



# Hunter's Paradise Lodge #85

**Taking Good Men - Making Them Better**



*Taking Good Men - Making Them Better*



## Message from Worshipful Master - Earl Gould



Brothers:

I cannot believe we are already entering March. Since my first started meeting in November, you all have been so helpful and supportive to myself and the lodge. We have accomplished a lot. We have continued with the outreach at Sojourner center that WB Gary implemented.

We have visited Chandler lodge in January for the Masonic youth installation, in December we rang the Bell for the Salvation Army, in February we conducted a lodge visit to Thunderbird lodge in Chandler, we have held a first degree (in December), and second degree (February) and by the time of this publication, we will have conducted an official visit to Case Grande lodge as well as conducted another Second degree.

All of this would not be possible

without you all participating and stepping up. We have much more planned, we would like to do another event this spring with Sojourner center, have a lodge team get together at Feed My Starving Children and of course more degrees.

I just want you all to know how much I recognize your efforts and how proud I am to be a part of Hunters Paradise. I believe we set ourselves apart from other lodges because we have a special relationship with the El Zaribah shrine. We understand more than most that we can impact the lives of others by just being kind and caring in the world we live in.

As we move forward this year, I have set a personnel goal for myself. Every time I take the gavel I want to improve, slow my pace, speak clear and get as close to verbatim on the ritual, as well as reflect on the true meaning and

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### MARCH 2025



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

### Upcoming Planned Activities

- 3/3 – Zoom Officer 6:30pm
- 3/10 - 2nd degree practice 6:30pm
- 3/17 – 2nd degree for Thomas 6:30pm
- 3/24 – Stated Meeting 7pm
- 3/31 – NO meeting unless something is called by the Master

(Master's updates via email)

### The 2025 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



Hello Brothers,  
Our officer line has always worked hard to ensure the security of the Lodge.

Some may ask, how do we know these decisions are in the best interest of the Lodge. Well, honestly it is usually from the direct feedback that they may get from an active member of the Lodge. This means that if we are not completing the charity event, social activity, or fundraiser you would want to participate in then it might be because we haven't heard from you. Please don't think that this means you drop the idea on a table and the officers blindly perform that task to your expectation. It should mean that you will actively add to the value of that activity for the betterment of our Lodge and for the improvement of our institution.

My philosophy has always been that if you have passion for something

then you shouldn't rely on others to feel that passion. The best example of this is when WB Gary Dates wanted to provide support for a women's shelter and when we were given an opportunity to support the Shelter near the Lodge we gave a check and then we added a Santa Visit and evening of joy and goodwill for the kids of the shelter. His passion became our activity of kindness and giving back to the community. Those who were able to help found out why it was a passion of his and learned that giving to others is the best way to gain satisfaction in oneself.

Your passion can be shared with others, but please don't think it is something others will share until you finds ways for others to experience why you have that passion. Feed that passion and share it with others because it is what our fraternity is all about.

Bill Enloe  
Secretary



## On the Level...

### Senior Warden, Braden Gaines



Hello Brothers,  
First, congratulations to Brother Sam Avila who just received his second degree. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone for our next second degree in March for Brother Thomas Hopper. Just a reminder that for our newer brothers, please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have or any help that is needed. We are an family that thrives off making good

men better. One thing I have enjoyed this new year is all the traveling. Lodge visitations are a great way to meet brothers and find new traditions that other lodges do. The next visit to Casa Grand is sure to be a great one. Lastly dinner April's stated meeting on the 24th will be tacos and side.

Fraternally,  
Braden Gaines,  
Senior Warden

### Hunter's Paradise #85 Lodge Officers

--- Elected ---  
**Worshipful Master**

Earl Gould  
716-800-7658

**Senior Warden**  
Braden Gaines  
719-231-1433

**Junior Warden**  
Brian Conner  
719-231-1433

**Treasurer**  
Leo R. Balthazor  
602-740-5635

**Secretary**  
Bill Enloe, PM  
480-861-2440

---- Appointed ----

**Senior Deacon**  
Felix Cwynar IV

**Junior Deacon**  
James Miller

**Senior Steward**  
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**Junior Steward**  
Shawn Strohman

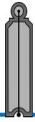
**Marshal**  
Christopher Guenther

**Tyler**  
James Hoover PM

**Chaplain**  
Darrell Mandrell PM

--- Trustees ---  
James Jennings  
Keith Seplak  
Gary Dates, Jr PM

-Trial Commissioners-  
George Mather PM  
Leo Balthazor  
James Miller  
Jim Leppert  
Bruce Bouldin



## The Plumb Line... Junior Warden, Brian Conner



Greeting from the south.

I was very lucky to have the opportunity to come from a masonic family and became a member of the Order of DeMolay as a young man. For those who do not know or are unfamiliar with DeMolay it is the masonic organization for young men to learn about life skills, family values and many more things. I joined Glendale chapter inside Glendale Lodge as soon as I could at the age of 13 and poured my heart into it while my sisters were active in Bethel #19 of the girls' organization of Jobs Daughters. As I look back now as a Master Mason, I appreciate more of what I was actually learning at the time. No 13-year-old is looking for a place to go and learn things but that is exactly what I did.

I joined DeMolay to have fun, go too "lock-ins" and of course meet the girls but what it did for me was so much more than I expected. I found that I loved ritual and learning how to repeat it with certain inflections and delivery. I just didn't realize that it was learning. The ability to memorize things, terms and verbiage long term has helped me throughout my life in both educational terms as well as in my business. School came easy as I just studied like I was trying to learn the "flower talk" or the "ceremony of light". In my business life I started leading people at a young age and remember being worried about my first big meeting. When I "crushed" it I remember coming home that night and asking myself how I was able to do it? I racked my brain as I had never taken any kind of public speaking course but then my time as international committee chair in DeMolay crossed my mind. I stood in front of other young men looking for information and

discussion and that taught me how to not only speak in public but also allow the group to feel as though they were involved.

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I thought that I could never repay DeMolay for the man they helped me grow in to but know I know I was wrong. I can help by paying back the time and effort that the masons gave me as advisors and friends when I was looking for advice. Now don't get me wrong, as state master counselor I was able to see behind the curtain and the business side of the organization and I am not just flowing poetic. Each organization has some things that it needs to continue to work on and improve. I think we are all familiar with that.

DeMolay allowed me the chance to learn and grow without me knowing because I was having so much fun. That is the key and I am a better man than I would have been without it. That being said, DeMolay doesn't run on its own. As I alluded to earlier in this article it is a "masonic sponsored" youth group. Without brother masons, DeMolay and for that matter Jobs Daughters and Rainbow for Girls could never exist. I know we all have things that we are doing and life keeps us busy but I also know firsthand, that without the masons support at the Glendale Lodge I would not have been able to achieve what I have today. For that and the ability for them to keep working with us through the unapologetic assumption of youth where I just thought people would always help me, I am very grateful and now excited to know how I can be part of the team helping our youth.

From the South

Brian Conner, Junior Warden

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what it means to me. This all takes time and a little effort.

I love the fact we have members in the lodge who want to be part of the degrees. Taking an active hand in bring a good man into the organization to make our lodge and craft stronger. There are many parts of a degree where someone can help without being in an officer position, and the more people we have who do it the bigger the cadre we have to chose from and we get away from tasking the same individuals for

the same part over and over.

I look forward to the upcoming months, and with your continued support we will move forward and continue to excel at our mission of giving back and making good men better.

Proud to be a brother with every one of you,

Earl



## A TRIP TO MAINE

David Daehnke, Hawthorne Fortitude Lodge No. 200 F.& A.M.  
Ramsey, New Jersey

Every year we head up to The Forks, Maine (when you hit the Maine border from New Jersey, you're halfway there) to do whitewater rafting and to get away from it all. It is truly God's country.

My son had a pen pal in Maine, and my wife and him decided to meet him and his mother at Old Fort Henry in Augusta. They drove around Augusta for 1/2 hour (not including the two hour trip to Augusta from the camp) trying to find the fort with no luck. My wife stopped in at the City Hall, where they couldn't explain how to get there.

As she walked to the car, a gentleman walked up and said she looked a little distraught, and if he could be of help. She explained the situation, and

he knew the fort's location. He told my wife to follow his car and he would take them there.

The funny thing was the fort was about twelve blocks away from city hall! He pulled into the parking lot and my wife got out of our car to thank him for his time and being so helpful.

He said it was no problem at all, and, as he left, he said, "Tell your husband, nice license plate." Three weeks before I had received my Masonic license plate in the mail.

From that point on my wife has never had a negative thing to say about Masonry, although she questioned my joining two years previous.