



# Arizona MASONRY

Grand Lodge of Arizona F. & A.M.  
November 2017

# ARIZONA MASONRY

## ARIZONA MASONRY

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The Editorial staff invites the contributions in the form of informative articles, reports, news and other timely information (Of about 350 to 800 words in length) that is broadly related to general Masonry. When possible, photographs or graphics that support the submission are appreciated. Pieces submitted become the property of the Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Arizona. No compensation is permitted for any article, photograph, or other submitted for publication.

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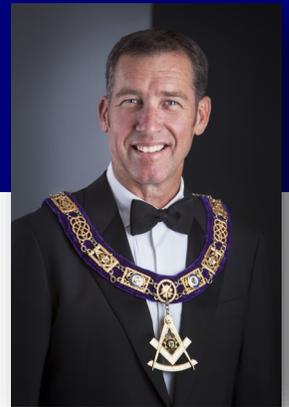
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**Cover Picture Image: 2017 Grand Lodge of England Tercentenary celebration of Masonry**

# Grand Master



## Autumn Greetings Brethren and Friends

We are firmly into the second quarter of the Masonic year and I am happy to report that many responsibilities, projects, and other significant activities have been completed, or are currently underway. They are being coordinated and taken care of by numerous committee chairmen and many dedicated brethren throughout the state, as well as Grand Lodge officers who have taken on requested tasks. We are all working to move the Craft forward and more is planned but could still use your help! Without a team effort, our progress would not be possible and on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Arizona, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all who are participating and for who's efforts to truly leave your "mark" on Freemasonry in Arizona.

I believe our Masonic ritual defines us as Freemasons and referring to it often can be a trusted guide to living our lives. With committed application to our plans and actions in turn, brings positive results. The belief that "who best can work and agree" is not just merely words but truly a philosophy that allows for success on many levels. The excitement to participate in the jurisdiction's work is catching on as the energy from newly made Masons inspire lifelong brothers who have already served in the past in numerous ways. Brethren are visiting other Lodges in greater numbers and sharing ideas while listening to new ones on how to improve as well. There is a priority for better communication with the Craft with documented strategic planning by the Grand Line. Cooperation and attendance of functions between appendant and concordant bodies is on the rise and in the areas of membership and scheduling of annual calendars. Our Past Masters are sharing lodge history and traditions not written in the annuals of the Lodge with newly appointed officers. The ritual instruction, social events, educational programs, longevity awards, and ancient and traditional ceremonial activities throughout the jurisdiction are all happening just about every week, so check out the "Events" section of [www.azmasons.org](http://www.azmasons.org) or the monthly online newsletter The Copper Post for details.

This activity is occurring with the mutual admiration of the brethren for each other and the fellowship of that shared responsibility to hold for the future, but improve what we can, that which has been given to us. If you have not done so yet, I invite you to join this important mission and contribute to the efforts not only for personal satisfaction or earned recognition but for achievement itself. You have the opportunity to work alongside the men who make up the greatest fraternity in the world and who are striving to make it even better! Enjoy this season of Holidays of all faiths with your family and friends and have a safe time doing so. Thank you!

Sincerely and Fraternaly

Scott A. Thomas  
Grand Master 2017-2018  
Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Arizona

# Special Events

## Tercentenary celebration of Freemasonry at the Grand Lodge of England

Most Worshipful Scott A. Thomas represented our jurisdiction along with 135 other Grand Masters for the Tercentenary celebration of Freemasonry at the Royal Albert Hall followed by a dinner in Battersea Park with the Grand Lodge of England.

MWB Thomas was hosted by the UGLE and supported financially by the Past Grand Master's Association of the Grand Lodge of Arizona for this once in a lifetime celebration



## 300 Years of Freemasonry at Glendale Lodge No. 23

On September 30th, 2017 Glendale Lodge No. 23 opened their doors to the Grand Orator, Ahmet Erdemir for his presentation on the history of Freemasonry in celebration of the 300th Anniversary of the founding of the Grand Lodge of England



## Cornerstone Rededication at Flagstaff Lodge No. 7

At 10:00am, on October 15th, 2017, Grand Master Scott A. Thomas opened Grand Lodge in the historic Flagstaff Lodge No. 7 Lodge room in celebration of the 100 years Anniversary of the initial dedication of the Building.

## Cornerstone Rededication at Nogales Lodge No.11

At 10:00am, on November 11th, 2017, Deputy Grand Master Craig Gross opened Grand Lodge in Nogales Lodge No. 11 in celebration of the 125 years Anniversary of the Lodge



# The Masonic Education Committee and Educational Self-Reflection

By George E. Weil,  
Chairman, Masonic Education and Services Committee

Grow Your Knowledge!

A theme and mantra that the Educational Committee is pushing this year. Education is as important as the air we breathe. It is the most important possession a person must have. Education is beneficial in many aspect of life especially, personal and social it is the only possession that cannot be taken away from you. A solid education gives you a base level of understanding that allows you to actively participate in intellectual conversations, and makes you aware and open minded in any situation.

The Masonic Education and Services Committee was appointed by the Grand Lodge of Arizona to assist the Masonic student achieve a higher educational level of various Masonic subjects. Therefore, the Education Committee began creating academic programs with solid objectives to achieve the following:

1. Actively involve students in learning,
2. Take into account students' prior knowledge of the subject matter,
3. Challenge students to meet high standards of performance,
4. Offer opportunities for them to practice,
5. Generalize, and apply what they have learned, and
6. Provide them with appropriate and ongoing feedback about their performance.

To accomplish these objectives the Educational Committee needed to produce useful and relevant educational products and services to the Craft. Presently, the Candidate Education Program has been revised and the new version is now available to all the Lodges. Each candidate will be using this educational product to pass his proficiency and better understand the basics of the three degrees of Masonry.

Further educational programs are in the pipeline to be rolled out on a future date that will assist the student in various areas. Some of those areas are: Ritual understanding, Constitutional fundamentals, and Esoteric journeys. It is a building block concept, in that one module hopefully builds on the last one to better pace the student through an educational journey. One of the main goals is to have all these programs available to the student on the website and accessed any time the student has time to do them. Distance learning and distance access will be a huge plus to those frequent traveling brothers.



All of these products are open book, self-paced and are meant to get the student into the books to locate the answer(s) to exam questions. Fine tuning the development of these programs is a mission priority. There could be some errors on the first generation roll out of these programs. That's ok and we need to identify the flaws to ensure that the second generation programs are better and closer to being error free.

As a reminder: These programs are only as good as the student who opens and explores the program. Knowledge has to be worked for. Programs that sit on the shelf and never opened are useless to everyone.

In the contemporary world, knowledge of the basic principles of Masonic philosophy is indispensable for the educated man. Simply to be educated requires that we understand the Masonic culture, its principles and the environment that we wrap ourselves in.

The Masonic culture that we have immersed ourselves reflects philosophical ideals that we strive to abide by and teach throughout our lifetime in this material world. Each brother of a Masonic Lodge is a living essay to the various aspects of the Masonic fabric that we weave. The Craft is a culture housed in the Temple of the Mysteries.

The true Masonic Lodge is a Mystery School, a place where initiates are taken out of the mundane world and given instruction in the mysteries of life. Three steps or degrees lead up to the temple doors, and all who wish to enter, must climb them to reach a certain level of knowledge. Every Mason must guard these gates from the profane and ignorant. It is our responsibility that this knowledge, this philosophy, this culture be not given to selfish people unprepared for their responsibility. In order to protect this ancient and honorable fraternity, obstacles have been placed in the way of its attainment which only the sincere and honorable are strong enough to recognize and overcome.

The Masters must guide initiates in their proficiency studies. Without the Master as a guide, the initiate fruitlessly raps on the door of the Temple and awaits in silence the answer from within. He has placed a hoodwink back on his eyes dousing the light of illumination.

There are many grades of initiates, and no matter how far a seeker may pass on the pathway of understanding there is always something more for him to accomplish. The mere fact that an initiate has been accepted by our Craft does not mean that the student has become all wise or a Mason. He merely sees life with slightly broadened vision, but still subject to the laws of Nature. The initiate must understand that the rapidity of his advancement depends wholly upon his own merits—the sincerity, integrity, and devotion of his labors and how completely he has mastered the temperaments and failings, which hold him back. (cont.)

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# Deputy Grand Master



## The Masonic Funeral

A new Worshipful Master was elected and spent the first few days of his term making personal calls and visits to each of the members, inviting them to come to his first Lodge meeting and enjoy the fellowship and brotherhood.

The following week the Lodge was all but empty. Accordingly, the Worshipful Master put out a notice, stating that, because the Lodge was dead, it was everyone's duty to give it a decent Masonic burial. The funeral would be held the following Monday afternoon, the notice said.

Morbidly curious, a large crowd turned out for the "funeral." In front of the Altar, they saw a closed coffin, smothered in flowers. After the Chaplain delivered the eulogy, he opened the coffin and invited his Brethren to come forward and pay their final respects to their dead Lodge. Filled with curiosity as to what would represent the corpse of a "Dead Lodge," all the Brethren eagerly lined up to look in the coffin.

Each "mourner" peeped into the coffin then quickly turned away with a guilty, sheepish look. In the coffin, tilted at the correct angle, was a large mirror.

Remember the obligation we all took my brethren. Attend and support your Lodge! Let us not forget our solemn commitment to the Craft and to all those brothers who toiled before us. Do not become a mourner at your Dead Lodge.

Craig Gross

2017-2018 Deputy Grand Master

## The Masonic Education Committee and Educational Self-Reflection (cont.)

Although the whole of Freemasonry is depicted as a series of journeys, there are important differences as regards to the destination in each of them. The first degree takes us, by level steps, to that place where, by means of the vow of fidelity, we may receive light, material and symbolic. But for the moment it goes no further than that. In the second degree our steps are no longer level; having passed the altar, the point at which we attained light, we have the right to ascend, as proved by our use of the password, to another level, one on which we gain admittance to the middle chamber, there to pay our dues and to show we are worthy to receive our wages, wages symbolizing a spiritual value. In the third degree, we remain on that higher level but pass through the veil separating us from the hope of eternal life into the Holy of Holies.

The Educational Committee has been asked to take part of the upcoming Leadership Academy to explain further the timelines and future projects it has in its tool box.

In conclusion: The Grand Lodge and officers are committed to invest time and effort in kick starting the Masonic educational mechanism that has been stalled for too long. As Masons we sometimes overlook the Craft's importance and the need for each of us to cultivate its strength, wisdom and beauty. For an overseer of the work of our temple to be entitled to its goodness, it is only appropriate that he must first labor and make the effort to acquire it. Thus, to learn Masonry is to know our work and to do it well. What true Mason would shrink from the task? Grow Your Knowledge!

# Senior Grand Steward



## Communication

Communication is key to the success of any organization. Communication happens when information is shared. Successful communication relies on receiving a message as much as it does sending the message. I have developed a program called Commit to Communicate, or C Squared, to use in conjunction with the Grand Lodge Technology Committee to share Masonic information through the Grand Lodge Web Site and social media. As the Grand Lodge Liaison to the Technology Committee I will coordinate posting of events for lodges and appendant and concordant bodies. On the Web site we post Grand Lodge events, major and traditional Grand Lodge attended events. All other events and activities we post on social media. If you have an event or activity you would like to communicate please send them to me (grusk@hotmail.com). I will review them for proper content and per our Constitution and Statues. Word documents or PDF files work best. Remember to use Masonic etiquette and include all pertinent information. Allow a couple of days for posting to occur. I look forward to communicating with you!

Fraternally,  
George Rusk  
2017-2018 Senior Grand Steward

## Past Grand Masters



J. May 01, J. Rowan 10, Bernhardt 08, R. Conrad 00, Bradfield 16, S. Thomas 17, M. Manning 14, E. Wunder 86, W.T. Brooker 04, A. Metcalf 96, W. Garrard 13, D. Luebke 07, G. Lankin 95, R. Hutchens 06, R. Hannon 94, Missing Nelson 78) *Photo credit T. Hernandez*

# **Oration at Nogales No. 11 F. & A.M. 125th year Rededication Nogales, AZ. 11/11/2017 Saturday**

By Ahmet S Erdemir  
2017-2018 Grand Orator.  
Nogales, Az. 11 November 2017

MW Grand Master, Brethren, Dear Guests,

We are gathered today, to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nogales Masonic Lodge No 11 and to rededicate this beautiful temple. At the same time, as you may already know, it coincides with the Tricentennial, or the Three Hundredth, year of organized Freemasonry as we know it today.

A masonic temple is an edifice where a masonic lodge meets. The temple may also be regarded as a symbolic image of mankind and the world. In other words, like many other artifacts in freemasonry, it encompasses both a material and spiritual meaning. Therefore, the term temple, also refers to an abstract, spiritual goal, which every mason tires to reach, within himself, by never ending labor they perform through out their lives. Such work, towards that magnificent spiritual goal, however, is the only form of human labor, which does not require man to look upon large numbers of his fellows as his victims, his rivals or his foes. To the freemasons it is the most satisfactory, most fulfilling labor available to mankind.

However to be successful in pursuit of this goal, one has to be intellectually ready to receive the knowledge to be bestowed upon himself and at the same time, has to be willing to do the work, to learn, and to progress, towards the goal of constructing that inner temple.

Construction of any edifice, including a temple, always starts with a first step. In stone masons case it is the preparing and later laying of the cornerstone (or the foundation stone). It is the stone of highest importance, as anything added following the first stone depends on former being TRUE, LEVEL and SQUARE. Only after meeting these criteria, then the operative mason can be assured that the completed structure will be able to withstand the punishment of time for years to follow. The act of laying the cornerstone is probably the one remaining link between operative and speculative masonry. As I have said, many artifacts in freemasonry have both a material and spiritual meaning. Today I will talk about the spiritual meaning of the ceremony you have observed a few minutes ago.



## Oration at Nogales No. 11 F. & A.M. 125th year Rededication

Since Freemasonry is the art and life long endeavor of building that inner temple, like the stonemasons, we are obliged to start with cornerstones that are true, level and square. Of course, in our case, those starting blocks or stones, are the candidates, which we shall be bringing into our craft. They will be the future of our craft, whom we can continue to build upon, with our philosophical teachings, and pass on the knowledge given to us by our predecessors.

A Candidate as a cornerstone, and like all the brothers already in the lodge, has to be TRUE as tested by the plumb. That is why we require a belief in a supreme being. If a candidate is not at the intellectual level, at least, to be able to observe, the unwritten order of the Great Architect of the Universe, everywhere he looks at, he is not ready. Such lack of elementary wisdom, that is, the lack of belief in a Supreme Being will bar him from entering into our glorious craft. Long story short, we cannot and will not admit any person without such belief, "PERIOD".

A Candidate, as a cornerstone, and like all brothers already in the lodge, has to be LEVEL. In our lodges, irrespective of our backgrounds, bank accounts, family trees or social status we are meeting on the level as equals. If the candidate does not honestly and without reservation agree with the ideal of equality of all men, he is not ready to join our craft. Furthermore, mankind, mostly due to intellectual short sightedness, sometimes, lose the sight of the cycle of life and his own mortality. If success in today's materialistic modern life, has caused a person to forget the fact that, at the conclusion of this journey of life, when the day comes, he will be treated equally as others, in front of the Great Architect of the Universe, then he cannot be admitted into our craft.



The candidate, as a cornerstone, and like all brothers within the lodge, has to be SQUARE. Freemasonry is a progressive moral science taught in degrees.

At each degree the candidate is asked to take an oath, to not to reveal the secrets (which are, the teachings) of the degree to any person who is not entitled to receive so. That is not because we are a secret society, which we are not, but not to reveal the knowledge to anybody who has not done the work and therefore, who is not intellectually ready, to receive the next level of teachings.

A good analogy to illustrate this point is the teaching methodology of the science of mathematics. You cannot start to learn calculus without first learning and becoming proficient in Arithmetic, and then geometry followed by trigonometry and then algebra and so forth. If you were to be given the knowledge of Calculus without becoming proficient in the preceding steps, it will not make sense to you as you will not be able to receive the knowledge of Calculus in the absence of necessary foundation.

Likewise and as I have just mentioned, since freemasonry is a progressive moral science, (cont.)

## **Oration at Nogales No. 11 F. & A.M. 125th year Rededication**

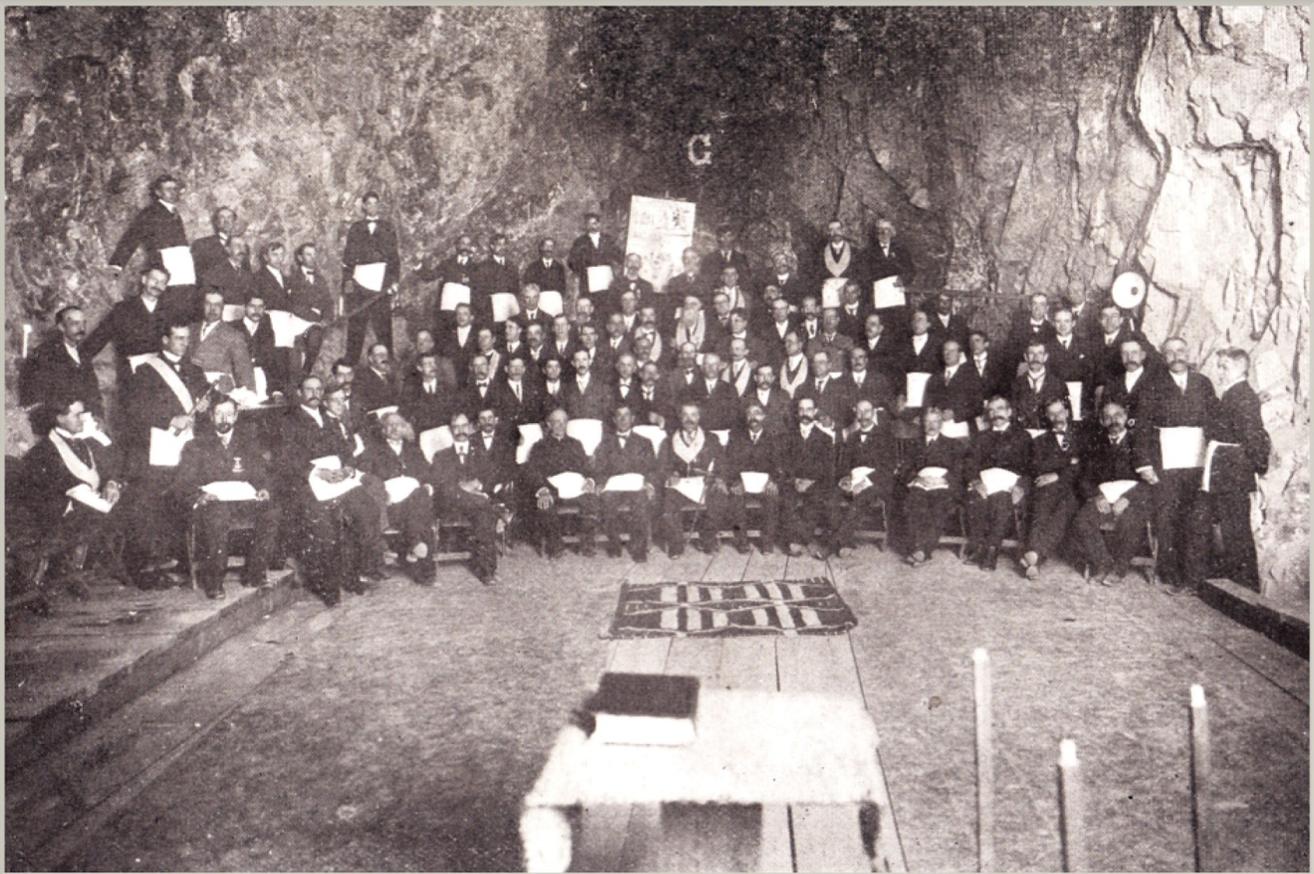
(cont.)

the candidate should be able to establish the necessary foundation within himself to progress, and then should be of the right personality, to not to reveal the knowledge to the unprepared. As any action to the contrary will do more harm than benefit both to the receiving person and to the Freemasonry in general. Therefore if the candidate is not Square, he cannot be admitted to our craft.

Personality, intellectual readiness of the candidate, and his fidelity to the Freemasonry is of prime importance for the future of our craft. If the candidate can not prove, that he can meet these criteria, during the period before his initiation, then we cannot admit him, because we cannot build upon a corner stone which is not TRUE, LEVEL and SQUARE.

Fraternally

Ahmet S Erdem



**26th Grand Lodge of Arizona Annual Communication opened in Morenci, Arizona in 1907**

# Junior Grand Deacon

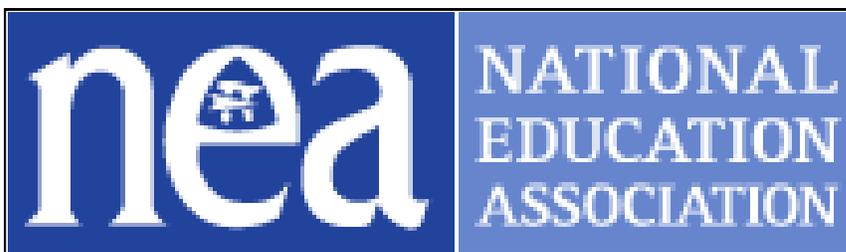


## American Education Week

The week of November 13 through 17, 2017, will be upon us soon and we as Masons should be aware of the significance of this week in American history. In 1919 immediately following WWI the National Education Association and the newly formed American Legion combined efforts to address a pressing need that was revealed during the buildup of troops for combat in WWI.

Twenty five percent of the draftees were illiterate and seven percent unfit for service. This presented a serious problem training the draftees for service in a very short amount of time.

Both the American Legion and the National Education Association during their National Conventions in 1919 passed resolutions to address the need for educational awareness and opportunities for all.



The first American Education Week observance was held in December of 1920 and has evolved and grown through the years to be observed the week prior to Thanksgiving each year.

The Masonic significance of this week is in the access of information and availability and opportunity for all people to further their education and explore new ideas and share those ideas with others without fear of retribution from the authorities in power. I believe this desire to explore and share ideas was one of the leading factors of the formation of Modern Freemasonry 300 years ago.

I hope all our Lodges will observe the spirit of MWGM Scott Thomas's Edict No. 2017-01 by supporting and recognizing our Local Public Schools and the invaluable service they provide to the students in our communities.

Fraternally,  
Jim Baker  
2017-2018 Junior Grand Deacon

# Junior Grand Warden



## Look To Your Charges

This will be a three part series in Arizona Masonry taking an in depth look at the Charges of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees. As a general aside I strongly believe that every Mason should spend time studying and understanding our ritual and determine how it can best improve each individual Mason. First you must learn what you are studying, then you must comprehend what it is saying before you can even begin to approach any of the allegorical concepts that lie within our ritual.

Before I get into the actual Charges I want to tell you what I believe about learning our ritual and what you, as a Mason, take away from it. First and foremost in my mind is that you should never take someone else's opinion as what is meant in the teachings of Masonry. There are many extremely well educated Masons out there, much more so than I am, who tell you this or that is what something means. Any time I hear this I immediately question what they are giving as their opinion. Not because I believe they are incorrect, but because I firmly believe that our teachings are to be interpreted by the individual to improve themselves. If you agree with what someone is teaching you that is great. But take the time to review, understand and accept their presentation before blindly accepting it as what that piece of Masonry means to you. I can not tell you how many times I have reassessed my own interpretation after reading, hearing or watching someone else present their interpretation of our ritual. Or after watching one of the degrees. I guess the bottom line for me is that every bit of education that you receive should be used to revise or re-evaluate where you are at in your journey to improve yourself.

I am presenting this series to hopefully make you contemplate the charges that you have received in a little more detail. Take note of what I have stated in this introduction and hopefully you will delve just a little bit deeper.

## MM Charge:

Your hard work and dedication have now given you the favor of becoming a Master Mason. Your studies are far from over! How has your zeal, progress and conformity improved you as a man and Mason? What have you learned in your short time in this institution, studying our mysteries and following our regulations? How are you going to use them to continue your education?

You are now duty and honor bound to your brethren. What does that mean? This section re-establishes the fact that you are on a daily pilgrimage to improve yourself. And it is not an easy road! You now have the trust of your brethren and the dignity of your character is on display. These are both huge responsibilities that you have to strive every day to uphold. How do you use the tenants of Freemasonry throughout your day? Do your actions, words and deeds shine an encouraging light upon Masonry? Have you ever reflected on something you have done or said and due to the teachings of Masonry realized that you were in error?

Next you are charged with correcting less informed brethren. Have you studied the Craft enough at this point to do this correctly? Or even today regardless of how long you have been a Master Mason? Remember, this is a lifelong journey and that you are guiding

(cont.) brethren by both actions and words. Then we come upon another very curious section. It discusses inferiors, equals and superiors in rank. As we are taught that we are all on the level how do you consider the structuring of the fraternity? Are your inferiors EA's or FC's? Or are they less studied brethren? Does age or time in the fraternity consider into this? Next are your equals. As we are all on the level how would you determine this? Once again is age, experience or time in the fraternity what establishes this designation? And finally we have superiors. Are they superiors because they are officers or officers of a higher rank? Or is it our brethren that have much more experience than we do? Once again, do you consider how your actions reflect upon the Fraternity? Next you are again reminded of the Ancient Landmarks. As I stated before, we recognize them, but have not adopted any of them. How do you keep them from being infringed? Which ones? My favorite is still that none of them can be changed! Next up is our established customs. Do you know what they are? Are they specific for your Lodge? For Masonry in Arizona? Or the fraternity world-wide?

As I stated before, we recognize them, but have not adopted any of them. How do you keep them from being infringed? Which ones? My favorite is still that none of them can be changed! Next up is our established customs. Do you know what they are? Are they specific for your Lodge? For Masonry in Arizona? Or the fraternity worldwide?

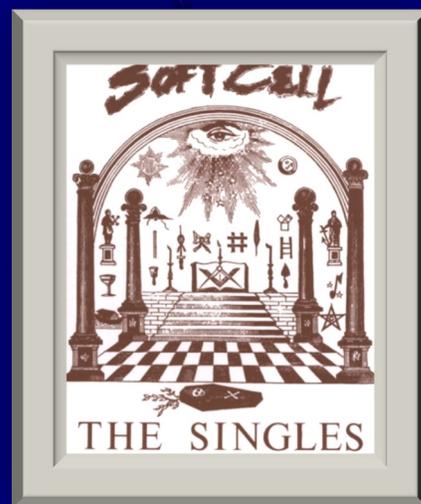
You have now completed all three degrees. Through your studies and the lessons of these degrees do you have greater dignity and a more respectable character? How have these lessons actually achieved that designation within you? Do you realize how much further you have to go? Are you humbled and impressed with what you have gone through? Inspired by the representation that you took part in? What will you do now to continue to grow and improve yourself? Has this journey lit a fire inside of you to work and improve yourself in every way? I certainly hope so and can tell you that it has in me.

In closing as you can see from the way this is presented, my attempt is to not give you any answers, but to make you think and discuss your charges. For the answers that I have for myself today are not necessarily the answers that I had yesterday or will they necessarily be my answers after gaining further light and education. I certainly look forward to discussions amongst my brothers to debate and review these questions. This is a lifelong task for every Mason and hopefully you will never reach the point that you think you have all of the answers.

Boyd Robertson  
2017-2018 Junior Grand Warden

## Masonic Trivia:

The Singles is the first compilation album to be released by Soft Cell. The album was issued on vinyl, cassette and CD in 1986 and features all their singles, from the albums Non-Stop Erotic Cabaret, Non-Stop Ecstatic Dancing, The Art of Falling Apart and This Last Night in Sodom.



# Veterans, What a Difference They Made

by Jean-Claude Malterre PM  
Tucson Lodge No. 4

A century ago, the world was engulfed in war, a war the like of which the world had never seen before and, from which more than ten million would not come back. The sacrifice of my grandfather, François Malterre, killed at Douaumont in 1916, one of 362,000 that year in Verdun alone, was not enough to end the war.

The United States had to intervene in the fall of 1917 with our Brother General John J. Pershing 33° in command of the American Expeditionary Force, to hasten the armistice of November 11, 1918, at the horrendous cost of 320,000 American casualties.

The late Brother Clint Helbig 33°, a member of Tucson Lodge #4, was gassed in the trenches near Verdun in 1918, contracted TB and to cure it, moved to Tucson, AZ, where, I was privileged to share his memories and celebrate his 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Mason.

Mid-June 1940, the Nazis entered Paris, France, again, the world was engulfed in war. My father, a lieutenant in the French Air Force, found himself in the South of France, away from my mother who, pregnant with me, undertook, on foot, the 450 miles journey to join him and where I was born in February of 1941; the world was once more engulfed in war, and again, the American armed forces had to intervene.

I remember vividly a June 1944 scene; my aunt was screaming from the top of her lungs: *Les Américains ont débarqués!* -The Americans have landed! - I learned later that she had heard about the Normandy invasion on radio communications she had with the underground, from our house basement.

Things started to change: no more sirens alerts, rushes into smelly bomb shelters, now we could hear the throbbing sound of American bombers, a sound that I can still recognize today. When her Nazi-occupied-village near the Swiss border was liberated by the Americans, we traveled to my grandmother in the Jura mountains.

There, I saw my liberators for the first time; they were the American GI's traveling north, probably to the "battle of the bulge" around Christmas 1944. My first encounter with them was through the cellophane-wrapped chocolate bars, the sugar, the chewing gum and the milk concentrate they gave me.

Although too young to understand (I was 3 years and 10 months old), I knew something new was pervading everything; we could now play outside, in the street, in the fields and the roar of the GMC trucks approaching with their generous GI passengers, parting with their rations, filled us with joy and hope. The American GI's, wearing these funny pants with so many pockets loaded with goodies, gave me a freedom that I never had; they will forever remain the compassionate heroes of my childhood.

Yet, what a price the Americans had to pay, over 407,300 Casualties... they have my profound and immeasurable gratitude for the sacrifices they, and their families, made, to make my life, and that of many others, possible. (cont.)

(cont) First, the AEF of WWI, then, the WWII Veterans, yet, there was more to come...

I am a member of the Arizona Military Degree Team, the greatest band of Brother Masons that I know. All are from the US Armed Forces except me: I served in the French Army. On January 21, 2009, I was conducting a Degree as acting Master when, I suffered a Sudden Cardiac Arrest, my heart stopped beating and I slumped off my chair: I was dead. My death was not an option for my Brethren: within a minute they were doing CPR on me, then, the EMT's took over, carried me to the hospital, still flat-line. On the ninth shock of my heart, the prayers of my Lodge Brethren were answered and I was resuscitated: they all saved my life and proved further that prayers do work.

The dictionary defines *to make a difference* as *to do something that is important; to do something that helps people or makes the world a better place.*

What a difference the Americans made!... ..willingly surrendering all, all that the world holds dear, risking everything, including their most precious and inalienable Right to Life... ..to restore my alienated right to Liberty... ..so that others, and I, could exercise our inalienable Right to the pursuit of Happiness...

We owe an immense debt of gratitude to those who, a century ago, at Belleau-Wood, in the Argonne, then, again, on D-Day on the beaches and hedgerows of Normandy, in frozen Bastogne, and again those who trained in first-aid in Vietnam or Law-Enforcement or, took a CPR class in Tucson...

... What a difference the American Veterans made, for my parents, my children and grandchildren, you, yours, all of us and, me, Jean-Claude Malterre, now an American, thanks to the American Veterans.

## Grand Lodge Offices

Effective immediately, the Grand Secretary's office will be **closed** on Friday, and the hours of operation will be from **8:00 am until 4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday**. Also, please take note of **the change of address**.

All correspondence is to be addressed to:

**PO Box 35687  
Phoenix, Arizona  
85069-5692**

The address change is being made as our mailbox is outside, not visible to office personnel, and when delivered on the weekend, is available to anyone who would happen to open the mailbox.

If you have any questions regarding this change, please feel free to call the Grand Lodge office.

# Senior Grand Warden



## Self Consciousness

Man is a creature like no other. "Self-consciousness and freedom of the mind are the special prerogatives, which belong to man alone, of all created beings. All the rest of nature obeys eternal immutable laws; but the will of man belongs to a different sphere, in which the ideas of cause and effect, as found in the material world, are of no authority. Man is subject only to those laws, which he gives himself." I agree with the quote taken from The Lesson Taught by the Three Great Lights, man is a self-conscious creature with the a free will to choose good from bad, right from wrong, and to do those things which will make a man a better man.

So, it is not surprising that a man wanting to improve himself would seek an organization that would aid and assist him in his quest to fulfill his desire to become better, i.e. a better father, friend, brother, etc. "Masonry is one of the most sublime and perfect institutions that ever was formed for the advancement of happiness and general good of mankind; creating, in all its varieties, universal benevolence and brotherly love. It holds out allurements so captivating as to inspire the Brotherhood with emulation to deeds of glory, such as must command, throughout the world, veneration and applause, and such as must entitle those who perform them to dignity and respect. It teaches us those useful, wise and instructive doctrines upon which alone true happiness is founded; and at the same time affords those easy paths by which we attain the rewards of virtue; it teaches us the duties which we owe to our neighbor, never to injure him in any one situation, but to conduct ourselves with justice and impartiality; it bids us not to divulge the mystery to the public, and it orders us to be true to our trust, and above all meanness and dissimulation, and in all our vocations to perform religiously that which we ought to do."

So, let us share with the world our desire for improvement and the knowledge we have gained since we came to the door of Freemasonry. Let us go out and live by our Masonic tenets and be a light to those who are still seeking a path to become a better man.

Fraternally,  
Greg Vasquez  
2017-2018 Senior Grand War-

**Grand Lodge of Arizona**  
**LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**  
**March 23-25, 2018**  
**Casa Grande Arizona**

# Senior Grand Deacon



## I have great news to share with the Craft!

As announced at last year's Grand Communication, this year the Grand Lodge of Arizona has been working to create the Grand Lodge of Arizona Foundation, Inc. (GLOAF) and obtain a Determination Letter from the Internal Revenue Service granting tax exempt status as a 501(c)3 public charity. After months of hard work, the Grand Master and Grand Council are happy to announce that we have received our Determination Letter! Donors can now deduct contributions they make to GLOAF under IRC Section 170 (Charitable contributions and gifts). We are also qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106, or 2522.

With this tremendous initial task firmly behind us, the Grand Lodge is now working to appoint a fundraising committee and develop a media campaign for the fundraising efforts. Which brings me to my next very important topic...please consider this a help wanted ad. The Grand Lodge is looking for a Brother who has experience or a special talent in this type of large fund raising and management arena, and the time and motivation to serve as the Fundraiser Committee Chairman. In addition to the Chairman position, we will also need several Brothers to serve on the committee. If you are willing and able to help, please contact the Grand Lodge office, any Grand Lodge line officer, or me directly.

I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge very soon!

Randall Jager  
2017-2018 Senior Grand Deacon

## Masonic License Plates

You can represent the Fraternity with your very own Masonic License Plate

There is a \$25 initial application fee/ \$25 annual renewal. No special requirements for eligibility as the plates are available to everyone.



**\$17 goes to charities supported by the Grand Lodge.**

The license plate may be personalized with maximum of 7 characters

# One Day Class

## The Grand Master's One Day Class

Candidates will receive the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason Degree in a Single Day!

**Saturday, March 31 2018**

El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium  
552 N. 40th St.  
Phoenix, Arizona

All ritual work will be in accordance with Arizona Masonic Code and overseen by the Grand Lecturer



The **Entered Apprentice Degree** will be conferred by the Shrine Ritual Team



The **Fellowcraft Degree** will be conferred by the Scottish Rite Ritual Team



The **Master Mason Degree** will be conferred by York Rite Ritual Team

Additional details and Dispensation form available at [www.azmasons.org](http://www.azmasons.org)

# Junior Grand Steward

Brethren,

As the fall season approaches and the holidays rapidly approach let us remember we all have many manifold blessings to be thankful for within our lives.

Take this time to remember why we took our obligations at that alter, and remember those less fortunate than ourselves. And please as Veterans Day approaches, remember to thank those you know who are veterans as well, for without their sacrifice we could not enjoy the freedoms we all enjoy.

Fraternally

Darrell Mandrell

2017-2018 Junior Grand Steward



# TRUSTEE UPDATE

## Summary of issues from Grand Trustees Meeting

### 21 October 2017 Meeting

- 1 Reduce the Bond portfolio by five percent (5%) and increase the International portfolio by five per cent (5%)
- 2 Conditional approval for Apache Lodge No. 69 to enter into negotiations for the purchase of a new building to house their lodge.
- 3 Ratify John Standifer engagement contract to pursue tax exempt status on 2801 W. Northern Ave. property. John is outside counsel to the Grand Trustees.



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GEORGE ROSKRUGE & S BARRY CASEY  
MASONIC MEMORIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

1892 El Zaribah Shrine from the Francis Shaw Collection at the Roskruge Casey Memorial Library and Museum

# Final Note

## **Did you know that there is a Section in the Arizona Masonic Code that provides for recommendations for recognition by Grand Lodge?**

### **Section 13-1301 – Annual Recommendations for Recognition by Grand Lodge.**

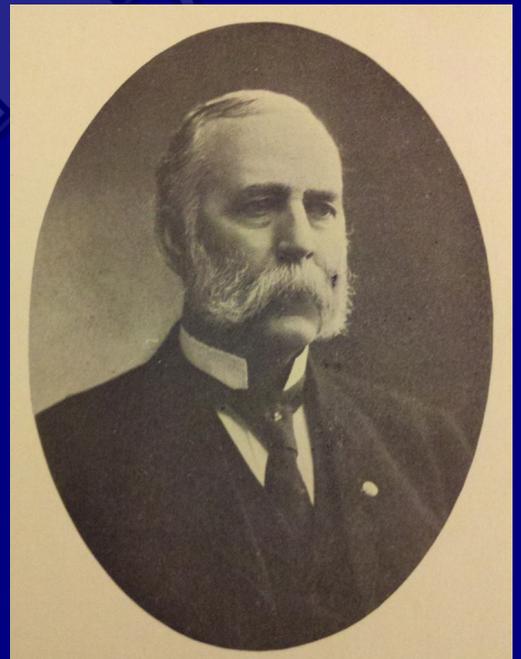
“Annually in December in each constituent Lodge, the Past Masters, Master and the Wardens present may select from the Master and Past masters of that Lodge, one or more whom they deem qualified for Grand Lodge recognition. Selections shall be sent by December 31 to the Deputy Grand Master.”

This information is used by the incoming Grand Master to make one-year appointments to the Grand Line, to Committees and for other recognition. It is very valuable information that allows for proper recognition of a Past Master of your Lodge.

This is one of many things in the Arizona Masonic Code that should be followed by each Lodge in Arizona. If you don't have a copy of the AMC you can contact your lodge secretary for a copy or you can contact the Grand Lodge office who will send you an electronic copy. The AMC is the backbone of our Fraternity and should be recognized and understood by all Master Masons. All elected Lodge Officers should have a copy in order to ensure that their Lodge is operating within the proper guidelines.

## **Masonic Trivia:**

Upon being elected as Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons in Arizona the usual is to serve the craft for one Masonic year. One exception? MWB Fletcher Morris Doan of Gila Valley No. 9 F & AM Masonic Lodge was elected to the Grand East November of 1908 and served until the Annual in Communication in 1910, there being no Communication in 1909 due to being postponed because of Indian unrest in the Globe area. If that was not enough he served as Grand Patron of Order of the Eastern Star of Arizona in 1910.





Brethren Families,  
You are all cordially invited to the  
Grand Lodge of Arizona's

# ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 17 2017  
3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

2723 W. Northern Ave  
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

*Parking is available.*

Beverages, Soft Drinks, & Hors D'oeuvres will be served.  
Santa will make a special appearance for family photos.

**Please bring a couple of cans of food for donation to the Food Bank**

# Arizona Masonry

Grand Lodge, Free and  
Accepted Masons of Arizona

988 E. Saddleback Pl  
San Tan Valley, AZ 85143

Non-Profit Org  
US Postage  
PAID  
Tucson AZ  
Permit No. 1286



## MASONIC CHARITIES of ARIZONA

Brethren, Friends, and Family,

This year the Masonic Charities of Arizona approved 18 grants totaling \$30,000 to organizations throughout Arizona. These 501c3 charitable organizations provide much needed services to their communities. Those services include assistance to our Veterans at the three VA Hospitals in Arizona, Domestic abuse

shelters, child learning disabilities, training and assistance for people with special needs, support for soldiers abroad, Adult literacy programs and Personal hygiene kits for the working poor and homeless.

We are able to award these Grants from the income of our investment fund, Lodge and Personal donations and support from Grand Lodge. In order to keep up with the desire to expand our Grant distribution to more organizations and communities around the State we ask for your help.

We have registered with the Amazon Smile Foundation. Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization selected by their customers. For Amazon customers to select the Masonic Charities of Arizona to receive these donations go to [smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2746389](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2746389) to automatically select us. Or you can go to [www.smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and you will be prompted to select a charity. Now you are ready to shop and support the Masonic Charities of Arizona.

The Board of Directors of the Masonic Charities of Arizona extends our appreciation to all of you for your support.

Fraternally,  
Jim Baker  
Secretary, Masonic Charities of Arizona  
[www.masoniccharitiesaz.com](http://www.masoniccharitiesaz.com)

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