



Trestle Board
Rob Morris Lodge #92, est. 1892
Antient Free & Accepted Masons
DENVER COLORADO
July through September, 2007 A.D., 6007 A.L.

Stated Communications:

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 07:00 PM

Dark July

Lodge Physical and Mailing

Address:

Denver Consistory
1370 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

<http://www.robmorris92.org>

Lodge Officers:

Worshipful Master:

Rick Haskell 720.480.8622

Senior Warden:

Jerry Brumley 720.275.8025

Junior Warden:

Otis Hilbun 720.298.3097

Senior Deacon:

Ryuji Brumley 720- 988-8676

Junior Deacon:

Louis Dhority 303-549-2602

Senior Steward:

Erik Fransen 303.903.7283

Junior Steward:

Travis Idler 303.929.4662

Tyler:

Vacant

Chaplain:

Steve Kennedy, P.M. 303.918.6117

Marshal:

Kevin McGlothlin 303.941.9541

Secretary:

Norm O'Kelly, P.M. 303.450.0876

Treasurer:

Linc Soule, PM 303.257.7781

Director of the Work:

All Master Masons

District Lecturer:

Bill Klatil, PM 303.799.1110

Living Past Masters

Worshipful Brother William S. Lewis, PM 1955

Worshipful Brother Delbert E. England, PM 1968

Worshipful Brother Terry O. McDonald, PM 1975

Worshipful Brother F. James Dyer, PM 1977

Worshipful Brother Larry L. Larson., PM 1981

Worshipful Brother Leland B. Jaycox, PM 1983

Worshipful Brother Daniel P. Thiesen., PM 1984

Worshipful Brother Christian D. Bickler, PM 1985

Worshipful Brother Del Militaire, PM 1987

Worshipful Brother William A. McLain, PM 1988

Worshipful Brother Randall G. Drake, PM 1989

Worshipful Brother Timothy C. McGuire, PM 1991

Worshipful Brother James T. Preston Sr., PM 1992

Worshipful Brother Vernon B. Ingraham, PM 1993

Worshipful Brother Steven S. Larson, PM 1994

Worshipful Brother Charles L. Fletcher, PM 1995

Worshipful Brother Donald J. Wood, PM 1997

Worshipful Brother Norman L. O'Kelly, PM 1998

Worshipful Brother Grant M. Sanders, PM 1999

Worshipful Brother Stephen M. Kennedy, PM 2000

Worshipful Brother Christopher W. Carroll, PM 2001

Worshipful Brother James Preston Jr., PM 2003

Worshipful Brother Mark C. Foss, PM 1990/2004

Worshipful Brother Ric Dena, PM 2005

Worshipful Brother Lincoln Soule, Junior PM 2006, 1996

Honorariums:

Honorary Member: Most Worshipful John L. Harper, Past Grand Master 1993

Honorary Past Master: Dean K. Corbin 2002

Honorary Past Master: Worshipful Brother Chester M Johnson Jr., PM 2005

Coming Events at YOUR Lodge:

July Dark

August 4, 2007: Annual Grand Lodge Communication

August 7, 2005: Officer Meeting and practice 7:00 PM

August 14, 2007: Stated Communication 7:00 PM

August 21, 2005: Esoteric Study Group 7:00 PM

August 28, 2007: Stated Communication 7:00 PM

September 4, 2007: Officer Meeting and Practice 7:00 PM

September 11, 2007: Stated Communication 7:00 PM

September 18, 2007: Esoteric Study Group 7:00 PM

September 25, 2007: Stated Communication 7:00 PM

October 13, 2007: Rusty Nail Degree: Breakfast at 08:00 AM: Degree at 09:00

From The East

Greetings Brethren!!

We have had an equally busy second quarter of the year. During the first half of this year your Lodge has addressed many procedural and governance issues and as a result has decided to raise the degree fees to \$250.00, raise the fees for plural membership to one year's dues and most significantly to move its Charter permanently to the Denver Consistory. There was much fraternal debate over this move and in the end your lodge overwhelmingly chose to make the move. Now that the Lodge has spoken, your officers look forward to reasserting their attention to the ritual and the growth of your Lodge. We will emerge from darkness and resume our regular business on August 14, 2007 at the Denver Consistory located at 1370 Grant Street. At that meeting we will have one committee of investigation report and not less than 4 petitions for the degrees of Masonry to read. I challenge every Brother to bring to that meeting one petition for the Degrees of Masonry and let's kick off our new home with a plethora of new candidates. We will also be having a fair amount of degree work to continue the Masonic journey for the 6 Brothers currently standing on degrees (please visit join us in Lodge and check the website frequently for updates). Please see below for the updates and improvements your Officers are making to your Lodge.

I would like any Brother interested in improving their Esoteric Floor Work or learning the floor work to join your officers the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM for practice and/or the 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 PM for our Esoteric Study Group.

We have a busy next 3 months with many degrees and Brothers performing proficiencies, several events and much more to come. Please visit the web site at <http://robmorris92.coloradofreemasons.org> and keep apprised of the entire goings on.

Finally, I would like to sincerely express my deep appreciation for all of the support and assistance that the many members and Past Masters of Rob Morris Lodge # 92 have given your officers, the Lodge and me personally.

Fraternally,

Rick Haskell, Master

720.480.8622, rick@pathwaysls.net

Secretary's Corner

We are attempting to update the Lodge Roster and are meeting with a fair amount of disconnected phones, moved Brothers Etc. Please send an e-mail to Rick Haskell at rick@pathwaysls.net with all of your correct information including mailing address, home phone, business phone, cell phone and e-mail address. This will dramatically improve the communication which your Lodge can deliver to you. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Treasurer's Accounting

Your Financial Reports are provided regularly during the stated communications and discussed at that time. Please join us in Lodge for the latest financial updates.

Reorganization of the Officer Line

As many of you are aware, your Senior Warden, Brother Eric Fransen announced in Lodge that he was not only withdrawing from consideration for the post of Master of the Lodge for the coming year but given many aspects of his life would not be able to continue to serve in the role of Senior Warden for the remainder of this year. As a result you will note from the above list of officers, the new officer line of your Lodge for the remainder of this year. However, in accordance with the Book of Constitutions of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado, A.F. & A.M., neither the Wardens nor the Mater may resign once installed; therefore, Brother Eric Fransen will officially remain the Senior Warden; Brother Jerry Brumley will officially remain the Junior Warden but will fulfill the duties of the Senior Warden and Brother Otis Hilbun will fulfill the duties of the Junior Warden and the remaining individuals will be installed in their respective positions during our stated communication on August 14, 2007.

IMPROVEMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS

Upon our return to the work of Freemasonry on August 14, 2007, you will see many improvements to the manner in which Lodge is conducted, the way it looks and the way it feels. First of all, Lodge will open promptly at 7:00 from this point forward for all regular meeting including the 2 stated communications each month, the Officer's meeting and practice and the Esoteric Study Group. Dinner shall be prior to Lodge and Brothers will meet at the Panera Bread which is next to the Consistory at 6:00 PM. This will minimize the cost to the Lodge and the Brothers and will alleviate the significant time and energy in organizing meals given the current sporadic attendance by members. This will also give the Brothers an opportunity to meet in a purely social setting. Secondly, your Officers will be attending Lodge in Black Tie and White Glove formal attire from this point forward as agreed by all Officers. We believe that this is the proper sign of respect and reverence for the institution of Freemasonry and an overall enhancement of our Lodge. We would also invite and encourage all Brothers attending Lodge to dress accordingly. Third, we are implementing an esoteric study group to meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. The purpose of this Group shall be the discussion of the Esoteric, philosophical and historical aspects of Masonry. The first Meeting shall be August 21, 2007 and the future agendas and operating procedures will be discussed and determined at that point. This shall be open to all Master Masons unless otherwise noted in advance. We will continue to improve the ritual floor work of your Lodge and look forward to your participation in the glorious future of our Lodge which now lies before us complete with growth, youth and dedication.

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION OF FREEMASONRY

Given that it is the time of year that we celebrate July 4th, America's Independence from King George and the British Empire, or as many of my POME friends state the day they were rid of the American heathens, I felt it important that we as Freemasons reflect upon the influence that Freemasonry has had upon the formation and success of our nation, the United States of America.

First, there is the Declaration of Independence penned and signed by 56 men who were certainly signing their own death warrants. Of the 56 signors of the Declaration of Independence, 10 were known verifiable Freemasons: **Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, Thomas McKean, Robert Treat Payne, Richard Stockton, George Walton, William Whipple, John Witherspoon.**

Of the remaining 46 signors, there is evidence, although unverifiable, of 13 other men who were either Freemasons or who had Masonic affiliations: **Elbridge Berry, Lyman Hall, Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Nelson Jr., John Penn, George Read, Roger Sherman**

This means that 15 of 56 Signors (27%) were Freemasons or probable Freemasons.

Next there is the Constitution of the United States of America, arguably the most broad reaching and all encompassing Freedom Document in the history of the whole of mankind. Of the 40 signors of the Constitution of the United States of America, 9 were known verifiable Freemasons: **Gunning Bedford, Jr., John Blair, David Brearly, Jacob Broom, Daniel Carrol, John Dickinson, Benjamin Franklin, Rufus King, George Washington.**

Of the remaining 31 signors, there is evidence, although unverifiable, of 13 other men who were either Freemasons or who had Masonic affiliations: **Abraham Baldwin, William Blount, Elbridge Gerry, Nicholas Gilman, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, John Lansing, Jr., James Madison, George Mason, George Read, Robert Morris, Roger Sherman, George Wythe.** Additionally of the remaining 18 signors of the Constitution of the United States, 6 later became Freemasons: **William Richardson Davie, Jr., Jonathan Dayton, Dr. James McHenry, John Francis Mercer, William Patterson, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer**

This means that 28 of 40 signors (70%) were Freemasons or possible Freemasons based on evidence other than lodge records.

In addition to the above two most significant documents, there was tremendous additional influence in the early stages of the development of our nation and its undertaking of Independence. First there was **Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert du Motier**, initially the **Marquis de La Fayette** (or **Lafayette**) ([September 6, 1757–May 20, 1834](#)), the French liaison to the Colonies, without whose aid the war could not have been won, who was a Freemason. The Marquis de La Fayette presented Worshipful Brother George Washington with his famous Masonic Apron which his wife had hand made. Secondly, the majority of the commanders of the Continental Army were Freemasons and members of "Army Lodges," and most of Worshipful Brother Washington's Generals were Freemasons. Third, the Boston Tea Party was planned at the Green Dragon Tavern, also known as the Freemasons' Arms, and "the Headquarters of the Revolution." Fourth, Worshipful Brother George Washington was sworn in as the first President of the United States by Robert Livingston, Grand Master of New York's Masonic lodge. The Bible on which he took his oath was from his own Masonic lodge. Finally, the Cornerstone of the capitol building was laid by the Grand Lodge of Maryland with Worshipful Brother George Washington acting as the Master in the Cornerstone laying ceremony while President of the United States of America.

One must sit back in pontification and awe at the influence our Brethren and beloved Order have had in the creation of arguably the freest and greatest nation on Earth.

Proper Arrangement of the Square and Compasses for the Fellowcraft Degree

There has been much debate in regards to the proper arrangement of the Square and Compasses when open on the Fellow Craft Degree. Rob Morris Lodge's tradition, history and teachings dictates that the Southern point of the Compass be elevated above the Square when open on the Fellow Craft Degree. Alternatively, the Grand Lodge of Colorado floor work dictates that the Northern point of the Compass be elevated above the Square. There are historical, ritualistic and traditional reasons for both opinions. To resolve this debate, at our stated communication of August 14, 2007 Worshipful Brother Linc Soule will present a brief dissertation in support of the elevation of the Southern point of the Compass while Worshipful Master, Rick Haskell will present a similar brief in support of the elevation of the Northern Point of the Compass above the Square. We will then leave it to the Brothers there assembled to determine the proper arrangement from that point forward. We look forward to your participation and input in this very important matter of Ritual.

Esoteric versus Floorwork

There has been a lot of discussion and interchange of the terms Esoteric Work, Floor Work and Ritual work. It is very important that the true and proper definitions and use of these terms be discussed. Masonically speaking the term Esoteric Work refers not to the memorization of lectures, openings, closing, conferral of the various Degrees of Masonry etc but refers holistically to the underlying lessons, philosophies and teachings both overt and covert that are contained within those lectures, openings, closings and conferral of the various Degrees of Masonry. From time immemorial, there have been, by specific design, many great truths contained within the words, delivery and arrangement of the Masonic Ritual. Some of these meanings are meant to convey those truths, some of those meanings are meant to intentionally mislead the uninitiated and less studied amongst the Craft to insure that the lessons are discovered only by those Masons who are worthy and well qualified, duly and truly prepared, who have served a suitable period of time in their due examination and study of the truths of Freemasonry. The Esoteric Work is in no way interchangeable with either the terms Floor Work or ritual Work.

The terms Floor work and Ritual Work, are however, interchangeable with each other. Both of these terms refer to the physical delivery of the words, arrangements, ceremonies and particular lectures of the Craft without any further discussion of the Esoteric Works and truths contained within such ceremonies. Although completely different and not in the least synonymous with the term Esoteric Work, it is only with a due an proper attention to the detail of the ceremonies, words, arrangements and particulars of the Floor Work or Ritual Work that the truths of the Esoteric may be discovered.

Past Master's Master Mason Degree Team

After much discussion and based upon the grave importance of the Master Mason Degree, Worshipful Brother Linc Soule is putting together a Master Mason Degree team consisting wholly of Past Masters. This is such an important degree and warrants the due and proper attention of the Past Masters of this Lode and we earnestly solicit the participation of any and all Past Masters to aid in this most important undertaking. We would like to see this Degree team become responsible for all Master Mason Degree conferrals of this Lodge. Any Past Masters, who would like to participate in this endeavour, please contact Worshipful Brother Linc at 303.753.6991 or via e-mail at lincsoule@hotmail.com. By the way, this is a great opportunity for the Past Masters to remain involved in an honoured place within the Lodge and have some fun doing it.

Rusty Nail Degree

Your Lodge will be hosting another Rusty Nail Degree and inviting many Denver area Lodges on Saturday, October 13, 2007. We will begin the day at 08:00 AM with breakfast, the Rusty Nail Degree at 09:00 followed by lunch. We also will be planning to confer at least one of the Degrees of Masonry following lunch.

Brother to Brother

We continue to work diligently on the Brother to Brother sections of not only the web site but to be able to deliver to all members of the Lodge a complete directory of all Brothers by Brother and by Business. Please contact Brother Louis Dhority to learn more and get you, your skills and your Business properly listed.

Rob Morris Lodge Committees 2007:

Audit Committee:

Jerry Brumley, Senior Warden*
Otis Hilbun, Junior Warden*

Benevolence Committee:

Rick Haskell, WM*; Linc Soule, PM Treasurer;
Norm O'Kelly, PM, Secretary; Mark Foss, PM (12/07)
Ric Dena, PN (12/08)

Community Service Committee:

Linc Soule, PM*

Masonic Education Committee:

Jerry Brumley*

Archive and History Committee:

Del Militaire, PM*; Linc Soule, PM*

Posting:

Master: Rick Haskell, WM; Fellowcraft: Jerry Brumley, SW; Entered Apprentice: Otis Hilbun, JW

*Denotes the Chairman

Grievance:

Jerry Brumley, Senior Warden*

Education:

Jerry Brumley, Senior Warden *; Otis Hilbun
Junior Warden; Louis Dhority, Junior
Deacon; Travis Idler, Junior Steward

By-Law Change Committee:

Dissolved

Electronic Communications:

Louis Dhority, Junior Deacon*; Travis Idler,
Junior Steward; Ji Brumley, Senior Deacon

Financial Management:

Rick Haskell, WM; Linc Soule, PM Treasurer,
Norm O'Kelly, PM Secretary; Jerry Brumley
SW, (12-07); Otis Hilbun JW (12-08)

Feedback, contributions and articles are always welcomed and appreciated. Worshipful Master Rick Haskell,
720.480.8622, pathwayshsl@comcast.net