



Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM

July 1, 2026

**Why is the Grand Lodge considering relocating
the Grand Lodge office at this time?**

Volume 8 Issue 6

History: The Colorado Territory was officially established on February 28, 1861, by an Act of Congress signed by President James Buchanan. The Grand Lodge of Colorado A.F.&A.M. was formed in Golden on August 2, 1861 by the only three chartered Lodges within Colorado Territory at that time. Denver Lodge No. 5 was chartered that same year and Union Lodge No. 7 was chartered in 1863. Those two lodges have shared the same meeting facilities since that time. For many years the Grand Lodge held its Annual Communications at various local lodge rooms and Grand Lodge offices were at the location occupied by its Grand Secretary.



By 1873 Denver 5 and Union 7 were renting space in the Fink Block in downtown Denver where they were joined by the newly created Denver Chapter No. 2, R.A.M. and Colorado Commandery No. 1, K.T. These four Masonic bodies began to search for a location to purchase where they could erect a Masonic Temple and formed a Colorado corporation named **The Masonic Temple Association of Denver**. By 1877 The Grand Lodge of Colorado established an office with these groups in the Fink Block. In 1883 a growing number of Masonic organizations, including the York Rite and Scottish Rite, that had been meeting in the Fink Block leased space on the 3rd floor of the City Hall that was located at the corner of 14th and Larimer Streets. During the next 7 years they were joined by El Jebel Shrine, Order of Eastern Star

and several blue lodges.

On July 3, 1890, all of the Masonic organizations that had been meeting at City Hall took possession of the newly constructed Masonic Temple at 1614 Welton Street under the ownership of The Masonic Temple Association of Denver. The next day on July 4th the Grand Lodge of Colorado dedicated the cornerstone of the Colorado State Capitol. In 1907 El Jebel Shrine moved to their new temple at 1770 Sherman Street and in 1925 the Scottish Rite moved to their newly constructed building at 14th and Grant Streets. In 1977 the Grand Lodge of Colorado moved to its newly constructed building in Colorado Springs, one hundred years after they had moved into the Fink Block with the other Masonic Temple of Denver organizations.



After the Grand Lodge moved to Colorado Springs, it was realized that the building required repairs for which the Temple Association did not have resources. An offer to purchase the building for 8 million dollars was received and rejected by the owning bodies because they felt that this building location was essential if Freemasons were to continue to meet in downtown Denver. As a solution, the building was sold to a developer while retaining ownership of the land. A twenty-year lease of the land, offset by a twenty-year lease of the lodge room floors, was reached with the understanding that the contractor would make the required repairs. In



Relocating the Grand Lodge (cont.)

the process of removing the tenants for the renovation, one of the tenants refused to move and set the building on fire, completely destroying the interior of the building on March 4, 1984. Through heroic efforts, the façade was preserved and a new steel and concrete structure was created within that historic façade, with approximately \$14 million cost provided by the contractor, insurance proceeds, a construction loan and from tax incentives. By 1985 the building was complete, but the Denver real estate market had collapsed and the contractor was unable to rent space in the building for enough to make the loan payments, so the bank foreclosed. The bank sold the restored building to a real estate management company at a significant loss. Over the next forty years it was owned by three different real estate companies and foreclosed by two additional financial institutions. **In 2023** the commercial office market collapsed again due to COVID and the final financial institution deeded the building to the Masonic Temple Association of Denver in lieu of paying the delinquent ground lease payments. Since taking ownership of the entire building, the Masonic Temple Association has paid the delinquent property taxes and repaired the deferred maintenance items within the building.

The Historic Building: Designed by architect Frank Edbrooke (who also designed the Brown Palace Hotel and Colorado State Capital rotunda), was completed in 1890 on land formerly owned by Abraham and Frances (Wisebart) Jacobs. Abraham was a Mason present at both the initial meeting of the Grand Lodge of Colorado and its 50th anniversary. Frances was one of the founders of United Way and of National Jewish Hospital and is honored by a stained glass window in the rotunda of the Colorado State Capital. The Masonic Temple is listed on the National Historic Register (77000369) and registered with the Colorado Historical Society. It is located near the mid-point of the recent multi-million dollar remodeled Sixteenth Street Mall.

Financially, the land and building are owned by the Masonic Temple Association of Denver without any mortgage. The building is divided into two condominiums, the tax exempt Masonic Condominium (3rd, 4th and 5th floors) served by an elevator at the 1614 Welton Street entrance and the retail/commercial 535 16th Street Condominium (basement, 1st, 2nd, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th floors) with entrance from the 16th Street Mall and two elevators in the center of the building that serve all floors. The 535 16th Street Condominium is professionally managed by a real estate company. That 535 Street Condominium has recently become financially profitable with additional vacant office space available for lease. The Masonic Condominium is responsible for 30% of the common area expenses of the building, which includes the utilities, building insurance, security and maintenance. Masonic Temple Association has income from other sources and regularly distributes dividends to its seven Masonic nonprofit shareholding bodies.

Other Considerations:

Opportunistic Timing. Fifty years after the Grand Lodge of Colorado moved out, the Masonic

Relocating the Grand Lodge (cont.)

Temple of Denver again has total ownership of this Masonic landmark that was completely rebuilt in 1985. The third floor of the building is being added to the Masonic Condominium and will share its tax exempt status. There is adequate space available on the 3rd floor to accommodate the needs of the Grand Lodge Office, the Grand Lodge Library and the Grand Lodge Museum. The current Grand Lodge office has years of stored items that need to be digitized, returned or discarded.

Location is always important in real estate. This property is located in the center of downtown Denver on a recently renovated pedestrian mall. Downtown Denver is a healthy mix of commercial, retail and residential buildings with financial involvement by the City and County of Denver and the Downtown Denver Partnership. With a free shuttle bus service the length of the mall and special events sponsored throughout the year, there is a high volume of visitor interest and pedestrian traffic. It is within easy walking distance to the Colorado State Capital, the Colorado History Museum, the Denver Art Museum, the Denver Consistory and other museums. This would be an ideal location with public exposure for the Colorado Masonic Museum, which could be expanded to include the early history of Auraria and Denver City from a Masonic viewpoint.

A Quality Structure is required for long term use of any building. The frame structure inside the historic masonry façade was destroyed by an arson's fire in March 1984. The Colorado sandstone facade, was preserved and a modern steel and concrete building was constructed in the interior and connected to that façade. Elevators and HVAC have recently been upgraded and are maintained under contract. Security, repair and maintenance are shared by commercial tenants within their negotiated leases.

Strength and Stability of Grand Lodge members. Trustees El Paso Lodge No. 13 owns 3.8 acres of land on which the Grand Lodge building and the Colorado Springs Masonic Temple are located. Their income from that asset includes the \$1 per year lease of the land on which the current Grand Lodge building exists and rents from Masonic organizations using the Colorado Springs Masonic Temple. These income sources have not kept up with expenses incurred in maintaining the Masonic Temple. The Trustees could use the facility for venue rentals, weddings, graduations etc., rent it out as office space or level the building and enter an agreement with a contractor to build and manage condos as part of a land lease agreement. This could generate significant and sustainable income that would provide the Colorado Springs Masonic Center much needed financial security.

The Grand Lodge building in Colorado Springs is a 49 year old frame structure that may require expensive repair in the future. The \$1 annual lease provides that the Grand Lodge is responsible for all maintenance of the Grand Lodge building on the leased land. An inspector's estimate of current needed repairs ranges from \$10,020 to \$27,168, but unpriced major items could range

Relocating the Grand Lodge (cont.)

from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

Legally, there are unresolved questions as to what entity actually owns the Grand Lodge building in Colorado Springs, since it is located on leased land and the Grand Lodge does not include the building as an asset on its financial statements. El Paso County records show that Trustees El Paso Lodge 13 own the land and the buildings on it, but there is no assessment on the Grand Lodge building. Colorado lodges are required by their Book of Constitutions to form a corporation to hold title to their real property and hereby shield their members, the Grand Lodge and its members from personal liability, but the Grand Lodge does not have such a corporation.



Ownership of real property can be a profitable investment if it produces positive cash flow that more than covers the maintenance costs, but ownership can be a money pit as the building ages if there is no source of cash flow. Per capita assessment from a declining membership base will not be a sustainable source without substantial increases. Monuments such as this building are expensive to maintain as they age.

Employees have lived in many locations and worked in the Grand Lodge office. Gerald Ford, Past Grand Secretary, lived in Arvada and drove to Colorado Springs every workday for many years. Jerry Fenimore, Past Grand Treasurer, lives in Littleton and drove to Colorado Springs as needed for 30 years. Dean Settle, Past Grand Secretary, lived in Colorado Springs and drove to Denver for many years until the office moved to Colorado Springs. Harold Johnson worked in the Grand Lodge office in both the Denver and Colorado Springs locations for 50 years. Current technology allows employees to work remotely for many of their duties. The current office location discourages many Masons who live in the Denver area from considering employment in the Grand Lodge office.

Cooperation between the tenant (Grand Lodge) and the landlord (Masonic Temple Association) is needed for a long successful relationship. That relationship worked well for 87 years with subsidized rent for the Grand Lodge until the relationship deteriorated due to the building conditions and the Grand Lodge's desire to create a Masonic Grand Lodge Monument.

Submitted by Claud Dutro, PGM 2003
President, Masonic Temple Association of Denver

July 1, 2026

Volume 8 Issue 6

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.

Friday July 3, 2026

Colorado Masonic Band Evening Concert

Description: Please join us for a free concert performed at the campus of the University of Northern Colorado Campus by students of the Colorado Masonic Band Camp. Contact WB Bill Feldman at bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org or 303-910-9266 for concert times and details.

Saturday July 4, 2026

Greeley Rocky Mountain Stampede Parade

Description: Come out and support the students of the Colorado Masonic Band Camp as they march in this historic semiquincentennial parade! Contact WB Bill Feldman at bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org or 303-910-9266 for concert times and details.

Saturday August 1, 2026

Anniversary Budget Session Grand Lodge of Colorado

Description: 7:30am to 12:30pm session at 1150 Panorama Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. 2026 dues card and valid photo ID required at registration. If you are voting by proxy, make sure you have your signed and sealed proxy form.

What is this all about?

At the time of this article, I have been your Grand Lecturer half of our Masonic year and I must say I love being in this position. I am finding the Grand Lecturer position to be much different than going through the progressive Grand Line. It parallels what the Grand Lodge officers are doing, but runs on a different track. The job has different set of responsibilities and a different focus. It is a challenge; I never know what a call or email may ask me and visiting lodges is always fun.

The job description of the Grand Lecturer is about four pages long and basically covers overseeing the ritual, keeping up to date all instructional handbooks, arranging and making cornerstones happen, overseeing District Lecturers, helping lodges to be successful and tasking the Custodians of the Work. The Custodians and the District Lecturers give so much of themselves to the Craft and they affect how we work and who we are. Thank you, Brothers!

The Custodians of the Work have updated six handbooks on degrees, mentoring and education this year. Plus, a nice colored pamphlet that can be given out to potential members, called *On the Threshold*. The new Clear Text Key will probably be available by the time of the printing too. Worshipful Master, have your secretaries order some of these for your lodge. There is no need for you or your officers to use older printings and not to have all the information found in the latest versions. What else should you find new? The use of color images and pictures in many of our handbooks and instructional papers; the promotion of our web presence



Most Worshipful Michael D. Moore PGM
Grand Lecturer

What is this all about? (cont.)

and a continual updating of our handbooks, forms and procedures. You can look forward to a handful of Grand Lecturer Workshops to be done in the last half of the year. Our first Spanish speaking lodge in the state is advancing and making progress and we are happy to see it.

I, many times, show up unexpectedly at lodges. So be forewarned! I do this not to catch you and your lodge in something wrong, but to see you working in your natural setting and flow; not the stuffy side we see when the majority of the Grand Line visits. The lodges in our state are so varied, each have their own personal slant on what a Blue Lodge should be like and I never tire of seeing these difference. I am always surprised when I show up at a lodge and they tell me that they have not seen a Grand Lodge officer for many years. Whether this is true or not, there are a large number of lodges who do not request a Grand Master's visit or see their Grand Lodge officer. Which is a shame. I find that there are three major reasons why this happens – they do not want one (and that is the best reason to show up there!); they don't feel like they are worthy of a visit and they may be small and away from populous cities. None of these are good reasons not to have a visit from our Grand Master or some of his line. The last possible thought is that the Master and his officers are too busy and challenged with normal lodge operations to even think about the idea. If you are interested in this, download and fill out Form 58 and send it to:

gloffice@coloradofreemasons.org. If your lodge would like a visit from me, ask. And we can see what might work out.

I have been seeing interesting changes in some of our lodges with their atmosphere of lodges. I attended one that had nice music and low lighting during their dinner time; another lodge used their lodge's lighting very well (the lodge started with dim lighting, when first opened; it got brighter as the meeting went on and then dimmed them again when getting ready to close). There are also a few lodges promoting a busy set of meetings outside the normal lodge business meetings, which include educational times that challenge and fun times for their Brothers. These seem to be effective in those lodges and I would encourage your lodge to do something different – step out of your “we have always done it this way” box and find a fresh way to get the attention of your Brothers and potential members and

History of the Grand Lodge Building (cont.)

draw them in.

Masonry at its core is about learning and improving. This never-ending ideal is taught in our degrees and it should never end. Everyone should be growing as an individual - even our Grand Masters learn all the time. I learn every day. And your Blue Lodge officers should be learning too, which will be the emphasis of the updated Officers' Handbook the Custodians of the Work are tackling right now. The seeking and getting of light should not end when the three degrees are completed and you step into a chair. Nor is it just memorizing ritual. Many think that the seeking of "light" is just for candidates or new Masons. That is wrong, we need to continually learn; whether it is understanding why our ritual is how it is, in your own personal self-improvement or how you balance work, family, God and Masonry.

What is all we do... all about? It is improving ourselves and our lodges. Making our communities better by what we do, sucking in as much light as we can hold and changing the world one little piece at a time.



2026 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 2026 will be up to \$500.00. To qualify for the full \$500 match, the Lodge would need to award an educational grant to a 2026 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, 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 or by phone at 719-623-5349.

CMBFA EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP MATCHING GRANT AWARD -- 2026

Lodge Name and Number: _____

1st Recipient Name: _____ High School Senior (Yes/No): _____

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

2nd Recipient Name: _____ High School Senior (Yes/No): _____

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

3rd 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) \$ _____

(Each lodge contribution up to \$1000/student is matched 50%)

Remember for matching grant, students must be a 2026 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, AND SEND NO LATER THAN **JUNE 30, 2026.****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, 2026 AND RECEIVED BY JULY 8, 2026.**

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-Mail _____

Investing in Colorado's Future

One of the greatest responsibilities we share as Masons is helping to build a brighter future for the generations that follow us. Recently, Belen and I had the privilege of attending two remarkable events that exemplify this commitment: the Colorado Masonic Beneficent Fund Association Scholarship Luncheon and the Formal Opening of Colorado Job's Daughters.

At the Scholarship Luncheon, we had the opportunity to recognize some of Colorado's best and brightest students as they received scholarships to further their educational goals. These young men and women represent the future leaders of our communities, professions, and institutions. Their dedication to academic excellence and service is inspiring, and we are grateful to the Scholarship Committee whose hard work and dedication make these opportunities possi-



*RWB Jerry Underwood
Deputy Grand Master*

“Colorado’s future is bright—and it is bright because dedicated volunteers, mentors, and Masonic organizations continue to invest in the next generation.”

Just days earlier, we attended the Formal Opening of Colorado Job's Daughters, where I had the honor of presenting the Grand Master's Trophy for Ritual Excellence. Throughout the even-

Investing in Colorado's Future (Cont.)

ing, we witnessed the confidence, leadership, discipline, and commitment displayed by these exceptional young women. Organizations such as Job's Daughters provide invaluable opportunities for personal growth and leadership development, helping prepare the next generation to serve their communities with integrity and purpose.

While these events differ in focus, they share a common purpose. Whether through scholarships that open doors to higher education or youth organizations that foster character and leadership, both represent investments in the future of Colorado. They remind us that the work of Masonry extends far beyond our lodge rooms. It lives in the lives we touch, the opportunities we create, and the young people we encourage to reach their fullest potential.



Scholarship recipients and Masonic leaders gather at the Colorado Masonic Beneficent Fund Association Scholarship Luncheon.

Investing in Colorado's Future (Cont.)



Scenes from the Formal Opening of Colorado Job's Daughters, including the presentation of the Grand Master's Trophy for Ritual Excellence.

Belen and I left both events encouraged by what we saw. Colorado's future is bright, and it is bright because dedicated volunteers, mentors, educators, and Masonic organizations continue to invest their time, talents, and resources into the next generation. To all those who support our scholarship programs, youth groups, and educational initiatives, thank you. Your efforts are making a lasting difference and helping to ensure that the principles we cherish today will continue to guide the leaders of tomorrow.



Masonic Scholarship and Vocational Awards 2026

2026 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Addison Armstrong
Loveland HS

CU—Boulder
Elementary Ed



Kaia (Marriott) Coram
La Veta HS
Colorado Mtn College
La Veta #59
Nursing

Riley Jarrett
Julesburg HS
UNC
Business Administration



Masonic Scholarship and Vocational Awards 2026 (Cont.)

2026 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

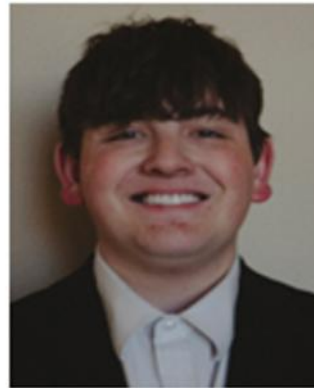
Jacob Roberts

Meeker HS

CU—Colorado Springs

Rio Blanco Lodge #80

Cybersecurity/Engineering/
Computer Science



Olivia Talley

Palisade HS

CSU

Palisade Lodge #125

Elementary Education

Masonic Scholarship and Vocational Awards 2026 (Cont.)

2026 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Rachel Urbanski

Cedaredge H.S.,
Mt Lamborn Lodge #102

CU Boulder



Emmaline Warner

Roaring Fork HS

Western Colorado Univ.

Firefighter/Paramedic

2026 VOCATIONAL AWARDS

Nevaeh Erickson

Cedaredge HS
Tech College of the Rockies
Surgical Technologist



Masonic Scholarship and Vocational Awards 2026 (Cont.)

2026 VOCATIONAL AWARDS

Caden Lockwood Ridgeway HS Mesa Tech Electrical Lineworker



Zane Pontine
Ignacio HS
Northwest CC or Mesa
Durango/San Juan #46
Pre-Aviation Tech

Kyra Redd
Nucla HS
Colorado Mountain College
Telluride #56
Ultrasound Tech



Carter Stromer
Buena Vista HS
Mesa Tech
Mt Princeton #49
Firefighter



"We are still here... the same as we've always been."

Fellow Coloradans,

In this historic year of 2026—marking the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America, as well as the 150th anniversary of Colorado's admission to the Union as the Centennial State on August 1, 1876—the Grand Lodge of Colorado feels called to speak plainly to our fellow citizens. These twin milestones remind us of the enduring principles that built both our nation and our state. We write not to boast, but to affirm who we are, to dispel the shadows of rumor and misunderstanding that swirl across the internet, and to reaffirm our steadfast commitment to the ideals that have guided us since the very beginning.

Freemasonry has long been the target of conspiracy theories and wild speculation online—claims of secret cabals controlling governments, hidden agendas, occult rituals, or shadowy influence over world affairs. Let us be clear: these rumors are false. We are not a political machine, a secret society plotting in the shadows, or anything other than what we have always been—a fraternity of good men of faith dedicated to making ourselves and our communities better. Our lodges are open to inspection by any man of character. Our principles are public: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. We gather to improve ourselves morally, to practice charity without seeking credit, and to support the timeless values of liberty, equality, and justice under God that define America.

Those same values were woven into the very fabric of the United States by many of our Founding Fathers who were proud Freemasons. George Washington, initiated into Freemasonry in 1752, served as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army and our first President; his leadership and moral example helped forge a new nation. Benjamin Franklin, a devoted Mason for

decades and Provincial Grand Master in Pennsylvania, was a brilliant diplomat, scientist, and signer of both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. John Hancock, whose bold signature anchors that sacred document, was also a Brother. Paul Revere and at least eight signers of the Declaration—including Franklin, Hancock, William Hooper, and others—brought Masonic ideals of brotherhood, self-governance, and moral uprightness into the birth of American democracy. These men did not “invent” the republic through some secret rite, but they lived the Enlightenment principles of liberty and equality that Freemasonry had long cherished, helping to create a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Here in Colorado, Freemasons played an equally vital role in transforming a rugged frontier territory into a thriving state. Our story began during the 1858–59 Gold Rush, when seven Masons gathered in a log cabin at Auraria (now part of Denver) on November 3, 1858, for the first informal Masonic meeting in the region. On August 2, 1861—fully fifteen years before Colorado achieved statehood—the Grand Lodge of Colorado was formally constituted in Golden City by three pioneer lodges. We organized before the territory even had stable government, providing moral structure, brotherhood, and civic leadership amid the chaos of mining camps and settlements. Masons helped lay the foundations of law, education, and community across the plains, mountains, and Western Slope.

Several of our Brothers served with distinction as governors, both before and after statehood, embodying the same commitment to public service. Territorial Governor John Evans (1862–1865) was a Freemason who helped guide Colorado through the Civil War era. After statehood, Brothers such as James H. Peabody—who served as both Governor and the youngest Grand Master in the nation at the time—continued that legacy of honorable leadership. From the earliest days, Colorado Masons have been pioneers, builders, teachers, veterans, and neighbors who put shoulder to the wheel for the common good.

We remain exactly who we have always been: your friends, coworkers, veterans, first responders, business owners, and fellow citizens. We raise funds quietly for children’s hospitals, scholarships, disaster relief, and community needs. We mentor youth. We stand ready to serve when fires, floods, or hardship strike. We make no distinctions of wealth, politics, or background—only of character and a sincere desire to live upright lives.

To every Coloradan, we say this: the Grand Lodge of Colorado and our more than 114 lodges are still here. We wholeheartedly support the United States of America, its Constitution, and its founding principles of freedom, equality, and justice. We do not involve ourselves in partisan politics—except when called to defend the sacred cause of liberty itself. Our only agenda is to be better men and to help build a better Colorado and a better America.

As we celebrate these historic anniversaries together, we invite good men of faith and character to consider joining us. The door is open. The work continues. And to all our fellow citizens, we reaffirm our ancient pledge:

Give me freedom or give me death!

Fraternally and sincerely yours,

Brother Farrell Greenlee

Cortez Lodge No. 133



Getting Your Rainbow Girls Tax Refund?



Are you getting a
Colorado Income Tax Refund?

Why not donate part of your refund
to Colorado Rainbow Grand Assembly.

Beginning in 2020, you may donate part of your Colorado Income Tax refund to the eligible charity of your choice. And your choice can be Colorado IORG!!!! We thank those that have given in the past years.

Here is how you do it:

- Use Colorado Tax form DR0104CH
- In Line 17 (on back of form) enter amount to donate
- Under Line 17 enter Registration Number: **20083005635**
- Next Line enter Name of Organization: **International Order of the Rainbow Colorado Grand Assembly** See example below, Note must be as listed no abbreviations.

17. Donate to a Colorado Nonprofit Fund..... • 17 00

- Enter the 11-digit Secretary of State Registration Number for the Registered Charitable Organization

20083005635

- Enter the Name of the Registered Charitable Organization

International Order of the Rainbow Colorado Grand Assembly

18. Total of lines 1 through 17. This cannot exceed the amount on line 42 of DR 0104 or line 10 of DR 0104EZ..... • 18 00

Submit the completed Colorado Tax form DR0104CH with your Colorado Tax form.

This information is also posted on our Public Facebook page "[Colorado IORG - International Order of the Rainbow for Girls](#)" and our web page www.iorgcolorado.org so please share this with your friends!

Who is Job's Daughters International?



As a Master Mason, have you ever wondered what opportunities are out there for your daughters? An organization where they can gain some of the same friendship, leadership and personal development that you get from your membership in your lodge, but for girls? Some place where the adults share similar values and look out for your kids as if they were your own?

Have you heard of Job's Daughters International? We are an International Organization for girls from 10-20 and in 5 countries around the world. Originally founded in Omaha, Nebraska in 1920, we were the outcome of a progressive idea that young ladies needed a place to learn leadership, public speaking, communication skills, respect for elders and most importantly, teamwork.

Much like the Masons, we require a belief in higher power and welcome members of all faiths. While Job's is religious in nature, we are not a religion and not a substitute for one. All members are encouraged to practice their own faith, in their own way. Our members are of many different faiths and religions and are brought together to improve themselves and do good for their community.

Job's Daughters will be hosting an information booth at Grand Lodge in Grand Junction this year and we would love to talk to you and your families! We would love to get a bethel started on the Western Slope again. We will have some candy and information packets and some past members who have lots to say about the benefits of JDI so come by and see us! Or reach out to us at cojdigest@gmail.com and we will send you information.



The Masonic Morality, Integrity and Charity Award

This award will be presented at the MHS annual awards assembly to a Junior, nominated by the MHS faculty/administration and selected by Rio Blanco Lodge #80, A.F. & A.M.

The MHS faculty/administration will nominate 3 current juniors for award consideration. The nomination forms will identify the student and detail examples of evidence witnessed in the student's life of consistent high standards of morality, integrity, and charity.

The Lodge will choose the winner and present an award certificate at the awards assembly. The lodge will make a \$500 donation to the awardee's choice of a recognized: student organization, club, sport, academic area, or any other student-benefiting school-related activity, as deemed appropriate by both the MHS principal and by the Lodge.

Nominations forms will be due to the Lodge at least two weeks before the awards assembly.

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The Masonic Morality, Integrity and Charity Award Nominations Form

Student's Name: _____

How many years has the student attended MHS? _____

Please provide one example (each) of how the nominee's words and actions reflect exemplary:

Morality _____

Integrity _____

Charity _____

Nominated by: _____

Camp is FREE!

2026 COLORADO MASONIC Band Camp!



This five-day band camp is held June 30 to July 4, 2026 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 3rd, and marching in the Greeley Rocky Mountain Stampede Parade on July 4th.

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 9th, 10th and 11th grade students enrolled in a Colorado high school band program during the 2025-26 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 or 303-910-9266

Registration must be received by April 18, 2026



A Seminar on “*Deaconism*”

A District Lecturers’ Seminar given by Dick Stewart

- **Going over the floorwork, ritual, duties, hints, hacks, and snags of being a Deacon in agonizingly and absolutely totally excruciating detail!**

**Saturday July
18th 9:00 am
until High
Twelve**

**75 Buffalo
Court,
Divide, CO
80814**

• **Sponsored by Teller
County Lodge #96.**

*• The Tiler is
knocking and we
are in the middle
of opening, what
do I do??*

*Grand Lodge Officers always be on what side
when conducting?*

Alright, who stole the ribbons from the Bible!

*He gave the wrong pass word. Now
what??*

This guy I'm conducting is sick! Ohhhhhh Man!

That candle looks really short.



80th Annual Buffalo Bill Days 2026 Sponsorship Opportunities

July 24-26, 2026 | www.GoldenBuffaloBillDays.com

What is Buffalo Bill Days?

Buffalo Bill Days is Golden's beloved annual tradition and largest community festival, honoring the legendary frontiersman William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody and celebrating the town's rich Western heritage. What started in the 1940s as commemorative trail rides by the Buffalo Bill Saddle Club to Cody's gravesite on Lookout Mountain (with the first parade in the 1960s) has evolved over nearly 80 years into a vibrant, family-friendly weekend event.

Held each last weekend in July at Parfet Park in downtown Golden, the free, all-ages festival draws over 25,000 attendees from the local area and beyond. It features:

- The iconic "Best of the West" parade through downtown
- Live music and entertainment on the main stage
- Amusement rides and kids' activities
- Local food vendors, artisan booths, and a beer garden hosted by the Lions Club of Golden
- The Golden Fire Department's popular pancake breakfast on Saturday morning
- Other highlights include the Western Celebration Month that has many community gathering events throughout June/July

This wholesome, small-town celebration fosters community spirit, creates lasting family memories, and remains free to the public thanks to dedicated volunteers and generous sponsors.

What are Benefits of Sponsoring Buffalo Bill Days?

Partner with one of Golden's most iconic and enduring events to gain meaningful exposure in a positive, family-oriented environment. As Colorado's premier hometown festival with strong local attendance (25,000+), your sponsorship delivers:

- **High-visibility branding** opportunities throughout the festival grounds, parade route, and main stage
- **Direct community engagement** via on-site booths, announcements, interactions, and exclusive perks (such as parade entries, named awards, or on-stage recognition)
- **Multi-channel promotion**, including the event website, social media (Facebook and Instagram), program ads, and extended visibility during Western Celebration Month leading up to the festival
- **Powerful goodwill and community impact**—your support helps keep the **historic event free for all attendees**, reinvests in Golden through local causes (like Golden High School scholarships), and strengthens ties with residents, customers, and employees

As a volunteer-run 501(c)(4) nonprofit, Buffalo Bill Days ensures every sponsorship dollar supports the community your business serves—making it a smart, heartfelt investment in local pride and legacy. For the latest sponsorship details, visit the official site at GoldenBuffaloBillDays.com.

Sponsorship Levels

	Presenting (\$10,000)	Showman (\$5,000)	Trailblazer (\$3,000)	Pioneer (\$1,000)	Cowboy (\$500)
Complimentary Parade Entry	★	★	★	★	★
Stage Recognition throughout Weekend (frequency based on sponsorship level)	★	★	★	★	★
Main Stage Banner (BBD will create for uniformity)	★	★	★	★	★
Digital Media: Logo on website (in order of sponsorship level)	★	★	★	★	★
Social Media Promotion on Facebook & Instagram (frequency based on sponsorship level)	★	★	★	★	★
Banner at Entrance Fenceline (BBD will create for uniformity)	★	★	★	★	
Western Celebration Month Promotion	★	★	★		
Premium Booth	★	★	★		
Print Media	★	★	★		
Recognition at BBD Welcome Event & Western Celebration Events leading up to weekend	★	★	★		
Parade Award Named After Business	★	★			
Parade Judging Committee Participation	★	★			
Provide Promotional Materials	★				
On Stage Speaking Opportunities throughout Weekend	★				
Two Primary Main Stage Banners	★				
Primary Entrance Banner on Fenceline	★				

Sponsorship Details

Presenting Sponsor: \$10,000 **(SOLD)**

Be the Official Presenting Sponsor of the 80th Annual Buffalo Bill Days-the ultimate visibility package!

- Premium booth in prime Parfet Park location
- Two large custom banners on the main music stage and one at the entrance
- Logo on official event t-shirt, all print materials, ads, and press releases
- Prominent logo placement with link on the Buffalo Bill Days website homepage
- Dedicated social media features across Facebook and Instagram
- Maximum on-stage exposure, including welcome introduction and continuous shoutouts
- Named parade award + participation on the judging committee
- Opportunity to distribute swag or promotions to attendees.
- Promotion at multiple events during the Western Celebration Month (throughout June/July) leading up to the BBD weekend
- Complimentary parade entry

Showman Sponsor - \$5,000

Stand out as a major supporter with excellent exposure and engagement perks!

- Premium booth in high-traffic location
- Complimentary parade entry
- Your logo featured on the main stage and entrance banners (professionally printed by BBD for consistency)
- Multiple stage shoutouts, including opening remarks Friday-Sunday
- Named parade award in your business/organization's honor + participation on the judging committee
- Promotion at multiple events during the Western Celebration Month (throughout June/July) leading up to the BBD weekend
- Prominent website listing under the Showman level with direct link
- Social media promotion on Facebook and Instagram

Trailblazer Sponsor - \$3,000

Gain solid exposure while supporting Golden's biggest free family event!

- Premium booth in high-traffic location
- Complimentary parade entry
- Main stage and entrance banners (professionally printed by BBD for consistency)
- Shoutouts during opening remarks and throughout the weekend (including parade day)
- Website logo placement under Trailblazer level with link
- Promotion at multiple events during the Western Celebration Month (throughout June/July) leading up to the BBD weekend
- Social media promotion on Facebook and Instagram

Pioneer Sponsor - \$1,000

Join the legacy with meaningful recognition at this historic celebration!

- Complimentary parade entry
- Main stage and entrance banners (professionally printed by BBD for consistency)
- Shoutouts at opening and throughout the event
- Website logo under Pioneer level with link
- Social media promotion on Facebook and Instagram

Cowboy Sponsor - \$500

Show your support for Golden's Western heritage with essential visibility!

- Complimentary parade entry
- Main stage and entrance banners (professionally printed by BBD for consistency)
- Shoutouts during opening remarks and weekend activities
- Website logo under Cowboy level with link
- Social Media Promotion on Facebook and Instagram

Questions?

We'd love to hear from you! Contact Sponsorship Chair Heather Schneider at BBDSponsors@gmail.com or by cell at 303-974-0994 to discuss sponsorship options and customize a package that best aligns with your goals and budget.

Let's work together to keep Buffalo Bill Days free, fun, and thriving for generations to come—spots are filling up fast!

Lodges on the Air



A number of our Brothers are licensed ham radio operators and have participated this event in the past; which is a lot of fun. Our Grand Master has given us permission to do this again. Just a reminder, that on September 26th, 2026, this year's **Lodges on the Air** and will run from 8 am to 4 pm. It is now time to search out and choose which lodge or lodge property to work out of! If you have any questions on categories or exchange requirements; the full rules can be found at: [Contest Rules | Masonic Lodges on the Air](#).

July 1, 2026

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Scottish Rite Charity Golf Classic – August 10, 2026



Players bring your “A” game!
Sponsor opportunities to fit all budgets!
See you at the exclusive Hiwan Golf Club
in Evergreen, Colorado



www.scottishritegolf.com

Monday August 10, 2026 – shotgun start at 1:30pm

Check in at 12 Noon

Lunch on Patio at 12:30

Free range/putting, Player Gifts, Awards Ceremony

**Proceeds will benefit the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and the Scottish
Rite Foundation / RiteCare
(Juvenile Speech / Hearing Therapy Treatment)**





COLORADO SPRINGS, CO • ESTABLISHED 1929

PIKES PEAK GUN CLUB

AL KALY SHRINER'S LTC MICHAEL "BO" CRUZ MEMORIAL **CLAY SHOOT** 2026

\$130 PER SHOOTER | TEAMS OF 5

INCLUDES: 100 SPORTING CLAYS, STEAK DINNER, GUEST
SPEAKERS, TEAM & INDIVIDUAL CASH PRIZES & TROPHIES

Sponsored by

 Al Kaly Shrine & Pikes Peak Gun Club

 Follow @ Al Kaly Shriners Provost Guard

 POC Jim Gibson 719-640-2837

 Saturday, 15 August 2026

 9:00am - Till End

 450 S. Franceville Coal Mine Rd,
Colorado Springs, CO 80929

 Receive payment by 8/12/2026

REGISTER TODAY!

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/83EHV3L8LWRGU>



CHECK PAYABLE TO: AL KALY SHRINE
MAIL TO: VICE PRESIDENT PAUL NEGRO
4164 AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY PMB 318
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80918

MAILED PAYMENTS MUST INCLUDE A NOTE OF ALL TEAM MEMBERS

Proceeds are for the benefit of Al Kaly Shriners and are not deductible as a charitable contribution.



Al Kaly Shriners Golf Tournament

Monday, August 24, 2026

AIR FORCE ACADEMY EISENHOWER GOLF COURSE

4 Person Scramble - \$185 per person

Price includes: Cart, green fees, coffee and breakfast pastries, range balls, lunch, goodie bag, and 5 tickets towards door prizes - plus on course contests and opportunities to earn more tickets towards door prizes and gift cards to the pro shop.

Register on or before August 1st to receive an additional 5 tickets for door prizes!

Individual sign-ups welcome – will be paired up in foursomes

Register No Later Than August 16, 2026

Important: All registered golfers will be contacted regarding the procedures necessary to gain access to the Air Force Academy for the golf tournament.

AL KALY SHRINERS GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIPS

Hole Sponsors will have a special sign recognizing their business placed at a hole along the course and also receive recognition on the Al Kaly Shriners Golf Tournament website as well as at the luncheon

Returning Hole Sponsor \$100 – New Hole Sponsor \$150

Donors of door prizes or auction prizes will be advertised on the Al Kaly Shriners Golf Tournament website and recognized at the luncheon

Questions - Please contact Jim Barager (719) 460-5323 or teenajim1@aol.com

See reverse side for registration instruction

July 1, 2026

Volume 8 Issue 6

Al Kaly Shriners Golf Tournament

Monday, August 24, 2026

Air Force Academy Eisenhower Golf Course, Silver Course

4 Person Scramble - \$185 per person – tee off at 8:00 am

Includes: cart, green fees, coffee and pastries, range balls, lunch, goodie bag, and 5 tickets towards door prizes – plus on course contests and opportunities to earn more tickets towards door prizes and gift cards to the pro shop

Individual sign-ups welcome – will be paired up in foursomes

Register no later than August 16, 2026

Register on or before August 1st to receive an additional 5 tickets towards door prizes

All registered golfers will be contacted via email regarding the procedures necessary to gain access to the Air Force Academy for the golf tournament. Important to include your email and phone number with your registration

Register online at: alkalyshrinersgolf.com

Or scan this QR code:



If you do not golf, please pass this information to your friends and family who do golf and encourage them to support our great cause for raising money.

Contact Jim Barager to register the old fashion way (paper copy)

Or with any questions: phone or text 719-460-5323 or teenajim1@aol.com

Proceeds are for the benefit of the Al Kaly Shrine General Fund and are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution

BAR **D** *Chuckwagon* **SUPPERS** **Durango, CO**

FOUR CORNERS MASONIC EVENT

You are invited to an evening of great entertainment, good food and fellowship!!

September 19th

Gate Opens @ 4:30 ~ Dinner @ 6:30

Bar D Chuckwagon Supper and Show

8080 C. R. 250, Durango, Colorado

All Masons, their family, and friends are invited.

This includes all Masonic appendant organizations.

**Please send RSVP
and Payment for
Your Meal Tickets to:**

(J.W. Mancos Lodge #100)
F. William Greenlee
130 N. Pinon Drive
Cortez, CO. 81321
970-560-3865

farrellgreenlee@live.com

**Call and we can RSVP
with C.C. over the phone.**

**The Bar -D has asked me to buy
all of the tickets in a lump sum
so that we can all sit together.**



*Sponsored by
Mancos Lodge #100*



**Concert Tickets
Include**

Meal Choice Options:

**Sliced Roast Beef or Boneless
Chicken Breast**

(Choice is made in the serving line not
when buying tickets.)

Adult: \$44

Child (5 to 10 years): \$19

(4 Years and Under Parent can carry an
extra empty plate under theirs to share
food.)

**Roast Beef & Chicken Breast:
\$49**

**Flame Broiled Rib Eye Steak
Cooked In The Medium Range:
\$63**

RSVP

No Later than the 6th of September.





SCOTTISH RITE SPORTING CLAYS CLASSIC

Shoot. Connect. Give Back.

★ **September 19, 2026**
📍 **Kiowa Creek Sporting Club**

A DAY OF COMPETITION, CAMARADERIE & CHARITY
Join us for an exciting sporting clays event supporting the Scottish Rite mission.

EVENT INCLUDES:

-  **Sporting clays** tournament
-  **Raffle prizes**
-  **Team & individual participation**
-  **Lunch provided**

IMPORTANT: REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

WHY IT MATTERS:
Proceeds support **Scottish Rite** charitable programs, including, **Scottish Rite Masonic Center** and **RiteCare**—helping children with speech, language, and learning challenges.

scottishriteclays.com



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER

AIM HIGH. HAVE FUN. MAKE AN IMPACT.





EST. 1801

CELEBRATING 225 YEARS

DENVER CONSISTORY
SCOTTISH RITE FREEMASONRY

225
ANNIVERSARY

FALL REUNION
JOIN US FOR OUR HISTORIC ANNIVERSARY EVENT

NOVEMBER 12-15, 2026
1370 GRANT ST. DENVER, CO 80203

EXCLUSIVE OFFER TO HONOR OUR
HISTORIC 225 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
MEMBERSHIP PETITION OFFER

ONLY \$225
~~\$400~~ SAVINGS OF \$175
AVAILABLE FOR THIS REUNION ONLY

SPECIAL OFFER

 **SCAN TO PETITION**
OR SUBMIT YOUR PETITION TODAY

PETITION ONLINE AT:
Denver.Scottishrite.org

REGISTER NOW → LEARN MORE →

Within the Vault

“Historic Grand Lodge Jewels”

Below is a set of beautifully engraved historic jewels from the 19th Century actually worn by the officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado. Notice the Tiler jewel has a sword and axe crossed. Notice too the Deacon jewels feature a winged dove with olive branch in beak. The jewels are engraved with the words “Grand Lodge State of Colorado”. It is a rare and wonderful piece of history.



This ongoing series of articles highlights 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!

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 Grand Junction

WB Blake Terry: sblaketerry@gmail.com 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.

Front Range Gavel

Location: Nevada Lodge No. 4

1043 Nevadaville Road, Nevadaville, CO 80427

Meeting Dates: 2nd Saturday; 6:30 p.m.

Master: Loren Kohler



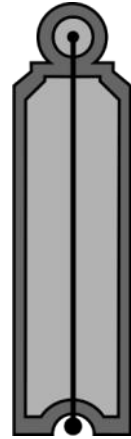
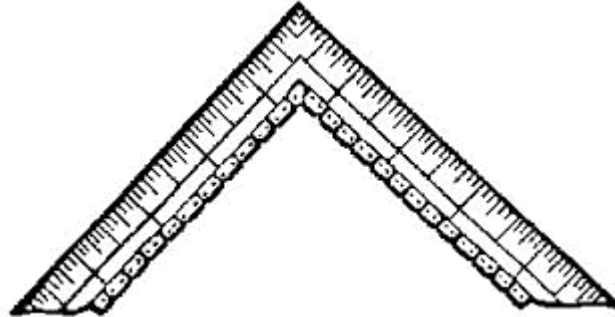
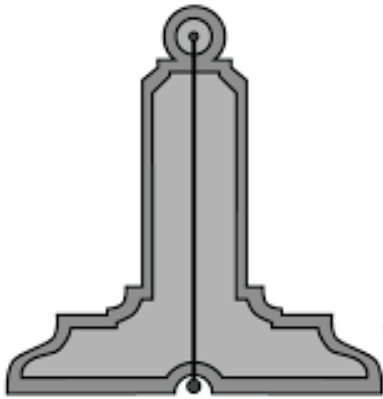
Western Slope Gavel

Location: Montrose Lodge No. 63

187 Rose Lane, Montrose, CO 81401

Meeting Dates: 1st & 3rd Tues. ;7:00 p.m.

Master: John Thomason



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. Dean A. McConnell, 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.

July 1, 2026

Volume 8 Issue 6



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.

