



Our productivity is magnified by working in teams. Men we perceive to have achieved greatness in science, military tactics, acting and other arts – Masons like Albert Einstein, Amadeus Mozart, Booker T. Washington, Ben Franklin, George Washington, Winston Churchill, the Marquis de Lafayette, John Wayne, Red Skelton and Cecil B. Demille -- have been successful by surrounding themselves with creative, talented, trustworthy people. With teamwork we can create things an individual could never do alone. H.E. Loccuck, a theologian and Homiletics Professor (the art of preaching and writing sermons) at Yale University School of Divinity in the 1950s summed this idea up quite well when he wrote, "No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play a symphony." Similarly, no one can confer a Masonic degree by himself. Raising a new Mason requires all of us working together as a team.

Sept Sth	Stated Meeting Dinner opm
	Stated Meeting 7pm
Sept 6th	Thursday Crew 7am
Sept 8th	Fain Ranch Degree Prescott
Sept 12th	Degree or Practice 7pm
Sept 13th	Thursday Crew 7am
Sept 14th	Gaslight Theater 8:30pm
Sept 15th	Cochise County Degree Benson
Sept 16th	DeMolay Meeting 6pm
Sept 19th	Degree or Practice 7pm
Sept 20th	Thursday Crew 7am
Sept 23rd	Dbacks Game 10am Phoenix
Sept 26th	Degree or Practice 7pm
Sept 27th	Thursday Crew 7am
Sept 29th	Deadwood 1130 am @Laverna's

One of the many traits Masons can learn in their lodge to become a better man is how to master working as part of a team. Making our own goals secondary to that of the team can pay off well in the end of grand efforts. Think about what we do as a team to confer any degree. Here are five reasons to internalize working with others as a team as one of your core Masonic values.

- **Efficiency**. When individuals can do separate project pieces in isolation and then wiggle those pieces together at the end, the process can be more efficient (and effective) throughout the process. Many tasks do not have clear outlines, so when people work separately, significant overlap and duplication may occur. On a team where the members regularly inform each other of their progress, you can more easily assign the degree parts.
- **Take advantage of multiple skill sets**. Even in specialized fields, constant evolution of knowledge and information increases make it impossible to know everything about any field. It would take a lot longer to complete a project if one person was required to know everything necessary to accomplish it. Instead, you put together subject matter experts on different aspects of the degree and then it all comes together.
- **Faster!** As the old saying goes, many hands make light work. This assumes you, as leader, make your desire for speed known and divide up the work in a manner appropriate to the team structure. If you tried to learn and speak all the degree parts by yourself, it could take many more hours over what someone else could do by sharing those parts.
- **Teamwork promotes friendly pressure to get things done on time**. Deadlines motivate individual team members to work harder and invest greater amounts of their discretionary effort, thus buttressing and accelerating the process. In general, people don't want to let others down. Brothers tend to learn their lines on time to get the job done.
- Productivity depends on the team. When one team member is sick or on vacation, another cross-trained team member can pick up the slack and still get the work done on time. If only one person is working on a degree part and holds the keys to the kingdom, it suffers until they return Continued on pg 2

"From the East" continued...

—--and may even die in their absence. We can all learn a degree part we like and sometimes mentoring an understudy or two or three makes the load easier for all of us to carry and helps to ensure new Masons can be born.



The smartest animals we know on the planet — great apes, elephants, wolves, dolphins, and crows — tend to live together in cooperative groups. So, encourage and take advantage of our human tendency to work together for the good of all, even if you might prefer your solitude. It is basic human nature, and working in unity as a team may be easier to strengthen than you think. -Fraternally

William Wilkinson, Worshipful Master





From The West



The summer break is over. We call it the Lodge being dark.

This summer was everything else but dark. Looking back, we had a lot of activities planned and had a variety of meetings. There were the degree practices to keep us in shape. We had potluck dinners, movie nights, official visits from other Lodges and a very good third degree.

Now that the second half of this year is on its way, we can look forward to a good Lodge time.

There are quite a few degrees coming up and the fall calendar is filled with great activities.

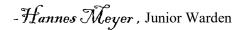
When I am looking back over the first half of the year I wish we had better attendance for some of the meeting nights. We learn in the first degree that the Lodge is not really the building, but the brothers that meet within. The Lodge works as well as brothers are participating. I would like to encourage all of us to attend, particularly the ones that have stayed away for a while.

There are different reasons to attend. The Stated Meeting is important to attend, as we get informed about what is going on, but also that we take part in the decision process for the future of the Lodge. The practice nights are important, as we improve our skills so that we can put on good degree work. But one of the most important events we should attend is the degree night. The candidate that is about to receive the degree expects to be welcomed into our fraternity. If the sidelines are empty, then we missed a great opportunity to support a new member.

From past experience I can say that it is much more meaningful to be in Lodge, if we are actively taking part. I encourage you to come, attend the practices and learn a part. It is much more fulfilling if we are taking part than just sitting on the side line.

For those who unsure to come back after a longer break because they don't quite remember how it works, we have a "rusty trowel" meeting planned. In it we will refresh your memory and go over the meetings so that you are well prepared.

Our Lodge will be as active as we put ourselves into it. So please come and join us. Let's grow the Lodge again.





A while back in the early afternoon prior to one of the lodge's stated meetings and after spending the morning doing the shopping, I arrived to start preparing the evening's meal. While lugging in the groceries, I noticed a fast food cup and lid in the middle of the parking lot. I did not pick it up and throw it away as I had groceries to haul, and a meal to prepare. The meal as usual was well received by all, as was the stated meeting. After a long day and staying at the lodge long enough to do final clean-up, I was the last to leave. I grabbed the dirty linens for taking home to wash, turned out the lights, locked the building, and lugging the bag of laundry, I walked across the parking lot to my truck. There in the middle of the parking lot still sat that fast food cup and lid. As I bent over to pick it up to toss into the trash, I wondered, "Where are my brothers?"

Recently, the lodge hosted a fun evening event. It was well received by not only Tucson lodge #4 members but also by other lodges. The lodge provided for the event a light meal and snacks. Following the event, three of us Tucson #4 Masons and the Worshipful Master stuck around to clean the kitchen. All other brothers from the lodge, attending that night, said their goodnights, walked off and went home. It took over an hour and a half for the four of us to finally get the kitchen cleaned and food put away. We locked the building and while walking to our vehicles, we all wondered, "Where are our Brothers?"

I love this fraternity and feel that belonging is inspiring and satisfying, but in this aspect I am disappointed that too few brothers support these many activities while the others take advantage of and credit for the efforts of these few and do not Masonicly go out of their way to help a fellow brother. How many of us stepped over that cup in the parking lot and ignored it. How many of us have walked by a brother or brother's working hard either for the lodge or outside of it and asked, "Brother, do you need a helping hand?"

Our strength and pride of being a fraternity of Masons is looking within ourselves and being observant of the struggles of our fellow man and to go out of our way to lend a helping hand. As a Mason we should never have the thought of, "Oh well, someone else will take care of it." This is our lodge, our community, and our brothers. A little supportive effort by each of us is what brings us together and makes us stronger as a fraternity.

I am very pleased and honored to acknowledge those who have helped and continue to support this lodge with the Stated Meeting and Saturday Fellowship breakfasts meal preparation and clean-up. Especially, at this time, Joyce Meyer and daughters Mazy and Kelly who were responsible for the delicious Prime Rib dinner for the June Stated Meeting meal. Also, though I was not involved this time due to being on vacation and out of town, I heard that the August Fellowship Breakfast was a great success. Thanks to Most Worshipful Brother Robert Conrad, Brother Gene Wickey, Brother Guy Hummond, Brother Mike Johnson, Col. Jim Latham and Laurie Davis for their fine effort and commitment. Also, a special thank-you to Worshipful Brother Will Wilkinson and Brothers Jan Halvax and Rafael Leidy who are my good friends and always go out of their way to support me with my Jr. Warden responsibilities to the lodge.

September Stated Meeting meal will be Red Beans and Rice and Cornbread, courtesy of Worshipful Master Will Wilkinson and his wife Laurie. Come join us for our Tucson #4's usual good food and fellowship.

Richard Vaughn

Junior Warden and Mason of the Year, 2018

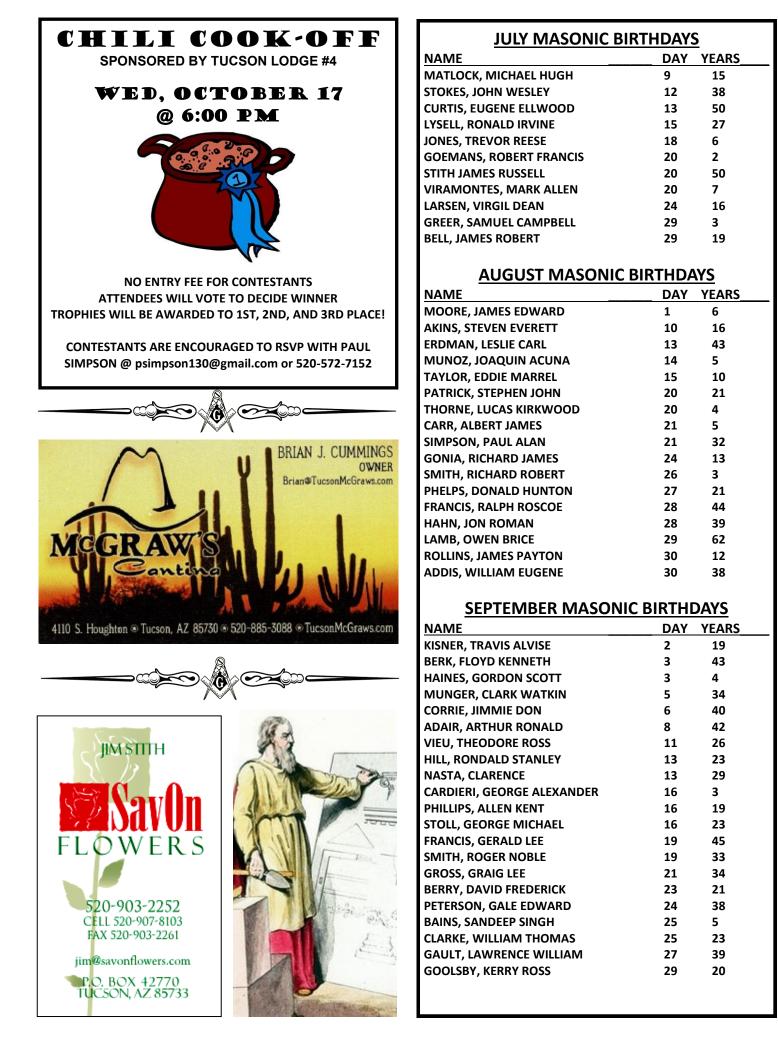


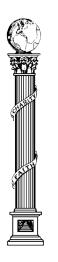
DEADWOOD LUNCH

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.





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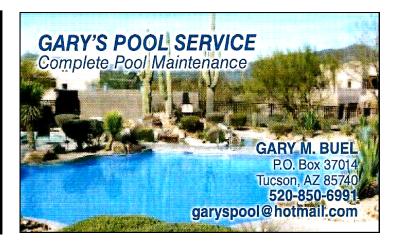
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TUCSON LODGE MASONIC FAMILY SCHEDULES

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

For use of the Lodge Building call 520-370-3519 or send an email to VMSANTOS@comcast.net

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