



Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM

January 1, 2025

Volume 6 Issue 12

No Place in Masonry!

Gossip and Rumor

In our Masonic lodges, we take immense pride in our principles of brotherly love, charity, and truth. Yet, one of the biggest threats to these values comes from the spread of gossip and rumors. What often starts as a casual comment can quickly snowball into harmful misinformation, driven by personal biases, ego, and unresolved disagreements. To protect the integrity of our Masonic community, we must understand how gossip works and the damage it can cause.



RWB Jerry Underwood

Gossip often begins innocently enough, perhaps from a place of concern or curiosity. But it can rapidly turn into something much darker. Personal biases can twist our perceptions, leading us to misinterpret what others say or do. When we let our preconceived notions take the wheel, we create distorted narratives that can harm our brothers. Ego compounds this problem; when someone feels slighted or threatened, they might lash out by spreading rumors to assert their dominance or gain sympathy. This behavior not only tarnishes individual reputations but also weakens the bonds of brotherhood that we value so deeply.

Trust is the foundation of any strong relationship, and gossip erodes that trust. When rumors circulate, they create an atmosphere of suspicion and doubt. Brothers start questioning each other's motives, leading to divisions within the lodge. Instead of working together, members find themselves at odds, forming factions that can tear apart the fabric of our community. Even unfounded rumors can have lasting consequences, damaging a member's reputation and affecting their personal and professional lives outside the lodge.

Leadership plays a crucial role in stopping gossip in its tracks. Lodge leaders need to create an open environment where members feel safe sharing their concerns directly. By fostering honest dialogue, we can prevent misunderstandings from escalating into gossip. Moreover, leaders and long-time



No Place in Masonry (cont.)

members must model good behavior by avoiding gossip themselves. This sets a standard for everyone and reinforces the values we hold dear. When issues arise, we must tackle them head-on; ignoring problems only allows them to fester and grow.

One of the most effective ways to combat gossip is for brothers to resolve their disagreements face-to-face, as our Masonic obligations instruct us. This direct approach allows for clear communication and fosters mutual understanding. When brothers address their issues directly, they can clarify intentions, dispel misconceptions, and find common ground. This significantly reduces the chances of misunderstandings which escalate into discord. Additionally, we must promote a culture of humility. Leaders should show that it's okay to be wrong and to seek common ground. This openness not only eases tensions but also encourages everyone to engage in constructive conversations instead of resorting to harmful talk.

Reinforcing the values that unite us can also help mitigate the division. We should regularly celebrate our shared achievements and emphasize our common goals. These practices remind members of our shared purpose, strengthening the bonds of brotherhood and creating a supportive environment where gossip is less likely to thrive. Furthermore, fostering a sense of community within the lodge encourages members to look out for one another. When brothers feel connected and valued, they are less inclined to engage in harmful gossip and more likely to offer support through challenges.

By recognizing the dangers of gossip and the factors that fuel it—like personal biases, ego, and unresolved disagreements—we can take meaningful steps to create a culture of trust and respect in our lodges. This commitment to open communication and direct conflict resolution will not only safeguard the integrity of our Masonic communities but also reinforce our bonds of brotherhood.

Brothers, let's come together to uplift one another, embodying the true spirit of Masonry. By working hand in hand, we can ensure our lodges remain spaces of support, understanding, and unity. Through vigilance and dedication to our principles, we can foster an environment where every member feels valued, respected, and truly part of our Masonic family.



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 January 4, 2025

Deputy Grand Master Roast;

Description: William Marshall, Grand Junction Consistory. 6pm Banquet. 7pm Roast

Saturday January 18, 2025

Annual Meeting and Conferral of the Actual Past Master's Degree

Description: Prime Rib or salmon dinner reservations required by January 4th, \$50.00. Canyon City Masonic Temple (Mount Moriah Lodge No. 15) Degree conferral and meeting begins at 6pm. 114 S. 6th Street, Canyon City, CO 81212. Contact WB Dale H. Young scapmasecy@gmail.com or 303-918-8387

Wednesday January 23rd & Friday 25th, 2025

164th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Colorado

Description: 7801 E. Orchard Rd., Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Saturday February 1, 2025

Research Lodge of Colorado

Description: Installation of officers and dinner. 2pm to 5pm. 4819 Montview Blvd. Denver, CO 80207

Saturday February 8, 2025

El Paso County Actual Past Master's Association

Description: Annual Communication and dinner (\$20.00) Guamanian Feast of pork, beef, chicken with rice lumpia. Make checks payable to APMA. No reservations accepted after February 1st at noon. Mail checks to 407 Ridgewood Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

Saturday February 15, 2025

Sweetheart Fundraiser Banquet

Description: Benefiting Highlands Lodge No. 86. Cost is \$50/person. RSVP by February 13th; 9pm. Highlands Masonic Temple 3550 Federal Blvd., Denver, CO.

Small Acts of Kindness Make a Big Difference

Five years ago, while working with Cameron Advanced Mobility (CAM), I had an interaction around the campfire in Moab that has since garnered a global response. It highlights that in this season of giving and joy, even the most dedicated warriors embody kindness.

CAM has been teaching tactical driving, vehicle recovery, navigation, and field repairs to U.S. Military, Foreign Military, State Department groups, as well as professional off-road racing teams and civilians, for the last 20 years. This particular trip was one of CAM's austere driver training course in Moab with members of an elite military unit just before a deployment

After driving the trucks all day—stopping for repairs and assisting each other in navigation or recovery when necessary—we would set up camp, build a fire, share a meal, and enjoy a few beverages while telling stories and getting to know one another. This routine serves as an exercise in mental health and personal relationship building, as much as it is about teaching skills that contribute to saving the lives of our military personnel.

While standing around the fire on a trip, one of the servicemembers noticed me pulling the tab off my can and placing it in my pocket. He immediately asked,

“Why are you doing that?”

“Every 5 gallons helps get a wheel chair for a kid,” I replied.

“Really? How does that work?”

I explained that the Shriners, an extension of Freemasonry, began collecting aluminum tabs for recycling in November 1989 when the Helma Court No. 64 Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America founded the Aluminum Tab Collection/Recycling Project. The money raised from these tabs supports the 22 Shriners Hospitals for Children across North America, providing free orthopedic and burn care to children. The funds are used for transportation, hospital and patient necessities, and children's entertainment.

As I wrapped up the explanation, the student began pulling and handing me tab from

Small Acts of Kindness (cont.)

his can. I looked up to find Webb and Charles, lead mechanics and instructors for CAM, busy washing the potato salad container and cutting a slit in its lid. Seeing my furrowed brow, Webb offered, "If it helps the children, then we are all in."

On our very next trip, while setting up the kitchen at Camp 1 for the week, Ken Cameron, owner of CAM, noticed Charles setting out the potato salad container and inquired about our new initiative. Charles offered the explanation and from that point on, CAM has been collecting can tabs on all the trips. Each year, I receive a call from Webb or Ken asking me to come pick up the year's collection.

If you're wondering, the tabs are valuable because they are made of high-quality aluminum and are easier to collect in large quantities than whole cans. Here are a few data points for reference:

- One pound of aluminum is equal to about 34 empty cans or 1,400 pull tabs.
- A gallon-sized bag of tabs is about 2.5 lbs or 3,500 tabs.
- Five gallons is about 12.5 pounds or 17,500 tabs!

With these facts in mind, when Ken calls to share that he has 20 gallons of tabs for me to pick up each year, that equates to 70,000 can tabs, weighing 50 pounds!

Over the last few years, the camp dinner potato bucket has expanded and some of the students are collecting and sending tabs from their deployments all over the world!

Ken is as excited about supporting the Shriners Hospitals for Children mission as he is about driving out of camp with no moon and no lights, utilizing stars and night vision to traverse the desert. I share this story with you for several reasons:

First, this is the season of giving and of thanks. I would like to thank Ken, Webb, and Charles, with CAM Mobility, for their passion in training our military elite, ensuring they are fully prepared for whatever roads they travel.

Second, I would like to thank Castle Lodge #122 in Eagle. In addition to the Masonic Toy Store and Second Chance Scholarships, Castle Lodge has been quietly collecting bags of can tabs to deliver to the Shriners in Grand Junction for years.

Finally, I would like to thank the men and women who sacrifice their personal lives in the

Small Acts of Kindness (cont.)

defense of our country. The effort it takes to incorporate a seemingly small gesture like saving the tab from their cans—while deployed and in some of the most dangerous areas of the world—demonstrates the truly selfless nature of our United States military personnel.

Fraternally yours,

Bro. Matt Solomon

Castle Lodge No. 122

Eagle, Colorado

Editor's Note: Additional program information can be found [here](#).



Pueblo Lodge No. 17 Officer Installation

Congratulations to Worshipful Master Orlando Maez, his family, and the newly installed officers of Pueblo Lodge No. 17!



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

Creation of Spanish Speaking Pilot Lodge for Colorado

Whereas, On February 15th, 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



Within the Vault

Moonstone Collection



The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Museum has an impressive collection of moonstones adorning various officer jewels. The ancient Romans and Greeks admired the moonstone and associated them with their moon Gods. Moonstones get their name not only from the “man on the moon” carved into it but, the stone’s schiller which creates a milky bluish interior light caused by diffraction. The diffracted light can range from white to blue depending on the composition of the stone. The moonstone is the Florida state gemstone. It was designated as such in 1970 to commemorate the moon landings. Come and visit the museum to see a range of colors and carvings in these amazing artifacts.

This is the fifth 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!



K.S.A. Burns Night Supper and Whisky College

Bag pipes ❏ Silent auction ❏ Burns poetry

Saturday January 18th, 2025, 6:00pm



Dinner: 6:00pm

Caesar Salad, Rolls, Haggis, Beef Wellington, Mashed Potatoes,
Roasted Tri-Color Carrots, Chocolate Mousse

\$60 - Adult (13 and over)

Prepaid online reservations required

Whisky College: 5:00pm

\$45 - Adult (21 and over)

Prepaid online reservations required

For reservations:

Advanced prepaid reservations are available online only.
(DO NOT contact the Consistory office).

[Denverburnssupper.com](http://denverburnssupper.com)

Featured entertainment.



&

El Jebel Pipe Band

*Scottish Rite Masonic Center
1370 Grant Street, Denver, Colorado 80203*

*Proceeds to benefit RiteCare, (<https://scottishritefoundation.org>)
and Scottish Rite Masonic Center*

scottishritefoundation.org



**THE SOUTHERN COLORADO
ACTUAL PAST MASTER'S ASSOCIATION
PUEBLO, COLORADO**



PRESENTS THEIR

**Annual Meeting & Conferral of the
Actual Past Master's Degree**

All Actual Past Masters and Candidates are welcome*

When: *Saturday, January 18, 2025*
(Dinner R,SVP Deadline: 1/4/2025)

Where: *Cañon City Masonic Temple*
(Mount Moriah Lodge #15)
114 S 6th St (1/2 block north off Hiway 50)
Cañon City, CO 81212

Time: *Dinner: 5:00 pm*
(Choice of Prime Rib or Salmon)
(Cost: \$30.00 either, payable in advance)

Degree Conferral & Meeting: 6:00 pm
(Meeting to follow Degree Conferral)

Reservations for the dinner are required and must be received no later than Saturday, January 4, 2025. Your check; made payable to Actual Past Masters and sent to WB Dale H. Young, Secy/Trea, 60 Pine Valley Rd, Cotopaxi, CO 81223; is your reservation (specify meal choice along with check). For questions, contact WB Dale at scapmasecy@gmail.com or (303) 918-8387.

** Brethren, especially Secretary's, if your Lodge has a first time Worshipful Master in need of receiving the degree, or a Past Master who has never received the degree (or one who would like to retake it), contact WB Dale. We would love to include him, or them, in our conferral.*



January 1, 2025

Volume 6 Issue 12



164th Annual Communication

Of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado Ancient Free & Accepted Masons



The 164th communication of
the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M. of Colorado
will commence on Thursday, January 23rd 2025,
and will conclude on Saturday, January 25th 2025,
at The Double Tree Hotel, Denver Tech Center, located at:
7801 E. Orchard Rd. Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111.
Please refer to the Grand Lodge website for information pertaining to
registration, accommodations, and meals.

For assistance please contact the Grand Lodge Office at:

Email: officeadmin@coloradofreemasons.org

Office: (719) 623-5344 • Text: (719) 963-4827



164th Annual Communication

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23rd, 2025

- 1:00pm to 6:00pm Check-In
Aqua - Lobby Level
 - 1:00pm to 3:00pm Principal Officers/Wardens Workshop
Magenta - Atrium Level
 - 3:30pm to 4:30pm District Lecturer Workshop
Magenta - Atrium Level
 - 3:30pm to 4:30pm Secretary Workshop
Main Ballroom - Atrium Level
 - 5:30pm to 6:00pm Vesper Service
Magenta - Atrium Level
 - 6:00pm No Host Reception (By Invitation Only)
Indigo Foyer - Atrium Level
 - 7:00pm Grand Master's Banquet (By Invitation Only)
Indigo - Atrium Level
- *Attire: Men: Dark Suits or tuxedo; Ladies: Formal)*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24th, 2025

- 7:00am to 9:00am Check-In
Aqua - Lobby Level
- 7:00am to 8:00am District Lecturers Breakfast (By Invitation Only)
Magenta - Atrium Level
- 8:00am Musical Prelude
Citrus Ballroom - Lobby Level
- 8:30am Informal Public Session
Citrus Ballroom - Lobby Level
- Presentation of Colors
(by DeMolay and Knights Templar Arch of Steel)
- Flag Tributes *(by DGM William Marshall)*
- Welcome - by Grand Master
- Introduction of appendant and Concordant Bodies
Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, OES, Nile, Amaranth, Beauceant
- Intermission
- 10:00am Opening Lodge of Master Masons
by the Brethren of Tejon Lodge No. 104
- Opening of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Colorado
- Roll Call of Grand Lodge Officers
- Introduction of Distinguished Guests
- Introduction of Balloting by the Credentials Committee

This agenda is always subject to change

164th Annual Communication

- Preliminary Report of the Credentials Committee
- Grand Oration
- Grand Master’s Address
- Intermission
- 11:30am Open Ballot for Election of Officers
- Presentation of Lodge Banners
- Proposed Amendments to the Book of Constitutions
- 12:30pm Close Ballot for Election of Officers
- 12:30pm Break for lunch (*Lodge room must be vacated*)
 - Men - Atrium Ladies - Magenta*
- 1:30pm Grand Lodge returns from lunch
- Results of Election and Acceptance
- Approval of Pre-printed reports to include:
 - Report of Grand Treasurer
 - Report of Grand Secretary
 - Introduction of Lodge Secretaries
 - Report of the Grand Lecturer
 - Honor Lodge Awards
 - Introduction of District Lecturers and Installation
- Reports of Standing Committees
 - Jurisprudence
 - Finance
 - Charters and Dispensations
 - Appeals and Grievances
 - Fraternal Relations
 - Memorial
 - Masonic Education
 - Armed Forces Welfare
 - Custodians of the Work
 - Scholarship / Vocational Grants
- Reports of Constitutional Corporations
 - Colorado Masons’ Benevolent Fund
 - Colorado Masonic Library & Museum
 - Colorado Masonic Properties
 - Preservation and Assistance Fund
 - Perpetual Membership
 - Masonic High School Band Camp
- Reports of Special Committees
 - Youth
 - Masonic Awareness & Member Development
 - George Washington National Memorial
 - Memorials, Markers and Monuments
 - Credentials

This agenda is always subject to change

164th Annual Communication

- 3:30pm Grand Lodge Adjourns for the Day
 - 4:00pm to 5:00pm Rose upon the Cross presentation
Performed by: the Brethren of Douglas Lodge No.153
 - 5:00pm Open Installation of the 2025 Grand Lodge Officers
Citrus Ballroom Lobby Level
 - 6:00pm No Host Social Hour
Indigo Foyer Lower Level
 - 7:00pm All Masonic Banquet
Indigo Lower Level
- *Attire: Formal, Collared shirt with slacks and blazer/coat*
Presentation of Awards

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26th, 2025

- 7:00am to 9:00am Check-In
Aqua - Lobby Level
- 7:00am Red Cross of Constantine Breakfast *(Members Only)*
Magenta - Meeting Level
- 8:30am Musical Prelude - *Citrus Ballroom - Lobby Level*
- 8:45am Youth Group Introductions
- 10:00am Break and Vacate the Lodge Room
Grand Lodge returns from adjournment
- 10:15am Report of the Committee on the Grand Master’s Address
Report of Jurisprudence Committee on the actions of the 2024 Grand Master
Report of the Jurisprudence Committee on the Proposed Constitutional Amendments *(Discussion and Voting)*
Final Report of the Credentials Committee
Final Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence
Switch to the 2025 Grand Lodge Officers Proclamation
2025 Grand Master in Office
Presentation of the Traveling Gavel
Good of the Order
Jr. Past Grand Master Apron and Collar Presentation
Grand Master Closes in Due Form

This agenda is always subject to change

Lessons Applied: Building Upon a Lodge

One does not often associate a bathroom remodel with Masonic symbolism but, sometimes the universe reveals unexpected wonders. Such has been the case in our lodge in the past few months. I am fond of saying that good men have three commodities to offer the world; their time, their talent, and their treasure. We have been blessed with a number of new Brothers who emulate the legacy of remarkable men who call Douglas No. 153 home. They have been attentive initiates and eager to learn the lessons of Freemasonry. There is nothing more pleasing to a Master Mason than witnessing the progression of a dutiful Brother in their proficiencies. Seeing the lessons embodied in their behavior, speech, and character is extremely pleasing to the senses. But, seldom do they embody structural changes to the physical lodge.



Entered Apprentices are taught that a “Lodge” is representative of many things. The brethren, the building, and much, much, more. They learn about the work in the quarry, the selection of stones that will be of benefit for the Builder’s use. The lessons are speculative and theoretical. We hope the symbols are resonating but sometimes it’s difficult to tell. In truth, the lessons continue to reveal new secrets as they are contemplated and applied to the world around us. Still, it was an incredible joy to see the lessons of the Entered Apprentice degree inculcated in a bathroom remodel!

It all began in the fall of 2024 when the Temple Board was forced to fire a general contractor. Our lodge building was constructed in 1904 and it seemed as if the men’s bathroom hadn’t been updated since! Paper and plater were coming off the wall, exposing the historic brick in some places. The door wouldn’t fully open because the sink blocked it. The fixtures were in poor repair and the plumbing seemed on the verge of constant failure. Just a few weeks before, the urinal valve

Lessons Applied: Building Upon a Lodge (cont.)

failed and luckily we were present to stop the flow before flooding could occur. Over the years most just used the women's bathroom.

Douglas No. 153 is not a wealthy lodge in terms of money, far from it in fact. Like a lot of small lodges, the Temple Board routinely makes hard choices on what repairs require attention and what can wait. They almost never entertain the idea of "fancy" upgrades because it just wouldn't be a wise use of our limited funds and they try to be very responsible with our lodge assets. Most niceties come only from the generosity of our brethren. Such was the case when two of our newest EAs, Bro. Chris Opfer and Bro. Chris Wilcox, heard about the firing of our general contractor who had begun work on a bathroom. While lawyers by trade, they both had experience in home remodeling and asked for the opportunity to finish what had been started (which wasn't much at that point).

Good leaders know that sometimes it's best to just get out of the way and let others do the work they're capable of. Our two EAs were quite secretive at first and while they asked for approvals of certain materials and selections, their plan slowly began to reveal itself. My only request was that I wanted the room to have an "old-timey" feel to it, representative of its age. My goodness did they deliver.

They immediately got to work on demolition and removal of old plumbing and fixtures. That was followed by plaster repair and custom woodwork to replace a missing historic baseboard. They installed a new floor and re-purposed an old wooden 55 gallon acid drum into a sink vanity. As the work progressed they started adding in features symbolic of the Entered Apprentice degree. The stone sink was carved by an Operative stonemason in Ukraine. Notice the rough appearance on the outside with the "more perfect" inside. The copper paneling reminiscent of "something of a metallic kind" below the Masonic blue paint. The light fixture having "three burning tapers". The "cable tow" trim and of course the "working tools" coat rack. One noticeable omission makes sense given the nature of the room and the need to maintain the purity of said emblem. We were also able to repurpose a bunch of product advertisements from some discarded National Geographic magazines from the early 20th Century to use as a wallpaper which added to the nostalgic look of the room.

It has become quite the fun exercise for brethren to discover the symbology represent

Lessons Applied: Building Upon a Lodge (cont.)



ed in this room. So much contemplation was exercised in the selection of materials and manner of display. It is a wonderful embodiment of the lessons inculcated in the degree and we are so very proud of our brothers for caring enough to make such a noteworthy effort.

Masonry encourages you to build upon all aspects of your edifice. The original plan for the bathroom remodel was to get it functional and presentable again; bare necessities. However, our newly initiated Entered Apprentices demonstrated what is possible when one applies a higher standard and seeks a more perfect state of being. The cost is higher and the work is harder but, the result is indistinguishably better. It is self-evident that the lessons inculcated in the first degree were learned and applied by our extraordinary Entered Apprentices. As such, it is noteworthy that, even in a bathroom, we can find evidence of the great masonic lessons which guide us in our journey to the East.

By Tom Adair

Worshipful Master; Douglas Lodge No. 153

Castle Rock, CO

Lessons Applied: Building Upon a Lodge (cont.)



Sweetheart Fundraiser Banquet

Benefiting Highlands Lodge #86, A.F. & A.M.

Saturday, February 15, 2025 from 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

*Highlands Masonic Temple
3550 Federal Blvd; Denver, Colorado*

\$50/person (Sales end February 13th at 9:00 PM)

<https://highlandssweetheartbanquet.eventbrite.com/?aff=Flyer>

Live Raffle

*Raffle tickets available for purchase at the door.
Cash only! Must be present to win.*

Scan to Purchase



Membership Awareness and Retention

Greetings Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brothers:

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

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

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

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

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

Membership Awareness and Retention

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

Please respond to the few questions above to 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 Grand Junction

WB Terry Blake: 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.

Regular Gavel

Location: Douglas Lodge No. 153 300 Wilcox Street, Castle Rock, CO

Meeting Dates: 1st & 3rd Thursday ;7:30 p.m.

Master: Tom Adair



Western Slope Gavel

Location: Ouray Lodge No. 37, 441 Main Street, Ouray, CO

Meeting Dates: Meets 2nd Wednesday; 7:30 p.m.

Master: Kenneth Wood

High Twelve International

WHO ARE WE?

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

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

Simply put, High Twelve is MASONARY IN ACTION.

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



WHAT WE DO?

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

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

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

WHEN?

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

WHY?

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

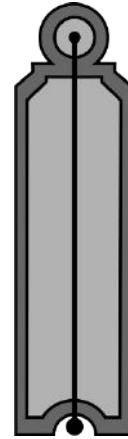
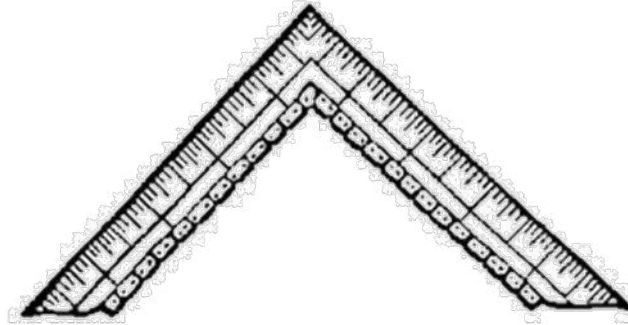
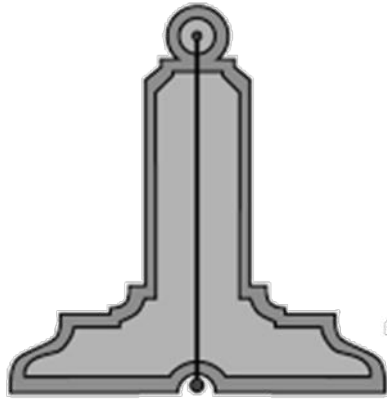
Our emblem features THREE STEPS which symbolize the three degrees of a Master Mason. The clock is at HIGH TWELVE. But most important is our motto.

To Talk Little
To Hear Much
To Reflect Upon Truth

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

Hope to see you soon. For more information contact us at secreary@high12.org

FAMILY, FELLOWSHIP, FUTURE



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. David L. Reynolds, G.M.
grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org
 (719) 623-5345

Grand Secretary
 R.W.Bro. Scot M. Autry, P.M.
grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org
 (719) 623-5342

Submission Deadline

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



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

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

