

# SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF&AM

September

# TRESTLEBOARD



2023

## 2023 LODGE OFFICERS

**MASTER**

**WM TYLER MCKENZIE**  
TRASHIES101@GMAIL.COM

**SENIOR WARDEN**

**BRO. DAVIN TEAGUE**  
DTEAGUE505@GMAIL.COM

**JUNIOR WARDEN**

**BRO. BURX NORROD**  
BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM

**TREASURER**

**RW TIM DONOVAN**  
TIM@TAXHELPRR.COM

**SECRETARY**

**WB BOB FINCH**  
NMLIBERTARIAN@GMAIL.COM

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**SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76**

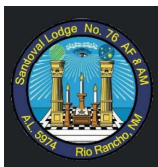
**MEETS IN REGULAR  
COMMUNICATION**

**ON THE 2ND & 4TH MONDAY  
OF EACH MONTH**

**FESTIVE BOARD AT 6:00 PM  
ON  
THE 2ND MONDAY**

**LODGE OPENS AT 7:00 PM**

**VISITORS: PLEASE RSVP TO  
BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM**



Tolerance: Posted on March 29, 2021 by Editors from the Grand Lodge of Texas AF&AM. The four cardinal masonic virtues are: Temperance, Prudence, Fortitude and Justice.

Freemasons are taught to respect their brothers and their ideas. Even if we might "know better", we are reminded to restrain ourselves and show our brothers the same respect that we would expect ourselves. When we restrain ourselves from making a negative comment and interrupting them, we follow the cardinal virtues, mainly temperance, prudence and fortitude. These principles are today more commonly known as tolerance.

Freemasonry by its very core ideals teaches tolerance to all its members. We accept all men regardless of their race, nationality, ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, sexual orientation, wealth, educational level, occupation, shoe size or hair-length. It is about the internal qualifications, such as the character of the individual, and not the external such as appearances, that determine whether or not a man is a good fit for freemasonry and would be welcome into its midst.

Tolerance oftentimes is mistaken for inaction, but that is inaccurate. Even today we see a cycle of hatred, violence and intolerance spread across the globe once more. Violence and anger are easy emotions to fall back upon as a response. However, the only way to truly and enduringly combat and overcome these negative tendencies is to actively demonstrate tolerance, and to stand up for justice and the other cardinal virtues.

Possibly at no other time have the ideas of Temperance, Prudence, Fortitude, Justice and Tolerance been so important, not just for Freemasonry, but for the entire World. As Freemasons we need to rise above all the negative emotions and set an example as we stand as upright citizens by the virtues that we hold so dear.

TOLERATION IN FREEMASONRY: Toleration, holding that every other man has the same right to his opinion and faith that we have to ours; and liberality, holding that as no human being can with certainty say, in the clash and conflict of hostile faiths and creeds, what is truth, or that he is surely in possession of it, so every one should feel that it is quite possible that another equally honest and sincere with himself, and yet holding the contrary opinion, may himself be in possession of the truth.

– Albert Pike, Morals and Dogma

*I hope everyone has a  
safe, wonderful and  
blessed rest of the year.*

*WM Tyler McKenzie*



# TRESTLEBOARD



## FROM THE WEST

Greetings Brethen,

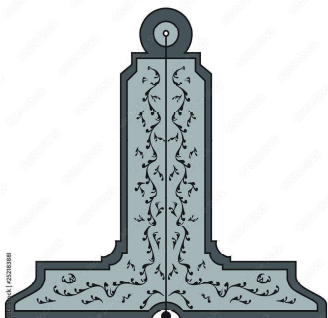
*As we move along in the year continuing the labor of the craft, I would like to especially pay wages to our Past Masters of Sandoval Lodge. The PM's are the backbone of most Lodges and ours very much so. We have an active Lodge and our PM's are a major part of it. When trouble arises, a PM usually steps in to help. When there is a problem a Past Master is there to give wise counsel. Our Lodge has been built on the foundation of these Men and we are thankful for all that you do.*

*I also would encourage those Past Masters who have not been to Lodge in a while to come on out and let the new members of Sandoval Lodge see you, meet you, and share in your Light. I also encourage all of our members when in Lodge to go and look at all of the Past Masters that are honored and hang on our wall. Learn a name and a face, and if you see them in Lodge, know and understand that they have given and sacrificed much for our Fraternity, and continue to do so.*

*Next year will be the Golden 50th year anniversary of the opening of Sandoval Lodge No. 76. And we would like to make sure we honor and tell the tale of Sandoval Lodge. We will be working on a project for the Lodge's history and need stories, and bios from any of our living Past Masters, and anything you can provide on those who have laid down their working tools. Please reach out to me or email me at [dteague505@gmail.com](mailto:dteague505@gmail.com) if you have any information or would like to help with the project.*

Thank you, Brethren.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,



*Bro. Davin*

Senior Warden, Sandoval Lodge No. 76



# TRESTLEBOARD



## FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings Brethen!

I've tried several different ways to make our Festive Boards as effective as can be, and have a system in place to provide adequate sustenance while keeping these dinners run in the black. These are not meant to be fundraisers, so as long as we're able to cover the costs of the meals and supplies, we're good to go! Here's a few things to note:

\*Festive Board will be the 1st Stated of the month commencing at 6pm, and suggestive donation is \$10, cash only. If no funds are avail, no big deal - we expect all to eat who are hungry regardless. This mindset has been in place since the beginning, and we're constantly in the positive.

\*While there is no Festive Board the 2nd Stated, I will have pizzas provided. \$5 suggested donation for this - as costs are less.

\*The JW is expected to show up before everyone else so the meal is prepared for when all show up. Also - someone needs to clean up. All of this has been possible thanks to the dedication of our Stewards, Bro. John Keel (SS), and Bro. Bill Whelchel (JS), with mention to Bro. Juan Saienni who's always helping out as he shows up early and stays late to help with the cleanup as well. THANK YOU Brethren!!

No question with 2 Stated Meetings a month, and the active Bees we have to make our Hive running efficiently as possible with our various committees, Sandoval Lodge is one of the busiest Lodges in the State, and one to be proud of - and the results are showing with our growth /G\



*Sincerely & Fraternaly,*

*Bro. Burk*

Junior Warden





# SALVE, FRATER!

Sandoval Lodge No. 76 held it's 1st Stated Communication for the month of September on 9/11, the second Monday of the month as always. We met and convened to initiate **Mr. Benjamin Cote**, who has been regulary showing up to our dinner the last several months and asking the questions to ensure Sandoval Masonic Lodge No. 76 was the right fit for him. We look forward to providing our new Brother Benjamin with the resources necessary to help him along his Masonic journey /G\

A step up night was in place due to **WM Tyler's** absence, with **Bro. Davin** taking over the East, and Bro. Burx conferring the EA Degree.







Greetings, I am **Benjamin Cote**. I'm from Southern California, near Los Angeles, but I've lived in New Mexico for the past 5 years. I grew up in a mystically minded family with a slew of masons stretching from California to Missouri & Louisiana. I wasn't a Lewis or DeMolay growing up, but I was surrounded by great men and women who inspired me to seek out a meaningful life through philosophy and praxis. I've always pursued Truth and Wisdom as high virtues in my life. I studied the great Greek philosopher Plato- and subsequent Platonists, Aristotle, Epicurus and the Stoics- alongside the Hermetic & Magickal Traditions, including modern authors, philosophical figures and esoteric groups.

The great myths and fairy tales of the ancient world, and particularly their esoteric dimensions, have always been a guiding light for me on my own hero's journey. I feel right at home in Freemasonry, as it is said to be a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. In a way, I believe I've experienced some of that truth on my own personal journey through life reading that great book of nature, exercising dialectical inquiry & self reflection, experiencing personal gnosis, and studying the great masters that have come before me. I look forward to many good years joining with my mystic brethren in the search for light, truth, love and relief wandering through the wilderness of spiritual darkness & the human condition.



*Brother Benjamin Cote*  
Entered Apprentice  
Initiated 9/11/23



# *Boons & Blessings*

We received this beautiful update from WB Fred Van Winkle earlier this month as we've not seen him in a little bit, our most recent Masonic Affiliate from a Lodge in Roswell who's now living closer to our Lodge. We wish WB Fred all the best from the GAOTU for a speedy recovery, and look forward to his further insightful engagements with us in Lodge! From WB Fred's own words:

*"The recovery from my surgery reminds me of Sisyphus and his endless pushing of the boulder up the hill.*

*As a punishment for his crimes Hades made Sisyphus roll a huge boulder endlessly up a steep hill in Tartarus. The maddening nature of the punishment was reserved for Sisyphus due to his hubristic belief that his cleverness surpassed that of Zeus himself.*

*I went in for surgery Aug 24, they discharged me from the hospital Sep 7th, Once the surgeon started he had more to repair than he thought was necessary. I had a quadruple bypass and the aneurysm repair. I was in surgery for 8 hours. Because I was under so long my organs are having to work hard to get back to normal. They thought I had a bowel infection so have been on strong antibiotics.*

*My recovery this time has been tough I was moved out of Cardiac ICU, but developed an infection in my intestines and my Heart couldn't take the medications and went crazy I'm told they moved back to ICU*

*My throat is still very sore from the breathing tube and hurts to talk. Prayer works, and I want to thank everyone for keeping me in their prayer.*

*We are staying in PHX another week then flying home.  
Fred"*

# TRESTLEBOARD



New 85" TV in the Lodge Room!

Sandoval Lodge is such an active one, with presentations on Masonic education being done both during Stated Communications and outside of it -we are now able to quickly get the media up on the wall via USB or laptop connection. Make sure you're in for a presentation to see it in action! BIG THANKS to Bro. Davin for acquiring the TV and getting it installed!! /G\





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## 2023 State Fair Parade Participation in September

Sandoval Masonic Lodge No. 76 participated once again in this year's State Fair Parade, as we had in years past, thanks to the active brethren of the Community Outreach Committee!

For information on how you can participate in these Parades or any other Community Outreach event that Sandoval Lodge participates in, reach out to:

Committee Outreach Committee Chairman **WB Eric Moses** at [moses\\_e\\_n@hotmail.com](mailto:moses_e_n@hotmail.com)

Photo courtesy of WB Eric Moses - look at all that action!



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## A 'GHOUL' EVENT TO ATTEND ON OCTOBER 7TH AT THE SHRINE!

GRAND LODGE MASONIC YOUTH COMMITTEE

**BBQ CONTEST & TRUNK OR TREAT**

BBQ Meal \$15 or \$12 W/ COSTUME KIDS UNDER 7 EAT FREE

**BALLUT ABYAD SHRINE TEMPLE**  
**SAT OCT 7TH**

<b>BBQ CONTEST</b> 4:00 - 6:00 PM	<b>TRUNK OR TREAT</b> 7:00 - 8:00 PM
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8800 JUNI RD SE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87108

Choose either one to sign up

[Form sign up](#)

*Meet New Friends, Do Cool Things*

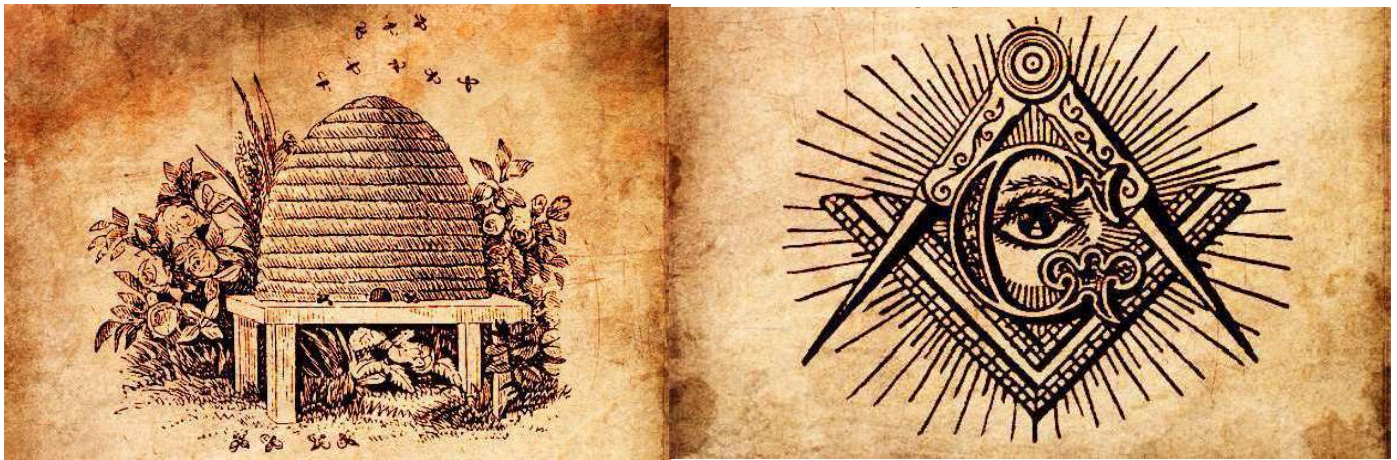
THE CHEFS OF OUR MASONIC COMMUNITY WILL BE BATTLING TO PRESENT TO YOU THEIR BEST SMOKED OR BBQ MEAT! LOTS OF SIDES AND SWEETS!!!

FOOD, FUN, COSTUMES!  
EXPECT SOME SPECIAL COSTUMED VISITORS ;)

FOR MORE INFO, OR IF YOU WANT TO JOIN THE COMPETITION OR BE PART OF THE TRUNK OR TREAT, CONTACT WB LEON ALDERETTE

LEONTALDERETTE@GMAIL.COM OR CALL / TEXT (505) 818-3847





## **Sandoval Masonic Lodge No. 76 Committees**

The Beehive is a Masonic symbol of Industry, or work. A bunch of bees gathered together to erect an edifice. Translated - they represent our busy Masonic Lodge, with active brethren! No better way to do that without some sort of efficiency, as such, Sandoval Masonic Lodge No. 76 has several committees in place to help ensure efficient communications and other activities within the Lodge.

Please note the following Committee Chairs, and reach out to them should you have a question or concern to bring before the Lodge via a Motion or otherwise.

### **Building Committee:**

Bro. Davin Teague  
dteague505@gmail.com

### **Finance / Budge Committee & Board of Directors:**

WB Dave Bachman  
kenbarbieride@hotmail.com

### **Audit Committee & Community Outreach:**

WB Eric Moses  
moses\_e\_n@hotmail.com

### **Ritual / Coaching Committee:**

WB Leon Alderette  
leontalderette@gmail.com

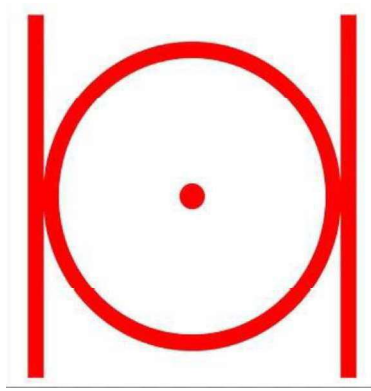
### **Investigations Committee:**

WB Larry Mikkelsen  
l.mikkelsen@yahoo.com

### **Trestleboard Committee:**

Bro. Burx Norrod  
BurxNorrod@gmail.com





## **The Transformative Tools of Freemasonry: A Personal Journey through the Entered Apprentice Degree**

**By Bro. Cesario Alvillar, Entered Apprentice**

**Submitted 9/2023**

I stand before you today to share my personal insights into the tools of Freemasonry, particularly within the context of the Entered Apprentice Degree. These tools, both symbolic and practical, have played a pivotal role in shaping my journey within the Craft and have left an indelible mark on my life.

### **The Working Tools:**

The Entered Apprentice Degree introduces us to three fundamental working tools: the Twenty-Four Inch Gauge, the Common Gavel, and the Chisel. Each of these tools embodies a distinct lesson that extends far beyond the confines of the lodge room.

1. **Twenty-Four Inch Gauge:** This tool reminds us of the importance of managing our time wisely. By dividing the day into equal parts for rest, work, and refreshment, we learn the value of balance in our lives. This principle has significantly improved my efficiency and productivity, enabling me to fulfill my Masonic duties while maintaining harmony with my personal commitments.
2. **Common Gavel:** The Common Gavel represents the act of breaking off the rough and superfluous edges of our character, just as a stonemason chips away the excess stone to reveal the perfect ashlar. Applying this lesson to my own life, I've learned the significance of self-improvement and the ongoing process of shaping my character to align with Masonic principles.
3. **Chisel:** The chisel, an instrument used to further refine the rough stone, signifies the need for education and self-cultivation. Through the pursuit of knowledge and personal growth, I have found myself better equipped to contribute positively to my community, the people I love, and to the Craft itself. Even though the Chisel is not included in the American EA degree; its symbolic meaning can be adapted to any pursuit, in or outside

masonry. I understand that the omission of the chisel in the Entered Apprentice degree is a deliberate choice to ensure that candidates are introduced to the core concepts of Freemasonry gradually and systematically.

### **Improvement in My Life:**

Embracing these tools has led to several profound improvements in my life:

1. **Self-Awareness:** The working tools of the Entered Apprentice Degree have fostered a heightened self-awareness. By continually evaluating my thoughts, actions, and motives, I have become more mindful of the impact I have on those around me.
2. **Discipline:** The Twenty-Four Inch Gauge has taught me to allocate my time thoughtfully. This practice has instilled discipline in my daily routine, enhancing my ability to efficiently manage responsibilities both within the lodge and in my personal endeavors.
3. **Personal Growth:** The Common Gavel and Chisel remind me that self-improvement is a lifelong endeavor. By embracing education, self-reflection, and moral introspection, I've witnessed remarkable personal growth and a deeper alignment with the tenets of Freemasonry.
4. **Contributions:** Armed with these tools, I've been empowered to contribute more meaningfully to my community and the Craft. Whether through charity, mentorship, or simply embodying Masonic values, I've been able to make a positive impact on the lives of others.

### **Point Within a Circle:**

Allow me to share with you a brief but profound reflection on the symbolism of the Point Within a Circle and its transformative impact on my life. This emblem, woven intricately into the fabric of Freemasonry, has become a guiding light on my journey of self-improvement and self-mastery.

The Point Within a Circle is a symbol rich with layers of meaning, each offering valuable insights into our personal growth. At its essence, the point signifies our individuality—the core of our being, our values, and our integrity. Encircled by the larger circle, it reminds us of our connection to the world around us, the unity that underpins our existence, and the profound interdependence that we share as members of the human family.

### **The lessons embedded within this symbol have manifested in my life in remarkable ways:**

**Self-Reflection and Improvement:** The Point Within a Circle has encouraged me to embark on a journey of self-discovery and improvement. By recognizing the point as my inner essence, I have become more conscious of my strengths and shortcomings. This self-awareness empowers me to continually refine myself, chiseling away at negative traits and nurturing positive ones.

**Subduing Passions:** One of the most transformative aspects of this symbol has been its teaching about the subduing of passions. Just as the circle encircles the point, I've come to understand the importance of tempering my passions and desires, channeling them in constructive directions rather than letting them control me. This practice of self-mastery has led to greater emotional balance and resilience.

**Harmony with Others:** The Point Within a Circle has profoundly impacted my relationships. By recognizing my individuality while acknowledging the unity of humanity, I've learned to appreciate the diversity of perspectives around me. This awareness fosters empathy and understanding, contributing to more harmonious interactions with others.

**Spiritual Growth:** This symbol has also encouraged me to delve into matters of spirituality. Just as the circle symbolizes eternity and unity, I've discovered a deeper connection to the divine and a broader understanding of my place in the cosmos.

**Continuous Journey:** The symbolism of the Point Within a Circle reminds me that growth is an ongoing process. It's not about reaching a destination but about constantly striving for personal betterment and deeper connections.

The profound lessons encapsulated in the Point Within a Circle have ignited a transformation within me. This emblem has guided me to value my individuality while fostering a sense of unity with others. It has taught me the significance of self-mastery, of taming passions, and of continual self-improvement. As I continue along this Masonic journey, I am deeply grateful for the wisdom contained within this symbol, which has illuminated my path towards a more balanced, purposeful, and enlightened life.

In conclusion, the tools of Freemasonry, as presented in the Entered Apprentice Degree, are not just symbolic instruments but profound guides to living a balanced, enlightened, and purposeful life. They have enriched my journey by nurturing my self-awareness, discipline, personal growth, and contributions to the greater good.

As I continue my Masonic journey, I am filled with gratitude for the wisdom encapsulated in these tools, and I eagerly look forward to the ongoing refinement of my character as I progress through the Craft.

**Thank you for allowing me to share these reflections with you today /G\**





## *Letter from the Editor*

If you've been reading the issues of our Trestleboard for any period of time, you'll see that it's changed its format a little starting with this very issue, due to WM Tyler and Ali handing the reigns of this from their very capable hands to yours truly. My first time putting a newsletter out - so am ironing out learning how to do edits - and will use a picture wrap tool starting with the next. This issue is fairly short due to it coming out in the middle of the month, however the issue in October will be packed with a calendar update of events, Festive Board menu for October, and more Light with article submissions.

You'll notice, the last 3 pages of this Trestleboard features an article by **Brother Cesario Alvillar** who gave his enlightening presentation to the Lodge at the conclusion of the EA Degree that was conferred this month. His insightful interpretation of the Working Tools of the Entered Apprentice Degree goes to show what Freemasonry is all about. He even went above and beyond by giving an extra tool - read it again if you didn't catch it!

We encourage Trestleboard article submissions in order to induce you to study some aspect of Freemasonry that you may have been wanting to do for a while - put it to paper, and submit. Not only will you better understand that topic yourself as a result, but so will the reader. It will also be a lot more meaningful if you would present your topic to the Lodge via the Masonic Education segment.

As a schedule of sorts - the Trestleboard will be sent out the 1st of every month. That means - if you've got something on your mind that you'd like to share with the readers - please let me know ASAP by forwarding me your submission with pictures if all possible, as pictures speak a thousand words. If you don't think you can put your words to paper - send me a basic summary, or give me a call to discuss, and I'll use ChatGPT to put your message together effectively.

What I would REALLY like to see as well, is a short submission from those of you haven't been to the Lodge in a while, we would like to know what's the latest and greatest, and how we may be able to assist you with your own Masonic journey /G\

Bro. Burx Norrod, Junior Warden  
*Trestleboard Committee Chair / Editor*

