



TRESTLEBOARD

VIEW FROM THE EAST

By Douglas Arps, Jr., Worshipful Master

Greetings Brothers,

Welcome back Brothers to a new year of Masonry. First of all, I would like to thank everyone who attended our Installation of Officers back in December. I would like to personally thank my installing team, PGM Craig Gross, Senior Grand Deacon WB Eric Dupree, and WB Carl Melton. I am very grateful that you Brothers were able to come down and take part in it. Wow, still trying to grasp this title. When I first came into Masonry after being raised I was appointed to Senior Steward, and being a newly Master Mason really had no clue what to expect or what I was really doing. But there have been many Brothers who assisted me to get to where I'm at now. To be honest, if you would have asked me in the beginning if I had plans to go to the East I would have laughed and said you were crazy. But the time I've been Masonry has really changed my life. I've met so many awesome Brothers outside of my home lodge and even as far as Alaska; once again I am truly grateful to everyone that got me this far.

January 20th our California Brothers from Imperial Lodge #390 will be having their Installation of Officers. For more info please contact WM Tony or Brother Ira. Imperial Lodge #390 will also be holding a George Washington Dinner on February 24th. I went to it last year and had a great time. It's open to families and friends; there's information on page 11 of this Trestleboard but if you need more information please contact Brother Ira.

Sunday, February 25th will be our annual BBQ fundraiser at the Lodge from 11:00am-3:00pm so spread the word: pit BBQ, coleslaw, beans, and tortillas – always great food. There will be limited dining seating for Masonic families but the “drive-thru” is always open!

March 1st to 3rd is Midnight at the Oasis. For those who don't know it's an annual car show the Caballeros de Yuma put on every year, with music, food, vendors, and cars. We have been helping them out the past several years by checking IDs and giving wristbands out. If you are able to help please let me know and I'll put you down. We have shifts during the day and at night.

Leadership Conference is coming up on March 22nd through 24th to be held in Prescott. I encourage you if never been to one try to attend. A lot of knowledge is passed around in a few days, plus it's a good chance to meet Brothers throughout Arizona and extend fellowship and brotherhood.

Lastly I'm looking into this year and try to do the best I can to assist in any way possible.

Brotherly Love,
Douglas Arps, Jr. “DJ”, WM



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
for schedule

OFFICE HOURS

Call (928) 503-4356 for an
appointment.

TRESTLEBOARD

Published bi-monthly.

**Article submissions are due
on the 20th of each even-
numbered month.**

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



2024 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

Douglas W. Arps, Jr. "DJ" (Sabrina)
(928) 503-9802

Senior Warden

Brad E. Hamner
(928) 919-6866

Junior Warden

Hector Aponte (Johannes)
(928) 257-9992

Secretary

Michael A. Kofta, PM, DDGL (Ruby)
(928) 580-5965

Treasurer

Tim Williams, PM, DDGM (Pat)
(928) 581-3985

Senior Deacon

Sam Azar
(928) 920-5560

Junior Deacon

Ben Vik
(760) 562-6589

Senior Steward

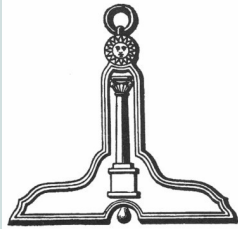
Ivan Pagan
(559) 309-1065

Junior Steward

TBD

Marshal

Sean McGoffin



VIEW FROM THE WEST

Submitted by Brad Hamner

Fraternal Greetings from the West,

Happy New Year Brethren! Hope this year is full of health, wealth, and blessings for all of you. We are looking forward to a fun and great Masonic year! Hitting the ground running getting ready for our new officer line to settle into our roles, planning/preparing for the Annual BBQ, etc. Can't wait to see everyone back in Lodge and jumping in to help where you can. If you need help with anything, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Brad Hamner
Senior Warden

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH

Submitted by Hector Aponte

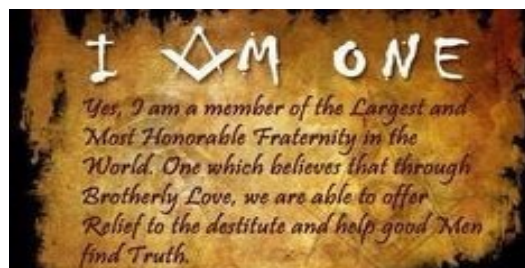
Fraternal Greetings from the South,

Greetings Brethren! A new year is upon us, and with that, new goals, the sometimes-evasive resolutions, exciting dreams and for us... Masonic work and adventures. This year, I had the distinct honor of being elected to be your new Junior Warden for the ensuing year. Thanks to the Yuma Territorial Lodge 17 brethren for entrusting me with this responsibility. As I start my new duties, I would like to introduce myself.

My name is Hector Aponte. I retired from the United States Border Patrol in December 2021 after 23 years of service. Prior to that, I served for seven years as a Police Officer with the Puerto Rico Police Department. Law enforcement brotherhood is very special and very dear to my heart, but all my friends were either law enforcement or related to it in some way. After retiring, I realized that I also needed to associate myself with other people, people from different walks of life. I met a Mason for the first time as a young police recruit. He was a Police Lieutenant who was an instructor at the academy. I was so impressed by the way he carried himself, by his wisdom, and by the respect he commanded.

Fast forward to 2018, when my friend Worshipful Brother Tony Milanes from Imperial Valley 390 started talking to me about Masonry again. Long story short, I knocked on that door, it was answered, and my journey started. I applied myself, and after showing proficiency, I was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason that year. I have met great men who have passed their knowledge, wisdom, and brotherly love to me from day one. Little did I know that I would be sitting in the South five years later. I am very excited for what the next year will bring. Hope to see you and sit with you at Lodge. If you have been away for a while...this is a great time to come back. If you are a regular, I cannot wait to see you again!

Hector Aponte
Junior Warden



FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

Submitted by WB Michael Kofta, PM

Brothers and Sisters,

Congratulations again to our new Lodge Officers on your election and appointments! Looking forward to seeing good work coming from all of you in the New Year. May the Great Architect of the Universe guide you in your work in this new Lodge year.

Winter is now upon us. Most of our die-hard snowbirds have flown South to roost with us for a while (some actually drove). Welcome back! A lot of friendly faces are re-appearing again now as well.

Thank you for all that showed up for the York Rite Christmas program. Apparently, it was the largest turnout that they have had in a few years.

The Annual Masonic BBQ is just around the corner in February. The dining hall at the Lodge will be open to Masonic families during the BBQ and the public will have the opportunity to do the "drive through" again. It worked well the last few times that we did it. Opening the Lodge to Masonic families will continue to bring back the "fellowship" the Brothers missed in the past.

There are a lot of Grand Lodge events as well as Outdoor Degrees starting to fill the calendar as well. Upcoming events include the Installation at Imperial #390 on January 20th; Robert Burns Dinner on January 20th; Scottish Rite Installation of Officers on January 25th; the Lost Dutchman Outdoor Degree on March 2nd; Leadership Conference in Prescott starting on March 22nd.

Dues notices have gone out and we are almost at 50% for members' dues card being mailed out. Brothers, please stay on top of this and get your payments in early. We lost two members last year for non-payment of dues. Let's not let this happen again this year. Please try to get your dues in sooner, last minute payments keep your Secretary working late hours.

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. Please log in, check, and update your information. If you don't know how to log in or have lost the instructions, call me.

Ritual Rehearsals will be scheduled by the Worshipful Master so that we can produce great ritual work for our Candidates. Please attend as many of these as you can and help out where you can.

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

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



2024 OFFICERS (CONTINUED)

Chaplain

Antero A. Trujillo "Doc" (Norma)
(928) 581-6286

Tyler

Ira M. Hearen, Jr. (Elizabeth)
(479) 430-8544

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIRMAN

Douglas Arps, Jr., WM
(928) 503-9802

Hector Aponte, 2026
(928) 257-9992

Benjamin T. Hinderer, PM, 2026
(928) 581-8508

Brad E. Hamner, 2025
(928) 919-6866

Ira M. Hearen, Jr., 2025
(479) 430-8544

Antero A. Trujillo "Doc", 2024
(928) 581-6286

Jeffrey Grimes, PM, 2024
(928) 246-1594

Donate online at:
YumaLodge17.org



Change of
Address

Secretary:
yumalodge17@gmail.com

Trestleboard:
ncbudgirl88@gmail.com

Yuma Territorial Lodge 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: Some Mondays prior to Stated Meeting at **6:30pm** (check with WM).
Lodge members welcome.

York Rite Bodies

Stated Meetings: First Monday at **7:30pm**.

Practice: Third Monday at **7:00pm**.

Order of the Eastern Star

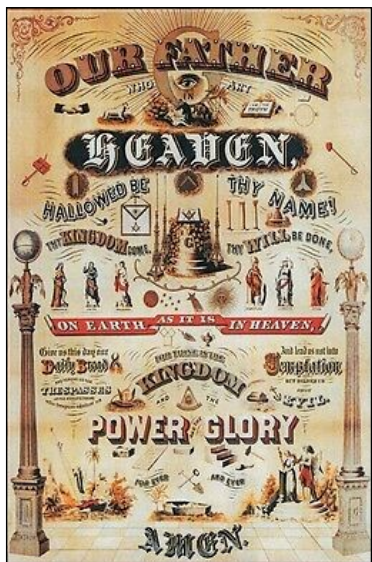
Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays at **7:00pm**.
(Dinner preceding meetings at **6:00pm**.)

Yuma Shrine Club

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



facebook.com/YumaMasons



January 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 	9 	10	11 STATED Apache #69 OV (Mesa)	12	13
14	15 	16	17	18	19	20 Imperial Installation of Officers
21 Masonic Years of Service Awards	22	23 	24	25	26	27 YUMA #14 OES OV
28	29	30	31			

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Midnight at the Oasis – March 1st through 3rd
- Lost Dutchman Outdoor Degree – March 2nd
- Grand Lodge of New Mexico – March 14th and 15th
- Leadership Conference – March 22nd through 24th
- Easter Sunday – March 31st

February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 	6	7	8 STATED	9	10
11	12 	13 	14 VALENTINES DAY	15	16	17
18	19 	20	21	22	23	24 GW Dinner (Imperial)
25 MASONIC BBQ	26	27 	28	29		

WORDS FROM THE PAST MASTER

Submitted By Benjamin T. Hinderer, PM

Good Day from your newest Past Master,

I hope that everyone had as great of a holiday season as my family and I did. Christmas is always a special time of year and a time for reflection. These last two years of being Master of Yuma Territorial Lodge 17 have been some of the best times of my Masonic career. I was able to accomplish many different projects for the Lodge that have been started but never completed. It truly was an honor to serve as your Worshipful Master.

I look forward to continuing to help the officer line in continuing their Masonic career and will provide as much assistance as I can and help pass on my knowledge. We need to keep striving and keep pushing ourselves to get out in the community more and more. Our name should be known far and wide by the citizens of Yuma County and not many of them know who we are and that needs to change. I don't want us to fade off into existence.

Benjamin Hinderer, PM



MUSINGS FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

By RWB Michael Dale, PM



Here is a little tidbit for you.

BONE BOX

by William R. Fischer

In the early lectures of the last century, now obsolete these questions were used as a test:

Q – Have you any keys to the secrets of a Mason?

A – Yes

Q – Where do you keep them?

A – In a bone box, that neither opens nor shuts but with Ivory Keys.

The bone box is the mouth, the Ivory Keys the teeth. The key to the secrets is the tongue.



Yuma Territorial Lodge 17

Pit Barbeque Fundraiser

153 S. Second Avenue, Yuma
(Drive-Thru or Pick-Up only)



Sunday, February 25th, 2024

11:00am to 3:00pm

\$14.00 Dinner Plates

Includes: Pit BBQ, Beans, Coleslaw, Tortillas, Salsa, Bottle of Water



Tickets can be purchased from the following:

- Order online at www.yumalodge17.org (PayPal on website)
- Contact any member of the Lodge
- Purchase tickets at the Lodge the day of the event (cash or credit/debit card accepted)

Traveling Men



A few Brothers traveled to Imperial Valley Lodge #390 in Imperial, CA for a Third Degree on November 11th.



RWB Michael Dale traveled to White River Lodge #62 in Show Low for their Official Visit on November 14th.



RWB Michael Dale also traveled to Florence to represent the Grand Lodge in the Junior Parada Parade!

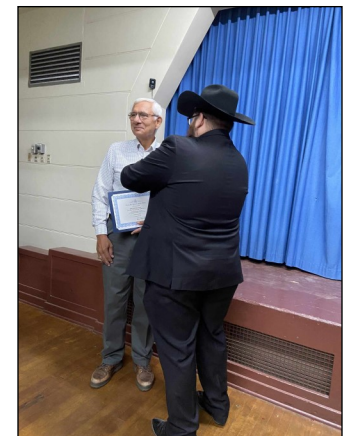


Photos provided by various Brothers

25-YEARS OF SERVICE PIN



Before our December stated meeting, WB Benjamin Hinderer had the honor of presenting WB Jack Frost with his 25-year pin. Congratulations Brother on this amazing accomplishment!



STATED MEETING



We had a good turnout for our November Stated Meeting. Many of our winter visitors were officially back! Since it was also a celebration for Veterans Day, we had the “ceremonial” cutting of the cake by the oldest and youngest veteran in attendance!

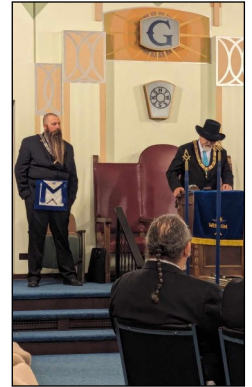


We had a nice turnout for our December Stated Meeting, the last meeting for Brother Benjamin Hinderer as Worshipful Master. Thank you for your leadership these last two years!

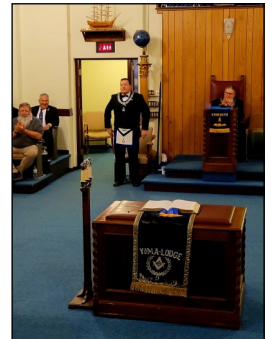
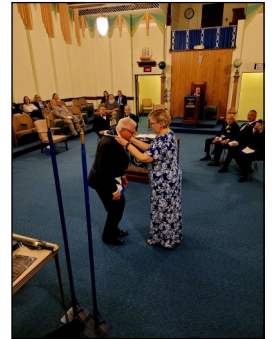
Photos provided by Brother Douglas Arps, Jr.



Installation of Officers



Congratulations to Worshipful Master DJ Arps and the 2024 elected and appointed officers! It was a great day and the reception was even better; the food was delicious! Thank you to the Installing Officers and everyone who was able to attend.



WIDOWS PIN

Community Service

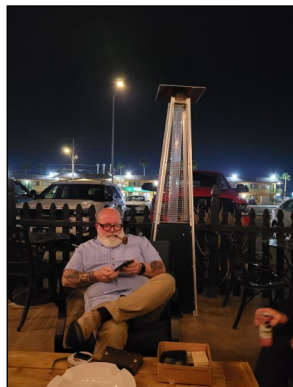


WB Benjamin Hinderer and WM DJ Arps presented Widows Pins to Lois Young and Carolyn Butler. We are sorry for your losses and our Brothers are greatly missed.

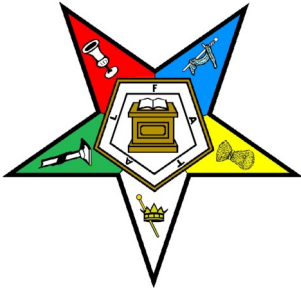
A few Brothers (and a special helper!) did some highway cleanup on November 18th. Doing our part take help keep Yuma nice and clean!

Brothers in Fellowship

Several Brothers from the Lodge were able to get together for some much needed fellowship outside the Lodge. Learning about one another outside the Lodge will help us build stronger relationships!



Photos provided by Brother Douglas Arps, Jr.



STAR IN THE EAST

By BJ Dale, PM, Treasurer

Greetings Everyone,

November and December were all about celebrating the holidays and being together. At our November meeting we had an amazing Thanksgiving dinner prior to our meeting and we honored our veterans. The Worthy Matron read a lovely poem thanking our veterans for their service and sacrifice. Our December meeting was all about celebrating the Christmas season, with a yummy Christmas dinner and a Christmas decoration exchange. Our December meeting was extra special because our Organist pro-tem finally made it down for the winter! Our meetings sound so much better when we have music!



In December several members were on-hand to support our Worthy Patron as he was also installed as the Worshipful Master of Yuma Territorial Lodge 17! There were many out of town guests, which always makes the day special, and our members are so proud of Brother DJ. We look forward to continuing to build on our relationship with the Chapter and the Lodge!

We began working more with the local Flower Mine to help raise money for our Grand Officer fund and Service Dog fund. Mike, the manager, agreed to let us deliver flowers a couple extra days a month. We love delivering flowers for Valentine's Day and Mother's Day, so doing extra days is a special treat for us. So far we've done one day in November and a couple of days right before Christmas. We are looking forward to once again delivering flowers on Valentine's Day in February and bringing smiles to all the valentines in and around Yuma!

Our Chapter will be having our Official Visit on January 27th. We are looking forward to having an "arctic adventure" with our Worthy Grand Matron Pat Peterson and Worthy Grand Patron Gary Horn. We will also be honoring our own Associate Grand Conductress, Ruth Wilmot. Plans are underway and we look forward to visiting with our Sisters and Brothers from across the state.

Look for us on Facebook at **Yuma Chapter #14, OES**. We try to keep up with our events and have even connected with some former members that have moved away from Yuma.

We are continuing collecting food, clothing, toiletries, and other items for Andale's Pantry which supports the students at AWC. Andale's Pantry is designed to meet the immediate food needs of its students on campus by providing a variety of non-perishable food item and basic necessities to students who may not be able to go off campus and their families. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate and can't make it to the Lodge or have any questions, please contact B.J. Dale at (760) 960-9037 or any Star member and we can make arrangements to pick any items up. If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can mail it to the Lodge. Please include a note that you wish it to go towards Andale's Pantry

We are also still supporting Power Paws Assistance Dogs located in Scottsdale, in conjunction with our Grand Chapter and General Grand Chapter. Their mission is to provide highly skilled assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities. We have been supporting and donating to this wonderful cause going on four years now. If you would like to donate, either items or monetarily, please contact B.J. Dale at (760) 960-9037 or any Star Chapter member for information. Your charitable donations are tax deductible.

Upcoming birthdays:

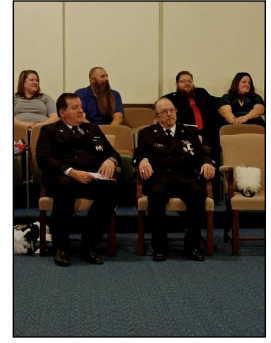
- JANUARY – Antero "Doc" Trujillo (3rd); Bertha "Bert" Wagner (14th); Myrtle Bazzell (16th); Jay Learn (18th); Barbara Gier, PM (19th); Linda Gillis, PM (19th); Sean Godfrey (25th); Diane Grider, PM (26th);
- FEBRUARY – Cynthia Johnson (2nd); Michael Dale, PP (7th); Cynthia Ray (18th); Tim Williams (24th); DJ Arps (27th), Deb Learn (28th)

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 Sabrina Arps at (928) 246-650 (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. Eastern Star members are welcome to visit our meetings, so if you know of some visiting, please invite them! 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. A light meal is served at 6:00pm, followed by our meeting promptly at 7:00pm. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please call the Lodge at (928) 783-7993.

YORK RITE HAPPENINGS



Yuma York Rite Brothers held their annual Christmas Observance on December 18th. Reverend Dr. Austin Mansfield from Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church lead everyone in scripture and told a heartwarming sermon relating the Charlie Brown Christmas movie to our everyday lives. It was a beautiful service!



Imperial Valley Masonic Lodge #390
Installation of Officers

January 20th, 2024
11:00am
California Time

Place: Brawley Masonic Lodge
Open installation, so bring your family!



George Washington Dinner
Place: American Legion Hall
569 Broadway
El Centro, CA
Date and Time:
February 24th, 2024
Meet and Greet 5:00pm
Dinner 6:00pm
All times California time

Must have RSVP in to Brother Ira Hearen
NO later than February 14th, 2024
NO RSVP, NO FOOD

Contact Brother Ira Hearen at
(479) 430-8544 and leave a voice mail.

Need to know how many people in your party and if they want beef or chicken.



Masonic Anniversaries

When you became a Master Mason

JANUARY

Donald Beaton	Wilbert Orem, Jr.
Ernest Cunningham	Menelaos Patsiouras
Vernon Dugan	Robert Payne
Carl Greenwell	Maurice Peters
David Johnson	Gary Stigall
Mark Jones	William Treherne
Jay Learn	Jeremy Voorhies
David McBride	Leon Wilmot
Mark Melton	

FEBRUARY

Jesus Barraza	Robert Lehl, Jr.
Chris Dempsey	Kelly McDowell
Bob Dennis, PM	Freeman Mitchell, Jr.
Randall Gaetz	Richard Ruzanka, PM
Robert Gordon III	Merritt Thomas
Glen Harris	Daniel Weddle
Harold Hawes	Mikel White. PM
Travis Kniss	

***** ATTENTION *****

**Deadline for the March/April 2024 Trestleboard is
FEBRUARY 20TH**

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make DJ's installation so special. Everyone who came from out of town, my family for stepping up to help, and all our Eastern Star sisters and brothers who attended, THANK YOU! I wasn't able to be there but knowing everyone was there to show support made me feel better. Thank you all for making the day extra special!



With the New Year, things are starting to pick up for the Lodge and Eastern Star. We both have a lot of events and fundraisers coming up and hopefully we can work together to make them as successful as possible. Building on the relationship between the Masons and Eastern Star is a priority with DJ and myself, as well as building the relationships with the families. I constantly talk about times when I was in Rainbow and we would have "family day" with the Masons and Eastern Star and we would love to bring that back. So be on the lookout - we can't wait to bring our Masonic family closer together!

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

Worshipful Master

Budget

Worshipful Master

By-Laws

Mike Kofta, PM, DDGL

Benjamin Hinderer, PM

Cemetery Clean-up

Trustees

Facilities Maintenance

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Timothy Williams, PM, DDGM

Funeral

Worshipful Master

Grievance

Michael A. Dale, PM

Library/Archives

Benjamin Vik

Masonic Education & Ritual

Mike Kofta, PM, DDGL

Timothy Williams, PM, DDGM

Michael A. Dale, PM

Masonic Relief

Worshipful Master

Master's Advisory

Michael A. Dale, PM

Timothy W. Williams, PM, DDGM

Wives, Widows, and Orphans

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

Brad Hamner

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Candidate Instruction

Michael Kofta, PM, DDGL

Officer Instruction

Michael Kofta, PM, DDGL

FUNDRAISING

Chairman – Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Brad Hamner

Barbeque

Brad Hamner

Trustees

Midnight at the Oasis

Worshipful Master

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Bikes for Books

Brad Hamner

Public Schools

Brad Hamner

Roadside Clean-up

Ira Hearen, Jr.

MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS/FRATERNAL SUPPORT

Birthday Cards

Benjamin Hinderer

Facebook

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"

Mason of the Year

SW & JW

Membership Participation/Retention

Worshipful Master

Sickness and Distress

Antero Trujillo

Telephone Calling

Quaid E. Smith, PM, KYGCH

Trestleboard

Sabrina Arps, Publisher

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"


Website

Douglas Wayne Arps, Jr. "DJ"


Wills and Bequests

TBD






3:10


AUTO WORKS DIESEL WORKS

David McHone
(928) 503-5525

3222 S. Florence Lane
Yuma, Az 85365

<p>Auto Repair Office - (928) 344-3771 Fax - (928) 244-2787</p>	<p>Diesel Repair Office - (928) 344-3517 Fax - (928) 244-2787</p>
--	--



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



Advertise
With Us

\$100 Annual Subscription
Call (928) 783-7993
yumalodge17@gmail.com



Masonic Specialty License Plates



ServiceArizona.com

Fees go to charities supported by Arizona Masons