

## May Calendar

For the most up-to-date  
information, please visit  
[www.pvst29.org](http://www.pvst29.org)

- **May 07:**  
Dinner and  
Stated Meeting
- **May 14:**  
FC Degree  
Practice
- **May 21:**  
FC Degree
- **May 28:**  
Officers and  
Trustees  
Meeting

## Inside this Issue:

From the East	1
From the West	2
From the South	X
Masonic Birth- days	3
Craft Builders	4
Notice to the Brethren	7
Bikes for Books	9

# PVST TRESTLE BOARD

Volume XVI, Issue #5

May 2025

## From the East



Greetings from the East,

May holds a unique place within the Masonic tradition; not through prescribed rituals or formal observances, but through its rich symbolic and seasonal resonance. As spring reaches its peak, May becomes a powerful metaphor for renewal, reflection, and public presence, all of which are core aspects of Masonic philosophy.

Freemasonry is deeply rooted in symbolism, and the themes of May naturally align with Masonic ideals. The season's associations with growth, rebirth, and enlightenment echo the journey of every Mason in pursuit of personal transformation. Just as nature bursts into full bloom, so too does the Mason strive for moral and spiritual development, seeking to better himself and the world around him. The return of longer days and warmer sunlight serves as a reminder of light and knowledge, which are central symbols in Masonic teachings that represent truth, wisdom, and awakening.

May also holds cultural and historical significance that resonates with Masonic thought. Ancient festivals such as Beltane (May 1), a Celtic fire festival symbolizing fertility and renewal, offer allegorical parallels to Masonic teachings about the cycles of life and the inner work required for personal rebirth. Additionally, May Day, traditionally a celebration of workers and craftsmanship, reflects Freemasonry's deep respect for the stonemasons of old and the enduring value of skilled labor and industriousness.

For modern Masons, May is also a time of transition in everyday life. It marks the end of the school year for many families, a season filled with graduation ceremonies and family gatherings that celebrate achievement and the bonds of kinship. It's also the month when many begin planning or departing for summer vacations, seeking rest, exploration, and reconnection.



Whatever May means to each of us individually, let it be a time of both enjoyment and mindfulness. Travel safely, savor your moments of celebration, and remember that wherever your path may lead, a Brother is just a phone call away. Lodges and fellowship can be found in every corner of the world, ready to welcome you with open arms.

Fraternally,  
**Michael Kosatka, Worshipful  
Master**



## Stated Meeting Menu:

Join us for a flavor-packed evening featuring sizzling fajitas and savory frijoles con queso! This hearty, crowd-pleasing dinner promises bold spices, warm tortillas, and creamy, cheesy beans that will leave your taste buds dancing. Don't miss out on this delicious feast and the fellowship that comes with it!

## From the West



Greetings from the West,

May is usually the time we begin to see the visible signs of spring; blooming flowers and more stable, warming temperatures. It brings to mind Maypole dances and the joyful celebration of the Earth's renewal.

Yet something else of great importance happens in May: Mother's Day. It is a day to honor she who gave us our path into this material world. She who nurtured and loved us, guiding us through the wonders and terrors of this uni-

verse we were born into. Let us celebrate our mothers for all their glory, especially in moments when they may doubt themselves.

After all, any reason that brings us together in joy and harmony must assuredly 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



# May Masonic Birthdays

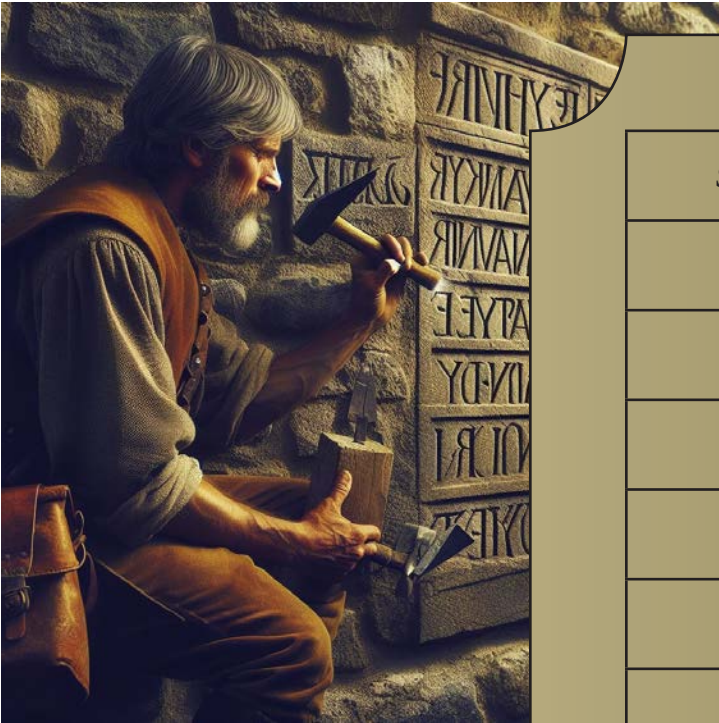


## Wish Your Brothers a Happy Masonic Birthday!



# 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](mailto:webmaster@pvst29.org).



Steven Proctor	

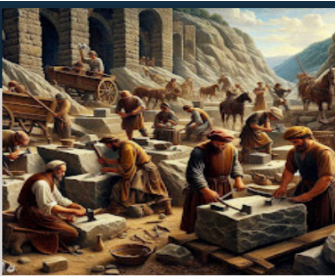
## Check out our Lodge Calendar!

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](http://www.pvst29.org)



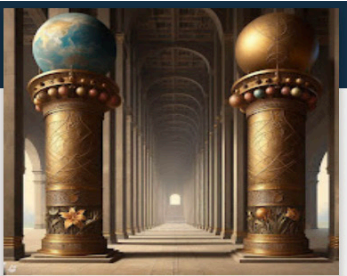
MAY 7 Dinner and Stated Meeting

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.



MAY 14 FC Degree Practice

Officers and participants of the upcoming FC degree, please join us for practice at the Lodge starting at 6:30pm. Doors will open at 6:00pm for fellowship.



MAY 21 FC Degree

Brethren, please join us for a Second Degree at the Lodge. Doors will open at 6:00pm for fellowship, gavel drops at 7:00pm. No dinner will be served.

# 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. (Decision made to proceed)
- **May Stated Meeting:** Formal reading of the draft bylaw amendment; notice to follow in the trestle board. (Draft shown below, to be read in May SM)
- **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

### ARTICLE IV, MEETINGS

#### SECTION 1. OCCURRENCE

a. Except as stated in subsection (b). Paradise Valley Silver Trowel Lodge No. 29 stated meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each calendar month at the Lodge building. If this date falls 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.

a-b. Paradise Valley Silver Trowel Lodge No. 29 will go dark as defined and permitted in the constitution, bylaws, and general regulations of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F&AM of Arizona for the calendar months of July and August.

b-c. The Lodge building is located in Phoenix, Arizona.

c-d. The Master of the Lodge may call special meetings for degree work or other Masonic activities.

# A Wonderful Bikes for Books Event!

Two lucky students were thrilled to receive brand-new bicycles as the grand prize winners of the 2025 Bikes for Books event, held at a local area middle school. This exciting program, founded by Br. Fred Stewart, encourages literacy and academic achievement by rewarding students for their dedication to reading. The smiles on the winners' faces were a powerful reminder of how community support and positive incentives can help foster a lifelong love of learning. We look forward to continuing this tradition and inspiring even more young minds in the years to come.



# Congratulations to Our Newest Brother



Congratulations Brother Donald!

# 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](mailto:secretary@pvst29.org)



**Making Good Men Better, One Day at a Time**

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

## 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)

