



TRESTLEBOARD

VIEW FROM THE EAST

By Michael Dale, Worshipful Master

Greetings from the East

As we are about to go dark, things are winding down here in the lodge and now is not the time to sit on your laurels. There is so much more for us to do for ourselves and for our lodge. We have any initiates that are about to be lost to us because we as brothers are not doing all that we can. It is not the secretary's job to hunt down initiates to find out how their lessons are going. Where are the mentors who signed their petitions? Where is the other brother with enough initiative to seek out these initiates and bring them back to the fold? We are bound by our obligations to not let this happen.

I had the privilege to perform another Masonic Funeral for a brother that I did not know or ever even heard of before the request came to the lodge from the Grand Lodge of Vermont. Things were but together to assist the family in their time of mourning. Three brothers from the lodge showed up to assist in this important task. We would manage I suppose with three to four other brothers that were part of the family.

Introductions were made and some more critical information was found out about Jim Lear, like his date and place of birth. This helps with the ceremony that we were about to perform or so we thought. The family was very appreciative that we were there and I suppose in some small way we three brothers were able to help one another through this trying time. All of the families were gracious hosts but we got a bomb dropped on us at the last minute. It appeared as though the facility where the ceremony was to take place does not allow other entities to use their facility for such ceremonies.

The two Lodge brothers and I stayed for the service and were asked to stick around for the celebration of life afterwards which included champagne. What the heck. We found out that this man was more of a mason than most. He married a woman with four children. They had one of their own and then became foster parents to over one hundred kids thought their lives. One of the foster kids followed his father into masonry and is now a noble in the Shrine. We ate and sat there listening to the family talk about Jim and the things they remembered about him. As I sat there listening to the stories all I could think about was how proud I was to be able to share this time with them.

I am a privileged man to be able to do these things and I didn't get here by myself. This is to say thank you to my family and friends who have been around to assist me to grow. How about we all do a better job in assisting others to grow.

2016 financial statements are available for members' inspection in the Secretary's office.



STATED MEETINGS

Second Thursday of each month,
September through June.

Dinner at 6:30 pm

Meeting at 7:30 pm

REGULAR MEETINGS

Degree work most every
Thursday at 7:00 pm.

Call (928) 783-7993 or visit
www.yumalodge17.org for
schedule.

OFFICE HOURS

Call (928) 503-4356 for an
appointment.

TRESTLEBOARD

Published bi-monthly.

**Article submissions are due
on the 15th of each even-
numbered month.**

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ON THE LEVEL

By Michael Kofta, Senior Warden

Happy Easter, Brothers!

I pray that the Great Architect of The Universe continues to bless you and your families.

Our travelling brethren are returning to the North Country for the season. May the Great Architect deliver them safely to their respective places of abode; keep them and their families in good health so that they may join us again in the fall.

Thank you to all who assisted with the degree work and BBQ. This year's BBQ was a great showing.

The jugs for collecting donations to paint the building are in place on the stage and near the Tyler's table on the second floor, every little bit can help. If anyone has any additional ideas for fund raisers, please let them be known.

Mark Your Calendars

- ◇ Celebration of Life for Brother Ralph E. Ogden is on May 6th at the Theater building at the Fairgrounds.

- ◇ Law Enforcement Memorial Day is on May 15th at the Quartermaster Depot.
- ◇ Sherman L. Allen Bikes for Books presentation at Woodard Elementary School on 20th of May at 1200.
- ◇ Sherman L. Allen Bikes for Books presentation at Dateland Elementary School on May 22nd at 1000.
- ◇ Grand Lodge Communication is June 1 – 3 in Phoenix.
- ◇ Saint John the Baptist's Birthday is coming up on June 24th.

Lift up your voices in prayer for those Brothers who are unable to make it to Lodge due to sickness and distress. Pray that the Great Architect of The Universe returns them to the Lodge safely and quickly.

Fraternally,
Brother Michael A. Kofta

AID AND ASSISTANCE

By William R. Fischer

The duty of "Aid and Assistance" is an important obligation, imposed upon every brother of the order. "To aid and assist all worthy distressed Master Masons, their widows and orphans."

This is according to human nature that will always prefer a friend to a stranger.

Expressed in the language of "Long Tom Coffin":

- ⇒ A messmate before a shipmate.
- ⇒ A shipmate before a stranger.
- ⇒ A stranger before a dog.

As we have the opportunity, let us do well for all men, especially to those of the same house.

We must be ready to aid those who need our help, brothers or strangers.

If those we could have helped and don't, are lost, we lose even more.

For these poor people only lose what they have, but we lose them, our dignity, and our own self-worth.

WHO IS WISE

By William R. Fischer

Have you ever asked yourself; of all the people I know who do you consider to be wise? Who would you consider to be a hero? Who would you consider to be rich? Who would you honor?

Some of the wisest people known lived in the same small town their whole lives and never ventured more than fifty miles from it. They became wise through listening to others who traveled, and talked to those who had already learned. They were seekers of knowledge, but not adventures.

A hero, it is said, is a person who overlooks the fear and does what is necessary to save others. We cannot always forget the danger because fear or self-preservation stops us from placing our-selves in mortal jeopardy. Those who say "I didn't think about it I just did it" are the ones who push their fear aside and did what was needed. They subdued their passions.

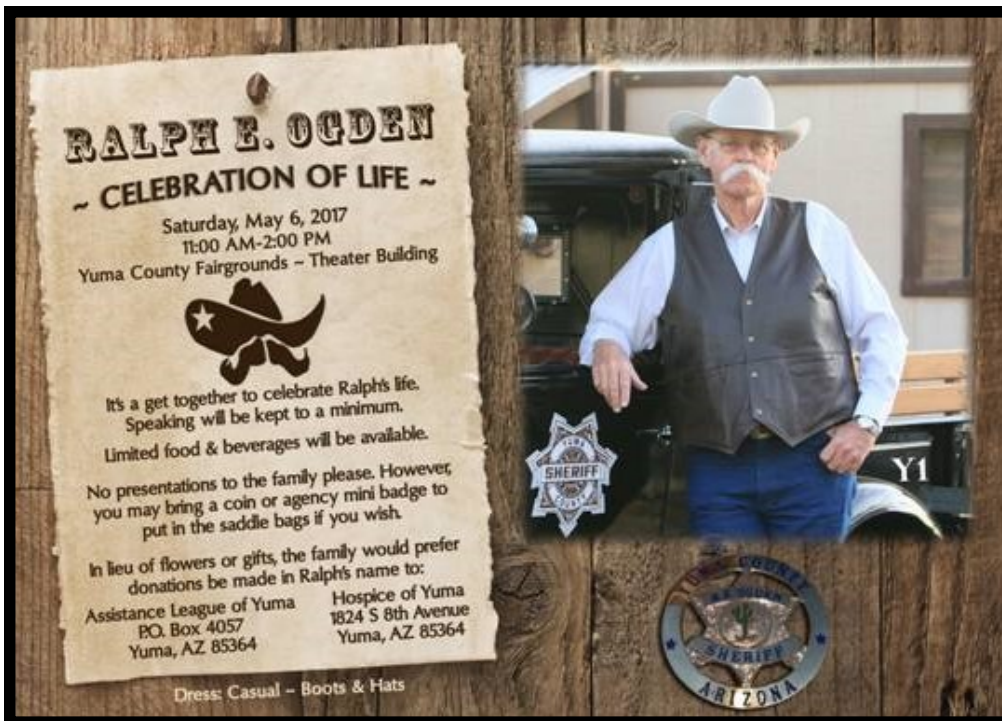
Have you ever had the misfortune of watching those night time soap operas?

People rich beyond belief with no morals. They selfishly devour everything in their path. They are not happy with just their share, but want everyone else's share too. There is no portion large enough for them.

When we honor a person we show him kindness, love, consideration and most of all respect. Mainly because he has shown kindness, love, consideration and respect towards others. He has helped and honored people throughout his life.

- So when we ask the question:
- ⇒ Who is wise?
He who learns from all men.
 - ⇒ Who is a hero?
He who subdues his passions.
 - ⇒ Who is rich?
He who is happy with his portion in life.
 - ⇒ Who is honored?
He who honors others.

Information about Grand Lodge Communication pending legislation is available in the Secretary's office.



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Donate online at:
YumaLodge17.org

Yuma Lodge No. 17

Stated Meetings: Second Thursday at 7:30 pm preceded by dinner at 6:30.

Degree Work: Most every Thursday at 7:00 pm.

Trustees' Meetings: First Tuesday at 6:00 pm. Lodge members welcome.

York Rite Bodies

Stated Meetings: First Monday at 7:30 pm.

Practice: Third Monday at 7:30.

Order of the Eastern Star

Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 pm preceded by dinner at 6:00.

Yuma Shrine Club

Meetings: Second Monday at 7:00 pm.

Yuma Shrine Ladies Lunch

Third Tuesday at 11:30 am.
Call Betsy Ramirez (928) 210-8740 or Shirley Hettervik (928) 210-0717 for location.

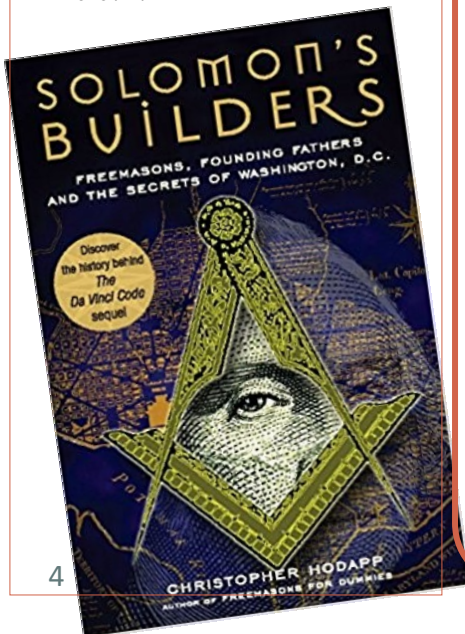
May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Trustee	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Stated	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 B4B
21	22 B4B	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

***Bikes for Books Presentations
May 20 & 22; see page 10 for details.***

June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				Grand Lodge of Arizona Grand Communication		
4	5	6 Trustee	7	8 Stated	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



The History of Freemasonry

From The George Washington Masonic National Memorial

Origins of Freemasonry

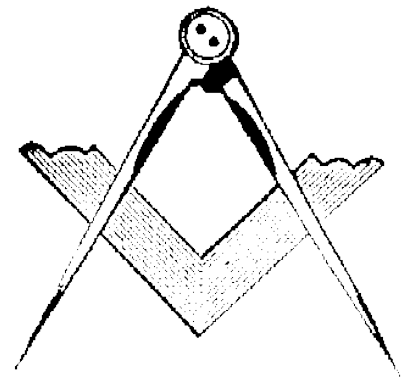
No one knows the true origins of Freemasonry. Although some Masonic Lodges existed in Britain in the early 1600s, it was not until 1717 that four London Lodges organized a Grand Lodge to govern themselves. Freemasonry's rituals and teachings; however, contain deeper strata of thought that stretch back through the Middle Ages to the ancient world. Over generations, many people of different communities, faiths and philosophies helped build Freemasonry.

Three principal communities influenced the creation of Freemasonry. The first was Judeo-Christian faith; the second, stonemason guilds; and the third, intellectuals from the Enlightenment period. The Judeo-Christian faith teaches the "Brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God." The stonemason guilds provided the symbols, tools and stories around which to create a new society, while the enlightened intellectuals dedicated the Fraternity to the tenants of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Through separate and distinct, these communities related through a fascination with the Temple of God in Jerusalem. According the Bible, God's Temple was planned by wise King Solomon, build by organized stonemasons, and was perfect in its architecture.

Based on these three traditions, the "Most Ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity of Accepted Free-Masons" began in London. As British merchants, sailors, soldiers and colonists traveled, they took Freemasonry with them. In every corner of the world, the Fraternity would adapt to the needs of new communities, while perpetuating its rituals, symbols and tenants.



Medieval Stonemasons at Work



"Most Ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity of Accepted Free-Masons"

This title has multiple definitions. "Most Ancient" usually refers to the Most Ancient "Grand Lodge of England founded in 1756, and its use demonstrates the lineage to that Grand Lodge. The words also refer to being old and originating in obscure or remote times. "Right Worshipful" is a title of respect similar to "Honorable" or "Reverend." "Accepted" refers to gentlemen who were accepted by stonemasons into their guilds. The word "Free-masons" derives from operative stonemasons. The prefix "Free" usually indicated a freeborn man or one who was not a serf or in bondage and was therefore free to travel the country for work. It also related to the skill of working in freestone, that is, the art if designing, carving, and sculpting stone.



Chart of Masonic Lodges

This engraving shows European Freemasons gathering around an "L-shaped" or right angle table. Early Lodges met in taverns to initiate new members and hold banquets. The background panel lists the 129 Masonic Lodges in operation in 1775.

2017 Arizona Grand Lodge Leadership Conference

By Benjamin Hinderer, Junior Steward

I write this review of the 2017 Arizona Grand Lodge Leadership conference as a new Master Mason and a first time attendee of the conference. Sitting in one of the lower chairs of the lodge, I was offered to attend the Leadership Conference in Casa Grande and I graciously accepted. I knew that I would learn a great deal about Masonry from many wise Master Masons and would benefit from the knowledge of the various lodges who also were attending this event.

The first night was registration and a small meet and greet to get to know the other Masons from lodges all around Arizona. Just being there and listening to all of them talk was educational and that is where I felt I learned the most. Everyone was discussing Masonry amongst themselves from their point of views and it was admirable to hear this unsolicited review of how this brotherhood has changed lives, increased confidence, and benefited these men. Of course everyone has their own opinion but during the social hours, that is where you will learn the most about how other lodges work and run including the good and bad. Anyone who I approached and introduced myself, welcomed me and would answer any question that I had to the best of their ability.

During the conference, there were many different topics presented and discussed in depth. Everyone had something to say on the subjects and mentioned how they felt it was meant to be interpreted, such as the different rituals and

whether any were outdated and needed to be changed. One example I remember the best was that it is not written anywhere that your apron has to be worn outside of your outer most clothing, however it is a Masonic custom to wear your apron outside of your jacket. During the conference, a brother mentioned that a visiting brother from Australia attended their lodge and he wore his apron under his coat as that is how they are accustomed to do it in Australia. The lodge was unsure how to respond and referenced the AMC (Arizona Masonic Code) and discovered it is not technically written in there that your apron must be worn outside of your outer most clothing.

Attending this Leadership conference was a great experience and I would recommend it for any Master Mason, new or old. It was informative, educational, and helps to keep the Fraternity fresh in your mind and possibly give good information to new Masons who are attending for the first time.

I will leave you with these questions to think about.

- What makes Masonry different from other organizations i.e. Elks, VFW, Lions, etc.?
- What more could we do to be better involved in the community?
- What can be done to help with community outreach to recruit new members that follows the Masonic Code?



Attendees (L to R): Michael & Ruby Kofta, B.J. & Michael Dale (ta boss), Mikel White, Benjamin Hinderer, and Jack Frost

Committees

MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Audit

Michael A. Kofta, SW

Budget

Worshipful Master

By-Laws

Michael A. Dale, WM

Cemetery

Mikel K. White, PM

Facilities Maintenance

Michael A. Dale, WM

Funeral

Mikel K. White, PM

Grievance

Michael A. Dale, WM

Library/Archives

Mikel K. White, PM

Masonic Education & Ritual

Mikel K. White, PM

Timothy Williams, PM

Masonic Relief

Worshipful Master

Master's Advisory

Timothy W. Williams, PM

Mikel K. White, PM

Scholarship

Sean R. Godfrey, SD

Wives, Widows & Orphans

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Candidate Instruction

Quaid Smith, PM, KYGCH

Officer Instruction

Timothy W. Williams, PM

FUNDRAISING

Barbeque

Mikel K. White, PM

Balloon Glow

Dale Kreger, PM

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Bikes for Books

David L. McHone, PM

Public Schools

Dale L. Kreger, PM

Roadside Clean-up

Michael A. Dale, WM

MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS/ FRATERNAL SUPPORT

Birthday Cards

Benjamin T. Hinderer

Facebook

Michael McLaughlin

Mason of the Year

SW & JW

Membership Participation/Retention

Michael A. Dale, WM

Sickness and Distress

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

Telephone Calling

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

Trestleboard

Jack A. Frost, PM, Publishing

Timothy Williams, PM, Printing

Jerry I. Leckrone, PM, Distribution

Website

Jack A. Frost, PM



The officers and members of the Yuma Chapter 14 of the Order of the Eastern Star cordially invites all members of the order to attend meetings each 2nd and 4th Tuesday, September through June. A light dinner is served at 6 pm with the meeting at 7 pm.

Prospective members may inquire by calling Quaid Smith at
928-920-3659



Masonic Anniversaries

When you became a Master Mason



MAY

John Adams
 William Coddington
 James Cooley
 David Curry
 Dennis Dalton
 Martin Freeman
 Reginald Hadlock
 Michael Hawes
 David Hofferbert
 Karl Koenig

Michael Kofta
 David Lara
 James Malone
 Don Plank
 Jose Ramirez
 Robert Sant
 Steven Shippee
 Jeffrey Tatar
 Peter Thompson
 William Wiseman

JUNE

Michiel Beckett
 Gene Bowden
 John Brown
 Manuel Cabrera
 Clair Clark
 Ralph Cline
 Dean Davenport
 Frank Donald
 Jack Frost
 Roberto Garcia
 James Heard
 Wade Holland
 Michael Kalsman
 Michael Lee

Richard Lindsay
 Fredrick Little
 Freddie Luckie
 Samuel McClaskey
 David McHone
 Page Misenhimer
 John Phillips
 Russell Pool
 Charles Powell
 Duane Russell
 Matthew Stang
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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA



The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is a memorial and museum, an active Masonic temple, a research library, a cultural space, a community and performing arts center, and an important regional landmark. This magnificent nine-story neoclassical structure has been erected and maintained by the Freemasons of the United States as an expression of the high esteem in which the memory of George Washington is held within the Masonic fraternity, and to preserve the history and heritage of American Freemasonry.



North Lodge Room



Replica of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22

This space mimics the old meeting room as it existed on the second floor of City Hall for more than 140 years beginning on September 16, 1802. The furniture in this room is the original furniture of the Lodge. The Master's chair in the East was presented to the Lodge by General George Washington and occupied by him when he was Worshipful Master.



George Washington Sat Here



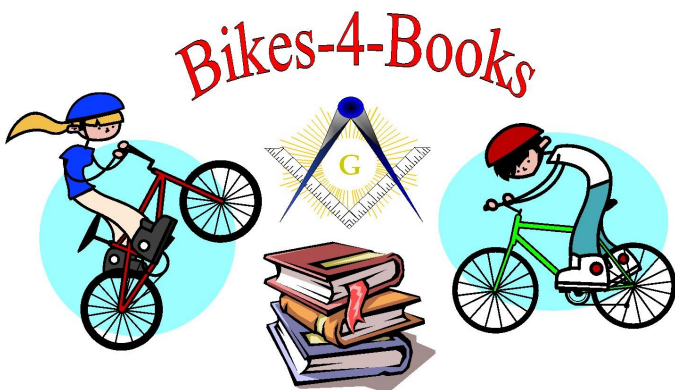
Knights Templar Chapel

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Return Service Requested



Presentations

Woodard Junior High School
10:00 am, May 20th
2250 8th Avenue

Dateland Elementary School
10:00 am, May 22nd
1300 S. Avenue 64E

