



TUCSON LODGE #4 F. & A. M.



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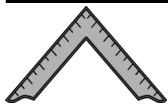
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From The East



Brotherhood and Civility

First, some definitions.

Civil: Courteous and polite. Does not necessarily mean “friendly”, but at least courteous and polite. Civil individuals can conduct Masonic business “without disagreement or rivalry”.

Civilization: The process of civilizing; an advanced society.

Obligation: Signifies promises and agreements made; a contract

Oath: A vow to carry out the agreements of the obligation. **Promise:** A promise and an Oath is the same thing.

Every Mason came to Masonry of his own free will and accord. We all promised and swore that we were taking on these obligations without doubts, without ulterior motives and were being absolutely honest in our desire to adhere to our sworn obligations. We promised to carry out our obligations before our brother Masons and to God, and while our brother Masons may not know when a man is being deceptive, I’m pretty sure that God knows. We came to Masonry **not** to become richer men, more famous men, not better than other men, not even more revered men, just “Better Men”! If you came to Masonry to become richer, more respected, or more powerful, you are in the wrong place!

We **promised** to carry out the agreements of our obligations. In many philosophical discussions, the ability to keep one’s promises is the definition of goodness and virtue. If every Mason strictly adhered to their obligations, the Fraternity would be the envy of every segment of society.

Our obligations have essentially not changed since 1717, and yet even back then, Masons were aware of the fact that not all Masons were capable of keeping their promises. There are men who come to Masonry with ulterior motives, and human nature has not significantly evolved in the last 3,000 years. Why else would one of our obligations deal with not discussing Masonry with a former Mason who is no longer in the Fraternity.

As Masons, we belong to the Fraternity of Freemasonry, and call each other “Brother”. As Masons we are called on to be polite and civil. As Masons, we may discover shared values with other Masons that will result in lifelong friendships.

As humans, there are cultural, societal and personal differences that can prevent us from ever being “friends” with all of our brother Masons. That may be unfortunate, but it is a fact of life. We can however, be civil.

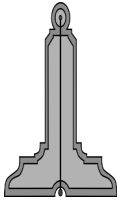
What is important is that all **worthy** Brothers work together in a civil manner for the good of Masonry in general and display to their Lodge and the World that we are good Men working to uphold our tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Sam Greer, WM

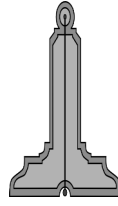
May 2023 Calendar

Wed 3rd	Dinner	6:00 pm
	Stated Meeting	7:00 pm
Sat 6th	Bethel 25 Breakfast	8-10 am
Wed 10th	Master Mason Degree	6:30 pm
Wed 17th	Master Mason Degree	6:30 pm
Wed 24th	Entered Apprentice Degree	7:00 pm
Wed 31st	Dark (Night Before Grand Lodge)	

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.



From The West



“Focusing on the quality of members, not the quantity, is the answer to Freemasonry’s membership problem.” -Justin Jones

I was asked a while back what I thought the solution was to the declining membership in Freemasonry. “Should we begin using social media more? Do we make it easier to join?” My answer was plainly no. I do not see our numbers as a problem. When any group seeks to increase its numbers, they are always led to a path miles away from where they wanted to be. Not every man is meant to sit among us. Every man has some good within him, but we are not in the business of making okay men good. Our goal is to fill the lodge with good men. Why dilute our lodges with decent men in an attempt to increase our numbers? This thought process is counterproductive regarding our ultimate goal. Our focus should be on nurturing the members we have and ensuring that those that do knock on our door seeking entry are truly worthy.

Historically speaking, the operative masons were very careful about who they taught their trades to. The reason being that when the master took on an apprentice, the apprentice was taught a trade that would free him from the shackles or servitude in ways the apprentice could never imagine. The price for this was the actions of the apprentice, either positive or negative, reflected upon the master.

I think we can all agree this principle applies equally today. Every man that enters our fraternity becomes a reflection of every single one of us. That being said I urge every brother to pop in on the discussion group and get to know the men who are on the verge of petitioning. Get to know them firsthand so that when you cast your vote, you know for certain the type of men that will continue to carry our fraternity into the future.

Trevor Tanzillo, Senior Warden

BETHEL 25 BREAKFAST!

Bring family and friends to our Pancake Breakfast on

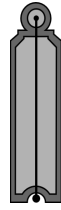
Saturday May 6th 8—10 am

Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, coffee or tea.

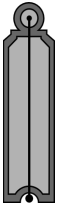
Support the Bethel in their fundraiser

Questions or reservations to

bethel25azjdi@gmail.com



From The South



The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is located in Alexandria, Virginia. It stands tall for motorists to see off Interstate 95 and was inspired by the lighthouse in Alexandria, Egypt. The lighthouse of Alexandria, Egypt was considered one of the seven Wonders of the World. The Memorial’s entrance was inspired by the Parthenon and the three sections of the tower ascend in complexity. The bottom section is Doric, the middle Ionic, and the top is Corinthian. At the top is a pyramid and surmounted by a stylized finial, which symbolizes Light. It was constructed as a beacon that will spread the Light of Freemasonry and the legacy of Washington to all humanity according to [Architecture - GWMNMA \(gwmemorial.org\)](http://Architecture - GWMNMA (gwmemorial.org)).

The grounds surrounding the Memorial was designed by the same group of individuals led by Frederick Law Olmstead. who designed the grounds of the United States Capital in Washington, DC, New York Central Park, the Biltmore Estate in North Carolina and the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago, The United States government’s official list of National Historic Landmarks and National Register of History Places added the Memorial in 2015, on August 4, which was the 262nd anniversary of Washington’s raising as a Master Mason in Fredericksburg in 1753. The Freemasons of the United States have conceived, funded, built, and maintained the memorial through private donations and continues to be supported in the same manner to this day.

Over nine months, Brother Washington received his Masonic degrees, and was initiated an Entered Apprentice on November 4, 1752, and continued and passed to Fellow Craft on March 3, 1753, and finally raised to a Master Mason on August 4, 1753. The Memorial’s groundbreaking ceremony was held on June 5, 1922 and was built with donation money only. There was no money borrowed. November 1, 1923, the Memorial’s cornerstone was dedicated in a Masonic ceremony with President Calvin Coolidge performing the ceremony before a large crowd of Freemason’s from around the nation.

This shows the strength of our Fraternity and that even during hard times, we continue to strive.

Bo Paxton, Junior Warden

Editor’s Note—Tucson 4 has been a member of the Society of Washington Lodges since December of 2021. We are in good company with the 11 other Arizona lodges who are members of this society.



GRAND LODGE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

June 1-3

The Grand Lodge Annual Communication will be held at the Wild Horse Pass Resort and Casino in Chandler. Most of the business will be handled on June 2nd and 3rd. Deadline line for room reservations is May 5th and deadline for meals and the ladies luncheon if May 15th. More information can be found here:
<https://www.azmasons.org/annual-communication>

Grand Care

MW Jim Baker

The Grand Lodge of Arizona has a new charity, Grand Care, also known as GCARE. This charity is one of my top priorities during my time as Grand Master.

GCARE allows Masons to Serve Masons financially, for serious, long-term health problems. GCARE is a non-profit Arizona corporation owned by Masons and used to serve Masons, Masonic families, and others.

We need to service at least 200 unique applications so GCARE can apply to receive Arizona State Tax Credit donations. This will enable you, and me, not the legislature, to decide how some of your tax dollars are directed for use to state residents. GCARE is already IRS approved and accepting federal tax-deductible funding to the Grand Care IRS 501(C)(3) now, and in the future.

I expect will have questions about GCARE. I, and your Grand Lodge of Arizona progressive line officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, and District Deputy Grand Lecturers, have all been well trained, under the direction of our Deputy Grand Master, RW George Rusk, to present GCARE information to you, and to answer your questions. Please ask them about this innovative Grand Lodge charity when you have the next opportunity to talk to them, or whenever they visit your lodge. You can also contact MWB Greg Vasquez (Grand Secretary), azgnd_sec@azmasons.org, or WB Paul Simpson, GCARE Secretary, secretary.azgcare@gmail.com.

MAY MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DAY	YEARS
MICHAEL EUGENE NORVELLE	3	7
LYLE STANLEY WILCOX	7	43
ARIF EMRE ERKOCA	10	19
ELMER IVAN ACUNA	13	8
BRUCE DANIEL PYLES	16	11
LUIS IGNACIO AGUIRRE, JR	18	12
BRUCE EDWARD FULTZ	18	19
JERRY LEE BECK	20	59
ANDREW JOSEPH GUZMAN	10	8
DESMOND LEWIS HOOEY	20	60
JOHN EDWARD THOMPSON	22	38
PETER GOLDEN WILLIAMSON	23	63
JOHN PHILLIPS MATTHEWS	26	61
DONALD ALLEN KOLBE	27	58
ROBERT LEE RIBBECK	27	8
RANDY PAUL PRINTZ	29	32
NICHOLAS JOHN POSUNIAK	30	8

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

Please visit the GCARE website soon at <https://azgcare.org> for information on filing for a copay reimbursement (up to \$100) if you have a chronic medical condition for care, or prescriptions..

(This is a reprint, with minor edits, of our MW Grand Master's letter to the craft on November 1, 2022)

Editor's note: Tucson 4 is well represented in regard to Grand Care. We have two members on the Board of Directors—WB William Wilkinson (President) and WB Paul Simpson (Secretary). WB Carl Erdman also serves on the committee that reviews applications for completeness.

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.

Earl Joseph Shambo, Sam Greer, Ron Hill, Leigh Creighton

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



THE CHARACTER OF A FREEMASON

From The Farmer's Almanack, ed. Robert B. Thomas
(Boston: J.H.A. Frost, 1823).

The Old Farmer's Almanac is North America's most popular reference guide and oldest continuously published periodical. Its history is as rich and diverse as the Almanac itself.

"The real Freemason is distinguished from the rest of Mankind by the uniform unrestrained rectitude of his conduct. Other men are honest in fear of punishment which the law might inflict; they are religious in expectation of being rewarded, or in dread of the devil, in the next world. A Freemason would be just if there were no laws, human or divine, except those written in his heart by the finger of his Creator. In every climate, under every system of religion, he is the same. He kneels before the Universal Throne of God in gratitude for the blessing he has received and humble solicitation for his future protection. He venerates the good men of all religions. He disturbs not the religion of others. He restrains his passions, because they cannot be indulged without injuring his neighbor or himself. He gives no offense, because he does not choose to be offended. He contracts no debts which he is certain he cannot discharge, because he is honest upon principle."

To give credit, where credit is due, this was posted on the Proud to be a Freemason page on Facebook and it was also a repost from the Freemason Network.



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COOKING AN ELEPHANT

(Dedicated to Junior Wardens Everywhere)

Although cooking of endangered species is not recommended, the following is an excellent recipe for Elephant Stew.

Ingredients: One Elephant, brown gravy, salt and pepper to taste, two rabbits (Optional).

Directions: First, find an elephant. Cut elephant into bite size pieces. Be sure to allow adequate time. In a very large pot, cover the pieces with brown gravy and simmer. Cook over an open fire for four weeks at 425 degrees. This will serve about 3500 people. If more guests are expected, the two rabbits may be added, but do this only if necessary as most people dislike finding a hare in their stew.

Rimshot—I'll be here all week. Please take care of your wait staff

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Art Classes: Oil-Watercolor—Drawing

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



Estate Planning, Living Trusts, Wills

Trust Administration

Severe Personal Injury/Wrongful Death

(520) 981-1200

will4az@gmail.com

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

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





From The Secretary



As your WM, and Wardens will attest, it isn't easy coming up with material for each month's trestle board and it is even harder when you are the content editor. As some of you may know, my wife Catheryn does the layout and text entry and I handle the content. Being the native New Englander I am, I have a tendency to save stuff, both physical and electronic. While looking through my files I came across the article WB Ron Hill, our treasurer, wrote when he was WM back in May 2000 trestle board about Memorial Day.

How much do you know about Memorial Day? To some, it is just another holiday and a day off from work or school. To others, it has a much more profound meaning. Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nations service. It was first officially observed on May 30th, 1868 when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. It has since been changed to honor all Americans who have died in any war. In 1968 Congress passed a bill ensuring a three-day weekend for Federal holidays. Make sure you take a moment to honor those who have given everything in the service of our great country.

Your secretary wears many hats—traditional lodge secretary, content editor, and building manager to name a few. To clear some misconceptions in the WM weekly email (which the secretary is the one who puts it together after conferring with the WM) we made a mention of improving the security of the area around the lodge. With the lodge located in the city limits, we do have some challenges with some of our local homeless folks. We have several regulars who do stop by and charge their phones using one of our outside outlets. We have chatted with several of these folks and they are very considerate of us and we of them. They charge their phones and move on. Unfortunately not everyone is like them. With that in mind, the trustees are looking at enclosing the vestibule

area in the front of the lodge. This will provide greater security for the building and reduce the chances of damage to our plate glass windows. We do have a good relationship with our permanent neighbors and we try to look out for each other.

The other step we are taking is to improve the lighting around the outside of the lodge. This is especially for some of our appendant bodies that meet at the lodge. We have several lights on the building that are out. As the bulbs are no longer made, we had a challenge finding replacements. One call to an on-line retailer found a relatively inexpensive replacement the bulb we were looking for. The bulbs have been ordered and we will be replacing them in the near future.

In regard to a dues update—we have about 20 brothers who have yet to pay their 2023 dues. I will be sending out third notices in May and if their dues still aren't paid, I will be sending out the "Danger of Suspension" notices in July. If you need help, please ask. All requests will be kept in strictest confidence. We do have fund to pay the dues of brothers who need help.

See you in lodge!

Paul A. Simpson, PM, Secretary



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 Sundays.....	For info Contact Arizona.Chair@AzDeMolay.org 6:00PM
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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