



Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM

May 1, 2023

Volume 5 Issue 4

Tidings from the East by way of the West

What Has Masonry Done for The World?



Freemasonry has done more for the world in which we live than most people—even most Masons—realize.

Historians have generally paid little attention to the Fraternity in the past. In the last few years, however, academics and historians have begun to realize that Freemasonry runs as a thread through many of the events which have shaped the political, economic, cultural and social world we know today.

An exciting story is unfolding.

For the most part, the men and women quoted here are not associated with the Masonic Fraternity. Rather, they are historians, sociologists, cultural anthropologists, professors of architecture and music, and representatives of other disciplines.

Their studies in their own areas of research have led them to the Lodge as a “major player” in shaping the world.



What Has Masonry Done for the World

Individualism

We take our individualism for granted today. We dress the way we want, fix our hair the way we want, say what we want, eat what we want and read what we want. But it wasn't always that way. A major first step toward individualism was taken in A.D. 1230, when the stone masons were ordered by the church to shave off their beards and cut their hair short. One of the first sit-down strides in Europe was the result, with the masons insisting on the right to dress as they wished. The Church finally had to give in, and the first blow for individualism had been struck.

Throughout the Enlightenment (late 1600s through mid 1700s) the fraternity actively pressed for and taught its members the revolutionary idea that each man and woman was entitled to respect as an individual. That idea spread from Masonic Lodges to the society as a whole.

Democracy

Historians now realize that Masonic Lodges in Europe served as the first models of democracy, models which later spread to governments. Members in Lodges made their own by-laws and elected their own leaders. No place else in society was that true. The very idea of elections, unsupervised by religious or civic authority, was unheard of---except in the Lodge. It is not too much to say that the model of democracy which later was finalized in the United States and now exists in many nations of the world was an invention of the Masonic Lodge.

Masonry came to North America in the early 1700s. Many of the political debates about America's future took place in Masonic Lodges, involving such Masons as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, and Joseph Warren. Those men were not only involved as individuals in the founding of America, but their Lodges were deeply involved in creating the new nation, rarifying the Bill of Rights and establishing democracy as we know it today.

Human Rights

Again, most of us today think of Human Rights as something which has always been obvious.

What Has Masonry Done for the World

(Continued)

But that is not so. Throughout the great majority of history, people were valued on the basis of their wealth and social position. There were no “rights” as we think of the term. The social classes were strictly divided, even subject to different laws, and it was normal for each class to exploit the classes below.

Even in the churches, there were separate seating areas for the upper and lower classes.

Masonic Lodges were the first organizations to break down those barriers. The fraternity taught the revolutionary concept that “all men are equal in Lodge.” There are Lodge records of members of the British royal family sitting in Lodges with their servants. Mozart’s Lodge in Austria had members who belonged to the aristocracy, members who were leaders of the scientific establishment, musicians, merchants, and even actors (regarded as near the bottom of the social scale), all sitting together as equals.

The idea of the equality of women also first appeared in Masonic Lodges. In Belgium, in the 1700s, there were Lodges for both men and women, with women taking fully equal parts. While Masonry was ultimately established as a fraternity rather than a confraternity, it has always taught respect for women as equal human beings, entitled to equal consideration.

Rights of Workers

If you enjoy working an 8-hour day rather than a 16-hour day, thank Masonry. Earlier, workdays were from sunrise to sunset, and were extended even further when gaslight made it possible to artificially illuminate the workplace. But the Masonic ritual taught another revolutionary concept- that men and women were entitled to part of the day as their own. It taught that the day should be divided into 3 8-hour parts, with 8 hours going to work, 8 hours going to the service of ‘god and others, and 8 hours for rest and relaxation. Masons like Samuel Gompers helped to make that a reality. The Masonic author Albert Pike taught in the rituals of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry that an employer had responsibility to employees to see them

What Has Masonry Done for the World

(Continued)

well housed and well fed, that exploitation of workers or paying the lowest possible wage was morally indecent, and that the exploitation of women and children in factories was criminal.

The Arts and Architecture

Freemasonry has had a strong influence on the art and architecture of the United States, especially on large public buildings and parks. Sir Christopher Wren, the architect responsible for the rebuilding of London after the great fire of 1666, is recorded as a Grand Master of Masons and many of the themes of the Masonic ritual and culture can be found in his designs. Those designs heavily influenced architecture for 150 years.

Basic Masonic themes which appear in architecture include design elements in groups of three, the use of equilateral triangles, the obelisk, and the vertical division of a building into three sections.

In music the works of Mozart, Haydn, Sibelius, John Phillip Sousa, and W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan may be best known, but there are hundreds of Masonic composers in every genre from opera to rock. Organ builders recognized “a Masonic pipe organ” as a type of instrument in itself.

In literature, works by Masonic authors or featuring Masonic themes such as War and Peace, The Man Who Would Be King, Kim, and the poetry of Robert Burns are well known.

Contemporary works with Freemasonic themes (not all written by Masons) include science fiction such as The Artifact, Stranger in a Strange Land, The Cat Who Walked Through Walls, and the Star Wars movies. Masonry and its lessons have helped to shape the cultures of the world.

What Has Masonry Done for the World (Continued)

Public Education

Education has always been important to the fraternity. In the Middle Ages, Masons trained in geometry and architecture using an apprenticeship system. Masonry was one of the very few occupations in which literacy was required, and apprentice masons were taught reading and writing as well arithmetic and geometry.

At the founding of America, Masons helped to establish the first non-sectarian public schools and worked for tax-supported, compulsory education for all children. The movement grew and strengthened throughout the 1800s. There are many cases on record in which the local Lodge built the schoolhouse, bought the schoolbooks, and paid the teacher's salary until the community could organize to take over. In 1808, the Masons, under Grand Master DeWitt Clinton, helped to organize an educational system for the city of New York. When a bill was reintroduced, and letters were sent to Masonic Lodges across the United States, asking Masons to contact their Senators and Representatives and urge support of the bill. At the official signing ceremony,, the Masonic Fraternity was credited with securing passage of the legislation which today is helping to bring higher education within the reach of all Americans.

Health

Some of the first hospitals and the first programs to provide income for families whose breadwinner was killed or disabled arose among the masons of the Middle Ages (building sites give rise to many accidents!). In the United States, Masonic Lodges started many hospitals, most of which were later turned over to communities as the population grew large enough to support them without Masonic assistance. Today, of course, Masonic involvement in health, especially the health of children is well known.

What Has Masonry Done for the World

(Continued)

WHAT HAVE WE DONE FOR YOU LATELY?

As we've seen, Freemasonry has been a strong influence in the development of democracy, human freedom and dignity, education, and the equality we enjoy.

In Public Education

Masonry is a partner with education in some important programs. Grand Lodges have established foundations on various college campuses which specialize in leadership training, in historical research, in gender studies, and in training for government. Across America, Lodges and Grand Lodges give thousands of college scholarships each year. Clinics supported by the Scottish Rite and York Rite treat children with dyslexia and other learning and hearing challenges, and teach teachers how to help children learn to read more effectively.

In Health

In some states, Masons have partnered with Prevent Blindness to support vision screening for school children and seniors. The Shrine's Children's Hospitals treat children who have orthopedic problems or serious burns. Research done at those facilities has helped many thousands of children live normal lives. Other bodies in the Masonic family support major research in diabetes, dementia, schizophrenia, cancer, and many other medical problems. The Masonic Drug Prevention Program has been hailed by officials of the federal government as one of the very few drug abuse prevention programs which actually works. One Grand lodge has recently funded an Alzheimers Disease laboratory at a major medical research facility.

In Personal Development and Fulfillment

We not only offer the traditional paths of self-discovery and self-development which have been the essence of Freemasonry for centuries, we offer training and classes in leadership,

What Has Masonry Done for the World (Continued)

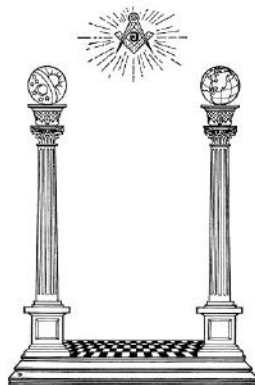
organization, problem-solving and other skills which make a difference in the daily personal and professional lives of our members.

Freemasonry is more than a fraternity, more than a way of life

--- it's a commitment to the future!

Thanks to James Tresner, of Oklahoma, author of this publication

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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.

Thu May 4 - Sat May 6, 2023

All day Grand Junction Consistory Reunion

Where: 2400 Consistory Ct, Grand Junction, CO 81501, USA

Fri May 5, 2023

12pm Grand Masters Address to the Reunion Class

Where: 2400 Consistory Ct, Grand Junction, CO 81501, USA

Thu May 11—Sat, May 13, 2023

All day Denver Consistory Reunion Spring

Where: 1370 Grant St, Denver, CO 80203, USA

Fri May 12, 2023

All day Denver Consistory Reunion Spring

Where: 1370 Grant St, Denver, CO 80203, USA

Wed May 24, 2023

6pm Award with Marquis de Lafayette #41

Where: 1614 Welton St, Denver, CO 80202, USA

Description: 6:00 pm - Dinner 7:00 pm - Lodge

Thu Jun 1, 2023

Awards Night @ Century Lodge No. 190

Where: 2532 9th Ave, Greeley, CO 80631, USA

Sat Jun 3, 2023

8am Akron Royal Arch Festival

Description: At the Ranch

Sun Jun 4, 2023

10:15am Awards Breakfast at Columbine No. 147

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Calendar of Grand Lodge Events (Continued)

Sat June 17, 2023

8am Grand River Rendevoux

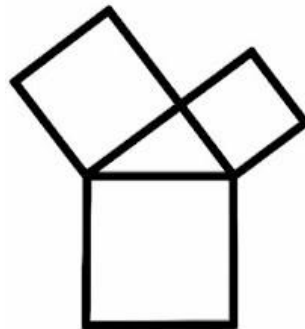
Where: 2400 Consistory Ct, Grand Junction, CO 81501, USA

Fri Jun 30,- Tue Jul 4, 2023

Colorado Masonic Band Camp

Mon Jul 3, 2023

Colorado Masonic Band Camp Concert



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.

Masonry and Facebook

When the Grand Master asked me to write an article for the Grand Lodge Trestleboard about how Mesa Lodge uses Facebook I didn't know where to begin. So I thought back to what drove me to become the administrator for our lodge's Facebook page. Before I begin let me introduce myself. I am Worshipful Brother Gregory Foster sitting Master of Mesa Lodge No. 55.

It probably started one day when I was asking my wife about her day and she told me that she had mentioned to a co-worker of hers that I had a lodge that night. Her co-worker asked what she meant, and she responded that I was a Freemason and I had one of our monthly meetings to go to that night. Her co-worker responded that he had never heard about Freemasonry.

This led me to think about how Freemasonry is no longer in the country's zeitgeist. The days of generational or legacy Masonry is now an exception and no longer the rule. I've seen estimates that after World War II nearly five percent of all Americans were Masons. Now nearly eighty years later that percentage has dropped to about one-half of one percent.

This got me thinking about how the Lodge could engage with people, both members, and non-members, to let them know what we are doing and what we stand for. The answer I came up with was Facebook.

But why Facebook?

Because Facebook is the largest social media platform in the world and the majority of its users are between the ages of twenty-five and sixty-five. Also, the majority of Americans get their NEWS from social media or other online sources instead of from the TV or newspapers and Facebook users spend on average between one and three hours a day on Facebook.

Facebook is a combination of the office water cooler, a public message board, a newspaper, and a calendar all rolled into one. In my opinion, Facebook is probably one of the greatest tools Freemasonry has for growth and community outreach.

Facebook allows a Lodge to communicate important information to its members about upcoming meetings, events, and each other. Facebook also allows nonmembers to find us and inquire

Masonry and Facebook (Continued)

about the lodge and Freemasonry.

For example, last December the Lodge decided to host a Christmas Craft Fair to raise a bit of money for the lodge building by renting booth space and get our name back out into the community. The Lodge advertised on several Facebook Craft Fair and Event pages for the Western Slope and the Grand Junction area. The result was nearly forty vendors rented booth space in our building including several Brothers and their wives, which raised over twelve hundred dollars for the Temple.

Another example is the Open House we held in early April. The Lodges and other Masonic bodies in the Grand Valley got together to host an Open House for the community to come in and see the building and learn more about Freemasonry. We advertised the Open House on several pages dedicated to events on the Western Slope and in the Grand Junction and Fruita Communities. The result was that we had nearly three dozen people come to the open house. Several of them asked for more information about Freemasonry and how to become Masons.

Facebook also allows us to advertise our Lodge, Grand Lodge, and Band Camp Scholarships in the community. The young lady that received our 2023 John C. Whitlock Memorial Scholarship from Mesa Lodge heard about it from the Grand Junction Facebook Community Page.

But probably the biggest win for Mesa Lodge when it comes to having a Facebook page is the fact we just initiated a new member who found us and contacted us through Facebook. This new Brother didn't know a Mason, he's only been in Grand Junction a few years and he reached out to us through Facebook. He started coming around to our picnics and happy hours and then put in a petition. If it hadn't been for Facebook he may never have found us.

So how can your Lodge successfully use Facebook?

First, create a page for your Lodge. People can't find your page if it doesn't exist.

Second, make sure the information on there is complete and accurate. Make sure you include your address and contact email.

Masonry and Facebook (Continued)

Third, have your members Like and Follow the page. Let them know that the Lodge will use Facebook to communicate important information.

Fourth, content, content content! Pages that have lots of content show up more than pages that don't. Add events, post pictures from your dinners/degrees, and post reminders about upcoming meetings.

Fifth, there is a lot of Masonic content on Facebook. Follow other Lodges and Grand Lodges. Follow appendant bodies too. Encourage your members to be active on the page by re-posting memes, pictures, and other Masonic materials.

Sixth, look at other successful Masonic pages like Shriners International to see how they become successful. There are millions of articles and videos online about how to make a successful Facebook Page and Facebook Marketing. Be brave, try different things.

Facebook can be an important tool for your lodge if used well. The more you put into it the more you will get out of it.

W. Bro. Gregory Foster

Worshipful Master | Mesa Lodge No. 55 A.F. & A.M.

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Pictures From Around the State

Palisade & Fruita Lodge Joint Communication and the EA Degree Mesa Lodge



Pictures From Around the State



New Lodge building in Steamboat



**Grand Lodge officers rededication of the
new Lodge building for Elk Mountain
Lodge 118 in Steamboat on Saturday, April
22, 2023**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Colorado Masonic Family Historical Donations Committee is looking for volunteers to do research. This research is to determine the amount of hours we've donated, the amount of money we've donated, and the number of people we've helped as a Masonic family since our inception in Colorado in 1861. This applies to every branch of the Masonic family. The goal of this research is to shed light on what we've contributed as an organization to our communities. This information will be utilized to educate both to our organizations internally and to the residents of the State of Colorado. This is a daunting task and we are looking for help. If you're interested in working on this project please contact WB Mike Brewer at mike.brewer@allurdata.com.

2023 4-year college scholarships and the Vocational Awards by the Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee

Vocational Awards					
Last Name	First Name	Middle	City	School	Lodge
Overton-Linsacum	Jayden	R.N.	Meeker	Colo NW CC	Rio Blanco #80
Ferguson	Asa	M	Leadville	Western Colo CC	Corinthian #35
Zink	Maddy	Jo	Sterling	Northeastern CC	Sterling #54
Osborn	Kaden	T	Leadville	Western Colo CC	Corinthian #35
Sandridge	Clay	M	Montrose	Trinidad State Coll	Montrose #63
Greenlee	Gregory	L	Mancos	Northeastern CC	Mancos #100
4 year Scholarship Awards					
Last Name	First Name	Middle	City	School	Lodge
Tankersley	Breanna	H	Mancos	CU-CS	Mancos #100
Fugate	Elanor	L	Colorado Springs	MINES	Manatou #68
Clark	Victoria	A	Hotchkiss	UNC	Mt. Lamborn #102
Place	Ashlynn	G	Swink	Pueblo CC	St. John #75
Maness	Quinn	A	Cortez	CSU	Cortez #133
Reyes-Powell	Yaphet		Montrose	DU	Montrose #63
Fletchall	Arabella	G	Colorado Springs	CU	Cemturion #195

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: Telluride Lodge #56, 200 East Colorado, Telluride, Colorado, 81435

Meeting Dates: 2nd Saturday of each month, 10:00 a.m.

Master: Vicko Vidal

Western Slope Gavel

Location: Corinthian Lodge # 35, 619 Harrison Avenue, Leadville, Colorado 80461

Meeting Dates: 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 7:30 p.m.

**MOUNT MORIAH LODGE #15
A.F. & A.M.
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO**

Is hosting a

DISTRICT LECTURER'S WORKSHOP

Presented by
WB Richard (Dick) Stewart
District Lecturer of District #81 & Grand Tiler

The workshop will be held on
Saturday, May 27, 2023

It will start at 9:00 am and conclude around Noon.
Coffee and Donuts will be available prior to starting
for those who arrive early. Come early and come casual.

This is to be a participant involvement workshop regarding the Book of Constitutions. WB Dick requests that anyone attending notify him in advance so he can assign a "constitutional question" for you to present. He also asks that you bring a copy of both the Book of Constitutions and the Book of Forms with you, either hard or digital.

WB Dick can be reached at either
secfv191@gmail.com or (719) 243-2262.

Mount Moriah Masonic Temple is located at
114 S 6th Street, Cañon City, CO.
Street parking is available.

FLAGS FOR FALLEN VETS

**SUNDAY – 28MAY2023 – 0900 HOURS (9AM)
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!**



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

This year's family-oriented event will take place on Sunday, May 28 at 9am at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver. We need volunteers to assist with **placing the flags on May 28** and then with the **pickup of the flags on June 3**. Volunteering is very easy - just follow these steps:

- Go to <https://flagsforfallenvets.com/> and click on 2023 Volunteer Form
- Select Fort Logan National - Denver in the drop-down menu and then enter your email address
- In the "Group" menu, select "Mason" and Section "S"
- Add the number of volunteers you will be bringing with you that day

**Camp is
FREE!**

COLORADO MASONIC Band Camp!



This five-day band camp is held June 30 to July 4, 2023 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.

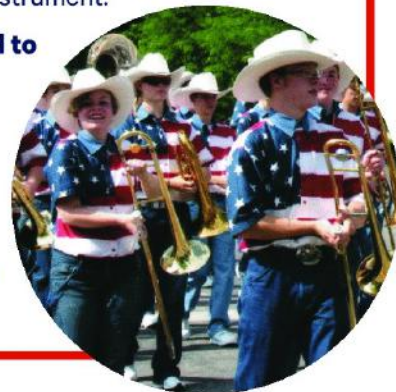
The camp accepts talented 9th, 10th and 11th grade students enrolled in a Colorado high school band program during the 2022-23 school year; capable of performing in the parade, and who play at least one marching band instrument.

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 21, 2023



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Calling all Masons!!

Douglas Lodge No. 153 invites ALL Colorado Masons to join us Saturday July 29th, 2023 in Castle Rock Colorado for the Douglas County Fair Parade! This is a great opportunity to represent the values of Masonry in our communities!

Please contact WM C. Dave Tuck in OLP for further details



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COLORADO MASONIC HIGH SCHOOL BAND CAMP
JUNE 30 – JULY 4, 2023



Mail to: Colorado Masonic High School Band Camp
c/o Jerry Fenimore, Grand Treasurer
82 Brookhaven Drive, Littleton, CO 80123
email: bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org

Our organization will participate and we are submitting the following:

We would like to make a donation to sponsor _____ student(s) for the 2023 Colorado Masonic Band Camp.

The cost to sponsor a student is \$375. 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 _____

We do not have a student to nominate. Please provide one nominated by the Band Camp ☐

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, as it will appear on Name Badge and Concert Program)

Address: _____

City: _____, CO, (ZIP) _____ - _____

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 music honors received and chair in HS Band. Information in this section is important. Please give all facts and details.

CIRCLE: Male Female

CIRCLE: Class in the 2022-2023 School Year 9th grade 10th grade 11th grade

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MEET YOUR GRAND LODGE OFFICERS



M.W.Bro. Ross A. Allen
Grand Master



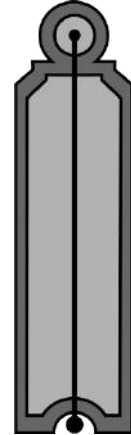
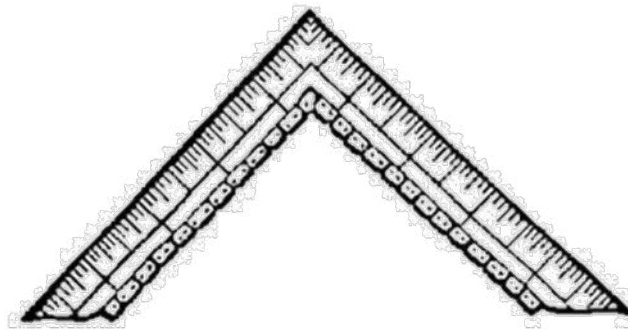
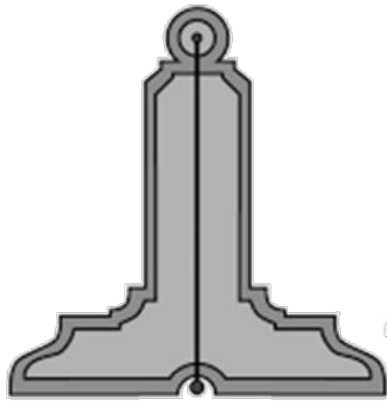
R.W.Bro. David L. Reynolds
Deputy Grand Master



R.W.Bro. William E. Marshall
Senior Grand Warden



R.W.Bro. Dean A. McConnell
Junior Grand Warden



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. Ross A Allen, G.M.

grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org

(719) 623-5345

Grand Secretary

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

grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org

(719) 623-5342



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

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.

