

#### September, 2025 Trestleboard Arizona Lodge No. 2

Our goal is to keep you informed and engaged with all the happenings at our lodge. Each month, you can expect updates on upcoming degrees, announcements for our Seeker Socials, information on community events, news about lodge closures, and other important matters concerning our fraternity.

This newsletter will serve as a bridge, connecting our members with the heart of our lodge activities, ensuring that you're always in the loop, whether it's about the next degree conferral, a community service opportunity, or simply when we'll be dark for holidays.

Stay tuned for regular features on Masonic education, member spotlights, and insights into the rich history and traditions of Freemasonry.

We're excited to embark on this journey of better communication and look forward to seeing you at our lodge's events. Here's to fostering stronger bonds of brotherhood and community service through better connection and information sharing.

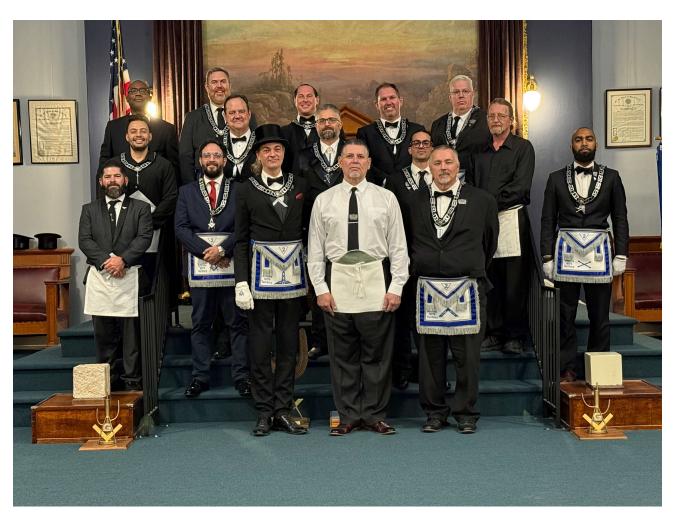
Fraternally, Arizona Lodge No. 2 F. & A.M.

# What's happened at Arizona Lodge N°. 2 F. & A. M. Last Month?

In August, Arizona No. 2 initiated two Entered Apprentice Masons. Mr. Tommy Collins on August 19th and Mr. Christopher Donald Johnson on August 26th.



Bro. Tommy Collins, 8/19/25



Bro. Christopher Donald Johnson, 8/26/25

#### Wisdom from the East

#### ...On becoming

Americans love their freedom. Freedom of Speech. Freedom to Gather. Freedom to Move about. Free, Free, Free. In the midst of all that Freedom, Americans are now finding themselves more alone. In 1940, only 7% of US households consisted of 1 person, by 2020 this number had risen to 27.6%. In large cities, this sometimes reaches 45%.

Somehow, the idea of being Free in America has become synonymous with being free of responsibility to other people. It has become a thing at odds with the idea of "joining" something bigger than oneself. Membership in fraternal organizations like ours is down, membership in churches is declining. Even marriage rates have declined from 72% in the 1960's to about 50% in recent years.

In the midst of all this loneliness, some of us find ourselves searching for something more. And that search brings us to Freemasonry. At the beginning of our Masonic journey, our thoughts often turn to the "Secrets" we might learn. As we progress, we look forward to the lessons that will teach us ancient wisdom. And when we become Master Masons, we are charged to act and behave in a certain manner.

While all of this might feel like a singular journey, becoming a Freemason is far from an individual affair. Upon entering the craft, we take a pledge of fidelity. This pledge emphasizes not only a responsibility to our brethren, but also to our fellow man as we are "taught to regard the whole human species as one family" and to "Aid, support and protect each other".

These sentiments highlight our promise to be responsible for one another. As we pass on, we are admonished to "live in Unity with our brethren, at peace with all mankind", teaching us to subdue our own passions and to pursue harmony. In order to pursue these noble goals, we must find humility. We must be willing to forego our own individuality and become a part of the "hive".

And finally, when we are raised as a Master Mason - we take an oath "to stand to and abide by all the laws, rules and regulations of Freemasonry". We are acknowledging that we are guided by a system and set of rules, and we freely submit ourselves to this peculiar form of government.

By all these things, we acknowledge that our journey, this rite of passage, is one of "becoming" a part of something. We never say we are "in" freemasonry, but we say that we have "become a Freemason". By doing this, we freely offer ourselves to be servants of the great architect of the Universe. This is the true journey of Freemasonry...one of becoming.

Bo Buchanan, Master

#### Strength from the West

Brothers,

I humbly submit a poem by The Shadow.

Tuck me away
Though you will
Present polished stones
Before the guild

I sleep with you at night From west to east The season is mine

Forty days
Tempted still
Trampled under foot
The dragon yields

Kevin Prier, Senior Warden

#### **Beauty from the South**

#### Returning to Work After Summer Break

As summer fades and the rhythm of labor resumes, the return to work is more than a seasonal shift—it is a symbolic journey, echoing the Masonic path of self-improvement and duty.

For the Mason, rest is not idleness but a time for reflection, renewal, and preparation. Now, as the working tools are once again taken in hand, we are reminded of our obligations—not just to our professions, but to our families, communities, and the Craft itself.

Like the operative Mason returning to the quarry, we step back into our roles with purpose and integrity. The square reminds us to act justly, the level to treat all with equality, and the plumb to walk uprightly before all men. Each project, meeting, or task becomes an opportunity to build not just worldly success, but also a temple within—crafted with virtue, wisdom, and perseverance.

Re-engaging with our work is not merely a return to routine—it is a chance to recommit to our principles. Let the end of summer mark not the loss of leisure, but the renewal of labor that dignifies the soul. In true Masonic spirit, we labor to learn, to serve, and to build—always on the level.

Respectfully,

Cory Whalin, Junior Warden

# What's Happening This Month in Arizona No 2. F. & A. M.?

To view our full calendar, click <u>here</u> or check out our <u>Facebook page</u>.

#### September 2025

Tuesday, September 2

• 6:00 PM: AZ2 Stated Meeting

Tuesday, September 9

• 6:00 PM: 1st Degree

Sunday, September 14

• 3:00 PM: Arizona Lodge No. 2 - Degree Practice

Tuesday, September 16

• 6:00 PM: 2nd Degree - Military Degree

Tuesday, September 23

• 6:00 PM: Education Night - Learning to use AI

Sunday, September 28

• 3:00 PM: Arizona Lodge No. 2 - Degree Practice

Tuesday, September 30

• 6:00 PM: Social Night

#### October 2025

Monday, October 6

• 6:30 PM: AZ #2 Trustees Meeting

## Pay Dues

Buy a Brick

### Lodge Calendar





If there's an event, a thought, or wages to be paid, please contact Bro. Ryan by clicking <u>here</u>.