



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

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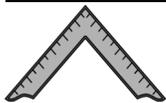
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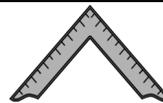
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## From The East



### Making Good Men...Better Men!

What defines the qualities of a good man? And if you are presently a good man, have you always been a good man? Given the rashness of youth, and man's innate ability to make bad decisions, I would propose that no Mason has always been the very best version of them-selves. At some point in our lives, indiscretions and lapses in judgment have quite probably led to infractions in character resulting in behavior that range from seriously wrong to

merely irritating. Does this mean that we cannot correct our behavior and rise above certain past version of ourselves? Absolutely not! Intelligent men learn from their mistakes, make adjustments and become "Good Men". Good men should be judged by their current character and behavior rather than remote singular incidents in their past.

What leads a good man to become interested in Masonry? You don't need to be a Mason to become a "Better Man", but being in the company of like-minded individuals helps to hasten the process. Lodges are composed of men who value Truth, seek to aid our fellow man (emotionally, psychologically, financially and physically), worship a Supreme Being, are upright in all our dealings, practice self control and are Patriotic. Where did you discover the desire to be a better man and become a Mason. The answer is "in your heart". The desire/need to serve our fellow man is already inside every man who seeks to become a Mason. Each Master Mason started his journey within his own conscience.

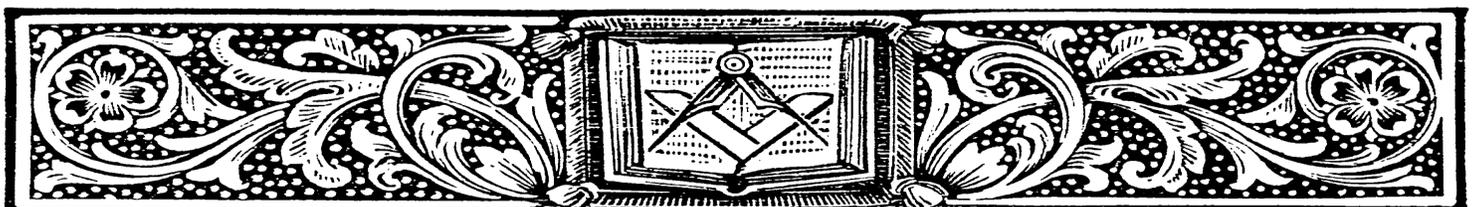
Not everyone desires to become a Mason, not everyone is capable of adhering to the Tenets of Masonry, but there are individuals who have made the transition from a few questionable past decisions to being a "Good Man" and now seeks to become a "Better Man". Can anyone in the Lodge absolutely state that they have never erred (even slightly), if so, I jokingly propose we designate a new position for that individual titled, "Judge Supreme". To quote John 8:7, "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone".

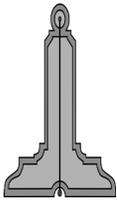
*Sam Greer, WM*

## September Calendar

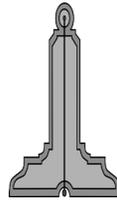
Mon Sep 4	Reservations for dinner due Noon	
Wed Sep 6	Stated Meeting Dinner	6:00 pm
	Stated Meeting	7:00 pm
	Official Visit of SGW	
Wed Sep 13	EA Practice	7:00 pm
Wed Sep 20-	Officer Proficiency	7:00 pm
Wed Sep 27	EA Degree	7:00 pm
Wed Oct 4th	Stated Meeting	

*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



“Faber est suae quisque fortunae”

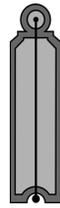
-Latin Quote

Hello from the West! Every man is the architect of his own fate. This is related to the concept of the Rota Fortunae or wheel of fortune. This concept is deeper than I have room to delve in to here but there is a portion I would like to touch on. Often the wheel of fortune is depicted as a man in different stages of life. On the bottom he is down trodden and as he moves around the wheel he is gradually shown as a king. The image continues as he begins to descend the other side of the wheel culminating in him being down at the bottom again. The image can be read repeatedly the same way. Why? This is a metaphor for life. A wise man once told me “every human being is dealing traumas you may never know”. I will carry this forward a bit more and say that everyone we met is either coming out of the bottom of that wheel or headed to it. Everyone is either coming out of a horrible time or heading in to one. This can be reversed as well. If we take any of the above as truth then we must realize that every human being we encounter deserves our understanding and love as we never know how their position on that wheel. Our job as masons is to keep that in mind with all people. It’s easier said than done but if we step back and observe the pattern our individual lives have taken I think its safe to assume all would agree.

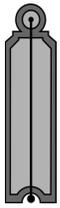
I myself have recently found myself at the bottom of that wheel and while it feels as though I may be working my way back up it, I’m not completely there yet. For these reasons I will say this, I appreciate your patients while I was descending and I hope that I can anticipate the same support as I begin ascending once again. It is my hope that we can offer that same love and grace to all once we realize this important truth. “Sometimes you're flush and sometimes you're bust, and when you're up, it's never as good as it seems, and when you're down, you never think you'll be up again, but life goes on.”

Remember...Tomorrow isn’t promised so do the things you put off until tomorrow and make sure you tell those you love exactly how much you care now.

Fraternally,  
*Trevor Tanzillo*, Senior Warden



## From The South



Freemasonry and Neoplatonism, while arising in different epochs and cultural contexts, share a remarkable resonance in their philosophical and spiritual tenets. This paper seeks to illuminate the brilliance of their congruence, unveiling the intricate interplay between these two domains that has often been overlooked.

**Metaphysical Affinities**—Both Freemasonry and Neoplatonism champion the pursuit of higher truths and spiritual enlightenment. Neoplatonism’s concept of an ultimate, ineffable One, from which emanates a hierarchy of reality, finds a kinship with Freemasonry’s emphasis on the Supreme Architect and the allegorical journey toward illumination.

**Ritualistic Correspondences**—Initiatory rituals are a hallmark of both traditions. Neoplatonism’s emphasis on the soul’s ascent parallels Freemasonry’s allegorical path of initiation, signifying the evolution of the individual towards a transcendent state. These rituals underscore the transformative potential inherent in human existence.

**Esoteric Ideals**—Both systems are enriched with esoteric symbolism and mysticism, striving to cultivate an inner knowledge that transcends the material realm. Neoplatonism’s focus on contemplative practices aligns with Freemasonry’s encouragement of introspection and moral betterment, leading to a deeper understanding of the self and universe.

**Conclusion**—The remarkable congruence between Freemasonry and Neoplatonism underscores the timeless pursuit of spiritual insight, moral elevation, and metaphysical understanding. This study has uncovered the exquisite beauty in the interplay between these traditions, revealing a shared tapestry woven with threads of enlightenment, transformation, and cosmic unity. As we continue to explore these interconnected realms, we are reminded of the enduring human quest for meaning and transcendence.

Bo Paxton, Junior Warden



## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

From Bob Conrad

I am asking for your assistance in gathering personal information regarding the Past Masters of Tucson Lodge #4. My goal is to put together their photos and bios to be printed in book form.

I'm certain some of you know the background of these men better than I do, so I'm asking for whatever you have. This message contains 120 words and 522 characters. I hope to make each bio about 125 words or a bit more.

This will not be a short-term project (I know I won't live forever) so I feel I should get started as soon as possible.

Thanks (in advance) for any help you have to offer.

Fraternally, Bob

*Editor's Note—MWB Bob asked me to write my bio and then tell everyone how easy it is. It actually is quite easy, however, in my case, I am trying to shorten it to keep within his requested limits.*

## MORE LODGE HISTORY (Part 2)

Last month I listed our living Past Masters, so this month, I will list our living Masons of the Year for the Lodge. Those names with the \* were also Arizona Mason of the Year.

Craig L. Gross*	2001
Richard G. Hall	2013
C. Raymond Snow	2014
Ronal N. Allen*	2015
Wesley Yandell	2016
Gene Wickey	2017
Richard Vaughn	2018
Guy Hummon	2019
Jan Halvax	2020
Paul Simpson	2021
Jean-Claude Malterre*	2022
Jon Schmidt	2023

When you see these brethren, congratulate them on their service to the lodge.

## SEPTEMBER MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DAY	YEARS
FLOYD KENNETH BERK	3	48
GORDON SCOTT HAINES	3	9
CLARK WATKIN MUNGER	5	39
JIMMIE DON CORRIE	6	45
ARTHUR RONALD ADAIR	8	47
RONALD STANLEY HILL	13	28
MOE MOMAYEZ	15	2
JOHN EDWARD NEVITT	16	43
ALLEN KENT PHILLIPS	16	24
THEODORE ROSS VIEU	16	31
GERALD LEE FRANCIS	19	50
ROGER NOBLE SMITH	26	38
CRAIG LEE GROSS	21	40
RICHARD ROBERT SMITH	26	8
TRAVIS ALVISE KISNER	29	24
GALE EDWARD PETERSON	29	43
MATTHEW JAMES PROKOP	30	9

*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.

*Earl Joseph Shambo, Ron Hill, Rich Hall, Randall Dighton*

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



## A MASTER MASON'S WIFE

Hers is the sacrificial life, who is the Master Mason's wife.  
For all alone at home she stays while he is teaching  
Mason's ways.  
While she sits waiting for her mate, the hour, it keeps on  
getting late,  
And while the time goes dragging by, he helps someone to  
qualify.  
And while, for him, she burns the oil, he sees it's done  
"according to Hoyle".  
The Master Mason's wife must be, as wise in many arts as he;  
Must learn to stretch a meal for four, at times for eight, or nine,  
or more,  
When "brothers" drop in from out of town; and never scold or  
never frown,  
At midnight, when he brings them back and asks for coffee and  
a snack;  
And never sigh, when on the phone, he says, "You'll have to go  
alone."  
The Master Mason's wife must be as fond of Masonry as he,  
Although to her 'twill ever be a thing of wondrous mystery.  
But still she always seems to know that with him, where he's  
wont to go,  
Are hones men, and clean and strong, and men too big to stoop  
to wrong;  
Or never she's consent to be, the wife of such an absentee.

*Editor's Note—had this in my files with no known author. It was originally posted on the old Prodigy Masonic Forum by Richard Skoglund.*



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## FROM THE EDITORS

People often ask "Do editors ever sleep?" The answer unfortunately is 'Not much.' We think about deadlines continuously, are waiting for articles to come in, see if they are any good, and ask ourselves do we have enough material or too much? (Usually not enough). In the trade it is often known as the 'Grey Hair Syndrome'. Luckily, both of your editors have strands of silver.

You may now have the feeling that for this issue we did not have enough material and we are using our editorial privileges to fill up some space. You would be right. Being the summer, and everyone on vacation, and most did not think about contributions for the trestle board. Hence we went digging through the files to see what is usable that we don't need to worry about copyrights. (Don't want to go down THAT road again).

So, release the Kraken (your masonic creativity) and challenge us with an abundance of material. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

So let's flood our inbox—

Paul Simpson (Content) Catheryn Simpson (layout)

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





# From The Secretary



*"So it be written, so it be done"*

*Any Pharoah*

*The summer is winding down and we are entering the last third of the masonic year. Time flies when we are having fun. A couple of my intended projects this summer were overcome by events. We had some minor plumbing issues with the building which took time to get fixed. We hosted the Grand Trustees and the Long Range Planning Committee for their July meetings to name a couple of the items. I spent a lot of time tracking down missing brothers. I sent out suspension warnings to 10 brothers, 4 of them either came back or were forwarded to a new address. It is important you let the lodge know when you move, change phone numbers, or emails. If you have activated your account in Grand View, you can do this yourself. If you make a change, I will get a message that you did.*

*As we are 2/3 of the way through the year, I will give share some of the numbers of the lodge. We started the year with 230 members. We lost 5 to the celestial lodge above and 2 requested withdrawals. For gains, we raised 3 new master masons. If you are doing the math, this brings us to 226 members. Of this number, 18 are Senior Life Members and 10 are Regulation 19 (Relief). That brings the number to 198. Of this number 46 are Perpetual Members which leaves us with 152 dues paying members.*

*For degree work we have conferred 7 degrees—1 Entered Apprentice, 3 Fellowcraft, and three Master Mason. In addition we have a lodge in the Buffalo, NY are doing courtesy work for us on one of our EAs who moved there. For candidates, we have 1 waiting for the degrees, 2 Entered Apprentices, and 2 Fellowcrafts.*

*On a regular basis, I get emails from the Grand Secretary with information that I am requested to distribute to the brethren. I usually do this through our email program as an additional email (or campaign). This will only go to our members and not to everyone on the email list. Speaking of emails, neither Grand Lodge, Worshipful Master or*

*other officers send out any requests for funds, the purchase of gift cards, or the like. As was mentioned in an earlier email, this type of request will only come from my lodge email address in a format previously mentioned.*

*We have received several requests through the proper channels for relief. Two of these were for the fires in Maui. One came from the Grand Lodge of Hawaii and a second, which will be read at the stated meeting, is from the Masonic Services Association.*

*For those brothers who have rituals, I have received 25 copies of the changes to the ritual approved at the last annual communication. These are replacement pages that you simply swap out. If you haven't received yours, see me and I will give you a copy. If we run out, I'll get more (just like Doritos).*

*Now that we are back in almost normal operations, I will go back to my "normal" days at the lodge. During the morning for Mondays (afternoons for the 2nd and 4th Mondays) and Thursday mornings. I usually stick around until about 1 pm after the mail comes. If you would like I can make an appoint. Please call first if you are stopping by.*

*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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