

Apr Calendar

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- **Apr 02:**
Dinner and Stated Meeting
- **Apr 09:**
Tentative First Degree
- **Apr 16:**
EA Prof. Practice
- **Apr 23:**
Friend-of-Friend
- **Apr 30:**
Officers and Trustees Meeting

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From the East



Greetings from the East,

Easter holds special significance for many Freemasons, though it is not universally celebrated in the same way it is within religious traditions. The connection between Masons and Easter is often more symbolic than religious, as Freemasonry is not a religious institution but rather a fraternal organization rooted in moral and philosophical teachings. Still, Easter's themes of rebirth and renewal closely align with the values Masons hold dear.

One of the most meaningful connections between Easter and Freemasonry is the symbolism of resurrection. Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and in Masonic teachings, resurrection represents personal transformation. Just as Easter celebrates new life, the Masonic path emphasizes the journey of enlightenment, growth, and self-improvement. The resurrection is a fitting metaphor for the idea that from symbolic death, a person may rise again—refined, enlightened, and renewed.

Masonic teachings are often

presented through allegory.

The Easter story can be viewed in this light, serving as a metaphor for the internal evolution Masons seek. It reminds us that the journey is not about making a bad man good, but about making a good man better. After the symbolic death of one's old self, the Mason is reborn into a life of virtue, wisdom, and higher purpose.

Easter also provides an opportunity for Masons to engage more deeply in charitable efforts. Many lodges take part in Easter-themed community events such as egg hunts for children or support programs for those in need. These acts of service reflect the Masonic values of relief, compassion, and brotherly love. They also serve as public reminders of the Craft's ongoing dedication to building a better world.

Though Freemasonry does not formally celebrate religious holidays, many lodges choose to acknowledge Easter in meaningful ways. Special gatherings or reflections may be held to emphasize spiritual renewal, moral reflection, and the enduring bonds of brotherhood. The season naturally



lends itself to thoughtful contemplation of the virtues that guide Masonic life.

Finally, let us not forget that by helping to transform a good man, we often help him become a better husband, father, and community member. While his family may enjoy the more festive aspects of the holiday—chocolate bunnies, egg coloring, and joyful traditions—he brings to those moments a deeper understanding of the season's meaning: one of renewal, love, and the eternal light of moral truth.

Fraternally,
Michael Kosatka, Worshipful Master



Stated Meeting Menu:

Saddle up for a hearty Western Dinner featuring smoky BBQ beef brisket, cowboy beans, 'tater salad, squash, and mouthwatering elote corn on the cob. Top it all off with a warm, sweet fruit cobbler—you won't want to miss this delicious roundup!

From the West



Greetings from the West,

In the northern states, April usually brings showers. However, we Zonies are more familiar with haboobs and dust storms. Should such a situation occur and visibility drops to 10 feet or less, please pull over and turn off your lights. Wait it out—turn on your radio, play games on your phone, or watch a video to pass the time safely.

There are also those among us who celebrate Easter with bunny rabbits,

baskets, and egg hunts filled with squealing children on the prowl for goodies. It seems that any reason to come together in joy and harmony must surely be a good one.

O my Brothers, remember: a happiness shared is multiplied; a sadness shared is lessened.

Fraternally,
Mitchell Robinson, PM,
Senior Warden



PVST

From the South



Greetings from the South,

I was recently asked by our newest Entered Apprentice Mason—whom I have the honor of mentoring—about the significance of the North in the Lodge. He wondered, “Does anyone ever sit there, especially in the large center chair?”

I shared with him what was passed down to me by the late Worshipful Brother Jim Stegall, my own mentor. He told me, “The North is traditionally a place for those who are seeking more light.” He then added with a smile, “That’s why I always sit there.”

Have you ever noticed that only a few people sit in that area of our Lodge? It’s also where many of the brass placards—engraved with the names of Brothers who have journeyed to the Celestial Lodge—are placed on the chairs. Hmmm... What do you think?

Light, as defined in our incredible Lectionary by Worshipful Brother Dr. Robert G. Mackey, is:

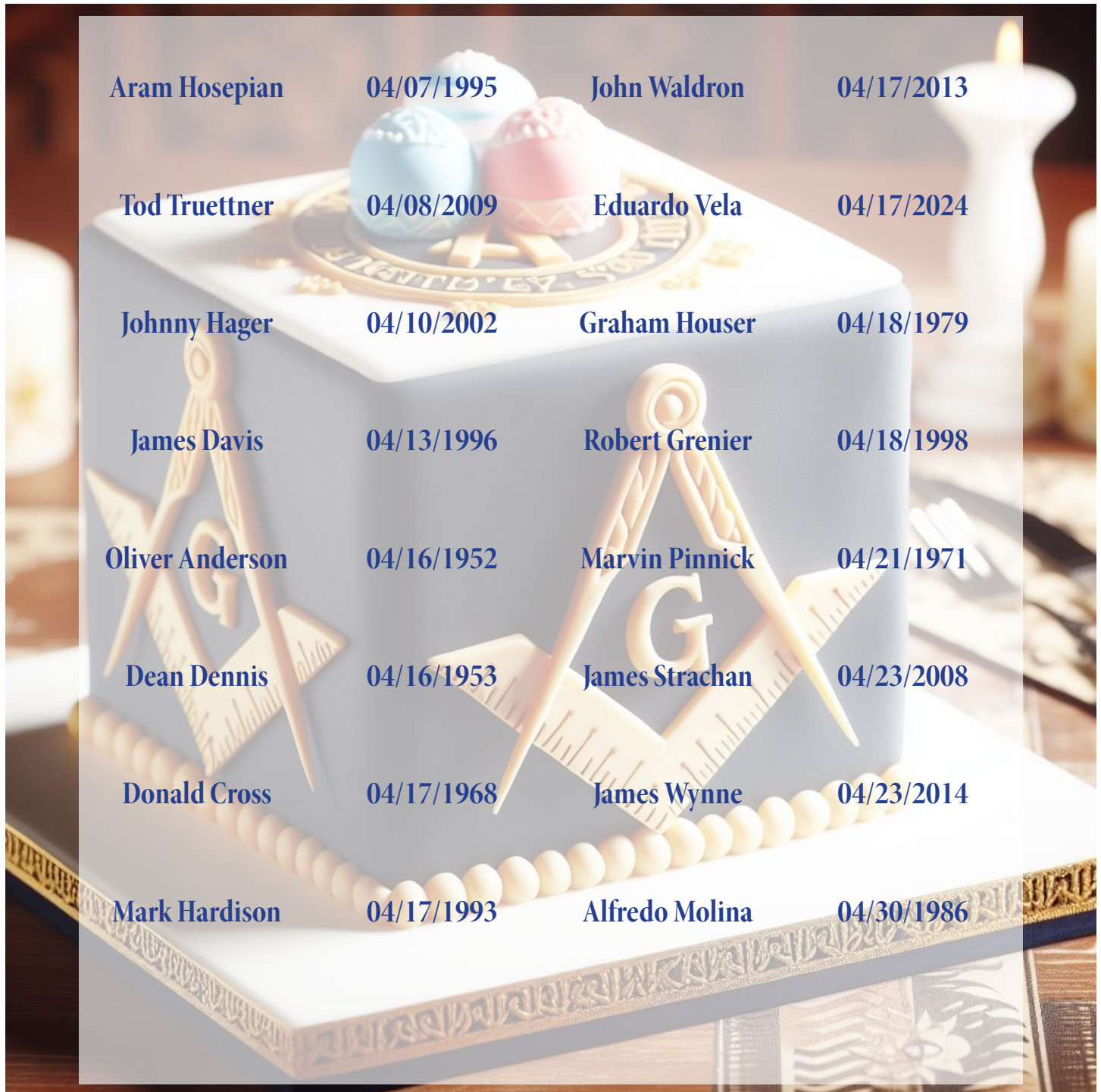
“Light was the object, and its attainment the end of all the ancient mysteries. In the Grecian system of initiation, the hierophant declared that all mankind, except the initiated, were in darkness.”

Once you’ve been initiated into our mysteries, what are you doing to continue seeking more light? Come by and let me know—I’m always seeking more light myself.

Fraternally,
Darren Reale,
Junior Warden



April Masonic Birthdays

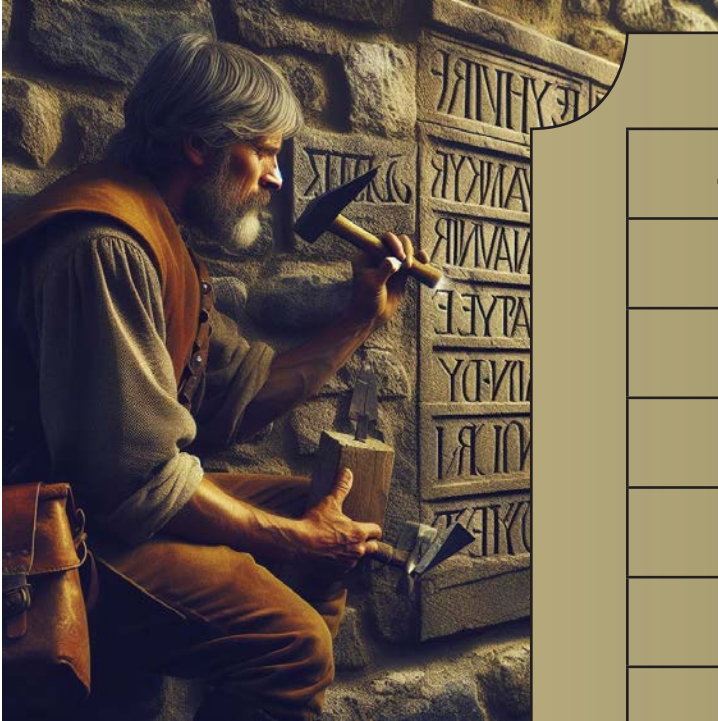


Wish Your Brothers a Happy Masonic Birthday!



2025 Craft Builders

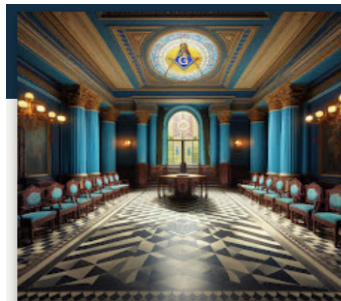
Support your Lodge and be recognized! With a donation of \$20, you can have your name—or the name of a Brother of your choosing—listed for the 2025 calendar year. This is a wonderful way to honor our beloved deceased Brothers or celebrate new Brothers just joining our Craft. Please make your donation to the Secretary and let him know it is for Craft Builders & send an email to webmaster@pvst29.org.



<i>Steven Proctor</i>	

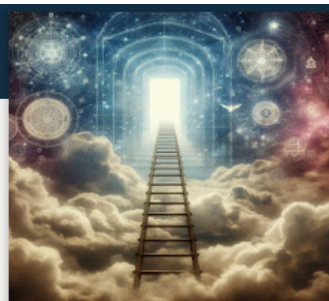
Check out our Lodge Calendar!

Be sure to check out our website and make use of the Calendar for all of the most up-to-date Lodge activities!
www.pvst29.org



A P R
2 Dinner and Stated Meeting

Brethren, please join us for dinner at 6:30PM and our Stated Meeting (monthly business meeting) beginning at 7:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you. Doors will open at 6:00 PM for fellowship.



A P R
9 Tentative First Degree

We will be having a tentative First Degree. Doors open at 6:00pm, Gavel drops at 7:00pm.



A P R
16 EA Proficiency Practice

Brethren and Entered Apprentices alike, please join us at the Lodge for an EA Proficiency practice. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Notice to the Brethren - Proposal to Go Dark

A request has been made by a Brother of PVST #29 to explore the potential for the lodge to go dark during the summer months. It has been expressed by this brother that the summer months tend to be very slow for our lodge as many of our brethren are taking vacations to be with their families and to escape the rising temperatures in The Phoenix area. The suggestion is that we could go dark in July and August, the warmest months of the summer.

A review of the option has determined that going dark is an option available to our lodge, but there are a number of things that must be done in order to do so.

The 2024 Constitutions and Statutes for the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Arizona specifically states in Section 6, subsection 2.2.1 Meetings:

“Each Lodge shall have not more than one stated meeting in each calendar month, but may hold such other meetings as it may determine or the Master shall direct. When the By-laws of the Lodge refer specifically to the Lunar Month, they shall schedule their Stated Meetings consistent with their approved By-laws. Each Lodge shall have not less than ten stated meetings in each calendar year and the month or months in which the Lodge is to be “dark” are to be specifically stated in the by-laws. In case of a city, county, state or national emergency where the impact limits meetings, the Grand Master shall have the power to grant relief from the 10 stated meetings in a calendar year requirement.

However, the Grand Master may issue a dispensation to a Lodge to hold two (2) stated meetings in any Grand Lodge Year at a time and/or on a date different from that specified in the Lodge bylaws, provided that all members of the Lodge are given 60 days written notice via first class mail of the changed time(s) and/or date(s).”

This section specifically calls out that the lodge bylaws Must specifically state what month or months (no more than 2) are to be designated as the dark months (no stated meeting).

This leads to the required steps for our lodge to go dark. We would have to vote to amend our bylaws to reflect the change. Specifically, Article IV, Meetings, Section 1. Occurrence, which states:

“a. Paradise Valley Silver Trowel Lodge No. 29 stated meetings will be held at 7:30 pm on the first Wednesday of each calendar month at the Lodge building. If this date is on a legal holiday as defined in General Regulation 33 of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F&AM of Arizona, the stated meeting will be held on the next following Wednesday. Legal holidays as defined in Regulation 33 are as follows and subject to amendment by the Grand Lodge: New Years Day, Presidents Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Armed Forces Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and the day prior to the opening of and during the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.”

This section would have to be amended to show the specific month or months that the Lodge would be dark. To do so, the proposed amendment to the bylaws must be submitted in writing and read in a stated meeting. Following that stated meeting, the proposed amendment must be communicated to the brethren in the next trestle board. The proposed amendment must be voted on in the following stated meeting

Notice to the Brethren (Continued)

and be passed by a 2/3 majority vote of those brothers present. The approved amendment must then be submitted to and approved by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Arizona or the Grand Master of Free & Accepted Masons in Arizona in writing. After receipt of that approval, the amendment can be put into effect. This process is outlined in Part VI, Amendments, sections 1 through 4 of the bylaws.

With all of this in mind, it has been proposed to bring this matter before the Brethren at the April Stated Meeting for discussion. If the decision is to proceed with this effort, a draft proposal will be created and submitted for reading at the May stated meeting with notice of the same in the trestle board to follow. The proposed amendment would then be eligible for vote by the brethren in June. If the vote is successful, the formal proposed bylaws amendment would then be submitted to Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Arizona for final approval.

Key Dates & Proposed Timeline:

- **April Stated Meeting:** Initial discussion of the proposal with the Brethren and decision to proceed or not.
- **May Stated Meeting:** Formal reading of the draft bylaw amendment; notice to follow in the trestle board.
- **June Stated Meeting:** Vote on the proposed amendment (requires 2/3 majority).
- **Post-June:** If passed, the amendment will be submitted to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F&AM of Arizona or the Grand Master for final approval.
- **If approved:** The Lodge may officially go dark in July and August

Please Join Us for a Special UK Visit at April SM

I encourage you all to join us for our April Stated Meeting, where we will have the special honor of welcoming a visiting Brother from the United Kingdom. This is a unique opportunity to share in Masonic fellowship across borders, exchange insights, and strengthen our bonds as Brothers in the Craft. Let's show our guest the warmth and hospitality of PVST and come together for an evening of camaraderie, tradition, and enlightenment. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Fraternally,
Worshipful Master Mike Kosatka



A Great Blue Horseshoe Event!

Phoenicia Lodge #58 once again hosted their beloved Blue Horseshoe event, braving the Friday night wind and weather to fire up the pit BBQ and get the meat smoking to perfection. Their dedication paid off, as the following day brought beautiful skies, a fantastic turnout, and an atmosphere filled with good food, great company, and genuine Masonic fellowship. It was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie between lodges, and we encourage all Brethren to consider attending next year—not only to savor the delicious BBQ, but to continue strengthening the fraternal bond between PVST and Phoenicia Lodge.



Paradise Valley Silver Trowel Masonic Lodge #29

PARADISE VALLEY SILVER TROWEL
MASONIC LODGE NO. 29, F.&A.M.



P.O. Box 54155
Phoenix AZ 85078
Phone: 602-935-4929
Email: secretary@pvst29.org

Paradise Valley Silver Trowel #29, a distinguished Masonic Lodge with over 100 years of rich history dating back to 1922 and the home to seven Grand Masters

Making Good Men Better, One Day at a Time

Paradise Valley Silver Trowel Lodge #29 Our Past Masters

Dean Graham, PM-Charter Master (2000)*

James Miller, PM (2001)*

William "Skip" Boyer, PM (2002)*

Stafford O Gormley, PM (2003)

William R Hearter, Jr., PM (2004)

David P McArdle, PM (2005)*

Phil "Jack" J Buta, PM (2006)

James E Boniface, PM (2007)

Eric T Carter, PM (2009)

Scot M Baker, PM (2010)

Kirk Lockett, Sr, PM (2010)*

Shane Crabtree, PM (2011)

Tod Truettner, PM (2012)

Leonard Shapiro, PM (2013)

P Bryan Westerman, PM (2014)

Jovan Boskovski, PM (2015)

Mustafa Karamujic, PM (2016)

David McArdle, PM (2017)

Timothy M Dougherty, PM (2018)

Timothy M Dougherty, PM (2019)

William Greenen, PM (2020)

Lukas Siegfried, PM (2021)

Mitchell Robinson, PM (2022)

Mustafa Karamujic, PM (2023)

Jovan Boskovski, PM (2024)

