





# Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM

April 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 3

# Beyond Symbols: Why Masonic Education Must Evolve for a New Generation

During my travels across the state over the past seven years, I've heard a consistent message from our brethren: "We need more Masonic education to grow and retain members." It's a noble sentiment, and one I wholeheartedly agree with. But it raises a critical question—what exactly is *Masonic education*, and more importantly, what is its goal?

Ask ten Masons and you might get ten different answers, but most fall under the same umbrella: Masonic education is the study of symbolism, ritual, the ancient mysteries, esoteric teachings like Kabbalah, or the art of ritual mastery. All of which are enriching and profound. But I believe this definition is too narrow—and may actually be limiting our true purpose.

When we ask, "What is the goal of Masonic education?" the answer is almost always the same: to make good men better. That's our mission, our calling, our obligation. But here's the real challenge—how exactly does the study of symbolism or alchemy help us be better fathers? Better husbands? Better leaders in our careers or communities?



RWB Jerry Underwood; Senior Grand Warden

This is where I believe the conversation must shift—especially if

we hope to engage the next generation of men, particularly Generation Z. This rising generation is not content with surface-level traditions or vague philosophical musings. They are *yearning* for deeper connection, for meaning, and for practical tools they can use in the real world. And they're not getting it in the profane world—not from school, not from TikTok, not from their jobs, and often, not even from their families. But we, as Masons, *can* give them exactly what they're seeking.

Let me offer two key observations for consideration:

**First**, the phrase "Masonic education" may unintentionally box us in. How many presentations can we give on the working tools and their allegorical meanings? How many times can we hear about the Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences before we begin to tune out? These are foundational, yes, but



















# **Beyond symbols...(cont.)**

they're not enough on their own to sustain long-term engagement. Instead of limiting ourselves to what we consider "Masonic," perhaps we should broaden the scope and commit to simply offering *education*—practical, enriching, and purpose-driven education—as Masons.

**Second**, we must ask whether the education we're offering is truly *purpose-driven*. I'll be the first to admit that I enjoy a deep dive into the mysteries of the Kabbalah or a fascinating discourse on ancient esoteric traditions. But as enlightening as those presentations are, they don't always give me tools to improve my marriage, raise my kids, or lead my team at work.

One of the best presentations I ever attended came from a brother in his 70s during the "good of the order." The topic? Communication in marriage. He shared insights from five decades of experience, explaining how men and women often communicate differently. His message was simple: women don't always want us to fix the problem—they want to be *heard*. That presentation didn't just make me think—it made me a better husband. *That* is the kind of practical education that makes good men *better*.

Think about it—how many men in our Lodges have been married for 25 to 50 years? How many life lessons are sitting untapped in our very own temples? Whether it's wisdom about marriage, parenting, buying a home, navigating taxes, or basic home repair, our Lodges are filled with brothers who have real-world experience that the younger generation desperately needs.

Why not bring in a local expert to lead a masterclass on leadership? Why not hear from a tradesman on how to maintain a home, or a financial advisor on smart investing? Then, discuss how those lessons apply not only to life, but to our Lodges. Imagine the richness of discussion that could come from brothers sharing their personal leadership challenges and successes. Imagine the sense of connection that could form from that kind of openness.

And let's be honest: if we want future leaders in our officer lines to succeed, we *must* offer quality leadership education. Otherwise, we're setting them and our Lodges, up to fail.

Of course, no education—no matter how practical or profound—will matter unless the student is open to receive it. Fortunately, most candidates for Masonry *are* seekers. They've already shown a willingness to question, to grow, and to become something more. As such, we owe them more than historical lectures or symbolic analysis. We owe them experiences that change perspectives and expand understanding.

I once sat through a Lodge presentation on comparative religion, led by a Christian minister. I went in convinced I knew what I believed. I came out with a new appreciation for how much we all share—and how deeply our beliefs are shaped by our environment and upbringing. That, to

# **Beyond symbols...(cont.)**

me, is *practical* education. It opens the mind, fosters empathy, and ultimately makes us more thoughtful human beings.

Brothers, this is the true point of Masonic education—not just to inform, but to *transform*. Not just to teach, but to *connect*. If we want to bring the next generation into the Light, we must offer them something real—something useful—something *they can carry with them* in daily life.

Generation Z is knocking at the door. Let's make sure that when we open it, we have more than just tradition to offer. Let's offer them wisdom, mentorship, and the practical education they're not getting anywhere else.

Because we are the ones who can make good men better.

R.:.W.:.Brother Jerry Underwood
Senior Grand Warden
Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM





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

0: 719-623-5345

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,

Eail & Runolle

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.

# The Art of Using Art at the Lodge

The Art of Using Art at the Lodge

By Bro. Tom Adair; WM Douglas Lodge No. 153

As Masons we are encouraged to study the liberal arts and sciences so that we may be better educated in our Craft. Beyond that there is a value in studying Art as an expression of skill, beauty, and allegory. Just as a photograph is said to be worth a thousand words, so too can be said of a painting or sculpture. Art has the power to inspire deep contemplation, ignite a passion, or foster ingenuity.

In my travels to various lodges I take great joy in viewing the art they have displayed. I often find many of the same pieces such as the 1932 piece of Bro. George Washington to commemorate his 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday, or the paintings of "The Lodge Room Above Simpkin's Store". Depictions or photographs of Bro. Teddy Roosevelt, MWB Harry Truman, or the Marquis de Lafayette are equally common. Rarely do I see depictions of Bro. Benjamin Franklin, James Garfield, Sir Walter Scott, or Buzz Aldrin; including my own lodge!



Bro. Nic with piece by Czech painter
Bro. Alphonse Mucha

In my home Lodge we have leaned into the use of art for more than just adornment. Art, in all

its forms, can be used to facilitate discussions with visitors and prospects. To exemplify the positive aspects of the craft and reveal "secrets" which may ignite the spark of curiosity or exemplify an aspect of symbolism. It may open a door to the past or provide a glimpse of the horizon. Additionally, displaying art may help support the local artisan community and economy and build upon a positive reputation of the fraternity with local business' and government.



Art of various sizes in the dining hall

# The Art of Using Art at the Lodge



Our goal is to build a collection that can be rotated and even "featured" for special events or for the purposes of instruction. Freemasonry has a rich history full of impactful stories of courage, sacrifice, charity, and brotherly love. At the last Presidential Inauguration, there was mention of Bro. William McKinley (more accurately the mountain named for him in Alaska). Wouldn't it be interesting to have a photograph of Bro. McKinley in his Masonic apron to facilitate a discussion with a prospect? As a fraternity we do tend to highlight elected officials of the Craft while paying less attention to other notable Brothers known or those much less known but still having a fascinating story.

One major concern for us displaying a variety of art was the age of our building. Our walls are over 120 years old and con-

tinually putting new holes to hang art of varied sizes would soon make Swiss cheese of them! So we decided to follow the best practices of any professional gallery and installed a cable hanging system in our dining hall. This involved the installation of a rail on the wall near the ceiling from which a thin cable hangs down along the wall. The cables can be adjusted horizontally and are capable of holding movable hooks to support one or more pieces of art. This allows for pieces of varying sizes to be displayed and moved with ease, and without adding any additional holes to the wall!

During our open-house events like our community Starlighting, car show, or Oktoberfest, we have invited local artists to display their art to the public. This completely changes the feel of the dining hall and provides a new venue for artists who struggle to find space to display their creativity.

Our building provided another opportunity to engage with local artists. Many years ago, some of our exterior windows were covered by an interior staircase. From the outside, the white walls behind the windows resembled a canvas and begged to be adorned. So we engaged with a local artist alliance and they painted a "mural" of sorts to commemorate a major community

# The Art of Using Art at the Lodge

event; the Starlighting. We hope this proof of concept will lead to other depictions throughout the year, celebrating the wonderful things about our Castle Rock community.

In conclusion, paintings, photographs and even sculptures can be effective tools for public engagement. Like a symbol, they can convey an enormous amount of information or ignite the curiosity of those interested in the craft. Art offers an opportunity to celebrate the multitude of virtuous stories and brothers that make up our rich history. We often are presented with corresponding holidays, anniversaries, or cultural events with which to connect the artistic subject to. Equally important is the beautification of our lodges and educational opportunities for our own brethren. Ultimately, recognizing art for both its subjective beauty and educational elements may yield wonderful benefits to a lodge and its community.





Local Artist's work on display

Local Artist's Work on display



Exterior lodge windows painted by local artists

Left: Bro. Will Rogers and a scan of his 1905 lodge petition



Yule Marble Carving of S&C

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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. <a href="mailto:Blakester1008@gmail.com">Blakester1008@gmail.com</a>

# Funeral Proficiency Challenge

#### **MEMORIAL LODGE #2 PRESENTS**

# ANNUAL MASONIC FUNERAL SERVICE WORKSHOP MARCH 2025

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Masonic funeral services workshop was a resounding SUCCESS. The workshop was attend by members of Pueblo #17, Colorado Springs #76, Centurion #195, Union #7, El Paso #13, Manitou #68, Constitution #184, and Fountain Valley #191. Thanks to all who attended and shared their experiences. Huge thanks to WB Dick Stewart and WB Bill Twyman who provided invaluable support.

The seminar covered history, where can we give a Masonic funeral and who can receive it, working with the family, preparing for the Funeral, appendant organizations and much more. We are looking forward to conducting another workshop next year.

### CHALLENGE TO ALL COLORADO LODGES

Memorial Lodge #2 is presenting a challenge to ALL Lodges in Colorado. The Lodge that has the most "NEW" funeral service certifications by Dec 31st, will be presented a funeral kit (similar to the one below) during the next Grand Lodge annual

District Lecturer or a Custodian of the Work on what is required get certified.

communication. Contact you





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# COMMUNITY SHRED-A-THON

APRIL 19
10AM - 12PM
S DONATIONS ACCEPTED

EASTERN STAR MASONIC RETIREMENT COMMUNITY 2445 S. Quebec Street Denver, CO 80231

### 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

### **OUESTIONS:**

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

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





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## Research Lodge of Colorado

The Worshipful Master of the Research Lodge of Colorado invites you to join us for a day of education and fellowship with **two**, world class presenters: Bro. Scott Wolter, 32°, KT, and explorer Hayley Ramsey!

SATURDAY, 26 APRIL 2025 – 3 PM PARK HILL MASONIC HALL 4819 Montview Blvd Denver, Colorado

"The Cremona Document: The Book of the War of the Lord"



Scan QR Code for Tickets!



COST \$40 (includes banquet dinner) or \$10 (presentation only) RSVP's must be in by 18 April 2025 Visit www.rlcolo.org for tickets!

> "The Goddess in the Lodge: Unveiling the Sacred Feminine in Freemasonry"



Hayley A. Ramsey is a multifaceted explorer, writer, and researcher whose passion lies in unraveling the mysteries of ancient civilizations and esoteric traditions. With a focus on old world goddess cults, archaeoastronomy, and megalithic sites, she has delved deeply into the rich tapestry of history and myth. Having dedicated extensive time to studying these subjects across Europe, particularly in Scotland, Hayley has become intimately familiar with the intricate connections between local lore, such as Arthurian legends, Grail quests, and Templar mysteries, and the ancient sites that dot the landscape. Her expertise extends to the origins of secret societies such as Freemasonry, where she has been meticulously researching the presence of the divine feminine, tracing its roots back to ancient death and resurrection rituals originating in Egypt and beyond. Hayley's profound insights and discoveries are chronicled in her book, "The Bringer of Life: A Cosmic History of the Divine Feminine," a captivating exploration of the feminine throughout human history. Her website is <a href="https://www.hayleyaramsey.com">www.hayleyaramsey.com</a>

Scott Wolter, renowned host of History Channel's "America Unearthed" and most recently Gaia's "Mysteries of the Knights Templar," embarked on a quest into hidden history when the enigmatic Kensington Rune Stone appeared in his Minnesota lab in 2000. His journey spans continents, aiming to authenticate the stone and unveil the Templars' role in America's founding, a mission that began in 1362 and was completed by our Masonic Founding Fathers in 1776. Raised as a Master Mason in 2015, Wolter swiftly ascended to the ranks of the Scottish Rite and York Rite, achieving the esteemed 32nd degree, and was knighted as a Templar Knight in Commandery Zion No. 2. As an author of four seminal works including "The Hooked X," "Akhenaten to the Founding Fathers," "Cryptic Code of the Templar in America," and "Oak Island, the Knights Templar, and the Holy Grail," Wolter uncovers the Templars' mission to establish a NewJerusalem in the West. His groundbreaking research, chronicled in his earlier book "The Kensington Rune Stone: Compelling NewEvidence," continues to amaze readers with the in-depth detail provided on the scientific work performed on the artifact to prove its authenticity. Wolter, based in Minneapolis, balances his roles as a Professional Geologist at American Petrographic Services with his relentless pursuit of historical truths. His website is <a href="https://www.scottfwolter.com">www.scottfwolter.com</a>



# 2025 Easter Sunrise Service

# 100th 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 - limited and always sells out



For further information please visit <u>www.coloradokta.org</u> Or Joe Magoffin <u>joe@milehighsf.com</u> 720.371.7224



Scan the QR Code or click the link to adopt your duck today!





# **SUPPORT NON-PROFITS!**

A portion of your purchase goes to Longs Peak Masonic Lodge #197

## CLICK HERE TO ADOPT YOUR DUCK!



BUY A QUACK PACK FOR A FREE BONUS DUCK!

## SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025 11AM-5PM

Join us in person in Estes Park, CO or watch live at www.epduckrace.org

# **GET THE RESULTS!**

Results are posted on the same day as the race!

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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 <u>link</u> to purchase your tickets. Please do not forward this <u>link</u> to people outside the fraternity.

### 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 <a href="https://www.ShrinersWC.org/Gala">www.ShrinersWC.org/Gala</a>. If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me. My contact information is

Fraternally,

Gregory Foster

President | Western Colorado Shrine Club

Cell: (505) 350-0197

E-Mail: ShrinersWC@gmail.com

Proceeds go to Shriner's Childrens Hospitals and Clinics

# Shriners' Children's Fundraising Gala

Saturday, April 26th

DoubleTree Hotel, Grand Junction

### LIVE MUSIC BY THE DUBIOUS BROTHERS

Dancing

5:30 - Cocktail Hour

· Drinks

6:30 - Program

Food

7:00 - Dinner

Silent Auction

Theme: Denim & Diamonds / Cowboy Formal

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



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



# SCOTTISH RITE SPRING REUNION

# Denver Consistory May 8, 9, 10, 2025

AN OPPORTUNITY TO REUNITE WITH YOUR BROTHERS
REVISIT THE TEACHINGS









Preparation

Organization

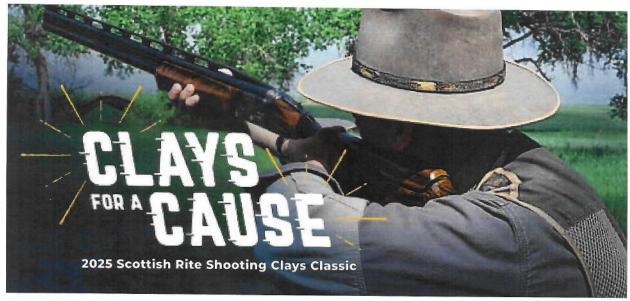
**Having Fun** 

<u>First Line Signer Incentive Program:</u> 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

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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

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

#### Sponsorship opportunies 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

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# FLAGS FOR FALLEN VETS

# SUNDAY – 25MAY2025 – 0900 HOURS (9AM) VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!



Flags for Fallen Vets is a national program that annually takes place at a number of national, or military cemeteries across the country. The Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix of the Scottish Rite and Masons throughout Colorado have proudly supported and participated in the event for the past several years. The mission is to ensure that an American flag is placed at the grave of every veteran resting in these cemeteries.

This year's family-oriented event will take place on Sunday, May 25 at 9am at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver. We need volunteers to assist with placing the flags on May 25 and then with the retrieval of the flags on Saturday, May 31. Volunteering is very easy - just follow these steps:

Go to <a href="https://flagsforfallenvets.com/">https://flagsforfallenvets.com/</a> and click on 2025 Volunteer Form

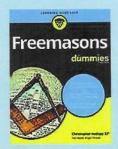
- Select Fort Logan National Cemetery Denver in the drop-down menu and then ter your email address
- In the "Group" menu, select "Mason" or "Masonic" and Section "S"
- Add the number of volunteers you will be bringing with you that day

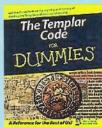
# June 16, 2025, 7PM @ Denver Consistory

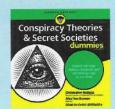
Save the Date...and Spread the Word!

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

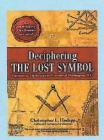
# **Christopher Hodapp, 33°**

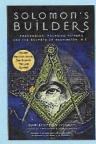














Acclaimed Masonic author, editor, blogger and commentator will speak (topic TBD) and sign books!

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

Scottish Rite Masonic Center
1370 Grant St, Denver
Dinner Reservations (6PM) @ https://centennial-lodge-ofperfection.square.site/

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ORREE!

# 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 <u>bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org</u> or 303-910-9266

Registration must be received by April 19, 2025





# 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

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 <u>dillonbrickhouse@gmail.com</u> 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 9th grade, 10th grade, or 11th 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

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

Our organization will participate and we are submitting the following:

*Make checks payable to: Colorado Masonic Band Camp  NAME & NUMBER OF SPONSORING LODGE OR MASONIC AFFILIATED BODY:						
			Organization Name		PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE  NoNo	
		, CO, (Zip)				
		, CO, (21p)				
(Officer submitting this form)		Title				
email						
70 1						
		ave a student, include the student information here:				
Name of Student (Please print clearly)		Student' email address				
Address:						
City:, CO, (ZIP)		, CO, (ZIP)				
Student's Phone: (	)					
Guardian/Parent's I	Iome Phone: ( )					
Guardian/Parent's M	Mobile Phone: ( )					
Guardian/Parent's e	mail:					
Band Director's Signature: Phone No						
Please Print Band D	irectors Name					
Marching Band Inst						
CIRCLE:	Male Female					
CIRCLE: Class in t	ne 2024-2025 School Year	9 <sup>th</sup> grade 10 <sup>th</sup> grade 11 <sup>th</sup> grade				

# Within the Vault

# Straub Desk



This beautifully crafted wooden table dates back to the very early Twentieth-Century and was made by a Master Carpenter named Frederick "Fred" Straub. The table top features wood inlays depicting an altar supporting the three great lights, surrounded by the three lesser with an all seeing eye above/. There are one hundred eight triangles along the border with five-pointed stars at each corner of the border pattern. According to the family, Fred Straub was born July 23, 1857 in Wisconsin and by 1940 he was living in Logan County Colorado as a widower with his two daughters. The table was loaned to the museum by the family in May of 2022.

This is the eighth 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.

# 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 <a href="mailto:membership@coloradofreemasons.org">membership@coloradofreemasons.org</a> and please use a subject line of **2024 Membership Review** so I can easily identify responses.

Fraternally,

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: <u>johngroves@mac.com</u> Grand Junction
WB Blake Terry: <u>sblaketerry@gmail.com</u> Denver

### **ACCOUNTING:**

WB Brandon Doellingen: accounts@coloradofreemasons.org Colorado Springs

# **Traveling Gavels**

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 gavels are located

There are two gavels 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.

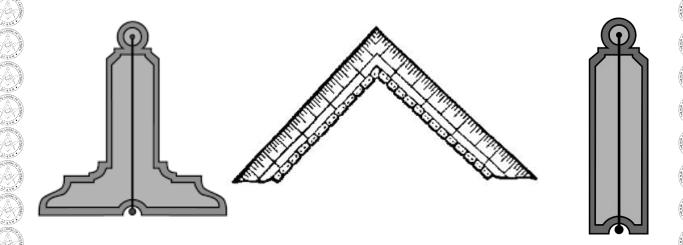
Master: Bruce Hinde

### **Western Slope Gavel**

Location: Palisade Lodge No. 125, 2400 Consistory Court, Grand Junction, CO

**Meeting Dates**: Meets 1st Saturday at 10am.

Master: Thomas Verdieck



If your lodge is having special events or activities please send the information to the Grand Master

(grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org) and the Grand Secretary

(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

Grand Master
M.W. Bro. William E. Marshall, G.M.
grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org
(719) 623-5345

Grand Secretary R.W.Bro. Scot M. Autry, P.M. 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.



COLORADO MASONS - SPREAD THE WORD ON YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA, AND WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES ABOUT A NEW WEBSITE ABOUT MASONRY: 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.

