

Yuma Territorial Lodge  
No. 17, F&AM



September/October  
Volume 22, Issue 05

# TRESTLEBOARD

## VIEW FROM THE EAST

By Benjamin Hinderer, Worshipful Master

Hello All,

As we come back from being dark let us hit the ground running and get these degrees passed. If anyone is interested in helping out with degrees or would like to try a chair let us know and we can make it happen.

We should have our Banner back from Acacia Lodge, in the corner behind our Worshipful Brother Secretary by the time this Trestleboard article goes out.

There is plenty going on this fall in Masonry. If you are looking for something to do this fall most weekends there is something Masonic going on, just look around the state. Don't forget our Outdoor Degree is October 15th.

Let's finish this year out strong!

Worshipful Master  
Benjamin Hinderer



### STATED MEETING

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](mailto:www.yumalodge17@gmail.com)  
for schedule

### OFFICE HOURS

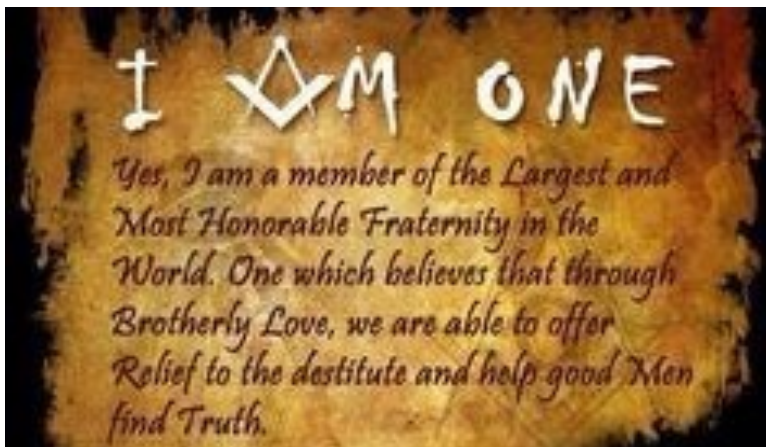
Call (928) 503-4356 for an  
appointment.

### TRESTLEBOARD

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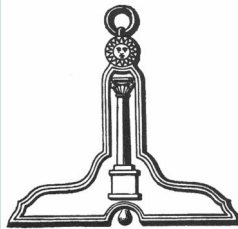
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## VIEW FROM THE WEST

Submitted by Douglas Arps, Jr.

An excerpt from "A New Encyclopedia of Freemasonry" by Arthur Edward Wait, P.M., P.Z.:

### ACACIA

In so far as this Tree, which is connected with a memorable event in Masonic Legend, may be regarded as a symbol of immortality, the notion may be referred to its extraordinary persistence, for Du Pratz says that if any of the bark be left on its branches they will take root if planted as posts. There are several species, among which the *Acacia vera* is called the Egyptian Thorn (otherwise *Acacia seyal*) and produces gum-Arabic. It is identified with the Shittah Tree and Shittim-Wood of Exodus and Isaiah. It was used in constructing the Ark of the Covenant and the Altar of the Tabernacle. Christian Legend tells us that the Crown of Thorns was made of its spiked twigs, and in the curious pseudo-historical account attached to the Grade of Novice and Knight of St. John the Evangelist, the wood of the Cross is said to have been of this tree. I do not know whence this fable derives, but perhaps on account of it Horace Walpole calls the Acacia "the genteel tree of all," following the Elizabethan dramatist who terms Christ "the first true gentleman that ever breathed." The Burning Bush has been identified with *Aqua nilotica*, by a reflection from Rabbinical Tradition, which calls it simply a thorn-bush. The red and white blossoms were regarded as sacred in Egypt, and in one of the folk-tales ascribed to the nineteenth dynasty the hero is represented as placing his soul for safe-keeping within the petals of the top-most bloom growing in a Valley of Acacia. For Paracelsus it was a healing tree; he used it with other ingredients as a plaster for wounds and apparently to stop bleeding.

**A Sign of Immortality** – I have failed to trace any real connection with funeral rites, and it seems certain that there is no sense in which it can be called emblematic of burial. It belongs to the analogies of hope beyond and life continued henceforward: it is to this that the Master Mason testified, according to an old French Catechism, when in proof of his status he answered: "The Acacia is known to me." It has been said that it was consecrated to the sun in Arabia, but no evidence is offered. It has been identified also, though in an arbitrary manner, with the Golden Bough of Virgil; but this was evergreen oak. In the Third Symbolical  
(continued on page 6)

## GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH

By Brad Hamner

Fraternal Greetings from the South Brethren,

Hope this finds you all well. Being dark, I am definitely missing the Brethren and fellowship! Been watching a lot of other Lodges in Arizona having a very busy and active summer. I'll be glad to get back to work soon, we have quite a bit of work coming up for the remainder of the year and we could still use a lot of help for the upcoming degree work. Please get with WB Ben, DJ, WB Kofta, or myself if you are interested in helping out, need a ride to Lodge, or anything else we can do for you. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Brad Hamner  
Junior Warden



## FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

By WB Michael Kofta, PM

Brothers and Sisters,

\*\*\* Mark your calendars!!!!\*\*\*

You do not want to miss out on our October 13th Stated Meeting! We will be having some very special presentations that evening and we will also be having some great entertainment. If you need a ride, please call a Brother that lives near you or call me the week prior (not the night of) so that I can try to contact someone near you to assist in getting you to the Lodge. Please let one of the pedestal Officers or myself know if you are planning to attend **no later than October 1st**; the sooner the better. Yes, that means an RSVP by October 1st. We want to make sure we have enough meals and chairs in the Lodge.

Saturday, October 15th will be our Outdoor 3rd Degree. We have the location, we have a candidate, now we need Brothers to step up and let the Worshipful Master or myself know where you would be willing to help out. Set-up, tear down, meal, or parts in the degree are available for Brothers to help with.

We have handed out a lot of petitions over the summer, please stay on top of them. We hope to see some of the prospects at our September meeting.

Summer is coming to an end soon and it's time to get back to some serious hard work! The kids and grandkids have already returned to school, so now it's time for us to break out our books as well. Please stay on top of your ritual and proficiency work over the remainder of the summer. We need to wrap up our proficiencies before elections.

There are still eight Brothers that need to pay their dues for 2022 before the September stated meeting. October is just around the corner for the mailing of our 2023 dues notices.

It is imperative that you check and update your information in Grandview so that our Lodge member information is accurate and up-to-date. If you make any changes in Grandview, please let me know so that I can update our Lodge database. Grandview is the future, so please log in and update your information. If you don't know how to log in or have lost the instructions, call me. One of the new additions to the Master Architect and Master Builder awards requires a Lodge to show a 5% increase in Brothers signing into Grandview.

If you need any assistance in general, with practicing, or on proficiency, feel free to contact me.

Fraternally,  
Michael A. Kofta, PM  
Secretary  
DDGL, District 6



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## Yuma Territorial Lodge No. 17

Stated Meetings: Second  
Thursday at **7:30pm**  
(Dinner preceding the meeting at  
**6:30pm**)

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  
**7:00pm**.

## Order of the Eastern Star

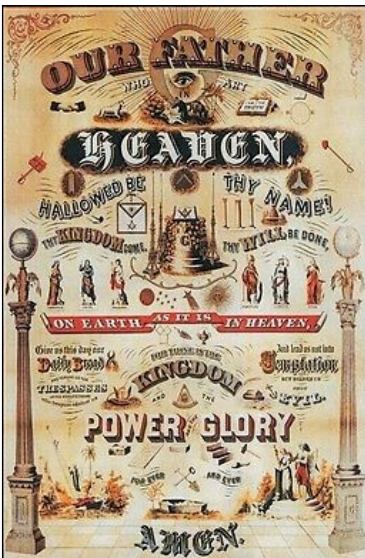
Meetings: Second and fourth  
Tuesdays at **7:00pm**.  
(Dinner preceding meetings at  
**6:00pm**.)

## Yuma Shrine Club

Meetings: Second Mondays at  
**7:00pm**.



[facebook.com/YumaMasons](https://facebook.com/YumaMasons)



# September 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 LABOR DAY	6	7	8 STATED	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 St. David Outdoor Degree (San Pedro)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Fain Ranch Outdoor Degree (Prescott)
25 Masonic Night (Dbacks game)	26	27	28	29	30	

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Degree Work – check with Line Officers

# October 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Arizona #2 OV (Phoenix)	5 Tucson #4 OV (Tucson)	6	7	8
9	10 COLUMBUS DAY	11	12	13 STATED	14	15 YUMA OUTDOOR DEGREE
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



# MUSINGS FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

By RW Michael Dale, PM

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES  
KNIGHT TEMPLAR



## Mastering the “Royal WE” by Steve Balke

It’s seldom clear to us how we impact the people around us, the people following us, and even the “whole picture of the point of our work.”

Even when it is clear, any insight gleaned is often limited by self-imposed or circumstantial constraints.

Freemasonry’s symbolic and moral instruction harnesses this phenomenon: the candidate undergoes experience before receiving explanation. In the Royal Arch, we get the final lesson regarding our capacity for teamwork: when we three do agree, our individual strengths are enhanced when aligned with the strengths of others. In Council we are exposed to the observer’s perspective. Decrypting, if you will, the value of differing perceptions, strengths, and experiences allows for intentional cooperation. The Royal Master degree gives us fundamental insights on the impact of personal effectiveness.

Are we proactive? Even when we think we understand the “overall picture” and have a goal in mind, circumstances beyond our control may interfere with our intentions. But action itself is valuable. Hiram’s instruction during the circumambulations plainly states that we contribute to what comes before us, that the time we have is a precious – and finite – opportunity, and though we may not recognize the impact we have, actual understanding awaits us when we move on. Our ideas, work, and creations are valuable and should be acted upon. How they manifest through time is beyond us – the seed may yield fruit in time long after us.

Importantly, the question is put, do we exemplify a commitment to be and do our best? Whatever we do should be done whole heartedly. Our actions are not outcome dependent; they should spring from a desire to do right. This is true inspiration. The work is its own reward, as we say.

Depending on your ritual, the prologue to the Royal Master may focus on the bowl, an undefined object, or a three-tier candelabra, but each shows that Adoniram’s activity and skill produced a result. Adoniram created something under direction for the sake of creation itself. In some cases, neither he nor Hiram (his “supervisor”) knew the intended use of the object prior to its completion: The best example of our dedication is evidenced in labor.

Do we intend our work to complement the work of others? Effective education guides the student from the basics to the complex and illustrates how various skills and concepts interact to reveal the whole through the parts. The Biblical references and the lecture in the Royal Master reveal how each golden vessel was brought to the Holy of Holies, there placed around the Ark to properly incur the presence of God. When we intentionally focus our activities and efforts as part of a team, we complement each other and manifest a greater vision.

“In the event of an emergency, please ensure that your oxygen mask is working properly before assisting others.” To effectively serve others, we must first prioritize what we’re doing. The Royal Master takes us on a journey, depicting how working together is as important to the individual as it is to the whole. Like every Lodge, or really any other Masonic body or committee, among those who can best agree, our strengths resonate while our weaknesses cancel out.

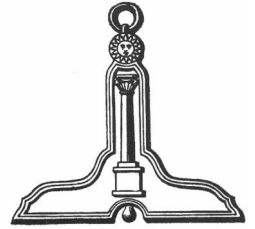
The courses offered by the York Rite Leadership Program have been designed to augment the lessons of our ritual. The first courses are about personal effectiveness – they give you the tools and materials needed to be self-apprising, to move past old habits and acquire traits. The second courses provide methodologies to bridge any remaining gaps to teamworking. You create a plan that includes all team members, values input from others, and represents a common vision. Finally we help you refine your communication skills to realize team perspectives and goals. The whole team should feel satisfied – not only with the organization’s accomplishment – but with their personal contribution, too.

If you want to learn more about leadership principles, join the York Rite Leadership Training Program. Visit the website at [YorkRiteLeadership.org](http://YorkRiteLeadership.org) for more information and to register for the program.

## VIEW FROM THE WEST (continued)

Submitted by Douglas Arps, Jr.

Grade, according to the classification adopted by the Masonic Order of Memphis, the Worshipful Master explains that “the Branch of Acacia...is an emblem of that ardent zeal for truth which should be cherished by every Master, encompassed as he is by corrupted men who betray it”; but this is a flimsy artifice, characteristic of the Rite which devised it and of the Masonic period in France to which it belonged at its origin. To sum up therefore, the emblem is – on the surface – funereal in that the great pageant with which it is connected is unquestionably one of resurrection. It appears to form part of a story which has a deeper meaning than is found on the surface.



**The Hermetic Rose** – From my own point of view as a mystic, it is a figurative representation of our inward nature, like the Hermetic Rose itself. As that Rose out of a rude mountain, so issues from the inchoate nature of the man of earth the many-petalled flower of spiritual being: so gradually and slowly unfold our potencies – like petals – from within. As the beautiful blossoms of the Acacia are put forth successively till the branch is covered and weighted down, so from one root and stock are the powers of our interior and centre manifested outwardly. As the life of the young Pelicans was sustained by the resources of the parent bird of the legend, so are our exterior forces fed from the spirit which is within; so from within is sustained the life of the outward man. And that which is interior is the larger part; our possibilities are greater than our attainments, but there are greater attainments to come; while the mystics tell us that he who is within is older than he who it without. On such *a priori* considerations, the Acacia typifies that which is immortal in our nature; when planted to signify the place of rest where lay that which was perishable it testified that the Master lived, and so also that which he denoted. The plans of the unfinished temple were not wanting but hidden; the Word was reserved somewhere and would be restored by time or circumstances; and after the shadowed lights of figurative resurrection, there would come the Orient light, the bright and Morningstar, heralding a resurrection in the spirit, in the real and imperishable man, full of grace and truth. The motto to be inscribed on the Acacia is therefore *Resurgamus nos*.

**A Sign of Innocence** – The Acacia in Greek is ἡ ἀκακία, and the same word signifies simplicity, innocence and the mind turning from evil, as if with instinctive horror. There are no pitfalls comparable to those which are dug for the unwary by mere intimations of words, and I question whether I should have mentioned this fact at all if it had not been cited by others, more especially as the innocence of the Master Builder was not a subject at issue when the Acacia was planted over his grave, any more than the legendary choice of shittim-wood for the cross erected on Calvary signified – in the opinion of those who crucified Christ – that He was the unspotted and stainless victim of the Supreme Sacrifice. It was the makers of the Hiramite myth who saw to it that a thing which was implied in their minds should be symbolized on the grave of their symbolic Master. They placed therefore a sign of resurrection and immortality, as if in some later mystery the grave should give up its dead in the fashion of one who henceforward would be alive for evermore. Meanwhile, in the person of their Candidate of the Third Degree, they indicated this implicit and shewed forth this mystery to come, as in a glass and darkly, making the darkness for the moment only more visible. As we know, however, the intention which I have ventured to predicate, on the expressed authority of all the Ancient Mysteries and on the transparent implicits of the Master Grade, came to nothing. But on the continent of Europe, in the holy places of Lyons, under the auspices of Martinism and the Strict Observance, there were those who had eyes for symbolism and they saw clearly. They saw to it also after their own speaking manner, and it came about therefor – before the end of the eighteenth century – that Hiram rose. I say therefore with Éliphas Lévi: “I also believe in the resurrection of Hiram.” Meanwhile, those who are pleased to affirm that the Acacia is a symbol of innocence shall pass unchallenged, but the point is not of consequence to the subject. Could funerary connections be established ever so clearly, they would be of no consequence either, for the greatness of the Third Degree does not consist in the death or burial of the Master Builder but in the Raising of the Candidate. I observe that Dr. Frederick Dalcho, famous as a High Grade Mason in South Carolina, affirmed the connection in an Oration belonging to the year 1802, namely, that the ancient Jews were accustomed to place the Acacia over graves, not as a symbol of immortality – about which they knew but vaguely, and not as a sign of resurrection – about which at that time they knew nothing at all – but as a warning to their priests who were “prohibited from crossing a grave.” The fact, if it be a fact, would signify less than nothing, for we are dealing with symbolism and not, as it happens, with signposts. I have checked the

(continued on next page)

reference, however, and find that Dr. Dalcho was speaking of the matter as if it were common knowledge and cited no authority. It has been advanced also that Blount in his *Levantine Travels* includes the planting of evergreens on graves as a Jewish custom belonging to that region. Unfortunately, the Acacia is an evergreen, but all evergreens are not acacias. Moreover, on recourse to these curious old travels it proves that the custom in question is Turkish and not Jewish. The actual terms of the statement are: "They plant such kind of plants or flowers as remain green all the year." I shall remain content therefore with that which I have in evidence: a token of immortality is better than a graveyard warning, and a sign of resurrection shall be preferred before one of death.

#### References:

1. *Dr. Frederick Dalcho, Orations on Freemasonry, Dublin Reprint, 1808, pages 23, 24.*
2. *Sir Henry Bount, Knt., A Voyage Into the Levant: A Grief Relation of a Journey lately performed, etc., 5th Edition, London, 1664, pages 196, 197.*



## FREE WILL

By Antero Trujillo, Chaplain

One of the greatest attributes of the human being is the ability to choose what he does or does not do, assuming responsibility for such actions. About Free Will, many interpretations have been given from different points of view, such as the Theological, Philosophical, and Scientific.

From the Theological point of view, Free Will is an attribute conferred by God on human beings. The great monotheistic religions of the West admit the influence of the Supreme Being, conferring on man the ability to exercise freedom of choice in the course of his existence, taking responsibility for their actions and earning himself the reward or punishment. (1)(2)

After the scientific revolution of the 17th Century, the mechanistic philosophy of the new science implied that the movements of matter are always determined by previous material circumstances. To the extent that human beings depend on their material bodies, it would seem logical to assume that all options are determined by circumstances beyond their own control, this is what is known as determinism. (1)

Given that this philosophical conception did not give a sufficient explanation, most modern philosophers have tried to defend Free Will starting from other points of view. The so-called Liberals agree with Spinoza that determinism leaves no room for Free Will and deny that human beings are determined. Others, such as the so-called compatibilists, accept that human options are determined, but deny that this rules out human Free Will.

In recent times, explanations such as Quantum Physics have emerged whose probabilistic foundation seems to support the favorable view of Free Will. (1) There are those who support the influence of genetic and evolutionary factors in the development of human behavior, reaching the conclusion that Free Will is just an illusion. Advances in neuroscience have shown that people become aware of the execution of an action several milliseconds after the brain has made the decision to execute it, which suggests that Free Will does not intervene.

In this complete interpretation and definition of Free Will, we Freemasons firmly believe in the existence of a Supreme Being and that we have not yet fully elucidated our destiny in order to understand who we are and where we are going.

#### References:

1. *Philosophy. David Papineau, Oxford University Press, 2009*
2. *Philosophical Explanations, Robert Nozick, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1981.*



## THE POOL OF INFINITY: RIGHT ANGLES, HORIZONTALS, TRIADS, AND THE TRINITY

Submitted By Ben Vik

Brothers and Sisters, how great it is to experience the wonder and power of Creation! Standing in awe and amazement of the blazing heat of an Arizona summer, we can still find respite in the cool waters of a clean and refreshing swimming pool, whether we choose the shallow end or the deep. Submerged in that beautiful clear water for a short time, we find peace, refreshment, and a new calming perspective on the trajectory of the day. In this short essay, I invite you all to leave the heat behind and join me for a brief and refreshing metaphysical dip, exploring and pondering some thoughts on our sacred and glorious Science of Geometry. Join me here on the edge, and take my hand.

Take a deep breath, close your eyes, count to three, and prepare for that forward leap. Here we stand, you, I, and all else, on this beautiful plane of Substance and Material. Around us, in the beautiful light of day, stretches all of visible Creation to the horizon, in all directions. Above us, in a straight infinite line, our being touches the entire breadth of the Universe. Before us, under our feet, stretches the whole of our direction of travel, whether on this Earth, below the surface thereof, in the Air, of beneath the Waters. This right angle of Direction remains with us throughout the entirety of our lives, insofar as our forward progress provides it that second plane of existence. Worthy Friends, progression along the Horizontal is necessary, a perfect part of our mission on this physical plane; the progressive movement of your body and intellect propelling your soul towards perfection. But this movement is not solely for your own edification, for fellow Travelers walk beside you. Some of these travelers share your path for a time, then turn a corner and are gone. Some remain, traveling beside you to the end of Time. In all this, there are two truths that you must embrace and seek to act upon at all times. One, that you must acknowledge and accept the presence and guidance of the Divine, which dwells in the Infinity of the perpendicular Above and Two, that how you affect and effect your fellow Travelers on this horizontal level is of immense import to the progression of your Soul.

This conduit from the Divine and the spiritual to the Physical and mundane forms an angle of 90 degrees, or one-quarter of a full circle in its entirety.

Let us jump together into that beautiful water.

Kick your way to the surface, my friend, and take a deep, beautiful breath of Life-giving Air. Is it not amazing, this transition that you notice, the oppressive summer heat transforming by virtue of the cool water? We take a deep breath, relax, and sink again, our feet reaching the smooth and level surface below.

Opening our eyes on this level surface, we see surrounding us friends and family, equally, at first glance as serene and relaxed and carefree as we ourselves. But a second glance reveals more detail, and deeper insight. We see our loved ones truly; here stands one dealing with the dissolution of a relationship. There stands one, on the same plane as we, dealing silently with health and wellness issues beyond the comprehension of most. Here, a brother with a cognitive disability. There, a sister grieving the end of a hopeful pregnancy. Beyond them, brothers and sisters experiencing success beyond our current means; all together on this level surface, each role, condition, and position suspended in the same medium in which we ourselves reside. In this place, not only with our eyes but in the deepest places of our hearts, we see clearly the close-knit connection of Humankind, the equality and interconnection of the Human experience. Here on the Level, all Human Beings reside; of varying levels of intelligence, wealth, health, and ability – all worthy of respect and acknowledgement regardless of station. Here on the Level, our hands are naturally extended to our fellow travelers in continual brotherly love and acceptance; whether to congratulate, to console, or to uplift and aid.

This horizontal plane, stretching from West to East before us, and East to West again behind, forms an angle of 180 degrees, or one-half of a full circle in its entirety.

Rising again from the level bottom of the pool, we surface, open our eyes, and take a deep breath through our nose, floating below the warmth of the sun. Here we bask, our body and spirit cooled by the blue water below, yet warmed by the sunlit air above. Our selves, the cool water, the warmth of the air, three things separate yet co-existing in beautiful triune harmony.

In this moment, we realize something deep and intrinsic about our physiognomy. We naturally think of our bodies in terms of twos: two eyes, two ears, two arms and hands, and two legs and feet, etc. Two is a very human number; but we often disregard that each pair is offset by a third. Our two eyes that see are

(continued on next page)





supplemented by a nose that takes in scent, our ears that hear have a mouth before them that speaks; and our two arms and legs are both attached to a single trunk with all the organs of life within. These triads continue throughout our cardiopulmonary system, our nervous system, and our male and female reproductive systems, further into procreation itself; mother, father and child. We see these triads manifest in Masonic tradition, in the Three Pillars of the Lodge, the Jewels, the Degrees, and more.

Pondering further the mystery of creation, and of Life itself, our thoughts naturally turn to the Divine, to the Master of Creation, the prime mover, Architect and Progenitor of Mankind. Three is a divine number, the number of the Trinity: The Father, the Son, and the beautiful dove of the Holy Spirit, alighting upon and endowing Humanity with the indwelling of Divinity. Ancient philosophers envisioned this three-fold miracle in the form of a downward-facing equilateral triangle, descending and outpouring from Heaven in the blue light of spiritual awakening and reception, and merging with the red fire of creation in the form of an upwards-facing triangle composed of the body, soul and spirit of Mankind. This merging, this “marriage” as the ancient alchemists referred to it, took the form of the six-pointed star we know today as the Star of David and the Seal of King Solomon the Wise. This is a merging and emanation of the kind prophesied by the promise of the Hebrew name Emmanuel, or “God With Us”, and beyond that, the Greek name, concept and story of Prometheus, who brought mankind that Fire of awakening, turning our eyes to those spiritual realms above. Thinking further, as we float between the fiery heat of the sun and the cool blue of the water, we come to realize an interesting correlation: with the addition of two horizontals, the Masonic symbol of the Square and Compasses becomes provocatively similar to the ancient Seal of King Solomon as well. But no, the degrees are off slightly, so we disregard this notion for now and swim on.

The interior angles of the equilateral triangle equal 60 and 60 and 60, forming a total of 180; but the addition of a second triangle gives us a total of 360 degrees, or a full circle in its entirety.

I’m feeling so peaceful and rejuvenated by this beautiful swim we’ve taken together! However, now is the time to emerge, take refreshment, reflect, and move forward with the evening. I know we will have amazing conversation and fellowship in the days to come; but for now...let’s grab a towel and a drink, sit back, relax, reflect by this beautiful pool, and peacefully enjoy our glorious Arizona sunset.

#### References:

1. Mackey, Albert. *An Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry and Its Kindred Sciences*. (New and Revised, Volumes 1 and 2). Masonic History Company, 1921.
2. *The Holy Bible*. Matthew 28:19, Luke 3:21–22, et al.
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# Traveling Men



On July 28th, Brothers Antero (Doc) Trujillo and Ira Hearen, Jr. went down to Mexicali, California to Palingenesia Lodge #46 for a Third Degree. There was quite a difference between Mexico, Arizona, and California Third Degree work, but the messages and meanings were still the same. There was food and fellowship afterwards. A good time was had by all!

*Photos provided by Brother Ira Hearen, Jr.*



Brothers Brad Hamner and Ira Hearen, Jr. traveled to the Lodge in Coachella, California on June 25th to witness a double First Degree. It was interesting to see the difference between the Arizona Ritual Work and California Ritual Work. The Ritual Work may have been a little different, but the fellowship is always the same!

*Photo provided by Brother Ira Hearen, Jr.*





# Traveling Men



WB Mike Kofta, Brother Ira Hearen, Jr. and Brother Ben Vik traveled to Acacia Lodge #42 on August 16th to witness a First Degree. They were also there to get back the Yuma Lodge banner! Yuma and Acacia have a strong bond – Acacia has come to visit Yuma before, so it was great to be able to return the favor!

*Photo provided by WB Mike Kofta*

## Community Service



A few Brothers were on-hand with several other organizations to receive a donation check from the Caballeros de Yuma for volunteering at the Midnight at the Oasis car show.

# YORK RITE HAPPENINGS



Some members of the Yuma Commandery attended the 129th Annual Grand Conclave in August.

*Photo provided by Brother Ira Hearen, Jr.*

# SCOTTISH RITE HAPPENINGS

The Scottish Rite Valley of San Diego is putting on **The Traitor**, a play set after the end of the American Revolution and features some prominent Masons including George Washington and General Lafayette. Of course, it also features Benedict Arnold, a Mason who betrayed America during this revolution.

The play is open to you and your family as well as to the public. This will take place on **Friday, November 18th**; dinner prior to the play at 6:00pm (price is \$20.00), play begins at 7:30pm. Please make reservations via our website, <https://www.scottishritesandiego.org/>, or by calling the office at (619) 293-4888.

Thank you very much!

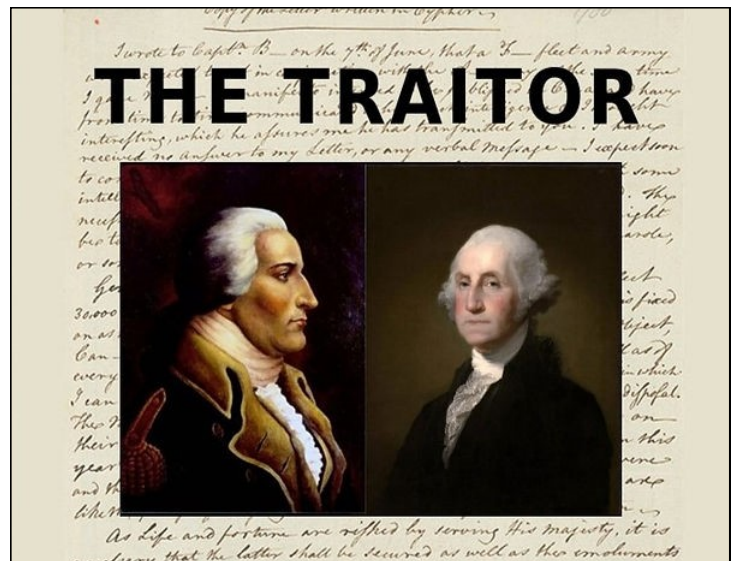
Fraternally,

JoJo Quimpo, 33°

General Secretary

Scottish Rite Valley of San Diego

(619) 293-4888





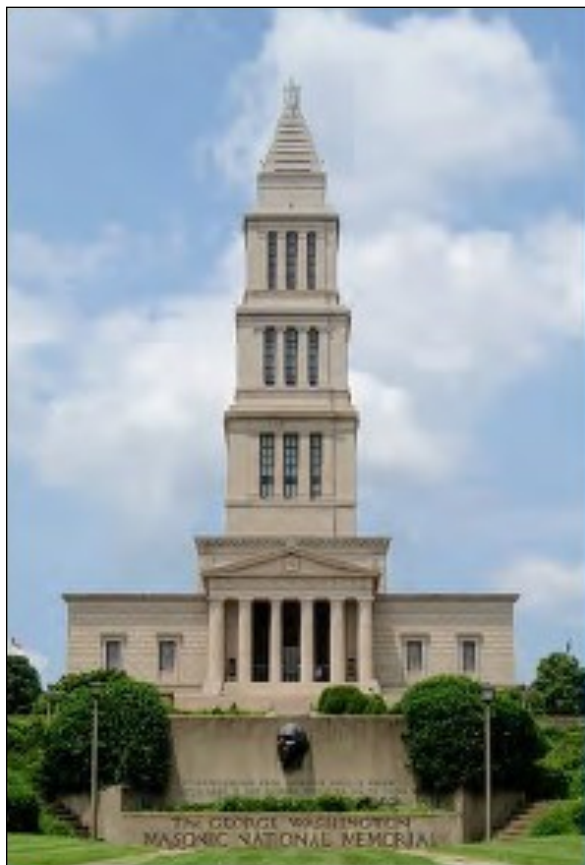
# *Save the Date*

Monday, February 20, 2023

*for the*

## Re-enactment of the Cornerstone Dedication of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial

*Join us for this Historic  
National Masonic Event!*



Please save the date — February 20, 2023 — and plan now to attend the historic re-enactment of the cornerstone laying of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. The Memorial stands as American Freemasonry's vital tribute to George Washington, and each year thousands visit the Memorial to become inspired by the great heritage left to us by the Father of our Country.

Visit <https://gwmemorial.org/2023> to join the Memorial's email list and receive news about the re-enactment plans and other events at the Memorial.



George Washington Masonic National Memorial  
101 Callahan Drive • Alexandria, Virginia 22301  
703-683-2007 • [www.gwmemorial.org](http://www.gwmemorial.org)

# Fraternel Relations

## American Flag Tribute

Grand Chapter 2022



Lee Anne Kallen, Past Grand Marshal and Katherine Meyer, Past Grand Lecturer

When you listen to our Eastern Star ritual, what do the emblems symbolize to you? I have always been intrigued by the symbolism in our Masonic orders. Listen today to see if you make any of the same connections to our Eastern Star symbolism as they relate to the patriotism of America.

Adah's sword and veil within the triangle are an emblem of her heroic conduct. Each person who has served in our military has been a symbol of heroism.

The Grand Lecturer's spear and open book within the star symbolize intelligence in preserving the rites, traditions, and ceremonies of Eastern Star. The inauguration or installation of officers each term, the traditions of each chapter and state that bind each other together, and the pomp and circumstance that make each ceremony unique are all a part of those rites, traditions, and ceremonies we hold dear. May we perform these duties with faithfulness and leadership.

The Conductress' scroll and baton within the star is an emblem of prepared plans and their fulfillment. It takes thoughtful minds to prepare plans to meet the goals of the greater good.

Ruth's symbol is a sheaf within the triangle, an emblem of plenty. I think of the many freedoms we have. As Americans, we have strong feelings about those freedoms. When those freedoms feel threatened or taken away, it is the symbol of the sheaf that reminds us to be faithful and that honor and justice will prevail.

The Warder's dove within the star is an emblem of peace, and the Sentinel's crossed swords within the star are an emblem of protection. We are so grateful for those who serve our country to keep the peace through protection.

The Associate Matron's symbol is the effulgent sun within the star, an emblem of light. Through the darkest times, Americans have shown that we can shine brightest through our gift of humanity.

Our Associate Patron's emblem is a star within the star, an emblem of divine guidance. So many call upon a higher power to seek council before making important decisions.

Esther's crown and scepter within the triangle are emblems of royalty and power. May we always ask what power we seek and to whom we are loyal.

Martha's broken column within the triangle is an emblem of a person cut off in the vigor of life. Countless have sacrificed their lives for us, not only in body but many in spirit as well. It is our freedom that we owe them our gratitude.

I can't think of any other place other than our Masonic family than the military that develops young recruits into leaders. The Associate Conductress' baton within the star is an emblem of leadership. Both organizations develop their members to be the best they can be if they are willing to invest their time and effort.

Electa's cup within the triangle is an emblem of charity and hospitality. United States Service members worldwide serve beyond their call of duty, just like we do to make this world a better place.

Thank goodness for the Organist's lyre within the star, an emblem of music and poetry. Each of us has a song in our heart, whether at our darkest time or in our happiest moment. Music unites us.

The Treasurer's crossed keys within the star are an emblem of security. By doing our jobs with the strictest fidelity and the utmost security, our country can be assured that we can meet our expenses and have enough to relieve those who are distressed.

The Chaplain's open bible within the star is an emblem of the Word of God. It reminds us to walk upright no matter what station in life we hold and that we can be the light to others in our cities, state, and country.

The Worthy Matron's gavel within the star is an emblem of authority making sure that her judgment and discretion are held accountable to a higher power. She, like all government officials, is looked to for wisdom, advice, forbearance, and counsel. The list of her duties are numerous, but the eyes of the chapter are upon her.

(continued on next page)

# Fraternel Relations

What she deems praiseworthy in another in her position, she should carefully emulate so that she strives to the exalted position her associates have elected her.

Just as the Worthy Patron's structured square and compasses within the star are an emblem of his relationship with the Masonic Fraternity and to the Order of the Eastern Star, our flag has a structure of vibrant colors. The red symbolizes the relationship to the sacrifices made, the white is the pride in our country's humanity, and the indigo blue stands for the moral obligation to raise each other up to be Americans with character.

The Secretary's crossed pens within the star are an emblem of intelligence. I think of the trust that our world has in America, that the good deeds of our country will not go unrecorded.

Finally, the Marshal's crossed batons within the star are an emblem of direction. Though we do not have control over the direction our country will go, we do have control over the direction we will respond to our country. So I will end with, "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me!"

## Address of the Worthy Patrons to the Worthy Grand Patron-elect

"You are about to enter another dimension. A dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wonderous land of imagination..." (Rod Serling, TWILIGHT ZONE). Hollywood's top two production executives, Sister Mitzi and Brother Jim are about to embark on an adventure to develop a production that will be known as the "greatest of all time" (The GOAT).



They assembled the best directors, who in turn assembled the best film crew. The Screenwriters began to screen. The Art Directors began to art. The Cinematographer began to cinema and the Foley Artists began to, well you know, foley.

On the set you hear "Lights, camera,...wait; I need you all to sit back, grab your seats, hold on, close your eyes, use your imagination as I describe the scene you are about to, you know, see.

THE BROADWAY MELODY played like a CAVALCADE of THE SOUND OF MUSIC, IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT at the GRAND HOTEL ON THE WATERFRONT where YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU, a group of people, MARTY, GIGI, BEN-HUR, REBECCA, MRS. MINIVER, TOM JONES, LAWRENCE OF ARABIA, OLIVER, ROCKY, AND ANNIE HALL planned a trip AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS. From the WEST SIDE STORY APARTMENT, the plan will take them FROM HERE TO ETERNITY with stops to see THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI where they hope to see THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH and HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY.

Across the oceans IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT on the ship TITANIC hoping there would be no MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY, the MIDNIGHT COWBOY, THE GODFATHER, THE DEER HUNTER, and A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS entered into a GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT to visit AN AMERICAN IN PARIS who was a MAN FOR ALL SEASONS. On the way to Paris to visit THE ENGLISH PATIENT over THE LOST WEEKEND, ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST on the WINGS of the BIRDMAN who asked them if they were GOING MY WAY.

The LIFE OF EMILE ZOLA was GONE WITH THE WIND as HAMLET, ALL THE KINGS MEN, MY FAIR LADY, and GANDHI who were ORDINARY PEOPLE found life ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT and commented that these were THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES.

THE LAST EMPEROR, THE GREAT ZIEGFELD, and AMADEUS formed a PLATOON under the TERMS OF ENDEARMENT to drive CHARIOTS OF FIRE OUT OF AFRICA. RAINMAN was UNFORGIVEN for DRIVING MISS DAISY to the DANCES WITH WOLVES and breaking THE SILENCE OF THE LAMBS and losing SCHINDLER'S LIST.

(continued on next page)



# Fraternel Relations

## Address of the Worthy Patrons to the Worthy Grand Patron-elect (continued)

The AMERICAN BEAUTY thought she was a MILLION DOLLAR BABY, but found out after the CRASH, she was just a PARASITE and SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE during the THE KING'S SPEECH that was published in the GREEN BOOK.

During the 12 YEARS A SLAVE, under the MOONLIGHT and with a SPOTLIGHT, THE ARTIST began painting THE SHAPE OF WATER in NOMADLAND. After seeing the painting for the first time, FORREST GUMP, ARGO, and KRAMER VS. KRAMER thought this was THE FRENCH CONNECTION but later found out it was ALL ABOUT EVE.

CIMMARON and CASABLANCA was the backdrop for THE STING performed on THE GODFATHER, PART II while BRAVEHEART and GLADIATOR had thoughts of SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE only to find out THE DEPARTED Shakespeare was in THE HURT LOCKER and there was NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN.

Written by: THE LORD OF THE RINGS and Illustrated by: THE RETURN OF THE KING

Sister Mitzi, Brother Jim, You are the executives who know the big picture. We, who are assembled before you, are the directors who await your direction and those around the room are the crew, to get things done. It is our honor to serve with you over the next year.



The Twinning of Imperial Valley Lodge #390 and Palingenesia Lodge #46 of Mexicali

*Left to right: WM Diego Angles of Palingenesia Lodge #46, Grand Master Armando Lopez Acosta of the Grand Lodge of Baja California, and Anthony (Tony) Milanes.*

*Photo provided by Brother Ira Hearen, Jr.*





## STAR IN THE EAST

By B.J. Dale, Worthy Matron

Greetings Everyone,

Hello everyone! Yuma has continued to stay busy, even with the heat and crazy monsoon weather. We hope everyone is staying cool. We started off our summer by a few members attending the Grand Communications at Wild Horse Pass Resort in Chandler the first week in June. We'd like to congratulate our very own Worthy Patron, Right Worshipful Michael Dale, who was elected as Senior Grand Warden in Arizona. We wish him well on his journey through the Grand Line.

On June 11th, our Chapter held our Chapter installation. We had friends and family from far and near who came to support our Chapter. We would like to thank everyone who attended, especially since it was the hottest day of summer so far. We would especially like to thank our Yuma Territorial Lodge 17 Masons and our Sisters from the Imperial, California Chapter for attending and spending the day with us. The Worthy Matron would also like to thank everyone who provided food but especially our own Ruby Kofta who kindly provided delicious lumpia and pancit. It was a huge success! Congratulations to all our newly installed 2022–2023 Chapter Officers.

We held a quick meeting on June 14th before we went dark for the summer. We had enough for a quorum and it was moved, seconded, and passed for the Chapter to provide two dinners for the months that we have two meetings in a month. This would be for the months of October and January through May.

July was fairly quiet as we geared up to attend the Eastern Star Grand Chapter Session the first week of August. There were a total of 13 people that went from our Chapter. It was a fun time and everyone enjoyed spending time with some old and new friends. We want to congratulate our new Worthy Grand Matron, Mitzi Loughridge and Worthy Grand Patron, Jim Wadley. Their theme is LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION, and their focus is on FAMILY, both our own families and our Masonic Family. A huge congratulations go out to our very own Sister Ruth Wilmot, Grand Lecturer and Brother David Gillis, our District Instructor.

We're looking forward to starting back up in September. The Worthy Matron is trying to plan a Stars Night Out before our first meeting the 4th Tuesday in September. So be looking out for an email or phone call about that. There are a few things that will be happening in October. Between our meetings, we will be having a Silent Fundraiser, our Winter Visitors should be returning, and we will be installing our Chapter officers that were not able to be at our installation. We are also hoping to have two initiations and welcoming a couple of new members.

In November and December, we will be honoring Veterans, having another Stars Night Out, and getting ready to celebrate the upcoming holiday seasons. We are looking forward to the upcoming year, enjoying each other, and doing fun activities. We'll keep you posted.

**BIRTHDAYS:** SEPTEMBER: NOVEMBER: 3RD – Joyce Brown, 7th – Carol Smith, 12th – Ilione Carlson, 19th – Sabrina Arps, 23rd – Molly Erskine, 26th – Jerry McAdams, 27th – Norma Trujillo

Upcoming birthdays:

- SEPTEMBER: Sandi Bennett (9th), Beth Ann Prather (11th), Beverley Treherne (11th), Curtis Cloud (21st), Ruby Kofta (25th), Myrtle Gunlock (25th), Emily White (26th), Marvel Leader (27th), Laquita Allison (29th)
- OCTOBER: Nancy Southard (4th), Teresa Nunnaley (19th)

Until next time, please keep all our ailing members in your thoughts and prayers. If you know someone who isn't feeling well, would appreciate a phone call or card, or may need assistance running errands, please call Worthy Matron B.J. Dale at (760) 960–9037 (or any Chapter member) to let her know. We miss seeing all of you and we hope to see everyone's smiling faces at our meetings. Take care and be safe!

## **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. Our Worthy Matron plans to have dinners and refreshments when we return in September. Meetings begin promptly at 7:00pm. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please call the Lodge at (928) 783–7993.

# Masonic Anniversaries

*When you became a Master Mason*

## SEPTEMBER

Roger Christiansen	John Mitchell
David Conaway	Welton Phillips
Ralph Ferree	Eddie Straws
Benjamin Hinderer	

## OCTOBER

Anthony Bowen	Jerry McAdams
Jackson Cox	James McKinley
Robert Dhu	Jack Puckett
Aaron Hawkins	James Schultz
Kevin Hawkins	Jimmy Seals II
Richard Hyatt	Quaid Smith, PM
Larry Keyes	Victor Wallner
Dale Kreger, PM	

\*\*\* **ATTENTION** \*\*\*

**Deadline for the November/December Trestleboard is  
OCTOBER 20TH**

## PUBLISHER'S CORNER

Summer is winding down, children are heading back to school, which means...FALL IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!!! The Lodge will start going back to work, Eastern Star will start going back to the grind...in other words, back to normal for the Masonic family! I hope our Masonic family can continue to work together and show the rest of Arizona just how amazing Yuma is!



Some of you gentlemen are submitting some amazing articles! I have been learning so much about the Masonic Fraternity and it is simply amazing to see how everything tied to Masonry can be seen in everyday life. The history of Masonry is something to behold and I am truly honored to be a part of this great family.

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 see any corrections that need to be addressed, please let me know those as well so they can be corrected. If you attend an event, don't forget to take pictures and submit them, either to me or on the Yuma Lodge Facebook page. 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**

Mikel White, Chairman

### **Facilities Maintenance**

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Timothy Williams, PM, DDGM

### **Funeral**

Mikel K. White, PM

### **Grievance**

Michael A. Dale, PM

### **Library/Archives**

Mikel White

### **Masonic Education & Ritual**

Mikel K. White, PM

Timothy Williams, PM, DDGM

Michael A. Dale, PM

### **Masonic Relief**

Worshipful Master

### **Master's Advisory**

Michael A. Dale, PM

Dale L. Kreger, PM

Timothy W. Williams, PM, DDGM

### **Wives, Widows, and Orphans**

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

### **Candidate Instruction**

Michael Kofta, PM

### **Officer Instruction**

Mikel K. White, PM

## FUNDRAISING

### **Chairman – Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"**

Co-Chairmen – Dale Kreger, PM

Brad Hamner

### **Barbeque**

Mikel K. White, PM

### **Balloon Glow**

Dale L. Kreger, PM

### **Midnight at the Oasis**

Mikel K. White, PM

### **Raffle & Other Venues**

Stewards

## PUBLIC SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

### **Bikes for Books**

Brad Hamner

### **Law Enforcement Memorial**

Hector Aponte

### **Roadside Clean-up**

Ira Hearen

### **Scholarship/Classroom Grants**

Hector Aponte

Dale L. Kreger, PM

## 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



**3:10**

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