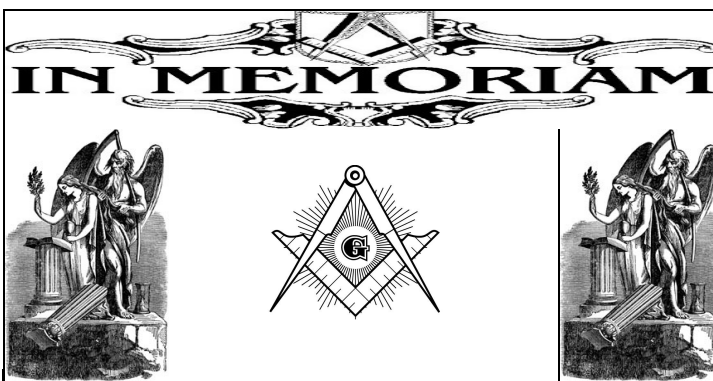


### FEBRUARY MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DATE	YEAR	YEARS
Leslie Carl Erdman, Jr.	3	1983	32
Raymond Austin Phillips	7	1968	47
Stephen Matthew Murrillo	11	2009	6
Floyd William Sedlmayr	12	1964	51
Mark Joseph Gilliland	13	2013	2
Robert Charles Conrad	15	1978	37
Bruce Edward Fultz	15	2004	11
Richard Dwayne Vaughn	15	2014	1
Frank Albert Strasser	18	1975	40
Curtis Lee Warren	18	1976	39
George Charles Parker	19	2014	1
John Russell Prokop	19	1994	21
Jerry Eddville White	19	1977	38
Guy Albert Hummon II	20	1956	59
Paul Derderian	21	1996	19
Jack Wray Harbert	22	2006	9
Thomas Austin Adams	23	1955	60
Leonard Joseph Gulotta	25	1981	34
Allan Deane Wilson	25	1948	67
Thomas Jay (TJ) Hayne	26	2014	1
Robert Floyd Shadron	26	1992	23
Kent Allen Vanderkolk	27	1966	49
Nicholas Anthony Address	29	2012	3

Please congratulate these Brothers when you see them. If you don't see them, yet know them, give them a call and invite them to go to lodge with you.

Bring your Birthday Card and get your dinner compliments of the Lodge.



### Of our Brethren who have passed on this Masonic year

Name	Birth	Raised	Death
Minor Grover "Dusty"	05-31-21	05-08-63	01-09-15

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Village Inn at 6251 N. Oracle Rd.



OLD PUEBLO HIGH TWELVE #773  
Meets every 2ND & 4TH Friday 8:00AM  
Hungry Fox at 4637 E. Broadway

TRUST

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WILL

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From First Lady Nancy

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!

JOB'S DAUGHTERS

RAINBOW FOR GIRLS

DEMOLAY

GO TO THERE MEETINGS TO SHOW  
THEM THAT MASONS REALLY DO CARE.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR MEETING DATES!

**DEADWOOD LUNCH—Past Masters and Friends gather on the last Saturday of every month for fellowship at:  
LAVERNA'S COFFEE SHOP, STARTING TIME 11:30 A.M.**

Deadwood has become a social gathering and tool for the Brothers of our Lodge. The knowledge you pass onto some of our less informed Brethren is priceless. You are the link from the past to the future. The success of our lodge, and Masonry, is in your hands.

*You do make a difference....*

## JUST IN JANUARY?

Traditionally the month of January sees us thinking about resolutions for the future. This year I thought about January's of the past...

January 1955, I can't believe that it was sixty years ago, I was sent back to the hospital to cure a post-surgery infection consecutive to an acute appendicitis. I laid on my back for two full weeks with a bag of ice on my belly. There was no TV or any entertainment in the hospital and to palliate the inconvenience, my Dad brought me three books of algebra and geometry problems...

January 1963, was part of one of the worst winters of the century in France. It was such that I even welcomed the decision of the Army to send me to Algeria where I expected the weather to be more clement. If it was true along the coast, it was not so in the mountains where I ended up being stationed and where it snowed during my first watch...

January 1969, my son Christophe was born and I witnessed first-hand the miracle of life... I am still in awe today...

January 8, 1982, 33 years ago, my son and I undertook our immigration journey which seemed to take forever; taxi to Paris Charles De Gaulle Airport, delayed flight to London Heathrow where it was snowing, then another delayed flight to Los Angeles, immigration process during which every minute seemed hours, then, "Green Card" in hand, rescheduling of the flight to Arizona, short night in a motel, arrival in Scottsdale, after a 42 hour journey, five years away from eligibility to Citizenship...

January 21, 2009, just like it was six years ago, it was also a Wednesday in 2015. Wednesday is Lodge night at Tucson #4, this one was kind of special. That evening, the Lodge had the Arizona Military Degree Team (originally created mostly by Brethren of Tucson Lodge #4 in 1991) conferring the Fellowcraft degree on United States Army retired Sargent Charles Raymond. However that night, he did not leave the Lodge as a Fellowcraft... nor did I walk out of the Lodge...

While Charlie was being conducted in the circumambulation by the Senior Deacon (Our current Grand Master MW Brother Mike Manning), the acting Worshipful Master had a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) and collapsed. That messed-up Charlie's degree big time. SCA is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating which usually causes death within minutes. It does kill more Americans each year (nearly 300,000) than breast cancer, lung cancer and HIV/AIDS combined, and has a survival rate of 6%... I am one of these 6%.

What you are about to read was reported to me because I have zero recollection of what happened until the following Friday at about noon when my doctor (and Brother) Akash Taggarse standing at my bedside at UMC welcomed me back and informed me of my fortune.

I am alive today because I am a Mason as the probability for me to be around Masons was dictated by my schedule that week which included five Masonic events... Of the fifty Masons in attendance that evening, many were veterans of the Armed Forces and had trained in CPR: they saved my life.

Nine shocks, CPR (WB Richard Hendrickson, WB Richard Grimes, Ben Hartnett, and anonymous EMT's) and, more importantly, the gathering in prayers of my Brother Masons made the last six years of my life possible...

January 21, 2009 could have been the last day of my life. Instead it was the first day of a rare case of life extension that I endeavor to live as a Mason... Brethren, aren't we all in the same predicament, don't we live the possible last day of our lives? It will be true for all of us, someday, today may be? The last time it happened to me, the next thing I heard was "Welcome back". Next time, I want to hear "Well done, good and faithful servant..." I am working on it... not just in January...

Jean-Claude Malterre PM



## 2015 LODGE OFFICERS

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## TUCSON LODGE MASONIC FAMILY SCHEDULES

Arizona Chapter #2, OES, First & Third Tuesdays .....	7:30PM
Saguaro Chapter #48 OES, Second & Fourth Mondays .....	7:30PM
Olana Temple #131, Daughters of the Nile, Third Mondays .....	7:00PM
Oasis Court #75, Ladies Oriental Shrine, First Mondays.....	7:00PM
Bethel #25, Job's Daughters, First & Third Saturdays .....	10:00AM
Assembly #2, Rainbow Girls, Second & Fourth Tuesdays .....	7:00PM

**Requests to use the Lodge building must be referred to Lynda Gross at lgross100@cox.net or 795-3932**

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