



Yuma Lodge
No. 17, F&AM



July/August
Volume 17, Issue 04

TRESTLEBOARD

VIEW FROM THE EAST

By Michael Dale, Worshipful Master

Greetings from the East

The 135th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Arizona was completed on the third of June with the new Grand Master being elected; Most Worshipful Brother Scott A. Thomas and two Grand Officers being appointed from your Lodge. WB Mikel K. White was appointed as the District Deputy Grand Master (again) and I was appointed as the Grand Standard Bearer. Pretty good for a medium size Lodge.

Congratulations to WB Jack Frost for helping the Lodge win the Trestleboard award for medium size lodges. You are the man Jack. Thanks for all that you do.

As we are about to go dark, I implore you to get into your ritual and seek further light. There is no lecture, speech, charge, prayer, opening, obligation, or closing that is beyond the reach of any of you. I am talking to all members from the Past Masters to the youngest Entered Apprentice. Get into your book and learn the ritual. It makes you a better man and us a better lodge. If you need help, call on a brother to assist. I am always available during non-working hours. Call each other through the dark days of summer and find out what each of you is trying to learn. It is much easier when there is help than when you go at it alone. We are all brothers on the level and you should never be afraid to call on your brother for any and all help. If you have a question about anything all you need is to ask. Contrary to popular belief, the Master of a Lodge has no divine powers and cannot read minds or hypnotize you into knowing your ritual. The more you put into this organization the more you will get out of it.



There will be an official visit from Right Worshipful Brother Craig Gross the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Arizona at the stated meeting on September 14th. Be ready to have a practice prior to his arrival.

I am sending out an invitation to all members of this Lodge, withersoever dispersed, to return to your roots and come back to attend a meeting or help in some degree work. You do not know what you are missing! If you need a ride to the lodge, call us and we will come to assist. I just made the first move by sending the invitation. All you need to do is make the effort to attend. We need you and want to see you here in the Lodge.

**Lodge Dark July & August
See you in September.**



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.**

Jack A. Frost, PM, publisher
(928) 345-3185
frostja@earthlink.net



2017 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

Michael A. Dale (B.J.)
760-960-9038
madhatterq2_usmcret@
yahoo.com

Senior Warden

Michael A. Kofta (Ruby)
928-580-5965
mkofta@me.com

Junior Warden

Dale L. Kreger, PM
928-210-8404
dkpainter54@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Jack A. Frost, PM
928-345-3185
frostja@earthlink.net

Secretary

Mikel K. White, PM (Emily)
928-503-4356
mkandeswhite@aol.com

Senior Deacon

Sean R. Godfrey (Mary)
619-985-8701
godfrey.sean86@gmail.com

Junior Deacon

Matthew T. Stang ()
219-308-4689
matthew.t.stang@us.army.mil

Senior Steward

Russell Pool, Sr.
928-276-4765
mokye4@aol.com

Junior Steward

Benjamin T. Hinderer (Michelle)
928-581-8508
usmcfreejr@yahoo.com



ON THE LEVEL

By Michael Kofta, Senior Warden

Brothers,

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

The Arizona Grand Lodge Communication went well with new Grand Line Officers being both elected and appointed. Congratulations to our very own Worshipful Master Michael Dale, for being appointed as the Grand Standard Bearer for the Grand Lodge of Arizona for the year 2017-2018!

May your summer be a relaxing one which you may be close to your families and enjoy the vacation. You are encouraged to continue to study and hopefully learn a new part of the ritual over the summer as well.

We have some Brothers that will be relocating over the summer. We pray that the Great Architect of the Universe protects them and their families during their travels and guides the Brothers to another Lodge where the Brethren there

will make them feel at home. We also pray that our Brothers are able to return in the future to their Mother Lodge, Yuma Lodge #17.

There are still jugs for donations to "paint the building" 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.

Did you know that St John the Baptist's Birthday or the Feast of St John is celebrated on the 24th of June? Do you know when St John the Evangelist's Birthday is celebrated?

Lift up your voices in prayer for those Brothers who have been unable to make it to Lodge for whatever reason. Pray that the Great Architect of The Universe returns them to the Lodge.

Fraternally,
Brother Michael A. Kofta



BY THE PLUMB

By Dale Kreger, Junior Warden

It has been a good year so far. We are going to lose some of our newer young line officers due to their military responsibilities. The Lodge is going to need some help in filling their vacated positions. So safe travels to both of them.

I attended the Grand Lodge Communications where something strange happened to me that got me thinking. As I was leaving early Saturday morning, I saw one of the new Grand Officers at checkout. I put out my hand and said my congratulations, but I did not receive a customary smile or a "thank you" in return. This sure made me take a step back and got me thinking, "How do I deal with others." It is the first meeting that will make or break the connection most of the time. Just because you hold this title or that title we must all remember that we are brothers and we meet on the level. To me that means I am no better than the newest



Entered Apprentice; all I have on him is a little more knowledge. And by all means we need to share that knowledge with each and every brother.

I hope that I have not made anyone feel uncomfortable. This has never been my intent. It is very important to listen to every brother. Remember the eyes of the Fraternity are upon you. Have yourselves a good summer, be safe and see 'ya in September.

In Faith,
Dale Kreger, PM



SECRETARY'S TABLE

By Mikel White, PM, DDGM

The Grand Lodge Communication has come to an end once again, and the legislation that was up for vote was almost all carry over for next year due to votes needed to pass. Yuma lodge 17 is getting ready to go dark for the summer and is finishing up on 2 first degrees. Going into summer Yuma lodge has 198 members on the roles. 12 members have not paid their dues for 2017. I will be contacting those members during the summer for the last chance before the September Stated meeting. If no payment is received you will be suspended for nonpayment of dues. We also, have 9 candidate's working on their degree work in the summer.

During the summer please brothers think about helping the lodge in a side committee if possible. The committees

are currently becoming vacant or filled by one brother. The time used up in these committees from your life might be from 5 minutes to a 1 hour out of your life and if you need help, you can always volunteer other brothers you know to help. Please contact Mike Kofta if interested. If you are interested in becoming a line officer there are many chairs becoming available just for you to help out. Please contact Mike Kofta to fill those chairs today. Only limited seating is available.

If you need to contact the lodge Secretary during the summer please contact me on my cell phone 928-503-4356. Have a great summer brothers.

Fraternally,
Mikel White PM



The 135th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Arizona was held on June 1st through the 3rd. Voting on legislation went as follows:

- Carryover 2016-01: Only one member from any Lodge may serve as a Grand Trustee—Failed
- Resolution 2017-01: Substitute “Book of Holy Writings” or “Holy Writings” for “Holy Bible”—Withdrawn
- Resolution 2017-02: To create the Grand Lodge of Arizona Foundation (GLOAF)—Passed (this made passing the budget much easier)
- Resolution 2017-03: To increase candidate fees—Carryover to 2018
- Resolution 2017-04: Changes to proficiency requirements for officer advancement—Carryover to 2018
- Resolution 2017-05: To allow any member holding a current dues card to attend Grand Lodge Trustee Meetings and receive those minutes upon request—Carryover to 2018
- Resolution 2017-06: The creation of the Grand Charity Lodge—Failed

For a list of all the new Grand Lodge Officers, go to the Grand Lodge website at www.azmasons.org.

2017 OFFICERS (CONTINUED)

Marshall

Juraill Q. Simpson (Debra)
704-798-1565
quionious@gmail.com

Chaplain

Antero A. Trujillo (Norma)
928-581-6286
altrujillo2001@yahoo.com

Tyler

Quaid E. Smith, KYGCH (Dona)
928-920-3659
qsmith2103@aol.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dale Kreger, PM, 2017
928-210-8404
dkpainter54@hotmail.com

Russell Pool, Sr., 2017
928-276-4765
moky4@aol.com

Michael A. Kofta, 2018
928-580-5965
mkofta@me.com

Quaid E. Smith, KYGCH, 2018
928-920-3659
qsmith2103@aol.com

Sean R. Godfrey, 2019
619-985-8701
godfrey.sean86@gmail.com

Timothy W. Williams, PM, 2019
928 920-2432
tinothywayne@netscape.net

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

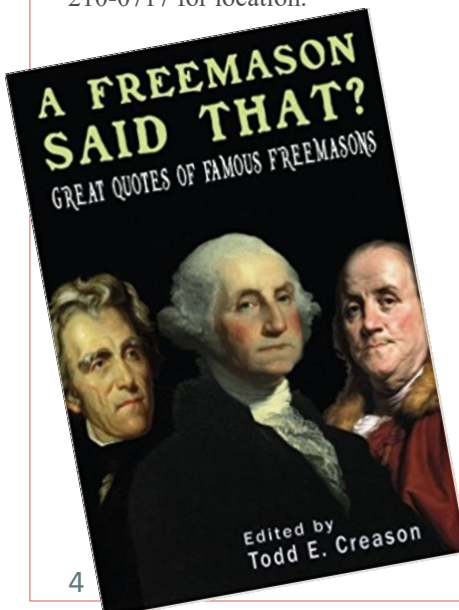
Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 pm preceded by dinner at 6:00.

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.



INVOKING THE BLESSING OF GOD

It is of the highest import that in the ceremony of initiation the candidate kneel at the altar of prayer, for this is nothing other than a symbol of the fact that all right life, inside and outside of the Lodge, is established in our relationship with God. It is of further significance that in the early degree he has another to pray for him while at a later time he must pray for himself because this is a recognition of prayer as an art to be learned gradually, as all other arts are learned.

Brother J. T. Thorp, the veteran English student, has suggested that the Apprentice prayer has come to us from the old custom of beginning each Old Charge with an Invocation; this is a reasonable, historical inference, but perhaps it does not go deep enough. The prayer is in the Masonic ceremony because it must be in the Masonic life, and the important point here is not how we came to pray, but why we do pray; and the reason we do pray is that we cannot help it. Man is a praying creature because of the way he is made, and not all the arguments of the naturalist or all the sophistries of the sceptic can cure him of the habit.

Prayer is more "than the aspiration of the soul toward the absolute and Infinite Intelligence"; it is more than meditation; it is more than the soul's dialogue with its own higher self; it is more than soliloquy: prayer is a force which accomplishes real work in its own appropriate realm. When a forester wishes to fell a tree he uses an axe; when a farmer desires a crop he ploughs the soil and sows the grain; the merchant who seeks money applies himself to his trade: by token of the same universal law of cause and effect the soul that would get spiritual work done must apply the instrument of prayer.

If it be said that God is all-knowing and all-powerful and does not need our praying we reply that there are some things which God will not do, whether He can or not, without the assistance of man. Working by himself God produces the wild dog-rose; working with man He produces an "American Beauty"; working by himself He produces the wild wheat, unfruitful and inedible; working with man He carpets the prairies with heavy-seeded grain, enough to feed a nation; working by himself He brought forth the first man, half animal, half human, slinking in his mildewed cave and killing his prey with his hands, like the wild bear; working in co-operation with man they two have brought forth this human world of netted highways and thrumming cities—literature, art, beauty, the temple, and the home, the Iliad, The Tempest, the Bible, Homer, Shakespeare, and Christ. Man co-operates with God in transforming nature by the use of his hands; he co-operates with God in transforming the spirit by the use of prayer. Besides, God has not shut himself out of the soul that He has made, and prayer itself may well be His own activity, His Divine handclasp with the human heart.

This is not an argument to justify the use of prayer—there is no need of that; it is its own justification. After all is said pro and con, the fact remains that the great souls have been praying men. It is not for us to twist this fact about to suit our theories; it is for us to adjust our theories to the fact. Prayer widens our horizons, purifies our motives, disciplines the will, releases us from the gravitations of the material, sets a new light in the face, and links us to heaven in an ineffable fellowship. It is a stairway let down by God into the inmost chambers of our hearts up and down which the better angels of our nature pass and re-pass in their healing ministries.

"Upon this earth there is nothing more eloquent than the silence of a company of men and women bowed in the hush and awe of a House of Prayer. Through all the groping generations the soul of man has never ceased to seek a city unseen and eternal. No thoughtful man but at some time has mused over this great adoring habit of our humanity, and the marvel of it deepens the longer he ponders it. That instinct for eternity which draws together the stones of a stately cathedral, where the shadow of the Infinite is bidden to linger, tells us more of what man is than all else besides. So far as we know, man is the only being on our planet that pauses to pray, and the wonder of his worship is at once a revelation and a prophecy.

"Man sits here shaping wings to fly:
His heart forebodes a mystery;
He names the name Eternity.
"That type of Perfect in his mind
In Nature he can nowhere find,
He sows himself on every wind.
"He seems to hear a Heavenly Friend,
And through thick walls to apprehend
A labor working toward an end."

The History of Freemasonry

From The George Washington Masonic National Memorial

America 1730–1775

Even before the founding of the London Grand Lodge in 1717, Freemasonry came to the American colonies. As the New World, America offered great opportunities for freedom, liberty and prosperity, but the colonists also experienced hardship, war and isolation.

At first, individual Freemasons immigrated to the colonies; then came the first American-born Freemason, Jonathan Belcher. He was made a Freemason in London, then later returned to be colonial governor of the Province of Massachusetts Bay from 1730-41. The first documented Lodges existed in Philadelphia in 1731, while the first duly chartered Lodge from London was in Boston in 1733. Soon British Grand Lodges had appointed Provincial and Deputy Grand Masters to support and charter new Lodges.

By the 1750s, more than a dozen Lodges were operating in every major town. In Philadelphia and New York, merchants and artisans used Freemasonry to encourage civic institutions and trade. In the South, gentlemen joined Freemasonry out of a sense of public obligation, just as they served in the militia, their church or colonial government. In New England, artisans and middle-class men used Freemasonry to improve themselves, meet new clients and participate in community affairs.

On the eve of the War for Independence, diverse American Freemasons, united by rituals and the tenants of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, could visit dozens of Lodges and find fellowship and friendly discourse.



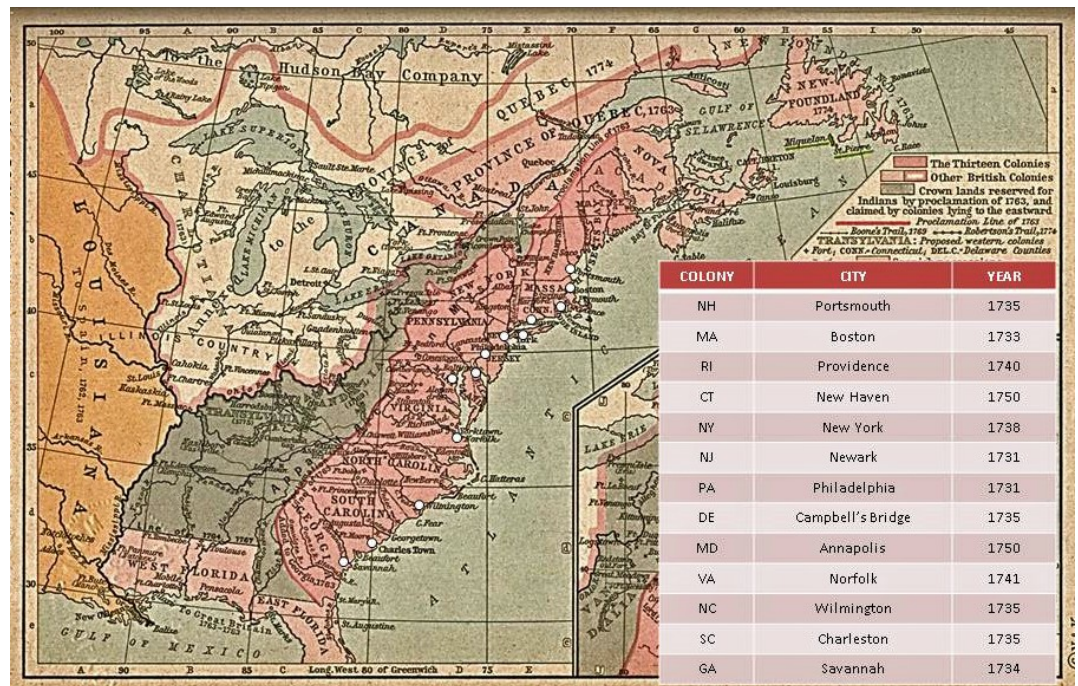
Provincial Grand Master

Henry Price (1687-1789) immigrated to Boston in 1723 and became a successful tailor and storekeeper. In 1733, he was appointed by the London Grand Lodge as Provincial Grand Master over all of North America and organized individual Boston Freemasons into the first duly constituted



British Red Ensign

Sometimes called the “Meteor Flag of Old England” was established by Queen Anne in 1707 as the national emblem of Great Britain. This was the first “national flag” to fly over the English American colonies.



British North American Masonic Lodges ca. 1775

Children get bikes after reading challenge

By Rachel Twoguns, Yuma Sun, reprinted by permission.

Young students who completed a reading challenge this school year are now getting a chance to get a head start on an active summer after winning bicycles given away in a drawing held by the Yuma Masonic Lodge No. 17.

In total, the Lodge pulled funds together to give away a total of 50 bikes to schoolchildren ranging from the first to fifth grade for the “Sherman L. Allen Memorial Bikes for Books Program.” Thirty of the bikes were given out in a drawing that took place Saturday at noon in the Woodard Junior High School Cafeteria to students from Desert Mesa, G.W. Carver, J.B. Rolle, O.C. Johnson, Palmcroft and Roosevelt elementary schools.

Twenty additional bicycles are to be given out to children of Dateland Elementary School District on Monday.

At the beginning of the year, current member of the Lodge David McHone said that the organization reached out to the schools informing them that children must read a minimum of 12 books to participate in the program.

Then, teachers signed and approved the student’s reading logs after they met the challenge, with some students exceeding the minimum amount.

“I read 20 books,” ten-year-old Mario Hernandez of O.C. Johnson Elementary School piped up excitedly after winning a bike at Saturday’s drawing. “This gives so many kids chances to win bikes for reading at school and education.”

Students who applied for the program were also required by teachers to read books at their respective reading levels and each student was evaluated for reading comprehension.

Once the logs were submitted to the Lodge, members then held a drawing to select winners of the bicycles.

The event carries on a tradition that was led by the late member of the lodge, Sherman L. Allen, or “Tiny,” for many years. According to McHone, who now leads the reading program, Allen was a retired Marine Corps non-commissioned officer who passed away last year.

Around 350 children applied for the 2017 drawing in the Yuma School District alone, and this year the organization gave out 14 more bikes than were given for last year’s chal-



lenge, McHone said.

The lodge member noted that each year the organization strives to increase the number of bikes given out, to encourage children to read and become active.

“We are hoping to grow the program again next year,” McHone said at Saturday’s drawing. “We had a fundraiser at our lodge back in December to really boost the kitty that we pull money out of for this program. It is a self-sustainable program”

McHone noted the Lodge continues to support the program because it provides building blocks for children as they develop in school.

“We feel like this program helps them grow and strengthens their basic skills,” McHone said. “Some of these kids, this is the only chance they will ever have to have a bicycle. We had a teacher stand up and she gave a little presentation where she explained to us that it’s not just about the reading, it’s about getting the kids interested in something other than playing video games or just watching television. The main fundamentals of trying to teach a student are getting them to be able to read and comprehend.”

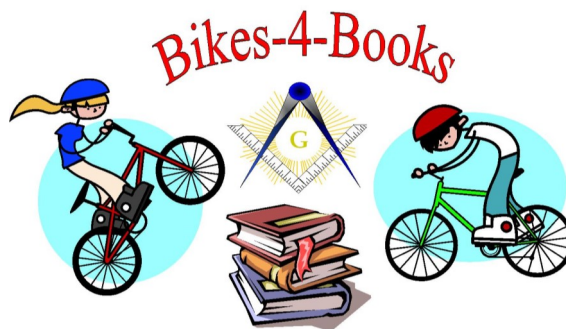
“Once they jump that hurdle there is no telling where the students can go in their learning,” McHone added.

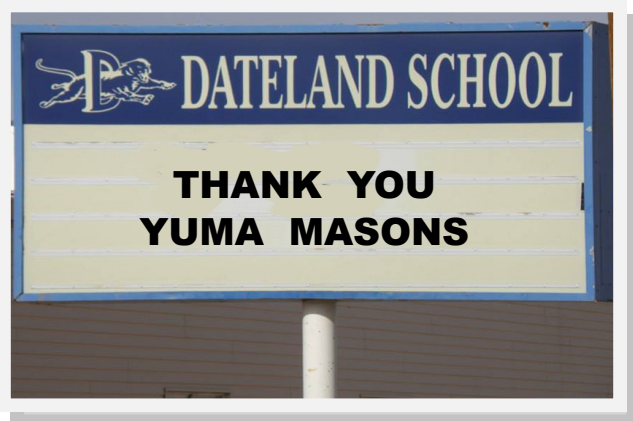
Additionally, Yuma Regional Medical Center provided coupons for the children to receive helmets through the county’s Safe Kids Program and the Lodge itself purchased the bicycles from Target.

For more information on Yuma Masonic Lodge No. 17, visit www.yumalodge17.org or call 928-783-7993.



Photos courtesy of Bob Dennis.





Cheyenne Lopez received her first-ever bicycle while attending Dateland School eight years ago. She is now a sophomore at the University of Arizona and intends to major in healthcare administration. She still rides her bike around campus.



Masonic Anniversaries

When you became a Master Mason



JULY

AUGUST

William Adams
Richard Cook

William Creech
Gene Engelbrite

Keith Parsels

Earl Simson

928-342-5060
Cell 928-503-3332

FAX 928-233-8388

BlindSmart

RICK BUTLER
(LIMITED PARTNER)
SALES CONSULTANT



Call Me For The Best "Blind" Date You'll Ever Have!
FEATURING: KATHY IRELAND BY ALTA • GRABER • KIRSCH • LEVOLOR •
LAFAYETTE • HORIZONS WINDOW FASHIONS • SHUTTER SMART
...and many more



David McHone
(928) 503-5525 cell

3:10 Diesel Works
3474 E. 32nd Street
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 344-3517
www.310DieselWorks.com
david@310deselworks.com

3:10 Auto Works
2896 E. 16th Street
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 344-3771
www.310AutoWorks.com
david@310autoworks.com

LIC# ROC201758
FREE ESTIMATES

KREGER PAINTING

DALE'S PAINTING, LLC

(928)210-8404
Dale Kreger



YUMA INSURANCE, INC.

Jack H. Puckett, CIC, CPCU
President
CA License OA 93189

2691 4th Avenue • P.O. Box 5713 • Yuma, Arizona 85366-5713
(928) 344-3500 FAX: (928) 344-3507 (800) 281-0010

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

Yuma Lodge
No. 17, F&AM
153 S. 2nd Avenue
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Office: (928) 783-7993

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
YUMA, AZ 85365
PERMIT NO. 10004

Return Service Requested



Yuma Lodge No. 17
awarded

BEST TRESTLEBOARD

for medium lodges by
The Grand Lodge of Arizona
Thank you to all who contribute .

