

YORK RITE NEWS



ARIZONA CHAPTER NO. 1 PHOENIX COUNCIL NO. 4 PHOENIX COMMANDERY NO. 3

January 2020

Harmony or Dissent

Harmony," a word which means "in agreement, or concord." Masonically, we frequently speak of harmony. The word is present in our degrees, and considered the strength of our fraternity. We pledge the concept of Masonic harmony in all that we do. Harmony is nothing more than working together and making the best decisions as a group. Then why is dissent, backstabbing and tension even present in any masonic organizations? Because it is not appropriately managed. Conflict can lead to a place where people feel free to disagree with each other and lobby for different ideas, often resulting in the best courses of action and concepts. If you are unwilling to participate in organizational conflict, you will never accomplish anything that are important to you and the organization. Inside the walls of the lodge there is no neighborhood boss. All members are equal and have a say in how things are to be accomplished.

Clarity is a positive outcome of managed conflict. Contention is built in the darkness. When members stay silent in meeting for the hope of reducing conflict, contention and resentment builds outside of the lodge and is then brought in. Nothing says you should always agree with your brothers, masonic harmony is the process of coming to an agreement and getting the actual work done. As masons, we do not need to avoid conflict but that we should use our tools to come to a harmonious conclusion or resolution of the conflict or disagreement. Once the decision is made by the body as a whole the conflict should end.

There is a stark difference between dissent and disagreement. Disagreement unto itself produces debate and new ideas, but dissent produces animosity. People who disagree have a basis to start an adult discussion. A free society thrives on disagreement as disagreement is the lifeblood of growth. Dissension on the other hand is a cancer. People who disagree only are seeking solutions to common problems and people who create dissent are only seeking power for themselves.

In Stated Meetings there seems to be the feeling that to have harmony prevail, especially when there is a motion on the floor, one should go along with the prevailing attitude; that to go against the motion and speak up is causing trouble-

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1 John 3:16

We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

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New Mark Masters

We want to wish all the new Mark Masters a warm welcome and thank you for participating in the ritual. We hope that this important step you have taken in your journey will continue to enlighten you and pique your interest to pursue more knowledge in your masonic journey, not only with the York Rite Bodies but with the world outside. Within our worldwide fraternity covering many different and unique bodies you will find a wealth of information.

But your fellowship with other brothers is the only way to really get a thorough understanding of the craft. I have learned more in a few hours fellowshipping with the senior members of masonry than I have in countless hours of study on my own.

The Phoenix York Rite Members are a very vibrant group of men with years of masonic and life experience, each endeavoring to bring friendship, knowledge and satisfaction to its members and all other masonic brothers we encounter. We hope at the very least to see you again at one of our open functions or as our members attend the Blue Lodge and we invite you to attend the Festival in February.

Harmony or Dissent Continued

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Or taking up more time. This is entirely wrong. The harmony is respecting others ideas and teamwork once a decision has been made whether or not you were for or against it. We are not trying to squelch personal opinion. We need Brothers to be honest and contribute their thinking; "who best can work and best agree". This does not mean that one has to go along with everything that is said or done. Retain your integrity and please make your ideas known. Officers needs to emphasize this in every meeting. Just because it has always been done that way does not mean it should continue. Let us all work on being harmonious in all that we do in all of our masonic dealings, in every lodge body where we are a member and with every brother and person we come in contact with as we represent the soothing much more than ourselves.

S. Doran

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.



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The Christmas Observance

This years Christmas Observance was a major achievement , the turn out magnificent . We stopped counting at 85 as people and they continued to come in after the observance ended.

This was due to limited parking. and we are already on it for next year . We will get with the City of Phoenix to arrange parking in their structure next door and we hope to have twice the amount of people for next years event.

Santa made an appearance , and brought gifts for everyone in attendance . He met with all of the children, and even some of the adults. The prizes, face painting and other activities were a hit with all of the children who attended.

The great reward of the whole event was watching the children play throughout the building and listening to their laughter which is probably the finest sound there is.



2020 Dues were due by 12/31/19 Thank you to all of you who have paid. It is sincerely appreciated.

The New Dues Fee Schedule is as follows:

Council; \$42.00
Chapter; \$55.00
Commandery; \$53.00 and if you are not a life eye foundation member \$54.00
Eye Foundation Life Membership; 30.00 (Optional)

Total for all three Bodies \$150.00 or \$151.00

Perpetual membership

15 times the annual dues which includes per capita. \$140.00 X 15 plus 30.00 eye life until January 1st, 2020, then \$150.00 X 15 plus 30.00 eye life.

Please attempt to send in your dues no later than **November 30th** and we'll achieve **our goal** of collecting and paying our per capita in a timely manner.

You now have two ways to pay, you can remit your dues by mail, or you can pay them by credit card on line at <https://phoenixyorkrite.org/>

Have you thought about your York Rite Legacy?

For many people, it is important to them that upon their death, their estate is distributed to the family, close friends and causes that they passionately support. Having it in your will can ensure your wishes are carried out. An endowment will also allow your memory to live on.

Depending on the type of gift you make, you or your estate can enjoy certain tax advantages. For example, to lower your tax burden during your lifetime, you can create a life insurance policy with the Phoenix York Rite as the beneficiary, and claim the annual cost as a charitable donation. If you'd like to reduce your estate tax burden after your death, you can make a monetary donation in your Last Will.

Please contact Recorder Doran if you need more information on how to leave a gift to The Phoenix York Rite Bodies.



1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

Current Mark Master Degree Schedule

None pending dates at this time

If anyone you know would like to participate in a Mark Master Degree Ritual; or if anyone is willing to help the Mark Master Team by taking a part, being a member of the stage crew or helping with the costumes.

You are also welcome to just show up and support your companions as they do the work of a York Rite Mason.

Please contact Nick Rouse

602-418-1808

nick.rouse@gmail.com

Stated Meetings, and Knight Cap

Stated Meetings are always the second Monday of each month.

Our next stated meeting will be January 13, 2020 Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.–to 9:00 pm and we will be opening in Chapter; Red Jacket if you have one if not shirt and tie will be fine.

Our meeting are always followed by a social hour, the Knight cap it is free to all masons, their friends, and family members.

This is a time to get to know your brothers on a more personal level and allow your loved ones to participate.



Meeting Will Open In Chapter

Meeting Agenda

If you would like to be on the meeting agenda please contact the Secretary / Recorder Steve Doran at 602-699-6156 or by email at recorder@phoenixyorkrite.org

The agenda will be finalized by Saturday January 11th, 2020. unless it is an emergency no additional items will be placed on the agenda after that time.

Rules for being on the agenda are simple. You must be informative, respectful, and build good will while presenting your idea or making a point.



January Birthday's, Sickness and Distress Necrology

Birthdays

1. Michael Buckley
2. Ernest Campbell
3. Ed Combrink
4. Paul Dore JR.
5. Wilbur Robertson
6. Ray Tapia
7. Hamilton Zachary

The Officers and Members of the Phoenix York Rite Bodies join in wishing, all of you a Happy Birthday!!

May you Always have the strength to endure any situation and know you are appreciated by each and every one of us. God gave you the gift of life and he also gave you the gift of living well. Please use it every day of your life.

Sickness and Distress

My friends prayed for me and You restored me to health and let me live. Surely it was for my benefit.

1. Jim Rolle is in Assisted Living

Necrology

Sir Knight Raymond "Wally" Broker 12/06/2019

Contact Us

Give us a call or email us if you have questions or need more information.

Recorder Steve Doran

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For daily updates on dates times and locations of events please visit us on the web at

www.phoenixyorkrite.org

Or on Facebook

Phoenix York Rite Bodies

Please keep the Secretary / Recorder Steve Doran informed of any Sickness, Distress or Necrology.

Anyone wishing to submit an article for the newsletter may do so no later than the 25th of the previous month.

***Be on your guard,
stand firm in faith,
be courageous, be
strong.***