

July 2026 TRESTLEBOARD



Aztlan Lodge #1 F & AM

1028 Willow Creek Rd

Prescott AZ 86301

928-445-1412

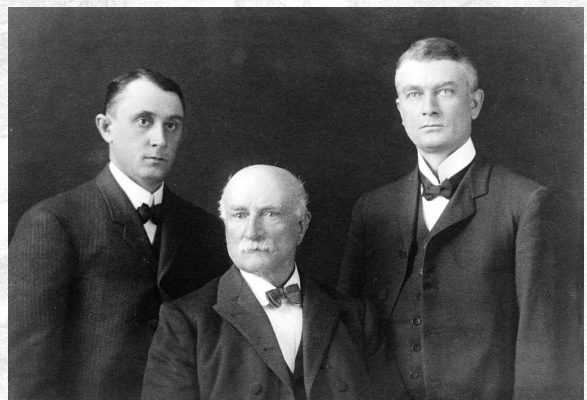
www.aztlanlodge.org



July Stated Meeting - Tuesday, July 14th, 2026

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The Mayo Brothers

Doctors Charles & William Mayo followed their father, William Sr, into Freemasonry as members of Rochester Masonic Lodge No. 21. For over a decade, the brothers' rapidly expanding medical practice operated out of the first floor of the Masonic Temple.



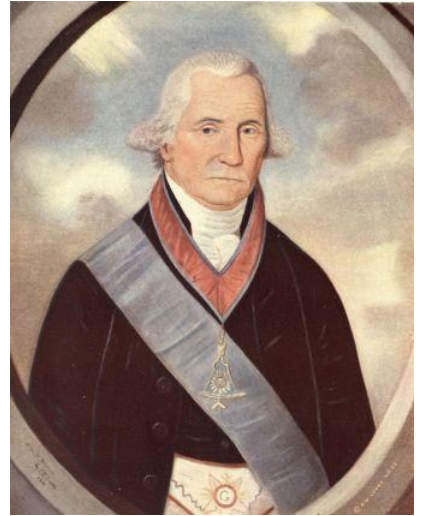
2026 AZTLAN LODGE OFFICERS LINE

Worshipful Master:	Dean Sulzer
Senior Warden:	Steve Phillips
Junior Warden:	Bill Searle
Treasurer:	Don Earle
Secretary:	Dave Luebke (<i>not pictured</i>)
Chaplain :	Clent Walker (<i>not pictured</i>)
Marshal:	Glenn Coopey (<i>not pictured</i>)
Senior Deacon:	Josh Taggart
Junior Deacon:	Derald Hogeland
Senior Steward:	<i>Jeff Crandell (not pictured)</i>
Junior Steward:	<i>vacant</i>
Tyler:	Mo Torrey

George Washington the Mason

By Dean Sulzer, WM

Among the many titles associated with George Washington — soldier, statesman, planter, and founding father — one of the most enduring was that of Freemason. Washington's connection to Freemasonry was not superficial or ceremonial alone; it reflected many of the virtues that both he and the fraternity valued: honor, discipline, moral conduct, brotherhood, and civic responsibility. His lifelong association with the Craft helped shape the image of Freemasonry in early America and contributed greatly to its prestige during the nation's formative years. Washington was initiated into Freemasonry at the age of 20 in 1752 at the Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 in Fredericksburg. At the time, colonial Virginia was deeply influenced by Enlightenment ideals, and many prominent men were joining Masonic lodges as centers of fellowship, philosophy, and moral instruction. Washington quickly advanced through the degrees, becoming a Master Mason later that same year.



Although Washington was not known as an especially active lodge attendee throughout every stage of his life, he consistently maintained a strong respect for the fraternity. Freemasonry's emphasis on virtue, self-improvement, and service to society aligned naturally with his character and leadership style. The principles of brotherhood and equality within the lodge were especially significant in an era defined by rigid class distinctions.

During the American Revolutionary War, Freemasonry played a quiet but notable role among officers on both sides of the conflict. Numerous generals and statesmen were Masons, and Masonic ties occasionally transcended the battlefield. Washington himself was known to respect these bonds of fraternity even amid war. Several accounts describe instances where opposing soldiers recognized one another as Masons and extended gestures of civility uncommon in wartime.

After the Revolution, Washington became one of the most visible Masons in the world. His public association with the fraternity elevated its reputation in the newly formed United States. Perhaps the most famous Masonic event involving Washington occurred on September 18, 1793, when he laid the cornerstone of the United States Capitol in a full Masonic ceremony. Dressed in Masonic regalia, Washington participated according to ancient ritual traditions, symbolizing the union of moral order and republican government. The event became one of the defining images of American Freemasonry.

Washington frequently received letters and dedications from Masonic lodges throughout the United States and abroad. In his replies, he often expressed appreciation for the fraternity's commitment to morality and benevolence. In a famous 1790 letter to the brethren of King David's Lodge No. 1, Washington praised Freemasonry for promoting "the private virtues of society" and advancing principles beneficial to mankind.

Contrary to some myths and conspiracy theories that later emerged, Washington did not view Freemasonry as a secret political power. Rather, he saw it as a moral institution dedicated to improving the individual and strengthening society through ethical conduct and fraternity. He did, however, warn against secret societies that sought political manipulation or social unrest, particularly later in life when concerns arose regarding the French Revolution and radical movements in Europe.

(continued on next page)

George Washington the Mason (cont.)

Washington's legacy within Freemasonry remains immense. Lodges, memorials, and Masonic bodies throughout the world continue to honor him as an example of integrity and leadership. The towering George Washington Masonic National Memorial stands today as one of the most significant Masonic monuments in existence, dedicated to preserving both his memory and the ideals he represented.

To Freemasons, George Washington symbolizes the ideal of the citizen Mason — a man guided by conscience, duty, humility, and service to others. His life demonstrated that power and authority are best exercised when tempered by moral principle. Whether viewed through the lens of history or fraternity, Washington's connection to Freemasonry remains an important part of both American and Masonic heritage.

Fraternally and with heartfelt gratitude,

Dean D. Sulzer Jr.

Master Aztlan Lodge No. 1 F. & A.M. 2026



From the Secretary's Table

By Dave Luebke, PGM

Over the past month or so I have had several questions about handling potential Candidates (or in current lingo Prospects).

There are several answers to this question.

1. Grand Lodge/Grandview – Prospects are men who have inquired about Masonry via one of the Grand Lodge Websites. The Grand Lodge “Prospect Management Team” contacts the prospect and then forwards the contact information to the Prospect Manager of the Lodge where the prospect will have the greatest chance of success.

Once the Lodge Prospect Manager receives the name of the potential candidate or prospect, the standard process is followed. The six-month period of learning who he is and his learning about who we are still takes place. At the end of the six-month period, a petition is offered to the candidate, and he decides whether or not he wants to join the Lodge. Once the petition is on file, standard investigations and ballot take place.

2. Walk-in candidates or prospects are handled the same way they have traditionally been done: a tour of the Lodge is provided. Masonry is discussed with the prospect, and if he so desires, he can start coming to our dinners and activities. Once the six-month period has expired, a petition may be offered and the traditional balloting and investigations take place.

3. There is one lesser-known and rarely used method of acquiring a candidate, and that is known as selective invitation. This method requires that we follow the guidelines in AMC Section 3-101 – Approaching Potential Candidates. Basically, this method allows a brother who believes a man, he knows meets the requirements of Freemasonry, to ask that man if he is interested in learning about the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons. The brother may then follow up a single time with the man he has asked to see if he is interested and offer a petition. Once the man declines the invitation, discussion of Masonry is terminated. If the man displays any further interest in Freemasonry, a petition may be given, and that petition shall be handled in the traditional manner.

Brethren, no matter how we receive a **petition**, we must always remember that, as the signer on lines 23 and 24 of the petition, it is our reputation that is on the line. It therefore behooves each of us to be certain that we actually took the time to learn who the petitioner is, not just sign a petition because the man has attended our dinners for six months. Always ballot for the protection of the fraternity.

The Three Lodges

As with all the articles I write, I am only expressing my beliefs and opinions. They are, of course, challengeable, and should be challenged. Each of us has a responsibility to share our beliefs, ideas, and thoughts. Differences of opinion are one of the foundations of Masonry and should always be looked upon as such.

Over the years, it has come to be my understanding that all lodges who own a building are divided into three sections, or, if you will, three lodges. Each of these lodges interacts with each other, sometimes so much that work is delayed or focus is lost. Let me explain.

(continued on next page)

From the Secretary's Table (cont.)

1. The "Physical" - I addressed this one first because in the case of Aztlan Lodge, the Lodge building seems to be in the forefront of all of our discussions and activities. So much so that I would estimate more than 50% of our time is spent discussing the Lodge building and its maintenance and its future.

The Lodge building is actually an asset of the owner, in this case the Lodge Trustees, and as such, the handling of the building and all of its aspects belongs to the trustees. In this situation, the Lodge or Fraternal Lodge is actually a user or renter of the building .

I have often thought that the solution to this problem may be simply reorganizing the trustees themselves. Specifically, removing the Master as the chairman of the trustees, while the Lodge would still elect trustees, the trustees themselves at their first meeting of the year would elect a Chairman of their own.

This approach removes one of the greatest conflicts of interest we have: that of the Master having a split allegiance, one to the trustees and building and the other to actually leading the Fraternal Lodge.

Yes, it is a delicate balance. As we are structured today, the trustees manage the building, but the lodge, or fraternal lodge, controls the money. Thus, this is the cause of some of the difficulties we experience between the building and the fraternal lodge.

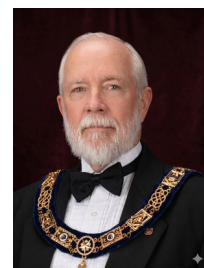
2. The "Fraternal Lodge" - The fraternal lodge is the second of the lodges, and hopefully when we use the word lodge, we are talking about or referencing the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons. If we look directly at the Charter The sole purpose of this lodge, is to Initiate, Pass, and Raise all good men and true. Thus, any business within our meetings should be in relation to these activities.

Yet, this does not mean that our sole purpose is the performance of degrees. It is actually all of the surrounding factors that allow us to do degrees. Attracting good men to our fraternity requires that we be prominent in our community, if we are to remain relevant to our community, we must stay in business. Therefore, we must have activities that will attract and retain members. Typically, this is achieved with community functions such as our blood drive or community cupboard endeavors. We should also consider specific Masonic endeavors as part of this charge. The Outdoor Degree, longevity awards, working with our concordant bodies, and even the Grand Lodge Awards Programs are necessary activities to ensure our future. AND yes learning the ritual and performing it well are as important as any of the other activities. For if we cannot do these things well, Masonry is just another group of guys getting together doing random activities.

3. The "Lodge" - This is not actually an identifiable item but a term. We use it every day and in such a manner that it is, for the most part, indistinguishable as to whether we are referring to Fraternal Lodge or to the Physical lodge.

Closing thought: One of the secrets of Freemasonry must be Communication. It is so secret that even we have forgotten how to do it

Till next time,
Dave



Bylaws Announcement

Brethren,

After many months, we have finally received interim approval to use the bylaws we approved in November of 2025. The final approval of these bylaws will not occur until the Grand Lodge votes on them at the Grand Communication in 2027.

These bylaws represent the first round of changes that your bylaws committee felt necessary. There are other changes that many of you will think necessary and will be completed at such time as the Master elects to assign his bylaws committee to that work.

The changes made in these bylaws consist of two types of change:

1. Those that your bylaw committee recommended and were approved by the lodge.
2. Those that were mandated by the Grand Lodge Bylaws Committee in their initial review.

Probably the most significant change in these bylaws is the elimination of Article XII, Alcohol. This change allows alcohol to be served in the lodge in accordance with the requirements of AMC Section 10-705. I would suggest that each of you take out your AMC and become familiar with Section 10-705.

For those skeptics out there and those that may believe alcohol will change the fundamental values of Freemasonry, please note that the approval of these bylaws does not mean that alcohol will be randomly served, nor will it be available at every meeting.

All brethren should remember that Masons in the first degree, we are charged with guarding against intemperance. By remaining vigilant, this change shall be a positive one for Aztlan Lodge. The remaining changes brought our bylaws into agreement with the AMC and updated wording wherever necessary.

These bylaws are the only official set and all others should be destroyed. A copy of these bylaws will be available in our file vault on Grand View which may be accessed by logging in to your personal portal on Grand View.

Fraternally,
Dave Leubke, PGM
Secretary, Aztlan Lodge No. 1



Affiliated Organizations

O.E.S. Golden Rule #1

1st & 3rd Thursday 7:00 p.m.
(Sept.-June)
2nd Floor Aztlan Lodge
Stacey Maxwell
(480) 387-4000

Yavapai Chapter Order of DeMolay

1st & 3rd Sunday's
6:30 p.m.
3rd Floor of Aztlan Lodge
Bill Searle
(928) 899-3664

Yavapai County Shrine Club

3rd Wednesday
5:30 p.m. meet and greet.
6:00 p.m. dinner
Call Glenn Coopey for the
location (928) 800-2298

High Country Scottish Rite Club

2nd Tuesday 5:00 p.m.
(Jan. - Oct.)
3rd Floor Aztlan Lodge
Ken Davis

Phoenix Scottish Rite Bodies

3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Phoenix Scottish Rite Facility
[7726 N 59th Ave](#)
Glendale, AZ 85301
(602) 212-1073

Check the [Lodge Calendar](#) on the website for the most up-to-date information.

Sickness and Distress

<p>Ryan Guedel 7864 N Siesta Sunset Ln Prescott Valley AZ 86315 (928) 830-8348</p>	<p>Ellie Martin 801 Vanosdale Road, Apt 239L Knoxville, TN 37909 (928) 775-3612</p>	<p>Greg Hendrickson 6598 East Beckett Trail Prescott Valley AZ 86314 (928) 533-8179</p>
<p>Clint Russell 2931 West Mountain Park Rd Show Low, AZ 85901 (928) 606-5802</p>	<p>Jonathon Tracy PO Box 25461 Prescott Valley, AZ 86312</p>	<p>David Trice 1035 Mylo Dr Chino Valley, AZ 86323</p>

Please reach out to our brothers and sisters. See how they are doing.
They will be most appreciative!

Lodge Member July Birthdays

BROTHER'S NAME	DATE
Michael Summe	July 2nd
Larry Moles	July 3rd
Christopher Brown	July 4th
Kenneth Rhodes	July 4th
Joshua Taggart	July 10th
Dean Sulzer, Jr	July 16th
Dennis Jensen	July 18th
Paul Mountcastle, Jr	July 22nd
Chester Strantz	July 22nd
David Hemphill	July 27th
Tyler Zanghi	July 27th
Franklin Benedict	July 30th
David Cunningham	July 30th



Grand Lodge Meeting 2026



Community Cupboard Food Bank



Join us every Wednesday
from 10am to noon.

Please contact Bro Don Earle or Bro Rob Berryman for questions about
how you can help make an impact in our community by donating time
to serve those who are in need.

We look forward to seeing you there!



 American Red Cross

**JOIN US!
GIVE BLOOD.**

Blood Drive
AZTLAN Lodge #1 F & AM Masonic Lodge

Lodge Room
1028 Willow Creek Rd.
Prescott, AZ 86301

Wednesday, July 8, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Aztlan Lodge / Red Cross Blood Drive Update

Recently Brother Jeff and I were honored to recently be invited to a Red Cross luncheon for Blood Drive Leaders from Northern Arizona.

At the Luncheon we were advised that AZTLAN LODGE is now considered a PREMIER PARTNER. There are a few metrics that go into this title - a few being growth year over year as well as Blood types and first time donors. As we are new, it wasn't hard to beat last year! The one interesting statistic is that 16% of our donors are new Donors which is a very BIG DEAL in the Red Cross world. Being a Premier Partner means that they will do everything they can to make sure we get the drives and staffing required to hit our goals (and incidentally adding another Drive for July 8th.)

Another interesting Statistic they shared while the Phoenix Valley is stable averaging 30-35 donors. On the other hand Northern AZ is growing – Up by 766 donations over the prior year – Of the new donations AZTLAN accounted for 295 or 39% of the growth. We have made a significant impact in the region.

To put it another way Northern Arizona's donations of 4211 units will have saved 7019 lives! Well Done to all who have donated or volunteered- Please take a moment to reflect on your contribution or if you haven't yet helped out -Please consider it for July – Demand for Blood peaks in the summer and has a limited shelf life.


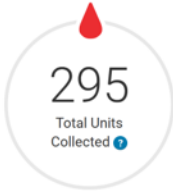
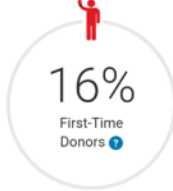
At our last Stated Meeting the Lodge members agreed to allowing donations to be collected in the Lodge room – Increasing our capacity from 68 to 74 appointments being made available for July 8th. This was required for space and temperature control limitations they impose. Let's roll up our sleeves and show the Red Cross what Masons can do and fill this new target!..

To Donate go to redcrossblood.org and enter AZTLAN under sponsor code – you will be directed to our page to pick your time.

Fraternally
Don and Jeff

Account Information

AZTLAN Lodge #1 F& AM Masonic Lodge

My Profile  Don Earle Blood Program Leader Email: earledon@gmail.com Phone: 6613734567 Address: 1028 Willow Creek Rd Prescott, AZ 86301	Impact  295 Total Units Collected  16% First-Time Donors <p>With Each Donation You Are Helping Save Lives</p>
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A Weekend of Light & Remembrance

Prescott AZ • Sept 11th & 12th

Friday Sept 11th

**A Solemn Tribute: 9/11 Remembrance
(Ladies & Guests Welcome)**

6 PM Gathering & Fellowship Hour

7 PM 9/11 Presentation

8 PM Banquet

Badger's Den Restaurant 1245 White Spar Rd, Prescott, AZ

Saturday Sept 12th

Bill Fain Memorial Outdoor Degree (MM Only)

8 AM Coffee & Donuts

10 AM Lodge Opens

Ladies Program

AM Enjoy Prescott on the Square.

Information provided about available activities

12 Noon Luncheon

Copper Note Restaurant

120 W Gurley St - Burmister Building

Shrine Fall Ceremonial

5:15 PM Aztlan Lodge 1028 Willow Creek Rd , Prescott, AZ

A light dinner will follow the ceremony



[For More Information](#)

AZTLAN LODGE SKILLED TRADES GRANT

Supporting the next generation of skilled tradespeople. Apply now for funding to pursue your career in the trades.



The Lodge has established the **Skilled Trades Grant Program** to bolster the local workforce by removing financial barriers for students pursuing essential vocational careers. With an annual budget of **\$10,000**, the program awards five individual grants of **\$2,000** each year.

Award Structure and Financial Impact

Each year, the program provides five individual grants of **\$2,000**. These funds are intended to be flexible, covering a variety of educational expenses such as tuition, certification costs, and the purchase of professional tools. This is particularly significant given that typical trade certification costs at Yavapai College can range from **\$2,500 to \$6,000** for tuition and fees, with an additional **\$300 to \$600** required for specialized gear. By providing \$2,000, the Lodge covers a substantial portion of the out-of-pocket costs for residents pursuing high-demand careers.

Program Focus and Eligibility

The initiative specifically targets residents of **Yavapai County** enrolled in trade or technical programs. Supported fields include, but are not limited to:

- **Construction & Industrial:** Electrical, HVAC, welding, carpentry, and plumbing.
- **Service Industries:** Culinary arts and cosmetology.

Technical Trades: Automotive, aviation, and drafting.



Application and Selection

The application process is designed for ease of use, requiring a short statement of interest (maximum 250 words), proof of residency, and one reference. A dedicated committee evaluates applicants based on a 25-point scale covering **career goal clarity, commitment to the trade, financial need**, and Community Involvement.

Funds are versatile, covering tuition, specialized tools, or certification costs at local institutions like **Yavapai College CTEC**

The Review Committee uses a formal scoring sheet to evaluate applicants based on the clarity of their career goals, commitment to their chosen trade, financial need, and the overall completeness of their application. The program is open to the public, with a bonus applied to applicants' scores for community involvement, such as scouting, church involvement, and being relatives of Masons. The applications will be available by April 30, with selections made on May 31st.

For More Information, contact Ken Davis, Chairman, kdavis3858@gmail.com

Keeping An Eye On Jupiter (*June article*)

By Adam England, The Backyard Astronomer

In Roman mythology, Jupiter was king of the gods, ruler of the heavens, and notorious for his wandering eye. His wife Juno knew this all too well. Often depicted beside a peacock whose feathers bore the “eyes” of the hundred-eyed giant Argus, Juno became a symbol of vigilance and watchfulness. For thousands of years, humanity has kept an eye on Jupiter as well—from ancient storytellers to modern spacecraft exploring the giant planet today.



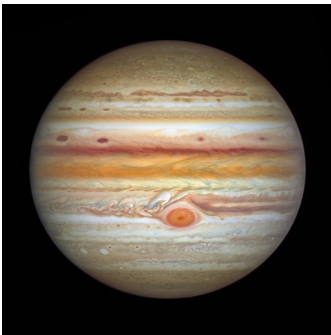
That mythology found its way into astronomy centuries later. When Galileo first observed the four largest moons of Jupiter in 1610, they were eventually named Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto—figures tied to Jupiter’s many romances and exploits in Roman mythology. As additional moons were discovered over the centuries, astronomers largely continued the tradition, naming many of Jupiter’s satellites after mythological companions, lovers, and descendants of the king of the gods.

More than four hundred years after Galileo’s discovery, NASA revived the theme with the **Juno spacecraft**. Launched in 2011 and arriving at Jupiter in 2016, Juno was designed to peer beneath the planet’s swirling cloud tops and study its atmosphere, magnetic field, auroras, and interior structure. Orbiting through one of the harshest radiation environments in the Solar System, the spacecraft continues to send back breathtaking images and scientific discoveries. Even today, Juno still keeps a close eye on Jupiter.

Observations January

20. Jovis	○ **
21. Jovis	** ○ *
22. Jovis	○ ** *
3. Jovis	○ ** *
3. Jovis	* ○ *
4. Jovis	* ○ **
6. Jovis	** ○ *
8. Jovis	* ** ○
10. Jovis	* * * ○ *
11.	* * ○ *
12. H. of Jovis	* ○ *
17. Jovis	* ** ○ *
14. Jovis	* * * ○ *

Fortunately, backyard astronomers can do the same this month.



Throughout the month of June, Jupiter will glow low in the western sky shortly after sunset, offering several beautiful conjunctions for evening observers. The most striking occurs on the evenings of **June 8th and 9th**, when Jupiter and brilliant **Venus** appear less than one degree apart in the twilight sky. The two brightest planets will create a spectacular pairing visible even before the sky fully darkens. Binoculars should frame both planets comfortably together, while small telescopes may reveal Jupiter’s four Galilean moons alongside the dazzling crescent phase of Venus.

The show continues on **June 16th**, when a thin crescent Moon joins the scene low in the western sky. The pairing should make for an excellent photo opportunity shortly after sunset, especially with foreground scenery or desert landscapes silhouetted beneath the planets.

By **June 24th**, elusive **Mercury** joins the gathering as it approaches Jupiter near the horizon. Observers with a clear western view and steady skies may be able to spot all three planets during evening twilight.

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Keeping An Eye On Jupiter (cont.)

While Jupiter will sit relatively low for Northern Hemisphere observers this month, even modest backyard telescopes can still reveal its cloud bands and ever-changing family of moons. One of the great joys of observing Jupiter is watching those moons shift position from night to night. Sometimes they line up neatly beside the planet. Other evenings one or more may disappear behind Jupiter or pass in front of its disk, casting tiny shadows onto the giant world below.

For centuries, humans have watched Jupiter wander across the heavens, weaving mythology, science, and exploration together in its wake. This June, as Venus, Mercury, the Moon, and Jupiter gather in the twilight, take a moment to keep an eye on the king of planets yourself.

Clear skies and happy viewing.

Adam England is the owner of a local financial services firm and moonlights as an amateur astronomer, writer, and interplanetary conquest consultant. Follow him on Instagram [@TheBackyardAstronomerAZ](#) and at www.ManzanitaInsuranceAndAccounting.com

Jupiter – Imaged by Hubble Space Telescope; Courtesy NASA.

“Juno and Jupiter” by Gavin Hamilton, 1770; Courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

Galileo’s notes on Jupiter and location of 4 Galilean moons, c. 1610; courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

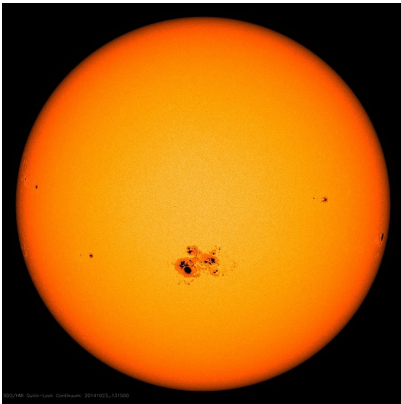
Jupiter – Imaged by Juno spacecraft; Courtesy NASA.



Storm Season on Earth and in Space (*July article*)

By Adam England, The Backyard Astronomer

July is storm season in Arizona. Dark clouds gather over the Bradshaw Mountains, lightning flashes across the desert, and astronomers reluctantly cover their telescopes as another monsoon shower rolls through. While thunderstorms rage overhead, another kind of storm is raging 93 million miles away.



On the surface of the Sun, immense magnetic fields twist and snap. When they do, they can unleash solar flares and hurl billions of tons of charged particles into space in events known as Coronal Mass Ejections, or CMEs. Traveling at extraordinary speeds, these solar storms can reach Earth in as little as a few days.

Most pass by unnoticed. Others remind us that space weather is every bit as real as the weather in our own backyards.

In September 1859, British astronomer Richard Carrington was sketching sunspots when he witnessed a sudden flash of light erupt from the Sun. Less than eighteen hours later, Earth was struck by one of the most powerful geomagnetic storms ever recorded. Telegraph systems failed, operators received electric shocks, and auroras illuminated skies far beyond their usual northern range.

Today we know this event as the Carrington Event.

Had a storm of similar magnitude occurred in our modern world, satellites, GPS navigation, radio communications, and portions of the electrical grid could all be affected. Fortunately, scientists continuously monitor the Sun and provide advance warning of potentially disruptive activity.

The reason solar storms affect us at all lies in Earth's magnetic field. Generated deep within our planet's molten core, the magnetosphere acts as an invisible shield, deflecting most of the charged particles streaming outward from the Sun. When particularly strong storms strike, some particles become trapped near the poles, where they collide with atoms high in the atmosphere.

The result is one of nature's most beautiful displays: the aurora.



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Storm Season on Earth and in Space (cont.)

While residents of Alaska and northern Canada enjoy regular views of the Northern Lights, strong solar storms occasionally push auroral activity much farther south. During recent periods of heightened solar activity, observers across much of the United States reported seeing faint red and green curtains dancing above the horizon. Even Arizona has occasionally been treated to rare auroral displays.

Fortunately, you don't need a major solar storm to observe space weather. With proper solar filters, amateur astronomers can safely observe sunspots crossing the face of the Sun. Dedicated hydrogen-alpha telescopes reveal even more, including prominences, filaments, and eruptions occurring in real time.

As July's monsoon clouds build over Arizona, opportunities for nighttime observing may be limited. But those same stormy afternoons offer a reminder that weather is not unique to Earth. Our Sun is a dynamic and sometimes violent star, generating storms that can affect planets across the Solar System.

The next time thunder rumbles across the desert and lightning streaks through the clouds, remember that another storm may be unfolding far above us—one that began on the surface of a star and traveled millions of miles through space.

Clear skies and happy viewing.

Adam England is the owner of a local financial services firm and moonlights as an amateur astronomer, writer, and interplanetary conquest consultant. Follow him on Instagram [@TheBackyardAstronomerAZ](#) and at www.ManzanitaInsuranceAndAccounting.com

Arizona Monsoon - Courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

Sunspots – Courtesy NASA Solar Dynamics Observatory

Freemasons in the Highest Ranks During World War II

By Stan Martin, KCCH

World War II demanded extraordinary leadership, coordination, and resolve from the Allied nations. Among the most influential figures guiding the United States and Great Britain through the conflict, a notable number were members of the Freemasons — one of the world's oldest fraternal organizations. Their shared Masonic background did not dictate wartime policy, but it did reflect a common grounding in ideals such as duty, integrity, and civic responsibility.

This article explores the prominent American and British leaders of World War II who were also Freemasons, highlighting the breadth of their influence across political, military, and diplomatic spheres.

American Leadership: Freemasons at the Helm

The United States entered World War II with a government and military command structure that included numerous Freemasons. Their roles spanned the presidency, Congress, the Cabinet, and the highest levels of military command.

Presidential and Executive Leadership

Franklin D. Roosevelt – As President, Roosevelt guided the nation through the Great Depression and World War II. He was a dedicated Mason, he was initiated in 1911 and remained active throughout his life.

Henry Wallace – Roosevelt's Vice President from 1941–1945, Wallace was also a Freemason and played a key role in wartime agricultural and industrial mobilization.

Harry S. Truman – Vice President in 1945 and later President, Truman was one of the most devoted Masons ever to hold the office. He served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri before entering the White House.

Cabinet and Diplomatic Leadership

Henry Stimson – Secretary of War, responsible for overseeing the U.S. Army and the Manhattan Project.

Cordell Hull – Secretary of State and later Nobel Peace Prize laureate for his role in founding the United Nations.

Henry Morgenthau – Secretary of the Treasury

Henry A. Wallace – Secretary of Commerce / Agriculture

Harold Ickes – Secretary of Interior

Frank C. Walker – Postmaster General

Congressional Leadership

Sam Rayburn – Speaker of the House of Representatives

Military Leadership

All of the top military commanders were Freemasons:

General George C. Marshall – Army Chief of Staff and architect of Allied strategy.

(continued on next page)



Brother Roosevelt



Brother Truman

Freemasons in the Highest Ranks During World War II (cont.)

General Henry “Hap” Arnold – Commanding General of the U.S. Army Air Forces and pioneer of modern air power.

General Douglas MacArthur – Supreme Commander in the Southwest Pacific, known for his dramatic leadership and postwar role in Japan.

Admiral Ernest King – Chief of Naval Operations, responsible for directing the U.S. Navy’s global operations.

General Omar Bradley – Senior field commander in Europe

Admiral William D. Leahy – Roosevelt’s Chief of Staff and one of the President’s closest advisors.

Admiral Chester Nimitz – Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, leading the naval war against Japan.

These leaders shaped every major theater of the war, from the beaches of Normandy to the islands of the Pacific.

British Leadership

Great Britain also counted several key wartime leaders among the ranks of Freemasonry. Their influence extended across the monarchy, government, and military.

The Crown

King George VI – Before ascending the throne, George VI was initiated into Freemasonry in 1919. His steady presence and wartime broadcasts became symbols of national resilience.

British Political Leadership

Winston Churchill – Prime Minister and one of history’s most iconic war-time leaders, Churchill was initiated into Freemasonry in 1901.

Anthony Eden – Foreign Secretary during much of the war and later Prime Minister, Eden was also a Mason.

Ernest Bevin – Minister of Labour and National Service, responsible for mobilizing Britain’s workforce and industry.

Max Aitken, Lord Beaverbrook – Minister of Aircraft Production, whose efforts were crucial during the Battle of Britain.

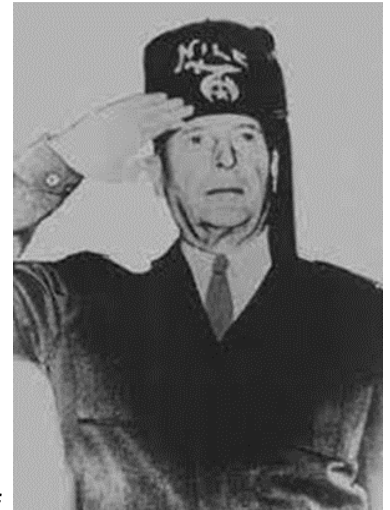
Sir Kingsley Wood – Chancellor of the Exchequer

British Military Leadership

Admiral Sir Dudley Pound – First Sea Lord and professional head of the Royal Navy during the early years of the war.

Admiral Andrew Cunningham – Commander of the Mediterranean Fleet and later First Sea Lord, known for his decisive naval victories.

(continued on next page)



Brother MacArthur



Brother Windsor

Freemasons in the Highest Ranks During World War II (cont.)

Shared Ideals, Distinct Roles

While Freemasonry did not function as a political or military alliance, the presence of so many Masons in leadership positions on both sides of the Atlantic is historically significant. The fraternity's emphasis on service, ethical conduct, and personal responsibility resonated with many of the men who found themselves guiding their nations through the most destructive conflict in human history. Their Masonic ties did not determine wartime strategy, but they do offer a unique lens through which to view the personal values and networks of the era's most influential leaders.

Conclusion

The Freemasons who served in top leadership roles during World War II helped shape the course of the conflict and the postwar world. From Roosevelt and Churchill to Marshall and Cunningham, these men carried both the burdens of global war and the ideals of a centuries-old fraternity. Their legacy continues to spark interest among historians, Masons, and anyone fascinated by the personal dimensions of leadership during one of history's defining moments.

Stan Martin, **KCCH**

Winston Churchill

By Stan Martin, KCCH



1874-1965

Winston Churchill pursued moral and intellectual friendships and generosity teamed with compassion. His goal was to “*always aim high*”! Brother Winston Churchill, of Studhoime Lodge No. 1591, London exemplified what we Freemasons believe.

I understand we approximately 176 members residing out of the Prescott geographical area (including Arizona) in 41 States coast-to-coast, should *as possible*, support Aztlan Lodge No. 1. Being distant doesn't dilute or negate our obligation or affection of “brotherly equality”.

Reflect on Churchill's self-proclaimed primary intent: “*ALWAYS AIM HIGH*”. No individual or specific Lodge is *higher* than our Aztlan's No. 1!

Fraternally proposed,

Stan Martin, **KCCH**
Knoxville, TN

Aztlan Lodge No. 1 Perpetual Member
Scottish Rite, Valley of Phoenix, Orient of Arizona
El Zaribah Shriners

High Country Scottish Rite Club

Guests joined the High Country Scottish Rite Club for a Ladies at the Table banquet. This elegant five-course dinner celebrated brotherhood and the spirit of Mother's Day, but its true purpose was to serve as a profound, meaningful tribute to our cherished Masonic Ladies and Mothers. Through a magnificent evening of gourmet dining, traditional Masonic rituals, and heartfelt ceremonial toasts, the brethren honored the unwavering support, grace, and silent strength these remarkable women continuously bring to the Craft. Recognizing that without their patience and encouragement, our goals would remain unfulfilled, the evening culminated in a deeply moving DeMolay Flower Talk. All attendees experienced an unforgettable night of fellowship, love, and deep gratitude.



High Country Scottish Rite Club

Aztlan Lodge Scottish Rite members attending the
June Valley of Phoenix Hawaiian Shirt Night.



High Country Scottish Rite Club

Four members of HCSRC travelled to Glendale on April 16 to attend the stated meeting of the Valley of Phoenix Scottish Rite meeting. We observed a well organized and efficient meeting, and we continue to be "wowed" by the changes they are making to the physical facility. Bros. Ken Davis, Darrold Hogeland, Jeff Crandell, and Don Earle attended. For those who are interested, we usually have at least one car going to the stated meetings. The meeting is on the third Thursday of the month, with dinner at 5:30.

We have an interesting lineup of programs for our upcoming meetings. We meet at 5:00 on the second Tuesday of the month on the 3rd floor of Aztlan Lodge. Most meetings are open to everyone, including:

May - Glenn Coopey *"The Influence of Irish Freemasons on the United States"*

June - Ken & Jeff "The Square & Compasses and the Declaration of Independence"

July - Josh Taggart "The Guthrie Rite: Grandeur on the Prairie"

Valley of Phoenix Events - third Thursday of the month at the Scottish Rite facility in Glendale. We usually carpool.

May Stated - SGC James Cole Visit - SGC Cole will make a rare visit to the Valley of Phoenix to discuss current events in Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

May 31 - 225th Anniversary of Scottish Rite - SJ - this will be a virtual meeting broadcast to the Glendale facility, from Charleston, SC. It will celebrate 225 years of service to Masonry. A delicious meal will be served afterward.

October 17th - Louisiana Scottish Rite EA Degree. A special degree team from Louisiana will travel to Glendale to perform their interpretation of an EA degree.

Nov 7 & 8 Joint AZ Reunion - Tucson. Plan now to join Scottish Rite at the November reunion. Applications will need to be turned in soon. Ask Ken Davis or any member of the HCSRC for more information and an application.

For those who couldn't make the April meeting, Ken presented a very impactful program about the Rose Croix, and we remembered those brothers who have laid down their working tools. Here is a link to that presentation.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a9JmH4z5BBE53qlujMq_G02d7ffetl38/view?usp=sharing

Interested in learning more about Scottish Rite:

Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction

<https://scottishrite.org/>

Valley of Phoenix Scottish Rite

<https://phoenixscottishrite.org/>

High Country (Prescott) Scottish Rite

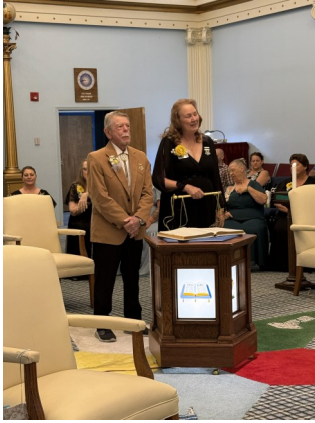
<https://www.facebook.com/HighCountryScottishRite/>

Fraternally, Ken Davis, President

Kdavis3858@gmail.com

(603) 456-3581

O.E.S. Golden Rule #1



Golden Rule #1's installation was a beautiful event held on May 23rd. The Installation was followed by a brunch prepared by the Chapter members and was delicious! Our new officers for the ensuing year are Linda Marriott Worthy Matron, Gil Marriott Worthy Patron, Johanna Kangel Associate Matron, Tony DiCola Associate Patron, Virginia Foster Conductress, Susan Horn Associate Conductress, Donna DiCola Secretary and Stacey Maxwell Treasurer.

Our first activity of the new term was a Friendship Event, a BBQ at the Marriott's. This was well attended and enjoyed by all in spite of the rain. Our next get-together will be a pot luck at the DiCola's to discuss the amendments that we will be voting on at Grand Chapter this year. We look forward to a great year ahead and invite all the Masons and their significant others to join us at our upcoming social events.



As part of our philanthropic community outreach, we presented Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS) a check from the Arizona Eastern Star Foundation for \$5,000.00 and checks from Golden Rule for \$694.00. In addition, we presented the Chino Valley Education Foundation (for the homeless kids) a donation of \$500.00. Good work Sisters and Brothers.

Fraternally,

Linda Marriott, *Worthy Matron*

George Renfroe, *Worthy Patron*



Yavapai County Shrine Club

We Are Embarked on a Noble Endeavor and
We Need You to Step Forward...and Have Fun!

THE SHRINE AND FREEMASONRY

Shriners International supports the Masonic tenets of **Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth** through its emphasis on fellowship, philanthropy, and integrity.

Shriners International, as an appendant body of Freemasonry, is deeply rooted in the core Masonic values of *Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth*. Here's how these principles are reflected in its mission and activities:

Brotherly Love

- Fellowship and camaraderie are central to the Shriner experience. Members form lifelong friendships through shared rituals, social events, and community service.
- Shriners foster a spirit of unity and mutual respect among members, transcending backgrounds and promoting harmony within the fraternity.
- Their iconic red fez symbolizes not just membership, but a commitment to supporting one another and the broader Masonic family



Relief

- Shriners International is best known for its **Shriners Children's network**, a system of nonprofit pediatric hospitals that provide specialized care regardless of a family's ability to pay.
- This commitment to **charitable relief** exemplifies the Masonic ideal of helping those in need, especially children facing orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate.
- Members actively raise funds, volunteer, and advocate for these hospitals, making philanthropy a cornerstone of their identity.

Truth

- Shriners uphold the Masonic value of **truth** by promoting ethical conduct, personal growth, and transparency in their operations.
- The organization encourages members to live with integrity, seek knowledge, and honor the traditions of Freemasonry.
- Educational programs and public outreach help demystify their work and reinforce their commitment to honest service.



SHRINE CLUB STATED MEETING

3rd Weds. of each month

Contact Glenn Coopey for details

gpcmm32s@outlook.com or (928) 800-2298

Shriner's Hospital for Children

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At Shriners Hospitals for Children, patients and families find hope, compassion and quality care for complex medical conditions. Every day at our 22 locations throughout North American, we are improving lives and helping dreams become realities.

- Our excellent physicians, surgeons, therapists and other medical staff help children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate have the fullest lives possible.
- Our innovative research and outstanding medical education programs help us carry our mission even further.
- Our commitment to our mission of providing care, conducting research and offering medical education helps expand the worldwide body of medical knowledge and improve the quality of life for people around the world.

Criteria for Receiving Care

Children up to age 18 are eligible for care at Shriners Hospitals for Children if there is a reasonable possibility they can benefit from the specialized services available. Acceptance as a patient is based solely on the child's medical needs.

For more information

To find out more about the quality care we offer at Shriners Hospitals for Children, please visit shrinershospitalsforchildren.org

If you know of a child we can help, have their parent or guardian call (800) 237-5055



DeMOLAY



Mickey Mouse was never a Freemason, but he was a member of DeMolay, a Masonic youth organization. Mickey's creator, Walt Disney, was active in DeMolay in his youth and inducted into the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

In 1931, Mickey appeared in a series of strips sporting the DeMolay insignia. The strips and individual drawings of Mickey with the insignia were signed by Walt himself.

The only organization Mickey was ever identified with in any comic strip was the DeMolay.



If you know any young man of good character, age 12 – 21, we extend a warm invitation to you and them. This is a great opportunity to learn more about DeMolay International and how it can benefit young men. We look forward to welcoming you!

TRUSTEES

**Monthly meetings are the Monday before
the Stated Meeting and as scheduled
by the Worshipful Master**

Term Ending 2026: Ken Thomas, Scotty Hays

Term Ending 2027: John Olson, Joe Sweeney

Term Ending 2028: Rob Berryman, Scott Snyder

Ex Officio

Chairman - Dean Sulzar, PM

Treasurer - Don Earle

Vice Chairman - Steve Phillips

Secretary - Dave Luebke, PGM

2026 Committees, Chairman and Contact Email

Building Maintenance:

Bylaws: Bro. Steve Phillips

angus1321@yahoo.com

Cemetery: Bro. Glenn Coopey

glenn_coopey@yahoo.com

Calling: Bro. Chris Campbell

ArchMagu@yahoo.com

Finance Review: Bro. John Olson

john@olsonhome.net

Masonic Events:

Membership: Bro. Rob Berryman

rob_berryman@outlook.com

Scholarship: WB Charles Thompson

cothompson@verizon.net

Strategic Planning: WB Dean Sulzar

dsulzerjr35@gmail.com

Trestleboard Editor: Bro. Jeremiah Scheffer

scheffer_pdesign@hotmail.com

Webmaster: WB Keith Rosewitz

webmaster@aztlanlodge.org

Honor Through Action

By Glen Coopey

President John F. Kennedy, a Navy veteran of World War II once said, “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”

The 35th president of the United States charged us to take our appreciation a step further with action. There is no more relevant time to embrace this quote than on Memorial Day. We can thank and remember those who served today and also honor them in the way we live the rest of the year.

On every last Monday in May, we find ourselves reflecting on these men and women who so bravely risked life and limb in the face of grave danger. We remember those who left the comforts of home to fight for us and our freedom – but never returned.

While service members and their families understand and accept the risks they take by serving our great nation, nothing can fully prepare a survivor for that knock on that door.

The military profession is inherently dangerous work.

We must ensure these individuals are never forgotten, and that their actions stay alive in our memories – and in our hearts. This is important for honoring the heroes of today – and the veterans of years gone by who paved the way for them, including the men and women who died during the Vietnam War.

Nearly 60,000 names line the Vietnam Wall in Washington, which remains a striking visual of the cost of war. One of those names belongs to Lt. Col Annie Ruth Graham, who served in the Army in World War II, Korea and as the Chief Nurse at the 91st Evacuation Hospital in Tuy Hoa, Vietnam. She was 52 years old when she died after being evacuated to Japan and is buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

Pfc. James Anderson, Jr. became the first African-American U.S. Marine recipient of the Medal of Honor in 1967. He received the honor posthumously after intentionally grabbing a grenade and absorbing the blast in order to save his comrades.

Another name on the Wall is Sgt. Robert G. Davison. He joined the Marine Corps at age 14. He had four years of service in the military when he was shipped to Vietnam. He was killed in action on December 17, 1966 – one day before his 19th birthday.

Brothers David and Norman Evans were both killed in Vietnam. David was 19 years old when he died on October 24, 1968 and Norman passed away just over two years later on November 24, 1970 at age 23. The brothers, who served in the Army, died in separate helicopter crashes. Norman's body was never recovered.

And here in Prescott we remember individuals like Capt. Duane Banks, U.S.M.C., killed in action July 14, 1968; Pfc. William A. Jordan, U.S. Army, killed in action March 3, 1968; Petty Officer Third Class Fortino J. Apolinar, United States Navy, KIA January 3, 1968. All served bravely in Vietnam. We must never forget all the men and women who now serve on foreign soil. Pray for their safe return to family and loved ones.

I would humbly ask you to accept President Kennedy's charge today and keep the fallen in your minds and their families and friends in your heart – for it is their immense collective sacrifices that have helped keep our country safe and free. And if we continue to honor veterans with our actions and remember their sacrifices, they will never be forgotten.

Glenn P. Coopey, USAF(Ret)
Vietnam Veteran

Aztlan Masonic Cemetery

2025 Activities at Aztlan No.1 Masonic Cemetery

February: Scout Troop 7330 helped remove a good portion of the stones lining the main North/South path. (very much a trip hazard)

May: Brother volunteers helped remove the rest of the stones. Special thanks goes out to Brother Bob Steffen for the use of his tractor with bucket scoop.

Additional Note: If any Brother or a neighbor is in need of stones for a landscaping project, you can take all you need from the pile just off the Southeast corner of the cemetery.

July: Brother volunteers pulled a truck load of weeds.

September: Eagle Scout project. Candidate Amelia Gonsalves planned and organized the construction of three benches. Also, reconditioned existing benches in need of help.

November: Eagle Scout ceremony at the Lodge. Coordinated by the O.E.S.

December: Dead and dying plants removed along center path.

Throughout the year, Flags were placed and removed at the Veteran gravesites.

Plans are underway for further beautification.

For those interested in helping out. We plan on having another "Helping Hand Day" on April 18th at 9:00am. There is plenty to do. Bring tools, gloves, a hat, sun screen and wheelbarrow if you have one. Shovels and gravel rakes would be good too. Water will be provided and if we get finished early enough, a free lunch.

Thanks in Advance.

**Glenn P Coopey - Chairman
Aztlan #1 Cemetery Committee
gpcmm32s@outlook.com
(928) 800-2298**



Aztlan Masonic Cemetery

Here is how you can obtain your reservation:

- 1) MUST be a Member-in-Good-Standing (dues paid) of Aztlan Lodge #1 to reserve a Space
- 2) A Brother may reserve space(s) for himself and spouse ONLY
- 3) Contact a member of the Cemetery Committee for Protocols and information:
 - a. Glenn Coopey – Chairman
 - b. GW Scotty Hays – Secretary
 - c. Paul Adkins – Veterans' Benefits
 - d. Fred Burr – Administration
 - e. Richard Guinn – Veterans', Benefits
 - f. Joe Larive – Administration
 - g. Charles Thompson – Administration
- 4) Discuss pre-need options, responsibilities, do's/don'ts, availability
- 5) Select a suitable space, complete Space Request Form (3 copies). \$250/space donation
- 6) Submit all requirements to Chairman, who will confirm, and give to Secretary
- 7) Secretary will forward to Lodge Leadership for approval
 - a. If approved, forward donation to Treasurer for Cemetery Fund
 - b. If denied, return donation to Brother
- 8) Secretary returns all three copies to Cemetery Committee Chairman
 - a. Copy One returned to Brother
 - b. Copy Two filed with Committee
 - c. Copy Three filed with Lodge

Henry McGrath of Scout Troop 7007 has completed his Eagle Scout Project. Eagle Review Board met on 15 July 2025 to review his project. He has worked with American Legion Post #6 in Prescott to build and place boxes for collecting used and damaged US Flags. There is one such box outside the Secretary's office on the second floor of the Lodge. All Lodge members are encouraged to deposit their used and damaged flags there.

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Suite B
Prescott Valley AZ 86314



928-830-5129

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AZFamilyEstateSales@gmail.com
Ken & Jen Rhodes


Ken Lain
kenlain@WattersGardenCenter.com

Garden Center: 928-445-4159
WattersGardenCenter.com
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Let your Brothers know what you do!

Lodge Calendar for July 2026

These calendar dates are tentative, see Aztlan Lodge [website](#) for updates.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			July 1 10am - noon Community Cupboard Food Bank	2 7pm O.E.S.	3	4
5	6 7:30am Prescott Coffee Mtg 6:30pm DeMolay Meeting 7pm FC Education	7 6:30pm STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING	8 10am - 4pm Red Cross Blood Drive 10am - noon Community Cupboard	9	10	11 9am Masonic Education at Aztlan Lodge
12	13 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	14 5pm SCOTTISH RITE 6pm DINNER 7pm STATED MEETING	15 10am - noon Community Cupboard 6pm Shrine Club Stated Mtg Dinner	16 7pm O.E.S.	17	18
19	20 6:30pm DeMolay Meeting	21 Degree Practice	22 10am - noon Community Cupboard 7pm MM Education	23 6:30pm O.E.S. Scottish Rite MTG in Phoenix	24	25 8am Chino Valley Coffee
26	27	28 Degree Practice	29 10am - noon Community Cupboard	30	31	Aug 1