



Trestleboard – May 2019

DOWNTOWN LODGE #86

Free & Accepted Masons of Arizona



Downtown Lodge #86 meets every 4th Monday 7:30 pm at: 450 S. Tucson Blvd. Tucson, AZ

Dark: July & August

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Articles of Pedestal Officers

By WB Dave Morganflash, Worshipful Master Downtown 86

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

We are almost at the halfway point of the year! I feel we as a lodge have accomplished a good portion of the goals we put in place this year. Great job Brothers! Grand Lodge is fast approaching and my hope is that the majority of our lodge attends. The fellowship and good time at Grand Lodge is worth every penny.

We have had some great progression this year- let's keep up the great work, Brothers. I am looking forward to the rest of the year and what we as a lodge will accomplish. Hats off to all you Brothers for everything you contribute to the best lodge in the world!

Fraternally,

David Morganflash

Worshipful Master Downtown Lodge #86



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By WB Bil Hole, Senior Warden Downtown 86

FROM THE WEST

One day last month, Bonnie and I, having spring cleaning in our minds, started in one room and moved on to the next getting rid of all those things which we had not touched in a few years and all those items for which we no longer had any sentimental feelings.

We threw out pictures which no longer meant anything. We filled bags with old clothing and shoes; things which we had saved thinking they were important in our lives, but which no longer held any meaning. After we finished the job we were glad that we had shed ourselves of all those unnecessary things in our lives which no longer made us feel good.

Afterwards, as I was thinking about what to write this month for the Trestleboard, I thought of that day of divestiture. I then knew that I would write this particular article for this month's website and Trestleboard.

Our ritual explains that the common gavel is used to remove the rough and superfluous parts of stone and that, as Masons, we use it to divest our hearts and consciences of all those vices and superfluities of life. Upon completion of the spring cleaning at home, I realized that I not only needed to rid myself of unneeded THINGS in my life but also those unneeded and unwanted thoughts and feelings I have harbored over the years.

As a result, I have taken the time to pause, think and divest my heart and mind (at least for a while) of all those ill feelings relative to politics in particular and other things that irritate me in general. I have performed a spring cleaning of my mind for however long it lasts. Maybe I'll have to perform a summer cleaning, a fall cleaning and a winter cleaning as well depending on how long it takes before I am overloaded with ill feelings again.

The spring cleaning of my mind has helped me feel better about myself and life in general and maybe, just maybe, if you decide to do a spring cleaning of your mind, it will help you feel better about things in life as well.

Here's hoping!

Bil Hole, PM

Sr. Warden



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By Brother Marcos Castro, Junior Warden Downtown 86

FROM THE SOUTH

I would like to make this the question article..

1. Is it okay to cross your legs in lodge?
2. Is it okay to read ritual from the book if one is allowed to be open during lodge?
3. Is it okay for your wife to help you study ritual?
4. Is it okay to sign a petition if you have only met the gentleman 3 times?
5. Should your mason ring point toward you or away?
6. Should you always address everyone by their title at all times?
7. Should you become a 32 degree Mason in two days?
8. Why do we go free from restraint to do the second section of the 3rd degree?
9. Wouldn't the widow's son have died after the first blow?
10. If this is all allegory what should any of this matter?

Marcos Castro,
JW



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Articles of Appointed Officers

By WB Gustavo Portillo, Secretary Downtown 86

ON THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

Brethren,

The Lodge has a number of candidates and this is exciting as there is a nice mix of ages and vocations. It is good for the Lodge to have a broad-based membership so newer members can relate to them and not feel like a lost soul with no one to relate to.

Check our website for current activities. If you haven't been to Lodge recently, come out and share an evening with your brothers. If you haven't been in some time and feel uncomfortable about remembering the work, don't worry as someone will help refresh your memory.

Fraternally,

WB. Gus Portillo
Secretary.

By Brother Timothy Strasser, Junior Deacon Downtown 86

ESOTERIC FACET OF MASONRY

Brethren,

I have only been a Master Mason for 637 days and I know I will broaden my horizons over the coming decades in terms of what Masonry has to offer. But in my tenure thus far I have found there are three facets of Masonry: first - the fraternal and chartable our Blue lodge and related activities; second – the bear degree and all it comprises Br. Marcos and I will always share that night in our hearts; the third – the esoteric. I separate the esoteric from the rest on purpose; as does. W. L. Wilmshurst. He wrote in The Meaning of Masonry which is recommended reading for all MMs:

“It is absurd to think that a vast organization like Masonry was ordained merely to teach to grown-up men of the world the symbolical meaning of a few simple builders' tools, or to impress upon us such elementary virtues as temperance and justice...”

Esoteric, by definition, is intended for or likely only to be truly understood by only a small number of people with a specialized prerequisite knowledge or interest. Studying these mysteries takes practice. It takes a time and humility and can certainly take a toll on your current belief system. I have been



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fortunate enough to take a point home every night after our MM esoteric education that rattles the cage that contains my beliefs; and while it is admittedly an acquired taste there few things in this life as good as that. I thank Br. Tony and W for all the time they've put in and all they've shared. So why do it? Why study these things? Why devote a portion of our 24" in gauge to the abstruse? In short: It is all about advancing ourselves, as is all Masonry. In the words of Lebanese philosopher Khalil Gibran:

"March on. Do not tarry. Advance, and never halt, for advancing is perfection. Advance and do not fear the thorns in the path, for they draw only corrupt blood."

This is the third part of freemasonry. One I would invite all Masons to seek out – to make the journey to draw corrupt blood. I would encourage all MM to attend our esoteric education nights in addition to their self-study; I would encourage all EA and FC to study the lectures with more than their minds and to grant yourself, before your studies, a moment of silent doubt and of prayer that you may enter your readings open, humble, and seeking.

There are few specifics I can share about the deeper teachings of Freemasonry – mostly because I don't yet know it and a part of it because not all here have been raised to the sublime degree of MM. But I can share with you one fact that greatly helped my expand my boundaries: that is that Freemasonry in general, and its esoterica specifically, does not teach, promote, or demand one faith or religion over another. To summarize what Brother Albert Pike said:

"If, anywhere, brethren of a particular religious belief have been excluded...it merely shows how gravely the purposes and plan of Masonry may be misunderstood. For whenever the door of any Degree is closed against him who believes in God and the soul's immortality, on account of the other tenets of his faith, that Degree is Masonry no longer."

A poem which does a better job of explaining why we should study the deeper mysteries are words again by Kahlil Gibran in his poem "The Astronomer" and I will leave you with this:

The Astronomer by Kahlil Gibran

In the shadow of the temple my brother and I saw a blind man sitting alone. And my brother said, "Behold the wisest man of our land."

Then I left my brother and approached the blind man and greeted him. And we conversed.

After a while I said, "Forgive my question; but since when has thou been blind?"

"From my birth," he answered.

Said I, "And what path of wisdom followest thou?"

Said he, "I am an astronomer."

Then he placed his hand upon his breast saying, "I watch all these suns and moons and stars."

Fraternally,
Brother Timothy Strasser



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By Brother Glenn Morgan, Marshall Downtown 86

Brethren of Downtown 86 –

Fraternal greetings for the month of May 2019. This is the 3rd and final article on the subject of Masonic youth, and this one concerns the second group for young women, historically known as the Order of the Rainbow for Girls known today as the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

This group was founded by a Master Mason, Rev. W. Mark Saxson, on April 6, 1922 after a lecture he had given to an Order of Eastern Star chapter in McAlester, Oklahoma. He had been involved with the existing fraternal group for young men, the Order of DeMolay and thought that a similar organization for young women would be beneficial.

rainbow, unlike the Job's Daughters that was discussed in last month's article, has never required a direct Masonic familial connection, but has close ties to our Fraternity. The adult advisory board for each Rainbow Assembly have to be members of a Masonic Lodge or a Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star. Membership is open to any young woman between the ages of 11 to 20 or 21 depending on jurisdiction.

Rainbow teaches young women the importance of 7 concepts, which are similar to DeMolay, and associates each concept with a color of the Rainbow. Lessons on Love, Religion, Nature, Immortality, Fidelity, Patriotism, and Service are the core of the lessons. Of special interest to Masons is the importance of Faith, Hope and Charity within the assembly, where specific officers take on those roles for education and service. Of further interest to Masons is the fact that when a girl is initiated, the Station of Charity opens the Pot Of Gold and she removes a miniature lambskin apron which is explained to the initiate. The initiate then wears that lambskin apron on her wrist during the rest of the initiation. In this way each girl is presented with her own lambskin apron as are all Entered Apprentices.

Currently, Rainbow has active Assemblies in 46 of the 50 states in the United States. Internationally there are 9 countries that have active assemblies, and historically there were an additional 5 counties that formerly had them, but which are no longer active.

Rainbow for Girls does not have a specific charity that they work with, but each Grand (State level) Assembly can pick charities on a yearly basis to contribute towards. Generally, each Assembly has the freedom to choose its charity for the year, but will be influenced by their Grand, and the International Supreme Assembly charity choices.

I hope that you have found this article enlightening, and if interested in finding out more information about Rainbow, check out their website at gorainbow.org.

Fraternal Regards,

Bro. Glenn Morgan



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Appendant Bodies

By Lady Catherine McLarnan, High Priestess-Elect Oasis Court #75, LOS

FROM THE LADIES ORIENTAL SHRINE

Worshipful Master Dave and Brothers of Lodge 86,
Many of you attended our Installation of Officers on March 9th and it truly made the day extra special for me and the officers of our Court. It's the start of the new year for us, and together, I know it will be an exciting time full of fun, smiles and friendship.

It's the spring Mini Clinic time. We will be providing food and refreshments to the hospital staff at the Square and Compass Building behind TMC. Our ladies work in conjunction with the Daughters of the Nile to assist the doctors and staff with the children and it's such a joy to see their faces.

We have a new website and I'm soooo excited! If you can, please see it at:
<https://oasiscourt75losaz.com>.

Our first outing will be on May 5th Cinco de Mayo Festival. We will be gathering at the Tohono Chul Gardens, 7366 N Paseo del Norte. A FREE, family-friendly event filled with the traditions of the Southwest. Enjoy mariachi band performances, agave spirit tastings, and artist displays. Includes food vendors, a local produce farmers market, local makers, games for the kids, and much more. This event is from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Our next meeting is May 6th. Anyone is invited to the dinner prior to the meeting. May is going to be busy with our ceremonial (initiation) on May 6th then most of us leave for Grand Council on May 8th in Richmond, Virginia. This is our international annual convention where the location changes each year depending on where the outgoing Grand High Priestess is located. Just before Grand Council, I will be traveling to Boston to visit the Shriner's Hospital in Boston.

If you know of a woman who would like to know more about what we do, come to our dinner or any outing we have. Being related to a Master Mason or Shriner is helpful, however, it's not required.

Keep smiling and having fun. Feel free to reach out to me, I'm only a phone call or email away. Phone is 520.999.0068 and email is katemc.losaz19@gmail.com.

Fraternally with phantom hugs and dolphin splashes,

Lady Catherine McLarnan,
High Priestess



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Masonic Birthdates

April:

- WB Bil Hole
- WB Eric Dupree
- Bro Matthew Hedrick

June:

- *None*

Committee & Contact Information

Officer/Committee Title	Contact Name	Contact Email Address	Contact Phone
Worshipful Master	WB Dave Morganflash	dmorganflash@hotmail.com	(520) 549-8292
Senior Warden	WB Bil Hole	bilpuka@yahoo.com	(520) 869-8311
Junior Warden	Bro. Marcos Castro	mcast3.mc@gmal.com	(520) 358-1975
Secretary	WB Gus Portillo	woodyman9@yahoo.com	(520) 437-1106
E-Communication Committee	Bro. Timothy Strasser	tbstrasser@gmail.com	(520) 780-6417
Advertising Committee	WB Bil Hole	bilpuka@yahoo.com	(520) 869-8311

2017-2018 Downtown 86 Lodge Line-up

Position / Station	Name
Worshipful Master	WB Dave Morganflash
Senior Warden	WB Bil Hole
Junior Warden	Bro. Marcos Castro
Treasurer	WB Jason Stryker
Secretary	WB Gus Portillo
Chaplain	JP WB Aaron Feagley
Marshall	Bro. Glenn Morgan
Senior Deacon	Bro. Toby Thomas
Junior Deacon	Bro. Timothy Strasser
Senior Steward	Bro. Mark Jaime
Junior Steward	Bro. Nick Dacus
Tiler	Bro. Larry Wilhite

Trustee (Yr)	Name
1	WB Pat Zech
2	WB Eric Dupree
3	WB Aaron Feagley



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Upcoming Events

Please see our most complete calendar of events at: www.downtown86.com/meet-dt86

Sickness & Distress

There is health and happiness in the lodge, however, this does not mean there is peace or contentment in all corners. If you or a loved one are suffering from an illness or are in any kind of distress, please reach out to our Worshipful Master Dave Morganflash at: (520) 549-8292 or dmorganflash@hotmail.com

Our Partners



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