

The Gold Country Trestleboard

The Quarterly Newsletter of Idaho Springs Lodge #26, A.F. & A.M.

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Happy Birthday!

April

Michael Anderson John Baird
Randy Baumgardner David Cooper
Dennis Johnson Richard Merrell
Marijan Petrovic Wiley Skewes
Scott Wallace

May

L. Dean Clark Fred Dare
Gene Day Doug Sparks
Trent Winegar

June

Chris Boyd Richard Garnett
Don Hale Karl Karner
Perry Knoll Robert Walker

Idaho Springs Lodge #26, A.F. & A.M

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STATED MEETINGS

April 6
April 20
May 4
May 18
June 1
June 15

- Lodge opens at **7:30 PM**
- Dinner at **6:30**. Freewill donation (\$10+ recommended).
- Come and enjoy an hour of fellowship before the Stated Meeting.
- Building will be open by **6PM**

From the East: A Message from the Worshipful Master

Brethren, I'll offer what may seem kind of disjointed "bits & pieces" (and some housekeeping items too) this time around...

I don't want to jinx us with Mother Nature, but after several meetings cancelled due to poor weather & driving conditions, in January and February, here's hoping for a steady run of normal calendars & opportunities to meet and enjoy our time together! Welcome Spring!

We've been busy over the past couple of months. On Feb. 21, (with the kind help of the Brothers at Golden City #1) we raised Bro. Shawn Calder to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Then, just over a week later on March 2, we passed Bro. Spike Emperor & Bro. Nick Arvay to the Degree of Fellow Craft. I extend the sincere thanks of the Lodge to WB Al Brown for shouldering much of the work to make that degree possible. It certainly felt good to shake off a bit of ritualistic rust (well...more than a bit, in my case) and see the Lodge back to work again! We also welcome back Bro. Troy Erikson, as he works on his FC proficiency, and hope to see him moving ahead in his Masonic travels soon, along with our two new Fellow Crafts.

Our April 6 Stated Meeting will be a special (and I hope a regular) event at Idaho Springs #26. I am asking that Brethren attending that evening **please locate and wear your white lambskin aprons**. The focus of Masonic Education will be on the symbolism & meaning of the apron. A reminder also that this will be a Joint Communication with Central Lodge #6: the last of the winter season, continuing that practice from the past few years.

It's time to begin planning for spring & summer events! Please note, in the **News & Upcoming Events** section below, several dates to set aside on your calendars: some our own & some from other bodies.

I invite and encourage all Brethren to set up their accounts on the MW Grand Lodge of Colorado website. I hope you are all receiving regular communications from Grand Lodge & RWB Scot Autry, but if you're not (and even if you are), it's a good idea to get yourself solidly "in the loop" by going [here](#) and setting up your account. You'll need your member number (from your dues card) to fill out the form and request access. There's a wealth of educational info available through Grand Lodge, in addition to that which will come your way to keep you informed of Masonic events in the jurisdiction.

Recently, we've noted a drop in dinner donations to reimburse our dinner providers/preparers on Stated Meeting nights. We want to avoid having to go to a prepaid reservation system, and, while the amount of your donation is completely voluntary, it is expected that you'll make a contribution, on the "honor system" & as you are able. Brethren, please understand that the only way we can offer a meal on a completely "walk-in (i.e., no RSVP) basis" is to have donations cover costs, so please do bear that in mind when the jar goes around!

After having to push mandated Annual Meeting business back (due to cancelled communications and then accommodation of scheduled degree work), the appropriate reports of the Secretary & Treasurer were submitted and accepted by the Lodge, at the March 16 Stated Meeting (the report of the Audit Committee having previously been submitted). My thanks to WBs Bill Skewes, Danny Hayman and L. Dean Clark for "rolling with the punches" for a month and then coming through for the Lodge.

Continued...

Masonic Trivia: What does it mean, in Masonic terms, for a Brother to be "healed?" (Answer at the end of this newsletter)





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“From the East,” continued...

Some recent repairs have been done at the temple building. These were matters of necessity, rather than planning. A cracked drain pipe in the basement, repair to the west facade, as well as service (on two occasions) to the furnace have represented budget challenges, as we also need to get to a couple of anticipated maintenance items for the year. The latter include repair (and probably replacement) of the west windows and much-needed repair & refinishing work in the preparation room. The window work is especially a high priority, due to the level of deterioration there and the implications for both safety & winter heating costs.

Finally, I'll make my usual appeal to you all to please come and attend Lodge, if you are able. It continues to be a concern of mine that I know so few of you as well as I'd like...and as you deserve. Neither fellowship nor the bonds of brotherhood can thrive as spectator sports!

Bill

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News & Coming Events

The upcoming Stated Meeting, on Apr. 6, is Lambskin Night at Idaho Springs. **FIND YOUR LAMBSKIN APRON** and wear it that night. We will enjoy one or more special presentations that evening pertaining to our Masonic aprons.

Congratulations WB Danny Tomlinson, WM at Central #6, who was named 2021 Colorado Worshipful Master of the Year, at the January Grand Lodge Session!

Annual Easter Sunrise Service sponsored by the Colorado Knights Templar Association, at the Colorado Scottish Rite Masonic Center (1370 Grant St.), at 6:30 AM on Easter Sunday (doors @ 5:30). Free parking available. Admission to the **service** is free. Post-service breakfast reservations (not free) [here](#).

Upcoming Denver Consistory events:

- 9 Health 365: Sat., Apr. 23 7am-Noon
- Spring Reunion: May 12-14. Petition [here](#).
- SRMC Sporting Clays Competition: Fri., May 27, 8am
- Flags for Vets: Sun., May 29, 9am @ Ft. Logan
(go to <http://www.denverconsistory.org/> for details)

Cleanup @ Georgetown Alvarado Cemetary: Sun., May 15, sponsored by Central #6. (details TBD)

Save the date! Annual Nevada Lodge #4 Pancake Breakfast is Sunday, July 10. We have a limited number of tickets available at the temple in Idaho Springs.

We have begun plans for a Ladies Luncheon on Saturday, July 16. Watch for details in a special announcement.

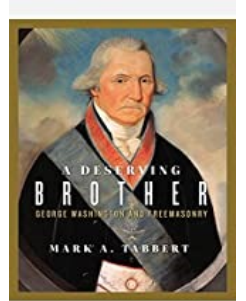
For the Good of the Order

Might any of you be interested in joining me in forming a book group? I'll use the "Good of the Order" space, in this quarter's Trestleboard, to propose that we take on the reading and discussion of a masonic-themed book:

George Washington: A Deserving Brother by Mark A. Tabbert. Bro. Tabbert is a historian and the Director of Collections at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, VA. His other Masonic published works include *George Washington's Rules for Freemasons in Life and Lodge* and *American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities*.

The book was released last month, on the 300th anniversary of Bro. Washington's birth & is getting good reviews. If you're interested in joining me, you can check out purchase of the book from [Amazon](#) or from [Macoy](#) and then let me know if you're onboard with the idea. We'd keep the reading pace manageable, and probably keep our discussions restricted to virtual sessions.

Email (wbapm32@gmail.com), text or call (303-775-5727), **by April 15**, if you're interested.



Answer to “Masonic Trivia”: (Thanks and a tip-o-the-cap to WB Danny Hayman for asking me the question!) According to Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, the term "...signifies to *make valid or legal*. Hence one who has received a Degree in an irregular manner or from incompetent authority is not recognized until he has been 'healed.' The precise mode of healing depends on circumstances. If the Lodge which conferred the Degree was clandestine, the whole ceremony...would have to be repeated. If the authority which conferred the Degree was only irregular, and the question was merely a technical one of legal competence, it is only necessary to exact an obligation of allegiance, or in other words to renew the covenant.”