



# Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM

March 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 2

## From the Deputy Grand Master

### A FEW THOUGHTS ON RETENTION

Among the more significant issue we need to address in Colorado Masonry is retention of our members. Over the last 20 years, nearly 45% of the men who petitioned for the degrees of masonry failed to progress to Master Mason. In the last 5 years, 55% of the men who petitioned a lodge did not make it to master mason. We're bring men in, but we are not keeping them. So, what can we do to improve these numbers. There's no silver bullet, but there are several things we can do to improve our retention.

First, we need to set expectations with our candidates about masonry is about. When doing the interviews, we need to let them know that they will be required to memorize some of our lessons, and we need to explain why (and believe) that is important. We need to explain to them that we want and need them to be involved in the lodge. We need to explain to them the importance of our lessons and how it can impact the quality of their own lives. In a recent presentation at the conference of Grand Masters, the Masonic Renewal Association revealed that most men seeking to join masonry are looking for three things: companionship, self-improvement, and charity. That sounds a lot like the Brotherly love, relief and truth that masonry promises to our new entered apprentices. We offer what these men are looking for.



Right Worshipful Dean A. McConnell

When inviting them to the lodge, we need to make sure that the lodge is in good repair and well maintained. The initial impression they have of the lodge will be important in determining whether they will want to spend time there. We also need to learn about them as they are learning about us. Before



## No Place in Masonry (cont.)

handing them a petition, the lodge brethren should truly know who they are. I urge you to have new candidates come to dinner with your lodge or other open events, to learn what your lodge and lodge members are like and your lodge members get a real chance to get to know the candidate. Realistically, it will take at least several months to really get to know the candidate. We need to make sure that not only are they the right fit for masonry, but that we are a good fit for them. If not, perhaps another lodge will be the fit.

Equally, if not more, important, we need to perform our ritual and degree work with mastery and meaning. Every word in our rituals has deep meaning for those seeking it, but if the work is done poorly and without practice, it leaves the candidate with a poor impression about the importance of our lessons and consequently of masonry. If we do not put the effort in to breathing life into our ritual, why would a new candidate or EA put in the effort to try to learn the meaning. If it's not important to us, it will not be important to them.

Once initiated, we need to deliver on the promises we make. In terms of brotherly love, we need to make sure our members feel welcome and involved. Appoint a mentor to meet them at the meeting, maybe even share a ride to the meeting, be there for any questions, and to help walk them through the ritual and masonic protocols. Similarly, a lodge that is in discord or when members are openly disruptive and unfriendly toward each other will quickly drive away newer members. New members want to spend time in a place that is happy, welcoming, and fulfilling (and so do the older members). Bring the new members into the fold. Do not let them remain an outsider that feels excluded by existing cliques in the lodge. It's up to us to create a welcoming environment.

Next, we need to teach our newer members how to be masons and what that means. Most lodges hold "posting sessions" for EAs and sometimes FCs (why not MMs too when we can openly discuss everything). These sessions not only teach them the memorization that will be expected of them but should review the meaning of the degree and its lessons, what the symbols and working tools mean and how they can be applied in their lives on a daily basis. I would suggest having a dedicated person or team of persons who do the posting sessions with the new candidates and EAs. With experience will come expertise. The mentor should also be

## No Place in Masonry (cont.)

involved.

Get the candidate involved in the lodge. While I am not a big proponent of putting them in an officer role before, they have learned what it is to be a mason, there are many other activities that the lodge should be doing that you can involve them in. Find out what skills and interests they have and assign them to a role in the lodge that uses those skills and develops those interests. You'll never know what skills and interests they have unless you ask, keep a list and then use that information. In fact, if you haven't discussed this in lodge, I would recommend doing so with all of your members at least once a year. The education for the meeting can be as simple as asking the members to explain why they joined masonry, why they stayed in masonry, and what they would like to see the lodge do and accomplish. Does your lodge want more esoteric education, do they want to do more family-oriented activities, do the brothers want to do fun activities with or without their families? Find out what is a good lodge experience for your lodge. Follow up on that discussion with an inquiry as to what each member can bring to bear to accomplish those desires.

Many men are looking for a place to give back. What does your lodge do to help your community and contribute to charitable causes? Some of the most meaningful charity I have done in masonry has been when my lodge actually helps other people, beyond just contributing money. Helping the elderly with yard work, helping a brother who needs help with a special project, building a fence for a worthy charitable organization, or handing out turkeys at Thanksgiving to the poor are activities that I have done with my lodge that not only help the community, but provide a real sense of helping others and a sense of fulfillment in me. It also helps raise community awareness about the good masonry can do and does.

Self-improvement is an area where masonry shine more than most other organizations. Many of our newer members are looking for spiritual enlightenment. To be part of something bigger than themselves. Teach them our masonic and spiritual lessons in their posting sessions. Suggest articles and books that they should read to explore some of the deeper meanings of masonry. Teach them to know themselves first. Have one of your members or an outside speaker do a presentation on a masonic topic. Masonic speakers can be found in a variety of

## No Place in Masonry (cont.)

locations: the members of your lodge, the Colorado Grand Lodge education page on the website, your local research lodge, the Masonic Service Association website, John Nagy's YouTube channel, and books on masonic education that can be delivered in lodge, just to name a few.

The discussion here is just the tip of the iceberg. I hope you continue this discussion with your lodge, with your lodge officers and with the Grand Lodge. In the end, brethren, whether your lodge grows and flourishes, or withers and dies, is a value proposition. Your members need to find more value in being involved in the lodge and spending time with the brethren in it, than the value they perceive of sitting home watching TV or doing some other activity. However, when we deliver on providing brotherly love (companionship and involvement), relief (charity and doing good deeds), and truth (education and self-improvement), most lodges will succeed. We just need to do it.





March 1, 2025

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# Grand Lodge of Colorado, A. F. & A. M.

ORGANIZED, AUG., 2, 1861.

**David L. Reynolds**  
**Grand Master – 2024**  
1130 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

O: 719-623-5345

[grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org)

## Creation of Spanish Speaking Pilot Lodge for Colorado

**Whereas**, On February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1881, the Grand Lodge of Colorado saw that it was good for the Craft and particularly its members to create a German speaking lodge named Schiller Lodge No. 41. This charter was granted upon the condition that the work to be used should be a literal translation, as far as possible, of the ritual adopted by this Grand Lodge. Schiller Lodge was organized by brethren who speak the German language, with authority to work in the German tongue. Shiller Lodge merged over the years and has survived under the current name of Marquis de Lafayette #41 and still performs degree work in the German language ...143 years later.

**Whereas**, from 2018 to 2022 the Spanish speaking population of Colorado has increased from 11% to 19% with a statistical probability to increase even further. On investigation the Grand Lodge of Colorado has found the neighboring jurisdictions of Arizona, Nevada, and California have found value and success is creating and supporting Spanish speaking lodges.

**Therefore**, be it resolved that, as of this day, October 9, 2024, the Grand Lodge of Colorado, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (AF&AM), does hereby create a Pilot Lodge of Harmony Lodge #61 and grants them dispensation to perform Ritual work and Masonic Ceremonies in the Spanish Language. This dispensation is granted upon the condition that the work to be used should be a literal translation, as far as possible, of the ritual adopted by this Grand Lodge.

**Be it further resolved**, that this dispensation requires that all communication between Harmony Lodge 61 and the Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM and all other masonic organizations recognized by the Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM will continue to be in the English language and all filings will continue to be in the English language.

**In witness whereof**, I, Most Worshipful Brother David J. Reynolds, Grand Master of Masons in Colorado, have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Grand Lodge of Colorado to be affixed.

**Done at the Grand Lodge of Colorado, this 9th day of October 2024.**

Fraternally,

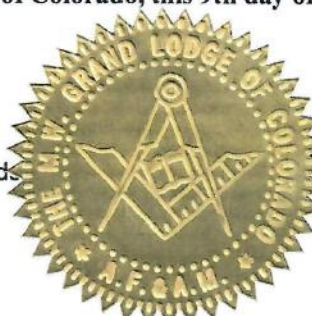


M.:W.: Brother David L. Reynolds  
Grand Master of Masons  
in Colorado

Attest:



R.:W.: Brother Scot M. Autry  
Grand Secretary,  
Grand Lodge of Colorado



## Calendar of Grand Lodge Events

To help your lodge plan your Official Visits please note that activities may change due to various issues that may arise.

### Saturday April 5, 2025

#### Official Visit at Palisade No. 125 and Fruita No. 120.

**Description:** 8am breakfast. 10am open lodges to receive Grand Master. Grand Junction Masonic Center 2400 Consistory Ct. Grand Junction, CO.

### Sunday April 20, 2025

#### 100th Anniversary Easter Sunrise Service

**Description:** Come celebrate the oldest Easter sunrise service performed by the Knights Templar Association of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Colorado. Denver Consistory. 6:30am, doors open at 5:30am. 1370 Grant Street, Denver, Colorado. See flyer in this issue.

### Saturday April 26, 2025

#### Shriners' Children's Fundraising Gala

**Description:** Come and join the brethren for a fun night to raise funds for this critical institution. Denim and Diamonds cowboy formal. DoubleTree Hotel, Grand Junction, CO. See flyer in this issue.

### Monday June 16, 2025

#### Lecture by Mason and author Chris Hodapp 33rd Degree

**Description:** Acclaimed masonic author Christopher Hodapp is coming to the Denver Consistory to lecture and sign books. Scottish Rite Masonic Center 1370 Grant Street, Denver, CO. See flyer in this issue.

### Friday July 18, 2025

#### Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus Golf Tournament

**Description:** \$180 per player. City Park Golf Course, 3181 E. 23rd Ave, Denver Colorado. Shotgun start 8am. Lunch and awards. See flyer in this issue.





**Eastern Star  
Masonic  
Retirement Campus**



**HORAN & McCONATY**  
FUNERAL SERVICE AND CREMATION

*Present a*

## **FREE Senior Resource & Health Fair Expo**

**Saturday, March 8, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**2435 S. Quebec St. • Denver CO 80231**

*For More Information:*  
**Call 303-753-2179 or Email [rosed@esmrc.com](mailto:rosed@esmrc.com)**

### *Event Resources*

- Health & Wellness
- Transition Planning
- Medicare/Medicaid
- Legal & Real Estate
- Downsize & Organize
- *and More!!*



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Opler | Campbell | Beck P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW**



**The 3rd Half  
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**FAIRWAY**



**A Place  
At Home**



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**ROOM REDEFINED**  
your space... but better.



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SERVICES



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**RESIDENT REALTY**



**IR**  
**ELIZABETH REAGAN**



**RoadMap  
for Aging**  
Education • Guidance • Experts



**Johnson  
United**  
Storage & Moving



**BlueStarRecyclers**  
Recycling to Create Local Jobs for People with disabilities

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# BLOOD DRIVE



## Eastern Star Masonic Community

**THURSDAY, MARCH 13TH**

**9AM - 1:30PM**

**RETIREMENT CAMPUS - BLOODMOBILE**



Save Lives - Donate Blood! Join us for our blood drive!  
Sign up at [donors.vitalant.org](https://donors.vitalant.org) with Blood Drive Code:  
0474 or scan the QR code to schedule. Walk-ins  
welcome, appointments recommended!

For more information visit us at [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org) or call  
877-258-4825. **Because of you, life doesn't stop.**

**vitalant** 



# APRIL 1st Don't Be Fooled SCAMS IT'S NO JOKE!

## Did you know ...

- ❖ that there are **RED FLAGS** for you to recognize a scam!
- ❖ that scams are sophisticated and always changing!
- ❖ that scammers can **FAKE** your *caller ID, voices of loved ones, photos and videos!*



## Do NOT ...

- ❖ **SEND** MONEY!
- ❖ **BUY** GIFT CARDS for payment!
- ❖ **GIVE** access to your BANK ACCOUNT or COMPUTER!



**The Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus**  
2435 S. Quebec Street ❖ in the Chapel / Multipurpose Room  
on **Tuesday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.**

Presenter **LYNN LOWE** is a Senior Resource Navigator for the City and County of Denver, City Attorney's Office. As the Senior Resource Navigator, she works with victims 60 years and older of abuse, neglect, self-neglect and financial exploitation.

Lynn has worked as a Victim Advocate for approximately 14 years, with experience as a VA for the Englewood Police Department, Denver County Court Probation and the City Attorney's Office. Lynn was a Probation Officer for 5 years on the Family Violence unit for Denver County Court Probation. She is a Colorado native and has a B.A. in psychology from the University of Northern Colorado.

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Masonic Brothers, each year, Scottish Rite assembles in the spirit of Fraternity to renew acquaintances, remember our friends, and pledge ourselves to aiding Humanity.

It becomes our duty, therefore, to honor our Brethren past as we renew our fraternal ties to our Brethren present.

This is one of the most important and moving Masonic ceremonies of each year, not only to Brothers of Scottish Rite, but to all Masons as a whole.

**This Ceremony is open to all Masons, Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Masons, and guests**

Join with us this April 2nd at 7PM and be a part of this a wonderful opportunity to experience another part of Masonry and share brotherhood while learning more about the wonders that Masonry has to offer each one of us.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ceremony begins at 7PM and we welcome you.

The Southern Colorado Consistory is located at: 1150 Panorama Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado. 80904

Contact Wise Master Chapter Rose Croix Brother Blake Simmons if you are in need of more information. [Blakester1008@gmail.com](mailto:Blakester1008@gmail.com)

## The Lion, the Duck, and the Altar: Silent symbolism in *A Rose Upon the Altar*

By WB Aaron Klostermeyer and WM Tom Adair  
*All photographs by WB Danny Tomlinson with permission*

At the request of Most Worshipful Grand Master David L. Reynolds, a special production of *A Rose Upon the Altar* was presented during the Grand Lodge of Colorado's Annual Communication events on January 24, 2025, just prior to the grand installation. In that performance, two prominent characters sported canes which were more than simple stage props - they were silent symbols of the play's central themes.

The play *A Rose Upon the Altar* tells the story of a small-town Masonic lodge in danger of losing its only potential meeting place and a wealthy man and disillusioned Mason facing a quiet personal crisis of his own. The lodge has little money but has for countless years been active in charitable support of those in need among the community. The brethren's focus on providing charity has caused some late rent payments. The wealthiest brother is much more concerned with business affairs and paying the lodge rent on time than with charitable concerns, which he sees as the role of others, more especially the church. Through the interaction of the brethren in the lodge – at times heated, contrary, and undignified, yet honest and sincere – and through important choices to take action outside of the tiled meeting, powerful transformations unfold and both crises are resolved.

Ideas represented by two important characters, Horace Bentley, the town's wealthiest citizen and strictly business minded brother, and Dr. Blair, the lodge chaplain and church pastor, are the focus of this article. Each character represents very different values at the start of the play, and in this particular presentation, each carried a symbolic cane representing those values.

### Horace Bentley - Lion Head Cane

Lions have long held a significant, yet multi-faceted symbolism - both across cultures and in the Bible. They have a dual symbolic nature that is at times threatening and destructive and at other times courageous, protective, and benevolent. They also have a long association with leadership, authority, and ruling power and the wealth and prestige that accompanies such power.

Threatening and destructive: Lions are powerful predators and naturally arouse fear due to the



## The Lion, the Duck, and the Altar (cont.)

threat their potent jaws and claws pose to unarmed humans and domesticated livestock. [A lion at rest and undisturbed can appear quite tame, but they are capable of explosive attack](#). The Bible has several references to men and animals killed by lions.

- **Courageous and Protective:** In the Bible, righteous people are said to have the courage of a lion, and God is sometimes said to attack or defend against enemies with the fierce strength of a lion. A pair of stone lions also symbolically guard the gates and entrances to countless Chinese and other Asian temples and palaces due to the protective power perceived in the lion.

**Leadership and Authority:** As a lion is known as "the king of the jungle," the military and [political might](#) of kings and rulers have been symbolized by lions for centuries; we are familiar with lions in the coats of arms from medieval Europe as one example.

- **Wealth, status, and prestige:** Drawing from its association with the leaders of state and industry, as well perhaps from the Asian custom, it was common from the Victorian era through today for grand and wealthy homes and public structures to display stone lions out front as silent guardians and symbols of prestige and clout.

Horace Bentley carries a lion-headed cane in this interpretation of the play, and during his visit to Doric lodge in Act I, we see him wielding it as a status symbol of his wealth and as an intimidating tool, pounding the ground to make his points when speaking and threatening those who stand in his way.

A wealthy, but lonely man, Bentley's use of his cane at the start of the play suggests that he is leaning on his wealth and status in a negative way, as the sole support and comfort in his life. By the end of the play, we see Bentley leave his cane behind at the altar, and through the transformation that takes place in him, the meaning of the lion has transformed from threatening to benevolent, as well.

Dr. Blair - Duck Head Cane

Ducks are not explicitly referenced in the Bible anywhere, with the possible exception as a



## The Lion, the Duck, and the Altar (cont.)

menu item at a feast of Solomon (as "choice fowl"). However, ducks carry important symbolism derived from their association with water and when included in the "birds of the air" metaphors in the sacred text.

Ducks are said to represent community, faith, hope, and the transformation of renewal or rebirth.

- **Community:** Ducks often thrive together in groups, living in harmony. We are encouraged to support and aid one another, lifting each other up in community as brethren and members of our larger Masonic family.
- **Faith:** As ducks float serenely upon the water and even dive down into the apparent unknown below the surface, we should be inspired to move gracefully through life and through uncertainty with our faith and trust in God to guide and assure us along the way.
- **Hope:** Ducks walk on land, swim and dive in water, and even fly through the air. As they are able to change their mechanics of movement to adjust to different environments, we are reminded to adapt to changing circumstances and have hope for a brighter future throughout changing times.

**Transformation/Renewal/Rebirth:** Water often represents purification, transformation, and new beginnings. As ducks masterfully dwell in water, they evoke to us the cleansing and renewing power of God's grace and spirit.

Dr. Blair uses his cane not as a status symbol, but as an actual aid and support for a slight physical ailment. The cane strengthens and comforts him physically as he goes about his daily activities, just as the principles of faith, hope, and renewal give him strength mentally and spiritually when he needs aid in moving through life's challenges and celebrating life's joys.

There are three important lessons to take away from this article:

1. The real value of ritual and symbolism is unlocked when contemplated, explored, discussed with others, and lived.



## The Lion, the Duck, and the Altar (cont.)



The silent symbolism of these canes was not called for or spelled out in the play's script. The meaning carried by these canes in the minds of the cast, which we hoped to subtly convey to the audience, arose from a combination of luck, individual contemplation, brotherly discussion, and perhaps some assistance from the Great Architect.

It began with a small character note in the play's script, stating that the character of Chaplain Dr. Blair "uses a cane." This small note led to several enjoyable conversations, meaningful coincidences, deepened personal connections, enhanced understanding of the lessons of the story, and other unexpected discoveries.

This same experience can be found in our Masonic ritual by selecting a particular symbol or word to question, contemplate it, research it, discuss it with others, relate

it to your own life, and carry it forward as a reminder to live the lessons gained through that process.

### 2. Life - and Masonry - is largely how we choose to view it and interact with it.

Both the lion and duck canes in the play had somethings in common. They each shared a common structure and could be used for the same purposes - positive and negative. It is up to the wielder of the cane to determine if it is used for supporting good or ill.

Each cane could be broken down into four pieces for easy travel. The wooden shaft unscrews into three separate parts, and the metal head separates into a fourth part.

- o The three wood pieces forming into one could symbolize the three degrees of Craft Freemasonry - and also the trinity or tripartite nature of deity.
- o The brass heads of the lion and duck can symbolize the philosophy or world view with which we "grasp" and relate to the lessons of Masonry and how we interact with and see our relationship with our Creator. Depending on our perspective, beliefs, and expectations of what is possible and appropriate for us, we will wield our canes in different ways that fit those ideas. If we improve, evolve, and reform our thoughts, then our words and actions can likewise im-



## The Lion, the Duck, and the Altar (cont.)

prove and evolve for the better, and our lives, relationships, and our legacy can improve as a result.

3. Whatever our current circumstances of regret, challenge, or difficulty, we can seek renewal by reconnecting with our Creator in prayer to begin a new direction forward starting today.

Horace Bentley was in denial of his crisis, but he heard the words of Hope from Dr. Blair who tried guiding Bentley back to the Light, to the altar where “the distressed find comfort.” In the truest display of Brotherly Love, Dr. Blair reminded Horace Bentley of the power of God’s love in his book upon the altar. Horace Bentley listened to this wise counsel even though the truth caused him shame and embarrassment.

The ever-present potential for personal transformation through forgiveness, redemption, and renewal is the most important lesson of the three presented here, and one of the most important taught by the story of *A Rose Upon the Altar*.

It’s been many years since this play has been performed in Colorado. Some may point to the fact that the play is not an official part of ritual or duty and they would be correct in that view. However, there was a reason why MWB David requested a performance of this classic tale. We see a world around us in division. Such ebbs and flows have been a persistent part of humanity to be sure and, while we as masons work to spread the cement of brotherly love and affection, we are not immune to divisions of our own.



We’ve all witnessed petty issues escalate. Some of us have been authors of such escalations, not so much out of malice for our brethren but, for our immovable anchor to an idea. Horace Bently believed he was correct in his desires, while others viewed the issue from another angle they felt was just and true. Could it be that both views were *simultaneously right and wrong*? Pondering this question, perhaps plays of this sort should have a more common viewing among the craft. Perhaps such efforts will teach us new ways to wield our tools and appreciate the endless beauty of our craft.

## The Lion, the Duck, and the Altar (cont.)

If you'd like to arrange a performance of the *Rose Upon the Altar* like the one performed at Grand Lodge on January 24, 2025, contact Tom Adair at [bromagic153@outlook.com](mailto:bromagic153@outlook.com).

### References:

Claudy, Carl H., *A Rose Upon the Altar; A Masonic Play in Two Acts and an Interlude* (1937)

"Bible Study: What Does A Lion Symbolize In The Bible?" Christian Pure. December 16, 2024. <https://christianpure.com/learn/bible-study-what-does-a-lion-symbolize-in-the-bible/>

"The Biblical Significance of Ducks: Revealing Symbolism and Spiritual Lessons." John Baptist Church.org. Accessed December 21, 2024. <https://johnbaptistchurch.org/biblical-meaning-nature/ducks>

"What Do Ducks Symbolize In The Bible?" Catholics & Bible. June 10, 2022. <https://catholicsbible.com/what-do-ducks-symbolize-in-the-bible/>





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# COMMUNITY SHRED-A-THON

**APRIL 19  
10AM - 12PM**

 **DONATIONS ACCEPTED**

## ITEMS TO BRING

- OLD CHECKS, CREDIT CARD OFFERS, MAIL, MEDICAL RECORDS, TAX FORMS, PAY STUBS & OTHER ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE SAFELY DISCARDED!

## DO NOT BRING

- NEWSPAPERS, PHONE BOOKS, MAGAZINES, PLASTIC, CARDBOARD & CATALOGS

## QUESTIONS:

**PATI SAWYER BOEX,  
FRATERNAL RELATIONS DIRECTOR  
303-753-2160**

**JULIE MESAROS  
COLORADO GRAND ASSEMBLY, IORG  
303-350-8516**

**EASTERN STAR MASONIC  
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY**

**2445 S. Quebec Street  
Denver, CO 80231**





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# 2025 Easter Sunrise Service

100<sup>th</sup> Annual and oldest in Colorado

Presented by the Knights Templar Association of the  
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Colorado

Sunday April 20, 2025 at 0630

Doors open at 0530

Denver Consistory – 1370 Grant Street

Rev. Dr. A.J. Bush, Pastor

Parking Garage available

Breakfast to follow service

Breakfast tickets available at [www.coloradokta.org](http://www.coloradokta.org) – limited and always sells out



For further information please visit [www.coloradokta.org](http://www.coloradokta.org)

Or Joe Magoffin [joe@milehighsf.com](mailto:joe@milehighsf.com) 720.371.7224

March 1, 2025

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Western Colorado Shrine Club  
PO Box 2501  
Grand Junction, CO 81502



(970) 245-2277  
ShrinersWC.org  
ShrineWC@Gmail.com

## Fundraising Gala for Shriners Hospitals for Children

Brethren,

The Western Colorado Shrine Club is hosting a fundraising gala in support of Shriner's Children's, formerly Shriners Children's Hospitals and Clinics, on Saturday, April 26th at the DoubleTree Hotel in Grand Junction, and we would like to invite you and your families to come join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and fundraising for a worthy cause.

Proceeds from our fundraising gala are for the benefit of Shriners' Children's.

The gala will start with a cocktail hour at 5:30 PM, followed by a brief program with our Keynote Speaker R.W.B. Dean McConnell, Deputy Grand Master of Masons in Colorado, then dinner. We will also have a silent auction and live music by the Dubious Brothers to dance the night away.

Tickets for the gala, for Brothers and their immediate family, are \$100 per person. You can use this [link](#) to purchase your tickets. Please do not forward this [link](#) to people outside the fraternity.

[www.eventbrite.com/e/1231576090239/?discount=BlueLodgeMason](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/1231576090239/?discount=BlueLodgeMason)

For more information about the Gala or to make a donation to Shriners' Children's go to our website [www.ShrinersWC.org/Gala](http://www.ShrinersWC.org/Gala). If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me. My contact information is below.

Fraternally,

*Gregory T. Foster*

Gregory Foster  
President | Western Colorado Shrine Club  
Cell: (505) 350-0197  
E-Mail: [ShrinersWC@gmail.com](mailto:ShrinersWC@gmail.com)



Proceeds go to Shriner's Children's Hospitals and Clinics

# Shriners' Children's Fundraising Gala



**Saturday, April 26th**  
**DoubleTree Hotel, Grand Junction**

**LIVE MUSIC BY THE DUBIOUS BROTHERS**

- Dancing
  - Drinks
  - Food
  - Silent Auction
- 5:30 - Cocktail Hour**  
**6:30 - Program**  
**7:00 - Dinner**

**Theme: Denim & Diamonds / Cowboy Formal**

**Scan the QR Code to  
make a donation or  
buy tickets to the Gala**



**[www.ShrinersWC.org](http://www.ShrinersWC.org) | [ShrinersWC@Gmail.com](mailto:ShrinersWC@Gmail.com) | (970) 245-2277**



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# SCOTTISH RITE SPRING REUNION

**Denver Consistory**  
**May 8, 9, 10, 2025**

AN OPPORTUNITY TO REUNITE WITH YOUR BROTHERS  
REVISIT THE TEACHINGS



**Preparation**



**Organization**

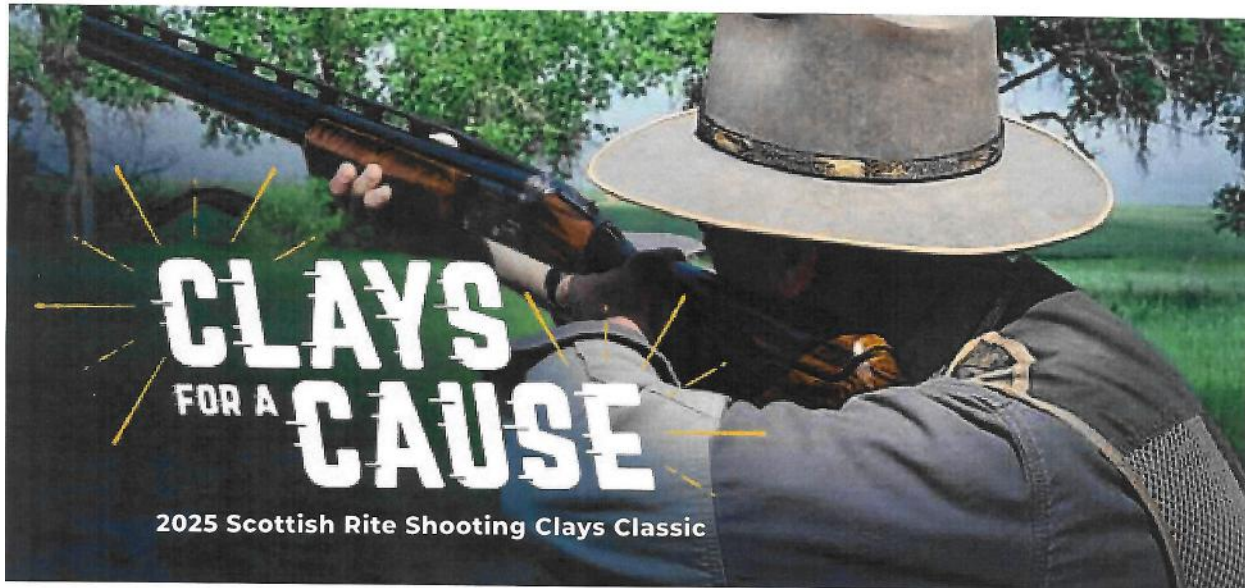


**Having Fun**

**First Line Signer Incentive Program:** **THREE** petitions in a calendar year will pay your membership for a year. If you are a life member it entitles you to receive stated meeting dinners for a year.



**Denver Consistory 1370 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203**  
**denverconsistory@denverconsistory.org**  
**303-861-4261**



Registration is now open for the 4th annual Scottish Rite Sporting Clays Classic on  
**May 23rd, 2025**

Join us for a fun time and a great cause in support of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and benefiting



at **Colorado Clays**  
13600 Lanewood St, Brighton, CO 80603

**Door Prizes, Meal, Awards and More!!**



Scan the QR code or  
Register online at:

**[www.scottishriteclays.com](http://www.scottishriteclays.com)**

**Single Shooter - \$150**  
**Team of 4 - \$600**

**Sponsorship opportunities include:**

Ammunition Sponsor - \$4,000  
Dinner Sponsor - \$1,500  
Station Sponsors - \$250  
Golf Cart Sponsor - \$160

**Premium Sponsorship Packages**

Platinum - \$10,000  
includes 12 shooters

Gold - \$5,000  
includes 8 shooters

Silver - \$2,500  
includes 4 shooters

**Trophies for**

1st Place- 2nd Place - 3rd Place  
Best Woman - Best Team - Worst Shot



March 1, 2025

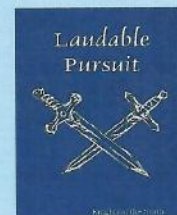
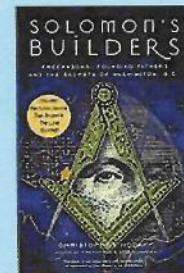
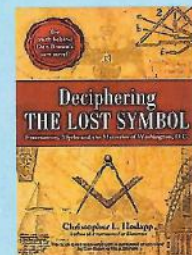
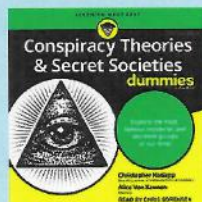
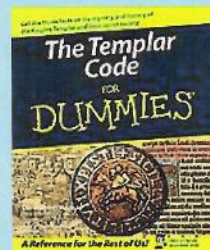
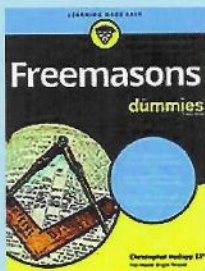
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**June 16, 2025, 7PM  
@ Denver Consistory**

**Save the Date...and Spread the Word!**

**The Consistory Education & Entertainment Group Presents:**

**Christopher Hodapp, 33°**



**Acclaimed Masonic author, editor, blogger and  
commentator will speak (topic TBD) and sign books!**

**All Masons and Their Guests Are Welcome!**

**Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
1370 Grant St, Denver**

**Dinner Reservations (6PM) @ <https://centennial-lodge-of-perfection.square.site/>**



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Sponsored by:

**b** benchmark  
investment  
advisors

**PINKARD**  
CONSTRUCTION

# EASTERN STAR MASONIC RETIREMENT CAMPUS GOLF TOURNAMENT 2025

Eastern Star  
Masonic  
Retirement Campus



**July 18**  
FRIDAY | 2025

**\$180** | **\$720**  
One Player | Foursome

## CITY PARK GOLF COURSE

📍 3181 E 23rd Ave, Denver, CO 80205

Registration 7am • Driving Range • Breakfast Burritos

Putting Contest 7:30am • Shot Gun Start 8am

Lunch and Awards

*Sponsorship opportunities are available  
reach out to Pati Sawyer Boex*

**Pati**  
📞 303-753-2160

[patis@esmrc.com](mailto:patis@esmrc.com)

[www.golf.esmrc.com](http://www.golf.esmrc.com)





**Camp is  
FREE!**

# COLORADO MASONIC Band Camp!



**This five-day band camp is held June 30 to July 4, 2025** on the University of Northern Colorado campus in Greeley, Colorado. The camp is a rewarding and exciting opportunity for promising band students to attend a first-rate marching band clinic and meet students from around Colorado.

**Music activities are directed by the UNC band faculty and staff.** Camp culminates with the performance of an evening concert on campus July 3<sup>rd</sup>, and marching in the Greeley Rocky Mountain Stampede Parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Camp is FREE.** Costs (excluding travel to and from Greeley) are paid in full by Colorado Masons and affiliates. Student housing, social and recreational activities are sponsored by Colorado Masonic Lodges and affiliated organizations.

**The camp accepts talented 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students** enrolled in a Colorado high school band program during the 2024-25 school year; capable of performing in the parade, and who play at least one marching band instrument.

**Colorado high school band instructors are encouraged to recommend at least three promising band students.**

*Direct questions to:*

**Bill Feldman at [bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org)  
or 303-910-9266**

**Registration must be received by April 19, 2025**



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## COLORADO MASONIC HIGH SCHOOL BAND CAMP

Grand Lodge of Colorado  
1130 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Phone 719-623-5342  
email: [bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org)

### ***DON'T LET THE MASONIC BAND CAMP MARCH WITHOUT YOUR STUDENT***

TO: **Masonic Family Members**

FROM: **Colorado Masonic Band Camp**

The Grand Lodge of Colorado is sponsoring the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Colorado Masonic Band Camp at the University of Northern Colorado Campus (UNC) in Greeley, Colorado, from June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

This program is entirely supported by your donations as Masonic bodies. The Grand Lodge and the Band Camp Trustees have raised the suggested donation level to \$400 per student.

Last year 1 of 3 Masonic bodies supported the camp. This year we want to increase support to at least half our lodges and bodies. We encourage your organization to provide a donation supporting the Camp.

Contact: Bro. Dillon Brickhouse (720) 416-8144 [dillonbrickhouse@gmail.com](mailto:dillonbrickhouse@gmail.com) with questions about donating to the Band Camp.

Should your organization wish to sponsor a specific student, contact the student's High School Band Director as soon as possible, informing them that you are offering a sponsorship. You may also contact the Band Director of your local High School and ask them to select a student for consideration. If you are unable to find a student(s) to sponsor, the Band Camp will be happy to nominate a student(s) for you as we always have applicants from many areas where there are no sponsors.

Students must be enrolled as 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 10<sup>th</sup> grade, or 11<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2024-2025 school year. They must be experienced ***with at least one marching band instrument***.

We encourage you to bring the student and their parents to your meeting to meet them and present them their scholarship certificate. This is a wonderful meeting night program and great way to promote Masonic awareness.

Application forms or donations should be submitted by April 19, 2025. Recipients will be notified by the first week in May. Enrollment is limited to 120 students, so don't delay in contacting your High School Band Director.

The Colorado Masonic Band Camp is a 501c(3) tax exempt charitable corporation organized under the laws of Colorado. All donations are tax deductible.

**Sponsor/Donation form is on the back of this letter**



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**COLORADO MASONIC HIGH SCHOOL BAND CAMP**  
**JUNE 30 – JULY 4, 2025**



Mail to:

**Colorado Masonic High School Band Camp**  
c/o Jerry Fenimore, Grand Treasurer  
82 Brookhaven Drive, Littleton, CO 80123  
email: [bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org)

Our organization will participate and we are submitting the following:

We would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_ student(s) for the 2025 Colorado Masonic Band Camp.

The cost to sponsor a student is \$400. Enclosed is our donation of \$ \_\_\_\_.

\*Make checks payable to: **Colorado Masonic Band Camp**

**NAME & NUMBER OF SPONSORING LODGE OR MASONIC AFFILIATED BODY:**

PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE

Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, CO, (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
(Officer submitting this form)

email \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have contacted a Band Director and have a student, include the student information here:**

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Student' email address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print clearly)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, CO, (ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian/Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian/Parent's Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian/Parent's Mobile Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian/Parent's email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Band Director's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Band Directors Name \_\_\_\_\_

Marching Band Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

List musical honors received and chair in HS Band. Please give all facts and details.

CIRCLE: Male Female

CIRCLE: Class in the 2024-2025 School Year 9<sup>th</sup> grade 10<sup>th</sup> grade 11<sup>th</sup> grade

# Within the Vault

## 1881 Capitol Trowels



The engraved ceremonial trowel on the left was presented to the MWGM Robert A. Quilliam by the Denver City Council at the laying of the cornerstone of City Hall in Denver, 1881. The plain trowel above was recovered by RWB George B. Clark and corresponds to an old newspaper article entitled "Trowel Used...". The trowel is a deeply symbolic implement of our craft and typically are given to the institution at which the cornerstone is laid. Sometimes these trowels are lost to time but the museum is very fortunate to have preserved these important pieces!

This is the seventh in a series of articles highlighting the fascinating artifacts contained within the Grand Lodge Museum that you can see on your next visit. The museum is not supported by the Grand Lodge budget and needs your help to preserve and protect our treasured history. Please contact the Grand Secretary to see how you can help!

# Membership Awareness and Retention

Greetings Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brothers:

As 2024 begins and we look to Freemasonry through the lens of membership, awareness, and retention, I wonder how many of our lodges are actively engaged in membership, awareness, and retention in their lodges and in the local communities?

I would like to hear from the lodge representatives on what they are doing to promote the craft from membership to awareness in their lodges and community at large. What are the various ways that you maintain the members' awareness and interest of the craft? What local programs do you have in place to expand your membership locally?

One program for consideration for 2024 is the creation of a Craft Warden position or appointee and I bet that some of the lodges already have a similar position in place, but I would also like to know if that is the case for those that do and those that do not.

The concept of the Craft Warden would be to address the above membership and awareness activities inside the individual lodges and build an interface between the lodges and membership & awareness and the GL district lecturer. The Craft Warden would be responsible for local membership & awareness activities for your lodge and allowing for a larger base of ideas and exchange of information between the GL committee and the lodges. The position could encompass things like holding and scheduling local training and presentations for your lodge as educational, awareness, retention type material, candidate open houses or even scheduling digital meetings based on approved content and format as an open meeting.

A coordinator for any and all membership and awareness, and retention for the members and prospects for your lodge and local area but focusing on membership and awareness. By nature, the responsibilities of the Craft Warden and membership/awareness committee and GL District Lecturer will cross over into the education committee arena where the Craft Warden would find online content for various presentations, educational materials and more from the members login from the education portal.



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## Membership Awareness and Retention

It is time that we engage and invest in the lodges into their future and build on our wider experiences that a lot of us are doing today. I would like to get a feeling from the lodges if such a program would be embraced and if they would consider creating such a position.

Please respond to the few questions above to [membership@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:membership@coloradofreemasons.org) and please use a subject line of **2024 Membership Review** so I can easily identify responses.

Faternally,

Pete Finnie; Membership / Awareness Committee

## Tax & Non-Profit Assistance

To assist those lodges that have lost their Nonprofit status I have assembled a team to assist lodges in answering questions and directing them in the process to get their status back. The following individuals have agreed to answer questions that come up and advise those lodges working to get their status back. Please be courteous and patient when working with these Worshipful Brothers and remember they are Volunteers. They have agreed to assist the Craft and need our upmost respect for their efforts.

### LEGAL ASSISTANCE:

WB John Groves: [johngroves@mac.com](mailto:johngroves@mac.com) Grand Junction

WB Blake Terry: [sblaketerry@gmail.com](mailto:sblaketerry@gmail.com) Denver

### ACCOUNTING:

WB Brandon Doellingen: [accounts@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:accounts@coloradofreemasons.org) Colorado Springs

# Traveling Gavel

In an effort to promote visitations among lodges in the state of Colorado we are going to attempt to provide information in each newsletter about where the travelling gavel are located

There are two gavel that travel around the state. One we are going to call the **Regular Gavel** and one the **Western Slope Gavel**. Check the requirements for claiming the gavel including the number of brethren required to attend the visit.

## Regular Gavel

**Location:** Egeria Lodge No. 167 49 W. 1st Street, Yampa, CO

**Meeting Dates:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays ;8:00 p.m.

**Master:** Bruce Hinde

## Western Slope Gavel

**Location:** Mesa Lodge No. 55, 2400 Consistory Court, Grand Junction, CO

**Meeting Dates:** Meets 1st Thursday 7p.m.

**Master:** Thomas Verdieck

# High Twelve International

## WHO ARE WE?

Founded by Wally Wolcott in 1921, we are an association of Master Masons who desire to gather in fellowship INDEPENDENT of formal ritual.

More than a lunch club, we provide an environment where Master Masons can feel comfortable among brothers with similar values.

Simply put, High Twelve is MASONARY IN ACTION.

Today, High Twelve International has 122 Chartered Clubs in 7 Countries. Those are: United States (113), across 7 states, Japan (2), England (3), Mexico (1), Scotland (1), El Salvador, (1), & Brazil (1). We currently have over 3,000 members + total spread across the world. We are looking to Charter 3 new clubs very soon.



## WHAT WE DO?

First and foremost, is to encourage and support good government. This is accomplished through the Wolcott Foundation, which provide fellowships to those who endeavor to pursue a Master's Degree in Federal Government or Foreign Service. These fellowships are provided at George Washington University in Washington DC.

Assist BLUE LODGES in whatever manner is needed. Partner with local lodges to further community objectives,

Service to youth, support and provide assistance to Masonic Youth Groups like DeMolay, Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters.

## WHEN?

Meetings usually begin with a breakfast, lunch or dinner on a monthly basis. Since there is no ritual, members are encouraged to invite, wives, family members or friends to attend. After the meal there usually is a presentation on a topic of interest to the club. These may be Masonic or Non-Masonic.

## WHY?

In today's climate, everyone is looking for a group, FAMILY, a cause, FELLOWSHIP, a reason, FUTURE. Everyone eats and is always looking to share a meal with friends. So I ask, WHY NOT.

Our emblem features THREE STEPS which symbolize the three degrees of a Master Mason. The clock is at HIGH TWELVE. But most important is our motto.

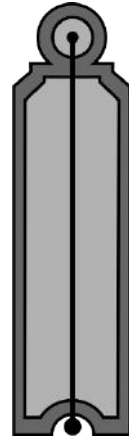
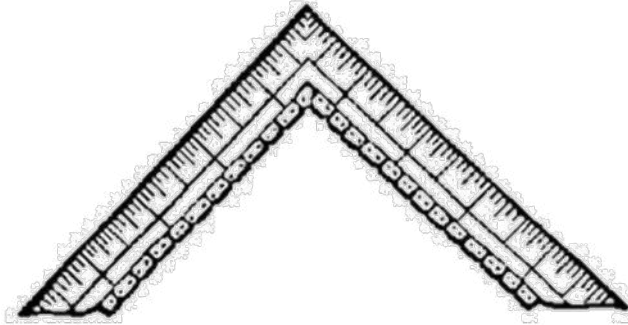
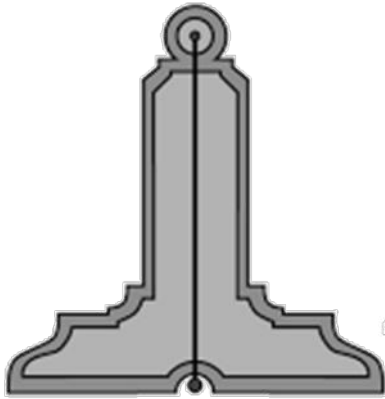
To Talk Little  
To Hear Much  
To Reflect Upon Truth

I challenge you to GIVE US A TRY, JOIN US, you will be glad you did. There are clubs in your area ready to WELCOME you. If a club is not near you, start your own, we'll help and guide you.

Hope to see you soon. For more information contact us at [secreary@high12.org](mailto:secreary@high12.org)

***FAMILY, FELLOWSHIP, FUTURE***





**If your lodge is having special events or activities please send the information to the Grand Master**  
**([grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org))**  
**and the Grand Secretary**  
**([grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org))**  
**so that it can be included in the next edition of the newsletter.**

## Contacts

### Grand Lodge of Colorado

1130 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, Colorado. 80904  
(719) 471-9587  
Fax Number: (719) 484-8993  
[gloffice@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:gloffice@coloradofreemasons.org)

### Grand Master

M.W. Bro. William E. Marshall, G.M.  
[grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org)  
(719) 623-5345

### Grand Secretary

R.W.Bro. Scot M. Autry, P.M.  
[grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org](mailto:grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org)  
(719) 623-5342

## Submission Deadline

Articles and events that you want included in the newsletter are due to the Grand Master, or Grand Secretary, by the 25th of the month prior to the publication month.

March 1, 2025

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**COLORADO MASONS - SPREAD THE WORD ON YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA, AND WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES ABOUT A NEW WEBSITE ABOUT MASONRY: [BEAFREEMASON.ORG](http://BEAFREEMASON.ORG)**

The Grand Lodge Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm. All are welcome as long as you are not feeling ill. For the front door please ring the door bell for access.

