

Yuma Lodge
No. 17, F&AM



May/June
Volume 19, Issue 03

TRESTLEBOARD

VIEW FROM THE EAST

By Michael Kofta, Worshipful Master

Greetings from the EAST,

May the Great Architect of the Universe continue to bless you and your families.

I am pleased to see that during our practices, the officers are becoming more proficient not only their positions, but the chair above them as well. Kudos to all.

The Annual BBQ was a smashing success; the money continues to roll in as people pay for their tickets. Thank you for all your efforts. I hope you all enjoyed our BBQ. Thank you to our Chairman, Mikel White, and his army of minions for all their hard work to make this a special event.

The Grand Lodge Leadership Conference was a blast for all those that attended. Yuma Lodge was well represented during the Masonic Pilates by our Senior Deacon Benjamin Hinderer!

We had the opportunity to participate in a game of Masonic Jeopardy which proved to be interesting and challenging. I received a copy of the Masonic Jeopardy game(s) that were offered by WB Michael Gatti from Peoria Lodge #31. Hopefully we can have a get-together to play it at the lodge soon.

WB Michael was also a first time visitor to Yuma Lodge at our last stated meeting. I hope he enjoyed the meeting as much as we enjoyed the fellowship.

Grand Lodge is sneaking up on us fast and if you missed the stated meeting or would like to read more into the upcoming proposed legislation, stop by the office to read up on them.

Although our next stated meeting dinner and the "Pink Lodge" following it is open to all, the Stated Meeting of May will be for Master Masons so that the Grand Lodge legislation can be covered in more detail.

Bikes for Books presentations are coming up and you will want to make sure you attend either or both of the presentations of bicycles.

We have set the date for our next Outdoor Degree for the 26th of October with more details to follow.

To our new Trestleboard publisher, Sabrina Arps. Thank you very much for stepping in and taking over as our publisher. We found the transition to be a bit of a challenge, but I am sure that as we work the kinks out, that it will continue to shine.

Brothers and Sisters, as always, if you have any problems or concerns for the Lodge please let me know. My phone number and email address are provided elsewhere in the Trestleboard. If you have any complaints, see our Grievance Committee chairman or his secretary. If you have any compliments or praise, please let those that did the work know and recognize them.

Fraternally,

Michael A. Kofta PM
Worshipful Master



STATED MEETINGS

Second Thursday of each month,
September through June.

Dinner at 6:30pm

Meeting at 7:30pm

REGULAR MEETINGS

Degree work most every
Thursday at 7:00pm.

Call (928) 783-7993 or visit
www.yumalodge17@gmail.com
for schedule.

OFFICE HOURS

Call (928) 503-4356 for an
appointment.

TRESTLEBOARD

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on the 15th of each
even-numbered month.**

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STAR IN THE EAST

By Ruth Wilmot, Worthy Matron

This past month, OES members worked at the Yuma Community Food Bank as a group. We will be back there May 20th; if anyone would like to join us, please let us know. We are also still collecting canned goods for donations. The black crate on the stage at the Lodge is for this. Anyone is welcome to donate.

The Pink Lodge is coming to Yuma Lodge #17 on May 9th. Come to the stated meeting and see what we think is REALLY going on in those meetings upstairs!

April 27th is the last Official Visit of Worthy Grand Matron Doty Lou Cox with our own Brother David Gillis, Worthy Grand Patron of AZ, this year. We have enjoyed traveling the state with him.

We are still collecting stuffed animals for local law enforcement. If you would like to contribute, please give them to Mikel White, Yuma Lodge #17 secretary. We will be presenting them to the Somerton PD and the Border Patrol in May.

We would love to see any Eastern Star members at our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (except July and August). Dinner (\$5.00) is at 6pm and the meeting is at 7pm. There will be an open Installation of officers on June 1st, 2019 at 1pm at the Lodge. All members, Masons, and families are welcome to attend.



VIEW FROM THE WEST

By Michael Dale, PM

Greetings from the WEST,

I hope this rendition of the Trestleboard finds all in good spirits. If not, stop by the Lodge for a friendly visit. We can all use the fellowship. The year is clicking along and degree work is being accomplished and yes, we are still making "Good men Better men." The Leadership Conference has ended with a tremendous showing from the brothers of this Lodge. Many new connections were made by the brothers. So much so that the current Master of Phoenicia Lodge #58 came to visit (adding another Mike to the already full stable). We also had a tremendous showing on the side lines. It is great to be a part of such a good thing.

There is an outdoor degree on May 11th that I will be attending near Kingman, AZ. It is the Hualapai (pronounced Walapai) Mountain Outdoor Degree. So far several officers attending which will go towards next year's Master Builder award for the Lodge. Not to mention that it will be a really good time. There are other outdoor degrees coming up and I will attend as many as I can. Hope to see some of you there.

The Cable-Tow *Joseph Fort Newton*

The word Cable-Tow, we are told, is purely Masonic in its meaning and use. It is so defined in the dictionary, but not always accurately, which shows that we ought not to depend upon the ordinary dictionary for the truth about Masonic terms. Masonry has its own vocabulary and uses it in its own way. Nor can our words always be defined for the benefit of the profane.

Even in Masonic lore the word cable-tow varies in form and use. In an early pamphlet, the cable-tow is called a "cable-rope" or a "tow-line." The same word "tow-line" is used in a pamphlet as a reply to anti-Masonic papers. In the early years of masonry, the word is not used in exactly the same form and sense in which it is used today.

In English lodges, the cable-tow, like the hoodwink, is used only in the first degree, and has no symbolical meaning at all apparently. In our American lodges, it is used in all three degrees and has almost too many meanings. Some of our early American teachers see no meaning in the cable-tow beyond its obvious use in leading an initiate into the Lodge, and the possible use of withdrawing him from the lodge should he be unwilling or unworthy to advance.

To some of us, this non-symbolical idea and use of the cable-tow is very strange, in view of what Masonry is in general, and particularly in its ceremonies of initiation. For Masonry is a chamber of imagery. The whole Lodge is a symbol. Every object, every act is symbolical. The whole fits together into a system of symbolism by which Masonry veils and yet reveals the truth it seeks to teach to such as have eyes to see and are ready to receive it.

As far back as we can go in the history of initiation, we find the cable-tow, or something like it, used very much as it is used in a Masonic Lodge today. No matter what the origin and form of the word as we employ it may be—whether from the Hebrew "khabel," or the Dutch "cabel," both meaning a rope, the fact is the same. In most of the Ancient Mysteries, a cord or cable was used in the same way and for the same purpose.

Its meaning, so far as we can make it out, seems to have been some kind of a pledge—a vow in which a man pledged his life. Even outside initiatory rites we find it so employed, as, for example, in a striking scene recorded in the Bible (I Kings 20:31, 32), the description of which is almost Masonic. The king of Syria, Ben-hadad, had been defeated in battle by the king of Israel and his servants are making a plea for his life. They approach the king of Israel "with ropes upon their heads," and speak of his "brother, Ben-hadad."



VIEW FROM THE WEST (CONTINUED)

By Michael Dale, PM

Why did they wear ropes, or nooses, on their heads? Evidently to symbolize a pledge of some sort, given in a Lodge or otherwise, between the two kings, of which they wished to remind the king of Israel. The king of Israel asked: "Is he yet alive? He is my brother?" Then we read that the servants of the Syrian king watched to see if the king of Israel made any sign and, catching his sign, they brought the captive king of Syria before him. Not only was the life of the king of Syria spared, but a new pledge was made between the two men.

The cable-tow, then, is the outward and visible symbol of a vow in which a man has pledged his life, or has pledged himself to save another life at the risk of his own. Its length and strength are measured by the ability of the man to fulfill his obligation and his sense of the moral sanctity of his obligation—a test that is both of his capacity and of his character.

If a Lodge is a symbol of the world, and initiation is our birth into the world of Masonry, the cable-tow is not unlike the cord which unites a child to its mother at birth; and so it is usually interpreted. Just as the physical cord, when cut, is replaced by a tie of love and obligation between mother and child, so, in one of the most impressive moments of initiation, the cable-tow is removed, because the brother, by his oath at the Altar of Obligation, is bound by a tie stronger than any physical cable. What before was an outward physical restraint has become an inward moral constraint. That is to say, force is replaced by love—outer authority by inner obligation—and that is the secret of security and the only basis of brotherhood.

The cable-tow is the sign of the pledge of the life of a man. As in his oath he agrees to forfeit his life if his vow is violated, so, positively, he pledges his life to the service of the Craft. He agrees to go to the aid of a Brother, using all the power in his behalf, "if within the length of his cable-tow," which means, if within the reach of his power. How strange that anyone should fail to see symbolical meaning in the cable-tow! It is, indeed, the great symbol of the mystic tie which Masonry spins and weaves between men, making them Brothers and helpers one of another.

But, let us remember that a cable-tow has two ends. If it binds a Mason to the Fraternity, by the same fact it binds the Fraternity to each man in it. The one obligation needs to be emphasized as much as the other. Happily, in our day we are beginning to see the other side of the obligation that the Fraternity is under vows to its members to guide, instruct, and train them for the effective service of the Craft and of humanity. Control, obedience, direction, or guidance: these are the three meanings of the cable-tow, as it is interpreted by the best insight of the Craft.

Of course, by control we do not mean that Masonry commands us in the sense that it uses force. Not at all. Masonry rules men as beauty rules an artist, as love rules a lover. It does not drive; it draws. It controls us, shapes us, through its human touch and its moral nobility. By the same method, by the same power it wins obedience and gives guidance and direction to our lives. At the Altar we take vows to follow and obey its high principles and ideals; and Masonic vows are not empty obligations—they are vows in which, a man pledges his life and his sacred honor.

The old writers define the length of a cable-tow, which they sometimes call a "cable's length," variously. Some say it is 720 feet, or twice the measure of a circle. Others say that the length of the cable-tow is three miles. But such figures are merely symbolical, since in one man it may be three miles and in another it may as easily be three thousand miles—or to the end of the earth. For each Mason the cable-tow reaches as far as his moral principles go and his material conditions will allow. Of that distance, each must be his own judge and indeed each does pass judgment upon himself accordingly, by his own acts in aid of others.

Recently a man of science said that if the earth were held in its orbit by iron bars, they would have to be close together, not more than a foot apart, covering the entire surface. If, he said, these bars were twisted together into one gigantic cable, he doubted if it would be as strong as the invisible bond, or cable, by which the earth is held to its vast orbit. It was a striking way of teaching us that the cables that reach the longest and hold the strongest are invisible and formed of forces with which men do not reckon, just because they are noiseless and unseen.

Just so, when the cable-tow of each Mason is joined with that of every other Mason, and all are united in one Cable of Kindness, it makes a bond of brotherhood the might of which no mortal can measure. It helps to hold the world together. It holds when other ties break, as it did in the Civil War in America. It is one of the holiest assets of humanity—a far-stretching tie, mystical and unseen, yet more unbreakable than bands of steel, in which the obligation and loyalty and love of each of us is a strand.

There is an unseen cord that binds
The whole wide world together;
Through every human life it winds,
This one mysterious tether.
There are no separate lives; the chain
Too subtle for our seeing,
Unites us all upon the plane of universal being.

Such is the Divine cable-tow by which the world is held in its moral orbit. To discover that cord running through our own lives—your life and mine—uniting us with all the seekers after truth, all lovers of right, all servants of God and man, is the mission and blessing of Masonry. What is the length of our cable-tow? Who knows how far it reaches?

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YumaLodge17.org



**Change of
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Trestleboard:
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Yuma Lodge No. 17

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

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

Trustees' Meetings: Second Monday at 6:00pm. Lodge members welcome.

York Rite Bodies

Stated Meetings: First Monday at 7:30pm.

Practice: Third Monday at 7:30pm.

Order of the Eastern Star

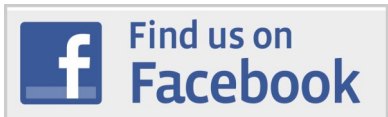
Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00pm, preceded by dinner at 6:00pm.

Yuma Shrine Club

Meetings: Second Monday at 7:00pm.

Yuma Shrine Ladies Lunch

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



facebook.com/YumaMasons

May 2019

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

**ARIZONA GRAND COMMUNICATIONS
JUNE 6-8, 2019
DOUBLETREE HOTEL, TUCSON**

June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 OES Installation 1 pm
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Mother's Day	11	12	13 Stated	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

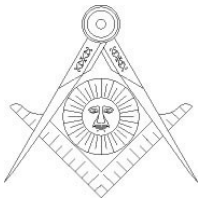
GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH

By Dale Kreger, PM

Greetings from the SOUTH,

We have only two more stated meetings before we go dark for the summer. Time goes by so fast. I would like to thank the lower chair officers for the work they have been doing. It takes time to get the work done, only practice makes perfect (unless a PM). There is much that has to be done and so little time. This is when we need to take a closer look and see if we are spending our time wisely. By this I mean if you take thirty minutes a day and practice, you may be surprised what you learn. To our new brothers, it is like they say, use it or lose it. You took the time to learn it at one time so don't lose it. Just by keeping the tenets of the fraternity in your daily lives will help sustain the teaching you have learned. Not everyone is looking to be a line officer, that's fine. One thing we all should do is PRACTICE our teaching throughout our lives. We are all bound to the fraternity by a stronger tie, as brothers. This does not mean everyone gets along all the time. My blood brothers and I often disagree, but we are always brothers. Same goes for every one of us as Masons. We know that there is someone there to reach out to. This is something I have learned over time. You may find yourself alone and destitute; remember that we are not alone.

Yours In Faith
Dale Kreger PM



Brothers,

You missed a great Leadership Conference. Many problems of the world were solved and there was plenty of fun had by all. The conference was a fun and educational time as well. I highly encourage anyone who has not gone to go in the future. It is great for networking and very educational. I know I learn something new every time that I go. Masonic education is important to the fraternity and the only way to keep it going is by passing it on.

Also, if you know a brother who has not been to the Lodge recently, reach out to him and see how he is doing. Invite him to the next lodge meeting and/or practice. Your phone call could do more than you might imagine!

Your Senior Deacon,
Benjamin Hinderer

PUBLISHER'S NOTES

Greetings! Well, the first publication had a few hiccups, but things like "trial and error" and "live and learn" come to mind. (I'm smiling as I type that, don't worry!) I appreciate everyone who worked hard to get the last publication out and for everyone's patience and understanding as we work out all the kinks! I'm having fun reading the articles and learning more about the Masonic fraternity. Funny, I spend so much time with many of you, but I never quite saw or understood just how much the Masonic fraternity means to you or how important your Brothers are to you. It truly is a beautiful thing reading your words and feeling the emotions behind them!

If you have any suggestions on how to make the Trestleboard even better, please feel free to send me a message and I will work with the Worshipful Master to see about incorporating any changes. Until next time!

Sincerely,
Sabrina Arps



FIRST DEGREE



APRIL 18TH – Brother Anthony "Tony" Bowen, Jr. received his First Degree. Congratulations Brother!

MASONIC BBQ

It took a lot of meat to feed all those hungry people – but the end result was worth it!

BEFORE



AFTER



FAMILY & FELLOWSHIP



Our Eastern Star brothers and sisters served up some delicious desserts and sold gorgeous holiday wreaths!



A huge THANK YOU to Emily White for getting all the salsa donated for the AMAZING salsa bar!



Leadership Conference



Our brothers in attendance had a great time learning more about the craft and fellowship, while meeting new brothers and reconnecting with brothers they had not seen for awhile.

The ladies enjoyed getting to know one another better and reconnecting with ladies from around the state.

A great time was had by all. We hope to see more brothers attend the Leadership Conference in the future!





Masonic Anniversaries



MAY

John Adams	David Lara
William Coddington	James Malone
James Cooley	D. Page Misenhimer
Denis Dalton	Don Plank
Martin Freeman	Jose Ramirez
Michael Hawes	Robert Sant
David Hofferbert	Steven Shippee
Karl Koenig	William Wiseman
Mike Kofta	

JUNE

Michiel Beckett	Wade Holland
Gene Bowden	Michael Lee
Miguel Castellanos	Frederick Little
Clair Clark	David McHone
Ralph Cline	Russ Pool
Darin Davenport	Duane Russell
Frank Donald	Matthew Stang
Jack Frost	David Wayman
Roberto Garcia	Lawrence Williams
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TBD

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Cemetery

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

Facilities Maintenance

Trustees

Funeral

Mikel K. White, PM

Grievance

Michael A. Dale, PM

Library/Archives

Mikel K. White, PM

Masonic Education & Ritual

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

Timothy Williams, PM

Michael A. Dale, PM

Masonic Relief

Worshipful Master

Master's Advisory

Michael A. Dale, PM

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

Timothy W. Williams, PM

Scholarship

Sean R. Godfrey

Wives, Widows & Orphans

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Candidate Instruction

Quaid Smith, PM, KYGCH

Officer Instruction

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

FUNDRAISING

Barbeque

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

Balloon Glow

Dale Kreger, PM

Raffle & Other Venues

Stewards

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Bikes for Books

Brad Hamner

Roadside Clean-up

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Law Enforcement Memorial

Hector Aponte

MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS/ FRATERNAL SUPPORT

Birthday Cards

Benjamin T. Hinderer

Facebook

Sam Azar

Mason of the Year

SW & JW

Membership Participation/Retention

Worshipful Master

Sickness and Distress

Antero Trujillo

Trestleboard

Sabrina Arps, Publisher

Timothy Williams, PM, Printing

Jerry Lekrone, Distribution

Website

Sam Azar



YUMA CHAPTER ORDER of the EASTERN STAR

The meetings are held the SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY of each month, September through June. All members are welcome. A light meal is served at 6pm followed by a meeting at 7pm. Refreshments are served after the meeting. Hope to see you there. If you have questions please call (928) 726-6130.

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