



# Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM

June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5

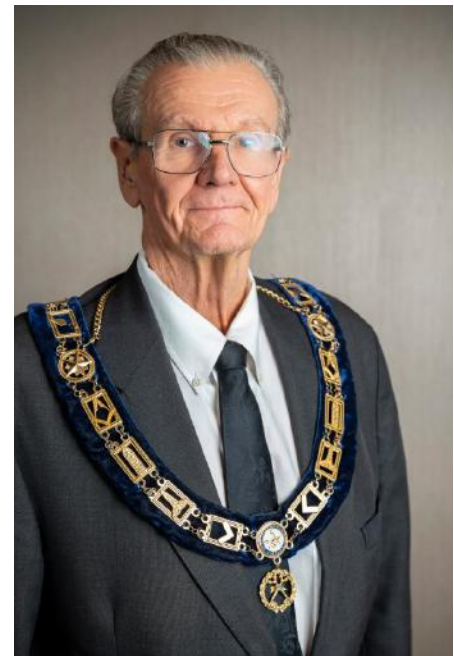
## May 2025: A Month in the Life of a Grand Lodge Officer

May marks a pivotal month as businesses and communities prepare for a season of innovation and renewal. With spring in full bloom, it serves as a reminder of the endless possibilities that arise when creativity meets determination.

Have you ever wondered what your Grand Lodge Officers do? I'd like to share my diary for this month to offer some insight.

### May 1st

This month began with a call to Worshipful Brother Grover Sardeson to remind him that it is time to file the 990N for Mount of the Holy Cross Conclave. I filed the 990N for Sangre de Cristo Conclave. Tina, and I then attended a luncheon and orientation for the 51<sup>st</sup> Rocky Mountain Honor Flight at St. Andrew United Methodist Church. I initially declined the invitation due to the Denver Consistory, but Worshipful Brother Danny Tomlinson urged me to accept, promising a special surprise. He insisted that I call them back and tell them I would go because he had a special surprise. At the orientation I met my team leader and some "White Team" members.



**Most Worshipful PGM  
Jerry L. Fenimore**  
Grand Treasurer

That afternoon, we rushed home to meet Worshipful Brothers Dean McConnell, Jeffery Noakes, and Greg Harris for a trip to Grand Junction. After dinner at the DoubleTree, I prepped for an early morning. Despite setting three alarms, only my phone worked! At 6:00 a.m., we met MW Grand Master William Marshall for breakfast (delayed to 6:30). He reminded me to write this article. I thought it would be easy—after all, James Fenimore Cooper and Samuel Clemens are in



## May 2025: A Month in the Life of a Grand Lodge Officer (cont.)

my family tree. I planned to write about the Honor Flight. But that story comes later.

While thinking this over, we traveled to the Grand Junction Consistory to perform the 8<sup>th</sup> degree. Past Grand Master Ross Allen got us in costumes and Deputy Grand Master Dean McConnell led us through our paces. It went well as we had previously performed the degree in Colorado Springs on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

### May 3rd

After a night in my own bed, I drove Worshipful Brother Juan Carlos Millan to Georgetown for a day of York Rite Masonry as Central City Chapter #1, Georgetown Chapter #4, Tyrian Council #11 and Georgetown Commandery #4 held their annual elections and installations.

### May 4<sup>th</sup>

Sunday was a day of rest until the Sunday night movie club met at the Landmark theater. Worshipful brothers Marvin Feldman and Warren Glover used to join WB Grover Sardeson, WB Mike Katich and we met at the Landmark for an evening of entertainment.

### May 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

Cinco de Mayo brought a visit to Harmony Lodge #61, the Spanish speaking lodge authorized by Past Grand Master David Reynolds. Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup>, I was going to Kiowa Creek to practice shooting sporting Clays, but the event was cancelled due to rain. The weather did not prevent the official visit and awards at South Denver #93.

### May 7th

We attended the Honors Committal at Fort Logan for 11 unclaimed veterans. Grand Masters William Marshall and Steve Munsinger, Worshipful Brothers Thayne Coulter, Tony Clark, Danny Tomlinson, Tina, and I honored their memory. Our



## May 2025: A Month in the Life of a Grand Lodge Officer (cont.)

deepest thanks and appreciation to Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1071 for making this commemoration possible.

May 8th entailed waking at 5:00am to arrive at DIA by 7:00am for the Honor Flight. We assembled in our teams and traveled together to the airport. Many travelers, clapped and shouted "thank you for your service". This brought memories of returning home from Vietnam in 1972. There were many people shouting, but not things I can print.

I remember John Kerry testifying before Congress that the soldiers raped and pillaged like Genghis Khan. I was highly offended as Genghis Khan is one of my ancestors. The next three days are what I was going to write about in this article, but reviewing the past articles written by Worshipful Brother Danny Tomlinson left me with nothing different to say.

### May 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>: The Honor Flight

We gathered at DIA at 7:00 a.m. to cheers of "Thank you for your service." It reminded me of my return from Vietnam in 1972, when the reception was far different. I recall John Kerry's testimony comparing us to Genghis Khan—which stung especially since he's one of my ancestors.

On Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, four of us -Army, Marine, Navy and AirForce-assembled on the top of the stairway leading to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. A Tomb Guard from Parker, Colorado led us down the stairs to the front of the Tomb where we were given a wreath to place on a stand before the Tomb. After placing the wreath, we returned to our places and held a salute while taps were played. So many emotions flow through you as taps are played.



In the blue shirt, Dany Tomlinson representing the Navy with Air Force represented by Roy Dellago. Front left was Jerry Fenimore standing for the Army and on his left, Bob Ross of the Marine Corps.

## May 2025: A Month in the Life of a Grand Lodge Officer (cont.)

When taps ended, we returned to the top of the stairs where we were each presented with a Tomb Guard challenge coin



There were five masons on this flight. Carlin Craig, Jerry Fenimore, Danny Tomlinson holding the Grand Master's pin, Mike Terry and Clarence Rebolledo. Carlin is a Florida mason and Clarence of Hollywood, CA. Each received the Grand Master's pin. We returned Saturday evening to DIA and received an ovation as we ascended the escalator. The El Jebel Pipe Band greeted us with beautiful noise, as only bag pipes can. The arch of steel arranged by WB Jerry Rice was missing because of the Denver Consistory reunion.



Tom Johnson, DGM Dean McConnell, Dan McCune  
John Harris, Alex McIntosh, and Kent Burns.

### May 11<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, was Mother's Day and a return to normal. It was also my sister-in-law's birthday so I called to wish her the best, with wisdom enough not to sing Happy Birthday.



## May 2025: A Month in the Life of a Grand Lodge Officer (cont.)

The conversation reminded me of my younger brother's passing on May 6<sup>th</sup> of 2021.

Sunday evening brought the Sunday Night Movie Club with Worshipful Brothers Grover Sardeson and Mike Katich for a movie we should have skipped. May 12<sup>th</sup> brought an 8:00am appointment for a shot in my eye for macular degeneration followed by a visit to the urologist for a follow up in my April 18<sup>th</sup> TURP. Tuesday brought me early to my auto specialists to get my car serviced for 90,000 miles. This was followed by a regular trip to the Endocrinologist. That night, Denver Chapter #2 provided dinner and installed officers.

May 14, National Sojourners met at the Golden Corral, but I had to leave early for another Doctor's appointment. May 15<sup>th</sup>, I would normally drive down to the Grand Lodge to sign checks, but since covid I no longer do so. The checks are done by Brother Brandon Doellingen, the husband of our Librarian, Julie. I am now a digitized figurehead and will miss the Thursday morning coffee and donuts started by WB Vic Sestokas at the Grand Lodge. The monthly Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund zoom was cancelled but I had Douglas Lodge #153 on my calendar at 6:30pm. I was there in my Grand Lodge suit but the door was locked. I was greeted by Senior Grand Deacon, Bryant Harris sitting on a motorcycle dressed in blue jeans. This was a moonlight outdoor meeting at Brother Ed McKenna's ranch. Worshipful Brother Joe Magoffin transported me to the event as the sun was setting. It was chilly after the sun set, but it is hard to complain when the Worshipful Master Tom Adair is in a kilt and thin sweater. Treasurer Ricardo Dena offered me a vest and Past Grand Orator Dave Tuck gave me his gloves. With lodge business concluded, the lodge was put at ease and a bonfire leapt into existence. Lance White Horse provided the Masonic education entitled the Chamber of Reflection. With lodge closed, I returned to my car with heated seats and a great heater.

May 16<sup>th</sup> was my 77<sup>th</sup> birthday. May 17<sup>th</sup> brought breakfast at the Lakewood Elks and a meeting of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1071. WB Danny Tomlinson and Mike Richards joined me. Seven Quilts of Valor were presented. In the afternoon, I picked up Past Grand Chaplain Jim Harris from his nursing home and we drove to Highlands Masonic Temple for social hour, dinner and awards. WB Jerry Edwards assisted in getting WB Jim Harris into his wheelchair and into the dining room. The dinner was arranged by WB Danny Tomlinson and his wife Amy with Brother Riccardo Mazzeo, owner of Three Tomatoes. The social hour

## May 2025: A Month in the Life of a Grand Lodge Officer (cont.)

was handled by Worshipful Master Brian Fowler, who got us a discount on spirits. The Grand Master William Marshall, DGM Dean McConnell, Jr. Grand Warden Darren Klinefelter, Grand Secretary Scot Autry, Sr Grand Deacon Bryant Harris, Sr Grand Steward Vince Johnson, Jr. Grand Steward Craig Fabec, Grand Chaplain Greg Harris, Grand Orator Tom Verdick, and Grand Tiler Mark Wallen presented Brother Ed Richards with a 60 year award. Brother Dave Ferguson was ill and did not attend to receive his 60 year award. Fifty year awards were presented to Brother Dave Bonham and me. There were 152 masons and wives present and four Past Grand Masters; Claud Dutro. Michael Moore, David Reynolds and Ralph Newby.

### May 19-22nd

On May 19<sup>th</sup>, I traveled to Colorado Clays for practice with my longtime friend, Steve Houy, who has won the last two Clays for Cause events and Steve Stephens, the Senior Warden at Douglas #153. After shooting, we enjoyed lunch together at Waldo's. After arriving home, it was necessary to clean my shotgun and get ready to attend Denver Consistory. The program was set by WB Danny Tomlinson in his Navy uniform, Tommy Thompson in his Air Force uniform, Kevin Trabert in his Army uniform with WB Jay Bobick carrying the American flag while in his Revolutionary war gear. Master Sargent Jim DeGeorge played the bagpipe for their entrance and exit. Kevin and Tommy unfurled and refolded the flag as Danny explained the symbolism of each of the thirteen folds



On May 20<sup>th</sup>, the Grand Lodge officers were invited to Boulder, but I had committed to going to the election and installation of the officers of Denver-Colorado Commandery #1. Congratulations to Umar Shabazz who was elected as Eminent Commander and his officers.

May 21st is PGM Claud Dutro's birthday and a cornerstone ceremony at Roosevelt Elementary School in Johnstown. This cornerstone is sponsored by Longs Peak #197. If you have never been to a cornerstone ceremony, I recommend that you attend one.

May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Black Hawk Lodge #11. Before the meeting, several brothers met at Looking Good restaurant for fellowship. Lodge was opened by WB Brian Fowler. WB Scott Bates took

## May 2025: A Month in the Life of a Grand Lodge Officer (cont.)

over as Master and conducted a first degree for Jim Akers. Refreshments provided by WB Jerry Rice were enjoyed by all. I returned home to finish this diary so I can send to the editor of the newsletter, WB Tom Adair so the following events are scheduled but have not occurred.

### Upcoming (May 23–31):

May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Clays for Cause at Colorado Clays followed by Centennial York Rite College #87. I am scheduled to install the officers.



May 24<sup>th</sup> is an awards ceremony at Fountain, but I will be taking a day off to rest and refresh. I have tennis practice at Niwot High School having missed the last three Saturday practices due to events of importance.

May 25<sup>th</sup>, Flags for Fallen Vets at Ft. Logan Section S. Masonic family volunteers place 20,000 flags of the total 187,797 flags placed. According to Amber Schoenrock of Ft. Logan. 109,000 flags will be placed this Sunday.

May 26<sup>th</sup> is Memorial Day. This is a time to visit family and friend graves for moments of reflection and remembrance.

May 27<sup>th</sup> to May 29<sup>th</sup>. A time to drink beer and smoke cigars. Also, to visit the Reverend Harris in the nursing home.

May 30<sup>th</sup> I will take PGM Steve Munsinger to Denver Consistory for lunch as WB Joe Kier is away on a cruise.

May 31<sup>st</sup> is retrieval of the flags placed on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Also, Flaming Sword Award at Golden Masonic Temple in the morning. St Bernard Commandery #41 at the Denver Consistory finishes the month in grand style

Well, May is done. I hope this gives insight into what your Grand Lodge Officers do. The brothers mentioned in this diary glimpse have made my life better. May you have such friends in your life.

## 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 June 7, 2025

#### Ghost Town Raising at Nevada Lodge No. 4

**Description:** Start time at 7:30am at Nevada Lodge No. 4 in Nevadaville, CO near Central City. Lodge will validate parking.

### 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.

### Thursday June 19, 2025

#### Kokomo Night at Corinthian Lodge

**Description:** Dinner at 6pm (Oyster stew) followed by stated meeting at 7:30pm. Leadville Masonic Temple, 619 Harrison Ave., Leadville, CO 80461

### Saturday July 12, 2025

#### Angel of the Forest 2025 Commandery Festival

**Description:** Graham Masonic Park 8725 CO 165, RYE, CO 81069. Start time 7:30am with coffee and donuts. Friday night dinner (July 11th) at 5pm for \$18 followed by Council Degrees at 6pm. See advertisement on page 15 for full details.

### Sunday July 13, 2025

#### Pancake breakfast fundraiser at Nevada Lodge No. 4

**Description:** A pancake breakfast fundraiser is being held at Nevada Lodge No. 4 starting at 7am. Parking will be validated. \$15 tickets.

### Wednesday July 30, 2025

#### Cornerstone Century Lodge No. 190

**Description:** Ceremony begins at 11am. 2532 9th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631



## 2025 Matching Grants for Lodge Scholarships

Colorado Masons and their lodges have enjoyed great success with the Matching Grant program for many years. Students from all over Colorado have had financial assistance from their local lodges participating in Matching Grants. The Board of the Benevolent Fund sincerely appreciates the support shown by the lodges and is most pleased to continue the Matching Grant program.

The Matching Grants for 2025 will be up to \$500.00. To qualify for the full \$500 match, the Lodge would need to award an educational grant to a 2025 public high school graduating senior who will attend a Colorado institution of higher education. If the Lodge gives a total of \$1,000.00 or more to their chosen student, the match would be for half that amount, or \$500. If a lodge gives less than \$1,000, the match would be for half of the amount of the lodge grant. It is highly recommended that the Lodge checks be made out to the school or to the student AND the school.

One change in the Matching Grant program retained from last year is that a lodge can give a scholarship to more than one student in their area and apply for a match for each scholarship granted.

The deadline for requesting the matching grant is June 30, 2025. The form should be returned by email to: [education@cmbfa.org](mailto:education@cmbfa.org), or by snail mail to Scholarship Administrator, PO Box 703, Westminster, CO. If using regular mail, it must be postmarked by June 30, 2025 and received by July 8th. Checks will be distributed to Lodges the end of June or end of July depending on when the request forms are received and logged in.

If you have any questions about the Matching Grant program, contact Grover Sardeson, the Scholarship Administrator. He can be reached by email at [education@cmbfa.org](mailto:education@cmbfa.org) or by phone at 719-623-5349.

**CMBFA EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP MATCHING GRANT AWARD -- 2025**

Lodge Name and Number : \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Recipient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ High School Senior (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

College or Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Lodge has contributed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Recipient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ High School Senior (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

College or Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Lodge has contributed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Recipient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ High School Senior (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

College or Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Lodge has contributed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount requested from Benevolent Fund (Same as one-half Lodge contribution in 1, 2 & 3 above up to \$500 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Remember for matching grant, students must be a 2025 graduating Colorado Public high school senior and attending a Colorado institution of higher learning.

**NOTE: THERE ARE TWO WAYS YOU MAY SUBMIT THE GRANT APPLICATION FORM:****1) E-MAIL TO: [education@cmbfa.org](mailto:education@cmbfa.org) , AND SEND NO LATER THAN **JUNE 30, 2025**.****Or 2) SEND BY MAIL TO THE SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATOR AT:****CMBFA SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATOR, PO BOX 703, WESTMINSTER, CO 80036-0703 AND BE  
POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2024 AND RECEIVED BY JULY 8, 2025.**

Lodge Secretary's name and mailing address (reimbursement check will be sent to the Lodge Secretary.):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

# 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,

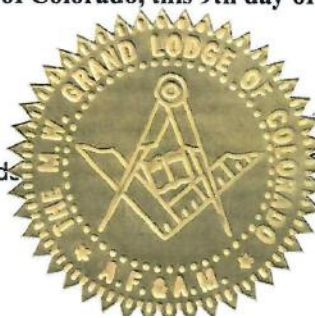


M.:W.: Brother David L. Reynolds  
Grand Master of Masons  
in Colorado

Attest:



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





# Whispering Wise Counsel: Preserving Harmony Through Understanding

In the sacred halls of Freemasonry, where the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth form the very cornerstone of our Craft, disagreements are neither foreign nor feared. They are, rather, natural expressions of human thought and diversity—opportunities for growth, reflection, and brotherly refinement. It is not the presence of conflict that challenges our unity, but how we, as Masons, choose to respond to it. Central to our response must be the time-honored Masonic practice of *whispering wise counsel*—a discreet, dignified, and compassionate approach to resolving differences.

## Prioritizing Understanding Over Ego

Freemasonry is not a forum for ego or conquest, but a sacred fellowship that cultivates wisdom, virtue, and understanding. Too often, disagreements are fueled by the desire to win an argument rather than to reach common ground. Yet, our Masonic teachings remind us that the goal is not to establish who is right and who is wrong. It is to deepen our understanding of each other, to educate where there is ignorance, and to align where there is divergence.

To seek understanding is not to compromise truth; it is to elevate the conversation to a higher plane, where ego gives way to empathy and pride bows to principle. When we approach disagreements with humility and a willingness to listen, we strengthen the ties that bind us rather than unravel them.

## Accountability Is a Shared Duty

Nothing is more contrary to the spirit of Masonic unity than the public humiliation of a Brother. To chastise a man in open Lodge—particularly in front of his peers—is to strike not just at his dignity but at the very heart of our fraternal bond. While the moment may pass quickly for the offender, its effects on the one humiliated can be deep, lasting, and damaging. The first-order effect may be embarrassment or shame. The second-order effect is often silence and disengagement. The third-order effect—the one we must guard against most vigilantly—is that the humiliated Brother may never again return to Lodge.



R.W.B. Jerry Underwood

Senior Grand Warden



## Whispering Wise Counsel: Preserving Harmony Through Understanding (cont.)

When such incidents go unaddressed, the damage extends beyond the individual; it weakens the entire body. It signals to others that dignity is not safeguarded here, that tempers outweigh tolerance, and that ego can override enlightenment. This is antithetical to the teachings of our Craft.

For this reason, the responsibility to preserve harmony does not fall solely on the offender—it rests with every member of the Lodge. When a Brother publicly chastises another, especially in violation of our charge to whisper wise counsel, it is incumbent upon the brethren to address that action with firmness and clarity. The offending Brother must be reminded—respectfully but resolutely—of our collective obligation to correct in private, not condemn in public.

Moreover, just as the chastisement was public, so too should be the apology. A sincere and public acknowledgment of wrongdoing is not humiliation—it is restoration. It is a healing act, a demonstration of accountability, and a vital step toward repairing the fraternal trust that may have been broken. Only through such acts of humility can unity be reestablished and the Lodge made whole once more.

### Whispering Wise Counsel: A Path to Unity

Whispering wise counsel is an art that demands courage, tact, and sincerity. It is far easier to criticize than to counsel; far simpler to call out a Brother than to take him aside and speak from the heart. Yet it is in those private, quiet conversations—rooted in mutual respect—that the real work of Freemasonry unfolds.

This sacred duty requires us to strip away personal agendas and approach our Brothers with open hearts and pure intentions. It is a solemn reminder that we are not here to judge one another, but to lift each other up—to offer a hand, a word, a warning, or a moment of clarity, always framed in love. When we whisper wise counsel, we are not just speaking to a Brother—we are honoring the divine spark within him.

### Circumscribing Our Passions

## Whispering Wise Counsel: Preserving Harmony Through Understanding (cont.)

Passion, while powerful, can be perilous when un-tempered. In moments of conflict, our emotions can easily cloud our judgment, leading us to say or do things that wound rather than heal. Freemasonry urges us to *circumscribe our passions*—to draw a boundary around our feelings so they do not lead us astray.

This restraint is not a weakness but a strength. It allows reason to reign over impulse and ensures that our actions remain in harmony with the values we profess. By mastering ourselves, we contribute to the mastery of the Lodge. We become examples—not of perfection, but of purpose and principle in action.

### Setting the Tone for Brotherhood

It is said that respect is the foundation upon which all genuine relationships are built. Within the Lodge, respect is not optional; it is essential. It shapes our conversations, governs our disagreements, and determines the tone of our interactions. When we show respect—even in disagreement—we reaffirm our commitment to the Fraternity and to each other.

Let us not underestimate the power of a kind word, a soft tone, or a gesture of humility. These small acts can change the entire course of a conversation. They can turn discord into dialogue, misunderstanding into mutuality, and conflict into consensus.

### Upholding the Tenets of Freemasonry

The strength of our Craft lies not in uniformity of thought, but in unity of purpose. Disagreements will come, as they must in any vibrant and thoughtful Brotherhood. But if we handle them with the care our Masonic obligations demand, they need not divide us—they can refine us. Let us, therefore, recommit ourselves to the practice of whispering wise counsel. Let us value understanding more than victory, correction more than condemnation, and unity more than pride. Let us remember that every Brother—regardless of rank, opinion, or error—is a part of the sacred chain that binds us together.

When we uphold these values, we do more than avoid discord—we embody the very essence of Freemasonry. And in doing so, we ensure that the light of the Craft continues to shine brightly for all who enter our doors.

June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5

**THE HIKE FUND, INC**  
**Hearing Improvement Kids Endowment Fund**  
**Supported by Job's Daughters International®**  
530 Elliott St. Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0202



Dear Friends:

As members of the Masonic Family, philanthropy holds a special place in our hearts and is central to the work we do. With this letter, we're excited to share how one branch of our Masonic Family—**Job's Daughters International® (JDI)**—continues to live out this spirit of charity in a powerful and meaningful way.

JDI is a leadership and service organization for young women, ages ten to twenty, who have a connection to a Master Mason. Since our founding in 1920 in Nebraska, Job's Daughters has grown to include Bethels across the United States, Canada, Australia, the Philippines, and Brazil.

From the very beginning, service and philanthropy have been cornerstones of our mission. In 1985, members and supporters of JDI founded a charitable organization of their own: **The HIKE Fund, Inc.**—which stands for *Hearing Improvement Kids Endowment*. HIKE raises funds to provide children, from birth to age 20, with hearing aids and assistive devices when there is both a medical and financial need. Awards of up to \$5,000 are granted regardless of gender, race, or religious affiliation.

Today, The HIKE Fund continues to thrive as a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Staffed entirely by dedicated volunteers, HIKE maintains operating expenses below 10%, meaning more than 90% of every dollar donated goes directly to helping children. To date, JDI has raised over **six million dollars**, changing the lives of nearly **3,000 children**—with many more waiting for assistance.

The success of HIKE inspires a deep sense of pride among Job's Daughters, reinforcing the values of compassion, service, and Masonic heritage. Few organizations can offer a ten-year-old girl the chance to change another child's life—but JDI can. It's this profound impact that gives HIKE its motto: **Kids Helping Kids**.

We invite you to be part of this incredible work. All donations to The HIKE Fund, Inc. are tax-deductible (Tax ID: 36-3406438) and may be made securely online at [www.thehikfund.org](http://www.thehikfund.org). Checks should be made payable to "The HIKE Fund, Inc." and mailed to:

**The HIKE Fund, Inc.**  
ATTN: Executive Secretary  
530 Elliott Street  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503  
[HIKESecretary@gmail.com](mailto:HIKESecretary@gmail.com)

HIKE recipients are celebrated nationwide, and Job's Daughters Bethels often join families in commemorating these life-changing moments. If you ever have the chance to attend one of these presentations, we strongly encourage you to do so. Witnessing a child hear their parent's voice or their own laughter for the first time is unforgettable—and knowing you helped make that moment possible is truly life-changing.

Thank you for your time, generosity, and continued support.

Sincerely,

*Tiffany Ingles*



## Update on the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus

The Board of Trustees would like to give a short update on the ESMRC situation.

We first want to Thank everyone for the support and donations given to help the residents immediately after the explosion. We also Thank you for your donations to help the campus as we move forward. The golf tournament will still be held and all funds raised will be used for immediate needs of the campus.

The Board has made the decision to not reopen the Robert Russell Building and not to lease any of the Star Vista units, until a complete evaluation of the future can be determined.

The investigation into the explosion is ongoing and is expected to be 2 to 3 weeks before it is completed.

We have been advised that it could be 2 to 3 months before any cost estimates are available.

The residents personal items are being cleaned, packed and delivered locally, and it is estimated to be completed by May 1, 2025.

There are many more questions than answers currently, that is why we give more "I don't know" responses. This is a long-term project.





June 1, 2025

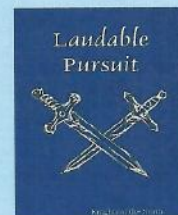
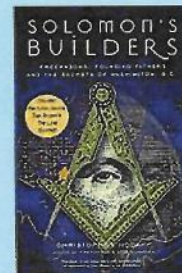
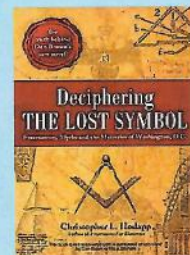
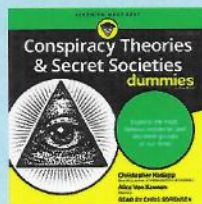
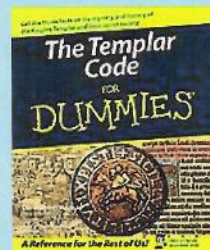
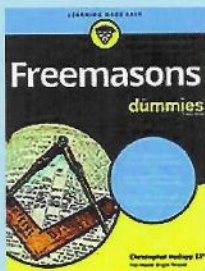
Volume 7 Issue 5

**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/>**



June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5

# *Angel of the Forest*

## *2025 Commandery Festival*

**July 12, 2025**

**Graham Masonic Park**

**8725 CO 165, Rye CO 81069**

**Starting at 7:30 AM with Coffee & Donuts**

**But beginning with a  
5:00 PM July 11<sup>th</sup> Friday Night OPEN Dinner  
for \$18.00 to include**

**Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes,  
Salad, Green Beans, Roll & Beverage**

**Followed By 6:00 PM Council Degrees  
(Pending Cast Availability)**

**Limited Dry Camping Available**

**Contact Don Mangin**

**[PuebloLodge17@Comcast.net](mailto:PuebloLodge17@Comcast.net)**

**719-251-5492 Cell**

**Saturday Event will include  
Sloppy Joes Lunch, \$10.00 &  
OPEN Dinner, \$25.00 with  
Brisket, Coleslaw, Baked Beans & Beverage**

**A \$15.00 Event Registration Fee is Required  
For More Information and Registration, link to:**

**Angel of the Forest - 2025 Commandery Festival Tickets, Sat, Jul 12, 2025 at 7:30 AM | Eventbrite**

**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**





June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5



## 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**



June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5



**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

## Honors Burial May 7, 2025

The Lakewood Chapter 1071 of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) performs several Honors Burial Ceremonies each year to properly pay last respects to veterans whose cremated remains have gone unclaimed by family members or friends for several years. In 2024, we did 31 Honors Burial Ceremonies and on May 7, we honored an additional 11 veterans. In every case, each veteran's records and history are carefully researched in hopes of finding a living relative or friend. After exhaustive research, the funeral homes contact the VVA for the Honors Burial at Fort Logan National Cemetery.

Many of our Scottish Rite Brothers are members of Lakewood Chapter 1071 of the VVA and we are honored to participate in these dignified and well-deserved ceremonies. We were blessed to have Most Worshipful Grand Master William Marshall join us for the May 7 Honors Burial Ceremony. We honored veterans from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Cold War. We were also pleased that Tina Fenimore, wife of Ill. Brother Jerry Fenimore could join us.

These ceremonies are open to all who wish to attend and pay respect to these departed veterans. We will keep you apprised as the Honors Burial Ceremonies are scheduled.



Masonic Brothers in attendance include MWGM William Marshall, SGIG Emeritus Steve Munsinger, Ill. Most Worshipful Brother Jerry Fenimore and WB Danny Tomlinson.

June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5

## Honors Burial May 7, 2025 (cont.)



Those attending on May 7 included L-R:  
Thayne Coulter, William Marshall, Tina &  
Jerry Fenimore, Tony Clark, Danny Tomlinson  
and Steve Munsinger

Each veteran's remains are in a hand-crafted wooden box with his or her name, date of birth and death, years of service and branch of military service inscribed on the lid

Respectfully,

Danny L Tomlinson

[dtomlinson@msn.com](mailto:dtomlinson@msn.com)

303-638-6509



# Flags for Fallen Vets

Every year on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, hundreds of volunteers gather at Fort Logan National Cemetery to place a flag at the grave of each of the nearly 150,000 veterans resting at Fort Logan. The close ties that Masonry has to our country's military is a special bond that brings many Masons, their ladies and families and friends to Fort Logan for the placing of the flags.

On May 25, nearly 100 of the Masonic family braved the overcast weather to help honor our country's heroes. The Denver Consistory of the Scottish Rite, El Jebel Shrine, Colorado DeMolay, the Colorado Grand Lodge and many individual Blue Lodges were represented. It was a wonderful morning of fellowship and an opportunity to say to those resting here, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

We hope that you will make plans to join us next year for this deeply moving event.

Respectfully & Gratefully,  
Danny L Tomlinson, 32° KCCH  
[dtomlinson@msn.com](mailto:dtomlinson@msn.com)  
303-638-6509





June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5

## Flags for Fallen Vets (cont.)



# Within the Vault

## “Civil War Canteen with Square & Compasses”



This fascinating piece of Civil War history. While the museum has no reliable information on the origins of the canteen, research conducted indicates that it was almost certainly carried by a Confederate soldier. Union soldiers had a standard issue canteen made from tin-plated iron that usually had a wool cover. Confederate soldiers oftentimes had to make do with what they could scrounge up from materials like wood, jugs, or bottles.

This is the tenth 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.



June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5

## 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.

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: [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 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:** Rio Blanco Lodge No. 80 . 364m7th Street, Meeker, CO

**Meeting Dates:** 2nd & 4th Thursdays ;7:00 p.m.

**Master:** Steven Coley

## Western Slope Gavel

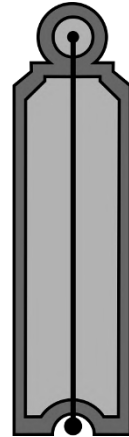
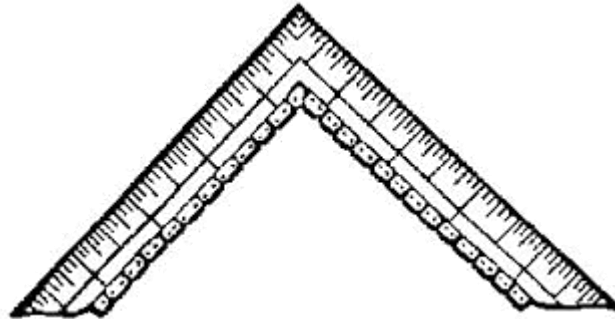
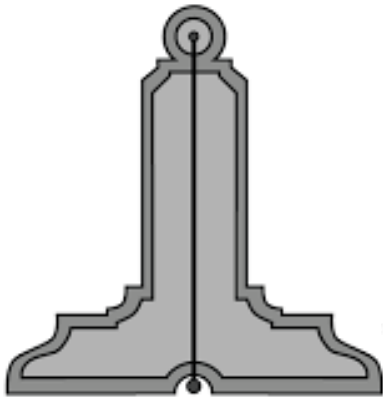
**Location:** Rio Blanco Lodge No. 80 . 364m7th Street, Meeker, CO

**Meeting Dates:** 2nd & 4th Thursdays ;7:00 p.m.

**Master:** Steven Coley



The Brothers of Rio Blanco Lodge no. 80 with the rarely seen "Double Gavel" grab!! Way to go Brothers!



**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.



June 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 5



**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.

