

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

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## From The East





All of us in the Fraternity have taken obligations; no matter what degree you are currently on, we all have given our word that we will circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds toward all mankind, especially our brethren in Freemasonry. We gave that oath to the Supreme Architect of the Universe and to our brothers of the lodge.

### **APRIL 2022 Calendar**

Sat 2nd	Fellowship Breakfast	7:30 am	
Mon 4th	Marion McDaniel	7:30 pm	
	Lodge 56 visit		
Wed 6th	Dinner	6:00 pm	
	Stated meeting	7:00 pm	
Wed 13th	Masonic AZ Hold 'Em	7:00 pm	
	Tournament (EA Degree)		
Thurs 14th	Trustee meeting	7:00pm	
Wed 20th	Degree or Practice	7:00 pm	
Wed 27th	Degree or Practice	7:00 pm	
Sat 30th	Ladies and Widows	1:00 pm	
	Appreciation Lunch		

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.

We have been pretty busy since January. You could even go back into December when we were doing the parking. Visitations, the George Washington Degree, the Table Lodge. Plenty more things in there. We have been also busy getting the "boxes checked" for the Master Architect Award. With this Trestleboard, I may be off one, but, I think we'll have all the ones we need. Whew! In June, we will begin it all again after Grand Lodge Communication.

Have January, February and March been busy enough for you? Want more? Well, things will begin to slow down a bit. We have some events to do in the coming months. Much of the past months has been fun, although a lot of work for a few. Coming up, I'm hoping not so much work for those few, but a bit of fun for all of us. Some know this and others may not. I had never been to a Table Lodge before the one we had in March. I think it went very well. Thank you to WB Jon Schmidt, WB Leigh Creighton, WB Hannes Meyer and WB Marty Jones for making it happen as well as it turned out!

Fraternally,

Garl Erdman. P.M.

Worshipful Master Tucson Lodge # 4 2022



## From The West



### Pros and cons of a Fraternity

Fraternity: "A group of men gathered together for like interests or a like profession". As Masons, we are well acquainted with our "like" interests. Webster lists the effects or advantages which may result from belonging to a fraternity: Social Identity; Cultivating Leadership Skills; Improving your emotional IQ; A Sense of Belonging; A Sense of Pride and Philanthropy to name a few.

There are also disadvantages associated with belonging to a Fraternity. First, you may be targeted or stereotyped by persons or organizations having a perception of the Fraternity usually not associated with facts. Second, being active in a Fraternity can be a major time commitment. Third, in any small group working closely with one another, there is always the possibility of personality conflicts. Fourth, members may sometimes feel stuck in a routine.

Through the centuries, Masons have been portrayed as a secret society practicing a variety of loathsome rituals. One way to counteract these misconceptions is to shine more light on Freemasonry's involvement in the community.

Being active in the Fraternity is indeed time consuming. The physical, fiscal and administrative requirements of operating the Lodge Building and coordinating the talent, ambitions and personalities of the Lodge members can be exhausting, and the more involved (e.g. being an officer in the Lodge) you become, the more time consuming it becomes. On a positive note, according to Dale Carnegie, "if you love what you are doing, it is not work".

Human nature, being... well... human, we may not always be able to eliminate conflicts between certain personalities, but as Masons we are always striving to improve ourselves and subdue our passions.

Routine makes some individuals feel comfortable, oth-

APRIL MASONIC E	APRIL MASONIC BIRTHDAYS				
NAME	DAY '	YEARS			
RANDALL RAY WARD	1	40			
CHARLES EDWARD ARMIJO JR	3	37			
WALTER MARLIN ROBB	5	57			
EDWARD JOHN GARRETT	5	51			
WILLIAM EDWARD WILKINSON	7	47			
JOHN HENRY GARCIA	10	3			
JON MCCARTY SCHMIDT	14	12			
FRANK ELLIS TEICHMAN JR	15	44			
FREDERICK WILLIAM BASS	15	30			
DAVID WAYNE REID	18	37			
RICHARD COLLIN RASBERRY	18	24			
JOHN BABAUTA PANGELINAN	18	10			
DAVID GRANT LURTSEMA	19	5			
WILLIAM RAY WHITE	20	57			
RUSSELL WAYNE DOTY	20	28			
ROBERT WILLIAM HESLIP	22	47			
CHARLES BRUCE RAYMOND	22	13			
LEIGH JARVIS CREIGHTON	23	31			
JOHN RANDALL DIGHTON	24	29			
LOGAN WILLIAM GAITHER	25	13			
WILLIAM HAROLD ROSIER	26	33			
ERIC DONOVAN MADDEN	27	6			
DENNIS LEE CORNELL	28	50			
WILLIAM RAYMOND HILL	28	12			
GAYLORD ANTHONY STUBBE	29	24			

ers may feel frustrated, bored or dis-interested. Call it pageantry, ritual or ceremonial procedure, Masonry is rife with routine. Still, we know what to expect, when to expect it, and it allows us opportunities to improve our memory and our desire for knowledge.

So, are these really "disadvantages", or incredible opportunities to shine the Light of Freemasonry on the world, improve our Time Management skills, become better at seeing other people's perspectives and accept routine where it is appropriate and be a free spirit in other less structured areas of life.

Exploring these "opportunities" is a place to start, and along our exploration route we may find that our Leadership Skills, Emotional IQ, Sense of Pride and Social Identity have improved. And isn't "improving ourselves in Masonry" why we are here in the first place.

Fraternally,

Sam Greer, Senior Warden



## From The South



It has been extremely busy since January. In my personal life, my professional life and so far in my Masonic life. I'm not complaining. I signed up for it. I ran for the office and understand that I, like the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden, as well as the Treasurer and Secretary, serve the lodge. This is what we do for you. Not for us, for you!

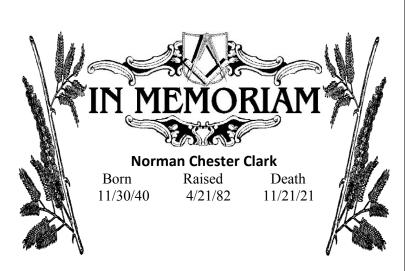
What I would like to talk about is the Stewards! I wonder if anyone sees what they do for the meals? Are they noticed all the time? Does anyone see how hard they work? They put in a lot of time and they also have a life, a job and a family. They are tasked to be at every refreshment and they can't always, each one, be there. They do what they can and work hard!

Would you do me a small favor? Next time you see Josh Stewart or Kirk Klosowksy thank them for all they do! That will make my day when I hear it. It may just make theirs too!

Fraternally,

**7revor 7auzillo**, Junior Warden









# From The Editor's Vault

### The Master Mason and Relief

Uncle George, The Master Mason from Standing Pine, Louisiana, was introduced in the May 2020 issue. Here is the third and final contribution based on his diaries

When Uncle George was Senior Warden in his lodge he was asked by the Worshipful Master to give a presentation on the subject of 'Relief'. Relief is the third tenet of Freemasonry, after 'Brotherly Love' and 'Truth'. Uncle George gladly accepted, because he very much enjoyed thinking about the philosophy behind Masonry, and doing research. So the next day he sat down to prepare his presentation. The obvious thing that came to his mind was the annual contribution his lodge paid to the County's Relief program. For 5 consecutive years their lodge had collected more money for the program than any other lodge in the county, and they were sure proud of it. So Uncle George wrote a nice piece about their good work, mentioning the many good causes their money had helped accomplish. When he was done he reread his effort, only to be disappointed. It sounded too much like boasting, showing off Masonry's good intentions to the world, as if Masons are better men than non-masons. That certainly had not been his intent. If you truly practice charity, you do never openly talk about it, let alone brag about it.

So Uncle George had to pick another example, and thought about the many different ways a person can experience relief. He remembered when Michael, one of the brothers from his lodge, was told that his son had been involved in a terrible car accident and was transported by helicopter to the nearest-by hospital. The look of pain and despair in Michael's eyes is something he will never forget. Neither the sign of utter relief in those same eyes, when he was told over the telephone that his son was alive, and would not suffer any major consequences. That had been relief for sure, but not really Masonic. Meaning there was no human effort behind the relief, nor a lesson to be learned; it was basically a gift of God. In the same vein the relief one might feel when their dentist 'relieves' them of a sickening toothache did not qualify as the subject for his presentation. Not a gift of God exactly, but no philosophical lesson behind it either. Passing a difficult exam, hearing a 'not-guilty' verdict, or winning a bet you could not have afforded to lose are all reliefs, but in essence, from a Masonic point of view, hollow.

Then he saw her eyes. The eyes he had loved so much, many years ago. They had both fallen in love with each other the moment they met. It was the last year of high school, and she had moved into their little town recently. Uncle George, never a ladies man, had not invited any

Continued on page 4

### Relief continued

one to accompany him to the prom. He did go, however, as his parents wanted him to be more social and basically put pressure on him to attend. Boy was he glad that they did. Walking around while everyone else was dancing he literally bumped into her and saw those eyes. He apologized for running into her (with a voice remarkably controlled) and asked her to dance. They did. All night. And they kept seeing each other and made promises to get married after school, as soon as possible. Those were beautiful days. Was that sunny feeling, that bright happiness, that wonderful glow that now shined all over the world not a relief from the days before? When everything was normal? Even mowing the lawn was now a wonderfully happy experience! Yes, those were happy days.

So school days passed and both went to colleges in different towns. And both returned to Standing Pine after a few years during which they had mostly stayed in touch by mail. How nice it was to embrace each other again, to be able to look into her eyes and smell her hair. He proposed to her







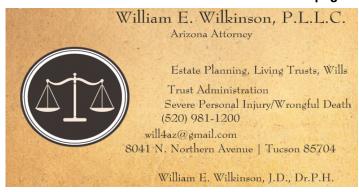
and she accepted.

Uncle George by that time had bought a little house (with a substantial mortgage) and, living in the traditionally flavored society of Standing Pine, they decided to get married before she would move in with him. They agreed to set the wedding in the spring next year, six months from now. During that time they saw each other as much as was decently possible. They went to Jonesboro regularly, checking out furniture and other items they would need to buy when she moved in, to maybe start a family, even.

Three months went by and the day of the wedding approached. Uncle George had heard from relatives and friends that traditionally the bride-to-be was responsible for organizing the event. But no invitations had been sent out, no plans were made regarding lodging of guests, nor was the denomination decided on. He was not sure if he was making the wrong assumption, because why on earth would it be the bride's sole responsibility to arrange the wedding? But it worried him more and more and a feeling of darkness slowly crept into his mind, forcing him to dig deep into his Masonic 'tool bag'. What would a Mason do, he wondered. He then realized this had nothing to do with Masonry, this was real life, and he should treat it accordingly. So he invited her over for dinner and afterwards he looked her in the eyes and asked her if she still wanted to marry him. She hesitated just too long to make her answer valueless. The pain Uncle George felt was raw and harsh. But then he knew, from afar, that Masonic knowledge was part of real life, and that he had promised to himself and the world around him that he would always cherish all mankind. And he saw the sadness in her eyes. He knew: she had fallen out of love, but wanted to keep her promises to him. So he relieved her from her promises and set her free. The relief he saw in her eyes hurt him more than knowing they were separated. But he also knew that life had taught him a lesson.

Uncle George stared at the paper with his presentation about his lodge's contributions to the County's Relief program. It was then that for the first time he felt at peace with

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SAHUARO HIGH TWELVE #523 Meets every Thursday 8:00AM Old Times Kafe 1485 W. Prince Rd.





## From The Secretary



Over the years, I have learned a lot about the craft. Freemasonry teaches us about life and how to improve ourselves. My perceptions on the teachings have changed as I have gotten older and wiser (not sure about that last part). Over the years as secretary, I have found I am always learning, and developing new life skills. The latest of these is how to change the batteries and diaphragms in the lodge toilets. We laugh at this, but we need some help. We have a small group that does some of the routine maintenance work around the lodge. Most of us are older and don't do ladders well. We have several lights that are both inside and outside of the lodge and we need help in changing them. If you can help, please let me know.

We delayed last month's vote on the by-laws for a couple of reasons. We evidently did not get the memo that submissions had to be in by March 1st considered at this year's to be Communication. The first time anyone knew about it was when the deadline was announced on the deadline. With the delay, we decided to go back and reconsider our changes to see if we could simplify some of the wording and get away from "by-lawsese" if you know what I mean. We will restart the process once again after the Annual Communication.

I am finding a lot of mail is coming back to us as either undeliverable or forwarding order expired. This makes it difficult to send out dues cards, notices, masonic birthday cards, and so forth. So please, if you move or your information changes, please let me know. Also, if you have not activated your Grand View account, please do so. If you need instructions, let me know and I will send them to you. Right now, only about 25% of our members have activated their accounts.

Last month I sent out second notices to those who have yet to pay their 2022 dues. We have about 30 members who have yet to pay. While this is a little better than other years, dues were due last December. If you need help with your dues, please let either the Worshipful Master or me know.

See you in lodge!

Paul

Paul A. Simpson, PM



### Relief continued

That horrible decision he made those years ago, to set her free. It had been the right thing to do, and finally he was relieved from the feelings of regret that would creep up occasionally.

Maybe relief is a gift of God after all? Satisfied he went to bed, thinking about what he would write his presentation about. Something would come to him, he knew, as he was given the gift of relief. —-



### **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.

### 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 and Third Sundays	6:00PM
Bethel #25, Job's Daughters	For info Contact Dawn at bethel25azjdi@gmail.com
Assembly #2, Rainbow GirlsFor	info Contact Paul Simpson at psimpson130@gmail.com

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

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