



Trestleboard – September 2018

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 Aaron Feagly, Worshipful Master Downtown 86

In the closing minutes on the evening of my initiation, a friend and newfound brother stood up and stated, “You get out of Freemasonry what you put into it.” As the newest Entered Apprentice Mason, this statement seemed both a promise and a challenge. I would later discover the great truth in this seemingly simple statement, though perhaps in different ways than I initially expected.

Freemasonry is rich and diverse. If you ask ten different masons what it means to them, you are likely to receive ten different answers. The rich history and influence of freemasonry attracts the attention and efforts of some brothers while others are drawn to the fraternal and social side of masonry. Some are drawn to its esoteric teachings, some to our charitable events and activities, and still others devote themselves to deeper understanding of our ritual.

Regardless of which category (or combination of categories) you may find yourself, Freemasonry offers significant returns on any investment. It does, however, require that investment. No one said the act of “making good men better” would be easy. It is not a passive change that occurs, but one that requires continued effort and attention.

If you find yourself stagnant or in a rut, I challenge you to evaluate the investments you have made and determine what it is you are putting into masonry.

Faternally,

Aaron Feagley, Worshipful Master

By Brother David Morganflash, Senior Warden Downtown 86

Greetings Brethren!

As I sit here pondering the first writing I will submit for our Trestleboard, my mind races with all the possibilities I could write about: Will my writings have a profound effect? Will my topic be deep enough? Will I finish my writing knowing that I have conveyed to someone a nugget of knowledge that may positively affect them?

The answer to all the previous questions. . . probably not. I will, however, tell a brief ongoing story of a man who always wanted to be a good man and then beginning to becoming a better man. That man is David Morganflash (me).



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My introduction to Freemasonry was through my family and the small town in Illinois in which I began my life. I never knew the involvement that my Great Grandfather had in the Fraternity because I was a young boy when he passed on to the Celestial Lodge above. I did, however, hear stories from my Grandmother about his character and what kind of man he was. Thinking back to those stories, it is now clear why he is remembered as such a solid man, and why he had such a positive influence on those around him: He was a Freemason.

As my life took its course I was exposed and involved with many groups. I gladly joined in and participated, but I always felt there was something out there for me that I needed and, maybe needed me; a missing piece if you will. When I became an Entered Apprentice in Freemasonry, I realized that for me I had found the missing piece. I think I always thought I would join something but never knew or thought that I would become something until I entered the Craft.

As I entered, passed, and then raised, it became clear that I would always be a “work in progress” forever learning, practicing and applying the working tools of our craft. As I strive to utilize our working tools in every aspect of my life I realize that for me at least the work is the reward.

Freemasonry has taught me that I am harder on myself than anyone could ever be, and that I should never forget that I am a rough ashlar and will never be a perfect ashlar; and that it is okay. Just like camping rules, “leave the campsite a better place when you leave than it was when you arrived,” I hope that by becoming a Freemason and practicing the teachings, I will have left the world around me a better place. I have so much to learn as I continue my journey, I know for a fact that I have learned a lot more than I sometimes realize.

As I write this submission for our Trestleboard, I am reminded that sometimes it is good to sit back, take a time out and reflect upon whence I came and remember that the journey or work is most often the reward. I look forward to writing another article from the West and hopefully my next submission will be more informative or at the least entertaining.

Fraternally,

David Morganflash, SW

By WB Chris Jordan, Junior Warden Downtown 86

Brethren:

This Summer has been a hot one! Despite the weather, Downtown 86 has continued to meet for fellowship and fun.

Worshipful Brother Eric has hosted a few proficiency parties, Worshipful Brother Bil, our Ritual Advisor, has instructed on EA ritual performance, a MM degree was held, and the good times continue at the Shrine on



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Friday night once a month. With summer coming to an end there are many upcoming degrees and fellowship events.

From the beginning of the Lodge, 86 has always had a special kind of closeness that is unparalleled by any other lodge. Our willingness to help each other and support one another on their Masonic and personal journeys is what sets us apart from the other Lodges. I encourage all members of our Lodge to aid in continuing this tradition.

In some parts of the country, fall reminds us of the changing of seasons and allows us to reflect on the idea of shedding the dead parts of us, allowing for new growth. Through our continuation of our fraternal bond and fellowship, we can all take part in the development of each other and spring new positive growth in Freemasonry.

Welcome back Brethren!

Chris Jordan, JW



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Articles of Appointed Officers

By WB Gustavo Portillo, Secretary Downtown 86

From the Secretary's desk:

Brethren, now that we have a good line of officers who are committed to step up and follow the chairs is a good time to look to the future of the Lodge regarding what we can do to support our community. Believe me when I tell you that you are going to feel a fulfillment in your heart and mind when you dedicate some of your time for good causes. This can come from helping at the hospital, Shrine mini clinics or helping our landlord with events that create the revenue to help keep the building going.

So, if you have any spare time don't hesitate to donate it to these worthy causes.

WB. Gustavo Portillo
Secretary

By WB William Hole, Chaplain Downtown 86

As this article is to appear in the first issue of Downtown Lodge 86's first issue of our Trestleboard, I thought it only proper to begin with an article which explains Freemasonry and its Degrees. As some lessons and emblems are not for all eyes save those of the Master Mason, I will, therefore, only include items which are of interest and eligible for all eyes.

William Hole, PM

INTRODUCTION TO FREEMASONRY

Freemasonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.

This definition of the Ancient Craft means much more to the well informed Freemason than to the initiate. Naturally, the initiate wants to know: Why *Freemasonry*? Why is it veiled? Why is it illustrated by symbols? Masons are "Free and Accepted" for reasons which are to be found in the early history of Freemasonry.

EARLY HISTORY

Many of Freemasonry's symbols and teachings go back to the very beginnings of man. For the purposes of understanding the beginnings of the word "free" as coupled with "Mason", we begin with the Roman *Collegia* (Colleges) which were orders or associations of men engaged in similar pursuits. The formation of these *Collegia* were caused by a desire for fellowship and association to promote and improve the good of the Roman Empire as well as by an economic need, just as labor unions of today.



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The *Collegia* became so prominent and powerful that the Roman emperors attempted to abolish the right of *free association*, and in spite of edicts and persecutions of and by the Roman emperors, some of the *Collegia* continued to exist. The Colleges of Architects, however, were sanctioned for a time while other *Collegia* were forbidden. The architects were too valuable to the Empire to be abolished, or like some of the other *Collegia*, forced to work and meet in secret. The architects were not, at this time, called Freemasons, but they were *free*, and it is that *fact* rather than the *name* (free) which is important here.

Without architects and builders Rome could not expand. The Colleges of Architects were permitted to regulate their own affairs and work under their own constitutions and were free of the restrictions which were intended to destroy other *Collegia*.

Then, as now, *three* were necessary to form a College. The College had a *Magister* or Master and two Wardens. There were three orders or degrees in the College which used, to a large extent, emblems which are a part of Freemasonry. Roman sarcophagi show carvings of a square, compasses, plumb, level and sometimes columns.

We know very little of the ceremonies of the *Collegia*. We do know much, however, of their work and history which enables us to trace the decline and fall of the Architect's *Collegia*. Emperor Diocletian attempted to destroy the new Christian religion and, as many members of the Colleges of Architects were Christian, his persecution, vengeance and cruelty followed. Suffice it to say that the Colleges of Architects were broken up and fled from Rome. (To be continued).

(From *Introduction to Freemasonry* by Carl H. Claudy, © 1931)



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Articles of Lodge Members

By WB Art Del Cueto

G.' B.' T.' T.' G.' A.' O.' T.' U.'
Illus.' Dig.' and Resp.' Lodge.'

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W.' M.'
B.' B.'

The Saints, John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, appear to Freemasons in several places in our catechisms. Their proximity and use in our rituals have been questioned for many years as to their use and placement. Looked at together, St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist serve to represent the balance in Masonry between zeal for the fraternity and learned equilibrium. The Saints John, stand in perfect parallel harmony representing that balance.

From an historical approach, The Saints John festival is said to be a widely celebrated Masonic holiday. Traditionally, June 24th (or the summer Solstice) is taken to be John the Baptist's day, which is celebrated in many cultures around the world. According to McCoy's Masonic Dictionary, it is the duty of every Mason to participate in the Festival of St. John and should serve to be a renewal and strengthening of fraternal ties, and a celebration of Masonry from "olden times." It functions as a connection between the past and the future or a celebration that should help prevent losing the old ways.

The festival, to non-Masons, has been called the "Setting of the Watch," where ceremonial bonfires were lit after sunset. Tradition says that men, women, and children would jump through the fires for luck. Across Europe, this holiday is celebrated in many ways, with oak wreath crowns, wild flowers and birch branches. Families would feast and celebrate in union. The meanings of these ancient traditions are lost today on our society but the link was made at some point to John the Baptist. The On-line Catholic Encyclopedia points to the birth of John the Baptist as 6 months before Christ placing him on the summer solstice. It is thought that these festivals have been linked in character and content with the birth of John the Baptist. In various towns throughout Mexico, it is still widely celebrated with families going to the nearest river or water well oftentimes jumping in the water as they hold nearby feasts; water being a big part of the day. As a child growing up my mother would always say, "It always rains on the day of John the Baptist."

From the Masonic perspective, we are given the balanced dualism of John the Baptist on one side and John the Evangelist on the other. Represented together this way, they represent the balance of passionate zeal with a learned knowledge of faith forming a space to reflect upon and channel our passion as well as our education and knowledge. Individually strong, together they stand as a harnessed focus of zeal and knowledge. Their differences are not just necessary to Freemasonry but can be applied to all areas of life. Taken as an abstract compilation of symbols, together they represent a well-balanced path towards enlightenment.



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As dualistic figures they balance each other within Masonry. But another application that both saints can serve as a comparison is the Alchemical symbols of fire and water. Alchemy has long been thought of as an early component of Freemasonry and using the alchemical symbols may help the representations of the Saints John look more familiar. Saint John the Baptist is oftentimes represented by an inverted pyramid. The inverted pyramid, the Alchemical sign for water, represents spiritual and emotional love. St. John the Evangelist, often represented as the pyramid pointing up, is also symbolizing fire that is the drive and will of action. When placed together, they symbolize the perfect balance of darkness and light, life and death, passion and constraint, will and emotion, winter and summer. Together, both represent the interlocked star of Solomon, or the Square and Compass. This is an entirely open analysis and made for the purposes of comparison, but, it does offer a unique analysis of the Holy Saints and is definitely something to keep in mind.

As a child, we would always celebrate St Johns day at my home. In part I believe because of my father being a Mason and my mother for her catholic upbringing. St. John the Baptist Day is an appropriate celebratory day for Freemasons, as it is a good day to come together and reflect our past and our future. It stands to remind us, not just of our past, but also of a recommitment of our circumscribed passions. I believe that these unions and celebrations help us to reaffirm our ties that bind. Whether those ties be the bindings of fraternity or the familiarity of institution, we should remember the Holy Saints John not just in our sacred Jerusalems but together in our brotherhood.

By Brother Glenn Morgan

Fraternal Greetings, Brothers! Welcome to this initial column, about notable Masonic history and personalities. I will try to shed some light on subjects of interest, and will gladly accept suggestions for future columns.

This column will be about a poem that was written by Brother Rudyard Kipling. Born in India during the apex of the British Empire, Brother Kipling was a celebrated poet and author. His work is still widely read and enjoyed by many today. Two famous examples of his works are the collection of short stories; the "*Jungle Book*" and the poem "*If* . . ." While both of these are wonderful, I would like to call your attention to a lesser known work that has more relevance to us as Masons.

The poem was written in 1894 and is entitled "*The Mother Lodge*." This has a special resonance for us, as it embodies an ideal of Brotherhood that was astounding in its day. The poem is generally understood to be semi-autobiographical as some details have been given literary license. As an example, Brother Kipling was known to have been Lodge Secretary but not Junior Deacon. Brother Kipling was known to be an enthusiastic Mason, and in addition to regular attendance at his own Lodge, he was known to visit Lodges whenever he had the opportunity during his travels. So I wish you, my Brothers, the warmest thoughts and hope you enjoy this little bit of insight into the mind of a Brother from a different age.

(Poem continued on page 9)



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The Mother Lodge

by John Rudyard Kipling (1894)

THERE was Rundle, Station Master,
An' Beazeley of the Rail,
An' 'Ackman, Commissariat,
An' Donkin' o' the Jail;
An' Blake, Conductor-Sergeant,
Our Master twice was 'e,
With 'im that kept the Europe-shop,
Old Framjee Edujee.

Outside - "Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!
Inside - Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!

We'd Bola Nath, Accountant,
An' Saul the Aden Jew,
An' Din Mohammed, draughtsman
Of the Survey Office, too;
There was Babu Chuckerbutty,
An' Amir Singh the Sikh,
An' Castro from the fittin'-sheds,
The Roman Catholick!

We 'adn't good regalia,
An' our Lodge was old an' bare,
But we knew the Ancient Landmarks,
An' we kep' 'em to a hair;
An' lookin' on it backwards
It often strikes me thus,
There ain't such things as infidels,
Excep', per'aps, it's us.

For monthly, after Labour,
We'd all sit down and smoke
(We dursn't give no banquets,
Lest a Brother's caste were broke),

An' man on man got talkin'
Religion an' the rest,
An' every man comparin'
Of the God 'e knew the best.

So man on man got talkin',
An' not a Brother stirred
Till mornin' waked the parrots
An' that dam' brain-fever-bird.
We'd say 'twas 'ighly curious,
An' we'd all ride 'ome to bed,
With Mo'ammed, God, an' Shiva
Changin' pickets in our 'ead.

Full oft on Guv'ment service
This rovin' foot 'ath pressed,
An' bore fraternal greetin's
To the Lodges east an' west,
Accordin' as commanded.
From Kohat to Singapore,
But I wish that I might see them
In my Mother-Lodge once more!

I wish that I might see them,
My Brethren black an' brown,
With the trichies smellin' pleasant
An' the hog-darn passin' down;
An' the old khansamah snorin'
On the bottle-khana floor,
Like a Master in good standing
With my Mother-Lodge once more.

Outside - "Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!"
Inside- Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was Junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!



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Words from Appendant Bodies

From the Shriners

Brethren,

Some of you Masonic Brothers are Nobles, too. I would like to take this opportunity to invite my fellow Nobles and Brothers who would like more information about Shriners and what being a Shriner is all about. On September 29th Sabbar Shrine is having a Shrine-Mason dinner. Cocktails will start at 6 p.m. and dinner starts around 7 p.m. Menu and price have not been set at the time. It's a good time to meet new people and to learn more information about the Shrine.

Fraternally,

Toby Thomas,

Junior Deacon, Downtown Lodge 86 & High Priest & Prophet, Sabbar Shrine

From the Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America in Tucson

WM and Brothers of Downtown Lodge 86,

Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America in Tucson is thrilled to be included in your newsletter. Our ladies have a lot of fun doing projects and raising money for the children at the Shriner's Hospitals. The summer is almost over and we are looking forward to getting back to events this fall. We meet on the First Monday of each month except June, July, and August, at Tucson Lodge #4. The next events on our calendars include:

<i>Aug 29th-30th</i>	<i>Official Visit of the Grand High Priestess Kris Sheridan</i>
<i>Sept 11th</i>	<i>Monthly sewing at High Priestess Geri May's home (all ladies are welcome to join in)</i>
<i>Sept 1st</i>	<i>U of A Football Game Concessions</i>
<i>Sept 15th</i>	<i>U of A Football Game Concessions</i>
<i>Oct 6th</i>	<i>Rex Allen Parade</i>
<i>Oct 6th</i>	<i>U of A Game</i>
<i>Oct 21st</i>	<i>Helldorado Parade</i>
<i>Oct 27th</i>	<i>Green Valley Parade</i>
<i>Oct 27th</i>	<i>U of A Game</i>

If interested in attending any events with us, please contact High Priestess Geri May, 520.861.0463 or gerisembroidery@msn.com

Fraternally,

Catherine (Kate) McLarnan,

Princess, Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America



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Masonic Birthdates

September:

- Br. Aaron Hatfield, 2007
- Br. Matthew Palmer, 2014
- Br. Sean Schoepflin, 2012

October:

- Br. Bradley Miller, 2002
- WB Chris Jordan, 2011
- WB Gustavo Portillo, 2002
- WB Lew “Shorty” Ivy, 1988

Committee & Contact Information

Officer/Committee Title	Contact Name	Contact Email Address	Contact Phone Number
Worshipful Master	WB Aaron Feagly	figs981@gmail.com	(520) 549-8292
Senior Warden	Bro. Dave Morganflash	dmorganflash@hotmail.com	(520) 272-0786
Junior Warden	WB Chris Jordan	cjordan512@gmail.com	(512) 825-6157
Secretary	WB Gus Portillo	woodyman9@yahoo.com	(520) 437-1106
Social Committee	Bro. Marcos Castro	mcast3.mc@gmail.com	(520) 358-1975
Education Committee	WB Chris Jordan	cjordan512@gmail.com	(512) 825-6157
E-Communication Committee	Bro. Timothy Strasser	tbstrasser@gmail.com	(520) 780-6417
Advertising Committee	WB William Hole	bilpuka@yahoo.com	(520) 869-8311

2017-2018 Downtown 86 Lodge Line-up

Position / Station	Name
Worshipful Master	WB Aaron Feagly
Senior Warden	Bro. Dave Morganflash
Junior Warden	WB Chris Jordan
Treasurer	WB Jason Stryker
Secretary	WB Gus Portillo
Chaplain	WB Bil Hole
Marshall	Bro. Nick Dacus
Senior Deacon	Bro. Tony Kincheloe
Junior Deacon	Bro. Toby Thomas
Senior Steward	Bro. Mark Jaime
Junior Steward	Bro. Timothy Strasser
Tiler	WB Lew “Shorty” Ivy

Trustee (Yr)	Name
1	WB Art Del Cueto
2	WB Pat Zech
3	WB Eric Dupree



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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 Aaron Feagly at: (520) 549-8292 or figs981@gmail.com.



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