

Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard

October, 2023

Editor: Bro. Shawn Jones

October 9, 2023

Volume 23/24 Issue 2



Welcome to October's Trestleboard. We've had another good month in Masonry and, as always, we at the Trestleboard are glad to share all the details with you.

We are happy to report that our website is now up and running. You can go and check it out at www.aaronlodge49.com. Information is still being added, so be sure to check back regularly.

We'd also like to remind everyone that next month's Stated Meeting will also be elections for Aaron Lodge's 2024 Officers. Make sure to come down to vote and show your support to the Lodge.

We are still accepting suggestions for the Trestle Board. If there is something more you would like to see, or if there is a subject you would like to write about, we would love to hear from you. Please send suggestions/articles to trestleboard@aaronlodge49.com.

Quote of the Month

"Masonic ideas are the precious jewels of Speculative Masons; they should be kept bright and sparkling for all the brethren to see and to admire. As such, they should be the special care of Masonic leaders particularly those who teach and interpret the philosophy of Freemasonry."

– Conrad Hahn



BRO. CONRAD HAHN
Executive Secretary of the MSA

Aaron Lodge 2023 Officers

Master - Luis Irizarry
master@aaronlodge49.com

Senior Warden - Tony Williams
seniorwarden@aaronlodge49.com

Junior Warden - Zachary Taylor
juniorwarden@aaronlodge49.com

Secretary - Don Moyer, PM
secretary@aaronlodge49.com

Treasurer - Chris Taylor
treasurer@aaronlodge49.com

Senior Deacon - Geno DeCarlo
seniordeacon@aaronlodge49.com

Junior Deacon - James Bohlman
juniordeacon@aaronlodge49.com

Senior Steward - Taylor Peterson
seniordeacon@aaronlodge49.com

Junior Steward - Justin Ashler
juniorsteward@aaronlodge49.com

Chaplain - Don Lowery, PM
chaplain@aaronlodge49.com

Tyler - Jim Wild, PM
tyer@aaronlodge49.com

Marshall - Shawn Jones
marshall@aaronlodge49.com

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Pedestal Wisdom

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Message From the East



Message From the West

Brethren,

A saying I use in my business is "Communication is key". Sometimes it's as simple as checking in with someone to see if they need anything. Sometimes it's a quick email to pass along info, or ideas. I have found that short, quick communications makes things run smoother in the long run. With our new Discord server running,

it's easy to add the app to our phones, or computers, and keep track of what's going on. It's also a quick way to drop an idea or two, ask a question, or join a discussion. In our busy lives we sometimes struggle to find time for Lodge activities. Staying in communication helps us keep focus on what's happening, to help the Lodge move forward, and Discord is a great tool to do that. I find that keeping in touch also helps me to schedule some time to research a project, or help on a committee, or whatever else I'm helping with. I see a lot of potential with this new way to communicate!

Fraternally yours,

Tony Williams
Senior Warden

Message From the South



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Monthly Recap

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Month In Review

On September 13th, we gathered at BlackRock Brewers to celebrate our Senior Warden, Bro. Tony Williams, at a **Surprise Birthday Party** organized by his wife. There was food, cake, darts, and as always, great Fellowship with our Brothers. The 13th also saw Bro. Kyle Hetherington successfully perform his 2nd Degree proficiency examination by committee.

On September 20th, we all met down at the Scottish Rite to run through a **3rd Degree Practice**. Those that attended worked through their parts to make sure we would be able to provide the best ritual possible.

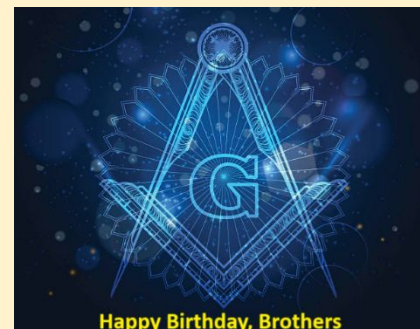
On Saturday, September 23rd, we held our **6th Annual Reunion Picnic**. It was a beautiful day to gather outside with our Brothers, families, and guests. Bro. James worked the grill and the food was all delicious. This event has been missed the past few years with Covid, so we are looking forward to this going back to being a yearly event. If you missed this year's picnic, we sincerely hope to see you at the next one.

On September 27th, we met once again at Lodge, to confirm the **Sublime Degree of Master Mason** on Bro. Kyle Hetherington. Raising a new Master Mason is always a great night for Masonry. Bro. Tony Williams conferred the degree and performed the lecture, completing his proficiency to be eligible to be elected as Master of the Lodge. Sadly, I was ill and unable to attend, but I have been told that Bro. Tony, and everyone else, did a great job with the Degree.

Ending our monthly recap, we met on October 4th for our **October Stated Meeting**. We got updates on work again moving forward with an upcoming Gun Raffle, our next Bikes4Books event, and a reminder of our Chili Cook-Off on October 21st.

October Birthdays

Allen Lohn, PM
David Fields
Edward Drummond
Emmitt Warner
Everett Perry, Jr.
James Madison
John Sliffe
Lawrence Flaherty
Mark Sorensen
Matthew Lee, Jr.
Michael Lounsbury
Raymond Cottini, PM
Reginald Pergrem
Richard Wallace
Robert Long, PM
Robert Wiruth
Sebert Huffman, Jr
William Kershaw



Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard

Upcoming Events

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Announcements



**Aaron
Lodge 49**
Free & Accepted Masons of Arizona

Annual Chili Cook-Off (10/21/23)

Greetings Bretheren!

You are invited to participate in the next
Aaron Lodge #49 Annual Chili Cookoff!

When: Sat, Oct 21st, 1pm - ?
Where: BlackRock Brewers
1664 S Research Loop #200
Tucson, AZ 85710



- Open to all Tucson Lodges.
- Bring your best Chili and capture the Trophy for your lodge to be displayed proudly in the lobby at the Scottish Rite!
- Additional prizes to be announced...
- Toppings and condiments will be provided.
- Electronic heating devices only (crockpots, slow cookers, etc)
- Judging by a panel of 3-5 non-participants. (Lodge Officers if possible)
- Donations welcome.

Please RSVP to <tony@brb.beer> by Oct 14th, 2023

Disclaimer: No chilis were intentionally harmed in the making of this email. Any gas or expletives created by the participating dishes will be purely intentional, and subject to friendly ribbing, unless tears are involved, in which case all bets are off. Gas masks and gloves not required, but strongly recommended. Aaron Lodge #49, Tucson, AZ

Fraternally,

Tony Williams
Senior Warden
Aaron Lodge #49
Tucson, AZ



Upcoming Events

October 11th - Fellowship @
Scottish Rite Cathedral
(starting 6pm)

October 18th - Fellowship @
Scottish Rite Cathedral
(starting 6pm)

October 21st - Annual Chili
Cook-Off @ BlackRock Brewers
1664 S Research Loop #200
(1pm - ?)

October 25th - Fellowship @
Scottish Rite Cathedral
(starting 6pm)

November 8th - Stated Meeting
& Elections @ Scottish Rite
Cathedral
(dinner 6pm, gavel 7pm)

November 29th - Education
Night @ Scottish Rite Cathedral
(details to be determined)

December 6th - Stated Meeting
@ Scottish Rite Cathedral
(dinner 6pm, gavel 7pm)

Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard Photo Album

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October Stated Meeting



3rd Degree for Bro. Kyle Hetherington



6th Annual Reunion Picnic



Bro Tony's Birthday



Mason of the Year Apron



Lodge Banner



Master Architect Award
2023

Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard

Member Spotlight

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Masonic Profile of the Month

Bro. Zach Taylor

Zachary S Taylor was born in O'ahu, Hawaii. He has also lived in San Diego, Ajo, and Pinetop. He now resides in Tucson, AZ along with his wife, Katelyn and his two sons, Dominic and Hunter. After graduating high school from Sabino High School, Zach joined the United States Marine Corps in 2011, where he served until 2015. He is currently enrolled at Pima Community College. He also works as a Paralegal for the Public Defender's Office.

Zach joined Freemasonry in early 2020, being Initiated on January 22nd, Passed on August 5th, and Raised on September 30th, all in the same year. After becoming a Master Mason, he became joined the Scottish Rite in May of 2021 and the Knights of Saint Andrew the same year. He joined the York Rite Commandery in October of 2022. He has also joined the Grand College of Rites of the USA in 2021.

For Bro Zach, Masonry has been an opportunity to surround himself with good people. He says, "Inevitably, you find yourself improving certain aspects of your life through positivity and determination. It has brought brothers into my life and granted me the opportunity of self-reflection and reinvention of my life journey."

Brother Zach currently holds the office of Junior Warden in Aaron Lodge.

Aaron Lodge # 49

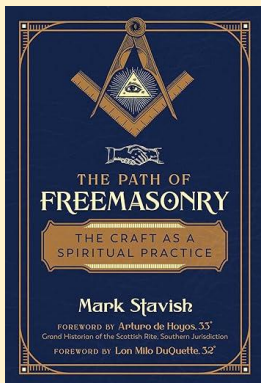
Trestleboard

Monthly News

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Library Corner



The Path of Freemasonry: The Craft as a Spiritual Practice
by Mark Stavish (Author), Arturo de Hoyos (Foreword), Lon Milo DuQuette (Foreword)

In this practical guide, Mark Stavish details the spiritual lessons and rituals of Freemasonry as a step-by-step path of spiritual development and self-improvement for both Masons and non-Masons, men and women, alike. He explores the history and meaning of Freemasonry and its symbols--from its origins in the Temple of Solomon to the Medieval craft guilds to the Renaissance--and explains how the Craft promotes personal growth through the symbolic building of self and an inner Temple of Wisdom in much the same way that Masonry's rituals symbolize the building of Solomon's Temple in accordance with the mystical architectural instructions of Hiram.

[Reviews and purchase options on Amazon](#)

Common Sayings Based on Masonry



Being Blackballed

In the wider world, the term blackballed has come to mean anyone rejected from joining any organization. Organizations "black ball a member" when a candidate is refused entry or membership. There is usually an implied negative reason or impropriety from the candidate. However, the origin of the word relates to Freemasonry.

When Freemasons vote on a new member, they use a ballot box that contains white balls and black balls. Similar to many organizations. Voting against the election of a new member in a Masonic election has come to be called blackballing because the black balls are the "no" balls. This use has spread to the outside world. These days, to prevent confusion while groping around in a little wooden box, the black pieces are now often cube-shaped, to avoid the mistake of voting incorrectly. Alternately the box is titled so that members can clearly see which color ball they will be selecting.

So in everyday life, you could hear "He's been blackballed from joining the country club."

The term is now used when someone is excluded from anything that they wished to be a part of.

Sickness & Distress

No new reports have been communicated to the editor at this time.

Masonic Outreach

My Brothers. Do you find yourself missing coming to meetings at Lodge or just curious how things are going, but do not have a way to get down to the Scottish Rite? We have Brothers in our Lodge living all across the Tucson area. From the west to east, central and even Vail. Many would be more than willing to offer rides to bring you down for meetings or even just a Fellowship night. We would love to see some of our Brothers who haven't been able to attend for any number of reasons. Feel free to reach out to our Bro. Shawn Jones and he will be glad to help organize transportation. You can either reach out by emailing trestleboard@aaronlodge49.com or contact Shawn directly at 520-270-4451.

Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard

Lodge/Masonic History

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Halloween and Freemasonry



With October being the month of Halloween, I thought it would be great if I could write about any connection Freemasonry has with the All Hallow's Eve holiday. Sadly, despite my best efforts in searching for anything online, I came up empty handed. There doesn't seem to be anything significant in Masonry towards Halloween. However, I did manage to locate an article written in 2014 by a Greg Stewart on a website called Freemasoninformation.com. I start with the background on the author and then share the article. As always, any opinions expressed in this article are strictly those of the author. I just thought it was an interesting read.

As a devoted student of the esoteric, Greg is a firm believer in the Masonic connection to the Hermetic traditions of antiquity, its evolution through the ages and its present configuration as the antecedent to most present day currents of esoteric and occult practice. Called a masonic "bodhisattva," he is a self-styled searcher for that which was lost, a Hermetic Hermit and a believer in "what is above is so also below." You can see his artwork on the esoteric at The Primitive Rite.

Personally, Greg is an artist by nature and education. Professionally, his work spans a wide spectrum of communications, publishing and design. Under the Masonic tradition Greg began his career in 1994 participating in a variety of roles, lodges and organizations. Much of his early written work on Freemasonry can be found in his blog Masonic Traveler covering a period from 2005 to 2009. In 2008 Greg co-hosted and produced the Masonic Central podcast, with Dean Kennedy and went on to publish and produce FreemasonInformation.com — under Masonic Traveler — alongside Fred Milliken, Tim Bryce and other Masonic notables.

Halloween as a Hermetic Holiday
Posted on October 26, 2014 by Greg Stewart

Little ground exists between Halloween and Freemasonry. Here and there a costume ball or an orange crepe paper centerpiece marks the passing of the season, but that is probably the extent of any connectivity. For me, the holiday has always been an important one even as my own little goblins have forsaken the quest for candy for more adult like pursuits.

This is the first year of a house devoid of pint sized celebrants leaving me to reorient myself to the signs of the season. Few could argue that the air itself reminds us that it is autumn – it comes from the harvest; the slow subjugation of the sun; the withering leaves. Today, I've come to see the holiday in a different perspective, a Hermetic point of view that, in a sense, encapsulates some importance of the season.

For me, Halloween is the point upon which my spiritual year turns. It is the window between the bountiful summer that comes from the victorious sun and its falls closer to the horizon. Autumn is the stretching shadow that foretells of things to come. This is when the cold seeps in, the dead begin to walk and ghosts skulk out from shadows.

As an adult, I've found a greater love of the holiday with a deeper sense of what it represents. My childhood memories of the season have paved the road of time with recollections of cheap drugstore costumes imbued with magical powers – powers that allowed me to wantonly go door-to-door in search of candy. These magical powers were not remarkable themselves but the costumes that they came from were. They gave me the power to pretend for a time to be someone else. Besides being a day of candy corn and mummy dogs, the celebration of Halloween is a way of celebrating the opposite ideation of ourselves – to be something more than what we are. In doing so, it allows us to assume that things power, if even if for an instance.

Understandably, this ignores the traditions of Samhain or dia de los muertos as they each in kind have their own specific practices. Rather than celebrating the dead or forestalling their return, I see the fundamental aspect of Halloween as the celebration of becoming something we wish we were. The season reminds us of this with the change in the air that it brings. It taunts us with the slowly enveloping cocoon of winter looming before us.

The lessons I glean from All Hallow's Eve are the forces of change at work in both our physical and mental universe as we reminiscence and contemplate the imaginary roles of our past and future selves. It is the polarity that the Kyabliion speaks of and the duality that such polarity embodies. From those thoughts go our fears on the flickering lights of the jack-o-lantern and upon the whispers of invisible ghosts.

The celebration of the harvest and of Halloween gives us command over the power of our past and shows us the potential of our future. It puts us in charge of who we are at this moment of being in a way similar to the action of becoming Hiram Abiff. Fundamentally, it represents our own juxtaposition of static change giving us, perhaps, a glimpse of some dimensional otherness.

That's what Halloween reminds me of – melancholy and spice; damp eyes wet with the glimmer of the future; it's imagining what we want to be.

It's Halloween, time for us to assume an imaginary mantle of some otherness of who we want to be... even if for just a few fleeting hours.

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Famous Masons

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Harry Houdini



Article and photo from Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Scottish Rite [website](#)

Harry Houdini, the Hungarian-born illusionist, is most commonly known for illusions such as his suspended straitjacket escape, buried alive trick, and the “Houdini Upside Down.” However, many people do not know the man behind the magician, Freemason Eric Weiss.

Born on March 24th, 1874 in Budapest, Hungary, Eric Weiss and his family were subject to an onslaught of anti-semitism. A few years later, Eric’s father accepted a job as a rabbi and moved the family of five boys to Appleton, Wisconsin. Eric’s father’s conservative views were not in sync with the Wisconsin culture, and after a series of moves, the family ended up in New York. The Weiss family did not have a lot of money, and Eric did not have any formal education. He longed to make a name for himself. At age 17, he had become very interested in magic, following the work of magician Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin.

It was not overnight success for the young magician who named himself Houdini, adding an “i” to his beloved role model Houdin’s last name. It was hard work, and it took many years, mentorships, and training before his illusions became a success and his talents were honed.

Harry Houdini was initiated into St. Cecile Lodge in New York in 1923 and was passed and raised in July 31 and August 21 in 1924. He was proud to be a Freemason and even held a performance for the Scottish Rite Valley of New York. The event was attended by 4,000 people in the Scottish Rite Cathedral and raised money for Freemasons in need. Houdini became a Shriner a few weeks before his unfortunate death in October 1926. Houdini is among a cohort of Masonic magicians like Harry Keller, Howard Thurston, and Harry Blackstone. Today, there is even an “Invisible Lodge” for Freemasons who wish to become magicians or learn about the artform.

When talking about magicians, even today, Houdini always comes up in the conversation. His talent was awe-inspiring, and in the years following his death, no one has been able to match his skill, resilience, and passion for the art of illusion and magic. We are proud to call Brother Houdini just that, a fellow Brother. He helps to make up the rich and unique story of Freemasonry, woven throughout the halls of every Lodge and in the hearts of every Mason.

Research material provided by the Scottish Rite Museum and Library via the work below:

Houdini Master of Illusion, William E. Parker, The Short Talk Bulletin from The Masonic Services Association of North America. Volume 78, January, 2000.

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Lodge Spotlight

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St. Cecile Lodge #568



No Lodge Photo Available

Masonic Hall-Empire
71 West 23rd Street
New York, NY 10010-4190

St. Cecile Lodge, No. 568 – the first strictly “daylight lodge” in all the world - was born out of war conditions or, as one told-time member declared, was “a child of wartime”. That may also be said to be indirectly true of all twenty-one of the other daytime lodges now belonging to Masonry in the United States, as all of these were patterned after St. Cecile in New York City, and all twenty-one look upon St. Cecile in New York City, as the “Mother Lodge”. All serve a very definite purpose not met by any other Lodge - making the practice of Masonry available to good men and true whose night-work renders it impossible for them to attend, regularly, meetings held in the evenings.

St. Cecile was not merely the first daytime Lodge. For 37 years it was the only one. That was from 1865 to 1902.

During our Civil War, many men were made Masons in “Sea and Field” Lodges, specially chartered by various Grand Jurisdictions to hold meetings on shipboard and where troops were bivouacked. Some of these were musicians playing in Army and Navy bands. When they returned from their periods of enlistment and took their places again in private life - as members of orchestras, singers in opera, and on the general entertainment stage - they found, to their disappointment, that no existing Lodge met at an hour which enabled them to attend. Discussion of this problem, especially at a restaurant conducted by a former professional musician, led to the determination to attempt the formation of a Lodge specifically committed to daylight hours.

St. Cecile Lodge #568 meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm except July and August.

Details taken from Lodge [website](#).

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Appendant Bodies

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Order of the Eastern Star



The Order of the Eastern Star was founded by Dr. Rob Morris in the late 1800s. As a Master Mason, Dr. Morris had the idea that it would be nice to have a way for female relatives of Master Masons to share the benefits of knowledge and self-improvement that Freemasonry made available to men and to have a place in the Masonic Family that would allow men and women to participate together.

The Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world to which both women and men may belong. Worldwide, there are over 500,000 members under the General Grand Chapter. Members of the Order of the Eastern Star are aged 18 and older. Men must be Master Masons and women must have specific relationships with Masons. Originally a woman have to be the daughter, widow, wife, sister, or mother of a master Mason, but the Order now allows other relatives as well as allowing Job's Daughters and Rainbow Girls to become members when of age.

[Grand Chapter of Arizona Order of the Eastern Star](#)

Order of DeMolay



The Order of DeMolay was founded in Kansas City, Missouri in 1919 by Frank Land who, after a conversation with the son of a Masonic Brother who passed away, decided to create a boys club that would meet at the local Scottish Rite Temple with the sole purpose to help them grow into decent men who would be respected in their community. Named after the last Grand Master of the Knights Templars of the 13th century, Jacques DeMolay, who died instead of betraying his brothers, thus becoming a testimonial of loyalty and friendship.

In 1921, Arizona DeMolay became one of the first states to start DeMolay. DeMolay of Arizona prides itself on providing tangible learning experiences to young men ages 12-20 in an environment that focuses on family, friendship, and leadership. They open opportunities for their members to gain skills and experiences that they'll need when it comes time to interview for a job or apply for college. By using fun to encourage self-development, their members grow their leadership skills and gain that intangible "X-Factor" that sets them apart from the rest of the field.

[DeMolay Arizona](#)

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Appendant Bodies

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The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls



The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls came into existence in 1922, when the Reverend W. Mark Sexson, a Freemason, was asked to make an address before South McAlester Chapter #149, Order of the Eastern Star, in McAlester, Oklahoma. As the Order of DeMolay had come under his close study during his Masonic activities, he suggested that a similar order for young women would be beneficial. The first Initiation consisted of a class of 171 young women on April 6, 1922, in the auditorium of the Scottish Rite Temple in McAlester, Oklahoma. The original name was "Order of the Rainbow for Girls".

The IORG is a Masonic youth service organization that teaches leadership training through community service. Young women (ages 11–20) learn about the value of charity and service through their work and involvement with their annual local and Grand (state or country) service projects.

The Grand Assembly of Arizona is a proud member of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls – a non-profit youth group that teaches girls what matters most – leadership, confidence, and citizenship. Every day, across the globe, hundreds of thousands of girls come together to laugh, share, and grow through fun events and challenging workshops designed to empower girls of all ages. Rainbow Girls volunteer for their community and travel to other clubs. Along the way, they make new friends and gather invaluable life skills that help them become the best daughter, sister, and friend they can be.

[AZ Rainbow Girls](#)

Job's Daughters



Job's Daughters was started in 1920 by Ethel T. Wead Mick out of her home in Omaha, Nebraska. It became international with the institution of Bethel #1 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Job's Daughters International is a leadership organization for girls between the ages of 10 and 20. JDI has chapters called "Bethels" in the United States, Canada, Australia, Brazil, and the Philippines. Job's Daughters is a premier organization for young women that teaches the values of leadership, public speaking, charity, respect for parents and elders, and teamwork. Members participate in a variety of activities such as: bimonthly meetings, fundraisers, service projects, leadership workshops, theme parties, dances and so much more!

The oldest Bethel in Arizona was formed in 1957.

New members must be related to or sponsored by a Mason. There is also a Jobie-To-Bee group for girls under 10.

[Arizona Job's Daughters](#)

Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard Free and Accepted Masons

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Grand Lodge of Arizona

Grand Lodge Announcements



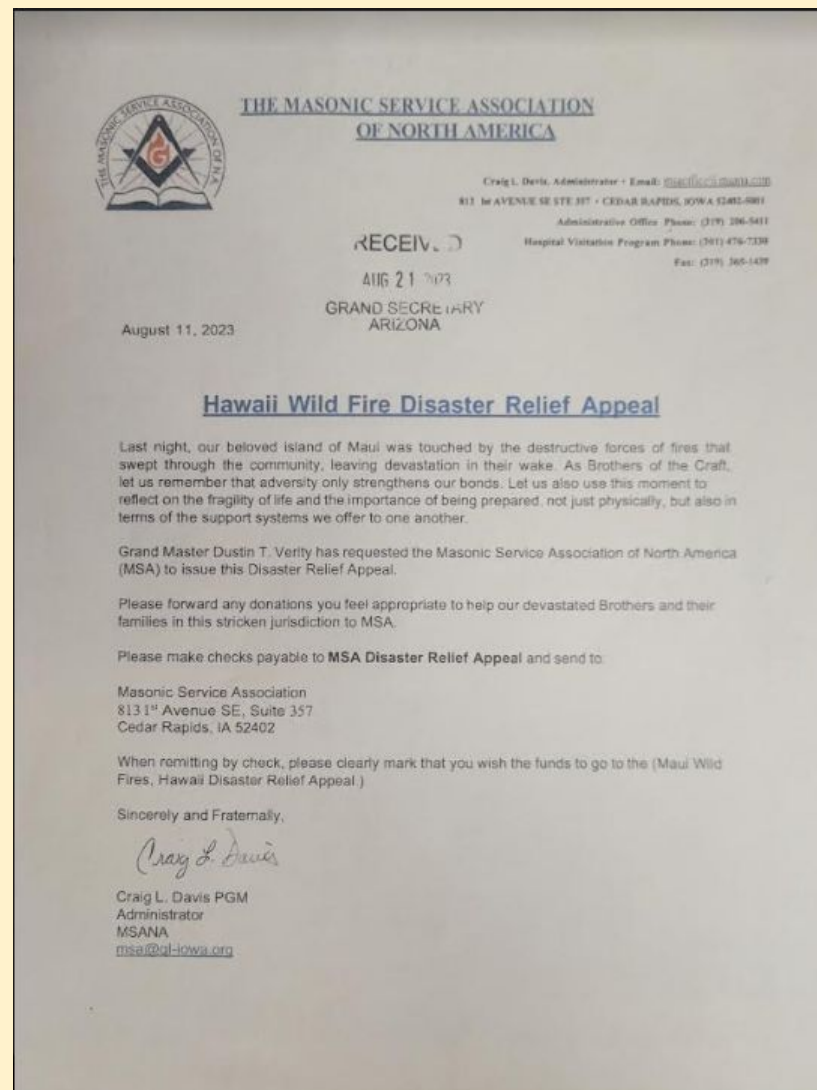
Grand Lodge of Arizona was founded on March 25th, 1882.

Titles of Grand Lodges in the United States vary. Some Grand Lodges are called A. F. & A. M. which means Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. The most commonly used title, like that used in Arizona, is F. & A. M., or Free and Accepted Masons.

[Grand Lodge of Arizona Website](#)

[Arizona Masonry Magazine](#)

[Arizona Copper Post](#)



Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard Promotions

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Mug Sales



Raise Your Cup and Raise Money for Aaron Lodge

Aaron Lodge is now selling coffee mugs and beer steins. The mugs are 15oz and the Steins are 16oz. Both have the Square and Compass on one side and our Lodge logo drafted by Bro. Jeff Sample on the other. Both the mug and stein are made from porcelain and can be washed on the top rack but handwashing is highly encouraged. This are made by a Brother owned business and all profits will be donated directly to the Lodge.

For general inquiries, prices, and ordering, please reach out to Bro. Geno DeCarlo at MasonryOrders@gmail.com.

Aaron Lodge # 49 Trestleboard

Closing

October 9, 2023

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So ends another month's issue of our Trestleboard. One final reminder that November's Stated Meeting will also be elections for the 2024 Officers. We hope everyone has a great month. We'll be back next month with more updates, information, and election results. Until then, Be Safe, Be Kind, and Be Loved.

Dear Brethren of the Mystic tie,
the night is waning fast,
Our work is done, our feast is o'er,
this toast must be the last.
Good night to all, once more good night,
again that farewell strain,
Happy to meet, sorry to part,
happy to meet again.

Aaron Lodge #49 | 160 S Scott Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701

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