

January 2023

The TRESTLEBOARD

Issue # 2023-1

Latest news and bulletin updates

From the East

Worshipful Master Charles Smith

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The new year means a fresh start, with a fresh start also means a fresh perspective. With a fresh perspective on our ritual, how can learn something new about it, and how can you apply what you've learned into your daily life. This is how the working tools of the first degree teach us to break off the rough parts of the stone. Giving us tools to improve our selves. I'm hoping that we all can go into this new year with a new set of eyes and improve every day.



The Grand Lodge Of Arizona meeting in a mining cave in Bisbee, AZ in 1897

From the West

Edward J Soroko, Senior Warden Mohave Valley #68

Fraternal greetings & happy New Year to all my brothers at Mohave Valley 68! With a new year, we have new opportunities to grow our lodge. Currently, we have one brother ready to be raised to Master Mason, and three new Entered Apprentices. Degree work should, and can be fun, but it does take a little effort and practice from those involved. Sideliners are important too, as it shows interest and lends moral support to the degree team. Please keep this in mind as the year progresses.

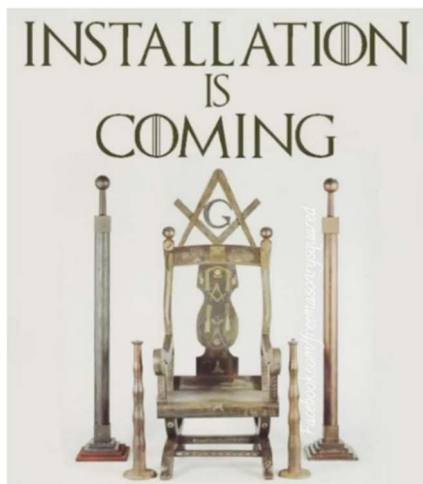
On January 21, we will be hosting the Arizona Military Degree Team for a second-degree conferral. No doubt their work will be impressive, and I urge everyone to attend.

On a different note, a little bit of Masonic trivia. Did you know that the oldest Masonic lodge in the world (with verifiable lodge minutes) is Lodge of Edinburgh # 1, Edinburgh, Scotland ? In July 1949, it observed its 350th anniversary of its establishment. As of 2022, Lodge of Edinburgh is 423 years old! Think about it, that's a long time to keep a lodge alive n' kickin!

Brothers- Always meet on the level, act by the plumb, part upon the square.

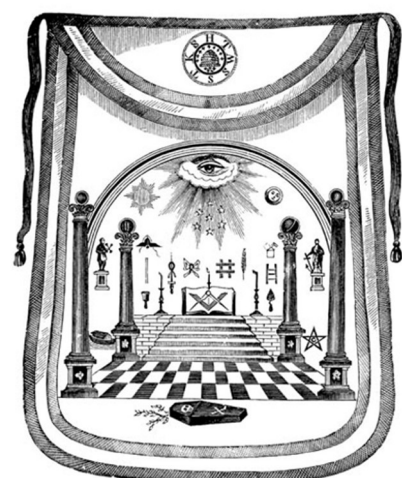


Stated Meeting
Jan 4, 2023
Gavel At 7PM
Dinner at 6PM
Cost \$12



Jan 4, 2023 At 7:00 PM

Master Mason Practice Jan 11, 2023



From the South

Rob Stewart, Junior Warden

Greetings from the South,

Happy new year and I hope everyone had a beautiful holiday. As we go forward into this new year, let us remember to look towards the future both for our own well-being, and the good of the lodge.

Our first meeting of this year will be January 4. Dinner will be served at 6 PM. And is again being prepared by our two brothers who just happen to be amazing chefs. Please join us for an evening of brotherly love and friendship.



From the Desk of the Secretary

Jon Connaughty, Secretary's Report as of January 1, 2023:

Mohave Valley Lodge has 99 members.

The Lodge has 4 Entered Apprentices, 2 Fellowcrafts and 1 prospective member. That totals 7 new members in the "works"! This totals a potential membership of 106.

The upcoming meetings are:

January 4 - 7:00 PM - Stated Meeting

January 11 - 6:00 PM - Master Mason Practice

January 18 - 6:00 PM - Master Mason Practice

January 21 - 10:00 AM - Military Second Degree

January 25, 2023 - 6:00 PM Entered Apprentice Degree

**Subject to Change - Please consult Email

Announcements and Lodge Facebook Page for Current Information

2023 Dues bills were be sent out on December 7, 2022.

Keep an eye out for them and please pay your dues as soon as possible



Masonic Anniversaries: Frederick Stilt, Jr. 1/22, Lawrence Crummey 1/26, Terry Loll 1/26, Robert Krause 1/27, Edward Wessler 1/27, Marcus Hensley 1/28, Edward Soroko 1/28

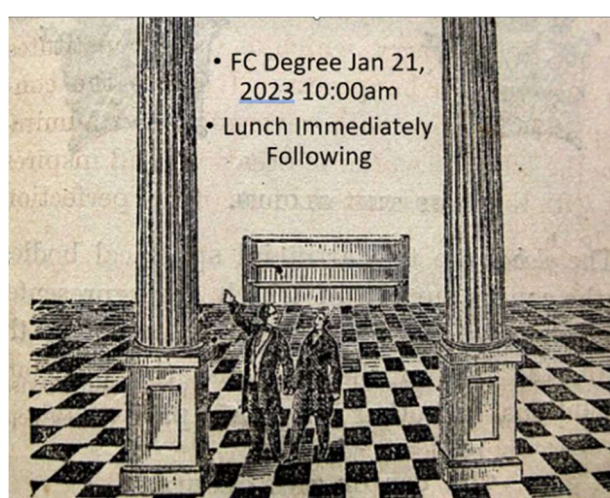
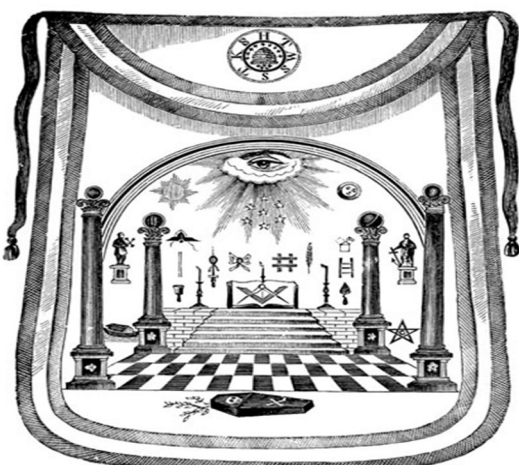
Happy Birthday to the Following Brothers: James Harbison 1/18, Jovan Donathan 1/2, Thomas Givens, Sr. 1/26, Hans Krahl 1/27, Philip Gunnels 1/29, Greg Perrin 1/6, Jason Jennings 1/8, Lawrence Phemister 1/8

From the Shrine Club

Jon Connaughty, President

As 2023 dawns and brings with it resolutions to live life differently, I find myself determined as ever to accomplish my three goals in the Shrine. First, being more active in Blue Lodge; a quest that will serve our organizations well into the future. Second is getting paperwork done on time - ensuring all bills are paid, communication happens swiftly between members of fraternity and minutes sent promptly after meetings adjourned (this one will test me) ... And lastly comes an endeavor yet-to-be unveiled! All these aspirations come clearly focused while maintaining high hopes for success this year... So let's see what lies ahead!

Master Mason Practice Jan 18, 2023



Notes from the Editor:

Brethren,

If anyone has any content to share for the next Trestleboard, please submit it to mohavevalley68rsvp@gmail.com. This can be short stories, Masonic Humor, Masonic Trivia or any other items shared for the good of Masonry in general or this Lodge in particular.

As mentioned at the November stated meeting our goal is to achieve a Master Builder Award for our Lodge. Below are the requirements so that we can all work towards this goal. If you have ideas how we can meet any of these please bring them up to the Master of our Lodge. This Award submission must be in the hands of the Grand Lodge no later than April 15th, 2023.

Ritual:

A minimum of 3 members provide at least 2 different lectures in a Tyled Lodge and the Lodge must exemplify all 3 degrees during the awards year.

Masonic Education:

A minimum of 3 masonic education programs held by the Lodge at an event other than the stated meeting (Can be virtual or in person)

Lodge Operations: (4 of 7 must be completed)

Lodge hosts a Tyled meeting with another Lodge

Lodge issues a newsletter a minimum of 4 times during the year

Lodge hosts an information session open to the public

Lodge has a program to contact non-attending members of members in jeopardy of NPD

Lodge shows an annual increase of Grand View Portal users by 5%

Lodge has a Masonic Funeral Team and conducts 1 practice or ceremony

~~Lodge has a member recognition program~~

~~4 Master Masons attend a Lodge of Instruction (Scheduled for 12/14)~~

Lodge Representation: (4 of 6 must be completed)

At least 2 Lodge officers attend Masonicon Arizona

At least 3 members attend the 2023 Grand Communications (2 Pedestal Officers)

At least 4 members attend a Masonic Youth Group or Eastern Star or Amaranth open event (2 pedestal)

Lodge participates and is recognized in local community activity

5 Lodge members visit another Lodge's tyled meeting (stated or degree) (2 pedestal)



What do famous actors, musicians, hall of fame pitchers, and supreme court justices have in common with you?

We are all Masons first.

John Wayne - The famous actor was a member of Marion McDaniel Lodge # 56 in Tucson, AZ and also a 32 degree Scottish Rite Mason, a member of York Rite and a member of Al Malaikah Shrine in Los Angeles, CA. In his youth he was a member of the Order of DeMolay in Glendale Chapter of Glendale, CA.

Nat King Cole - The famous singer joined Thomas Waller Lodge #49 in Los Angeles CA along with his drummer. Louis Armstrong also of Jazz fame, also a mason and there is a strong bond between the jazz industry and Free Masonry.

Bob Feller - Hall of Fame Baseball pitcher of the Cleveland Indians with a 4 year interruption while he served in the United States Navy achieving the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He was a member of Grove Lodge #824 of Downers Grove, IL until his death in 2010. His baseball statistics are incredible however that is not the aim of this article so will let those interested research themselves.

Thurgood Marshall - American Lawyer and Associate Justice of the supreme court from 1967 until 1991 making him the first African American Justice. Before his Supreme court appointment he successfully argued the landmark case of Brown versus the board of education. Marshall was a member of Coal Creek Lodge #88 of Oklahoma.



MOHAVE VALLEY LODGE

GUN RAFFLE

**FIRST PLACE:
CUSTOM BUILT AR-15**

**SECOND PLACE:
SMITH & WESSON 380 EZ**

**ENTER TO WIN!
TICKETS \$20 FOR ONE
OR \$50 FOR THREE**

**ONLY SELLING 250 TICKETS! • DRAWING HELD NO LATER
THAN THE 1ST SATURDAY IN
APRIL**

**ASK ANY MOHAVE VALLEY
MEMBER TO
PURCHASE TICKETS**




ADVERTISE HERE

- 1 year for \$100 or \$10.00 per month for a business card front and back.
- This is a great way to advertise your business to local customers and support the lodge.
- Please contact Marcus Hensley or Jon Connaughty to place your ad.
- Note the year is from January to December
- All ads expire each December.



 **Mohave Valley Lodge No. 68** 

is honored to host...

The Arizona Military Degree Team

**who will confer the
Second Degree of Masonry at
Mohave Valley Lodge No. 68
on January 21, 2023.**

**2580 S Miracle Mile Rd,
Bullhead City, AZ 86422**

**Gavel drops promptly at
10 a.m. Lunch immediately
following, \$10 per person.**

**Veterans and Active-Duty Military Brothers from All
Countries are **encouraged** to attend in uniform.**

**to RSVP for lunch, or contact for questions,
email Marcus Hensley at**

MohaveValley68RSVP@gmail.com



It becomes apparent that the new Entered Apprentice has been researching Freemasonry on the internet



How to Grow & Strengthen Your Lodge:

- ATTEND AS MANY MEETINGS & FUNCTIONS AS POSSIBLE.
- SHOW UP EARLY, STAY LATE.
- SUPPORT & PARTICIPATE.
- READ. STUDY. LEARN. DRILL. DISCUSS. TEACH. GROW. IMPROVE.
- BE PREPARED! BE OFF BOOK. KNOW THE RITUAL AND DUTIES OF 3 CHAIRS: LEARN THE ONE ABOVE YOU; KNOW THE ONE YOU OCCUPY & THE CHAIR SUBORDINATE TO YOU. TEACH THIS SAME PRACTICE TO ALL OFFICERS.
- STRENGTHEN THE CHAIN. COMMIT TO IMPROVING THE LIVES OF EVERY OFFICER AND BROTHER YOU MEET.
- LIVE MASONRY OUTSIDE AND INSIDE THE LODGE 24/7 - 365
- ACCEPT AN OFFICE. TAKE A ROLE. VOLUNTEER. DO YOUR BEST!
- ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES. HELP OUT! STAY HUMBLE. GIVE BACK.
- ABANDON ALL EGO & FOOLISH PRIDE.
- INVITE & INVOLVE CANDIDATES AND BRETHREN ALIKE. ENCOURAGE THEM TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF THE LODGE & THEIR JOURNEY.
- AVOID THE 'RUMOR MILL.' AVOID GOSSIP.
- BUILD ON THE STRENGTHS OF OTHERS. ENCOURAGE PASSION & NEW IDEAS.
- ALL HANDS ON DECK! MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK.
- NEVER SPEAK NEGATIVELY ABOUT AN OFFICER OR COMMITTEE MEMBER.
- BUILD UP THE OFFICERS OR COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE BRETHREN.
- PAY YOUR DUES IN ADVANCE. DONATE OFTEN.
- TREAT EACH OTHER LIKE FAMILY; WITH THE HIGHEST REGARD, ESTEEM, & RESPECT.
- PLAN, PRACTICE, PREPARE, PERSEVERE.
- HONOR THE PAST, PRESERVE THE TRADITIONS AND CULTURE OF THE LODGE.
- LEAD BY EXAMPLE. BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE LODGE.
- ASK NOT WHAT FREEMASONRY CAN DO FOR YOU; BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR FREEMASONRY.
- FOLLOW THE CODE: THE GREAT LIGHTS, THE OBLIGATIONS, CHARGES, OLD CHARGES, ANCIENT LANDMARKS, TRIAL CODE, GRAND LODGE CODE, BY-LAWS, MONITORS, CEREMONIES, LECTURES, AND SEVERAL RITUALS OF FREEMASONRY SHOULD BE YOUR CONSTANT GUIDE; YOUR MODIS OPERANDI; & YOUR STANDARDS OF OPERATING PROCEDURES. IF YOU DISAGREE, STUDY THE CODE AND TAKE THE PROPER STEPS WITHIN THE PROPER VENUE TO CHANGE THEM.
- BE POSITIVE. NEVER SEE A SITUATION AS IMPOSSIBLE. ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE, OVERCOME EVERY OBSTACLE, AND PRODUCE POSITIVE RESULTS THAT BENEFIT EVERYONE.
- EMBODY DUE ORDER AND DECORUM. FOLLOW PROPER PROTOCOL AND ETIQUETTE. AVOID PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS DURING MEETINGS & DEGREES.
- NEVER HARBOR PIQUES OR QUARRELS AGAINST ANY BROTHER. GO TO HIM. SOLVE THE ISSUE. MAKE AMENDS. HEAL ALL WOUNDS. STRENGTHEN THE BOND.

