

# Blythe-Needles ISSUE 24-5

**May 1, 2024**



MAY TRESTLEBOARD

# Degree Work Galour!

## Exciting Growth and Plenty of Progress in the Brotherhood

Words by **Jeff Gatchell**

Greetings everyone!

Hope you all are well as we brace for the upcoming brutal summer months. Not looking forward to it but what are ‘ya gonna do?

A big event is scheduled for Saturday, May the 11th at the Coachella Lodge #476. There will be a DOUBLE THIRD DEGREE beginning at 9am (donuts and coffee available prior to). One of the candidates will be our own Sal Beltran-Soto. The Widow’s Sons (a group of brother vets on motorcycles) will be doing the majority of the degree and the word I get is that they do an

amazing degree. A couple of our Blythe brethren, along with Coachella will be a part of the opening, but the rest will be handled by the WS group. We will be taking a van over early Saturday morning if anyone wants to ride with us. There will also be great FOOD afterward, including adult beverages if that’s what you like. This is an amazing opportunity to not only support Sal, but to witness a raising probably unlike any you have ever seen! Our May Stated Meeting (Wednesday the 1st, 7pm) will be our last until August. There WILL be a dinner prior to that starting at 6 put on by the Law Firm of “RuskandBush”. Pulled pork sandwiches,



mac & cheese, salad and dessert, all for only \$10 pp. Still the best deal in town!!! Please try and attend - family members always welcome.

Included in the agenda for that night will be time allotted for our newest EA delivering his proficiency. I have a strong feeling it will be a very good one. Come, listen and offer your support! We are excited to have brother Bush now immersed in the fraternity, but his journey still has a few more miles to cover. Stay alert for a Fellowcraft degree very soon.

Lastly, we do practice most every Tuesday and Thursday nights at 7pm, which greatly assists us in being ready

for any ritual. Check the calendar at [www.Blythe-needles473.com](http://www.Blythe-needles473.com) (that is for those of you who still receive your Trestle boards by regular mail) for those and any other scheduled activities, as there are always changes possible.

Thank you to the 2024 officers of this Lodge who continue to sustain our collective effort to keep this Lodge open and active.

Fraternally and on the Level,

Jeff Gatchell

# A Friend and Brother

**THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF MASONIC FRIENDSHIPS IS ENSHRINED IN THE INITIATION.**

Words by **Stuart Ryan**

From the West,  
Over the last several months we have been busy working with candidates to advance and help build the lodge. Congratulations to Zachary Bush in receiving the first degree, brother Sal Beltran has successfully passed his second-degree work, and will be raised on May 11 to the sublime degree. This degree will be a double third degree which the widow son's lodge #869 will perform the degree. I call upon all Blythe brothers to attend this degree in Coachella lodge. After the degree a fraternal BBQ will be had. Bring your spouse, partner and friends. With Lodges closing around the state we are struggling to fill chairs. Don't let this lodge go the way of many others. Be proud and show your support not only financial but physical is needed. Some education on freemasonry. The Formation of Freemasonry in the United States: A Historical Journey Introduction: Freemasonry, a secretive fraternal organization, has played a significant role in shaping American history and culture. The roots of Freemasonry in the United States stretch back to the early days of European colonization. This article explores the



formation of Freemasonry in the United States, tracing its evolution from its European origins to its establishment as a prominent institution in American society. **European Origins:** Freemasonry is believed to have originated from medieval stonemason guilds in Europe during the late Middle Ages. These guilds, which comprised skilled craftsmen involved in the construction of cathedrals and other monumental structures, formed the basis of early Masonic organizations. Over time, the practices and rituals of these guilds evolved into what is now known as Freemasonry. **Arrival in America:** Freemasonry was introduced to the American colonies in the early 18th century, primarily by European immigrants, particularly from England and Scotland. The first documented Masonic lodge in America, the St. Johns Lodge No. 1, was established in Philadelphia in 1730. From there, Freemasonry spread rapidly throughout the colonies, with lodges being formed in various cities and towns. **Influence and Expansion:** During the colonial period, Freemasonry played a crucial role in the social and political life of the American colonies. Many of the founding fathers, including George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Paul Revere, were prominent Freemasons. Freemasonry's emphasis on fraternity, morality, and mutual aid resonated with the ideals of the Enlightenment and the spirit of the American Revolution. As the United States gained independence and established itself as a nation, Freemasonry continued to expand and exert influence. Masonic lodges became centers of community life, providing support to members and engaging in charitable activities. Freemasonry also played a significant role in the development of American civic institutions, with many lodges serving as meeting places for local government and civic organizations. **Rituals and Traditions:** Central to Freemasonry are its rituals, symbols, and traditions, which are passed down through generations of members. The rituals of Freemasonry are shrouded in secrecy and are intended to impart moral and philosophical lessons to initiates. The most iconic symbol of Freemasonry is the square and compasses, which represent moral rectitude and the importance of self-control and moderation. **Modern Era:** In the modern era, Freemasonry remains a vibrant and active institution in the United States, with thousands of lodges and millions of members across the country. While its influence may have waned compared to earlier periods, Freemasonry continues to uphold its traditions and values, providing a sense of fraternity and community to its members. **Conclusion:** The formation of Freemasonry in the United States is a testament to the enduring legacy of this ancient institution. From its humble beginnings in medieval Europe to its

# May Calendar

28	29	30	1 ● 7pm Stated Meeting	2	3	4
5	● 4pm Yucca Valley Stated Meeting	● 7pm Candidates Coach Night	8	● 7pm Candidates Coach Night	10	● 8am Double 3rd Degree/Barbecue
12	13	14	● 7pm Monthly OSI	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1

## Join Us!

<http://blythe-needles473.com/events>