

September 2026 TRESTLEBOARD



Aztlan Lodge #1 F. & A.M.

1028 Willow Creek Road

Prescott AZ 86301

928) 445-1412

www.aztlanlodge.org



September Stated Meeting - Tuesday, Sept 8th, 2026

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Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

A member of Phoenix Lodge No. 257
In Southsea, Portsmouth

Affiliated Organizations

O.E.S. Golden Rule #1

1st & 3rd Thursday 7:00 p.m.
(Sept.-June)
2nd Floor Aztlan Lodge
Linda Marriott
(928) 713-5446

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
(603) 456-3581

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

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

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

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: Jeff Crandell, 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: Bro. Devin Hester

devin.m.hester@gmail.com

Bylaws: Bro. Steve Phillips

angus1321@yahoo.com

Cemetery: Bro. Glenn Coopey

glenn_coopey@yahoo.com

Calling:

Finance Review: Bro. John Olson

john@olsonhome.net

Masonic Events:

Membership:

Grants: Bro. Ken Davis

kdavis3858@gmail.com

Strategic Planning: WB Dean Sulzar

dsulzerjr35@gmail.com

Trestleboard Editor: Bro. Jeremiah Scheffer

scheffer_pdesign@hotmail.com

Webmaster: WB Keith Rosewitz

webmaster@aztlanlodge.org



2026 AZTLAN LODGE OFFICERS LINE

Worshipful Master:	Dean Sulzer
Senior Warden:	Steve Phillips
Junior Warden:	Bill Searle
Treasurer:	Don Earle
Secretary:	Dave Luebke
Chaplain :	Clent Walker
Marshal:	Glenn Coopey
Senior Deacon:	Josh Taggart
Junior Deacon:	Derald Hogeland
Senior Steward:	Jeff Crandell
Junior Steward:	<i>vacant</i>
Tyler:	Mo Torrey

The Founding of America and Freemasonry

By Dean Sulzer, WM

Freemasonry played a visible role in the social and political life of colonial and early United States America, but its influence on the founding of the country is sometimes exaggerated. Freemasonry was an established fraternal organization in the American colonies before independence, with lodges operating in places such as Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

Several important figures of the American founding were Freemasons. George Washington was initiated into Freemasonry in 1753 in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and remained associated with the fraternity throughout his life. He later participated in Masonic ceremonies, including laying the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol in 1793. Benjamin Franklin was also a Freemason and served as Grand Master of Pennsylvania's provincial Grand Lodge.

Other prominent Americans, including Paul Revere and John Hancock, were connected with Freemasonry. Masonic lodges provided places where men from different occupations and social backgrounds could meet, form personal networks, and discuss ideas. These networks existed alongside many other civic, religious, political, and commercial organizations of the period.

There is no solid historical evidence that Freemasonry as an organization planned or directed the American Revolution, wrote the Declaration of Independence, or secretly controlled the creation of the United States. The Revolution resulted from a complex combination of political, economic, constitutional, and ideological conflicts between Britain and the American colonies.

Freemasonry nevertheless formed part of the broader intellectual and social environment of the early republic. Its emphasis on fraternity, moral conduct, personal improvement, and symbolic equality appealed to some members of the emerging American political class. Masonic imagery and ceremonies also became part of American public culture.

In short, Freemasonry was an important institution in the lives and social networks of some American founders, but it should not be confused with the political movement that created the United States. The historical record supports a connection between individual founders and Freemasonry; it does not support the claim that Freemasonry secretly founded or controlled America.

Fraternally,

Dean D. Sulzer Jr., Worshipful Master

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



Wisdom From The West

By Steven Phillips, SW

Brethren,
Good month to you all.

Finally, the Summer is coming to an end and hopefully cooler weather will soon be upon us. It has been a busy month both in Masonic work and fraternal fellowship.

We have initiated a new brother, Bro. Joshua Reeves, please welcome him as our newest Entered Apprentice. We have also passed three brothers to the degree of FellowCraft: Bro. Vincent Murray, Bro. Edward (Eddy) Sobenes, and Bro. Devin Hester. Please pay wages to these three for all their labors and advancement. It was a pleasure to confer the degrees on all four of these Brothers and I look forward to seeing them and all the rest that continue to labor, passing through and rising up to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

I would also like to pay wages to all the Brothers that assisted in these degrees, without these labors, we cannot function as a Lodge. Thank you all. I appreciate everything you do.

In the same vein, we have been moving along with building up our degree teams. We have been filling some positions and getting a few brothers that want to learn parts. This is wonderful, but we do need more. Our Brother Secretary sent out a call for Brothers that know parts or want to learn parts to contact him or the pedestal officers. Brethren, our primary reason for existing as a Lodge, besides fraternity and masonic education, is to Initiate, Pass, and Raise all good men and true. If we cannot do this, we cannot exist as an active, functioning Lodge. So please, if you know 2nd section parts, lectures, or charges please let us know. If you want to learn a part, please contact us and state so. Once I know who knows what or who wants to learn, I will personally talk to each and everyone and plan from there.

Elections are coming up in just over two months. To that, I will be looking to fill some chairs, I have spoken to a few and have covered some, but if you are interested in sitting a chair, please contact me. Three appointments I am specifically looking at filling are Jr. Deacon, Jr Steward, and Marshal.

On a parting note, Pioneer Lodge had to sell their building and moved to another location in the valley. They had no place for their lodge furnishings, so they graciously gave their furniture to us to use. It is a nice set of rustic themed furniture, and we now have them as an option to us in our Outdoor Degree. If you want to see the set, it is currently in the 3rd floor lodge room. I give thanks to the Master, Wardens, Officers, and Brethren of Pioneer Lodge and hope for the best for them in their new and any future location. Thanks also goes to the Brothers that travelled to Black Canyon City to load up and bring it to our Lodge and thanks to those that helped unload and carry it to the 3rd floor.

Fraternally,
Steven Phillips, Senior Warden
Aztlan Lodge No.1 F. & A.M.



The Emotional Intelligence of Symbolism: Why the Trowel Works When Words Fail

Brethren, I'm not exactly sure where this talk came from. I received it from Brother Gary Travis. Brother Gary regularly sends me articles and thoughts that he thinks are pertinent to Freemasonry. I found this one particularly appropriate to the lessons we are trying to communicate.

Dave Luebke, PGM, Aztlan Lodge No.1 F. & A.M.

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Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren assembled...

Tonight I wish to explore a paradox at the heart of our Craft.

Freemasonry teaches profound moral truths. We speak of brotherly love, relief, and truth. We emphasize virtue, charity, and harmony among men. Yet we do not teach these things through moral lectures or ethical treatises. We teach them through symbols. A square. A compasses, A trowel.

Why does this work? Why can a simple tool communicate what volumes of philosophy cannot?

The Resistance to Instruction

Let us be honest about human nature. Most men resist direct moral instruction. Tell a man he should be more charitable, and you will likely trigger defensiveness. Tell him he needs to control his temper, and you may provoke the very anger you hope to address. Tell him he should be a better friend, husband, or father, and he will find reasons why he is already doing enough.

This is not because men are fundamentally opposed to virtue. It is because direct moral instruction feels like criticism. It implies that the listener is deficient, lacking, falling short. And human beings naturally defend against this implication.

We rationalize our behavior. We compare ourselves favorably to others who are worse. We find exceptions and special circumstances that justify our actions. The psychological defenses are formidable. Direct moral instruction bounces off these defenses like arrows off armor.

The Backdoor of Consciousness

Symbols work differently. They bypass the defensive mechanisms. They enter through what we might call the backdoor of consciousness. Consider the trowel, the working tool of the Master Mason. We are told it is used to spread the cement of brotherly love and affection. We are told it binds us together in one common mass.

Now, imagine if we simply lectured a man about being kind to his brothers. "You should be more loving. You should spread affection. You should unite rather than divide." The words would be technically correct. But they would likely produce little effect. The man would nod politely and continue exactly as before.

But place that trowel in his hand. Let him feel its weight, its texture. Let him see it used in ritual, spreading imaginary cement with deliberate care. Let him contemplate what it means that this simple tool could bind stones into a lasting structure. Something different happens.

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The Emotional Intelligence of Symbolism: Why the Trowel Works When Words Fail (cont.)

The Emotional Bypass

The trowel does not tell him he is deficient in brotherly love. It does not accuse him of being divisive or unkind. It simply presents an image, a metaphor, a possibility. The cement spreads. The stones unite. The structure stands. His mind makes the connection without being forced. His heart opens without being commanded.

He begins to see his relationships differently, not because someone told him to, but because the symbol has worked on him from within. This is the emotional intelligence of symbolism. It recognizes that transformation happens not through argument but through insight. Not through external pressure but through internal realization.

Why Men Trust Symbols

There is another dimension to this. Men are suspicious of words, and rightly so. Words can deceive. Words can manipulate. Words can be used to control. Every tyrant has justified his tyranny with eloquent speeches. Every scoundrel has dressed his villainy in noble language. We have all met men who speak beautifully about virtue while practicing vice.

So we learn to distrust words, especially words about morality. When someone lectures us about ethics, we wonder about their motives. Are they trying to control us? Guilt us? Use us? What do they want from us? But symbols do not trigger this suspicion. A trowel is just a trowel. A square is just a square. They have no agenda. They make no demands.

They simply are what they are, and they mean what they mean. This creates a kind of safety that allows transformation. We can contemplate a symbol without feeling manipulated. We can draw lessons from it without feeling coerced. The symbol respects our autonomy even as it changes us.

The Concrete and the Abstract

Symbols also bridge the gap between the concrete and the abstract. Moral principles are abstract. Brotherhood. Charity. Harmony. These are concepts, ideas, words. They float in the realm of thought, difficult to grasp, hard to hold onto.

But a trowel is concrete. You can hold it. You can see it. You can use it. It exists in the physical world with weight and substance. When the trowel becomes a symbol for brotherly love, something remarkable happens. The abstract principle gains concrete form. Brotherhood is no longer just an idea. It is this tool, doing this work, creating this result.

The human mind grasps concrete things far more easily than abstractions. We think in images, in objects, in physical relationships. Symbols give us something tangible to attach our understanding to. They anchor abstract principles in concrete reality.

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The Emotional Intelligence of Symbolism: Why the Trowel Works When Words Fail (cont.)

The Multi-Layered Message

Symbols also communicate on multiple levels simultaneously. A lecture about kindness operates on one level: the intellectual. You hear the words, process the logic, understand the argument. But a symbol operates on many levels at once. Intellectually, you understand that the trowel represents unity. Emotionally, you feel something when you hold it or see it used.

Physically, your body learns through handling the tool in ritual. Visually, the image of spreading cement stays with you. Imaginatively, you picture yourself as a builder creating something lasting. All of these levels work together to create transformation.

Different men will respond to different levels. One brother might be moved primarily by the visual image. Another might respond to the physical sensation. A third might connect intellectually with the metaphor. The symbol works on all of them, each in his own way. This is far more effective than a single-level moral lecture.

The Time Factor

Symbols also have a crucial advantage in terms of time. A lecture is delivered once, heard once, and then it is over. You either got it or you didn't. But symbols persist. The trowel appears in ritual again and again. Each time you see it, it works on you anew. You might grasp one dimension of its meaning this year. Five years later, you see something else in it. After a conflict with a brother, the trowel speaks to you about reconciliation. After experiencing the death of a brother, it speaks to you about the bonds that outlast life.

The symbol grows with you. It reveals different truths at different times in your life. This is why men can participate in the same degrees for decades and continue to find new meaning. The symbols never stop teaching. They have infinite depth and can speak to infinite circumstances.

The Personal Discovery

Perhaps most importantly, symbols allow for personal discovery. When someone lectures you about morality, the lesson comes from outside. You are a passive recipient of someone else's wisdom. But when you contemplate a symbol, you discover the meaning yourself.

Yes, someone may guide you toward interpretation. The ritual may suggest what the symbol represents. But the actual insight, the moment of understanding, happens within you. You make the connection. You see the application. You realize the truth. This makes all the difference.

Lessons we discover ourselves are far more powerful than lessons we are told. They feel like our own insights rather than someone else's instructions. They come from a place of internal authority rather than external demand. And so we own them in a way we never own lessons merely heard.

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The Emotional Intelligence of Symbolism: Why the Trowel Works When Words Fail (cont.)

Why the Trowel Works

So why can a trowel change a heart faster than a lecture on kindness? Because it does not announce itself as moral instruction. Because it bypasses psychological defenses. Because it cannot be suspected of manipulation. Because it gives concrete form to abstract principles. Because it communicates on multiple levels simultaneously. Because it persists over time, teaching again and again.

Because it allows for personal discovery rather than external imposition. The trowel is emotionally intelligent in ways that words rarely are. It understands that men need to arrive at truth themselves. It understands that transformation is an inside job. It understands that the heart changes not through argument but through realization.

The Wisdom of the Method

This is the genius of Freemasonry's method. We could have created an organization that lectures men about virtue. We could have written elaborate codes of conduct and ethical treatises. We could have established a system of moral instruction and examination. But we did something far more effective. We put tools in men's hands. We surrounded them with symbols. We enacted rituals that communicate through action rather than words. We trusted the emotional intelligence of symbolism to accomplish what direct instruction cannot. And for centuries, this method has worked.

Men who would resist a sermon find themselves transformed by a degree. Men who would dismiss moral philosophy find themselves changed by a simple tool. Men who erected defenses against all forms of instruction discover truths in symbols that slip past their guards.

The Modern Application

In our current age, this method may be more relevant than ever. We live in a time of information overload. Everyone has an opinion, everyone has advice, everyone wants to tell you how to live. The internet is full of people lecturing others about morality, virtue, proper behavior. And what is the result? People tune it out. They become numb to moral instruction. They develop ever-stronger defenses against being told what to do. But the Lodge remains a place where transformation can still happen. Not because we lecture more eloquently than others. But because we do not lecture at all. We present symbols and trust them to do their work.

The Practice

How can we make use of this understanding? First, we can recognize the power of the method we already employ. When we work degrees, we are not merely performing theater. We are deploying emotionally intelligent symbols that can change hearts. We should do this work with reverence and care, understanding its power.

Second, we can resist the temptation to over-explain. The symbols work best when we allow them to work. Too much commentary, too much elaboration, too much moral drawing-out can actually diminish their power. Trust the trowel to teach what it needs to teach.

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The Emotional Intelligence of Symbolism: Why the Trowel Works When Words Fail (cont.)

Third, we can apply this principle in our own lives. When we want to influence others toward virtue, perhaps we should think in terms of symbols rather than sermons. Show rather than tell. Embody rather than exhort. Be the square rather than lecture about squareness. Live the compasses rather than preach about circumscribing desires.

The Emotional Wisdom

The emotional intelligence of symbolism represents a profound understanding of human nature. It recognizes that we are not purely rational beings who respond to logical arguments. We are emotional, intuitive, defensive, complex creatures. We resist being told what to do, even when we know we should do it. We need to discover truth for ourselves, in our own time, in our own way. Symbols respect this about us. They do not force or coerce. They invite and suggest. They wait patiently for us to be ready to see. And when we finally see, the transformation is real and lasting because it came from within.

Closing Words

Brothers, we are the keepers of a method that works when other methods fail. We possess symbols that can reach men who have defended themselves against all forms of moral instruction. We have tools that can change hearts faster than any lecture, sermon, or philosophical treatise. The trowel spreads cement. The square makes right angles. The compasses draws circles. Simple tools. Simple symbols. Yet they carry within them the power to transform human beings. Not through force or argument, but through emotional intelligence. Through respect for human autonomy and psychology. Through the wisdom of allowing men to discover truth for themselves. Let us honor this method by using it well.

Let us trust our symbols to do their work. Let us remember that sometimes the most powerful teaching uses no words at all. Just a tool in the hand, an image in the mind, and a seed planted in the heart. That seed will grow in its own time, producing fruit that no amount of lecturing could ever yield. This is the emotional intelligence of symbolism.

This is why Masonry works. This is why we trust the trowel more than the treatise, the symbol more than the sermon.

So Mote It Be.

Lodge Member September Birthdays

BROTHER'S NAME	DATE
Jack Smith	Sept 3rd
Joseph Hardin	Sept 4th
Victor Sammarco	Sept 9th
Frederick Burr	Sept 11th
Donald Haden	Sept 12th
Phillip Johnson	Sept 14th
Kurt Ackerman	Sept 15th
John Maslowski	Sept 19th
Alan White	Sept 22nd
David Bush	Sept 23rd
Joseph Hartman	Sept 23rd
Janis Russell	Sept 23rd
Donald Earle	Sept 27th
Robert Brown	Sept 28th
Devin Hester	Sept 30th
James Robinson	Sept 30th





Aztlan Lodge Masonic Education

Fellowcraft Discussion Group

Mon, Sept 7th at 7pm

Zoom meeting

Open to all Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees

Entered Apprentice and
General Masonic Discussion Group

Moved to October due to the Outdoor Degree

Sat, Oct 10th at 9am

at Aztlan Lodge after 8am breakfast

Open to all

Master Mason Discussion Group

Weds, Sept 23rd at 7pm

Zoom meeting

This month only, open to all Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Masons

Please contact Bro Dave Luebke at the secretary's office

Secretary@AztlanLodge.org

with questions or for more information.

*Looking forward to having you join us
for this month's Masonic Education!*

Degree Conferrals

It's been a busy month for degree conferrals at Aztlan Lodge #1.
We have had 1 Entered Apprentice degree, 1 Master Mason degree,
and 3 (simultaneous) Fellowcraft degrees.

Make sure to congratulate these brothers when you see them next!



Bro. Joseph Reeves

1st Degree - Entered Apprentice

July 21st



Bro. Mike Borszich

3rd Degree - Master Mason

August 25th

Degree Conferrals

It's been a busy month for degree conferrals at Aztlan Lodge #1.

Make sure to congratulate these brothers when you see them next!



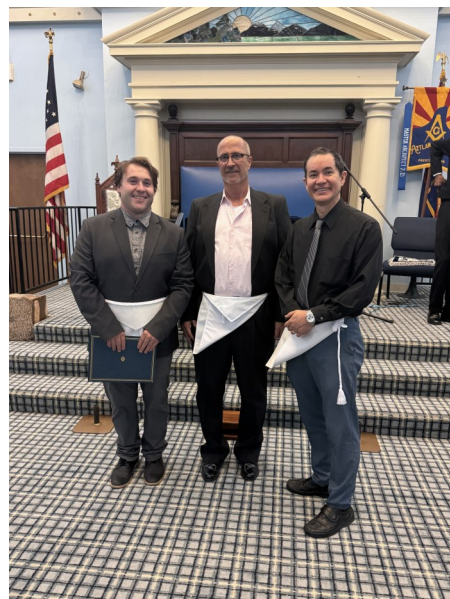
Bro. Devin Hester

Bro. Vince Murray

Bro. Eddie Sobenes

3rd Degree - Fellowcraft

August 18th





**ARIZONA
FREEMASONS**

GRAND LODGE OF ARIZONA 2026 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



BUILD THE FUTURE, STRENGTHEN THE CRAFT

G



THE SHERATON WRIGLEYVILLE, MESA



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th



REGISTER TODAY & SAVE

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL: \$49 | REGULAR RATE: \$59

SEVERAL DISCOUNTED BUNDLE PACKAGES

EVENT REGISTRATION



tinyurl.com/glazleadership

HOTEL REGISTRATION



tinyurl.com/leadershiphotel26

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GIVE BLOOD.

**Get shades. Feel
(and look) good.**



Blood Drive

AZTLAN Lodge #1 F& AM Masonic Lodge

Banquet Room
1028 Willow Creek Rd.
Prescott, AZ 86301

**Wednesday, September 9, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

goodr

x



**American
Red Cross**



WEEKEND OF REMEMBRANCE

Friday 9/11/26 6pm

A Solemn Tribute

9/11 Remembrance 25th Anniversary

(Ladies and Guests Welcome)

Saturday 9/12/26

Outdoor Degree 8am - Fain Ranch

Ladies Program

AM Enjoy Prescott on the Square

Noon Luncheon - Copper Note Restaurant

Shrine Ceremonial 5:15pm - Aztlán Lodge

9/11 Remembrance Tribute

Spotlight on The Guest Speaker for Aztlan Lodge's Tribute To the Remembrance of the 25th Anniversary of 9/11

"I was a member of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Emergency Service Unit, assigned to the Holland Tunnel, when the World Trade Center was attacked in 1993 and again in 2001. Those two days, separated by eight years, changed my life forever. In the aftermath, I was assigned to a special unit that worked below Ground Zero, retrieving vehicles, evidence, and other items considered important to the investigation and recovery effort. It was difficult, dangerous, and deeply personal work. What we saw and experienced there has stayed with me ever since."

Brother Gomez is a highly distinguished civic leader, public servant, and prominent member of the Masonic fraternity residing in Roselle, New Jersey. An alumnus of St. Joseph High School (Class of 1984), he has been guided by a profound sense of patriotism and gratitude toward the country that welcomed his family after they emigrated from Cuba in 1956.



RW Moises Gomez 33°

Beyond his extensive history as a structural first responder, Mr. Gomez is an internationally recognized leader within Freemasonry. He is a Past Worshipful Master of Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10 in Westfield, New Jersey, and a Past Grand Superintendent for the Grand Lodge of New Jersey (2022–2025).

His extensive fraternal portfolio spans numerous elite concordant and invitational bodies, notably holding the prestigious 33rd Degree (Sovereign Grand Inspector General) within the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite (Northern Masonic Jurisdiction). Additionally, he serves on the American Masonic Journalism Board and is an active benefactor of several major charitable foundations, including the Children's Dyslexia Centers and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.



Scan here to register

Bill Fain Memorial Outdoor Degree



Arizona's Premier Outdoor Degree

Saturday, September 12, 2026 at 10am

Aztlan Lodge hosts this outdoor degree once a year on the Fain Ranch property, in a beautiful tree lined setting of Central Arizona.

The Tyler will admit brethren beginning at 8am, come early and enjoy cowboy coffee and donuts. Lodge opens at 10am, and there will be a hosted BBQ Lunch, along with a commemorative bolo tie included in the fee.

Go to the Aztlan Lodge website for more details and to register.



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!

Stated Meeting Dinner Reminder



Our Brother Sr. Steward is off on another one of his World Travels so we won't have the benefit of his homemade meal at our September Meeting.

Brother Ryan at Badger's Den is catering one of his delicious Chicken Dishes
RSVP's recommended to secretary@aztlanlodge.org so we don't run out

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

The Mother of Hubble

By Adam England, The Backyard Astronomer

In 1925, Nancy Grace Roman was born in Nashville, Tennessee. Her family moved frequently during her childhood, but it was her mother who first introduced her to the night sky. By the time Roman was 11 and living in Reno, Nevada, she had organized an astronomy club with her classmates. By high school, she already knew what she wanted to do with her life.

It would not be an easy path.

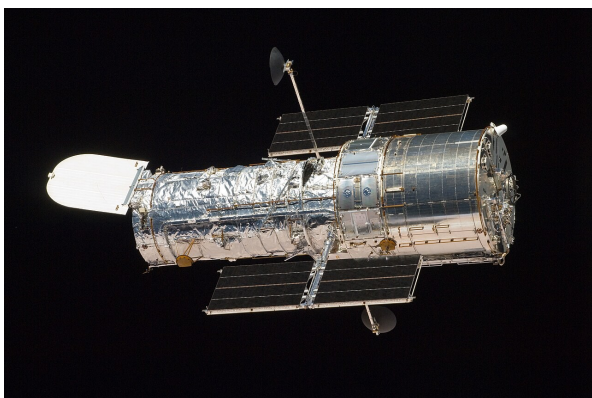
Roman earned her bachelor's degree in astronomy from Swarthmore College in 1946 and her doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1949. She remained at the university for another six years, working at Yerkes Observatory and occasionally McDonald Observatory in Texas. With few opportunities for women to advance in academic astronomy, Roman eventually left for the Naval Research Laboratory, where she entered the emerging field of radio astronomy.

In 1959, just six months after NASA was established, Roman joined the new agency. By 1960, she had become NASA's first Chief of Astronomy and the first woman to hold an executive position there. Her responsibilities included planning astronomical missions and administering grants to support scientists across the country.

It was there that Roman took on what would become her most famous challenge.



Astronomers had long wanted a large telescope above Earth's atmosphere, where air and light pollution would no longer interfere with observations. The idea was ambitious, expensive, and far from guaranteed. Roman brought together astronomers and engineers, helped establish the scientific requirements, and spent years convincing NASA, the federal government, and Congress that the project was worth pursuing.



The Large Space Telescope, as it was then known, eventually became the Hubble Space Telescope.

Roman retired from NASA in 1979, more than a decade before Hubble launched in 1990. Her colleague and future Hubble Chief Scientist Ed Weiler eventually gave her the nickname "Mother of Hubble." Astronomer Lyman Spitzer, who had advocated for a space telescope long before Hubble was approved, is often considered its "father." Roman was instrumental in turning that idea into reality.

Now, more than a century after her birth, Roman's name is headed into space.

(continued on next page)

The Mother of Hubble (cont.)

As of this writing, NASA and SpaceX are targeting August 30, 2026 for the launch of the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope aboard a Falcon Heavy from Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Once launched, Roman will travel about one million miles from Earth to the Sun-Earth L2 point, where it will orbit the Sun while maintaining a useful position relative to Earth.

Roman's primary mirror is 7.9 feet across, the same size as Hubble's. Its real advantage, however, is how much sky it can see at once. Its Wide Field Instrument will capture an area at least 100 times larger than Hubble's field of view, allowing it to survey enormous portions of the universe much faster. Over its planned five-year primary mission, Roman will investigate dark energy and dark matter, study galaxies and exploding stars, and search for thousands of exoplanets. It will even attempt to directly image some distant worlds by blocking the light of their parent stars.



Hubble changed astronomy by giving us a clearer view of the universe. Roman may change it again by giving us a much wider one.

Nancy Grace Roman spent much of her career convincing people that looking beyond Earth's atmosphere was worth the effort. Now, a telescope bearing her name is about to carry that vision nearly a million miles from home.

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

Photo credits:

Dr. Nancy Grace Roman – Courtesy NASA, Wikimedia Commons.

The Hubble Space Telescope during STS-125 – Courtesy NASA, Wikimedia Commons.

Nancy Grace Roman Telescope – artist rendition, Courtesy NASA, Wikimedia Commons.

High Country Scottish Rite Club

High Country Scottish Rite Club News

In August, Bro. Don Earle led a discussion about the future of Masonry in the Prescott area. This was not centered solely on Scottish Rite Masonry, but Masonry in general.

This was a very interesting discussion, with many brothers adding to the conversation. Ideas were presented, with many centered around being more visible in the community.

Events like our blood drive and the Community Food Bank help, but we need more, and we need to make sure the Lodge is recognized for what we do. For instance, we are now offering scholarship grants. We should be able to get recognition for this.

Like most discussions of this sort, the key is action and follow up. We will be working on this going forward.



At our September meeting, we will examine The Seven Liberal Arts & Sciences. September coincides with the "Back to School" season. We will examine the Trivium (Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic) and Quadrivium (Arithmetic, Geometry, Music, Astronomy) as outlined in the Fellowcraft Degree. This will be open to everyone.

On September 11, we will observe the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. If you haven't already, please register for the dinner and observance, the night before our outdoor degree. More information is found elsewhere in the Trestleboard.



October will be guest speaker Joe Panek from Las Vegas. His topic will be The Equinoxes: Their historical, mythological, astronomical, and astrological significance.

-

Jeff Crandell

High Country Scottish Rite Club

Four members of High Country Scottish Rite Club 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, Derald 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 5:30pm.

We have an interesting lineup of programs for our upcoming meetings. We meet at 5pm 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 Southern Jurisdiction - 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 Entered Apprentice 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, Order of the Eastern Star goes dark for the summer but we manage to keep busy anyway.

Worthy Grand Matron Donna DiCola and Worthy Grand Patron Gil Marriott had a very successful Grand Chapter in August following a very successful year. They are now Jr Past Matron, Grand Trustee and Jr. Past Patron. Gil was elected to the board of Arizonia Eastern Star Foundation. Our own Tony DiCola was elected as Associate Grand Patron. Stacey Maxwell is our new District Instructor!

We have an extremely busy fall planed for Golden Rule. We will be initiating a new member in September and welcoming 2 new affiliated members. In celebration we will host a dinner and of course desert. The September 12th sendoff event will be held at the Masonic Temple of Phoenix.

On October 16th and 17th, we will have our annual Garage Sale. If anyone has items they wish to donate, please contact Virginia Foster at (928) 925-3223 for pick-up or delivery information. The Garage Sale will be at the DiCola's, 798 E. Rd. 3 S, Chino Valley.

Our Official Visit of the Worthy Grand Matron Ruth Wilmot accompanied by the Worthy Grand Patron Ed Gordon will be on October 31. Halloween! And we are planning a Haunted House and Costume Party. Fun and food galore.

That's all for now folks.

Linda Marriott, Worthy Matron

(928) 713-5446

LNMARRIOTT@HOTMAIL.COM

Gil Marriott, 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

Where Hope and Healing Meet. Compassion and Expertise Come Together. And Lives Are Changed

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



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!

DeMolay News

The DeMolay State Association had their annual Conclave July 17-19 at Prescott Pines Camp. It was well attended, and the Grand Installation saw the heads of many Masonic organizations bring greetings. Our own Steve Bracety, Senior Grand Deacon, represented our Grand Master, Roger Biede, and gave the DeMolays a good pep talk complete with challenges for the new DeMolay year. Other Grand officers and Past Grand Masters also attended, showing their support for DeMolay. The new State Master Councilor, John Enloe, has a great term plan, and we are looking forward to DeMolay making good progress over the next year.

As always, if you know any young men that could benefit from exposure to Masonic based ideals and values, please reach out to the brothers noted below.

Bill Searle

(928) 899-3664

Jeff Crandell

jscrandell234@gmail.com

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

Glenn P. Coopey, Chairman

Aztlan #1 Cemetery Committee

gpcmm32s@outlook.com

(928) 800-2298



Brothers In Business

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Ryan Guedel
Prescott Area Branch Manager



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Ryan@UnLimitedReAz.com
2485 N Great Western Dr.
Suite B
Prescott Valley AZ 86314



928-830-5129

- ★ SALE-READY CLEAN
- ★ CURB-APPEAL LAWN
- ★ PORCH PICK-UP
- ★ CLEAN-OUT SERVICE
- ★ DONATION SCHEDULE

AZ Family ESTATE SALES
ARIZONA
AZFamilyEstateSales@gmail.com
Ken & Jen Rhodes

Ken Lain
kenlain@WattersGardenCenter.com

Garden Center: 928-445-4159
WattersGardenCenter.com
MOUNTAIN GARDENER RADIO

KQNA 1130 am, 95.5 & 99.9 fm:
Saturdays 8 & 11am & Sundays at 8 am
BIG Talker Radio 97.1 fm:
Saturdays 7am & Sundays at 11 am



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- Drywall Repair | Assembly
- Not a licensed contractor

Let your Brothers know what you do!

Lodge Calendar for September 2026

Please refer to the Aztlan Lodge [website](http://www.aztlanlodge.org) for all calendar events, times and locations.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Sept 1 6:30pm STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING	2 10am - noon Community Cupboard	3 7pm O.E.S.	4	5
6	7 6:30pm DeMolay Meeting 7pm FC Education	8 5pm SCOTTISH RITE 6pm DINNER 7pm STATED MEETING	9 10am - noon Community Cupboard 10am - 3pm Red Cross Blood Drive	10	11 6pm 9/11 Tribute & Guest Speaker	12 8am - 3pm Outdoor Degree 5:15pm Shrine Ceremonial
13	14	15 Degree Practice	16 10am - noon Community Cupboard 6pm Shrine Club Stated Mtg Dinner	17 7pm O.E.S.	18	19
20	21 6:30pm DeMolay Meeting	22 Degree Practice	23 10am - noon Community Cupboard 7pm MM Education	24 7pm O.E.S Initiation	25	26
27	28	29	30	Oct 1		
		Degree Practice	10am - noon Community Cupboard			