



Hunter's Paradise Lodge #85



JANUARY 2024

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Message from Worshipful Master - Gary Dates



Happy New Year Hunter's Paradise, it is 2024! Our new officers are settling into their respective

places and we have been practicing for the two third degrees for the month of January. We have several brothers that are working on their proficiencies to sit in the South. We have a few activities coming up like the DeMolay officer install on the 13th of this month. We will be visiting lodges and having some out of lodge educations. The last one put on by WB Bill and Brother Austin was both educational and thought provoking. Everyone has been stepping up their game, keep up the good work.

Would anyone be interested in having a get together with no ritual involved? A cook out back of the lodge, bowling, cigar night, pot luck, carnival or meet after lodge for a drink?

Here is what happened this month:

- 1/8 third degree for George M
- 1/13 DeMolay officer install
- 1/15 third degree for John L
- 1/22 Stated Meeting for January and Great Meal was provided by JW
- 1/29 York Rite Mark Master Degree at lodge

Thank you for everything you guys do make this lodge a place to call home.

Gary Dates WM

Our Mailing Address
 Hunters Paradise Lodge No. 85
 P.O. Box 1545
 Mesa, AZ 85211-1545

Upcoming Planned Activities

- Jan 29th – 6:30 pm** – York Rite Mark Master Degree at lodge
- Feb 5 – 6:30 pm** – Officer meeting
- Feb 12th – 6:30 pm** Practice 3rd Degree
- Feb 19th – 6:30 pm** 3rd Degree
- Feb 26th – 7 pm** Stated Meeting

The Master will update via email)

The 2024 Monthly Meeting Plan

- 1st Monday** - Officers meeting (ZOOM)
- 2nd Monday** - Ritual practice meeting
- 3rd Monday** - Degree special meeting, if no degree, then the Master will advise as to the activity to be done.
- 4th Monday** - Stated meeting
- 5th Monday** - If it exists - NO meetings



From the Secretary's Desk... By William Enloe, PM



With a New Year, we say goodbye to old promises and hello to new ones.

At the time the clock strikes midnight changing the ticker the new year, we make promises. We promise to be a better grandfather, father, husband, son, or brother. We make promises to eat better, workout more, or live healthier. We make promises to be better employees and/or better citizens. All of these are great decisions one can make in one's lives, but the question we must ask ourselves is how we can keep these promises and not just attempt to start a resolution then forget about it on January 2nd.

The Masonic Lodge and many of the Appendant/Concordant bodies are here for improving our lives. So, how can our lives improve in Masonry and in general if we do not practice the lessons when we leave our meeting? I feel we truly cannot improve ourselves if we don't make a daily attempt to remember what we are taught and share those lessons with the world by living them.

As an example, you overhear a conversation two teenagers are having about politics, society, or some other topic then you insert yourself into their conversation explaining to them how their opinion is wrong in comparison to yours. This moves into a heated debate about two differing opinions that gains no improvement

for either party. This is not a lesson of toleration nor mentoring, rather it is a lesson on how to not behave.

I learned a lesson in DeMolay many years ago where I made a promise to allow others to have a right to their beliefs and to not judge them for their beliefs. I feel by allowing myself to hear and be empathetic to other's viewpoints I may learn more about them and understand why they believe what they do. I don't necessarily feel this means I need to change my viewpoints, but it does mean that I can relate to others better and not be as quick to engage in an angry discussion. I truly feel that the world can use more toleration and understanding and we as Masons can start that trend.

We learn to meet on the level, act by the plumb and part on the square. So, why would we only do this at the close of our Lodge toward only our brothers. The whole world could benefit by us carrying out these lessons outside the Lodge and thereby showing the world that we are better men so, let's all work to live better and improve this world by Masonry.

Secretary

Bill Enloe PM

Hunter's Paradise #85 Lodge Officers

--- Elected ---

Worshipful Master

Gary F. Dates, Jr.
520-568-6959

Senior Warden

Earl Gould
716-800-7658

Junior Warden

Braden Gaines
719-231-1433

Treasurer

Leo R. Balthazor
602-740-5635

Secretary

Bill Enloe, PM
480-861-2440

---- Appointed ----

Senior Deacon

Brian Conner

Junior Deacon

Phillip Lopez

Senior Steward

Austin Nisbet

Junior Steward

Allen Nichols

Marshal

Christopher Guenther

Tyler

David Lowery PM

Chaplain

Richard Lange, Jr

---- Trustees ----

James Jennings
Keith Seplak
Jim Thomas

-Trial Commissioners-

Scott Garzuzi
Leo Balthazor
Jim Thomas
Jim Leppert
Bruce Bouldin



On the Level... Senior Warden, Earl Gould



Greetings from the West:

I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season and I wish everyone a safe and healthy New Year. I am excited to assist the WM as he continues to improve upon the initiatives he established last year and move the lodge forward as we continue to grow the charitable service and works which will make our lodge stronger. We hope to improve our attendance, not only at stated meetings but also during degrees, it would be great to see some of our brothers return to lodge and participate in some of the events we have planned this year.

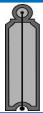
As the SW for Hunters, I am looking forward to improving upon my ritual work, working on my lectures and doing the best I can in representing HP. I also look forward to the Grand communication this year and the work which needs to be done towards obtaining the Master Architects

award. I also plan on reading more masonic literature. Being a Mason is more than attending meetings. How do we improve upon ourselves, make ourselves better husbands, fathers, friends and neighbors? We do this through the helping and caring for others and by being involved in our community. This year we will be improving upon our adopt a school initiative established by our WM, continuing our support to the Salvation Army at Christmas time with our volunteering Bell Ringing, and Feed my starving children. We need you to help, in the past we have had a difficult time trying to get enough brothers to make the event successful. Please, if you can, consider doing or attending one of these community service events in this upcoming Masonic year. Again, without you we are not whole.

I look forward to see you in lodge this year!

Yours in the faith!

Earl Gould
Senior Warden 2023



The Plumb Line Junior Warden, Braden Ganes



Greetings from the South:

First of all, I hope this finds everyone in good spirits and I hope the holidays were pleasant. Coming into a New Year there is always the saying of, New year, new you, new goals. The start of a new year is a time for reflection on the past year. A look at accomplishment and places for improvement not only in our personal life but in our masonic life as well. Maybe that means taking on a new part or wanting to accomplish a different goal. In the new year I would like to travel more. I feel like that is one area that I

haven't been able to do much, but wanting to meet more brothers across the state is one goal that I have for the year.

In order to accomplish this goal every month of the year I want to go to a different lodge around the state. In masonry our goal is to make good men better and a new year is opportunity to grow not only as an individual but as brotherhood as whole. Increase our knowledge of the craft and maybe relearn some valuable lessons we have lost during our travels.

Braden Ganes
Junior Warden



The York Rite in Arizona By William Enloe, PM

Continuing on in the discussion of the York Rite, we are directed to the Most Excellent Master.

This degree focuses on the completion of King Solomon's temple using Masonic History and information contained in the Old Testament. We are one step closer to completing the Royal Arch Degrees, but still continue to search for further

light. This degree exemplifies that only the meritorious and praiseworthy can advance toward perfection. Just like in life, we must strive to do good and to be better.

As always, please reach out to the Secretary if you would like to learn more about the York Rite Bodies and/or for a petition to join these extended Masonic degrees.



The Order of DeMolay in Arizona By William Enloe, PM

The Order of DeMolay is a Masonic Youth Organization for young men between the ages of 12 - 21. It is an organization that focuses around building strong citizens who love and respect God as well as their fellow citizen.

The Order of DeMolay accomplishes this by focusing on the 7 precepts of the organization:

- ◆ **Filial Love** - Love of Parents,
- ◆ **Reverence of Sacred things** - belief in a supreme being,
- ◆ **Courtesy** - Consideration towards others,
- ◆ **Comradeship** - loyalty to friends and loved ones,
- ◆ **Fidelity** - Faithfulness to obligations, friends, and family,
- ◆ **Cleanness** - Keeping one's mind and thought pure, and
- ◆ **Patriotism** - love of country.

The organization started in 1919, by a Mason named Frank Sherman Land, who helped a young man in need of a father figure. This young man and 8 others formed a baseball team that would grow into an organization that would become The International Order of DeMolay.

Jacques DeMolay was the last Grand Master of the Knight Templar and was burned at the stake for not betraying his brothers and order. Frank Land and the 9 original members felt that he was the perfect martyr focus the teachings of this organization.

If you know a young man from the ages of 12 - 21 that would like to know more about the Order of DeMolay, please reach out to the lodge secretary and we'll get you connected to one of the DeMolay Chapter's Chairmen to begin their journey.