

October Newsletter



SEASON
OF CHANGE



Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are in the dealings with one another; sympathy begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason.

Benjamin Franklin



MWGM RALPH NEWBY

Brethren,

Just a bit of personal news. My daughter had a baby boy in early September. They named him Mason. Baby and mom are doing well.

We are starting to wind how this Masonic year. In the month of October any changes to the Book of Constitutions (BOC) that you wish to submit are due. The date is October 25. As the officers and I have traveled around the state we have been encouraging the lodges to submit changes they would like to see. Over the past 3 or so years the proposals have for the most part came from a committee. That approach has not worked. It needs to come from the brethren of the lodges who see things in the BOC that are conflicting or that you think need to be addressed to meet the needs of your lodge. You have about 4 weeks to get with the officers of your lodge and send in your proposals so that they can be considered at the Grand Lodge sessions in January.

Speaking of the Grand Lodge sessions, the date is January 23-25. It will be at the Hotel Elegante in Colorado Springs. The office staff and I are busy planning the details of the sessions. For the most part the sessions will be very similar to what we have done in the past. We are making a few tweaks to address schedule problems in the past. My wife is putting together a fun time for the ladies, so she wants me to make sure and tell the brethren to bring their ladies.





We are having a cornerstone in Craig on October 3 at 4:00 PM. This year has been disappointing regarding cornerstones. We only did two cornerstones this year. Because we do cornerstones for public buildings only there may not be as many new projects going on. If you see a school, a city or county building, a library or a state or federal building going up you might want to approach them about the possibility of having the Masons do a cornerstone for the building. We also do churches. It is an opportunity to show our communities that we do exist and are actively supporting our communities. As I have said in the past, there are two public ceremonies we do, funerals and cornerstones. We do funerals to honor our brethren who have passed away. Cornerstone are a joyous occasion because it celebrates the industry of our communities.

Also, this year we have had several lodges who have decided to merge and, in some cases, sell the building they meet in. It is sad to see this happen, but it is understandable. Sometimes the

lack of active members makes it difficult to continue to operate a lodge. If you are one of those brothers who does not attend lodge, I would encourage you to try to attend and support your local lodge. If we don't, your lodge may be one of those that looks to merge. We also see lodges unable to meet the expenses of a building and must sell their building. The monthly expenses such as insurance and utilities are more than the lodge takes in annually in dues and investments, and it may be difficult or impossible to rent the building for additional income. Remember that your lodge is the members, not the building. Having talked about the mergers we have going on remember that if your lodge is considering merging or selling their building there are some things that must be done according to the BOC. Work with your District Lecture and Grand Lodge officer to make these transitions go smoothly.

In the next two months I am going to be in several parts of the state visiting lodges who have invited me and giving our awards for long time membership in our beloved fraternity. If there is one going on near you, I encourage you to attend. The brethren love to have other brethren around them when they get honored. They have some really good stories to tell about their time as Masons and It is good to hear what brought them into Masonry and what has kept them involved for so many years.

Most Worshipful Grand Master of AF&AM in Colorado Ralph Newby





Grand Lodge of Colorado
Education Committee

We Are Looking For Speakers or Material!

Do you have material that would make a great presentation?



by **Pete Finnie - Speakers Subcommittee**

Brothers, as we redevelop the Speakers Bureau we are also looking to add resources, speakers and online content that could be used for lodge education. Our focus is to still to maintain appropriate and reviewed content while at the same time make it easier to become a presenter or supply valuable material and we think we have accomplished both.

Our vision for the speakers section of the education website is to provide content that can be downloaded for presentation to your lodge by a lodge member as well as ask for a speaker to present to the lodges. We hope that we will be able to expand our speakers and material so we have strong coverage across the state.

If you have something developed that you feel would be valuable to present to other lodges we want to hear from you!

If you have any questions please contact Pete Finnie at speakers@grandlodgeofcolorado.org or contact me at 720-295-9856

September 2019

SOUTH DENVER LODGE #93

Veteran's Day Celebration

WHEN

**November 5th, 2019
6pm - 9pm**

WHERE

**South Denver Lodge #93
350 S. Broadway, Denver, CO. 80209**

**DINNER STARTS AT 6:30PM. THERE WILL BE A
REMEMBRANCE TABLE TO DISPLAY ITEMS FROM YOUR
SERVICE, OR THE SERVICE OF A FRIEND OR LOVED ONE YOU
WOULD LIKE TO HONOR. YOU ARE ALSO INVITED TO WEAR
ANY U.S. MILITARY UNIFORM, OR UNIFORM ITEM YOU ARE
ENTITLED TO WEAR.**

**RSVP SOUTHDENVERLODGE@OUTLOOK.COM
PLEASE NOTIFY US HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY**



TIME IS RUNNING OUT

Brethren,

The 2019 Masonic Symposium is just a few short weeks away, with registrations ending **soon!**

With over 100 registrants for the event and counting, this will be the Largest Masonic Development Event of the Year.

This years Symposium is focused on “Masonic Symbolism”, specifically designed to expand your knowledge on the Deeper Meanings of Freemasonry. With over 13 Educational presentations/workshops, led by experts from around Colorado and around the Country, this is an event you don’t want to miss!

If you are truly serious about your growth in Masonic Knowledge and developing a greater understanding of the Craft, this event is for you!

Registration is only \$75.00 per person, (includes Lunch)

Festive Board Dinner is only \$27.50 person, with the Keynote Address by RWB Raymond Dunn.

Discounts available for Group Registrations of 10 or more.

Registration and Symposium Agenda is available now!

www.Symposium.GrandLodgeOfColorado.Org

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Bro Wyatt Page at

wpage70@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there!!!!



2019
Colorado
Masonic
Symposium

GRAPEVINE

Masonic Lodge issues challenge to match cupola funds by Sept. 14



Will match community funds up to \$2,000 to complete \$200K cupola restoration project

By KIMI LATHROP
Special to The Times

The Mount Princeton Masonic Lodge 49 has had a long history with the 1882 courthouse in Buena Vista. Just look at the cornerstone

PHOTO BY MAX R. SMITH
Masonic Lodge cornerstone on the BV Heritage Museum building on East Main Street.

of the building on the southwest corner and you will see the evidence.

It is no surprise then that the Mount Princeton Masonic Lodge 49 is ready to support the restorations that are preserving the structural integrity of the building along with its historical appeal.

The museum is just finishing phase 2 of a multi-year, multi-million dollar project to save the building.

The cupola restoration project of 2019 was funded by the History Colorado State Historical Fund for about

\$200,000, of which Buena Vista Heritage is required to match \$67,000. We are currently on our last \$9,000 needed to be raised for this grant.

Mount Princeton Masonic Lodge 49 has issued a challenge to the community, raise up to \$2,000 before Sept. 14 and the Masonic Lodge will match the donations for a total of \$4,000 for the project.

Donations can be made online at buenavistaheritage.org, on our Facebook page, by credit card over the phone or in person at the museum.

All donations made before Sept. 14 will be counted, so please don't delay.

If you are interested in joining the Masonic Lodge 49, please leave a message at the Heritage Museum, 719-395-8458.

ROYAL SMILES



15th Annual Jewel Ball

An evening in the

Ruby Rain



OCTOBER CALENDAR

Tue Oct 1, 2019 7:30pm OV - Awards @ Fountain Valley Lodge 191

Where: 509 N Main St,
Fountain, CO 80817

Description: Dinner @
6:30pm Lodge @ 7:30pm
50yr award for Buxman,
and two 25yr awards
Lodge will open to
conduct business then
OV RSVP
SecFVL191@gmail.com

Thu Oct 3, 2019

4pm Cornerstone

Where: 750 Hospital
Loop, Craig, CO 81625,
USA

Description: Memorial
Regional Health Medical
4:00 pm be onsite no
later than 3:30pm.

Mon Oct 7, 2019

6pm Awards @ Golden City Lodge 1

Where: 400 10th St,
Golden, CO 80401, USA

Description: Awards
Presentation Night
dinner at 6:00PM and the

meeting itself starting at
7:00PM. Please RSVP
Secretary@goldencitylodge1.org
#1 720-808-1326

Tue Oct 8, 2019

7:30pm OV - Awards @ Lakewood Lodge 170

Where: 2460 Youngfield
St, Denver, CO 80215

Description: Dinner @
6:30pm Lodge @ 7:30pm
(Open Meeting for the
Families & Friends)
Please RSVP to David
LeMaster, Sec'y by
October 1, midnight. That
should give us plenty of
time to make
accommodations.
ll170secretary@gmail.com
or Cell: 714-791-2267

Wed Oct 16, 2019

7pm OV-Awards @ Weston Lodge 22

Where: 5718 S Rapp St,
Littleton, CO 80120

Description: Dinner @
6:00pm Lodge @ 7:00pm
Please RSVP Thayne
Coulter, Sec'y @ (303)

250-2709

Fri Nov 1, 2019

7pm OV - Awards @ Highlands Lodge 86

Where: 3550 Federal
Blvd, Denver, CO 80211

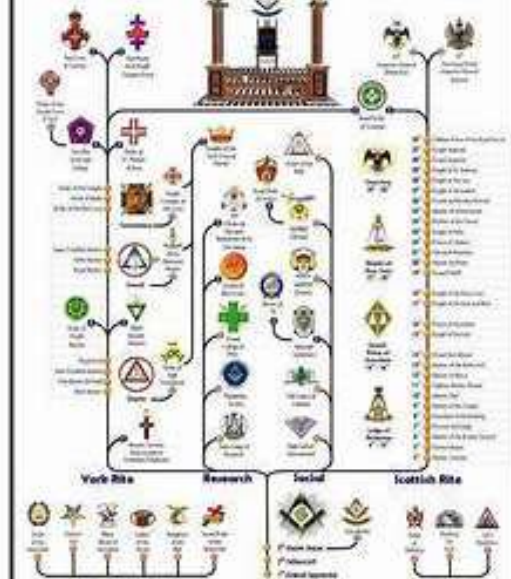
Description: Dinner @
Lodge @ 7:00pm (Open
meeting) More details to
follow

Thu Nov 7, 2019

6pm OV @ Denver Lodge No. 5

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

Description: 160th
Anniversary of Denver
Lodge No. 5 and we will
celebrate it with Heritage
Night. We will have a
short business meeting
at 5:30pm. 6:30pm -
Dinner 7:30pm - Open
Meeting with a
presentation on the
history of Denver Lodge
No 5



OCTOBER CALENDAR CONTINUED

Fri Nov 8, 2019

**1pm Grand Master
Address @ So. Colorado
Consistory**

Where: 1150 Panorama
Dr, Colorado Springs, CO
80904

Description: details to
follow

Sat Nov 9, 2019

**5pm OV @ Byers Lodge
No. 152**

Where: 310 W Front St,
Byers, CO 80103, USA

Description: OV and
100th Anniversary of
Byers Lodge No. 152
5:00pm - Dinner Open
meeting to follow RSVP to
John Francis no later than
October 26, 2019 at
jwfbama@msn.com

Thu Nov 14, 2019

**6pm OV @ Lamar Lodge
No. 90**

Where: 219 S Main St,
Lamar, CO 81052, USA

Fri Nov 15, 2019

**12pm Grand Masters
address to the Fall
Class Reunion**

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

Description: The 55th
Consecutive Reunion of
Denver Consistory will be
held November 14, 15,
16, 2019. Time has been
scheduled for you to
address the members of
the Reunion class at 12:
05pm Friday November
15, 2019. Your address is

scheduled in the
Cathedral Room
immediately following
the exemplification of the
20°. Lunch will be served
following your address.
The Reunion Banquet will
be Saturday November
16th at 6: 00pm at
Denver Consistory.

Thu Nov 21, 2019

**6:30pm Monte Vista
Lodge No. 73 Annual
Venison Banquet (Not a
OV)**

Where: 40 Batterson St,
Monte Vista, CO 81144,
USA



Masonic Halloween

by WB Steven Harrison

Halloween and Freemasonry: There are probably many tie-ins what with all the costumes worn in degree work, skulls and other symbols; and that's before the conspiracy theorists weigh in. Occasionally, though, the pairing of the mysterious holiday and Freemasonry brings to mind images of Harry Houdini, a life member of St. Cecile Lodge 568, New York City.

A man of mystery, you could almost say Brother Harry lived Halloween 24/7. Aside from being, arguably, the world's greatest magician and escape artist, Houdini maintained an abiding interest in the paranormal. He did not, however deceitfully promote it as he felt many did. He despised fraudulent seers and mediums and worked tirelessly to expose their chicanery. He felt everything he couldn't expose as being fake must be real.

He made many attempts to communicate with his mother after she died, but found no evidence of contact. Still, feeling communication with "the other side" was possible, he made a pact with his wife Bessie that the first to die would attempt to contact the other through a coded message. No one knows what the full message was, but part of the pact was that Houdini would open a pair of silver handcuffs they owned. Bessie never received any communication from Houdini after his death, but hundreds of psychics claimed they did.

On Halloween 1936, the 10th anniversary of his death, she held a final séance in which he failed to appear. After that, Bess declared the search over and said she believed he could not come back, "It is finished." Two years later she created a firestorm in the world of spiritualists when, playing herself in the film *Religious Racketeer*, she said she did not believe communication with the dead was possible.

During his life the great Houdini did everything he could to separate the fake aspects of spiritualism from what he thought might be real. Shortly before his death he testified before congress against spiritualists and fortune tellers licensed to practice in Washington, DC. So adamant was he that they were charlatans, the hearing broke out in a shouting match and some of the spectators tried to attack Houdini.

Harmony Lodge #61

Lodge Invitation

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019

6:30 pm Complimentary Dinner, Family and
Guests Invited

7:30 pm "The Benefits of Freemasonry"
Presentation by Senior Grand Warden

Michael D. Moore

Open to the Public

**"So many times we only think of
what the Fraternity does for us
individually; when we see the total reach
and influence of the fraternity, it will
amaze you."**

Senior Grand Warden Michael Moore

350 S Broadway Denver CO 80902

720-526-2846



On the other hand, still believing there was something to communication with the spiritual world, he worked with Thomas Edison in an attempt to develop a "delicate psychic detecting instrument." The object of the "ghost machine," as it was called, was to be so sensitive it could detect the presence or touch of an ethereal being from another world. There is no evidence the machine was ever built.

On October 26, 1926, Houdini received a painful blow to the stomach in a demonstration at McGill University in Montreal. Contrary to popular opinion, most medical experts believe the blow was unrelated to the appendicitis attack that followed; however, Houdini failed to get treatment thinking the pain in his stomach was due to the punch to his abdomen. After his appearance in Montreal, he traveled to Detroit where he collapsed at the end of a performance. Five days later, on Halloween, Harry Houdini died.

I was standing in a nondescript empty room on the fourth floor of old Grace Hospital in Detroit. The building, once considered progressive and modern, had deteriorated to the point that it would be torn down in a few months. I ran the Information Technology department downstairs and once my group moved out, the wrecking ball would move in. I soaked it all in. Somehow it just didn't seem that special, but shortly several people and the news media — this year including Time Magazine — would gather there as they had done for years on Halloween.

This wasn't just any room. This was the very place where, on October 31, 1926, Brother Harry Houdini died. I took a final look and turned to leave. As I walked away, people filed past me to enter the room for Houdini's last séance.

Houdini, as had been the case on every Halloween in Grace Hospital since he died, did not show up.

~SLH

Steve Harrison, 32° KCCH



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