

June Calendar

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information, please visit
www.pvst29.org

- **Jun 04:**
Dinner and
Stated Meeting
- **Jun 11:**
MM Degree
Practice
- **Jun 18:**
Officers and
Trustees
Meeting
- **Jun 25:**
MM Degree

Inside this Issue:

From the East	1
From the West	2
From the South	2
Masonic Birth- days	3
Craft Builders	4
Notice to the Brethren	5

From the East



Greetings from the East,

One of the most significant connections between Freemasonry and the month of June is the celebration of St. John the Baptist's Day on June 24. St. John the Baptist is regarded as one of the two patron saints of Freemasonry, the other being St. John the Evangelist, whose feast day falls on December 27. Historically, many Masonic lodges were dedicated to "St. John," and June 24 was observed as a major Masonic holiday. In earlier times, lodges would often hold public processions, festive banquets, or conduct officer installations on this meaningful date.

Another important feature of June is the occurrence of the summer solstice, typically around June 20–21 in the Northern Hemisphere. This is the longest day of the year, and it holds deep symbolic meaning for Masons. Freemasonry reveres light as a metaphor for truth, wisdom, and spiritual enlightenment. The solstice, as a time of great natural light, serves as a fitting reminder of our continuous journey toward knowledge and inner illumination.

From a historical standpoint, operative masons (those who worked in stone) often gathered during the warmer months such as June. These seasonal meetings provided opportunities to share skills, collaborate on building projects, and pass on

sacred knowledge. These practical gatherings likely influenced the speculative Masonic practices we observe today, and traditional dates like those in June remain significant for ceremonial purposes.

On a personal note, June was a proud and memorable month for our Lodge. We had the great honor of passing one of our newer Entered Apprentices, Donald Lewis II, to the degree of Fellowcraft. As Worshipful Master, I was incredibly proud of all the Brothers who participated in the degree. Their dedication, precision, and desire to create a meaningful experience for Brother Donald made it a ceremony to remember. Sitting in the East gives a unique perspective, and what I saw that evening was pride and commitment; a reflection of the strength of our Brotherhood.

As we embrace the summer season and spend more time outdoors, I urge each of you to be mindful of one another, especially when it comes to heat exhaustion and water safety. Let us watch out for one another and extend that same care to our families and communities.

I also encourage you to travel in the Craft whenever possible. Visiting other Lodges is a wonderful way to experience the broader Masonic family. Recently, I had the pleasure of traveling with Brother Marion to Prescott to present a donation to the



Eric Marsh Foundation. During that trip, we visited the original Masonic Lodge, Aztlan No. 1. Though it is no longer in active use, the building remains intact and steeped in history. The month before, I was honored to receive a personal tour of the historic Scottish Rite Temple in Tucson by Illustrious Brother Randall Jagar. Both locations were rich in symbolism and Masonic heritage, reminding me that our fraternity extends far beyond our own Lodge walls.

Thank you to all of our Brothers for your continued efforts, your fellowship, and your commitment to our Craft.

Fraternally,
Michael Kosatka, Worshipful Master



Stated Meeting Menu:

Join us for a fiesta of flavor at our next dinner featuring deluxe nachos piled high with seasoned beef, sharp cheese, avocado, olives, beans, sour cream, onions, and zesty salsa! Choose your favorite crunch from Brother Darren's homemade tortilla chips: blue corn, white corn, or yellow corn. Don't forget to save room for our irresistible specialty desserts!

From the West



Greetings from the West,

June, summer has arrived, and with it, the heat! Yet this is also the time of Grand Communication: that moment when Masons gather to determine how best to conduct themselves, refine their rituals, and elect the next Grand Master of Arizona Masons. From all across the state, Masons come together to vote on these matters. It is a gathering of brotherhood (and their significant others) that must be experienced to be fully understood. And then one realizes, this is just one state! There are Masons around the world, in other countries and jurisdictions, who also hold their own Grand Communications.

Yet something else of importance happens in June: Father's Day. It is the day we celebrate the one who watched over us and protected us from dangers we couldn't yet

conceive, until we grew into understanding. While not everyone may have walked that path with a biological father, still there came to be someone; someone who became that father figure, who nurtured and quietly loved us, who guided us through the trials and tribulations of this universe we had arrived in. Therefore, let us celebrate "Dad" in all his glorious imperfections. He was the one who showed up.

It seems 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

From the South



Greetings from the South,

This past month, I learned an important lesson about the meaning of Memorial Day. A Brother pointed out that many people say, "Have a happy Memorial Day," when perhaps we should be saying, "Have a thoughtful Memorial Day."

That simple shift made a lot of sense to me. Memorial Day is a solemn occasion; a day of remembrance for those in the Armed Forces who gave their lives in service to our country. While often mistaken for a celebration like the Fourth of July, it is not a day of parties and fireworks. It is a day of reflection, prayer, and honor, though many now simply see it as the unofficial start of summer.

On another note, one of the great things a Mason can do is pay wages, and I'd like to do just that. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped in the kitchen, provided food, or stayed to clean up over the past few months. Not only do we accomplish much when we work together, but we also share in the fellowship that comes from scrubbing off the grime and gook side by side!

Fraternally,
Darren Reale,
Junior Warden



June Masonic Birthdays

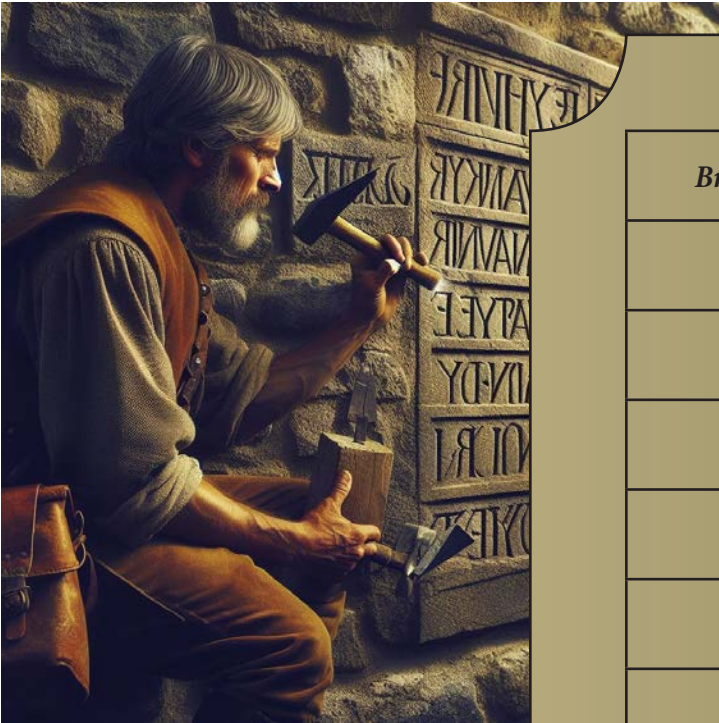


Wish Your Brothers a Happy Masonic Birthday!



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>Br. Steven Proctor</i>	<i>Br. Dewey Looney</i> <i>Sandy Valley Lodge #19, Grundy VA</i>

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

Check out our Lodge Calendar!




JUN

4

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.




JUN

11

Third Degree Practice

Officers and Degree participants, please join us for a Third Degree practice at the Lodge starting at 7:00pm. Lodge will open at 6:00pm for fellowship.



JUN

18

Officers/Trustees Meeting

The Lodge will open at 6:00 PM for fellowship. The Officer and Trustee meeting will begin at 6:30 PM, and is open to all Master Masons who are a member of PVST #29.

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.

Congratulations to Our Newest Fellowcraft



Congratulations Brother Donald!

Brother Donald is blazing through his proficiency work and has ready for his Master Mason Degree! Please join us for his raising on Wednesday June 25th.

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: 623-287-5240
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)

