



TUCSON LODGE #4 F. & A. M.



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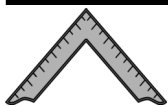
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From The East



Reflections

As my time as Master of Tucson 4 draws to a close, I now take the time to grade myself on how well I served the best interests of Tucson Lodge 4 and how I have practiced the tenets of Free Masonry. All of us (Masons and non-Masons alike) are endowed with different skills and different strengths. Some individuals are better at Ritual (or memorization) some are better at organizing and completing projects, there are those with an

incredible amount of organizational skills, still other persons are blessed with the ability to inspire and provide leadership and a sense of purpose. Other individuals are adept at providing comfort and relief to a distressed worthy brothers (whether or not they are Masons). A few are able to combine several of these valuable skills (experience usually helps in this regard). The Master of a Lodge may not necessarily be best at any of these positive attributes, but he has to at least touch on and be somewhat proficient in most of these skills.

A strong Lodge is founded not on which individual is the most skilled in every area, but rather who can best work together with their Masonic Brothers and agree that their combined efforts are for the welfare of Masonry and the Lodge in particular. In that regard, the Master of the Lodge must be someone who can induce everyone to do their best. More accurately stated, Harmony is the strength and support of all societies, especially ours. The only reason I might even earn a grade of "C" is that I have been the beneficiary of wise and valuable counsel from a number of extremely experienced Masons as well as those who have served or are serving in the Grand Lodge, One aspect I am proud of is that I put the Peace and Harmony of the Lodge above all individual conflicts.

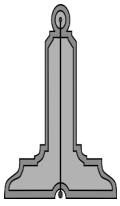
The three principle tenets of Masonry (Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth) are held out as goals for all of us to strive to practice. Do we ever keep all our emotions within due limits, or do we just continually strive to accomplish that goal? I am reminded of a short "prayer" I used to hear from my grandfather, "Lord, in my conversations with my fellow man, please let my words be sweet... in case I have to eat them later". Relief, no problem, I was working to provide comfort and relief to my fellow man long before I became a Mason. Truth may be a difficult concept to define, are we talking about what a person perceives to be the truth, what they believe to the Truth or some other version of the Truth. Truth is simple; there are no "kind of true" statements, merely facts. In that respect, I have been true to myself, true to my obligations and oaths, and honest with my Masonic Brothers. As all Masons should do, I take pride in meeting on the level, acting by the plumb and reflecting upon the Square.

Thank you to my Masonic Brothers, mentors and friends for allowing me to serve Tucson 4 in 2023.

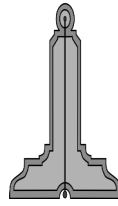
Sam Greer, WM

November Calendar

Mon Oct 30	Reservations for dinner due Noon
Wed Nov 1	Stated Meeting Dinner 6:00 pm
	Stated Meeting 7:00 pm
	Elections
Wed Nov 8	OV Epes Randolph #32 6:30 pm
Wed Nov 15	Public Schools Week Event 7:00 pm
Wed Nov 22	Dark (Thanksgiving Eve)
Wed Nov 29	Installation Practice 7:00 pm
Sat Dec 9	Installation of Officers 2:00 pm
<i>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.</i>	



From The West



“Hello from the West. I hope everyone reading this is doing well. What makes a good mason? I use to believe it was performing amazing ritual work. Now I believe it is being there for any brother in their time of need. We recently lost our brother WB Carl Erdman. He was amazing at ritual work. There is no question about that. More than that he was there for brethren in their time of need. On more than one occasion I personally leaned on Carl for emotional and mental support. He tried to always be there for as many of us he could. The degrees are very important. But they are only for a very short period. Our goal is to carry on supporting one another through the remainder of their years. Does that mean we will all always agree? No, but even when we disagree we can and should be able to do so with caring and tact.

The loss of WB Carl Erdman will be felt for a long time in our lodge room but a brother is never truly gone. He will be with us all in every meeting in passing just as he was when he was here with us.

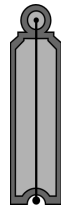
Looking forward on the remainder of the year, we will need help with our holiday parking as we always do. It is always a great time! Last year we got some fire wood and made a fire out front to stay warm. This seemed to draw attention and it is a process we should continue! We also now have a Santa suit thanks to brother Billy and it would be great to put that to use this year.

In the line currently we have several newer masons stepping up and trying their hand at chairs. This should bring a smile to all of our faces! Us older guys can't be depended on to do the work forever and we should go out of our way to encourage the younger generation to help keep our traditions alive.

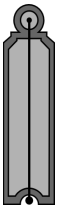
We would love to have more participation in our degrees. Even if you don't want to play a part, having you out on the sidelines would mean the world to a brother along his masonic journey!

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.

Fraternally,
Trevor Tanzillo, Senior Warden



From The South



Aristotle's philosophy places a strong emphasis on the pursuit of virtue, moral excellence, and the cultivation of a balanced and harmonious life. Similarly, Freemasonry places great importance on the development of character and virtue among its members. The Masonic teachings of brotherly love, relief, and truth align closely with Aristotle's ideals of friendship, altruism, and authenticity.

The Quest for Knowledge:

Aristotle, a proponent of empirical observation and systematic inquiry, championed the pursuit of knowledge and truth. Freemasonry, too, holds the acquisition of knowledge as a fundamental tenet. Lodges serve as centers for intellectual discourse, where members engage in discussions that promote enlightenment and understanding.

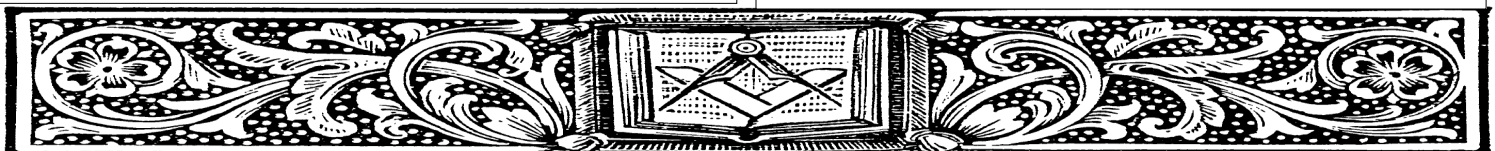
Ethical Governance:

Aristotle's political philosophy, as outlined in his work "Politics," advocates for a just and virtuous form of governance that benefits the common good. Freemasonry, while not a political organization, imparts principles of good citizenship and ethical conduct, encouraging its members to contribute positively to society. This shared emphasis on ethical leadership underscores the compatibility between Aristotle's ideals and Masonic teachings.

Symbolism and Allegory:

Both Freemasonry and Aristotle employ symbolism and allegory to convey their respective teachings. Aristotle often used metaphorical language to illustrate complex philosophical concepts, while Freemasonry employs symbols like the square, compass, and pillars to convey moral lessons and principles.

Bo Paxton, Junior Warden





From The Secretary



"History is written by the victors"

Sir Winston Churchill

Ah, November, that time of year when the trees start to turn, and the night time gets colder. That time of year when you try to decide if you want to turn off the air conditioner or not. It is also that time of year when you have to bump the hot water heater up a little and the "C" on the faucet no longer means caliente, but instead cold like the rest of the country.

It is also that time of year, since time immemorial, when the secretary announces DUES ARE NOW DUE! [Actually they are payable by December 31st]. In a perfect world it would be nice if everyone could pay by then, and you won't have to listen to me nag. I have received our 2024 dues cards and they are a beautiful slate blue in color. I have started signing them (as of writing this I am through the "Rs"). Once I do that, I will need to put the seal on them and start distributing them. The first set will go out to our Perpetual Members, Senior Life Members, and Reg 19s (relief), followed by those who have already paid their 2024 dues. For those who have paid, I thank you. I expect to mail the first batch of dues cards in mid-November.

Part of my job as secretary is building manager. The bulk of this is keeping track of the building schedule and working as the point of contact between our users and the trustees. As part of this, I make sure the users' keys work for when they have scheduled the building. We do have a couple of outside groups (HOA boards in the neighborhood) that have been long time friends of the lodge. This is part of our outreach into our local community and developing friendships with our neighbors. For some of our users we need to schedule some one from the lodge to be a keyholder—to let them in, lock up afterward, and be there if they have any issues. The other part of this is coordinating with all the folks who need to come in for our routine maintenance work and inspections. Our bugman comes in monthly, our HVAC folks come in quarterly, and then we have the annual fire alarm, sprinkler, and hood inspections. Plus we need to schedule repairs for anything else that breaks. I am working with our plumber for a couple of inside jobs.

In the past we had a "Thursday" crew that took care of some of the routine maintenance in the building—changing filters in the kitchen, replacing burnt out lights, and other routine repairs that needed to be done. I have gotten real good at replacing batteries around the lodge, all the way from the security system to the clocks, thermostats, and toilets in the bath room. By the way, we are looking at replacing the last two units in the men's room with traditional manual units instead of the automatic flushing. Parts are far cheaper. For anyone who is interested in helping help, please let either myself or WM Sam know. If we get enough folks to help out, there might even be coffee and donuts before we start work.

In closing, I really enjoy being your lodge secretary. I feel it gives me a chance to really support the lodge as well as help brothers who need help. The best of both worlds. To quote my mentor, "I love the fraternity!"

Paul A. Simpson, PM, Secretary

NOVEMBER MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DAY	YEARS
GARY RAY LARAMORE	03	52
ROBERT PERRY RODDEY	04	64
AKASH SHARAD TAGGARSE	06	24
GLENN ROGER DAY	13	32
MARK WILLIAM ALBERTSEN	17	41
EDWARD WARNICK DUNGAN	17	51
RODNEY JOE HOPPER	19	26
CLIFFORD TERRY	20	64
WILLIAM EDWIN AHEARN	22	26
JONATHAN FREDERICK BRADFORD	22	26
JERALD WAYNE HARVEY	22	26
SALIM ELIE JABBOUR	22	26
MARTIN THOMAS JONES	22	26
JOHN FRANK PROKOP	22	26
LARRY DEAN SPAULDING	22	26
PHILIP LEE SPAULDING	22	26
FREDRICK MARTIN BLATT	23	59
KENNETH CHARLES WILLIAMS	24	52
RONALD NEAL ALLEN	27	38
GREGORY STEPHAN PFISTER	30	1

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

Our Sick and Distressed Brothers

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

Rich Hall, James Moore

If you know of any brothers who are sick or in distress please let the Senior Warden or the Secretary know.

IN MEMORIAM

Leslie Carl Erdman, Jr—"Carl"
 Born 9/20/60 Raised 2/2/83 Death 10/12/23

WM 2022-2023
DDGL/DDGM



A Masonic Reflection

There was once an old Mason who hadn't attended his lodge for 20 years. One day he thought he'd go and see what's been going on with his lodge in his absence. When he arrived he found boards on the windows, and a padlock on the door with a sign saying CLOSED.

As he stood staring at this sad lonely building a younger man walked up and looked along with the old man.

The old man said; I was a member here for many years.

The young man replied; I was the secretary.

I just can't understand how this lodge could have gone dark. I bought my life membership 50 years ago. Said the old man.

To this the young man replied every member here were life members as well.

Puzzled the old man said; if everyone had life memberships, then what happened? How did it go dark?

The young man replied; no one attended the meetings or became involved.

My point is just this; It isn't enough to buy a life membership, it isn't enough to pay dues, and it isn't enough to say you're a Mason. You have to attend, get involved, and claim your benefits.

Obtained from the Masonic Enlightenment Group on Facebook



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NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DAY
MARK JOSEPH GILLILAND	2
JACK ROLAND STATLER	4
ERNEST BRUCE COOPER	7
SAMUEL CAMPBELL GREER	12
BRUCE DAMIEL PYLES	14
JON ROMAN HAHN	16
EDWIN CHARLES LEWIS	23
EARL C. STARR	23
JOSE ESTRELLA	25
STEVEN VOGEL	27
FRANCIS JOSEPH CAVANAUGH	29
CRAIG ALLEN PRINK	30

Feel free to drop these brothers a card on their earthly birthday.

EMAIL CHANGE

Brethren, please do NOT use the tl4so@hotmail.com address. A while back it was hijacked and we usually get around 150 emails a day, almost all are spam. In the near future, I will stop even looking at the account. If you would like to contact the secretary, please delete the Hotmail address from your email and use tl4so@outlook.com. Thank you!

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Art Classes: Oil-Watercolor—Drawing

William E. Wilkinson, P.L.L.C.
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SAHUARO HIGH TWELVE #523
Meets every Thursday 8:00AM
Old Times Kafe 1485 W. Prince Rd.



Some thoughts from the Grand West.

I must preface this article by relating a situation that recently occurred at my home lodge, Tucson #4. The Worshipful Master asked me in the dining room if I could do a Masonic education presentation on etiquette in lodge and one of the brothers present burst out, and rightfully so, in derisive laughter. Apparently, I am known for inappropriate behavior in lodge and upon some short reflection that is certainly true. There have been numerous occasions when my mouth was in gear but my brain was in neutral. However, proper etiquette is in fact important to me and the brother's derisive laughter caused me to do some reflection and some research. So here goes some thoughts gleaned about protocol and etiquette from an article in the Montana Freemason written by Lewis Smith, GM of Montana in 2016.

The Worshipful Master is in charge of the lodge meeting. An obvious statement but one that requires some explanation. He works his way through the agenda and will call on various brothers to present reports. The secretary has a large part in the agenda but also the treasurer and the different committee reports from the committee chairman or member. The work of the committees should not be done in lodge but beforehand with a simple report on what has been done, what needs to be done and, if necessary, any guidance needed from the WM or the lodge. Discussion can follow which is directed by the WM who controls who speaks. There is no Robert's Rules of Order in operation here – the WM is in charge. He may close discussion, refuse to recognize a brother who wishes to speak and even gavel down a brother as he deems fit.

So, when, and how does a brother speak in lodge? This is presented to all new Masons during the degrees but will be reiterated here. The brother should rise in place, give the due guard and sign of the degree on which the lodge is open, wait to be recognized by the WM, and then speak directly to the WM, not to a committee chair or secretary or any other brother. Questions for clarification are addressed to the WM who may then direct the appro-

priate brother to respond. Brothers should not rise repeatedly to speak on an issue but organize their thoughts, present their comments in a non-adversarial manner, succinctly and just once. This allows an orderly discussion, not a free-for-all of remarks back and forth between brothers.

It is inappropriate to have side conversations which are disruptive and show disrespect to the WM and the other brothers. At the opening of lodges in Arizona the Junior Warden will announce that the WM is about to open a lodge and the brothers are instructed "Of this take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly." Certainly, from that point on proper etiquette and protocol should be followed. It is also inappropriate to have a cell phone open during lodge - on silent mode, so that proper attention is given to the Worshipful Master, and during degrees to the participants.

We should all have some sympathy for the Junior Past Worshipful Master in one area. He just spent the last few years going through the chairs and learning the ritual to open and close lodge and obligate candidates for all three degrees. He knows the ritual, worked very hard to learn it and when he hears a mistake, he is often the first to blurt out a prompt, which may very well be incorrect. There should be one and only one prompter in lodge, designated by the WM, who is allowed to have the ritual book open, so that he will not give an incorrect prompt. All other ritual books should be closed – an open lodge is not the time to learn the ritual.

Who is the last to speak? The WM, or the Grand Master if present, is the last to speak before closing the lodge. Again, side conversations, comments, whispers from the sidelines detract from the solemnity of our ritual. The closing prayer reminds us of our obligations as Mason and bears repeating and listening by us all.

Leigh Creighton, Senior Grand Warden 2023-2024

TUCSON LODGE MASONIC FAMILY SCHEDULES

Arizona Chapter #2, OES, Meeting with Saguaro Chapter #48 (see below)	7:00PM
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, First Sundays.....	For info Contact Arizona.Chair@AzDeMolay.org
Bethel #25, Job's Daughters	For info Contact Laureen 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

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