

Yuma Lodge
No. 17, F&AM



January/February
Volume 21, Issue 01

TRESTLEBOARD

VIEW FROM THE EAST

By Mikel White, Worshipful Master

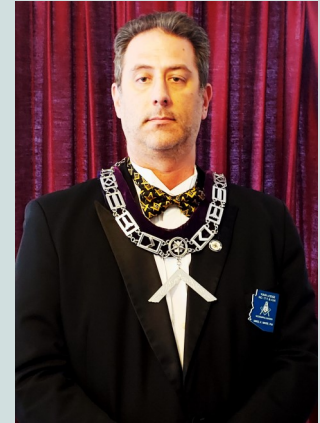
Greetings from the East,

Welcome to a new year of masonry. I would like to thank the new officer line for stepping up and pushing themselves to make Masonry better. In this uncertain time of COVID going around, YUMA LODGE #17 IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS. The new officer line is Senior Warden Benjamin Hinderer, Junior Warden Douglas Arps Jr., Senior Deacon Roy Wright, Junior Deacon Hector Aponte, Secretary Michael Kofta PM, Treasurer Tim Williams PM, Senior Steward Brad Hamner, Junior Steward Lauro Gonzalez, Chaplin Antero Trujillo, Tyler Jeff Grimes PM.

In February we are having the yearly BBQ for the Lodge. This year the BBQ will be operating out of Yuma Lodge #17 as a drive-thru for pick-up only. The BBQ will be February 21, 2021 starting at 11am. Tickets will be \$10.00 and will be available at Yuma Lodge #17, Melody Cleaners, online at www.yumalodge17.org, or by contacting any Brother. The BBQ will be pit style. Please help support our BBQ fundraiser.

This year we will have degree work, officer training, trips to other lodges, and we need to assist our Senior Grand Deacon Michael Dale, PM on his travels to reach that grand chair in the East. If you would like to travel or help out in these events, please contact our Secretary. If anyone has ideas to help out your lodge please contact me.

Fraternally,
Mikel K. White, PM/DDGM
Worshipful Master



STATED MEETINGS

Second Thursday of each month, September through June.

There will be no dinner preceding meeting until further notice

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

Published bi-monthly.

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

Sabrina Arps, publisher
(928) 246-6580
ncbudgirl88@gmail.com



Yuma Masonic Lodge #17
Pit Cooked Barbecue Fundraiser
153 S. Second Avenue

Sunday, February 21st, 2021
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
\$10⁰⁰ Dinner Plates

Includes: Pit Cooked BBQ, Beans, Coleslaw, Tortillas, Salsa, and bottle of water

Tickets can be purchased at **Melody Cleaners**
877 Orange Ave.
Yuma, 85364 Or
Call **928-503-4356**
to reserve ticket.

Order online at www.yumalodge17.org or get tickets at the lodge the day of the event • paypal on website

2021 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

Mikel K. White, PM (Emily)
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mkandeswhite@aol.com

Senior Warden

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Roy Leon Wright (Rebecca)
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Junior Deacon

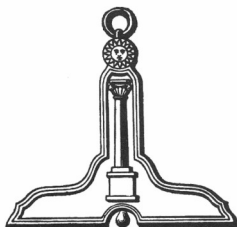
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Junior Steward

Lauro Gonzalez (Elma)
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VIEW FROM THE WEST

By Benjamin Hinderer

Dear Brothers,

Let's start this year off right and make it better than last year. To say last year was a year from hell is an understatement. We need to remember to reach out to our brothers that we have not seen or heard from in awhile to make sure they are healthy and safe. Brotherly love is one of our core values and we need to remember that. Our yearly BBQ is coming up and it's going to be different than normal but let's make it as great as it normally is. I know we will be able to handle the change. Many things that we normally have done in the past will be different from here on out but we just need to adapt and overcome. I know that with our faith and brotherhood we will be able accomplish anything.

Benjamin Hinderer
Senior Warden

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH

By Douglas Arps, Jr.

Greetings from the SOUTH,

So last year was kind of rough, but oh yeah, I was elected as your new Junior Warden. You know, the big bearded guy that looks like Opie from SOA. (Some of you will probably get that.) I would like to thank WB Mike Kofta for the years he's put in as Worshipful Master. Three years in a row (I think he might have set a record), but in all seriousness, thank you for all you've done for our Lodge.

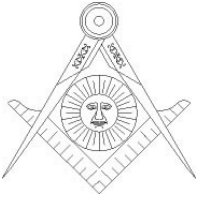
To the new line officers, congratulations on advancing to new chairs and to WB Mikel White for being elected Worshipful Master. We still need a few chairs to be filled, so if there are any Brothers that would like to join the line, please let us know.

I'm hoping with this new year we can get back to some kind of normal and maybe have dinners at our stated meetings again. It sure has been different not having them. My girls do miss coming down to help out. We do have some maintenance issues that need to be done. I have been trying to get down there to take care of them but between work being really crazy and trying to get stuff done at my house, I haven't had much time. But if anyone has extra time I would love the help and would gladly let you know of things that need to be done so we can start chipping away at them. I will also be trying to set-up a few highway clean-ups before it gets too warm since it's been awhile.

Lastly, I would like to thank my wife for doing the Trestleboard. It probably drives her crazy when I turn in an article because I'm horrible at grammar, but thank you Sabrina, I love you.

Brotherly Love,
Douglas Arps, Jr. "DJ"
Junior Warden





Excerpt from Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry:

“One of the Patron Saints of Freemasonry, Saint John the Evangelist's festival is celebrated on the 27th of December. His constant admonition, in his Epistles, to the cultivation of brotherly love, and the mystical nature of his Apocalyptic visions, have been, perhaps, the principal reasons for the veneration paid to him by the Craft. Notwithstanding a well-known tradition, all documentary evidence shows that the connection of the name of the Evangelist with the Masonic Order is to be dated long after the sixteenth century, before which time Saint John the Baptist was exclusively the patron saint of Freemasonry. The two are, however, now always united.”

Brotherly Love,
Roy Wright
Senior Deacon



SECRETARY SCROLLS

By WB Michael Kofta

Brothers and Sisters, Greetings. May the Great Architect of the Universe continue to bestow his many blessings upon you.

Congratulations to the new Officer Line for Yuma Lodge #17! May you continue your labors in your new chairs as dedicated as you did in the previous chair.

It has been a wonderful journey being your Worshipful Master for the past three years. Challenging to say the least for the last year due to COVID. Although my plan to turn over the reigns to WB Mikel K. White with all Lodge Degree requirements completed did not work out as planned, we were able to complete them when Brother Lauro Gonzalez was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

I believe that the current progressive Line of Officers in our Lodge is now stronger and will continue to do exemplary work in their future positions. For any Brother willing to dedicate themselves to further bettering the Lodge and themselves, kudos to you and my sincere wish that you can accomplish all that you set out to do!

Rather than resting on past achievements, I will continue to labor as your Secretary. New day, new challenges to overcome!

Fraternally,
Michael A. Kofta, PM
Lodge Secretary

2021 OFFICERS (CONTINUED)

Marshall

Chaplain

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

Tyler

Jeff Grimes, PM
(928) 246-1594

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Brad Hamner, 2022
(928) 919-6866
bradwyo@gmail.com

Hector Aponte, 2023
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bordercop377@hotmail.com

Russell Pool, Sr., 2023
(928) 276-4765
moky4@aol.com

Donate online at:
YumaLodge17.org



Yuma Lodge No. 17

Stated Meetings: Second Thursday at 7:30pm (there will be no dinner preceding meeting until further notice)

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

Trustees' Meetings: Monday prior to Stated Meeting 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 (there will be no dinner preceding meeting until further notice)

Yuma Shrine Club

Meetings: Second Monday at 7:00pm.

Yuma Shrine Ladies Lunch

12 Noon, Second Monday of each month
September through April
Call Betsy Ramirez at (928) 210-8740 for location.



facebook.com/YumaMasons

January 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 	12 	13	14 STATED 	15	16
17	18 	19	20	21 1st Degree 	22	23
24	25	26 Initiation 	27	28	29	30
31						

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Leadership Conference – Details later to come
- Winslow #13 OV – Monday, March 8th
- Sy Harrison #70 OV (Payson) – Tuesday, March 9th
- Central Arizona #14 OV (Cottonwood) – Wednesday, March 10th
- Sun City #72 OV – Thursday, March 11th

February 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 	2	3	4 1st Degree 	5	6
7	8 	9 	10	11 STATED 	12	13
14	15 	16	17	18	19	20
21 Masonic BBQ 	22	23 	24	25	26	27
28						



THREE (adapted from: GGCRAMI Steven Tiner)

The number three occurs incessantly in Masonry. One is the loneliest number. Two is the saddest number. It's the saddest number since the number one. Every Mason should contemplate the number three...at least three times.

The third letter of the Hebrew Alphabet (G) is a Masonic symbol for God, the Great Architect of the Universe. Throughout the whole Masonic ritual, the number three stands out prominently.

In the Master Mason's lodge, there are: three degrees; three principle officers; three original Grand Masters; three supporting pillars; three lesser lights; three great lights; three movable jewels; three immovable jewels; three raps; three gates; three burning tapers; three circuits in circumambulation; three steps on the Master's Carpets – youth, manhood, old age; three principle tenets; three rounds of Jacob's ladder; the fellowcraft is paid in three different wages; three principle orders in architecture; in the Hiram legend, there are three assassins; Hiram was buried three times. Just to name a few.

The stations of the three principle officers form a triangle. The triangle has always been a representation of God. The number three is throughout Masonry. Why? It is a symbol that the Great Architect of the Universe is everywhere; that we can move not, work not, or live not without doing so beneath His All-Seeing Eye. We are workman in His Quarry. Everywhere, in every degree, is three, three, and yet more threes. Everywhere, throughout all life, is God, God and yet more the omnipresence of God.

2021 OFFICERS



Congratulations to the new 2021 officers! Thank you to the Installing Officers and everyone who was able to attend.





DEGREE WORK



Brothers Luis Arroyo and Steve Bradbury received their First Degree on October 22nd



Brother Lauro Gonzalez received his Third Degree on December 12th

All photos provided by Brother DJ Arps





STAR IN THE EAST

Submitted by B.J. Dale, Conductress
(Carolyn Simson, Worthy Matron)



Happy New Year Everyone! I'm sure we are all relieved that 2020 is over and hope that 2021 will bring better and brighter days. We still have a little way to go with this pandemic, but if we all continue to stay diligent by wearing our masks, continuing to social distance and wash our hands, we can start getting back to a more familiar normal.

Hopefully we will be able to continue to have our Chapter meetings, starting with our first meeting on **Tuesday, January 12th at 7:00pm**. As of right now, there is still no dinners prior to the meetings or refreshments afterwards. We are also planning on having an initiation **Tuesday, January 26th**; we are very excited about welcoming a new member! We are planning to have a few fundraisers this year, though there will be some adjustments on how we implement them. Information on any new fundraisers will be sent out as soon as the committees finalize the details. One of our February fundraisers happens the week of Valentine's Day. The Chapter helps deliver flowers for the The Flower Mine. Our Worthy Matron will be contacting the owner to see if our assistance is needed. Information will be given at our Chapter meeting or by phone calls to see who would like to volunteer to help deliver flowers. Another annual February fundraiser that we participate in is the Masonic BBQ. This will also be done a bit differently. The BBQ will be a drive-up event, held at the Masonic Lodge, 153 S 2nd Ave on **Sunday, February 21st** starting at 11:00 am. The cost will be \$10. OES has previously provided the desserts and we are hoping to be able to do that again this year. As soon as the details become available, we will be contacting members as soon as possible. We are also continuing our Food Bank Project, collecting items for our local Food Bank. These events and information are subject to change. We will try to keep everyone informed as best we can.

Unfortunately we have lost several respected members of our Chapter these past few months due to health issues or COVID: Evalyn Gill passed away in September 2020. Evalyn was homebound and no longer an active member, but she loved Star and still remembered her ritual work. Dona Smith passed away November 19th. Dona was not only active in Star, but also in Amaranth and other Masonic groups. One of our Chapter friends that passed was a lifetime member from Oregon, but lives here in Yuma was Joe Strahm. Joe was our Sentinel Pro-tem. Joe always brought his "harem" to the Chapter meetings, chauffeuring the ladies that couldn't drive themselves to the meetings. Joe's bigger than life personality will be greatly missed. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

We want to wish a Happy Birthday to our upcoming birthdays:

- JANUARY: Antero Trujillo (1/3), Josette Sutton (1/5), Lanny Kee (1/11), Bert Wagner (1/14), Myrtle Bazzell (1/16), Jay Learn (1/18), Linda Gillis & Barbara Gier (1/19), Sean Godfrey (1/25), Eileen Whitmore & Diane Grider (1/26)
- FEBRUARY: Cynthia Johnson (2/2), Mike Dale (2/7), Cynthia Ray (2/18), Tim Williams (2/24), Debra Learn (2/28).



Until next time, please keep all of our ailing members in your thoughts and prayers. If you know someone that isn't feeling well, would appreciate a phone call or card, or may need assistance getting to appointments or to the store, please call Carolyn Simson (Worthy Matron) 928 247-5962 (or any Chapter member) to let her know. We miss seeing all of you and we hope to see everyone's smiling faces when we are able to start up with our meetings again. Take care and be safe!

Carolyn Simson, Worthy Matron
Michael Dale, Worthy Patron

YUMA CHAPTER NO. 14 ORDER of the EASTERN STAR

The meetings are held the **SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAY** of each month, September through June. All members are welcome. Due to the current pandemic, refreshments before and after the meetings have been suspended until further notice. Meeting begins promptly at 7pm. Hope to see you there. If you have questions please call the lodge at (928) 783-7993.



Masonic Anniversaries

When you became a Master Mason



JANUARY

Donald Beaton
 Ernest Cunningham
 Vernon Dugan
 Carl Greenwell
 David Johnson
 Mark Jones
 David McBride
 Mark Melton
 John Mullins
 Wilbert Orem

Menelaos Patsiouras
 Robert Payne
 Maurice Peters
 Jacky Pettigrew
 Philip Schrier
 Gary Stigall
 William Treherne
 Jerney Voorhies
 Leon Wilmot

FEBRUARY

John Alguire
 John Armour
 Jesus Barraza
 Chris Dempsey
 James Dennis
 Randall Gaetz
 Robert Gordon
 Glen Harris
 Harold Hawes
 Travis Kniss

Robert Lehl
 Kelly McDowell
 Freeman Mitchell
 Richard Ruzanka
 Daniel Weedle
 Mikel White

**"What we have done for ourselves alone, dies with us; what we have done for others and the world, remains and is immortal."
 – Brother Albert Pike**

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

I don't know about you, but I am SO GLAD 2020 is over! Everyone had difficulties, parents and grandparents had to become teachers, schedules had to be re-arranged, small businesses were temporarily closed or closed altogether...what a mess. But we got through it! And we did it together. I feel like our brotherhood and sisterhood is stronger, which only strengthens our Masonic Fraternity! In the words of my grandfather, the good Lord willing and the creeks don't rise, here's hoping 2021 is slightly smoother! We are all trying to get back to some sort of normalcy, which may seem difficult, but if we keep working together and looking out for each other, we can come out of this pandemic stronger than before!



Our Masonic Brothers have been meeting and OES has been getting back into the groove of meetings. If you are able to or comfortable coming to meetings, please try to come. We all understand if you can't, but know you are all missed! Please continue to practice social distancing and self-quarantine if you need to. Continue to reach out to your Brothers and Sisters, check in on them, make sure they are okay or see if they need anything.

If there is anything you would like to see in the Trestleboard or have any suggestions, please feel free to let me know! If you attend an event, don't forget to take pictures and submit them, either to me or on Facebook. Take care and stay safe!

Sincerely,
 Sabrina Arps



Committees

MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Audit

Michael A. Dale, PM

Budget

Worshipful Master

By-Laws

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

Hector Aponte

Cemetery Clean-up

Roy Wright, Chairman

Facilities Maintenance

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Timothy Williams, PM

Funeral

Mikel K. White, PM

Grievance

Michael A. Dale, PM

Library/Archives

Roy Wright

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

Dale L. Kreger, PM

Timothy W. Williams, PM

Wives, Widows, and Orphans

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Candidate Instruction

Michael Kofta, PM

Officer Instruction

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

FUNDRAISING

Chairman – Dale Kreger, PM

Co-Chairmen – Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Brad Hamner

Barbeque

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

Balloon Glow

Dale L. Kreger, PM

Midnight at the Oasis

Mikel K. White, PM, DDGM

Raffle & Other Venues

Stewards

PUBLIC SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Bikes for Books

Brad Hamner

Law Enforcement Memorial

Hector Aponte

Roadside Clean-up

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Scholarship/Classroom Grants

Hector Aponte

Dale L. Kreger, PM

Roy Wright

MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS/FRATERNAL SUPPORT

Birthday Cards

Benjamin T. Hinderer

Facebook

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Mason of the Year

SW & JW

Membership Participation/Retention

Worshipful Master

Sickness and Distress

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

Antero Trujillo

Trestleboard

Sabrina Arps, Publisher

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Website

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Wills and Bequests

TBD





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