

Arizona Masonry

February 2016

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The Editorial staff invites contributions in the form of informative articles, reports, news and other timely information (of about 350 to 800 words in length) that broadly relate to general Masonry. When possible, photographs or graphics that support the submission are encouraged. Pieces submitted should be typed, double spaced and sent via e-mail to:

AZGLMasonry@gmail.com.

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Inside this Issue

Grand Master’s Message3
J. Michael Atchley

Grand Editor’s Comments3
Phillip Shulsky

Job’s Daughter’s International4
Tyler P., Miss Arizona Job’s Daughter

International Order of Rainbow for Girls5
Merry Rainbow

DeMolay in Arizona6

Technology Committee7
M. Eric Hannah, PM

Arizona Research Lodge No. 1
Further Light in Masonry7
Roger C. Biede

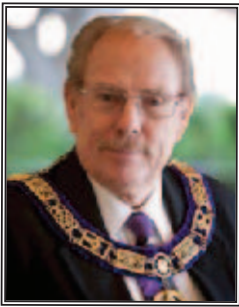
Freemasonry in the 21st Century and...Beyond?8
George E. Weil, Grand Orator

Tell the Truth9
WB John A. Nichols, Grand Lecturer

Just Be A Friend10
WB Floyd C. Parker

Eloy Lodge #46 – A History: Then & Now11
W. Bro. Thomas A. Leslie Jr.

Grand Master's Message



J. Michael Atchley

Even though I'm not able to get out as much as I would like to, there are many brothers working behind the scenes to make this a great year for Masonry in Arizona.

If you haven't checked out the new website, I suggest you take a few minutes and take a tour. It is fantastic! WB Eric Hannah and Brother Josh Hodo have spent many long hours and a lot of hard work redesigning our website to one which we can all be very proud of. The Technology Committee is continuing to make changes, with the entire redesign scheduled to be completed within the next few months.

Under the direction of WB John Nichols and his team of DDGL's, the LOI's are being very well attended and they are receiving great feedback from attendees. If you have the time to attend one you will find them very interesting. They are all different, with different instructors and can be tailored to meet the needs of each individual lodge.

A special thanks to WB Phillip Shulsky for stepping up to the plate and accepting the position of Grand Editor. He is doing a great job. After the last issue of Arizona Masonry hit the mail boxes, I received a very nice letter from WB Floyd Parker. He included an article he wrote several years ago titled "Just Be A Friend". With his permission, the letter is included in this issue on page 10. I encourage you to read it.

I am very proud of the direction our Lodges are going. Remember your back door is just as important as your front door.

Grand Editor's Comments



Phillip Shulsky

I want to start by saying thank you to all who have contacted me regarding the last issue. Your words of appreciation are heartwarming. One of you, and I honestly have forgotten who it was, felt that our Grand Lodge publication should have a purpose, a mission, or at least an intent. Whoever you were, your council was good and timely!

This issue, in addition to several Grand Lodge Officer and Committee articles, will be primarily dedicated to Masonic Youth Groups. So many Masons, like myself, joined the fraternity at a time when youth programs have nearly vanished. We don't know very much about them. In this issue, I hope to raise awareness of them; to educate many of you (and myself) on what they do, their membership requirements, and methods of joining. I would ask that you read the words from Job's Daughters, Rainbow for Girls, and DeMolay. Consider their positive offerings, and support them where you can. I happen to know that just our attendance at their functions would mean the world to them. If you have a son, daughter, or Grand Children who fit the membership requirements, consider recommending membership. You will be glad you did!

I also invite you to contribute your own articles. They need to be your original work, sent to be in Microsoft Word and be no longer than 800 words. Pictures are welcome, especially of the author. Brothers, this publication belongs to all Masons. If there is something you would like to see, let me know!

Please direct all articles and correspondence to:

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Job's Daughters' International

Tyler P., Miss Arizona Job's Daughter

I have the pleasure of serving Arizona Job's Daughters as Miss Arizona Job's Daughter. My job is to represent the Job's Daughters of Arizona at Masonic Organizations all over the state and to serve as one of our leaders. I have been in Job's Daughters for seven years; during that time I have been taught many valuable skills. Some of these are how to budget and plan an event, how to run a meeting, how to talk over the phone, and how to speak in front of large groups of people. Before joining Job's Daughters I struggled with public speaking, but through my involvement and help from several kind adult volunteers, I now am able to speak in front of crowds without getting nervous. With these skills I feel confident entering adulthood and keeping up with its responsibilities. I have also learned values that I feel better me as a person. Self-confidence is a value that I think is very important for young girls; many young ladies struggle with it. Job's Daughters is an environment where you can be yourself, you can relax and have fun, and there is no judgment. Our girls are strongly encouraged to be themselves and find what's unique about them. My favorite part about Job's Daughters is the lifelong friendships I have made. I have several friends who love me for me and are always there when I need them. I have gained so much from Job's Daughters and am very eager to mentor other young ladies who become involved so they can find a safe place to bloom, lead, and soar.

Janice Jones, Supreme Deputy to Arizona

The object of Job's Daughters International is to band together girls for spiritual and moral upbuilding, to develop leadership, to seek knowledge, to teach love of God, love of Country, respect for its Flag, love of home and family, and reverence for the teachings of the Holy Scriptures.

To be eligible for membership in Job's Daughters a girl must be between 10 and 20 years of age and bear a Masonic relationship. Just added in 2015 is that if, after a diligent and exhaustive search, Masonic relationship cannot be verified for a Petitioner, a Majority Member

of Job's Daughters and a Master Mason may sponsor the Petitioner.



We have five Bethels of Job's Daughters in Arizona, two in the Phoenix area, one in Scottsdale, one in Mesa, and one in Tucson. All of them meet in Masonic Temples. Our Bethels have an average attendance of 12 girls. There is no State or Grand organization for Job's Daughters in Arizona. We do have state events to unify the Bethel Daughters and help them learn that our Organization is international in scope. Our Bethels report directly to the Supreme Guardian Council. The Supreme Guardian Council is the organization responsible for Job's Daughters throughout the world. It consists of a progressive elected Line of eight adults, four women and four men. Additionally a Board of Trustees, consisting of five elected adults, is responsible for the administrative operations of Job's Daughters International.

A Bethel requires a Bethel Guardian Council, which is the adult advisory group, of nine persons. Every adult who is in a position of leadership in a Bethel is required to be a Certified Adult Volunteer. That means he or she must attend a 6-hour instructional class and submit to a background check. We believe that ensures our adults understand what is expected of them in Job's Daughters and that they provide a safe environment for our Daughters. We are always looking for more adults to work with and mentor our girls. If you have an interest in serving in any capacity with Job's Daughters, I trust you will make yourself known so that we can share your talents with our Daughters. What could be better than helping to shape future generations?

Please contact me at 520-747-2871 or email me, uacats1963@gmail.com if you have questions about Job's Daughters or time to devote to helping our Job's Daughters become all that they can be.

International Order of Rainbow for Girls

What Did She Say?

Merry Rainbow



When you first attend Rainbow, there will be terms and phrases that you may or may not know. Below are a few of them with a definition to help you out! If there are others that we've not included and you are curious about, please ask any of the Rainbow Girls or their Adult Advisors.

Assembly: When you hear the word "assembly," they are referring to our specific group of girls or club. In Arizona, we have seven assemblies: Tucson No. 2, Willcox No. 7, Glendale No. 8, Mesa No. 9, Sunrise No. 39 (Sierra Vista), Fidelity No. 46 (Lake Havasu City) and Yeibichai No. 57 (inactive).

Advisory Board: The "Advisory Board" is a group of adults that support the Rainbow girls. All of our Advisory Boards have active members of the Masonic Fraternity and other Masonic Adult groups, along with parents, grandparents and/or legal guardians.

Colors of the Rainbow: Red = Love, Orange = Religion, Yellow = Nature, Green = Immortality, Blue = Fidelity, Indigo = Patriotism, and Violet = Service. These are the color stations or bow stations that seven girls are appointed to represent each term.

Lambskin Apron: Just like the Masonic Lodge members, as Rainbow Girls, we are given a miniature Lambskin apron at our initiation. We are asked to wear these on Rainbow Sunday, during the month of April, which celebrates the founding of our organization – the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, on



April 7, 1922 by Rev. W. Mark Sexson, PGM in Oklahoma.

Grand Assembly: "Grand Assembly" is one of the highlights of the year! It is the Jurisdiction meeting for all of the Rainbow Girls in the state of Arizona. This year we will hold our Grand Assembly session during June 16, 17, 18, 2016 in Lake Havasu City.

Grand Officers: A Grand Officer is a girl that has served as a Worthy Advisor or is currently in line to serve as Worthy Advisor and has been chosen to hold a Rainbow station on the Jurisdictional level (for Arizona). The "Grand Worthy Advisor" is the Worthy Advisor for the jurisdiction. This year our GWA is Bethany Johnston from Glendale Assembly No. 8.

Service Projects: Each term every assembly tries to accomplish one or two service projects. (There are service projects on the jurisdictional level as well. This year Arizona Rainbow is supporting the Special Olympics. We also support and raise funds for our Arizona Rainbow Scholarship and Loan Fund. This fund was established by Maude J. Wilson, the wife of a Past Grand Master in Arizona, Carey B. Wilson. Arizona Rainbow girls have had the benefit of these funds for over 60 years.

Supreme Inspector: The Supreme Inspector is in charge of Rainbow for this jurisdiction. Mrs. Carolyn York, PGWA is our current Supreme Inspector. We call her Mrs. C. She is the daughter of Harold A. York, PGM.

Arizona Rainbow on the Grow: Our membership has been in the top three Jurisdictions for growth during the last three years. Last year we were number one, with growth of 72%. Our goal is to keep Arizona Rainbow on the Grow, continuing to ask our friends to join us in the finest youth organization ever created. Please visit our GoRainbow.org website, our soon to be updated AZIORG site.

DeMolay In Arizona

DeMolay is the premier youth leadership organization building young men of character and dedicated to making young men better people and leaders. Providing a program based on timeless principles and practical experience, DeMolay strives to not only create the extraordinary leader, but a leader of character. DeMolays hold themselves to a higher moral standard, striving to constantly improve and be better each and every day.

DeMolay is a youth-led, adult-advised organization in which young men learn to plan, organize, and facilitate their own programs. DeMolays take part in a wide-range of activities, from athletic competitions, to public speaking tournaments, to community service events. All activities are guided by the interests of the local chapter. If you can dream it, you can do it in DeMolay.

DeMolay provides endless fun and friendships that last a lifetime, even with such a serious mission. When a young man joins DeMolay, he instantly gains over four million brothers across the globe. No youth organization provides such life-changing experiences like DeMolay.

But words are insufficient to describe DeMolay; it must be experienced. Give it a chance and we know you will discover what we already know; DeMolay is the greatest youth organization in the world.

Membership Requirements

To be eligible to join DeMolay, three simple requirements need to be met by the applicant.

You are a young man between the ages of 12 and 21.

You are of good moral character.

You believe in a supreme being (all religions welcome).

Chapters & Their Masonic Sponsors in Arizona

Glendale Chapter, Glendale – Glendale Masonic Lodge

Paradise Valley Chapter, Phoenix – Paradise Valley Silver Trowel

Chandler Chapter, Chandler – Chandler-Thunderbird Lodge

Scottsdale Chapter, Scottsdale – Scottsdale Masonic Lodge

Phoenix Chapter, Phoenix – Arizona #2 Masonic Lodge

Arizona Chapter, Tucson – Epes Randolph Masonic Lodge

Cochise Chapter, Sierra Vista – King Solomon Masonic Lodge

Lake Havasu Chapter, Lake Havasu City – Lake Havasu Masonic Lodge

Make a Difference in Your Lodge

Arizona DeMolay continues to seek new Chapters in Arizona. New Chapter Development Directors are available to visit lodges and provide support from the earliest stages. To secure a New Chapter Development Packet, email: Executive.Officer@azdemolay.org.

DeMolay Core Values

DeMolay is honest and accepting of others from all backgrounds. A DeMolay maintains health in his spirit, mind, and body by striving to improve and represent the seven core values of DeMolay.

Love of Parents: To understand, appreciate, and reciprocate the love our parents give to us.

Reverence: To respect the religious beliefs of everyone, and to believe in a cause higher than ourselves.

Courtesy: To value every person through acceptance, empathy, respect, and tolerance.

Comradeship: To form true and long lasting friendships far and wide.

Fidelity: To be true, trustworthy, and honest to yourself and your values.

Cleanness: To be clean in thought, word, and deed.

Patriotism: To honor your country and be a contributing citizen. To respect those who have and continue to serve our Country in every field of sacrifice and service.

If you know of a young man of eligible age, whom you would like to recommend, please visit our Chapter Locator at www.azdemolay.org for information on local adult leader contacts or email Executive.Officer@azdemolay.org.



Technology Committee

M. Eric Hannah, PM



You may have already noticed that the new Grand Lodge website went live on January 1st. The biggest change you will notice is a major facelift and the site's new ability to automatically adjust to your browser, whether you are viewing it from a desktop computer or from a mobile phone or tablet. This change makes the site more relevant in an increasingly mobile-driven society.

In the very near future (if not by the time you are reading this), we intend to offer you the ability to register and pay for certain Grand Lodge events, including the Annual Communications and Leadership Conferences. We hope that this will be beneficial to all and make the registration process easier for everyone.

Additionally, a section will be created where lodge Secretaries can log in to access and download pertinent Grand Lodge forms, thus saving the time and expense of copying and mailing multiple copies back and forth.

Finally, by July, we hope to offer a section just for members where you will find a vast array of masonic education papers, member forums, and other items of interest. Ultimately, the goal is to provide a website that is informative and relevant to your masonic growth.

Our Grand Lodge Social Media and Digital Media teams have been hard at work coming up with interesting items to share with you all. We have been posting to our Facebook page several times a week and are now on Twitter. Our Digital Media team has already published one podcast and is currently working on a few more. Our long-term goal is to publish a monthly podcast and a quarterly video.

In closing, in order to offer these great services to you, we ultimately need your help. We need individuals to submit your research/education papers. We welcome your ideas for podcast topics or special events that would provide interesting video content. Finally, we need your technical expertise if you can assist with the website. Either way, the more help we get from you, the better experience we can provide for all masons! Please submit your ideas, papers, suggestions, offers of assistance, etc. to tech@azmasons.org.

Fraternally,

M. Eric Hannah, PM
Technology Committee Chairman

Arizona Research Lodge No. 1

Further Light in Masonry

Submitted by Roger C. Biede



Arizona Research Lodge No. 1 is dedicated to the advancement of Masonic scholarship in Arizona through the presentation of papers and lectures that address Masonically significant subject matter. Though it is not necessary for one to be a member of the Research Lodge to attend our presentations, please bear in mind that it is now **ONLY \$75 FOR LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP** in Arizona Research Lodge No. 1. Join at our next meeting and do your part to advance Masonic Scholarships.

The 2016 Presentation Schedule is as follows:

March 23rd

On the Symbolism of Durer's Melancholia I
WB Matt O'Halloran

A thorough and thought-provoking explication of the symbolic content present in Albrecht Durer's 1514 engraving, Melancholia I. You'll never look at this piece the same.

June 22nd

Masonry & Mormonism
Bro. Ted Cross

Dr. Cross illuminates various aspects of Masonry and Mormonism through juxtaposition and comparison while providing a very developed historical context. Do not miss this lecture!

September 28th

The Geometry of Freemasonry
Bro. Vic Olsen

A detailed look at the Masonic significance of Geometry via compass and straightedge constructions. Very intriguing and entertaining.

December 7th

Election & Installation of 2017 Officers

If you are interested in becoming an Officer or in contributing your talents as a presenter/lecturer, become a member and express your interests.

Food and refreshments at 6PM - Lecture presentation at 7PM

Location: Masonic Temple, 345 W. Monroe Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003

Freemasonry in the 21st Century and...Beyond?

By George E. Weil, Grand Orator

“We are hard at work to make each lodge so large that it becomes an impersonal aggregation of strangers—a closed corporation.”

– PGM Dwight Smith

LET’S GET BIGGER! YES, THE BIGGER THE BETTER. The survival of Freemasonry in the 21st Century has been a topic of discussion and concern and rightly so. In an issue of The Philaethes, there is a great article that cuts straight to the heart of the matter. Presented by the Knights of the North, the feature reprints a series of 1960 articles by Dwight Smith, Past Grand Master and at the time Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

I will use parts of it to highlight this extremely critical issue within this short article for discussion and contemplation. This article is not intended to answer questions, but, on the contrary to stimulate idea building and deliberation among the Craft.

Let’s begin this article with chapter five in the writings of P.G.M. Smith. Chapter five is entitled “The Closed Corporation.” This chapter discusses: The development of the oversized, impersonal Lodge.

Let’s all start with this premise. The entire philosophy of Masonry revolves around the individual. All its symbolism is individual symbolism; all its tradition and practice is aimed at making individuals wiser, better, and consequently happier.

Then why do we worship at the altar of bigness? For one thing, we are Americans. We measure civilization in terms of automobiles, TV sets and other big material items. Is it not logical that we would compare large numbers of members with a sense of wellbeing in the Lodge? Can we get past our foolish idea that in order to be an effective Lodge it must be large, and wealthy, in which 5 percent or less of its membership can huddle together on meeting nights.

What happens when we worship at the altar of bigness?

Consider the following:

Well, in the first place, our annual waste of leadership is nothing short of a sin. Every year our Lodges welcome into Masonic membership hundreds of men with a great potential for inspired, dedicated leadership – and then we make certain they will have no opportunity to exercise it. Only one Master can serve in a given Lodge per year. Are we too shortsighted, too bound up in numbers and bank accounts to recognize the manpower going to waste?

We provide too few opportunities for new members to use their talents, and then wonder why they lose interest and drift away. Have you heard about new members who attend meetings once, twice, three times and then no more? But, why should they come when there is nothing for them to do except listen to the minutes and allow the bills? There is no place for them; worst of all, no one seems to care.

The fellowship of Freemasonry does not thrive in the mass. When will we learn that fellowship, one of the pillars of our Brotherhood, is an intimate thing not shared with great numbers? What must be the feeling of a newly raised member when he discovers that his Lodge, which promised him fellowship and intimate friendships, is but a huge, impersonal aggregation of strangers – a Closed Corporation!

FINAL THOUGHTS: What happens to an institution designed to be simple becomes complex, when units meant to be small become oversized and unwieldy, when work intended for many is restricted to a handful, when something that should be intimate becomes impersonal?

What happens? Look around. Exhibit A is all around us at Stated Meetings and other activities.

I think Freemasonry has more to offer the Twenty First Century than the Twenty first Century has to offer Freemasonry.



Tell The Truth



WB John A. Nichols, Grand Lecturer

Some of you may have heard this line spoken or the concept discussed at one of the many Lodges of Instruction this year around the state. In regard to ritual performance, I believe it to be one of the most important elements to cultivate when learning and performing our ritual.

So what does this mean; to “tell the truth” when performing ritual? Simply stated, it means to express the utmost personal honesty, sincerity and genuine embodiment of the ritual. This is not acting; on the contrary, it’s the direct opposite of acting. It is beyond knowing the words and even beyond understanding the words. This is performing the ritual as if you wrote it yourself, delivered with your own inflection, emphasis and individual emulation. The candidate should not be impressed with how much you have memorized but rather feel that you spoke to him directly; honestly and from the heart. Let me give you two examples of what I am talking about. I saw two Entered Apprentice Charges at my home Lodge that were so moving I will never forget them. They weren’t moving because of the top-notch memorization or solemn recitation; no, these were the best Charges I’ve ever seen because they were 100% genuine; and they couldn’t have been more different from each other. The first one was delivered by a homicide detective. As can be expected he spoke with a deep sense of authority, had great command presence and really made you feel like this was a serious, personal duty he was describing. It was the epitome of his individual character and his delivery defined impressive. The other was delivered by a young man in his early 20’s, an educator by profession who was giving the Charge to another young man in his 20’s with whom he had become great friends. He spoke to him as if they were discussing a very personal and private revelation and it sounded like one of the many chats by the fire-pit that are so common at Acacia. It was natural, completely honest and in every way real. Now, we all know those excellent ritualists; those who we talk about for years and in

whom we find inspiration with every performance. Think about what makes them great. I’ll bet it has nothing to do with memorization or acting but everything to do with sincerity.

So the next time you are practicing ritual or delivering it in Lodge please remember to tell the truth. Be cognizant of the intent of the piece you are delivering. Are you being instructive? Authoritative? Inquisitive? Recognize the difference between the tone of a Charge, Lecture, Obligation or any other part of the ritual and perform accordingly. Most importantly express your best instructive self, your best authoritative self and so forth; don’t do what you think sounds authoritative, or what someone else does; just be you and be the best you. I can guarantee that the most meaningful ritual is that which is performed by a friend and Brother as a friend and Brother.

Yours Most Sincerely and Fraternally,

John A. Nichols

Grand Lecturer

Grand Master's Class 2016

- ◊ Location: Pinal Lodge No. 30
(1140 E. Florence Blvd., Casa Grande, AZ 85122)
- ◊ Times: 1:30pm Start, 6pm Dinner and Movie
- ◊ Dress: Formal Attire
(Suit, Tie, Slacks, and Nice Shoes)
- ◊ Cost: \$5 for Dinner and Snacks
- ◊ Entertainment: Batman: The Dark Knight

Honoring MW/Grand Master of F&AM in
Arizona
J. Michael Atchley

Just Be A Friend

By WB Floyd C. Parker

My Brothers, we might do well to remember exactly who we are as Master Masons. We sometimes forget, and need to be reminded that we have pledged ourselves to a very special task.

We might ask ourselves, what is it that makes us Master Masons? Think about it for a moment. Would you say it is a subtle handshake, a secret sign, or admittance to a Lodge of our peers? Is it a title or honor bestowed upon us as a reward for participation in some mysterious ceremony? Did we automatically become Master Masons of the Craft as compensation for rote memorization of a few lines of ritual?

Well, perhaps there is more to being a Master Mason than we realized.

Let's ask ourselves, when did we actually become Master Masons? Was it when we were placed at the Altar in due form, our hands placed firmly upon the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses? Or was it a few heartbeats later, when we accepted the Master Mason's Obligation as our solemn vow and promise?

We know the answer to all of these questions, don't we? Our Obligation!

Our sworn promise to one another, without reservation and without compromise. A bond sworn in the presence of Almighty God. An unselfish commitment, witnessed by those who would forever judge our sincerity. An escutcheon of our personal honor, integrity and fidelity, not only to one another but also to our honorable fraternity and all that it stands for.

At that very moment we committed ourselves to help all distressed worthy Master Masons and their families to the best of our ability.

At that instant we promised to maintain strict discretion when speaking about our Brother Masons ... to always meet on the level and part on the square, brotherhood being the foundation of our Order.

There and then, my brothers, without equivocation or reservation, we obligated ourselves to be honest with one another, not only in word but also in deed.

We made other solemn promises as we progressed through the

Degrees of Masonry, but none greater than those of a Master Mason.

As the most excellent tenets of our Order are contained within the extended points of the Compasses, so are its perfect virtues contained within the Master Mason's Obligation, Friendship, Mortality, and Brotherly Love.

And we must never compromise these virtues!

As Master Masons we are entitled to all the rights and privileges of the Fraternity. We are also subject to its laws and are bound by many duties, none the least being the requirements of our Obligation.

We know of the penalties of Masonic Law, which can include suspension or even expulsion. But for the neglect of Masonic duty, the law provides no penalty. The loss of self-esteem and the loss of the respect of Brethren would seem sufficient penalty. Every Master Mason must decide for himself whether he will carry out his commitment to Brotherly Love, Relief and Charity ... and he will be judged accordingly by his peers.

Masons throughout the nation are concerned about the revitalization of their Lodges. There are genuine concerns about membership development ... how to interest good men to become Masons, and how to reach out to our inactive Brethren.

We are concerned about public image; in this day and age there are entirely too many people who have no idea whatsoever what Masons are, and what they stand for. Too many people have misconceptions about our beliefs.

As we go forward addressing these and other vital issues, we must remember that the strength of our Fraternity, any fraternity, has always been ... The Brotherhood.

Tens of thousands of men belong to the Masonic Fraternity for one compelling reason, and that is for the friendship of others. Mutual respect and genuine concern for one another is the catalyst of all Freemasonry, and is the reason for its continued existence.

Modern Masonic history tells us that being a Mason was at one time a valuable asset. Political careers were enhanced because

continued on page 11

continued from page 10

of a man's standing in the community as a Mason. Doors were opened, favors were granted and social courtesies were extended because a man wore the Square and Compasses. All of this when Freemasonry could undeniably state that it was the strongest brotherhood of men in the world.

If that is what we have lost, then it must be regained. When we can once again honestly state that we are that we are indeed the strongest brotherhood of men in the world, good men will flock to our doors requesting admission. Our Lodges will once again be filled to capacity with men of good character and honest intention. We will no longer have to worry about membership or participation in our Lodges.

One step towards that goal requires the strengthening of the virtues contained within the Master Mason's Obligation, and we need to do it now! For every one of us, the rule and guide of our daily conduct must be Our Obligation.

And it is so easy to do my Brethren.

Edgar A. Guest, himself a Mason, said it all in this brief poem:

Just be a friend. You don't need money.

Just a disposition sunny:

Just the wish to help another

Get along some way or other.

Just a kindly hand extended

Out to one who's unfriended:

Just the will to give or lend

This will make you someone's friend

And, my Brethren, that is the simplest way I know of to live up to our Master Mason's Obligation. Just be a friend!

Eloy Lodge #46 – A History: Then & Now

*By W. Bro. Thomas A. Leslie, Jr.,
2015-2016 Eloy Lodge #46 Lodge Master*

Numerous Brothers have asked me when Eloy Lodge #46 was established and why the Lodge building looks like a church. The Lodge's Charter, residing in front of the Master's pedestal in the East, provides some the basic information regarding the Lodge's establishment. However, ascertaining more specific details of how the Lodge was formed, and its church-like appearance, involved considerable research. The results of my research are summarized below.

THEN: The "Petition for a Charter," letter to the Grand Lodge documents that "on the 28th day of November, 1952,

a Dispensation was issued by..." M.W. Grand Master Pierce "for the formation of a new Lodge, at Eloy, in the County of Pinal, by the name of Eloy Lodge

"An Occasional (Special) Communication of Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, of F. & A. M. of Arizona, was convened in the Lions Club building in the town of Eloy, by M.W. Grand Master Seymoure C. Pierce at the hour of 8 p.m., December 1, 1952, for the purpose of instituting Eloy Lodge U.D., F. & A. M., of Eloy, Arizona." Minutes of the meeting note "after the opening of the First meeting of Eloy Lodge U.D., F. & A. M.,

Grand Master Pierce charged the new Lodge. The lodge was then officially instituted by Acting Grand Marshal Albert R. Buehman, P.G.M.": "each officer of this new Lodge, Eloy U.D., was presented at the altar and invested with the Jewel of his respective office by the Grand Marshal." The minutes also note six Past Grand Masters in attendance. "On the 3rd day, of December, 1952, the said Lodge was opened and organized and continued successfully to work..." under the December 1, 1952, Dispensation "and that it is the anxious desire of the members of said Lodge that its existence be perpetuated." The April 27, 1953, Grand Lodge letter "Partial Report of Committee on Charters and By-Laws," states that Eloy Lodge was "granted Charter," "placed upon the roll of Lodges of this jurisdiction, and" "assigned Number 46 as their Lodge designation." The Lodge's existence was perpetuated by vote at the April 27 and 28, 1952, 71st Annual Communication of the AZ Grand Lodge. Interestingly, in 1953, the AZ Grand Lodge noted that #46's meetings were held on "the first Wednesday of each month." In 2015, #46's Stated Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 P.M.



continued on page 12

Arizona Masonry

Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted
Masons of Arizona

1188 Horner Drive
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

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continued from page 11

The 1953 Eloy Lodge #46 officers included Earl E. Smith, W.M.*; Joseph Bogue, S.W.*; Doyle Pair, J.W.*; Stanley McClure, Secy.; Robert Hamilton, Treas.; Thomas Rutherford, S.D.; Homer Thomas, J.D.; George Hodges, S.S.; Norman Murphy, J.S.; Henry Haly, Marshal; Paul Siebers, Tyler; Howard Eastman, Chaplain. According to the AZ Grand Lodge, #46's membership roll, including the above named 12 officers, was comprised of 32 "members in good standing." Several Eloy Enterprise newspaper articles, (e.g., February 26, 1953, "Lions Club First Civic Club in Eloy") document, a number of Lodge officers were also members and/or trustees of the Eloy Lion's Club.

"Being fully satisfied that the officers were fully competent to perform the duties of their respective stations..." the Grand lecturer, Bro. Franklin Robertson, "...issued a Certificate of proficiency to them" prior to their installation on December 1, 1952 by Grand Master Pierce.

A Pinal County record, notarized July 5, 1955, Corporation Warranty Deed, documents that the Lodge building, formerly the First Methodist Church of Eloy (Church), was conveyed



by the Church to the "Square and Compass Club of Eloy, a corporation", "for the consideration of Ten Dollars, and other valuable considerations..." As Chairman of the Church's Board of Trustees, Bro. Norman A. Murphy, Eloy Lodge's first J.S., signed the Corporation Warranty Deed transferring the Church to the Club in 1955

The Pinal County Assessor's Office website shows (1) the 1,836 sq. ft. Church building was constructed in 1935 and (2) its "Primary Owner is the Square & Compass Club."

NOW: The 2016 Lodge officers include W.M. Thomas Leslie, Jr; S.W. Bill Carnell; J.W. Gary Dates; Secy. Liland Yettaw; Treas. Larry Henry; S.D. Mike Schmidt; J.D. Carter McKune (PM); J.S. Rodney Collins (PM); Marshal W. Mark Porter; Chaplain/Prompter Irvin Ferguson (PM). The 2016 Lodge membership roll is comprised of 52 brothers. Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Bro. Robert Conrad installed the officers on December 17, 2015.

In 2016 a color copy of the lodge history will be given to all visitors. I challenge all Arizona lodges to prepare, and share a copy of their lodge's history.